

# Redstone Rocket

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## Hail and farewell



Taking command of contract agency  
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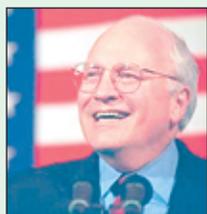
## Helping hands



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## Win or lose



Troops at plate against NASA  
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# Sentinel radar goes to war

On-site maintenance under way in Iraq and Afghanistan

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The Sentinel radar team and the Soldiers it supports in Iraq and Afghanistan were faced with overused equipment that had to stay in place at the war front. Returning the radars to the states for repair wasn't feasible.

The result was an in-theater reset program which is believed to be a first for an Aviation and Missile Command product in combat.

"The work is ongoing, we're already ahead of schedule and the customers are extremely happy," Maj. Drew Clanton, assistant product manager for Sentinel Product Office, said. "By the end of August we will have completely reset 100 percent of radars both in Iraq and Afghanistan. The end set of all that is we'll continue to provide the air picture that is definitely needed there with minimal operational impacts."

This was a joint effort between members of the product office, under the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, and Thales-Raytheon, the Sentinel prime contractor out of Fullerton, Calif. The in-theater maintenance work began in July.

Sentinel has been in Afghanistan since 2002 and in Iraq since 2003. Its mission is to provide situational awareness and an air picture to the commanders in the field.

Because of high-tempo demands, the equipment has exceeded the estimated operational requirements. And since 2003, there were not enough radars to give to all the units that were redeploying to the theater. So, the Department of Army mandated that the Sentinel radars would stay in



Courtesy photo

**FIELD DUTY**— Maj. Drew Clanton, right, from Sentinel Product Office, helps inspect a radar in Tallafar, Iraq.

country. "And because of that, we were not able to do the traditional (continental United States) reset that everybody else does," Clanton said.

Last September, the Sentinel team started recognizing that the radars were breaking down at a higher rate than anticipated because of extended use. Normal anticipat-

ed use per radar was 2,000 hours yearly; but they were being used from 7,000 to 7,500 hours per year.

The Sentinel team, including its contractor partner Raytheon, devised a proactive solution. It's providing in-country reset, imbedded support with a contract field engineer in each using division, and a simplified parts-ordering process.

Col. Lawrence McRae, Sentinel product manager the past three years, mentioned the reset program during his change of command ceremony July 19 at Bob Jones Auditorium. He was succeeded by Lt. Col. Gary Laase and promoted to colonel before leaving for his next assignment at the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

"We're resetting the radars in Iraq right now," McRae said.

Three major divisions have a total of 18 Sentinel radars, including 14 in Iraq and four in Afghanistan. The 101st Airborne and 4th Infantry Division are in Iraq, and the 10th Mountain Division is in Afghanistan.

Clanton traveled with others to Iraq and Afghanistan in January, February and March to do a technical inspection of the



Courtesy photo

**KEEPING WATCH**— Sentinel, in Afghanistan since 2002 and in Iraq since 2003, is providing situational awareness and an air picture to commanders in the field.

See Radar on page 9

# An open lane random survey

*How would you solve the Middle East conflict?*

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

Staff Sgt. Valerie Johnson  
Security Assistance Management Directorate

**"Read the Book of Revelations. There have always been wars there and there will always be wars there. It's written in the Bible."**



**Tony Shouse**  
retiree  
**"I don't see any solution to it, except a magic wand. It's a complicated problem and there is no simple solution."**

Charlotte Ryder  
retiree spouse

**"I would solve it the same way my dad used to stop my sister and I from fighting. He would say if we didn't behave he was going to put us in a room and make us kiss each other."**



**Paul Lackey**  
retiree  
**"I would have my senior military leaders in the field evaluate it and see what action they suggest."**

## Quote of the week

**'T**he probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.'

— Abraham Lincoln

# Pay at pump policy protection

I would like to ask what is the policy of Redstone concerning authorized/unauthorized usage of the service station? It seems that every time I go to fill up there are always lines, especially when the gas there is less than in town. I was under the impression that only active duty, retired service people, and National Guard and Reserve were authorized to purchase gas there. I also notice that no one is available to check ID cards. I know that it is convenient to be able to just swipe a credit card, pump your gas and be on your way but how can you be assured that this privilege is not being abused by those who have not earned it? Why are ID cards checked at the PX, commissary, and the tire service center but not at the service station? Or do you believe that the honor system is alive and well today?

**Roger Scott**  
retired senior chief

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for your customer comment suggesting we check ID*

# Letters to the Editor

*cards at the gas pumps located at the Redstone Arsenal One Stop.*

*"AAFES currently has signs posted at our gas pumps that state, 'ID Requirements: Purchases at this activity are restricted to authorized personnel possessing a valid ID card. Patrons in civilian dress are required to present ID cards to attendant/cashier on duty when requested.'*

*"These signs prevent unauthorized civilians from 'unknowingly' using the gas pumps. And, if unauthorized civilians are found to be wrongfully using the gas pumps during periodic spot checks, AAFES will report them to the post commander so they may be dealt with appropriately. If you suspect an unauthorized individual is using the gas pumps, please notify the manager on duty and we will be more than happy to conduct an additional spot check.*

*"Someday we may have a system where customers swipe the ID cards along with their credit cards at the gas pumps. Right now the technology either doesn't exist or is way too costly. Until then we are doing the best we can to provide the 'pay at the pump' convenience and protect your exchange privilege."*

# Smokeless tobacco stream

Throughout the past several years, there has always been some disension among the ranks concerning the rights of smokers versus non-smokers. There are government rules, regulations, and in some cases laws, preventing smokers from lighting up inside public buildings and on public grounds. AMCOM is no different – there are regulations and policies addressing what can and cannot be done where smoking is concerned. I work in the Sparkman Center and there are designated places for smokers. Although these policies are sometimes ignored, and as a non-smoker I still feel exposed if I want to take a stroll through the courtyard on a nice day, this letter isn't about the smoking policies, but rather the policies (or lack of) on use of tobacco. I'm concerned about the increased use of smokeless tobacco and the rights of those non-users who are subjected daily to the filth of this disgusting habit.

I work in building 5302 and there is an employee in our organization who is an avid user of smokeless tobacco. A

visit to his workstation is less than pleasant. There is usually a cup, can or bottle which contains the discards (spit) of his habit. There have been instances where the individual has used his wastebasket as his disposal ground, as well as wastebaskets of his co-workers if he happens to be walking around and doesn't have his portable container with him.

Is there an Army/AMCOM policy that addresses the issues of the use of smokeless tobacco in the workplace? If not, why? Does a supervisor have the authority to prohibit the use of smokeless tobacco in the immediate workplace? Even as a non-smoker, I would rather support a smoking section of a restaurant or building than be exposed to the chance of being sprayed as our smokeless tobacco user spits his stream toward his cup.

**Name withheld by request**

*Editor's note: There is no policy regarding smokeless tobacco, according to the Garrison. You should mention your concern to your immediate supervisor for resolution.*

# Reader on rotor

In the July 19 edition of the *Rocket*, on page 7, there is a photo article "Deployed from depot." The caption states that the rotor head that Mr. Al Mirelez is inspecting is from an AH-64 Apache helicopter. The rotor head that he is looking at is in fact from a CH-47 Chinook helicopter.

**Name withheld by request**

# Size means something

The photo is last week's *Rocket* on page 5 kind of disturbed me. This picture is about a quarter of the size of the page and is a picture of a pair of lost boots. I know as well as everyone else that losing a personal item can be frustrating, but come on. Should this picture have taken up so much room in your newspaper? I bet that you could have gone out and taken a picture of some Soldiers training and they would have loved to get some publicity. You could have put the boots in a small ad in the classified section of the paper, like other newspapers do. This isn't even what made me write to you today; it was the picture on the left side of the page. This picture (which is smaller than the picture of the boots) is of the winners of the NCO and Soldier of the Year competition. In my opinion, that is way more important than some boots and shouldn't be on the same page.

**Sgt. Jesse Strand**

# Winning hearts in war-torn Iraq

I just wanted to drop you a couple of lines from Iraq to let you know that the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airman and civilians on the front lines of freedom here in Iraq are doing OK. As I move around and talk with both the military and civilian contractors in this part of the world, it's easy see that these great Americans and our allies believe in what we are doing over here. As you

**See Hearts on page 3**

# Redstone Rocket

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# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Sgt. 1st Class Tamara Williams

**Job:** NCO-in-charge for G-1 (Human Resources) and the acting adjutant general, AMCOM

**Where do you call home?**  
Dothan

**What do you like about your job?**  
I get to help take care of Soldiers and their family members.

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

Right now my husband (Curtis Williams) and I are taking care of the 5-year-old daughter (Keema Simmons) of a deployed Soldier (Staff Sgt. Gemma Simmons, the mother), so I don't have any spare time. I haven't had any spare time since September.

**What are your goals?**

My goal is to obtain my Ph.D. (in sociology) and teach college to



working college students. I'm finishing my applications for acceptance into a Ph.D. program.

**What's your favorite type of music?**  
I like all kinds of music – except for (heavy) metal or any type of metal. Anything except for metal. If I had to choose one, I guess I'd say popular music.

# Personnel system spiraling into service

*Organizations identified for upcoming phase*

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department has announced that it will apply Spiral 1.2 of the National Security Personnel System, a new civilian human resources system, to more than 66,000 employees between October 2006 and January 2007.

At Redstone, about 1,500 non-bargaining unit employees are expected to be converted to the new system. Details will be announced through organizational chains 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," said Mary Lacey, NSPS program executive officer. "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."

Employees will be given new performance plans clearly linked to

See **System** on page 7

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

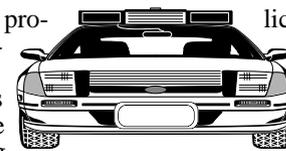
The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

**July 13:** An individual was observed selecting items in the Post Exchange and then exiting without rendering proper payment. She was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**July 14:** An individual reported that someone removed money from his wallet, while it was locked in his vehicle. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**July 15:** An individual reported that someone removed several yard ornaments from her yard. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**July 17:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended



license during a check at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**July 18:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended license during a check at Gate 1. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**July 19:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.

**Traffic accidents reported:** five without injuries, one with injuries.

**Violation notices issued:** 8 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 3 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 following too close, 1 failure to yield right of way, 1 parking, 1 improper backing.

## ■ Contractor gives view from Iraq

### Hearts

continued from page 2

know, for many years I have been very active helping both our veterans and Soldiers in the Huntsville area and now I'm helping the Iraqis as they try to rebuild their country after years of turmoil. It's good to know that we have a lot of good Americans back in the states like the ones that sent the boots and clothing items. If you would, please see that (the following) article gets into the *Redstone Rocket*. Professional leadership and taking care of Soldiers, Marines and EOD Technology personnel here in Iraq is priority number one!

**Phillips J. Laboy**  
retired first sergeant,  
EOD Technology (Iraq)

*Editor's note: The following is the text of Laboy's article from Iraq.*

"Building on a strong foundation and winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people may be the key to success here in the newly sovereign country of Iraq. Located in the south corner of Iraq between the Iran and Kuwaiti border is a historical battlefield being cleaned up of unexploded ordnance by EOD Technology personnel in direct support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Multi-National Iraq Ordnance and Explosive Efforts in the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program. Iraqi president at time Saddam Hussein ordered the invasion of Iran on Sept. 22, 1980. The Iran/Iraq War lasted for eight years and most countries in this part of the world at the time treated this war as nothing more than border disputes/skirmishes between two neighboring countries. At the end of the war, it was estimated that the total war dead was 262,000 Iranians and 105,000 Iraqis with another 700,000 injured. The effects of the war are still seen today, some 18 years

after the Iran/Iraq war ended in 1988.

"EOD Technology located in Lenoir City, Tenn., and under the CMC program in Iraq has managed to win some hearts and minds with the local Iraqi workers through their employees. As part of the CMC program, many local Iraqis have been hired to supplement EOD techs and ammo handlers on this CMC cleanup project. After giving the local Iraqis some safety classes on unexploded ordnance through an Iraqi interpreter, it was noted that many of the workers needed boots and other personal clothing items to help them accomplish their mission down-range. These personnel are required to work in weather that ranges between 112-120 degrees daily here in south Iraq at this time of year. Honestly, it is like living in the business end of a hair dryer. These workers are also required to walk between 3-5 miles a day picking up unexploded ordnance rounds that have been sitting on the desert floor for 18 years.

"Bill Robinson and Steve Kosier, both employees of EOD Technology, decided to coordinate through a personal friend and the Community of Grace Church in the states to collect and send boots, sneakers, socks and T-shirts to Iraq for these workers. Mr. Robinson, through his Pastor Tim Wright of the Community of Grace Church in Peoria, Ariz., helped bring together this humanitarian project of good will. This all was done within a record three-week time frame and last Friday all the workers on this project received a pair of new boots, sneakers, socks and T-shirts from concerned Americans in the states. Speaking of nice people and after almost two years here in Iraq, I must say that Iraqis are wonderful people and of course there are exceptions here, too. Iraq is an awfully hot place that would be considered totally uninhabitable by many Americans, but the majority of Iraqis are gracious and polite; and, like people around the world, they only want to provide for their families and to prosper, too."

## Contract management commander eager to start

*Gallagher succeeds retiring colonel*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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Their paths have crossed more than once in their Army careers – this time at the Defense Contract Management Agency Huntsville.

Col. Daniel Gallagher succeeded retiring Col. Gary Bliss as commander of DCMA's local office July 18 in a ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium. Gallagher has replaced Bliss before in Germany and has known him for years.

"It's great to have you here and it's great to have you as a member of the Redstone, Huntsville DCMA team," Bliss said.

Gallagher has served as the Defense Contract Management Agency liaison officer on the Joint Staff J-4 Logistics Directorate since July 2005. He previously served as executive officer for the

deputy assistant secretary of the Army for systems management, office of the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology in the Pentagon. He also commanded DCMA Central Pennsylvania.

"This is my second time in DCMA, and I'm glad to be coming back," Gallagher said.

Bliss, who commanded the Huntsville office since June 2003, retired with 27 years service. He received the Defense Superior Service Medal during his retirement ceremony which followed the change of command.

"Colonel Bliss joined DCMA three years ago," said Patricia Kirk-McAlpine, director of Defense Contract Management Agency West, Carson, Calif. "His leadership has been nothing short of outstanding."

His retirement delivers the reins to Gallagher, a Pennsylvania native and father of three with wife, Lisa, a Michigan native.

"We're very excited to be here," Gallagher said, "and can't wait to get going."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CHANGING HANDS**— Col. Daniel Gallagher, incoming commander of the Defense Contract Management Agency Huntsville, watches as his predecessor, retiring Col. Gary Bliss, turns over the DCMA colors to Patricia Kirk-McAlpine, who conducted the change of command. Kirk-McAlpine, director of Defense Contract Management Agency West, Carson, Calif., then presented the flag to Gallagher.

## Garrison's top enlisted Soldier ready to stay home with family

*Gerecht retiring to civilian life*

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY  
Staff writer  
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Retirement is seen by many as the beginning of a new life or a new career. Most hope to move forward with a fresh start. Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Gerecht hopes to move forward eventually, he just wants to stay in the moment for a while and possibly make up for some of what he's missed. He's retiring in August.

As the Garrison command sergeant major, Gerecht has seen his job as a facilitator.

"I'm a coordination point for what goes on at Redstone," he said. "If (Garrison commander) Col. Olshefski's the mayor, then in some ways I'm his assistant."

He also said that the dynamic of this installation is the secret of the success here.

"Redstone is a group of entities that have consistently worked as a team. Any achievement here was a result of that team coming together," he said. "There are roughly 138 different organizations on this installation. I'm in charge of none of them. Without that team environment nothing happens. Those organizations

See **Retirement** on page 6

## Deployed from depot



Courtesy photo

**ON MOVE**— Deployed civilian Melvin Binkley is en route from one location to another while stationed in Iraq.

**Name:** Melvin Binkley  
**Job title:** Heavy mobile equipment mechanic  
**Duty station:** Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa.  
**Deployed as:** Add on armor inspector

*Editor's note: Letterkenny Army Depot provided this information.*

# Win-win situation for unmanned aircraft systems

## Officer takes helm of successful program

By KIM HENRY  
Staff writer  
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Lt. Col. Winfield Keller assumed the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Future Forces product manager position from Lt. Col. Todd Smith in a change of charter ceremony July 18 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Smith will retire in a September.

"It is always difficult to say goodbye to the officers who we've come to know and for the performance they have given us and to the Army, in many cases, over the course of their careers," said Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation. "Of course it's always a pleasure to welcome new individuals into the organization and allow them the opportunity to continue to excel in what they do for the Soldiers and certainly for what they do for PEO Aviation and that is most definitely the case with both Todd Smith and Win Keller today."

During the ceremony, Smith received the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Order of St. Michael. His wife, Kathy, received the Order of Our Lady of Loreto. After retiring, Smith plans to stay in the Huntsville

area and work in the defense sector.

"Today, at the end of 20 years, is certainly a day of mixed emotions for me, but I can honestly say it's been the greatest honor and privilege simply to have served," Smith said.

In referencing his achievements as the Future Force product manager, Bogosian described Smith as an "intellectual man of action" referring to his academic achievements and his time as an aviator. Not only did Smith work on the emergence of Unmanned Aircraft Systems as a provider of aviation combat support to units fighting in theater, he also was responsible for overseeing the development of the four classes of UAS's as they emerged from the Future Combat System program.

"It took someone with very (high) aptitudes and very special skills to be able to work in that environment," Bogosian said. Under Smith's leadership the Future Force team worked with the Future Combat Systems project office, the FCS contractor or Lead System Integrator and the Navy on the Fire Scout, the Class IV UAS. During his tenure, Fire Scout had a successful system functional review and is the first UAS platform to come out of the FCS program.

"What we do from this point on with FCS unmanned systems will

See **Aircraft** on page 11



Photo by Kim Henry

**READY TO LEAD**— Lt. Col. Winfield Keller, incoming product manager for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Future Forces, is welcomed to the aviation and Huntsville community.

## Retiring command sergeant major doesn't plan to travel

### Retirement

continued from page 4

have come together to do what was best for the greater good of the installation, even if it hurt them to do it. That's something. That's what makes Team Redstone great."

While he said he's going to miss the people he works with, he's glad to be leaving them in such capable hands.

"I'm going to be replaced by a great guy. Actually, I think he is the perfect guy for this job," Gerecht said. "He's one of the best warriors I've ever worked with. He's a previous first sergeant of mine, William Cole."

Cole will take the reins from Gerecht in a ceremony Aug. 11 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Gerecht grew up as a self-proclaimed Army brat. While the military had always been a part of where he had been, he made the choice to also make it where he was going on one day in particular.

"When I was about 7 years old, my dad took me to Armed Forces Day at Fort Bragg (N.C.). That was the day I knew I wanted to be a Soldier," Gerecht said. "That never changed."

Several years later, at age 12, he went to visit his grandfather at a nursing home in Baltimore, Md. While there he met another child who was working as a volunteer at the facility. Her name was Patty and she was 11.

"We started writing letters. We kept writing through the years," he said. "I think we made 2 or 3 trips to see each other starting at about age 15 or 16. We



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Gerecht**

got married her senior year of high school while I was in the Army. She came down and finished school in my hometown of Macon, Georgia."

He smiles when told how unbelievable it seems that a chance meeting as a child would lead to a correspondence courtship that would last six years and lead to a marriage that would last a quarter of a century.

"She turned out to be my best friend," he said. "I have the best wife in the world. She's never complained once. She's been a great mom and a great wife. I think she's put up with a lot, but she's never looked back."

That was 24 years and a long list of

duty stations ago. Gerecht said military life comes with costs the family ends up paying, something he was reminded of at his last post.

Before coming to Redstone, Gerecht called Korea home for a while. While living there with his family, his daughter Shania, now 6, began talking. Instead of calling him "Daddy," she called him "Sergeant Major." It may sound cute to some, but Gerecht was saddened by it.

"It was because we had a military phone in our house. I would answer the phone that way or when the phone rang they would ask for sergeant major. That's what she would hear me called at work," he said. "I felt bad. It was like she didn't know Daddy, she just knew Sergeant Major."

When he had the opportunity to come to Redstone, Gerecht was unsure. He and his wife knew they wanted to retire here, but Gerecht wasn't sure if it was the job for him.

"When I changed MOS's in the 1980s I came through here. We knew we wanted to retire here but I never wanted to be stationed in Huntsville," Gerecht said. "It wasn't the Army for me. I enjoyed division life. When I was recruited for this job, I was torn. When I took the job, I didn't expect to stay here long. I expected to be here two years and leave. But it worked out great. I can't complain about anything."

It's a decision he's now glad he made. "I was fortunate that when I came in the Army the first unit I ever served in was probably the best leadership team I was ever around. It's amazing that as I'm departing the Army, I've served with some of the best leadership that I've found. The other part of that is the best

civilian leaders I ever served with were here at Redstone with the best civilian work force. They're very dedicated. They were always willing to go the extra mile."

Besides his wife and daughter, the Gerecht family has also expanded to include his parents. They made the move from South Carolina in 2005.

"I'm spending a lot of time with my folks and my daughter. There's a lot of time to catch up on," he said.

Looking into the future, Gerecht sees himself probably following the same path a lot of Soldiers in the area take – working for a contractor. For now, however, he's more concerned about spending time with his daughter than he is about working on his resume.

"I plan to do something, I'm just not sure what that is," he said. "I'm focusing my time on my daughter right now. I didn't get to spend a lot of time with her for the first three years of her life. I was gone most of the time."

Unlike many others facing retirement, Gerecht doesn't really want to do any traveling.

"We've already traveled the world," he said. "We did that when we were younger. Now we pretty much plan on staying home. My family paid the biggest price for my career. It's time that we get to enjoy some time together."

He jokes about the challenges he faces outside the green suit.

"That's going to be the difficult part of being a civilian, trying to figure out what to wear and not looking for a hat when you walk out the door," he said.

A retirement luncheon in his honor is scheduled Aug. 1.

"So, I'm told," he quipped. "I found out through my niece because I refused to have one."

# Armed reconnaissance helicopter takes to air

Slated for fielding in 2008, to replace Kiowa Warrior

By KIM HENRY

Staff writer

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The Army Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter completed its first flight Thursday in Arlington, Texas.

The aircraft took off from Bell XworX in Arlington and successfully flew in a traffic pattern reaching 80 knots, 500-foot altitude, with banks up to 30 degrees for a little more than an hour and a half of flight. The flight sets apart the ARH program as one of the fastest 'contract to flight' programs ever completed and set a new standard for such acquisitions.

"Today we can finally say we have a flying ARH. This is an extremely important step for our program and an outstanding achievement for the ARH team," Lt. Col. Barry Higgs, ARH product manager, said. "With this aircraft we will move forward with developmental testing and capitalize on lessons learned in order to improve efficiencies during the build of the remaining three



Courtesy photo

**MAIDEN VOYAGE—** Together Army and Bell pilots fly the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter for its first flight last week.

System Development and Demonstration aircraft. This is a great day for Army aviation and the ARH program, but there is

still much work to be done in order to ensure we deliver the required ARH capabilities to the Soldier."

For this first flight the Army teamed with its partners at Bell to conduct the operation. Bell test pilot Jim McCollough and

Army pilot Chief Warrant Officer Alan Davis performed as pilot and co-pilot during the operation.

"This was a great example of the combined test team in action," Davis said. "To have the opportunity to see the aircraft firsthand and at the same time as the Bell pilots is a great honor."

The ARH will replace the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, first fielded in 1985. The ARH will be a dual crew station, single-pilot-operable aircraft capable of operating worldwide in all airspace. The standard armed reconnaissance configuration will include the sensor assembly, active and passive countermeasures, external weapon systems, and communication suite. The ARH will be able to communicate on the battlefield with Army, joint and coalition forces.

The armed reconnaissance capability allows the maneuver commander to 'see first/shoot first' in a manned system that is well forward, scouting the location and disposition of enemy forces and terrain.

The Army intends to field 368 ARHs, with a First Unit Equipped of 30 aircraft in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008.

## ■ Defense Department announces personnel phase

### System

continued from page 3

their organization's mission and strategic goals. They will also be converted to pay bands that replace the General Schedule. Employees will not lose pay upon conversion to NSPS and most will receive an initial adjustment in pay to account for time

already earned toward their next within grade increase.

Lacey recently met with Spiral 1.1 senior leaders to identify what worked well during the conversion of the first 11,000 employees, and where improvements need to be made. This information will assist in planning for implementation of this next phase, referred to as Spiral 1.2.

"We are already assessing implementation for the first group of employees,"

**"We are pleased with what we are seeing thus far, at least with the technical aspects of conversion."**

— Mary Lacey  
NSPS program executive officer

Lacey said. "We are pleased with what we are seeing thus far, at least with the technical aspects of conversion."

Personnel actions were completed for the first 11,000 employees with a 99.9 percent accuracy rate and all pay transactions processed successfully at DFAS, she said.

Employees have access to training materials, including a conversion tool in the NSPS 101 Course located on the NSPS web site. This tool lets employees see an estimate of the value of their within-grade increase buy-in as well as their career group and pay band.

The performance appraisal cycle for Spiral 1.2 employees begins on their actual day of conversion and ends Sept. 30, 2007. These employees will receive their first performance pay increases in January 2008.

Lacey will meet with Spiral 1.2 leaders and employees throughout the coming months. She will continue to seek feedback from Spiral 1.1 organizations, who converted to the system in late April, to determine if adjustments to the system are necessary prior to implementation to the next group of employees.

The Army's 14,373 non-bargaining unit employees included in the Spiral 1.2 organizations are identified as follows: Army Military District of Washington, 67; Army Medical Command, 539; Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, 6,604; Army Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, 204; Army Forces Command, 492; Army Materiel Command, 1,720; Army South, 164; Army Corps of Engineers, 4,497; and Army Training and Doctrine Command, 86. (Defense Department release)

# Lasting memories of fallen servicemembers

Local military moms group gives scrapbooks to families

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

The scrapbooks are beautiful and touching – filled with military photos, poems and special messages, and images of patriotism. Each one represents the memories of a Soldier's life and sacrifice in the Global War on Terrorism.

During the past year and a half, Terry Smith of Madison and Pam Adcock of Hazel Green, the vice president and president, respectively, of Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms, have worked to present scrapbooks to the families of Alabama's fallen Soldiers. When passed into the hands of a Soldier's family, it is hoped that the scrapbook will become a lifelong comfort, a personal gift that forever memorializes one of the nation's heroes.

"We feel so good about being able to do these scrapbooks," said Smith, whose son, Staff Sgt. Christopher Roy, is a senior drill sergeant with the Marines and whose daughter, Jessica Wright, graduated from Bob Jones High in May and joined the Navy last week.

"We 'high five' each other and cry a few tears when we get one done because we know it is for the moms and families of a fallen Soldier, and it will probably be one of the greatest gifts they'll ever receive."

The scrapbooks are compiled by members of Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms, an organization that was on a two-woman mission until recently, when Smith and Adcock began recruiting others to help with the effort. There is now a third member who is helping with the scrapbooks, and about 10 new members who are supporting the organization's efforts in various ways. Additional help is



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WORDS OF COMFORT—** The scrapbook commemorating the life of fallen Alabama Marine Cpl. Matthew Conley includes letters of condolence and hope from the families of other servicemembers. The scrapbooks compiled by Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms include condolence letters from other military families, patriotic poems and images, and photographs of the fallen servicemember.

always needed because, though they have currently completed 22 scrapbooks and are near completion on five more, they have nearly 40 more scrapbooks that need to be done.

Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms has also begun seeking donations for their growing expenses, which can cost as much as \$300 for each scrapbook and include items such as transportation costs to travel to the Soldiers' families and the purchase of Angel Tags for the Soldier's family members. They raised money from a recent Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's in Madison and received a sizable donation from the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

"After we finished Mrs. Conley's book (in honor of fallen Marine Cpl. Matthew Conley) we had no supplies, we had no money, and we just cried," Smith recalled. "We didn't want anyone but the families to know what we were doing because it's so private and personal, and we didn't want thanks. God has always provided for the next book and he always will. But, we



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**SAVING MEMORIES FOR FAMILIES—** Terry Smith, vice president of Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms, looks over a scrapbook for a fallen Soldier that she, president Pam Adcock and others helped compile.

also knew we had to do some things to get help and financial support to continue our work."

Marine Moms is a national organization that supports Marines wherever they are serving. Though Smith and Adcock volunteer under the auspices of Alabama Marine Moms, they have also grown to become Alabama Military Moms, providing support to all Alabama servicemembers and their families, regardless of branch.

"At first, we only did Marines because we are Marine moms," Smith said. "But, then we teamed up with the Coalition, the American Legion and the Marine Corps League in Huntsville and Birmingham. Since the Coalition is made up of all branches, they gave us a donation and asked us to pick up all the fallen of Alabama. We were glad to do that. It's the least we can do. Look what they've done for us."

Among those they've honored with scrapbooks are CIA agent Mike Spann,



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**NECKLACE OF REMEMBRANCE—** Besides the scrapbooks, Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms also presents Angel Tags to the family members of an Alabama fallen Soldier, such as the Angel Tags presented to the family of Marine Capt. Adam Robert Fales of Cullman. On the front of the tags is a photo of the Soldier and his name. On the back are the words "All Gave Some and Some Gave All" with the date of the Soldier's death. The organization presents Angel Tags to not only the parents of the fallen Soldier but also to other close relatives, such as sisters and brothers, and grandparents.



Photo by Tarah Hollingsworth

## Display dedication

The Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker opens its first Unmanned Aerial Vehicle display July 20 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Maj. Gen. Virgil Packett II, commander of Fort Rucker and the Army Aviation Center, serves as host; and participants include Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, and Brig. Gen. Bill Phillips, deputy program executive officer for aviation. The event marks the first UAV display in an Army museum, a sign that the aviation community has fully accepted UAVs into its culture. From left are Col. Jeff Kappenman, Col. Don Hazelwood, Phillips, Pillsbury, Packett, Command Sgt. Maj. Alfred Alexander, Col. William Wolf and Chief Warrant Officer Brent Driggers.

### ■ In-theater reset for Sentinel should be complete in August

## Radar

continued from page 1

radars and establish a reset memorandum of agreement with the units. Once they completed the agreements, they ordered parts through Raytheon, shipped the parts and established facilities for the actual reset.

Accompanying Clanton on his trip were Chuck Truman of Raytheon and Mike Kirkpatrick of Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa. They provided on-the-job training to the radar teams in Iraq and Afghanistan. Three Raytheon workers have been employed to serve as contract field engineers with the divisions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We're providing extremely fast and efficient support by having a contract

field engineer directly impacted with the combat unit," Clanton said. He also pointed out that the simplified parts-ordering process enables the units to order and receive parts within two to three days.

Other members of the Sentinel product office involved in coordinating the reset effort include logistics management specialist Dan McKee and logistics director Kathy Messer. Cost of the reset, including parts and labor, is about \$2 million; plus, about \$1 million for the contract field engineers who are assigned there for a year.

Sentinel has paid dividends for the Army by protecting the troops, according to Clanton, who has since left the product office to join the business management directorate in the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.

"It's saving lives," he said. "It really is saving lives."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**PRODUCT CEREMONY**— Newly-promoted Col. Lawrence McRae, right, outgoing Sentinel product manager, participates in the change of product manager ceremony with his successor, Lt. Col. Gary Laase, on July 19 at Bob Jones Auditorium. McRae, product manager the past three years, is leaving for the Office of Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon.

# Huntsville Center under new leadership

Col. Larry McCallister assumed command of the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, during a change of command ceremony Friday at the University of Alabama-Huntsville's Chan Auditorium.

Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson, deputy chief of engineers and deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, passed the organizational colors to McCallister – symbolizing the transfer of leadership from Col. John Rivenburgh, who commanded Huntsville Center for the previous three years. Rivenburgh was also recognized at the ceremony for his 30 years of service to and retirement from the Army.

Johnson presented Rivenburgh with a Legion of Merit medal and the Army Engineer Association's Silver DeFleury medal and thanked Rivenburgh for his service.

"Thank you for your outstanding leadership and contributions – not just in the past three years, but for the past 30 years," Johnson said.

Johnson welcomed the McCallisters. "You now face the challenge of leading this organization. Under your leadership, the center will continue to make great

contributions on behalf of our military and our nation."

Huntsville Center is a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. As the Huntsville Center commander, McCallister will oversee programs located worldwide that include installation support, medical, ordnance and explosives, chemical demilitarization and ballistic missile defense.

McCallister comes to Huntsville after commanding the Gulf Region South District, Gulf Region Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at Camp Adder, Iraq, from July 2005 through July 2006, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Prior to this assignment, he was the director and command engineer (J4), Logistics and Installations Directorate at U.S. Forces Japan at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

"It is truly an honor for me to be here today and accept the colors of this historic organization," he said. "I'm especially looking forward to the opportunity to work with the professional men and women within the Engineering and Support Center as we continue to provide world class support to the war fighter and to the defense of the nation during this time of war." (*Huntsville Center release*)



Photo by Will Moore

**TAKING COMMAND**— Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Johnson, left, the deputy chief of engineers and deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, passes the Huntsville Center flag to incoming commander, Col. Larry McCallister, at a change of command ceremony Friday. McCallister, who is returning from a yearlong tour in Iraq, assumes command from Col. John Rivenburgh, at far left, who commanded the Huntsville Center for the past three years. At far right is John Matthews, Huntsville Center's acting deputy commander for programs and technical management.

## Chapter gives scholarship

Veronica Colon of Ardmore has received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Army Warrant Officers Association, Redstone Arsenal Chapter.

The 2006 graduate of Sparkman High will attend Columbia University in New

York this fall and major in political science/international relations.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer Richard Storie, chapter president, presented the scholarship at the chapter's monthly meeting July 12.

## Installation Management Agency selects best Soldier, NCO

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. — Soldiers and noncommissioned officers from around the Installation Management Agency gathered at Fort A.P. Hill June 26-29 to compete for the title of top Soldier and NCO of the Year.

Spc. Almanita Smith from Fort Jack-

son, S.C., and Sgt. Kyle Deatherage from Fort Richardson, Alaska, took the title of Soldier and NCO of the Year at the end of the weeklong competition that tested the physical and mental toughness of each competitor. (*Fort A.P. Hill release*)

## Redstone squadron in statewide exercise

The Civil Air Patrol's Redstone Squadron participated in a statewide search and rescue exercise July 14-16 at Shelby County airport.

Redstone mission pilots, observers and scanners tested flying and observation skills required for aerial searches while ground teams practiced land navigation skills.

Redstone personnel who participated in the exercise included 2nd Lt. Martyn Acreman, Sgt. Maj. Mark Adams, 2nd Lt. Ande Boyer, Capt. Charlie Burgess, 1st Lt. John Dumbaker, Lt. Col. Jim Harris, 2nd Lt. Kim Miller, 2nd Lt. Tracy Miller and Lt. Col. Daniel Riley. (*Civil Air Patrol release*)



Courtesy photo

## Business meeting

Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, meets recently with members of the Diversified Business Group. The DBG represents a group of small companies with a global presence, more than 1,400 employees and annual revenues totaling over \$178 million. From left are Leroy Caudle, Bob Abril, Lou Bonham, Henry Oldham, Riley Henderson, Jackie Reid, Frank Gordon, Jannifer Henderson, Gloria Smith, Amos, Beverly Rodriguez, Roosevelt Conley and Jay Nance.

# Aircraft

continued from page 6

have its origins with you and I have no doubt it will be a great success,” Bogosian said.

Smith was appreciative of his office’s work on the landmark program. “We’ve heard many times that this has never been done before — never managed a program this big, never had a relationship with the LSI, never integrated this many systems, never written this much software,” Smith said. “Your performance has been simply outstanding. Each and every one of you has my gratitude for the work that you’ve done.”

Keller, who has background in military intelligence, will assume leadership over the Future Force, UAS, product office.

UAS had their origin in the intelligence community.

“Win has a great deal of experience in tactical and strategic intelligence as a part of Special Operations Command activities. What he brings from that specific background will be invaluable in working the initiatives that Todd put in place,” Bogosian said. “The intelligence gathering and data transmission elements are still key to the future development and key to the ground commander in using these systems to their full utility.

“Over the past several months I’ve had the opportunity to read a little of what you have done and in the last week I’ve had the opportunity to see you work. I’ve learned of your successes and I appreciate your effort,” Keller said. “I look forward to working with you in the future.”

## Future Combat Systems Unmanned Systems

### Class I Unmanned Aircraft Systems

**Mission:** Provides Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition capability, interoperability with selected ground and air platforms or dismounted Soldiers, semi-autonomous flight and navigation, interaction between the network and Soldier to update routes and target information, limited communications relay in restricted terrain

**Operated by:** Platoon

**Flight Endurance:** 60 min



### Class II Unmanned Aircraft Systems

**Mission:** Provides reconnaissance, security/early warning, target acquisition and designation in day, night, and adverse weather, commander the ability to shape the battle space by employing a combination of Line-of-Sight, Beyond-Line-of-Sight, and Non-Line-of-Sight fires, teaming with selected ground and air platforms, limited communications relay.

**Operated by:** Company

**Flight Endurance:** 2 hours over 16km radius of action



### Class III Unmanned Aircraft Systems

**Mission:** Provides a multifunction aerial system capable of providing Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition within the Modular Force’s (UA) battle space, a combination of Class I and II capabilities plus communications relay, mine detection, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear detection, and meteorological survey.

It allows the Non-Line-of-Sight battalion to deliver precision fires within the UA area of interest.

**Operated by:** Battalion

**Flight Endurance:** 6 hr time over at 40km radius of action



### Class IV Unmanned Aircraft Systems

**Mission:** Provides enhanced Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition by cross-cueing multiple sensors/ target designation/ communications relay/ CBRN detection meteorological survey/network node communications relay, long endurance persistent stare, and wide area surveillance. Unique missions include dedicated manned and unmanned teaming with manned aviation; Emitter Mapping; Wide Band Communications Relay across 150-175 km; and standoff Chemical Biological Radiological, Nuclear, and Energy detection with on-board processing.

**Operated by:** Brigade

**Flight Endurance:** objective endurance of 18-24 hours over 75km radius of action



For more information on Future Combat Systems go to [www.army.mil/fcs](http://www.army.mil/fcs)

## Planting seeds of salvation in Africa

### Army engineer leads traveling ministry

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Summer is often the season when Christians go on mission trips to impoverished countries in Africa or South America to spread the gospel of Christ.

Usually, the Christian message is willingly received, with people young and old receiving Jesus Christ as their savior.

But, what happens to these new Christians once the visiting missionaries return home? After they become Christians, who will nurture their faith, answer their questions concerning Christ's teachings and encourage them to live by Christian beliefs?

For Space and Missile Defense Command engineer Russ Medley, the work of summertime Christian missionaries doesn't end when the seeds of evangelism are sown. He believes evangelism is the first step toward a life of discipleship, a life of faith that must be fostered with the continued support of pastors who know the children and their families, and are avail-

able to them on a regular basis. "Almost 100 percent of kids accept Christ as their savior when we first go into the schools," Medley said.

"But, what happens after they accept Christ? Most U.S. schools have Christian clubs and young Christians have opportunities to learn about Christ. But, in Africa, there are children who only really hear the message of Christ at our assemblies. We're going into the schools day in and day out to teach children about Christ."

Medley has committed himself to nurturing the faith of young African Christians in Zambia and Malawi through a non-profit organization he founded called Mustard Seed Ministries. It is a ministry that funds the efforts of local African ministers to continue to develop the faith of Christian children through ongoing Bible study teaching in the school systems of four cities in Zambia and two cities in Malawi.

"The heart of the ministry is the school assemblies," he said. "The Department of Education in Zambia and Malawi allow us to go into the schools to teach the children about Christ. We reach tens of thousands of kids through the school system."

See **Ministry** on page 16



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WARMTH OF GOSPEL**— Russ Medley, of Space and Missile Defense Command, admires a Malawi blanket he received during a recent visit to the central African country. Medley is founder and chairman of Mustard Seed Ministries, an organization that teaches young children in the African countries of Malawi and Zambia how to lead Christian lives.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Reporter recognized

**Redstone Rocket** staff writer Kari Hawkins receives a special appreciation award July 19 from the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition for her articles about veterans and their activities. From left are Bill Hogan, David Carney, Hawkins and president Joe Fitzgerald.

# Montgomery GI Bill perks may be transferred to spouses

*Soldiers in critical skills given benefits option*

WASHINGTON — The Army announced July 21 the implementation of a pilot program allowing Soldiers in critical skills who reenlist the ability to transfer Montgomery GI Bill benefits to their spouse.

Enlisted Soldiers who have completed at least six years of service, reenlist for a minimum of four years, qualify for a Selective Reenlistment Bonus, and are entitled to a Zone B or Zone C bonus will have the option to transfer up to 18 of 36 months of their MGIB entitlement. Soldiers can choose between a full SRB or a slightly reduced SRB plus the ability to transfer more than \$18,000 in benefits.

The fiscal 2006 basic MGIB monthly benefit for full-time training is currently \$1,034. This benefit is also available but prorated for part-time enrollment.

Soldiers who elected the Army College Fund as an enlistment option and/or have

enrolled and paid toward the \$600 MGIB Additional Opportunity can include their expanded benefit (MGIB, ACF and MGIB Additional Opportunity) in the transferability program.

The Army will study the results of the program with the possibility of making it a permanent part of the Army's reenlistment policies.

"The Army continues to focus on and provide support to Soldiers' families because it is the right thing to do, and because we know that we recruit Soldiers, but retain families," said Maj. Gen. Sean Byrne, director of Army Military Personnel Management.

Education benefits are a key component of the incentive package used by the Army to attract and retain quality Soldiers. At the foundation of these benefits is the MGIB. The transferability of MGIB benefits is an additional lever being used to retain Soldiers with critical skills.

Soldiers interested in participating in the program should visit their Army retention career counselor for information. *(Army News Service)*

# Ministry

continued from page 14

Medley, who manages \$6 million in research and development projects in the Advanced Technology Division of SMDC's Interceptor Center of Excellence, was drawn to mission work in Africa by a friend who introduced him to the possibility of taking salvation to thousands of African children.

"He said it was amazing to watch 25,000 kids accept Christ as savior," said Medley, a member of Huntsville's Doctrinal Bible Church.

"For four years, I went to Africa and trained to be a missionary. My spiritual gift is evangelism. But, after four years, I wanted to do more to help African children. I saw the opportunity to reach a lot of people for Christ. So, I started Mustard Seed Ministries."

The organization pays the salaries of 13 ministers on an annual budget of \$25,000. Each pastor is equipped with a portable amplifier for use at Christian assemblies that attract thousands of kids. Pastors with cars visit the same 12 to 15 schools a week while those with bikes visit six schools a week. It is estimated that the ministry reaches 7,000 to 8,000 children a week.

"We are pretty well saturated with evangelism in the cities where we work," Medley said. "Now, it's important to follow up with discipleship. We need to help these young people grow in their Christianity and move to spiritual maturity."

Though many city children in Zambia and Malawi attend church with their families, Medley believes they are not getting the right message of salvation.

"They may be going to a Baptist, charismatic or Presbyterian church. In fact, Zambia has declared Christianity as their official religion. Zambia and Malawi have been rated as the countries that least need the gospel because everyone is going to church," Medley said.

"But, even with that they still believe in 'work salvation' where you repent, stop sinning and do good works so you can go to heaven. They don't understand faith in Christ is all you need. When they trust Christ as their savior, they are possessors of eternal life. Whatever else may happen, heaven is their destiny."

The theme of Mustard Seed Ministries comes from 1st Corinthians 15:3, which says "Christ died for our sins."

"We preach grace very strongly," he said. "Once saved always saved. If you sin, it affects your relationship with others and with Christ. But, it doesn't affect your eternal salvation."

School officials welcome ministers from Mustard Seed Ministries because of the positive influence they have on their students.

"We get testimonies time and time again on how better behaved the children are when we are working in the schools," Medley said. "The affect the services have on the kids make them better students who do their homework. They do better and better on their tests. They have an inner peace and happiness."

Medley made his annual visit to Zambia and Malawi in June, taking his wife Laura and two students from Pennsylvania, who won the children with their skills at moon dancing, and singing hip hop and rap. They were able to preach to students at 15 assemblies over five days and conduct Bible study classes at night for the organization's ministers.

During his visits, Medley relies on his

staff to translate his message to students. During the rest of the year, Medley relies on ministers like Mulenga Nkole and Dickson Kasongo to continue to take Christ's message into the schools. He talks to the ministers via phone and Internet on a regular basis.

Medley wants to go back in July 2007 and provide a Bible conference for pastors. He would like to take Mustard Seed Ministries into the rural parts of Zambia and Malawi, and into neighboring countries. When he retires in a few years, Medley, who will graduate from seminary at Luther Rice University in Atlanta in May 2007, would like to have the ability to visit the countries two or three times a year, and possibly live in Africa to be closer to the work of Mustard Seed Ministries.

Although he knows the organization's work is helping the young people of Zambia and Malawi, Medley is still frustrated that funds limit the ministry from doing even more to reach rural children or to provide financial assistance in the schools.

"At one school of 6,004 students, the headmaster is trying to house, clothe and

feed 800 AIDS orphans," Medley said. "Mustard Seed Ministries just raises enough to pay our preachers' salaries, which are a little less than what a school teacher makes. Unfortunately, we don't have the money to help with other needs."

Mustard Seed Ministries is managed by Medley as its chairman of the board and five board members – accountant Larry Gill, fireman Richard Aldenderfer, teacher Charles Scruggs, and engineers Paul Grieb and Clay Peake. Three churches support the ministry's efforts – 1st Missionary Baptist Church, Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and the Doctrinal Bible Church. Mustard Seed Ministries is part of the Combined Federal Campaign.

"Mustard Seed Ministries is well worth the investment," said Medley, who has often spent his own money to keep the ministry going.

"We reach 40 kids for every dollar donated to Mustard Seed Ministries. And, those kids are taking the message home to their families."

For more information on Mustard Seed Ministries, call Medley at 217-0541 or e-mail [ljrrmed@wmconnect.com](mailto:ljrrmed@wmconnect.com).



ON-SITE – African children welcome Russ Medley and other visitors from Mustard Seed Ministries.

Courtesy photo

# Citizen-Soldiers praised for role on front lines

*Vice president lauds National Guard effort*

By JIM GARAMONE  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Vice President Richard Cheney on July 17 told members of the Iowa National Guard that he appreciates and admires their service around the world as he highlighted Guard contributions to the war on terror.

“From homeland security to swift and effective action after the Gulf Coast hurricanes last fall, to service in the Middle East and the Balkans, you’ve made a tremendous difference for the nation,” he said during a speech at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

Cheney used the contributions of Iowans in the war to spotlight the contributions of National Guardsmen around the world. “As we meet today, the 133rd Infantry ... and the 194th Field Artillery Battalion, both from Camp Dodge, are serving in Iraq,” he said. “Others, from the 1034th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, will be on their way soon. All told, in the months since our country was attacked September the 11th, the Iowa National Guard has mobilized and deployed over 8,500 Soldiers and Airmen — more than at any other time in modern history.”

Other Iowa forces deployed in the war on terror include the 224th Engineer Battalion, the 132nd Fighter Wing, the 767th Engineer Team (Firefighting), the 1088th Personnel Service Detachment, the 135th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, the 2168th Transportation Company, and the 194th Infantry Detachment, Cheney said. “Your duties in the war on terror have been many and varied and often dangerous,” he said. “And the record you’ve amassed is superb.”

Guardsmen are the face of America, Cheney said, and the “men and women who wear this nation’s uniform have reminded people everywhere of America’s purposes.”

Cheney said America deploys military force not to conquer, but to liberate. “And after we throw back tyrants, we stand by our friends to ensure that democratic institutions can take hold and to help build the freedom that leads to peace in the long run,” he said. “By their openness, their decency and their kindness to others in thousands of interactions every day, our men and women in uniform are building bonds of friendship between the U.S. and the nations we’ve liberated.”

He said U.S. forces have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan to overthrow violent, merciless regimes. “Now (the countries) have democratically elected govern-



White House photo by David Bohrer

## Vice President Richard Cheney

ments, the dictators are gone, and 50 million people are awakening to a future of hope and freedom,” he said. “Americans who return home from that part of the world can be proud of their service for the rest of their lives.”

Terrorists understand that democracy is their enemy, Cheney said. “The war on terror is a battle for the future of civilization,” he said. “It is a battle worth fighting. It’s a battle we’re going to win.”

The growing size and capabilities of Iraqi and Afghan forces are working against the terrorists, the vice president said. U.S. forces will continue to train Afghan and Iraqi soldiers and police and, ultimately, fewer U.S. forces will be needed in those countries.

Cheney said the terrorists were at war with the United States long before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in New York and Washington. He said terrorists believed they had learned lessons from past American behavior. “They grew bolder in their belief that if they killed Americans, they could change American policy,” he said.

He cited the 1983 Marine barracks bombing in Beirut, Lebanon, that killed 241 American servicemembers and the deaths of American servicemen in Mogadishu, Somalia, in 1993 as two examples terrorists used in forming their policies. “The terrorists came to believe that they could strike America and American targets without paying any price,” he said. “And so they continued to wage those attacks, making the world less safe and eventually striking the United States here at home on 9/11.”

Sept. 11 changed everything, Cheney said. “The United States will never go back to the false comforts of the world before 9/11,” he said. “Terrorist attacks are not caused by the use of strength. They are invited by the perception of weakness.”

The United States will not be weak again, the vice president said. All the power of the American government and international allies will be directed against these terrorists where they operate, “so we do not have to face them on the streets of our own cities.”

# Maryland National Guard assists Lebanon evacuees

By HEIKE HASENAUER  
Army News Service

BALTIMORE, Md. — About one dozen Maryland National Guard Soldiers from the 1297th Combat Sustainment and Support Battalion were at Baltimore-Washington International Airport early July 21 to assist Americans being evacuated from war-torn Lebanon.

“We’re helping to carry luggage, offering boxed lunches (provided by Red Cross) and stuffed Mickey Mouse dolls to the children, helping them find their way through the airport to make flight connections, and even providing spiritual support,” Staff Sgt. Chris Gerben said.

Chaplain (Capt.) William Baron of the battalion’s 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry, was among three chaplains on hand for the first flight of evacuees into BWI shortly after midnight July 20.

“Some people have sat down and talked to us. Some have had it pretty rough — dodging bombs to cross Beirut,” Baron said. “Some were riding in cars and had artillery shells explode around them and saw parts of buildings crumble.”

Many of the evacuees are dual citizens from Lebanon and were visiting relatives there. Many of them are now worried about the loved ones they left behind, Baron said.

Salah Ahmed of Springfield, Va., didn’t yet know what his wife and children had experienced as he anxiously awaited

their arrival in Baltimore.

“My family arrived in Lebanon together on June 20,” Ahmed said. “I left on July 1, and they were supposed to return to the States in August, but then the fighting started.”

Maha Stephanou and her two children were also visiting family.

“I was there for a month,” she said. “I was evacuated with 120 other families who live in three apartment buildings in Beirut. We were transported by bus to a boat at a marina and then to the ship, Orient. Most of my family is still over there.”

Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora shed insight into the graveness of the situation on “Larry King Live,” stating that 330 Lebanese had been killed as of July 20 and 1,100 had been injured. Fifty-five bridges had also been destroyed.

The Israeli attacks “are bringing the country back 20 years,” he said.

News reports indicate hundreds of thousands of people are fleeing Beirut. Some 50,000 evacuees fled into neighboring Syria in one day alone, CNN’s Anderson Cooper reported. And a half million Lebanese citizens have been displaced by the fighting.

In a CNN report, Roula Talj, a Lebanese political adviser, said anyone who was able to flee Lebanon has fled. “It’s very tense. It’s very sad.”

*Editor’s note: Heike Hasenauer is the senior editor for Soldiers magazine.*



Photo by Heike Hasenauer

**COMFORTING WORDS—** Chaplain (Capt.) William Baron of the Maryland Army National Guard’s 1st Squadron, 158th Cavalry, talks to a mother and her four daughters who arrived from Lebanon July 21 at BWI Airport in Baltimore.

# Brazil takes control of Western hemisphere military council

By Sgt. SARA WOOD  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Brazilian military July 20 assumed leadership of the Inter-American Defense Board, the military advisory board to the Organization of American States.

In a ceremony at OAS headquarters here, Brazilian Brig. Gen. Jorge Armando Ribeiro took over the IADB chairman position from U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Keith M. Huber, who held the position for two years.

Armando is the first elected chairman of the board, which has been chaired by U.S. general officers for 64 years.

In March, the OAS, the premiere political organization for the Western hemisphere, decided to officially recognize the IADB as part of its organization, making it subject to OAS statutes. One statute says that all senior leadership positions must be elected from the member nations, so the U.S. gave up its claim on the IADB chairman position and opened the position up to election, Huber told American Forces Press Service.

The elections were energetic, with many of the IADB member nations participating, Huber said. He said he was not surprised that Armando was overwhelmingly elected, because he is highly respected among the members.



Courtesy photo

**TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY—** Brazilian Brig. Gen. Jorge Armando Ribeiro, right, incoming chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board, Jose Miguel Insulza, secretary-general of the Organization of American States, and U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Keith M. Huber, outgoing chairman of the IADB, stand at attention during the IADB transfer of authority ceremony in Washington, D.C., July 20.

“I have full faith and confidence that General Armando currently has all the skills and all the knowledge to improve and enhance the effectiveness of the Inter-American Defense Board,” Huber said.

Huber and Armando, in separate interviews, both acknowledged the historical significance of Brazil taking over the chair-

man position, since the IADB was originally formed in Rio de Janeiro in 1942 at a meeting of foreign ministers.

“At this other historical moment for the board, Brazil also thought that it should be part of it,” Armando said through a translator.

The July 20 ceremony was presided over by Jose Miguel

Insulza, secretary-general of the OAS. It was appropriate for Insulza to preside over the ceremony because it underscores the new, historic relationship between the OAS, a political organization, and the IADB, a military organization, Huber said.

“We once again have the very visible, very conscious reinforcement of the critical theme that within democracies, militaries are subordinate to civil authority,” he said. “It’s a tremendously powerful and important message to continually reinforce.”

Huber noted that in his two years at the IADB, the number of delegates has increased from 18 to 24. Since the OAS decision to incorporate the IADB, three nations have expressed interest in joining the IADB, and Spain has become the board’s first international observer, he added.

More nations are participating in the IADB because they see the value of the organization’s opinion on defense matters, Huber said.

“They want to know what the military leaders think, and they want to obtain the technical advice from the military experts,” he said. “The more people who are involved, the better — the more we can learn, the more we can share our experiences, the more we can comprehend the issues and comprehend

why we think differently.”

Until now, Huber has been “dual-hatted” as the IADB chairman and president of the Inter-American Defense College, which is located at Fort McNair here and is the senior military academic institution for the Western hemisphere. He will remain in the president position until summer 2007, when he goes to his next assignment, he said.

The international experience of working within the IADB and OAS is invaluable for military officers, Huber said. Military leaders need to understand diplomacy and the importance of team building among international partners, because the world’s militaries are moving to a combined future, he said.

“I do not think the U.S. military will ever go anywhere or do anything by themselves,” he said. “We will be joint; we will be combined; we will be working in coalitions; we will have international partners; we will be faced with different cultural perspectives; we will be working in different languages — that’s the reality, to me, of all our interactions.”

Huber said that he is glad other countries will now have a chance to participate in the board’s leadership, gaining valuable diplomatic and cultural experiences.

# NAACP salutes DoD's equal opportunity efforts

*Awards presented  
at annual dinner*

By RUDI WILLIAMS  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON – The NAACP honored Defense Department military and civilian personnel who made outstanding contributions to equal opportunity in the armed forces during the civil rights organization's 31st annual Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards dinner here July 18.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held its

annual convention here last week.

This year, the National Guard Bureau was highlighted during the awards dinner for its effort in equal opportunity and diversity policies and programs. The bureau was also cited for its efforts to ensure reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.

Servicemembers and DoD civilians received NAACP distinguished service awards for outstanding service to the nation during the global war on terrorism and outstanding contributions to equal opportunity and human relations.

"For 31 years, the NAACP has rewarded the outstanding equal opportunity and civil rights contributions of military personnel, veterans and civilian employees,"

Marjorie Green of the NAACP national board of directors said. "Each year, the NAACP highlights a different branch of the armed services on a rotating basis. This year we are pleased to highlight the National Guard Bureau for their progress in equity and civil rights."

Green told the more than 400 attendees that the NAACP appreciates the role the Defense and Veterans Affairs Departments have historically played in the advancement of women and minorities.

"The NAACP will continue to provide you the proper motivation for continued progress," she noted. "We salute your leadership and we pledge to continue to work with you in promoting equal opportunity in today's military and in correcting the wrongs of the past."

The organization traditionally pays tribute at the dinner to fallen African-American heroes. "This tribute honors our military men and women who have served and are serving presently fighting the global war on terrorism," said Jimmy Love, DoD's director of military equal opportunity and the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute's liaison. "Many have been wounded, prisoners of war, and others were missing in action. Several gave their last full measure of devotion."

"We include this memorial tribute as part of our awards ceremony because it serves as a reminder to us all that freedom is not free," said Love, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel.

Claiborne Haughton Jr., former deputy assistant secretary of defense for equal opportunity, then delivered the memorial message for the Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony. National Guard Bureau's Army Sgt. 1st Class Sean Baker and Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kim Evans served as sentries at the table.

The 2006 NAACP Meritorious Service Award was presented to Army Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau. The award is awarded annually to a serviceman or woman in uniform in a policy making position for the highest achievement in military equal opportunity.

The 2006 Benjamin L. Hooks Distinguished Service Award was presented to Felton Page, the Guard Bureau's director of equal opportunity and civil rights.

The Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award is awarded annually to a number of military personnel in uniform who have distinguished themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity policies and programs.

This year's recipients are Gregory Chappelle, Army; Lt. Michael D. Files, Navy; Capt. Charles Orgbon Jr., Marine Corps; Carolyn A. Peeler, Air Force; Mary Odom and Phyllis Brantley, National Guard Bureau; Sgt. 1st Class Earnest L. Clemons, Army National Guard; Maj. Kenneth L. Hale Sr., Air National Guard; Joann Miller, Coast Guard; and Constanica Lumpkin, 4th Estate defense agencies.



Photo by Rudi Williams

**SENTRIES—** Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kim Evans, left, and Army Sgt. 1st Class Sean Baker serve as sentries during the Missing Man Table and Honors Ceremony at the NAACP 31st annual Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C., July 18. Baker and Evans are members of the National Guard Bureau at the Pentagon.

# Troops step up to plate against NASA

## All-star softball showdown set

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

The Marines and Soldiers are teammates now with the same goal.

Their mission: successfully defend the Redstone troops' title in the third annual All-Star game against their Marshall Space Flight Center counterparts.

It won't be easy. The troops beat NASA the past two years by one run in their final at-bat. This time NASA is hosting the showdown and will bat last if necessary.

The troop all-stars will play the NASA all-stars at 6 p.m. Thursday at NASA field 3 at the corner of Martin Road and Ride-out Road.

"We're just going to go out and have a little fun," Marines center-fielder Marvin Fletcher, a first-time all-star, said. "This gives us a chance to mingle with the other players here at Redstone."

The NASA players would love to avenge their 16-15 loss last year and 12-11 defeat in 2004.

"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.

Here are the all-star rosters:

• **Redstone** – shortstop Orlanda Grim-sley, Marines; coach/pitcher/shortstop/outfielder Lee Burket, Marines; pitcher/third baseman/outfielder Sean Newsom, Marines; shortstop/third baseman/first baseman Billy Clark, Bravo; second baseman/outfielder Mathew Denbow, Bravo; infielder/outfielder Mike Wolonsky,

MEDDAC; pitcher/first baseman Eric Moorman, MEDDAC; Joe Cox, MEDDAC; pitcher/second baseman/catcher Henry Herrera, Bravo; outfielder James Godine, NCO Academy; pitcher/infielder Stephen Hogan, MEDDAC; center fielder Marvin Fletcher, Marines; and Bryant Burdell, HHC 59th.

• **NASA** – captain Victor Pritchett, Club Officers; co-captain Jim Lomas, Kitchen Sinks; Andy Young, Diners Club; Mike Guthrie, Wolves; Scott Ringel, SpaceBalls; Jeff Klop, Easy Outs; Brian Sabourin, FireBalls; Jim Albert, Station Rats; Damon Gleghorn, Wolves; Josh Borgert, Disco Inferno; Mack Chavis, SpaceBalls; Jim Kirby, Whaz Up; John Tarver, Dirt People; Doug Walton, UniTes; John Hutt, FireBalls; and Clifton Jones, TBE Integrators.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**LEADING OFF**— Marvin Fletcher, batting leadoff for the Marines during their win over MEDDAC in the post final June 29, is among the troop all-stars who will play NASA on Thursday night.

## Units dig in for preseason volleyball

### Net goes up for tourney

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

Headquarters & Alpha is ready to defend its volleyball title with a new roster.

The Gators beat Bravo in last year's final, but has no returnees as the preseason tournament arrives July 31.

"Everyone's going to be new this year," coach Richard Fuller said. He expects a "very aggressive team" with the goal of becoming champion again.

Tomiwo Suzuki is expected to be among the team's top players. The Gators

planned their first practice July 24.

In last year's final Headquarters & Alpha rallied to beat Bravo 15-21, 21-18, 15-11 on May 18, 2005. The Gators had started the regular season 1-4 but finished at 6-6 and went 4-1 in the post-season tournament.

Team rosters are due today by 1 p.m. at Pagano Gym. The preseason tournament starts July 31 and usually lasts about a week and a half. The regular season should start around Aug. 14.

"Usually for volleyball we have six or seven (teams)," sports director Gaylene Wilson said.

Games will be played Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at Pagano Gym. A preseason clinic is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. July 31 before the first game.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**AIRBORNE**— Brian Blystone of Headquarters & Alpha makes a jump set during the Gators' win over Bravo in last year's volleyball final at Pagano Gym.

# Memory

continued from page 8

Army Sgt. Carlos Pernell, Army 1st Lt. Scott Love and Marine Capt. Adam Fales.

“When we lose someone, there is a DoD posting, and the Marine Moms Online will help us get information about the Soldier,” Smith said.

“If there is a Marine Mom organization in the state that Marine is from they will pick up their listing and support the family. But, not all states have a Marine Moms and some states aren’t as active as others. We’ve picked up seven Marines from Georgia, one from Mississippi and one from Tennessee.”

Smith and Adcock met online at Marine Moms Online. When Smith found

out about Adcock’s scrapbook project (she had completed two at the time), she jumped right in to help and they quickly completed a scrapbook for the family of Marine Lance Cpl. Jonathan Smith.

“We got that scrapbook done in a day and presented it to his mom at the viewing,” Smith said. “Things don’t usually happen that quickly. We make the scrapbooks and then somehow we know when to deliver them. If we call and can’t get in touch with the family, then we wait for them to contact us because they will contact us when they are ready. We delivered Capt. Fales’ scrapbook to his mother on the day before Mother’s Day.”

With each delivery, Smith and Adcock renew their commitment to their work.

“None of the moms know we are putting the scrapbook together for their fallen

Soldier,” Smith said. “When we deliver it, we see the mamas rub the pages with their hands and we see the tears fall. We cry with them and we laugh with them.”

The group also works to be present at the funerals of fallen Alabama Soldiers. They often lend support to the family side-by-side with the Patriot Guard Riders, a group of veteran motorcycle riders who line the streets along the route to the cemetery in support of the family.

“This is a passion for us,” Smith said. “What we’re doing for these fallen families is so important. We have to take care of these mamas and these families.”

While the scrapbooks are their main focus, members of Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms also support deployed Soldiers by sending them care packages filled with food, toys, games and other items that they can get donated or they can purchase at very small costs.

“I found a bunch of lipstick tubes that pop out to be fans that I sent to some Marines,” Smith said, laughing.

“We’ve sent Soldiers soccer balls, Nerf balls, McDonald’s Glory Beanie Babies, Burger King Star Wars characters and all kinds of stuff. If we can make those kids smile or laugh for five minutes we have done our job in the war zone.”

Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms will send up to 10 boxes brimming with various items to a Soldier to share with his or her unit during the course of their deployment. All they need is the name of a Soldier and an address.

The group also supports Soldier events during the year, such as hosting Marines at Thanksgiving and Father’s Day, with the help of various donors such as Atlanta Bread Company and Apple Lane Farms.

Recently, the group was involved in a barbecue hosted for the Marine Detachment at Redstone Arsenal by Huntsville Christian Church.

Both Smith and Adcock have full-time jobs, but they view Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms as their life’s work.

“We really feel supporting our Soldiers is our mission in life,” Smith said. “Our children and what we are doing for our Soldiers is what’s important to us.”

Though never a Soldier herself, Smith has been the daughter, wife, sister, aunt and now a mother of Marines, and the aunt of two Soldiers.

“When Christopher said he was joining the Marines, I said ‘No way!’ But, he said ‘Its tradition, mom,’” Smith recalled.

“My daughter saw the Navy as a way to do something with her life. She said ‘What better way to get my education and figure out what I really want to do?’ I agreed that serving her country was a good thing. But, I told her ‘Don’t think about not being called up and being deployed.’ She said ‘I’m ready if they train me.’”

Smith’s children and Adcock’s son, who served in the Marines, are an inspiration to the two moms.

“To serve is a great thing because we wouldn’t be sitting here if it wasn’t for our Soldiers,” she said. “I’m so proud of my children and everyone in the service.”

To contact Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms, call Smith at 658-0594. For information on Marine Moms, visit its web site at <http://www.marinemomsonline.net>. Donations to Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms can be made directly to the organization’s bank account at any Wachovia Bank.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**A LIFE’S MISSION**— Mementos from the work done by Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms is testimony to their heartfelt calling to support the families of fallen servicemembers and to also support deployed troops. In the background is a listing of Alabama’s fallen servicemembers. The framed images at left are from the “Support Our Troops” pancake breakfast fund-raiser that the organization hosted in June at Applebee’s in Madison. The framed certificate of appreciation at right was signed April 15 and sent to the Alabama Marine Moms/Military Moms by the officers and Soldiers of Camp Mike Spann in Mazar-E Shanf, Afghanistan in thanks for care packages that promoted excellent morale throughout their mission. The scrapbook in the foreground is a copy of the scrapbook presented to the family of Marine Cpl. Matthew Conley.

## Sports & Recreation

### 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 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 Cover 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.

### Bowler wanted

The fall bowling season is quickly approaching and the American Legion Post 237 bowling team needs a full-time bowler for the season. Active duty, retired military or anyone with previous active duty, Reserve or National Guard service is welcome. If not a member of an American Legion post, the bowler must be willing to

join. For information call Paul Eickholt 876-2525.

### Scholarship benefit

The Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers will hold a golf tournament to benefit its scholarship fund Sept. 21 at Sunset Landing at the Huntsville Airport. Chairman Phil Loftis is accepting tax deductible sponsorships from corporate entities. For information call Loftis, at Parsons, 217-2532.

### Swimming pools

Pool 1 on Vincent Drive and pool 3 on Goss Road are now open. Open swim is every day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Pool 2 on Weeden Mountain Drive near building 1500 will not be open this year. Daily passes are \$3 and can be purchased at each pool. For more information, call 876-4868.

## Conferences & Meetings

### Toastmasters

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

### Enlisted spouses

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

### Helicopter technology

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

### 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 monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 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.

### Computer users

Andy Karabinos of the Huntsville Personal Computer Users Group will speak at 10:45 a.m. Aug. 12 at the Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Karabinos, a longtime investor and leader of the Investing Special Interest Group, will speak on Global Warming, the Kyoto Treaty, and energy (including alternative energy sources) effects on the markets. Preceding his presentation, Kevin Wangbickler will present a program for the Internet/Windows SIG at 9:15 on deleting the unnecessary and unwanted programs found on your computer. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 883-9601.

### Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet 6:30 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Elks Club, 725 Franklin St., north entrance. Karel Lea Biggs, an award-winning speaker from Clarksville, Tenn., and on the book review staff of the Civil War News, is scheduled speaker. The meeting is free; and visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. For information call 858-6191.

### Air defenders

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association is holding a Member Appreciation social Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. at the Firehouse Pub. Interested friends of the Air Defense Artillery Branch and air defenders may start individual memberships in the association. Applications will be available at the door at only \$10 per year dues. RSVP by Aug. 18 to Janett Beasley 837-5282, ext.1524.

### 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](http://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 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

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or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil) for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

### Surplus sales

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

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-4 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. The shop is accepting summer clothing/items. "Join us Saturday, Aug. 5 from 10-2 for some great buys," a prepared release said. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Computer classes

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

### Chapel services

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

### Volunteer opportunities

There are many benefits to volunteering. One is to make a difference, and at Army Community Service you can do that by giving your time to help Soldiers, family members and retirees. But you can also help yourself by gaining skills and teamwork experience, boosting your self-confidence in the workplace, and gathering

job experience to put in that otherwise blank spot on your resume. ACS has different programs that need volunteers as assistants. The hours and days are flexible and child care is free while you are volunteering. No experience necessary. Be a part of the ACS team. Call Phyllis Cox 876-5397.

### TOW system reunion

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

### Johnson High reunion

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

### 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.

### Parents meet principals

Join Child and Youth Services for its Parent/Principal Night on Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at Diane Campbell Recreation Center. Local school principals and administrators will be on hand to answer your questions. This event also culminates the Summer Reading Program; and students who partic-

ipated in the program will be given awards. Families will have the chance to register for CYS 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](mailto:charles.urban@redstone.army.mil) to reserve your tickets. Visit [www.broadwaytheatreleague.org](http://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.

### Employment briefing

The Federal Employment Briefing is designed to give an understanding of the federal application process. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory

**See Announcements on page 25**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
<b>AS OF 20 July 06</b>																			
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																			
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
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
SCBK06355570	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	29-Jul-06	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		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
SCBK06364926	Prgm Mgmt Spec	31-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr- PEO C3T	GS-0301	14	14	88,178 - 114,631		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	
SCBK06364926D	Prgm Mgmt Spec	31-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr- PEO C3T	GS-0301	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06363472	Mgmt Assistant	31-Jul-06	Acq Supp Ctr- PEO C3T	GS-0344	7	7	35,375 - 45,985		X				X		X	X		X	
SCBK06410127	Facilities Specialist	2-Aug-06	G4-Cmd Internal Logistics	GS-1601	9	11	43,271 - 68,066	X	X										
SCBK06421253	Electronics Engineer	2-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	62,751 - 97003	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X
SCBK06421253D	Electronics Engineer	2-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	62,751 - 97003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST06425321	Security Spec	2-Aug-06	Security Div.	GG-0080	5,7,9	11	28,556 - 68,066	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	
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
SCBK06375745	Supervisory Contract Spec	2-Aug-06	AMC	NH-1102	4	4	88,178 - 134,838			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
SCBK06418175	General Engineer	3-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK06418175D	General Engineer	3-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06407980	Budget Analyst	4-Aug-06	SMDC	GS-0560	12	12	62,751 - 81,572	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	
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
SCBK06401167	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	17-Aug-06	USAASC	NH-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
SCBK06401167D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	17-Aug-06	USAASC	NH-0861	4	4	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06363483	Aerospace Engineer	18-Aug-06	ACQ SUP CTR	GS-0861	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X		X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK06363483D	Aerospace Engineer	18-Aug-06	ACQ SUP CTR	GS-0861	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06428288	Equip Spec (Aircraft & Electronics)	15-Sep-06	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	55,360 - 81,572				X				X			X	
SCBK06428285	Equip Spec (Aircraft)	15-Sep-06	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	55,360 - 81,572				X				X			X	
SCBK06428279	Equip Spec (General)	15-Sep-06	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	55,360 - 81,572				X				X			X	
SCBK06428299	Logistics Mgmt Spec	15-Sep-06	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	65,832 - 97,003				X				X			X	
SCBK06266183	Electronics Engineer	30-Sep-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855-3	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK06266183D	Electronics Engineer	30-Sep-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855-3	3	3	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SOPM.GOV</b>																			
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
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
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
SCBK06421253D	Electronics Engineer	2-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	12	13	62,751 - 97,003	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
SCBK06418175D	General Engr	3-Aug-06	AMRDEC	DB-0801	12	13	62,751 - 97,003	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
SCBK06401167D	Supervisory Aerospace Engr	17-Aug-06	USAASC	NH-0861	14	15	88,178 - 134,838	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06363483D	Aerospace Engineer	18-Aug-06	Acq Ctr	GS-0861	14	14	88,178 - 114,631	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK06266183D	Electronics Engineer	30-Sep-06	AMRDEC	DB-0855	12	13	62,751 - 97,003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)</b>																			
<b>A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.</b>																			
<b>B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).</b>																			
<b>C - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).</b>																			
<b>D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)</b>																			
<b>E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)</b>																			
<b>F - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)</b>																			
<b>H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)</b>																			
<b>I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)</b>																			
<b>R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)</b>																			
<b>T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)</b>																			
<b>V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).</b>																			
<b>U - All U.S. citizens</b>																			
<b>NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.</b>																			
<b>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 <a href="http://www.redstonemwr.com">www.redstonemwr.com</a> or you may telephone 876-7772.</b>																			
Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit <a href="http://www.amccareers.com">www.amccareers.com</a> or <a href="http://www.cpol.army.mil">www.cpol.army.mil</a> , search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647, for more information.																			