

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 56 No. 10

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

March 14, 2007

## Headquarters news

SMDC  
commander  
to arrive  
in June  
Page 4



## Helping hands



Fund-raiser drive  
has kickoff event  
Page 6

## To your health



Walter Reed  
Medical Center  
investigated  
Page 10

## Still serving



Veterans updated  
on Honor Flight  
Page 12

## Win or lose



Teams jump into playoffs  
Page 20

# Sound studio a hit with teens

Youth Center offers place  
to experiment with music

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Music is the name of the game for teens who are frequent visitors to the new sound studio at the Youth Center.

While other teens practice their dunk shots and court moves on the basketball floor below, musician wannabes are trying their hand at the electric drums, electric keyboard and microphone that are now set up in a small room that overlooks the gym.

"This area use to be used for scorekeeping," said Kevin Frankson, director of Youth Services for MWR's Child and Youth Services.

"But, now we have scoreboards in the gym. So, this became a great place away from everything else where we could set up a sound studio."

On a recent afternoon, 18-year-old Byron Butler, a senior at Columbia High School, was practicing his techniques on the electric drum set while nearby 17-year-old Gabriel Gladden, and 15-year-old Chris Cunningham, both students at New Century Technology High School, were working together on the keyboard.

"I know a little bit about playing the piano," Gabriel said. "I've taken some lessons."

Just behind the two teens was Chris' little sister, 12-year-old Maria, a seventh grader at Williams Middle School, who was trying to get up the courage to sing into the studio's microphone.

The sound studio is a result of last year's Army Family Action Plan conference at Redstone Arsenal. During that conference, the sound studio was among the top three requests from the Arsenal's youth.

"The youth wanted a studio where they could come in and listen and perform, and produce music," Frankson said.

Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski gave approval for the sound stu-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**HOME OF ITS OWN**— The Youth Center's sound studio is located in a small room above the center's gym that was once used for scorekeeping. The room is ideal because it is removed from other center activities.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**FINDING RIGHT NOTE**— Seventeen-year-old Gabriel Gladden, right, picks out a tune on the sound studio's electric keyboard with help from Chris Cunningham, 15.

dio. About \$18,000 was spent to purchase a "high-tech, state-of-the-art studio" equipped with Yamaha instruments and a digital mixing board. The setup offers a lot of flexibility for aspiring musicians.

"We have all kinds of different sounds that we can make with the drums," said Mike

Crum, Youth Services program assistant/team coordinator.

"The keyboard also gives us a variety of sounds and beats. You can key in a beat or make your own beat from scratch. The mixer lets us produce music on CDs, and gives us the freedom to make adjustments so the vocals aren't too high or the beat isn't too low."

There are 24 different drum sounds that can be played on the electric drum set, said Andre Terry, director of Child and Youth Services.

"There's Latino, reggae, hip hop and rock. There's an acoustical sound and a synthetic sound," he said. "Rather than having 15 different drum sets to get 15 different sounds, we can get all of them in one drum set."

"This setup gets the youth a whole lot more flexibility of sounds. They can use their imagination to twist and add and mix the sounds."

The drums also come with a set of headphones, so that aspiring drummers can practice without imposing their sounds on other musicians in the sound studio.

Besides performing on their instrument of choice, the youth

can also arrange and mix music on the studio's computer system. The computer changes audio waves from the drums, keyboard and microphone into digital information to create musical tracks that can be produced on CDs.

The sound studio is open for youth every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, beginning at 4 p.m. It is only part of a larger plan in place to encourage musicianship among the Arsenal's youth.

"First, we want to get the teens into the studio so they get use to touching, feeling and hearing this equipment," Terry said.

"Our next step is to hire contractors through SkiesUnlimited to provide instruction on the instruments."

The other two requests from youth during the Army Family Action Plan conference have also been addressed since last year. The youth now have access to homework and ACT/SAT tutors, and plans are being made to move all institutional classes out of the gym so youth can once again play basketball in the afternoon and evening hours.

# An open lane random survey

*What do you think of Army Emergency Relief?*

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

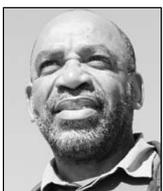


**Sgt. Thomas Champion  
AMCOM**  
"I've had friends that have used it and it's helped them out immensely. It's there for Soldiers when it's absolutely necessary."

**Becky Pillsbury  
military spouse**  
"It is one of the best programs the military has for taking care of Soldiers and their families. And especially when Soldiers are deployed they need to know their families will have their needs taken care of. That will increase the Soldiers' ability to do their job to the best of their ability in protecting us in the Global War on Terrorism."



**Russell Moore  
Alutiiq digital photographer**  
"I think it's a great thing that will help Soldiers in a time of need, when they need help to assist them in time of emergency financial needs. AER is a private non-profit organization incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER's sole mission is to help Soldiers and their dependents."



**Sgt. Eliamar Trapp  
59th Ordnance Brigade**  
"I think it is an outstanding program. I've known many Soldiers who have needed help and I know AER has always been there for them — which is why I give (to Army Emergency Relief) every single year."



# Barriers in shopping area

I have been told that the newly placed barriers in front of the PX/Commissary are the result of an accident involving a car and a pedestrian. And even if this is not factually correct, I still know that we have pedestrian/vehicle issues because I have witnessed them. There are a large number of drivers who believe that they are bigger and therefore they have the right of way.

However, in thinking about this I am not totally convinced that the barriers are the right solution.

When I moved down here from St. Louis in 1997 I found it unusual when I saw the signs on the Commissary advising pedestrians/baggers to watch for cars. We have pedestrian crosswalks in front of the PX/Commissary yet I have seen drivers completely disregard people in the crosswalks. I have always been told that as soon as a pedestrian sets foot in a crosswalk a driver must yield; however, that doesn't always seem to be the case down here.

The sign telling pedestrians and baggers to watch for cars is ill advised and appears to be contrary to the purpose of pedestrian crosswalks and the Alabama Drivers License Manual which states "Drivers must: Yield the right of way to pedestrians" (page 64). The only exceptions are crosswalks at intersections, which would not apply in the PX/Commissary situation. I am sure that the statement in the manual has some basis in Alabama state law.

I think the barriers have only

made things worse by routing all the traffic, that would normally have traveled north and south in front of the PX/Commissary, into the lanes between the parking aisles. In the lanes we have a more restrictive space, even more pedestrians/baggers walking to and from vehicles and between parked vehicles, etc.

I would suggest that the Safety folks pay a visit to some of the stores/malls in Huntsville/Madison area where they will see few if any signs telling pedestrians to watch for cars. What they will see is stop signs, stop lines, pedestrian yield signs, etc.

Here are some of my recommendations:

- Repaint the pedestrian crosswalks to add stop lines and the word Stop at the crosswalks or stop signs or pedestrian yield signs;
- Speed bumps;
- Speed limits 10 mph;
- And if a driver gets caught disregarding any of the above, take away their Redstone Arsenal driving privileges for a few months;
- Then get rid of the barriers.

I am not advocating that we relieve pedestrians/baggers of acting sensibly when walking in the parking lot. However, we do need to protect the pedestrians/baggers because they are more at risk than a driver behind the wheel of 2,000 to 4,000 pounds of metal and not paying attention.

In a setting like the PX/Commissary parking lot, I firmly

See **Barriers** on page 5

# Open to any responses

I am a prisoner serving a sentence in the state of Alabama. It is my first (and last) time in prison. I am lonely and a long way from home.

I would love to have someone to write to and receive letters from. I enjoy writing letters and would gladly share my experiences in prison with anyone who wouldn't mind sharing their everyday life — which now seems so attractive to me.

I don't feel I'm a bad person,

yet I feel abandoned and alone. I want to reach out and find someone who cares and give myself a chance to remain hopeful that I can overcome this terrible experience. I will answer every letter and be grateful for the opportunity.

**Michael W. Jordan**

*Editor's note: His mailing address is Michael W. Jordan, 138154, Holman unit 3700 E1-168A, Atmore, AL 36503.*

# Walking distance for health

Recently I have been diagnosed with a heart problem and high blood pressure. My doctors have told me that I need to exercise, particularly walking. I know you have published this information before, or at least I have seen it somewhere, but could you tell me the distance around the outside perimeter of the Sparkman Building, the inside distance around the Sparkman Building and the distance around the courtyard in the complex?

**Name withheld by request**

*Editor's note: The Sparkman Management Office provided the following response. "One lap on the sidewalk in the Courtyard area equals one-fourth mile. One lap inside the Sparkman Center equals one-third mile. One lap on the walking trail around the Sparkman Center equals 1.2 miles."*

# Sign of new hours

I noticed in your Gate 7 article in the Rocket (Feb. 28) you mention the new hours 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; however, the sign at the corner of Martin and Rideout shows the hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Is that sign going to be replaced with a sign indicating the new hours? Believe it or not because the sign says 6 to 6, a small disagreement occurred with a couple of people the other day on what the hours actually are!

**Katie Hoyer  
AMCOM**

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "A work order has been initiated to make the appropriate/correct changes to the signs in question as well as updating the AMCOM web gate information. The correct hours for Gate 7 to be open is 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. Also note that Gate 10 is open 5:30 a.m. to midnight daily."*

# Priorities on right track

Am men and very well done to last week's letter "Setting Priorities in Life." I praise God for bold witness and Christians like you.

**Arnita Lee**

# Quote of the week

**'T**o keep the body in good health is a duty, otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear.'

— Buddha

# Redstone Rocket

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

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

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

Retail advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday before Wednesday publication. Classified advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil  
Rocket articles are available online at the following:  
<http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil/>

**Rocket Staff**

Editor: Skip Vaughn  
Reporters: Kari Hawkins  
Kelley Lane-Sivley  
Kim Henry  
Sgt. Eliamar Trapp  
Copy Editor: Scott Seeley  
Advertising Sales: Susan Lavender  
Shelia Smith  
Lacy Pruitt

The Redstone Rocket is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by The Huntsville Times a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed by writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised within this publication.

The Redstone Rocket is distributed free of cost to Army personnel at Redstone Arsenal, and

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

Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origin of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in refusal to print advertising from that source.

# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Leon Coleman

**Job:** Jacobs Technology employee serving as project leader for foundation services, Garrison Directorate of Information Management

**Where do you call home?**  
Greenville, Ala.

**What do you like about your job?**

What I like about it is working with people, working with the different organizations and meeting different people.

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

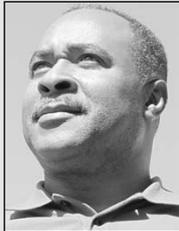
Spend time with family, and I like to restore classical vehicles. So, I do that — antiquing classical vehicles.

**What are your goals?**

My goal is to retire at 59.

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

Right now it's gospel.



## America's last known WWI combat veteran dies

By Spc. APRIL L. DUSTIN  
Army News Service

PORTLAND, Ore. — The echo of a 21-gun salute and bugler playing Taps seemingly marked the end of an era as a state and national treasure was laid to rest in Portland on March 2.

Retired Army Cpl. Howard V. Ramsey, Oregon's last living World War I veteran and the last known U.S. combat veteran of WWI, died in his sleep Feb. 22 at an assisted living center in southeast Portland. He was honored in a memorial service attended by nearly 200 people at Lincoln Memorial Park exactly one month before reaching his 109th birthday.

"This is a very historic occasion; we lay to rest today our nation's oldest combat veteran," said Pastor Stu Weber, who officiated over Ramsey's memorial service.

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**March 1:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle under the influence of alcohol when he failed to follow instructions at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

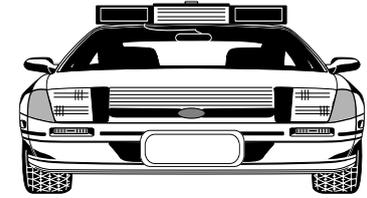
**March 1:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended driver's license when he was checked at a vehicle safety checkpoint. He was

issued a violation notice and released.

**March 2:** An individual obtained 213 cases of government Meals Ready to Eat and sold them on eBay. Investigation continues by the Redstone Investigative Section.

**March 4:** An individual was found to be operating his vehicle with a revoked driver's license while attempting to obtain a pass at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

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



**Violation notices issued:** 20 speeding, 1 inattentive driving, 1 no proof of insurance, 1 failure to yield, 1 driving under the influence, 1 suspended license, 1 revoked license.

## Anthrax vaccine recommended for mission

The Immunization Clinic at Fox Army Health Center is ready to administer anthrax vaccine to individuals at Redstone Arsenal who meet certain criteria.

Anthrax vaccine is mandatory for unformed personnel, emergency essential and comparable U.S. government civilian employees and contractors ages 18-65 deployed (or deploying within 60 days) to U.S. CENTCOM or Korea areas of responsibility for 15 or more consecutive days. It is also required for certain unformed personnel assigned to special units, such as forward deployed forces, and units with bio-defense related missions.

The vaccine is voluntary for unformed and civilian personnel ages 18-65 no longer deployed to U.S. CENTCOM or Korea who have had at least one dose of anthrax vaccine and want to continue. This also includes U.S. government civilian employees, contractors (not in

the mandatory group) and family members of DoD personnel ages 18-65 in U.S. CENTCOM or Korea for 15 or more consecutive days.

Here are some facts about the anthrax vaccine:

- Licensed by the Food and Drug Administration since November 1970;
- The vaccine cannot cause anthrax disease;
- Given in a series of six doses — initial, two and four weeks later, six, 12 and 18 months later, with annual boosters to sustain immunity;
- Each dose builds on the immune response from earlier doses;
- Without vaccination, you would be more vulnerable to anthrax infection.

The Food and Drug Administration issued a final order on Dec. 15, 2005, stating the anthrax vaccine is safe and effective in preventing anthrax. Your military and civilian leaders continue to

strongly recommend anthrax vaccination for your personal protection and for the sake of your mission.

For more information about the disease, vaccination or policy contact the Military Vaccine Agency at web sites [www.anthrax.mil](http://www.anthrax.mil) or [www.vaccines.mil](http://www.vaccines.mil), e-mail [vaccines@amedd.army.mil](mailto:vaccines@amedd.army.mil) or toll free 1-877-GET-VAC. (Fox Army Health Center release)

## Walk on into Fox immunization clinic

April 2 brings policy change

The Allergy/Immunization Clinic at Fox Army Health Center will become a walk-in clinic effective April 2.

Priority for immunizations will be as follows:

- Active duty Soldiers, first priority;
- Family members and retirees, second priority; and
- Allergy shots, third priority.

The hours of operation for the clinic will be Monday through Friday 7:45-11:30 a.m. and Monday through Wednesday and Friday 1-3:30 p.m. The clinic will be closed on Thursday afternoons for staff training and professional development.

If you have any questions or need more information, call the clinic NCO-in-charge at 955-8888 extension 1214 or the officer-in-charge at extension 1250. (Fox release)

## Traffic detour en route for Gate 1

Bridge construction project expected to take 5-6 months

By SHAREE MILLER  
For the Rocket

The westbound (incoming) bridge at Gate 1, Martin Road East, is scheduled for replacement March 19.

In order to accommodate the construction and keep the gate open, all traffic will need to use the eastbound (outgoing) lanes.

Two-way traffic will be set up on the existing eastbound bridge so that incom-

ing motorists can use the current inside westbound lane. The incoming traffic will be reduced to one lane before reaching the construction zone and will be required to detour.

All outbound traffic will be required to use the outermost lane when exiting.

Localized lane blockage will be required in order to construct two paved median crossovers required for the full detour that will be used during the construction of the new bridge. The full detour will begin the week of March 26.

Construction is expected to take from five to six months.

# SMDC commander ready to move to Redstone

*Campbell expects to arrive in June from Washington*

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

SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell says he looks forward to moving in mid-June to Redstone Arsenal.

Campbell expects to move on post from Washington, D.C., about June 15-20. The headquarters for Space and Missile Defense Command is coming to Redstone under the Base Realignment and Closure actions. Thirty-three people are expected to move here as part of the 180 jobs, including 80 contractor positions. The other 147 jobs will be recruited locally.

"It's nice to be here," Campbell said during the Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense luncheon March 7 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. "And I look forward to seeing you all in June full time."

Campbell addressed 640 attendees at the luncheon, which was part of the week-

long Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Summit.

He asked that they keep in their prayers the 248,000 Soldiers deployed worldwide, including 120,000 in Iraq. "There's nothing these men and women won't do," he said, adding that morale is high.

Campbell also said the war effort needs the entire nation, not just the military services.

"It's not going to be won on the backs of the men and women in uniform," he said. "It's going to take our nation and it's going to take the Iraqi nation to win this one."

Campbell, 56, assumed command in December of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The Boston native graduated from Worcester State College in 1973 with a bachelor's of science degree; and he was commissioned into the Air Defense Artillery branch that year. In 1982 he earned a master's in personnel management from the University of New Hampshire.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HAPPY NEWCOMER**— Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, addresses the March 7 luncheon at the Von Braun Center North Hall.



Photo by Pam Rogers

## *Meeting the press*

Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey Obering, Missile Defense Agency director, briefs reporters Thursday outside the new MDA building on Martin Road. Obering gave information on the progress of construction of the building, plans for the next MDA building in the complex and news regarding MDA's BRAC implementation. He announced plans to implement a nationwide recruiting effort for vacant jobs and commended Huntsville and North Alabama for their cooperation and efforts in assisting MDA as it becomes part of the community.

# Army fields new protective neck gear

WASHINGTON — The Army announced Feb. 28 it is fielding 430,000 new helmet pads, officially referred to as Nape Pads, designed to better protect Soldiers' neck areas from ballistic fragmentation.

The Army will begin shipping the new protective pad immediately to Soldiers deploying in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The new neck pad went through a series of rigorous evaluations before the Army began fielding it. Army Program Executive Office Soldier coordinated testing through a National Institute of Justice laboratory certified in ballistic research.

"Protection of our Soldiers is the Army's priority mission," said Brig. Gen. R. Mark Brown, PEO Soldier and commanding general of Natick Soldier Systems Center. "That's why we have the world's best body armor bar none, live-fire tested and proven in combat: and that's why we continue looking for ways to make it even better. The new helmet neck pad, the eighth improvement in body armor in the last three years is a great example because it will further reduce injuries and help save even more Soldiers' lives."

Said Col. John McGuiness, PEO Soldier project manager, "The Nape Pad easily attaches to the existing rear strap of the Army Combat Helmet, providing support, as well as shielding from fragmentation."

The neck pad further complements the Army's system-of-systems approach to force protection, integrating layers of protection for Soldiers on the battlefield. Additional individual protective gear provided by PEO Soldier includes the



Courtesy photo

**NEW GEAR—** The Army is now fielding 430,000 new helmet pads, officially referred to as Nape Pads that are designed to better protect Soldiers' neck areas from ballistic fragmentation, to Soldiers serving in operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

advanced combat helmet, ballistic eye-wear, hearing protection, night-vision devices, the M4 carbine rifle, fire resistant uniforms, and integrated body armor with enhanced small arms protective inserts, deltoid auxiliary protectors, and side armor plates. (Army News Service)

## ■ Garrison explains PX/Commissary safety measures

### Barriers

continued from page 2

believe that pedestrians/baggers have the right of way.

#### Richard R. Rice

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The U.S. Army Garrison thanks you for your comment concerning the safety of our Redstone community. We appreciate your support.*

*"The changes made at the PX/Commissary parking area are a result of observation, reports of unsafe acts, and elderly military retiree safety concerns.*

*"Although there has not been an accident involving a vehicle and a pedestrian, there have been many near misses. In the accident 'pre-buildup phase' – increasing near misses will lead to an eventual accident. Because of the multitude of near misses, the Garrison commander's responsibility is preventing accidents and ensuring the well-being of the Total Force. Under these circumstances it became necessary to improve the safety of personnel using the PX/Commissary.*

*"You are correct concerning Alabama state law. However, this is an Army installation. The responsibility for safety on Redstone Arsenal lies with the Army's chain-of-command. Many vehicle operators using the PX/Commissary have shown themselves unwilling to follow the*

*posted speed limit or simply show courtesy toward baggers or elderly pedestrians. It would be great if drivers that disregarded your suggestion for signs were caught. We cannot provide continuous law enforcement surveillance in this area.*

*"In the past, accident countermeasures included painted lines, use of speed bumps, reduced speed limits, yield and stop signs. There are drivers who disregard or just refuse to obey traffic signs and rules.*

*"Redstone supports a large retiree community. Many are elderly and deserve courtesy and respect. Speed bumps which were ignored by drivers also inhibited the safe walking of some people causing slip, trip and fall injuries. These pedestrian accidents are documented in the injury reports.*

*"The continuous flow of bagger traffic to and from the parking lot also requires some degree of vehicle operator patience. The current barriers are a means of controlling the flow of traffic while maintaining a degree of speed control. The few extra minutes it takes to reach the PX/Commissary is necessary to ensure a safer visit.*

*"The Garrison commander is the safety officer for Redstone. His support staff provided a plan to decrease or eliminate the hazards associated with the PX/Commissary parking area. The installation of barriers came from a combination of input submitted by multiple sources.*

*"Thank you for your suggestions concerning safety and health."*

## Fund-raising drive kicks off with matinee

Army Emergency Relief hopes to raise \$200K

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The real stars of Thursday afternoon's show at Heiser Hall were sitting in the back rows of the former movie theater.

They were Soldiers. And the event was the 2007 kickoff for the Army Emergency Relief fund-raising campaign.

During his remarks to the civilian and military audience, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski mentioned these Soldiers from Charlie and Bravo companies of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

"The reason we do what we do is really sitting back there in the back," he said.

And then he referred to the WilTech Singers, the ensemble of sixth- and seventh-graders from J.E. Williams Technology Middle School, who performed patriotic songs.

"And the reason you (Soldiers) do what you do is really for these youngsters right here," Olshefski said, drawing a roar of approval from the troops.

The WilTech Singers opened the program with the nation-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HOCKEY TEAM HELPS—** Huntsville Havoc general manager Kevin Walker presents a check for \$28,900 to Army Emergency Relief during Thursday's campaign kickoff. This represents proceeds from the auction of special jerseys worn by the Havoc players at Military Appreciation Night on Feb. 10 at the Von Braun Center. From left are Walker, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski, Havoc group sales director Drew Carter and campaign chairman Capt. Rob Dewberry.

berry said. "But more Army."

For more information, call campaign co-chairman Master Sgt. Odri Hastings or AER officer Kristi Foster at Army Community Service at 876-5397.

al anthem and added other selections under the direction of Williams music teacher Jo Ann Blackwood.

"We just thank you for all you do," Blackwood told the Army crowd. "And we just dedicate these patriotic songs to you."

The AER campaign continues through May 15 with a goal of \$200,000. Last year's drive collected \$171,260 to surpass a \$150,000 goal.

Army Emergency Relief gives no-interest loans, and in some cases grants, to active duty and retired military and their qualifying family members in times of emergency needs. Recipients can also include National Guard and Reservists who are called to active duty under Title 10 of the U.S. Code. Examples of emergency expenses include unexpected travel, car repair, mortgage assistance and utility bills.

Last year AER helped 383 military and their qualified family members with \$380,918.

"It's the Army helping the Army," campaign chairman Capt. Rob Dew-

importantly it's everyone helping the

## Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- Watch for the AER Online Auction [www.aer-redstone.com](http://www.aer-redstone.com). Brought to you by PEO Aviation. For information call Maj. Mathew McCauley 313-4260.

- The Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, PEO Missile and Space, will host a cake sale today from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until the cakes are gone. For information call K.C. Bertling 876-1195, Jill Mayes 842-0339 and Maria Roth 876-8121.

- AMCOM G-8 is selling Sonic Value Cards for a minimum requested donation of \$5. For information call Larry Bowlin 842-7103.

- ILS/Manprint Office is selling Coupon Books in front of the Sparkman Cafeteria on Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The books sell for \$15 and contain discount coupons for a number of local restaurants and businesses. Call Cheryl Baker 842-8695, Ranny Vinson 842-8793 and Kim Sharp 876-8696.

- Project Manager's Office, PEO Aviation, will hold "The Great American Pastime" March 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of building 5309. Hot dogs, brats, chips and drinks will be served. Call Jo-Ann Rice 313-3742.

- AER 2007 Blue Star Golf Tournament is March 30 at the Links at Redstone. Register now through March 23. Hosted by the Acquisition Center, the start time is 9 a.m. Call Colleen Rodriguez 876-8849 and Steven Froniabarger 842-7284. The rain date is April 27.

- The Acquisition Center will hold an Easter

See Campaign on page 7

## ■ Army Emergency Relief campaign runs through May 15

# Campaign

continued from page 6

Bake Sale April 5 at the Sparkman Center near building 5303. Call Candice Scruggs 842-7304.

• PEO Missile and Space, Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, will hold a brunch April 5 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Call K.C. Bertling 876-1195, Jill Mayes 842-0339 and Maria Roth 876-8121.

• 2007 AER Idol – Anyone interested in participating this year should call one of the following by March 19: Anthony Grayson 955-9002, Sherry Miller 842-0736 or Sharon Nolen 842-9431. Project performance dates are April 10 and May 23.

• Skool vs. Nu Skool Softball is April 12, hosted by the Acquisition Center. Call Chris Campbell 876-3448. The rain date is April 19.

• AMRDEC System Simulation and Development Directorate will hold the second annual “No-Limit Texas Hold-em” Poker Tournament on April 12 at 10 a.m. at the Rustic Lodge. Winner will receive the Redstone AER Poker Tournament Trophy. Participation is limited to the first 100 persons to pay entrance fee. Call Pat Hooper 876-4273.

• Command Analysis Directorate’s



annual Book Sale will be held April 16-20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5300, first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. It will accept donations of books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape from now until April 18. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-8563 to arrange delivery and pickup.

• AMRDEC Engineering Directorate Golf Scramble, a four person scramble is April 19 at the Links at Redstone. Registration deadline is April 5. Call Chris Farmer 313-6553, Will Lovell 955-2370 and Ken Nebrig 842-4994.

• Fish Fry is April 16, hosted by the Acquisition Center. Call Colleen Rodriguez 876-8849. Rain date is May 3.

• Fox Army Health Center, Vets with Vettes, Corvette Owners will hold the fifth annual Cars and Camouflage Car Show on April 21 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Museum on Airport Road. The event is open to all. Registration for judged vehicles is \$20. There will be special rides and motorcycles plus Tommy Mac, DJ, will be there to play music. Military equipment displays, arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and more are planned. For information call Seth Wood 755-7422 and Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888.

# Advanced air defense missile reaches milestone

Boeing delivers 500th PAC-3 seeker to Army

By DAN O'BOYLE  
For the Rocket

Boeing has delivered the Army's 500th Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missile seeker.

Boeing and Lockheed Martin, along with government and industry partners, celebrated the event Thursday during a ceremony at the company's Missile Defense Systems production facility near the Huntsville International Airport.

PAC-3 is a high-velocity, hit-to-kill missile and the newest addition to the Patriot family of missiles. Lt. Col. Anthony Brown, PAC-3 product manager in the Lower Tier Project Office of the PEO Missiles and Space, acknowledged the milestone.

"If you ever want to know if we are delivering a good product, just ask the Soldier," Brown said. "From the enthusiasm that I have seen, I can tell you that PAC-3 is a big-time system. The Soldier wants it and the Soldier loves it. What this team is doing here definitely makes a difference to the Soldier in the field, protecting lives and bringing our Soldiers back home safely."

Boeing's seeker detects and tracks the target during the terminal phase of an engagement, providing data to the missile's on-board guidance system. The seeker work includes production, assem-



Boeing photo by Mike McCormick

**500 STRONG – PAC-3 product manager Lt. Col. Anthony Brown, Lockheed Martin's Richard McDaniel and Boeing's Debra Rub-Zenko look to the future for the world's premier hit-to-kill terminal defense system against ballistic missiles.**

bly, integration and testing at the Huntsville facility.

"The PAC-3, the most advanced air defense missile in the world, is battle-proven to defend with hit-to-kill precision against a range of threats, including ballistic and cruise missiles," Debra Rub-Zenko, vice president of Boeing Integrated Missile Defense Systems, said. "The seeker team is focused on quality above all else to ensure it will succeed every

time the PAC-3 is called on to protect our war fighters, friends and allies against

hostile forces."

Lockheed Martin Corp. is the PAC-3 prime contractor.

"There are two fundamental elements to achieving the precision necessary to affect highly reliable hit-to-kill lethality – extremely responsive guidance of the missile airframe and very accurate information about the target in the moments before target intercept," Richard McDaniel, director of the PAC-3 program at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, said. "The Boeing PAC-3 seeker gives us this information, reliably, in any flight environment. Reaching this major production milestone is a testament to the PAC-3 team's willingness to go the extra mile to meet the delivery needs that enable us to provide the world's most advanced air defense missile when and where the U.S. Army and our allies need it."

In El Paso, Texas, Boeing employees produce and test circuit card assemblies for the seeker. Boeing's PAC-3 program office and design engineering functions, located in Anaheim, Calif., have program management and design responsibility for the seeker.

## Javelin Joint Venture garners recognition

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. – The Javelin Joint Venture has resulted in two awards to Letterkenny.

The Javelin Joint Venture Logistics Team received the Lockheed Martin Logistics Facility Award for Excellence. Depot commander Col. Robert Swenson accepted the award from Lou Kratz, vice president and managing director, Focused Logistics, Lockheed Martin, Integrated Systems and Solutions.

In a separate presentation, the Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint

Venture vice president Howard Weaver presented Letterkenny a trophy for Contractor-Military Collaboration of the Year. Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture Logistics Support Team received the Defense Logistics Award for Contractor-Military Collaboration of the year from the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency. Lockheed Missiles and Fire Control accepted the award during the third annual Defense Logistics awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., near the end of 2006. (Letterkenny release)



Courtesy photo

**CEREMONY—** From left are Letterkenny commander Col. Robert Swenson, Lockheed Martin's Lou Kratz, Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture vice president Howard Weaver.

# Witnesses testify to battles with Walter Reed bureaucracy

*Congressional subcommittee hears complaints about medical care*

By FRED W. BAKER III  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON – Army leaders are committed to improving the service’s health care systems for wounded servicemembers and their families, top officers told the national security subcommittee of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on March 5.

The committee held a meeting at Walter Reed Army Medical Center here to gather facts behind problems reported there that have tarnished the once-stellar reputation of the Army’s top medical facility.

Part of the problem, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Richard A. Cody said, is that policies and rules governing many of the health care systems have not been updated for as many as 50 years and have been put to the test by the last five years of war.

“Soldiers and staff are faced with the confusing and frequently demoralizing task of sifting through too much information in too many interdependent decisions and bureaucracies,” Cody testified.

## Overworked, under-trained

Cody said top officials are reviewing the reported problems and already have identified some personnel problems that need to be fixed.

“Our counselors and case managers are overworked, and they do not receive enough training,” he said. “We do not adequately communicate necessary information, and our administrative processes are needlessly cumbersome and, quite frankly, take too long.”

Cody also cited problems that are being fixed in the medical holding units where so many of the outpatient problems have been reported in recent weeks.

“Our medical holding units are not manned to the proper level, and we do not assign leaders who can ensure proper accountability, proper discipline and well-being of our wounded Soldiers, ... and our facilities are not maintained to a standard that we know is right,” Cody said.

Many problems now are being corrected, Cody said, but some will require congressional support. He pledged to work with the secretary of defense to report back to the committee changes that require congressional support.

“We will do what is right for our Soldiers and our families. They can be assured that the Army leadership is committed and dedicated to ensuring that their quality of life and the quality of their medical care is equal to the

## Surgeon general submits retirement request

WASHINGTON – Lt. Gen. Kevin C. Kiley, the Army’s surgeon general who has been under fire for shortcomings in outpatient care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center here, has submitted his request to retire from the Army.

Maj. Gen. Gale Pollock, current deputy surgeon general, immediately assumed the surgeon general’s duties, Army officials announced Monday.

Published reports in February shed light on shortcomings in outpatient care for troops wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. Army Secretary Francis J. Harvey resigned March 2 over the same matters, and Walter Reed commander Maj. Gen. George Weightman was relieved March 1. (*American Forces Press Service*)



DoD photo by Cherie Thurlby

**PENTAGON BRIEFING— Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates announces to reporters in the Pentagon briefing room March 2 that he has accepted the resignation of Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey. Under Secretary of the Army Pete Geren will be acting secretary until a replacement for Harvey is confirmed.**

quality of their service and their great sacrifice,” Cody said.

## Pattern of neglect

Dressed in a decorated Army blue uniform, with a patch over his left eye, an emotional Staff Sgt. John Daniel Shannon told the subcommittee he just wants to leave the center’s outpatient system. He cited his own two-year pattern of neglect, bureaucracy and lack of patient advocacy.

An injured Iraq war veteran, Shannon’s account kicked off nearly five hours of testimony, which included wounded servicemembers, family members and top ranking Army officials.

## On Walter Reed: ‘I wish they had told us’

*Still Serving Veterans leader says wounded veterans only need to reach out*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

During unofficial, personal visits to Walter Reed Medical Center, Becky Pillsbury, wife of Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, spent time on the hospital’s wards, providing whatever comfort she could to injured veterans recently returned from missions in Iraq, Afghanistan or other parts of the world.

Her visits didn’t expand outward to the military personnel who were being seen on an outpatient basis, and who are now the focus of a congressional investigation revolving accusations of inadequate care and facilities.

Now, Pillsbury, like the military’s top leadership, wishes her visits had

expanded to those peripheral areas of military care at Walter Reed. As the vice president of Still Serving Veterans, a national advocacy group for recovering wounded veterans and their families, she would have worked to bring attention to the plight of wounded veterans who were housed in inadequate facilities, and told to wait days or weeks for the medical care they needed – if she had only known about it.

“Still Serving Veterans would have helped them,” Pillsbury said. “But, if they don’t tell us, we can’t help them. I wish they had told us what they were going through instead of gutting it up and being a good Soldier. If they had told us, you bet we would have looked into it.”

Expressing her disappointment concerning the issues at Walter Reed that are now coming to light, Pillsbury understands why the problems took so long to surface.

See *Serving* on page 11

With her eyes staring upward to avoid spilling tears, the wife of a wounded Soldier told committee members that her husband’s first case manager at the center “treated him like a dog” at times and that the system was set up to protect the interests of the Army.

“We need to turn it around. We need to fight for the Soldier,” said Annette McLeod, the wife of South Carolina Army National Guardsman Cpl. Wendell McLeod. He suffered brain and back injuries while serving in Iraq after being hit by the door of a moving semi-truck.

Subcommittee chairman John Tierney opened the hearings saying that the problems recently aired in the news media are not new, but that complaints of “bureaucratic indifference” have been heard for several years.

Tierney conceded, though, that the medical staff at Walter Reed is dedicated and professional. Tierney said he thought the problems stemmed from “institutional indifference, not individual commitment.”

## Contracted services

Most of the testimony centered on a broken, bureaucratic personnel system and overworked and under-trained caseworkers with other woven-in themes of pay problems, administrative delays and incompatible medical computer systems.

Coming to light for the first time during the testimony was the possible impact of the Base Realignment and Closure process and the recent conversion of government-provided services to contracted services at the hospital. Army officials testified that skilled civil service employees worried about losing their jobs have left the center, at times dropping staffing amounts by nearly half. Officials testified they’ve had difficulty recruiting to fill the positions because the center is scheduled to merge with National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, Md., in 2011. In addition, many of the services were moving to contractor-provided services.

See *Bureaucracy* on page 11

**Still Serving Veterans was established in 2006 to provide advocacy and resource services to wounded veterans following the completion of their medical care. Though it first focused on wounded veterans from Huntsville and Madison County, the organization now provides assistance to any wounded veteran who seeks it.**

# Bureaucracy

continued from page 10

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, said he was “extraordinarily angry and embarrassed that we would have a Building 18,” referring to the building cited in Washington Post reports on mold- and rodent-infested living conditions.

He said he supported the firing of Maj. Gen. George W. Weightman, the medical center’s former commander. Schoomaker’s brother, Army Maj. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, will become the commanding general of the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command and the medical center, the Army announced March 2.

## Living conditions vary

Spc. Jeremy Duncan testified before the committee that the living conditions varied widely among outpatient Soldiers, depending on the building assigned. “Building 18 was like the ghetto,” he said, but it had television and video games. He said he has now been moved to Building 14, which is nicer, but doesn’t have a television and video games.

In the past few weeks, progress has been made in the living conditions of Soldiers, Duncan said. “They are trying to make it better. I will give them that. It’s going to take them a while to do that,” he said.

Kiley testified that all but six Soldiers have been moved out of Building 18. It is planned for a complete renovation, he said. The command is overhauling its system to add case managers, improve communication and speed up the paperwork process, he said.

In addition, officials are reviewing both of the complex and lengthy medical and physical evaluation board processes.

Schoomaker was asked bluntly by a committee member, “How do we know it’s going to change?”

“Because we’re going to change it,” Schoomaker said.

Army Secretary Francis J. Harvey resigned March 2 in light of the problems at the center. Weightman was relieved of command March 1.

# Serving

continued from page 10

“The families and the Soldiers are having such difficulties focusing on the health issues they are facing that they don’t realize they have the need and opportunity to advocate for better conditions. It takes awhile to recover before a Soldier or their family can advocate,” Pillsbury said.

“Besides that, a good Soldier does what they are told to do. They managed to survive the horrible conditions of Iraq, Afghanistan or Kuwait. So, when they are told to wait in horrible conditions and wait for a phone call, that’s what they did.”

But, what about the military’s top medical leadership? Shouldn’t they have known about the inadequate outpatient care?

“The senior leadership didn’t know because they weren’t told or they didn’t have their boots on the ground to find out for themselves,” Pillsbury said.

Still Serving Veterans was established in 2006 to provide advocacy and resource services to wounded veterans following the completion of their medical care. Though it first focused on wounded veterans from Huntsville and Madison County, the organization now provides assistance to any wounded veteran who seeks it.

The organization does have a presence at Walter Reed, where its brochures and other informational items are provided to wounded veterans. Yet, none of the veterans assisted by Still Serving Veterans has ever complained to the organization’s representatives about Walter Reed. That has changed in recent days.

“They’ve not expressed to us any problems in the past,” she said. “But, now that this has come to the forefront we are hearing from them that ‘Yes, that was pretty bad. But, I didn’t know I could do anything about it.’”

**M**ost of the comments Still Serving Veterans representatives have recently heard from former Walter Reed patients have involved situations where the veteran has had to wait weeks for a medical appointment. Those representatives have not heard firsthand from veterans about outpatient living conditions and, certainly, not about the inadequate facilities at Building 18.

But, now that the issues have been made public, Pillsbury believes they have been and will continue to be dealt with quickly.

“I truly believe they will make it right and do it as quickly as possible,” she said.

“What is needed is support in the form of funding from Congress. We need additional case

managers to follow-up on issues. There needs to be more accountability.”

To solve the problems at Walter Reed, Pillsbury believes the military’s own retired veterans should be asked to step in and provide advocacy services.

“Each family of a wounded veteran needs an advocate for them,” she said.

“Who better to advocate for them but a good, stubborn retiree who knows the military? These wounded veterans need a battle buddy at Walter Reed that can watch their back and make their needs known. Retired veterans are ideal because they’ve been through the Vietnam War or the Korean War or some challenge. They can empathize with these wounded veterans, and they are strong enough to stand up and say ‘This is wrong.’ Retirees can be passionate advocates for the Soldiers.”

Pillsbury said all U.S. citizens should be concerned about the medical issues raised at Walter Reed.

“These people who we, as the U.S., have put in harm’s way to protect us have been harmed,” she said. “Our debt to them is to make sure they get the quality of life care they need and deserve. It is a debt that the U.S. owes to these men and women who have defended us.”

# One-day deployment is 'dream come true'

World War II veterans, volunteers plan flight to memorial in D.C.

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Community volunteer and businessman Joe Fitzgerald and a host of Honor Flight volunteers are preparing for a one-day deployment that will require a lot of "boots on the ground" planning, coordination, logistics and intuitive strategizing.

But, this deployment won't involve leading young Soldiers on the battlefield. Rather, it focuses on making sure World War II veterans get the opportunity to remember the battles, daily struggles, losses and victories, personal challenges and lifelong friendships that mark their experiences as America's "greatest generation" of Soldiers.

Local Honor Flight board members met Thursday at the Veterans Memorial Museum with the national organization's founder, Earl Morse, and community leaders and Huntsville-area veterans to discuss plans and expectations for a trip to the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C., on April 4. Thirteen local WWII veterans will be on Honor Flight's inaugural flight out of Huntsville. A second flight of about 80 veterans is scheduled Sept. 15.

"This is a dream come true for me," said Morse, whose organization has taken 891 WWII veterans from the Ohio area to see their memorial since it was dedicated in 2004.

"I knew if we could do this out of Ohio, there is no reason we couldn't do



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**SIGNING A KEEPSAKE—** World War II veteran and Honor Flight honoree Elvin Kennamer looks for a place to sign a World War II memorial poster with the help of Joe Fitzgerald, president of the Tennessee Valley chapter of Honor Flight, following an orientation meeting at the Veterans Memorial Museum. Sitting nearby is WWII veteran Douglas Garner. Honor Flight is a national organization dedicated to providing free travel and arrangements to veterans who want to travel to Washington, D.C., to see their memorial. The Tennessee Valley chapter's inaugural flight is scheduled April 4 with a second larger flight slated Sept. 15.

this all over the country."

Morse, a 21-year Air Force combat aeromedical evacuation retiree and an eight-year employee of the Veterans Administration,

began Honor Flight in his home state when he realized many elderly veterans didn't have the means or support to travel to the nation's capitol to see their memorial.

"My personal preference is that I've always enjoyed World War II veterans," Morse said. "World War II veterans appreciate anything you do for them. They were raised during the Depression and they know how to go without. They are stoic, appreciative and humble.

"They would have the right to stop people on the street and ask them 'Do you speak Japanese? Do you speak German? The reason you don't is because of what we've done. You can thank me later.' But, that attitude is so foreign to a World War II veteran. Collectively and literally they saved the world."

While working as a physician's assistant at a VA clinic, Morse became aware that many veterans had given up on the idea of visiting their memorial.

"After it was dedicated in May 2004, I'd see veterans on visits to the VA and I'd tell them 'You've got a monument. It's awesome. You've got to be proud.' Their reply would be 'I wish my friends had seen it.' They felt eventually their son or daughter or their grandchildren would get them to the memorial," he said.

"But, on follow-up visits I would ask them if they were going to see their memorial, and they would break eye contact and say things like 'Mom is sick,' 'There's no money,' 'The kids are busy,' 'It's not going to happen.'"

And, that's when Morse and his father began taking veterans to the WWII memorial. The effort started out small with a few private aircraft, but soon grew to include regular flights to accommodate nearly 900 veterans.

See **Flight** on page 13

## Passenger list for inaugural Honor Flight

The following are the 13 World War II veterans who will be making the inaugural Honor Flight. Information provided was taken from their application forms:

• **W. Nick Christopher** – Army, Arfica ETO. Captain and Platoon leader in 106th AAA (AW) Battalion in Italy. Served at Anzio Beach until breakout and fall of Rome. Served in D-Day in Southern France. Wounded two times.

• **Joseph R. Curry** – Navy (1942-45) and Army (1950-75), Ops, Pacific Theater. Gunner with 30 months sea duty assigned to merchant vessels (Armed Guard). Three tours in Vietnam (1956-57, 1967-68 and 1970-71). Awarded Bronze Star with valor device and two oak leaf clusters.

• **Howard "Jerry" W. Crumrine** – Army Air Corps, U.S. and England. Flew 33 combat missions on B17s over Northern France and Germany. Awarded five Air Medals, four Major Battle Stars, Presidential Unit Citation, Certificate from France for combat over France and other citations.

• **James L. Daniels** – Army Air Corps, 15th Air Force, 98th Bomb Group, Italy (December 1943 to October 1945). Tail gunner on B-24. Completed 45 missions over Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Yugoslavia and Italy. Four members of crew killed in action. Became central fire control instructor of B-29s after combat tour.

• **Edgar A. Gamble** – Army 819th Engineer Aviation Battalion, 9th Air Force, England, France, Germany

(January 1943 to December 1945). Assigned to SOS until the 819th landing on Utah Beach on D-Day ( June 6, 1944). Helped build emergency landing strips. Awarded Distinguished Unit badge, four Bronze Stars and one Arrowhead for European Badge.

• **Douglas C. Garner** – Army Air Corps, England. Served as a tail gunner on a B-24 Liberator in the 8th Air Force, 93rd Bomb Group, 329th Squad. Completed 30 combat missions over Germany.

• **Dr. Will Gibson** – Navy, Pacific. Submarine Service. Recalled during Korean War. Part of the team that manufactured the first SCHNORKLE in a U.S. submarine after WWII. Worked on the development of the SUBROC, BOMARC, POLARIS, B-52 and F-104 G&C systems in the late '50s.

• **Lenford Godwin** – Army, Europe (May 1943 to January 1946). Assigned overseas November 1944 with 78th Infantry Division. Served under General Patton in Battle of the Bulge. Involved in battles in Belgium, Luxembourg, Ardennes Forest & Rhineland (Germany). Awarded Bronze Star, European — African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Medal with three Battle Stars, Combat Infantry Badge, AM Service Medal, Good Conduct medal and WWII Victory Medal.

• **Charle B. Graff** – Army, Europe (July 1943 to November 1945). Served with 68th Armored Infantry Battalion, 14th Armored Division. Deployed for Europe in October 1944. Helped liberate Moosburg Prison Camp (largest Allied camp in Germany). Awarded Com-

bat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, EAME Campaign with two stars, Army Occupation with Germany clasp.

• **Franklin Jones** – Air Corps, Europe, England, France, Italy, European Theater of Operations. Served with the 441 Group 302, Squadron in ETO. Involved in Normandy first drop and second day double-glider drop invasion of Southern France. Also involved in Neimegen drop, and Bastogne resupply and drop.

• **Elvin Kennamer** – 10th Armored Division, Germany. One of four brothers who served in WWII. Was with his twin brother Melvin when he was killed on Feb. 25, 1945.

• **John F. Kraus** – Army Infantry, 30th Infantry Division (Old Hickory), Tennessee National Guard, European Theater of Operations. Landed at Omaha Beach on or near D-Day. Served in five campaigns as rifleman. Landed in Normandy as a private and left Germany as a platoon leader. Awarded the Bronze Star for 11 months of combat.

• **Royal C. Lewis** – Army, 6th Armored Division, Normandy, Bastogne (Bulge), 2nd Armored Division, Fort Benning (1941). Later Officers Candidate School, 6th Armored Division — Camp Cooks, Calif. Assigned overseas in February 1944 to Normandy Beachhead (Utah Landing Area) across France to Ardennes area (Battle of the Bulge) and to Germany. Served in Korea in 1951-52. Retired July 1966. Awarded five Battle Stars (Europe), three Battle Stars (Korea) and Bronze Star (Europe).

# Army asks Redstone residents' opinions

*2007 assessment survey should be in mail soon*

Redstone Arsenal family housing residents will receive a Housing Satisfaction Survey in the mail within the next four weeks. This survey is also being distributed to other Army installations participating in the Residential Community Initiative family housing privatization program.

Here is an overview of what the RCI program is all about, and how you can help make a difference by completing the survey:

- RCI is an Army program designed to enhance the quality of life for service-members and their families by improving the existing on-post family housing conditions, eliminating any housing shortages

and improving neighborhood "amenities" (i.e., playgrounds, outdoor athletic courts, walking/running trails, etc.). Family housing has been privatized. This means the operation and maintenance of family housing has been turned over to a contractor. The Army will provide oversight of the contractor.

- The goal of the program is to positively impact quality of life as a resident at Redstone Arsenal. This should translate into more frequent renovations, the construction of new houses, and more neighborhood amenities at Redstone. Under this program, your Basic Allowance for Housing will be provided to the contractor to cover the cost of your rent and utilities. Of course, you will have to become more energy conscious.

- Your input through this survey will be used to help make better decisions on

how to spend limited housing dollars and will help guide the commercial partners in providing the services and the facilities that are important to you. Your answers are strictly confidential, and your frank responses are needed. They are not tabulating any personal data; and your survey in no way identifies you or the residence you occupy.

During this process, your housing area mayors may be called on many times. If you have questions, suggestions, concerns or comments, make sure you get them to your mayor.

When you receive your survey, do not throw it away. Your opinion does count. Complete the survey and return it as instructed. The postage is paid so it will cost you nothing. Should you have any questions, call Giannina Brown at 842-0422. (*Garrison release*)

## ■ WWII veterans, volunteers plan inaugural excursion to memorial

### Flight

continued from page 12

"A lot of World War II veterans want to go and see how their friends have been remembered," Morse said. "They have a buddy who didn't make it off the beach or out of the jungle, and they want to go in respect of them."

"But, what's it like to stand at the memorial with a group of veterans? It's ten times, twenty times better than I ever thought."

The appreciation for WWII veterans from the public is very much felt during Honor Flight trips. Morse said veterans should expect to be applauded, personally thanked, hugged and photographed. He recalled a young lady on one commercial flight with Honor Flight veterans who stood to publicly thank the veterans before deplaning.

"She said 'I want to thank you. My grandfather was in a concentration camp liberated by U.S. Soldiers,'" Morse said.

"She would not exist if World War II veterans hadn't done what they've done ... I wouldn't be here, either ... I thank God not only for the blessings of this country, but also for the wonderful men and women who 60 years ago defended those blessings ... No one has to tell a World War II veteran that freedom isn't free.

You've seen it with your own eyes."

He said most veterans express a bitter-sweet reaction to the memorial. Though they are proud and glad to visit it, the experience also reminds them of their personal losses.

"Veterans are very appreciative of this trip. They will say 'It wasn't the happiest day of my life. But it was close. It was one of the saddest days of my life. It made me think about my friends who couldn't be here to experience it, to see it, to revel in it. But, that also made it the best day of my life,'" Morse said.

**A**midst listening to pointers from Honor Flight organizers – "be sure to use the wheelchairs we are providing you" and "savor it" – and filling out paperwork for their trip, the 13 veterans making the inaugural flight enjoyed punch and cookies, and meeting each other.

It only took a few minutes for World War II veterans Nick Christopher and Douglas Garner to strike up a friendship across the table at the meeting. Besides the memories of war, the two elderly Soldiers were also brought together by a mutual friend. And, both expressed their excitement about the Honor Flight trip they are taking together.

"I'm going to make this trip come hell or high water," Garner said.

WWII veteran Joe Curry said the trip would not have been a possibility for him

if it hadn't been for Honor Flight.

"My wife doesn't fly. I'd never get there otherwise," he said. "This is so wonderful. Seeing the memorial will be the best part. But, making friends with these veterans will be good, too. By the time we're back we'll be lying to each other. We're all in different degrees of infirmity, so it will be something to see us all at the memorial."

Farther down the table, Franklin Jones of Athens sat with "his bride," Roberta. He, too, is determined to make the April 4 trip, although he joked "I'm glad it wasn't April Fool's Day."

*Editor's note: Since the Tennessee Valley chapter of Honor Flight was announced in January, about 300 WWII veterans from across North Alabama have applied for a trip to their memorial. In addition, between 50 and 100 guardians have volunteered to care for the veterans on their one-day trip. Between \$40,000 and \$50,000 has been raised for the program, but, Joe Fitzgerald, president of the*

## Contractor employee killed in Iraq

An Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville contractor employee killed Thursday in Iraq has been identified.

Donald John Neil, 45, from Berlin, N.H., was killed during a work-related accident. Neil worked as a senior unexploded ordnance supervisor for Tetra Tech Inc., which is headquartered in Pasadena, Calif.

"Our condolences go out to the families," Bill Sargent, manager of the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program, said. "Our personnel are highly trained and experienced and are doing a superb job, but it remains a very dangerous mission."

The incident is under investigation. Huntsville Center is the Army Corps of Engineers' Center of Expertise for Military Munitions. Huntsville Center's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program is responsible for receiving, transporting, segregating and destroying captured or any other munitions posing a danger in Iraq. Storage and disposal of the ammunition is performed at several locations throughout Iraq. To date, more than 400,000 tons of ammunition have been destroyed by the Huntsville Center program, significantly reducing risks to Iraqi citizens and U.S. personnel serving in Iraq. (*Huntsville Center release*)

*local Honor Flight chapter, said much more is needed to pay for additional trips of WWII veterans and then to eventually offer trips to Korean and Vietnam veterans. For more information, check out the web site as [www.honorflight.net](http://www.honorflight.net). Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to Honor Flight, c/o The Huntsville Times, P.O. Box 1487 West Station, Huntsville, AL 35807. Guardians are asked to pay up to \$1,000 for their trip, if possible. The Tennessee Valley chapter's web site – [honorflight.net](http://honorflight.net) – is now online.*

# UAH adds federal contract courses

*Business curriculum geared toward incoming Army jobs*

The University of Alabama-Huntsville has revamped its business program to include education that aligns with some of the major career options available in Huntsville, to help its students take advantage of government jobs moving to this area.

The revamped focus includes changes in the curriculum in accounting, finance and management, and is aimed at preparing students for jobs with the federal government and its contractors.



**Dr. Dorla Evans**

The changes will provide undergraduate concentrations in federal government finance and contracts, acquisition management, logistics/supply chain management, and government contract accounting.

A two course offering in government accounting, which begins next fall, may make UAH unique nationally in offering the courses as part of its business curriculum, according to Dr. Dorla Evans, chair of UAH's Accounting and Finance Department.

"Government accountants have their own set of rules, the Federal Acquisition Regulations," Evans said. "Traditionally, accountants learn what is known as generally accepted accounting principles, so our accounting alumni who work for the Army or NASA or federal contractors have had to learn the federal rules on the job.

"If they have been successful before, our upcoming graduates who have received this specialized background ought to be even more successful."

The curriculum overhaul was spurred by the Army's plans to move its Army Materiel Command and other significant organizations to Huntsville by 2011, along with thousands of jobs.

The new finance curriculum will allow students to choose from five concentrations, including federal government finance and contracts.

Evans said a survey found that many graduates of UAH's finance program were taking jobs with titles like "contract manager" or "contract analyst." Students in the government finance and contracts area will take government accounting and choose between contract management, contract law, or contract pricing and cost analysis.

Management and marketing students will be able to choose concentrations in logistics/supply chain management, and acquisition management. The acquisition management concentration includes courses in contract administration, cost and price analysis, and government contract law. The logistics/supply chain management concentration includes courses in transportation, logistics, operations management, and supply chain information systems.

UAH students, both undergraduate and graduate, are encouraged to take Defense Acquisition University courses in logistics contract management and other acquisition areas. These DAU courses can be used in both the B.S.B.A. and business master's degree programs through the DAU/UAH partnership agreement. (*University of Alabama-Huntsville release*)

# Boyd's worms glow after Army 'treatment'

*Gamma ray chamber used in college medical research*

By PHILLIP GENTRY  
*University of Alabama-Huntsville*

A powerful gamma ray source built to help the Army calibrate radiation safety equipment might also help scientists decipher a debilitating disease.

University of Alabama-Huntsville students and faculty are working with the Army's Primary Standards Laboratory at Redstone Arsenal and several tiny worms (who didn't always glow in the dark) to search for clues that might lead to new therapies for Huntington's disease.

"This line of research is definitely worth pursuing," said Dr. Lynn Boyd, an associate professor of biology at UAH. "It's still too early to say whether anything therapeutic might come from this, but it is ... promising."

Using generations of tiny *C. elegans* nematode worms descended from ancestors who were genetically tagged in the Army's gamma ray chamber, Boyd and her student assistants are trying to learn what effects different enzymes have on clumps of amino acids associated with Huntington's disease.

It isn't known whether these aggregates of polyglutamine are good or bad. Although the clumps are large compared to the cells — proportionally, they can take up as much space in a cell as a 7-inch tumor in an average man — some scientists believe they might be a cell's way of taking bad amino acids out of circulation by collecting them in one place.

Good or bad, the UAH team has found some enzymes that make the clumps bigger and some that make them smaller.

They study the enzymes, which are found naturally in the clumps, by tagging the worm's chromosomes with proteins or enzymes attached to glowing proteins (which are harvested from jellyfish and other fluorescent beasties). They inject the dye-tagged genetic material into the worms before they are zapped by powerful radiation.

At just the right level of radiation, the DNA strands in the worms' unfertilized eggs snap and the dye-tagged material slips into the chromosomes while the worm isn't looking. The glowing protein is then reproduced in the worm's offspring. If the target material concentrates in clumps it creates glowing spots, giving the UAH researchers a tool for tracking what happens when specific enzymes are suppressed.

In a recent trip to the Army's radiation lab, the UAH team hoped to tag individual strains of worms for seven specific enzymes.

"One of the best things about the Army lab is that they are so meticulous," Boyd said. "We always get exactly the right dose of radiation, which might be why we've had a 100 percent success rate so far."

Boyd and her team think they might have had another successful zapping in February, although they can't be sure until they see the great-grand eggs of the worms that were irradiated. That should happen any time now, since *C. elegans* goes from hatching to parenthood in about three days.



Courtesy photo

**CLOSE INSPECTION**— UAH's Dr. Lynn Boyd checks that the research worms survived irradiation.

"It's always interesting when Lynn brings her worms out," said Steve Rogers, a senior physicist in the Wynn center's nucleonics lab. "We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to a research project like this one."

Using human cells grown in a culture, Boyd found that suppressing the human enzymes that corresponded to the worm enzymes had the same effects on polyglutamine aggregates. Now she is talking to colleagues at the University of Alabama at Birmingham about taking this research to the next level.

*Editor's note: Phillip Gentry is senior editor of university relations at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.*



Courtesy photo

**LINE OF FIRE**— Steve Rogers, senior physicist at the nucleonics lab, centers the UAH worms directly in the gamma ray line of fire.



Courtesy photo

## Top Gun trophy

The Aviation and Missile Command and Team Redstone receive the Top Gun Award from the United Way of Madison County for contributing \$820,819 to the 2006 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign at the Communitywide Campaign Celebration on Feb. 16. From left are Rosa Kilpatrick, Local Federal Coordinating Committee member; Donna Johnson, chairman of the committee; George Myers, executive chairman for Marshall Space Flight Center; Col. Tom Newman, AMCOM chief of staff; and John Schocke, Local Federal Coordinating Committee member.

# Elite law enforcement team in the house

## Special Reaction Team certified at Redstone

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY

Staff writer

kelleysqa@bellsouth.net

If there is a hostage situation or a gunman in a building, the police send in a specialized unit. Most civilians would call it a SWAT Team. However, in the military it's called a Special Reaction Team. Redstone now has its own.

This culminates four years of planning and recruiting.

"The determination was made that we would try to put together a team so we were not relying on outside agencies," Capt. Bobby York, officer-in-charge for the SRT and training officer, said. "The time between then and now has been a building phase."

Army regulations require every installation to have either its own SRT or an agreement with an outside agency to use theirs, York said. Relying on another agency can have drawbacks.

"Personally, I think it's better to have that capability here. Otherwise we have to rely on Huntsville or Madison County, which just started a team. The FBI has a team, but the problem with those folks is that they're not always available when we need them," York said. "Now we don't have to wait for someone else. With the FBI, you're looking at 6 to 8 hours before they would be able to have a team here on

the ground. Even in an off duty situation, we can respond in less than two hours."

### Realistic exercise

In order to receive certification, the team had to undergo a simulated situation testing its training and capabilities. Redstone's team completed its certification exercise at the beginning of February.

"It's an exercise depicting a real world situation," York said. "The team members have no knowledge of it. We put together an exercise with role players and everything. We start from the call and go all the way through the completion of the exercise, which is the after action review that we do. We have a checklist we go through to make sure everything is done in accordance with the standards."

The exercise was held in an empty building on post, with additional officers playing suspect and hostage roles to make it more realistic.

"Our scenario site was the old buildings up by the Officers Club," York said. "We did a barricaded suspect with a hostage situation."

The team came through certification with flying colors, but in order to maintain certification it will have to continue to do so twice a year.

"It's basically a recertification every six months," York said. "We're a new team and this was our very first one. We may do more as they are a better way to assess our abilities and our needs, but we are required to do two a year."

While the team may be new to the installation, you'll find no rookies here. Officers have been carefully selected from throughout the country, coming from as far away as California and the Florida Keys. All are experienced and highly trained professionals.

"This is a specialty skill. It requires more than basic police knowledge," York said. "We were very selective in the people we chose. We've got people with a lot of real world experience dealing with situations."

### Training with others

Besides their other training, all are marksman observers, or what most people would call a sniper. The exact number of team members is being kept quiet for safety reasons.

"Bad guys like to know how many people they're up against, so we don't like to advertise our numbers," York said.

## Summer hire vacancies announced

Three Student Temporary Employment Program Summer Hire announcements will open March 19 and close March 28.

These announcements will be used, along with referrals from the State Employment Service of Disadvantaged Youth, as sources of candidates to refer to selecting officials for Team Redstone summer hire positions. In addition, some part-time students may be converted to full-time, summer rehires (students who worked last year) may be brought back to work, and other students may be placed. These are the same sources that were used last year to fill summer positions.

The following announcements are listed on the Army civilian personnel web site at [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil):

- SCBK070326SH — Office automation clerk, GS/DK-326, grades 1-4;
- SCBK070303SH — General clerk, GS/DK-303, grades 1-4;
- SCBK070802SH — Engineering aide/technician, GS/DE-802, grades 1-4.

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has canvassed serviced organizations for their summer hire requirements, and anticipates about 50-100 Team Redstone summer hire positions may be filled this summer from these announcements. CPAC expects up to 1,000 students to

He said the team has been fortunate enough to do some joint training with other local agencies.

"We train with the Huntsville Police Department SWAT team and we just started training with the Madison County Sheriff's Office SWAT team," he said. "They're a new team as well, even newer than us. We've enjoyed working with both them and Huntsville so far."

The team is ready to handle any special threat situations. No such situations have arisen recently, but there have been instances in the past, York said. Should any occur, Redstone's SRT will be on the job.

"We can do high risk warrant services. We can do regular warrant services. We can do high risk apprehensions," York said. "It has happened in the past and we didn't have the capability. We had to bring Huntsville in and they were able to do it. Now we have the capability in house."

apply for these positions. In order to be considered, applicants must be students who are currently enrolled in school.

Applications will only be accepted through the electronic Resumix system. To apply, students must complete an electronic resume that contains required information plus self-nominate for desired announcements.

CPAC expects most selections to be made in the April-May time frame. Students who are selected will be contacted by phone or e-mail. Those not selected will continue to be referred as summer vacancies are received.

Applications will only be accepted through the electronic Resumix system. To apply, students must go to [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil) and complete an electronic resume that contains required information plus self-nominate for desired announcements. A Step-by-Step Guide on how to apply for these Summer Hire positions can be found at <https://cpac.redstone.army.mil>.

Questions can be directed to your servicing CPAC civilian personnel specialists or to Elisa Stucker 842-7749, Glen Reese 876-7401, Charmaine Howell 842-6567, Vicki Welch 842-9055, Sandra Hodge 842-9056 or Kathy Roe 842-8675. (Civilian Personnel Advisory Center release)

# Bagpipes, whistles enrich engineer's life

*Lyon spends his free time performing Celtic music*

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

karihawk@knology.net

All of a sudden, Mike Lyon is a recording artist.

Well, maybe, not all of a sudden. But in just recent months, Lyon has not only self-published his own CD of Celtic bagpipe music, but he's also been featured as a band member on the first CD to be released by SlipJig, a local five-member Celtic band that plays traditional music from Ireland, Scotland and other Celtic lands.

Lyon, the director of propulsion and structures for the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, is a 10th generation Scot who fell in love with the bagpipes soon after moving from Maryland to Huntsville in 1987.

"We arrived a week or so before Panopoly," Lyon recalls. "I went with my family to Lyon and I heard a solo bagpiper just walking around and playing. I talked to him and learned he was trying to form a band. Next thing I knew, I was taking lessons from him."

Lyon doesn't know which came first — an interest in his own Scottish heritage or a desire to play the bagpipes. But, he does know the bagpipes quickly became his instrument of choice.

"The bagpipes are a difficult instru-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**BAGPIPER AT HEART— When he's not at his day job as the director of propulsion and structures for the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Mike Lyon can be found playing a tune on his Highland bagpipes or on several other Celtic instruments.**

ment to play," he said. "But, I caught on with the lessons and a band resulted."

Lyon was a founding member of the Glen Astar Pipes and Drums of Huntsville.

"Glen Astar was the closest we could get in Gaelic (the Scottish language) to Space Valley," he said. "We were a pipe and drum band on the competition circuit

in the Southeast. We performed all around the South, and won all kinds of awards and prizes."

During those years, Lyon focused on performance on the Highland pipes — or War Pipes — and the Scottish smallpipes. But, in the early 1990s, he left the band and retired from performance for about 10 years because of family obligations.

"Six years ago, I began to pick the pipes back up and kind of retrained my fingers," Lyon said. "Last fall, I put together a CD (called Foundation) that is a compilation of my playing on the Highland pipes and some on the smallpipes."

Though his first love is the Highland bagpipes, Lyon is realistic about his chosen instrument and realizes it's not for everyone.

"Either folks love them or they hate them. There's no gray area, I've found," he said. "The bagpipes are not an instrument that you can just sit down and play in the privacy of your home without the neighbors hearing it. They are designed to be played, literally, on the battlefield. So, they are hard to practice in private."

With his two children grown and gone, Lyon is able to get in some at-home practice and recording time. That is, as long as his wife, Caroline, isn't home.

The Foundation CD includes a variety of bagpipe arrangements by Lyon. It includes jigs and reels, laments, standard march tunes and a Calypso tune. One tune has been arranged with a church organ and piano, and his daughter sings with a few of the songs.

"There's a wealth of music out for the bagpipes. On this CD, I wanted to provide a variety of music that you won't typically hear if you go to Scottish festivals," Lyon said. "If you follow piping closely, you will recognize the tunes. But, they are not commonly played."

Lyon self-produced the CD to give to friends and family. But, it is also available for purchase at Shaver's Books, and it has been played on WLRH Public Radio.

"It was something I enjoyed doing and I think people who enjoy bagpipe music will like this CD," he said.

But, the bagpipes aren't Lyon's entire focus these days. Instead, he's involved in a new band experience with SlipJig. He spends most of his free time practicing and performing on the penny whistle, low Irish whistle and Uilleann pipes — three instruments, along with the Scottish smallpipes — that are softer on listeners' ears and a welcoming sound addition to SlipJig, which has just released its first CD.

"SlipJig is taking all my musical time right now," said Lyon, who also takes on vocal backgrounds and the vocal lead when the band plays RPS's (raucous pub songs).

The band plays every Thursday night at Finnegan's Pub, and performs at private parties and other events. SlipJig will perform at the United Cerebral Palsy's Irish Evening on Friday at the Von Braun Center and at the Flying Monkey on Saturday (St. Patrick's Day).

See **Bagpipes** on page 20

# Project office tackles Lean Six Sigma

*More efficient operation represents team's goal*

By DAN O'BOYLE

*For the Rocket*

A cartoon Dilbert topic and the source of much water cooler chat, Lean Six Sigma's cachet is taking on added velocity inside the walls of the building 5250, the home of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.

But isn't LSS the same thing we tried with Total Quality Management?

The simple answer is no; they are not the same. Total Quality Management is a broad overarching culture and attitude within an organization. Lean and Six Sigma are targeted process tools, used in a quality culture like TQM, to improve process efficiency and effectiveness by eliminating waste and variability of operations in both the manufacturing and transactional arenas.

Where the rubber meets the road and the weapon systems hit their targets, project manager Col. Earnest Harris and his deputy John Beale are the LSS-trained champions for Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems.

They have five green belts working on three projects.

"Our champion training put everybody on the same footing with respect to what LSS is and more importantly what it is not," Harris said. "We now understand the concepts and tools, as well as the types of applications, and that these tools can be applied to government services and operations. The training was very valuable."

## Metrics to measure

Beale notes the project office's history. "In the past we've done zero defects and value engineering and realized cost avoidance and savings," he said. "We believe that we were improving certain things, but now if this can help and we can do things better, we don't mind looking at it and trying it."

And Harris explains.

"You can say that you are efficient without having a set of metrics to measure and quantify that efficiency, but now we can see how we are Leaning and removing defects to quantify the improvements that we are making," Harris said. "We scoured the project office to see what would be appropriate for the Lean Six Sigma effort. The PM is getting rid of bottlenecks and making processes faster. As we position the PMO for the future, LSS has become an integral part of the PMO's 'rightsizing' effort."

Looking at defects Harris and Beale can analyze what might be hindering the PM and apply corrections in the areas involved.

## Projects on table

Specifically, the processing of performance and other awards has drawn the pair's attention.

"In this area, we have examined the process and the number of people involved with a combination of core and matrix staff members and different human resource coordination elements," Harris said. "Plus, we have several other projects

on the table that we are going to tackle, but this effort gives our green belts an opportunity to cut their teeth on something that we need to make better."

Beale explains.

"We are improving the efficiencies of meetings by looking at such things as timing, decisions and the amount of people involved," Beale said. "We're trying to set up a metric that says: 'OK what benefits/decisions did we get out of holding this meeting?' And thus structure future meetings to get more out of the time spent in meetings."

PFRMS is also looking to apply Lean Six Sigma to the scheduling of hardware — rockets and M270 launchers — that are going to be demilitarized.

"We've gone through the first gate, approving the layout and concepts and we're moving to take the next steps on this project, focusing on what takes place in terms of coordination outside of the Missiles and Space PEO," Harris said. "You have to control the process that you want to apply the Lean principles to, although we are looking at other processes that we do not have total control of."

The project office had a value engineering and item recovery effort under way in this area.

"But now we are working on getting corporate buy in from all involved to assure that we get more bang for the buck on the things that directly affect us," Harris said.

In sum, the project office's government core and matrix work force is devoted to making Lean Six Sigma a reality.

"This PMO is on a path to make sure that we know what is redundant and what does not add value," Harris said. "LSS will help us measure progress as the future unfolds."

## Program executive office level

At the PEO staff level, Frank DeLuca is in charge of Lean Six Sigma as the Future Programs and Initiatives assistant program executive officer. He is assisted by Black Belt, Mike Bell.

"We must be able to factually assess information and make performance decisions relative to accuracy, relevance and applicability," DeLuca said. "In that regard, Continuous Process Improvement and LSS have been proven to actually work in both manufacturing and transactional arenas. Within the PEO, together we can set in motion solutions that are our solutions — solutions that apply to our world. We are the expert implementers, exercising control over our domain and improving our business processes. This is the scenario we want for the PEO Missiles and Space."

DeLuca's maxim applies.

"One phrase that I try to live by is: if you accept mediocrity as a standard, you do not have to reach too high to attain it," he said. "The Army is giving us the reins and the tools to direct, drive and forge our own destiny."

"We will continue on the path we have been working; formalizing our efforts, having weekly Green Belt meetings, identifying additional opportunities, determining metrics, and building institutional formalities to define, track, report, assess and qualify our activities."

# March madness represents new start

*Troop teams all even entering the playoffs*

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

*Rocket editor*

*skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil*

Everybody starts from scratch in the troop basketball playoffs.

You might have breezed through the regular season like Bravo Company. But that's history when it comes to the postseason, double-elimination tournament March 12-19.

"The regular season really doesn't matter, because we're all undefeated when it gets to the postseason," Bravo player/coach Rod Brown said.

The Bulldogs (9-1) had the best record during the season, finished atop the Eastern Conference and earned a first-round bye. The Marines (7-3) led the Western Conference and also earned a bye.

"I think as long as we're healthy we're going to take it all," Marines power forward Brian Walker said. "I don't see anybody beating us. Our toughest games are against Bravo and 326th, but I think we can take them."

The Marines finished their season with a

59-55 win over Headquarters & Alpha after trailing 25-24 at halftime March 5 at Pagano Gym.

Marvin Fletcher scored 20 points, Damien Cason had 18 and Rhys O'Neil added 12 for the Marines.

Curtis Davis scored a game-high 22 points for Headquarters & Alpha (2-8), which played one of its better games of the season.

"It was more communication on the floor," Gators forward Yancy Windham said. "And we just went in there and worked as a team instead of being individuals. And the coaching staff was a big part of it."

Said shooting guard Leroy Carlton, "We kept hurting ourselves by turning the ball over, and that's what killed us."

In other games March 5, defending champion 326th Chemical defeated Charlie 40-35 and Bravo beat NCO Academy 45-34. On March 7, Bravo edged Headquarters & Alpha 48-45 and NCO Academy beat Charlie 44-34. Charlie went 0-10 after winning the preseason tournament.

Final standings for the regular season included: **Eastern Conference** – Bravo (9-1), NCO Academy (6-4), 326th Chemical (6-4). **Western Conference** – Marines (7-3), Headquarters & Alpha (2-8), Charlie (0-10).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**LOOKING TO PASS**— Bravo center Marcus Crosby and the first-place Bulldogs will try to continue their success in the postseason tournament.

## ■ Performer prefers softer, fun side of Celtic music

### Bagpipes

continued from page 18

Lyon enjoys the variety of instruments and music he plays with SlipJig.

"The penny whistle is easy to play. If you've played recorder in elementary school, then you'll be a natural on the penny whistle. The Uilleann pipes is a more difficult instrument," he said.

"But, the real joy for me is in the music itself. I love music. Irish music has such a mix of flavors – jigs, reels, slow ballads. There is such variety."

The band plays high-energy jigs and reels, ancient airs and ballads, and raucous pub songs in the traditional Irish style. SlipJig plays about 200 of the thousands of different Celtic tunes that have been written to express the joys and sorrows of the Irish.

Lyon admits it's a great way to escape from the daily responsibilities the Propulsions and Structures division has for the rocket motors and warheads that go on Army missile systems.

"The music is my getaway after hours from work," he said. "Each time you play the music you internalize it and it becomes a part of you."



### Singers wanted

The Huntsville Stars baseball team will hold an open audition Saturday at 10 a.m. for those wishing to sing the national anthem at a Stars home game for the 2007 season. Singers will be required to sing "The Star Spangled Banner" without musical accompaniment. However, individuals wishing to play the anthem on a musical instrument are invited to audition as well. Those wishing to audition as a group are also encouraged to participate. Each singer/group will be judged equally no matter age or experience and you must audition again even if you have sung for the Stars in the past. The first round of auditions will be held in the Observatory Skybox on the third level of Joe Davis Stadium, with the second round moving to the field (weather permitting) and a chance to sing with the on-field microphone and the half-second delay. Singers are encouraged to bring earplugs for the on-field portion of the audition. Competition will be open to singers of all ages and will be judged on knowledge of the song, style and overall talent. For more information, call the Stars office 882-2562.

### Golf league

The Redstone OMMCS Golf League is looking for players/teams to play in this year's golf schedule. Matches are held on the Redstone golf course each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon beginning April 3 and running until mid-September. Teams should have a roster of 6-12 players. All players who meet the eligibility requirements for the use of the Redstone golf course as defined by post regulations may participate. A final organizational meeting will be held Thursday at 4:30 p.m. in the Redstone course clubhouse. Team dues are \$110 per team. Individuals are also welcome and will be placed on existing teams when possible. If you need more information or plan to attend the meeting, call 313-4196 or e-mail dparker@camber.com.

### Youth sports

Child and Youth Services' Sports will offer sports skill development camps during the Huntsville City Schools' Spring Break, March 19-23. Instruction will be provided in these individual sports: golf, tennis, racquetball and bowling; in team sports: basketball, baseball/softball, football, soccer and volleyball, as well as conditioning, speed, agility and strength

training. Transportation will be provided from School Age Services if needed. CYS registration and sports physical must be current. Registration paperwork and more information can be found at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) For more information, call 313-3699.

### Bass tournament

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America invites you to participate in its spring 2007 bass tournament April 21 at Goose Pond Colony on Lake Guntersville. A social will be held April 20 at 5 p.m. at rental cabin 11, tournament headquarters. The tournament starts at first safe light April 21 and ends at 2 p.m. with weigh-in immediately following. For more information call Bob Vlasic 881-4144, Chuck Ogle 883-7974, Matt Boenker 313-9117 or Tom Geoffroy 876-5359 or visit the chapter web site <http://www.tennvalleyquad-a.org>.

### Golf tournament

The ninth annual George H. Hobson Memorial Golf Tournament, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., is March 31 at the Hampton Cove Golf Course, 450 Old Highway 431 South in Owens Cross Roads. Tee times start at 8 a.m. Registration deadline is Saturday. Cost, which includes the after tournament meal, is \$75 (\$100 after deadline). For more information, call Walter A. Baker 797-5673.

### Inline hockey league

Join CYS Sports for its Inline Hockey League, which is for children ages 5-18 as of April 1, 2006. Registration continues through March 30. Registration is \$85 per player. Practices begin the week of April 9 and games run May through June. Teams are age-appropriate. For more information, call 313-3699. Registration paperwork and more information can be found at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).

### Babe Ruth baseball

Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the summer season Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Players ages 13 to 18 as of April 30, 2007 are invited; and 12-year-olds are eligible to sign up, too. Registration forms will be accepted after Saturday on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. HBRL boundaries are the Huntsville city limits. The registration fee is \$70, and a birth certificate is required for all players. Persons

interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts are: Central Division, Brahan Springs, call Bud Gambrell 564-5612; Northern Division, Mastin Lake, Dwayne Friend 830-7077; Southern Division, Sandhurst, Tim Harrison 544-3180; and Eastern Division, Optimist Park, Mike Samples e-mail [michael@sample-properties.com](mailto:michael@sample-properties.com).



## Conferences & Meetings

### Materials conference

Registration for the Metamaterials and Nonlinear Materials Conference has begun. This conference will be held April 4-5 in Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, visit the conference web page at <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/MNM07> or e-mail [angie.cornelius@us.army.mil](mailto:angie.cornelius@us.army.mil).

### Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel have Bible studies each Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. The morning Bible studies are at 9:30 a.m., the lunch Bible study at 11:30 a.m., and the evening Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Nursery care is provided for all Bible studies. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 489-3018 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

### Engineer post

Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers will meet Thursday at



Courtesy photo

## Administrative winner

**Sue Jones of Boeing Company is the "Administrative Professional of the Year" for the Huntsville Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals. With her are competition judges Becky Hamilton and David Denton.**

11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The speaker is Todd DuVernay. Cost of the lunch buffet is \$9. For reservations call 895-1834 or e-mail [Amber.d.martin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Amber.d.martin@usace.army.mil).

### Veterans association

National Dusters, Quads and Searchlights Association will have its 2007 reunion July 11-15 in Evansville, Ind. The site is the Holiday Inn Conference Center, 4101 U.S. Highway 41 North in Evansville. For more information, call 721-0913 or e-mail [sgmstokes@juno.com](mailto:sgmstokes@juno.com).

### Test week 2007

The Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center, in cooperation with the International Test and Evaluation Association, will sponsor Test Week 2007 from June 11-15 at the Von Braun Center. The theme this year is "How to Make Test and Evaluation Relevant to the Joint Warfighter." The web site is [www.testweek.org](http://www.testweek.org), where you can pull off a preliminary agenda, registration form, exhibitor registration form, and floor plan. The conference is also in TIP, Catalog F73TW. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

### Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday, March 24 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter will hold its monthly luncheon meeting March 28 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Lube Cohelska, Madison County executive director of the International Service Council, is the scheduled speaker. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited. For more information, call retired Col. Danny Burtram 325-1938.

### Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society) presents a free public talk April 5 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. Stephan R. Davis, NASA MSFC, deputy manager of Flight and Integrated Test Office Ares I-X at Marshall Space Flight Center, is to speak on "The First Step in the Long Journey Ahead." For more information, call Ronnie 509-3833.

### Trade show

The 2007 GSA International Expo is May 15-17 in Orlando, Fla. This free training

conference and trade show is designed for procurement and program professionals. Training will be available on topics such as government contract law, performance based acquisition, strategic sourcing and other procurement-related courses. All classes grant Continuous Learning Points. Admission is free. For more information and to register, call 1-888-272-5565 or visit web site [www.expo.gsa.gov](http://www.expo.gsa.gov).

### **Genealogical society**

Annewhite Fuller, a manager of the library heritage room, will speak at the regular meeting of the Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society at 7 p.m. March 22 in the auditorium of the Huntsville Public Library, 915 Monroe St. For more information, visit <http://www.tvgs.org>.

### **Spring seminar**

Shirley Wilson, certified genealogist from Sumner County, Tennessee, will conduct the Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society's Spring Seminar on March 31 from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the auditorium of the Huntsville Public Library, 915 Monroe St. The cost for this event is \$30; and the deadline for signup is March 28. Send checks to TVGS, P.O. Box 1568, Huntsville, AL 35807. For the day's schedule, visit <http://www.tvgs.org>.

### **Toastmasters**

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

### **Strategic speakers**

Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in room 3018 of building 5225 (Von Braun Complex). Toastmasters is a non-profit organization that assists with the development of communication and leadership skills. For more information, call C. Purifoy 651-3621 or 313-4696 or e-mail [cpurifoy@bellsouth.net](mailto:cpurifoy@bellsouth.net).

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Reserve unit openings**

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

cialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

### **Civilian deployment**

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

### **Surplus sales**

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

### **Green to gold**

The Army ROTC at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana seeks talented young enlisted Soldiers who want to earn baccalaureate degrees. If you are a quality enlisted Soldier with officer potential and have served at least two years on active duty, then you are allowed to voluntarily participate and enroll in Army ROTC through these Green to Gold Programs. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail [arotc@uiuc.edu](mailto:arotc@uiuc.edu), or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

### **Thrift shop**

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. The Thrift Shop will be open April 14 from 10-2. The shop is accepting spring items. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

### **Water cooler refills**

The Thrift Shop has begun to stock water cooler refills as part of its goal to raise more money to give back to the community. Water cooler replacement bottles, 5-gallon jugs, are available at good prices at the shop. For more information, call Christi Graves 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.

### **Lateral entry**

If you are qualified prior service or a member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer, the University of Illinois Army ROTC Lateral Entry Program may be for you. The Lateral Entry Program allows eligible students to contract into the Reserve Officer Training Corps as cadets when they are academic juniors, seniors or graduate students with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail [arotc@uiuc.edu](mailto:arotc@uiuc.edu), or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

### **Call for papers**

A call for papers has been issued for the "Workshop on Algorithms for Autonomous & Aided Target Recognition" June 6-7 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, e-mail Angie Cornelius at [angie.cornelius@us.army.mil](mailto:angie.cornelius@us.army.mil). A call for papers has also been issued for the Conference on Reconfigurable Systems, Microsystems and Nanotechnology, May 8-10. For more information, e-mail [angie.cornelius@us.army.mil](mailto:angie.cornelius@us.army.mil).

### **AER scholarships**

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for the 2007-08 school year. Scholarships are available for children and spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers. Applications are available online at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org). For more information call Kristi Foster, AER officer, 876-5397, or e-mail [kristi.foster@redstone.army.mil](mailto:kristi.foster@redstone.army.mil).

### **Community volunteers**

Do you have a few hours to volunteer

with Soldiers and family members? Volunteers are needed at Army Community Service. Training and orientation are provided. If interested call volunteer coordinator Kim Anton 876-5397 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### **Grissom High reunion**

Grissom High School Class of 1977 is planning a reunion in July. Organizers are looking for all graduates from that year. If you are a grad or know one, please e-mail [GHS77@comcast.net](mailto:GHS77@comcast.net).

### **Military collectibles**

A military collectibles show will be held March 17-18 at the Jaycees Building, 2180 Airport Road. Buy, sell, trade or display. For more information, call 651-7302 or visit [www.almilitarycollectors.org](http://www.almilitarycollectors.org).

### **Math tutoring**

ACT and SAT Math Prep Tutoring Sessions will be held at the Youth Center through May 8 from 4:30-6 p.m. These sessions are free to children that are registered with Child and Youth Services. For more information, call 876-5437. Registration paperwork and more information can be found at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).

### **Florida Tech signup**

Florida Tech Graduate Center, Redstone registration for the summer semester begins April 30 at building 5304, room 4326. Class is weekly from 5-8 p.m. in building 5304. For information call the administrative office 881-7878.

### **Spring registration**

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Campus is now registering for the spring term March 19 to May 20. Classes offered include the Air Transportation System; Concepts of Integrated Logistics; Studies in Rhetorical Theory; Human Factors in Aviation Safety; and Logistics Management for Aviation/Aerospace. The Embry-Riddle Huntsville Center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in Aviation/Aerospace and Management fields as well as certificate programs in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Industrial Management, Occupational Safety and Health, Aviation Safety, and Space Studies. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is Friday. Call 876-9763 or visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222.

**See Announcements on page 24**

# Rocket Announcements

## Youth classes

SKIESUnlimited classes are offered to enrich the academic, physical and emotional lives of youth. This program is open to youth ages 4-18. SKIESUnlimited offers Tae Kwon Do, Dance, Drumming, and Kindernastics. For more information, call 876-7801.

## Car wash benefit

The Optimist Club will hold its annual car wash fund-raiser, benefiting local youth, May 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Lee's Magic Tunnel Car Wash. Wash, vacuum and double hot wax costs \$8; and street or "walk in" sales are \$14.

## Business honorees

The first Junior Achievement of Northern Alabama Business Hall of Fame, "A Celebration of Legends and Legacies," will be held April 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, South Hall. This black tie event will honor four laureates who were chosen because they have made outstanding contributions to free enterprise and have set new standards for future business leaders while serving as inspiring role models for young people. For more information, call the Junior Achievement office 533-4661.

## Civilian of year award

The Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, will sponsor the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award and Dinner on April 10 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. This award and dinner recognizes local DA civilians who have demonstrat-

ed exceptional performance as members of the Army team. This year AUSA will expand its award program by recognizing nominees from three groups: Management/Executive Award, Professional/Technical Award, and Supporting Staff Award. Support your outstanding civilian nominees by attending the recognition dinner. Tickets can be purchased from the AUSA event coordinator, Jerry Hamilton. Cost is \$30 for individuals, and \$240 for a corporate table of eight. For a reservation form, call Hamilton 971-7065.

## Book sale benefit

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for the Army Emergency Relief campaign is April 16-20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, first floor, in the corridor between buildings 5303 and 5304. "As in the past, we accept donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes," a prepared release said. "We will be able to receive donations (now) until April 18." If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-8563 to arrange delivery and pickup.

## Space Camp scholarships

The ACS Volunteer Committee announces the Space Camp, Space Academy, and Aviation Challenge Scholarship Program for 2007, open to active and retired military family members. Children of Guard and Reserve members having served on active duty from March 16, 2006 to March 16, 2007 are also eligible. Applications are available at the Post Exchange, local schools, Army Community Service and [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).



Courtesy photo

## Space jam

**Maj. Claudio Ferraro of Italy visits the U.S. Space & Rocket Center on March 2 during the International Military Student Office's field studies program visit to the museum. The group included 12 students from the Netherlands, Italy and Tunisia. They also toured the Jack Daniels Distillery in Lynchburg, Tenn.**

The applications must be returned by noon Friday to ACS, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Previous winners are not eligible. For more information, call 876-5397.

## Business scholarships

The Redstone Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals invites students to apply for its scholarship program. Two scholarships for \$750 each will be awarded to students majoring in business (high school and col-

lege). For more information, call Dorothy May 842-8391. The application can be found at [www.geocities.com/iaaprsa/current.htm](http://www.geocities.com/iaaprsa/current.htm).

## Professional development

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers will hold a seminar on "Putting Your Best Foot Forward - Managing Your Career" April 11-12 at Trinity United Methodist Church on Airport Road. The same session will be held each day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is from 7-8 a.m. Janie Walters of Champion Communications is the seminar leader. Cost is \$75 for ASMC members, \$85 for non-members. For information call Cody Swinford 876-3363, Dana Wilbanks 876-4283, Debbie O'Neal 876-2671, Sandy Balog 842-8012 or Theresa McBride 842-9272.

## Walk benefit

The "Walk for Wishes," a fund-raiser for the Make a Wish Foundation, is April 14 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville duck pond. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk at 10. For information on helping out or joining the walk, call Vicki Brewer 509-4823.

## Security professionals

The eighth annual NCMS/DSS Security Seminar "Security For a Changing World" will be held April 12 at the Von Braun Center. For exhibitor and registration information, call Sonja Wood or Leslie Weil 890-3001. The program features presentations by DOHA, NSA, and

the Interagency OPSEC Support Staff. The keynote speaker is Vice Adm. Robert Murrett. For exhibitor and registration information, call Sonja Wood or Leslie Weil 890-3001. Registration cost is \$65 before April 1 or \$80 thereafter (includes continental breakfast and sit-down lunch). Registration details and more information are available at <http://ncms-midsouth.org>.

## Comedy night

The Officers and Civilians Club is once again bringing three acts for Comedy Night on March 23. Mel Fine and Marques Bunn are the feature act; and the headliner is Mark Knope. Tickets are on sale at the club. Advance tickets are \$8 without dinner and \$13 with dinner. Tickets at the door are \$12 without dinner and \$17 with dinner. The buffet dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30. For more information, call 830-2582. This event is open to the community.

## Wine tasting

Join the Officers and Civilians Club for an International Wine Tasting on March 30 at 6 p.m. There will be many different wines from different countries. Advance tickets are \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. Tickets at the door are \$12 for members, \$14 for non-members. For more information, call 830-2582.

## Stuffed animals wanted

Amy Balch is collecting new or gently-used stuffed animals for the pediatric ward at Huntsville Hospital East. Contact her at 631-7886 or [gospelsonglover@yahoo.com](mailto:gospelsonglover@yahoo.com).

## Fund-raiser walk

To celebrate Autism Awareness Month, the Autism Society of Alabama is hosting a "Walk for Autism" April 21 at Chapman Middle School. Everyone is invited to participate. A \$25 pre-registration fee includes a walk T-shirt. Registration on the day of the walk will be \$30. The walk begins at 9:30 a.m., with registration opening at 8:30. Fun activities planned for after the walk include a moon bounce, slide, food, drinks, face painting, mini-resource fair, music, balloons, raffle prizes, etc. For more information on the Huntsville walk, call the local walk coordinator 527-8061.

## Aviation ball

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America will hold its "St. Michaels Aviation Ball" March 23 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. Social begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 and music at 8:30. This business formal event is an evening of dinner, music and dancing. Dance music will be provided by Juice. Registration forms can be found on the AAAA TVC web site at <http://www.tennvalleyquad-a.org/> or call Jim Santaferrara 430-3745.

## Grant program

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association conducts an annual community support grant program to give back to Soldiers, military families, and community. Local tax exempt organizations that qualify under Section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code may apply for one of the grants. Typically, the ADAA does not fund: (a) recreational activities, (b) tax supported institutions, (c) cultural/civic organizations/businesses, (d) religious organizations/institutions, (e) social organizations/committees, and

(f) political organizations/campaigns. Rather, the grant is designed to support organizations and activities involving the education, health and/or social welfare of all Soldiers and their families. Representatives of eligible organizations may request a grant application from the ADAA Grant Committee chairman, Ron Sumera, at 774-1054 or via e-mail at [Ron.Sumera@cas-inc.com](mailto:Ron.Sumera@cas-inc.com). The deadline for the submission of grant applications for this year is March 30.

## Helicopter society

The American Helicopter Society, Redstone Chapter will award two one-week scholarships to the international Aviation Challenge at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center for 2007. "This award is to kindle interest in, encourage and promote students in fourth through 12th grades to pursue education in the fields of rotorcraft and vertical takeoff and landing aircraft," a prepared release said. Call scholarship chairman Steve Parker 313-5421 for eligibility and application requirements. Deadline for submission is April 7.

## Women's history program

A Women's History Month program will be held March 30 at 10 a.m. in Morris Auditorium, NASA/building 4200 on Rideout Road. The keynote speaker is NASA astronaut Col. Catherine G. "Cady" Coleman.

## Ty Herndon concert

Athens State University will be the site for an outdoor concert featuring country music sensation Ty Herndon at 8 p.m. May 12 to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of North Alabama. Southern Crossroads and Kix96 country radio are bringing Herndon back home to kick off his new CD, "Right About Now." Get tickets for \$20 in advance at [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com) or \$18 with military/student ID at any Railroad Bazaar in North Alabama or at Prestons Western Wear in Athens.

## Alcorn scholarships

Alcorn State University announces its annual Tennessee Valley Alumni Scholarship Award Program. Scholarships are for incoming freshmen who would like to attend Alcorn State University (proof of enrollment/acceptance required). Amounts will be \$500 for each scholarship awarded. Scholarships will be awarded to successful applicants who maintain a 2.5 on a 4.0 point system and will be awarded without regards to race, sex, creed or religious preference. Applications packets have been mailed to high schools' senior counselors in Huntsville and within a 50-mile radius of Huntsville. Submission deadline is April 6. Application packets should be mailed to Tennessee Valley Alumni Alcorn State University, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 5413, Huntsville AL 35814. For more information, call Melvin Mayo 721-9336 or Sam King 882-7733.

## Cake sale

The Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, PEO Missiles and Space (building 5250) will hold a cake sale for Army Emergency Relief today from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., or until the cakes are gone. Redstone Arsenal employees are invited to take slices of cakes and contribute. For more information call K.C. Bertling, Jill Mayes or Maria Roth 876-1195 or 876-8121.

# Rocket Announcements

## Brunch benefit

The Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, PEO Missiles and Space (building 5250) will hold a brunch for AER on April 5 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call K.C. Bertling, Jill Mayes or Maria Roth 876-1195 or 876-8121.

## Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on April 3 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338 on 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. Civilian employees, contractors and 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. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

## Train rides

The North Alabama Railroad Museum will kick off its 2007 season March 31 with the Peter Cottontail Express. The train rides will be at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1 and 2 p.m., and the tickets are \$12 for all riders. The trips are designed for children age 10 and younger. "Peter Cottontail will be on the train to meet with the kids and hand out some Easter basket goodies," a prepared release said. For tickets call the Chase Depot 851-6276 on Saturday and Wednesday mornings, and make your reservations now. The Chase Depot, 694 Chase Road, can be found by taking Highway 72 east of Huntsville to Moores Mill Road and then to Chase Road. Or local traffic may wish to take Meridian Street north to Chase Road.

## Family online seminar

A Military OneSource "webinar" on Recordkeeping for Special Needs Families is scheduled March 29 at 8 a.m., 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. A webinar is a free interactive online workshop available through Military OneSource. Anyone with Internet and phone access can attend. Registration is required. To register, visit [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) and click on the Webinar link under the Events and Community section on the left side of the page. Choose a session date and click on the registration link. Once you have registered, you will receive an e-mail confirmation providing the information that you need to join the session. For questions regarding registration, send an e-mail to [webinars@militaryonesource.com](mailto:webinars@militaryonesource.com).

## Library week

The J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center, Alabama A&M University will hold activities to celebrate National Library Week, April 15-21. The third annual Friends of the Library Membership Dinner is April 16. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 in the Ernest L. Knight Reception Center on the A&M campus. The honorees this year will be Dr. Carl Marbury, founder and former dean of the Alabama A&M University School of Library Media Program and seventh president of A&M; and Lila White, retired school librarian of the Jefferson County school system in Bessemer.

The second annual Friends of the Library Book Sale is April 19-20 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the First Floor Computer Lab of the J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center (Library).

## Scholarships for youth

YOUTH Friendship Foundation Inc., in partnership with the Investing in Our Youth Partnership, announces its annual scholarships for the youth. This scholarship is open to all high school seniors. Students should contact their school counselors for applications or call Maj. Alonzo McGhee 655-9616. All applica-

tions must be received by April 18. Investing in Our Youth Partnership members include Psi Kappa Kappa Chapter, Lockheed Martin Corp., Northrop Grumman, Dynetics Inc., Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co., Advanced Systems Development Inc., Intergraph Corp., COLSA Corp., Peduzzi Associates, Engineering Management & Technology Corp., SAIC, Advanced Engineering & Planning Corp., Tec-Masters Inc., General Dynamics, Analytical Services Inc., Intuitive Research & Technology, Booz Allen Hamilton, Advanced Federal Services Corp., Holiday Inn Research Park,

DESE Research Inc., Systems Studies & Simulation Inc., Gray Research Inc., Green Hills Grille, Mercedes Benz of Huntsville, Space and Missile Defense Working Group, Suzuki of Huntsville, and U.S. Space & Rocket Center. For partnership information call 655-9616.

## Bone density screenings

Fox Army Health Center will conduct bone density screenings May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Redstone Fitness Center for the MWR Health Fair. The fitness center is located on Aerobee Road, east of Patton Road.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?																			
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U								
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																											
SCBK07790225	Supv Financial Mgmt Spec	14-Mar-07	Corp. Of Engrs	YC-0505	3	3	79,115 - 127,031																				
SCBK07790225D1	Supv Financial Mgmt Spec	14-Mar-07	Corp. Of Engrs	YC-0505	3	3	79,115 - 127,031	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07843203	Lead Gen Engr	14-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07843203D	Lead Gen Engr	14-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07878604	Accountant (Internal Review Evaluator)	14-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-0510	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X																			
SCBK07840856D	Engrng Tech	14-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DE-0802	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07618482	Logistics Mgmt Spec	14-Mar-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876																				
SCBK07824205	General Engr	15-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-0801	14	14	89,875 - 116,835			X	X																
SCBK07824205D	General Engr	15-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-0801	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07856024	Logistics Mgmt Spec	15-Mar-07	AMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X																		
SCNAFBK0713	Laborer (Bowling Facility Maintenance)	15-Mar-07	Bus Oper Div	NA-3502	3	3	7.90 - 7.90	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCNAFBK0716	Laborer	15-Mar-07	Bus Oper Div	NA-3502	3	3	7.90 - 7.90	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07793317	Budget Analyst	16-Mar-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0560	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X																		
SCBK07880398	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	16-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DK-0303	3	3	36,057 - 51,914			X	X																
SCBK07848258	Safety Engr	16-Mar-07	AMC	GS-0803	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X																		
SCBK07761574	Contract Spec	19-Mar-07	USADTC	GS-1102	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X																			
SCBK07882521	Logistics Mgmt Spec	19-Mar-07	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X																			
SCBK07841217	Lead Aerospace Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07841217D	Lead Aerospace Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07840845	Lead Gen Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07840845D	Lead Gen Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07860217	Prgm Mgmt Spec	20-Mar-07	Acq Supp Ctr	NH-0301	4	4	89,875 - 137,343	X	X																		
SCBK07860217D	Prgm Mgmt Spec	20-Mar-07	Acq Supp Ctr	NH-0301	4	4	89,875 - 137,343	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07817213	Supv Traffic Mgmt Spec	20-Mar-07	GARRISON	GS-2130	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X																			
SCBK07796023	Safety & Occupational Health Mgr	21-Mar-07	USADTC	GS-0018	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X																			
SCBK07796023D	Safety & Occupational Health Mgr	21-Mar-07	USADTC	GS-0018	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07867483R	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876																				
SCBK070857324D	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Mar-07	IMMC	YA-0346	3	3	86,199 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK070857324	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Mar-07	IMMC	YA-0346	3	3	86,199 - 137,434																				
SCBK07826782R	Oper Research Analyst	22-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	63,958 - 98,876			X	X																
SCBK07826782D	Oper Research Analyst	22-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07798138D	Budget Analyst	22-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DE-0560	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK0770099	Civil Engr;Architect;Chem Engr;Electrical Engr;Mech Engr;Envmtl Engr	22-Mar-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	YD-0810;0808;0893;0850;0830;0819	2	2	44,104 - 98,876	X																			
SCBK07756640	Architect;Chem Engr;Civil Engr;Elect Engr;Envmtl Engr;Mech Engr; Landscape Architect	22-Mar-07	Corp of Engrs Huntsville	YD-0808;0893;0810;0850;0819;0830;0807	2	2	44,104 - 98,876	X																			
SCBK07878830	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	22-Mar-07	AMC	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876											X	X		X						
SCBK07878830D	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	22-Mar-07	AMC	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07874916	Contract Spec	23-Mar-07	PEO C3T	GS-1102	13	13	73,056 - 98,876	X	X																		
SCBK07840650	Equip Spec (Aircraft)	27-Apr-07	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	55,360 - 81,572																				
SCNAFBK0714	Lifeguard	31-Aug-07	Rec Serv Div	NF-0189	1	1	5.15 - 10.63	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCNAFBK0715	Lifeguard (Pool Oper)	31-Aug-07	Rec Serv Div	NF-0190	2	2	7.61-13.48	X	X	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>																											
SCBK07843203D	Lead Gen Engr	14-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07790225D1	Supv Financial Mgmt Spec	14-Mar-07	Corp. Of Engrs	YC-0505	3	3	79,115 - 127,031	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07840856D	Engrng Tech	14-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DE-0802	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07824205D	General Engr	15-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-0801	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07841217D	Lead Aerospace Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07840845D	Lead Gen Engr	20-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07860217D	Prgm Mgmt Spec	20-Mar-07	Acq Supp Ctr	NH-0301	14	15	89,875 - 137,343	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07796023D	Safety & Occupational Health Mgr	21-Mar-07	USADTC	GS-0018	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK070857324D	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Mar-07	IMMC	YA-0346	3	3	86,199 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07826782D	Oper Research Analyst	22-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07826782R	Oper Research Analyst	22-Mar-07	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	63,958 - 98,876			X	X																
SCBK07798138D	Budget Analyst	22-Mar-07	AMRDEC	DE-0560	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK07878830D	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	22-Mar-07	AMC	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						

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

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

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

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

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