

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 56 No. 15

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

April 18, 2007

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# Engineer named civilian of year

Served in Iraq  
with Soldiers

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
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An electronics engineer, whose work in Iraq has contributed to making the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center a recognized leader in support of current Iraqi operations, was named the top local Department of the Army Civilian of the Year by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army at an annual awards dinner April 10 at the Von Braun Center North Hall.

Troy Hester, who volunteered to spend four months in the summer of 2004 in Iraq as part of a Field Advisory Science and Technology Team, is now the local AUSA chapter's nominee for the national Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award. He will compete for top honors in AUSA's third region and then go on to represent the Redstone-Huntsville chapter at AUSA's annual convention in October.

"When I was nominated for this award, I started thinking about all the things I've been through, all the people I've met, all the people I've worked with. This is for all those people and all those who are over there in the sand now, who deserve this more than me. I'd like to accept this on their behalf," Hester told nearly 300 community, business, industry and military leaders at the awards dinner.

Hester was nominated by Roger Berry, division chief of the Electronics and Computer Technology Division, and endorsed by Robin Buckelew, director of the Applied Sensors, Guidance and Electronics Directorate, AMRDEC. He was chosen as the winner among 10 nominees for the local AUSA award.

"I was in the company of some really great people," Hester said later. "I was just so thrilled to be nominated and get a nomination plaque."

Hester, who started working for AMRDEC 26 years ago as a co-op engineering student from the University of Alabama, leads the Current Operations Integrated Product Team, which developed several products and services during 2006 that provided significant benefits to troops in Iraq. Those products include a Daylight Standoff Traffic Warning Device (a portable caution light that Soldiers use at check points), cooling vests, Digital Video Recording capability to Rapid Initial Aerostat Deployment commanders and cueing sensor remote display capability for a forward Special Operations base. Services include recommendations concerning operational and design issues with the RAID system, and advice on leveraging capabilities of imaging and communications



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**LEADER AMONG LEADERS**— Troy Hester, center, accepts the local award for the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year from Emily Vandiver, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. With them is Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury.

assets being delivered to the field.

Hester is responsible for developing and fielding the Crew Extraction Bracket, which allows rapid extraction of Soldiers trapped in damaged vehicles, for the success of the Enhanced Mobile RAID program and for the development of a diagnostic software tool used by engineers.

While in Iraq, Hester saw Soldiers using equipment, such as vehicles, weapons, maintenance equipment and sensors, in "ways designers never imagined. I learned how to make improvements to that equipment. Sometimes I was able to help solve problems while I was over there. Mainly, though, I brought back with me a heart for the Soldier. Now, I set priorities looking through the Soldier's eyes rather than an engineer's eyes," he said.

Other candidates nominated for the local DA civilian-of-the-year honor were: Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, AMCOM; Dr. Tom Pieplow, associate director for Aviation and assistant program executive officer for Aviation Logistics, AMCOM; Manuel Jones Jr., director of the Sustainment Logistics Director, Lower Tier

Project Office; Natalie de Luca, assistant program executive officer, Information Management/Information Assurance, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Tim Owings, deputy project manager for Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Program Executive Office for Aviation; Willis Epps, supervisory contract specialist, Acquisition Center; Randall Harkins, technical management division chief, Utility Helicopters Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation; Stephen Howard, health physicist, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity; and Tenna McGee, management analyst, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Activity.

"What a pleasure and an honor to be up here to recognize excellence," said Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, who was the guest speaker at the awards dinner.

"I admire excellence. I don't care what field you're in. If you're excellent, my hats off to you ... All these nominees by any metric, by any measure, are truly all winners."

See Civilian on page 3

# An open lane random survey

What's your favorite sitcom?

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
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*Deanna Collins  
recreation assistant*  
"Maybe an older one, 'The Cosby Show.' Just a positive image of families, I guess how families should be today. Now, we don't really sit down and talk to each other. And regardless of their career, maybe a doctor, they always found time to sit down and talk to each other."

*Michael Hicks  
Acquisition Center*  
"I still like 'Seinfeld,' the old reruns. That would be my favorite. Just the humor, dry humor that I like. Seems like ageless humor to me. And it's clean for the most part."



*Pfc. Mechelle Greene  
Marine Detachment*  
"Everybody Loves Raymond.' I just think it's ironic, it's jokes nobody gets. So I just think it's funny."

*Pfc. Muhedean Addam  
Marine Detachment*  
"The Simpsons.' It always makes me laugh."



## Quote of the week

Let it be.

— The Beatles

## Farewell message from Army chief

On tomorrow (April 10) we will stand on the parade field at Fort Myer and the mantle of Army chief of staff will pass to Gen. George W. Casey. It has been a tremendous privilege and honor to serve alongside you — the Soldiers, civilians and family members — who make the Army the world's preeminent land force, the ultimate instrument of national resolve.

Upon becoming 35th Army Chief of Staff in August 2003, I issued an



Gen. Peter Schoomaker

"Arrival Message" to the force. In that message I spoke of standing in an Iranian desert in 1980, on a moonlit night, at a place called Desert One, where eight of our comrades lost their lives and others were forever scarred. I spoke of keeping a photo of the carnage that night to remind me of the grief and failure of that mission and the commitment survivors of that operation

made to a different future.

Having now been in this Army for almost four decades, and having seen

See Farewell on page 10

## Christmas Charities appreciates help

Christmas Charities Year Round, an agency of United Way of Madison County, has been helping people who are facing difficult times for over 50 years. Lumber is needed to build racks and bins for toys and gifts.

Items needed are 14 sheets of OSB 4x8, 20 1x1x8, and 40 1x4x8. CCYR would appreciate all the help we can get to do the job.

We would like to thank all the good people of Huntsville, Madison County and Redstone Arsenal for everything they do in helping with their donations of clothing, school supplies, furniture and money.

For more information, call 837-2373.

Gerri Mills  
CCYR director

See Perk on page 11

## Shoplifting is shoplifting, period

Reference the Crimes, Accidents and Other Occurrences column which appears in the *Rocket*, "An individual was observed selecting items from the Post Exchange then departing without rendering proper payment." What is that all about? It sounds like the person was observed shopping, gathering up desired items, moseying up to the register, paying a partial amount requested for the merchandise and then meandering out the front door of the PX. Or are they paying in Monopoly money? I think that would be considered improper payment.

Let's be frank. Can we? This kind of incident is listed in the Crimes, Accidents and Other Occurrences column of the

*Redstone Rocket* on a weekly basis, often multiple times each week. Why sugar-coat what they are doing? It's no accident. These people are thieves! They are stealing! I say, put their name in the paper, perhaps accompanied by a list of the items they didn't "render proper payment" for. "John Doe was caught being a lousy thief, trying to pilfer an eight-pack of Duracell batteries, a ping-pong paddle, and box of 'feminine products' for his girlfriend." That may facilitate a means to an end of the problem of so many people not "rendering the proper payment." If there is any reason why you all are not allowed to call these displays of thievery what they truly are, I'd love to hear it.

Colin Warman

## Thrift Shop volunteers perk

First, I applaud the dedication of those folks who operate the Thrift Store on a volunteer basis. That said, is it considered appropriate for those same volunteers to purchase "bargain items" before they ever reach the sales floor? I know the objective is to raise money for charity; however, it sure looks like some of those folks are stocking up for their own garage sales.

Perhaps this is a perk of the volunteer's position and if so, I apologize for the question. Once in awhile, I see items go out the door from the back room that I sure would have liked to have had an opportunity to purchase for my own personal use.

### Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: Thrift Shop board chairman Evelyn Teats provided the following response. "First of all, thank you for asking this question which will give us the opportunity to describe one of the valuable benefits of volunteering at the Redstone Thrift Shop. As part of our policy for our volunteers, they are allowed to purchase items which have been donated to the Thrift Shop before they make it to the sales floor. That is the main benefit of volunteering at our wonderful store. We try to create a 'win-win' situation for the volunteer and community. We do this because without our volunteers, we simply could not afford to run the shop properly and would have to close our doors, thus ending a valuable resource to the Team Redstone*

## Suggestion from reader

I enjoy reading the *Redstone Rocket* at least once a week. All of the information articles and ads are great for communicating what's going on in our community. I am a Soldier of 17 years in service (94T Avenger senior instructor) and currently assigned to HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade for the second time. I've noticed the development and potential output of the *Rocket* grow to its present capacity. As a frequent reader, I'd love to see a newsbreak — for example, crossword puzzle, cartoon section, sudoku, and brain teaser — to get into a lighter side for a change in venue. Our *Redstone Rocket* is power packed and well worth reading, but can we get a tad bit more? Thank you very much and have a great day. Go Ordnance!

Sgt. 1st Class Tony Vaughn

# 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.

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

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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.

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# Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Michael Davis



**Job:** Supply sergeant, Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion

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

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

The responsibility of being able to work with minimal supervision.

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

I ride motorcycles. I used to have a dirt bike, now I just ride strictly sport bikes.

**What are your goals?**

Warrant officer school. I want to be a logistics warrant.

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

Rock

## Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**April 4:** An individual was observed selecting items in the Post Exchange, and departing without rendering proper payment. The subject was stopped, processed by Redstone Police, issued a summons to appear in court and released.

**April 5:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.

**April 9:** An individual stopped at Gate 9 and was found to be operating their vehicle with a suspended license. The subject was issued a violation notice and released.

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

**Violation notices issued:** 9 speeding, 3 failure to obey traffic control device, 2 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 improper backing, 6 cell phone violation, 1 driving with headphones on.



## Analysis and Sustainment Branch recognized

Ronald Chronister, executive director of the Integrated Materiel Management Center, has presented the first quarter fiscal 2007 IMMC Team Award to the Analysis and Sustainment Branch, Readiness Directorate.

"The individuals who serve on this team are the epitome of what teamwork is all about," he said. "It is with great pleasure that I commend you for your conscientious and dedicated approach to the challenging mission."

The Analysis and Sustainment Branch members include Ronnie Golden, Gary Cope, John Faul, Gary Chambers; Ray Wathan, Bruce Sienknecht, Tony Keltner, Bill Carter, Ken Belvin, R.T. Hughes, Bob Easton, Norman Bullerdick, Larry Callahan, Terry Daniel, Mike Holcomb, Patricia Hopkins, Doug Kim, John Pulliam and Harvey Stolp.

# Public Affairs wants your updated information

Once a year, a new publication seems to appear out of nowhere – the Team Redstone Installation Guide and Telephone Directory.

Actually, the Garrison is the proponent for getting this book published.

This year, as in the past, the Directorate of Information Management and the Public Affairs Office are beginning their quest to ensure that the 2007-08 issues of this publication will be in the hands of organizations and employees by early July. However, to ensure that the publication contains the most current and accurate information avail-

able, the DOIM and PAO rely on Team Redstone organizations and their employees to furnish the input. In the next several weeks offices and organizations will receive requests for updated information and phone numbers.

The 2007-08 Installation Guide and Telephone Directory can only be as good as the information provided by the customers. This resource is extensively used by current and new employees and by military families both on and off post. It's also included in "Welcome Packets" that are provided to newcomers by Army Community Service.

On many occasions, the installation receives requests for the Installation Guide and Telephone Directory from its industry partners; and it's also included in handouts to VIPs and other visitors to the post.

The only way updates can be provided to the Installation Guide and Telephone Directory is through the efforts of Team Redstone organizations and their workers. Their dedication ensures the publication of a quality Telephone Directory and Installation Guide.

For more information, contact Alice Green at [alice.l.green@us.army.mil](mailto:alice.l.green@us.army.mil) or Lira Frye at [lira.frye@us.army.mil](mailto:lira.frye@us.army.mil).

## ■ Association of U.S. Army honors civilian of year

### Civilian

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During a recent trip to Iraq, a brigade commander told Pillsbury the same thing he had told Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander of the Army Materiel Command, the week before when Griffin asked him what can be done to provide the support needed by the Soldier in the field. "As long as I'm in command," the brigade commander said, "just have AMCOM do what it's doing now."

"That says a lot," Pillsbury said. "AMCOM is Team Redstone and Team Redstone is Team Tennessee Valley. Each and every one of you working in this community truly are excellent."

Pillsbury also described a situation where employees at IMMC, PM and AMRDEC joined with industry representatives to find a fix for a problem with the .50 calibers on the Avenger.

"They came together, saw a problem and fixed the problem on cost and ahead of schedule so Soldiers could use it to do their jobs while in harm's way," Pillsbury said. "AMCOM ... do the job. Wow, that's pretty powerful."

As he spoke of examples of excellence, Pillsbury pointed out business leader and community volunteer Joe Fitzgerald for his work with the newly formed Tennessee Valley Honor Flight organization, which hosts free trips for veterans who want to see their memorial in Washington, D.C. The organization recently successfully

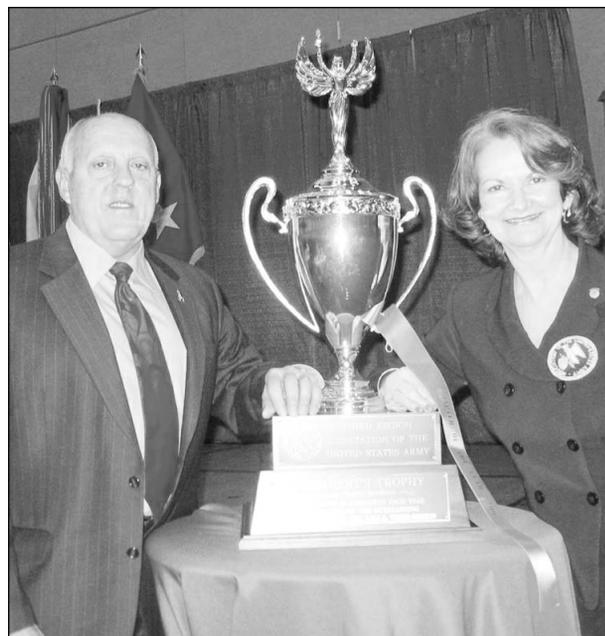


Photo by Kari Hawkins

**BEST CHAPTER— Retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet, AUSA's Alabama state president, and Emily Vandiver, president of the Redstone-Huntsville chapter of AUSA, pose with the President's Trophy presented to the best large chapter in AUSA's third region. The Redstone-Huntsville chapter won the award at the third region's awards program at Fort Rucker in early April.**

completed its first flight of 14 World War II veterans to see their memorial and plans are to take another 100 veterans to their memorial in September.

"What you've done for our World War II veterans is absolutely amazing," Pillsbury said as the audience gave Fitzgerald a

standing ovation.

Pillsbury reserved his highest praise, though, for the local AUSA chapter.

"Thank you, AUSA, for being the best chapter in the galaxy," he said. "Thank you for setting conditions for all of us who work on Redstone to do our jobs very well."

Hester and the nine other civilian-of-the-year nominees weren't the only winners who walked away with plaques and trophies at the Redstone-Huntsville AUSA chapter awards dinner. So, too, did the chapter itself.

At the beginning of the dinner, local chapter president Emily Vandiver unveiled a large trophy that was presented to the Redstone-Huntsville AUSA chapter as the third region's best large chapter. The President's Trophy was presented to Vandiver at the third region's annual awards dinner at Fort Rucker in early April.

"Everyone knows how supportive the Redstone-Huntsville chapter is and all that we do for the Soldiers and their families and the military community and the civilians and everyone who supports the U.S. Army," Vandiver told the local awards dinner audience.

"But, the important thing is we do it for the right reasons ... You need to congratulate yourselves for absolutely making our chapter the best. This is a little bit of validation for all the hard work we do."

The Redstone-Huntsville chapter will now go on to represent the third AUSA region in the national competition for best chapter honors in the large chapter category.

# Guardsmen's world travels lead to Iraq

*Soldier expresses thanks for packages from home*

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Staff writer  
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Thirty-three years ago, when Danny Slaten was 17, he joined the Alabama National Guard, continuing a family military tradition that includes his father, oldest son, brother, two brothers-in-law and a nephew.

"I joined because I wanted to help the people in my state and my community," Slaten said.

That decision 33 years ago has taken Slaten many places to serve the people of Alabama, and residents of other states and countries. In Ecuador, he helped build roads. In Texas, he went through two and a half months of Air Defense Artillery training. He's come to the aid of Alabama residents after hurricanes George, Frederick, Opal and Ivan; the 1989 tornado in Huntsville and other natural disasters. He's been to Saudi Arabia and Fort Benning, Ga.

And, now, he is serving in Iraq.

It is Slaten's third deployment since the Global War on Terrorism began.

The 50-year-old first sergeant is a commanding member of the 152nd Military Police Company, encompassing about 150 Soldiers from Hartselle, Scottsboro, Athens, Huntsville, Birmingham and as far south as Montgomery and Mobile. The unit deployed to Iraq last September, just a few days after Slaten's 50th birthday.

"There are Soldiers from 19 units in the 152nd," Slaten said.

"We even have one Soldier from Georgia and two from Kentucky. For some of them, this is their third trip over, their fourth trip over. We also have a father with two sons."

Slaten just completed a two-week leave, visiting with his wife and family, including his oldest son, National Guard 2nd Lt. Nathaniel Slaten, who has graduated from Marion Military Institute and is now attending the University of Alabama; middle son, Robert, who has recently moved to Tuscaloosa to attend Shelton Community College; and youngest son, Sam, who attends Brewer High School. The family home is in the Union Hill community, just south of Lacey's Spring. The Slatens also have several family members who live in the Athens area.

Slaten took time during his leave to personally thank residents of Redstone Village for the care packages they have sent to the 152nd. Those packages have really meant a lot to the Soldiers, he said.

"Redstone Village was the first group to send care packages to us," Slaten said. "As soon as we deployed, they were on top of things. They've sent tons of things to us."

"All the letters and packages sent from home have really helped out a lot. Groups in Scottsboro, Huntsville and Athens have really done a lot for us. We really appreciated all the little things people have done for us. They really touch us. When people send us letters and things it lets us know we are supported by the people of Alabama and our nation."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**A LEAVE WORTH TAKING—** Alabama National Guard 1st Sgt. Danny Slaten enjoys spending time with his wife Amy and other family members during his two-week leave. Slaten is deployed to Iraq with the Guard's 152nd Military Police Company. He returned to his unit April 9. The entire unit will come home in September or October.

Many of the Soldiers have personal connections to various Alabama groups, such as their churches, employers, their children's schools and their community organizations or clubs, and these groups send care packages to the unit. When they come in, the items — such as toothpaste, shampoo, snacks, playing cards, movies, books — are organized and displayed, and Soldiers are free to take what they need or want from the displays. Phone cards are especially popular with Soldiers.

Since June 2005, Slaten has been deployed from his full-time job at International Harvester, where his wife, Amy, also works. He first served at Fort Benning

with Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion of the 203rd Air Defense Artillery (Patriot Missiles) out of Hartselle. But, prior to the end of that deployment, Charlie Co. converted to the 152nd Military Police Company with orders to deploy to Iraq.

"I was asked to go to Iraq," Slaten said. "I had a choice because I am a leader in the 152nd that's already been deployed. But, I couldn't say 'No.' How can I be a leader to the men in my unit if I don't go and serve with them in Iraq?"

Knowing he had a supportive family and employer, Slaten made the choice to serve this country in Iraq. In May 2006, he returned home from Fort Ben-

ning, just in time to see his sons' graduations — Nathaniel graduated from Marion, Robert from high school and Sam from junior high school. In July, he reported for training for the 152nd's deployment to Iraq.

Slaten is one of the unit's Soldiers who has experience serving in the Middle East. He and his brother served with the 203rd for six months in early 2001 as part of Operation Southern Watch. They were charged with helping to protect the "no fly zone" in and around Saudi Arabia.

During this recent deployment, the 152nd was first stationed at Camp Ashraf, where Soldiers are overseeing a temporary internment protection facility (TIPF), which is similar to a detention facility.

"Compared to Baghdad and Fallujah, it's fairly quiet," he said. "We don't get mortared every night. It's a real small forward operating base."

But, that doesn't mean Slaten often gets a good night's sleep. Most nights he's called on multiple times to help with problems at the detention facility.

"We've had a couple of fights between detainees," Slaten said. "But, we are fairly safe. The detainees know if they hit a U.S. Soldier they will be in serious trouble."

"I've heard from other Soldiers that no matter what time of day or night it is, they see my husband walking the unit," Amy Slaten added.

Slaten's living quarters are just 50 feet from the detention facility and 50 feet from the

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## Guardsman

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Soldier's camp, putting him in the heart of the company's activity. And, as the company's first sergeant, he is often consulted when there are problems with detainees or Soldiers have concerns they need to discuss.

"I'm kind of like a CEO, to put it in layman's terms. I take care of the Soldiers as part of the command team," Slaten said.

Recently, a large part of the unit was transferred 400 miles away to Camp Bucca, where help was needed at another TIFP.

"Bucca is the world's largest prison. It holds the world's most dangerous men," Slaten said.

That's why Slaten and the company commander are planning a trip to Bucca soon after Slaten returns to Iraq. Although to get to Bucca involves about 400 miles of dangerous travel by air, Slaten wants to check with Soldiers face-to-face to make sure things are going smoothly.

Slaten is personally committed to bringing all the Soldiers of the 152nd home in September or October. Many he has known all his life. They are a close group of Soldiers who know each other's families, aspirations and dreams.

"I'm in with people I went to school with," Slaten said. "I know their families. When you are in the Guard, most Soldiers will stay with the same unit the entire time they are in the military. Our wives know each other, and go to movies together or go shopping together. It's a special group of Soldiers. The friendships help us a lot during deployment, but they also make us worry more about each other and about making sure we all get back safely."

So far, the company has only had one scare. One of its Soldiers works in Balad as a liaison. One day as he was traveling, he was attacked with a mortar that exploded right in front of his vehicle. The Soldier was OK, but the vehicle was destroyed.

"We will bring everyone back in one piece," Slaten said.

Slaten worries about how his Soldiers will endure Iraq's upcoming hot season because the company deployed in the fall, when it was cooler.

"It's going to up be up to 125, 130 degrees pretty soon," Slaten said. "That's kind of hard to comprehend."

But, the Soldiers do work and live in air-conditioned facilities. They have access to basketball and volleyball courts, and an MWR building with televisions and other entertainment options to help make the time go by faster. Slaten, who was a horseshoe champion during his Saudi Arabia deployment, hopes to build a horseshoe court soon at Ashraf.

There have been changes in Slaten's family since he was deployed. His oldest son has changed his major from business to political science, with the hopes of pursuing a career as a lawyer. His middle son has moved away to attend college. His youngest son has taken over many of the responsibilities of caring for the family's Union Hill home.

"When Danny left, Nathaniel came home from Tuscaloosa just to give me a hug," said Amy Slaten, who is vice president of the 152nd family readiness group.

"Robert has made the most sacrifices. He started driving himself and his brother to all their school activities because of all the overtime I've been working and with his dad not here to help. He's taken care of odds and ends that have come up at the house, and he's even carried his younger brother to the doctor a few times. Now, Sam is helping to take care of everything while his dad is away."

Personal changes have also occurred in the lives of the unit's Soldiers.

Slaten is often aware of those changes and said the hardest thing to do is deliver a Red Cross message to a Soldier who has had a death in his family.

"It's hard to imagine what they've lost at home when they come back," he said.

But, other things have stayed the same, including his "rock solid" marriage of nearly 22 years and his wife's strong belief that her husband is doing what he was meant to do.

"When we got married, he told me to never, never ask him to get out of the National Guard," Amy Slaten said.

"There's something about Danny and Nathaniel that was born in them that made them want to serve in the military. That's just part of them. Actually I think they were chosen by the Lord. It's their calling in life."

And, another thing that hasn't changed for Slaten – his mom's cornbread and beans. He made sure to get a big helping of his mother's cooking before returning to Iraq.

# Reaching out to hug children with autism

Fund-raiser walk  
slated Saturday

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Four-year-old Elijah Roll is the picture of an energetic, fun-loving, rambunctious little boy. He likes to color and play with his toys, he enjoys rough housing with his younger brother, and he knows to be careful with his baby brother and the family cats.

But, when Elijah tries to communicate, the problems that haunt his life and the lives of his family come to the surface. During the past two years, Elijah has lost much of his vocabulary, has developed a tendency toward throwing temper tantrums and banging his head against a wall out of frustration, has trouble interacting with children and adults, and has lost his ability to focus on tasks.

Last year, Elijah was diagnosed with autism.

And, this Saturday, he will be the center of attention for a group of Redstone Arsenal employees who are showing their support for Elijah's struggles by participating in the Walk for Autism in northeast Huntsville.

The son of Ed and Sandy Roll, Elijah's diagnosis came as a complete surprise to his family. It also came at a time when Ed Roll, a former Army and National Guard Soldier and now a Reservist and logistics management specialist working on reset issues for the Black Hawk in support of the Utility Directorate at AMCOM, was on TDY in Pass Christian, Miss., where he was working in support of Hurricane Katrina cleanup activities.

"We didn't really see it," Roll said. "We noticed he wasn't developing his speech and he was actually losing a lot of the language he learned. Looking back,



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**FAMILY PORTRAIT**—Elijah Roll, 4, sits briefly on his dad's lap in this family portrait taken at the northwest Huntsville home of Ed and Sandy Roll. To strangers, Elijah may appear to be a normal little boy with too much energy and not enough discipline. But, those who know him understand the behavioral problems Elijah is struggling with as an autistic child. His family is dedicated to helping him manage and live with his condition. With Elijah and his dad, are mom Sandy and 4-month-old Gideon, and older sister Elizabeth and 2-year-old Jacob.

we see a lot of things we should have been looking for. But, we didn't know about it."

When Elijah first started having difficulties with language, doctors attributed it to his problems with constant ear infections.

"We went through two sets of ear tubes and lots of antibiotics," Roll said. "The pediatrician said he couldn't hear so he couldn't speak. My wife took Elijah to a speech therapist, who met twice with him before telling us 'I see signs of autism.'"

Roll remembers that day vividly.

"I was in shock. I was filing paperwork and getting ready for a meeting with the rest of the supervisors (in Pass Christ-

ian)," Roll said. "I was angry and I had cried a little bit. Some of my co-workers asked me what was wrong. I told them I had just found out my son might be autistic. Everyone was apologetic.

"But, an older man told me 'Congratulations.' I said 'You must not have understood. I just said my son might be autistic.' And, he said 'You must be a very special parent for God to entrust you with such a special child to care for.' Sometimes remembering those words is the only thing that carries me through the day."

In the past year, Roll and his wife have been consumed with learning about their son's condition and how best to treat it. Their lives have been filled with doctor appointments, therapy sessions, researching autism, home therapy and lots of prayer. They have become active in the North Alabama Chapter of the American Autism Society and the Autism Society of Alabama, which is sponsoring the Walk for Autism this Saturday at Chapman Middle School beginning at 9:30 a.m. April is also Autism Awareness Month.

During the past year, Elijah's parents

have learned that his condition could have possibly been triggered by the antibiotics used to combat his ear infections or the series of vaccinations for young children.

"The model that I tend to accept is that these kids are born with a genetic predisposition for autism and environmental factors trigger it," Roll said. "Two years ago, at Christmas, Elijah was talking and playing. But, in those first two years of life, he'd had a lot of antibiotics and immunization shots. He'd had his MMR (the measles, mumps and rubella vaccination) shot right around Christmas time.

"When we found out there could be a link between autism and all the immunization shots children get, we immediately stopped getting shots for Jacob (who is two years younger than Elijah) and Gideon (who is 4 months old) has had no shots," Roll said. "We can't say without a doubt that the shots caused Elijah's autism. But, we don't want to take the risk in case they did."

The Roll family has begun working with a physician in Franklin, Tenn., who has developed a program called "Defeat Autism Now!" The program involves using medicines and nutritional supplements to control and overcome the symptoms of autism. Every day, Elijah must have a host of medications and vitamins, including magnesium, zinc, enzymes, buspar, B12 and ProBiotic. His parents use a chart to keep up with the regimen.

They have also recently discovered Elijah is allergic to several things, including milk, wheat, eggs, citrus fruit and yeast.

Elijah attends a preschool program at Morris Elementary, where he spends part of the day included in normal preschool activities and another part of the day working one-on-one with a teacher. He sees a speech and occupational therapist once a week, which is limited by what insurance will cover.

Deciding on Elijah's course of treatment has been troubling and confusing for his parents.

"If he had cancer, a doctor would give us the protocol that would include chemotherapy, radiation and other things," Roll said.

"But, when we talk to a pediatrician about autism they say 'That's behavioral. I don't do behavioral. See a psychiatrist.'

See Autism on page 11

# Settling down after traveling for three decades

Retiring chief warrant officer plans to stay in Madison

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Because of his age, Alfred Kelly needed his mother's consent to join the Army Dec. 23, 1976 at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery.

He was just 17 years old so she had to sign for him. But they both knew he was doing the right thing to leave his small hometown of Goodwater, located in Coosa County about 64 miles southeast of Birmingham.

"There just weren't a lot of opportunities in Goodwater. Plus, I wanted to serve my country," Kelly said. "Everybody's friendly (in Goodwater), everybody knows each other. It's just a wholesome place to live, but not a lot of opportunities as far as education and jobs."

So, Clara Mae Kelly, the single parent of six, signed for her second oldest child to leave and be all that he could be. Kelly,



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kurt Taylor

**END OF CAREER— Chief Warrant Officer Alfred Kelly plans to stay in Madison and join the civilian work force.**

one of five boys and one girl, joined the Army just like his older brother. Five of the siblings would join the Army. Two have retired and three are still in.

After 30 years service, Chief Warrant Officer Kelly is joining the retired ranks. "These 30 years have been superb,"

Kelly, a chief warrant officer 4, said. "It allowed me to travel around the world, it allowed me to raise a family. It allowed me to complete an associate degree, a bachelor's degree and a master's degree. And it opened my eyes to the workings of the world."

Three decades have shown that he and his mother, who died in 1993, were right after all. The Army was the best place for him.

Kelly's retirement ceremony is Friday at 11 a.m. at Toftoy Hall, where he served as administrative chief for the Electronic Technology Training Department. Friday will be his last day there, but he will actually leave the Army's rolls July 31 after 30 years, eight months and 16 days.

"The reason why I'm retiring is I want to have a place where I can settle down, longevity," said Kelly, 47, who plans to stay in Madison. "And have a place where my kids can come back and have a nice Thanksgiving dinner, just a place where I can call home. Plus, I feel I've reached the pinnacle of my career in the military. And I look forward to working in the government, preferably in acquisition, logistics, or corporate America."

He has seen the world, but there was no question where he would retire. "Bar none, without a doubt, Huntsville and Madison is the best location I've ever served," Kelly said.

That says a lot because he has been to Fort Ord, Calif., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., the Panama Canal Zone, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Fort Bragg, N.C., Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Germany, Korea, Puerto Rico, Japan, Hawaii, Fort Rucker, Ala., Fort Lee, Va., and Fort Sill, Okla. He went through school at Redstone in 1980, left in '81 for Germany, returned in 1984, left for Fort Bragg in 1989, then Hawaii, and returned to Redstone for good in July 2003.

"I'm the only Airborne, Ranger, Air Assault, Jumpmaster, Pathfinder in the

Army in my specialty (electronic missile systems technician)," Kelly said. He was selected below zone – which means ahead of those who had waited longer – for promotion to chief warrant officer 4 in August 2005.

Kelly has an associate degree in applied science from John C. Calhoun in 1988, a bachelor's in business administration from Campbell University in North Carolina in 2000 and a master's in business administration from Hawaii Pacific University in 2002.

His hobby is restoring classic Mustangs. He's almost finished restoring a 1968 Eleanor and is starting on a 1988 5.0.

He and his wife, Maj. Kathleen Kelly – who is getting an additional law degree in contract law at the University of Virginia Law School in Charlottesville – have three daughters and a son. Their daughters include Spc. Danelea Kelly, who is continuing the family's Army legacy at Fort Bragg; Jacqueline James, who is pregnant and living with Kelly in Madison while her captain husband serves in the Middle East; and Lavisha Kelly, a premed student in Army ROTC at the University of Alabama where she will graduate in May 2008. Their son, Dwayne Chess, resides in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"My success in the military and my success in life as a whole has been primarily because of my family's support," Kelly said, "and values that my mother taught me and my brothers, and being a God-fearing Christian. And the unwavering support that I have received from my wife. She has been the cornerstone of my foundation. And every challenge and endeavor I have taken in the military, she has been with me 100 percent. I know that I am the luckiest man in the world that I have been married to Kathy. And this is not only my retirement and my success story, this is also her retirement and her success story."

# Artillery rocket system achieves high milestone

*First full-rate production unveiled at industry plant*

By **JULIE FREDERICK**  
*For the Rocket*

CAMDEN, Ark. — The Army and Lockheed Martin rolled out the first full-rate production High Mobility Artillery Rocket System and acknowledged the production of the 3,000th Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System here Thursday.

The HIMARS and GMLRS provide Soldiers with rapidly-deployable, 24/7, all-weather, long-range fire support. HIMARS can fire the family of Multiple Launch Rockets, including GMLRS and ATACMS missiles. GMLRS munitions are a major upgrade to the M26 rocket and have greater accuracy with a resulting higher probability of kill, smaller logistics footprint, and minimized collateral damage.

“In this war and future conflicts, our Soldiers depend on combat-proven systems to pro-



Lockheed Martin photo

**BIG SHOW—** The curtains open to reveal the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System during a rollout ceremony at the Lockheed Martin facility in Camden.

tect them,” Col. Earnest Harris, project manager for Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems, said. “The HIMARS and GMLRS fit that bill. For both of these systems to reach such important milestones in their production and fielding speak highly of the trust that our Soldiers put in these systems. They don’t leave home without them.”

When firing munitions with pre-

cision accuracy like GMLRS and ATACMS unitary munitions, HIMARS can be called upon by the ground commander to engage and destroy either hard or soft targets located in complex urban environments while causing minimal collateral damage. This HIMARS munition suite provides troops in contact with long range responsive fires that provide pinpoint accuracy with devastating target effects.

Because of its C-130 transportability, HIMARS can be deployed into areas previously inaccessible to heavier launchers providing a force multiplier to the modular brigade. It also incorporates the self-loading, autonomous features that have made MLRS the premier rocket artillery system in the world.

HIMARS carries a single ‘six-pack’ of MLRS rockets, or one ATACMS missile. Its fire control system, electronics and communications units are interchangeable with the existing MLRS M270A1 launcher with the crew and training being the same. HIMARS prototypes have been successfully employed in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“This is a great day for the war fighter,” said Rick Edwards, vice president for tactical missiles at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. “We are proud to deliver these already combat-proven capabilities to Soldiers and Marines in support to the Global War on Terrorism.”

Guided Unitary MLRS is the

newest variant which leverages the Guided MLRS experience and investment to integrate a unitary warhead with a multi-mode fuze to expand the MLRS target set to include point targets within urban and complex environments.

In January 2005, the Army issued an Urgent Need Statement for acceleration of Guided Unitary deliveries in support of counter-fire operations. Lockheed Martin delivered the first 72 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System Unitary rockets in June 2005 satisfying the requirements of the Urgent Need Statement. Some 486 Unitary rockets have been delivered to satisfy this requirement.

GMLRS is an all-weather, precision-guided rocket that provides increased accuracy, thus reducing the number of rockets necessary to defeat current targets by as much as 80 percent. GMLRS provides increased precision and maneuverability, and can be fired from both the MLRS M270A1 launcher and the HIMARS launcher.

## ■ Army’s 35th chief of staff says goodbye

### Farewell

continued from page 2

the Army my father served in for 32 years before that, I can tell you in no uncertain terms that today’s battle-hardened Army does, in fact, reflect the different “future” we envisioned.

Standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, the men and women of today’s Army have remained focused on our nonnegotiable responsibility to the nation. For almost 232 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will. We have been resolute in the pursuit of our four overarching strategies — providing relevant and ready landpower; training and equipping Soldiers to serve as warriors and growing adaptive leaders; sustaining the all-volunteer force composed of highly competent Soldiers who are provided a quality of life commensurate with the level of their service; and providing infrastructure and support to enable the force to fulfill its strategic roles and missions. Furthermore, instead of reining-in our drive to transform during a time of war, we have leveraged opportunities in this conflict to establish and accelerate the momentum necessary to reshape the entire force into a more capable campaign-quality force with vastly improved joint and expeditionary capabilities.

Specifically, as we serve alongside our joint and allied partners in Iraq,

Afghanistan and elsewhere, we have improved the Army’s ability to operate and dominate in any environment against current, emerging and unforeseen threats. While working to grow the regular Army by 30,000 since 2004, we now have authority to permanently increase our end strength by over 74,000 Soldiers across all components — active, National Guard and Reserve. We have created far more capable and strategically deployable brigade-sized formations that are designed to receive and integrate new technologies and equipment as soon as they become available. There has been a significant expansion and enhancement of Army special operations forces. We have and are continuing to increase Soldier and unit effectiveness and protection, as evidenced in our reset efforts and modernization plans. We have been developing a forward-looking doctrine that guides how we organize, train, fight and sustain our forces. Finally, and perhaps most importantly given that Soldiers are our centerpiece, the Army’s intellectual and cultural transformation is creating and maintaining a learning and adaptive force that will dramatically improve how we face future challenges. We are growing innovative Soldiers and pentathlete leaders through training and education built on recent combat experience. Literally, every aspect of today’s Army has been touched by change, with the exception of our enduring values.

During my tenure as Army chief of staff, I have seen our Soldiers continuously

demonstrate why they are our greatest strength. Their adherence to the warrior ethos is as inspiring as it is necessary. Their ability to learn and adapt as we fight an ever-changing enemy and transform to meet complex future threats is essential. Their dedication and optimism about our future are contagious.

We must never forget that war is fought in the human dimension. Therefore, technology will always play an important but distinctly secondary role, because even our most sophisticated satellites and computers cannot get into the mind of the enemy, interact with local leaders, understand other societies and cultures, or make the instantaneous life or death decisions required to meet our 21st century challenges. Men and women with their “boots on the ground” are necessary to do all this.

Let there be no mistake, fighting and adapting today, while transforming for an uncertain and complex future against traditional, irregular, catastrophic and disruptive threats is vital to America’s security. Although those in uniform have borne a disproportionate burden during the opening engagements of this long war, we are not fighting and cannot win this war alone.

Defeating our enemies requires a shared understanding of the threat and a strategic consensus. It requires a concerted effort, utilizing all elements of power — diplomatic, informational, military and economic. Finally, it requires a national commitment to recruit, train, equip and support those in uniform and their families, something that is a matter of priori-

ties, not affordability.

While prudence cautions against ignoring the effect of war weariness and our tendency toward cyclic national defense flat-footedness, let me assure you that from my vantage point, our men and women in uniform continue to enjoy the admiration and appreciation of every American. This is reflected both in public opinion and the Congress. This support has been and will be critical as we continue to fight this long war.

The road ahead will not be easy and the stakes could not be higher. While there is much we don’t know, I can say with certainty that sustained engagement of our Army will remain the norm, not the exception. Therefore, the Army must continue to demonstrate initiative, resilience and innovation at all levels. The Army must continue to adhere to its nonnegotiable values and the warrior ethos. The Army must continue to learn and adapt. Yet despite challenges, everything I have seen as Army chief of staff encourages me.

When recalled from retired rolls nearly four years ago, I stated that “as an American Soldier, I had never left your ranks.” It has been a great privilege to wear the uniform once again. I remain forever humbled by the courage, dedication and selfless service of those who preceded us and those who remain in service to our country. I am proud of you. You are indeed Army Strong!

**Gen. Peter Schoomaker**  
Army chief of staff

## Perk

continued from page 2

community. When anyone purchases an item and takes it home, we assume it is for their personal use.

“On another note, I want to encourage you and anyone else from our community to come and volunteer with us, so they also may use this benefit as well as helping us keep the store running and producing funds donated back to the community (\$21,914.77 in the 2006-07 year), offering a place for ID card holders to make money consigning items they no longer need, and giving our ID card holders and their families a place to purchase inexpensive items. Not only do you

get a chance to see merchandise come in, but you also get to meet a lot of extraordinary people and give back to the community while supporting Soldiers and families especially during this time of war. Every chance to help the younger enlisted military members who are our target audience helps them make their military dollar go further.

“Our Thrift Shop hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesdays and 9-5 on Thursdays. Volunteers are desperately needed on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. We would love to have you and anyone else come and volunteer with us. If you would like to discuss this matter with me further, please call me at 876-5401 and I would love to talk with you.”

## ■ Walking with Elijah along tough road of autism

## Autism

continued from page 6

It's hard to find a psychiatrist that is tied into all there is to know about autism. A lot of medical professionals just aren't willing to work with this. So, we've got to pretty much plot Elijah's course of therapy and proper medication for an autistic boy.”

Roll said the last year has been hard on his family in many ways – personally, emotionally, physically and financially. He has taken on a part-time job along with his professional job at AMCOM and his part-time position with the Army Reserves, E Co., 4th 321st on Redstone Arsenal, to help pay for the high costs of special therapies for Elijah. The couple's second daughter, 14-year-old Elizabeth McDowell, is often called on to help her parents care for the demands of Elijah and his two younger brothers.

“It's really changed probably every aspect of our lives,” Roll said.

But, Roll and his wife have found a lot of hope in Elijah's condition, especially since they have begun working with the “Defeat Autism Now!” program. That hope is found in the affection Elijah shows his family and others, which doesn't fit the autistic symptom of withdrawing from society. They also find hope in Elijah's ability to play appropriately with his toys, his new attempts at interacting with other children and adults, and his understanding of some limitations. There's also hope in the words Elijah is beginning to say again, and in the decrease they've seen in the instances where Elijah hits himself or bangs his head against a wall.

“He's not as severe as other children with autism,” Roll said. “Elijah should be able to go into the regular classroom once he gets to kindergarten.

“Right now, language remains the biggest hurdle. He speaks when he wants to. But, there are times when he just won't speak. We've been using picture

exchange communication with him where we use pictures that represent different things like getting a snack or going outside or going for a walk. Elijah has to show us the pictures to communicate with us if he wants something. It forces him to communicate in a way we understand.”

Roll and his wife have learned that a temper tantrum or head banging is often triggered by a frustration or something painful that Elijah has difficulty communicating. They've learned how hug therapy is used to calm down an autistic child. And, they've looked for inspiration in the stories of autistic children who have grown up to be smart, creative and productive adults.

“Autism covers such a broad spectrum of problems and disorders,” Roll said. “There is a saying that if you know one child with autism, then you know one child with autism. Each one is so very different.”

Roll said there are about 160 families with autistic children who are associated with the North Alabama Chapter of the American Autism Society. The group is dedicated to providing support to families living with autism and to increase awareness of autism.

But, this Saturday's Walk for Autism is sponsored by the Autism Society of Alabama, which is based in Birmingham. The walk is raising funds needed to lobby for better care for Alabama's autistic children and to raise awareness.

“We've formed a Team Elijah,” Roll said. “We have a lot of friends from work who are going to come walk for Elijah. There are about 20 people signed up to walk with us.”

Even the family's oldest daughter, Michelle Hughes, who attends college in Pennsylvania, has gotten into supporting the walk by organizing a team in her college town.

Registration for the Walk for Autism is \$25 per person. For more information, call 1-877-4AUTISM or Ed Roll, 313-1304.

# Win or lose

## All-Army women prevail in Military March Madness

*Team makes unbeaten run to take armed forces title*

By **TIM HIPPS**  
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Sgt. Evevetta Crawford averaged 20.2 points in six games to help the All-Army team win the 2007 Armed Forces Women's Basketball Championship March 12-17 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

The All-Army team celebrated the 30th anniversary of Armed Forces women's basketball by going 6-0 in the double round-robin tournament and capturing its 26th crown against sister services Air Force (3-3), Marine Corps (2-4) and Navy (1-5).

"It's an awesome tradition to be part of," said All-Army fourth-year head coach Leroy Williams of Fort Sam Houston, Texas. "We've been blessed to get a lot of good, quality athletes that find a way to play together despite that it's only for a short period of time.

"It just kind of speaks for itself. It's just amazing this type of dominance is happening," he said.

Crawford, forward stationed at Camp Buckner in Okinawa, Japan, was named to the Armed Forces All-Tournament Team, as were All-Army teammates forward Pfc. Shelly Jones of Fort Bragg, N.C.; and guard 1st Lt. Alonna Marable of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Jones averaged 10.3 points and a team-high 9.7 rebounds during the tourney. Marable averaged 14.8 points and 7.8 rebounds.

"Evevetta is our veteran of the team," Williams said of Crawford, who was named to the All-Tournament Team for the eighth time in as many Armed Forces Championships.

"She had a good supporting cast and she stepped up when she needed to step up," Williams said. "The other young ladies did a good job of supporting her and vice versa: Ali, Jones, Marable, (Jaci) Bice, and the others who came off the bench. As a team, everyone was outstanding."

Marable had 23 points on 9-for-10 shooting, seven rebounds, three assists and two steals to lead All-Army to an 80-59 victory over All-Marine that clinched the gold medal for the Soldiers. Crawford scored 18 points and Bice added 13 as All-Army shot 58 percent.

Although 10 inches of snow blanketed the installation, Crawford maintained her hot hand the next day and scored 27 points in All-Army's 72-70 victory over All-Air Force that concluded the Soldiers' undefeated run. Marable added 16 points and 10 rebounds.



Photo by Pfc. Matthew E. Jones

**DRIVING HOME—** Sgt. Chrishea Fisher of Fort Sill, Okla., drives past Navy Fire Controlman 2nd Class Chianti Bryant of West San Diego, Calif., for two of her 11 points on 5-for-5 shooting during All-Army's 95-76 victory over All-Navy in the 2007 Armed Forces Women's Basketball Championships March 12-17 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. The All-Army squad went 6-0 against sister services to win its 26th crown in 30 years of the tournament.

Spc. Shan'tel Ali of Fort Sam Houston, Texas, had 12 points and 10 rebounds in All-Army's final game of the tourney. Spc. Jaci Bice of Fort Richardson, Alaska, added nine points, 11 rebounds and four steals.

"It was down, basically, to the last shot," Williams said. "All four teams were very competitive and pretty close in structure as far as athletes go. We got pushed to the limit in a couple of those games. I was very much impressed that they stayed focused and endured the distraction of the snow. Even though they had already won the tournament, they were able to pull out a victory in that last game."

In their tourney opener, Marable had 18 points and Crawford added 17 points and eight rebounds as All-Army defeated All-Navy, 73-62.

Crawford had 18 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and three steals to lead All-Army to a 77-68 victory in their first meeting with the All-Marine team. Bice scored 17 points and Marable added 16.

# Garrison workers learn about getting Lean

*Process improvement method  
the subject of training session*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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The Garrison work force received a lesson last week in doing things better.

"There's ways to do things more efficiently than what we're doing," Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski said.

Olshefski presented mandatory training on Lean Six Sigma to his workers April 11 at Bob Jones Auditorium. "This subject is the real deal," he said.

The method for business improvement is Army-driven and will affect each worker, according to the colonel. He also said "nobody will lose their job over it."

Olshefski tied improved processes at Redstone to the ongoing war effort. "Anything we can save in efficiency or dollars here is linked to the fight," he said.

Lean focuses on increasing efficiency and reducing cycle time through the elimination of waste. Six Sigma focuses on improving quality through the elimination of defects or errors in business processes. Together Lean and Six Sigma are tools for transforming organizations and improving quality.

Under Lean Six Sigma, the five-step process for solving problems includes: define, measure, analyze, improve and control.

"It's a culture," Olshefski said of continuous



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**REAL DEAL— Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski talks about Lean Six Sigma on April 11 at Bob Jones Auditorium.**

process improvement. "You've got to walk the talk."

The workers filed out of the auditorium after the hour of training for those under headquarters Installation Management Command.

"I think it was very good," Debra Jefferson, employment readiness program manager at Army Community Service, said. "And I like the process. I'm just curious how we're all going to be able to pull it together and make it work."

Said Capt. Rob Dewberry, HHC Garrison commander, "I think that Lean Six Sigma is the wave of the future. It's going to allow us to do more in a more efficient method. That's what it's going to do."

# SMDC seeks 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo

*Command's predecessor  
established in 1957*

In 2007, the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command will celebrate its 50th anniversary. It was in 1957, that the Army officially received the mission to develop an anti-missile system — the Nike-Zeus — and organized the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile System Office.

In recognition of these events, SMDC/ARSTRAT is planning a series of events to celebrate its half century of progress in missile defense and space. The first order of business is to design a 50th anniversary logo which may be incorporated into briefing slides, exhibits, etc.

The contest is open to all current and retired SMDC/ARSTRAT employees military and civilian, dependents and other interested parties. Three logos will be selected from the submissions and designated first, second and third place.

The logo should be a full-color design that is equally attractive if printed in black and white or grayscale. Printing requirements dictate that original artwork should measure a minimum of 8-by-10-inches. An electronic logo design must be a minimum of 8-by-10 with a 300 dot-per-inch quality. Digital submissions, saved on a CD, must be in a jpg format with a minimum quality setting of medium. Submissions should include, on a separate page, the designer's full name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and as applicable, military rank, job title and unit listed on a separate sheet.

Submissions must be received by close of business April 30. All submissions will be presented anonymously to the SMDC/ARSTRAT board of directors. The board of directors will select the winning entries. They will also determine if the first place design will be used as the permanent 50th anniversary logo. The decision of the judges will be final.

E-mail submissions to Sharon Watkins Lang at Sharon.Watkins.Lang@us.army.mil or mail to: SMDC/ARSTRAT, Attn. SMDC-HO/LANG, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. Winners will be notified by May 18.

# Easter egg hunt brings fun for all

Annual event held  
at Vincent Park



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**SWEET SUGAR**— Madelyn Rainey, 4, gives the Easter Bunny a big hug near the entrance to Vincent Park, where the annual Easter Egg Hunt is held. Madelyn is the daughter of Kris Rainey, a NASA contractor.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**FIELD SEARCH**— Betty Hallman of Eagle Support Services points out an Easter egg to her son, 3-year-old Kyle, while, at left, Chris Heil, an OMEMS instructor, helps his two daughters, 2-year-old Trinity and 3-year-old Bethany, find eggs in the long grass. The Easter Egg Hunt is an annual event hosted on Redstone Arsenal by Child and Youth Services, and sponsored this year by Bill Heard Chevrolet, Redstone Federal Credit Union and Office Max Government Solutions.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**ANY MORE EGGS?**— Kalea Connolly, 2, makes sure her mittens are still clean after searching through the grass for eggs at the Easter Egg Hunt. Her mom, Tiare Yim, reassures her that there are still more eggs to be found. Kalea is the daughter of Mike Connolly of AMRDEC. The unusually cold weather made mittens, hats and coats a requirement at this year's Easter Egg Hunt. The eggs were filled with candy and small toys.

# Roadside signs point path toward safe tee

*Golfers advised to use tunnel rather than walk across street*

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY  
Staff writer  
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The sunshine of spring brings golfers to enjoy the courses of the Links at Redstone. Concerns have been raised, however, that many are throwing caution to the wind by crossing Goss Road on foot rather than using the tunnel designated for that purpose.

The tunnel was built to give golfers a safe way to access both halves of the golf course, which straddles Goss Road near Gate 9. There they can safely pass under the roadway instead of trying to gauge the speed of oncoming traffic on the busy roadway. Some golfers have instead opted to take a shortcut through the edge of the woods and across the roadway at the west end of the clubhouse parking lot.

"2007 is the first I heard of this but others have said that the golfers have been

doing it for a while," Keith Coates, Garrison Safety Office, said. "You can see where they've worn a little path."

Golfers using the course say that it is a matter of convenience. Dean Anderson, longtime patron of the links, said that the course layout makes using the tunnel more of a hassle than a help.

"The way they have it set up to play courses, it's a long walk," he said. "It's all the way through the tunnel and back around to get to the next tee box."

Anderson said he would like to see a compromise so that golfers could continue to use the shortcut, but safely and legally. Currently, the posted speed for the stretch of road in question is 40 mph

"I'd recommend a crosswalk and reducing the speed limit down to 25 mph," he said. "There's no reason for going any faster there anyway."

Mike Moore, Garrison Safety Office, said they



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**WATCH FOR CARS—** New signs are being posted to warn golfers of the dangers of crossing Goss Road.

would be happy to consider such a change, but did not know whether it would be possible.

"Putting a crosswalk on a busy roadway still has pedestrians dodging vehicles," Moore said. "We're looking into the possibility. It's a risk level question. We would have to assess whether we would be eliminating risk or increasing it."

Right now signs are posted along the golf course portion of Goss Road asking

patrons to use the tunnel and not the roadway. Due to complaints about golfers and rising safety concerns, new signs will be in place before the end of the month. Five newer large red signs will be added along the street, with additional signs placed inside the clubhouse in places golfers are most likely to see them.

"We're going to put them in the Pro Shop and at the desk where they check in," Coates said.

Moore said trying to steer golfers toward the tunnel is not about trying to inconvenience them. The safety office just wants to keep them coming back to Redstone in one piece.

"It's putting themselves and drivers at risk. That is a busy roadway. It's not a little side street," he said. "There are already accidents on Goss Road near Fox. We don't want to increase the risk with pedestrians."

Moore added that there is only so much his office can do if people are determined to put themselves at risk.

"Safety is a two way street," he said. "We can make sure people have the rules and all the tools necessary to stay safe, but then it's up to them to follow those rules."



Courtesy graphic

**ATTENTION, PLEASE—** Bright red signs like this should be posted by the end of the month at the golf course.

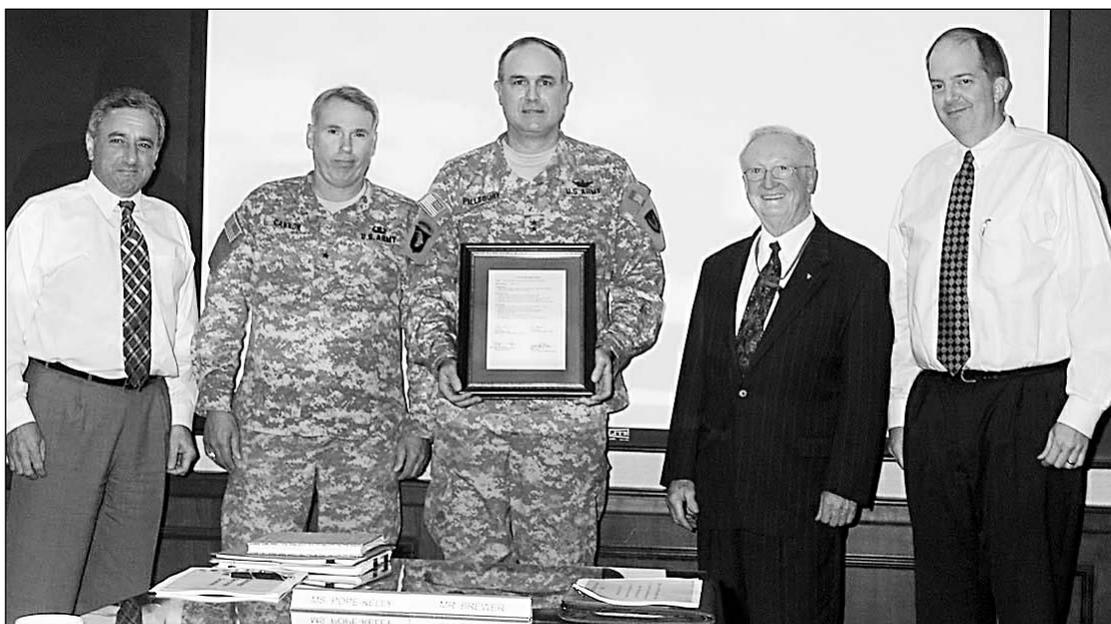
# Strategic plan approved by command leaders

Board of directors receives outline

During the Aviation and Missile Life-Cycle Management Command board of directors meeting April 5, commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury presented a framed and signed copy of the LCMC Strategic Planning Outline to Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation; Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, program executive officer for missiles and space; Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commander of AMCOM; and Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

The Strategic Planning Outline represents a unified approach to thinking, planning and action across all of the elements of the command. It was developed as a joint effort by the leadership of the command through the LCMC Integrated-Process Team, a cross-functional working level group of leaders from all elements of the command. It was ratified at the command's most recent offsite and presented at the April board of directors meeting.

The timing of this event is significant, as it shows all organ-



**SIGNED PACT**— Sharing the LCMC Strategic Planning Outline are, from left, Paul Bogosian, Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, Dr. Bill McCorkle and Dr. Richard Amos.

Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

izations' senior leaders intent to stay on the LCMC course, it tells the work force how they fit into the command mission, and it further endorses leadership's commitment to level the field for the work force across all organizations in terms of advancement anywhere within the command. A copy of the plan will be avail-

able to all command employees through the AMCOM home page.

The Strategic Planning Outline is the third of three documents that have formed the basis of agreement for the formation and continuation of the LCMC. The first was the "Peace Treaty" signed in September 2004 that

marked the formation of the Aviation and Missile Life-Cycle Management Command. The second, also agreed upon in 2004, was a funds flow agreement that described how the command would manage money. The Strategic Planning Outline serves as the basis for coordination and effort.

The goals included in the Strategic Planning Outline are:

- **Strategic goals** – 1. Ensure current readiness and shape the Army's future missile and aviation capabilities. 2. Recruit, train and sustain our world-class work force.

- **Operational goals** – 1. Execute an effective engagement plan to accomplish strategic goals. 2. Continue to synergize the LCMC and SFL to accomplish the vision. 3. Continually refine and implement effective and efficient processes within the LCMC. 4. Focus S&T as a driver of new missile and aviation systems capabilities. 5. Ensure efficient industrial base performance to include leveraging foreign military sales.

- **Tactical goals** – 1. Communicate and coordinate actions across the LCMC as required. 2. Implement functional directors as career field managers. 3. Pursue focused expansion without negatively impacting core businesses. 4. Implement systems health monitoring/condition based maintenance. 5. Mitigate the impact of BRAC. 6. Harmonize personnel practices throughout the LCMC. 7. Develop the specifics of the engagement plan (who, what, when). 8. Develop appropriate metrics to evaluate strategic, operational and tactical goals. (Command Group release)

# Technical conference draws positive feedback

Government representatives meet academia, industry

By MERV BROKKE  
 AMRDEC PAO

The Conference on Metamaterials and Nonlinear Materials, held April 4-5 at Bob Jones Auditorium, was jointly sponsored by the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Space and Missile Defense Command.

"The purpose of the workshop was to provide a forum for exchange of state-of-the-art advances and information on metamaterials and non-linear materials properties and applications," workshop chairman Janice Rock said.

She said the workshop attendance was

excellent and feedback from attendees was positive.

In addition to the presentations, conference attendees participated in sidebar discussions throughout the two-day event.

"A number of collaborative opportunities were discussed between representatives of government, academia and industry," Rock said. "There are a number of military applications where metamaterials could possibly create opportunities for enhanced performance and design."

Conference participants and speakers represented local agencies and organizations in Alabama and from around the country.

"Three excellent keynote addresses were given by Dr. Vlad Shalaev from Purdue University, Dr. Paul Ashley from AMRDEC, and Dr. David Smith from Duke University," Rock said.

Based on the information shared during

the conference, she said the months spent in preparation were worthwhile.

"Quite a few papers were presented from leading researchers and professors at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and a number of papers were presented in the areas of Radio Frequency and Optical Metamaterials, Nonlinear Materials, Surface Plasmons and applications," she said.

Rock was quick to add that she could not have done all of the work without her team.

"It takes a dedicated steering committee to pull together an event like this. I wish to thank Bill Pittman, James Larsen, Bob McMillan, Paul Ashley, Henry Everitt, Tracy Hudson, Patrick Jungwirth, Virginia Monk, Joel Booth, Stephanie Brown and Chris Hamner for their support and work to ensure that we had a great workshop. I look forward to working with this team to host future workshops in this exciting research area."



Photo by Merv Brokke

**NETWORKING**— From left, Dr. Nan Marie Jokerst, professor of electrical and computer engineering at Duke University, speaks with Bill Pittman, Janice Rock and Tommy Harris of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center during a break in the Conference on Metamaterials and Nonlinear Materials.

# Earth Day arrives at Path to Nature

## Activities planned for school children

The Environmental Office will hold Redstone's annual Earth Day event on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Path to Nature.

More than 150 local school children will attend. Activities include a wetland tour, a mock environmental activity, demonstrations by Redstone's staff archaeologist, and presentations by local wildlife rehabilitators.

The Huntsville Engineering Center is doing the mock environmental investigation. It will set up hot/clean zones and wash down areas. Each group has 25 children. The center will divide the class into five groups of five; and each group will proceed through the environmental sampling and wash down.



Courtesy photo

**LEARNING ENVIRONMENT—** Engineers from the Huntsville Center will conduct a mock environmental activity for Earth Day at Redstone, similar to this event last year at University Place Elementary School.

## Take that first step toward better fitness

### Heart association encourages walking during lunch break

Why don't you just take a walk?

That's the message from the American Heart Association, which sponsors the "Start! Walking at Work Day" on April 25. The association encourages this activity for working Americans as a step toward a healthy lifestyle.

People are encouraged to wear their sneakers to work and join their colleagues for a walk at 2:41 p.m. April 25.

The association provides the following reasons for walking:

- With the lowest dropout rate of any physical activity, walking is the simplest positive change individuals can make to effectively improve their heart health.
- Heart disease is everyone's number

one killer. Physical inactivity doubles the risk of heart disease. Start walking at work and start decreasing your risk.

- You'll gain about two hours of life expectancy for each hour of regular exercise, even if you don't start until middle age. The benefits are clear.

The association hopes to get 5 million Americans in participating cities to wear their sneakers at work and join their colleagues for a walk during their lunch hour.

The Health Promotion Council, comprised of various commands and organizations on post, supports this event. Organizations interested in participating – and receiving posters, stickers for participants, pamphlets and route markers – should call the American Heart Association at 533-8500. *(American Heart Association release)*

## ■ All-Army women net armed forces championship

### Basketball

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Jones came off the bench to score 20 points on 9-for-14 shooting and had 17 rebounds in 28 minutes of All-Army's 79-63 victory over All-Air Force. Crawford had 20 points and eight boards. Bice added 17 points.

All-Army displayed its depth during a 95-76 victory over All-Navy. Crawford led the charge with 21 points, and three reserves scored in double figures: Jones (18 points, 11 rebounds), Sgt. Amoni Suttice (17 points) of Kadena Air Base, Japan; and Sgt. Chrishea Fisher (11 points on 5-for-5 shooting) of Fort Sill, Okla. Marable added 12 rebounds, five assists and four blocks.

"I'd been talking to Amoni Suttice and Chrishea Fisher about how in a six-, seven- or eight-person rotation that someone else needs to step up because the other teams have found a way to contain the starting five," Williams said. "When they get their chance, they need to take advantage of it, whether it's 30 seconds or two minutes. The more successful they are out on the court,

the longer they stay, and the more rest that goes to the starters."

Senior Airman Nicole Bowman, a guard from Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and Navy Ship's Serviceman Third Class Judy Burns, a center stationed aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt, rounded out the Armed Forces All-Tournament Team.

They were to join Army representatives coach Williams, Marable, Crawford, Jones, Bice and Ali on the Armed Forces All-Star Team scheduled to play in the Pro-Am National Championships March 28 through April 1 in Las Vegas.

Senior Airman Nina Hawkins of Dyess Air Force Base, Texas; Senior Airman Muneerah Williams of Dover Air Force Base, Del.; Lance Cpl. Nicole Wells of Paris Island, S.C.; Ensign Ashley Pelzek of Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.; and Yeoman Third Class Tija Hopkins of Petaluma, Calif., filled the Armed Forces All-Star Team roster.

*Editor's note: Tim Hipps writes for the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command. Claudia Berwager, an Army sports specialist at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., contributed.*

# First female NCO takes reins of academy

Command Sgt. Maj. Hughes makes history with assignment

By Sgt. ELIAMAR TRAPP  
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When the curtains were drawn, the guests of the Noncommissioned Officer Academy change of responsibility ceremony held Friday at Heiser Hall witnessed history in the making.

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Allen Sr. relinquished his duties as the NCO Academy commandant to Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Hughes, the first female to ever hold the position as the commandant of the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School's John D. Woodyard Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

"Today is a bittersweet day for the Ordnance Corps," said Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks, the Ordnance Corps regimental sergeant major. "Today we will change responsibility and pass the guidon from Command Sergeant Major Allen for the very last time. Although he will not be retiring for a few months, this is the last time he will serve as a noncommissioned officer, a leader; and Charles, I must say you've done it well."

Eubanks, who has been a friend of Allen's for more than 15 years, went on to share stories with the Soldiers, civilians and NCOs in attendance of their younger days in the Army adding "I was impressed then, and I continued to be impressed with his accomplishments over the years. Charles, you have consistently raised the bar for all the NCOs you've taught during your tenure as a commandant of one of the most challenging, technical and demanding NCO academies in the entire Combat Service Support field."



Photo by Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

**TAKING CHARGE—** Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Hughes receives the NCO Academy's colors from Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks, the Ordnance Corps regimental sergeant major, during the change of responsibility ceremony Friday at Heiser Hall. She succeeds Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Allen Sr.

While commandant of the Academy, Allen had three Soldiers selected for the rank of master sergeant, six for the rank of sergeant first class, one for post NCO of the Year, two for post NCO of the Quarter, four selected for Drill Sergeant School and four selected for warrant officer. Also, the academy was very involved in the Huntsville/Madison community, continuously supporting the Huntsville Habitat for Humanity, the Tiny Soldiers Program and many more. Under Allen's supervision the academy received three Certificates of Accreditation from the Training and Doctrine Command and the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

"You've been responsible for the professional development of more than 3,000

(Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course) and (Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course) students and 33 assigned cadre," Eubanks said. "I know you personally taught, coached and mentored each Soldier you encountered and encouraged each to attain their personal best in each challenge they faced, because that's the type of leader you have always been." For his part, Allen said the work and success of the academy could not have been done without the hard work and dedication of the Soldiers and civilians of the academy.

"My tenure here has really been a joyous one," Allen said. "No one is successful merely on self-merit and behind every successful leader is a great team. It would

be (out of character) and selfish of me if I didn't take the time to thank those who assisted in making this tour a successful venture."

Allen made it a point to give credit for the academy's success to his Soldiers.

"This academy's small group leaders are the reason for the great reputation and respect it possesses," he said. "I am forever grateful because we hold ourselves to a higher standard. This academy has truly lived up to the Army's many mottos."

Eubanks said only the best leaders are trusted with the responsibility to be NCO Academy commandants and having Hughes assume the responsibility is testament to her capabilities. No stranger to the Ordnance Corps, Hughes was most recently the command sergeant major of the 73rd Ordnance Battalion, 59th Ordnance Brigade, at Fort Gordon, Ga.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Hughes' new role as the commandant of the NCO Academy continues in the same direction – it is still training, preparing Soldiers for war, and caring for Soldiers and their families," Eubanks said. "History is being made today. I'm proud and honored to say that (Hughes) is the 16th commandant and the very first female to hold this position. I selected her because she's not just training NCOs, she's training Ordnance NCOs, and when you train Ordnance NCOs you select the cream of the crop and the best of the best."

Hughes thanked the leaders that looked past her gender and saw a Soldier with potential.

"This is a historical day that I share with every leader and Soldier that I have served with over the years," she said.

Hughes is accompanied to Redstone Arsenal by her spouse, retired Sgt. 1st Class Marvin Hughes. They have a son, Marcus.

# Administrative professionals have their week

'Shaping the Future' observance theme

Administrative Professionals Week is April 22-28, and Administrative Professionals Day is April 25.

The "Shaping the Future" theme for Administrative Professionals Week 2007 signifies that today's administrative professionals must take charge of their own career development and be fully aware that the necessary skills to remain key contributors to employers are constantly changing. In addition to shaping the future of their individual careers, today's career-minded administrative professionals can also shape the future of their profession as a whole by:

- Leading by example: making a commitment to continuing education and lifelong learning;
- Taking pride in their work and their profession;
- Approaching all projects with a high level of integrity and professionalism;
- Bringing greater value to their employers by building professional networks to exchange ideas, best practices and find workable solutions to problems;
- Mentoring and training others – working with

entry-level administrative support staff and students to show them the advantages of pursuing a career as an administrative professional;

- Educating employers about the value that administrative professionals bring to their organizations.

Celebrated annually during the last full week in April, Administrative Professionals Week brings together millions of people for community events and seminars, with individual bosses recognizing their support staff in various ways. As a founder of this observance and sole official sponsor, the International Association of Administrative Professionals has the following objectives for APW:

- Educate the public about administrative professionals' expanding roles and value in the business world;
- Enhance the profession's image;
- Encourage people to consider administrative careers;
- Promote lifelong learning, certification and professional development.

IAAP members and staff use Administrative Professionals Week as a powerful opportunity to work toward these objectives — often simply by serving as role models. (International Association of Administrative Professionals release)



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

**SIGNING EVENT—** Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury signs a proclamation for Administrative Professionals Week and Administrative Professionals Day as members of IAAP's Redstone Arsenal Chapter look on. Seated are vice president Hillary Clay, left, and president Elise McWilliams. Standing from left are Ellen Mahathey, Jean Ferrante, Carolyn Caudle, Cosette Young, Arnita Lee and Cevelyne McCaulley.

# Army retiree wins as Junior ROTC instructor

County's teacher of year works at Sparkman High

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Lt. Col. Charley Walker was in college before he first learned about the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps. After growing up "chopping cotton" on the family farm in Arkansas, the Army's ROTC program offered plenty of opportunities to catch the teenager's interest.

"At first, my dad wasn't too keen on the whole deal," said Walker, recalling his father's response to his decision to join the Army. "He wanted me to finish college, and come back and run the farm. But, I remembered as a boy standing in the middle of a hot field of cotton and watching people drive by in air-conditioned cars. 'Man,' I would think, 'I want some of that.'

"I liked the structure of ROTC and the Army. I liked clearly defined duties and goals. I liked the idea that you can clearly see how one can progress up through the ranks. I liked the challenge that they offered and the leadership opportunities that were available."

Walker went on to graduate from college and to a fulfilling career in the Army that included stints with the Air Defense Artillery, Adjutant General Corps, 128th Postal Detachment and Data Processing Office in Germany; in personnel positions at Fort Jackson, S.C., and Fort Stewart, Ga.; with the 2nd Army's Redstone Readiness Group in Huntsville; and as executive officer of the Special Troops Combined Field Army in Korea.

But, it wasn't until some 20 years later, that Walker stepped into a classroom and found his destiny. Those last three years as a Soldier, Walker was assigned to the ROTC program at Tuskegee University.

"I had a blast," he said. "It was great being at Tuskegee University and being exposed to African-American students.

"I was able to impart my experiences to them and give them an idea of what can happen when you work to succeed ... At Tuskegee, I realized I had a story to tell, and knowledge and experiences to share. I felt that I could make a difference and, hopefully, be an inspiration for those who could identify with my humble beginning."

And, ever since then, Walker has, indeed, been an inspiration to students. After retiring in 1992 and a job as executive assistant to the president of Alabama A&M University, Walker again stepped into the classroom as the senior Army instructor for the Sparkman High School Junior ROTC program.

This year, after serving in the post for 13 years, Walker was nominated for Teacher of the Year by Sparkman High School and went on to be selected as the Madison County Schools' Teacher of the Year. He will now compete for teacher-of-the-year honors at the district level, with the winner going on to the state and national competitions.

Since 1993, Walker has been "catching teenagers' interest," growing the Sparkman JROTC program (the oldest program in the county, starting in 1966) from a fledgling group of 47 students to a thriving program of more than 100 students. The program has



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TEACHING WITH HONORS—** Lt. Col. Charley Walker, right, senior Army instructor for the JROTC program at Sparkman High School, is the 2006-07 Teacher of the Year for Madison County Schools. He will go on to compete for teacher-of-the-year honors at the district level. He oversees Sparkman's JROTC program with the help of instructor 1st Sgt. Walter Jones Sr., at left. Walker is the husband of Belinda Walker, who works as a budget analyst for the Space and Missile Defense Command.

nearly a 100 percent graduation and college enrollment rate, and has earned "Honor Unit with Distinction" for its development of cadets who understand civic responsibility, duty, citizenship, leadership and service. Its cadets are involved with several community projects, including the WAFF Can-a-Thon, Salvation Army Angel Tree, Operation Christmas Bear, Veterans Day and Christmas parades, and the Madison Cross Roads Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program.

"A lot of students come into our program because they see us out in the community in our uniforms doing positive things," Walker said. "Just like when I was a kid, they see our cadets and they think 'That's what I want to do.'

"Other students come to us because their parents think that little Johnnie or little Susie needs to grow up and needs some structure in their lives. Or a counselor or teacher may recommend a student for our program ... But, quality begets quality. I tell my kids 'Go out and recruit kids like you.' That's what makes our program great."

Though JROTC does include drills and ceremonies, these days it is much more. JROTC students also are instructed in citizenship, earth science and geography, wellness and fitness, leadership theory and application, marksmanship, foundations of the political system and other U.S. topics.

"The most important thing is that these students graduate," Walker said. "But, second of all, we want them to go into some sort of career where they can be successful. We want them to go on to some further education or training so they can continue to lead a happy and productive life."

While the role of a JROTC instructor is to teach students about civic responsibility and leadership, it is not a recruiting position for the Army or any other military branch.

"Parents fear we are just a training ground or farm system for the military," Walker said. "That's not the case at all. Our doors are open to all students, whether or not they are interested in a career in the military.

See Instructor on page 22

# Month shines light on sexual assault

## Victims encouraged to report incidents

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
 Staff writer  
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Sexual assault is a crime that thrives on shadows and shame. It is mentioned in whispers, with 85 percent of victims never reporting the crime. April has been named Sexual Assault Awareness Month in an effort to shine light on the subject.

Colleen Nicholson, sexual assault response coordinator for Army Community Service, said that while Redstone has less instances of sexual assault than installations with larger Soldier populations, it does still happen.

"We have a couple every month, it just depends. Some months are higher, others are lower," she said. "That includes civilians who are assaulted on post. At Fort Campbell (Ky.), they have had 16 in just a few days before."

Some 1,241 incidents of sexual assault were reported Armywide for 2005. Nicholson is awaiting the newest numbers.

Sexual assault is not limited to rape. It includes any sexual contact involving force or threat. It also includes when the victim does not or cannot consent. Not fighting back does not equal consent. This means that having sexual contact with someone who is too intoxicated to say yes or no is sexual assault – a fact many people may not be aware of.

"If someone is too drunk to drive, then they are too drunk to consent to having sex," Nicholson said. "A lot of sexual assaults involve alcohol use."

Many victims never report the crime, perhaps out of shame or fear of reprisal. By keeping silent they are denying themselves urgent mental and physical care. The Army is trying to reach out to those who wouldn't otherwise come forward. Victims now have the choice of filing a restricted or unrestricted report for incidents occurring on the installation.

An unrestricted report is just that – unrestricted. It starts an investigation by the authorities, following standard criminal guidelines. It is the customary type of report that people are familiar with. A restricted report, however, is different. A restricted report does not activate a criminal investigation. It is not forwarded through command channels for action. In fact, few people ever know about a restricted report, Nicholson said.

"With a restricted report just designated individuals know – myself, healthcare providers, unit victim advocates, the chaplain and counseling services," she said. "We're not mandated to call CID or start an official investigation, yet they can still receive counseling and healthcare. The command wanted to implement reporting options so that even if a victim doesn't want to file charges they can still get the services they need. It also helps the command get a better idea of how many sexual assaults are committed."

The decision to make only a restricted



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**READY TO RESPOND—Colleen Nicholson, sexual assault response coordinator, reviews materials for an upcoming training session.**

report is not an irreversible one for the victim. Should they decide later to go ahead with a criminal investigation, they can convert their report to unrestricted. An obvious drawback to first filing a restricted report and then changing it later is that evidence that would normally be collected at the scene of the crime is lost because the police were not notified sooner.

Redstone has a sexual assault hotline in place. When a call comes in, Nicholson is on the move. Part of her job is making sure that the victim, often emotional, gets the immediate care they need.

"I go out and provide advocacy services to the victim – filling out a preference statement, deciding if they want to report the incident," she said.

There are many myths involved in the public perception of sexual assault. The stereotype of a dastardly stranger lurking in the bushes is one of the biggest, Nicholson said.

"Seventy percent of victims know their attacker," she said.

The other side of that same stereotype is the unsuspecting woman. Nicholson said not all victims are women at all.

"Sexual assaults can be same gender. A lot of Soldiers going through training are shocked how high the rates of man-on-man sexual assault are," she said. "Some statistics say 6 percent of sexual assaults are. Some say 10 to 15 percent. Male sexual assault victims are the least likely to report for a number of reasons – largely because it affects their self-image in terms of being a man and being violated that way."

She said there are some precautions that everyone can take to lessen their chances of being a victim of sexual assault – or a perpetrator. As part of the training sessions Nicholson holds for Soldiers, she discusses the mistakes that can lead to committing sexual assault.

"We talk about how sexual assault doesn't match up with Army values," she said. "A lot of people aren't clear about what constitutes sexual assault. Coercion, trying to convince someone to have sex with you, can be assault."

She works closely with unit victim advocates, Soldiers designated and especially trained to work within their own units, so that someone is always close at hand when a victim needs help. As a member of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, Nicholson also coordinates efforts with the chaplains and medical team members. They constantly review procedures, informational materials and past actions to ensure that victims on Redstone get the best care possible from all parties involved.

"If you are assaulted, call CID or call me – especially if you want to file a restricted report," Nicholson said. "Make sure you get the help and services you need."

For more information on the SAPRP, call Nicholson at 876-5397. For more information on Army policies regarding sexual assault visit [www.sexualassault.army.mil](http://www.sexualassault.army.mil). The 24-hour Redstone Sexual Assault hotline is 508-6613.

# Command workers getting smarter on system

## Course teaches objectives for measuring performance

Some AMCOM employees have attended a new course on writing their job objectives under the National Security Personnel System.

The Learning Resource Center provides the "Writing (SMART) Job Objectives" course. This acronym stands for Specific, Measurable, Aligned, Realistic/Relevant, Timed, all parts of a good job objective under the National Security Personnel System. The attendees have recently transitioned to this personnel system.

Under the system, job objectives describe a clear desired outcome with measurable results that support the vision, mission and goals of the organization. In order to write good objectives, SMART was created to help in identifying all the pieces needed to identify the objective and describe how it will be measured. This underlies the annual evaluation process and will have direct impact on how performance is measured and rewarded under the system.

The Learning Resource Center has developed a course to assist supervisors and employees in devel-

oping their objectives to ensure the job is described accurately, accountability defined, and ensuring any measurements of performance are realistic and relative to the job. Personnel officials said this is considerably different from the Total Army Personnel Evaluation System and takes thought to write a good objective that is fair to the employee and the organization.

The course includes practical exercises where attendees write a job objective using the SMART criteria and review it with a fellow student to ensure all the pieces are there. Each student is able to leave the course with a completed job objective meeting SMART criteria.

The Learning Resource Center will continue to provide this training monthly until July when it will become a quarterly class unless there is an identified need for more frequency. AMCOM employees should check the Training Information Program at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil> to see when the classes are scheduled and to register. Class size is small due to the practical exercises.

For more information about this course, call Jerry Sturdivant of AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) at 876-6078. (G-1 release)

## ■ Madison County's teacher of the year instructs JROTC

### Instructor

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"It's all about helping the kids choose a career and lead a productive life. It's about helping them decide what they want out of life. What we are teaching is about making the kids better citizens. Even though I've experienced a measure of success in the military, the military isn't the only opportunity for these kids to experience their own success."

The JROTC program is cadet run with the senior students in charge of Alpha Co., Bravo Co. and Charlie Co. The seniors lead the program's weekly drill day and uniform inspection day, JROTC events and community service programs. Walker and co-instructor 1st Sgt. Walter Jones Sr. teach the JROTC curriculum and oversee the cadet-led program.

The cadets have plenty of opportunities to use their leadership skills in the program. They can be members of the Sparkman JROTC's Honor Guard, Color Guard, Physical Fitness Team, Radar Team, Sabor Team and Drill Team.

These days, interest in the JROTC program at Sparkman is high. But, only those students who welcome discipline, structure, responsibility and leadership opportunities make it through all four years of the program.

"The students who continue with the program see themselves as leaders. They are a part of a group that is structured," Walker said. "They wear a uniform that brings respect. But, they understand that they must fill that uniform with someone who deserves respect."

For freshmen coming into Sparkman High School, Walker sees JROTC as a "win-win situation."

"If a student has an inclination toward joining a branch of the armed forces, but they aren't sure, this would be an opportunity, without obligation, to get a snapshot of the military while earning graduation credits," Walker said.

"Even if one is not considering the service, JROTC is the most dynamic and diverse program in high school."

For JROTC juniors and seniors who are considering a military career, Walker often assists them in their decision, counseling them to research all military branches to determine which would offer them the best career opportunities for their interests and skills.

"I advise them of the entire military obligation ... then I try to address any questions they have," said Walker, who has been in uniform since 1968. "I want to ensure that I do not come across as a recruiter for the military but rather as a teacher who can show them all the opportunities that are available to them."

# Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

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

- You can support AER by drinking Bay Springs 100 percent Natural Spring Water. During the campaign, Bay Springs will donate \$1 to AER for each 5 or 3 gallon bottle ordered by any Redstone Arsenal offices or post housing occupants. The delivery price for 5 gallon bottles is \$5.75. Monthly cooler rental is \$9. No contract is required; and only a \$6 per bottle deposit is required – or they'll accept any bottle you may have already bought. To start delivery or get a sample of Bay Springs water, call toll free 1-800-815-7704.

- AMRDEC is offering patriotic lapel pins, patriotic Boyd's teddy bears, patriotic tote bags and many other items until May 15 in building 5400, room A-220. Call Janet Martin 842-0691.

- Check out the Integrated Materiel Management Center events at the web site located at <http://immcweb.redstone.army.mil/aer/>.

- IMMC is holding an aluminum recycling campaign. Collection boxes are located in break rooms throughout the Sparkman Center. If you have aluminum cans at your house that you would like to donate, call Maj. Owen Ward 876-4541 or Eric Cowan 313-1572.

- AMCOM G-8 is selling Sonic Value Cards for a minimum donation of \$5 until May 15. There are two cards to choose from. Call Larry Bowlin 842-7103.

- From now until May 31, you can support AER by eating lunch at Chick-Fil-A on Thursdays. Every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the campaign, Chick-Fil-A at 11820 South Parkway – just past Redstone Federal Credit Union and Wal-Mart – will donate 10 percent of its total lunchtime sales to AER. Be sure to tell the cashier that you are there to support Redstone Arsenal's AER campaign.

- Coupon books are being sold by ILS/Manprint Office. The \$15 books contain discount coupons for local restaurants and businesses. Call Cheryl Baker 842-8695, Ranny Vinson 842-8793 and Kim Sharp 876-8696.

- Handmade lanyards are offered in the SELA lobby, building 5400, daily from 6:30-9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call Dorothy May 842-8391 and Gay Horry 842-8389.

- Old Skool vs. Nu Skool Softball is Thursday, hosted by the Acquisition Center. For information call Chris Campbell 876-3448.

- Barbecue lunch plates, sponsored by IMMC, are available Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 106 Wynn Drive. Call Roosevelt Pitts Jr. 313-1068, Dave Moudy 313-1069 and Pam Reyer 313-1077.

- Command Analysis Directorate's annual Book Sale will be held through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5300, first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. For information call Brian Barry 876-8563.

- Bake sales, sponsored by the Utility Helicopter Project Office, are today and May 8 from 7-9 a.m. in the lobby of building 5308. For information call Donna Luke 955-8964.

- Aviation Engineering and Avion are holding a Picnic on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the NASA Recreation Area. Cost is now \$15. Call Matt Boenker 313-9117, Vonnice Shelton 313-9089, Ed Oldani 955-0989 and Maj. Kirk McCauley 313-4286.

- The AMRDEC Engineering Directorate four-person scramble Golf Tournament is Thursday at the Links at Redstone. Call Chris Farmer 313-6553, Will Lovell 955-2370 and Ken Nebrig 842-4994.

- Fox Army Health Center, Vets with Vettes, Corvette Owners will hold the fifth annual Cars and Camouflage Car Show on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Vet-

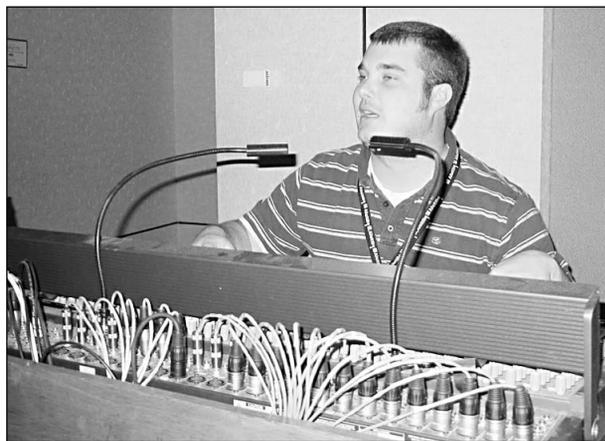


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**TESTING ONE, TWO—** Brad Trentham, an audio-visual technician for Alutiiq, does a sound check before the AER Idol talent competition April 10 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The final performance is May 23 at 1 p.m.

erans 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.

- A hot dog sale is April 24 and April 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside building 5302, sponsored by NMP, IMMC. Call Kay O'Brien 313-2451, Greg Jones 876-9644 and Rod Mathewson 313-2454.

- The third annual Old Fashioned Fish Fry, sponsored by the Acquisition Center, is April 25 (rain date May 2) at building 5303. For \$8 per plate you get two catfish filets, bread, hushpuppies, baked beans, cole slaw and a drink. Tickets are available through April 20. Call Ellaphine Ragland 955-0966, Regina Phippen 876-7347

## Performers give their all for voting audience

*AER Idol competition completes first round*

Of course Jennifer "J-Lo" Lopez didn't appear, but there was plenty of Redstone talent on display for the second annual AER Idol competition.

Fourteen people performed to the delight of the judges and crowd during round one April 10 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The seven finalists will compete there May 23 from 1-3 p.m.

The magnificent seven include Gregory Burden, Vanessa Alford, John Hopson, Rhonda Reeves, Master Sgt. Mary Baker, Melani Yancy and Jesse Stanford.

"It went really well," event coordinator Sherry Miller of the Acquisition Center said. "We sold approximately 433 tickets raising \$3,083 and 16 cents. We actually sold quite a bit at the door while we were there. People said they enjoyed it."

Cost for the May 23 finale is also a \$5 donation.

Chris Campbell served as emcee; and Calvin Drake sang the national anthem. Sgt. Maj. Gregory Knight performed while the audience votes were counted.

The judges included Colin Warman (Simon), Carol Reedus (Paula) and Johnny Keith (Randy).

Volunteers who helped Miller were Jennifer McGee, Kristy

and Deon Davis 876-8988.

- The White Elephant Dollar Day Sale, sponsored by PEO Aviation, PM AV-AS, is April 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at building 5309. All items are \$1. Call Jo-Ann Rice 313-3742, Ruthy Gordon 876-3654, Julie Rice 955-9531 and Cathy Knipe 955-0729.

- IMMC will hold its fourth annual bowling tournament May 2 with a second event Saturday, May 5 from noon to 3 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. Tickets are \$10 for each event and include three games plus shoes. Call Lynn Moore 955-6001.

- Barbecue lunch plates, sponsored by IMMC, are available May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in front of building 5309. Call Roosevelt Pitts Jr. 313-1068, Dave Moudy 313-1069 and Pam Reyer 313-1077.

- Garrison AER Fun Day is May 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the NASA Picnic Area. There will be barbecue rib and chicken plates. Some of the planned activities include a hula-hoop contest, live auction and deal-or-no-deal. Everyone is welcome. Call Kim Wright 842-2565.

- Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity will hold its second annual Bake Sale and Silent Auction on May 17 at building 5435 from 7 a.m. until everything's gone. Call Tenna McGee 955-6398, Teresa Salmon 955-6185, Mary Ann Brown 876-3638 and Michele Green 876-9914.

- A car wash, hosted by TMDE, is May 17 from 1:30-3 p.m. at building 5435. Call Tenna McGee 955-6398, Mary Ann Brown 876-3638 and Teresa Salmon 955-6185.

- AER Hoop it Up 3-on-3 basketball, hosted by Missile Logistic Directorate, is May 17 at Redstone Fitness Center. Cost is \$20 per team by May 11, or \$25 per team on May 14. Tickets to attend will go on sale April 30 for \$2, or \$3 at the door. For information call James Minnon 955-9300 or Whitney Stone 842-6218.

- 2007 AER Idol final performance is May 23 at 1 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. Cost is a \$5 suggested donation. Call Anthony Grayson 955-9002, Sherry Miller 842-0736 and Sharon Nolen 842-9431.



Photo by Sharon Nolen

**CROWD PLEASER—** Spectators show their appreciation during the AER Idol competition April 10.

Lyon, Shane Jackson, Lindsay Layne, Zac York, Laura Beck, Sharon Nolen, Anthony Grayson, Tammie Mason, Ashley Patton, Jeannie King, Andrea Dixon, Michelle Cross and Rhonda Goolsby.

The other contestants included Benjamin Sanders, Steve Froni-barger, Clarenza Clark, Josette Paschal, Frank Fisher, Stan Hisaw and Amy Newson.

# Rocket Announcements



## Sports & Recreation

### Super Bowl honoree

The Huntsville Progressive Alumni Association of Alabama A&M University will hold a banquet honoring Robert Mathis, a defensive end for the 2007 Super Bowl champion Indianapolis Colts. This event will be held Saturday at 6 p.m. at Elmore Gym on the campus of Alabama A&M University. Tickets are \$35 and reserved tables are available. To purchase tickets, call the Office of Alumni Affairs 372-5286 or Jacqueline Hurt 372-5671. Proceeds from this event will benefit the university 2007-08 Councill Challenge Campaign.

### Football camp

Seattle Seahawks offensive lineman Walter Jones will present his third annual football camp, for ages 8-18, May 26 at his estate at 2699 Jeff Road in Harvest. Pre-registration is April 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dick's Sporting Goods, 6275 University Drive. The Walter Jones Foundation will also present a camp June 30 at Aliceville High School, with pre-registration June 2 from 10-2 at the school. For more information, call Karen (281) 788-6405.

### Military golf

Felix Milar Active Duty Post Championship Tournament for the active duty post championship is May 18-20 at the Links at Redstone. That Friday is the unit-level team competition, part of the intramural leagues and Commander's Cup; and Saturday and Sunday is the individual Post Championship competition. This event is free. Greens fees, cards, lunch and drinks are provided. Deadline to enter is May 8. Call 842-2574.

### Stars military discount

The Huntsville Stars baseball team offers a military discount for all Sunday through Thursday home games. Active duty or retired military personnel showing their military ID at the Joe Davis Stadium ticket office or windows receive half price lower box, upper reserve or general admission tickets for all Sunday-Thursday

regular season home games. The Stars will have its Armed Forces Day Celebration on May 19 at 2:05 p.m. at Joe Davis Stadium. The organization will hand out camouflage baseballs.

### Armed Forces salute

Mark your calendars to attend the annual Civilian Welfare Fund Council's Team Redstone Salute to the Armed Forces baseball game at Joe Davis Stadium on May 19. The Huntsville Stars will take on the West Tenn Diamond Jaxx. Doors open at noon and the game starts at 2:05. There will be military displays in front of the stadium before the game, and many other special events. A souvenir baseball will be given to the first 2,000 people inside the gate. General Admission tickets are free. Your free ticket may be upgraded for up to a \$5 credit per person on upper or lower box seats for this game only. Free tickets are being distributed to several locations on the Arsenal such as the Post Exchange, Post Restaurants in the Sparkman Center, and buildings 5400 and 4488. You can also contact your CWFC representative to obtain free tickets in or near your office. You can find your representative in the CWFC link on the AMCOM home page.

### Senior softball

The Huntsville Senior Softball League, under the auspices of the Huntsville Senior Center and the City of Huntsville Recreational Services, seeks softball players who turn 55 or older by Dec. 31. The league has players of all skills and abilities, so join the fun, make new friends, and enjoy the popular summertime sport of slow pitch softball. For more information, call Ray Beverly 859-7419 or Fred Garcia 883-1135.

### Golf benefit

The Integrated Material Management Center will hold its annual Army Emergency Relief fund-raiser Golf Tournament on May 3 at the Links at Redstone. It is a four-person scramble with a shotgun start for 8 a.m. Registration deadline is April 27. Cost is \$40 for members, \$44 for non-members. Organizers are accepting prize donations and sponsorships. For more information, call David Newton 876-2585 or Veronica Crute 876-9043.

### Sports festival tribute

Opening ceremonies for Alabama Sports Festival XXV will honor all Alabama military personnel who have been deployed in Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. This event will take place June 29 at 6:45 p.m. at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex and will be televised statewide. Any Alabama servicemember who is serving in Afghanistan or Iraq may be represented by a family member to receive a specially minted bronze Liberty Bell medal. Register by June 15 by contacting Daniel Monplaisir at heroes@alagames.com. Correspondence should be done via e-mail. However, if e-mail is not available you can send a fax to 334-280-0988, or mail Honoring Our Heroes c/o Alabama Sports Festival, P.O. Box 20327, Montgomery, AL 36120-0327. The phone number is (334) 239-3297.

### Spring kickoff tourney

The Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury "Spring Kickoff Tournament" was rescheduled for this Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Links at Redstone. This event is open to the entire Redstone community. Cost is \$40 per person, which includes golf cart, food, drinks and prizes. Price does not include greens fees. For more information, call 883-7977.

### Bass tournament

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America invites you to participate in its spring 2007 bass tournament Saturday at Goose Pond Colony on Lake Guntersville. A social will be held Friday at 5 p.m. at rental cabin 11, tournament headquarters. The tournament starts at first safe light Saturday 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>.



## Conferences & Meetings

### 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



Photo by Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

## Easy does it

**Staff Sgt. Derrick Dodds cautiously holds two pieces of wood together while Derrick Jackson, 4, hammers a nail while building a car during Home Depot's Children's Workshop April 7. Dodds and the rest of the Soldiers from the NCO Academy's Class 015-07, Advanced NCO Course, spent their Saturday morning volunteering at the workshop as part of their class project.**

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.

### Small business forum

North Alabama Small Business Conference 2007 is May 3. The various speakers include the luncheon speaker, Tracey Pinson, Secretary of the Army's director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. The cost for this all-day event is \$95, which includes lunch. There is also the option to attend the lunch and networking session only for \$20. You must be an NCMA or HASBAT member to attend the lunch only. Anyone can attend this conference. Register through National Contract Management Association [www.ncmahsv.org](http://www.ncmahsv.org).

### 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).

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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.

### Engineer society

Huntsville Post Society of American Military Engineers will meet Thursday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at SAIC. The featured speaker is Gary Heard, Small Business Administration procurement representative at Redstone. Cost of the lunch is \$10 payable at the door. For reservations call Amber Martin 895-1834.

### University women

American Association of University Women will meet May 1 at the UAH Beville Center. Lynnae Hamilton, a career development grant recipient, is to speak on "AAUW Educational Foundation Funds at Work." The public is invited to the 6:30 p.m. dinner and the program at 7. Reservations for dinner are due by April 23. Call Lois Guendal 880-8643 for more information or reservations.

### Officer association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting April 25 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Jeffrey W. Bennett, astronomer, teacher and writer, will be the speaker. The chapter will hold its informal monthly breakfast April 28 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Col. Danny Burtram 325-1938.

### Logistics seminar

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics joins forces with the Defense Acquisition University South and the Logistics Support Activity to bring you their annual Logistics Seminar on May 15-16 at the Trinity Community Development Center at 607 Airport Road. Attendance is limited and seats are going fast, but there is still time to register. Log on to [www.asihsv.com/sole](http://www.asihsv.com/sole) and download the registration form. Fill it out and fax it to Cheryl Baker 876-4471. For more information, call Mike Murphy 842-7753.

### Fleet reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting April 28 at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For information call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

### Project institute

The North Alabama Chapter of the Project Management Institute will meet today from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Marriott,

5 Tranquility Base. Rick Schwarz is to present a case study based on his personal experience in designing and building his dream home. For more information, e-mail PMI-NAC president Lisa Galentine [president@northalabamapmi.org](mailto:president@northalabamapmi.org).

### Technical conference

Registration has begun for the "Reconfigurable Systems, Microsystems and Nanotechnology" conference May 8-9 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, visit the conference web page <http://smap-center.uah.edu/rsmn07>, or e-mail Angie.Cornelius@us.army.mil.

### 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).

### 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. Specialties 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.gsaauctions.gov](http://www.gsaauctions.gov), search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 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 shop is accepting spring and summer 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.

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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.

### 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/>.

### 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/>.

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## **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.

## **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).

## **Business honorees**

The first Junior Achievement of Northern Alabama Business Hall of Fame, "A Celebration of Legends and Legacies," will be held Friday 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.

## **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 college). 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).

## **Stuffed animals wanted**

Amy Balch is collecting new or gently-used stuffed animals for the pediatric ward at Huntsville Hospital East until May 1. "Please do not drop off stuffed animals at the lobby of (building) 5300,"

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she said in a prepared release. "Please call me at 631-7886 or contact me by e-mail at [gospelsonglover@yahoo.com](mailto:gospelsonglover@yahoo.com) for me to pick up the stuffed animals. Thanks to everyone who has already donated stuffed animals."

### 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.

### Fund-raiser walk

To celebrate Autism Awareness Month, the Autism Society of Alabama is hosting a "Walk for Autism" Saturday 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.

### 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.

### Senior service college

This announcement is directed to civilian Acquisition Corps members who occupy positions within the Army in grades GS-14 and 15 or equivalent grades within a Demonstration Project or the National Security Personnel System. Employees interested in applying for the Senior Service College Fellowship Program opportunities commencing in 2007 should respond by April 24 to announcement number SSCF-Huntsville-07H. AL&T work force members who do not currently possess Acquisition Corps membership but who wish to participate in this opportunity must be members of the AC at the time of application. The purpose of the SSCF Program is to provide leadership and acquisition training to prepare senior level civilians for senior leadership roles such as product and project managers, program executive officers and key acquisition positions. Individuals who complete the program will be awarded equivalency for the Program Managers Course; and those attending the Huntsville offering will be provided the option to obtain a master's degree from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. For more information call Shirley Hornaday, regional director of the Acquisition Support Center, Southern Region, at 955-2764.

### Admin professionals

The Officers and Civilians Club will cele-



Courtesy photo

## Divine trip

**Maj. Masayuki Endo from Japan watches "Divine" perform at the Opryland Hotel during the International Military Student Office's field studies program trip to Nashville on April 7. The office took 12 international students who were from Greece, El Salvador, Japan, Guyana, Korea, Bulgaria, India and Pakistan.**

brate Administrative Professionals Day, April 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a buffet style lunch. Cost is \$12 per person. There will be a number of door prize drawings, and gifts for the admin professionals. Tickets are available in advance at the club cashier's office, or you can purchase them at the door the day of the event. For more information, call 830-2582.

### Graduate courses

Florida Tech Graduate Center's courses for the summer semester begin April 30 at building 5304 with class once per week from 5-8 p.m. All master's degree programs are offered online. Those interested should call the administrative office 881-7878 or visit room 4326 in 5304.

### Administrative seminar

The Huntsville Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its fourth annual Seminar and Education Forum, "Pride in Professionalism," on April 24 at the Holiday Inn downtown. This is all-day event open to all administrative professionals presents keynote speaker Beverly Marchelos on "Maximizing Human Potential," and a choice of attending two afternoon workshop sessions. Registration is \$140 by Thursday. Call Rozella Coggin 824-2907.

### Bikers against abuse

The Alabama chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse will sponsor its third annual 100-mile BACA National Child Abuse Awareness Ride on April 28. The ride increases community awareness about child abuse and child abuse prevention, and raises funds in support of abused children. There are more than 1,500 child abuse reports in Madison County each

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year. Registration for the ride will begin at 11 a.m. The ride will start at noon at the National Children's Advocacy Center on Pratt Avenue and include stops in Athens, Decatur and Hampton Cove. The cost to ride is \$10. Additional information about BACA can be found at <http://www.bacausa.com> or [Alabama@bacausa.com](mailto:Alabama@bacausa.com). Or you can call 797-2097 or 417-2522.

## Youth service day

The Volunteer Center of Madison County is sponsoring dozens of local projects for the 19th annual National and Global Youth Service Day, April 20-22. Groups can register now for projects at [www.volunteerhsv.org](http://www.volunteerhsv.org). For more information about National and Global Youth Service Day and how to get involved, call Roz Stevenson at The Volunteer Center 539-7797.

## Appreciation in store

The Base Supply Store, building 3775 on Maintenance Row, will have a Customer Appreciation Day/Vendor Show on April 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments will be available. For more information call Celeni Sasser 375-5449 or store manager Morris Burbank 876-4011.

## Wellness outreach

Fox Army Health Center and its Preventive Medicine/Health Promotion section will conduct free Blood Pressure and Bone Density screenings on April 25 from 8:30-11 a.m. for the staff of SMDC at

their facility. The contact for Space and Missile Defense Command employees for the event is Zakiyyah Shakoor, SMDC work/life coordinator, at 955-5652. If your agency would like to schedule a wellness outreach at your facility call Rick Stock, health promotion educator, at 955.8888, extension 1443.

## Personnel update

Attention all SMDC bargaining unit employees: This is an opportunity to learn about the National Security Personnel System and your employee rights. AFGE Local 1858 will have a Lunch and Learn on April 24 at the Space and Missile Defense Command, building 5220 in room 5014E. Attend session one from 11-11:30 a.m. or session two from noon-12:30. Lunch will be provided, but feel free to bring your own.

## Mother's celebration

Girls Incorporated, a youth development organization committed to inspiring all girls to be strong, smart and bold, is seeking nominations for the "2007 A Mother's Celebration" and would like to invite you to submit your nomination of that special person in your life. Girls Incorporated will recognize mothers in the following categories: traditional, non-traditional, and mothers in military service. The finalists will be selected by a panel of judges and will receive notification of their selection prior to the event honoring them. To

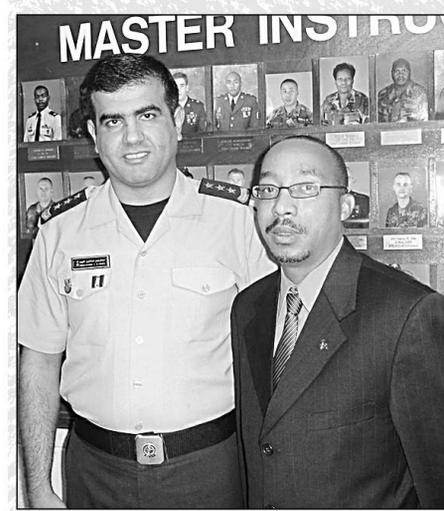
receive a nomination form or for more information, visit the Girls Incorporated web site at [www.girlsinc-huntsville.com](http://www.girlsinc-huntsville.com).

## Benefit breakfast

Alabama Marine Moms is hosting a pancake breakfast May 12 to raise funds in support of deployed troops and fallen heroes. The second annual event will be held from 7-10 a.m. at the Applebee's at 302 Hughes Road, Madison. The cost is \$5. Funds raised from the event will be used to send care packages to deployed Marines, Army, Navy and Air Force servicemembers, to help with the cost of compiling keepsake scrapbooks for fallen servicemembers and to support events organized by Alabama Marine Moms for Marines stationed at Redstone Arsenal. For more information call Pam Adcock 683-8212, Terry Smith 658-0594 or Sharolyne Harbin 379-4082.

## Female volunteers

Habitat for Humanity of Huntsville/Madison County is recruiting female volunteers for a "Woman Build" Habitat Home that is under construction. Women have raised money for the home, and a single mom and her daughter will live in the home. Now, all that's needed are women volunteers to help with the home's construction. Work at the site is being done on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers can either work an entire day or part of a day. Lunch is provided on Saturdays for volunteers. Plans are to have a wall raising cer-



Courtesy photo

## Graduation day

**Capt. Abdulrahman Alfehaid from Saudi Arabia meets with Tim Pollard, continental U.S. liaison officer for Saudi Arabia National Guard officers, after the Warrant Officer Basic Course graduation ceremony held Thursday. Alfehaid graduated from the Ammunition Specialist WO Basic Course.**

emony at the site April 14, followed by a home dedication on Mother's Day. To volunteer, contact Jennifer Shrout at [jshrout@hfhmc.org](mailto:jshrout@hfhmc.org) or 533-2282.

See Announcements on page 30

