

Redstone Rocket

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Civilians answering deployment call

Moore among many going to war theater

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

At age 48, AMCOM worker John Moore is taking a leap into the dangerous unknown of a foreign country during wartime.

The longtime Resource Management employee has volunteered to deploy to Bagram, Afghanistan for six months, where he will be an Army Materiel Command deployed civilian working for Personnel in support of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

Once he made that call to volunteer, Moore's life has become a whirlwind of administrative paperwork, personal arrangements to make sure things are cared for at home and preparations to leave his job temporarily vacant.

"The scheduled plan is for me to leave out on May 4," Moore said. "If everything goes OK with all the paperwork, that's when I will be leaving."

"There is so much to think about. My job duties will be spread out to other employees here while I'm gone. I've hired a lawn service to mow the grass and I'm having a sprinkler system put in so my wife doesn't have to pull a sprinkler around the yard all summer. I've had to get 180 days worth of blood pressure medicine. I hope I can get all the bases covered before I go."

Moore is also preparing himself for working in a combat zone, something he has not done during his 23 years as a civilian employee.

"Hopefully, I'm still young enough to hit the dirt if I need to," he said. "I'll be protected and I'll stay on post. If I was worried about dying, I wouldn't be going. There is a risk, but there's a risk every time you drive down the road. I am a preacher's son and I have a strong faith."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

STEPPING FORWARD— AMCOM Resource Management worker John Moore is busy these days getting ready for a civilian deployment to Afghanistan. Plans call for him to leave May 4 for a six-month deployment in support of Army Materiel Command. He is among 30 to 40 Redstone Arsenal employees who are deployed at any given time.

Moore – along with AMCOM employees Carolyn Poma and George Jurgens – will travel to a processing center in Winchester, Va., for five days of training. From there, Moore will travel to Kuwait and then to Afghanistan while Poma and Jurgens travel to Iraq.

"At any given time, we are working with 30 to 40 volunteers from Redstone Arsenal who have responded to our solicitation for volunteers," said Eddie Allen of G-3 Current Operations who is the deployment lead for AMCOM.

"We have 400 people every day who are deployed from Redstone Arsenal (or who work out of Redstone Arsenal at locations like Fort Hood or Fort Bragg) to

the Central Combatant Command for jobs in Afghanistan, Iraq or Kuwait. Some are gone for two to three days, some for six months to a year. Most of them are going because their job requires them to go while others volunteer. We work with all of them."

DoD civilians volunteer for several reasons, Allen said.

"The real reason above everything else is to help the Soldier," said Allen, who has deployed himself three times as a civilian. "Without exception, among volunteers that's been the top reason for going."

"But there are other reasons, too, that surface – they can make two to three times what they are making here in salary and it bet-

ter positions them for future promotions. They also gain a lot of experience that they wouldn't otherwise gain, and they learn about what the Army is all about. Everything they do there means something every day."

Moore is eager to experience working shoulder-to-shoulder with Soldiers and other servicemembers in Afghanistan.

"Actually being there, I will gain so much better appreciation for what goes on and will get a better understanding of the different missions involving AMCOM and AMC," Moore said. "I will get a chance to do my part to support Soldiers and my command."

See Deployment on page 5

An open lane random survey

What do you think of Bring Your Child to Work Day (April 24)?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@htimes.com

K.C. Bertling
Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space



"It is a great opportunity for children to see where their parents work and inspire them to serve in this same field in the future or something even better. They are our future generation so we should always have them involved in what we do and educate them on how we support the war fighters."

Bridget Moorefield
Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space
"I think it's a great thing because not only do the parents get the joy of showing their kids what they do but the kids might get the idea this is something they may can do in their future. They can see how exciting it was and whether they might want to do it in the future. So I think it's a good thing. Plus they get the feel of what the Army atmosphere is like."



Ralph Garrison
AMCOM G-6 (Corporate Information Office)



"I think it's a good program. It sort of introduces them to the real world things. And in a lot of cases it gives them an idea of what they'd like to do when they get out of school or college or whatever."

Jackie Garner Jr.
Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office

"I think it's a good idea to have your child see what you do for a living on an everyday basis. It gives them an opportunity to see for their future and maybe they'd like to do the same thing as their parents."



Commentary: Drinking + Driving = Dangerously Dumb

By Col. GARLAND H. WILLIAMS
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — During a recent church service, our chaplain asked us to pray for a Fort Belvoir family whose brother had come to visit. During the brother's stay, he was killed by a drunk driver.

The chaplain's call to prayer encouraged me to think about my own experiences with drunk drivers.

One of my resolutions for the new year is to not get hit again by drunk drivers. That seems an unusual resolution, sure, but my family was affected twice last year by drunk drivers.

In February 2007, a drunk driver leaving the officers club here hit my car which was parked in front of my house.

The driver was so drunk she didn't even know she'd hit anything. She actually tried to drive away. Everybody was lucky there were no injuries as a result of this accident, but that drunk driver caused \$7,000 damage to my car, damaged the axle on her car, and still skidded 75 feet — all in a 15 mph zone. All she could say to me as she was being handcuffed by the military police is "I'm sorry."

Two days after Christmas, my family and I decided to go out to eat for dinner. On our way to the restaurant, the car we traveled in was rear-ended by a drunk driver.

This time, the damage to my car took second place to the more important results of that accident. My family was in the car, and both my children were injured — each had a bad case of whiplash and one had a terrible headache from hitting the ceiling of the car.

The other driver — the drunk driver — blew a .34 on the breathalyzer test. And as with the last drunk driver I had encountered, all she could say to me as she was taken away in handcuffs by the police was "I'm sorry."

I'm sorry but, "I'm sorry" isn't good enough anymore.

This is my fifth command in 27 years of service and I can't tell you how many Article 15s and courts-martial I have been involved in with a charge of driving under the influence.

When are we going to wake up? If you think you can drink and then safely drive, you are wrong — dead wrong.

My heart goes out to the family our chaplain asked us to pray for, and I wish I could find that driver to tell him or her that "I'm sorry" isn't going to bring that gentleman back.

The bottom line is that drinking and driving is dangerous and a dumb idea — so don't do it.

Letter to the Editor

Parking safety a lot stronger

Public Works restriped the parking lot at Pagano Gym on April 19. Arriving this morning, April 20 at "0" dark 30, the parking places were easily identifiable and useable. Parking lot is a lot easier to use and safety increased during hours of darkness. Kudos to Public Works for the prompt action, nice job, compliments and thanks.

Lynn L. Boyer III
Retired

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

April 10: An individual was discovered operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.



April 15: An individual was stopped for speeding on Goss Road and found to have a warrant for burglary from Limestone County Sheriff's Department. The subject was arrested and later released to a Limestone County deputy after being issued a violation notice.

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

Violation notices issued: 33 speeding, 3 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 improper backing, 3 cell phone violation, 1 driving with no insurance.

Quote of the week

'Human beings are the only creatures that allow their children to come back home.'

— Bill Cosby

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@htimes.com

Name: Debbie Baugh

Job: Executive officer to the deputy commander of AMCOM

Where do you call home?
Meridianville

What do you like about your job?

Every day is different. And every day is a learning experience.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My children own my spare time (laugh). As a matter of fact, I have no spare time (laugh) and I'm being serious. I have three kids and they're all involved in activities. So as soon as I leave work it's getting them where they need to be. (The three children are daughter Christina, 10, son Brandon, 7, and daughter Catherine, 6.)

What are your goals?

To be able to support the command's missions and develop myself in meeting our future requirements, which is part of the developmental assignment I'm in right now. First priority as far as AMCOM's mission is supporting the war fighter. Speaking of that, I do have a sister who's serving in Iraq right now – Chief Warrant Officer 4 Stormy Ripley.

What's your favorite type of music?

Classical. As a matter of fact, I'm going to see the last concert of the Von Braun Classical 6 series this (past) weekend. So I'm excited. And I think I'm going to take my 10-year-old.



'Fan-tastic' promotion offers prizes for eating hot dogs

MWR program features trip to Yankee stadium

By MARGARET MCKENZIE

FMWRC Public Affairs

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Morale Welfare and Recreation patrons can win valuable prizes simply by eating hot dogs at participating MWR food and beverage facilities this summer.

Patrons who participate in the "Fan-tastic Summer" promotion may become eligible to win the grand prize of a trip for four to see the New York Yankees play in one of the last games in the old Yankees stadium in New York City. The trip includes four tickets behind home plate, airfare, lodging and \$2,500 spending money. Other prizes include his and hers customized Dream-Seat Leather Recliners featuring the winner's favorite team, a 36 inch flat screen television, a digital high-definition sports camcorder with 10X zoom, and a \$150 gift card to the Major League Base-

ball online store.

Sponsored by Hebrew National, the "Fan-tastic Summer" promotion features a frequency card program: buy six hot dogs and receive a hot dog free. When customers redeem their frequency cards for their free hot dog, they may enter their name into a sweepstakes drawing for a chance to win any of the "Fan-tastic" prizes.

The "Fan-tastic Summer" promotion replaces the "Dress the Dog" promotion, a similar program held last year in partnership with Hebrew National.

Last year a young Soldier was awarded the grand prize of a car, but opted to receive the cash equivalent instead.

The second-prize winner was Sonny Jones, a retired colonel who lives 200 miles from Keesler Air Force Base. "I decided to check into it and I am glad I did," Jones said. "I entered the promotion by sending for the entry form, which was mailed to me. It was well worth it."

Jones won a \$580 American

Express prepaid credit card.

"Having the other military services involved with the Fan-tastic Summer promotion creates a great opportunity for all military families to participate and win great prizes," said Kristen Kea, events planner for the Events Division of Business Programs. "MWR facilities that are participating get the opportunity to offer their customers a quality product and a chance to win prizes at the same time.

"I think that the grand prize is the biggest attraction," Kea said. "It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Yankees play in their old stadium — 'The House That Ruth Built' — by simply eating at MWR restaurants and snack bars.

"We are really excited to have both the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard facilities participate in the promotion again this summer," Kea said.

The promotion began April 1 and continues through July 31.

To learn more, log on to www.mwrpromotions.com.

Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- For a list of events held by IMMC, visit <http://imm-cweb.redstone.army.mil/aer/index.htm>.

- Coupon books are for sale from the ILS/Manprint Office, Integrated Materiel Management Center. The \$20 books have coupons from more than 60 businesses and restaurants in the Huntsville area. For more information and a complete list of coupons offered, call Cheryl Baker 842-3157, Ranny Vinson 842-8793 or Kim Sharp 876-8696.

- AMCOM G-6 is having a Krispy Kreme Coupon and Domino's Pizza Card Sale until the end of the campaign. If you don't need the coupons, you can purchase a card and donate them to AER where they will be distributed to Soldiers and their families. For information call Glenda Parker 876-6909, Luereen Phillips 876-6942 or Elaine Stoots 842-2494.

- A Silent Auction for two baskets of items for baby is conducted by the Depot Maintenance Division and Transportation Division, IMMC. Bidding closes on May 28. For information contact Lynn Moore at lynn.moore@conus.army.mil.

- The annual ASGE AER Shirt Sale continues through May 8 at building 5419. Orders are being taken for T-shirts, polo, denim and twill shirts and blouses. Several design logos are available. For information call Sharon Dudley 876-4565, Tina Gardner 876-1225 or Kristie McClure 842-8791.

- AMRDEC is selling patriotic lapel pins, lanyards and candy bars until May 27 at building 5400, room A-260. Call Jan Martin 842-0691.

- IMMC's Depot Maintenance Division offers personalized items for sale. These include decorative pillows, T-shirts, glasses and towels and "would be perfect gifts for Mother's Day," a prepared release said. Orders will be taken through May 1. For photographs and more information, e-mail Lynn Moore at lynn.moore@conus.army.mil.

- Command Analysis Directorate, G-3 annual Book Sale continues through May 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sparkman Center building 5300, first floor corridor between buildings 5303 and 5304. If you have items to donate (books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape), call Brian Barry 876-8563 to arrange for delivery and pickup.

- A turkey sandwich and pizza lunch, sponsored by SMDC, is today at 11 a.m. Call Sarah Trial 955-3352.

- A cookout, with host AMRDEC, is today at 10 at the south entrance to building 5400. There will be hot dogs, polish sausage, chips and drinks. Ernie Hazzard is the cook. For more information, call Dimeccia Blake 313-5016 or Sandy McCravy 876-4334. Sonic cards will also be available for \$5 each.

- AMRDEC Engineering Directorate will hold its annual Golf Scramble on Thursday at the Links at Redstone. This four-person scramble has an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Call Chris Farmer 313-6553 or Carolyn Farmer 876-3810.

- IMMC, Fleet Management Branch will hold a Hot Dog Sale on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Sparkman Center building 5302 parking lot. For information call Kay O'Brien 842-8614.

- A picnic, sponsored by Aviation Engineering Directorate, AMRDEC, is Thursday at the NASA Picnic Area. Cost is \$13. Call Vonnie Shelton 313-9089.

- A bake sale, sponsored by AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate, is April 28 from 6:30-9 a.m. at building 5400 lobby. For information call Paul Sieja 842-9408.

- Lunch on the Grounds, sponsored by Redstone Technical Test Center, is April 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 8716. Rain date is May 1. Lunch tickets must be purchased by today. For more information, call Sherry Hiley 842-6715, Brittany Consuegra 876-9141 or MariaLuz Garretson 876-2546.



BAKE SALE— Participants in an AER bake sale April 15 at the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space include, from left, Deanie Blankinchip of Joint Attack Munitions System Project Office, Stella Green of contractor Phoenix Service, and K.C. Bertling of PEO headquarters.

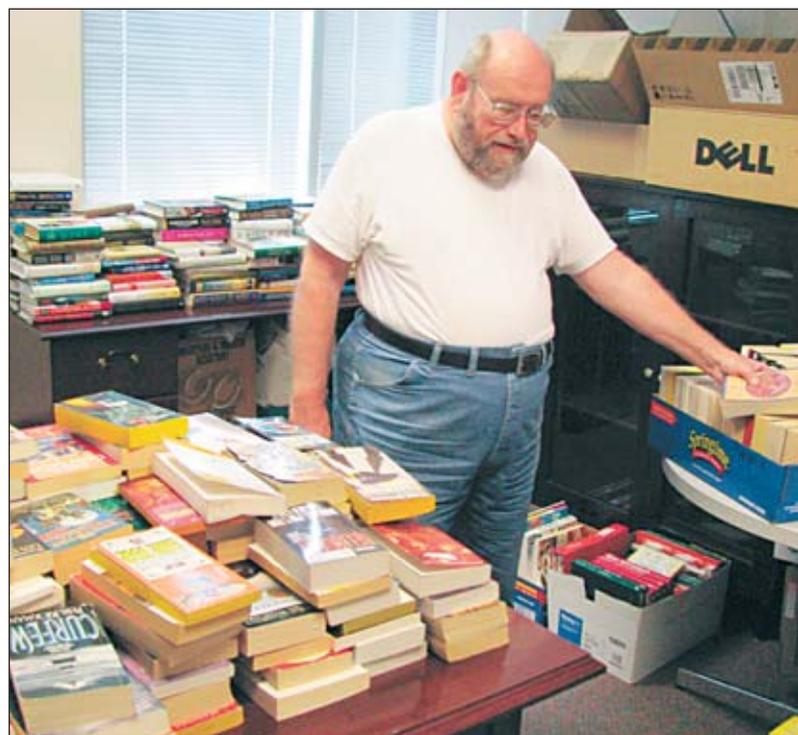
Photo by Skip Vaughn

- The third annual Disc Golf Tournament, sponsored by AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate, is May 1 at 2 p.m. at Redstone's Disc Golf Course. Registration deadline is April 29. For information call Paul Sieja 842-9408 or Eric Atkins 842-8404.

- Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity is having a full day of fund-raisers May 1 at building 5435. Activities include a bake sale at 7 a.m., silent auction from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., hot dog lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and VIP car wash from noon to 3 p.m. For information call Mary Ann Brown 876-3638.

- Apache Contracts Office will have its second annual "Hog Wild." Order your whole smoked pork butts – approximately six pounds after cooking – by May 5 for delivery May 15. Cost is \$30. For information call Jeff Fowler 313-4121 or Colin Warman 313-4113.

- AER 2008 Spring Fling, sponsored by AMCOM Acquisition Center, is May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 5309 parking lot. Events include a cookout, dessert tasting contest, ice cream sundaes, rummage sale and more. For information call Doris Townsel 876-4165.



BOOKS APLENTY— Operations research analyst Brian Barry leads the annual Book Sale sponsored by AMCOM's Command Analysis Directorate, G-3, which continues through May 2 at the Sparkman Center.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Fund-raisers

continued from page 4

- A bowling tournament, sponsored by AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate, is May 7 from noon to 4 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. Registration is \$40 per team. Teams must register by May 2. Call Jarius Palmer 842-7328 or LaShonda Washington 876-5992.
- A Fun Run/Walk, sponsored by Program Executive Office for Aviation, is May 8 at 10 a.m. around buildings 5687 to 5681. Tickets are \$5. Call Janet Dickerson 313-4496.
- A rummage sale, held by members of Depot Maintenance Division, IMMC, is May 8 at building 5300, room 5140. They're looking for items you have that are in good condition that you would like to donate for the sale. For information e-mail Lynn Moore lynn.moore@conus.army.mil or Nina Cox tank.cox@conus.army.mil.

• A barbecue cookout, held by Lower Tier Project Office, is May 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 106 Wynn Drive. Call Roosevelt Pitts Jr. 313-1068.

• A car wash, sponsored by PD-SSM, AMRDEC, is May 16 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the AAFES Tire Center. Hot dogs and drinks will be available. For information call Dimeccia Blake 313-5016.

• A barbecue cookout, sponsored by the Depot Maintenance Division and Transportation Division, is May 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside building 5302. For more information call Deborah Asberry 842-6026, Rickey Dorsett 876-1157 or Aubrey Fencher 876-4009.

• A 4-Man Scramble Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Acquisition Center, is May 29 at 9 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. Team registration ends May 23. For information call Chris Campbell 876-3448 or James Minnon 876-5383.



Photo by Merv Brokke/AMRDEC

BENEFIT JAIL— Ashley Williams, left, and Tiffani Paige, employees in the Quality Management Division of the Engineering Directorate, participate in “Jailopoly,” an Engineering Directorate Army Emergency Relief fund-raiser in April. For \$5 employees can send someone to “jail” for five minutes. However, there is hope for those who are sent to jail — bail can be purchased for \$10 and “Get Out of Jail Free Cards” can be purchased for \$20.

War volunteer will miss family, friends and his trumpet

Deployment

continued from page 1

Although Moore had considered volunteering for deployment several times, family and future considerations made 2008 the year for volunteering. It's an opportunity for Moore to use the experience for future career advancements and to enhance his finances for future retirement.

“My wife took an early-out retirement because she is dealing with some medical issues,” Moore said. “So, I was thinking about our future and I saw this as a good way to posture myself for possible promotions and for a better retirement.”

“It's also a chance to do something different. I've been working in manpower for 23 years. So, assisting with Personnel in Afghanistan will be a new experience for me. It will be so different from my current workload that I can't help but learn something different. It's also a chance for me to experience what it's like to work close with the military.”

Moore came to AMCOM (known then as MICOM) in 1984 as an intern. His career has progressed over the years, and he became a team leader about one and a

half years ago in the Force Development Management Division of Resource Management.

“I'm the point of contact for military and civilian manpower spaces on the authorization side of the house,” Moore said.

Allen said that, before a civilian volunteers, they should get approval from their supervisor and discuss a deployment with their family.

“Civilians should make sure that before they put their resume forward that they are ready to go,” Allen said. “We don't want them to leave loose ends or a disgruntled manager.”

“Once they volunteer, we send their resume to the Army Sustainment Command to fill posts for the Army Materiel Command to support commanders. They may or may not be doing the kind of work that they do here at Redstone Arsenal. It depends on what the need is there.”

Before being deployed, civilians must complete a lot of paperwork, including a will, power of attorney and passport. The civilian must also pass a physical and complete online training. Usually those requirements can be completed within a month.

Moore hopes the work he has done as a volunteer overseas will help prepare him

for his deployment. He traveled to Belize, Central America, twice with a church group, working for a week to provide medical help to the country's natives. And he has worked as a volunteer with the Madison County Rescue Squad.

Moore's wife, Debbie, has agreed to the deployment, although as it gets closer she does have some apprehensions.

“My wife is surrounded by family in Decatur,” he said. “That will make it easier for her. Hopefully, I'll figure out how to e-mail from Afghanistan and I'll remember the 10-hour difference when I make phone calls. I want to be careful so I don't call in the middle of the night.”

Besides his wife, Moore will also miss his two sons, who are students at the University of Central Florida.

Besides his family, friends and work environment, Moore said he will also miss his trumpet and teaching young people in private trumpet lessons on Saturdays.

“I've been teaching lessons for 20 years,” he said. “I used to be a band director and music teacher. So, this is a far cry from what my passion is. I won't be able to take my trumpet with me. But I will be working 12 hours a day, seven days a week, so I probably won't have a chance to miss it that much.”

Among the family gatherings he will miss during his deployment will be his birthday in May. But, Moore expects he

will celebrate early, and hopes to receive an Ipod filled with music as a gift to take with him overseas. And he plans to be home in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Moore expects the weather in Afghanistan will be a difficult factor to adjust to as temperatures will soar to upwards of 120 degrees and winds can get as high as 110 miles an hour during the season he is deployed.

“I guess I probably will have sand in everything,” he said.

Allen does talk to civilian volunteers about all aspects of the deployment, including living conditions, weather and security.

“We tell them you are as secure as possible in that environment,” he said. “But there will always be the unknown and you will be exposed to danger because it is a dangerous place.”

“But you will be compensated in a lot of ways for that, including in pay. I have not seen a disappointed employee come back from a civilian deployment. It is rewarding and life changing in many ways.”

Editor's note: If you are a DoD civilian interested in deploying, call Allen at 876-1106 or Carl Washington, 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Redstone pays tribute to 'unique citizen Soldier'

Col. Scott recognized at memorial ceremony

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

In a solemn and patriotic ceremony that included a reading of Psalm 23 along with a last roll call, firing of volleys and performance of "Taps," Redstone Arsenal said farewell Thursday to one of its most highly regarded civilian Soldiers.

Described as a "dedicated member of the Redstone community" and a "unique citizen Soldier," Col. Stephen Scott was remembered by friends, co-workers and Soldiers during a memorial ceremony in Bob Jones Auditorium. Soldiers from the Army, Reserves and Alabama Army National Guard participated.

Honoring Scott as a "fallen brother in the Army and a friend," Col. John Wright of the Development and Engineering Command at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center said he was "a DA civilian and military officer nearing retirement in both careers when he volunteered for a second tour in Iraq."

Scott, an avid runner who had plans to return to his home in New Market upon completion of his tour, was exercising on a treadmill when he was killed in the Green Zone in Baghdad on April 6 during a mortar attack on a U.S. military facility. The 54-year-old Reserve Soldier and DoD civilian deployed to Iraq with the 356th Quartermaster



Photo by Kari Hawkins

HONORING FALLEN SOLDIER— The military photograph of Col. Stephen Scott is posted near the traditional symbols of a fallen Soldier during a memorial ceremony in his honor Thursday in Bob Jones Auditorium. Scott was killed in Baghdad on April 6 during a mortar attack on a U.S. military facility.

Battalion of Laurel, Miss., and was working to train and equip the Iraqi army as a member of the Security Assistance Office in support of the Multi-National Security Transition Team. He is the ninth colonel and one of the highest ranking officers killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In an interview with national media in February, Scott

described Iraqis and Iraqi soldiers as "brothers" anxious to embrace the U.S. Army's procedures, doctrine, training and leadership.

"I'm 100 percent behind what we're doing," Scott said in the interview. "They're on track. They're on schedule. Their hearts are in the right places. They're grooming and growing

their own NCOs and officers and leaders to take charge – to take charge of Iraq. And I'm very pleased and excited about what the near-term future brings for this society ... They have embraced us and we embrace them both because we have a mutual interest, here, you know. And it is going way far better than I ever expected."

Scott began his 35-year military career when he enlisted in the Army in 1973. After two years of service, he joined the Reserves and began a civilian DoD career that included key roles in the early development of the Apache and Black Hawk helicopters, assisting with the establishment of a technology corridor that includes Redstone Arsenal, Fort Rucker and Eglin Air Force Base, and serving as program integrator in the AMRDEC's Advanced Science and Technology Directorate.

During his Reserve career, Scott led Soldiers at the detachment, company and battalion levels; attended the Quartermaster basic and advanced courses, Command and General Staff College, Psychological Operations Officer's Course and the Army War College, Defense Strategy Course; and earned the Army's Air Assault, Airborne and Pathfinder badges. He earned numerous awards and medals, including a Humanitarian Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Scott was also a supporter of wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and local wounded warrior programs.

Whether during his time as a Reserve officer or in his civilian career, Scott was always a "professional officer dedicated to Soldiers ... who was in his element whenever he could help his Soldiers," Wright said.

Scott always approached challenges with "that big old smile common to those who

See Tribute on page 7

Training designed to put supervisors on right course

Today's civilian work force under variety of systems

The Redstone civilian work force is under a variety of personnel systems. Some are in the new National Security Personnel System. Others are still under the General Service system. And others are under a lab demo.

Human Resources officials are gearing their monthly training for new supervisors to address this diversity.

Twenty-five people attended a course in HR for National Security Personnel System Supervisors last week in the electronic meeting systems room at the Sparkman Center.

"This course is designed for supervisors who are themselves NSPS and also they supervise employees that are NSPS," course manager Syleria Jarmon, a human resources specialist, said. The assistant course manager is Jessie McCray, also a human resources specialist.

Next month they'll offer a Legacy course, which will include supervisors of GS employees. And the following month will



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NEW SUPERVISORS— Jackie Bennett, chief of the management employee relations and labor and sustainment division of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, gives an introduction April 14 to the week-long course in Human Resources for National Security Personnel System Supervisors.

bring a course for supervisors under the lab demo personnel system.

Biological defense pact increases depot's workload

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Letterkenny commander Col. Steven Shapiro and Air Force Col. Daniel Berry, joint project manager for biological defense, signed a memorandum of agreement April 15.

Maj. Gen. Stephen Reeves, the joint program executive officer for chemical and biological defense, witnessed the ceremony.

In 2001, Letterkenny Army Depot and Edgewood Chemical Biological Center signed a memorandum of understanding for the production of 41 M31A1 Biological Integrated Detection Systems. The success of that effort led the Joint Product Manager for Biological Defense to fund Letterkenny to produce and modify 77 M31E2 shelters in fiscal '04 and another 74 shelters in fiscal '05. Since then, Letterkenny has modified an additional 63 shelters in fiscal '06 and 150 in fiscal '07.

Based on a November 2007 Make or Buy Analysis, this agreement effectively transfers

all remaining M31E2 BIDS assembly work performed by JPM-BD to Letterkenny. This new workload is expected to result in 5-6 new jobs and increases workload from \$8.7 million in fiscal '07 to \$69 million in fiscal '09.

Shapiro gave credit to the depot's work force during this ceremony.

"When you produce a quality product on time and on schedule, it is recognized," he said. "Your hard work on BIDS these past few years has resulted in more work coming to Letterkenny."

As directed by JPM-BD, Letterkenny will provide manufacturing and material handling/storage expertise to assist in the production, fielding, sustainment (and potential retirement) of BIDS, as directed by JPM-BD.

Letterkenny will begin performance of acceptance testing, and all remaining BIDS assembly and production verification test responsibilities currently performed by JPM-BD, by Sept. 30. *(Letterkenny release)*

■ Remembrance salutes colonel killed in Iraq

Tribute

continued from page 6

knew him," recalled fellow officer Lt. Col. Scott Reed.

Scott was often outspoken about getting the best training possible for his Soldiers. Reed recalled one training class when Scott rewarded his best students by helping them get into airborne school. When those students graduated, Scott jumped with them as their "wind dummy."

"He jumped first as a solo Soldier," Reed said. "He was used to gauge wind speed and drift to see the effect it would have on the other Soldiers. He was so proud of the Soldiers who graduated that day and so happy with what he was doing. He was an inspiration."

Reed and Scott were running buddies and friends.

"I shared every major event in life with him," Reed said. "I took comfort and wisdom from his words. I really valued Col. Scott's perspective. He had a gift of knowing the words to say in every situation. I guess that's why so many people called Col. Scott a friend."

Scott's life touched many others, said longtime friend Al Reed, who began his military and civilian careers with Scott in St. Louis 33 years ago, where they worked for the Aviation Systems Command. They both transferred to Redstone Arsenal during the BRAC move in 1997.

Serving in the Reserves and working as civilians gave both men "a balance," Al Reed said.

"We were able to take care of aviators on the civilian side and on the military side we took care of Soldiers," the retired warrant officer said.

"I lost track of the number of tours, the number of schools, the number of things he did all for the benefit of his service to the Army ... He was a man whose life had many faces. He had a passion for people. From the homeless guy downtown who needed counseling to the four-star generals in the Pentagon, he just clicked."

During his first tour in Iraq, Scott



Photo by Kari Hawkins

THOUGHTS OF FRIEND— Lt. Col. Scott Reed, who works at Redstone Arsenal in G-3 Current Operations, shares thoughts about his friendship with Col. Stephen Scott, who was killed in Baghdad on April 6.

assisted with the establishment of Camp Victory. When he returned, he worked at the Pentagon for Joint Rapid Acquisition and then volunteered for a second tour.

"I retired three months ago from my civilian job," Al Reed said. "But, Col. Scott was back in Iraq. Then, God reached down and was ready to pull him in."

Al Reed, who just returned from Scott's funeral in St. Louis, said Scott's family is doing well and that the military honors he received have been a comfort to his sister Kathleen, brother Mark, daughters Rebekah and Rachel, and three grandchildren.

Patriot Guard Riders, and police and fire departments participated in the funeral procession. "They blocked the interstate in St. Louis, which is unheard of and Steve would have just loved it," he said.

Another of Scott's longtime friends, Danny Gullledge, who attended the memorial ceremony, said Scott "led the way. We were all good, but Steve was better. And he'd tell everyone that freedom ain't free."

A memorial service for Scott is scheduled Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at Flint River Baptist Church in Hazel Green.

Administrative professional not just a job but career



XPhoto by Skip Vaughn

PROCLAMATION SIGNING— Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles signs a proclamation for Administrative Professionals Week, April 20-26, and Administrative Professionals Day, April 23. Looking on are seated Amanda Medley, left, president of Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals; and president-elect Hillary Clay. Standing from left are IAAP members Cvelyne McCaulley, Alphadella McCrae, Jackie Kenner, Arnita Lee and Ellen Mahathey, certified professional secretary.

This week special for admin pros

Surveys have shown that two of the most significant job challenges faced by administrative professionals are dealing with difficult people and balancing home and career.

Oftentimes people and situations can be stressful, frustrating and overwhelming, says, Connie Podesta, a leading international speaker. Communicating effectively and reacting appropriately during these times can impact the things that we want most in both our personal and professional lives.

Administrative Professionals Week was originally organized in 1952 as “National Secretaries Week” by the National Secretaries Association (now known as the International Association of Administrative Professionals) in conjunction with public relations executive Harry Klemfuss and a consortium of office product manufacturers.

National Professional Secretaries Week and National Secretary’s Day was created to recognize the importance and value of the secretary position to a company or business. The goal was to encourage more women to become secretaries. It was established as an effort to recognize secretaries for their contributions in the workplace, and to attract people to secretarial/administrative careers. Using his skill and experience in public relations, Klemfuss promoted the values and importance of the job of secretaries. In doing so, he also created the holiday in recognition of the importance of secretaries.

Today, the title is changing and evolving. But the recognition is equally important. There are two new terms in use today. They are “Administrative Professionals” and “Executive Admins.” The two names sometimes mean different roles and responsibilities to different companies. Both are broader terms that encompass more positions than the origi-

nal “secretary” role.

The name change recognizes and acknowledges that the role has changed significantly since 1952, and for the better at that. And in Klemfuss’ day, these positions were the realm of women. Today, you find some males in these positions.

In 2000, IAAP announced a name change for Professional Secretaries Week and Professional Secretaries Day. The names were changed to Administrative Professionals Week (April 20-26) and Administrative Professionals Day (April 23) to keep pace with changing job titles and expanding responsibilities of today’s administrative work force. (IAAP release)



Photo by June Pockrus, CPS

ANNUAL AWARD— Ellen Mahathey, left, certified professional secretary, is named 2008 Administrative Professional of the Year for the Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals. Cvelyne McCaulley, right, is the runner-up. Making the award presentation April 16 is chapter president Amanda Medley.



Photo by Col. James Rentz

Winning picture

Logistics Support Activity commander Col. James Rentz won honorable mention in the 2007 Army Digital Photo Contest for this picture of his godson, Barrington Edward Adams, now 2. Barrington was 1 when this picture, titled "A Cold Winter Day," was taken in Manley, Iowa.

Soldier strummers plan show for comrades

Hickabillies band began in war zone

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
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During a deployment, Soldiers do what they can to help the time pass. DVDs, board games and books are popular ways to decompress and while away the hours. Dave Parker, Emory Altman and Wilson Guyton found their own way and they're taking it on the road. Their band, The Hickabillies, will be playing for Soldiers on Redstone this weekend.

The guys met during deployment to Forward Operating Base Caldwell Iraq in the summer of 2004, Altman said. While all of them were members of the 30th Brigade Combat team, 1st Infantry Division, they actually met at the chapel.

"When you are in a combat zone you go to church whenever you can," Altman said.

They formed a band to try to raise morale among Soldiers at the base after the brigade sergeant major asked Altman to try to put some sort of show together. That is how a chaplain's assistant, military policeman and a field mechanic became The Hickabillies. The name is a homage to their military roots.

"Our patch is called 'OLD HICKORY' and our general was Danny Hickman," Altman said. "So we morphed the two. Our first show was called the 'hickory hayride.' It's stuck."

They wrote parody songs about life as a Soldier in Iraq, using popular songs as their basis. They spent their days taking care of their military duties and practiced at night whenever they could get together. By the time for the July 4 show, they had three songs ready. They were a hit. The Hickabillies went on to do 10 shows in



Courtesy photo

ON STAGE— From left, Dave Parker, Emory Altman and Wilson Guyton of The Hickabillies play their own brand of music.

Iraq over the next five months.

"We played all over Iraq — Tikrit, Jalula. If I told you the other sites, I would have to kill you," Altman quipped. "The very last show was a Christmas show in front of 500 troops. That show lasted four hours, with no breaks between sets."

During that summer and fall, the number and members of the band fluctuated. Depending on who was available, they had anywhere from three to seven members. They have returned home since then, but have kept playing together. They have shared the stage with some big names as well.

"We played the North Carolina State Fair, opened for Charlie Daniels, Hootie and the Blowfish, and Jason Michael Carroll," Altman said. "(We also play) Wal-Mart parking lots, Circle K's and coming soon to a yard sale near you."

Regardless of where they play or who for, Soldiers are always their favorite audience.

"Soldiers were our very first audience. They will get all of our song parodies too; Soldiers have been there done that," Altman said. "I will never forget a show at FOB Cobra, a small FOB. Maybe 80 troops crammed into the mess hall. We cut up a lot, had 'em rolling in the aisles as they say. Then we sang 'Letters From Home' the tears on everyone's faces, I will never forget. The smiles and laughter helped all of us in the band as much or more than we ever helped other troops."

Altman and Guyton have left military service since returning home. Parker remains an active duty sergeant. They have also expanded their song list to include some cover songs and original material. Altman describes their music as "Hee Haw on Acid, Modern Country, old little bit banjo."

They will be playing two shows in Huntsville this week. Friday night at 9 they will be at The Sports Page. Saturday night they will play a special show at the

Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 on the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads, for Initial Entry Training Soldiers. Admission for the show, from 7-10 p.m., is \$10. Brian Marbre, center assistant manager, is excited about the show.

"We wanted to open up the doors and do something for the troops," Marbre said. "It allows them to have some entertainment in a safe environment at a low cost."

He and staff member Mike Ackerman had discussed possibly hosting a live concert at the center on a regular basis. Ackerman had already begun the legwork when AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs specialist Sharee Miller approached Marbre with information about The Hickabillies. Marbre thought it would be the perfect kickoff show.

"We want to keep this going," he said. The band is also fired up about the show. In honor of their audience, they are dusting off their parodies.

"We are going to break out the 'IRAQI SONG BOOK.' Some of these songs haven't been sung since the boots left the sand," Altman said. "Civilians may not get it."

Behind his easy jokes, though, Altman said the band feels a personal connection to the fellow green suits in the seats.

"We are all brothers in arms. Cheesy, huh?" he said. "Nothing like seeing someone laugh or smile because of what we do on stage, especially Soldiers."

Anyone who might forget their military connection or band history is reminded by the admonishment that accompanies their flyers and stage show.

"Please no loud or sudden noises during the show, we are still a little jumpy. The band will stop playing, duck and cover," Altman said laughing. "We aren't the band who played on the Titanic!"

For more information on The Hickabillies or to listen to music samples, visit their page at www.myspace.com/hickabillies.

Army announces newest captain incentives

WASHINGTON— In an effort to encourage more mid-grade officers to remain in the Army, the Department of the Army is again offering a menu of incentives for certain active component captains, through Nov. 30 with options for a cash bonus, attendance at graduate school, or the Defense Language Institute.

"The Army recognizes the tremendous experience and professionalism of the captains serving in our Army today. This program is an effort to retain these great officers as the Army transforms and grows. We need to retain these quality officers and this program is being executed to do just that," said Col. Brian Baldy, director of the Officer Personnel Management

Directorate, Human Resources Command.

The menu of incentives being offered this year is essentially the same as last year's program, with minor changes. First, active component category officers and select Medical Service Corps and Army Nurse Corps officers in basic year group 2005 will now be eligible to participate. Qualifying officers in year groups 1999 through 2004 who did not participate in the first program will still remain eligible. Second, the branch of choice, post of choice and Ranger school options will not be offered.

Options available this year are as follows:

- The cash option, payable in the same \$25,000, \$30,000 or

\$35,000 tiers based on the officer's accessed branch;

- The Expanded Graduate School Program option, which is fully funded graduate school; or

- The Defense Language School option, based upon a pre-Defense Language Aptitude Battery score.

An eligible officer will only be able to select one option in exchange for a three year non-concurrent active duty service obligation if accepting the cash option, or a 3:1 active duty service obligation in the case of accepting the expanded graduate school program or attendance at the Defense Language Institute. Human Resources Command estimates that approximately 8,400 officers will be eligible to participate in

this year's program.

Officers must be in the rank of captain in order to participate. Promotable first lieutenants must wait and submit upon promotion to captain. Certain officers in year groups 1999 through 2001 who will become promotable to major during this time frame must submit their request prior to their effective date of promotion.

Sixty-seven percent — 12,000 of 17,700 eligible captains — participated in the menu of incentives program offered in November 2007. Several hundred officers from that same population who did not participate also expressed an interest in the incentives after the window closed. Of those offi-

cers who did participate in the last menu of incentives program, 94 percent of those 12,000 chose the Critical Skills Retention Bonus. Three percent chose the opportunity to change branches, and the remaining 3 percent elected to take the graduate school, post of choice or military schooling options.

If the MILPER message does not answer all of an officer's questions, additional questions can be addressed to one's branch manager at HRC. Alternate means are to e-mail HRC directly at OPM-DRetention@conus.army.mil or visit HRC's web site located at https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/project/Active/opfamdd/LDD_Home.htm. (Army Human Resources Command release)

Anton family nominated for national volunteer award

AUSA to honor winner during annual meeting

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association for the U.S. Army has nominated the Anton family for the AUSA Rubbermaid-Irwin Family of the Year 2008 Award.

Dale and Kim Anton have devoted many hours to the support of the Redstone military community, as evidenced by their commitment to the health, well-being, and demonstration of appreciation for many of the troops and their families over the years. Dale, a logistics engineer with DRS Test & Energy Management, has worked at Redstone Arsenal as a defense contractor for 11 years.

"It's kind of embarrassing to think that just doing the right thing is enough to get you recognition for something like this," Dale said.

Kim has been an active volunteer on Redstone Arsenal for the past five years. She began her volunteer service for the Redstone community with the American Red Cross, volunteering at Fox Army Health Center in the Physical Therapy and Optometry Clinics. While volunteering at Fox, Kim assisted active duty, reserve and retired patients as well as their family members with appointment scheduling and helped moving between clinics. She often volunteered to work on her off days if the clinics expected more patients than normal due to deployment screenings or retiree support days. She assisted the staff by performing receptionist and clerk tasks as needed as well as preparing treatment rooms between patients.

"I was very surprised (at this recognition)," Kim said. "But I think it's a great honor to be nominated."

Her desire to care for and serve Soldiers and their families was recognized by the Fox Army Health Center command and her immediate supervisors with a certificate of recognition. Kim recorded more than 1,360 hours of service to the Redstone community while volunteering at Fox.

Kim is the volunteer program manager of the Army Community Service volunteer program. She has served in this position



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SERVING COUPLE— Kim and Dale Anton are the local AUSA chapter's nominees for the AUSA Rubbermaid-Irwin Family of the Year 2008 Award.

for the past one and a half years. Prior to accepting this position, she was a volunteer front desk receptionist for ACS.

As volunteer program manag-

er, Kim is responsible to the ACS director and the Redstone community for the successful administration of the ACS volunteer program. She oversees day-to-

day operation including the recruitment, orientation and assignment of ACS volunteers of one of the most successful ACS offices in the Army. Kim has given more than 1,580 hours of service to the Redstone community through ACS.

Prior to volunteering on Redstone Arsenal, Kim was a volunteer front desk receptionist at a not-for-profit radio station in Huntsville. She also serves as a nursery worker at her church and has on her own taken on the task of ensuring that all nursery linens and blankets are laundered and maintained.

Dale works for DRS Test & Energy Management where he proposed and helped organize DRS TEM's first ever Future Soldier Event. He worked closely with the Huntsville Army Recruiting Company commander to ensure this event helped the Army recruiters with their recruiting efforts and that the future Soldiers were given a chance to see some of the high tech equipment they may have a chance to work with during their enlistment. The event also

involved the military veterans of DRS TEM as escorts for the future Soldiers.

He has been the DRS TEM fund-raising coordinator for United Cerebral Palsy of North Alabama for nine of the past 10 years, resulting in employee donations in excess of \$15,000.

"My hope is that other people will see this (award nomination) and say I can do that," he said of his volunteer work.

Dale is a servant leader at Hope Church where he has served as chairman of the deacon board for the past three years. He serves as a deacon and book-keeper responsible for payroll and ensuring that ministry teams are funded and enabled to care for the physical needs of members of the church and the surrounding neighborhoods. He is responsible for administering the church budget and benevolence programs as well as leading a small group Bible study.

He helped Sunday school classes and small groups within Hope Church connect with and

See Award on page 13

Bring your child to work again

Thursday's event invites ages 5-up

Thursday's third annual Bring Your Child to Work Day is now a Team Redstone event. It will be held at the parade field and Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705 adjacent to Patton Road and Aerobee. The age limit has been lowered to 5 and up. Parents must supervise their children at all times.

All participants must be registered to attend this event. Registration must be done from inside the Redstone Intranet at the following web site: https://redstoneappsrv1.redstone.army.mil/bctw/bctwdba.bctw_home.

All events this year are centralized at the parade field and adjacent gym. On site (late) registration starts at 7 a.m. with a short opening ceremony at 8. Demonstrations start at 8:30 and run to noon at both locations. Static equipment displays will be on site from 8 until 2. Participants are advised to bring umbrellas, raincoats or ponchos in case it starts raining during the event. Seating will be limited, and participants should bring folding chairs. The event will be canceled in case of severe weather.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CLOSE LOOK— Jeffrey English, now 8, gets a good view of the Pacbot robot during a demonstration at the Redstone Fitness Center for last year's Bring Your Child to Work Day. He is the son of Bill English, assistant product manager for Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile in the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office.

Army Emergency Relief fund-raiser booths will provide refreshments.

The formal program ends at noon. Parents/children will go to lunch and workplaces after that (or parent can take child

home). Various organizations may plan to have something in the afternoon specific to their employees.

Volunteers are needed to support this event, either for short periods or all day. Volunteers will be needed for setup, event support, or teardown/cleanup. All volunteers will wear red shirts during the event for identification purposes. Please contact your organization representative or event director listed on the web site.

For more information, visit the aforementioned Intranet site. If you would like to show your child information about the event, you can view it at home on the Internet site at <http://www.bctw.redstone.army.mil>.

Expected demonstrations include military working dog, military robotics, fire department, FBI Hazardous Devices School, CPR/first aid, nature trail/environmental services, TOW II BCS trainer, Javelin BCS trainer, America's Army training simulator, and Air Warrior.

Static equipment displays include UH-60/CH-47 helicopters, Bradley Armored Vehicle, LAV armored vehicle, Avenger system, Multiple Launch Rocket System, HIMARS system, EOD van, Humvee-TOW, and SLAMRAAM.

Research center technology among world's best

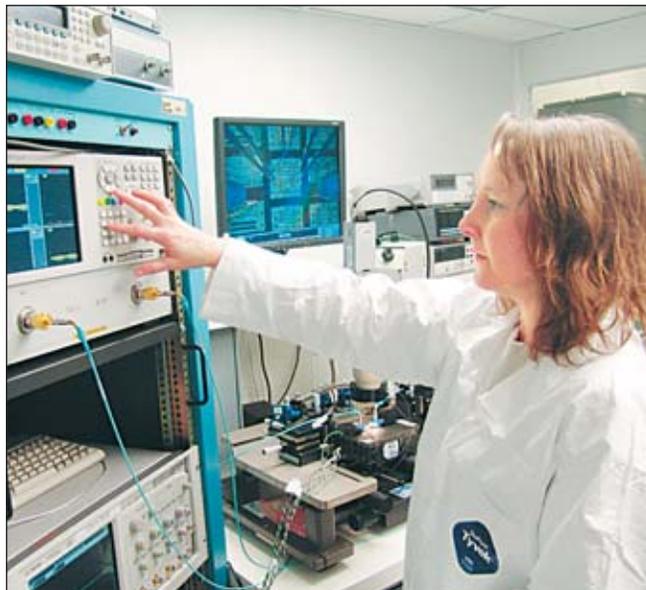
Phased array advances cited at 2008 showcase

Technology developed at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center has been selected as the winner for the Army at the 2008 DoD TechMatch Hot Technologies Contest.

The award was presented during this year's World's Best Technologies Showcase on March 26-27 in Arlington, Texas.

The winning technology aimed at developing Micro-ElectroMechanical Systems-based or alternative low-cost phased arrays for tactical seekers.

Over the past five years, AMRDEC researchers — James Mullins, supervisor general engineer; Dr. Paul Ruffin, senior research scientist; Janice Rock, electronics engineer, RF Technology Division, ASGE; and Dr. Tracy Hudson, senior MEMS research engineer, Weapon Sciences — have made many technological



Courtesy photo

LAB WORK— Janice Rock, an electronics engineer in Radio Frequency Technology Division, Applied Sensors, Guidance and Electronics Directorate, observes and makes adjustments on some of the millimeter wave testing and evaluation equipment within her laboratory.

advances in the field. These included development of higher power and lower loss components and the potential elimination of gimbal elec-

tronics in missile seekers and higher performance seeker systems.

Specifically, the gimbal is a large, cumbersome, costly

mechanical structure used to point the seeker (antenna) to direct radiation at an advantageous location. By steering the radiation pattern using electronic means, it is possible to achieve near instantaneous beam reposition, selective beam pointing and multiple target track.

The many applications of this technology include communication and radar arrays that require direct and directional radiation. Additionally, there is a great potential for improved lethality and reliability without cost increase, increased target search speed, and increased reliability and performance of communication links.

DoD TechMatch is a web-based portal that gives industry and academia access to research and development opportunities, licensable patents, and information on approximately 120 Navy, Army, and Air Force laboratories in the United States, which make many of their facilities available to private companies for research and testing. (AMRDEC release)

■ Association chapter recognizes Anton couple

Award

continued from page 12

adopt individual deployed Soldiers and their families. This program has assisted many families through difficult times due to deployment of a family member. The Antons have been actively involved with one such Huntsville family.

Dale and Kim have ridden with the Patriot Guard Riders of North Alabama, using vacation and personal time to provide honor at the deployment and return of troops and providing escort and flag lines for fallen veterans of current and past service.

The Association of the U.S. Army's Family Programs Directorate invites nominations for the 2008 AUSA Newell Rubbermaid Volunteer Family of the Year Award to recognize the vital role volunteers and families play in the life of military communities. The award will be presented Oct. 6 at the opening ceremony of the association's annual meeting (Oct. 6-8) at the Washington Convention Center. The winning family will receive a trip to Washington, D.C. for the annual meeting, a cash prize and a gift basket courtesy of Rubbermaid, AUSA and GEICO. Two runner-up families will also be selected and each will receive a savings bond and gift basket. All nominated families will receive an association coin and certificate.

Editor's note: This article was adapted from a Redstone-Huntsville Chapter AUSA release.

Alabama A&M student gets start toward career

On trainee program at research center

By MERV BROKKE
AMRDEC Public Affairs

In 2005, Gabrielle Kelly was looking for work through the Alabama's Career Center System, State Employment Service. As a result of her dedication, professional work ethic, and spirit she has discovered a new career field, refocused her sights on the future, and helped many of her fellow students along their own career path.

Almost three years ago and fresh out of J.O. Johnson High, Kelly was eager to find employment but not really looking for a career. However, her situation changed soon after being hired by the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"I began working at Redstone Arsenal in the summer of 2005 before I began my freshman year in college. I was hired under the Summer Hire Program working as a clerk at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, in the Human Resources Division," Kelly said.

Hired to perform clerical and other duties, she proved herself more than worthy and capable of taking on increased responsibilities and continued employment with the AMRDEC.



Photo by Merv Brokke

REVIEWING RESUMES— Gabrielle Kelly, left, Human Resources Division management support specialist trainee in the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center's Student Career Experience Program, and Linda Brown, right, chief of AMRDEC's Human Resources Division, assist Michelle Perrin, a member of the Engineering Directorate's Industrial Operations Division, review more than 100 resumes submitted from local and regional high school and college students applying for positions in the AMRDEC's Summer Hire Program.

"I performed general clerical duties such as copy production, typing documents, filing, and maintaining the supply inventory for the office. Towards the end of the summer, I was offered the opportunity to continue working during school.

"Since my school schedule conflicted with my work hours, I was unable to work the first semester of school, but the offer was still available for me.

"Starting the second semester of my freshman year, I had the opportunity to come back to work for AMRDEC," Kelly said.

Linda Brown, chief of the AMRDEC's Human Resources Division, is impressed with Kelly's work ethic and wants her to continue working at the AMRDEC but she also reinforces that education should be Kelly's number one priority right now.

"My supervisor, Linda Brown, rewarded me with the offer to continue to work while in school as long as I kept my grades up and continue to do well in school. She always stressed that 'school comes first,'" Kelly said.

Kelly's experiences at AMRDEC have had a dramatic effect on her recent career choice and education decisions.

"I was working in a comfortable environment that I adapted to and a place that I have grown to know and to love. I was learning new and interesting things and becoming knowledgeable of the business world.

"After working a year at AMRDEC, I decided to change my major from elementary education and am now a junior majoring in business administration," Kelly said.

Her decision to change her major has opened a door to a future with AMRDEC.

"Once I learned that Gabrielle changed her major from elementary education to business I offered her a position in the Student Career Experience Program," Brown said. "This program is beneficial to both the student and the employer, in that, the student gains valuable work experience and may be eligible for tuition assistance and other benefits. The employer provides training and on-the-job work experience. Once the student graduates, they may be eligible for conversion to an intern position."

Accepting Brown's offer to take part in the Student Career Experience Program would be challenging and Kelly was eager to accept the challenge and take on the new responsibilities.

"As time progressed, I was offered a position in the Student Career Experience Program, otherwise known as Co-Op, which requires more responsibilities and more work duties," Kelly said. "My supervisor informed me of the responsibilities of my Co-Op position and what is expected of me to keep this position.

"I took the offer and became a Co-Op student starting in the fall of my junior year. I now hold the position of a management support specialist trainee.

"My responsibilities in this position include various tasks relating to the Human Resource Division. I am primarily responsible for the review and processing of all monetary awards that are given within the AMRDEC. This center has approximately 3,000 plus employees. On a daily basis, I am reviewing awards for correctness, logging them into our internal system, and assuring the appropriate signature authority is in place. After ensuring the awards are complete and accurate, I then send them to the Civil-

ian Personnel Advisory Center for processing," Kelly said.

One of Kelly's new responsibilities is in the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program.

"In the summer of 2007, I was the point of contact for the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program. I was responsible for communicating with our outreach contractors to schedule workshops and tours for the students," she said.

Not only is Kelly doing well in her new position she is also helping other student employees and serving as a role model and mentor.

"Gabrielle has progressed from just performing clerical duties to serving as the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center's point of contact for the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program where she served as a valuable role model," Brown said.

While helping her fellow AMRDEC employees Kelly has learned a great deal about herself and what she wants to do with her future.

"This job has taught me that with a lot of hard work and dedication, it can bring promising rewards," she said. "After graduation, in May 2009, I will obtain a bachelor of science degree in business administration, and become a full-time employee of AMRDEC, Human Resource Division. I will begin my career with the government and continue to set higher goals to climb the corporate ladder.

"Embarking on this great opportunity, I have matured as an adult, became more familiar in the field of business, and how to adapt to its many functions. Being an employee for AMRDEC has been a rewarding experience that will continue to help me in my future career endeavors."

Kelly's duty performance has earned her high marks and the potential for continued employment in the AMRDEC Human Resources Division.

"Gabrielle is reliable and dependable and displays a high degree of self-discipline as reflected in her reporting to work on time and getting the job done," Brown said. "She is an asset to this organization.

"Upon graduation, Gabrielle will be placed on a formal training plan and she will rotate through the division to work with other specialists to learn all aspects of the Human Resources Division's roles and responsibilities."



Courtesy photo

LOGSA ladies

Logistics Support Activity workers participated in Team Redstone's display contest for Women's History Month in March. The theme was "Women's Art/Women's Vision." The LOGSA Committee decided to gear its theme to women who work at LOGSA from the past, present and future. The display contained pictures and write-ups of the women with their various awards, medals and artwork. LOGSA won the second place trophy for this event. Committee chairman Sgt. 1st Class Michelle Perrin entered the essay contest and also placed second and received a stand-alone plaque. Committee members include, from left, Dawn Ford, Sgt. 1st Class Kelley Hall, Louise Cooper, Sgt. 1st Class Irma Holland, Perrin, Mickie Frazier and Melody Sandlin.

General officer defends body armor in Iraq



Photo by C. Todd Lopez

MILITARY UPDATE— Lt. Gen. N. Ross Thompson III, military deputy to the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, speaks April 10 before the House Armed Services Committee subcommittee on air and land forces.

Thompson addresses congressional panel

By C. TODD LOPEZ

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Despite reports to the contrary, the body armor being used by Soldiers today in Iraq has been rigorously tested.

During testimony before the House Armed Services Committee subcommittee on air and land forces, Lt. Gen. N. Ross Thompson III, military deputy to the acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, told committee members that a misinterpretation of the Federal Acquisition Regulation had led some to believe body armor issued to Soldiers had not been properly tested before it was fielded.

“The Army has tested all of the body armor and all of the body armor that is issued to the Soldiers today has passed the rigorous test and it is the best body armor that is available in the world today; and I can say that without qualification,” Thompson said. “Of all high-priority programs, force protection is

our number one priority.”

Both Thompson and Lt. Gen. Stephen Speakes, deputy chief of staff, G-8, met with lawmakers April 10 to discuss Army acquisition programs and strategy. The two discussed such issues as equipping the Reserve component, Army transformation and Future Combat Systems.

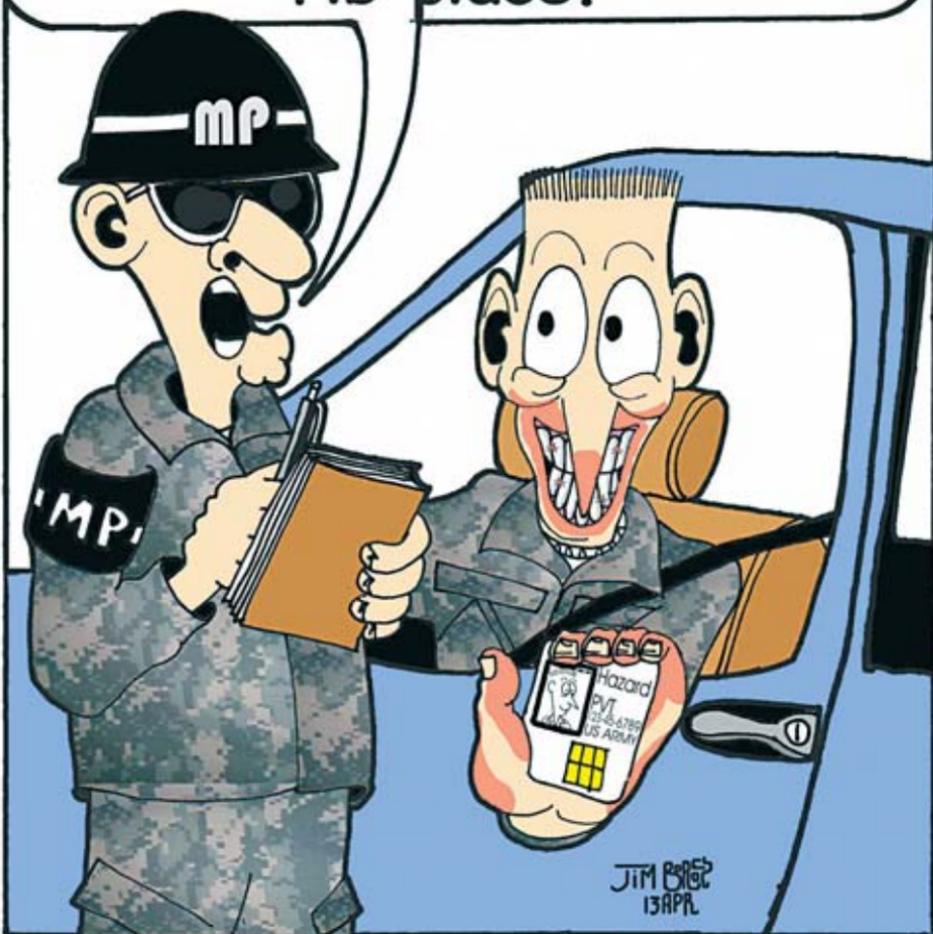
Lawmakers asked what the Army is doing to ensure Soldiers in the Army National Guard and Army Reserve are equipped at the same level as the active-duty Army. Speakes said the Army has recognized the importance of the reserve components and takes seriously the requirement to equip them.

“Those are two key components of our force that are never more important than they are today,” he said. “We count on them from the stance of homeland defense and as part of our operational force.”

The general told congressmen that the Army has developed plans to eliminate “evil” practices of the past, such as the cascading of used but serviceable equipment from the active component into the reserve.

See **Armor** on page 17

I hate it when I have to check their IDs after they've had lunch at that "ALL YOU CAN EAT!" rib place.



■ Future Combat System fielding should start by 2011

Armor

continued from page 16

"That was a negative practice for a bunch of reasons," he said. "We now send new equipment to whatever unit is in the transformation process or is getting ready to go to war. It treats everybody equally in regard to their access to equipment."

In submitted testimony, Speakes said the Army has made "historic strides" in improving the quantity and quality of equipment provided to reserve components. The Army will field more than 518,000 items to the Army National Guard and Army Reserve during a two-year period that began in January. That represents some 46 percent of all Army distributions, he said.

"The equipment they are receiving is materially improving the capability of the Army Guard to conduct Homeland Security and Homeland Defense missions," he said.

Speakes also said Army transformation to the modular design creates a single standard for all components of the service. "We now have one measuring stick to use for everybody."

Completion of that modernization, across the entire Army, is expected by 2013.

By 2011, the Army expects to field "Spin Out 1" of Future Combat System technology. That technology includes the Non-Line of Sight Launch System, Urban Unattended Ground Sensors, Tactical Unattended Ground Sensors, and FCS Network Integration Kits for Abrams, Bradley, and Humvee platforms.

Those systems, said Thompson, are key to the Army's transformation efforts.

"We are a high technology Army and we have a comprehensive strategy to modernize," he said. "Our FCS ... is the foundation of our Army transformation and really the cornerstone of the Army's future modular force."

Win or lose

National Guard rallies at the end against Bravo

Defending champion takes season debut

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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The National Guard softball team has a bull's-eye on its back this season.

That's usually the case with the defending champion. Opening night set the tone as Bravo Company overcame an 11-5 first inning deficit to lead 18-15 entering the bottom of the fifth.

But the National Guard showed the heart of a champion by scoring four runs to win 19-18 on April 15 at Linton Field.

"I guess it was just staying motivated to the end and putting some hits together," National Guard coach/pitcher Rodney Henshaw said.

Marty Jones had the key hit at the end. He came to bat with two outs and men on second and third and the National Guard trailing 18-16. Jones lashed a single to center to tie the score and then scored the winning run when the next batter reached safely.

"I knew just to hit the ball hard," said Jones, the Guard's third baseman. "Hit it hard, it's going to go."

The National Guard squandered its early lead because of defensive lapses.

"We made too many errors in all positions," Henshaw said. "We played too confident that last inning and started giving it up."

The Guard won because it "just pieced together some hits right at the end," he said. The big blow was the two-run single by Jones, who then scored from first. Jones went 2-for-4 and scored two runs in this season debut.

"I think everybody's gunning for us," Henshaw said.

Bravo's Jay Gavigan went 3-for-4 with a double and triple and scored four runs. The Bulldogs scored 10 runs in the top of the fifth for their short-lived 18-15 cushion.

"First inning errors got away from us," Bulldogs coach/left fielder John Sweden said. "If it wasn't for that we would've had this game. I think the guys had some first game jitters. We're going to work it



Photo by Skip Vaughn

OPENING SALVO— National Guard shortstop Jeremy Hamilton hits a lead-off double during an 11-run first inning against Bravo Company. The National Guard won 19-18.

out."

Games are Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6, 7 and 8 through June 3 at Linton Field, the corner of Patton and Gray roads. The postseason tournament, which will determine the champion, is June 5-12.

Standings entering this week had National Guard (1-0), Marines (1-0), 326th Chemical (1-1), Bravo (1-1), Headquarters & Alpha (1-1), Charlie (1-1) and NCO Academy (0-2).

Here are the results from week one:

- **April 15** – Charlie def. 326th Chemical 24-11; Headquarters & Alpha def. NCO Academy 26-20; and National Guard def. Bravo 19-18.

- **April 17** – Bravo def. NCO Academy 22-4; 326th Chemical def. Headquarters & Alpha 27-16; and Marines def. Charlie 27-11.

Health center commander pushes for diabetes cure

Participating in bike ride fund-raiser in Huntsville

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
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Diabetes affects 20.8 million people in America today. To raise awareness and money for research, Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Mark Smith will push his own body to the limits in the 100-mile American Diabetes Association's Tour De Cure bike ride May 17.

"Some things you just automatically say yes to," Smith said. "Plus I've been running my mouth about wellness all over this town."

While lifestyle and health choices, such as obesity and diet, play a role in the onset of some cases of diabetes, researchers are

still struggling to understand all of the factors and causes. Smith said children, some only a few months old, are particularly devastated by both the short- and long-term effects of living with the disease.

"We've got to find out what's going on with this," he said. "This is not a result of a lifestyle choice for them."

Feeling the need to do something larger than himself, Smith has signed up for an eight-hour ride that will begin at 8 a.m. in downtown Huntsville. It will take him through several North Alabama communities, including Jones Valley, Owens Crossroads, Gurley, Grant and the Maysville area.

While they are avoiding most of the major highways, it not an easy route. It is not flat terrain either. There are three major hills along the way, including Cecil

Ashburn Drive from Jones Valley to Hampton Cove. Smith has ridden most of the course in smaller segments while working his way up to the 100-mile mark, but he admitted the hills had him worried.

"I found out that I don't have to pedal up them all," he said. "They don't care if you crawl up them as long as you keep going."

In addition to his practice runs, he has also been hitting the gym in preparation for the event. Smith is not a stranger to cycling. He had not done it on a frequent basis for some time though until an ankle injury forced him to give up running for a while.

"At West Point I did a lot of cycling when I was a younger man," he said. "(After the injury) the doc said no running for six months. So I broke out the old mountain bike and caught the (cycling) bug again."

His average ride is 25 to 35 miles. Two months ago was the first time he had gone 50 miles in one ride. He got to 70 miles two weeks ago. He plans to make a full run before the big day, but will take a 10-day hiatus from higher mileage before the race to give him time to recuperate and prepare.

Advances in cycling equip-



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

IN TRAINING— Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Mark Smith trains for the 100-mile American Diabetes Association's Tour De Cure bike ride.

ment will also help Smith keep his gear light on the big day. He will be armed with powdered hydration additives for water along the way. His bike comes complete with a CO2 powered air pump for flat tires and pedals that actually attach to his cycling shoes. Of all the equipment he has at his disposal, he is proudest of the yellow and black Army Strong logo across his back, chest and socks.

One hundred miles is not the only goal Smith has set for himself. In addition to the distance,

Smith is also aiming for a high fund-raising bar. He hopes to bring in \$100,000 for the cause through sponsors and donations.

"I'm attacking the high rollers and corporate sponsors," he said. "If you don't ask, you won't get it."

Donations can be made directly to the American Diabetes Association through Smith's individual rider web site as follows: http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/TDC240358030?px=4084816&pg=personal&fr_id=5023.



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

From pole to pole

Hartmut Jaspert demonstrates Nordic walking April 9 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. Health promotion educator Rick Stock also participated in the Lunch-n-Learn sponsored by Fox Army Health Center. The event drew about 80 people.

Water's great but think before you sink

Safety center advises learning how to swim

By CHRIS FRAZIER
U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

FORT RUCKER – With the arrival of warmer temperatures, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center is reminding Soldiers to be mindful of the risks associated with water-related activities.

Over the last 10 years, the Army has experienced 95 water-related accidents involving one or more Soldier fatalities. In fiscal 2007, there were 14 Army water-related accidents, resulting in 15 deaths.

With the summer months approaching, many Soldiers will be drawn to some form of water, whether it's a swimming pool, river, pond, lake or ocean. However, before participating in any water-related activity, Soldiers need to take the proper safety precautions and assess the readiness of everyone in their group — especially children.

Perhaps the most important precaution a Soldier can take is to learn to swim. Yet, no matter how confident Soldiers may be in their swimming abilities, they should always bring a buddy along

before taking the plunge.

"Even the most experienced swimmer can encounter difficulties in the water," said Col. Randall Cheeseborough, USACRC Ground Task Force director. "The battle buddy system is an excellent combat multiplier to help prevent a tragic accident from occurring. Soldiers must take care of each other, on and off duty."

Another safety measure Soldiers often tend to overlook is the importance of wearing a personal flotation device while on a watercraft. According to U.S. Coast Guard statistics, small-boat accidents are the most frequent cause of drowning fatalities nationwide. In half the water-related accidents in fiscal 2007, the Soldier did not plan on entering the water but went overboard from a fishing boat or similar watercraft.

In one of those accidents, a Soldier drowned when his kayak capsized in the ocean and he was caught in a rip current. The Soldier was not an experienced swimmer and wasn't wearing a PFD. Just weeks later, another Soldier drowned when the canoe he was sharing with two other Soldiers overturned about 200 meters from the shoreline. While attempting to swim to shore, the Soldier became fatigued and went underwater. His body was later recovered by emergency services divers. None of the Soldiers were wearing PFDs.

Event to test Arsenal's response to terrorism

Emergency exercise set at Garrison area

By KARI HAWKINS
 Staff writer
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The official word is out: Redstone Arsenal employees are asked to prepare for a large-scale weapons of mass destruction simulation event May 7-8 that will test responses among the Arsenal's emergency personnel as well as its organizations and tenants.

Thanks to more thorough security measures and heightened public awareness, chances are an incident similar to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, will not occur on Redstone Arsenal. But, as an installation regarded as a prime target for terrorists, Arsenal emergency personnel are continually training and preparing to respond to a wide range of large-scale weapons of mass destruction situations.

That training and preparation will take on real-life aspects during a simulated disaster situation involving weapons of mass destruction scheduled for May 7 and 8, at Garrison headquarters, building 4488, on Martin Road near the intersection with Rideout Road. The event is known as an Anti-Terrorist Weapons of Mass Destruction Exercise.

"On these dates, we are urging Team Redstone employees and other personnel to refrain from driving in the area around building 4488. The traffic near Garrison headquarters will be affected by this exercise. There will be some restriction in traffic flow and traffic may need to be rerouted," said Terry Likely, manager of the Installation Operation Center and a specialist in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear explosives.

"Team Redstone employees need to be aware that an emergency exercise is going to be conducted on May 7 and May 8."

Activities on May 7 will involve procedural plans and responses leading up to the actual simulated event, which will primarily be evident to Team Redstone employees on May 8.

Likely, a retired first sergeant, oversees the Arsenal's Installation Protection Program, which is required by the Department of Defense to conduct a simulated weapons of mass destruction exercise annually.

"After 9/11, the Department of Defense determined that this installation was not prepared if we had been hit with something similar to 9/11," Likely said.

"We now have in place a family of systems that will allow us to be prepared for some type of weapons of mass destruction event. We've been issued the equipment that we need, we've been trained to respond with that equipment and we have plans in place to respond to an event. Now, we need to test our ability to respond to a weapons of mass destruction event in a way that involves every com-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PREPARING TO ACT— Terry Likely, manager of the Installation Operation Center, is working with employees throughout Team Redstone to prepare for an Anti-Terrorist Weapons of Mass Destruction Exercise scheduled May 7-8.

ponent of the Arsenal, and all organizations and tenants."

While the Arsenal's first responders — namely police and fire departments — will have the major role in this exercise, Likely said it will also involve management and employees from the Directorate of Emergency Services; Garrison; Safety; Fox Army Health Center; Public and Congressional Affairs; Criminal Investigation Division; Department of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; Department of Human Resources; Directorate of Information Management; Department of Public Works; Resource Management; Department of Logistics; Morale Welfare and Recreation; Plans, Analysis and Integration; Environmental; Civilian Personnel Advisory Center; AMCOM; Legal; Warfighters Protection Laboratory and Equal Employment Office. The Huntsville Police Department, HEMS and American Red Cross will also be involved in the exercise.

While much of the event will be played out on site at the Garrison building, a management team will be located in the Installation Operation Center to coordinate responses and determine the actions that should be taken to resolve the situation.

"Once the first responders are on-site, all directive heads will come here (to the

center), and take positions and assist with dealing and managing the event from this location," Likely said.

The Installation Operation Center has been planning for the simulation since September 2007. The center worked with Arsenal management in a table-top exercise and a functional exercise, using the two training exercises to develop and refine responses. The full-scale exercise will be the most realistic element of the training and will involve different scenarios that will evolve in relation to responses to the simulated exercise.

"We have gone over plans, battle books and exercises to help us develop ways to mitigate situations," Likely said. "Some of those involved will be called in on May 7 and be required to take some actions based on their plans. Scenarios will occur during the exercise that will force people to react. There will be issues involving things like checking buildings and checking I.D. cards that people will have to respond to."

The details of the exercise will not be made public prior to the simulation. Rather, those involved will be called on to respond in real-time as though the event was actually occurring. It will also involve simulated injuries and deaths.

"This simulated weapons-of-mass-

destruction type of event could involve explosive, radiological, biological and chemical elements," Likely said. "We will be testing all our abilities to respond, including how we recover casualties and get them to the care they need, and how we exercise policies and procedures involving deaths."

"People outside the Installation Operation Center will be driving the simulation and providing us with scenarios that are very life-like and that we have to respond to."

Once the exercise is complete, all aspects of it will be analyzed to determine how to improve responses.

Likely is asking Team Redstone employees to be patient with emergency personnel during the simulation. All efforts will be made to make employees in the area of the simulation aware of the event.

"We've identified the people who will be affected and we are making them aware of the event. We are trying to make this as less disruptive as we possibly can," Likely said. "But, at the same time, we have to have an opportunity to exercise our policies and procedures, to utilize the equipment that we have been issued and trained to use, and to determine if our emergency personnel can perform their set duties."

Facilities reduction makes mark in Germany

*Huntsville engineer center
destroying old bunkers*

By JO ANITA MILEY
*Army Engineering and Support
Center, Huntsville*

Seemingly, striking a balance between building necessary facilities to support the mission and helping to maintain a pleasant and healthy environment would be impossible. However, Huntsville Center's Facilities Reduction Program has proven it can be done.

The FRP team is completing a large scale demolition project in Urlas, a small military community in Katterbach, Germany, and reducing its carbon footprint. The team is tearing down 18 old bunkers in order to build 138 housing units for American Soldiers and their families, while meeting strict German requirements for reducing their carbon footprint. In the past, the heavily guarded site was used as a military training site for Soldiers and the bunkers served as an ammunition storage area for the 1st Armored Division. Since the withdrawal of the division, the bunkers were used to store old furniture and equipment.

Norman Cotter, program manager, IMCOM-Europe Engineering Division, said there is an increased focus on global warming and many governmental agencies are now examining ways to reduce their greenhouse gases as environmental issues gain traction.



Photo by Norman Cotter

MATERIAL RECYCLING— German contractors BG Werning/Weihrach use heavy equipment to demolish concrete portions of an old bunker at Urlas, Germany. The concrete will be crushed into smaller particles that will be completely recycled.

Cotter has worked closely with contractors and project managers on the Urlas project to ensure all environmental measures are taken as the project is completed.

"There is an increased focus on military construction and its effect on our environment on the international level," Cotter said. "Governments in other nations are examining each building effort more closely in an effort to

protect what little space (land) is left to build on. They want to preserve their natural resources and protect plant and animal life whenever possible. We (Americans) don't want to do anything that will upset this balance either."

Cotter explained that in Germany there is a very unique situation in regard to new construction. Agencies are land-locked to spaces available.

"Because of the lack of space, we have to come up with innovative ways to meet the needs of our growing military community. Getting rid of the bunkers and creating housing areas was both creative and environmentally 'friendly,'" Cotter said.

Demolition began Feb. 11, and workers are now recycling concrete and asphalt, stone, steel, grass and soil from the bunkers and surrounding area. In adher-

ence to strict German construction laws, the materials cannot simply be sent to a landfill. Cotter said recycling these materials is a very large effort. To date, they have compiled more than 20 different piles of contaminated and uncontaminated material. The uncontaminated materials are handled differently and will be used for recycling purposes.

"The large stone chunks must be crushed into smaller stone that will be reused for the foundation of road construction, and concrete is crushed into even smaller particles that will be completely recycled. Each bunker houses massive steel walls that will be recycled and sold on the open market," Cotter said. "Amazingly, they (German government) have even found a use for the abounding grassy soil that encompasses the bunkers — it will be stored and remixed to spread out over the entire site as topsoil prior to new construction."

Thad Stripling, program manager for the Facilities Reduction Program, oversees funds for the Urlas project. Stripling stresses the impact of the savings for the customer and the Center.

"Following the strict environmental guidelines set forth by the host country will play an important role in the successful completion of our mission," Stripling said. "The Germans are giving us discounts and incentives to protect their environment, and these savings allow the Army to provide high-quality facilities for the American troops and their families."

Future looks bright for Non-Line of Sight

*Launch system
passes field test*

By Maj. FREDERICK HUGHES
Non-Line of Sight Launch System

The Non-Line of Sight Launch System has completed the first of multiple summer tests at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., meeting all mission requirements and proving NLOS-LS is a weapon of choice for the Army of tomorrow.

The Future Combat System Technical Field Test, conducted in February and March, was the initiation of a summer of demanding developmental and operational tests for the Future Combat System command and control network, as well as a host of FCS related programs, to include Redstone Arsenal's NLOS-LS. The efforts of the project office paid off,

as NLOS-LS reaped praise from users and evaluators alike during the test. NLOS-LS consists of a highly deployable, platform-independent weapon system that provides networked, extended range, precision strike capability for combat commanders. The NLOS-LS is capable of unattended/unmanned operations under all weather conditions. Armed with 15 Precision Attack Missiles, the NLOS-LS is capable of engaging a host of varied targets on the modern and future battlefield.

The two-week TFT consists of developmental tests conducted with production representative prototypes and operated by Army Experimental Task Force Soldiers in a field environment. Under the operational control of the FCS program, the NLOS-LS participated in the TFT event working in conjunction with Unmanned Ground Systems and FCS Network Com-

ponents, as well as Current Force equipment. Using a "crawl, walk, run" strategy, the TFT is in the crawl phase for the FCS program's aggressive test schedule. Successful completion of the TFT provides the entrance criteria for more complicated and demanding Force Development Test and Limited User Tests this summer.

For the NLOS-LS project office, the TFT showed the capability of NLOS-LS to work with the current force through effective employment of the system, as well as integration into the current force's network architecture. Specifically, NLOS-LS needed to show compatibility and interoperability with the Army's Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System.

Participating in two separate operational vignettes, NLOS-LS successfully received fire missions and engaged targets from FCS and current force plat-

forms. All exercises were conducted with actual platforms in the field using live communication networks. NLOS-LS' successful execution of this test allows it to participate in the upcoming Training and Doctrine Command's Force Developmental Test and Evaluation event later this spring.

The NLOS-LS is one of the Future Combat System program's 16 core systems. FCS is the Army's leading modernization program to develop manned and unmanned systems linked by a common network and equipped with leading-edge technology.

The NLOS-LS Project Office, led by Col. Doug Dever, is located at Redstone with the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space. The NLOS-LS was developed by the NetFires Limited Liability Company, a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Raytheon.

Season springs tick pests on population

Prevention best weapon vs. blood-feeding bugs

By **CHERIE MILLER**
 Fox Army Health Center

With spring's arrival, Tennessee Valley residents should be prepared for the annual onslaught of insect pests including ticks. These pests can carry diseases which are harmful to both humans and animals.

Ticks are already prevalent and are of major concern due to the numerous diseases they can transmit.

Ticks are blood-feeding pests of birds, animals and humans. There are over 850 species of ticks of two distinct types: hard ticks and soft ticks. Soft ticks have tough, leathery, pitted skin with no distinct head. They are uncommon but may be found in caves and on birds.

Hard ticks have a hard smooth skin and an apparent head. These ticks are found in the forest and on humans and animals. Hard ticks are associated with most tick-borne diseases in the United States. Common hard ticks in the Tennessee Valley are the dog tick, black-legged tick, lone star tick, and the brown tick.

Attach with anchor

Ticks can carry disease germs in their bodies which they transmit to humans and animals when they bite. Ticks stay

attached to the host by using a dartlike anchor with backward curving teeth which grip into the skin. They also secrete a cement that hardens and helps hold the tick on the host. The tick slices open the skin with the anchor, inserts the head under the skin and engorge themselves on the blood. Some hard ticks are slow feeders and can take several days to finish a blood meal. They can extract up to 8 milliliters of blood during a feeding and can take up to 100 times their body weight in blood. They concentrate the blood during feeding and return much of the water back to the host. Disease can also be transmitted by body fluids when the ticks are crushed.

Not all ticks carry disease organisms, so getting a tick bite does not mean that disease will follow. However, you should look for signs and symptoms of tick-borne diseases following any tick bite. The common tick-borne diseases include Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and Human Erlichiosis.

Disease carriers

Lyme Disease is the most common tick-borne disease in the U.S. It has spread rapidly with an increased number of cases in the Southeast where it is usually transmitted by the black-legged tick and the lone star tick. The common symptom of Lyme Disease is a "bull's-eye" rash around the site of the bite which appears three days to three weeks following the bite. The rash will have a clear

center with a red ring outside that. Other symptoms include fever, chills, headache and fatigue. Rarely fatal, Lyme Disease can cause significant pain and discomfort if allowed to progress.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, despite the name that describes its origin, is now abundant in the Southeast where the main vector is the dog tick. RMSF symptoms include fever, chills, muscle aches, blood-shot eyes and headaches with onset about 3-14 days after the tick bite. A spotty rash may occur on the feet and hands in 2-3 days. RMSF can be treated with antibiotics, but can be fatal when left untreated.

Human Erlichiosis was identified in 1986 and has been found predominantly in the Southeast where its vector, the lone star tick, is prevalent. Symptoms appear in 1-21 days (average seven) and resemble RMSF without a rash. Symptoms can be mild to severe and several deaths have been reported.

Mow those lawns

Prevention is the key to avoid tick bites. Ticks like long grass and brush where they can attach to humans and pets as they walk by. Keep lawns mowed and remove brush and other vegetation near your home. Discourage wild animals from coming on your property as they are often vectors for ticks. If you must be out in forested areas, use a commercial insect repellent effective against ticks. In addition, wear long pants with the legs tucked

into socks or boots and a long sleeve shirt tucked in. Light colored clothing will allow you to spot ticks more easily. Check every few hours for ticks if you are in the forest for a long time. After returning, remove all clothing and launder immediately, and check your body carefully, paying special attention to hairy or warm, moist parts of the body.

If you do find a tick, remove it by using a tweezers to grasp the tick's head and pull back slowly and steadily. Avoid pulling the tick out sharply as this may tear off the body parts and leave them imbedded in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouthparts like you would remove a splinter.

After removing the tick, wash the wound site with soap and water and apply an antiseptic. Avoid crushing the tick with your fingers as this will transmit any disease organisms to your hands. Also, wash your hands with soap and water after removing the tick and clean the tweezers with alcohol.

Ticks, unfortunately, are here to stay. But by following these preventive measures, you can make sure that ticks are one thing that won't be "bugging" you this season.

Editor's note: Cherie Miller is the environmental health coordinator at Fox Army Health Center. For more information on ticks and tick-borne diseases call Preventive Medicine, Fox Army Health Center, at 955-8888, ext. 1026.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Smiles of retirement

AMCOM chief information officer Mike Ivey, center, and his wife, Connie, are congratulated after his retirement ceremony April 16 at Bob Jones Auditorium. He retires with 36 years service. At left is local consultant Dave Sparks.



Sports & Recreation

Bass tournament

AAAA Spring 2008 Bass Tournament is Saturday on Wheeler Lake, River Walk Marina, Decatur. For information call Bob Vlasics 881-4144, Chuck Ogle 883-7974, Matt Boenker 313-9117, Gaylen Bush 313-3373, Terry Hortter 313-5362 or Tom Geoffroy 876-5359.

Baseball bus trip

Your Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring the annual Baseball Bus Trip to Atlanta for the St. Louis Cardinals vs. Atlanta Braves games. This year, the game series is scheduled during the week. The stadium reservations are for the July 30-31 games. The CWFC bus will depart Redstone Arsenal promptly at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 30 and will return to Redstone Arsenal on Friday afternoon, Aug. 1. The group will stay at the Embassy Suites-Galleria in Atlanta. The stadium seats will be in Section 124R for Wednesday night's game. For Thursday night's game, the seats will be in Section 324, the All-You-Can-Eat-And-Drink section. Cost for this event is \$290 per person, based on double occupancy. This includes bus transportation, hotel room, tickets to both games, plus lunch and beverages on the bus. To make reservations for this adult fun and relaxation event, e-mail Charles Urban at charles.urban@conus.army.mil. A non-refundable deposit of \$125 per person must be received by May 1. For more information, call Urban 955-7662.

Health fair

The MWR Sports and Fitness "Health Fair" is May 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Redstone Fitness Center. This free event is open to the community. There will be bone density testing, blood pressure and cholesterol testing, and health and fitness information. For details call 842-2574 or 313-1202.

MWR 5K run

The MWR 5K run, sponsored by Morale Welfare and Recreation's Sports and Fitness, is May 8 at "Tin City," near the

Quonset huts off Patton Road. It's open to the Redstone community. Registration starts at 2:30 p.m. and the race at 3. Cost is \$10, which includes a T-shirt. Pre-registration is under way at Pagano Gym and the Sparkman Fitness Center with an April 30 deadline. For more information, call 842-2574 or 313-6096.

Military anglers

The Military Team Bass Fishing Tournament is May 5-9 on Dale Hollow Lake in Byrdstown, Tenn. The tournament, which began in 1991, became affiliated with American Bass Anglers in November



Courtesy photo

Gift for space

Demy Robley, left, chairman of the Officer and Civilian Women's Club Community Assistance Committee, presents a \$760 check to Phyllis Montgomery, co-chairman of the ACS Volunteer Program Space Camp Scholarship Committee. It will be used to send a military child to Space Camp. The Space Camp Scholarship Committee has been active for 24 years, with more than 200 military children benefiting from the scholarship, attending Space Camp, Space Academy or Aviation Challenge at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is a private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

2007. The event is open to all active duty Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, their family members ages 16 and over (those under 18 must fish with a parent or guardian), National Guard, Reservists, DoD civilians, DoD contractors and retired military. To register call ABA headquarters 888-203-6222 or visit www.militarybass.com.

Motorcycle run

Elks Lodge 1648, at 725 Franklin St., invites everyone to the Fallen Officers' Memorial Motorcycle Run on May 10 (rain date is May 24). Cost is \$15 per rider, \$10 per passenger. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with the first bike out at 10 and last bike in at 3 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Huntsville Police Foundation to help build the Fallen Officers Memorial. For information call Doug Smith 503-3454 and James Henley 882-3406.

Football camp

The fourth annual Walter Jones Football Camp is May 24 at the Jones estate, 2699 Jeff Road in Harvest, home for the Seattle Seahawks offensive lineman. This free camp is for ages 8-13 and ages 14-18; and attendees must not yet have finished high school. There are 200 spaces apiece for ages 8-13 and 14-18. Registration is this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dicks Sporting Goods, 6275 University Drive northwest. Parents must accompany their child for registration. Walter Jones will be available for autographs.

Firefighters classic

The sixth annual Huntsville Firefighters Golf Classic is June 14 at Colonial Golf Course. Cost for this four-man scramble is \$60 per player. Proceeds benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. For more information, call Glenn Benson 828-7842 or Larry Ayers 651-6312.

Youth basketball

Registration is under way for the Vigilance Sports Invitational basketball tournament for boys and girls under 10-15 on Friday and Saturday at Madison Academy. Cost is \$225. For more information, call Kerry Johnson 527-2388 or Sharon Rivers 682-6401.

NASCAR news

Just days before Greg Biffle debuts the specially painted No. 16 Ford Fusion in

the Aaron's 499 at the Talladega Super-speedway, he will sign autographs and thank fellow donors for giving blood at the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Martin's Department Store on Thursday in Decatur. Additionally, 3M will have the No. 16 Ford Fusion show car, with its NASCAR trailer at the blood drive, which starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Biffle will be on hand from 1-3 p.m. The first American Red Cross NASCAR paint scheme car will take to the NASCAR Sprint Cup track at the Talladega Super-speedway on Sunday.



Conferences & Meetings

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites you to study God's word each Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. at building 3466 on Snooper Road. This is the temporary location because of Bicentennial Chapel's major renovation. Free childwatch is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 325-3152 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404. "Bible studies this semester are: Covenant by Kay Arthur and Parables of Jesus, both taught in the morning session; A Heart Like His by Beth Moore, taught at the noon session for the working sisters; Revelation by John MacArthur, taught at the 6:30 p.m. session," a prepared release said.

Sergeants major

The Sergeant's Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Members are offered breakfast for \$6 plus tip. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain 842-6778.

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Marines volunteer rally

The Semper Fi Community Task Force of Northern Alabama is having its second annual Members' Meeting on Friday from 6-8 p.m. at the Raytheon Business Development Headquarters Building, 401 Jan Davis Drive off Old Madison Pike Road in Cummings Research Park. Dress is casual and admission is free. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served, along with a full measure of esprit de corps. If you're a former, retired, active, or reserve Marine living in North Alabama, or a friend or family member of a Marine and you want to serve your community, consider yourself a member of the SFCTF. The SFCTF is a volunteer charity organization comprised of current, former, retired, reserve, and future Marines organized to serve the local community and to help veterans. For more information, call Kenny Watts 452-5118 or visit www.sfctf.org.

Defense industry

The Tennessee Valley Chapters of Women in Defense and National Defense Industrial Association will host Richard Alpaugh, deputy to the commander of the Army Security Assistance Command at their April industry luncheon on April 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Marriott, Tranquility Base in Huntsville. The cost for individuals is \$25 or a corporate table (seats eight) may be reserved for \$200. Please register online at <http://conferences-bysigma.com/wid/>. If you do not wish to pay online, fax your payment information to Sigma Services 533-4508 or call 533-6986. Reservations are due by Friday.

Parent advisory council

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council will meet April 29 at 11 a.m. in Redstone Room, Challenger Activity Center building 1500 (phone 876-7952). All parents are encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent Participation Points are awarded for attendance – 5 points equals a 10 percent discount on child care fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Child and Youth Services facilities and to voice your ideas, opinions or concerns," a prepared release said.

Mechanical engineers

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers will have a luncheon meeting today at 11:30 a.m. at the Von Braun Research Hall on the UAH campus. The speaker is Dr. Rob Preece, associate research professor of physics at University of Alabama-Huntsville. For information call James Denson 883-2531. The lunch costs \$10.

Federal employees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet May 10 at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments and social begin at 9:30 a.m. and the business meeting at 10 with program to follow. The program will be a forum for all 5th Congressional District candidates who qualify for the seat being vacated by Rep. Bud Cramer.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association will hold its monthly luncheon meeting April 30 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Retired Sgt. 1st Class David Carney will discuss the Madison County Veterans Memorial. The chapter will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. For more information, call retired Col. Danny Burttram 325-1938.

Old crows

The Redstone Roost chapter of the Association of Old Crows will hold its monthly meeting Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club in the Twickenham Lounge. The guest speaker is Layne Merritt, assistant PEO Aviation for systems engineering. The meeting is open to AOC members, their guests and prospective new members interested in electronic warfare and aircraft survivability equipment. For more information, call Dave Hays 842-3358.

Space/missile defense

The 11th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition issues a call for papers with deadline April 30. The conference is Aug. 11-14 at the Von



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Italian visit

Italian Maj. Massimiliano De Cicco, coordinating officer for the Italian EOD Training Center, and Lt. Francesco Martinotti, of the center's counter obstacle department, visited their Redstone counterparts April 11. Standing next to the memorial for explosive ordnance disposal technicians are, from left, Maj. Michael Sellers, EOD Training Division officer in charge; De Cicco, Martinotti, and Maj. Todd Wilson, officer in charge of Global Anti-Terrorism and Operational Readiness.

Braun Center. For information call 533-6986 or e-mail smdconf@smdconf.org.

Electromagnetic course

The 12th DoD Electromagnetic Windows Short Course and Symposium is April 28 to May 1 at the Sparkman Center. Registration is under way. Events qualify for TIPS credit. For more information, contact Angie.Cornelius@us.army.mil or visit <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/EMWS08/>.



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

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Freedom. Skill sets include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.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.

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.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on any DoD installation, the Defense Department requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. The one-day course is offered free to anyone authorized access to Redstone. For information call Keith Coates of Garrison Safety Office 876-3383. The instructor is Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 9-5. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-noon. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop will be open Saturday, May 3 from 10-2. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

For more information, call 881-6992.

Commissary sale

The Redstone Arsenal Commissary Case Lot Sale is scheduled May 14-17. "We will also be sponsoring an 'On-Site' Case Sale April 24-26 in Birmingham Air National Guard Base, 5700 East Lake Blvd., Birmingham," a prepared release said.

AER book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for the Army Emergency Relief campaign is April 21 through May 2 at 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, the first floor corridor between buildings 5303 and 5304. "As in the past, we accept donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape," a prepared release said. Donations will be accepted until April 29. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-8563 to arrange delivery and pickup.

Space lecture

HAL-5 (local chapter of the National Space Society) presents a free public lecture May 1 at 7 p.m. at Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. Stephan Davis, deputy mission manager for Ares I-X at Marshall Space Flight Center, will speak on "Ares I-X: First Flight of a New Generation." A social will follow. For more information, call Ronnie Lajoie 509-3833.

Butler High reunion

S.R. Butler High School Class of 1983 is planning its 25-year reunion Oct. 11 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. If you are a member of the Class of '83, e-mail bellecambron@yahoo.com or call 509-6014 with your latest information or visit <http://www.classreport.org/usa/al/huntsville/bhs/1983/>. An invitation is also extended to the Classes of 1982 and 1984.

40th reunion

S.R. Butler High School Class of 1968 is planning its 40-year reunion for May 24. For more information, call John Miller 536-9986.

Reserve unit

If you have several years invested in your military career, you do not want conflicts between Reserve duty and civilian life to keep you from earning 20 qualifying years. The 184th Individual Mobilization

Augmentee Detachment affords you the opportunity to drill for retirement points on Tuesday evenings. You still earn pay for and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

Best 1st sergeants

Nominations are being accepted for the third annual 1st Sgt. John Ordway Leadership Award. The award, presented by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, recognizes Army active duty, Reserve and National Guard nominees from the North Alabama area. Anyone can nominate a first ser-

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geant for this award by contacting David Carney at david.r.carney@us.army.mil or david.r.carney@lmco.com or 652-2460. Winners will be selected based on the care they provide their Soldiers and the families of Soldiers, and will be announced at AUSA's annual Army birthday dinner. Nominations must be submitted by May 15.

Youth orchestra benefit

The Huntsville Youth Orchestra would like to invite everyone to join them at the Cheeburger Cheeburger Restaurants on April 29. "While you enjoy your meal, you can also enjoy beautiful live music performed by some of our area's most talented young musicians," a prepared release said. "At various times throughout the day and evening, small groups and soloists from the Youth Orchestra will be

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Courtesy photo

Time travelers

The International Military Student Office took three students on a field studies tour to Chattanooga and the Chickamauga Battlefield on April 12-13. Standing outside the Battles for Chattanooga Electric Map and Museum are, from left, Maj. Pramod Ambasana of India, Capt. Ahmed Abou El-Hag of Egypt and Capt. Ivo Stoev of Bulgaria.

playing some of their favorite pieces. As a special treat this day, the Huntsville Youth Orchestra's Novice and Beginning String Orchestras will be holding open rehearsals on the patio of the Providence Cheeburger restaurant from 4:45 until 7 p.m." On April 29, Cheeburger Cheeburger is donating a portion of all profits from both of its restaurants to support the Youth Orchestra. Cheeburger Cheeburger has two locations: 5000 Whitesburg Drive in south Huntsville (at the corner of Airport and Whitesburg), and 7 Town Center Drive in northwest Huntsville (just north of 72, in Providence Town Center). They are open from 10:30 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Infantry reunion

The 88th Infantry (Blue Devil) Division and TRUST Troopers, the Southeastern Chapter of the 88th Infantry Division Association, will hold its 55th annual reunion April 24-27 in Daytona Beach, Fla. Veterans of the 88th Infantry (Blue Devil) Division, TRUST (Trieste U.S. Troops), USFA (U.S. Forces Austria), 88th Regional Readiness Command and families are invited. For more information call Robert McCall 881-6325.

Holocaust remembrance

The Jewish Federation of Huntsville and North Alabama invites you to an observance of Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on May 1 at 7 p.m. in Trinity United Methodist Church, the new room, at 607 Airport Road southwest. A reception will follow. For information call chairperson Sue Farbman 883-5471.

Space Camp scholarships

The Air Space and Missile Defense Association is offering 16 scholarships to Space Camp at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Eligible is any child age 9-11 of a parent or guardian currently assigned to SMDC, PEO Missiles and Space, STRATCOM, MSIC and MDA. Applicants should submit a 200-600 word essay by May 5. The mailing address is Radiance Technologies, Attn: Pete Weiland, ASMDA Space Camp Scholarships, 350 Wynn Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805; fax 704-3412; and e-mail pweiland@radiancetech.com.

Volunteers wanted

It's time for the 2008 Whistle Stop Barbecue and Festival, May 2-3. Community volunteers are needed for many areas of the festival. If you are interested in attending and helping out, call volunteer coordinator Ann Tiller 564-8119.

Community yard sale

Christmas Charities Year Round is holding a Yard Sale on May 3 from 6:30 a.m. till noon at its parking lot at 2840 Jordan Lane. Spots are available for \$20 each and come with one table. Additional tables may be reserved for \$5. Any items that are not sold may be donated to CCYR (no hauling back home). They are accepting donations for CCYR to sell. There is free

parking, restrooms available, and refreshments for sale. Raffle tickets for a gas grill, gift basket and movie passes will be drawn the day of the yard sale. For more information, call CCYR at 837-2373.

Volunteer sponsors

The Garrison's Directorate of Human Resources is soliciting volunteers to serve as sponsors for military and civilian employees relocating to Redstone Arsenal. Sponsors will ensure a smooth and uneventful transition for individuals realigned to Redstone as a result of a permanent change of station move or civil service job change. To become a sponsor, call Theresa Falcetano 313-2205 or Ronnie McDaniel 842-2418.

Remembrance program

Team Redstone's Days of Remembrance Commemoration Program is today at 10 a.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711. This year's theme is "Do Not Stand Silent: Remembering Kristallnacht 1938." The keynote speaker is Ed Lessing of the Hidden Child Foundation/ADL, New York. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon 876-8648.

Army Reserve birthday

The Army Reserve was founded April 23, 1908. On Jan. 22, 2008 Gen. David Petraeus, commander of Multi-National Force-Iraq, began the celebration of the Army Reserve 100th Birthday by re-enlisting 100 Soldiers from 47 Reserve units in both Iraq and Kuwait. "In places like Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, the Philippines and Latin America, Army Reservists are bringing their warrior skills and their civilian trades to the fights," Petraeus said. "That combination is particularly effective in the exceedingly complex environments we face today." The Huntsville Redstone Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army will celebrate that birthday with a breakfast today at 7:30 a.m. at the Heritage Club. The guest speaker is retired Maj. Gen. Paulette Risher.

Arts festival

Panoply 2008, presented by Boeing, runs April 25-27 at downtown Huntsville's Big Spring International Park. Volunteer helpers are wanted. "Each year, the Panoply Arts Festival depends upon the generous support of thousands of volunteers to help produce this family-friendly community event," a prepared release said. "Opportunities are still available, and vary from sponsorships to chairing committees to assisting at the festival itself." Panoply Volunteer Applications are available online at www.panoply.org and can be returned by fax 533-3811 or by mail c/o The Arts Council, 700 Monroe Street, SW; Suite 2; Huntsville, AL 35801. For more information call Jon, volunteer coordinator, at 519-ARTS, ext. 200.

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Quarterly retirements

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is June 19 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are required to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. To make arrangements for participation call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-7969 or Sgt. Stephanie Maxwell 842-2625 by May 29. A retirement ceremony is also scheduled Sept. 25.

Health center holiday

Fox Army Health Center will be closed May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. On May 27, the Primary Care Clinic will be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and services will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The Health Center is closed on Saturday, Sunday, Thursday afternoons and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox does not have an emergency room or emergency medical services. In an emergency, dial 911.

Military personnel system

Congress has changed the implementation date of a new Military Personnel and Pay System to March 1, 2009. This will be an all-services, all components system with self-service for Soldiers, retirees, National Guard and Reserve forces. The Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System is a fully integrated web-based, all-service, all-component, military personnel and pay system that will support military personnel throughout their careers. In addition to

personnel functions, Soldiers will be paid through DIMHRS (no longer through Military Pay) beginning March 1, 2009. DIMHRS will provide accurate and timely data on personnel assets, standard data for comparison across services and components, properly track Soldiers for both pay and service credit, track all military personnel, including those in theater, providing integrated personnel and pay functions. All military personnel must become familiar with the system and its functionality regarding maintenance of personnel records. For more information and monthly updates, visit www.armydimhrs.army.mil.

Skin cancer class

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month. Learn the latest information about skin cancer at noon May 1 or May 15 in the Wellness Center Classroom at Fox Army Health Center. The class is open to all active/retired military, their family members and Defense/Army civilians. Class size is limited to 24. To sign up call 955-8888, ext. 1026.

Veterans welcome

The Birmingham Veterans Administration Medical Center is sponsoring a Welcome Home event Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center for all OIF/OEF veterans and their families. Free admission to the space museum along with food and drinks are provided. Information booths by local health-care service and benefit organizations will be on hand to answer questions on VA benefits, Tricare services and more. For more information call Jeff Bloch (205) 933-8101, ext. 5316.

