

Redstone Rocket

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Building new home of missile defense

Congressional delegation lauds start of construction for MDA headquarters

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Ground was broken Friday for the third and largest phase of the Von Braun Complex on Redstone Arsenal.

The new home of the Missile Defense Agency, located at the corner of Martin and Mills Roads, will accommodate 2,649 people and be the largest single building on Redstone Arsenal.

The 839,873-square foot facility will house 2,248 MDA positions that were realigned from the Washington, D.C. area as a result of base realignment and closure decisions in 2005, as well as 240 positions from Huntsville and 161 Space and Missile Defense Command positions from the Washington, D.C. area.

"This is just the beginning of the next chapter," MDA director Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey Obering said during the groundbreaking



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MILESTONE EVENT— After Friday's groundbreaking ceremony, U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions talks with Missile Defense Agency director Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey Obering. In the background at left is Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer.

ceremony.

The Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$221.2 million contract in December 2007 to Archer Western Contractors Ltd., based

in Atlanta, for the building's design and construction.

The project will include an auditorium, cafeteria, fitness center, and office space. The first

phase should be finished by April 2010, for 800-1,000 people, and the second phase should be done by October 2010.

"Welcome all of you to this major milestone for the Missile Defense Agency, the city of Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley region," Obering told Friday's ceremony attendees assembled in a large tent.

The other speakers included Alabama Lt. Gov. Jim Folsom Jr., U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby, U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions, U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer, U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt, Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer and SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell.

"This is a great historic day," Folsom said. "I celebrate with you."

Said Shelby, "This is a great legacy for Dr. (Wernher) von Braun. I can't think of anything better."

"It's really an historic thing," Sessions said. "I could not be more excited."

Said Cramer, "We are the home of missile defense."

"The work that is done here at MDA is significant to the entire world," Aderholt said.

Happy 100th birthday, Army Reserves

Association chapter recognizes milestone

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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It was as tradition calls for it – the oldest and youngest Soldiers were asked to do the honors in cutting the birthday cake signifying an important Army birthday on April 23.

Yet, it wasn't the official birthday of the U.S. Army. And the cake cutting didn't involve regular Army Soldiers.

Rather, it was the Army Reserves' turn to celebrate a momentous birthday – its 100th — with a cake-cutting ceremony and breakfast program at the Heritage Club in downtown Huntsville. Doing the honors for local Reserve units were Reserve Mas-

ter Sgt. John Kennedy and Reserve Pvt. Jarrod Medley.

For Medley, the Reserves is a way to realize his dream of a better education and an engineering career.

"I joined the Reserves one and a half years ago because I needed something to straighten out my life," said the 19-year-old Medley, assigned to the 375th Engineers. "Right now, I'm working at Wal-Mart. But I want to go to college on an ROTC scholarship and become an engineer."

For Kennedy, the Reserves has been a way he could continue to serve his country. He began that service with the Army's 173rd Infantry in Vietnam. Later, while working as a civilian on Redstone Arsenal, Kennedy also was active in the Reserves. His Reserve service included a deployment to Afghanistan with the 926th Engineers in 2004.

See Birthday on page 5



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CAKE CUTTING— The youngest and oldest Reservists – Pvt. Jarrod Medley and Master Sgt. John Kennedy – cut the Reserve birthday cake in the Army tradition April 23. Local Reservists joined with the Huntsville-Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Army Reserves.

An open lane random survey

What's your pet peeve?

By SKIP VAUGHN
 Rocket editor
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Pvt. Anthony Vigor
Bravo Company
"Ate-up privates. I've been here for two years, almost two years, and I don't like ate-up privates. Like they don't care about what they do any more. They don't try, they sham."

Pvt. Derek Mercer
Bravo Company

"Snitches. I can't stand when say you've got a couple of people who are not breaking the rules but they are finding loopholes. And another private finds out and since he can't play in the loopholes, he goes and snitches on the other privates. That and (another peeve), power-hungry privates."



Wilma Porter
AMCOM G-8 (Resource Management)
"When you're driving along and people jump out in front of you, and then they go slow. They don't pick up speed."

Veronica Winston
AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center
"The people who get in the 20 or less line with a cart full of groceries."



Letters to the Editor

Take action to stop sexual assault

During April, the Army will observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month for the fourth consecutive year. SAAM presents an opportunity to focus our efforts on sexual assault awareness and prevention. This year's SAAM theme, "Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene!" focuses on the ability of every servicemember to prevent sexual assault by taking an active role in looking out for the welfare of friends and co-workers. In this community, we hold people accountable. We expect everyone to be vigilant about all forms of sexual assault and together we can stop sexual assault before it happens.

The Army is fully committed to assuring that victims of sexual assault are treated with fairness, dignity and respect. Victims are protected through a combination of reporting options, victim advocacy, and other military and civilian sources of support and intervention. The key to effective prevention is a commitment from command and all members of the community to assist in this effort.

The focus of this year's SAAM is the relationship between alcohol and sexual assault. Over one half of sexual assault incidents involve the use of alcohol. The Army has numerous resources dedicated to the prevention of sexual assault, and to the prevention and treatment of problem substance use. The Army Substance Abuse Program is available to assist Soldiers and family members in becoming free of alcohol and drug abuse. ASAP office is located on the second floor of Fox Army Health Center or can be reached at 955-8888, extensions 1930 or 1931.

To report a sexual assault, discuss the options of restricted and unrestricted reporting, or to learn about prevention services contact the sexual assault response coordinator, Mrs. Colleen Nicholson, Army Community Service, 876-5397 or after duty hours at 508-6613.

To reinforce our commitment, I hereby declare April 2008 to be Sexual Assault Awareness Month at Redstone Arsenal. Remember: Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene!

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles
 Redstone and AMCOM commander

Pit stop on Patton Road

Note to the driver of the big white pickup truck with an Earnhardt license plate: On Friday, April 18, when you were sauntering (south) down Patton Road at about 41-42 mph, I happened to be behind you and did not necessarily care to just "mosey" home. My choice was to do the speed limit which required passing you when the opportunity presented itself, and posed no danger to anyone else – this was about 2:15 in the afternoon. At that point your ignorance was showing as you must have had one of the following in mind when you accelerated to ridiculous speeds as I tried to pass:

- You must have still been on government time and decided you could "waste" a little of Uncle Sam's money (since it was so nice outside) instead of getting to your destination and doing your job in a reasonable amount of time. (I am assuming you were still on the clock, as you continued south on Patton and did not turn east on Redstone);
- You were just in the mood to play dangerous games; or
- You are perhaps one of those "control freaks" who refuse to be passed – for any reason.

So — all of this certainly begs the question: Why would you do that?

In any event, you appear to be a danger, and if nothing else, I believe the people having to drive on post should be made aware of your existence and mentality (or perhaps that would be "lack thereof"). Although I have no idea who you are, I think "big white pickup truck with a plate that reads Earnhardt" should do the trick. Redstone drivers, beware!

Name withheld by request

Letter policy

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

Quote of the week

'It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed.'

– Theodore Roosevelt

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Brian Marbrey

Job: Assistant manager for the Diane Campbell Recreation Center

Where do you call home?
Huntsville

What do you like about your job?

Since I can't be a Soldier any more, I like to give back to the troops who are serving for us.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to build model airplanes, and I study Navy manuals on military aircraft.

What are your goals?

To eventually again run my own business in the hobby industry.

What's your favorite type of music?

Rock 'n' roll



Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

April 18: An individual was requesting a pass at Gate 10 when it was revealed he was driving with a suspended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

April 19: A driver at Gate 10 had a suspended driver's license and could not provide proof of liability insurance. He was issued two violation notices and released.

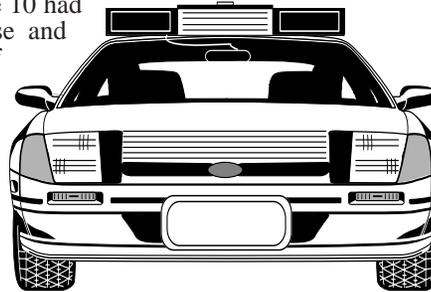
April 21: Two visitors were involved in a fight at Fox Army Health Center. There were no injuries requiring medical treatment. Both subjects were processed and released.

April 23: An individual was stopped for a traffic violation and found to be driving with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and released.

April 23: A subject entered the Post Exchange and attempted to shoplift two bottles of cologne valued at \$96. The subject was stopped by Store Security and processed by Police.

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

Violation notices issued: 44 speeding, 11 failure to obey traffic control device, 3 driving while suspended, 1 illegal parking, 1 inattentive driving, 1 failure to yield right of way, 2 improper backing.



Wymer selected for the Senior Executive Service

By ANDY ROAKE
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

Debra Wymer has been selected to the Senior Executive Service by the Army and will serve as director of technology integration and interoperability for space and missile defense with the Space and Missile Defense Command and Army Forces Strategic Command.

She will lead efforts to create and transition capability technology to joint and coalition war fighters.

In her prior position, Wymer was deputy to the director of the Technical Center at SMDC/ARSTRAT and also managed Technical Center operations, a position she held since April 2006.

Wymer began her career in 1982 working for the Air Force as an aerospace engineer on the E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System program. She has worked ballistic missile defense programs since transferring to the Space and Missile Defense Command in 1986.

The Senior Executive Service is a corps of men and women who administer public programs at the top levels of federal government. The positions are primarily managerial and supervisory and are roughly equivalent to the ranks of general officers in the Army.

Wymer is from Lebanon, Tenn., and has lived in Huntsville for 22 years.



DEBRA WYMER

Redstone residents asked to do survey

Questionnaire arrives in mail within weeks

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have questions, suggestions, concerns or comments, call Ronette Gravitt, 430-1517, at the Redstone Communities Office.

When you receive your survey, do not throw it away. Your opinion does count. Complete the survey and return it as instructed. The postage is already paid, so it will cost you nothing.

Should you have any additional questions, call Giannina Brown at 842-0422. (Garrison release)

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://immcweb.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 Thursday. 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 Friday 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.

- Lunch on the Grounds, sponsored by Redstone Technical Test Center, is today from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 8716. Rain date is Thursday. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715, Brittany Conuegra 876-9141 or MariaLuz Garretson 876-2546.

- The third annual Disc Golf Tournament, sponsored by AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate, is Thursday at 2 p.m. at Redstone's Disc Golf Course. For infor-



Merv Brokke/AMRDEC Public Affairs

NO BUTS ABOUT IT— Dennis Byland, in tie, is among 64 customers who purchased a Boston Butt and helped to raise more than \$1,300 for AER. With Byland are Paul Sieja, left, and Greg Portmann, both of Industrial Operations Division, Engineering Directorate. The Boston Butts were cooked by a local award-winning barbecue team consisting of Paul and his brothers Jim and Joe Sieja. Portmann supported the fund-raiser by helping with the wrapping and distribution. The Boston Butts yielded about five pounds of pulled barbecue pork.

mation call Paul Sieja 842-9408 or Eric Atkins 842-8404.

- Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity is having a full day of fund-raisers Thursday 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.

- AMRDEC AT Office is opening its first AT Conference Golf Tournament to the Redstone community. The tournament is May 5 with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. For information call Sherry Hilley 841-6715.

- 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.

- 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 tan.k.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.

- The Engineering Support Division and PD-SSM will hold its first Dancing for the Soldiers AER Event at 1 p.m. May 15 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For information call Lashona Washington 876-5992 or Dimeccia Blake 313-5016.

- 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 softball tournament, sponsored by AMRDEC Engineering Directorate, is May 22 at the Col. Carroll Hudson Recreation Area. Registration is \$50 per team. For information call Jarius Palmer 842-7328.

- 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.

Birthday

continued from page 1

"I've served for 42 years," said Kennedy, who retired from the Reserves in 2006 and was later recalled to support operations for the Garrison. "I have always loved working with Soldiers. It's more of an honor and a privilege to keep serving, and working with young Soldiers keeps me young, too."

The 100th birthday celebration for the Reserves, sponsored by the Huntsville-Redstone Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, included a color guard from the Reserves' Regional Support Group-East in Birmingham, the national anthem sung by Reserve Sgt. Stephanie Whatley of the Regional Support Group-East, a proclamation from Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, words of appreciation from Madison Mayor Sandy Kirkindall and the introduction of Reservists in the audience.

Today's Army Reserves stands shoulder-to-shoulder with the regular Army, local AUSA chapter president Mike Howell said at the breakfast.

"There's a seamless integration between active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers throughout this land and throughout this world," Howell said.

"You've started a new 100-year tradition. You've transformed the citizen-Soldier strategic Reserve into an operational force."

Speaking at the event was retired Reserve Maj. Gen. Paulette Risher, whose last position as deputy commander of Mobilization and Reserve Affairs for the U.S. Special Operations Command involved the integration of Reserve forces into the Army's Special Operations Command as part of the Global War on Terrorism.

Risher was commissioned into the Army in 1972 upon graduation from Arizona State University. She remembers those early years of her career as a difficult time in the Army.

"As a young Soldier, I remember hearing Nixon's 'we're going to bring the troops home from Vietnam' speech," she said.

"Those Soldiers came home to a bro-

ken Army with no discipline. They came home to a deeply divided country that confused the war with the warrior. There was no doctrine, no educational system."

Today's Army, she said, has come a long way from those days in the early 1970s. It offers career and educational opportunities, provides in-depth and extensive professional training for Soldiers at all levels, follows clear goals and objectives, and benefits from the influence and support of such organizations as AUSA.

"Our Army is not broken," she said. "We are stressed and we're stretched thin. Anyone wearing the green today will tell you that. But we are all volunteer. Our men and women sign up knowing they could very easily go to war. They could go in 42 days from signup.

"That's our reality. That's something important. At the end of Vietnam, the Army transformed itself. We changed our doctrine. We said 'we're not doing this again. We're going to learn our lessons.'"

Risher said the Army will have another opportunity to transform itself in about five years when it enters its post-Iraq and post-Afghanistan phase.

"The first thing we need to think about is treating the Army, Reserves and National Guard as a total force from day one," she said.

"We need to integrate from the beginning. We need to establish priorities and work as one force."

She said that integration is especially needed for the Reserve and National Guard families who are often not viewed as military families.

"No one knows their sacrifices and what they have gone through," Risher said.

Risher, who joined the Reserves in 1981, noted that often Reservists feel like "second class citizens" to the regular Army.

"We act that way and sometimes we're treated that way," she told her audience. "But this is one Army and one fight. You should have pride in being a Reservist. You have picked a different path that includes the Army and an employer. It comes with lots of sacrifices.

"Be proud and act proud and feel good about what you're doing."

Training day

Garrison workers sharpen communication skills

Model-Netics class covers 20 weeks

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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This was a time to relax, to savor the completion of 20 weeks of training in management communications.

Thirty-two members of the Garrison received graduation certificates April 22 for finishing 20 weeks of instruction in the Model-Netics management program. They were evenly split among the 10th and 11th classes since 2006.

“Basically we have trained pretty much half the Garrison,” instructor Kathy Watkins said. She and the other instructor, Donnie George, are senior management consultants in the Garrison’s Plans Analysis and Integration Office.

The students met two hours a week for the 20 weeks from October through April.

“To strengthen communication,” Watkins said of the training goal. “It creates a common language, management language. And it brings positive cultural change.”

Another class is expected to begin in late summer. Garrison workers interested in more information should call Wendy Norris, customer support specialist in the plans analysis and integration office, at 842-9930.

“All of you have displayed just tremendous stick-to-itiveness and I compliment you on that,” George told the graduates during their awards luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Bobby Taylor, a safety specialist in the Garrison Safety Office, was among those receiving a completion certificate.

“I thought it was great,” Taylor said of the training. “Things I took from it are probably problem solving, (and) communication skills. I thought it was good. The instructors were fantastic.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FINAL ADVICE— Garrison senior management consultant **Kathy Watkins**, standing with fellow instructor **Donnie George**, addresses graduates of Model-Netics training.

Army Reserves integral to America's defense

By SHELBY G. SPIRES
Times Aerospace Writer
shelby.spires@htimes.com

Few soldiers can point to building a school as a highlight in their career, but Army Reserve Capt. Lawrence McKiernan feels it is one of his unit's proudest accomplishments.

The Army Reserve, which celebrated its centennial birthday April 23, generally gets combat troops to the fight, builds roads, drives trucks, moves supplies and many, many other tasks.

An officer with the 375th Engineering Company in Huntsville, McKiernan said the three-room school was not commonly thought of as an Army mission, but Army Reserve engineers construct public buildings for needy communities regularly.

"We built a school in El Salvador and roads in Honduras," McKiernan said. "A lot of people go and do their training, and that's an important time for them, but it's rare that any other unit can point to a school they built for people who need it."

"That's special to us." To McKiernan, and other Army Reserve officers, the support job is what keeps the American military strong. America cannot go into long-term battles without its reserve forces.

"The future of the Army is the Army Reserve and National Guard. We now have an all-volunteer force. There is no place for a separate Army and a separate Army Reserve," said retired Army Reserve Maj. Gen. Paulette Risher of Huntsville. "It's got to be integrated."

Created on April 23, 1908, the Army Reserve started out as a way to keep a corps of trained medical doctors. During World War I and World War II, the Reserve ranks grew.

Because there was no large Army coming out of the Great Depression, Army Reserve forces accounted for more than half of many support units and officer groups during World War II. Army Reservists were in every type of Army unit in every theater of the war.

Known today as "Citizen Soldiers," many of those who served during World War II never had the goal of staying in the military. When the war ended, the ranks shrunk back to those who wanted to stay in the sometimes harsh life of a soldier.

During the Vietnam War, few reservists were called upon and by the early 1970s there was a larger rift between Army Reserve and Regular Army units.

Madison Mayor Sandy Kirkindall, who served in the Army Reserve in the early 1970s, felt like the Reserve units were "very much segregated then."

"It was almost like there was two armies - the regular Army and the Army Reserve," Kirkindall said. "We were looked down on, but events have changed that today. We have to maintain the close relationship" between the two.



Photo by Dave Dieter / Huntsville Times

KEY POINTS— Retired Army Reserve Maj. Gen. Paulette Risher gives the keynote address at the breakfast program celebrating the Army Reserve's 100th birthday.

There are 21,000 Army Reserve soldiers on active duty today, supporting 518,000 regular Army and 52,000 Army National Guard soldiers.

That brings Army Reserve units full circle, said Capt. Darla Bonner, who serves with the U.S. Army Reserve's 4th Brigade of the 75th Division in Birmingham, "because our military has its roots in volunteers."

Reserve members are proud to trace their heritage to Revolutionary War icons like Ethan Allen or Paul Revere and other members of the colonial militia who took on the regimented British Army, Bonner said.

"The history of the Army Reserve is the history of the U.S. Army. It's the beginning of our Army," said Bonner, who lives in Huntsville. "There was a time when that's what we used to fight our enemies."

During the American Revolution and for years later "Minutemen and local militia were all we had to stand up to our enemies," Bonner said.

Today, the Reserve, along with National Guard units, "it seems go in after the regular Army has fought the opening phases of a war and we provide support and repairs," said Bonner, who served in the regular Army from 1983 to 1986.

But almost seven years of war has taken its toll on Reserve units, Risher said.

"Our Army is not broken. It is stretched thin," Risher said.

As the war in Iraq and Afghanistan changes and Army units return to the United States, she said, it would be simple for regular Army units to look upon Reserve units as unwanted stepchildren.

"That can't happen. We all count on each other now, more than ever, and that will not change. We can't let that happen," Risher said.

History of the Army Reserve

- April 23, 1908: The U.S. Army Reserve was created when the U.S. Congress passed a bill that called on the U.S. Army to create a reserve corps of medical doctors;
- March 1916: President Woodrow Wilson activated Army Reserve units to assist Gen. John J. Pershing in the hunt for Mexican rebel leader Pancho Villa;
- June 1917: The U.S. Army Reserve sees its largest call-up to date with the activation of 21,543 officer reservists and 35,000 enlisted reservists;
- 1933-1939: During The Great Depression, more than more than 30,000 officers from the Organized Reserve Corps served as commanders or staff officers at 2,700 Civilian Conservation Corps camps, which were used to build bridges, national parks and roads and help put men and women back to work;
- Feb. 6, 1942: President Franklin D. Roosevelt activated the U.S. Army Reserve for the duration of World War II;
- 1948: The U.S. Congress recognized the importance of benefits, retirement and drill pay for Reserve members;
- 1950: The U.S. Army Reserve was activated to fight in the Korean War;
- 1950-1953: While the Korean War was still under way, Congress began making significant changes in the structure and role of the Reserve. These changes transformed the Organized Reserve Corps into the U. S. Army Reserve. Reserve units were authorized 24 inactive duty training days a year and up to 17 days of active duty - called annual training. The president was given authority to order up to 1 million Reservists, of all services, to active duty;
- September 1961-August 1962: More than 69,000 Army Reserve members were called to active duty during the Berlin Crisis, when East Germany and its Soviet allies partitioned East and West Germany and built the Berlin Wall;
- 1968: Although there was no major call-up of Army Reserve units during the Vietnam War, after the Tet Offensive President Lyndon B. Johnson called up a number of Army Reserve units to augment combat forces in Southeast Asia. More than 3,500 soldiers served in combat;
- 1973: The All-Volunteer Force is implemented; Army Reserve receives more responsibilities and resources;
- 1983: Grenada - After the U.S. rescue operation, volunteers from Army Reserve civil affairs units deploy to Grenada to help rebuild infrastructure;
- 1989: Panama - After the U.S. invasion, Army Reserve civil affairs and military police units help restore order;
- 1990-1991: Persian Gulf War - More than 84,000 Army Reserve soldiers provide combat support and combat service support to the Army;
- 1992: Somalia - Army Reserve soldiers provide postal, logistical and other aid to support U.S. relief efforts;
- 1995-1996: Haiti - Army Reserve helps restore democracy, providing more than 70 percent of all Reserve component support;
- 1995-2001: Bosnia - The Army Reserve contributes more than 68 percent of the Reserve soldiers mobilized, providing civil affairs, medical, postal, engineer and transportation support to several operations. This includes more than 11,150 soldiers from more than 330 units;
- 1999: Army Reserve sends units to Central America in support of New Horizons 99 - the relief effort for Hurricane Mitch;
- 2000-2001: Kosovo - Army Reserve units support NATO forces;
- 2001-present: Operation Enduring Freedom - Army Reserve mobilizes thousands of troops in the global war on terror, providing key support for combat operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere;
- 2001-present: Operation Noble Eagle - Army Reserve becomes a major partner with federal, state and local agencies in defending the American homeland against terrorist attacks, providing resources and training to "first responder" organizations across the nation;
- 2003-present: Operation Iraqi Freedom - Army Reserve soldiers participate by the thousands in the march to Baghdad and the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq.

Source: U.S. Army Reserve

Looking back

Holocaust survivor helps Redstone remember



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HISTORY LESSON— A video on the Holocaust is shown before the Days of Remembrance program in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center.

Lessing describes wartime horrors

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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As a 12-year-old boy in a Jewish family in Holland, Ed Lessing had no idea the misery he would see from the onset of World War II.

Germany invaded his country on May 10, 1940 and changed his life forever. He recounted his struggle at Team Redstone's Days of Remembrance program April 23 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center.

See **Remembrance** on page 11



Photo by Skip Vaughn

REVISITING TRAGEDY— Ed Lessing, a Holocaust survivor who represents the Hidden Child Foundation/ADL, recalls his World War II experience during Team Redstone's Days of Remembrance observance.

Remembrance

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“I survived because my God helped me,” Lessing said.

To survive during the Holocaust, he and his parents and two younger brothers dispersed and went into hiding from 1942-45. Posing as a Christian stable boy, he hid on isolated Dutch farms.

“I was alone,” he said. “I was 16. I had lost my home, my father, my mother, my brothers, my world.”

In 1943 he joined an armed resistance group in the woods, and narrowly escaped when it was raided by German troops in December 1943.

Miraculously, his entire family survived the war and emigrated to the United States. Lessing, 81, resides in Hudson, N.Y., with his wife, Carla, who also survived in hiding during the war. They have a grown son and daughter.

Lessing is a frequent speaker in private

and public schools, colleges, churches, Jewish centers and synagogues. He is the writer and editor of monthly newsletters for the Hidden Child Foundation/ADL.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, presented a memento to Lessing and thanked him for sharing his experience.

“It’s about trying to remember our past so we don’t repeat it,” Myles said of the program.

Myles presented awards to the following winners of static display and essay contests sponsored by Team Redstone for this year’s Days of Remembrance observance:

- Static displays – first place, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; second, NCO Academy; and third, Space and Missile Defense Command.

- Essays – first, Kim Torres of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center; second, 1st Sgt. Jacob Endres of HHC 59th; and third, Dorman Chasteen of JLENS under SMDC.

Honor Flight pressed to make memories for veterans

April 19 flight a success, but some vets didn't make it

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Staff writer

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Memories. That's what Honor Flight is all about for the local World War II veterans who make the trip to Washington, D.C., to see their memorial.

"They all have their own special memories," said Joe Fitzgerald, president of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Honor Flight. "They get to experience those memories again and they can experience them with their peers who know what it is to be a World War II veteran."

But some don't make it.

Just days before the Saturday, April 19, Honor Flight, Fitzgerald and his group of volunteers were, sadly, working to fill vacancies.

"We had one veteran who was scheduled to go who died four days before Honor Flight (from a fall off a ladder)," Fitzgerald said. "We had to replace four other veterans because of illness.

"We had 124 veterans on Saturday morning. One veteran canceled at the last minute because his wife went into the hospital on Friday night. That morning, two other veterans had emergencies. One was

taken away by ambulance five minutes prior to our departure ceremony. We told them to make sure their medical conditions improve so they can go on the next flight with us."

Medical conditions

So, in the end, 122 World War II veterans actually made the chartered flight to see their memorial. Of those, 24 were over 90 years old, four were completely immobile and more than 60 would end up using the wheelchairs Honor Flight carries along on trip.

"The severity of medical conditions of the veterans who went on this flight seemed much worse than what we've had on the previous two flights," Fitzgerald said. "It was a very difficult flight from a fragile standpoint. It seems every month is a year to these veterans. The longer we wait to take them, the harder it gets to do this."

The condition of those veterans is also why Honor Flight volunteers insist on taking a team of 12 medical personnel.

"Our veterans have the best medical care they could possibly get available to them when they go with us," Fitzgerald said.

And it is that medical team along with the volunteer guardians who make the trip possible for many veterans.

"I don't think I would have gone with-

out Honor Flight," said veteran Army Air Corpsman Victor Grimes. "It would have been too hard for me. I am hard of hearing and I have a pacemaker. I walk pretty good because I still play golf once a week. But it was just outstanding having all those guardians and everyone there looking out for us and making sure we were OK."

Although the destination is the same, every Honor Flight is different, with changes made to fit the makeup of the group or to accommodate special arrangements.

Burial flags

On this trip, a special Friday night ceremony honored the burial flags representing three WW II veterans. The flags were accepted by two F-16 pilots from the Alabama Air National Guard's 100th Fighter Squadron and flown to Washington, D.C., for a Saturday ceremony at the memorial. One flag represented the veteran who had died earlier in the week - Marine John Hovanes - and the other two represented Col. Hugh Baynes and Maj. Hank Tyra, both decorated career Air Force veterans.

This trip also included bag piper Joe Ausfahl, who played ceremonial music at the WW II and Iwo Jima (Marine) memorial.

"Hearing Amazing Grace on the bag pipes at the World War II memorial was a

really nice touch. Everyone was taken by it," Fitzgerald said.

The group, which was the largest of four Honor Flight groups visiting the memorial on April 19, also enjoyed remarks from retired Sen. Bob Dole and Alabama Congressman Robert Aderholt.

"We had three women on this flight, so we had lunch at the Women's Memorial," Fitzgerald said.

The trip also included visits to Arlington National Cemetery to see a changing of the guard and a wreath laying ceremony, visits to the Lincoln Memorial and Korean War Memorial, and a bus tour of D.C.

Memorial impressive

But the best part of the trip was the World War II memorial.

"I was so impressed by it," said veteran Marine chaplain Denver Stringfellow. "I didn't expect anything like that. It was just so elaborate and so remarkable. It was good to see."

The veterans seemed to especially enjoy the crowds that greeted them on their arrival at Reagan National Airport in D.C. and their return to Huntsville International Airport.

"They were taken back, they were so shocked at the reception at Reagan," Fitzgerald said. "And when we returned to

See **Flight** on page 13

Tightening the belt pays off for aviation project office

Unmanned Aircraft Systems avoids spending \$2 million

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

The Army and the Program Executive Office for Aviation have joined the ranks of those using Lean Six Sigma as their business transformation enabler.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office completed a new employee in-processing improvement initiative. The UAS team was experiencing significant delays, lack of clear procedures and unnecessary stress.

After conducting the process-improvement effort using LSS, the team reduced new employee processing time by 75 percent, documenting a cost avoidance of \$2 million for fiscal years 2008-14. The team also established clear, repeatable procedures for future business transformation use.

Col. Tim Crosby, deputy program executive officer for aviation, told the UAS team that its efforts were appreciated, and encouraged it to always challenge the status quo.

"It is no longer acceptable to say 'because we have always done it that way,'" Crosby said. "Lean Six Sigma should be part of our fabric and daily activity. LSS are simple but powerful tools that can change the way we



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

GREEN BELT— George Cash of Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office is now a certified Lean Six Sigma 'warrior.'

solve problems and improve processes."

He emphasized the importance of learning the industry-proven LSS approach through available yellow, green and black belt classes.

For more information, call Joe Kendig at 313-4027.

■ Next Honor Flight scheduled May 31

Flight

continued from page 12

Alabama there was a crowd of 1,500 to 2,000 people waiting for them. It was truly amazing."

"We were so warmly greeted," said veteran Navy Seaman Roger Williams. "They made me feel like a hero, although I'm not sure what a hero is supposed to feel like."

For Fitzgerald, the sentimental journeys to the WW II memorials are made even more difficult when he thinks of the veterans who won't make it.

"There is a passing of World War II veterans at such a rapid rate," he said. "It's most difficult and heart wrenching for me. It's very difficult to get the original selection of veterans to show up for their flight. They want to be there, but some just can't."

Flight fund-raisers

The next Honor Flight is scheduled May 31. Flights for the fall are scheduled Sept. 13 and Oct. 18, but funds are still being raised to pay the costs for those flights. Several events, including golf tournaments and a June 19 concert featuring country star Ronnie McDowell and the Stamps Quartet, D.J. Fontana and Millie Kirkland, have been planned to help raise funds. Fitzgerald also hopes to organize an alumni gathering for Honor Flight alumni in the fall.

All the planning and efforts of many volunteers to make the Honor Flight trips happen is well worth it, he said, especially when veterans express their appreciation.

That appreciation was most evident in a poem veteran Grimes wrote on his return flight from the World War II memorial.

In the poem, he wrote "The Memorials, my two brothers will not see, I'm wearing my brother's jacket, to share the day for three. I'm an old soldier of eighty-seven, Seeing mankind's creation, was if I was in heaven ... Leaving brought tears to my eyes, but the memories will last until I die. The trip was only one day, the remembrance will forever stay. Thank You Guardians and gracious fans, With people like you this country is in good hands."

Wideband global satellite takes flight

SMDC/ARSTRAT operates payload for war fighters

By ED WHITE and ANDY ROAKE

For the Rocket

A new satellite is circling the Earth. The Wideband Global Satellite Communications satellite is a reality.

This is the most powerful communications satellite in the Department of Defense inventory. It is the first of six satellites that will take over long-haul communications from the legacy constellation, the Defense Satellite Communications System. WGS went operational April 15.

Many years ago, when a new communications satellite was needed, the Air Force would build it, launch it and then other services could use the capabilities it provided. Today it is a joint effort. The war fighting community, including the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, get together and define the requirements for today and into the future and then the engineers go to work to design a capability that will support the war fighter for the estimated life expectancy of the satellite.

WGS is an example of such cooperation. Originally planned as a gap filler between the DSCS system and a more capable system, it evolved to become the new system. Each WGS is more capable than the entire nine-satellite DSCS constellation now in operation. The six-satellite WGS constellation will be operational sometime in 2012.

The joint aspect of this satellite constellation is similar to the way the DSCS constellation operates. Air Force Space Command is charged with “flying” the WGS satellite through the 3rd Space Operations Squadron located at Schriever AFB, Colo. The 3rd SOPS continuously monitors and maintains satellite health by performing daily telemetry, tracking and commanding functions.

SMDC/ARSTRAT’s 53rd Signal Battalion, headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colo., operates the payload from global locations in direct support of the war fighting community and other government agencies throughout the DoD. The battalion is the Army’s only satellite control unit and manages, plans and controls payloads to assure the reliability of the communications they provide to tactical

and strategic war fighters.

Peter Stauffer, director of the Wideband SATCOM Division at SMDC/ARSTRAT, spoke about the difference WGS payload capabilities will make to the war fighter.

“WGS provides a quantum leap in capabilities — not only in throughput but in operational flexibility,” he said. “The ability for the war fighter to exchange information faster using higher data rates, and more efficiently, with the ability to reach different locations simultaneously is part of the inherent capability of WGS. Data, full motion video, maps, voice and imagery will be received and transmitted by war fighters at all levels — tactical, operational and strategic.”

Stauffer also addressed the difference in operations for the Army units operating the payload.

“Network planning and payload operations for WGS are more complicated than with the DSCS system,” Stauffer said. “The expertise and dedication of our people in the SATCOM Support Centers and 53rd Signal Battalion is going to make the difference. They understand the importance of this mission and they will make it happen.”

The joint operation of this satellite is an example of Army and Air Force war fighting commands supporting the entire war fighter community.

Editor’s note: Ed White works at Air Force Space Command Public Affairs, and Andy Roake at SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs.



Air Force photo by Duncan Wood

OUT OF THIS WORLD— Air Force Gen. C. Robert Kehler, left, commander of Air Force Space Command, and Army Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, sign a memorandum April 11 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., recommending early USSTRATCOM acceptance of command and control of the first Wideband Global SATCOM satellite.



Courtesy photo

Group's appreciation

Becky Smith has received the following message from members of Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders. "TACL thanks you! On behalf of past and present Fellows, Interns, and Co-ops, TACL would like to thank you for your time and guidance given to assist us with acquisition career management. We wish you the best retirement ever!"

Workshop brings future to logisticians

Worldwide training workshop attracts more than 1,000

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**

Staff writer

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Logistic professionals from all over the Army converged on Redstone Arsenal last week for the Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop. The conference set records for attendance.

“We’ve had over a thousand people,” Michelle Durig, WLTW executive officer, said. “We had our training reception at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center (Tuesday night, April 22). We had a record turnout for that.”

The event lasted four and a half days. Col. James Rentz, commander of Logistics Support Activity, kicked off the day April 21 with an opening welcome before handing the Bob Jones Auditorium stage over to the first speaker of the week. Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury of the Army Materiel Command addressed a standing-room only crowd. As part of his remarks, Pillsbury took questions from the audience town-hall style.

“This is what we’re here for,” Pillsbury said. “To address your issues and get you an answer.”

Pillsbury was surprised by a presentation. Col. Casey Wardynski, of the America’s Army video game project, had brought a special guest with a gift. The America’s Army game has long included characters based on actual Soldiers. Recently, they have branched out into action figures of these Soldiers, known as Real Heroes. Sgt. Tommy Reiman happily presented Pillsbury with an autographed version of the action figure modeled after Reiman.

The workshop drew lots of big names over the course of the week. Some attended to take advantage of the

training opportunities. Others led discussions or served as speakers. While the topics varied widely, the changing future of their business was on the lips of everyone. In fact, the theme for this year’s workshop was Logistics Support on the Move.

“It is the Army’s largest logistics gathering,” Durig said. “We bring all the Army’s logisticians from all over the world to get the latest training and updates for all the logistics applications. We had folks from Germany. We had folks from Korea. We had folks just back from theater in Iraq. They came for the updated training.”

The sessions were spread out over multiple locations during the week. This allowed attendees to really delve into the issues they face on a daily basis and get in-depth information about what is coming next. All aspects of logistics were included, from automation and processes, equipment and exchanges, and technical and tactical systems. Covering so many bases takes a lot of players.

There were more than 40 speakers, more than 70 topics and over 200 sessions throughout the week.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

SHOP TALK— William Chaplow, left, chief of LOGSA’s Process Integration Division, talks to Mike Sutherland, senior research scientist contracted to headquarters Army Materiel Command, about Army logistics modernization.

Bulldogs batter Headquarters & Alpha

Bravo moves to 2-1 with 28-3 victory

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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The Bravo Company softball team had extra incentive April 22 against Headquarters & Alpha. But the Bulldogs didn't need it — not the way they were hitting.

Bravo erupted for 18 runs in the second inning to rout Headquarters & Alpha 28-3 at Linton Field.

"It was the first intra-battalion game. It was Headquarters & Alpha, 832nd Ordnance Battalion," Bravo right-center Jay Gavigan said. "Lt. Col. (Randle) Jackson came out to the game, got us pumped up. He's the battalion commander."

Gavigan, batting cleanup, had two hits with a triple and scored four runs. The Bulldogs improved to 2-1 while Headquarters & Alpha fell to 1-2.

The score was tied 3-all after the first inning, but Bravo added 18 runs in the second and seven in the third. The game lasted three innings.

"Great defense and a lot of good bats, a lot of good hitting," Bravo pitcher/coach Christopher Mazur said of the win. "Good base hits and good team spirit."

Headquarters & Alpha's Jeff Snodgrass started on the mound before moving to left-center for the Gators.

"Right now we're not getting the practice time that we need to," Gators coach Timothy Hudson said. "And I'm going to remedy that right now."

Standings entering this week had National Guard (3-0), Marines (1-0), Bravo (2-1), Charlie (2-2), 326th Chemical (1-1), Headquarters & Alpha (1-3) and NCO Academy (0-3).

Here are the results from week two:

- **April 22** – Bravo def. Headquarters & Alpha 28-3; and National Guard def. Charlie 22-16.

- **April 24** – Charlie def. NCO Academy 18-9; and National Guard def. Headquarters & Alpha 27-3.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BIG INNING— Bravo's Matthew Wood scores during the Bulldogs' 18-run second inning while Headquarters & Alpha catcher Michael Doughty looks on.

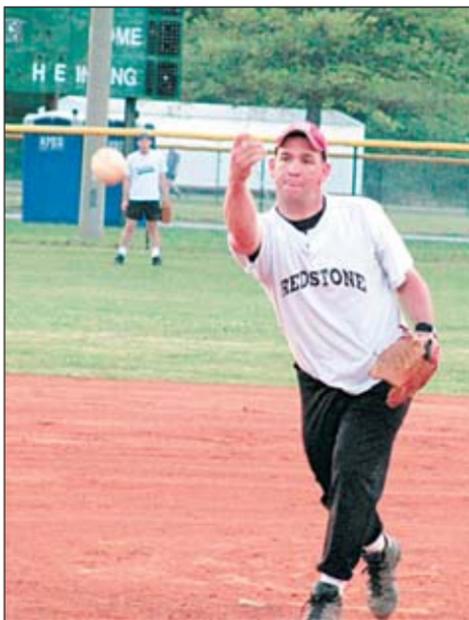


Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOUGH OUTING— Headquarters & Alpha's Jeff Snodgrass pitches before moving to left-center during the loss to Bravo.

German-born immigrant achieves citizenship dream

Relocation assistance program helps with translations, more

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Staff writer

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German native Norbert Kehrer began a personal journey in 1992 that recently led him to stand proudly next to Old Glory as a new citizen of the United States.

On March 18, Kehrer was among 180 immigrants from 58 countries who took the oath as a new U.S. citizen at the office of the U.S. Immigration Service in Atlanta. He became a U.S. citizen with the help of his wife, Susan Morgan Kehrer, who works in the Provost Marshal Office, and Mary Breeden of the Relocation Assistance Program at Army Community Service.

"I got involved because they needed a rush job on translating a German marriage license on the Tuesday before they went to Atlanta for the citizenship test and swearing in," Breeden said.

"As part of the Relocation Assistance Program, I assist foreign-born spouses needing translation services, English as a second language classes or information on gaining their citizenship."

Although Kehrer can translate from German into English, he was at work and unavailable on the day before his trip to

Atlanta when his wife realized he would need their German marriage license translated into English. With no time to spare, Susan Kehrer asked Breeden for help. Breeden was able to get the document translated quickly with assistance from The Volunteer Center.

That translation was one of many things that had to be done to make the dream of U.S. citizenship come true for Kehrer.

"Since we got here in 2002, I always thought I'd become a citizen," said Kehrer, a welder for a local manufacturer. "But I had to wait for five years because you have to be here for five years before you can apply for citizenship."

Kehrer's journey to U.S. citizenship actually began in 1992, when he met his future wife while visiting friends in the U.S. Susan Kehrer, who was living in Texas at the time and working as a real estate agent, decided to reciprocate by visiting Kehrer in Heidelberg, Germany.

By the end of 1992, the couple's friendship had developed into much more. She decided to give up the real estate business and move to Germany.

"I went to Germany with the intention to stay there or not to stay there. I wanted to see if our relationship could turn into something more," Susan Kehrer said.

"Before I knew it, I was hired part time by the Child Development Center in Germany and worked there for 10 years."

In 1994, the couple married. Language and cultural barriers were not an issue for them.

"He was sort of American because he hung out with friends who were U.S. military," Morgan said. "He understood English a whole lot better than I did German. He knew more about America than I did."

Yet, after 10 years, military employment regulations required that Susan Kehrer return to a government civilian job in the U.S. At first, she tried to get a government civilian job in Texas. But, when that search didn't bring up any possibilities, it was extended out geographically until Redstone Arsenal was included.

And that's when the couple decided their journey back to the U.S. would take them to the Deep South. Neither had ever been to Alabama.

"We landed in the middle of the night in December," Kehrer said. "We had friends in Clarksville, Tenn. So, we drove there. We saw all the hills. It kind of looked like Heidelberg. Compared to Germany, it was a little warmer."

Now, with a house in the Sparkman High School area, and with both in established careers, Alabama is the couple's home.

Citizenship was a natural progression for Kehrer.

"I always kind of liked the United States. When I was growing up, I always

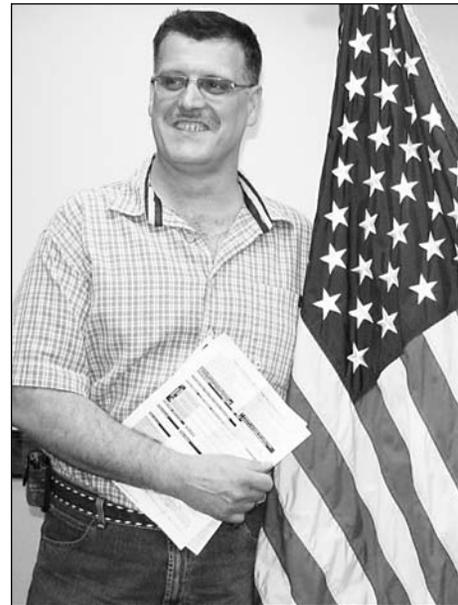


Photo by Kari Hawkins

READY TO VOTE— Now that he is a U.S. citizen, German native Norbert Kehrer is ready to register as a voter in Madison County. Kehrer, who is married to Susan Morgan Kehrer of the Provost Marshal Office, recently took the oath of U.S. citizenship with the help of his wife and the Relocation Assistance Program at Army Community Service.

See **Citizen** on page 21

Promotion policy extended to staff sergeant

Automatic list process prepares future leaders

By JACQUELINE M. HAMES

Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. – The Army's automatic list integration policy has now been extended to include promotions to staff sergeant.

The original ALI policy of 2005 prepared Soldiers at the specialist level for promotion to the next rank, said Sgt. Maj. Tom Gills, chief of the Enlisted Promotions Branch at Human Resources Command. He said ALI helped provide those who were not recommended for promotion with the means to meet promotion requirements, especially for military occupational specialties that had junior NCO shortages.

As of April 1, ALI has been extended to include sergeants preparing for promotion to staff sergeant and Gills said ALI still focuses on the training and development of the Soldier.

"The fundamental purpose of the policy is to ensure our future leaders are trained and ready for the next grade. Both the sergeant and staff sergeant ALI poli-

cies enforce a long-standing requirement that any Soldier who is fully eligible for recommendation for promotion and who is not recommended receives counseling concerning that fact and is provided the things needed to gain a recommended status and appear before a board," Gills said.

Gills emphasized that ALI is an enforcement of current policies and procedures for promotion. Commanders retain the ability to recommend a Soldier be promoted or to deny recommendation. Soldiers in the primary zone for promotion who are not recommended must be counseled why they were not.

"Soldiers who have been fully eligible for a year must be counseled, and the commander must make a conscious decision of whether that Soldier will be recommended for ALI or not. The expectation is that they will also take a hard look to ensure appropriate training and development plans are in place to give that Soldier the best chance for success if they elect not to recommend them for Automatic List Integration," Gills said.

Once placed on ALI, an immediate promotion is not guaranteed.

"A Soldier will not be promoted under ALI until every single boarded Soldier in his MOS has been promoted. If there is

still a vacancy after that, we will promote only the most senior of those individuals on the ALI until all the vacancies are filled," Gills said.

The rigid standards of ALI ensure Soldiers of experience and quality will attain promotions, and those with less experience or specialized training will receive the development needed to attain a promotion recommendation.

Another positive benefit of the policy is MOS shortages of noncommissioned officers can be filled efficiently with the best-qualified Soldier.

"When specialist to sergeant ALI was implemented, there were 30 STAR MOS's or so, and two years later there are 10 – a very positive byproduct of the program," Gills said.

The Army's extended ALI policy targets sergeants in all military occupational specialties who have not yet appeared before a promotion board, but who have been on active duty over six years and have spent at least 11 months as an E-5.

Currently, there are 15 to 20 staff sergeant STAR MOS's on average. Potential staff sergeants on the ALI number in the thousands.

As of April 1, Soldiers can be automatically list integrated if their MOS drops to less than 100 percent of the authorized staff sergeant strength and not enough Soldiers have gone through the board selection process.



Photo by Judy Wilson

Combat bridging

Getting troops from one side of a river to the other is the object of engineer combat bridging. Art Dohrman, who in civilian life is the program manager for the Center of Standardization for Huntsville Center Corps of Engineers, presented "Engineer Combat Bridging" to the April meeting of the Society of American Military Engineers, Huntsville Post.

■ Army Community Service helps naturalized citizen

Citizen

continued from page 20

told my mom, one of these days I would go to the United States," he said.

"I grew up playing cowboys and Indians. For us in Germany, all the cowboys live in Texas. But, when I came here, I found out all the cowboys live in Wyoming and Montana."

As a married adult living in the U.S., Kehrler knew citizenship would be an asset to him in many ways.

"I wanted to be a citizen so that I could participate in the political aspect of this country," he said. "I would like to vote in the country I live in.

"There is also more job security with citizenship. I couldn't get a security clearance as a legal alien. But now I can."

Susan Kehrler helped her husband study for the citizenship test, which included questions like "Who was the first president of the U.S.?", "How many stars and stripes does the U.S. flag have?" and "Who said 'Give me liberty or give me death'?"

"I was amazed at the stuff I had forgot-

ten," she said.

A history buff, Kehrler found it easy to study for the test. It was more difficult, however, to take on a new yoke of citizenship.

"Becoming a United States citizen was bittersweet. You're kind of proud when you say the oath and kind of sad," he said. "I lived 50 years as a German. Now, I will live another 50 years as an American."

The couple have relied on ACS's Relocation Assistance Program for other support over the years. ACS helped them secure a moving company in Germany when they moved to the U.S. ACS also helped them get acclimated to North Alabama and provided them with information regarding citizenship.

Now, as a U.S. citizen, Kehrler has two new goals in mind — to put a flag pole in his yard to bear the U.S. flag and to register to vote in the upcoming presidential election.

Breeden said ACS can help Kehrler with voter registration. But, as far as the flag pole is concerned, Kehrler is on his own.

"I want to have a flag pole by the Fourth of July," Kehrler said with a smile.

Environmental

Even future dentist enjoys Earth Day experience

Youngsters converge on Path to Nature

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
 skip.vaughn@htimes.com

April 22 was a perfect day to be outdoors.

Sunny skies greeted 165 schoolchildren bused to the Path to Nature for Redstone's 14th celebration of the 38th annual Earth

Day. These included 116 students from Priceville Elementary plus two classes from Monte Sano Elementary, from the Huntsville city schools' Earthscope environmental education program.

They took wetland tours, petted educational animals and participated in a mock environmental investigation.

"I think the day's going great," Danny Dunn, chief of the natural resources branch in the Garrison's Environmental Management Division, said. "One of the things I'm happy to have today for the first time is Col. Mike

O'Keefe; he is the commander with the Army Environmental Command at Aberdeen (Proving Ground, Md.). It's just real neat to have him down to be here for Earth Day."

The event was coordinated by Shannon Allen, an ecologist and National Environmental Policy Act specialist in the natural resources branch.

Will Dotson, 11, a fourth-grader at Priceville Elementary, said he enjoyed the outing. Among other things he got a close look at an opossum from the North Alabama Wildlife Rehabilitators.

"It's good," he said, "being out of school, playing all the fun games, seeing all

the animals, learning about the animals." Priceville fourth-grader Elizabeth Smith, 10, was also enthusiastic about Redstone's Earth Day celebration.

"I think it's amazing," she said. "I love what they're doing. They're saving animals. And it's just amazing they're doing all that for us and our environment. And I appreciate it very much. I'd really like to work here (at Redstone). It's really neat."

So, Elizabeth, what would you like to become someday?

"A dentist," she replied. "It's like what I've always wanted to do. I like going to the dentist."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ON TRAIL— Students from Priceville Elementary walk toward the wetlands and cultural resources interpretive trail during Redstone's Earth Day celebration.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CLOSE LOOK— Will Dotson, 11, a fourth-grader at Priceville Elementary, examines an opossum held by Jamie Kitchens, vice president of North Alabama Wildlife Rehabilitators.

Working day for children at Redstone

Parents bring their youngsters to see displays, demonstrations

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

Redstone Arsenal rolled out the military displays and demonstrations for its youngest audience Thursday as it opened its gates to the children of military and civilian employees.

The parade field and the adjoining Redstone Fitness Center hosted several displays for the third annual Bring Your Child to Work Day. Children were invited to sit in the driver's seat of Delta, Huey and Black

Hawk helicopters and the Bradley Armored Vehicle, LAV armored vehicle, Avenger system, Multiple Launch Rocket System, HIMARS system, EOD van and Humvee-TOW, SLAMRAAM. They tested their skills with the TOW II basic skills trainer, Javelin training system and America's Army training simulator. There were also demonstrations of military working dogs, fire truck and safety equipment, robotics and gaming technologies, hazardous devices removal capabilities and CPR.

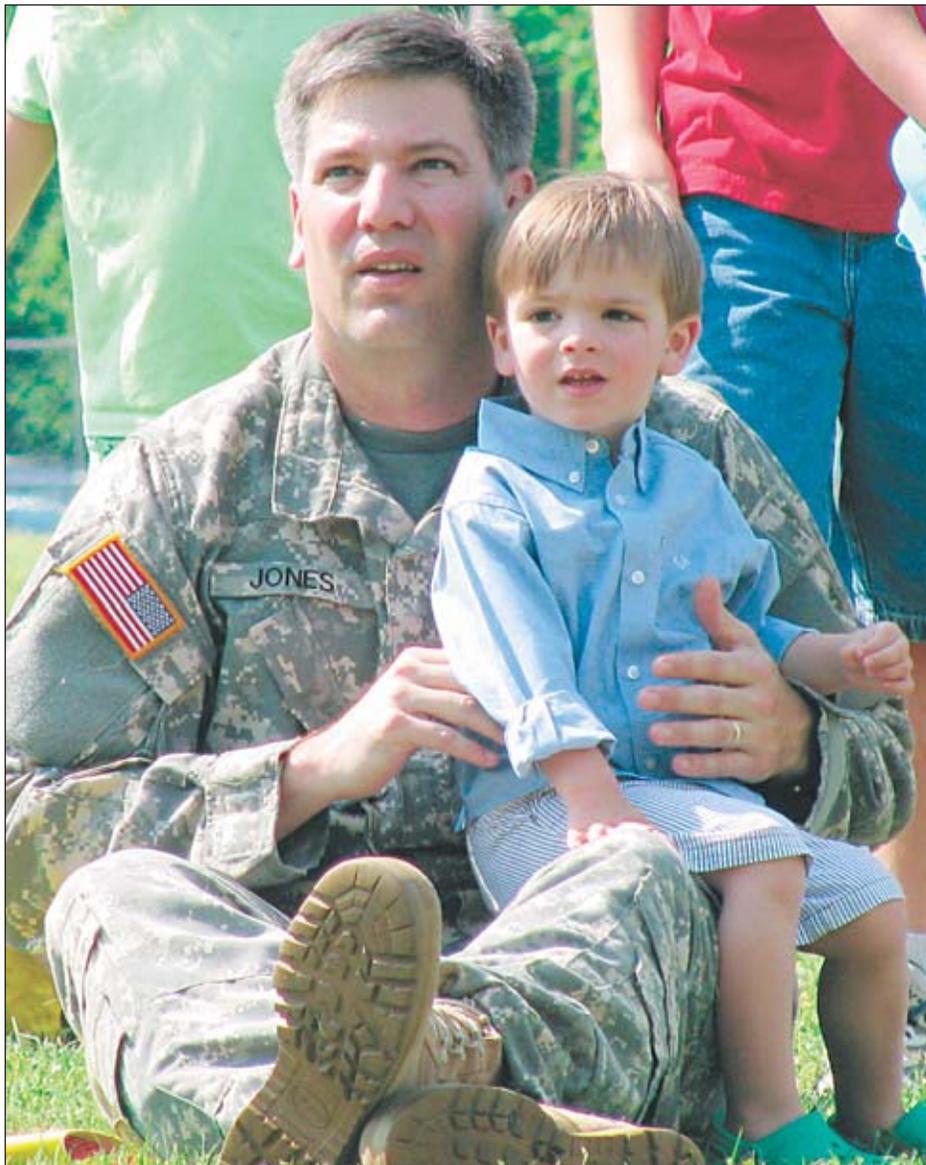
"Have a great time today. It's all about having fun!" AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles told the audience of parents and children who overflowed the parade field viewing stands for the opening ceremony.

"All of you are here today because your loved ones work at Redstone Arsenal. I'm still wearing the Army uniform. But we couldn't do what we do without your loved ones, who are true heroes in our eyes."

The hardware and software developed at Redstone Arsenal and all the support

services provided by Arsenal employees are "important to us in the Army. I cannot tell you how much," Myles said.

See **Children** on page 25



by Kari Hawkins

TAKING TIMEOUT— Lt. Col. John Jones of the Aviation Technical Test Center and his son, nearly 3-year-old Ian, relax as they watch a demonstration by the FBI Hazardous Devices School.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

NICE FIT— Clayton Pitts of PM-Air Warrior Aviation helps Willie Harris III, 9, feel what it's like to wear a Soldier's gear during Bring Your Child to Work Day. Willie is the son of Willie Harris Jr. of AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CRIME DOG— Redstone Arsenal Police Canine Officer Lee Riley puts 5-year-old Cano through his paces during a demonstration of the training, strength and bravery of police dogs. The pair went through several exercises for their audience at Bring Your Child to Work Day. They performed attack scenarios with the help of "bad guy" Police Sgt. Billy Booth.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

I AM ROBOT— Trinity Downey, 7, takes a close look at a robot on display at Bring Your Child to Work Day. With her is her mom, Lindsay Kodelya of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space and two other curious children.

PEO family members store memories for future

Program executive office buries time capsule

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

The youngest family member of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space just did not want her picture taken. Three-year-old Ainsley McLeod kept her head buried on the shoulder of her father, executive officer Maj. Scott McLeod.

Finally, to her dad's satisfaction, she smiled for the camera. And the last picture was snapped en route to the office's time capsule.

The capsule — an old ammo box filled with photographs, organizational charts and other memorabilia — was buried in front of the office's building 5250. This was part of the PEO's observance Thursday of annual Bring Your Child to Work Day. The time capsule will be reopened in 25 years.

"A lot of what we do is linked to families," Barry Pike, the PEO's chief of staff, said.

Before the youngsters posed for group photos, Pike welcomed them and showed a video of the office's weapon systems in action.

"Your parents and grandparents have a lot to do with keeping our nation safe and strong," he said.

He told the youngsters some things they can do to help keep this nation strong. "Stay in school, don't do drugs, and respect authority," Pike said.

Beginning with ages 4 and 5, the youngsters posed for group pictures which would be included in the time capsule. "Everybody stand straight and tall," instructed Jayne Jordan, a program analyst in the external affairs subdivision of Operations Directorate.

Six youngsters ages 13 and up represented the last group. The children's photos culminated with the youngest, Ainsley. And then everyone, including the parents, posed for a group photo in front of the building.

The capsule's other contents included a coin, organizational charts of the PEO and all its project offices, fact sheets on the weapon systems, informational CDs, and a copy of this edition of the *Redstone Rocket*.

Pike was assisted in the capsule burial by Ainsley's brother, Donnie McLeod, 5, and Jessica Peterson, 9, daughter of Lt. Col. Luke Peterson, an assistant project manager at Non-Line of Sight Launch System Project Office.

"I think it's awesome," said Chelsea Nowakowski, 13, daughter of Donna Vanberkom, Avenger major item manager in Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office. "To see how it was now and how it'll look in the future, how it's changed so much."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

KEEPSAKE— Donnie McLeod and Jessica Peterson participate in the time capsule ceremony for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space in front of building 5250.

Children witness what Army's all about

Children

continued from page 24

The general urged all the children to make it a "safe day" before he let them loose to experience the best of the Army.

One of the most popular demonstrations of the day involved an exhibit of the bravery, strength and training of Redstone Arsenal's police dogs. The star of the show was a police dog named Cano and his trainer Redstone Arsenal Police Canine Officer Lee Riley.

The pair went through several exercises for the audience before fellow Police Canine Officer Mike Nelson turned to the crowd and asked "Where's our bad guy? Do we have any volunteers?"

"You can't volunteer your parents, either," added Riley.

Of course, there weren't any volunteers in the audience. But the police department did have Police Sgt. Billy Booth dressed in a heavily padded suit to pose as the bad guy.

"There are six stages of controlled aggression," Nelson told the crowd. "Everybody is a potential chew toy. The dogs are trained to attack in two ways — handler defense and on command."

Riley and Cano then went through exercises with Booth that showed the dog attacking at command and attacking when his handler is threatened. The demonstra-

tion ended with Cano attacking the bad guy during a mock shootout between Riley and Booth.

Inside the Fitness Center, children like Adam Cyr, son of James Cyr of the Precision Fires Project Office, were learning how to operate a TOW missile system on a basic skills trainer while other children were testing their reflexes with the America's Army training simulator and trying on gear worn by Soldiers.

"This stuff is hot and heavy," declared 9-year-old Willie Harris III as Clayton Pitts of PM-Air Warrior Aviation helped him into a vest and helmet worn by pilots. Willie is the son of Willie Harris Jr. of AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center.

Outside on the far side of the parade field, 13-year-old E.J. Arroyo checked out the controls in the pilot's seat of a Delta helicopter. His father, Sgt. 1st Class Efrain Arroyo of OMEMS Missile Systems and Electronics Training Department, flew in Deltas on reconnaissance missions while serving in Iraq in 2005-06.

"It was cool," E.J. said.

Many children pretended to be Soldiers as they climbed into the helicopters and military vehicles. Braxton Bonner, 11, grandson of Richard Gomez of the Cruise Missile Defense Command-JLENS, stepped into his own world of make-believe as he pretended to be a Soldier firing out of the side window of a Black Hawk helicopter.

Nearby, retired Soldier Mel White, who worked in Army helicopter maintenance during his military career and who now works for AMRDEC, talked to his two children — 8-year-old Jasmine Sexton and 11-year-old A.J. Sexton — about the workings of the Huey helicopter on display.

"It's interesting," A.J. said of the Huey. "There's lots of switches and stuff that I don't know about."

Jeffrey English, 8, son of Bill English of the Cruise Missile Defense System Project Office, enjoyed the day's demonstrations, and seeing the equipment Soldiers use in war and to protect people.

But, while Jeffrey was serious about his day at Redstone Arsenal, his

friend Katy Crochet, 8, daughter of Andy Crochet of the Software Engineering Directorate, was more excited about where she wasn't spending the day.

"I especially like that I got to skip school," she said, smiling. "That's really the best. But I also liked seeing the dog (from the Redstone Arsenal Police Department) because I'm a dog lover. Dogs are so cute."

"That was a working dog," piped up Mary English, 5, as she ran circles around the two children and their dads.

Following the event, Redstone Arsenal employees were invited to take their children to lunch on the Arsenal and then to show them their work areas.

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

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 Thursday. 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 Paganio Gym and the Sparkman Fitness Center with deadline today. 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 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.

Toys for Tots 5K

The Toys for Tots 5K fun run/walk is 9 a.m. June 7 at the Edgewater Community, 111 Edgewater Drive, in Madison. T-shirts go to the first 200 registrants. Cost is \$10. For information call Sgt. Daniel Shipps 213-9683, ext. 111 or e-mail shippsdf@mfr.usmc.mil.

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.



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.

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 today at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Retired Sgt. 1st Class David Carney will discuss the Madison County Veterans Memorial. For more information, call retired Col. Danny Burttram 325-1938.

Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet May 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. southeast. Dr. George Rable, professor of Southern history at the University of Alabama, is to speak on "Fredericksburg: The Battlefield and Beyond." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Veterans group

VFW Post 5162 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion building on Triana between Bob Wallace Avenue and Governors Drive. For more information, call Robert Davenport 679-3180.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer Group will meet May 10 at 9:15 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. The Windows/Internet Special Interest Group will start at 9:15 with a discussion on a topic of general interest. At 10:45 there will be a short business meeting followed by a presentation by Kevin Wangbickler on predictions made 15 years ago about the

use of computers and the Internet by teachers for improving education. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Space/missile defense

The 11th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition issues a call for papers with deadline today. The conference is Aug. 11-14 at the Von Braun Center. For information call 533-6986 or e-mail smdconf@smdconf.org.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

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

Surplus sales

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

Go to www.gsauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

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. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information, call 881-6992.

Space lecture

HAL-5 (local chapter of the National Space Society) presents a free public lec-

ture Thursday 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.

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.

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.

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 belle-cambrom@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.

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

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Courtesy photo

Cleanup day

Jan Pickard, center, the Civilian Welfare Fund Council's Rustic Lodge Committee chairman, joins volunteers from the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center and CWFC members in beautifying the Rustic Lodge on April 17.

Rocket Announcements

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 sergeant 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.

Holocaust remembrance

The Jewish Federation of Huntsville and North Alabama invites you to an observance of Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Thursday 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 Radianc Technologies, Attn: Pete Weiland, ASMDA Space Camp Scholarships, 350 Wynn Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805; fax 704-3412; and e-mail pweiland@radiancetek.com.

Volunteers wanted

It's time for the 2008 Whistle Stop Barbecue and Festival on Friday and Saturday. 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 Saturday 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 pass-

es 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.

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.

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.

Health center holiday

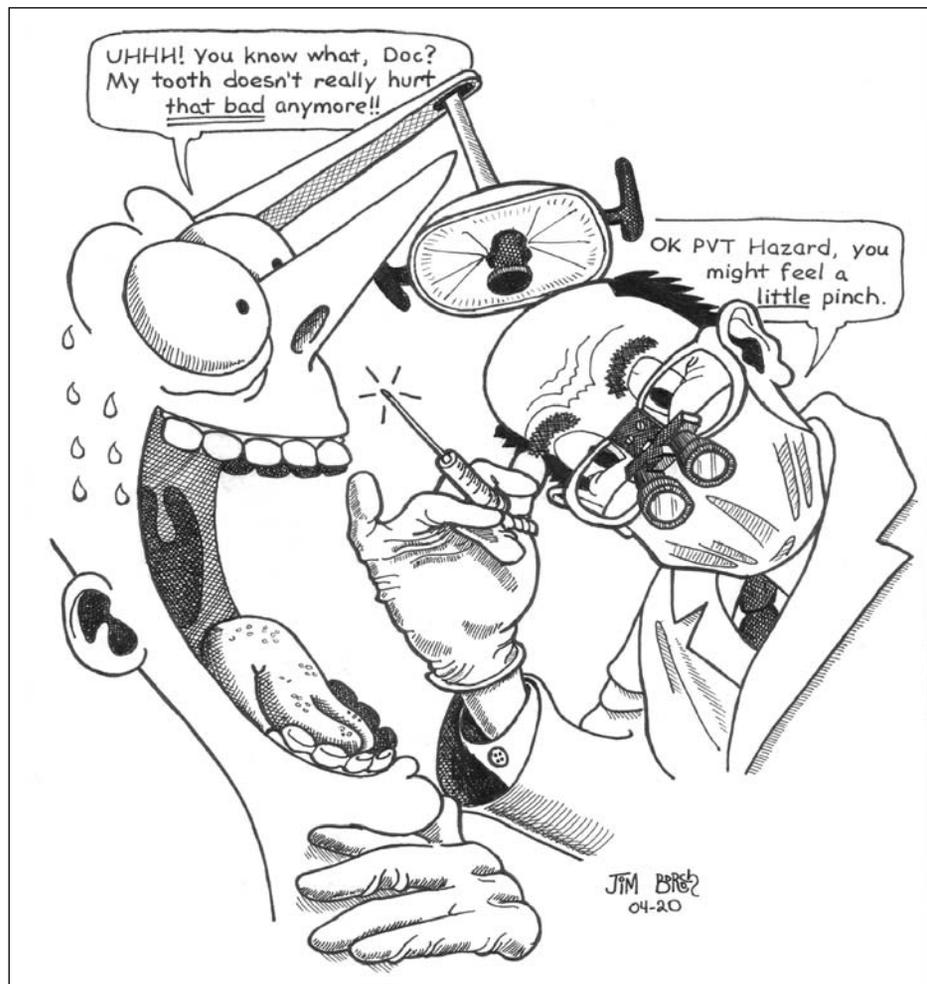
Fox Army Health Center will be closed May 26 in observance of Memorial Day. On May 27, the Primary Care Clinic will be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and services will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The Health Center is closed on Saturday, Sunday, 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.

Job resume workshop

A workshop on resume writing is May 8 from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Seating is limited and military spouses have first priority. For more information, call Debra Jefferson 876-5397.

Children support group

Do you know a child who has witnessed domestic violence against a parent or caregiver? The Children Who Witness Violence group is designed for them and to provide a safe place to share their story with others who have also witnessed domestic violence. "Group members provide support to each other while learning about domestic violence, how to express



their emotions in healthy ways, and how to stay safe," a prepared release said. The group, led by a licensed therapist, is for children ages 5 and older, and is provided at no cost to participants. For more information and to register, call Erica 716-4052, ext. 203 or e-mail erica@csna.org.

Family weekend

"Family First Weekend" is May 17-18 at Southeast Church of the Nazarene, 2275 Cecil Ashburn Drive in Huntsville. The program features Jeremy Johnson, a singer-songwriter-speaker. For more information, call 881-3399.

Contract management

The Huntsville Chapter of the National Contracts Management Association is sponsoring the first North Alabama Contracting Congress, May 1 from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at Westin Huntsville at the Bridge Street Town Centre. Cost is \$175. For more information, call Denise Pelham 468-6016.

Employment opportunity

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, is hiring border patrol agents to protect this nation's borders against terrorism and illegal immigration. Border patrol agents have the initial earning potential of \$36,658 to \$46,542, within the first year of employment, depending on the candidate's education and experience. Benefits include overtime pay, accelerated promotion plans, health and life insurance, federal law enforcement retirement plan and others. In addition, border patrol agents are eligible to earn above \$70,000 a year

after successful completion of a two-year trial period under the Federal Career Intern Program. CBP will accept applications May 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Please preregister at 876-5397.

Latin party

SaborLatino invites you to the "Pre-Cinco de Mayo and Mother's Day Dance" on Saturday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the American Legion, 2900 Drake Ave. Cover charge is \$10 per person - half-price for mothers. For information call hostess Yvonne 783-5756 or deejay Ed 651-9626.

Senior service graduation

The Senior Service College Fellowship, at the Defense Acquisition University, South Region, announces the graduation of its 2008 class May 20 at 2 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. Keynote speaker for the graduation ceremony is Claude Bolton. Introduction of the keynote speaker will be provided by Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles. The Redstone community is invited.

Book Fair

The Madison County Courthouse is holding a Books Are Fun book fair this Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a large selection of education products to help stop student's summer slide along with affordable gifts for moms, graduates and teachers. There will be several free drawings during the event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the local United Way. For more information call 650-0076.

