

# Redstone Rocket

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## Money matters

CID resident agency protecting tax dollars

Page 4



## Family focus

Army, community step up to care for 375th families

Page 6



## Soldier story

Year of the NCO cited at breakfast

Page 8



## Training day

Tactical academy prepares warriors

Page 12



## Win or lose

March madness in Pagano Gym

Page 14



# Brain injury services pass review

Newly formed program inspected at Fox center

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@htimes.com

A Soldier's scars from war are often hidden. They reveal themselves through memory loss, headaches, dizziness or blurred vision. The symptoms may appear months or years after his or her return home.

These hidden scars are diagnosed and treated in the newly formed Traumatic Brain Injury program at Fox Army Health Center. TBI Services director Dr. Lynley Ebeling and her case manager Tim Elmore have their office within the behavioral medicine clinic at Fox.

"Basically our mission is to have them functioning back at normal levels so they can go on and complete their mission as a Soldier," said Ebeling, a neuropsychologist and licensed clinical psychologist.

The Army Medical Command requires that TBI programs be reviewed as part of the command's organization inspection program. Fox's program, formed last August, was inspected March 11 by two representatives from the proponent office for rehabilitation and reintegration, Office of the Surgeon Gen-

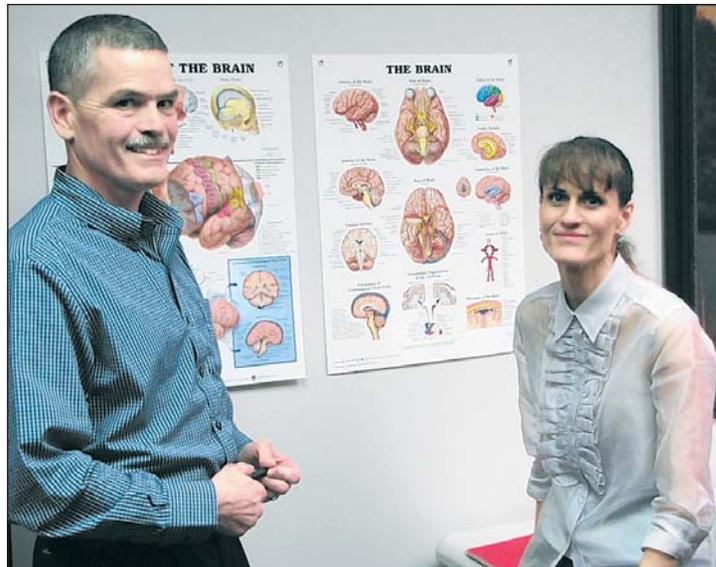


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**MAKING HEADWAY—** Case manager Tim Elmore and TBI Services director Dr. Lynley Ebeling represent the Traumatic Brain Injury program at Fox Army Health Center.

eral. The representatives – Lt. Col. Lynn Lowe and Lt. Col. Kevin Galloway, both from Washington, D.C. – recommended approval.

"We passed with flying colors," Ebeling said. "And we're really proud of that because we achieved that in seven months."

Fox hired Ebeling and Elmore last summer from the local community. Ebeling, with 20 years experience in this field, had private practice in

Huntsville the past six years. Before that, she spent 10 years as director of clinical services at the Center for Comprehensive Services, a residential post-acute rehabilitation facility for TBI in Carbondale, Ill. After moving to Huntsville, she commuted to that facility every month to serve there under contract.

"It's a real critical specialty," said Elmore, a registered nurse who worked at Huntsville Hospital for about eight years and

was a medic in the Air Force. "And we're blessed to have her."

They've seen about 40 Soldiers at Redstone. They are predominantly male with an average age of 36; most are married and highly educated; and most are noncommissioned officers. Overwhelmingly, they had concussions from improvised explosive devices or rocket-propelled grenades. There have also been injuries from Humvee accidents, and two patients who had strokes. At least half of those diagnosed with concussions also meet the criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Neuropsychology helps uncover hidden injuries from a concussion. With paper and pencil, neuropsychological testing checks the patient's concentration, motor skills and memory. "I really consider it a blueprint," Ebeling said.

March is National Brain Injury Awareness Month. Part of its purpose is to reduce the stigma about concussions. Not only are Soldiers susceptible to blast-related injuries, but families in the community commonly deal with the aftermath of bicycle accidents or sports.

"Multiple concussions are not good and can increase the possibility of a more severe brain injury," Ebeling said. "It's really important to wear helmets and use your seatbelts, because you need to take care of the brain."

# Association recognizes top Army workers

TMDE's Rick Turner named civilian of year

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

karihawk@knology.net

Emotions ran high for Rick Turner during the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award Dinner hosted by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army on March 10 at the Von Braun Center.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**BEST OF THE BEST—** Rick Turner, at left, holds the trophy he received March 10 as the local AUSA's candidate for Department of the Army Civilian of the Year. Turner, executive director of the AMCOM's Test Management Diagnostic Equipment Activity, was first announced as the winner in the management/executive category before receiving the top award. Erich Erker, chief of the Aviation Maintenance Branch for the Aviation Technical Test Center, was named the winner in the professional/technical category, and Carolyn Caudle, executive assistant to the commanding general of AMCOM, was the winner in the support staff category.

See Awards on page 19

# An open lane random survey

### What's the best thing about springtime?

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



*Sharon Strickland  
Phoenix Service*  
"It's being able to put away the coats, get out in the yard and being able to enjoy your garden. And enjoy the fresh air. Being able to breathe again."

*Sheila Baker  
Space and Missile Defense Command*  
"The warmer weather – because (then) I don't have static electricity in my hair, I don't get shocked when I touch things, I don't have the dry skin. It's much better."



*Patrick Hoard  
Garrison DOIM*  
"Warm weather; you can get out and enjoy the things you enjoy doing outdoors."



*Richard Arends  
Garrison DOIM*  
"Outdoor concerts; it's good weather for that. Like that MWR thing coming up, that'll be nice."



## Quote of the week

'A kind word is like a spring day.'  
– Russian Proverb

# Letter to the Editor

## Life begins after 50 years service

I retired last Aug. 31 after more than 50 years of federal service in the field of security. As I stood there that bright warm sunny afternoon at the Space and Missile Defense Command headquarters on Redstone Arsenal next to the commanding general and was about to finalize my long career, I could only think: What is next in my life?

Looking around at my family and friends summoned from around the United States for this special occasion and listening to all of the accolades, from the president, governors, senators, state representatives, Superior Civilian Service Award presentation, and numerous plaques and organizational coins pressed into my hand from combatant commanders returning from Iraq and combat sergeants major, I kept thinking that I'm giving up this fruitful and rewarding life for an unknown future.

However, to my surprise and amazement, after resettling in my new hometown of Niceville, Fla., I immediately became involved with the community in and around Eglin Air Force Base near Fort Walton Beach. ... My social calendar started filling up with dates of reunions, conferences and various other activities associated with the security forces career field.

So let me tell those of you who are planning for retirement, don't fear going from the known to the unknown and thinking it's all over — that's not the case. Your life is just beginning anew and there are many people out here that will require your service, knowledge, leadership and management techniques, if you are so willing to share it with them.

**Wilfred H. Dennis Jr.**  
Niceville, Fla.

## Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Sgt. 1st Class Lance J. Green

**Job:** Installation equal opportunity adviser, AMCOM/Garrison

**Where do you call home?**  
Gary, Ind.

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

The ability to assist others with conflict resolution. And the opportunity to share my experiences to promote diversity and inclusion.



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

I love spending time with family. It doesn't matter what it is, spending time with family (wife Carrie, sons Savaughn 7, Shaun, 3, and daughter Sydney, 1). And fishing — or I can narrow it down to catfishing.

**What are your goals?**

To achieve my bachelor's degree in air traffic management (with Pierce College). And to reach the 50-year pinnacle of marriage.

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

My favorite type of music is old school – old school R&B.

## 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.



## National observance promotes children's safety knowledge

A National Safe Kids Week event will happen May 2 in the old service station parking lot across the street from the Shoppette/Gas Station along Vincent Road.

For the last 20 years this national campaign has promoted safety for children. Topics such as bike, water and home safety provide children with risk awareness to better protect themselves and their parents.

With boating season approaching, now is the time to prepare your children with knowledge of safe practices in and around the water.

The Garrison Safety Office in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Redstone Flotilla will sponsor safety displays and information on boating and water safety.

For more information, call the Garrison Safety Office at 876-6027 or 876-3383. (Garrison release)

# Redstone Rocket

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

email: skip.vaughn@htimes.com  
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### Rocket Staff

Editor: Skip Vaughn  
Reporters: Kari Hawkins  
Kelley Lane-Sivley  
Copy Editor/Layout: Scott Seeley  
Advertising Sales: Shelia Smith  
Lacy Pruitt

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# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for March 5-11:

**March 5:** A motorist at Gate 9 was driving with a suspended license. And an arrest warrant had been issued for him by the Athens Police Department. He received a violation notice and was released to Athens Police.

**March 6:** A subject entered the Post Exchange, selected a pair of shoes and left the store without paying. She was stopped by store security and police were contacted. Police processed her and issued a violation notice. Two family members who accompanied the woman became involved in a verbal altercation with her and refused to quiet down after being told to do so by police. The two family members received violation notices for disorderly conduct.

**March 6:** At Gate 1, a driver had a suspended license. He received violation notices for suspended driver's license and expired and improper tags.

**March 6:** A subject approached Gate 9 stating he was lost, but gate security personnel smelled a strong odor of alco-

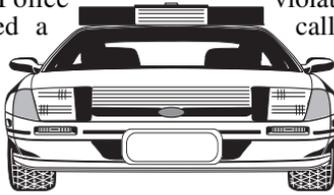
hol. He was arrested by police and transported to the police station where he submitted to a Dreager Test resulting in a reading of .11 percent. He was issued a violation notice and detained in the D-Cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level.

**March 7:** When a subject was stopped by police for speeding on Vincent Drive, he had a suspended driver's license. He received two violation notices.

**March 9:** A driver had a suspended license at Gate 1. When she was issued a violation notice, she elected to call a friend to come pick up her car. When the friend arrived, it was found that she too had a suspended driver's license. The friend also received a violation notice. Both vehicles were later released to licensed drivers.

**Traffic accidents reported:** three without injury, including one deer strike.

**Violation notices issued:** 19 speeding, 1 driving under the influence, 3 driving while suspended, 2 disorderly conduct, 1 expired tag, 3 no driver's license, 3 disobeyed traffic control device, 1 larceny of AAFES property, 5 illegal parking.



## Boating safety awareness surfaced by Coast Guard

In reflection of the recent event concerning the young athletes who were involved in an unnecessary boating accident, the Coast Guard wants all boaters to become more aware of boating safety — not only for your safety but for the safety of all boaters within this regional area of activity.

The boating/water sport season is approaching quickly in this community and now is the time to give boating safety consideration top priority. Far too often the season sneaks in and one day people wake up and say "I want to go boating" and that is the extent of prior preparation. Boating safety starts with, thinking smartly, a Coast Guard release said. Think about your recreational activity and what the ramifications could be if you don't prepare.

It is essential to have proper life jackets on and keep them on. If you end up in the water, an effect on you that is called

"hypothermia" will slow your response to a point of not thinking or physically being able to act. So you want to make sure that the jacket you have on is functional to keep you above water. There is much more to know about boating safety and you should be proactive in this effort to protect you, your family, your friends, and your community, the release said.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary, which is in a recreational boating safety partnership with the Garrison Safety Office, provides classes. A comprehensive Boating Skills and Seamanship course is taught in building 3687.

Anyone who would like to attend a Boating Skills and Seamanship class should contact Redstone Flotilla public education staff officer Tom Kunhart. His phone number is 830-6621; or you may e-mail him at tkunhart@knology.net. (Redstone Flotilla release)

# Watchdogs take bite out of procurement fraud

*CID resident agency protecting tax dollars*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
Staff writer  
kelleylanesivley@att.net

The organizations at Redstone deal with a lot of contracts, as both supplier and receiver. With millions of dollars at stake, they must be ever vigilant to ensure that what the contract calls for is what is actually being done. When it looks like something isn't right, the Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency of the Criminal Investigation Division is there to help.

"When all these big buying commands go out and purchase tanks, helicopters or equipment, we are the watchdog for the Army," Jim Wallis, resident agent in charge, said.

Dealing mainly in major procurement fraud, the Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency of CID is in building 3421 on Gray Road, right next to the badging and decal office. They are a part of the Army CID Command's 701st military police group of investigators. Years ago, the agency shifted to a civilian work force from a military one within the 701st because of the nature of their work.

"With military cycling out every three years, it's tough for someone new to come in to a case," Wallis said. "An investigation can take five, six or seven years. There can be several file cabinets full of documents for each case."

The paperwork alone that must be gone through carefully for any investigation can be immense. If the contract under investigation spans several years, the mountain is even



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**COMPARING NOTES— Jim Wallis, resident agent in charge, discusses ongoing investigations with special agent Mark Mansfield.**

higher. For the original agent who began the investigation to be able to see it through to its conclusion saves time, manpower and prevents what could be vital information from slipping through the cracks.

"You don't want to lose the expertise on it," Wallis said.

The Huntsville Agency averages 30 ongoing investigations at a time. Investigations begin in several ways. Sometimes a program manager or contracting office notices that what they are receiving isn't exactly what they were supposed to get. Sometimes an employee sees corners being cut. Occasionally a tip about a kick-back or bid fixing will be called in. Every once in a while it is a rumor of bribes.

Once their investigation has been completed, the information they have gathered and possible evidence is passed on to the

**See Investigators on page 5**

# Letterkenny civilians honored for service overseas in war

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Forty-two civilians received medals March 5 for their service overseas in the Global War on Terrorism.

Those who served in Iraq included Carl S. Argenbright, Michael R. Atkinson, Paul E. Beavers, Nicholas L. Beckley, Kelly L. Bryant, Troy A. Bream, Steve C. Fissel, Dobby J. Gaiski, Nathan M. Graybill, Adam T. Greenawalt, Michael D. Gregory, Earl V. Grigg, Jr., Tracey A. Kelley, Stephen C. Krushinsky, Dale E. McClanahan, Wallace W. Nye, Elam Z. Oberholzer, Clarence W. Pensinger, Anthony R. Ruhl, Garry L. Schuchman, Jeffrey Sellers, Terry L. Shew, Loren R.

Wagaman, William H. Wiegand, Matthew T. Williams, John A. Zapotocky and Stephen R. Zeger.

Those who served in Kuwait included Esteban Banda Jr., Christopher E. Hewitt, Mark L. Jansen, Kenneth S. Johnson, Kevin J. Rill, Daryl T. Sites and Maurice E. West.

Robert T. Godlewski and Ronald L. Shoemaker served in Afghanistan. Carlos M. Cintron and Michael R. Kirkpatrick were in Iraq and Afghanistan. Robert D. Robinson and Peggy D. Hays served in Afghanistan and Kuwait. Douglas E. Bush and John E. Spellmon were in Kuwait and Iraq.

## ■ Unit probes major contracting crimes

### Investigators

continued from page 4

U.S. attorney's office or the Justice Department. The determination is then made by them whether to pursue the case criminally or civilly. Both have their benefits.

"If it can be traced back to an individual or conspiracy then usually they will pursue it criminally," Wallis said. "If it is a company then it's easier to go after it on the civil side. They can recoup up to triple damages."

While the jurisdiction of the Huntsville office is limited regionally to Alabama and Tennessee, the need the agents fulfill is not. Each of the six agents within the office has spent time deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, performing similar duties for the Army along with agents from other regional offices.

"There are lots of companies doing business with the Army over there," Wallis said. "Unfortunately for us, we're dealing more with bribery and kickbacks."

Procurement fraud doesn't just affect the bottom line on a spreadsheet. Its costs can also be in the lives of Soldiers, incalculable in dollars and cents.

"We start with whether or not there's a safety hazard," Wallis said. "If there is then the helicopter, or whatever it is, will have to be grounded."

They also deal with, in a smaller portion, fraud allegations stemming from construction and services at Redstone.

"We usually get involved when it's a million dollar contract and there's \$100,000 worth of damages for the government," Wallis said. "We may get involved when it's a smaller scale, depending on what it is."

One of the most valuable tools investigating agents can be given is specific information. When a tip comes in dealing with concrete details, it can shave valuable time off an investigation. Wallis urges anyone coming forward with information to be as specific as possible.

"It helps to know where to start," he said. "If you're looking at a multimillion dollar contract that has been going on for years, specifics are great."

Tips to the Huntsville Agency remain confidential. Tipsters can also remain anonymous. They can be submitted through e-mail, by phone or in person, whatever the person is comfortable with.

To report possible procurement fraud, contact the Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency by phone at 876-9457, e-mail them at CID113.Huntsville@us.army.mil or visit their Gray Road location.

"We're here to protect taxpayer dollars and Soldiers' lives," Wallis said.

# Engineer unit Soldiers prepare for deployment

*Army, community step up to care for 375th families*

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Deploying to Iraq is not a new experience for Reserve Spc. Brandon Hall.

But it is for his wife, Raeneal, their infant daughter Alivia and their yet unborn daughter Audrey.

So, while Hall completes additional war fighter training and gets ready for a one-year deployment, his eight-months pregnant wife wants to learn everything she can about Army services, benefits and family support programs that will help her care for two daughters while her husband is away.

For that reason, the couple appreciated the opportunity to participate in an information-packed Army Reserve Yellow Ribbon Pre-Mobilization Briefing on March 8 in preparation for the deployment of 181 Soldiers of the 375th Engineer Company. The six-hour briefing at the Officers and Civilians Club involved presentations on everything the military has to offer families, from Tricare, the Post Exchange and veterans benefits to entitlements, legal issues and services provided by Army Community Service, Military One Source, Family Morale Welfare and Recreation, and the American Red Cross.

"I want to know how to get support if I need it. I want to know how to send care packages," Raeneal Hall said. "I want to learn everything I can today



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**SERVING FOR NEWBORN—** Reserve Cpl. Benjamin Sykora cuddles with his 5-day-old daughter Yves before the Yellow Ribbon Pre-Mobilization Briefing on March 8 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Sykora's wife, Crystal, will get lots of support from family and friends when he deploys to Iraq with the 375th Engineer Company.

about the help I can get while her's gone."

Before the couple were married, Hall deployed twice to Iraq with the active Army. In 2003-04, he served in Baghdad and Tal Afar. In 2005-06, he served in Tikrit. Both deployments were

during times of heightened terrorist activity.

"You have to remember to stay alert, stay alive," said Hall, referring to the advice he gives his fellow Reservists. "The second time I was there nearly every day someone from our unit



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**FULL HOUSE—** Soldiers and families of the 375th Engineer Company pack the ballroom at the Officers and Civilians Club during the Yellow Ribbon Pre-Mobilization Briefing on March 8. The day-long event involved presenters from a host of military organizations that will provide services and programs for the company's families when its 181 Soldiers deploy to Iraq in May.

would get hurt. We only had 10 days when no one was hurt.

"I heard it's a lot better now. And we won't be infantry. We're engineering. But when you leave that wire, you have the same uniform as everybody else and they don't discriminate. You have to expect the worst and hope for the best."

Hall is a member of the 663rd Reserves out of Decatur. He volunteered to deploy with the 375th primarily for economic reasons.

"I got laid off from my job and my wife's pregnant," he said.

But his reasons run deeper than a paycheck.

"I wanted to do something a little extra for my country," he said of his five years as a Soldier and of his reason for joining the Reserves in 2007. "I'm doing this for my country. I feel good about this deployment."

The Yellow Ribbon event involved a standing-room-only crowd in the club ballroom, where presenters from various military

and community organizations provided general overview information. Soldiers and families were also welcome to visit the dining room in the club, where presenters were set up at booths to provide one-on-one counseling and information. The day's activities also included comments from decorated Iraqi war veteran Col. Mark Smith, commander of Fox Army Health Center, and recognition of employers who make it possible for their employees to serve in the Reserves.

"As they are preparing to answer their nation's call, we see our responsibility as addressing the three-legged stool of the Reserves, and that three-legged stool includes the Soldier, the employer and the family. We touch all three of those at an event like this," said Lt. Col. Adam Roth, commander of the 325 Soldiers of the 844th Engineer Battalion of Knoxville.

See Ribbon on page 7

# Nurse practitioner earns professional recognition

Cindy Cooke of Fox Army Health Center has been selected as a 2009 Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners,

The nurse practitioner will be inducted in June at the national conference in Nashville.

The Fellows of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners program was established by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners in 2000. It is to recognize nurse practitioner leaders who have made outstanding contributions to health care through nurse practitioner clinical practice, research, education or policy and to provide a forum to extend and enhance such efforts. Priority initia-



Cindy Cooke

tives of FAANP are the development of leadership and mentorship programs for nurse practitioners and nurse practitioner students.

Cooke is past president of North Alabama Nurse Practitioner Association and founding president of the Nurse Practitioner Alliance of Alabama. She is Region 11 director for the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners representing Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

She is married to Dr. Michael Cooke, a family physician at Fox Army Health Center since 1987. They have two children who also work in the health care field. *(Fox Army Health Center release)*

## Community serves as second family for deploying unit

### Ribbon

continued from page 6

The 844th, which oversees the activities of the 375th, will deploy to Iraq at the end of March. The 844th and the 375th work under the motto "Earth to Sky" in recognition of their work as a construction and building entity within the Reserves.

"This is a family affair," Roth said of the Yellow Ribbon event. "Soldiering is from the heart. Your being here is a true testament of your commitment not only to your fellow Reservists but also to your families and your country."

Speaking to the Soldiers on behalf of the local community, Madison Mayor Paul Finley said "as a community we are so appreciative of what you - men and women - Soldiers are getting ready to do for our freedom."

The Garrison is committed to supporting the families of the 375th while their Soldiers are deployed, said Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper.

"The Garrison is here for your family while you're gone," Cooper, a decorated Iraqi war veteran, told the Soldiers in the audience. "Your focus is supposed to be on your mission downrange. You need to be worried about the Soldier to your right and the Soldier to your left, not about what's going on with your spouse or family back here. Take care of your mission and we'll take care of your family here."

Those words were reiterated by 1st Lt. David Borders, commander of the 375th.

"It is imperative that we as Soldiers focus on our mission," he said. "If we are not in the frame of mind to handle the battle we're in or the situation we're in, then it's going to put ourselves and our battle buddies in danger."

The 375th's 1st Sgt. Daryl Owens, known as "Papa Bear" in the unit for being the senior enlisted Soldier, said the Yellow Ribbon event will help Soldiers get themselves in the right mindset for a deployment.

"We are all Soldiers. We take care of one another. We take care of our families.

And that's what makes us unique," he said.

Borders said the day of information may have been overwhelming for families. But organizational handouts and contact information should help Soldiers and spouses with managing the information.

"We have every aspect of military life we could think about represented here to help our families," he said.

The day "accomplished a tremendous amount," said organizer John Perry, a retired Reserve command sergeant major. "It was a team effort on the part of our volunteers to provide Soldiers and their families with a ton of information. About two-thirds of the unit have not been deployed, and those are the people we were targeting."

Once her husband deploys, Raeneal Hall will have the support of her mother, brother, mother-in-law and other family members who live near the family's home in Cullman. But others may not have such a strong family support network.

"Once these Soldiers leave, they are going to have to rely on us in the community," Perry said. "We are going to have to be their second family."

That community family also refers to family members within the unit who will learn to turn to each other for support. Angila Kienlen, mother of Reserve Pfc. Dominick Kienlen of Cleveland, Tenn., is new to the Army life, yet she has already "adopted" other young Soldiers in the unit.

"I've become a mom to all of them," she said. "I'm learning the Army jargon. I'm learning about this Army that I've been thrust into by my son."

Kienlen appreciated the Yellow Ribbon day of information.

"I need to be educated in every area from the ground up," she said. "Being a new military mom, I'm very inquisitive. The better informed I am, the more peace I have and the more help I can be to those of us left behind."

*Editor's note: A community-wide deployment ceremony for the 375th will be held April 11 at 3 p.m. in the auditorium at Butler High School. The public is invited.*

# Setting example for young Soldiers with dedication to cause



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**PLEDGE OF LEADERSHIP**— Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Taylor, far left, leads a pledge of leadership taken by Redstone Arsenal command sergeants major during the Soldiers Breakfast sponsored by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army on March 11. Taking the pledge are, from left, Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates of the Aviation and Missile Command, Command Sgt. Maj. Angel Clark-Davis of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Blade of the NCO Academy and Command Sgt. Maj. Willie Pullom of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

*NCOs are known for leading way*

By **KARI HAWKINS**  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Leading by example – it’s what a non-commissioned officer is committed to do from the first day they are promoted to a leadership position.

NCOs live the Army values. They are known as “The Backbone of the Army” and the professional trainers of the Soldier force. Their mission and the welfare of their Soldiers always come first. Their professionalism and care for Soldiers in their charge has ensured Army success both on and off the battlefield during a time of persistent and extended conflict.

The Army is recognizing the efforts, dedication and exemplary performance of its NCOs by proclaiming 2009 the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer. Secretary of the Army Pete Geren announced the year’s special designation at the opening of the annual Association of the U.S. Army meeting in Washington, D.C. in October 2008.

In support of that acknowledgement, the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA kicked off the community’s recognition of the “Year of the NCO” at its annual Soldiers Breakfast on March 11 at the Officers and Civilians Club. And, with more than 200 young Soldiers from the 832nd Ordnance Battalion and NCO Academy in the audience, the AUSA chapter wanted to set an example by introducing them to one of the Army’s most successful NCOs.

The Soldiers heard what the Army’s values are all about and the importance of NCOs to the Army mission from Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Taylor of the Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.

The gratitude and support Geren expressed toward NCOs with the year’s designation meant a lot to all Army NCOs, Taylor said. He added that AUSA has been especially effective in supporting the mission of the NCO and all Soldiers.

“You are leading the way in recognizing Soldiers,” he said. “The Army is based on values. When we talk about values, Soldiers mean them from the heart. You also show those values.

“It is especially amazing and gratifying that organizations like the American Legion, AUSA and Veterans of Foreign Wars show honor and appreciation and support of the Soldier. In these days of high tempo and constant deployment, Soldiers truly deserve it.”

Taylor said the support of the military is the highest it has been in 60 years. Huntsville is a community that leads by example in showing its support for Soldiers, he said.

The year’s recognition of NCOs is being emphasized, Taylor said, for three reasons – to sustain and grow the NCO corps, to recognize the professionalism and dedication of the NCO corps, and to inform and educate the public on the NCO corps.

“It is a national treasure,” Taylor said.

“The Secretary of the Army Pete Geren called NCOs the Army’s heart and soul.

# Blue Star Banners honor families of war fighters

By SOFIA BLEDSOE  
For the Rocket

The Army Community Service, in coordination with the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition and the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, held a Blue Star Service Banner presentation March 6 at ACS.

Blue Star Service Banners are displayed by families who have an immediate family member or loved one serving in all branches of the armed forces, including activated members of the National Guard and Reserves, both active duty and reserve.

Twenty-four families registered for the presentation this year, according to ACS director Sue Paddock.

The blue star represents one family member serving in the armed forces. A banner can have up to four stars, signifying that four members of that family are in military uniform on active duty.

"We have a three-star banner today," Paddock said.

ACS's own Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, received a blue star banner as well.

Army Community Service holds the blue star banner presentations at least once per year. "This works out really well," Paddock said.

Motivational speaker and author David Carney of AUSA presented "Five



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

**COMMUNITY SERVICE— ACS recognized 24 families of servicemembers during a Blue Star Banner presentation March 6.**

Keys to a Great You, Reach for the Stars."

The Blue Star Banner Program was started in 1917 by the American Legion. The North Alabama Veteran and Fraternal Organization Coalition started the first Huntsville program on Flag Day, June 14, 2004. Since then this ceremony has become an annual partnership effort between ACS, AUSA and the NAVFOC.

"We love hosting this annual event," Paddock said. "It gives the families a

chance to come to ACS and get to know what programs and services we can provide."

Family members show their appreciation at the ceremony.

"Some get very emotional," Paddock said, "but they surely deserve the recognition for all of their sacrifices."

To register for the next blue star banner presentation, call Army Community Service at 876-5397 or e-mail [mary.breeden@conus.army.mil](mailto:mary.breeden@conus.army.mil).

■ Soldiers Breakfast dedicates Year of NCO in community

## Soldiers

continued from page 8

Those are strong words of praise. They are words that are tough to live by. But I know the Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey will keep us the best corps in the world."

While NCOs are dedicated to the care of Soldiers, Taylor said it is the Soldiers who have earned the positive recognition from American citizens and citizens worldwide.

"You are the large reason why men and women hold the Army in such high regard," he told the Soldiers at the breakfast, many who receive their advanced individual training at Redstone.

## NASA contractor opens local office

Tessada & Associates Inc., based in Springfield, Va., has opened an office in Huntsville's Atrium Building.

The proximity to Redstone Arsenal is important as Tessada moves to expand its offerings of Facility Management, IT Services, Logistics, Program and Acquisition Management, and Professional Services to additional NASA and DoD clients. *(Tessada release)*

# First female 4-star credits diversity for Army strength

By C. TODD LOPEZ  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Diversity is one of the strengths of the Army, and as an organization, it is one of the best at leveraging that diversity, said the service's first four-star female general.

"Your Army considers diversity a strength — and we proudly lead the nation in offering equal opportunity to all," Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commander of Army Materiel Command, said. "Our Army is nourished and energized by the diversity of the men and women in our formations. And women today are contributing at every level and on every battlefield."



Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody

Dunwoody spoke March 6 at a lunch for female Reserve Officer Training Corps and U.S. Military Academy cadets at the U.S. Capitol Visitor's Center in Washington, D.C. The lunch followed discussion panels involving sexual assault and opportunities for women in the Army. The three events were held in recognition of Women's History Month.

Dunwoody told the gathered cadets that "diversity" is more than having different kinds of people — it also means having different perspectives.

"It is not only having some of each, but is (about) having the voices of each heard at the table," she said. "This is the true value of diversity. The best solutions and the best decisions will be made because we will have leveraged the strength and power that diversity brings to the entire team. More than ever before, we need to understand the complexities of the problems we face. The consequences of not doing that are far too great."

# Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

## Fund-raisers under way

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- Barbecue, sponsored by PEO for Missiles and Space's Lower Tier Project Office, March 26 and May 7 at the Sparkman Center, and on April 23 at Wynn Drive.

- Cars & Camouflage charity car show, hosted by Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners, on April 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bridge Street Town Centre.

- Doughnut pre-sales, sponsored by AMSAM-MMC-MA-NM, are under

way through April 1.

- Integrated Materiel Management Center's Maintenance Support Division will have a barbecue April 9 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the building 5302 parking lot. Dinners will cost \$8 with two sides, slaw and barbecue.

- Maintenance Support Division will also have a barbecue May 7 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the building 5302 parking lot.

- Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale is April 13 through May 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304.



Photo by K.C. Bertling

**BAKE SALE—** Members of PEO Missiles and Space, Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office hold a bake sale March 10 to benefit Army Emergency Relief. From left are Matthew Bentley, Roxanne Beggs and Lisa Marion.

# Unmanned aerial system destroys first target in Iraq

The Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space has recorded an Army first by engaging an enemy target with two Hellfire missiles from a Warrior-A unmanned aerial system in Iraq.

This first such engagement in combat destroyed the target.

The Joint Attack Munition Sys-

tems and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Offices are weaponizing Warrior-A UAS platforms in Afghanistan. This is part of an ongoing effort by the JAMS Project Office which began weaponizing unmanned aerial systems in 2001 starting with the Air Force's MQ-1 Predator.

The Army then responded with its own requirement to weaponize the Extended Range Multi-Purpose UAS with the Hellfire missile.

To support this integration, the Army accelerated the missile's direct-attack capability through an urgent materiel release of the P model Hellfire to support full operational capability of Warrior-A.

ERMP UAS weaponization testing is scheduled for later this year with initial fielding in 2010.

UAS weaponization represents an enhancement of operational capability and an increase in combat power for the combatant commander.



Courtesy photo

**BATTLE BRIEFING—** Lt. Col. Mike Brown of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space explains weapon system details to Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody in Iraq. In center is PEO Missiles and Space's Bobby Alongi.

# Warrior Tactical Academy prepares Soldiers for deployment



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**JUMP TO IT—** Staff Sgt. Alexander Cox, a member of Headquarters & Alpha and also a cadre at the Warrior Tactical Academy, watches as trainee Soldiers from 832nd dismount a truck in preparation for a mission.

*Trainees learn from scenarios*

By Spc. RYAN STROUD  
*59th Ordnance Brigade public affairs*

The 832nd Ordnance Battalion is the last stop for many trainee Soldiers before they head off to their respective units. So when the chance comes up for these Soldiers to receive extra training to prepare them for a possible deployment overseas, they head off for Warrior Tactical Academy where they will receive a refresher course on their “Warrior Task and Battle Drills.”

While at the WTA, trainee Soldiers could face a multitude of scenarios, making preparation for each a vital part of their training mission.

“What we had going on (March 10) was training the Soldiers for the lane they will go on tomorrow. They will be conducting convoy operations



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**LOAD OF INFORMATION—** Staff Sgt. Alexander Cox teaches trainee Soldiers from 832nd how to properly load a “SAW” (M249 squad automatic weapon) at the Warrior Tactical Academy.

where they will be dealing with civilian scenarios and also IED (improvised explosive device) scenarios, all to prepare them of any possible deployments overseas,” said Staff Sgt. Alexander Cox, a member of Headquarters & Alpha and also

a cadre at the WTA. “Today’s training was to help prepare them with the actual vehicle they will be traveling on and its weapons systems so when they hit the lane

See **Trainees** on page 13

# Troops get advice from senior enlisted Soldier

AMC's command sergeant major shares wartime lessons learned

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**  
For the Rocket

Chances are that the insurgents in Iraq and Afghanistan know as much about U.S. Soldier capabilities as the young Soldiers that enlist. "Learn your craft. You need to stay ahead of them," Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Mellinger of the Army Materiel Command said.

Mellinger addressed a roomful of Soldiers on March 5 at Heiser Hall during his visit to Redstone Arsenal.

In this session titled "NCO Professional Development: Technology and the Warfighter," he shared personal experiences during his career and hard lessons learned during war. He wanted to let Soldiers know that each of them is an essential part of the Army and that each makes a difference in the nation's defense. He wanted them to know what it means to be a Soldier.

"Most of you signed up after 9/11," Mellinger said. No matter what line of work they joined for, Soldiers are an integral part of the Army and the Defense Department, he added.

"Even the Marines can't stay too long in the beach without getting something from the Army," he said. "There is no shortage of work for you out there."

Showing a video clip of insurgents firing faulty weapons that backfired on them,



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT—Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Mellinger of Army Materiel Command speaks March 5 in Heiser Hall.**

Mellinger said the United States has the best equipped army in the world.

"I've got 85 Ph.D.s working for me at RDECOM (Research Development and Engineering Command)," he said.

A video clip of one of Mellinger's personal experiences in theater revealed mistakes made by Soldiers in his unit during an improvised explosive device attack. Although no one was hurt, novice Soldiers panicked during their first IED experience and did not follow their training. Mellinger replayed the video and asked the Soldiers to identify the mistakes made in the video.

"The number one killer of Soldiers today is IEDs," he said.

The Army Materiel Command makes equipment to help Soldiers survive, but the Soldiers should use standard operating procedures. "Follow your SOPs," Mellinger said.

## Academy readies warriors with battle drills

### Trainees

continued from page 12

tomorrow, the trainees will be a little more efficient," he said. "Basically, this lane they will conduct their mission on will implement their entire warrior task and battle drills. We (the cadre) set up these scenarios so we can observe the trainees and see how they will react to conflict. They will have to have to work together to achieve their mission, whether it's one person providing aid, another pulling guard and everyone else reacting to fire, they have to work together to accomplish their mission.

"They might even have to dismount and take the lane by foot so this training helps refresh older training they received in basic."

The trainee Soldiers also had the chance to educate themselves once again on the "SAW," practicing how to properly load and handle the weapon.

"The 'SAW' (M249 squad automatic weapon) is going to be a weapon these trainees will use in their deployments," Cox said. "I know they get the chance to handle them while in basic training, but it never hurts to go over it again and give the Soldiers more experience with the weapon. It's important that they know

how to properly load and fire this weapon and this just gives them a refresh."

While these trainee Soldiers are refreshing on their Warrior Battle Drills, they are receiving expert advice from those who have already been overseas and have seen what works and what will help these Soldiers survive.

"With these Soldiers out here today being support MOSs, (while deployed) we do a lot of convoy operations and (the cadre) try to incorporate a few things we have learned while being deployed and from our experiences from past units," Cox said. "If a Soldier does something that they shouldn't be doing, and you've possibly seen the same thing overseas that wasn't working, we do our best to mention it to the Soldier."

"It's really good to have a 'heads up' before you do anything so with this type of training, we try our best to prepare these trainees with what's going to come," Curtis Lewis, WTA command observer and a member of the Alabama National Guard, said. "We don't want them (deploying) and not knowing what to do out there, we want them ready. All of the cadre out here has different experiences from deployments, so we try to combine all of the best together to properly and efficiently train and help these Soldiers for when they do deploy."

# HHC 59th marches to tonight's tourney showdown

*Fourth seed advances to final from the winners bracket*

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

March madness arrived last week at Pagano Gym.

The unit-level postseason basketball tournament brought all the drama and intensity as the national college hoops annual showcase. Well, maybe not. But it is exciting and sometimes surprising.

There's the top-seeded Civilian Welfare Fund, which breezed through the regular season at 8-0. And there's the underdog Bravo Company, which struggled to 1-7 but rallied in the postseason. The league's nine teams entered the double-elimination tournament that began March 9 and ends tonight at 6 with the final.

HHC 59th (7-4), the tournament's fourth seed, advanced to the final from the winners bracket.

CVF player/coach Jacques Eckles was asked early last week about the keys to his team's success.

"I think the primary thing is we practice together," he said. "We learned each other, what position people like to be in, what shots they like to take. I think our defense could improve. But we play a 2-1-2 and 2-3, we play that well as a team. We also play some man-to-man. And on offense, we believe in run-and-shoot, just run-and-gun. We push the ball as fast as we can. And we substitute five (at a time). We keep fresh legs on the floor every two minutes. We have a deep bench. And our second five could start. So, we have a real good bench."

But his team got bitten by the underdog that night and was eventually eliminated from the postseason.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**WAKEUP CALL**— Civilian Welfare Fund player/coach Jacques Eckles talks to his team at halftime of CWF's 54-44 upset loss to Bravo on March 10.

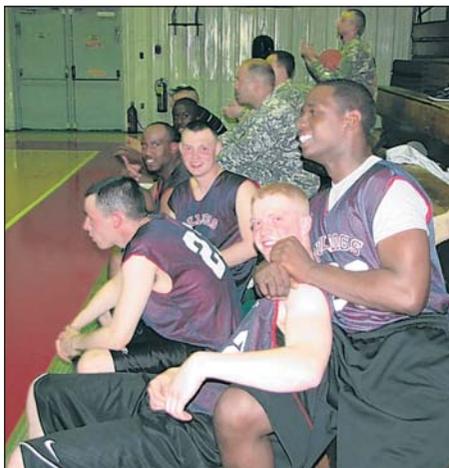


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CELEBRATION**— Bravo forward Kyvias Moore, right, hugs teammate Matthew Miller in the closing seconds of the Bulldogs' win over CWF.

Bravo upset the Civilian Welfare Fund 54-44 in the second round March 10 for its second straight win in the tournament. The Bulldogs beat 326th Chemical 39-30 the preceding night.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**BULLDOG BOARD**— Bravo forward Robert Kennedy grabs a defensive rebound early in the second half of the Bulldogs' 39-30 win over 326th Chemical on March 9 at Pagano Gym.

"I think that's a good wakeup," Eckles said after the loss. "Bravo wanted the game more and we did not play as a team. Bravo played as a team. They played team defense. They just flat out beat us this game. So this is definitely a wakeup call. We took them lightly."

CVF led 23-20 at halftime and scored the first four points after intermission. But the Bulldogs stayed close. They tied the score 30-all on Kory Roberts' 3-pointer with 13:55 left. Aaron May sank two free throws to put Bravo up 34-32 at 9:58 and the Bulldogs led the rest of the way.

"It was teamwork," said May, who scored 11 points. "Never giving up, hard-nosed."

"We beat them back down the court," said Roberts, who scored nine with two 3-pointers. "And we pressed them."

Joshua Enriquez led with 12 points and Mondedric Fedrick added 10 for the Bulldogs, who improved to 3-7.

Rodney Steele scored 18 points and John Gayden had nine for the Civilian Welfare Fund.

"I think we weren't aggressive enough," CWF forward Mike Mathis said. "The main thing was not (being) aggres-

sive and turning the ball over. We usually play with a lot more tenacity, and we were playing flat. And we were coming from behind the whole game instead of jumping out."

The NCO Academy (5-5) eliminated the Civilian Welfare Fund 70-61 in overtime Thursday night. CWF finished at 8-2.

HHC 59th advanced to tonight's final by beating the NCO Academy, Bravo (3-8) and the second-seeded National Guard (6-4).

Here are last week's results from the postseason tournament:

- **March 9:** Bravo def. 326th Chemical 39-30; National Guard def. Marines 56-52; and 375th Engineer def. Charlie 51-44.

- **March 10:** Bravo def. Civilian Welfare Fund 54-44; HHC 59th def. NCO Academy 63-50; and Marines won by forfeit over 326th Chemical.

- **March 11:** National Guard def. 375th Engineer 61-43; HHC 59th def. Bravo 63-56; and Marines def. Charlie 61-47.

- **March 12:** HHC 59th def. National Guard 72-56; and NCO Academy def. CWF 70-61 in overtime.

## Army Ten-Miler registration opens soon

WASHINGTON — Registration for the Army Ten-Miler will open on April 1. You can register online at <http://www.ArmyTenMiler.com>.

Last year the race sold out in 21 days. Make sure to register early so you can guarantee your spot in the race. The GEICO pasta dinner tickets, Hooah Tents and Youth Run registration will also open April 1.

This year the Army Ten-Miler will be celebrating its 25th anniversary. The race is scheduled for Oct. 4 at the Pentagon with a course that will take you by the Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument and other D.C. landmarks.

In honor of the 25th anniversary, the Army Ten-Miler has increased the num-

ber of runners to 30,000.

"Over the years, we have been able to incrementally increase the runner field and maintain a safe, competitive race," race director Jim Vandak said.

Redstone Arsenal's Ten-Miler Team will hold an open tryout for runners March 28 at 7 a.m. The course begins at the Sparkman Fitness Center, continues south on Patton Road past Buxton Road to the five-mile point and then back to the fitness center. Redstone is a two-time defending champion in the government agency category. The team will have members from the entire post community — including active and retired military, civilians and Army contractors. For more information, call assistant coach Skip Vaughn 876-1500.

# Garrison intern finds new ways to serve

*Former social worker begins federal career*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
Staff writer  
kelleylanesivley@att.net

Joining the Garrison Intern Program isn't always about just starting out. For Kara Carter-Price, it is the next step in her career — not the first.

"It's another step and another life experience," the management and program analyst intern said.

While many interns are in their 20s, just beginning their careers, Carter-Price represents the growing number of non-traditional students re-entering the work force.

"I come from a family where I was the first to get a degree. I graduated as an undergrad in 2004 and as a graduate student in 2005 through a one year advanced program," she said. "I ended up in the top of my class for both."

She had always known she wanted to help people. Originally, she had given serious consideration to the nursing field, but the life and death responsibilities were a little too daunting.

"I couldn't deal with the separation of death or someone possibly dying at my hands because of something as simple as taking their blood if you do it wrong," she said. "With social work, I give people the tools to help themselves."

Carter-Price decided instead to focus on improving people's lives. She knew she was on the right track when she took a job as a social worker with the state of Alabama, where she spent four years. She still felt like there had to be more, however.

She began applying for federal jobs while pursuing her master's degree in social work with a policy and administration concentration from Alabama A&M University, where she had gotten her bachelor's in social work.

Her application for the intern program received results. Carter-Price was hired into the program at the end of 2008. She began her first rotation in January at Army Community Service.

"I'm learning how this all works," she said. "I'm doing so many things here."

Through her time as an intern, she will spend time in each section of Family Morale Welfare and Recreation. She also anticipates time in the Garrison's planning offices. The move from a state agency to the Garrison is a natural progression for Carter-Price.

"My background is in social programs," she said. "I always knew I didn't want to stop there (at the state level). I wanted to keep going. Service is a life calling. People serve in all types of ways. This is another way to serve."

Carter-Price enjoys the opportunity afforded her by the intern program to learn what Redstone and the Army is all about.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**FIRST ROTATION— Kara Carter-Price, a management and program analyst intern, is settling into her first rotation at Army Community Service.**

She laughs that she thought she knew.

"There are a lot of things I thought I knew because of being in ROTC as a young person. In nursing, they take you to Walter Reed and things like that. I really thought I knew a lot," she said. "Now I know I have only scratched the surface. I'm looking forward to learning more. I don't see it as a challenge though, more as an opportunity and motivator."

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## *Garrison interns*

### *Part 2 of series*

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Carter-Price doesn't know where she will ultimately land after her intern days are over.

"I want to stay in support services, which is the Garrison," she said. "I may be geared more towards social programs because that's where my background is. But because I have so much experience in research and planning, I could end up in that area. That decision is farther down the line."

In her spare time, she volunteers in the community. She works with her church's youth program and teaches a workshop on social etiquette for girls.

"I want to see girls do well," she said. "I've done my workshop for Alabama A&M. I've done it for Huntsville city schools. I've done it for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority."

Carter-Price's son, Kersey, is a senior at Columbia High. Her husband, David, began working with the Missile Defense Agency in September.

"I want young people to know that they can do or be anything," she said. "I don't want to leave anything behind that they can't follow. I always want to be that type of role model."

# Industry hears from Command and General Staff College troops

## CGSC speakers program provides Soldiers' view

By Maj. ED GOSLINE  
For the Rocket

The Command and General Staff College has created the "Sharing Our Story with the Nation" program that links Soldiers attending the Intermediate Level Education Course at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., with various media outlets and community outreach.

"With less than one percent of the U.S. population serving in the military, I think it is imperative for our Soldiers to share their stories with the American public they serve," CGSC commandant Lt. Gen. William Caldwell said.

This program requires CGSC students to tell their story through blogging, writing articles, conducting media interviews and public speaking.

"You can call it strategic communication. You can call it information engagement. I like to call it operating in the information domain of the 21st century," Caldwell said.

The Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space connects air and missile defense industry partners with CGSC veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. This venue allows future senior leaders to share their perspectives on how products are operating on the battlefield and to gain a better



Courtesy photo

**SOLDIER FEEDBACK—** Maj. Marshall Tway, a Command and General Staff College student, addresses a group of industry professionals about his experiences while deployed as a Kiowa Warrior pilot in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The briefing was part of the CGSC Industry Speakers program.

understanding of how those systems are developed. There are more than 35 industry partners participating in the program from six PEOs. Eight of these partners are air and missile defense contractors.

The most recent student to participate in the CGSC Industry Partner Program, of

interest to this PEO, was Maj. Marshall Tway. He is a Kiowa Warrior pilot who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom as a company commander in 1st Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

Tway addressed the Andover office of Raytheon about the Hydra and Hellfire

missiles. He solicited input from many aviators serving in OIF to ensure his briefing was on target and current.

Tway provided an overview of the current employment of the missiles by Kiowa pilots and provided some suggestions from the user – like developing a lighter rocket with a reduced circular error of probability, and different warheads that create higher concussions on impact.

The Industry Speakers Program not only allows veterans to share their experiences but it also strengthens the relationships between the Army, the PEO and industry. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Nathaniel Jones, a Patriot veteran with more than eight deployments in Southwest Asia, described what he would like to see in the future air and missile defense force. "To engage a track off of multiple sensor data," he said. "In a brigade, I have Patriot weapons systems, Avengers, Sentinel radars and THAAD. I'd like to acquire a track using a THAAD radar and engage with a SLAMRAAM."

The first student to participate with one of the PEO-Missiles and Space partners was Maj. Damon Harris, an infantry officer who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom as a company commander in 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division.

Harris addressed the Tucson office of Raytheon about the Javelin missile. He said he chose to address Raytheon "because the product that you produce, I have personally seen save lives."

# Awards

continued from page 1

Turner, the executive director of the Aviation and Missile Command's Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, first got emotional when his name was announced as a nominee for the top civilian award presented by the local AUSA chapter. But those emotions were even stronger when he was announced as the chapter's 2009 winner of the highly coveted award.

"I get choked up when I think about Soldiers in harm's way and how critical it is for us to support them," Turner said.

Ask anyone who knows him, and they'll say it's not surprising that Turner would think about Soldiers at a time when he is accepting an award that will make him a candidate for AUSA's regional top DA civilian award. Supporting Soldiers and the team he works with every day is what motivates Turner as the leader of USATA/TMDE.

"It's easy to come to work every day because I have a great team," he said following the award's ceremony. "It's energizing when you are focused on the right thing all the time and you are doing what's right for the Soldier. The best job in the world is supporting Soldiers."

Turner, who said the "sun never sets on USATA," oversees a work force of more than 600 employees responsible for the Army's test measurement and diagnostic equipment calibration, metrology and repair mission at 58 sites worldwide. USATA performs 73 percent of all calibration actions in the Army and provides calibration support to other military services; supports every Army weapon system; supports more than 15,000 customers and 500,000 items; and ensures calibrated TMDE compliance with national, international and intrinsic standards. The organization, which is part of the Aviation and Missile Command and headquartered at Redstone Arsenal, has an annual budget of more than \$82 million.

It is the team at USATA and the environment at Redstone Arsenal that has made the organization successful in its mission, Turner said.

"We have the best AUSA chapter right here," he said. "We have a good contractor base, great military organizations and tremendous civilian support here. There is great support from our chain of command. They let us do our job and give us top cover to be successful."

As the Redstone-Huntsville AUSA chapter's top DA civilian, Turner will go on to compete for the top DA civilian award at AUSA's Third Region (Southeast) competition this summer. The region's winner will be recognized at the AUSA annual meeting in Washington, D.C. in October.

Turner was among 19 DA civilians, the largest group ever, who were nominated for the local chapter's civilian of the year award in three different categories. Before receiving the top honor, Turner was announced as the winner in the management/executive category. Erich Erker, chief of the Aviation Maintenance Branch for the Aviation Technical Test Center, was named the winner in the professional/technical category, and Carolyn Caudle, executive assistant to the commanding general of AMCOM, was the lone nominee and winner in the support staff category.

The following civilians were also nominated for the Management/Executive Award:

- William "Bill" Andrews Jr., deputy executive director, Integrated Materiel Management Center, Aviation and Missile Command;
- Joe Davis, director of Public Works, Garrison;
- Janet Fletcher, business chief, CH-47F Product Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation;
- Todd Hutto, supervisory strategic planning specialist, Garrison;
- Randall Kline, chief, Enterprise Data Management Office, Logistics Support Activity;
- Timothy McRae, deputy project manager, Ground Systems, Ground-Based Midcourse Defense, Missile Defense Agency;
- Barry Pike, chief of staff, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space;
- Stan Sherrod, deputy project manager, Lower Tier Project Office, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; and
- John J. Wachs, chief, Directed Energy

Division, Technology Directorate, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

The following civilians were also nominated for the Professional/Technical Award:

- Barbara Baugh, secretary of the general staff, Command Management Support and Protocol, Aviation and Missile Command;
  - Barbara Cantrell, engineering technician, Space and Missile Defense Technical Center, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command;
  - Deborah Chinaea, chief, Plans and Operations Office, Security Assistance Management Directorate, Aviation and Missile Command;
  - Carol Kaminer, chief, Human Resources, Fox Army Health Center;
  - Penny Koger-Thomas, career development program specialist, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, Aviation and Missile Command;
  - George "Mike" Nadler, military analyst, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; and
  - Dr. Kenneth Whigham, electronics engineer, Redstone Technical Test Center.
- "This group of folks is amazing. AUSA is recognizing our entire civilian work force by choosing these folks," Turner said.

"It's a huge responsibility, but more of an honor, to represent Redstone Arsenal's civilian work force at AUSA."

Turner told the AUSA audience that he is proud of the great Americans he works with at USATA and within the many military organizations that USATA comes into contact with in executing its mission.

"I accept this award for all the folks at USATA," he said. "Thank you very much and God bless."

Jerry Hamilton, the event's organizer and the evening's master of ceremonies, joked with the audience that Turner's awards speech was 4.375 minutes long, hinting at the exactness of the work of USATA employees.

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles was the evening's guest speaker, and he took full advantage of the event to let his audience know how "valuable and precious" DA civilians are to the Army.

"I talk a lot about Soldiers because I love Soldiers. It's an affair of the heart,"

Myles said. "Our Soldiers are in harm's way defending our country and our way of life.

"But they could not do that without Army civilians ... The center of gravity to support our Soldiers are our Department of the Army civilians ... Our Department of the Army civilians are the continuity that help us accomplish our mission."

He said the DA civilians' role in the Army's success on the battlefield is most evident at Redstone Arsenal, where their mission is essential in keeping Soldiers supplied with missile and aviation systems.

"The Department of the Army civilians at Redstone Arsenal get it. They're Soldiers, too. They understand that it's not about them, but about others ... and that our Soldiers are relying on them," he said.

"When a Soldier pulls a trigger, he wants something to happen. He wants a missile launched. He wants a bullet sent down-range. He wants a helicopter to take off. Or, he wants to talk to somebody (through communications) ... to sense it, report it and identify it. I have full faith and confidence in all you do to make this happen."

In trips to Iraq and Afghanistan, Myles accepts the thanks of Soldiers using systems developed at Redstone Arsenal. "That 'thanks' is not for me. It's for our civilians, our whole team at Redstone Arsenal," he said.

Referring to the evening's 19 nominees, Myles said they are the "best of the best" and congratulated managers and supervisors in their chains of command for nominating them. He mentioned several nominees by name and commented on their unique values, such as Barry Pike for his selflessness, Stan Sherrod for his way of handling adversity, Joe Davis whose longevity of work has made him an "incredible treasure" to the Arsenal, Rick Turner for his ability to lead employees known for their "surgical precision" and unusual ways to defeat the enemy, Barbara Baugh for her "flawless support in the protocol office," Carolyn Caudle as "one of those wonderful administrative assistants here that go above and beyond," and Erich Ercher and Deborah Chinaea.

"For these individuals, it's about giving for others. They don't do their jobs for the money. They do it for others," Myles said. "My intent is real simple - it's about supporting Soldiers. And I know no one who has ever done it better than these nominees."

# Rocket Announcements

## Conferences & Meetings

### Golf fund-raiser

The Security Assistance Management Directorate is sponsoring a Golf Tournament on April 24 at the Redstone Links to benefit the Tennessee Valley Honor Flight. For more information, call Gena Scofield 975-6952 or e-mail gena.scofield@us.army.mil.

### Ten-Miler tryout

Redstone Arsenal's Ten-Miler Team, which will compete in the 25th annual Army Ten-Miler on Oct. 4 near the Pentagon, will hold an open tryout for runners March 28 at 7 a.m. The course begins at the Sparkman Fitness Center, continues south on Patton Road past Buxton Road to the five-mile point and then back to the fitness center. Redstone is a two-time defending champion in the government agency category. The team will have members from the entire post community – including active and retired military, civilians and Army contractors. For more information, call assistant coach Skip Vaughn 876-1500.

### Basketball tournament

The Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will present the Huntsville Hoopfest 3-on-3 basketball tournament June 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Joe Davis Stadium. For registration information call 651-0981, 509-8998 or visit www.dtlphia.org.

### Fishing benefit

Boeing Bass Club's 10th annual Charity Open Bass Tournament is Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wheeler Lake, Ingalls Boat Harbor in Decatur. All proceeds benefit Hospice of the Valley, Hospice of Limestone County and Hospice Family Care. Entry fee is \$125 on tournament day. Current payout is 10 places, from \$1,500 down to \$150 with a Big Fish award of \$500. For more information, call tournament chairman Scott Reid 464-4504.

### Walkathon

Walk4Hearing, sponsored by the Huntsville Delta Zeta Alumna and the Hearing Loss Association of America, will be held May 16 at the Bridge Street Town Centre, Huntsville Hospital Walking Trail. Registration starts at 9 a.m. and the walk at 10. Goals are to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of hearing loss and to raise funds to provide information and support for people with hearing loss. For more information, go to <http://hlaa.convio.net> and click on Huntsville.

### Motorcycle riders

The Redstone Riders Motorcycle Club's 30th annual Charity Poker Run is March 28 at Chips & Salsa in Huntsville. The event opens at 10 a.m. with the last bike out at 12:30 p.m. Charity is Hope Place.

### Senior softball

Senior Rockets softball gives an opportu-

nity for men over 55 years old and all skill levels to participate in a slow pitch softball program. Practices are Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. at field 4 of Brahan Spring Park. For more information, call Lynn Deibler 885-0498 or Fred Garcia 883-1135.

### AER bowling tournament

The 2009 Army Emergency Relief bowling tournament, sponsored by AMRDEC Industrial Operations, is March 26 at 1 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. Entry is \$15 per person. Registration ends Friday. This will be a "no tap" format tourney. For registration and more information, call Paul Sieja 842-9408.

### Men's baseball league

A local men's recreational baseball league, the Southern Senior Baseball League, is recruiting players to participate in its upcoming season. The SSBL has two age divisions: Over-48 and Over-35. (Note: five 25-and-older players are permitted on each 35-year-old division team.) All newcomers are welcome; however, the league is especially looking for players for its over-48 division. Open practices will be held Sundays from 2-4 p.m. from April 5 through May 17 at the John Hunt Baseball Complex, just off Airport Road across from the Municipal Golf Course. The league plays a 20-game season from June through August, normally with two games per week (one weeknight and one Sunday afternoon/evening game). The 35s play their games in Huntsville and Decatur; and the 48s play in Huntsville. For information e-mail either the Over-48 Division commissioner Bill McArdle at SSBL48s@comcast.net or the Over-35 Division commissioner Jim Crum at JimCrum10@yahoo.com.

### Bass tournament

The Army Aviation Association of America's Spring Bob Vlasic Classic Bass Tournament is March 27-28 at the Elk River Group Lodge, Joe Wheeler State Park. For more information, e-mail thomas.geoffroy@us.army.mil.

## Conferences & Meetings

### 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 842-7910.

### Bible studies

Protestant Women of the Chapel holds Bible study classes every Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Childwatch is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis for the 9:30 study. PWOC also provides adult supervision for home-schooled children at the chapel for the 9:30 study. "The lunchtime Bible study meets from 11:30-12:30 so take an hour off from your busy workday to release, refresh and regroup while learning of the healing power of God's word," a prepared release said. For more

or Sharon Olshefski 489-7686 or 489-0404. The contact for the lunchtime group is Mattie L. Jones 828-9890 or 508-7744.

### 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.

### Admin professionals

The International Association of Administrative Professionals invites all civilians and contractors in any type of admin field to attend its meeting held every third Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call Alphadella McRae 313-1957.

### Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club 9783, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Paul Pickett 544-6078. The Research Park Club 4838 meets Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30 at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Valerie Cortez 313-9753.

### Air/missile defense summit

The Tennessee Valley Chapters of the National Defense Industrial Association, Women in Defense and the Huntsville Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association are planning the fourth annual Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Summit. This event is April 6-9 in Huntsville. Attendance is by invitation only. For more information, visit the website [www.JIAMDsummit.org](http://www.JIAMDsummit.org).

### Resource managers

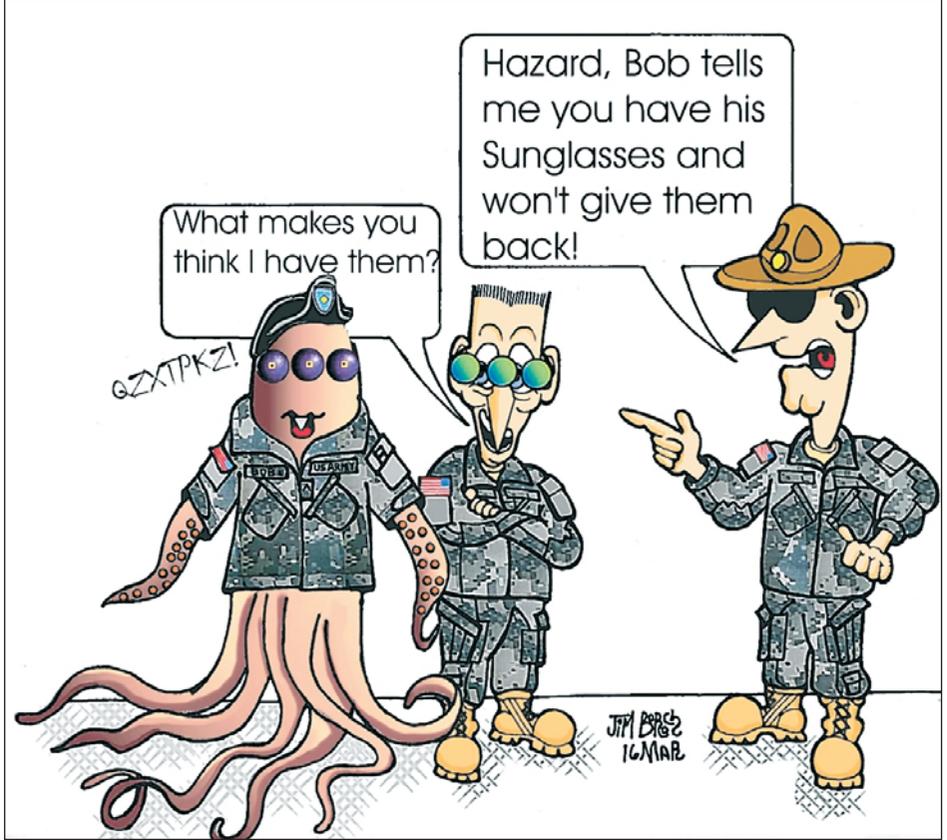
The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. This month's speaker will be meteorologist Dan Satterfield from WHNT Channel 19. For ticket information, call Kim Ouattara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

### Fleet Reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting March 28 at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For more information, call Bill Marriott 974-3763 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

### Blacks in government

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government will hold a general membership meeting and networking lunch Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club in the Soldatenstude Room. "The meeting will start at 11:20 and for those who want to use the buffet to purchase lunch, please arrive early enough to get your food and be seated when the meeting starts," a prepared release said. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.



## Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will have its monthly outreach luncheon March 24 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Cost is \$15. Kim Spicer, a writer and mother of five, will tell how her near-drowning experience put her life in perspective. For reservations call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339 by Thursday.

## Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association will hold its monthly luncheon meeting at 11 a.m. March 25 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Guest speaker is Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli. The chapter's monthly breakfast is March 28 at 8 a.m. at the Madison Square Holiday Inn. All active, retired, former officers, their spouses and widows are invited. For more information, call retired Col. Hal Hicks 233-3548.

## Operations research

The national Military Applications Society of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences will hold a conference April 7-8 at the Huntsville Embassy Suites. The theme is "OR/MS for a New Century: Applying the Right Stuff." For more information, call Greg Parlier 864-8310 or visit the website <http://www.informs.org/site/mas>.

## Administrative professionals

The Huntsville Chapter IAAP sixth annual Seminar and Education Forum is April 21 at the Redstone Federal Credit Union

Technology Center, 220 Wynn Drive. Keynote speaker is John Croyle, founder and executive director of Big Oak Ranch Inc. and a former football All-American at the University of Alabama. Registration deadline is April 14. To register go to [www.iaaphsv.org](http://www.iaaphsv.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. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/or telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9435 or Chief Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

### Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions

# Rocket Announcements

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

### Surplus sales

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

### Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal, the DoD requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. There are two programs offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space available basis to others authorized access to Red-

stone Arsenal. For information call Keith Coates at the Garrison Safety Office 876-3383, e-mail [keith.coates@us.army.mil](mailto:keith.coates@us.army.mil) or e-mail MSF instructor Ralph Harris at [93hdstc@bellsouth.net](mailto:93hdstc@bellsouth.net).

### 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 and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King [jwk108@yahoo.com](mailto:jwk108@yahoo.com) or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

### Officer candidates

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an

See Announcements on page 22

opportunity for you to become an Army officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the active Army and the Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

### Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

### Butler High reunion

S.R. Butler High School's Class of 1969 will hold its 40-year reunion June 13 at the Radisson on South Memorial Parkway. If you or someone you know is from this class, call Billie Harbin Parks 859-5810 for more information.

### Cadet program

Join the Army Reserves and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the active Army or the Reserves. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 518-3972.

### Army training

Do you want to be on the cutting edge of Army training? The 1st Battle Command Training Group offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing your professional management, training and leadership skills. It has immediate openings for sergeant first class through lieutenant colonel – specialty and branch are immaterial — who want to transfer and make a significant contribution to the readiness of the Army. The 1st BCTG conducts continental U.S. pre- and post-mobilization computer simulation based Battle Command Staff Training exercises. It trains and validates Army Reserve and National Guard units throughout the Southeast in wartime readiness. It offers CONUS mobilization opportunities training and preparing USAR and ARNG units for deployment. Unit benefits include Fragmented Annual Training, and opportunity to travel throughout the Southeast.

It encourages and supports attendance at Army professional development schools. For information call 1st Sgt. Larry King (205) 987-8443 ext. 4410, Capt. John Walker (205) 444-5208 or Lt. Col. Anthony Escott (205) 444-5163.

### Interactive feedback

Have you ever gotten “hot” over a situation and you wanted to tell someone? Take it to the source so you can “cool” down with ICE, the Interactive Customer Evaluation web site. You have direct access to all Redstone Arsenal service providers to let them know how they are doing, tell them of shortcomings or offer a pat on the back for a job well done. Log onto the Internet at <http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil>; click on the ICE icon on right; and scroll down and find the service category you wish to rate or scroll to bottom and click “show all” to see the entire list for Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call 876-3294.

### Warrant officer scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Warrant Officer Association offers the RSAWOA Annual Scholarship Program. RSAWOA will award a minimum of one \$1,000 scholarship. Application packets are due by April 1. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen), and spouses of members of the active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Valley. Completed application packets should be mailed to: RSAWOA Scholarship Program, c/o Richard Storie, 102 Trevor Circle, Toney, AL 35773-9651. For more information, visit [www.redstonewarants.com](http://www.redstonewarants.com).

### IAAP scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information and/or a scholarship application, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131. An application can be found at <http://www.geocities.com/iaaprsa/home.htm>.

### Tax assistance center

The 2008-09 Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open through April 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through



Photo by Steve Grzezdziński

## Shape of future

**John Arigot, a machine tool operator at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., uses a dial caliper to measure the gauge of back shell nut wrenches, which are used to tighten back shell nuts on large cable assemblies. The wrenches are cut from sheets of steel by a water jet cutting machine, used by employees in the Machining Branch to cut various types of material, such as steel, aluminum, plastic, copper, brass, glass and rubber. The machine is capable of making hundreds of wrenches per day, depending on its size.**

Friday or as needed (appointments only). The center is located in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. All active duty servicemembers, retirees, their dependents, as well as Reserve and National Guard servicemembers on military orders for 30 or more days and their dependents, are eligible for e-filing of federal and state tax returns. There is no charge for this service. You can schedule an appointment by calling 842-1040.

### Veterans home visits

Redstone Soldiers are visiting Tut Fann State Veterans Home on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. Remaining dates for this year include April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 15. For more information, call Jessica Merritt of Wireglass Hospice 519-8808.

### CFC applications

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations for 2009. Under federal law, the charitable organization must be a current 501(c) (3) organization. The open period for accepting applications continues through April 2. On behalf of federal donors, the CFC is responsible for overall management, collection and disbursements of donor designations from federal, military and postal personnel

within the Tennessee Valley area. The Tennessee Valley CFC serves charitable agencies in Madison, Morgan, Marshall, Limestone, Cullman and Lawrence counties as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. A copy of the 2009 CFC package may be acquired by calling the CFC office 876-9143 or by website <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil>.

### Deployed recognition

In appreciation and recognition of Team Redstone's service and sacrifice, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles would like to honor all those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of Redstone Arsenal operations for OIF/OEF, during the third Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony scheduled April 7 at 1 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. This ceremony will recognize honorees for their deployments from Aug. 11, 2008 to April 7, 2009. Those who were not able to participate in the ceremony held Sept. 18 are also invited to participate in this event. Myles will present letters of recognition to Soldiers, civilians and contractors including immediate family members of the Team Redstone work force who have deployed in support of Redstone Arsenal operations. For more information, call Sofia Bledsoe 842-9828 or Bruce Cline 955-6925.

### AER book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 13 through May 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, Sparkman Center, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. As in the past, they accept donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape. They can receive donations until April 29. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-8563 to arrange delivery or pickup of those items.

### Thrift shop

“We're got something for everyone,” the Thrift Shop says in a prepared release. New merchandise is arriving daily. Visit the shop at building 3209 on Hercules Road on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays 9-4 or Thursdays 9-5. The shop is also open the first Saturday of each month from 10-2.

### Autism support

Alabama Parent Education Center and the Making Connections Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group will present an Individualized Education Program on March 28 from 3-4:30 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, 5003 Whitesburg Drive. To reserve your place for this free session, call (toll free) 866-532-7660 or 334-567-2252



by Friday. Leave your name, telephone number, and mention Code Number 003. For more information, call Debra Bumbicka 348-2180.

## Sugarland concert

Redstone Arsenal's Family, Morale Welfare and Recreation presents the 2009 Army Concert Tour featuring Sugarland with special guest Billy Currington and introducing Matt Nathanson. The concert is May 16 at the Activity Field off Patton Road. Tickets are \$30 through May 15, and \$35 on the day of show. Premium tickets, which cost \$70, are available at the FMWR Ticket Office and the Officers and Civilians Club. For ticket locations and more information, call 876-4531 or visit [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).

## Mr. Man Premiere

The 2009 "Mr. Man Premiere" is scheduled Sept. 19 at the Marriott Hotel near the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. "This premiere event will reveal each male contestant's character through personality, finesse and style," a prepared release said. A panel of judges will decide who will win the title of Mr. Man. "SB Productions is making the final selection on the caliber of men who possess the completeness of what a true gentleman, father, husband, mentor and role model should portray to

complete the 10 contestants in the Mr. Man Premiere," the release said. Eight contestants have been selected through a screening process with two left to fill. More than 150 men have gone through the screening process with a selection result of eight. SB Productions is also placing a female Model Call for the final two models sought to complete the five needed to escort the contestants onto the runway and take part in this event. For those selected, runway and etiquette preparation will be given. The contestant lineup thus far includes a doctor, Army officer, Navy officer, Air Force recruiter, Madison fireman/Marine, Madison police officer, engineer, and a minor league baseball player. For more information, call 278-8862 or 683-3083

## Alcorn State scholarship

The Tennessee Valley Alumni Chapter, Alcorn State University offers the William E. James Memorial Scholarship award, in the amount of \$1,000, for the fall 2009/spring 2010 semester at Alcorn State University. The TVA-ASU scholarship is based on merit and need for prospective Alcorn State University students only. Deadline for applications is Thursday. For more information and/or scholarship application, call Melvin Mayo 721-9336 or Sam King 882-7733..

## Interviewing workshop

Many employers are changing how they screen resumes, test candidates and conduct interviews. Come learn what employers expect and how to prepare for your next interview. A representative from West Corporation will offer suggestions to help you to ace your interview. This workshop will be held today at 10 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Call ACS at 876-5397 to reserve your seat.

## Youth orchestra benefit

The Huntsville Youth Orchestra members invite everyone to join them at the Cheeburger Cheeburger Restaurants on March 26. "While you enjoy your meal, you can also enjoy beautiful live music performed by some of our area's most talented young musicians," a prepared release said. At

evening, small groups and soloists from the Youth Orchestra will be playing some of their favorite pieces. On March 26, Cheeburger Cheeburger is donating a portion of all profits from both of its restaurants to support the Youth Orchestra. "So come on out, have some great food, listen to some great music, and support a great cause," the release said. Cheeburger Cheeburger has two locations: 5000 Whitesburg Drive in south Huntsville (at the corner of Airport and Whitesburg), and 7 Town Center Drive in northwest Huntsville (just north of 72, in Providence Town Center).

## NARFE scholarships

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association is accepting applications for its 2009 scholarship awards. NARFE scholarships are available to the child or grandchild of any NARFE member. All applicants for the \$1,000 scholarships must be current high school seniors with at least a 3.0 grade point average. Deadline for applications is April 30. For more information, call 536-6057 or 519-3327.

## Children's theater

The Dream Weavers' Children's Theatre presents "Seussical the Musical," based on the works of Dr. Seuss, on March 27 at 7 p.m. and March 28 at 2 and 7 p.m. at the Princess Theater Center for the Performing Arts in Decatur. Tickets are available at the Princess Theater Box Office in Decatur or by calling 340-1778. Prices are adults \$12, seniors \$10 and students \$8. For more information, visit the website [www.dreamweaverschildrenstheatre.com](http://www.dreamweaverschildrenstheatre.com).

## Commissary sale

A Commissary On-Site Sale will be held April 17-19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Birmingham ANG Base, AASF No. 2 Hangar, 5700 East Lake Blvd., Birmingham. "The Commissary - it's worth the trip," a prepared release said.

## AER doughnut sale

The Maintenance Information Operations Branch is holding a pre-order doughnut sale through April 1 to benefit Army Emergency Relief. For information call John Zuber 955-6699 or Ernest Edwards 876-0976.

## Relationship class

"Part I: A Tale of Two Brains," a class on relationship between the sexes, is March 30-31 from 6-8 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338. This is open to anyone who wants to better understand how the opposite sex thinks and what motivates them. To register or for more information, call Virginia Dempsey 876-5397.

## Art league

Huntsville Art League has its spring schedule of classes conducted by professional artists. To register visit 3005 L&N Drive, Suite 2, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday or 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Call 534-3860.

## Infantry reunion

All veterans of the 88th Infantry (Blue Devil) Division and Trieste U.S. Forces (TRUST) are invited to join the Southeastern chapter, 88th Infantry Division Association, at its 56th reunion April 2-5 at the Holiday Inn North in Columbus, Ga. For more information, call Robert L. McCall 881-6325.

## Industry training

The Defense Acquisition University will give a free, two-hour presentation on the new DoD Instruction 5000.02 which has some significant impacts to industry supporting DoD acquisition programs. The briefing is March 30 from 2-4 p.m. at the Warfighter Protection Center Auditorium, 401 Jan Davis Drive in the Raytheon building. There is no registration but seating is limited and will be on a first come, first serve basis. The primary audience is industry, but government acquisition workforce members are welcome. For more information, call Chris Fry 722-1070 or Mark Lumb 722-1072. Briefing slides can be found at [http://www.dau.mil/performance\\_support/RDT.asp](http://www.dau.mil/performance_support/RDT.asp).

## Orchestra guild

The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Guild's 2009 Crescen-Dough Auction is April 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, Huntsville. This includes casual dress, cash bar, dinner, silent and live auctions. Cost is \$60. For an invitation, call the Symphony Office 539-4818.

## Earth Day celebration

Redstone Arsenal will celebrate the 39th annual Earth Day on April 22 with an event for local schoolchildren from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Path to Nature. "This is a time to educate the children about taking care of the Earth, including recycling, endangered species and preserving our cultural heritage," said Shannon Allen, ecologist and NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) support in the cultural and natural resources branch, Environmental Management Division of the Directorate of Public Works. For more information, call 876-3977.

## Astronomy event

Von Braun Astronomical Society will celebrate the International Year of Astronomy on April 2-4 from 7:30-10 p.m. at Bridge Street Town Center. "VBAS will have telescopes set up at Bridge Street so that everyone can take a look at the universe just as Galileo did 400 years ago," a prepared release said. "This event supports an International Astronomy Marathon for which the goal is to have a least 1 million people look through a telescope this weekend." For more information, visit [www.vbas.org](http://www.vbas.org).

## Car show benefit

"Cars and Camouflage" car show, benefiting Army Emergency Relief and Honor Flight, is April 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bridge Street Town Centre, on the corner of Research Park Boulevard and Old Madison Pike. The host is Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners. Pre-registration is \$15 by April 10, or pay \$20 the day of the show. For more information, call Ted Whitney 679-2055. Pre-register online at [www.vetswithvettes.us](http://www.vetswithvettes.us).

## Honoring the Soldier

Queensryche, Rhino Entertainment and

JamsBio.com have joined together in a special project honoring the American Soldier. "Whether you're an active duty Soldier, a reservist, a veteran or a loved one, help us celebrate the strength and courage of those who serve our country by sharing (1) stories of service and sacrifice, (2) song dedications to military personnel at home and abroad, and (3) your list of top-5 songs related to war and life on the frontlines," a prepared release said. The project officially kicks off on March 31 and will run for two weeks. Take a sneak peek and add your tribute now at <http://jamsbio.com/american-soldier>.

## Software engineering

Cepeda Systems & Software Analysis Inc., a Software Engineering Institute partner, is providing a public course April 14-16 at Analytical Services Inc. This three-day class is SEI's Introduction to Capability Maturity Model Integration — Staged and Continuous Version 1.2. The registration fee of \$1,400 includes the CMMI 1.2 model, a course notebook, morning and afternoon refreshments, and hot breakfast and lunch each day. For information on enrolling in the course, visit the website [www.cepedasystems.com](http://www.cepedasystems.com).

## Military collectibles

A Military Collectibles Show, the first of what is to become an annual event, will be held March 28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ardmore, Tenn., Municipal Annex. Admission is free. Vendors pay \$5 per table. For information call retired Sgt. 1st Class Billy Taunton 423-6929 or e-mail [tauntonb@yahoo.com](mailto:tauntonb@yahoo.com).

## Aeronautical university

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Campus is now registering for the spring 2009 term, March 23 to

# Rocket Announcements

May 24. The Embry-Riddle Huntsville Center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in Aviation/Aerospace and Management fields; specializing in areas such as Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Industrial Management, Occupational Safety and Health, Aviation Safety, and Project Management. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is Friday. For more information, call 876-9763 or e-mail [huntsville.center@erau.edu](mailto:huntsville.center@erau.edu).

## Diabetes alert day

The American Diabetes Association will "Sound the Alert" about diabetes during the 21st annual American Diabetes Alert Day, March 24. Diabetes is a devastating disease which affects nearly 24 million Americans including 360,912 Alabamians. Nearly one-quarter of those affected by diabetes (approximately 90,228 Alabamians) are not aware that they have the disease. For more information, call the American Diabetes Association 1-800-342-2383 or visit [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org).

## Housing referrals

Whether you are moving to Redstone Arsenal or need to rent or sell your house at Redstone Arsenal, military and Department of Defense civilians now have computer access to the Automated Housing Referral Network. The website will list off base rentals, on post housing, temporary lodging, and military for sale by owners. For more information, call Giannina Brown 842-0422. The website is [www.ahrn.com](http://www.ahrn.com).

## Education seminar

The Huntsville Chapter of the National

Contract Management Association will hold the National Education Seminar 2009, titled "Cost Estimating and Contract Pricing: Tools, Techniques, and Best Practices," on March 26. The presenter will be Andrew C. Obermeyer, director of contracting tests, targets and countermeasures programs, Missile Defense Agency. For more information, visit the NCMA website <http://ncmahsv.org>.

## Orchid show

The Heart of Dixie Orchid Society will hold its annual orchid show and sale Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Holiday Inn Research Park, 5903 University Drive. The show is free to the public. For more information, visit <http://www.h-o-d-o-s.org/>.

## Acquisition careerists

Applications are being accepted through April 30 for the 2009 Senior Service College Fellowship Program-Huntsville which begins July 27. Eligible applicants are Department of the Army civilian Acquisition Corps members who occupy permanent positions in grades GS-14 and 15 or broadband equivalent. Persons interested in applying for the 2009 SSCF Program must respond under this announcement. The official announcement can be accessed at [https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opfam51/SSCF\\_09.pdf](https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opfam51/SSCF_09.pdf). Eligible applicants are encouraged to contact their Acquisition Career Manager before submitting an application to ensure application criteria is met. ACM contact information can be found at <http://asc.army.mil/organization/western/default.cfm>.