

# Redstone Rocket

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# Pay banding for intelligence mission

About 400 security workers  
converting to performance-based  
personnel system

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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About 400 civilians at Redstone will convert to the Defense Department's new personnel system for intelligence workers.

The Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System was explained in a town hall meeting March 17 at Bob Jones Auditorium. An estimated 150 people attended.

"DCIPS is a human resource tool authorized under Title 10 giving the Secretary of Defense the authority to hire, develop and retain a diverse, versatile and highly-qualified work force to perform both the defense and national intelligence missions," said Yolanda Watson, chief of the Intelligence Personnel Management Office, headquarters Department of Army, DCS G-2.

"DCIPS delivers a common, competitive, pay-for-performance personnel system for all DoD intelligence components," Watson said.

July 19 is the conversion date to this system which uses pay banding.

"It is a system that provides compensation to employees based on performance," Watson said. "It's focused on enhancing organizational results."

Across the Army, the DCIPS community includes about 5,500 workers.

Keith Ryan, director of intelligence and



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**COMMUNITY BRIEFING—** Yolanda Watson, chief of the Intelligence Personnel Management Office, headquarters Department of Army, DCS G-2, addresses a town hall meeting on the Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System.

security (G-2) for the Aviation and Missile Command, said approximately 400 at Redstone are affected. Their agencies include the Army Materiel Command, AMCOM, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, PEO for Aviation, Threat Systems Management Office, Corps of Engineers, Defense Security Office, Missile Defense Agency and the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The Missile and Space Intelligence Center is already under

the new system, Ryan said.

Col. Dennis Young, SMDC/ARSTRAT director of intelligence and security, also attended the town hall meeting.

"I think it'll be a good system," SMDC/ARSTRAT security specialist Teresa Brown said. "I think it all hinges on the integrity of managers to be able to communicate openly with their employees. And I think it's also important for the employees to have the communication with their managers. But it really hinges on communication. I do believe communication's the key."

# Test center recycles helicopter sensors

Outdated hardware  
valuable to testing

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Throughout the Army, recycling often refers to innovative approaches to reusing paper, ink cartridges, plastics and other items that would normally be disposed of in a landfill.

But by looking at possible ways to reuse outdated military hardware, some

programs on Redstone Arsenal are using the idea of recycling to give new purpose to hardware that's aged beyond its normal life cycle.

At the Redstone Technical Test Center, engineer Chris Dobbins is now in possession of six infrared sensors (also known as pods) that will add new capabilities to Test Area 3's testing program. Though of value to RTTC, these sensors — known as the Star SAFIRE I, the first generation

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

**NEW LIFE—** Chris Dobbins, an engineer with the Redstone Technical Test Center, looks over a forward looking infrared sensor pod, known as Star SAFIRE I, that was once used on a Medevac Black Hawk and that is now being given new life as a sensor at Test Area 3.

# An open lane random survey

What's your springtime safety advice?

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Ben Acosta  
IMMC retiree

"When driving you just need to turn the lights on because sometimes it's still dark. People are exercising so be watchful for them, especially running on the roads. And be sure to warm up before exercising."

1st Sgt. Alan Caldwell

Kilo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines  
"Number one, spring is a time when everybody is getting back in the swing of the nice weather. My advice is to be on the lookout for everyone – not only for the safety of yourself but for the safety of everyone else around you. And if you see an accident, call it in."



Mike Mathis  
CMDS Project Office

"Be aware of what you're doing. Take the time to prepare your activities, plan for hazards and be prepared to take corrective actions if something does happen. If you're going somewhere, plan out your trips. Plan out your activities so you can also plan for hazards if something happens."

Pvt. Bevin Jannazzo  
Bravo Company

"Be safe and hydrated to beat the heat."



## Quote of the week

'The best car safety device is a rear-view mirror with a cop in it.'

– Dudley Moore  
Actor and musician (1935-2002)

# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Pfc. Ryan Carter



**Job:** Integrated Family of Test Equipment maintainer and operator. Departed Bravo Company last week after graduating and reports April 14 to Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Ga.

**Where do you call home?**  
Phenix City, Ala.

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

I'm around people who are easy to get along with. They're very knowledgeable about what we're doing. We all work as a team together.

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

Hiking, swimming, bike riding, target practice (marksmanship), canoeing and camping.

**What are your goals?**

To become an E-5 (sergeant) and work my way to warrant officer. And hopefully by the time I retire, I'll be somewhere in the chief ranks – CWO 2, CWO 3, somewhere in there.

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

I listen to everything, but primarily rock.

# THAAD missile intercepts target

The Missile Defense Agency and Soldiers from the 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Fort Bliss, Texas, have completed a successful intercept of a ballistic missile target during a test of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system.

The test took place March 17 at the Pacific Missile Range Facility off the island of Kauai in Hawaii. Preliminary indications are that planned flight test objectives were achieved.

THAAD is a mobile system now in development designed to intercept short to medium range ballistic missiles.

Soldiers of the 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade conducted launcher, fire control and radar operations, using tactics, techniques and procedures developed by the Army Air Defense School. The THAAD program is managed by the Missile Defense Agency in Washington, D.C., and executed by the THAAD Project Office in Huntsville. (MDA release)

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for March 11-18:

**March 12:** A motorist and passenger were observed by DES security guards operating a truck loaded with scrap metal. A traffic stop was conducted when it was revealed that the two men had stolen the materials with the intent of selling them off post. Investigation continues by CID.

**March 14:** When a motorist requested a visitor pass at Gate 1, an inspection of his vehicle revealed a small amount of marijuana in the front console. Investigation continues by DES investigators.

**March 15:** Someone damaged leased farmers property by apparently operating heavy vehicles across the land. Investigation continues by DES investigators.

**March 17:** When a motorist approached Gate 9 without identification, it was later revealed that he was an illegal immigrant. He was released to Immigration Customs Enforcement agents.

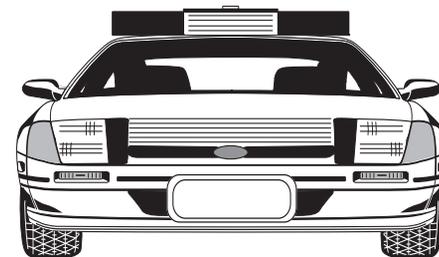
**March 17:** A subject entered the Main Exchange, selected a pair of headphones valued at \$37.99 and left the store without paying. He was detained by store security and police were notified. He was processed by police and released to his unit.

**March 18:** When four subjects approached Gate 9, it was revealed that two of the four were illegal immigrants in possession of false identification documents. The driver received a violation notice for no driver's license. After coordination with Immigration Custom Enforcement agents, all illegal documents were seized and the subjects were released.

**March 18:** A motorist approached Gate 9 without proper identification. It was revealed that he was an illegal immigrant in possession of false identification documents. After coordination with Immigration Customs Enforcement agents, he was issued violation notices and all false documents were seized.

**Traffic accidents reported:** four without injury, none with injury.

**Violation notices issued:** 18 speeding, 5 handicap parking, 2 no driver's license.



# Redstone Rocket

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## Sensors

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forward looking infrared sensor, for the Black Hawk — were deemed unusable by Medevac Black Hawk, Utility Helicopters Project Office, which has long since replaced them with the more technologically advanced Star SAFIRE II.

“When they initially came out for use, these Star SAFIREs represented expensive capability, expensive technology. But they got relatively little use and were not used in combat operations,” said Lt. Col. Dan McCarthy, assistant program manager for Medevac, Utility Helicopters Project Office.

The sensors were used on Medevacs prior to Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“They are of an older generation and today’s aviation platforms are looking for something more advanced,” McCarthy said.

But the Star SAFIRE I systems deemed obsolete for medical evacuation purposes and sitting useless in inventory were actually the kind of forward looking infrared sensors needed at RTTC.

“These systems are of benefit to them,” McCarthy said. “And this eliminates the requirement for us to maintain these systems in inventory. We are sharing resources that are benefiting another organization. It’s a win-win situation.”

Dobbins worked with Dan Holder of the Utility Helicopters Project Office to secure the sensors. He has already determined how the sensors will be incorporated in the testing environment at Test Area 3.

“We have a 75-foot tower that we use for developmental testing on the range where we plan to mount one of these sensors,” Dobbins said. “It will really increase our situational awareness during night testing and give us better documentation. It will allow us to collect infrared video of testing on the range. Customers can then have a time tagged record of events as they transpired.”

Plans also call for mounting a sensor on one of RTTC’s “Mad Max” trucks — known as the Mad Max III “Road Warrior” — that has a mast extending 60 feet in the air and that is used in field testing.

“The sensors will be great for helping us collect video,” Dobbins said. “Mounting one on Mad Max will basically give us a lot of flexibility on the test range. Whenever we need video, we can take Mad Max to that spot, put the mast up and record the data.”

Infrared sensors allow for the collection of data on ground targets, such as tanks, trees and buildings. This data is provided by RTTC to its customers, such as the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center and defense companies that are developing various military systems.

“Sensors, similar to these, allow us to collect radiometric data of targets so that our customer can construct 3D models for simulations that systems such as Javelin and NLOS can use,” Dobbins said. “Infrared sensors are similar to our eyes,

but instead of seeing visible light, they sense the radiation being emitted or reflected from an object. Everything radiates, but not always where we can actually detect it. These sensors will help us with that.”

The sensors, which use technology developed in the mid-1990s, are valued at about \$170,000 each.

“These sensors were basically taken off helicopters to do an upgrade,” Dobbins said. “They are no longer being supported by the company that developed them because they use older generation technology.”

“These sensors were functioning, but they were old. For the purposes of the Black Hawk they had basically reached beyond their life cycle. But for testing they can be used in ways they are not normally used. They can help us develop cutting edge technology for tracking and finding targets.”

RTTC received six full systems and one turret-only system from the Black Hawk Project Office-Medevac. Dobbins said plans are to give one sensor to AMRDEC and two to another branch of RTTC. The other sensor and the seventh incomplete sensor will be used for spare parts.

It’s not unusual for RTTC to give new life to outdated hardware systems, many of which are located through the Defense Reutilization Management Office.

“They have a list of now unused things out there that other government entities can request,” Dobbins said. “I was searching for particular key words and stock numbers related to infrared sensors. Some have photos, but most only have a short description. Sometimes you find useful items at the very best price — free.”

Dobbins did locate some similar sensor systems through the reutilization office. But when two of the systems arrived at RTTC, engineers attempted to identify exactly what they were. Dobbins contacted a local representative of FLIR Systems Inc., a contractor in the field of infrared cameras, night vision and thermal imaging systems, for assistance. Through FLIR, Dobbins learned about the sensor systems at the Medevac office that were in storage. He then worked with Holder to obtain them.

“It was a good initiative, especially with the work Dan Holder did on it,” McCarthy said. “We no longer have to include these sensors in our inventory or maintenance costs, and another organization is benefiting from the capabilities. RTTC has everything to gain from it.”

The technology exchange shows the Army’s commitment to recycling hardware and software systems.

“If these sensors had sat three or four more years and had not been maintained, then they wouldn’t have been usable,” Dobbins said. “Even though they were near their end of life with Black Hawk, we can extend their life much, much longer until we run out of parts to repair them. If we can reutilize these systems while also enhancing capabilities then they carry a cost benefit that is very, very high.”

# Soldier's Soldier jumping into retirement

Garrison first sergeant entering civilian world

By KARI HAWKINS  
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As 1st Sgt. Paul Grosch walks out the door at Headquarters & Headquarters Company-Garrison, he can look back over his shoulder knowing his last assignment was one of the best in a career filled with challenges and opportunities that turned a young man into an accomplished and successful Soldier.

With 21 years of service, Grosch is turning over his administrative duties as the senior enlisted Soldier for 650 Soldiers on Redstone Arsenal (not including the Soldiers of OMEMS, Fox Army Health Center or SMDC) and as a community liaison for the Garrison to incoming 1st Sgt. Albert Rocker, who previously served on the Arsenal in 2007 as the first sergeant of the NCO Academy. After a brief absence, Grosch hopes to return to Redstone Arsenal as a civilian employee.

"One of the highlights of my career was this job because I learned a whole lot about the business of the Army," he said.

"I was very fortunate to get this position. Most first sergeants at the company level work daily with 90 to 100 Soldiers. I was dealing with 650. The experience taught me how big Army operates and how an installation operates. That was really exciting for me. I've seen a different side of the Army – the corporate side. I got to deal with a variety of tasks with the main focus being taking care of Soldiers. There's a whole lot more to the Army than what I thought as a young person entering this field."

Grosch is known as a Soldier's Soldier, personally giving of himself to assist young Soldiers under his command. His dedication was recognized last summer when he received the 1st Sgt. John Ordway Leadership Award from the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Looking back over his career, Grosch said the challenges the Army has given him turned a



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**LEADERSHIP CHANGE—** HHC-Garrison 1st Sgt. Paul Grosch, right, is passing on his leadership responsibilities as an administrator for the Garrison's 650 Soldiers and as a community liaison for the Garrison to incoming 1st Sgt. Albert Rocker.

planned four-year stint into a longtime military career.

"One of the intriguing things about the Army is I don't care how much you know there is always something new to learn about," he said. "That's what's kept me around for so long. With every new assignment and every promotion, there have been new challenges, constant challenges, whether they were physical, mental or both."

Grosch, 46, joined the Army in August 1988, serving in the infantry. His career has included assignments at 13 duty stations. He has served four combat tours in the Panama War, Operation Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Iraq, he served in a combat zone in Kosovo where he did a show of force jump into the country and he served on a Multi-Force and Observer Tour between Egypt and Israel.

"Everybody in the Army is in

a support role with the exception of the infantry," Grosch said, explaining his attraction to the infantry corps. "The infantry was for me because I'm kind of a thrill seeker and I wanted to do some high speed stuff. I wanted to jump out of airplanes. I wanted to be where the rubber meets the road."

The lifestyle of an infantryman has left Grosch with memories of combat and sacrifice.

"Panama was the worst combat I've ever seen," he said, referring to his first combat assignment during which his unit made a combat parachute assault into Panama in December 1989 during Operation Just Cause and fought against dictator Manuel Noriega's forces for about four months.

"It was the first time we lost a Soldier. When you are that age, you think you are 8-foot, 10 inches tall, a steel-chested winged warrior and that bullets

will bounce off you. When you lose somebody, reality strikes you. I still remember the Soldier's rank and name. He was Private 1st Class James Tabor and he was 18 years old."

Grosch was also among the Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, that was the "speed bump" in the sand during Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

"You've heard about the line in the sand? Well, we were before the line. We were the speed bump in the sand before you got to the line," he said.

His service during wartime has made Grosch appreciative of the "simple things that most Americans take for granted," such as a hot shower, eating utensils, electricity and a daily change of clothes.

Throughout his career, Grosch has been impressed with

the Army's ability to prepare Soldiers for war. He has also been frustrated, at times, with the nation's inability to stay the course during wartime.

"Our Army is well prepared. We have the best equipment. We have great leadership in the Army and great personnel," he said.

"But we are held at a different standard than our enemy. If you are going to put me in harm's way, then let me complete the mission or don't send me. I'm going to do whatever it takes to complete the mission."

Grosch has seen many Soldiers grow up in the Army. Successful Soldiers share the same attributes of dedication to the mission, discipline, intelligence, drive, and high morals and ethics.

"A good Soldier is someone who will not accept defeat," he said. "More than anything, a Soldier has to be disciplined. Some people are born with discipline and, if not, they can be taught it. But the ones who come into the Army with discipline are one step ahead."

Grosch's last duty assignment before Redstone Arsenal was at the Marion Military Institute, where he was the senior military science instructor for 335 cadets.

"That was a great job, too. It's very exciting to be able to put your stamp on young folks," Grosch said. "I'd love to continue to mentor Soldiers. But there's nothing that says I have to do that wearing ACUs."

Retiring can be hard on someone who is a workaholic. But, for Grosch, it is an opportunity to work on his farm in Rogersville, spend time with wife Becky, who owns a florist and gift business, and his two college-age children, and complete one great career to begin another.

"This is a young man's game, especially if you're in the infantry," he said of the Army. "Walking 25 miles with a 100-pound rucksack on your back starts taking its toll on you."

"I'm really excited about the opportunities at Redstone Arsenal in the civilian sector. I love it here. I love the people. I love the area. I know from experience that you can live and work absolutely anywhere as long as you're surrounded by good people."

# Mothers-to-be new addition to parking privileges

*PX and Commissary offer spaces to current and future customers*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
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The Post Exchange and Commissary have a new addition outside. Expectant Mother parking spaces have been designated in each parking lot.

"They're my baby," Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper quipped.

The spaces are marked by signs bearing the picture of a stork. Both the Commissary and Post Exchange have been designated two spaces each. The idea is to allow easier shopping for moms-to-be. They are a new part of the existing preferred parking slots in front of the main entrances. Designating spaces exclusively for expectant mother use is similar to what others have done in the outside community.

"I think these spaces are a great idea," PX general manager Carl Carpenter said. "It follows the industry standard for retailers downtown."

The idea for the spaces came from a suggestion raised at the Feb. 10 FMWR, Post Exchange and Commissary Advisory Council meeting.

"A council member asked about having expectant mother parking," Cooper said. "I

thought it was a great idea."

The signs were ordered and installed quickly. They were placed in the parking areas two weeks ago by the Directorate of Public Works. While word is just starting to get out about them, Cooper has already gotten some feedback.

"At another meeting, a lady came and thanked me for them," he said.

The spaces serve as both a courtesy for expectant mothers and help to combat some of the physical limitations that having a baby on board can bring. The idea and the meetings behind it are part of the ongoing Garrison effort to provide the best possible service to its customers. In order to do that, Advisory Council meetings are held quarterly to discuss the needs and wants of those customers. Organizational representatives are present at each meeting to discuss suggestions and offer recommendations. They are always happy to hear from customers what is or isn't working for them.

"We can't make things better if we don't know about them," Cooper said.

The next Advisory Council meeting is May 12 at 10 a.m. in the Redstone Room of Challenger building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. The Redstone community is invited.

"The spaces are just one of the good ideas that come out of those meetings," Cooper said.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**ROOM TO GROW**— Four new expectant mother parking spaces are located at the Post Exchange and Commissary.

# Young radio personalities share nutrition news

Two Redstone youngsters have made their radio debut during National Nutrition Month.

Imani Walker and John Butler, who both attend School Age Services, gave nutrition nuggets on Huntsville radio station STAR 99.1 FM. The station's Mark Hunter worked his magic to make the nutrition messages come alive.

Imani and John leaned into the microphone and addressed the concerns of lowering saturated fats and cholesterol by choosing plant sources of calcium and avoiding trans fats. Lindell Johnson teaches Imani and John at Family Morale Welfare and Recreation.

"Most people are not aware that broccoli, kale, collards and tofu are good as well as very economical sources of calcium," nutritionist Donna A. Smith, of Child Youth and School Services, said. "On the other hand, we're searching to find the good in the popular trans fats that have dominated the food industry. To reduce your food intake, limit eating french fries, shortening, margarine, chips, and several commercial baked goods. Look for the word hydrogenation or partially hydrogenation to keep an eye on this saturated fat that is associated with heart disease, diabetes and strokes." (FMWR release)



Courtesy photo

**RADIO STARS**— Imani Walker and John Butler, who both attend Child Youth and School Services, gave public service messages about nutrition on Huntsville radio station STAR 99.1 FM.

# Fellowship alums gather at acquisition university

Defense Acquisition University welcomed back some familiar faces last week.

Alumni of the DAU Senior Service College Fellowship met with current Fellows and staff March 11 to share their experience and recommendations as they progressed forward in their careers after graduating from the fellowship program.

This 10-month leadership development program is a partnership between the Army and DAU, designed to provide senior-level civilians with leadership growth experiences equivalent to their military counterparts in preparation for major level leadership responsibilities.

Key components of this program include graduate level courses and the opportunity to apply these courses toward a master's degree; mentoring; research; national speakers; national security module; staff rides/tours; and certification in university's Program Manager's Course (PMT 401).

Graduates of this program are assuming higher levels of responsibilities within their commands or other commands in the area, providing the critically needed leadership for tomorrow's civilian work force.

The Army is accepting nominations through April 30 for the DAU Senior Service College Fellowship program 2009-10. Informational sessions are scheduled March 25 from 9-10:30 a.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, room 5140.

If you are a civilian Acquisition Corps member within the Army in GS 14-15 or equivalent within a Demonstration Project or the National Security Personnel System, see application information 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). (*Defense Acquisition University release*)



Courtesy photo

**REUNION—** Attendees at the Senior Service College Fellowship alumni event at Defense Acquisition University are, from left, in front row: Gordon Porter, Paul Baker, Dean Barten, Steve Whitmore; middle row, Ann Lee, Julia Vaughn, Diane Williams, Jerita Crummie, Greg Pruitt, Byron Lawing, Mark Reavis, Marsha Dollarhide; back row, Ann Lee, Louis Sciaroni, Bill Read, Marian Guidry, SSCF director Dr. David Newberry, Bill Colson, Rick Llewellyn and Richard Paul. Not pictured is Bill Ruta.

# Floor cloths come alive with designs of budding artists

*Youngsters put personality into spring break activity*

By **KARI HAWKINS**  
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Six-year-old ReAuna Heard loves her mom and dad, flowers, squiggly lines and birthday celebrations. And she wants to include all of those favorites on her uniquely designed floor cloth.

With the help of her cousin, Alabama A&M University student Xantheia Watkins, ReAuna spent a day during spring break creating her floor cloth with templates and paints at the June M. Hughes Arts & Crafts Center.

"I want to put my mom's name and my dad's name and my name, and I want to put flowers all over the names. But I don't know how to spell my dad's name," ReAuna said.

Her cousin helped her with the spelling, and the two worked together as ReAuna began to stencil "Glenda" and "Reginald" in bright shades of pink, blue and purple on her floor cloth.

Nearby, 6-year-old Natasha Fernandez was getting help from family friend Char Blanton with her floor cloth design.

"First, I'm putting my name on it and then I'm going to put little houses on the side and triangles, and twirls and little puppies," said Natasha, pointing to the stencils she planned to use in her designs.

While the two girls were making plans and talking about the things they like, 5-year-old James Sears and his mom, Amy, were working together to stencil race cars and racing flags in purple, red and blue on the borders of his floor cloth. In the center, they stenciled the name "James" and the words "Start Your Engines" and "Off To The Races."

Older students in the class took a more serious approach to their floor cloths, creating intricate designs with flowers and geometric shapes. Some free drew their designs while others relied on stencils.

Riley Edger, 7, worked with her grandmother Charlotte Rutherford to create a floral design while Rheyana Morgan, 11, and her mom, Reyna,



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**HIGHLIGHTS**— Rheyana Morgan, 11, paints a geometric design on her floor cloth in bright red. She plans to paint other designs on her cloth in bright hues of yellow, orange, blue and purple.

See **Crafts** on page 9



Courtesy photo

## Professional training

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers sponsored its annual Mini-Professional Development Institute Training Sessions on March 11-12. Afternoon speaker Mike Durant, author of "In the Company of Heroes," poses with some of the Training/Education Committee members. From left are Jessica Dunaway, April East, Cody Swinford, Durant, Dana Wilbanks and Theresa McBride.

### ■ Designing youngsters put style into floor cloths

## Crafts

continued from page 8

discussed the colors that she would use in her geometric design. Victoria Bramhall, 11, decided not to use stencils and instead drew her own close-up interpretation of a pink rose while her dad, Tom, watched from the sidelines.

"This is our first foray into floor cloths," class coordinator Laura Metzger said of the parent-child floor cloth class taught by art teacher Margaret Chapman.

"There has been a lot of interest in this. We plan on also offering an adult floor cloth class that will involve more detail in the designs."

The floor cloths are 2-feet by 3-feet and are made of heavy, double-primed cotton duck cloth. Once painted, a protective acrylic coating will be added to keep the cloths from being damaged.

Even though they are meant to be used on the floor, ReAuna and Natasha aren't too sure that's where their floor cloths will end up.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**RACING FAN— James Sears, 5, stencils race cars and race flags on the borders of his floor cloth with the help of his mom, Amy Sears. James is the son of Staff Sgt. Eric Sears.**

"There will be no walking on my rug. I don't want to mess it up," ReAuna said. "I want to take mine home and put it on my wall."

Natasha agreed. "I want to put it on my wall, too, in my bedroom for a picture," she said.

# Big read on the books at Post Library

Annual observance goes international

This year's reading event at the Post Library has an international connection.

Big Read Egypt/U.S. is a collaborative Global Cultural Initiative project of the U.S. Department of State and the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Arts Midwest, the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Redstone MWR Library is participating as an invited partner with the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library.

On Tuesday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. the Post Library will hold an open house in honor of the 2009 community Big Read Egypt/U.S.

This year's book is "The Thief and the Dogs" by Nobel Laureate Naguib Mahfouz. Free copies of the book will be available to attendees while supplies last. Every visitor is also invited to pick any book of choice from the library's selection of donated gift books.

Library staff member Martha Piskulic will be available to print out your name in color hieroglyphics in recognition of the Egyptian theme. There will be reader's guides and the calendar of events for the Huntsville area. Coloring pages will be available for children; and there will be refreshments for all. The library is open to everyone in the Redstone community. It may be accessed at 876-4741 or [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com); click on Recreation then Library.

"The Thief and the Dogs" is a psychological crime novel which is also described as a political allegory. The reader's guide explains background about the story and helps in an appreciation of the novel. The library has on display many other books and movies related to Egypt and all are available for checkout. Many are related to ancient Egypt and have relevance to the Tut Exhibit currently in Atlanta.

The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library has coordinated a calendar of events for this year's observance. For more information, call 532-5975 or e-mail [bigread@hpl.lib.al.us](mailto:bigread@hpl.lib.al.us).

Previous Big Read books have included "To Kill a Mockingbird" in 2007 and "The Maltese Falcon" in 2008. (*Post Library release*)



Photo by Sheryle Gouker

**OPEN HOUSE—** Martha Piskulic of the Post Library holds a copy of "The Thief and the Dogs" in preparation of the library's open house March 31. Free books and your name in hieroglyphics will be available.

# Solid state laser eyed as potential weapon system

A joint Solid State Laser science and technology effort by the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command has achieved weapon level performance in the laboratory.

This marks the first time that a SSL has achieved the level of performance required for weapon applications of interest to the Army. A 100 kilowatt laser can rapidly heat a target causing various catastrophic effects, such as exploding a warhead or airframe failure.

This device, developed by Northrop Grumman, is one of two SSL laboratory devices being developed in cooperation with the High Energy Laser Joint Technology Office and other services. The second device, under development by Textron Inc., also is expected to achieve 100kw performance this year.

The Army is planning to move a 100kw SSL laboratory device to the Army-operated High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. This laser will then be coupled to an existing beam director to establish a SSL testbed and begin field testing by 2011.

The SSL testbed will be utilized to test and evaluate the SSL capability, with scalable power up to a 100kw, to accomplish a variety of missions of interest to the Army. The results of these tests will be the basis for directing future development of SSLs as a weapon system.

When weaponized, a 100kw class



Northrop Grumman photo

**DEMONSTRATOR—** This is Northrop Grumman's laser weapon system demonstrator for the Army's joint high power Solid State Laser program, Phase 3.

SSL will be capable of protecting the war fighter against rockets, artillery and mortar threats and unmanned aerial systems. Other mission applications for scalable high power SSLs include

stand-off negation of unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices, anti-sensor applications, and precision strike with minimal collateral damage. (SMDC/ARSTRAT release)



Courtesy photo

## Leadership investment

AMRDEC's Tom Reynolds talks with Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle, who spoke March 17 to the Leadership Investment For Tomorrow's alumni.

# AUSA brings Army dignitaries to Huntsville

*Regional conference scheduled April 1-4*

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

Some of the Army's staunchest supporters will be making their way to Huntsville in early April to discuss issues, review event highlights, celebrate successes and recognize volunteers – all of which are relevant to the membership chapters located in the Southeast region of the Association of the U.S. Army.

The Third Region AUSA Meeting, April 1-4, will bring AUSA members from throughout the Southeast to Huntsville. The region includes two chapters in Alabama as well as chapters in North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico and Panama.

"We host this annual meeting about once every 10 years," said Mike Howell, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA, the host chapter. "We did bid to get this because this year is also our chapter's 50th anniversary. We wanted to tie the regional meeting in with our anniversary."

**"You get to really showcase your community at an event like this."**

— *Mike Howell*  
*AUSA chapter president*

Howell said the meeting gives the local chapter the opportunity to share the story

of the Army in Huntsville, the area's commitment to Redstone Arsenal and its military community, and the area's unique attributes. The meeting agenda includes a tour of Redstone Arsenal, a golf tournament, and events at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, Bridge Street Town Centre, Huntsville Botanical Gardens and other locations.

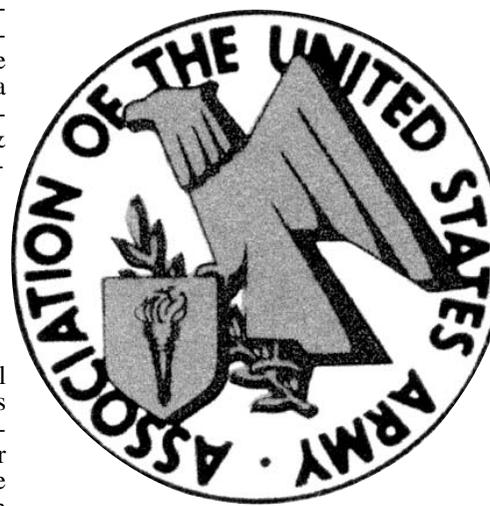
"You get to really showcase your community at an event like this," Howell said. "There will be a lot of new folks here who maybe have never been to Huntsville before."

"The tour of Redstone Arsenal will include the glorious history of the things that have happened here as well as a presentation by Redstone Arsenal commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles. Other pieces of the agenda – like the barbecue dinner in downtown Huntsville and the reception at the Space & Rocket Center – share some of Huntsville's and the Tennessee Valley's hospitality."

Each Third Region AUSA chapter is required to send two delegates to the regional meeting. All AUSA members in the Third Region are invited to attend the entire meeting, which includes several events over four days, or only specific meeting events.

The meeting center is the Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Huntsville. Early registration of hotel guests will be from noon to 6 p.m. March 31, with registration continuing April 1 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be a hospitality suite at the Embassy Suites for all delegates and their spouses.

The Third Region meeting will begin April 1 with a golf tournament at the Links at Redstone, beginning at 11 a.m., and including lunch and a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. This event is open only to



Third Region AUSA board members and sponsors because of space limitations. The cost is \$45. Reservations can be made with Jeff Wishik by contacting him at Jeffrey.l.wishik@lmso.com. For non-golfers, there will be a tour of the Huntsville Botanical Gardens that includes lunch.

On April 2, a Third Region AUSA business session will be held from 8 a.m. to noon at the Embassy Suites.

"During this session, all chapters will get together and share their experiences over the year," Howell said. "We will review the good news of the year as well as the ugly. It's about sharing with each other and building up our chapters. We will also talk about things as they pertain to the Third Region."

Also that day, spouses of meeting delegates will enjoy a Harrison Brothers and Weeden House Tour. Lunch for all meeting delegates and spouses will be at noon at the Embassy Suites. Beginning at 12:45 p.m., delegates and spouses will tour Redstone Arsenal. The day's events will conclude with a Mint Julep Happy Hour and Barbecue Dinner beginning at 5:15 p.m. at the Lowe House in Huntsville's Twickenham Historic District.

On April 3, delegates and spouses will spend the day enjoying a Jack Daniels Distillery Tour and lunch at Miss Mary

Bobo's Boarding House Restaurant in Fayetteville, Tenn.

That evening, a president's reception will be hosted at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center beginning at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person. This event is open to the general public. To make a reservation, contact Donna Palumbo at dapal@bellsouth.net.

On April 4, meeting delegates will participate in a National Business Session at the Embassy Suites from 8 a.m. to noon.

"We will talk about national issues that are common among all our chapters. During this session, those issues will be addressed, questions will be answered and delegates will be introduced to new programs and agendas of the national AUSA," Howell said.

Delegate spouses will be invited to a morning of shopping at Bridge Street Town Centre. A luncheon for delegates and spouses will include a showing of "Brats" at the Monaco Theater at Bridge Street.

The meeting will conclude with the Robert F. Cocklin Awards Banquet on April 4 at Westin Hotel at Bridge Street. The event will begin with an anniversary reception at 5:30 p.m. and with a dinner program beginning at 6:30. The cost is \$100 per person. This event is open to the general public. To make reservations, contact Linda Crutcher at linda.crutcher@lmco.com.

The keynote speaker at the banquet will be retired Gen. Gordon Sullivan, the 32nd chief of staff and now the president of AUSA. The evening will include awards presented to the Third Region Soldier of the Year and the Brenda Dougherty AUSA Lifetime of Service Award. The evening's most prestigious award – the Robert F. Cocklin Award – will be presented to former Huntsville mayor Loretta Spencer.

The evening will end with an Army ball and entertainment by the 151st Army National Guard Band from Montgomery.

The cost of the meeting is \$195, with an additional cost for the golf tournament and Cocklin Awards Banquet. For more information, contact Donna Palumbo at dapal@bellsouth.net or 655-5147.

# 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 Skip Vaughn

**BOOKS APLENTY—** Operations research analyst Brian Barry transports books for the Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief. The sale is April 13 through May 1. If you have items to donate, call Barry at 876-8563.

# HHC 59th players finally get to celebrate



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GOOD TIMES**— The HHC 59th players celebrate their post championship March 18 at Pagano Gym.

## Raise Up' bunch outlasts NCO Academy for title

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

They were runners-up for the 2008 post championship and finished second again in December's holiday preseason tournament. The HHC 59th players wanted to raise the trophy this time.

And the "Raise Up" bunch did just that.

The 59th won the post championship by beating the NCO Academy in the second of two games 68-54 on March 18 at Pagano Gym. The NCO Academy, which had advanced from the losers bracket, forced game two by handing the 59th its first loss of the postseason tournament 47-45.

"When we lost the first game it kind of brought back some bad

memories," 59th center Jeff Reuter said. "We came out the second game and we weren't going to let it happen again. We worked hard. We got a lead and we kept it."

Reuter, the 59th's 6-foot-8 big man, had 16 points, 16 rebounds, two blocks and a steal in the clincher. Leroy Early added 15 points, six rebounds, two assists and two steals.

"It means a lot," Reuter said. "We worked really hard in the tournament. We played hard and played together."

He credited the efforts of forward Andrew Hildreth, who had eight points and seven rebounds.

"We all worked well together," Hildreth said. "Everybody knows how each other plays and we can read it well."

Amos Jackson had seven points and four assists in the final game of his career. He played in the holiday tournament but didn't start the season because he was preparing for retirement. When

he saw the 59th was short-handed late in the season, he rejoined the team.

"I came in here one day and they had like five players," Jackson said. "They needed somebody so I got back on the team. It was two games before the playoffs started."

He has played in this league nine years and this was his last game of organized ball. Jackson enjoyed leaving with a championship. "It was only fitting that I get one on the way out," he said.

The 59th (8-5) had to earn it. After dropping the first game, the 59th raced to a 34-25 lead in game two.

"It was defense. We pressured them," 59th coach Benson Pace said. "We had turnovers the first game, we turned the ball over too much. The second game we stayed on them. We worked the ball inside and got the high percentage shot."

See **Title** on page 15



Photo by Mike Burden

## Military night

Soldiers attend Military Appreciation Night at the Huntsville Havoc hockey game March 14 in the Von Braun Center. The Havoc beat the Columbus Cottonmouths 3-2 in overtime. After the game, the Havoc players' jerseys were auctioned to benefit Army Emergency Relief. Total contributions exceeded \$22,000, according to AER officer Mike Burden.



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

## Opening ceremony

AMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates and Redstone's NCO of the Year Staff Sgt. Anthony Marvan drop the puck before the Huntsville Havoc game March 14 against the Columbus Cottonmouths.

# Kickball league signup under way at Pagano Gym

If you're interested in kickball, you have until April 3 to sign up for Redstone's new league.

Organizers hope to have rosters from six teams by the deadline. A league formation meeting March 17 at Pagano Gym drew two attendees besides MWR sports director Gaylene Wilson and Fox Army Health Center's Rick Stock. The league is a partnership between MWR Sports and Fox's Preventive Medicine/Health Promotion.

"People just don't know how much fun it is," Stock said.

Kickball is similar to softball without the bats and gloves. The pitcher rolls the 10-to-16-inch ball underhand to a batter who kicks it and tries to reach base. Each game is seven innings or 55 minutes.

Mike Mathis of Cruise Missile Defense Sys-

tems Project Office and Ben Schwartz of the Garrison's Directorate of Information Management attended last week's meeting.

"I'm excited about it," Mathis said of the kickball league.

The league had its first season last fall to determine interest. This spring the MWR Sports and Fitness staff is to maintain schedules and track scores.

Team rosters should be provided to Pagano Gym by the April 3 registration deadline. Schedules are to be available April 8-10. Games are to begin April 14 and held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at field 13 and field 14 on Patton Road.

"Hopefully we'll get the teams," Stock said.

For more information, call Wilson at 842-2574.



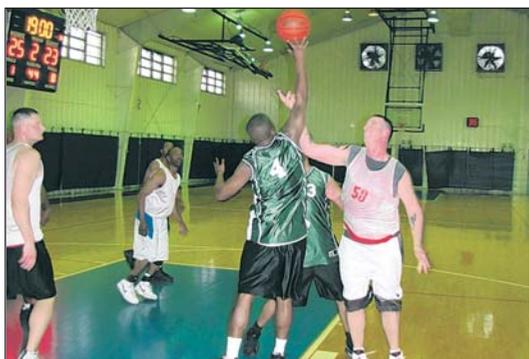
Courtesy photo

## Perfect season

The Holy Family School boys basketball team, a member of the Huntsville Independent School League, has won the HISL Tournament and finished 17-0. From left are coach Homer Reynolds, Jalen Rice, Dotun Ayokanmbi, Patrick Farier, all-tournament player Jarrett Thompson, Steven Angulo, all-tournament player Jordan McCray, Demola Ayokanmbi, assistant coach Gregory Rice, Deshawn Weston and assistant coach Fredrick Thompson. Coaches Reynolds and Thompson are Army civilians at Redstone.

## Last year's runner-up HHC 59th wins 2009 championship

Photo by Skip Vaughn  
**LOOSE BALL**— HHC 59th center Jeff Reuter (50) battles NCO Academy forward Joseph Campbell (4) for a rebound during game one of the final.



## Title

continued from page 14

Joseph Campbell scored 20 points, Kurtell Jackson had 12 and Joseph Kimbrough 10 for the NCO Academy (9-6).

"They were bigger than us but we were faster," Kurtell Jackson said. "Last game our legs caught up to us because we had to play two games last night. That's what it came down to. They threw some big

bodies at us also."

In game one, Arthur Simon had 15 points with three 3-pointers for the NCO Academy. Campbell added 12 points and Kimbrough 10. Amos Jackson scored 12 for the 59th.

In elimination games March 16-17, the Marines def. Bravo 53-44, NCO Academy won by forfeit over 375th Engineer, NCO Academy def. Marines 65-61 and NCO Academy def. National Guard 69-58.

# Intern excited about her career adventure

## Former Soldier takes new path

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

Diane Corlew is always up for an adventure. As a new Garrison intern, she is excited about the opportunities and new direction her career is taking.

"It's really exciting to have the opportunity to learn so much about what goes on at the Garrison and how it all comes together to make everything work for the Arsenal," she said. "It's really exciting to be a part of the first group of interns."

Corlew actually began her Army career as a Soldier. She joined the Army when her husband, Edward, reenlisted in 1989. Corlew spent four years active duty, serving in Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

"I was deployed during that time," she said. "My husband deployed with the same unit. We were in different companies, but the same battalion."

Her husband continued serving while she returned to civilian life. She began working for the government as administrative support while her husband was stationed in Penn-

sylvania. The couple returned to this area after her husband retired.

"We're from the middle Tennessee area," she said. "After he retired, we stayed in Pennsylvania for awhile because of my job. But we wanted to move back here to be closer to family."

She began working at Army Community Service in 2007 as administrative support before moving to the Garrison where she also worked as an administrative assistant. She entered the intern program March 1, but will not begin her rotations until her current position is filled.

"I'm still here during the transition period until someone comes in or the vacancy is settled," she said. "Then I will be rotating throughout the different directorates. There's a lot to learn about what goes on."

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## Garrison interns

### Part 3 of series

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Her Garrison education got off to a running start when she and her fellow interns were able to participate in the Garrison's Memphis off-site on Feb. 17-20.

"We got to interface with the different directors throughout the Garrison," Corlew said. "We got to know them. They got to know us and get an

idea about our backgrounds."

Corlew has a bachelor's degree in English and office administration from the University of North Alabama and a master's in business administration and management from Augusta State University in Georgia. While most of her previous work has been in administrative support, she looks forward to new paths in the Garrison intern program.

"I'd like to get into the program analyst and management field," she said. "With my background in the Army, there is potential there, too. All of that is still being worked out."

Corlew volunteers as an Army Family Team Building instructor in the evenings. She enjoys spending time with her two daughters, Peggy, 15, and Sarahevelyn, 10. Lately, the family of four has been doing a lot of bowling. They also do plenty of traveling together. Corlew also hopes to refresh the language training she received as a Soldier.

"I studied Russian for a year. I spoke it when I got out (of the Army)," she said. "I'm trying to go back and brush up on it. I still have my books."

Hopefully, Corlew will find time for her next adventure, too.

"I want to go out to the Flying Activity and take flying lessons," she said.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**ANTICIPATION—** Diane Corlew awaits her first rotation as a Garrison intern.

# Servicemembers aren't immune from losing their homes

## Advice for homeowners to avoid foreclosure

By Capt. LAURA MATEJIK  
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

Foreclosure is a legal process in which a lender, such as a bank, repossesses and sells a home when the homeowner falls behind on payments to a loan secured by the home. The proceeds of the sale are first used to pay the expenses of the repossession and sale and then the balance of the loan. The homeowner is responsible for paying any deficiencies. There are several different types of foreclosure actions and foreclosure laws vary in each state.

According to a recent *New York Times* article, decreasing home values and rising adjustable interest rates have contributed to the more than 1 million home foreclosures in the United States. The mortgage crisis has affected many servicemembers. As a result, military support and financial advocacy groups are fielding an increasing number of requests for assistance from servicemembers struggling to keep their homes.

Servicemembers who purchased their home prior to entering active duty may be entitled to claim protection under the Servicemember Civil Relief Act. Amendments to the SCRA temporarily extend the period during which a creditor may not sell, foreclose or seize property based on a servicemember's breach of a mortgage, trust deed, or other security in the nature of a mortgage. Furthermore, a court may stay proceedings from 90 days to nine months. After Dec. 31, 2010, this extension ends, and the time period will return to 90 days.

More help may be available to servicemembers. The stimulus package signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17 features a provision called the Military Homeowners Assistance Program. These benefits (normally payable

only at BRAC locations) will be extended to certain military homeowners who purchased homes before July 1, 2006 and sell such homes before Sept. 30, 2012. HAP will help PCSing military homeowners that cannot sell their homes, wounded warriors relocating for medical purposes, and surviving spouses of fallen servicemembers. The law permits the Defense Department to help such owners in several ways, such as purchasing the home or reimbursement for losses during a sale or foreclosure. Applications for this program can be found at [hap.usace.army.mil](http://hap.usace.army.mil). Benefits under this program are taxable, so it is best to consult with the Tax Center regarding these benefits.

It should also be noted that the stimulus package also helps first-time homebuyers with a tax credit of 10 percent of the purchase price, up to \$75,000. The credit must be repaid beginning in 2010 – for most, this will be \$500 over the course of the following 15 years. If the homeowner sells or rents the property, the full balance of the tax credit must be paid in the year in which the homeowner no longer occupies the home as his primary residence.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has provided several tips for avoiding foreclosure. These tips can be found at the website <http://www.hud.gov/foreclosure/index.cfm>:

Do not ignore the problem. The further behind you become, the harder it will be to reinstate your loan and the more likely that you will lose your house.

Contact your lender as soon as you realize that you have a problem. Lenders do not want your house. They have options to help borrowers through difficult financial times.

Open and respond to all mail from your lender. The first notices you receive will offer good information about foreclosure prevention options that can help you weather financial problems. Later mail may include important

notice of pending legal action. Your failure to open the mail will not be an excuse in foreclosure court.

Know your mortgage rights. Find your loan documents and read them so you know what your lender may do if you cannot make your payments. Learn about the foreclosure laws and time frames in your state (as every state is different) by contacting the State Government Housing Office.

Understand foreclosure prevention options. Valuable information about foreclosure prevention (also called loss mitigation) options can be found on the Internet at [http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?\\_pageid=33,717348&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page?_pageid=33,717348&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL).

Contact a HUD approved housing counselor. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funds free or very low cost housing counseling nationwide. Housing counselors can help you understand the law and your options, organize your finances and represent you in negotiations with your lender if you need this assistance. To find a HUD-approved housing counselor near you call (800) 569-4287 or TTY (800) 877-8339 or <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hc/hcs.cfm>.

Prioritize your spending. After health care, keeping your house should be your first priority. Review your finances and see where you can cut spending in order to make your mortgage payment. Look for optional expenses (cable television, memberships, entertainment) that you can eliminate. Delay payments on credit cards and other "unsecured" debt until you have paid your mortgage.

Use your assets. Do you have assets (a second car, jewelry, a whole life insurance policy) that you can sell for cash to help reinstate your loan? Can anyone in your household get an extra job to bring in additional income? Even if these efforts do not significantly increase your

available cash or your income, they demonstrate to your lender that you are willing to make sacrifices to keep your home.

Avoid foreclosure prevention companies. You do not need to pay fees for foreclosure prevention help. Use that money to pay the mortgage instead. Many for-profit companies will contact you promising to negotiate with your lender. While these may be legitimate businesses, they will charge you a hefty fee (often two or three month's mortgage payment) for information and services your lender or a HUD approved housing counselor will provide free if you contact them.

Don't lose your house to foreclosure recovery scams. If any firm claims they can stop your foreclosure immediately if you sign a document appointing them to act on your behalf, you may well be signing over the title to your property and becoming a renter in your own home. Never sign a legal document without reading and understanding all the terms and getting professional advice from an attorney, a trusted real estate professional, or a HUD approved housing counselor.

Additional help is available through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Housing Administration FHASecure (phone 1-800-225-5342); the Alabama State Bar Association, Legal Services Alabama Foreclosure Hotline at 1-877-393-2333; and through Army Legal Assistance, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at 876-9005 or Army Community Service, financial readiness program manager at 876-5397.

*Editor's note: Capt. Laura Matejik of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate said she adapted this from a previous article by Maj. Eric Fuestel.*

# Georgia Tech honors a local alumnus

Dr. William Lewis of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center has been recognized by his Georgia Tech alma mater.

Lewis, director of the Aviation Engineering Directorate, received the 2008 Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award and was honored for his sustained and distinguished contribution to the profession, field, institute and society at large.

The award was presented during the Georgia Tech, College of Engineering, Alumni Awards Inductions Ceremony in Atlanta.

Lewis, who earned his doctorate in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech in 1992, has been the director of the Aviation Engineering Directorate since 2004. He was selected for the Senior Executive Service in July 2006.

As the AED director, Lewis is the delegated airworthiness authority for Army aircraft and is responsible for ensuring flight safety. He is also

responsible for the design and performance verification of aircraft and equipment supporting Army aviation.

Prior to becoming director, Lewis served in AED as the branch chief for Flight Controls and Handling Qualities. His prior assignments were as chief engineer in the RAH-66 Comanche program and associate professor of aviation systems at the University of Tennessee.

Lewis graduated from U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a bachelor's in applied science and engineering. He has master's degrees in aeronautical engineering and aviation management. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant of field artillery and later became an Army aviator. His military career spanned 22 years before he retired as a lieutenant colonel. While serving in the Army, Lewis qualified as a master Army aviator and experimental test pilot with more than 4,600 total flight hours in 35 different aircraft types. (AMRDEC release)



Courtesy photo

**ENGINEERING AWARD**— Dr. Don Giddens, left, dean of the College of Engineering at Georgia Tech, presents Dr. William Lewis of AMRDEC with Georgia Tech's College of Engineering 2008 Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award. Recipients of the award will become members in the Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni.

## Immersive technology melds Hollywood, warrior training

By C. TODD LOPEZ  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Training technology development in California has demonstrated the possibility of having Soldiers walk through virtual environments that contain both real-world objects and simulated characters.

The Army has enlisted the help of the Institute for Creative Technologies at the University of Southern California to push the limits of technology to create better, more immersive training environments for Soldiers.

The "FlatWorld Wide Area Mixed Reality" demonstration was a 3-D gaming environment that didn't

require Soldiers to wear a visor that would tether them to a computer. The environment melds concepts of stagecraft from Hollywood, including real-world props, with technology and projection screens, to make a virtual world Soldiers can move around in and interact with.

"We have walls where the outside is projected in. Where you can have virtual humans interact with you in the spaces, or where you can project bullet holes onto the walls," said Dr. Randall Hill Jr., executive director of ICT. "It is enabling Soldiers to make decisions under stress, to practice, and to get experiences they wouldn't normally get in the school house or even in their unit before they deploy."

## Grow your knowledge about lawn care

Keep storm drains clean for those downstream

Natural methods of lawn care in conjunction with chemicals can produce a healthy lawn and protect water quality, according to the Garrison Environmental Office.

The routine overuse of lawn fertilizers and weed killers can indirectly harm streams, rivers and ponds. Sole reliance on chemicals is no longer justified for maintaining a beautiful lawn. Rather, natural methods of lawn care in conjunction with chemicals can produce a healthy lawn and protect water quality. This happens because grasses can filter pollutants (fertilizers, herbicides, sediment) and some types can control weeds and require less fertilizer and water. Here are some tips:

- **Mowing** — Don't mow too close to the ground; taller grass produces deeper roots and controls weeds. ... Practice "grass recycling," and leave clippings on the lawn to provide natural fertilization (do not blow them into ditches or streams). ... Do not mow wet grass; this causes clumping. ... Use composted yard waste as mulch and soil conditioner.

- **Fertilizers** — Fertilizers contain nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) that can harm water quality by causing undesirable plants to grow in streams and ponds, blocking oxygen from the fish. Fertilizers high in nitrates (nitrogen) are more likely to enter streams because they are released more quickly. Do not apply fertilizer when the ground is frozen, before or after heavy rain or irrigation, during cold weather (less than 55 degrees Fahrenheit) and directly

into, or near, streams, ponds or ditches. ... Minimize application rates on slopes. ... Apply according to label directions. ... Use fertilizers labeled "slowly available nitrogen" on sandy soils since they are less likely to enter streams. ... Base fertilizer applications on a representative soil test that shows the amounts of nutrients in the soil, waiting three to four weeks after the last fertilization. ... Aerate compacted soil to aid incorporation and reduce runoff. ... Maintain a vegetated buffer zone between frequently fertilized lawns and streams to prevent pollution and provide uptake of nutrients.

You should water carefully to prevent runoff and leaching. And water in the early morning for optimal results.

For more information call the Garrison Environmental Office, storm water program manager, at 955-8501.

## Aviation team cited for new program

A national publication has honored a local team that developed a new program which enables Army Apache helicopters in Iraq to receive live streaming video from unmanned aerial vehicles.

"Aviation Week" announced the VUIT-2 Team was among the winners of the 52nd annual Laureate Awards, which recognize exceptional strategy, heroism and leadership in aviation, aerospace and defense. Laureate honorees have improved their organizations, championed new technologies, and changed aviation history.

The VUIT-2 Team award recipients include Lt. Col. Jennifer Jensen, Unmanned Aircraft Systems; Lt. Col. Rob Johnston, Longbow Apache product manager; William Murtha, VUIT-2 program manager with Lockheed Martin; and Lt. Col. Chuck Walls, chief test pilot with Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis, Va.



Courtesy photo

**AVIATION WEEK LAUREATES** – Longbow Apache product manager Lt. Col. Rob Johnston, left, and Lt. Col. Chuck Walls, chief test pilot, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, accept their award as members of the Video from Unmanned Aerial Systems for Interoperability Team.

**Sports & Recreation**

**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 Saturday 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.dtlaphia.org.

**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 Saturday 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.

**Benefit 10K**

The Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation Run/Walk/March for the Cure 10K is April 18 at 11 a.m. in downtown Huntsville. This inaugural event is a tribute to the late Leroy J. Williams, who worked at the AMCOM Acquisition Center. For more information, visit [www.musicmovesme10k.org](http://www.musicmovesme10k.org).

**Senior softball**

Senior Rockets softball gives an opportunity for men over 55 years old and all skill levels to participate in a slow pitch soft-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Easter tree**

**Members of the AMCOM Security Assistance Management Directorate have an Easter tree through April 9 to benefit children of the Harris Home. Stephanie McWhorter and Jeff Scruggs are the SAMD events committee contacts for this effort to provide Easter gifts for 24 children ages 12-19. Call McWhorter at 876-5052 or Scruggs at 313-6852.**

ball 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.

**Bass tournament**

The Army Aviation Association of America's Spring Bob Vlasic's Classic Bass Tournament is Friday and Saturday at the Elk River Group Lodge, Joe Wheeler State Park. For more information, e-mail [thomas.geoffroy@us.army.mil](mailto: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 information, call Laura Keegan 489-7686 or Sharon Olshefski 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.

**Info technology conference**

Register today for the ninth annual Redstone Arsenal Information Technology Security and Assurance Conference and Expo scheduled April 14-15 at the Bob Jones Auditorium. Attendees will be briefed by military leadership, learn about the latest cyber threats from computer security experts, meet IA vendors, view the latest IA products, and receive IA training. This year's conference theme is "Providing Electronic Force Protection for the Warfighter." For more information, call 876-2291. There is no registration fee. Register at <https://www.technologyforums.com/9RE>.

**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.

**Civil War discussion**

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet April 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Thomas Flagel, author and historian from Columbia State Community College in Columbia, Tenn., where he teaches history, will speak on "Appomattox — The Place of Lee's Surrender and National Resurrection." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$7.95. Call 890-0890 for more information.

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## Parent council meeting

The Child Youth and School Services parents are invited to the Parent Advisory Council meeting March 31 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room at the Challenger building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Parents receive 1.5 participation points for attending the PAC meetings. Five points equals a 10 percent discount on child care fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Arsenal child and youth services facilities and to provide your opinions, ideas or concerns," a prepared release said.

## Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society chapter) will have its monthly meeting April 2 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. The speaker is Dr. Travis Taylor, a scientist, engineer and author. For more information, call Ronnie Lajoie 506-3833.

## 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).

## Fleet Reserve

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

## Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Guest speaker is Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli. The chapter's monthly breakfast is Saturday 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.

## Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is April 9 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. This month's luncheon will be an ASMC "Financial" Fashion Show featuring fashions from Belk's and chapter members as models. For ticket information, call Kim Ouattara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

## 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 SSB I 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 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. Con-

tors 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 Redstone 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-

# Rocket Announcements

year degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an 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

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Courtesy photo

## Last Supper event

Bicentennial Chapel will present "The Living Last Supper," an hour of drama, music and worship, April 8 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

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 situa-

tion 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.redstonewarriors.com](http://www.redstonewarriors.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 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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Saturday 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

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ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

Table with columns: ANNOUNCEMENTS, POSITION TITLE, CLOSING DATE, ORGANIZATION, PAY PLAN & SERIES, GRADE LEVEL, POT GRD, PAY RANGE (FROM - TO), WHO CAN APPLY?, and a grid of application codes (A, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, R, T, V, U).

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures. NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bantender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com or you may telephone 876-7772.

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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.

## 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 Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday 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.

## Youth orchestra benefit

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

## 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.

## 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 work force 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).

## 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.

## Library open house

Free books will be given away at the Post Library's open house March 31. These will include any one book of choice from the selection of donated gift books. In addition each visitor may have a copy of "The Thief and the Dogs," this year's Big Read Egypt/U.S. book, while supplies last. There will also be refreshments, your name printed out in color hieroglyphics, and Egyptian coloring pages for kids. The library is open to everyone in the Redstone community. For information call 876-4741.

## Last Supper event

Bicentennial Chapel will present "The Living Last Supper," an hour of drama, music and worship, April 8 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

## Military family grants

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association conducts an annual community support grant program. Local tax exempt organizations that qualify under Section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code may apply for one of the grants. The grant is designed to support organizations and activities directly contributing to the education, health or social welfare of Soldiers and military families. Representatives of eligible organizations may request a grant application from ADAA Grant Committee chairman Ron Sumera 774-6029. The deadline is April 8.

## Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on April 7 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths, and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone as outlined in Commander's Letter 005-08. Civilian employees, contractors and spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

## Fox center news

Fox Army Health Center's web-based Prescription Refill option is not operational at this time, according to a prepared release. You may phone in your refill requests at 955-8888, ext. 1097, or bring your bottles to the Pharmacy for refills. "Thank you for being patient with this technological problem," the release said. "Our technology staff is working hard on finding a solution."

## German handbell choir

Believer, a German handbell choir, will perform concerts at three different locations in Huntsville: Redstone Village on April 4; St. Marks' Lutheran Church on April 5 during the 8 a.m. service; and at Westlawn Baptist Church on April 5 at 11 a.m. For more information, call Lawanda Everage 694-3607.

## International wine tasting

Join the Officers and Civilians Club for its annual International Wine Tasting on Friday at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. For more information, call 830-2582.

## Social Security workshop

The Social Security Administration will have a workshop on its online retirement system March 31 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. For more information, call 866-593-0665.

## New employees

The New Employee Orientation for civilian employees is June 9 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. Participants will receive training to orient

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them to federal employment and the installation. For more information call Latoya Davis Ragan 313-0286 or Jessie McCray 876-4803, CPAC human resources specialists. To obtain a space in this course, you must register by June 8 in TIP at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil>.

### **Ballet concert**

Huntsville Ballet will present two performances at the Von Braun Concert Hall on April 4 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Military receives half-price tickets to this "Discover Dance." Ticket prices are \$15, \$18 and \$20. For more information, call Phillip Otto 539-0961.

### **Space celebration**

Yuri's Night Huntsville 2009 is April 4 from 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Lee Ann's, 415 East Church St., Suite 13; phone 489-9300. "Come celebrate space with space themed music, space themed costumes and much socializing," a prepared release said. For more details, visit [www.yurisnight.net](http://www.yurisnight.net).

### **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 at 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).

### **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 Saturday 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).

### **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 Con-

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tract Pricing: Tools, Techniques, and Best Practices," on Thursday. 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>.

### **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>.