

Redstone Rocket

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U.S. defense posture a balancing act

Budgets, world threats considered in funding

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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A top Army officer says the new administration's interest in cutting defense dollars is balanced with the growing threat from the world's adversarial nations.

Lt. Gen. Patrick O'Reilly, director of the Missile Defense Agency, told participants of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter Association of the U.S. Army's Tactical Missiles Conference at the Von Braun Center on May 19 that the growth in "rogue nation" ballistic missiles of all ranges will continue to emphasize the need to develop ballistic missile defense.

"This is a transitional period typical of a new administration," O'Reilly said. "Our budget is flexible and responsible. It will undergo several reviews by Congress in a synergistic way over the next few months.

"Our budget must execute the Secretary of Defense (Robert Gates) guidance and that is to develop missile defense and focus missile defense on rogue attacks ... In fiscal 2010 we've kept the flexibility and production lines so that we can respond to the defense strategy that emerges from these reviews."

Many things are happening all at once to affect MDA and ballistic missile defense. Congress is looking closely at fiscal 2010 ballistic missile spending priorities while at the same time discussions are ongoing throughout Europe.

In keeping with the defense secretary's guidance, the Multiple Kill Vehicle and the Kinetic Energy Interceptor programs have been terminated and MDA is using the technology from those two programs in more beneficial areas, such as Ascent Phase Intercept research and development.

Even while budget and diplo-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

TALKING MISSILE DEFENSE— Lt. Gen. Patrick O'Reilly, director of the Missile Defense Agency, reviews the nation's ballistic missile defense system with participants at AUSA's Tactical Missiles Defense Conference at the Von Braun Center on May 19.

matic discussions are ongoing, many other nations are continuing in their own development of ballistic missile systems. Excluding China, Russia, the U.S. and NATO, there are 5,900 ballistic missiles throughout the world.

"Nations are building indigenous capability in their countries. They are not just buying ballistic missiles. They are making them," O'Reilly said. "The threat has grown by 1,000 ballistic missiles in the last five years and it's not going to slow down."

To counter the worldwide threat, the U.S. ballistic missile defense budget now includes \$191 million for the boost phase, \$368 million for the ascent phase, about \$2.2 billion

for the ground and sea-based midcourse phase and \$1.3 billion for the terminal phase. There is more than \$3 billion for pervasive sensors, testing and integration, for a total of about \$7.8 billion for fiscal 2010.

Funding allows for a balance of capabilities, a response to war fighter requirements, and a pursuit of cost effectiveness and operability in the development of weapon systems that take the "same number of Soldiers and makes them five times more effective," O'Reilly said.

"The senior Army leadership has been very constant in their focus on force structure. We need to provide more defense with a minimized force structure."

Systems such as THAAD and Aegis work toward that goal. So, too, does the "ground-based midcourse capability to defeat rogue state threats at the U.S. Ninety-three percent of the threat out there today is a short-range regional ballistic threat," he said. "We must have the capability to take out the risk. There is a critical need to increase the number of resources to match the threat in short-range and medium-range."

MDA is also looking at "revolutionary" technology designed to intercept ballistic missiles in the ascent phase, to include the capability for early threat detection, tracking and intercept capabilities.

"We have a pretty good idea of where a threat is going to

See more stories from the tactical missiles conference inside today's *Rocket* on pages 14 and 15.

See Missiles on page 15

An open lane random survey

How much did you watch 'American Idol' and what did you think of the outcome?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Jeanna Reitmeier
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs
"I watched 90 percent. I was surprised but glad that (Kris) won. I think he's a better well-rounded artist."

Jetty Baddley
AMCOM G-6 (Corporate Information Office)
"I watched 'American Idol' every week. I'm an avid fan. I would've been shocked at the result - I was a huge Adam fan. But yesterday I looked at the Internet and there was a lot of discussion that Kris was going to win. So I wasn't as shocked as I could've been. I liked them both but I thought Adam was more talented."



Corey Bell
Phoenix Service
"I watched it a pretty good bit and I thought that Adam would've won."

Evelena Jones
Phoenix Service
"I didn't watch it."



Quote of the week

'Military power wins battles, but spiritual power wins wars.'

— Gen. George Catlett Marshall

Getting to know you

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

Name: Kathi Burke

Job: Owner, Redstone Flower Shop

Where do you call home?
Huntsville

What do you like about your job?

I love everything about the flower shop. There's always a season in flowers. On the Arsenal, you have more seasons than anywhere else because of all the military ceremonies. We do everything here that any florist shop does, from ordering and arranging flowers to delivering flowers anywhere in the local area. I love working on flowers for military occasions, and helping Soldiers order flowers. We are able to take pre-orders from Soldiers and civilians who are planning for a deployment, and orders from Soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Korea or wherever they are stationed. I also love the PX community. We are one big family. I love having a job that I can't wait to get to every day. I love working with all the customers and helping them make decisions on flowers. It's all about "Good Ole Southern Hospitality."



What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love being at home with John, my partner and best friend. You'll laugh, but I love working with all the flowers that I grow at home. I have the most beautiful lilies at home right now. Flowers are my main passion, but I also love to run and jog. It's one of my favorite activities. I started running six years ago. With running, I've lost 50 pounds and I can still eat anything I want. Every year, I look forward to the Cotton Row Run. It's one of the most fun races I've ever run in.

What are your goals?

I want to offer a flower arranging class for my customers this summer. I also want to extend my flower shop business out from the Arsenal. We are looking at the possibility of opening a flower shop at Bridge Street Town Centre. My other goal is to help young people who want to buy a home. I am a licensed realtor and I am putting together a team of professionals who specifically help people go from renting to buying a home. Our goal is to educate people so they can make a complete life change and get started down the road of home ownership.

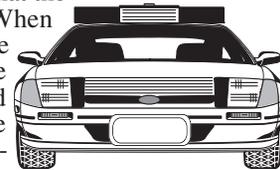
What's your favorite type of music?

I'm a classic rock buff. I love '70s and '80s rock-n-roll.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for May 14-20:

May 15: A vehicle struck a concrete barrier at Gate 10; and it was determined that the driver was intoxicated. When approached by police, she resisted arrest. At the police station, she threatened and kicked a police officer. She was detained in the detention cell until her blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level. She received violation notices for DUI, resisting arrest and assault of a federal law enforcement officer. There were no injuries.



May 18: A servicemember reported that his cell phone and a pair of slippers were stolen from his temporary lodging address.

May 19: An employee reported that someone stole government computer equipment valued at \$3,900 from a workplace. Investigation continues by CID.

Traffic accidents reported: one with injury, seven without injury.

Violation notices issued: 19 speeding, 1 assault, 1 driving under the influence, 1 resisting arrest, 4 failure to observe traffic control device, 1 no driver's license, 1 following too close, 1 failure to yield.



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

Revved up donation

Retired Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain, secretary of the Sergeants Major Association, presents Sue Paddock of Army Community Service and Mike Burden of Army Emergency Relief with a donation to AER on behalf of the association and the Vets for Vettes Corvette Club. The two organizations raised \$264 for AER at the annual spring car show, which was held at Bridge Street Town Centre.

Redstone Rocket

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Zene zealous about busy work schedule



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

DON'T FENCE ME IN— Marlena Zene brings her smile and energy to work as a Garrison intern.

Garrison intern finds her niche

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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Marlena Zene likes to stay busy. She likes to pack every hour of her day with worthwhile activities. As an intern, she's bringing that energy and drive to the Garrison.

Zene grew up on the south side of Chicago, where she attended Hirsch Metropolitan High School of Mass Communications. During her years there, Zene took advantage of all the activities it offered. Despite her busy calendar, she always kept her grades high, graduating as class valedictorian.

"I was number one for all four years of high school," she said. "I did everything. I was a cheerleader, in the National Honor Society, Law Academy, debate team, drama class, on the newspaper and had two jobs."

She attended Alabama A&M University on academic scholarship. Her time was packed with clubs, committees and activities,

including a nine-month internship at Disney World. She graduated cum laude with a bachelor's in business management in 2007. After graduation, she began working on her master's in finance at South University in Montgomery. That's when she got the call from Redstone.

"I came back when I got the call to come to work," she said. "I withdrew from school, so I'll have to start again here."

Garrison interns *Part 12 of series*

Zene joined the intern program at the end of 2008. This is her first experience with the Army, but she is going about the learning process the same way she does everything – with a lot of energy and a smile.

"This is my first time ever having a government job or knowing anything about the Army," she said. "They keep me busy, which I like. I don't like to be still."

Her rotation schedule has her currently in the Directorate of Human Resources. Zene has fallen in love with the work.

"I love DHR. The people are

the best," she said. "I love people. I like meeting new people and talking with them."

While the program will see her working in each of the Garrison's directorates, Zene thinks she may have found her niche in her first stop.

"I've found a home in DHR," she said. "I think this is where I want to be. I know I will learn a lot as I go through the program, but I think my heart is here. I'm also really interested in finance. I like math and numbers."

Zene still likes to keep her schedule full. In addition to work, she serves as a mentor. It's something she feels passionately about.

"If I could wake up every day and do a job without thinking about pay, that's what I would do – mentor girls between 12 and 18," she said. "That would be my dream."

Zene also enjoys reading, dancing and spending time with her friends.

"I do sleep sometimes," she said laughing. "I'm all over the place. I wake up and start every day with a 'Woohoo!' If I'm not smiling, then something is really wrong."

Army's installation manager listens to military spouses

Meeting filled with praise rather than complaints

By KARI HAWKINS
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A planned daylong visit to Redstone Arsenal by Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commander of the Installation Management Command, on May 20 was cut short due to unforeseen circumstances.

Because of that, scheduled meetings were shortened. Some meetings, including a luncheon with various Arsenal and community leaders, were cancelled.

But, Wilson's meeting with local military spouses, though moved to an earlier time, remained firmly part of his Arsenal visit.

"The Army appreciates the commitment and sacrifices you all make," Wilson told the group of Army spouses at the 30-minute meeting. "You represent our Army family connection. It's a family affair. We all sacrifice. We recognize what you do."

The spouses were asked to present Wilson with their concerns and issues as they relate to their families. Instead, most of them brought him praise.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

TIME APPRECIATED— Kathy Campbell, wife of SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, thanks Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commander of the Installation Management Command, for the time he took to meet with a wide range of military spouses living on or near Redstone Arsenal. The meeting with spouses was part of Wilson's itinerary during his May 20 visit to the Arsenal.

"Thank you for the respite care program," said Army spouse Colleen Nicholson.

"I'm the mother of an exceptional family member. My daughter has a number of behavioral problems that are sometimes more challenging than

physical problems. It's a relief to be able to use respite care funds to pay for someone to care for her. It's been very helpful to me. Being able to pay for the care makes me feel better about asking for help."

Because of respite care, Nicholson has been able to run errands and go to the grocery store without her daughter. That is helpful because her daughter can sometimes be difficult to deal with in public places.

"I can take care of business and not feel bad about it," Nicholson said.

Providing respite care funds through Army Community Service is especially important to military families, she said, because they are often living far from a family support group that could provide that care.

"Our extended family is far away, so we don't have that natural support system," she said.

The absence of a family support network also makes the child development centers offered Armywide a tremendous asset to families, said spouse Carie Green.

"CDC has improved so much," Green told Wilson.

"Now, instead of being a baby sitting service, children are learning. My 20-month-old baby is potty trained and knows numbers and lots of songs. The staff at Redstone Arsenal is excellent. The level of learning can't even be compared to what happens off



Photo by Sharee Miller

General visit

Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, commander of the Installation Management Command, shakes hands with David Tindoll, director of Installation Management Command, Southeast Region, as he arrives for a visit May 20. Looking on are the Garrison's Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper, right, and commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, far right.

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

The Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation provided the following list of upcoming events:

Comedy Night

Comedy Night returns June 12 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Headliner Dow Thomas has been a professional entertainer for most of his life. His writings and routines have delighted audiences everywhere. Thomas is a songwriter and musician whose sense of humor has taken his act to a multitude of venues throughout the United States and the Caribbean Islands. Feature act Bill "Bull" Ohse was born in the frozen tundra of Michigan and raised in the mountains of Tennessee. He currently resides in the tropical flats of West Central Florida. He was seen on the second season of NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and is a member of "Comics Giving Back" a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping those in need. Opening the show is Chris Gorges, who has been doing emcee work for years and has featured for Coconuts comedy clubs in Florida. Advance tickets are \$10 without dinner and \$18 with dinner. Day-of-show tickets are \$18 without dinner and \$22 with dinner. For ticket information, call 830-2582.

Block Party

Child, Youth and School Services Block Party is rescheduled for June 27 from 1-4 p.m. on Youth Center Road. This free event is open to all of Redstone (including MSFC/NASA and contractors). Enjoy a day of family fun with free food and beverages, an inflatable playground, face painting, bingo, karaoke, bands, demonstrations and more. Call 876-3704.

Bowling special

Through May 31, get your 50-50 cards at the Bowling Center for \$25. That is just 50 cents per game. Call 876-6634.

Dancing lessons

Registration is under way through Aug. 5 for Basic Samba, Mambo and Merengue for \$66 per couple. Classes are held from Aug. 6 through Sept. 17 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711, near the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads.

Soldier Show

The 2009 Soldier Show will perform June 16 at 7 p.m. and June 17 at 3 and 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Tickets are free and are available on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets for the Redstone community can be picked up at the MWR ITR Office (ticket office) starting June 2. Tickets for the general public may be picked up at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce starting June 9.



Photo by Megan Cotton

Summer concert

Sugarland duo, Jennifer Nettles and Kristian Bush, perform May 16 for Redstone Morale Welfare and Recreation's 2009 Army Concert at the activity field. Along with Sugarland, special guests Billy Currington and Matt Nathanson performed.

See Spouses on page 5

Education outreach volunteers recognized

The Army Education Outreach Program has progressed through the work of its community volunteers.

Designed to reach out and inform local schools about Redstone Arsenal missions and career fields, AEOP generates student interest in considering business and technical career fields at an early age.

More than 30 volunteers were recognized May 18 at Bob Jones Auditorium. The honorees included first to third place winners of the Job Shadow Day essay contest; principals and teachers from local schools for their support of the program; and Dr. Dorothy Huston and Georgia Valrie, both of TMT Group Inc., for their overall coordination and support.

Essay contest winners for "What I learned from the Job Shadow Day Experience" included first place, Amanda Chu of Huntsville High; second, Larae Wade of Johnson High and Paul Drenning of Huntsville High; and third, Carlton McClain of Johnson High and Garrett Smith of Huntsville High. Kacy Hudson of Monrovia Elementary was recognized as the winner of a military essay contest.

School principals and other supporters of the program included Derry Smith, representing Rolling Hills Elementary; Dr. Cheryl Davis, principal of Monrovia Elementary; Tawana Davis, principal of University Place Elementary; Dr. John Humphrey, principal of Martin Luther King Elementary; Louis Berry, principal of Johnson High; Garth Garris, principal of Madison County High; Dr. Byron Hulsey, principal of Randolph School; Robert Watson, representing New Century Technology High; Ted Walton, principal of Union Chapel Christian Academy; and William Smothers, president of Speakin' Out News.

Program volunteers recognized included Bradley Fulton, Penny Koger-Thomas, Hollis Armstrong, Brad Lemley, Michael Ivey, Dale Mungroo, William Walton, Lav-



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

JOB WELL DONE— Kacy Hudson of Monrovia Elementary accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister during the Army Education Outreach Program recognition ceremony May 18 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

ern Spearman, all of TMDE; Eric Edwards, Barry Beavers, Jim Wasson, Fred Frost, Jimmy Townsend, Lt. Col. Greg Bayuga, Mike McGee, Laura King, all of IMMC; Charles Chen of LAISO; Angie Kielsmeier and Barbie Baugh, both of AMCOM Command Group; Mathew Lathem, Norman Dean, Melody Jackson, Col. Al Evans, Josie Ellet, all of AMCOM G-3; Nora Morris, Dr. Tom Pieplow, Eileen Whaley, Dan Parker, John Severn,

Jan Robinson, Renda Forte, Brandy Goff, all of SAMD; and Harriet Littlepage of LMP.

■ Military spouses share views with lieutenant general

Spouses

continued from page 4

installation. At the CDC here, the children are engaged in playing and learning."

Wilson told the spouses that the Army is dedicated to "leading industry in children development and education."

The spouses also talked with Wilson about post access, recycling programs, survey programs, housing and the new utility program, and spouse employment and education programs.

Alice Myles, wife of Redstone Arsenal and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, talked to Wilson about the Arsenal's family readiness group.

"We are in a unique situation here because we have so many tenant organizations and not a big group of spouses," she said. "So, we've developed a community-wide FRG that is reaching out and touching people who are deploying for anywhere from 24 hours to a year."

Wilson said installations like Redstone Arsenal that don't have deployable units rely on Army Community Service to support families going through a deployment. Myles said ACS is fulfilling that role by providing groups like Heart to Heart and Waiting Spouses.

Nicholson, whose husband has deployed twice, said she appreciates the "idea of more support from readiness groups at the installation where I am living. But I still want to be involved in an FRG from an installation where my husband deploys from because I like to be connected with families whose Soldiers are serving with my husband. That way you feel like you are part of what's going on with your husband."

Wilson said a virtual readiness group using e-mails and websites should be available to spouses like Nicholson, and told her he would provide information of such programs if her husband deploys again.

The Army One Source does work to connect geographically disbursed spouses to provide them with information and resources.

"It's important to connect spouses to those resources," said Green, who is Alabama's Army One Source coordinator. "But so many times people aren't aware of what's in place. There are so many programs that exist that people don't know about."

After the meeting, many spouses expressed their appreciation for the chance to talk with Wilson.

"He really, really listens. He's very good about listening to everything and acting on it," said spouse Amy Sears. "He listened to all of us equally. He was very open with us."

"I'm glad they feel military spouses are important enough to send someone special to take the time out of his busy schedule to talk to us and make sure our needs are being met," Nicholson said.

Other military spouses who participated in the meeting included Kathy Campbell, Anna Pastorelli, Nguyet Borja, Erica Wilson, Jennifer Henderson, Emily McFall and Dayle Tindoll.

PX Shoppette makes refreshing changes

*New look, solid numbers
draw attention to store*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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Perhaps the busiest corner on Redstone belongs to the Shoppette. The small store does big business. Since March, it has been doing it with a fresh new look.

Prior to 2009, the Shoppette's look hadn't changed much since its opening in 1994. Over the years, a wall had been removed inside. New gas pumps were installed in 2007. Manager Eileen Dean thought it was time for a few changes.

"We needed a facelift," she said.

The interior of the store was completely revamped in fewer than 60 days. The flooring was replaced with new ceramic tile. All the cash register stands were replaced. There is new lighting, updated bathrooms, break room and offices. The entire place got a fresh coat of paint. New shelving and fixtures were brought in to compliment a new layout. The results are impressive, according to Dean.

"It looks like we expanded," she said. "It's bright, clean and colorful."

Business at the location has steadily grown. At the end of 2008, sales had grown 6 percent to total \$17,495,941, including the Tire Store annex across the street. Dean plans to top that this year.

"The store has planned for a 6 percent increase in



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

COME ON IN— Shoppette manager Eileen Dean and sales associate Maria Love, right, like the store's new appearance.

2009, which is around \$18 million," she said.

The idea behind the changes and updates is to continue to provide outstanding service to the customers. The Shoppette's first tent sale of the year, April 23-25, generated more than \$418,000 in sales.

The numbers, coupled with the new look, have drawn attention. In addition to the comments from customers, the Shoppette is getting closer looks from elsewhere. The store will be one of four featured in the next issue of the Exchange and Commissary News.

"We found out a month ago," Dean said. "They highlight the best shoppettes. We know our store is great, but we were still very surprised. We're very proud of what we're doing here."

PX education initiative makes grade

According to the Department of Defense, children of active-duty military personnel attend, on average, six to nine different school systems from kindergarten to 12th grade.

As a military command with a motto of "we go where you go," the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is, understandably, attuned to the unique challenges military children face in their educational pursuits.

Beyond being a destination for school supplies and clothes, the Post Exchange even offers an array of free and discounted products to students who excel in the classroom through its "You Made the Grade" program.

Now in its ninth year, AAFES' education rewards initiative is anchored by a booklet chock full of complimentary offers for students in grades one through 12 who maintain a "B" average or better.

The current "You Made the Grade" booklet includes coupons for a free Hamburger kid's meal from Burger King, savings from AAFES BX/PX Mall and \$2 off any new release DVD. Each booklet also contains an entry form for a quarterly drawing in which three winners are randomly awarded savings bonds in \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000 denominations.

"All authorized exchange shoppers, who are full-time students, are eligible to pick up a booklet and register for the savings bonds every time they receive a qualifying report card," Post Exchange general manager Carl Carpenter said. "The program offers a terrific practical learning experience for our military students; it pays to learn."

To receive the AAFES "You Made the Grade" booklet, students must present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average to the Post Exchange. Students may receive one coupon package and enter the savings bond drawing for every qualifying report card. Military families can call PX sales and merchandise manager Kim Sumpter at 883-6100 for more information. (Exchange release)

Getting technical

Tactical unmanned aircraft makes early impact

Shadow Hawk arrives ahead of schedule

In an ongoing effort to improve the Unmanned Aerial Systems currently in use by war fighters in Iraq and Afghanistan, members of the Unmanned Aerial System Project Management Office and the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center have conducted a successful demonstration using a Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System at the Redstone Technical Test Center.

The test, conducted under the Aviation Multi-Platform Munition Science and Technology Program, successfully released (on-command of a ground operator) a 10-pound, inert, unguided, mass-simulated Shadow Hawk from the TUAS.

The Shadow Hawk, developed by Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, is a semi-active laser precision-guided 2.75 inch diameter drop-glide weapon.

Launch of the Shadow Hawk was enabled and released by the Quick Materiel Express Delivery System, or "Quick-MEDS," pylon and launcher electronics developed by Dynetics Inc. in Huntsville.

"Our team of government and contractor engineers worked side-by-side in making this test happen ahead of schedule. From contract award-to-test within two-months is a testament to the team's commitment to the war fighter," said Steven



Photo by Bill Martin

SPECIAL DELIVERY— The Shadow Hawk, recently tested at Redstone Arsenal, is attached to the Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System via the modified Quick Materiel Express Delivery System pylon.

Low, director of the Aviation Multi-Platform Munition Science and Technology Program.

This flight test paves the way for guided weapon drops from a UAS platform in fall 2009 where the AMPM Universal Test Pod will command weapon release and demonstrate air-to-ground accuracy of a fully-guided weapon.

"The portable UTP provides a universal interface to test various weapon concepts in the future, while minimizing modifications to the plane," Low said.

In future tests to be conducted at the Army's Rapid Integration and Acceptance Center, Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah,

See Shadow on page 9



Photo by Bill Martin

TEAMMATES— Aviation Multi-Platform Munition Science and Technology Program team members include, from left, Scott Dotson (Dynetics), Steve Ebral (Lockheed Martin), Matt Waters (Dynetics), Charles Gaylord (Lockheed Martin), John Parine (Dynetics), Steve Norris (Dynetics), Steven Low (AMRDEC), Eddie Sewall (Dynetics), Alan Brown, holding the Shadow Hawk (Lockheed Martin), Mike Cole (AMRDEC), Dave Allemeier (Lockheed Martin), John Roy (Dynetics) and Chris Lofts (AMRDEC). Not pictured are Amanda Horton (Dynetics) and Lee Collier (AMRDEC).

Bicycle ride generates electricity

Earth Day project gets bright results

By MEGAN COTTON

For the Rocket

Earth Day 2009 brought an innovative energy project to the Arsenal. Workers from Garrison's Environmental Management Division, along with contractors from Chugach Management Services Inc. and many other Redstone employees, created a display in which people could generate their own electricity simply by riding a bicycle.

"I wanted to make a bike that would generate enough energy to light a light bulb," said Denean Summers, the Sustainability, Recycling, Solid Waste Program manager, who first had the idea. "I thought this would show the children who attend the event that it takes effort to generate electricity."

The project got started when Summers spotted an old bicycle that belonged to Arlis Dudley, who works with 90-Day Hazardous Materials on the Arsenal. She presented to him the idea of turning it into a display for Redstone's Earth Day 2009.

Dudley got straight to work, rounding up the materials to make the bicycle. He only used recycled



Photo by Tim Heitse

CYCLE POWER—Environmental Management Division workers, from left, Dave Bryant, Ramzi Makkouk, Gene Daniels and Denean Summers watch Booker Terry power the light bulb.

materials that he had found around the Arsenal.

"Anything I find that's worth recycling I keep, so I had a lot of stuff already," Dudley said.

"I didn't know how to make all of it so I would call someone to help me with something, like the welding, then if we encountered a problem we couldn't solve we would

call someone else."

In the end, the light bulb was powered by the bike wheel which would spin around, turn the fly wheel of the alternator and transfer energy to the bulb.

"Overall the bike was a great success," Summers said. "A fun and educational aid that can be displayed for years."

Bastion gets safety support contract

Bastion Technologies Inc. has been competitively selected for a direct award of a safety services contract at the Aviation and Missile Command.

Under the AMCOM Express Contract, Bastion teams with TYBRIN Corporation and QinetiQ North America's Systems Engineering Group (formerly Westar Aerospace & Defense).

The \$13 million contract supports system safety engineering functions for the AMCOM Safety Office, Missile Systems Safety Engineering Division, over a five-year period. *(Bastion release)*

■ Team tests tactical unmanned aircraft system

Shadow

continued from page 8

the Shadow Hawk will contain a Semi-Active Laser Seeker which guides to a laser-designated target, much like a Hellfire missile, yet packaged in a small drop weapon approximately one-tenth the weight of a Hellfire missile.

"This test marks a successful starting point in making small weapons accessible to manned and unmanned aircraft," Low said.

These smaller and lighter weapons will enable increases in UAS on-station flight time and the number of weapons employed on each platform, while minimizing collateral damage. *(AMRDEC release)*

Guardisman copes with Lou Gehrig's disease

'Hoping for the best, expecting the worst'

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
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It started with muscle twitches.

During a routine visit to his orthopedic doctor for a shoulder injury, David Oyler mentioned a minor problem with muscle twitches that seemed to be getting worse.

He was referred to a neurologist and underwent an MRI. And, in February of this year, the 42-year-old Alabama National Guard Soldier was told he may have amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

"I was shocked," Oyler said. "I was floored. I didn't know what to do."

Additional testing confirmed the diagnosis, and Oyler became another Soldier suffering from a disease that has been associated with military service.

In 2001, the Department of Veterans Affairs acknowledged that ALS is a service-related disease for Soldiers who served in the Persian Gulf War. In September 2008, the VA announced that ALS would be a presumptively compensable illness for all veterans with 90 days or more of continuously active service in the military. The decision was based primarily on a November 2006 report by the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine on the association between active duty and ALS.

May is National ALS Awareness Month. Oyler wanted his



Photo by Kari Hawkins

NEVER GIVE UP— National Guardsman David Oyler and his wife, Shirley, are battling the symptoms of ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. The Department of Veterans Affairs announced last fall that ALS is a presumptively compensable illness for all veterans as a result of studies that showed an association between active duty service and ALS. May is National ALS Awareness Month.

story told in conjunction with the designation in hopes of informing other Soldiers who may be suffering from the early signs of ALS.

After his initial diagnosis, Oyler went to the ALS Clinic in Huntsville and the Kirkland Clinic at the University of Alabama in Birmingham for a second

opinion and for information on the disease. The diagnosis was confirmed.

"We were just devastated. We both were," said Oyler's wife, Shirley. "That weekend he went to drill and I started doing research. I was on the computer all weekend learning about ALS."

Her findings helped the couple understand what they were facing.

"We found out veterans are 100 percent more likely to be diagnosed with ALS than any other people," Oyler said. "They don't know if it's environmental or something we were exposed to or the shots we were given or stress-related. Any Soldier having any of the symptoms should get checked because they are more susceptible to ALS. Any Soldier coming back from Iraq or Afghanistan or Kuwait needs to get checked."

ALS is a degenerative nerve disease that gradually destroys the ability to control movement. The cause of ALS is unknown, but studies have shown only 5 to 10 percent of cases are inherited. There is no cure.

Muscle weakness is one of the more common symptoms of ALS, occurring in about 60 percent of all patients, according to the ALS Association. Early symptoms include tripping, dropping things, abnormal fatigue of the arms and/or legs, slurred speech, muscle cramps and twitches and/or uncontrolled periods of laughing and crying.

More advanced systems include shortness of breath, and difficulty breathing and swallowing. As the disease progresses, there is advanced muscle weakness and paralysis. The survival rate after diagnosis is three to five years, but some live with the disease for five, 10 or more years.

"I don't know how fast this is advancing. I went from having twitches in February to weakness in my hands and loss of some

mobility," Oyler said. "It's also having a slight effect on my speech. I am talking slower."

He also has cramps in different muscles. And there are more twitches.

"I'm starting to have some minor breathing problems," he said. "I'm waking up tired all the time. It could be from not breathing well in my sleep."

Oyler, a former Navy seaman, joined the Alabama National Guard in November 2000, becoming a member of the 1169th Engineer Group. In September 2006, he deployed for a year with his unit to Iraq, where he worked as a signal support systems specialist charged with making sure all communications, such as computers, radios and telephones, were operating in support of the unit.

Oyler continues to serve with his National Guard unit, which is now the 1159th Engineer Company. He still attends drill, but he is no longer doing push ups in the PT drills. He hopes to get permission to substitute riding a stationary bike for six miles for the two-mile run. He can still do the required sit ups. Oyler plans to retire from the Guard in the fall.

"Doing any kind of activity where you are overexerting yourself can do more harm than good. It weakens the muscles faster and takes longer to recover," Oyler said.

"But, at the same time, if you stick to a normal routine and are active, you will tend to have a better life," added Shirley Oyler. "If you give up, it will take over."

See **Disease** on page 11



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Years service awards

Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli congratulates Carolene Wu and Dan Seaver after a length of service ceremony Thursday. Wu (20 years) and Seaver (25 years), both of the Environmental Management Division of the Directorate of Public Works, were among the honorees from throughout the Garrison. Others included Aldin Mitchell (25 years), David Nixon (30 years) and Bruce Umstaedter (25 years).

■ Lou Gehrig's disease gradually destroys muscles

Disease

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Oyler is on medication that doctors hope will slow the rate of his disease. He is also visiting an occupational therapist to help with the weakness in his hands. In July, he will begin treatment at Huntsville's ALS Clinic, where a multi-disciplinary approach is used to treat all symptoms of ALS.

"The clinic helps to prolong your quality of life because all the services you need, including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy and a neurologist, are all there at the clinic to provide the treatment you need when you need it," Oyler said.

Once an ALS diagnosis is made, a veteran immediately is considered 30 percent disabled, and they are entitled to health and disability benefits. The disability percentage goes up as the disease progresses. In 2009, the VA expects 416 new ALS cases.

"Eventually I will be 100 percent disabled," Oyler said. "The VA provides a lot of options for disabled veterans. They will help pay for a disabled vehicle when I can no longer walk. They will help pay to get our home wheelchair accessible. They will help us keep our quality of life as normal as possible."

Oyler has received help with obtaining VA benefits from Anthony Steele of Paralyzed Veterans in Montgomery. Jan Obermann of the Huntsville ALS Association has also helped him understand the disease and get the support he needs. Oyler and his wife,

who is a NASA contractor, attend a local ALS support group.

The couple are trying to prepare themselves for the challenges ahead as the disease progresses. They've told their family members, including two of their three children and the oldest of their three grandchildren. They are going to take a trip to visit relatives in Oklahoma, and Oyler hopes to attend a NASCAR race and maybe even take a trip to Australia or a cruise. Eventually, Oyler will not be able to do the things he enjoys, including working in his garden, reading a book or traveling.

"My concern is when this disease progresses where he can't take care of himself and someone has to be home with him around the clock, will we be able to afford home health care? We've learned a lot about this disease and we hope to prepare ourselves for what is to come," Shirley Oyler said.

Oyler is facing ALS with quiet resolve.

"You don't really come to grips with something like this. You learn to accept it," he said. "There's nothing you can do to change it. You have to make up your mind to live every day as best you can. You spend time with your family. You do things that you might not be able to do in a few years. I'm not letting it control my life."

"This is one of those diseases where there's no way to tell how long it will take. In two years I could be bedridden or I could be on a ventilator. It's one of those things where you're hoping for the best and expecting the worst."

Oil analysis program keeps equipment running

*LOGSA mobile labs
in Southwest Asia*

By Col. JAMES RENTZ

Logistics Support Activity commander

When you hear the name LOGSA, the majority of the Army community will most likely relate that to LOGSA's Logistics Information Warehouse, which provides the Army with worldwide visibility over its logistics, supply and maintenance actions. However, LOGSA provides many other products and services to support Soldiers.

One of those is to perform a laboratory analysis to determine the condition of the oil and fluids inside aviation and ground combat equipment engines, gearboxes and transmissions. This mission is accomplished by Army Oil Analysis Program laboratories.

In the desert environment, aviation and combat equipment are exposed to severe environmental conditions. The system operators and maintainers need to know if their drive systems are contaminated with sand or any other element that will cause excessive wear on their internal parts. The AOAP laboratory analysis identifies the elements in the oil that will cause this unfavorable condition and if any of the internal components of these systems are moving toward failure.

The detailed diagnostics report that AOAP provides allows us to see unfavorable trends developing and the ability to give the maintenance units a recommendation of what needs attention before a system failure occurs. Given the known parameters of the elements used in the manufacture of an item, the AOAP will zero in on the specific part (i.e. a bearing or gear) which needs attention. A goal of the program is to alleviate problems by changing components, as opposed to a major assembly like an engine or gearbox. This effort reduces the equipment's downtime and improves its availability to perform its intended mission.



Courtesy photo

MOVING OUT— An Army Oil Analysis Program mobile lab is loaded onto a C-2 Galaxy aircraft destined for Southwest Asia.

LOGSA manages four Army Oil Analysis laboratories in Southwest Asia: Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; Balad, Iraq; Tikrit, Iraq; and Bagram, Afghanistan. In the early stages of the Southwest Asia operations, AOAP reacted quickly by fielding four mobile laboratories to support Army oil analysis requirements. The original mobile laboratories have served well for more than 20 years, seeing action in every major U.S. contingency operation during this time frame. Two of the older units were replaced with fixed facilities during the past 12 months, and a third is in the final stages of being replaced. The fixed facilities are designed with the necessary size and capability for better workflow and use of the newer, high tech diagnostics equipment being placed in all AOAP labs.

With the emphasis on operations in Afghanistan, one of the highest priorities is to establish an AOAP laboratory in the Southern Afghanistan region by

the end of June. Although the time frame to accomplish this is short, LOGSA is working closely with the Army Support Command's, 401st and

402nd Army Field Support Battalions to complete all of the logistics support actions needed to set up AOAP operations in that region. The field support battalions are the Army Materiel Command "boots on the ground" elements that ensure logistical support needs are met in the contingency theater of operations. In coordination with the field support battalion, a decision was made to redeploy one of the mobile labs being replaced in Iraq with a fixed facility to meet the requirement in Southern Afghanistan. With support from the 401st and 402nd AFSBs and the work by the LOGSA AOAP Program Management Office team to get all of the support equipment shipped over, the Logistics Support Activity is confident that the laboratory will be up and running by the required operational date.

During January and February alone, LOGSA's AOAP team shipped out more than 2,500 items of supplies and equipment to support the laboratories in Southwest Asia. It takes teamwork between LOGSA AOAP team, Redstone's Central Receiving and Distribution, the Hazardous Materials Office and the operations personnel in Southwest Asia to ensure that the labs, which analyze over 113,000 samples annually, have the supplies and equipment needed to run at peak efficiency.

Force development director asks the tough questions

Halverson advocates realistic requirements

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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At the Pentagon, the overriding question is “How much can we afford in support of the war fighter?”

Every day, Soldiers like Maj. Gen. David Halverson, director of Force Development for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, work to ensure Soldiers get what they need to be successful on the battlefield during a time of tightening budgets and congressional scrutiny.

“It has to be balanced,” said Halverson, speaking to participants at the AUSA Tactical Missiles Conference at the Von Braun Center May 19.

“How can we structure science and technology so we can get it out to the war fighter faster? It’s reality. We’re working very hard to ensure we can get support to the war fighter. We are working to balance near-term readiness and posturing for the future.”

The uptempo on the battlefield is also felt at the Pentagon, where action items that used to take eight to 10 weeks now get done in two weeks.

“We’re burning a lot of energy to take care of things that need to be done today,” Halver-

son said. “At the same time, we are making big decisions on things like force mix. What is the force going to look like? What kind of Army are we going to be? There’s a lot of discussions to ensure we have the Army we need to be in persistent conflict.”

Senior Army leaders are looking at the entire life cycle management in assessing the future Army force. Sustainment and how to integrate missile systems in with units are key concerns.

At the same time leaders struggle with the current and future needs of the Army, they are also dealing with shrinking Army buying power due largely to personnel costs, Halverson said.

“We have transformed our Army in the eight years we’ve been in conflict,” he said. “We do have an operational reserve.”

Even so, it costs \$1.6 million to set up a brigade. And, while the Army does understand the demands of war, its Soldiers are showing the effects of multiple deployments.

“We always want to play the ‘away game,’” Halverson said, referring to fighting wars on foreign soil. Yet, the costs of an “away game” are high.

To achieve a balance between investing in today and in the future, Halverson said the Army must set conditions, invest in Soldier and family support programs, continue

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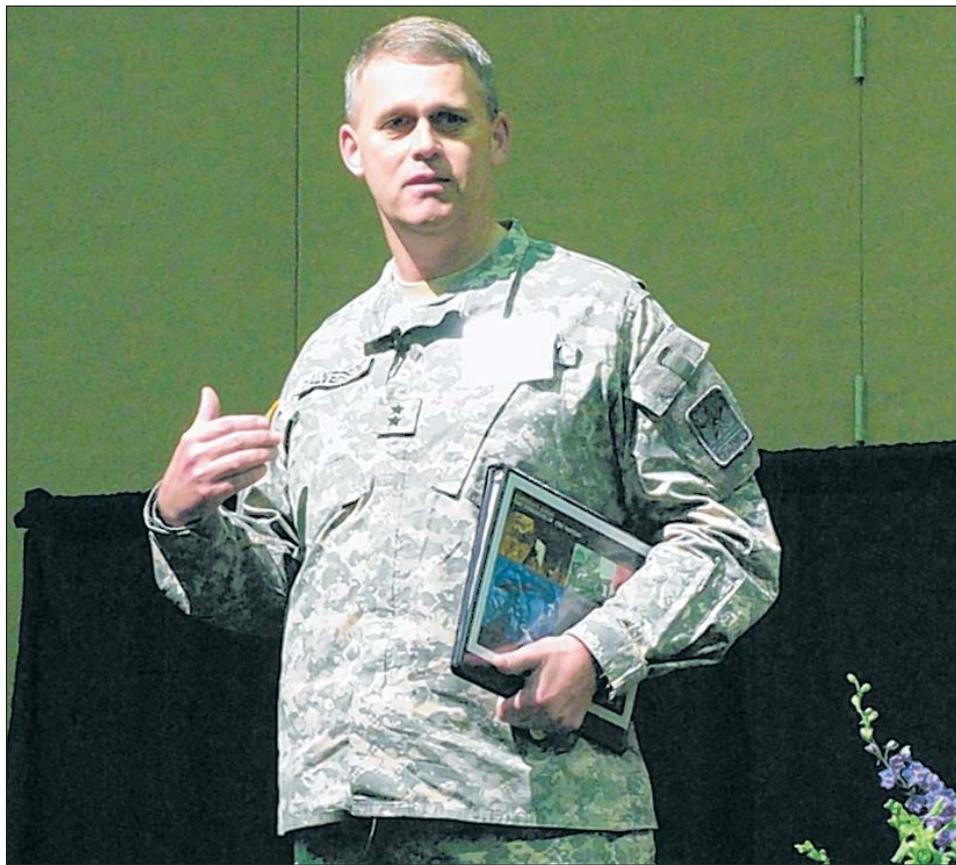


Photo by Kari Hawkins

MAINTAINING THE ARMY— Maj. Gen. David Halverson, director of Force Development for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff at the Pentagon, is in the business of asking questions concerning budgets, expenses, requirements and future needs. He spoke about the changing Army at AUSA’s Tactical Missiles Conference on May 19.

‘We support Soldiers. That’s our focus every day’

AMCOM deputy commander relates battlefield accounts

By KARI HAWKINS
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A picture of Staff Sgt. Christian Bryant tells the story Ronnie Chronister likes to convey to audiences interested in the work of the Aviation and Missile Command.

For Chronister, AMCOM deputy commander, that picture conveys exactly what kind of difference the Army’s aviation and missile systems and technology can make on the battlefield.

Bryant, a Silver Star recipient, was one of three leaders of the 2nd Platoon of the 19th Mountain Division in Afghanistan in 2007 who successfully led 27 U.S. Soldiers and five Afghan soldiers in a battle against as many as 100 al Qaeda during a cordon and search mission in the country’s northern region.

The battle lasted more than 17 hours. But in the end, it was superior technology and air support that brought success for U.S. forces.

“We had a lot of air support throughout the day — Apaches, A-10s, B-1s trying to dislodge the enemy,” Bryant is reported to have said. “But the end came when our technological advances came into play. Our AC-130s, after dark, were able to pick out the friendly from the enemy. We found out the next day that we had killed one of their leaders.”

Chronister told industry representatives at the 11th annual Tactical Missiles Conference that Bryant’s actions are representative of the heroism of all U.S. Soldiers.

“He crawled from one position to another to direct the battle. He saved his platoon sergeant. He managed the fight. He led three Apaches to insurgent locations. He helped the Javelin gunner kill insurgents,” Chronister said.

“This is the kind of hero we have that’s out fighting right now. He is indicative of a lot of Soldiers. There is no question how committed these Soldiers are.”

He then asked the industry representatives: “How committed are you?”

“Are we still committed to providing hardware and systems so that Soldiers can do the unbelievable things in this fight?”

At AMCOM, that commitment is still very much real, Chronister said.

“What do we do? We support Soldiers. That’s our focus every day,” he said.

Every morning AMCOM receives reports on the number of helicopters down in theater (on a recent morning it was 10 out of 600) and a status report on missile systems. Then AMCOM ensures that parts are delivered quickly to repair and maintain helicopters and missile systems.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

COMMAND VIEW— Ronnie Chronister, deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, speaks about commitment to the Army mission during a presentation at AUSA’s Tactical Missiles Conference.

More than 90,000 Hellfire missiles and 1,100 Javelins have been fired in operation contingency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Those numbers are impressive and you all are doing a great job,” Chronister told his audience of primarily defense contractors.

Chronister mentioned other personal accounts of how the Army’s hardware is saving Soldier lives. In one account, the Javelin’s successful performance against an Iraqi armor attack saved the lives of 30 Soldiers. In another account, the Javelin helped Soldiers secure a downed 58-Delta and safely evacuate the helicopter’s crew.

He explained that AMCOM is an enterprise operation working with program executive offices of Aviation, and Missile and Space, and the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center to provide program managers with the resources and technology they need to manage and sustain aviation and missile systems.

AMCOM uses condition-based maintenance and integrated solutions to prolong the life of systems, save millions of dollars in repair and replacement, and improve the performance and enhance capabilities of systems. Chronister also mentioned recent enhanced capabilities, such as the Patriot’s handheld user inspection device, the Hellfire’s blast frag sleeve, the Improved Target Acquisition System and the integration of the Avenger’s M3P machine gun on the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter platform.

The Avenger/Kiowa machine gun project was “a cross collaboration from the missile side of the house to the aviation side,” Chronister said. “These are examples of how we pull together at AMCOM with AMRDEC and the PEOs to continue a legacy of support to the Soldier. Because of that effort we have

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Missile research and development focuses on upgrades to systems

By KARI HAWKINS
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From the point of view of the engineers at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, the synergy between government and industry is vital to the development of new technologies that can make a difference on the battlefield.

"This community is a synergy between government and industry – all play a critical role in making sure we get the right missile technology in the field and that the missile technology does what it's intended to do," said C. Stephen Cornelius, AMRDEC associate director for missile development.

"The missile community here has operated for many years. It's a very strong team."

Cornelius made his comments at the AUSA Tactical Missiles Conference at the Von Braun Center on May 19.

The government/industry missile team works to ensure program managers get the support and technology to make weapon systems successful. Today's army of weapons is so successful for the war fighter that very few research and development funds are focused on new weapons to add to the arsenal.

"Science and technology is focusing on upgrades and making more effective the weapons we have today," Cornelius said. "We are looking for opportunities with our current systems to look at different ways to provide new capabilities to the war fighter."

In the '70s, huge investments were made in new weapon systems. Today, those investments are paying off with highly developed systems that are effective and adaptable.

Halverson addresses future needs of the Army

Questions

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Base Realignment and Closure activities, supplement funding to Army bases and incorporate the Brigade Combat Team Modernization Strategy.

"The Army is not sitting back and saying 'Woe is me' on these things," he said. "We are moving out ... Modernization will be there."

The Army is also asking hard questions concerning costs, needs of the Soldiers, increasing capabilities and maintaining strategic partnerships.

"We are trying to be smart in our requirements so that we don't get growth in costs that can put our programs at risk," Halverson said. "There are a lot of studies going on at a very quick pace. It is not business as usual."

Many studies are focused on the-

AMCOM hardware making difference in war fight

Support

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award-winning performance-based logistics and life cycle contractor

ater operations and future capabilities for the war fighter.

"We're doing a lot of shaping to ensure the Soldier gets the best bang for the buck," he said. "We can get bigger and better. But what capability do we truly want? The environment has changed and we're pretty busy trying to posture ourselves. Hopefully, we have a good foundation base so we can influence the future."

Missile costs are primary cost drivers for the Army's missile defense programs. Yet, while the Army struggles to meet war fighter requirements, it still has technology for urban warfare that no other nation has developed, he said.

"We've gone a long way because we've given our ground Soldiers the capability they need in the urban tactical fight. We've pushed a lot of stuff forward and the Soldiers need it,"

support programs."

Chronister also talked about the use of Missile Defense Agency systems – such as THAAD, radar systems and the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Program – by



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SYNERGY STORY— C. Stephen Cornelius, AMRDEC's associate director for missile development, talks at the AUSA Tactical Missiles Conference about the benefits of synergy between Redstone Arsenal and local industry in the development of new weapons capabilities.

With today's need to protect Soldier units, bases and installations, significant science and technology investments are being made in systems that provide point protection, area protection and air defense, Cornelius said.

"We are trying to balance activities between protection and strike," he said. "A lot of pervasive technology goes across all systems and provides unified technology between protection and strike."

The overseas contingency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have had a significant impact on the type of weapons developed, their capabilities and the speed of development.

"Current conflicts have pushed survivability and multi-purpose lethality needs to the forefront," Cornelius said. "We are spending a lot of money to make missile systems smaller, lighter, cheaper and safer to carry."

Halverson said.

He said Soldiers have done a phenomenal job and have made it easier for the Army leadership to look ahead.

"The Army will modernize. We feel very comfortable we will define that modernization and move forward," Halverson said.

In that modern Army, cost benefit analysis will be increasingly important, tactical missiles must be even more highly effective and accurate, lower costs in precision munitions will be imperative, and there will be an institutionalized sense of urgency and higher levels of responsiveness, he said.

"It's not business as usual. Let's ask the tough questions," he said. "We know we will go through some transition. But we have the ability to articulate where we are and where we're going with confidence. It's all about realistic requirements and execution of those requirements."

Soldiers, and he reviewed the "explosive growth" in foreign military sales, and the systems AMCOM fields, maintains and sustains. He urged defense contractors to control expenses so that costs don't threaten the success of hardware programs.

Engineers are also looking into future missile system requirements.

"What are the concepts and technologies we need to bring online to counter a very hard and difficult enemy?" he said. "Part of the challenge we have here is: What should our new acquisition requirements be? We're looking at missile concepts, gun concepts, directed energy concepts, and mortars, artillery and rockets ... We're looking at air defense from 3 feet off the ground."

New developments like the Kinetic Energy Protection System will provide additional protection on the battlefield while proven systems like the Guided MLRS need new capabilities to address the threat on the ground, he said.

With all missile systems, three things remain most important: making them with smaller, lighter and cheaper components; having them compatible so they can be part of a close network of weapons and systems; and maximizing the Soldier's lethality, survivability and situational awareness, Cornelius said.

"We are constantly looking at upgrades and enhancements," he said. "Keep in mind, the threat is always changing and we have to be able to respond to that threat. We have to bring new capabilities to the war fighter. We have to have technology ready at the right time to give to the acquisition community and the Soldier."

MDA director describes agency's recruitment needs

Missiles

continued from page 1

come from. Our capabilities give us a stand-off distance. We need to know how far away we can be to be survivable and still hit the target," O'Reilly said.

"In 2002, we had only developmental technology for THAAD, Aegis and SM-3. We've come a long way in the last eight years on how fast we can converge on a threat."

MDA's newest development initiatives include a land-based SM-3, precision tracking satellite system planning, risk reduction for extended-range THAAD and airborne infrared system to support ballistic missile defense. MDA, in conjunction with the war fighter, will expand operationally realistic testing in the Pacific Ocean.

"We are also continuing on with a very active interplay with allies around the world," O'Reilly said, mentioning Japan and Israel.

In other matters related to MDA, O'Reilly said DoD is moving to "increase the size of the government work force in MDA" and throughout the DoD by shifting contractor jobs to civilian positions. In addition, MDA is working to recruit engineers to locate at Redstone Arsenal as the agency re-locates most of its program offices and functions as a result of Base Realignment and Closure recommendations.

"We do have a lot of members of the work force in the Washington, D.C., area that have indicated they are not likely to move," O'Reilly said. "We already had jobs we needed to fill and then we had many hundreds of jobs to fill. We needed to take a hard look at the source of engineers."

Engineer graduates are being recruited from throughout the nation, and MDA has increased the number of engineers it hires annually from 60 to more than 150. Recently, the agency received 1,600 applications to fill 60 jobs in Huntsville. The agency is incorporating mentoring programs to help these engineer graduates transition into their new MDA jobs.

"We're going to be bringing them in in a very large number ... We're putting a lot of energy in that because we believe it will pay off for many decades to come," O'Reilly said.

Lean project cuts steps from contracting

Huntsville Center may save \$500K

By DEBRA VALINE
 Huntsville Center public affairs

Eliminating and streamlining some of the steps within the Source Selection Evaluation Board for Basic Contracts process has the potential to save the Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, more than \$500,000 a year.

It was taking anywhere from 233 days to 357 days to complete a Source Selection Evaluation Board for Basic Contract Actions, so one Lean Six Sigma Green Belt candidate decided to investigate.

Lydia Tadesse, chief of the Environmental Contracting Branch, and one of 25 Lean Six Sigma Green Belt candidates at the Huntsville Center, conducted a four-day Rapid Improvement Event March 24-27 to identify where steps in the process could be eliminated or streamlined, making the process less costly and more efficient.

A Rapid Improvement Event is a facilitated methodology that

focuses on rapid improvement in a specific work area through the application of lean tools and techniques.

Team members included Tadesse; Ryan Black, Office of Counsel; Michael Duffy, contracting officer with the Coalition Munitions Disposal program; Tonju Butler, supervisory contract specialist on the Pre-Award team; Mona Neal, a supervisory procurement analyst; and Suzanne Murdock, chief, Military Munitions Division. The project sponsor and process owner is John Mayes, Huntsville Center's chief of contracting.

"For these events to be successful, you must have the right mix of people who are knowledgeable about the process and can bring synergy to the table," said Tadesse, who will need to conduct two more Rapid Improvement Events to become a certified green belt. "This is the first Rapid Improvement Event completed at the Center. The project sponsor has accepted our recommendations. With this process, you can get quick, dramatic improvements in a short period of time."



Photo by Becky Proaps

PROCESS IMPROVERS— The Rapid Improvement Event Team members include, from left, Michael Duffy, contracting officer with the Coalition Munitions Disposal program; Sandy McAnally and Betty Neff, management analysts in the Business Management Office and the two Lean Six Sigma Black Belt advisers at the Center; Mona Neal, a supervisory procurement analyst; Tonju Butler, supervisory contract specialist on the Pre-Award Team; and Lydia Tadesse, chief of the Environmental Contracting Branch, and one of 25 Lean Six Sigma green belt candidates at the Huntsville Center. Members of the team not pictured include Ryan Black, Office of Counsel; Suzanne Murdock, Military Munitions Division chief; and John Mayes, Huntsville Center's chief of contracting and the project sponsor and process owner for the team.

Claims division collects for damages to federal property

More than \$11,500 returned last year

By SUE SAMMONS
 For the Rocket

Several federal regulations — including the Federal Claims Collection Act, Federal Medical Care Recovery Act and AR 27-20 — allow the Claims Division to collect monetary funds from persons who cause damage to federal property. These regulations also apply to persons who negligently injure

Soldiers, retirees, dependents or their family members.

After medical treatment is provided, the Claims Division of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate notifies the wrongdoer's insurance company and requests reimbursement for any medical care a military member received in a military treatment facility and/or civilian health care center. The money that is recovered is returned to the MTF or to Tricare, whichever provided the care. Last year the division collected more than \$190,000, of which \$12,816 was returned to Fox Army Health Center, and \$165,201.00 was

returned to Tricare to provide further treatment for Soldiers, retirees and their family members.

In order for the division to initiate the collection process, it is very important for Soldiers, retired or active duty, and family members involved in an accident, that is not their fault, to fill out the questionnaire at Fox Army Health Center or stop by the OSJA. This will help the division obtain the correct information to pursue a claim against the wrongdoer. In general, the division does not attempt recovery from the Soldier/family member, but if necessary, it can collect its recovery from the military member's uninsured or underinsured auto insurance if the negligent party is uninsured or underinsured. If this would cause a hardship, he or she needs to notify the Claims Division and it will try to assist them.

Servicemembers who do not cooperate by providing the information necessary for investigation of the claim are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Retirees and dependents of eligible recipients of medical care are subject to loss of the medical care under Tricare or through government medical treatment facilities for failure to cooperate and provide necessary information for investigation of the claim.

Individuals should not execute a release or settle any claim for which they

have received treatment either under Tricare or from a military treatment facility for injuries without first notifying the Redstone Affirmative Claims section of the JAG Office. Servicemembers, deploying civilian employees, retirees and their authorized dependents who have received health care from a government medical treatment facility or under the provisions of Tricare have an affirmative duty to assist the government in recovering the cost of medical care. The data requested under the Affirmative Claims Recovery Program is considered to be protected under the Privacy Act of 1974.

Property damages to government facilities, caused by individuals not otherwise connected to the military, are processed under the Affirmative Claims program. Damage caused outside the scope of employment by servicemembers or civilians is treated as an affirmative claim. Individuals specified above are also required to provide necessary information to repair or replace damage to government facilities and property.

Last year the division recovered more than \$11,567 in property damage. These monies were used to repair the damaged property such as fences around the Arsenal. For more information on affirmative claims, call the Claims Division at 842-2072. (Claims Division release)

Call Charlie Company the comeback kids



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WALKOFF WINNER— Ryan Kohlmeier's walkoff three-run homer propelled Charlie Company to a 17-16 win over the Civilian Welfare Fund on May 19.

Wolfpack rallies to 17-16 win over Civilian Welfare Fund

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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The Charlie Company softball team was running out of chances against the Civilian Welfare Fund.

Charlie trailed most of the night and faced a three-run deficit entering the bottom of the seventh inning.

The Wolfpack prevailed.

Ryan Kohlmeier hit a walkoff three-run homer as Charlie rallied for four runs and beat CWF 17-16 on May 19 at Linton Field. Charlie improved to 3-3 with its second straight win.

"I just got a good piece of it," Kohlmeier said after his blast over the left field fence. "I was waiting on it."

The Wolfpack had edged the previously unbeaten National Guard 17-15 the previous night.

"We've got a lot of fans. A lot of Charlie Company coming out," Kohlmeier said. "Support always helps."

The second baseman went 3-for-4 with

four RBIs and scored three runs against the civilians. The Wolfpack trailed 5-3 after one inning, 7-3 after two, 10-7 after three, 15-10 after five, 15-13 after six and 16-13 midway through the seventh.

Wolfpack player/coach Scott Brock went 2-for-2 with one RBI, walked twice and scored two runs.

"We just played everybody and at the end came back and did what we had to do to get it done," Brock said.

Daniel Oswell and Andrew Myrick had three hits apiece for the Civilian Welfare Fund, which fell to 4-2. After Oswell and Myrick singled to open the game, Brad Harris tripled them home.

"We gave the game away," CWF right fielder Corey Harrell said. "We didn't take advantage of the lead we had."

National Guard 28, Marines 3: The two-time defending champion National Guard dominated the Marines the night after its first loss.

"We're pretty strong when we've got everybody that needs to be in the lineup," National Guard player/coach Rodney Henshaw said. "We underestimated Charlie Company last night; we left four players home. We didn't realize they had as good a



Photo by Skip Vaughn

EARLY LEADER— Civilian Welfare Fund's Brad Harris hits a two-run triple in the first inning against Charlie Company.

team. We won't let that happen again."

In games May 18, HHC 59th beat Headquarters & Alpha 4-1, Bravo defeated NCO Academy 14-3 and Charlie clipped National Guard 17-15.

On Thursday night, Charlie again stopped Civilian Welfare Fund 12-5, Headquarters & Alpha outslugged NCO Academy 14-11 and Bravo blanked HHC 59th 20-0.

Standings entering this week had National Guard (8-1), Bravo (6-1), Charlie (4-3), Civilian Welfare Fund (4-3), HHC 59th (4-3), Marines (2-6), Headquarters & Alpha (2-7) and NCO Academy (1-7).

The season continues through Thursday. The postseason tournament is tentatively scheduled June 2-11.

Fox Army Health Center opens avenues for care

Improved service goal for initiatives

Fox Army Health Center has implemented multiple avenues to assist military beneficiaries with health risk reduction.

"It is our vision and goal to inspire those who serve our nation, both past and present, and their families to live a lifetime of wellness," a Fox release said.

The following information is an introduction to a few of Fox's initiatives.

The Welcome to Wellness Program highlights positive health behaviors and discusses areas to improve total wellness. The program includes: a Healthy Lifestyle Class; a Health Risk Appraisal, self-care class which includes a "Take Care of Yourself" book and a Medication Entitlement Card which allows access to free over-the-counter medications from Fox Pharmacy without a prescription; orientation to the Fox website to access facility information, phone numbers and newsletters; orientation and registration to the Tricare online appointment booking system to book Fox primary care appointments; and Individual Nurse Consultation which will

expedite your services with your primary care provider. This program requires two appointments. Call 955-8888 to schedule.

Fox has also initiated a full force Population Health Drive. Prevention or early identification of cancer and aggressive management of chronic disease are critical to improving your health and well-being. Several beneficiaries have already received phone calls, letters and appointments to ensure they are current with preventive health screenings.

Please carefully review the following information and contact your primary care manager, medical treatment facility or network for an appointment.

Men age 50 or older should be tested for prostate cancer every year. This is done by a blood test.

Women should have a Pap smear at least every three years to test for cervical cancer. If you have had a hysterectomy, ensure you contact your primary care manager to have your history updated. If you are 42 or older, you should be screened for breast cancer once per year by having a mammogram. If you need a mammogram, call and schedule your appointment with your primary care manager.

If you are over 50, regardless of gender, you should be

screened for colon cancer. There are several different types of tests used for colon cancer screening. Call and schedule an appointment with your primary care manager to discuss which test is best for you.

If you have asthma, you need to see your primary care manager at least every 12 months. If you have diabetes, you need to see your primary care manager at least every six months and have blood work at Fox at least annually.

Vaccines are also an important part of maintaining your health. If you are 65 or older, ensure you have had a pneumococcal vaccine. If your primary care manager is located at Fox, you may walk-in to the immunization clinic to receive the vaccine. If your primary care manager is a network provider, you must have a prescription order from your PCM for the vaccine in order to obtain the vaccine from Fox.

"FAHC strives to provide the highest quality of care to our military beneficiaries," the release said. Call the appointment line at 955-8888 if you require an appointment with your Fox primary care manager. If your primary care manager is a network provider, call their office to schedule an appointment. (Fox Army Health Center release)

Camp opens unlimited hunting experience

Physical disabilities don't deter hobby

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY

Staff writer
kelleylanesivley@att.net

When an injury changes your physical abilities, it can feel like your whole life has changed. Steve Statler is trying to let others know that it doesn't have to mean giving up the activities you love. Despite his own limitations, he is sharing the love of the outdoors with others.

Statler, a logistics manage-

ment specialist at LOGSA, lost all feeling in his feet due to a surgical spinal injury, making standing and walking difficult. Surgery to fuse his feet made it possible, but his doubts about his physical capabilities made it feel like he had lost much more.

"I grew up hunting and fishing in Pennsylvania," he said. "It was a part of who I was."

Rather than letting the injury set mental limitations as well, Statler decided that he would just have to find new ways to continue his old hobbies, fishing and hunting. That quest has led him to find a nonprofit camp for others

who are looking to experience nature with limited mobility.

"It made a difference for me," he said. "Knowing that I could do the things I loved again. I want to share that feeling with others."

The result is Camp OutAmongEm. Statler has turned his own land on Cloud Mountain along the Paint Rock River into a hunting camp that accommodates the needs of the young and disabled. In its inaugural year, the camp has hosted three successful hunts for those with physical limitations. Some are first timers. Others are like Statler, looking for a way to pick up the pieces of what they lost along with their injuries.

"The smile on their faces when they realize they can do it is amazing," Statler said. "It's a healing thing."

Statler also works with other landowners to provide a variety of venues for the trips. Enjoying the outdoors is easier for the physically limited when the right accommodations are made, he said.

"You make arrangements, such as ground stands and blinds. You may need a vehicle to get them where they need to go," he explained. "We have caregivers who give them whatever help they may need. Their support is essential."

Getting back to the activities he has enjoyed since childhood has been therapeutic for Statler, as has working with others. The peace to be found outdoors goes much deeper than the satisfac-



Courtesy photo

GREAT OUTDOORS— Alvis Lemley, sportsman caregiver and guide, left, and Steve Statler, right, show fellow sportsman Jeff Tanner, ID checker in Sparkman Center building 5308, that having a physical limitation doesn't mean that the outdoors are off limits.

tion from landing a fish or harvesting a deer.

"There's a camaraderie," Statler said. "You sit at camp together. You might play cards or just talk. It's not just about the hunting."

He hopes to pass along the peace he has found. He is working with the Semper Fi Community Task Force to sponsor hunting trips for wounded warriors from throughout the nation beginning this year. Longer hunting seasons in the area make the Camp OutAmongEm project ideal for wounded warriors.

"Our hunting season lasts through the end of January. Most northern states only have two weeks. Here we have two and a half months to work with," Statler said. "It gives us more time to work with their schedules and when they can come."

The excursions are free for those who make the trip. Everything from travel to accommodations and meals is provided at no cost. For more information on Camp OutAmongEm and disabled hunting, e-mail Statler at statler1020@comcast.com.



Courtesy photo

Gift to flight

The AMCOM Security Assistance Management Directorate sponsored a golf tournament April 24 which raised \$10,000 for Honor Flight, Tennessee Valley. From left are Honor Flight president Joe Fitzgerald, SAMD Events Committee chairman Gena Scofield, vice chairman Elizabeth Preston and SAMD director Dr. Tom Pieplow.



Sports & Recreation

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.

Golf tournament

The John Stallworth Foundation golf tournament is June 19 at Hampton Cove Golf Course. Four man scramble format. Registration starts at 7 a.m. and the tournament at 8. Team registration deadline is June 12. For more information, call Freeda McDowell 536-8050.

Muscular dystrophy benefit

The Huntsville Firefighters Association seventh annual golf classic to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association is June 20 at the Colonial Golf Course. Cost per player is \$70. For team and sponsorship information call Glenn Benson 828-7842 or Larry Ayers 651-6312.

Youth cheerleaders

The Baby Bulldog Cheerleader Camp will be held Thursday through Saturday at Burwell's Martial Arts and Fitness Center, 5074 Meridian St. For more information, call Mary Jones Moore 797-3788.

Redstone fun run

The Redstone community is invited to the Community Fun Run on June 5 at 7 a.m. in the PX parking lot. Check-in time is 6:15 to 6:30. Registration is \$10 and includes a T-shirt. Registration is at the Sparkman Fitness Center, Wellness Center, Redstone Fitness Center and Pagano Gym. For more information, call Gaylene Wilson 842-2574 or Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green 876-8648.



Conferences & Meetings

Sergeants major

The Sergeants 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.

Military officers

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold

its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Guest speaker is Ralph Petroff, CEO of Magna Vista Group and member of the Saturn V Executive Committee which are active in commemorating the Apollo moon landings. The chapter's monthly breakfast is 8 a.m. Saturday at the Madison Square Holiday Inn. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited.

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

Civil War round table

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet at 6:30 p.m. June 11 at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Jimmy Pemberton, a longtime Civil War enthusiast and free-lance writer, will speak on "Rousseau's Raid, July 10-22, 1864." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$7.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer User Group will meet June 13 at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. An Internet Special Interest Group starts at 9:15 a.m. The general meeting will start at 10:45 and the speaker is PC User Group member Pat Layky. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 852-0344.

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 Alphonella McRae 313-1957.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will meet Thursday at 11:15 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians

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.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is June 11 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. This month's luncheon is an award ceremony and the swearing in of new officers with special guest Steve Fisher, AMCOM secretary of the general staff. For ticket information, call Kim Ouattara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society Chapter) presents "Going Green to the Moon, Sustainable Exploration," a free public lecture by Tim Pickens, CEO of Orion Propulsion Inc., on June 9 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library's auditorium, 915 Monroe St. A social will follow the meeting. For more information, visit www.HAL5.org.

Information security

North Alabama Information Systems Security Association will hold an Information Security Seminar on June 16 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dynetics, 1002 Explorer Boulevard. Keynote speaker Jonathan Pettus, Marshall Space Flight Center CIO, will present "The State of Information Security at NASA." Other topics include: FBI - Identity Theft, PKI for Dummies and Security Professionals, Hacking Demonstrations, and Healthcare Information Security. Security professional will earn 8 Continuing Professional Education credits for attendance. Cost is \$20 for ISSA members, \$25 for non-members. Fee includes breakfast, box lunch, snacks and the opportunity to win a grand prize. Space is limited to 125 attendees. For more information, e-mail infosecseminar@northalabama.issa.org.

Test Week tutorials

Test Week 2009 Conference, June 2-4, is now in TIP, catalog number F93TESTW. The ITEA-sponsored tutorials in conjunction with the week include Unmanned Systems Autonomous Testing, F93USAT; Surviving and Striving with Customers in Downtown Economy, F93STC; Distributed Testing Lessons from JMETS and TENA, F93DTLJT; and Metrics for Managing and Improving T&E Capabilities, F93MMITEC. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715 or visit www.testweek.org.



Photo by Megan Cotton

Essay winners

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles congratulates, from left, Alanis Craig, Robin Newman, Delaney Peterson and Kelsianne Keister for winning the Bring Your Child to Work Day essay contest. After spending a day on the Arsenal, each child wrote an essay about what they learned and submitted it to the competition.



Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/or telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9435 or Chief Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions

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

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.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 or e-mail MSF instructor Ralph Harris at 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 or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

Officer candidates

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

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

Pilots wanted

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

Butler High reunion

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

Cadet program

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

Army training

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

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

Interactive feedback

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

See **Announcements** on page 22



Courtesy photo

Florida Tech graduate

Lady Pollard receives her professional master of business administration degree during Florida Institute of Technology's May 15 graduation ceremonies in Huntsville. Pollard, who also earned an Outstanding Student Award, was one of 189 invited to the ceremony to receive degrees bestowed by Florida Tech president Anthony Catanese, left, and Cliff Bragdon, right, vice president of the Office of Strategic Initiatives. The Redstone Arsenal site is the largest of Florida Tech's 10 extended-studies locations across the nation.

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 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.

Mr. Man Premiere

SB Productions has completed the selection process for the final two exceptional men needed to complete the lineup and compete in this year's Mr. Man Premiere. The 11 contestants selected include two doctors, an Army officer, Navy officer, Air Force reserve recruiter, Madison police officer, Madison fireman and Marine, research analyst, minor league baseball player, engineer, and an engineer student from abroad. The Mr. Man Premiere has been produced since 1981 on both a local and international level. The 2009 competition is scheduled Sept. 19 at the Marriott Hotel near the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Seating is limited and tickets will become available June 1. For more information, call SB Productions 278-8862 or 683-3083

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop has plants, jewelry, baseball cards, collectibles, books, toys, clothes, household goods and more. The store offers everyday discounts of 50-75 percent. Visit building 3209 on Hercules Road on Tuesdays 9-4, Wednesdays 9-4, Thursdays 9-5 or the first Saturday 10-2.

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. Par-

ticipants will receive training to orient 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>.

Children's camp

Camp "I Can" Underwater Adventure, offering sensory experiences through play and exploration for children ages 5-10, is June 15-19 and again July 13-17 from 9 a.m. to noon at 2075 Max Luther Drive. Cost is \$250 per week. To register call 852-5600.

Call for papers

This is a call for papers for the Research and Evaluation of NEMS/MEMS Workshop Sept. 8-9 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, e-mail angie.cornelius@us.army.mil or visit the workshop website <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/SMAP-CENTER/Conferences/REN09/>.

Embry-Riddle courses

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Campus is now registering for the summer 2009 term, May 31 to Aug. 2. Courses include Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Fundamentals of Project Management, Av/Aero Industrial Safety Management, International Business, Marketing, and Human Factors in Aviation Safety. Deadline to register is Friday. Call 876-9763, visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center building 3222 or access the website <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>.

Astronomy group

Von Braun Astronomical Society holds planetarium shows every Saturday night at 7:30 at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Telescopes are open after the show if weather permits. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and free to VBAS members. For more information, visit www.vbas.org.

Army birthday

This year the Army will celebrate its 234th birthday. To commemorate this milestone the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter for the Association of the U.S. Army will hold a celebration June 9 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with the dinner at 6:30. The winners of the 1st Sgt. John Ordway award will be announced and recognized. AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles will be the guest speaker. There will also be a special recognition of the



Courtesy photo

Fund-raiser queen

Adora Norris, a preschooler at Morris Elementary, was recently crowned queen for selling the most chocolate bars for her school. The school raised \$3,200. Adora's father is an Air Force reservist recruiter; and the family moved to Redstone Arsenal a year ago.

Year of the NCO. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$275 per corporate table of eight. For tickets call Donna Palumbo 655-5147 or e-mail dapal@bellsouth.net.

EEO awards

Nominations are being accepted for the Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Manager/Supervisor/Employee Awards. The awards are to recognize a manager, supervisor and employee who have made a significant contribution to the accomplishment of EEO program goals. Directors, managers and supervisors are encouraged to submit one nomination for this annual award. Nominations must be sent to the Garrison EEO office by June 5. Winners will be announced in July. For more information or to submit a nomination, call EEO specialist Woody Patrick 876-9259 or e-mail woody.patrick@us.army.mil.

Leadership awards program

The Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association Inc. announces its eighth annual Leadership Awards Program on June 6 at 11:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Big Spring Room, 800 Monroe St. Tickets are \$45 per person. Reserved tables are \$500. This event recognizes outstanding leaders in the Huntsville-Madison County community

professions, to their community and Alabama A&M University. Honorees include Linda Brown, chief of human resources division, Center Support Directorate in the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; and Irene Lloyd, assistant deputy chief of staff for resource management, Space and Missile Defense Command. A jazz luncheon featuring Dependable Music Group will be held to commemorate this year's event. For tickets or more information, call 852-4052.

Employment briefing

A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct a Federal Employment Briefing on June 4 from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. The information provided will help participants to understand the federal application process. Topics will include recruitment sources, Resumix procedures, candidate evaluation and the referral process. This session is open to all military ID card holders. To reserve a seat, call ACS at 876-5397.

Alabama A&M alums

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter Alabama A&M University Alumni Association Inc. will hold its third annual Picnic on the Hill and Membership Roundup from noon-4 June 6 on the Quad of A&M campus (in front of the Chambers' Building). All alumni, spouses, children and friends of Alabama A&M University are invited. "Show your school spirit, dress in maroon and white, and bring your lawn chairs," a prepared release said. "Food and beverages are free. All we need is you." Please enter the campus at the main entrance on Chase Road. For more information, call Erica McClain 679-5633 or C. Lamar Sterns 679-8961.

English classes

Weatherly Heights Baptist Church offers free English classes, with a special invitation to families new to the Huntsville area. Summer classes are June and July at 6:30 p.m. Fall classes start Aug. 19 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information, call Becky Harchanko 656-3173 or Weatherly Heights Baptist Church, 1306 Cannstatt Drive, at 881-6882.

Translation services

Free translation services and immigration information are available to active duty military by contacting Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. For more information, call 876-5397.

Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on June 2 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, 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. Re-entry counseling for overseas returnees is also available. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

Children's camp

Camp Merrimack is an arts half-day camp July 27-31 for children ages 3-12. The camp is open to children with special needs including Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, autism and others. Cost is \$40 per child. For information, visit the website <http://www.merrimackhall.com/artscamp09.html>.

Benefit sale

The Beta Pi Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Alpha Sorority's annual Garage and Bake Sale will be Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 7221 Hickory Hill Lane in southeast Huntsville. All proceeds go to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. The rain date is June 13. For more information, call Judith Londene 851-0791.

Blood drives

American Red Cross blood drives include the following: June 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Post Exchange and from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency. June 11 from 7-11:30 a.m. at Ground Based Midcourse Defense and from 7-

noon at the Sparkman Center. June 12 from 7-noon at Corps of Engineers and building 4545. June 16 from 4-8:30 p.m. at Charlie Company. June 18 from 7-noon at building 5220 (SMDC), 5400 and 6263. June 19 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316 and 7-noon at 5681.

Book signing

Mary Dailey will be signing copies of her book "In My Comfortzone: A Collection of Poetry and Writings by Mary A. Dailey" on June 6 from 2-4 p.m. at the Huntsville Public Library. The book contains four categories of poetry: Life Experiences, Folklore, Love and Spirituality. The cost of the book is \$12. Book previews and ratings are available at www.lulu.com. Dailey is a supply systems analyst for the AWCf Acquisition Management Branch.

Healthy bones

A class on osteoporosis treatment and prevention and how you can maintain your bone health will be held today from noon-1 in the Wellness Center Classroom at Fox Army Health Center. The guest speaker is Lt. Col. Iuminada Chinneth. For more information call 955-8888, ext. 1430.

Summer reading

The Summer Reading Program for kids through age 18 is starting this week at the Post Library. The program runs from the end of May through July, culminating in a recognition ceremony at the end of the summer. Pick up your reading log at the Post Library on Redeye Road and receive credit for 25 free pages each time you check out books. Call 876-4741 for more information.

D-Day celebration

A D-Day Celebration sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Honor Flight is set for June 6 at 4 p.m. at the Education Building at U.S. Space & Rocket Center. All veterans and the public are invited.

