

Redstone Rocket

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Citing those who best serve troops

Association chapter recognizes civilian honorees of the year

By KARI HAWKINS
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On a night when everyone was congratulating Lars Ericsson on his win as the top Department of the Army civilian at Redstone Arsenal, this chief scientist could only think about the Soldiers who have put his organization's unmanned aircraft systems to good use in theater.

Accepting his award, first, as the top nominee in the Management/Executive category and then, second, as 2011 DA Civilian of the Year from members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, Ericsson couldn't help but focus his attention on the battle ribbons cascading from the Army flag behind the podium on the awards stage.

"Battle ribbons are still being put on that flag in the United States Army," Ericsson said at the April 5 awards dinner at the Von Braun Center's North Hall.

"We have the privilege to work for a great organization that gives us the opportunity to take on this great mission, and to try to do great things for those young men and women who choose to wear the uniform."

Ericsson, who will now represent the local chapter in the competition for AUSA's Third Region Civilian of the Year award and possibly in the competition for the national award, is a 17-year veteran of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation. He is the chief technologist and lead architect for the Army's unmanned aircraft systems, including Shadow, Raven, Hunter and Gray Eagle.

In accepting the bronze Eagle trophy of the DA Civilian of the Year, Ericsson thanked "my Lord and Savior who has strengthened me for this work and my wife Sandy for understanding when I've been away."

Speaking to an audience of about 350 attendees, Ericsson expressed his pride in being part of an aviation systems program in support of an Army that provides the "best equipment, best training and best support" for the Soldiers who



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Lars Ericsson talks about the privilege of working for the Army and in support of its Soldiers after being named the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year by the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. He received the award during an AUSA dinner meeting April 5 and will go on to compete for the DA Civilian of the Year award in the Third Region and possibly for the national honor.

take on difficult and dangerous missions at threat of life and limb, and perform an honorable duty because their nation has asked them to.

"Any day that we have the opportunity to provide them with new gear, or improved gear so they can do what they do and they can come home to their families, we're doing great work," Ericsson said.

Referring to the early days of unmanned aircraft systems, Ericsson said it was the Soldiers who proved the technology could make a difference in theater.

"They decided to trust us ... and take this technology into combat. We can only give it (the new technology) to them and they have to take it forward," he said.

Ericsson was nominated by Col. Greg Gonzalez, the Unmanned Aircraft Systems project manager, with a letter of nomination from Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation.

In his nomination letter, Ericsson, who leads a team of about 30 scientists and engineers with responsibility for more than \$100

million in contracts, was described as having an "innate ability to create an environment for success, and guides his programs with a steady hand. He allows his team to work without interruption, yet somehow stays two steps ahead of all the issues as they emerge. His ability to manage a multitude of concurrent, high-risk programs within the Army, and has reflected well on his management, project management of Unmanned Aircraft Systems and the Army as a whole."

That innate ability for success could be attributed to all 16 candidates for the DA Civilian of the Year award.

"I think we've chosen another wonderful set of winners this year," Steve Taylor, president of the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of AUSA, said.

The nomination process began in January, when requests for nominees went out to the general officers and senior executive service in the Redstone/Huntsville area.

"We had an increasing number of

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LOOKING BACK

Margret Mefford recalls her childhood in Kassel, Germany during World War II.

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HELPING HANDS

The 2011 Army Emergency Relief campaign is under way through May 31 with hopes of exceeding last year's \$265,000 in donations.

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POST PROFILE

The Aviation and Missile Command's Security Assistance Management Directorate manages foreign military sales.

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WIN OR LOSE

Unit-level sports at Redstone will likely have its final at-bat because many of the troops are leaving.

PAGE 30



RocketViews

What's the best thing about spring?

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
 Rocket editor
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Nina Adams
 Phoenix
 "Good weather. I'm so glad to see it. We've had a rough winter. Now I want to see the trees turning green, the birds singing. I don't like the pollen. But I love to see the sunshine and warmth – minus the tornadoes."



Jose Dejesus
 Cargo Helicopters Project Office
 "The weather is nice. It's more activities you can do outside. Change of mood – it can make you feel a lot more happy, more content. The weather puts you in a good mood."



Pfc. Gabriel Perez
 Marine Detachment
 "That I can finally go outside and work out and just enjoy the weather. And barbecue, play sports with other Marines. Everybody can finally be together outside. And just enjoy the weather."



Emily McFall
 Army Community Service, Survivor Outreach Services
 "It's a chance to get back out in the yard. And clean out the house, clean out the yard. It's very cleansing to be rid of stuff that has cluttered the area."

Quote of the Week

‘O, how this spring of love resembleth
 The uncertain glory of an April day!’
 — William Shakespeare

RedstoneRocket

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Letters to the Editor

Thrift Shop sends packages to troops

The Redstone Thrift Shop sends packages monthly to our troops overseas. During the month of March, 35 boxes were sent to Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force personnel.

If you would like to help, you can bring a cash donation to the Thrift Shop. Or, you

may choose to bring in requested items. Some examples of these items are protein bars, beef jerky, magazines, books, sun block, toothpaste and deodorant.

A handwritten note to "any Soldier" will always lift the spirits of our troops while they are serving so far away from family

and friends. Cards and pictures drawn by school children put a smile on their faces and act as a reminder that all of us are supporting them. Thanks for helping us keep those packages going!

Cathy Vins
 Thrift Shop volunteer

Program targets Army substance abuse



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

In this unprecedented era of persistent conflict, the risk for substance abuse among our Soldiers and their families has never been greater. As I have often stated, the Army will not break because of our Soldiers, they are indeed the finest force in the world; however, the Army is at risk as a result of the stress the past 10 years of conflict has placed on our Soldiers and their families.

The stress on our Soldiers and families is often manifested in new or growing social problems. Multiple, extended deployments with too little dwell time

at home strains relationships with loved ones. Partners and children face difficulty adjusting to new family dynamics as their Soldiers depart for and return from deployments. Many warriors have difficulty transitioning from the battlefield to the home front and life post-deployment.

The unfortunate reality is that some Soldiers and family members turn to alcohol and drugs to help them cope.

The Army implemented the Army Substance

See Abuse on page 3

Father of autistic son seeks awareness

In case you did not know, April is Autism Awareness Month. As the father of an autistic son, I would be remiss if I did not do my part to make the people around me aware of autism.

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life, and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder"

that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause for autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.

In December 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued their ADDM autism prevalence report. The report concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in every 110 births in the United States and almost 1 in 70 boys, making it more common than

childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes and pediatric AIDS combined. The issuance of this report caused a media uproar, but the news was not a surprise to the Autism Society or to the 1.5 million Americans living with the effects of autism spectrum disorder. Nonetheless, the spotlight shown on autism as a result of the prevalence increase opens opportunities for the nation to consider how to serve these

See Awareness on page 8

Logistics instructor will be truly missed

Billy Joe Washington, instructor/course manager at the Army Logistics Leadership Center at Red River Army Depot, Texas, died Feb. 18. He was 64.

His mentorship spanned across decades of professional development at the School of Engineering and Logistics.

Mr. Washington was one of nine African American students to integrate Arkansas State Teachers College in Conway,

Ark. He went on to complete a bachelor's of science (education) at Arkansas AM&N. He earned a master's in education from Texas A&M University, Texas, and Mr. Washington was a graduate of the Department of Army Supply Management Program.

Billy Washington's influence was far reaching as an instructor, course manager and mentor. The construct of his teaching

style was adaptive and evolutionary. After all, we the students of SEL/ALLC came from all walks of life destined to "greatness" as 21st century leaders of the federal government. He polished our looks of, I know it all, confusion and ambiguity with a big grin sometimes stating: "You'll understand it by and by." Mr. Billy Washington was one of the remarkable instructors

See Instructor on page 3

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Abuse

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Abuse Program to enhance mission readiness through helping Soldiers cope with stress by means other than alcohol or other drugs. The program focuses on prevention, identification, intervention and treatment of high-risk behaviors to enable Soldiers, their families, and civilians achieve and sustain balance – and resiliency – in their lives.

We've come a long way in helping our Soldiers become more resilient, both on the battlefield and on the home front. Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated employees, we are continually improving, but we must do better. The Army currently faces a critical shortage of counseling psychologists, social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed professional counselors to help our heroes heal.

In fact, garrisons and installations are struggling to accommodate the thousands of Soldiers every month as they transition from the battlefield to post-deployment life at home. As the stigma of seeking treatment has decreased, an increasing number of Soldiers and family members are seeking help in making a successful transition. However, the number of qualified professionals entering the field has not grown to meet the need.

The Installation Management Command is seeking to expand the ASAP work force so we can offer a wider variety of services, provide more intensive treatment over longer periods of time, and explore alternative prevention and treatment techniques. Now more than ever the Army needs civilians to step up and lend a hand to those who have sacrificed so much to defend our freedom. IMCOM is enlisting the aid of civil-

ians through several measures to address the needs of our active duty, Reserve, and Guard Soldiers, retirees and their family members. As an incentive to join the Army ASAP team, we are joining hands with universities across the nation to support post-graduate education by offering exciting new opportunities, such as the new Clinical Internship Program, tuition reimbursement, salary and supervision toward licensure, and hiring, relocation and retention bonuses. In addition, the Army is expediting the hiring process to get qualified candidates on board faster.

The Army also offers competitive benefits and advantages, including life and health insurance plans; 13 paid vacation days with the ability to increase to 26 per year; 10 paid holidays and retirement benefits including a 401(k)-type government matching program. But most importantly, an ASAP counselor will serve our country, help our heroes heal and build the strength of our nation, our Soldiers and their families.

If you or anyone you know is interested in making a difference in a Soldier's life, please go to <http://www.usajobs.gov/> or <http://www.armycivilianservice.com/> and apply for job series 0180 and 0185. Or call toll free 1-877-880-2184 for more information.

For more information about ASAP and IMCOM, please visit us online: <http://medcell.army.mil/>; <http://www.imcom.army.mil/hq/>; and <http://www.facebook.com/home/InstallationManagementCommunity>.

Our promise is to ensure no Army family has to face the challenges of dealing with substance abuse alone. I encourage you to join our team and Help a Hero Heal.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
Installation Management
Command commander

the alumni in gathering information in development of the historical footprint of the SEL/ALLC for the first National AMC Intern/Fellow Alumni Reunion held in Huntsville Oct. 9, 2010. We were all so looking forward to seeing him at this momentous event; however, his plans were redirected.

Margarette Martin states: "Billy's smile is what I will miss most. He was very helpful to me while at Red River from his instruction in class to suggesting a church home for me to attend. He had a quiet strength and sincere heart. He never forgot us. When he traveled to the different MACOMs and areas he always wanted to contact as many former students as possible to say hello and keep in touch. He will be truly missed."

Mary L. Epps

Getting to know you

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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Name: Angel Solomon

Job: Social services assistant, Army Community Service

Where do you call home?
I was born in Thailand.

What do you like about your job?
The Soldiers and the families that I help. That it's busy. It's always something different to do and the fact that I learn a lot from working here at ACS.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I love to read and cook. I cook a lot of Thai food. And I make jewelry. I have jewelry on that I've made.

What are your goals?
I would like for my son (Jordan, 15) to finish high school and go to college. And I would like to go back to Germany. That's my goal. I want to go visit all the cities and countries I haven't been to. And I would like to go back to



Thailand. I haven't been there since I was 9.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?
For everybody in my family to be healthy and not have any problems with their lives. I just want everybody to live their life the way they want to and be happy and healthy.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for March 31 through April 6:

March 31: A Soldier was arrested by Huntsville Police for assault and domestic violence at his off-post residence.

April 1: A Soldier was arrested by Rome, Ga., Police for desertion. He was in the Floyd County Jail pending civil charges.

April 1: When a Soldier was stopped for speeding on Patton Road, he had a suspended license.

April 1: A government employee reported two government laptop computers missing from her work area. The computers were later found at the work area.

April 4: Several hydrocodone tablets were found in a Soldier's wall locker dur-

ing a health and welfare inspection.

April 4: A retired servicemember approached Gate 1 during a random inspection when shotgun ammunition was found in his vehicle.

April 4: Redstone Fire Department responded to building 7554 for a structure fire. The building, which was vacant, sustained extensive damage.

April 5: A Soldier was arrested by Athens Police for desertion. He was released to Redstone Police who processed him to his unit.

April 5: Redstone Fire Department responded to a vehicle fire at building 8004.

April 5: A contractor reported his private vehicle was damaged at building 4471.

April 6: A family member juvenile was processed for shoplifting at the Post Exchange and released to a sponsor.

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

Violation notices issued: 26 speeding, 1 improper backing, 1 security violation, 1 no driver's license, 1 expired tag, 1 no insurance, 1 suspended driver's license, 2 stop sign violations.

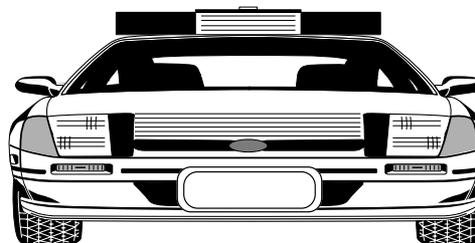
Instructor

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amongst many who demonstrated dedication and passion in preparing civilian professionals to beacon their talents in support of the war fighter and his mentoring and leadership talents extended far beyond the classroom.

I remember a trip where some individuals had temporarily forgotten their upbringing and ethical reasoning had to be spoon fed. Mr. Washington didn't call any names; he simply approached the group and quietly stated "Whatever it takes to make it right, do it! Getting it right impacts our future and the future of those who will travel this path after us."

Mr. Washington most recently assisted



Singing for the red, white and blue

Toby Keith scheduled to perform May 28

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer
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“Beside my brothers and sisters, I will proudly take a stand. When liberty’s in jeopardy I’ll always do what’s right. I’m out here on the front lines – so sleep in peace tonight.”

Those words from Toby Keith’s number one single, “American Soldier,” will ring out May 28 for all Soldiers and the women and men that support them to hear, as the 2011 Army Concert Tour makes its stop at Redstone Arsenal.

“To see him performing that on an actual military installation is going to bring a lot of tears to people’s eyes,” Mark Germonprez, business operations officer for Family and Morale Welfare and Rec-

reation, said.

Army Entertainment and Redstone FMWR will present Keith with special guest Gloriana and Mockingbird Sun, May 28 at 7 p.m. at the Redstone Activity Field. Tickets are on sale and the cost is \$35 for advance tickets, \$40 day of show. Tickets are available at all Redstone FMWR ticket offices, phone 313-5224, all Ticketmaster locations, www.ticketmaster.com, or charge by phone, 800-745-3000. Gates 1, 8 and 10 will open at 2 p.m. for the concert.

“Every ticket is a front row ticket – if you get here early enough,” Germonprez said.

Sponsored by Bud Light (Turner Beverage Company), this year’s lineup follows the trend of recent years of bringing world famous country music acts to the Arsenal. Past performers include Montgomery Gentry, Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley, Taylor Swift, Rodney Atkins, Kellie Pickler, Sugarland, and

last year’s Miranda Lambert and Blake Shelton. It wasn’t until the concert went country that it began to sell out, and with Keith’s repertoire of hit number one singles that speak to his love of country and the men and women that protect it, including “Courtesy of the Red, White & Blue (The Angry American)” and “American Soldier,” this year is expected to be no different.

“He’s one of the biggest stars in country music and one of the most patriotic,”

Germonprez said.

Keith’s very presence on the Arsenal will support the Soldiers and their families that call the Arsenal home. Proceeds from the concert directly benefit FMWR.

“All money we make goes to support FMWR, which supports Soldiers and the people who support Soldiers,” Germonprez said.

For more information, call FMWR at 313-5224 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Parades kickoff month for kids

Youngsters march during the Month of the Military Child kickoff parade April 1 at the Mills Road Child Development Center.

Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Eris Chafin, preschool 2, helps lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the Month of the Military Child kickoff parade April 1 at the Goss Road Child Development Center.



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:

Army concert series

Army Entertainment and Redstone FMWR present Toby Keith with special guest Gloriana and Mockingbird Sun on May 28 at 7 p.m. at the Redstone Activity Field. Gates 1, 8 and 10 onto Redstone Arsenal will open at 2 p.m. for the concert. The activity field opens at 6:30. Tickets are \$35 through May 27, and \$40 on the day of the show. Tickets should be available at all FMWR ticket offices (phone 313-

5224) or all Ticketmaster locations, www.ticketmaster.com, or charge by phone at (800)745-3000.

Easter egg hunt

The “Easter Eggstravaganza” egg hunt, brought to you by Woody Anderson Ford, is April 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the CYSS baseball complex beside the chapel on the corner of Hughes Drive and Goss Road. For more information, call 955-6114.

Firehouse pub

The Zooks will perform at the Firehouse Pub on April 29 from 5-9 p.m. For more information, call 830-2582.

Take time for learning to blend families

Stepfamily workshop coming to Redstone

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Todd and Tammy Gangl have been there and done that – and are ready to help other families through it.

When the duo married in 2004, the Huntsville couple quickly discovered that merging their six children from their previous marriages wasn't as easy as the Brady Bunch made it look. Seven years later, the Gangls have taken their experience and turned it into a how-to for other families struggling with the same challenges they once faced and are still coping with today.

The Gangls will present their two-day workshop, "StepFamily 911," sponsored by Bicentennial Chapel and the Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program, April 29 from 6 to 8:30 p.m., continuing on April 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. The workshop, as well as child care and food, is free.

"This is a unique experience because it's stepfamilies helping stepfamilies," Virginia Dempsey of the Family Advocacy Program said.

Sixty-seven different types of stepfamilies exist, with 72 to 75 percent of them ending in divorce, according to Todd. For the Gangls, blending Todd's family of two boys and two girls, with Tammy's daughter and son hasn't always been an easy task, but through insight, knowledge and practical wisdom learned through personal experience, as well as Todd's career as an Air Force chaplain before his divorce, the family has come together to create a home environment filled with love and understanding. They share this through their ministry work, Joseph StepFamily Ministries, which provides workshops, seminars, family counseling, pre-marital counseling and Sunday school lessons.

Throughout the two-day workshop, the Gangls, with the help of their four youngest children, will teach families how to build a strong foundation by dispelling myths associated with a blended family, many of which can be found in popular culture icons such as "The Brady Bunch" or "Cinderella." Once everyone is on the same page of what it truly means to be part of a stepfamily, the Gangls will go on to discuss the importance of priori-



Courtesy photo

Todd and Tammy Gangl (bottom center) married in 2004, blending their family of six children from previous marriages. The family will share their experience as a stepfamily, as well as give advice to other stepfamilies, in "StepFamily 911," April 29-30 at Bicentennial Chapel.

tizing the marital relationship as well as help both parents and children identify the scars they carry with them from life before they became a stepfamily.

"By the very fact you're a stepfamily, one or both of you, you've been through divorce or death. There's trauma, not just for the adults, but for the kids too," Todd said.

"If you don't have that foundation, if you don't learn how to deal with scars, you're going to fall," Tammy said.

Disciplining children inside and outside the home, as well as unbordered love will also be a topic of discussion. On average, it takes stepfamilies seven to nine years just to grow comfortable with each other, according to Todd.

"You've got to love outside your bloodline and you've got to learn how to do that. You've gotta give it time. Stepfamilies are all about time," Todd said.

The StepFamily 911 seminar is free and open to all government, military and contract personnel. All are welcome, including single parents, engaged couples, married couples, or families that are blending as a result of adoption. To register call 876-5397 or email wanda.english@us.army.mil. Pre-registration is required.

Energy conservation project should save \$2M annually

Redstone purchases a large portion of steam from the City of Huntsville Solid Waste Disposal Authority. Over the coming months, a steam pruning project will take place in select buildings using purchased steam.

This project is a continuation of the TVA UESC project that was completed last year in the building 3500, 3600, and 3700 areas. Affected buildings will be removed from the purchased steam system with the steam heat being replaced by natural gas. Other upgrades include new interior lighting, new heating and cooling equipment, HVAC controls and additional insulation where it is life cycle cost effective.

The second phase of the project will save the Army approximately \$2 million annually with the savings paying for the installed cost of the project. There is no upfront cost to the government. After the project is paid for, the full savings will go to the Army.

The buildings included in this project include: 112, 5405, 5487, 5495, 5663, 5673, 5688, 4381, 5410, 5489, 5540, 5664, 5678, 4496, 5411, 5491, 5642, 5668, 5681, 4505, 5412, 5493, 5661, 5669, 5683, 5250, 5414, 5494, 5662, 5671 and 5687.

All these buildings will not receive each one of the aforementioned upgrades; it will depend on the type and age of the equipment or if a recent renovation has been completed, again only where it is life cycle cost effective. Some will only receive minor upgrades. If you work in one of the listed buildings, please be patient over the next few months as the new equipment and sys-

tems are installed and calibrated.

Along with the new equipment will be a remote energy monitoring system to allow for energy use trending and reporting as well as equipment troubleshooting. With the monitoring system, base maintenance will have the ability to initially diagnose hot and cold temperature calls remotely before sending out a repairman. This system will give better control of the buildings and will be used to maintain the room temperature setpoints mandated in the Army Regulation 420-1, Section 22-12, quoted as follows:

“During the heating season, temperatures in occupied facilities will be maintained in the range of 72 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 2 degrees Fahrenheit during working hours and heating setback temperatures during unoccupied times shall be set at 55 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 5 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures in warehouses and similar active working spaces, like maintenance bays, will be at 60 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 5 degrees Fahrenheit during occupancy and 45 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 5 degrees Fahrenheit during unoccupied periods. Warehouses will not be heated if they are usually devoid of human activity and if freezing and condensation are not issues. Wherever mechanical cooling is authorized, cooling season temperatures for occupied working and living spaces shall be maintained in the range 74 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 2 degrees Fahrenheit. Cooling set-up temperatures during unoccupied times shall be set at 85 degrees Fahrenheit plus or minus 5 degrees Fahrenheit.” (*Garrison Energy Office release*)

Revised schedule for monitoring water

Drinking water safety assured

The Garrison is required to monitor the installation's drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring provide an indication of whether the installation's drinking water meets the health standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

From June through September 2010, the Garrison was required by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management under the Safe Drinking Water Act to collect 30 samples from Redstone's drinking water distribution system and analyze them for lead and copper contaminants. Due to a misunderstanding of the monitoring time frame requirement, the Garrison took 28 of the required samples in October and the remaining two samples in November.

As a result of conducting the lead and copper monitoring outside of the specified

time period, the Garrison violated the lead and copper monitoring requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and cannot verify that Redstone's drinking water met the Safe Drinking Water Act standards during that period. However, the analytical results for the samples taken in October and November revealed that the lead and copper contaminants in Redstone's drinking water were below the maximum contaminate levels; and therefore, Redstone's drinking water is safe to drink.

To prevent further violations of this nature, the Garrison has revised its drinking water monitoring schedule to include the time period that monitoring must be accomplished.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this non-compliance issue or the Redstone Arsenal's drinking water program, call Eugene Daniels of the Garrison Environmental Office at 955-7591 or email gene.daniels@us.army.mil. (*Garrison Environmental Office release*)

AMC becomes Army's lead materiel integrator

By **CHERISH WASHINGTON**

Army Materiel Command public affairs

The secretary of the Army has designated the Army Materiel Command as the Army's Lead Materiel Integrator in a March 22 memorandum, which changes how the operational Army will receive its equipment in the future.

With the designation of an LMI, the Army will standardize the process of providing materiel to the war fighter that was once managed by multiple organizations, databases and people.

"The Army's new approach for managing materiel is being designed to effectively and efficiently distribute and redistribute materiel to support the generation of trained and ready forces," secretary of the Army John McHugh said in the memorandum. "It must represent a different way of doing business that will foster open communication, improve collaboration and eliminate redundancies in the process."

This designation allows AMC to develop the single authoritative materiel data repository for the Army through an initiative called Logistics Information Warehouse, said AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody during a recent town hall meeting.

At one point in time, war fighters needed to coordinate with multiple Army organizations to determine how to fill equipment shortages.

With the implementation of this designation, AMC is now the one point of contact for all materiel through the Army Sustainment Command, a major subordinate command of AMC.

ASC's role will be to operate as the Army's single materiel readiness synchronization point: receiving materiel requirements from the Army, and employing its Distribution Management Center, Army Field Support Brigades, and Directorates of Logistics.

The benefits of the LMI designation include the ability to provide total asset visibility and transparency, predictive analysis, elimination of redundant capabilities across the Army, and integration and synchronization of multiple efforts, enabling AMC to manage materiel at best value for the entire Army.

"This is probably one of the most transformational adaptations we have had at the institutional level that is really going to impact ARFORGEN (Army Forces Generation) and our ability to sustain and equip forces," Dunwoody said.

Awareness

continued from page 2

families facing a lifetime of supports for their children.

Treatment for autism is a very intensive, comprehensive undertaking that involves the child's entire family and a team of professionals. Some programs may take place in the child's home with professionals and trained therapists and may include parent training for the child under supervision of a professional. Some programs are delivered in a specialized center, classroom or preschool.

Currently, the Autism Society estimates that the lifetime cost of caring for a child with autism ranges from \$3.5 million to \$5 million, and that the United States is facing almost \$90 billion annually in costs for autism. (This figure includes research, insurance costs and non-covered expenses, Medicaid waivers for autism, educational spending, housing, transportation, employment, in addition to related therapeutic services and caregiver costs.)

Autism is treatable. Children do not "outgrow" autism, but studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes.

Here are some signs to look for in the young children in your life: lack of or delay in spoken language; repetitive use of language and/or motor mannerisms (e.g., hand-flapping, twirling objects); little or no eye contact; lack of interest in peer relationships; lack of spontaneous or make-believe play; and persistent fixation on parts of objects.

If you know anyone with autism or would like more information about autism, please feel free to contact me at john.e.roll@afghan.swa.army.mil.

Ed Roll
AMCOM

Editor's note: Ed Roll is deployed to Afghanistan with the Army Sustainment Command in support of the 41401st Army Field Sustainment Brigade at Kandahar Airfield. His autistic school-age son, Elijah, is in the care of Roll's wife and family, and attends school in Madison.

Acquisition workers complete program manager course



Courtesy photo

Course participants include, from left, instructor Mike Monis, instructor Bob Hergenroeder, Lt. Col. Kevin Geisbert, Maj. Brian McDonald, James Tyler, Lt. Col. Mathew Hannah, Lt. Col. James Kennedy, William English, Lt. Col. Thomas King, Deborah Zurawski, Jerry Bradshaw, Lt. Col. Ronald Volkin, Lt. Col. Steven Bradom, Lt. Col. James McLinnaham, Lt. Col. John Edwards, Mark McDaniel, Lt. Col. Steven Van Riper, Lt. Col. Brady Hauboldt, Col. Myles Nakamura, Lt. Col. Frederick Hughes, Lt. Col. Michael Senseney, instructor Jack Coyne, instructor Steve Monks, and in front Edward Rua.

By SARAH PRESTON
For the Rocket

Defense Acquisition University, Southern Region, just wrapped up the launch of the first Program Manager's Training Course. The 10-week rigorous course began Jan. 24 with 20 students from various locations across the U.S. with different professional backgrounds and experience.

The students were chosen by their agencies to participate in the program based on their potential to lead major acquisition programs, integrated product teams and major command elements. The Program Manager's Course places significant demands on the students by implementing 12-hour days for five days each week as well as an expectation of three to six hours each day of additional individual preparation outside of class.

The participants come into the PMT 401 course with extensive experience in acquisition in various fields such as Contracting, Logistics, and Financial Management. The diversity of the participants adds to the creative learning experience gained from PMT 401. The curriculum includes guest speakers, peer and instructor mentoring and coaching, team projects, leadership simulations, and media training all of which are designed to complement the case studies and enrich the course.

The students were able to enhance their understanding of acquisition principles and practices by analyzing acquisition case studies representing current acquisition program challenges and dilemmas from all services as well as industry, joint and international programs. They were given a better understanding on how to apply their skills to the work force after hearing personal experiences from a list of notable guest speakers including: Brig. Gen. Craig Olson, PEO Enterprise Information Systems; John Urias, Raytheon vice president for force application programs;

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of ATEC; retired Maj. Gen. Vincent Boles; and Tony Jones, Boeing vice president.

The students were also required to participate in multiple leadership simulations and seminars. Some of the simulations include: "Through the Looking Glass," facilitated by Mike Monis, a three-day simulation which consists of role playing assigned positions in a fictional company and prioritizing the issues while making the big decisions that affect the company; "Capitol Hill Workshop," facilitated by Steve Monks, a two-day workshop that includes an overview and understanding of the Congress and the Executive Branch in the context of current national security concerns, including the legislative process, and the dynamics that drive both governmental bodies; "Mount Everest," facilitated by Jack Coyne, a web-based simulation that uses the context of a Mount Everest expedition to reinforce student learning in group dynamics, decision making and communication; and "Media Training," facilitated by Bob Hergenroeder, a two-day event focused on preparation for and execution of a proper media interview by giving mock interviews in front of a camera crew for a realistic experience.

Upon completion DAU hosted a graduation ceremony April 1. Before receiving their diplomas, the students presented DAU with a wooden commemorative inscription stating their accomplishment of being the first PMT 401 class to graduate at the Southern region. The plaque features the names of each graduate underneath a group picture. They also chose to inscribe their class motto, "Attacking Program Management like a Hobo on a Sandwich." This memento will be displayed as a reminder of the first graduating class, their 10 weeks of work, and a sense of humor not soon to be forgotten.

For information about DAU regional offerings of the PMT 401 Program Manager's Course, visit <http://icatalog.dau.mil/>.

Health center celebrates facelift's finish



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson and Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton cut the ribbon for Fox's new front entrance.

New front entrance was long awaited

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Fox Army Health Center has a new face.

Team Redstone and the greater Huntsville healthcare community gathered April 4 to celebrate the completion of the health center's front entrance renovations, an achievement for Fox, where wellness is as evident in the aesthetics of the building as it is in the doctors, nurses, patients and staff that inhabit it.

"Many thanks to the previously and currently assigned visionaries who had a vision of how Fox Army Health Center should emulate wellness," Fox commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson said. "They saw the potential and need for this renovation which truly supports the Fox Army Health Center vision 'Premier Model of Organizational and Beneficiary Wellness.' I have commented many times that this is a beautiful facility that does not have a physical appearance denoting a sense of disease or illness. It's an inviting facil-

ity from top to bottom matching the caring, wellness-oriented attitude of its great staff."

Gone are the hard hats and construction signs that accompanied the renovations at Fox – today a new reception area welcomes patients, complete with a coffee shop operated by the Post Exchange, which offers coffee, smoothies, sandwiches, soups, salads and other healthy dining options. In addition to a larger waiting area with televisions, three pharmacy windows have been added, as well as a Fox Deployed Warrior Wall, which showcases pictures of staff members deployed while assigned to Fox.

"This is great," Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers said. "This is all about taking care of families. This is what we do here at Team Redstone, we take care of families. When you think about when this started back in September of '07 with the planning of this, and the culmination that has occurred, and when you walk through, it's a class act, and that's what we're all about. We have great people here, we have great doctors, we have great nurses, we have great Soldiers, who take care of families, and that's what we're all about."

The completion of the renovations has been long awaited for Johnson and com-

pany, but with the ribbon cutting complete, staff and patients can breathe a sigh of relief, grab a cup of coffee, and enjoy the end result of years of hard work.

"I have been looking forward to this day since 16 July 2010," Johnson said of the day she took command. "As of 2 p.m. on that date, the most frequently question of me has been, 'When will the new front entrance be done?' Unfortunately, my response regarding the time frame for completion was constantly changing. My response went from October to December to January to March. I probably put a little extra stress on my staff and the contractors when I said I wasn't changing my response one more time and 4 April is my final answer! Now I hope the most frequent question asked of me will be, 'Do you have time for a cup of coffee?'"

Funds for the renovation came partly from Third Party Collections and performance awards, for which Fox is a leader in MEDCOM. Much of those monies were used to fund the renovation, according to Johnson, which will benefit both staff and beneficiaries.

"It is for you, Fox Army Health Center beneficiaries and employees, to enjoy," Johnson said. "And I hope you do take a moment to enjoy it."

Help available for attention deficit disorder

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Knowledge is power when it comes to attention deficit disorder.

“Having an attention disorder is sort of like having a Mac computer loaded with all the software, but you can’t use it,” said Dr. Victoria Serbia, chief, adult psychiatry, for the behavioral medicine department at Fox Army Health Center. “You know that you have it, you have this wonderful thing, but you don’t know how to use it, it doesn’t work for you. It leads to a lot of frustration.”

That frustration can be alleviated when parents, children and adults dealing with the varying degrees of attention deficit know and understand the ins and outs of the disorder, as well as what can be done to treat it, according to Serbia and Dr. David Ferguson with Fox’s behavioral medicine department.

Three different types of attention-deficit disorder may affect an individual and how they view and interact with the



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Alicea Moore with the Behavioral Medicine Division at Fox Army Health Center demonstrates the computer program used to help diagnose attention deficit disorders.

world: attention-deficit disorder where an individual is predominantly inattentive, attention-deficit disorder where the individual is predominantly hyperactive, and attention deficit disorder that combines the two.

Symptoms that indicate inattention may include difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities, not appearing to listen when spoken to directly, not following through on instructions or failure to finish schoolwork, chores or other duties, avoiding or disliking tasks that require sustained mental effort, losing things necessary for tasks or activities, or appearing forgetful in daily activities.

Symptoms of hyperactivity may include fidgeting with hands or feet, squirming while sitting, leaving one’s seat when sitting is expected, difficulty playing or participating in leisure activities quietly, appearing always on the go and talking excessively. Impulsivity symptoms include blurting out answers before questions have been completed, difficulty awaiting one’s turn or interrupting and intruding on others.

Attention deficit disorder is not voluntary, and not willful, Serbia said, but rather is something an individual has their entire life, from birth on, although symptoms typically manifest in the third grade, as demands on a child increase.

“You’re born with it, but it becomes most evident in third grade, because in

third grade, now your teacher is asking you, ‘Go to your desk, take out this book, open it and do this.’ Already that’s too many and the child with ADD will remember to go to their desk and forget everything else,” Serbia said.

As the classroom setting has become even more structured in recent decades, attention disorders have become easier to pick out, Serbia said, as children have gone from helping mom and dad out on the farm to meeting high academic standards.

“Free time is less available to children now,” Serbia said. “They’re constantly in structured settings, they don’t go out for recess as much anymore, and when they do, the recess tends to be structured. That inability to diffuse some of the tension that comes with being unable to focus makes it a lot more evident in the classroom.”

As a result, children with attention deficit disorder may become mislabeled for the behavior they exhibit as a result of the disorder. Some may not even be aware they have an attention deficit disorder because they have grown so accustomed to the labels others have placed on them.

See ADD on page 24

LookingBack

Eyewitness giving German history a home

Book will tell stories of WWII Germany

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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It wasn't just the doll Margret Mefford lost, it was her childhood.

Growing up in Kassel, Germany, in World War II, Mefford to this day remembers the beautiful doll she received for Christmas, with dresses her mother made out of her father's ties. Within days, the air raid sirens blared. Upon her return from the shelter, Mefford came home to find her home destroyed and her precious doll lost with it.

"We had to run to the shelter, and then when we came out, many times there was no water, no electricity," Mefford said of life during WWII. "When our houses were destroyed we had no food, we had no clothes, so we had to search for all these things. That in a nutshell is the experience of people during a war."

For most Americans living today, life in a war-torn country is unfathomable, something they have never experienced and hope to never encounter. But for Mefford, it is stories like hers she feels need to be told, stories she has made it her mission to tell, through a new book that will tell of the traumas and deprivations German civilians faced.

"All these stories I think need to be told because American civilians have



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Margret Mefford shares her pictures and stories from her childhood growing up in Kassel, Germany during World War II. Mefford is collecting other personal accounts from women living during that time in Germany for a book that will serve as a testament to the traumas and deprivations German civilians faced in WWII.

never experienced the war and therefore don't know what happened there in those days," Mefford said. "We were eyewitnesses to all these things, and much worse."

Mefford is reaching out to German women that lived in Germany in the 1920s, '30s and '40s, gathering photos and memories for what will comprise her book, of which each woman's experiences will have a chapter. Thus far she has collected at least 15 and is in search of more. The personal accounts range from stories of trying to escape the Russians, who were known for mistreating women, what life was like in refugee camps, and the hard decision one mother had to make to give her children away, because her husband had died and she could no longer take care of them on their own.

"Some things you don't even want to tell," Mefford said. "Some things, it's so personal, it's so sad."

Mefford remembers a particularly horrific night in Kassel when the British created a firestorm in the eastern part of the city, where houses were made with wood with straw for insulation, and burned easily. More than 10,000 people died. Since moving to North Alabama, Mefford, who had taken shelter in the western part of the city, has met a woman who was in the eastern part of the city that night and lived to tell about it, along with her sister and parents, who jumped in the river to save themselves. Every other person in their family died.

"My childhood was not a happy childhood in the sense where I went to playgrounds and did a lot of fun things," Mefford said. "It was always run to the shelter and always in fear of being bombed."

As a child, the sirens would go off at least once every few days, morning, noon, in the middle of the night, it did not matter in Kassel, a defense city that made parts for airplanes, trucks, tanks

and weapons, making it a favorite target for the Americans and the British. Mefford would complain bitterly that she could not wear a nightgown to bed – her mother always bathed and dressed her again in case they needed to flee in the middle of the night.

"You just never knew," Mefford said. "It seemed we were always running."

Decades later, Mefford, who met her husband, a Huntsville native, when he was stationed in her hometown with the occupation forces in 1955, and brought her to America in 1958, is quick to count her blessings, which include her five children, nine grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and beautiful home near East Limestone High School.

"I think it was a sad childhood I had, but there were some that were a lot worse," Mefford said. "I'm here and living a quiet, happy life, not in fear. When those sirens go off there at the school, I hear them, the same sirens that went off when the bombers started coming, and now I don't have to run."

Today, Mefford shares her childhood stories with visitors at the Alabama Veterans Museum in Athens, where she has volunteered her time for the past three years. It was there that she discovered people wanted to hear her story, and the stories of others that lived in Germany at that time. What began as a simple idea to write down her life experiences for her children has transformed into a project that is reaching out across the world. With plans to finish compiling the personal accounts this year, Mefford hopes to have the book released to the general public in early 2012. To contact Mefford to share your story, email her at bmeford9798@charter.net.

Courtesy photo

Woman of year

Genie Jones of AMCOM G-4 (Logistics and Environmental) is recognized as the 2011 Fort Rucker Woman of the Year, professional category. The lead environmental engineer is assigned to the Aviation Center Logistics Command, Fort Rucker. "I couldn't do what I do without the mountainous support from my headquarters, from ACLC and also from the contractor because we do work as a team," she said. Making the presentation are Army Aviation Center of Excellence commander Maj. Gen. Anthony Crutchfield, left, and deputy staff judge advocate Maj. Angela Tucker. The certificate for her Commander's Award for Civilian Service stated, "Ms. Jones demonstrated outstanding skills and expertise in the training and environmental welfare of 4,200 government and contract personnel as lead environmental engineer for the Aviation Center Logistics Command, Fort Rucker, Alabama."



Army photo

Black Hawks in Japan

A Black Hawk assigned to the Army's 78th Aviation Battalion based at Camp Zama, Japan, lands at Sendai International Airport during emergency assistance operations in the aftermath of the March 11 9.0-magnitude earthquake in Japan. Two of the Army's Black Hawks are being used in support of Operation Tomodachi, a U.S. joint armed forces assistance

operation. The Black Hawks are supported by the behind-the-scenes work of 450-plus workers of the Utility Helicopters Project Office, who daily ensure Black Hawks are sustained and maintained throughout the world.

Former chief of military justice always went extra mile

Memorial tribute given for Capt. Laura Eberts

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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She was a dedicated Soldier who voluntarily deployed to Afghanistan, a hard-working lawyer, a prosecutor, a devoted wife and an avid runner.

She will be missed by everyone who knew her.

The Redstone community said goodbye to Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts, a former chief of military justice at AMCOM, in a memorial service Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. Eberts, 28, drowned March 21 while vacationing in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

“We are gathered here today to pause and remember the life of Capt. Laura Eberts,” Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Leon Kircher told the more than 100 attendees.

The speakers included Col. Craig Meredith, Redstone’s staff judge advocate and the Aviation and Missile Command’s deputy chief counsel; Maj. Carla Peters, the deputy staff judge advocate; and Capt. Derek Eichholz, trial counsel



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Thursday’s memorial service guests honor Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts, who died March 21.

in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

“We all remember her for her intelligence, her discipline and her dedication,” Meredith said. “And for me it was pure joy being her boss, her supervisor and her friend.”

Eberts reported to Redstone Arsenal in August 2008 and worked as a legal as-

sistance attorney, special assistant U.S. attorney and the chief of justice. She deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, where she served as a recorder/legal adviser for detainee review boards.

Upon re-deploying from Afghanistan, she and her husband, 1st Lt. Robert Eberts, went on their long-awaited honey-

moon to Argentina. On March 21, while touring to see the Iguazu waterfalls, her touring boat, carrying 10 tourists, flipped over and she died.

“Laura, we will miss you forever,” Peters, who was her supervisor at Redstone, said. “But we will never ever forget you.”

“She was the consummate professional,” Eichholz said. “Through foresight, planning and hard work, she was always prepared.”

Eichholz said Eberts cared about her mission and the people she served. “She strived to give a voice to those who otherwise would not have one,” he said.

He called her the consummate Soldier, the consummate friend and someone who liked to have fun.

A native of Mechanicsville, Pa., Eberts was a member of Redstone’s Ten-Miler team from 2008-09 and she had finished marathons. She ran seven miles with renowned bicyclist Lance Armstrong when he was visiting troops in Afghanistan.

Survivors include her husband; her parents, Joseph and Karen Matejik; and two sisters, Air Force Capt. Christina Matejik and 2nd Lt. Jessica Wilkinson of the Army Veterinarian Corps.

Army equal opportunity rep visits SMDC

By JASON CUTSHAW

SMDC/ARSTRAT public affairs

Larry Stubblefield, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for diversity and leadership, spent time with members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Equal Employment Opportunity team March 29.

During his visit, Stubblefield spent time meeting with equal employment opportunity officials to discuss EEO and diversity issues and speaking with them about Army policies and the future.

"I wanted to come to Team Redstone because of all the various commands that you have here," Stubblefield said. "Team Redstone has a reputation for leadership, strong equal opportunity support and diversity, so I figured with our first true board of directors meeting for EEO, what better setting than Team Redstone where you have such a great reputation."

In August, Stubblefield was selected as the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for diversity and leadership. In this position, he provides leadership and acts for the assistant secretary of the Army, manpower and reserve affairs on plans, programs, policy formulation, decisions and practices

pertaining to diversity and leadership.

In his position, Stubblefield serves as the functional chief representative for the Army's Equal Employment Opportunity Career Program and is responsible for addressing issues of accessibility and public use of Army facilities.

"As the demographics of the nation evolve and as we look to recruit talent for the future, commanders and leaders are going to need something else out of EEO as opposed to the traditional approach to equal employment opportunities," Stubblefield said. "Diversity is appreciating the various attributes and experiences and backgrounds of all of our people and then figuring out how to incorporate those attributes, experiences and backgrounds into the mission. This training requirement for EEO personnel will help commanders develop what we call a model work force and make the Army the model employer of choice."

He also discussed goals he wanted to accomplish during his visit.

"The ultimate goal is to become the model employer of choice because we are going to be competing with the private sector for talent, and if we don't get out of the mindset that all EEO does is han-



Photo by Carrie David

Larry Stubblefield, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for diversity and leadership, spends time with members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Equal Employment Opportunity team during a visit to Huntsville on March 29.

dle complaints, we're going to be dead on arrival," Stubblefield said.

Stubblefield spoke about what he has discovered since being appointed to his

current position.

"Everywhere I go I have had nothing but total support from the top down knowing

See Opportunity on page 18

Athens State alumnus distinguishes herself in career

By **DOTTIE WHITE**
SMDC/ARSTRAT public affairs

ATHENS – One of Redstone Arsenal’s leading contracting officers received an award from her alma mater April 2.

Cathy Dickens, the principal assistant responsible for contracting and the director for the Contracting and Acquisition Management Office for the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, was named the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year at Athens State University. She also serves as the executive director of the Army Contracting Command-Redstone.

The award was presented at the Athens State University 103rd annual Alumni Banquet, hosted by the Alumni Association in the Sandridge Center Ballroom at Athens State.

Dickens said she was honored and humbled to receive this award.

“I was very proud, because I know that ASU provided me a great foundation to allow me to achieve success in my career and to give back to this community,” she said.

“My entire career has been spent working for the Army. And with the Army’s support, I was able to complete my



education at night and on the weekends.”

Dickens earned her bachelor’s degree in business administration from Athens State in 1993.

“There were so many people who I worked for at that time who mentored and encouraged me to continue on and make sure that I got the right education and to be the best that I could be,” she said. “It set the foundation to allow me in leadership to give back to this community and take care of our war fighters, because that’s what we do in contracting.”

Dickens said a former supervisor, Mike Pool, really encouraged her to go back to school. That’s when she selected

Photo by Dottie White
Cathy Dickens was honored at Athens State University April 2 with the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year award.

Athens because they were student friendly. “They recognized that if you were in a job that you might have to travel, and they worked with you,” Dickens said. “They wanted you to achieve what you needed to achieve, and they helped you get there while still providing a quality education.”

Additionally, Dickens said the sup-

port she got from her late husband and family was instrumental in her success.

“Not many husbands would have put up with having two young kids and a wife working full time and going to school at night,” she said.

Dickens continued her education earning a master’s in management from the Florida Institute of Technology (1998) and is a graduate of Senior Executive Fellows, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Courtesy photo
Intelligence certificate
Richard Russell, second from left, deputy G-2 security operations at the Army Materiel Command, receives the National Intelligence Certificate of Distinction during a ceremony March 31 at the headquarters of the director of national intelligence. As the director of Intelink, the enterprise information technology center for the U.S. intelligence community, Russell and a team designed, created, tested and delivered a highly critical information technology to deployed forces in Afghanistan within 90 days of initiation. From left are James Clapper, director of national intelligence; Russell; David McGhee, Department of State; and Michael Kennedy, director of Intelink.



Helping Hands

Army Emergency Relief needs your help to help others

Fund-raising campaign continues through May

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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The widow of a retired Soldier needed help because her utilities bill was unusually high this month. The wife of a deployed Soldier needed help because there was a problem with her husband's military pay, and her rent and utilities were due.

Both families received assistance from Army Emergency Relief.

"AER is a program for Soldiers by Soldiers," Kathleen Riester, the acting AER officer at Army Community Service, said.

But the program depends on contributions. And that's why the annual fund-raising drive is so important.

Redstone's 2011 campaign is under way through May 31 with hopes of exceeding last year's \$265,000 in donations.

"It's going great," Riester said April 5.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Kathleen Riester is the acting AER officer at Army Community Service.

"It started 1 March and it concludes 31 May. And to date we have received from

retirees in the Tennessee Valley \$48,971."

In addition, the Huntsville Havoc professional hockey team raised \$12,020 through its jersey auction on Military Appreciation Night held March 12 at the Von Braun Center.

This year's campaign theme is "Helping to Make Soldiers and Their Families Army Strong."

AER provides emergency financial assistance to Soldiers on active duty and their families, National Guard and Reserve on active duty for more than 30 days, Soldiers who retire from active duty and their eligible family members, and surviving spouses and orphans of Soldiers who died while on active duty or after retirement. Assistance is provided for such needs as emergency travel, housing, car repair, food and utilities.

Army Emergency Relief was founded in 1942 in response to the need for Soldiers and their families who were experiencing financial emergencies in World War II. Since its founding, AER has provided more than \$1.3 billion of financial assistance.

In 2010 at Redstone, AER helped 324 Soldiers and family members with more than \$337,000 in loans and grants. Armywide last year, AER helped more than 66,000 Soldiers and families with more than \$77 million.

"We're really excited about the campaign this year," Riester said. "Historically Redstone Arsenal has been very generous to this program. Even in these difficult economic times, people are still being very generous. However the numbers are down this year."

For example, last year's Havoc jersey auction raised \$23,000; so this year's total dropped 50 percent.

"We still have not identified all the key reps for all the units/organizations on post," Riester said. "Key reps are required to attend an AER training that I provide once a week. So they just need to call me and let me know who their key rep is and when they're going to come for training."

For more information about Army Emergency Relief, and to identify your organization's AER representative, call Riester at 876-5397.

Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief fund-raising events include the following:

Throughout drive – Candy sale, sponsored by Business Management Office at the Integrated Materiel Management Center. For information call Jan Pickard 842-6625.

Thursday – Doughnut sale, sponsored by ILS Publications, Maintenance Directorate, at 7 a.m. For information call Jan Pickard 842-6625.

Friday – Gift basket drawing at noon, sponsored by LMP/MMD. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 19 – Cinnamon roll sale, sponsored by Maintenance Directorate, at 8 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 18-29 – The AMCOM G-3/

Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304.

April 21 – Bowling Tournament at 1 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. This will be a no-tap tournament; and nine is as good as a strike. Cost is \$15, with at least \$10 going directly to AER. Trophies and medals will be awarded for top three male and female games and series. This is not a team event. To register call Paul Sieja 842-9408 by April 19 or email paul.sieja@us.army.mil.

April 21 – Bucket drop, sponsored by IMMC's Field Operations Division, Maintenance, at 10 a.m. at the Commissary/Post Ex-

change. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 26 to May 12 – Four autographed footballs will be auctioned online. Each football has a team's logo – for Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and Auburn – and is signed by its coach. For more information call KC Bertling, the AER chairperson for Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, at 955-4082.

April 27 – Basketball throw, sponsored by IMMC's Readiness Directorate, at 10:30 a.m. at building 5302 parking lot. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

May 3 – Hot dog sale and "homemade" cake walk, sponsored by ILS/Publications, Maintenance Directorate, at 10:30 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

May 5 – Shoe shine, sponsored by Maintenance Directorate, at 9 a.m. at Sparkman Cafeteria.

May 5 – Bucket drop, sponsored by IMMC's Field Operations Division, Maintenance, at 10 a.m. at the Commissary/Post Exchange. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

May 6 – The IMMC Golf Tournament will be held at 8 a.m. at the Links.

May 7 – A golf tournament, sponsored by IMMC's Maintenance Directorate, will be held at 8 a.m. at FoxRun Golf Course in Meridianville. For more information, call Celeste Billings 313-2041 or 278-9617 or call Ralph Miller 652-2829 or 876-5806.

May 17 – Homemade cupcake sale, sponsored by Automation, MMD, at 7 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

May 19 – Chicken and biscuit/pastry sale, sponsored by Systems Management Division, MMD, at 7 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

Productivity center cites program executive office

In a ceremony marking a hallmark achievement, Brig. Gen. Ole Knudsen, the program executive officer for missiles and space, said “we have garnered a Level 2 Progress Toward Excellence award from the Alabama Productivity Center.”

Specifically, the Assistant PEO for Information Management and Information Assurance was singled out by the center for using Process Quality, Continuous Performance Improvement and Lean Six Sigma in its Information Technology Infrastructure

Library implementation, along with value stream mapping in its core work areas.

“This APEO supports the organization’s ability to provide key missile and aviation support to our war fighters,” the PEO’s Natalie DeLuca said. “Our key strategic objective is to provide premier technology solutions, enabling the effective and efficient influence on business practices for the acquisition life-cycle community.”

Within that construct, architecture, governance of policies and procedures, server and

network support, software development, infrastructure planning and asset management are key elements.

“Comprised of 13 government employees and 116 contractor support employees, this staff supports about 4,000 customers in both the PEO Missiles and Space and the PEO Aviation,” DeLuca said. “Impressively, nine of the 13 are Army LSS certified; one Black Belt, and eight Green Belts. This award marks a significant step forward and paves the way for competing in the national Malcolm Baldrige Award.”

In sum, the APEO IM/IA team has completed their unit application with the State of Alabama Quality Award Program, undertaken and completed three major LSS projects, and currently has four process improvement, cost avoidance and savings projects under way. The object of this entire effort, De Luca said, is to ensure that we become a more efficient and effective operation, while moving our entire organization along a targeted pathway toward quality cultural change. (*Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space release*)

Deal averts shutdown, government operations continue

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Government agencies are continuing normal operations after the administration, the Senate and the House of Representatives agreed to a fiscal 2011 budget.

The continuing resolution expired Friday night at midnight, but the Senate and House passed a short-term funding bill that will allow both houses to finalize the full-year spending bill. Officials expect that bill to be passed and signed by mid-week.

“This agreement between Democrats and Republicans on behalf of all Americans is on a budget that invests in our future while making the largest annual spending cut in our history,” President Barack Obama said Friday night

from the White House. “Like any worthwhile compromise, both sides had to make tough decisions and give ground on issues that were important to them. And I certainly did that.”

There will be no interruption in operations for the Defense Department, DoD officials said Friday night. Servicemembers and civilian employees will receive their pay as normal, and no operations will be curtailed or eliminated.

“This is good news for the American people,” Obama said during an address from the White House. “It means that small businesses can get the loans they need, our families can get the mortgages they applied for, folks can visit our national parks and museums, and hundreds of thousands of Americans will get their paychecks on time, including our brave

men and women in uniform.”

The agreement calls for \$38.5 billion in cuts from the government budget. This is \$79 billion less than what the president proposed originally in February 2010.

“Some of the cuts we agreed to will be painful,” the president said. “Programs people rely on will be cut back. Needed infrastructure projects will be delayed. And I would not have made these cuts in better circumstances. But beginning to live within our means is the only way to protect those investments that will help America compete for new jobs – investments in our kids’ education and student loans, in clean energy and life-saving medical research. We protected the investments we need to win the future.”

Obama thanked House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid for their leadership in the process. “It’s my sincere hope that we can continue to come together as we face the many difficult challenges that lie ahead, from creating jobs and growing our economy to educating our children and reducing our deficit,” Obama said. “That’s what the American people expect us to do. That’s why they send us here.”

Had the government shut down, officials expected around 400,000 DoD employees to be furloughed and problems with pay and other fiscal obligations. The president announced the deal less than an hour before the continuing resolution would have run out and operations would have ceased.

Claims process accelerates for catastrophic losses

The Army Claims Service has developed an expedited procedure for processing catastrophic losses under the Personnel Claims Act.

The new Catastrophic Loss Accelerated Claims Procedure may be applied in the event of a total or substantially total loss of a claimant's property and where the circumstances are such that the claimant's ability to substantiate ownership, condition and value of property is impracticable. The commander of Army Claims Services can authorize CLASP as an exception to the claims regulation on a case-by-case basis.

CLASP provides an alternative to Army Regulation 27-20's requirement for an itemized list and detailed substantiation of property lost, damaged or destroyed. Under CLASP, claims personnel will document losses by on-site inspections and photography, oral interviews, and available inbound shipment inventories, in order to determine the quantity, condition and value of the personal property prior to the loss.

Using this information, the Army Claims Service will estimate the value of the lost property. This estimate may be used, at the claimant's option, to obtain an

adjudicated settlement under the Personnel Claims Act. Claimants however retain their right to seek reconsideration should they be dissatisfied with the settlement offer. Once the commander of USARCS authorizes the use of CLASP, a claimant may use this alternative procedure at his or her option. Claimants who rather itemize their losses may still do so.

So far CLASP has only been applied to the losses suffered during the Dec. 31, 2010 tornado at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Some 159 homes there had damage, with 41 destroyed. Fortunately, no one was killed or seriously injured, but many families were displaced and lost all their possessions. More than 200 vehicles were damaged or destroyed. Army claims attorneys and claims examiners waived substantiation requirements, paid victims' deductibles, shortened the payment times, and extended the time periods for filing claims. The Claims Service also approved payment for rental vehicles, which is normally not done in vehicle damage claims.

Henry Nolan, chief of the Army Claims Service Personnel Claims and Recovery Division, said these new initiatives embrace the spirit of the Personnel

Claims Act.

"The purpose of the Personnel Claims Act is to improve morale. This is intended to take care of folks for something that happened to them because of

Opportunity

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that this is something we have got to transition to and we have got to get equal employment opportunity practitioners to help us get out of this mindset of 'being complaints-based,'" Stubblefield said. "If you educate the leadership and provide the proper training for managers as to how to make this a diverse culture, you will get a diverse and an inclusive culture and you will lessen the occurrences of complaints."

As he prepared to leave, Stubblefield wanted the Redstone Arsenal community to understand he is working hard every day regarding leadership and diversity and how he strives to improve equality for all.

"A good example of the leadership support I am receiving is my visit over at (Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command). I had a scheduled half-hour visit with (Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, SMDC/

the nature of their military service," he said. "To a great extent, it's the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, all taking care of their own." (*Office of Staff Judge Advocate release*)

ARSTRAT commander) that turned into an hour-and-a-half," Stubblefield said. "He is totally interested in what we're doing and he had several questions on how he could apply it.

"The hospitality here has been just first class," he added. "This is a wonderful community and I am glad to be here."

After Stubblefield left, members of the SMDC/ARSTRAT EEO team spoke of the visit and what it meant to the command.

"I think his visit to Redstone Arsenal was continued encouragement to keep up the good work and to keep pushing and help bring more government services to the Huntsville area as the area does its part for the defense of the nation," Melvin Kelley, SMDC/ARSTRAT EEO officer, said. "We were encouraged as he told us Redstone Arsenal is setting the pace for the Army when it comes to EEO.

"I know he wants EEO not to be just an organization that handles complaints, but also a proactive organization that can revitalize and rejuvenate the work force to come together."

Civilian

continued from page 1

nominees this year,” event organizer Jerry Hamilton said. “We appreciate that you come out for this event. We are always supporting our Soldiers because they are the crux of what it is all about. But civilians in the Army are the constant. So we like to take the time to honor our civilians. In Huntsville, there is a great number of wonderful civilians.... The nominees are the most outstanding civilians in their organizations. It’s important to stress that every single one of these nominees are winners.”

After introducing the 16 nominees, the winners in three categories were announced. Besides Ericsson in the Management/Executive category, Unmanned Aircraft Systems also picked up a win in the Professional/Technical category – Dana Osborne, chief of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Resource Center; and program integrator and acting chief of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations Branch. Osborne was nominated by Rusty Weiger, deputy program executive officer for aviation.

Osborne, who has a 19-year career as a DA civilian, has earned the recognition of her leaders, peers and subordinates for her endless drive, according to her nomination. “She has demonstrated true leadership, unparalleled expertise and unwavering determination in support of Army Soldiers and their use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems,” the nomination said.

In the third category – the Staff/Support Category – Elizabeth Blackmon, a protocol specialist in the Protocol Office of the Aviation and Missile Command, was the honoree. She was nominated by Barbie

Baugh, chief of AMCOM Protocol with a nomination letter from AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers.

“Ms. Blackmon’s dedication to duty and eagerness to go the extra mile are greatly responsible for the success and stability of operations during the planning and execution of very important events. Her dedication and performance of duty is of high value to the Army,” according to her nomination.

During the dinner event, last year’s DA Civilian of the Year recipient, Lisha Adams, who has since been named the director of the Aviation and Missile Command’s Integrated Materiel Management Center, reviewed the history of civilian service in the Army.

That service goes back to the Revolutionary War. In 1872, the Federal Civil Service was formed. But, in the early 19th century, government jobs were held at the pleasure of the president, with jobs used to support the political parties. Several laws, beginning with the Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act of 1883 and including the Hatch Act of 1939, changed the civil service so that the federal work force was appointed based on merit and prohibited from engaging in political activities while performing their duties.

In 2006 the Army Civilian Corps was formed to “unify the Army civilian service and embody the commitment of civilians who serve as an integral part of our Army team.” Today, there are more than 300,000 Army civilians.

Adams recited the Army Civilian Corps Creed: “I am an Army civilian – a member of the Army team. I am dedicated to our Army, our Soldiers and civilians. I will always support the mission. I provide stability and continuity during war and peace. I support and defend the

Constitution of the United States and consider it an honor to serve our nation and our Army. I live the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. I am an Army civilian.”

“Government employees understand success in life is not what you do for yourself, it is what you do for others,” Adams said.

She also mentioned Ephesians 6, saying the Bible chapter is what she bases her life on and that its verse 7 charges all

to “render service with a good attitude.”

Adams also chose key words and phrases from the nominee’s packets – “their ability to do their earnest effort and best thought while serving others with a good attitude,” “never say no to a challenge,” “always looking for new opportunities,” “never fails to live up to Army values,” and “work of the highest standards in service to this country,” among others – to emphasize the contributions the nominees have made to their organizations and their communities.

Honor roll of top civilian nominees

These 16 nominees for the DA Civilian of the Year award were recognized April 5 by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Management/Executive Award

- Alfred S. Thomas III, regional director, Pacific Command/Southern Command Regional Operations, Security Assistance Command

- George W. Welch Jr., chief engineer, Flight Test Services Division, Test and Warfighter Solutions Center, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command

- Jeff Lanhout, deputy project manager, Cargo Helicopters Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation

- Lars Ericsson, chief technologist and lead architect, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation

- Mike R. Chandler, product director, Aviation Network and Mission Planning, Aviation Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation

- Thomas J. Vajentic, Chief of Transformation (BRAC), Army Materiel Command

- Cathy Dickens, executive director, Army Contracting Command-Redstone, and principal assistant responsible for contracting, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command

- Lisa Hayes, chief, Business Sys-

tems Support Division, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, Aviation and Missile Command

Professional/Technical Award

- Charles M. Cornett, human resource manager, 1st Space Brigade, S-1, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command

- Gale R. Fenwick, training manager, Security Assistance Command

- Javier N. Montero, operations analyst, Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command

- Walter Campbell, space surveillance and space control analyst, G-3, Current Operations Branch, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command

- Dana Osborne, chief, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Resource Center, Program Integrator, and acting chief, Operations Branch, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Aviation

- Janet M. Huys, readiness analyst, Readiness Directorate, Integrated Materiel Management Center, Aviation and Missile Command

Support/Staff Award

- Elizabeth Blackmon, protocol specialist, Protocol Office, Aviation and Missile Command

- Renea Merth, resource management specialist, Headquarters 2nd Recruiting Brigade, Recruiting Command

Security assistance worker climbs career ladder

By **MICHELLE HARLAN**
*Army Security Assistance
 Command public affairs*



Matthew Starner

NEW CUMBERLAND, Pa. – As a recent college graduate and young government employee, one person at the Army Security Assistance Command's New Cumberland office has quickly made an impact on his team.

Matthew Starner began his USASAC career as a logistics management specialist through the Student Educational Employment Program in 2008, which offers students the opportunity to gain direct work experience within a federal agency. Starner hit the ground running and was immediately working alongside case managers and helping them with foreign military sales cases for the Pacific Command region's Pacific branch.

"I am constantly busy and I like solving problems," Starner said. "Each situation is unique. The biggest challenge is coordinating between different agencies involved."

USASAC provides the Army with security assistance programs, including

FMS of defense articles and services to eligible foreign governments.

Upon completion of his bachelor's at Penn State-Harrisburg in 2010, Starner continued to work on the PACOM team by tracking the life cycle of major items – from requisition to delivery. He also oversees the Repair and Return Program for Taiwan.

As personnel moved to positions outside of the Pacific Branch, Starner used his experience with the program to support employees as they joined him on the team, according to David Buckman, Starner's supervisor and Pacific Case Management Branch Chief.

"Thanks to Matt's intelligence, knowledge and patience, he was able to train each of the newly hired employees," Buckman said. "Matt is always willing to help his team in any capacity."

His ability to step in and help as the workload continued to increase and the work force transitioned did not go unnoticed by Starner's peers. During a recent employee recognition ceremony, Starner received a commander's coin from USA-

SAC's commander Brig. Gen. Christopher Tucker for his significant contributions to the Taiwan FMS program by not losing sight of numerous active cases.

"This award was another example of Matt's diligence and willingness to assist regardless of whether or not the task is part of his position description," Buckman said.

"I think my work is very rewarding," Starner said. "When people ask what I

do, I tell them we (USASAC) aid their government. It helps our position in the world by helping other countries."

Starner is working on his MBA through Penn State-Harrisburg and plans to continue to develop his career with USASAC into a FMS country case manager.

"This young man has a very bright future ahead of him," Buckman said. "I believe he will excel at any job he performs."



Courtesy photo

Student orientation

Garrison students Leah Burbank and Thu Truong assisted Garrison Student Program coordinator Stacy Hull during a recent career awareness event at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. The Garrison Student Program has also participated in similar events at Alabama A&M University and Wallace State Community College.

Redstone reaches out to detect radiation

Dosimetry Center raises Army support to Japan by sending personal devices

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

A bit of Redstone Arsenal technology is now on the ground in Japan, helping to ensure the safety of Soldiers and other U.S. government personnel entering radiation contaminated areas of the country – known as the Warm Zone and the Hot Zone – to conduct search and rescue, and health and safety missions.

The Army Dosimetry Center, part of the Aviation and Missile Command's Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, is providing radiation detection support to the Pacific Command in Japan as part of Operation Tomodachi. USATA support began March 18, after it was determined that the March 5 earthquake and consequent tsunami had caused damage to Japanese nuclear power plants, resulting in the leakage of radiation. Since then, radiation levels in Japan have continued to rise.

The Army Dosimetry Center sent 2,000 Optically Stimulated Luminescence



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Debbie Butler demonstrates how the radiation levels recorded by an optically stimulated luminescence dosimeter are recorded with a portable dosimeter reader.

dosimeters and a portable dosimeter reader to Army Public Health Command personnel on the ground at Camp Zama, Japan, in support of PACOM.

"These dosimeters measure external radiation exposure," Bill Harris, chief of the Army Dosimetry Center, said. "They read

beta, gamma, X-ray and neutron radiation.

"These particular dosimeters and dosimeter readers are actually new technology. Our current technology is a thermoluminescence dosimeter that has to be returned to our lab at Redstone so that we can read the radiation level. With the new technology, the dosimeters can be read in the field with a portable reader. The new technology can be monitored in theater and read on a daily basis."

The Army Dosimetry Center's support for the new OSL technology was accredited in 2008. When worn, it records the amount of individual radiation exposure. The dosimeter can be read in the field at any time with a portable dosimeter reader located at an Army medical clinic. If the radiation reading is above the minimal established dosage level, the dosimeter is returned to the Army Dosimetry Center at Redstone for an official "dose of record" reading. The exposed person is not allowed back into the suspected radiation area. If the radiation reading is at a safe level, the dosimeter can continue to be used.

The OSL dosimeters, known as whole-body dosimeters, are 2 1/2 by 1 1/4 inches in size and are worn on a person's body between the neck and the waist. They are commercial, off-the-shelf technology and are used in

hospitals, nuclear plants and other places where radiation levels must be monitored. The dosimeters can be used for up to three months in the field before they are returned to Redstone for a dose of record reading.

The Army Dosimetry Center maintains inventory records and supplies dosimetry equipment throughout the Army as requested. In addition to providing dosimetry support, the Army Dosimetry Center also maintains all dosimetry related records.

"We have a database that dates back to 1954 and includes more than 12 million records," Harris said.

The center, which has been accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program since 1986, has 600 customers worldwide. The center's annual workload is in excess of 200,000 dosimeters. Soldiers, Army civilians and contractors in every state as well as in Germany, Korea, Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan have access to dosimeters if they work in an area where radiation levels could rise higher than normal standards.

Other customers include the Secret Service, NASA, Defense Logistics Agency and National Security Agency.

"Army hospitals are our biggest customers," Harris said. "Dosimeters are worn by
See Radiation on page 23

Radiation

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physicians and any hospital personnel who work with diagnostic machines or radioactive material. They are also worn by Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who work with mobile vehicle cargo inspection systems used at checkpoints. These systems use radiation such as X-rays to get images of what's inside trucks."

In regard to support in Japan, the Army Safety Office requested the Army Dosimetry Center's involvement as soon as it was discovered that radiation was leaking from the Fukushima Daiichi reactors. The Army Dosimetry Center's Andrew Brady, Gabriel Lockwood, Debbie Butler and Janie Bryant, and about 10 other employees took the lead in making sure the dosimeters and the dosimetry reader were shipped quickly.

"We got the call right in the middle of changing our technology," Harris said. "At the end of fiscal year 2010, we received funding to purchase new technology for overseas contingency operations. But instead of sending it to Afghanistan, Iraq or Kuwait, we made the first shipments to Japan."

The Army Dosimetry Center was in the process of establishing two satellite dosimetry laboratories in Germany and Korea when the Japanese earthquake struck. Original plans were to put a 200-capacity dosimeter

reader in Germany and Korea and to use 10 single capacity readers at forward operating bases in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait or other locations as required. When the Japan incident occurred, a single capacity reader was sent in an emergency shipment to Japan along with the 2,000 dosimeters.

"The equipment was here and available and U.S. operations in Japan needed it," Harris said. "We had an enormous team effort among our employees and other employees in our organization that helped make the shipment to Japan happen."

Before the shipment was sent, each dosimeter had to be tagged, inventoried and tested.

"We had to ship the first 1,000 dosimeters to the U.S. Army Public Health Command in Maryland because FedEx into Japan was shut down," Brady said. "A team from the Public Health Command got those to the Camp Zama medical clinic operating within PACOM. Then, a couple days later, we were able to send the second shipment of 1,000 dosimeters by FedEx into Japan."

All Department of Defense personnel entering the warm zone (within 125 miles of the nuclear power plants in Sinda) or hot zone (within 50 miles of the plants) must process through the Army's medical clinic at Camp Zama, where they are equipped with a dosimeter.

Other monitoring is also ongoing at the Camp Zama base to ensure air quality

levels remain safe. As the nuclear situation evolves, the Army Dosimetry Center is participating in regular teleconferences to discuss radiation health issues in Japan.

"The situation is constantly evolving," Harris said. "The Army is being very

conservative in the amount of radiation dose the individuals are allowed to take in. That level is 300 millirem. It is not harmful, and statistics show that 40 years from now the individual will not have any health-related issues associated with an exposure at that level."

Celebrate office professionals in April

Here's to you, office professionals.

The 2011 theme for Administrative Professionals Day, April 27, is "This year, celebrate all office professionals."

In a prepared release, the International Association of Administrative Professionals said it is veering away from the traditional celebration of the day which is centered on administrative professionals.

"The recession has hit everyone in the office," the release said. "Downsizing has forced all of us to pull together and work harder, not just the administrative professionals in the workplace. IAAP recognizes the hard work and sacrifice from everyone. This year, celebrate all office professionals. Today, there are more than 4.1 million secretaries and administrative assistants working in the United States, according to U.S. Department of Labor statistics, and 8.9 million people working in various administrative support roles. More than 475,000 admin-

istrative professionals are employed in Canada. Millions more administrative professionals work in offices all over the world.

"Many people contribute to the workplace in a variety of settings. IAAP defines administrative professionals as 'individuals who are responsible for administrative tasks and coordination of information in support of an office-related environment and who are dedicated to furthering their personal and professional growth in their chosen profession.'"

Administrative Professionals Week is April 24-30.

Join the Redstone Arsenal Chapter of IAAP on April 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, building 3711, for a program by Michelle Stark, morning anchor and technology correspondent for WHNT Channel 19. If you would like to attend, call Christina McClain at 313-3602 or by email christina.mcclain2@us.army.mil.

Retired Redstone commander dies in Virginia April 4

Retired Lt. Gen. Gus Cianciolo, who served as commander of Redstone and the then Missile Command from 1988-89, died April 4 in Fairfax County, Va. He was 75.

Cianciolo was born March 11, 1936 in Covington, Ky., and graduated from Xavier University in 1958. He went on to earn his master's at the University of Southern California.

He was commissioned as an Army officer in 1959 and served more than 33 years. He was the Multiple Launch Rocket System project manager at Redstone from August 1982 to October 1983.

Cianciolo commanded Redstone Arsenal and MICOM from July 13, 1988 to Oct. 6, 1989. He culminated his service as the military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for research, development and acquisition.

Upon retiring he settled in Alexandria, Va., working with Cypress International and later the SPECTRUM Group where he served as vice chairman of the board.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Sheila; daughter Teri and her husband Jim Henderson; son Marty; son Tony and his wife Erin; five grandchildren, Alex, Chris, Jenn, Dominic and Adriana;



**Retired Lt. Gen.
Gus Cianciolo**

brother Joe; and four sisters, Sue Hautz, Carol Held, Roseanne Brady and Diane Hood.

Cianciolo enjoyed all aspects of life, including his friendships, golf, aviation, and spending time with his grandchildren, never losing his positive outlook.

ADD

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“Students with ADD that is predominantly inattentive may progress all the way through school and be labeled as lazy, unmotivated, and disorganized,” Ferguson said. “Those are the people who may not know they have an attention problem well into adulthood. In fact, some may never know they have an Attention Defecit Disorder.”

Once they do figure it out, Serbia and Ferguson said, individuals find that they are quite the opposite of the perceptions people originally had for them.

“Most people with attention disorder are usually above average,” Serbia said. “They don’t think that they are, kids call themselves stupid because they’re not getting good grades, but they actually are usually very bright, and the fact that they’ve made it through school in spite of all this accentuates that fact because they’re learning on the fly.”

The sooner the disorder is treated, whether through medication, education or changes to the behavioral environment, the better to help individuals achieve the success they long for, but may not be able to attain if the disorder goes untreated.

“The earlier you treat them, the easier it is for them to comprehend that this is a problem that they have and they have to deal with, and so they actually do better in adolescence if they learn that, ‘This isn’t me, this isn’t just me who can’t sit still and is getting into trouble in school all the time, this is something that I have.’ They separate it from themselves,” Serbia said.

Parents must also recognize that it is not their fault if their child has an attention deficit disorder.

“Parents, especially if the child is hyperactive, become very frustrated and feel like it’s their failure that their child is not doing well,” Serbia said. “They need to also know that they’re not failures.”

Education, according to Ferguson, is one of the most powerful tools parents and individuals can use to cope with the disorder, in addition to medication. Today’s technology, like smart phones, can help individuals with attention disorder organize their thoughts so they can easily remember things and recall tasks.

Fox Army Health Center’s Behavioral Medicine Division is available to treat attention deficit disorders. For more information, visit the Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder website at www.chadd.org or contact Fox Army Health Center.

U.S.-friendly buys are big business

Directorate impacts nation's security in aviation and missile sales to allies

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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"Selling" the idea of foreign ownership of U.S. hardware is easy in the worldwide market. The reputation of high quality missile and aviation systems combined with the best technical, maintenance, training and logistics support makes the Army's equipment a popular commodity among U.S. allies.

But when it comes down to the nitty-gritty of a U.S.-friendly purchase – solidifying working relationships with foreign governments, negotiating pricing and contracts, obtaining equipment, working the details of training and system support, delivering equipment on time and providing technical and maintenance support after the acquisition – the employees of the Aviation and Missile Command's Security Assistance Management Directorate must be "jacks of all trades" to turn a foreign military sale into reality.

"It's a complex business because we have to blend in our work with what the program managers do and what acquisition does in supporting the security assistance mission," said Jeff Young, the new director of SAMD. "We are part of the security assistance enterprise to manage foreign military sales cases, with one foot in the aviation and missile materiel enterprise and one foot in the security assistance enterprise. We can't bring to fruition our activities without the help of the program managers, acquisition community and Security Assistance Command."

A lot of what SAMD can do to support the acquisition requests of foreign allies depends on the military platform that is being considered for purchase.

"The program manager is responsible for acquisition for the Army's mission," Young said. "Main systems that are in the program manager's product line become the focal point of our work. We coordinate foreign military sales contracts based on those product lines and we work with other life cycle management commands to get all the ancillary product lines (in support of the main product line) on contract and on an integrated master time line that meets what the customer is expecting."

Since taking over the management of SAMD in September, Young, a retired colonel, has been on the front lines of AMCOM's

foreign military sales cases. All Army materiel enterprises – such as AMCOM, the Tank-Automotive Armament Command and the Communications-Electronics Command – have SAMD organizations, and all of them work in support of both their command and the Security Assistance Command, which implements approved Army security assistance programs, including foreign military sales to eligible foreign governments from development to execution, financial management, accounting and closure. The command manages about 4,600 foreign military sales cases each year valued at \$118 billion.

AMCOM's SAMD draws in significant foreign military sales numbers, making it one of the largest contributors to the overall Security Assistance Command goal of providing military systems to assist foreign allies in the defense of their borders and their country's freedom. In fiscal 2010, SAMD managed \$4 billion in new foreign military sales cases. Halfway through fiscal year 2011, SAMD has initiated \$5.7 billion in foreign military sales cases, and is expected to exceed \$10 billion for the fiscal year.

Yet, overall, the power of SAMD can be deceiving. Its 280 employees are scattered, taking up shop within program management offices to provide the best support to allied governments. Three divisions of SAMD employees are located with missile systems programs, while another three divisions are located with aviation systems programs. Many SAMD employees work directly with government officials overseas. It's an organization that has centralized planning and policy with decentralized management and execution.

"We have chosen to co-locate our SAMD case managers in program management shops to achieve synergy," Young said. "For example, with the Jordanian Black Hawk case, we have our SAMD case manager working alongside Black Hawk engineering, logistic and acquisition people who already have the Black Hawk under a production contract for the U.S. Army."

"By working the U.S. contract and the Jordanian case at the same time, we can economically order quantity at a higher level. We build foreign military sales Black Hawks to a green (Army) configuration alongside normal Army unit Black Hawks. At the end of the line, it splits, with different packages and different modifications going on each of the aircraft."

Leading a geographically disbursed organization can be difficult, Young said, but it's the best type of organization for both the success of SAMD's programs and its employees.

"Successful employees have a career program that gives them experience in mul-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Jeff Young, a retired colonel who served as the Aviation and Missile Command's chief of staff from April 2009 to August 2010, now serves as the director of AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate. SAMD is responsible for managing foreign military sales.

iple systems and at multiple levels," Young said. "That kind of experience makes our employees better at what they do, whether they are working on aviation or missile systems foreign military sales cases."

"Our employees have to know a little bit about a lot – a little engineering, programatics, logistics, training and a good bit of acquisition. Employees have to be a mile deep in case development, writing and management. They are the subject matter experts in the security assistance apparatus."

Young describes SAMD employees as "dual citizens in two lands."

"We're equally comfortable talking to a program manager about original equip-

ment and understanding the exact requirements of a foreign country," he said.

Currently, Young, too, is dual-hatted. While he leads SAMD as its director, he is also the program manager for non-standard equipment. The focus of non-standard equipment is to provide foreign allies with missile and aviation systems that are effective and available, but no longer in the Army's troop base.

For example, the Hawk missile system was removed from the Army's inventory in the '80s. But it is still an active system in 16 countries. Those countries have joined together in a cooperative fair share sustainment program, which allows them to share costs for upgrades in support and for dynamic component rebuilds.

SAMD cases also affect the strategic plans of foreign governments.

"We've got some one-year programs where we are looking for an immediate impact, where we want to have an immediate impact on a region. These programs usually are intended to counter terrorism," Young said.

"You can't procure a system in a year. But, you can take older systems not in the Army inventory anymore – the Hawk, for example, or Huey helicopters – and you can have an immediate impact. These older systems provide an economically affordable platform for a developing country that has an immediate need."

When Young stepped into the SAMD director position, he came in as a manager who had assisted in guiding SAMD's success from the AMCOM executive level. As AMCOM's chief of staff until mid-2010, Young was familiar with the external workings of SAMD.

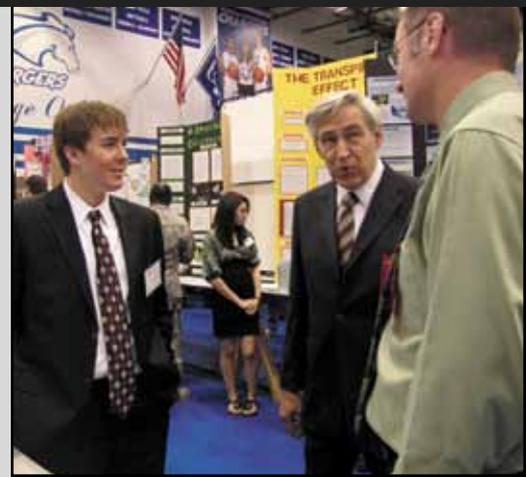
"I had learned where the problem areas were. But I didn't know how those problem areas were necessarily worked."

See Young on page 29

Photo by Jo Anita Miley

Science fair

Lynn Helms, center, a civil engineer with the Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville's Engineering Directorate, interviews a student during the 2011 Alabama Science and Engineering Fair April 1-2 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. Helms, a senior judge for the event, reviewed more than 150 science projects on display. Helms is part of the Huntsville Center's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math educational outreach program.



Security assistance managers receive defense update

By **MICHELLE HARLAN**

Army Security Assistance Command public affairs

A cross section of 51 Redstone Arsenal employees from the security assistance community attended a five-day course on Security Assistance Management for CONUS programs, taught by a mobile education team from the Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management.

The high visibility of security assistance community programs located on Redstone and a mandate from the secretary of defense to achieve a 95 percent training "High Priority Performance Goal" for the work force by the end of fiscal 2011 led to discussions of bringing the SAM-C course to Huntsville. The logistics of sending and scheduling that many professionals from one area to a residence course at DISAM's campus in Ohio was not feasible in one year. Since several organizations on Redstone are directly involved with foreign military sales, there was a local need to offer the course, according to Brig. Gen. Christopher Tucker, commander of the Army Security Assistance Command.

The SAM-C course is comprised of online training and a week of classroom train-



Photo by Michelle Harlan

Brig. Gen. Christopher Tucker, commander of the Army Security Assistance Command, addresses students during the Security Assistance Management for CONUS programs course.

ing. Students taking the course are mid-level management working on contracts supporting U.S. Security Assistance/Security Cooperation programs. Prior to the class, students must complete Level I and Level II training requirements under the Security Cooperation Workforce Database. The SAM-C, a Level III class, provides an overview of security assistance (selling of and training on equipment) and selected topics of the secu-

ity cooperation program.

"After successful completion of the course, security assistance professionals will be qualified to do their job as a country program manager or country case manager," Gale Fenwick, USASAC training manager, said.

Personnel from USASAC, AMCOM, PEO Missiles and Space, PEO Aviation and MDA were represented in the class.

"There are so many organizations here and Redstone is key to the security cooperation effort," Bob Van Horn, assistant professor with DISAM, said. "Redstone is a very important part of the security assistance world, and we're lucky to have different skill sets and functions in this class, from logistics and acquisition to

training and finance."

Bringing a diverse group of professions together helps students have an understanding and appreciation of all facets involved in the FMS process.

"There are so many technicalities to our business," Tucker said. "Attending the SAM-C course makes you (the student) better at representing the U.S. in FMS."

Students are encouraged to participate in the class through discussions and group exercises.

"This course is not passive. If you are not active and engaging the instructors or fellow classmates, you won't get out of the class what you should," Van Horn said. "We want students to have an enhanced understanding of the bigger picture."

Courtesy photo

Still serving

Veteran and military retiree wife Becky Miller of Ardmore, Tenn., meets Florida's Rep. Allen West, a retired lieutenant colonel, at a gathering March 31 in Washington, D.C.



Military brings patriotism to festival

Spirit of America event to honor local veterans

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

DECATUR – The Soldiers, Marines, sailors and seaman who defend the U.S. flag throughout the world and those who support them will take center stage this year at the Fourth of July Spirit of America Festival in Decatur when a new award is presented to recognize the contributions, suffering and deprivation military families endure so that their servicemember can serve in the armed forces.

The new award, announced at an April 5 Spirit of America Festival news conference at Decatur City Hall, is especially poignant for who it is named after – retired Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry and his wife Brenda.

The Huntsville couple will, in fact, be the first recipients of the CSM John and Brenda Perry Award for Support for Military Families when it is presented during the 45th annual Spirit of America Festival at Decatur's Point Mallard Park. They will be among five individuals recognized with four awards during a Fourth of July ceremony that precedes the festival's fireworks show.

"As we celebrate these patriots that walk among us, we also celebrate the Fourth of July with lots of fun activities. But it's the awards ceremony that really defines us and sets us apart as a festival," festival president Melinda Dunn said. "This is the focal point for the festival."

The theme for this year's festival is "I Pledge Allegiance," a theme that "honors those individuals who have pledged their

allegiance to the country by service and sacrifice," she said.

The new support for military families award is presented in a year that marks both the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War (March 23, 1961, is the date of the first American casualties from an intelligence-gathering aircraft shot down over central Laos). The award was established by the Spirit of America Festival board to recognize a person or group that has done the most for military families, said awards chairman Dave Carney.

The Perry couple have supported Soldiers and families since 9/11.

"Brenda prepared families for mobilization while John prepared Soldiers," Carney said, adding they became the primary support for their son Chad's Reserve unit – the 926th Combat Engineering Battalion – when its 140 Soldiers deployed to Afghanistan. The couple spearheaded efforts in support of the battalion's families, including purchasing groceries and providing child care.

Since 9/11, the Perrys have been instrumental in the annual Operation Christmas Bear program that provides an afternoon of holiday activities for the children of deployed Soldiers and Army civilians, and the Madison Cheer Brigade that provides financial support and gifts for impoverished military families during Christmas. Perry has also served as president of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

"It's truly a great honor for Brenda and I to stand in front of you," Perry said at the press conference, which included an audience of media, family and friends and Spirit of America board members.

"Yeah, we did all those things that Dave said we did, but at the time it was just part of the program. We weren't looking for recognition. When you have 140 families affected by a deployment, you can't think about yourself. You've got to think about those families."

In the spirit of the award, Perry also recognized a military family at the podium, presenting a two-star Blue Star banner to Tami Reist of Moulton. Reist's two sons are serving in the Navy. Her oldest son, Clint, is stationed in Hawaii and had to quickly leave the island with other seaman on a barge to avoid the tsunami that occurred in connection with the March 11 earthquake in Japan.

"It's the young people in uniform that are really doing the sacrifice and their families, too,"



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Retired Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry and his wife, Brenda, thank the Spirit of America Festival board for honoring them with a new award that is also named after them. The couple will be honored with the CSM John and Brenda Perry Award for Support for Military Families at the Spirit of America Festival at Decatur's Point Mallard Park on the Fourth of July.

Perry said.

The Spirit of America Festival board also announced the recipients of its other four awards at the press conference. Col. Terry Thomas, who is retired from the Alabama National Guard's 142nd Signal Brigade, formerly of Decatur, and who now serves as the senior JROTC instructor at Albertville High School, will be the recipient of the Barrett C. Shelton Freedom Award. Since 1980, the award has been presented annually to honor an Alabamian for outstanding service to the community and state.

After 9/11, Thomas assisted with the deployment of three National Guard units from 18 sites across the state, ensuring the units were fully staffed, medically fit, and fully trained and equipped with mission essential equipment. Thomas also deployed in 2005-06.

In accepting the recognition, Thomas thanked his wife, Jackie, who "had to endure many hardships. Wives like Jackie have to endure sickness, deaths in the family, wrecked cars and things that go wrong around the house, and we're always deployed. Without wives like her we would not have been able to do what we've done."

He also thanked God and his church family.

"It is truly an honor to be nominated for this award," Thomas said. "We've not done anything. It's just service. That's what we do."

Vietnam War veteran Joe Bongiovanni, who served with the Marines and is known for his "Dancing in the Streets"

commercial for Sierra Toyota of Decatur, will be the recipient of the Humanitarian Award, which is presented to an individual or group that have contributed to the betterment of life, health and welfare of mankind.

"He's never stopped serving his country. He is especially dedicated to the plight of those serving in the armed services," Carney said.

As the chairman of the Semper Fi Community Task Force, Bongiovanni oversees programs that bring wounded warriors and their spouses to North Alabama for rest and relaxation.

"I dedicate this award to all the proud men and women who have served our country," Bongiovanni said.

"The greatest generation often refers to World War II. But I often think the greatest generation is the generation we have now ... These young men and women serve unselfishly as volunteers. They are proud, committed to the mission, and committed to serving our country and keeping it free."

The final recipient announced at the press conference was retired Marine Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, who will receive the Audie Murphy Patriotism Award, which is presented to an outstanding American patriot or group that best exemplifies the true "Spirit of America."

Libutti, who now lives in the Huntsville area, received the Silver Star, the third highest combat award, for his service in Vietnam. His career has also included service as chief of New York City's counterterrorism bureau.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Spirit of America Festival awards chairman Dave Carney, left, is proud of the recognition the festival's awards program is giving to the military. With Carney are award recipients, from left, retired Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry and his wife Brenda, retired Alabama National Guard Col. Terry Thomas and Vietnam veteran Joe Bongiovanni.

UAH moonbuggy charges to second in competition

By KAYLA BULLOCK
For the Rocket

The 18th annual Great Moonbuggy Race held April 1-2 was a great success. The University of Alabama-Huntsville placed second overall in the college division with a four minute, 19 second race time right behind University of Humacao in Puerto Rico with a 3:41.

The competition was steep this year with many college buggies racing with a raw time in the 3:30 range. Any buggy that made it through this rough terrain containing lunar-like obstacles such as "craters," sand to simulate the soil on the moon and rock obstacles should be proud of their design.

UAH started off strong holding the first place position at the end of the first day with a race time of 4:19 as their total time. Going into the second day, UAH had to be on the starting line at 7:30 a.m. for their second race to try to maintain their first place position. At the beginning of the race, they were racing much faster than the day before raising the bar for the competitors following. They had shaved off 16 seconds, turning what was deemed "Deadman's Corner" before they traveled up near the "craters."

Upsetting news set in when UAH's Miranda Nelson's chain came off causing her to lose all of her power. Luckily her chain popped right back on allowing her to regain power only to be surprised by



Photo by Sherry Nin

The University of Alabama-Huntsville moonbuggy team includes, from left in back row, Willard Hill, Zack Cavender, James Collett, Paul Howell, John Nix and John Hobbs. The drivers are Michael Patterson and Miranda Nelson.

the stripping of her main gears. This left the male front driver, Michael Patterson, alone in pushing through many of the following obstacles with Nelson searching for a working gear. Patterson pushed hard through the rough terrain and ended up stripping the front gears as well. Luckily Nelson had found a working gear by then.

UAH's team made it to the finish line with their moonbuggy still in one piece, which is an accomplishment in itself, but did not gain a better race time with all the gear problems during their second race.

UAH's moonbuggy team consisted

of Patterson, team lead and front rider, Nelson and fellow engineering students Zack Cavender, James Collett, Willard Hill, John Hobbs, Paul Howell and John Nix. The UAH Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering faculty adviser Dr. Christina Carmen was supportive of the team all along the way.

Many bystanders curiously stopped by the pits to see what UAH's team focused on to land second place. Team members explained that new axles, locking mechanism, seats and steering were their main focus. The previous axles had been welded onto the moonbuggy making it impossible to remove the wheels so the team designed new axles that were bolted on instead. The improved axles are stainless steel and stronger than the previous axles.

The team also designed a new locking mechanism that allows for faster assembly time; this new locking mechanism allowed for the fastest assembly time in the whole college division. The seats were designed as bucket seats made for rider comfort. UAH designed their seats out of carbon fiber with 10 layers on the seat and backrest with 30 layers in the bottom corners which made the seats lightweight and durable. The steering was changed from a rack and pinion to a linkage system which was a simpler design that allowed for tighter steering. The updated steering increased the performance and safety of the moon-

buggy. These key improvements to the UAH moonbuggy led the team to win the System Safety Award where judges look to see that safety was an integral part of their design process not just an afterthought.

The next item on UAH's agenda is to spread awareness of the annual NASA Great Moonbuggy Races. As a team, they plan to attend the Monte Sano Space Week coming up April 22. Their goal is to show children that they can excel in their chosen field of study and to find a passion and go for it. They will educate the students on how the UAH moonbuggy was designed and promote furthering their education to the college level. They plan to stay in touch with many of the high school teams which they made contact with at the competition to ensure they have the opportunities in competing at the highest levels in upcoming NASA Great Moonbuggy competitions. Many of the high schools have little funding and UAH plans to offer assistance in the engineering process to gear their efforts in the most productive and cost effective manner.

UAH is also going to become integrated with Huntsville Center for Technology as an outreach venture to keep the moonbuggy as a high priority project for their students. Huntsville Center for Technology ranked fourth and sixth with their two moonbuggies in the high school division showing great team spirit and team unity.

Young

continued from page 26

he said. "It takes six to eight months to fully understand the internal workings of a large organization like SAMD.

"I am learning something new about this organization every single day, about how the security assistance community works, how cases are written and managed, and how the overall timelines for engineering, acquisition, training, logistics and other functional areas related to a foreign military sale are properly arranged so that a contract can come to fruition."

Young is grateful to Dr. Tom Pieplow, former SAMD director who retired and now is a professor at Athens State University. Pieplow, he said, "left a rich legacy in the way he built the people of SAMD. He had a real vision of how to build the workforce within SAMD. He understood our demographics – our age and skill levels – and how we acquire, train and integrate our employees. It takes several years before you have a fully trained and functional security assistance specialist."

Young does see opportunities for improvement as demand for U.S. aviation and

missile systems grows among foreign allies, and the U.S. security assistance goals evolve with the changing world environment.

"We want to look across the spectrum of aviation and missile programs and take the best practices out of each individual program management office and then template those across all of SAMD so we are more standardized in how we do business, and in how we fulfill our individual roles and responsibilities," Young said.

"To ensure that we continue Tom Pieplow's legacy, we want to continue to invest in our most precious resource – our people – and develop them professionally and personally, and challenge them with professional growth opportunities."

When it comes to working on big dollar contracts with foreign governments – such as the \$6.5 billion Patriot missile contract purchase by the United Arab Emirates or the \$27 billion multi-system aviation case with Saudi Arabia – SAMD must rely on the expertise of the Contracting Command-Redstone, such as Cathy Dickens, director of contracting for AMCOM; and Col. Dan Cottrell along with contracting command employees.

"Contracting employees are the unsung heroes of foreign military sales.

They are the last ones to get contracting actions and they never fail," Young said.

But Young said SAMD's job isn't all about selling military platforms to foreign allies.

"The work we do enables the State Department to achieve their strategic goals," he said. "The volume that we want to achieve is directly translatable to what the State's goals are with foreign governments.

"And, as the Army is decreasing its budget and looking for efficiencies, SAMD can have

a positive economic impact for the Army, and the missile and aviation industry."

As a 27-year veteran of the Army, Young said his leadership position with SAMD gives him the opportunity to continue to serve the Army and the nation.

"It's a lifestyle that becomes a part of you," he said. "This is a way that I can still be part of the Army and that I can still help Soldiers on a daily basis. I wasn't ready to retire. I still wanted a challenge. The nature of this work is something that I really enjoy."

Photo by Kari Hawkins

Outdoor open house

Alex Ray buys supplies from Frederick Anderson at Outdoor Recreation's general store during the open house Thursday. With them is business manager Tom Pyburn. Outdoor Recreation rents boats, recreational vehicles, camping equipment and other outdoor activity equipment. The Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation organization also provides campgrounds and picnic areas, trap and skeet ranges, hunting areas, a horse stable, mini-storage units, an RV park and swimming pools for the Redstone community. The Outdoor Recreation headquarters, on Patton Road just east of the Sparkman Center, is also home to the Hazard Snack Bar.



Win or Lose

HHC 59th reloads for last softball tournament



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Left center Travis Roop returns to the lineup for the Raise-up bunch.

Raise-up bunch defending title

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The 2011 softball tournament marks the anticipated end of troop sports at Redstone Arsenal.

Many of the Soldiers and Marines are leaving for Fort Lee, Va., under the 2005 base realignment and closure decisions. Sports director Gaylene Wilson originally planned to have one last softball season but there weren't enough units that could field teams.

So instead, the remaining troops have this year's tournament which is scheduled April 12-19 at Linton Field.

"I would say it's the end of the Commander's Cup league," Wilson said.

The five teams include defending troop champion HHC 59th, Headquarters & Alpha, Charlie Company, Bravo Company and the National Guard.

"I think we'll have our core back," HHC 59th left

center Travis Roop said. "But it's the whole secondary positions (that are open). If we can fill those, we should be fine."

The 59th's returnees include Roop and leftfielder Thomas Behling.

"It's going to be interesting," Behling said. "We lost a lot of people from this BRAC movement, so we'll see how we'll do."

The 59th is scheduled to play tonight at 6 against the winner of the Headquarters & Alpha vs. Charlie game which was scheduled April 12 at 6 p.m. Bravo was scheduled to face the National Guard on April 12 at 7.

The winners bracket semifinal is slated Thursday night at 6. Losers bracket games include tonight at 7, Thursday night at 7 and April 18 at 6 p.m.

The final for the double-elimination tournament is scheduled April 19 at 6 p.m., with a second game at 7 if necessary.

Last year HHC 59th finished 10-6 and won the military championship. The Raise-up bunch outscored their first three opponents by a combined 50-4 before falling 16-3 to the National Guard for their first loss.

Unit-level golf title goes to HHC 59th

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

HHC 59th had a good Friday on the golf course.

The 59th won the unit-level title by outdueling 15 other foursomes in the annual Felix Milar Active Duty Post Golf Championship held Friday at the Links.

"It was a total team effort," the 59th's Rob Coppage said. His teammates were Joshua Doyle, Alex Bordelon and Michael Tilley.

The winners shot an 11-under 61 to finish four shots ahead of the 203rd MP Battalion from Athens with 65, and the National Guard with 66.

"That's the man right there," Bordelon said, referring to his teammate Tilley. "He carried us but all of us put something into it. He did great but the rest of us pulled it out."

"It was a team effort," Tilley said, "definitely a team effort."

Doyle agreed with his teammates.

"It was a team effort," Doyle said. "If somebody wasn't there, somebody else was there to pick him up."

The 203rd MP foursome included Jess Howard, Sam Dean, Danny Counce and Randy Ozbirn.

The National Guard team had Jake Wyatt, Fred Allen, Jeremy Hamilton and Rodney Henshaw.

Because most of the troops are leaving



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper presents the winners' trophies to HHC 59th golfers, from left, Rob Coppage, Alex Bordelon, Michael Tilley and Joshua Doyle.

for Fort Lee, Va., this will be the last unit-level golf championship. But the individual golfers' championship will continue annually, according to sports director Gaylene Wilson.

"Thank you to the Milar family," Wilson said, "and to the NCO Academy, Charlie Company and the Marines for providing scorers (at this year's event)."

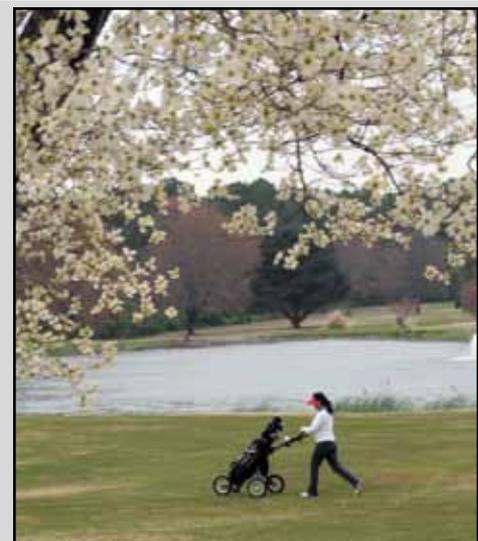
The other teams included Command and General Staff School (69); National Guard, 2nd Medical, Missile Defense Agency and Marines (all tied with 73); Charlie Company and 326th Chemical Company (both with 74); NCO Academy and 326th Chemical Company (both with 78); HHC 59th Munitions Training Department and HHC 59th (both with 79), Command and General Staff School (87) and CGSS (95).



Photos by Ellen Hudson

Calm before the storm

With thunderstorms in the afternoon's forecast, a few golfers like Eunja Anderson, right, try to play a few holes Monday morning, April 4, before the rain arrives at the Links.



Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Golf tournament

Redstone Test Center will hold its annual Commander's Cup Golf Tournament on May 13 at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Hampton Cove. All proceeds will benefit the Military Child Education Coalition. Sponsorships and team slots are available now. Contact Sherry Hilley 842-6715, sherry.hilley@us.army.mil, or Mike Krause, mike.krauseSR@us.army.mil.

Basketball benefit

Buckhorn High School will hold its inaugural 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament April 29-30. There will be multiple age divisions, three indoor gyms, slam dunk and 3-point contest. The cost is \$40 per team, and a portion of the proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. Registration on-site that afternoon or at any Jack's location. For more information, call 683-5439 or go to 977thezone.com and look in "events."

Fishing trail

National Bass Fishing Trail, Alabama North District, serving the Redstone Arsenal and the Tennessee Valley area, is a tournament trail for the weekend angler. NBT offers a low-cost entry fee and membership with a high percentage payout. No partner needed, this is a solo trail. However, junior division is also included for anglers 17 and under. Juniors fish with the adult that brings them, but against the other junior anglers. New members, non-boaters, large and small boats and juniors always welcome. Alabama North will hold its next

tournament Saturday at Guntersville Lake, at the Waterfront ramp. For more information, visit nbtbass.com, call Donnie Story 777-3428 or email donnie@nbtbass.com.

Boating safety

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will provide a Boating Safety six-week course Thursday through May 26 each Thursday night at 6:30 at the Garrison Safety Office, building 3687. Each session lasts about two and a half hours. The course is designed for all boaters and others interested in the safe handling of watercraft. There is a fee for the instructional manual only. For more information, call Tom Kunhart home 830-6621, cell phone 527-4475 or email tkunhart@knology.net.

Judo club

The Huntsville Judo Club is looking for members to join – brand new or experienced, young or old, male or female. Members practice at The Matrix at 3228 Leeman Ferry Road on Sundays from 3-5 p.m., Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Thursdays 6:30-7:30 p.m. The first hour on Sundays and Tuesdays is more dedicated for children, though adults are still welcome, and Thursdays are for adults. Cost is \$40 per month for adults, discounts for families and children. For more information, call Bryan Hurley 509-5980 or Art Dawkins 603-0464.

Bass tournament

The second annual Homeland Security Bass Tournament is April 23 at Ingalls Boat Harbor in Decatur. First place is \$1,000. Retirees and veterans are also invited and may sign up now. For more information,

call David Whitman or Ed Whitman at The Boathouse 652-3446 or 337-0909.

Swim camp

A Spring Fun Swim Camp, for youth ages 6-18 with mental or physical challenges, will be held April 18-22 from 5-6 p.m. at the Dr. Richard Showers Sr. Pool. Cost is \$3 per day. For more information or to register, call Brian Winston 427-5780 or email special.coord@huntsvilleal.gov.

Bowling tournament

An AER Bowling Tournament will be held April 21 at 1 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. This will be a no-tap tournament; and nine is as good as a strike. Cost is \$15, with at least \$10 going directly to AER. Trophies and medals will be awarded for top three male and female games and series. This is not a team event. To register call Paul Sieja 842-9408 by April 19 or email paul.sieja@us.army.mil.

Association golf

Redstone Arsenal's Sergeants Major Association will hold its second annual Golf Tournament on May 12 at 8 a.m. at the Links. There are still some sponsorship and team slots available. The tournament is open to everyone that has FMWR access and their guest. Sign up at the Links from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through April 23, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 509-2473 or e-mail reginald.battle@us.army.mil.

Golf benefit

Health Establishments at Local Schools will hold its second annual "HEALS on the Green Pro-Am Golf Tourney" May 2 at The Ledges. The shotgun starts are 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cost is \$250 per person or \$1,000 per team. Sponsors, players and volunteers are wanted. For more informa-

tion, call Lauren Mosley 428-7560 or e-mail Lauren.Mosley@healsinc.org.

Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

The Contemporary Christian Worship Service is held each Sunday night at Bicentennial Chapel. Fellowship begins at 5 p.m. followed by Bible study at 5:30. The actual service starts at 6:15. Bicentennial Chapel is located on Goss Road, building 376. For more information, call the Garrison Unit Ministry Team 842-2176.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel meet each Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at Bicentennial Chapel for friendship, fellowship and Bible study. The lunchtime Bible study meets at 11:30 a.m. The Korean sisters begin their study at 10:30 a.m. There is some child-care available with proper registration. For more information, call Laura Coffey 585-2547.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Community Activity Center. Breakfast is available at the Java Cafe. 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 information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 859-3784.

See Announcements on page 32



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Picnic fun

Maj. John Stone joins his family for a picnic lunch Thursday at Outdoor Recreation. With him are his wife, Mandi, and baby Israel along with Lily, 7 (standing next to Stone); Molly, 6; Jack, 2 (foreground); and Heidi, 4 (next to her mom). Stone, who works for the Space and Missile Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and his family are new to Redstone. They visited Outdoor Recreation to see what the organization has to offer.



Rocket Announcements

Industrial security training

Mid-South Chapter of the Society of Industrial Security Professionals will hold its 12th annual Training Seminar on Thursday at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. This full-day event will feature several government and industry security executives. Government agencies and security service suppliers will exhibit an array of complementary materials and media products. Registration is \$90. For more information, call Stan Miller 651-7118. Program content and online registration are available at <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1257997705%5D>.

Men's ministries

Men's Ministries, "addressing the needs of men and planting seeds for spiritual growth in Christ Jesus," meets every second or third Saturday – for exact monthly date, call Harry Hobbs at 425-5307 – at 8 a.m. at the Redstone Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for \$5. For more information, call Hobbs 425-5307.

Aviation conference

The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement's "Army Aviation Exhibition and Conference" is scheduled June 6-8 at Redstone Arsenal. It will bring together Army leaders and aviation experts to address program updates including Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Attack Scout, Apache, Cargo, Utility and Fixed Wing. For more information, visit www.ArmyAviationEvent.com.

Test week

Test Week 2011 will launch June 13-17 at the Von Braun Center's South Hall. This DoD-sponsored forum focuses on the issues of Test and Evaluation. Information can be found on www.testweek.org. Registration fee is \$425; visit Course Catalog F113TW in

TIP. The conference will hold tutorials, technical program, TST 303 certification, exhibits and other events. For more information, call event coordinator Sherry Hilley 842-6715 or e-mail sherry.hilley@us.army.mil.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Valerie Cortez 313-9753. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 5301, second floor, in room 1217. For information call Caville Blake 876-7351. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 8721 Madison Boulevard in Madison. For information call Margrit Carr 313-1952.

Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will meet May 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Cost is \$15. The feature is "Inexpensive Ways to Refresh Your Home Decor" by Kathy Blades. Music will be provided by Camilla Pruitt, community vocalist. Frances Lynch of Knoxville will speak on "Importance of Right Role Models." Free child care for age 6 and younger is provided off site. Reservations for lunch or child care are due by May 2. Call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339. HCWC is an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, a support ministry for military wives and other women.

Civil War round table

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks

Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Dr. James Sasser, a native of North Carolina who taught American history for 40 years at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, will speak about Gen. Robert E. Lee. Chicken dinner buffet starts at 5:30 for \$7.95. Visitors are welcome. For information call 539-5287.

Air defenders

Air Defense Artillery Association, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, will hold a spring social April 27 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Firehouse Pub skybox. This is free to corporate and individual ADAA members. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be provided. For information, e-mail corby.dellarocco@smdc.army.mil.

Tricare briefings

Humana Military Healthcare Services, the Tricare managed care support contractor for the South Region, holds informational briefings on Tricare every Monday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Tricare Service Center, Fox Army Health Center, second floor.

Small business input

The U.S. Small Business Administration will bring its national Small Business Jobs Act Listening Tour to the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus Friday. The UAH Small Business Development Center and the District SBA Office are coordinating the event to be held in the Chan Auditorium, located in the College of Business Administration Building. The program begins at 9 a.m., and is free to all participants. Meet with leaders from SBA, give input on new regulations, and learn how you

can take advantage of new tools coming out of the Small Business Jobs Act that became law last fall. The SBA's office of Government Contracting and Small Business Development is seeking participants' input on regulations, and how SBA can help grow local businesses and create jobs. To learn more on Friday's Small Business Jobs Act Listening Tour, visit <http://www.sba.gov/jobsacttour/sessions>. To register, go to <http://www.sba.gov/jobsacttour/huntsville>.

Space development

The National Space Society and its host chapter, the Huntsville Alabama L5 Society, are bringing the 30th International Space Development Conference to Huntsville May 18-22 at the Von Braun Center and Embassy Suites. The annual event invites entrepreneurs, engineers, scientists, politicians and private citizens who are interested in creating a space-faring civilization "From the Ground Up," which is the theme of the conference. For more information on calls for papers or sponsorship, volunteer, or trade show opportunities, contact ISDC2011@gmail.com. The conference website is www.isdc2011.org.

Weight watchers

Weight Watchers at Work meetings are held Thursdays at the Sparkman Center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Weight Watchers new PointsPlus program makes it easy to lose weight without that dreaded four letter word 'diet,'" a prepared release said. "The Weight Watchers PointsPlus program works because it's not a diet. You'll learn how to eat right and live healthy. The PointsPlus program is

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Photo by Deborah Ward/Fort Greely Public Affairs

Alaska visit

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner of SMDC/ARSTRAT stand March 30 with Fort Greely's fire department and fire chief Jim Degnan to present the team with a certificate of appreciation for their dedication and selfless service. The Fort Greely Fire Department won Fire Department of the Year (Small Department) 2010. With 43 firefighters, three structural engines, two crash vehicles, one medium rescue with hazardous material and decontamination trailers, two wildland firefighting apparatuses, technical rescue equipment two 6x6 wheelers and two snow machines, the department helps to protect 7,200 acres on Fort Greely, Alaska, 653,000 adjacent acres of mountainous terrain and the Missile Defense Agency's interceptor missile emplacement that stands ready to defend all 50 states.



Courtesy photo

Hunter display

A Hunter unmanned aircraft vehicle static display is being mounted onto its platform by Martin Road. Maj. Calvin Lane, previous assistant product manager and now the Program Executive Office for Aviation's executive officer, began plans to bring a Hunter for display on Redstone in early 2010. The aircraft, tail number 001, was delivered to Redstone in late September. Structural design for the mount was finished in early October, and the display was erected April 6. The MQ-5B Hunter has been the workhorse of UAVs since 1991 and has paved the way for other UAV systems to be developed and fielded. A dedication ceremony is planned May 6 at 10 a.m. at the display site.

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based on the latest nutritional science, and factors in the way your body actually processes food. Combined with the proven advantages of the Weight Watchers approach, the program helps you make healthy choices for long term success." For more information, call Pat Sandy 313-5655 or e-mail pat.sandy@us.army.mil.

Missiles conference

Under the theme "Better Affordability and Operational Integration," the 13th annual AUSA Missiles Conference runs April 25-26 in Von Braun Center's East Hall. The conference provides an open forum for the presentation of current and future Army tactical missile programs in a collaborative government and industry environment. It also provides senior government and industry project managers, and their staffs, opportunities to meet and interact with their counterparts. Register online at <http://www.ausaredstone.org>.

Engineer society

Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers, will hold its monthly meeting April 21 at 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn adjacent to Madison Square Mall. Cost of the lunch is \$15, payable at the door. For reservations, email dbacon@shearerassociates.us.

Admin professionals

The members of the Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals invite you to lunch April 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, building 3711, to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day/Week. Membership in the Redstone Arsenal Chapter is open to government and contractor administrative personnel. IAAP members include administrative assistants, executive secretaries, office coordinators, information specialists, budget analysts, program analysts and other related administrative professional positions. To join IAAP, membership dues for the Alabama Division (\$20) and Redstone Arsenal Chapter (\$5) will be waived during the last two weeks of April for new members joining during Administrative Professionals Week. The international dues are \$103 annually with a one-time processing fee of \$15. RSVP by noon Thursday by calling 313-3602 or email christina.mcclain2@us.army.mil.

Organizational performance

The Huntsville Colloquium on Organizational Performance Optimization will be held Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at PPT Solutions Inc., 4825 University Square, Suite 6. To register, email tina.price@pptsinc.com.

Romance readers

Bestselling author Kerrelyn Sparks will speak at the 14th annual Romance Readers' Luncheon, sponsored by Heart of Dixie, the

North Alabama chapter of Romance Writers of America, on April 30 at 11 a.m. at the Von Braun Center. Registration is \$25 and must be received by April 15. For more information and registration forms, call 586-5962 or visit www.heartofdixie.org.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, will hold its monthly luncheon Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Wesley Hall. This month's topic will be "What you should know about Long Term Care" presented by Eric Jackson. For ticket information, call Audra Edwards 313-2382 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Miscellaneous Items

Civilian deployment

DA civilian volunteers are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, operations, logistics and automation, among others. The new personnel deployment website is at the AMCOM homepage or <https://apdw.redstone.army.mil> for your use. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM or AMC. Contractors cannot be considered. Department of Army civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and visit the deployment website or call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Nicole Massey 876-2082. Contractors and others interested can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Flight training

If you're interested in becoming an Army aviator, you can apply for the Warrant Officer Flight Training Program by calling 539-6511.

Motorcycle safety

Army policy has changed concerning the motorcycle safety course. Military personnel are still required to complete the motorcycle safety course in order to register their motorcycles on Redstone. But current DoD and Army policy is stating now that officials do not check civilian personnel or contractors to see if they have taken an MSF course or have taken such to register their motorcycle or to drive on post. The assumption is that if they have a motorcycle endorsement on their license they have been properly trained. In other words, civilians and contractors must have the motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license when registering their motorcycles. There are two Motorcycle Safety Foundation courses offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space-available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. To enroll in motor-

cycle training, e-mail MSF rider coach Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net. The Garrison Safety contact is Keith Coates at 876-3383 or keith.coates@us.army.mil.

Surplus sale

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration website. Go to www.gsauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama, and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Officer recruitment

Interested in being an Army officer? If you have completed a four-year college degree and are interested in the opportunities being an Army officer can provide, call 539-6511.

Fraud hotline

The Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency (USACIDC) has implemented a fraud hotline. It is designed to help you, the taxpayer, to report incidents of suspected fraud involving government contract companies, government employees or government agencies. If you suspect or know someone who either is committing, or has committed any type of fraud against the government on Redstone Arsenal, or surrounding area, report it by calling 876-9457. You do not have to leave your name - all information will remain confidential and anonymous. Please leave enough information so any followup investigation can be completed.

Education test center

Taking online college courses? Need a proctor for your exams? If so, call the Redstone Arsenal Testing Center 876-9764 for more information. They can proctor exams for most colleges. Proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community.

Prior service military

If you are prior service military without any military service obligation and are interested in joining the Army Reserve, call 1st Sgt. Brian May or Capt. Stacy Hopwood 539-6511.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is now open and accepting appointments. You may call 842-1040 to schedule an appointment. Federal and state returns are prepared and e-filed free of charge. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Its location is building 3489 at the corner of Zeus Road and Ajax Road. Visit <http://www.redstone.army.mil/legal/taxcenter.html>.

AER book sale

The AMCOM G-3/Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 18-29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, on

the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. They're accepting donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes until April 27. To donate items or for more information, call Brian Barry 876-8563.

Stepfamily seminar

The Bicentennial Chapel and Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program are co-hosting a StepFamily 911 Seminar on April 29 from 6-8:30 p.m. and April 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the chapel's Activity Room. There will be free child care at the Child Development Center next to the chapel. The presenters are Todd and Tammy Gangl. Pre-registration is required. Call ACS at 876-5397 or e-mail Denise English at wanda.english@us.army.mil.

Reserve openings

If you are an Army prior service (enlisted/officer) military member with a remaining military service obligation, are assigned to the Army Individual Ready Reserve, and interested in transferring to a local Army Reserve unit, call Sgt. 1st Class Ramiro Torres 665-6557 or Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Burley 374-9659 to discuss available positions and benefits of serving with a Reserve unit.

Chapter scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association will present one \$1,000 scholarship in 2011. The application deadline is May 1. For details, eligibility and the application form, visit www.redstonewarrants.com.

Indoor flying

Grace United Methodist Church, 2113 Old Monrovia Road, welcomes pilots and spectators of all ages to its gym for indoor small electric radio-controlled airplane and helicopter flying from 1-4 p.m. April 24. For more information on this free event, call Jim Marconnet 772-3946, email jmarconnet@gmail.com or visit <http://tinyurl.com/GFFF2011>.

Free wedding dresses

Army Community Service's Hearts Apart program is working with a Huntsville dress boutique to provide free wedding dresses to active duty military-connected brides and wounded warrior military-connected brides. Winners of the dresses will be chosen through an essay writing contest. To enter the contest, military brides or their grooms should submit an essay answering the question "What is your love story and how did you meet?" The deadline is April 21. Application forms and directions for submission are available by contacting adaavidson@soldiersangels.org.

Charity car show

The seventh annual Charity Car Show, sponsored by Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners, is Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bridge Street Town Centre. It's open to all makes of cars, trucks and motorcycles. Registration is from 8-11:30 a.m. with awards at

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2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit local charities, including wounded warriors, Tut Fann Veterans Home, and Toys for Tots. Entry fee is \$20. For information call Ken Ille 828-5351.

Senior volunteers

Madison County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program is partnered with various non-profit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. RSVP recruits, places and trains individuals age 55 or older to fill community service needs. For more information about RSVP or volunteer opportunities, call director Pamela Donald 513-8290 or email at pdonald@seniorview.com.

Motorcyclists' benefit

Wingstock XI, to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities and Children's Hospital in Birmingham, will be held May 21-22 at 27 Berryhill Lane in Fayetteville, Tenn. Pull tabs from aluminum cans are collected to help cover the cost of families staying at the Ronald McDonald House while their children are being treated. The Dice Run begins at Halftime Bar and Grill on Highway 72 in Madison. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with the last bike out at 11. There will be music by Down Stroke and Prairie Wolf, biker games, a 50-50 raffle, and a chicken drop. For more information call Kenneth Kelly, president of the Lapdance Riders Club, 466-7801.

Boat ride

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will hold its 2011 boat ride, "Q-Rooze With the Qs," on June 11. The boat is the the Southern Belle Riverboat in Chattanooga. Cost is \$75 per person which includes, Bon Voyage Party at the Omega Center, bus transportation to and from Chattanooga, onboard beverages and light snacks, heavy hors d'oeuvres at the hotel prior to the cruise, and heavy hors d'oeuvres during the cruise. Reservations must be made by May 1. For more information or tickets, call Themika Sims 599-6612 or Gerald Vines 682-1071.

Children's ball

The Greater Huntsville Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc. will hold its second annual Pink, White and Blue Children's Ball at the Embassy Suites on Saturday. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m., and the ball and silent auction to include basic ballroom instruction for all children will begin at 7:30. All net proceeds will be donated back to the Madison County community and to the Jack and Jill of America foundation, the philanthropic arm of Jack and Jill of America Inc. Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$25 for children ages 3 to 10. For more information, email Belinda Savage-Edwards at bsavage-edwards@rehabneuro.us or call Candice Rucker-Tibbs 885-9708 ext. 237 or Irene Tucker 830-4404.

Corporate open house

LogiCore will hold a ribbon cutting and open house ceremony April 28 from 3-5 p.m. at its new corporate headquarters, 920 Explorer Boulevard, Suite B in Cum-

mings Research Park west. To RSVP, email rsvp@logicorehsv.com by April 21.

Pastor's appreciation

Little Elk M.B. Church will celebrate pastor Dr. Eugene English's 10th anniversary Sunday. The morning service will begin at 9 and the guest speaker is Minister Dee Dee Booker Lacey from Eagles' Nest Ministries in Huntsville. The second service will begin at 2 p.m. Rev. Damon Betts and the Little Zion Mass Choir will be in charge of this service. Dinner will be served. Everyone is invited. For more information, call program coordinator Bernadette Jones 479-1279.

Space for children

Youngsters are invited to 4-H Day on Saturday at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. For \$18 per person, you get: admission to the museum, one IMAX or 3D movie, hamburger box lunch, simulators, Discover Theater and guided tours. For more information, call JoSandra 721-7016 or 721-7218. A Space Food Workshop for ages 6-12 will be held Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to noon and 1-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members or \$5 with the museum admission. Call JoSandra 721-7016 or 721-7218.

Regiment commander

Lt. Col. Jimmy Bowie will relinquish command of the 4th Battalion, 321st Regiment, to Lt. Col. John Perrel in a ceremony April 30 at 2 p.m. at the Post Parade Field. RSVP by April 28 to Cameron Caddell 876-4074 or cameron.caddell@usar.army.mil.

Commissary news

The Commissary will be open Easter Sunday, April 24 from noon until 5 p.m.

Heritage ringers

The Heritage Ringers of Huntsville presents their annual spring concert May 2 at 7 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 607 Airport Road. There is no admission charge.

Family fun day

A free "Family Fun Day" will be held Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Children's Ministry of Southeast Church of the Nazarene, 2275 Cecil Ashburn Drive. There will be food and plenty of games, including a 22-foot slide, moon bounce, face painting, cake walk and more. For information call 881-3399.

NCO Academy finale

The Noncommissioned Officer Academy will hold a Colors Casing Ceremony on April 28 at the NCOA field directly behind Woodyard Hall, building 3329 on Mauler Road. The Ordnance Corps Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Sultan A. Muhammad will be the guest of honor as the NCO Academy bids farewell to Redstone Arsenal after more than 24 years of training NCOs. Graduation Hall will be open for all attendees to view a unique piece of history, as the walls of the hall are adorned with hundreds of class pictures, plaques and creative sculptures that student NCOs have donated to

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the academy over the many years of training there. If you know an active or retired Soldier that holds or held the MOS 89D, 89B, or any of the CMF94/63 specialties, chances are they have come through the NCO Academy at some point in their career, and their picture may still be hanging up in Graduation Hall. The Army Materiel Command Ceremonial Band is scheduled to provide musical support. Also in attendance will retire Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas M. Young, the first commandant who stood up the academy in 1987. As part of Base Realignment and Closure, the NCO Academy will be moving to the Army Logistics University at Fort Lee, Va. Training for the CMF 94 Senior Leaders Course is already being conducted at Fort Lee, and remaining courses are now or will soon be in their last iteration on Redstone Arsenal.

Quarterly retirements

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is scheduled June 28 at 4 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. To arrange for participation, call Sgt. Steven Griffin 876-7969 or Staff Sgt. Marcus Holder 876-7969 by June 3. A retirement ceremony is also scheduled Sept. 22.

Business assistance center

To better serve the needs of the growing number of veterans who want to start a new business or expand an existing one in north Alabama, the Women's Business Center of North Alabama has established the Veteran's Business Assistance Center. The VBAC provides training and resources to veterans in this region who are starting or growing small businesses. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 535-2038. WBCNA is located at the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce, 225 Church St.

Adventures at AMCOM

AMCOM's Educational Outreach Program will hold its second annual Adventures at AMCOM Summer Program for High School Students. Local area schools have been notified and all student applications will go through the school guidance counselors. This one-week summer program will be held June 20-24. This program will provide a learning experience for eighth-12th grade students to obtain an understanding of the organizations on Redstone Arsenal that support the Army while promoting teamwork, time management and presentation skills. The deadline to submit applications to school guidance counselors is April 22.

Arts update

The Friday night back dock concerts continue at the Lowe Mill Arts and Entertainment, 2211 Seminole Drive, with folky, bluegrass duo Mandolin Orange perform-

ing this Friday from 6-9 p.m. Admission is free but donations are accepted. For more information on this and other art oriented events, visit www.ourvalleyevents.com or www.artshuntsville.org.

Bring child to work day

Team Redstone employees with school-age children are encouraged to attend the 2011 Bring Your Child to Work Day, April 28 from 1-4 p.m. at the Airfield. This is for children ages 5 to 18. For more information, visit the website at https://ams8.redstone.army.mil/bctw/bctw_home.

Latin party

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo and Mother's Day at a Latin party April 30 from 9 p.m. until 1:45 a.m. at the American Legion, 2900 Drake Ave. Cover charge is \$10. For information call DJ Ed 651-9626.

Thrift shop

"Thanks to everyone who helped make our Saturday plant sale a huge success," the Thrift Shop staff said in a prepared release. The last day to consign Easter items is this Thursday. The staff will start accepting summer items for consignment April 19. Consignments are taken from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call the NO-LIST number at 881-6915 before stopping by. Hours of operation are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 to 5. The Thrift Shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road.

Japan fund-raiser

Help Japan by making paper cranes Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Jacobs Conference Center, 1500 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 100. The North Alabama Society of Women Engineers is teaming with Students Rebuild, DoSomething.org and Architecture for Humanity in this effort to help victims of the disaster in Japan. Learn about Japanese culture and the art of origami (traditional Japanese paper folding) while creating paper cranes for the earthquake victims. Students Rebuild will donate \$2 for each paper crane submitted. The money raised by these simple yet powerful gestures will be donated to Architecture for Humanity's reconstruction efforts in Japan. Once 100,000 cranes are submitted, they will be woven into an art installation—a symbolic gift to Japan from people around the globe. For more information, email AsukaYuyama@gmail.com.

Panoply's military night

Active duty military night at the Panoply Arts Festival will be held April 29 from 5-9 p.m. at Big Spring Park downtown. There will be free admission for all active duty military with current ID and their families to the Friday night festivities, which include six performing stages, the Global Village, more than a dozen free children's art activities and more.

**ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS
REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF Apr 6 2011	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?												
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U	
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																				
SCBK11980698	Information Operations Specialist	13-Apr-11	USA SIG NTWK ENT CTR	GS-0301	12	12	69,930 - 90,907				X				X	X	X			
SCBK11986950	Paralegal Specialist	13-Apr-11	US Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0950	11	11	58,343 - 75,843							X	X	X	X	X		
SCBK11902554	Supv IT Specialist (PLCYPLN)	13-Apr-11	ACC	YA-2210	3	3	80,000 - 123,000		X		X	X		X	X	X				
SCBK11967975	Telecommunications Specialist	13-Apr-11	HQ AMC	GS-0391	13	13	83,156 - 108,102			X					X	X	X			
SCBK11981361	IT Specialist	14-Apr-11	USA SIG NTWK ENT CTR	GS-2210	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X	X	X	X			
SCBK11913252	Logistics Management Specialist	14-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X												
SCBK11963867	Military & Civilian Awards Prg Specialist	14-Jan-11	AMC	GS-0301	12	12	69,930 - 90,907		X				X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK11927854	IT Specialist (Entarch/Infosec)	14-Apr-11	ACC	YA-2210	2	2	55,000 - 80,000		X	X			X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK11979271	Executive Officer	14-Apr-11	AMC	GS-0301	14	14	98,265 - 127,743	X							X			X		
SCBK110938806	Spv Mec Eng, Spv Elec Eng, Ind Eng, Spv Civil Eng	15-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830/0850/0896/0810	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X			
SCBK10981475	Resource & Planning Analyst	15-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X	X	X	X			
SCBK11965925	Logistics Management Specialist	15-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X								X		X		
SCBK11990520	Logistics Management Specialist	15-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X												
SCBK11981475	Resource & Planning Analyst	15-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X	X	X	X			
SCBK11964788	Mechanical Engineering Technician	18-Apr-11	RDECOM	DE-0802	3	3	53,104 - 90,907					X	X		X	X	X	X		
SCBK11964788D	Mechanical Engineering Technician	18-Apr-11	RDECOM	DE-0802	3	3	53,104 - 90,907											X		
SCBK11990522	Spv Logistics Mgt Spec	18-Apr-11	AMCOM	YC-0346	2	2	67,130 - 131,518					X								
SCBK11997264	Health Systems Spec (PBELO)	18-Apr-11	US Army Medical Dept Activity	GS-0671	9	9	48,221 - 62,683			X					X	X	X			
SCBK11816127R	Logistics Management Specialist	18-Apr-11	AMC	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102					X	X		X	X	X			
SCBK11928367	Logistics Management Specialist	19-Apr-11	AMC	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102						X							
SCBK110904386	Mechanical Engineer	19-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830	12	12	69,930 - 90,907					X	X		X		X			
SCBK110904386D	Mechanical Engineer	19-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830	12	12	69,930 - 90,907											X		
SCBK11984222	Security (Office Automation)	20-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0318	6	6	35,475 - 46,116		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK11981737	Logistics Management Specialist	20-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X							X			X		
SCBK11965920	Logistics Management Specialist	20-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	83,156 - 108,102	X												
SCBK11969093	Logistics Management Specialist	20-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X							X			X		
SCBK11002188	Supervisory General Engineer	20-Apr-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0801	14	14	98,265 - 127,743						X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK11968298	Lead General Engineer	25-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266					X		X	X	X				
SCBK11968298D	Lead General Engineer	25-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266											X		
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907				X			X	X	X	X			
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907				X			X	X	X	X			
SCBK10631337OCE	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907								X			X		
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907				X			X	X	X	X			
SCBK11960268	Secretary (Office Automation)	29-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0318	6	6	37,983 - 49,375							X	X	X	X			
SCBK10674714OC	Contract Specialist (Price/Cost Analysis)	9-Jun-11	ACC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779							X	X	X	X			
SCBK10724481OCE	Contract Specialist	29-Jun-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907								X			X		
SCBK11733651	Logistics Management Specialist	5-Jul-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	11	13	58,343 - 108,102							X	X	X	X			
SCBK10444988OC	Contract Specialist	17-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779	X	X						X	X	X			
SCBK10444888OC	Contract Specialist	18-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	2	2	47,215 - 108,102	X	X						X	X	X			
SCBK104828500C	Supv Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	YA-1102	3	3	98,265 - 127,743					X	X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK10482841OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	14	14	98,265 - 127,743		X		X		X	X	X	X	X			
SCBK10482823OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907		X				X	X	X	X	X			

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

- A** - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B** - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
- C** - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
- D** - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
- E** - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements) (Copy of Orders from Spouse)
- F** - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)
- H** - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
- I** - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- R** - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- T** - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (Form 75 documenting service)
- V** - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
- U** - All U.S. citizens (Birth Certificate and other Documentation required)

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.