

Redstone Rocket

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Digging up dirt for post growth



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Construction equipment is moving dirt on the northwestern side of Gate 9 as preparations are being made to build the first building at Redstone Gateway. Construction on the first building should begin in March with an opening date set for December. The enhanced use lease program will bring many beneficial changes to Redstone Arsenal, including much needed office space and expanded roadways.

Heavy construction gets under way near Gate 9 for Redstone Gateway

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Assistant editor
kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

There's a lot of dirt work going on near Gate 9 these days. And there's much more to come.

Bulldozers, dump trucks and other heavy construction equipment are regular sights at the corner of Gate 9/Rideout Road and the I-565 interchange. All that activity is preparing for the first building in a 468-acre, 4.6 million square-foot office, retail and hotel complex known as Redstone Gateway.

With its first building, set to open in December, developers Corporate Office Properties of Maryland and Jim Wilson and Associates of Montgomery are set to launch what will one day be known as the Army's largest enhanced use lease project.

"The developer is focused on having a building open as soon as possible," said Craig Northridge, project manager for the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works and the EUL project manager.

"The first building will be five stories, 125,000 square feet and home to about 500 employees. But, most importantly, it will set the standard for a complex of buildings that will com-

plement each other in their architecture," Northridge said.

That first building will also set a statement as to the potential for the development.

"We are coordinating with the developer, the city and the Army to reach a consolidated vision of this project and how it will be developed," Northridge said. "We are working with the City of Huntsville and the developer to ensure the development fulfills the needs of the installation and the community."

More than 48 buildings will eventually be built just outside the Arsenal's gates and west end of Rideout Road during a 15-year building program. In addition, the project will include another 11 secure buildings inside the gate on the east side of Rideout Road.

Redstone Gateway will be unique to the Army sheerly because of its size and its focused purpose.

"There are eight other enhanced use leases in the Army, and two of them are not for office space," Northridge said. "One is for a large race track at Yuma Proving Ground (Ariz.) and the other is a waste energy power plant at Fort Detrick (Md.)."

"The six others are all office space. But if you take those six and add up their planned capacity you come to 5.2 million square feet total. Just in ours, in Redstone Gateway, we will have 4.6 million square feet. We are essentially doubling the capacity of the Army portfolio with the most significant and largest of the EULs."

The Navy and Air Force both have EULs, but they are

See Gateway on page 9

AT EASE

Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cox bowls his second perfect game at Redstone Lanes.

PAGE 8



AVIATION UPDATE

The Shadow unmanned aircraft system is defying gravity, soaring ever higher in performance and zooming down on cost.

PAGE 12

TRAINING DAY

More than 100 civilians at Team Redstone are enrolled in the 2011 Leader Investment for Tomorrow programs.

PAGE 19

WIN OR LOSE

Headquarters & Alpha overcomes a double-digit halftime deficit to edge HHC 59th in troop basketball.

PAGE 21



RocketViews

What do you think of Army Emergency Relief?

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com



Lance Cpl. Yolana Richards
Marine Corps Detachment
“I think it’s a great thing. It helps military members and family. It helps out the family in times of need, dire situations.”



Pfc. Vernold Posey
Bravo Company
“It’s good because it’s giving families a chance to do things they couldn’t do as far as paying bills, etc. – helps with funerals, going through emergency situations. It helps them out a lot so I’m all for it.”



Jonathan Niedergeses
Garrison Safety Office
“I think Army Emergency Relief is very important because it shows how much you care for military and the unfortunate things that can happen to them. It shows strong support for our military.”



Aleah Bridges
Directorate of Public Works
“It sounds like a good thing. It helps people in situations in different ways. Our military deserves help when they need it.”

Letters to the Editor Helping the Army take care of its own

I heard someone ask the question why should one donate to Army Emergency Relief. It got me to thinking. As a former Soldier, I have always donated to AER. And to be honest the reason I did it then was cause the chain-of-command asked and I wanted to support the things that they thought were important to do. Now I have always donated to different charities before joining the military, because my grandmother taught me it was the right thing to do. She always said, “Giving should be a joy because that means God

has blessed you to be able to do so.”

It was only after being medically discharged from the Army that I realized how important and critical donating really was. I came into contact with several agencies that are servicing Soldiers, both active and Reserve and transiting veterans. Without donations from people like me and you, these organizations would not be able to do the work that they



Lisa Oliver

are doing. Agencies like USA Cares, the National Association of American Veterans, the Veterans Foundation, Leave No Veteran Behind, and so many more.

USA Cares exists to help bear the burdens of service by providing post-9/11 military families with financial and advocacy support in their time of need. Assistance is provided to all branches

See Helping on page 6

Retiree’s farewell to fellow civil servants

I am retiring after over 40 years of federal service, and wanted to say “So long” to the people I know and did not get to talk to personally. It has been a long and usually good ride, and being assigned to Redstone Arsenal is a wonderful way to end a civil service career.

When I took the PME I course several years ago, a Russian immigrant spoke to

our class, and made some observations that influenced me for the remainder of my career. I would like to pass a condensed version to you:

Europeans do not understand why our politicians and our press continually bash our professional civil service. We provide a continuity of service, expertise and non-political support to our public

that most nations are unable to do. When we elect a new president, our government continues to run without interference. Mail delivery continues, airlines continue to run scheduled flights, national security does not diminish, and so on. Moreover, our government continues to function regardless of which party is in power. When the election

See Farewell on page 3

Take serious look when considering eye surgery

I was born very nearsighted. I wore very thick glasses. It was an inconvenience, nothing more. Then, about 10 years ago I started developing cataracts in both eyes. They were slight at first. My ophthalmologist repeatedly urged me to have artificial

lenses, but I put it off until September 2010. I had heard many people talk about their positive experience with cataract surgery. I heard no direct accounts of problems, but I knew there was risk to any surgery. So with optimism I had the operations,

about two weeks apart. There was no pain. There were few problems. Then, in early November I noticed there seemed a bit of flesh blocking the view out of my left eye. I thought at first I was just seeing a swelling

See Surgery on page 7

Speed limit changes during construction

I would like to see a story on why the Provost Marshal’s office and/or Garrison traffic control has not changed the speed limit back to 40 mph as it was before the construction began on Burose Road. They changed it during construction from a 40 mph two-lane to a 25 mph four-lane and have not changed it back. The

adjoining Neal Road also underwent changes (turn lanes added or lengthened) at the same time but remained a two-lane road and the speed limit (45 mph) never changed even during construction.

Are we establishing speed traps or have they just not gotten around to removing the 25 mph signs?

Alex Brock

Editor’s note: The Garrison provided the following response. “Thank you for your concern over the posted speed limits on Burose Road. The speed limit was temporarily reduced to 25 mph during the construction period, and the 40 mph permanent signs were covered in the interim. Since major road construction work has been completed, the temporary 25 mph signs will be removed and Burose Road will revert back to 40 mph speed limit. There may be occasions of future speed limit reductions for roadway striping work.”

Quote of the Week

‘A little madness in the spring is wholesome even for the king.’

— Emily Dickinson
poet (1830-86)

RedstoneRocket

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Rocket Staff
Editor-in-chief: Col. John Hamilton, Garrison commander
Editor: Skip Vaughn
Assistant Editor: Kari Hawkins
Reporter: Amy Tolson
Copy Editor/Design: Kelley Lane Sivley
General Manager: French Salter
Advertising Sales: Shelia Smith, Anna Hyles

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Cause determined for fatal explosion last May

Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers announced Friday the results of the investigation into the May 5, 2010 explosion at building 7352, Test Area 10, which resulted in the death of Amtec employees Jim Hawke and Jerry Grimes.

“What happened here on May 5th was tragic. Our thoughts and prayers are still with the family and friends of Jim Hawke and Jerry Grimes,” Rogers said. “They lost loved ones that day, we lost two valued team members. This has been a healing process for all of us.

“Our investigating officer, an experienced expert in the field of weapons research and development, worked with leading scientific and engineering experts from throughout the Army, NASA and academia. The investigative team conducted detailed interviews and reviewed thousands of pieces of evidence and related materials. They commissioned and performed numerous experiments, models and simulations,” he said. “They also developed a fault tree analysis to evaluate, segregate and eliminate hundreds of potential contributing factors. Our goal was to find a definite answer for why this happened.”

The investigation determined that the cause of the explosion was Amtec’s operation of a particular type of decanter centrifuge to process potentially explosive materials. The investigation found that the deaths were the result of Amtec personnel conducting decanter centrifuge tests involving potentially explosive materials as an attended operation instead of running the tests re-



motely.

Amtec was responsible for safety within building 7352 pertaining to its operations. Amtec personnel selected, purchased, installed and independently operated the decanter centrifuge. The investigation concluded that this type of centrifuge was unsuitable and unsafe for processing explosives. Responsible Amtec personnel did not develop safety procedures specific to the use of the centrifuge and exercised poor safety discipline.

Amtec employees were working on demilitarization operations that involved Ammonium Perchlorate, an oxidizer used in solid rocket propellant. The goal was to develop the optimal process for achieving reclaimed dry AP at maximum volume. To separate the AP, Amtec was using n-Butanol, a solvent and type of alcohol, to dissolve away impurities from the AP.

AP and n-Butanol were mixed together to form a slurry. Amtec personnel were using a decanter centrifuge, which spins at high speed to remove the n-Butanol

See Cause on page 13

Farewell

continued from page 2

between then candidates George Bush and Al Gore was in question and awaiting legal review, our military continued to train, our government continued to function, and the civil service continued to provide support to our country.

That is the value of our civil service. We execute the laws and programs that Congress mandates, and we do so in a non-partisan manner. That is why the jobs we do are important and why we continue to do them regardless of the criticisms leveled at us by politicians, citizens and our press.

No one can simply step in off the street and do your job. The corporate knowledge, training and culture of the professional civil service ensure that our citizens have a functional government regardless of the political

situation.

When you read that we are “overpaid,” understand that they are comparing the civil service to the population at large – not to people in industry who hold the same levels of responsibility and capability as civil servants.

When we hear that our “bloated” government needs to have the “fat” cut out of it, understand that the people who make the laws that are the basis of our jobs, the budgets that pay us, and the policies that govern us are the same people who criticize us.

You are an important part of our country’s continued success and existence. What you do affects, to some degree, how well our government works and how it is perceived.

I wish you success in all that you do – and urge you to be proud of what you do. It is important.

Bob Copeland
Garrison

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Feb. 17-23:

Feb. 17: A government employee reported he lost his laptop computer while on TDY.

Feb. 17: A retired servicemember became disorderly and communicated a threat to employees of Fox medical clinic.

Feb. 18: A civilian mistakenly attempted to enter Gate 3. An NCIC check of his driver’s license showed it was suspended. He received a court summons, and a licensed driver removed the vehicle.

Feb. 19: Near the intersection of Goss and Rideout roads, a power pole support cable and a portion of a chain link fence were damaged when they were struck by an unknown vehicle. The driver fled the area; however, pic-

es of the vehicle were left at the scene and were collected as evidence.

Feb. 20: A Soldier had the tip of a finger severed when it became caught in part of a door handle.

Feb. 21: A civilian employee reported that an unknown substance had been spread on her car while it was parked.

Feb. 23: A front-end loader damaged a dump truck at the Redstone landfill.

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

Violation notices: This does not reflect the numerous verbal warnings that were issued. Citations included 27 speeding, 1 no insurance, 1 expired tags, 6 failure to stop at a stop sign, 1 red light, 1 improper backing, 2 failure to yield right of way, 1 failure to obey a traffic control device, 1 suspended driver’s license, 1 failure to signal.

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Name: Scott Gillespie

Job: Chief of the Administrative Support Office, Garrison

Where do you call home?
Macon, Ga.

What do you like about your job?

I like the interaction with Team Redstone tenant organizations. The fast pace. It’s a challenge – I like that, too. There’s a lot of things going on in the Garrison, and that gives me an opportunity to contribute to the success of the organization. We do a lot of events, a lot of protocol coordination. Taskers that come down from higher headquarters – we track those. Staffing actions – that would include things like policy letters, awards. We manage the conference rooms; we schedule the conference rooms in this building (4488). We also manage all administrative space. If you have space needs for your organization, people come up here and see Paul Grosch.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I’m a member of a local fitness club near my house. I like to stay healthy. I like to walk a lot. And I like family time, doing family activities (with daughters Katie, 13, and April, 11). I



also like to boat when I get the opportunity – boating.

What are your goals?

I’d like to continue my government service. And if the opportunity arises, positions of greater responsibility like this one. It was an honor to be selected to come up here and work for the command group as the chief of the Administrative Support Office.

What’s at the top of your “bucket list” of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?

I think to eventually be remarried in a happy marriage.

Heads-up given on traumatic brain injuries

TBI awareness focus of month

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

If not treated, traumatic brain injuries incurred on the battlefield today could cripple large populations of Soldiers decades from now.

"We get a 25-year-old, 30-year-old, they plan to serve another 15 to 20 years, we want to document what's going on now because they're likely to have several more," said Dr. Lynley Ebeling, neuropsychologist and director of Fox Army Health Center's Neuropsychology/Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic. "What's their life going to look like when they turn 60 and 70? This could be that now we're dealing with them, but come 70, you're going to have a whole group of Soldiers who are cognitively impaired. It's not just that it shows up right now and goes away, there's evidence that it could show up as you get older, as the brain ages, and now suddenly it's not aging properly, it's accelerated."

March marks Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month, which provides the opportunity for Ebeling to educate not just the Soldiers she sees, but the entire community, on the ways a brain injury can affect how a person thinks, reasons and remembers.

"It's an important area that people have previously minimized, and it's not something to minimize," Ebeling said. "Our brain does everything. If you don't

have your brain working, you're not yourself and you can't do what you do."

Symptoms of a traumatic brain injury include blurred vision, headaches, ringing in the ears, irritability, trouble with memory, attention or concentration and slowed thinking, as well as feeling easily confused; symptoms that can remain with an individual for decades, or not manifest until they age. Leading causes of TBI in the military include blasts, fragments, bullets, falls and motor vehicle crashes, but in civilian life, concussions occur in more everyday activities, such as sports. Every 23 seconds, someone in the United States suffers from a traumatic brain injury, according to the Brain Injury Association of America, making it a community-wide concern.

"This is an area that a lot of people don't know anything about, but it's also an area where if you were to ask any single person, they can relate and remember that they've had a concussion sometime in their life," Ebeling said. "It's so prevalent out there, but yet people have no idea what a concussion is, what it means, how you treat it, how you prevent it from snowballing into something significant."

Traumatic brain injury occurs when the head is hit or violently shaken, resulting in either a loss of consciousness or an alteration of consciousness, in which an individual may become dazed and confused or see stars. An individual does not have to lose consciousness to experience a traumatic brain injury, Ebeling said.

Fox's Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic

serves as a regional TBI center for active duty Soldiers located not only at Redstone Arsenal, but also at Fort Sill, Okla., Fort Rucker, Ala., and Fort Campbell, Ky., as well as Alabama's CWBTU, a relationship made easier thanks to video conferencing which allows Ebeling to treat Soldiers where they are located. Since first opening in 2008, Ebeling and TBI case manager Tim Elmore have seen between 300 and 400 Soldiers, around 200 of which have been tested cognitively, checking IQ, academic functioning, memory and other thinking skills, to determine whether or not they were functioning at a level expected of a person without a traumatic brain injury.

"The top issues in the Army are the excessive amount of concussions, PTSD and suicides," Ebeling said. "A person with brain injury is more susceptible to depression, suicide and PTSD, so it kind of works together. About 20 to 30 percent of Soldiers coming back from war meet criteria for having had a concussion, so it's a huge amount."

Ebeling typically spends between 12 and 14 hours with each patient, interviewing, testing and analyzing them to determine a diagnosis and treatment plan. Her



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Dr. Lynley Ebeling, neuropsychologist, licensed clinical psychologist and director of Fox Army Health Center's Neuropsychology/Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic is working to raise awareness on the impact of traumatic brain injuries with the help of Tim Elmore, RN and TBI case manager, throughout March, TBI awareness month.

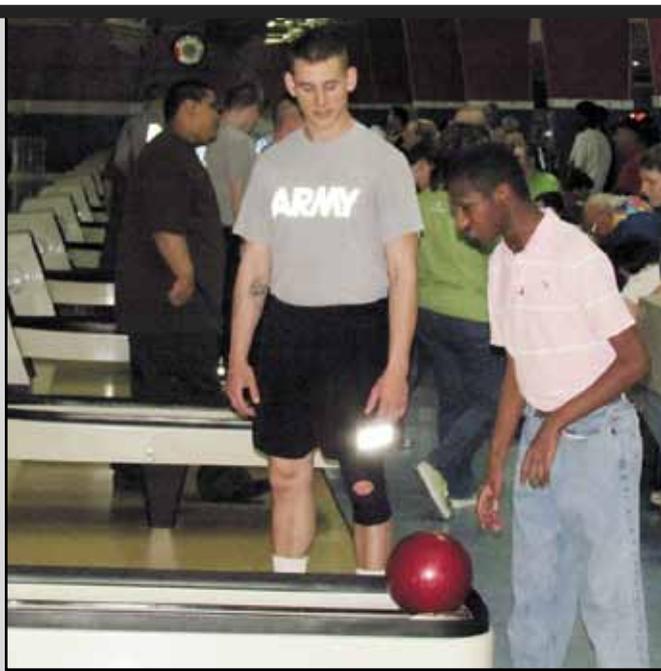
assessment of each Soldier helps clarify the diagnosis and identify what is really going on in the brain, whether it is a physical or psychological problem, to develop the best course for treatment.

See Brain on page 10

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Special bowling

Pvt. Daniel Kinsey of Charlie Company helps Butler High ninth-grader Jacquez Blackburn during the Special Olympics bowling held Thursday at Plamor Lanes. Kinsey was among the Soldier volunteers for the event.



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:

Mardi Gras party

Celebrate Mardi Gras at the Firehouse Pub on Friday from 3-11 p.m. There will be drink specials. For more information, call 830-2582.

Youth flag football

Child Youth and School Services is registering youngsters from now through April 1 for flag football. The league is open to boys and girls ages 5-17. Registration for players that do not have access to Redstone Arsenal will be held from 5-7 p.m. March 7 and March 28 at the NAF Personnel Office on the corner of Goss and Patton Roads. Bring a current sports physical. The \$40 regi-

stration fee includes uniform. For more information, call 313-3699.

Golf tournament

March Madness Mystery 2-Man Tournament, brought to you by Woody Anderson Ford, will be held March 12 at 9 a.m. at the Links. Cost is \$35 plus greens fees if applicable. The format will be released the day of the event. For more information, call 883-7977.

Challenger bingo

"Luck of the Irish Bingo Extravaganza" will be held March 18 at Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. "Over \$13,000 guaranteed prizes in our session bingo," a prepared release said. For more information, call Challenger bingo 837-0750.

Summer hire jobs await applicants

Three student temporary employment program summer hire announcements are open through March 8.

The following announcements will be listed on the Army Civilian Personnel website at <http://www.armycivilianservice.com>:

- SCBK110802SH – Engineering aid/engineering tech
- SCBK110326SH – Office automation clerk
- SCBK110303SH – General clerk

In order to be considered for any of the summer positions, the applicants must be students who are at least 16 and accepted for enrollment or currently en-

rolled in school.

Applications will only be accepted through the electronic Resumix system. To apply, students must complete an electronic resume that contains required information and also self-nominate for the desired announcements. Students who are selected will be contacted by phone or e-mail. Those not selected will continue to be referred as summer vacancies become available. Questions can be directed to your Redstone Arsenal civilian personnel specialists or points of contact Sandra Drinkard at 876-7401 or Tammy Bourgeois at 842-7733. (*Civilian Personnel Advisory Center release*)

Helping

continued from page 2

of service, all components, all ranks while protecting the privacy and dignity of those military families and veterans who request our help. Since 2003, USA Cares has responded to over 27,000 requests for assistance with more than \$7.7 million in direct support grants. USA Cares is a Kentucky based 501(c)3 non-profit, charitable organization founded in 2003 and registered with the IRS. Robert from USA Cares called and e-mailed me every single week until I found employment. He put me in contact with other agencies that could help me as well.

I spoke with Constance Burns of the National Association of American Veterans. During this conversation, she enlightened me of all the things that her agency does and how difficult it was to get funding. She told stories of how heartbreaking it was to tell servicemembers no, not because they didn't qualify for assistance or need it, but because the funds just weren't there.

The mission of NAAV is to serve all veterans, and their family members, from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam Conflict, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the severely wounded warriors and particularly single parent servicemembers and veterans by:

- Helping to access their benefits
- Improving communication and coordination
- Collaborating among health agencies, medical professionals, organizations, educational organizations and the public.

Leave No Veteran Behind is a 501(c)(3) non-profit service run by veterans that works to relieve the educational debt of veterans who are serving and have served

in the military. Currently, many servicemembers who receive higher education during, before or after their service have to take out costly loans to pay for their education. While there are military educational programs that help relieve this educational debt, not all veterans are covered under these programs. Leave No Veteran Behind addresses this issue by taking private donations and applying them directly to veterans' student loan accounts. In return we require that all veterans helped through our program give back 100 hours of community service. Through your help, we will be able to give back to those who have given so much.

AER is the Army's own emergency financial assistance organization and is dedicated to "Helping the Army Take Care of its Own." AER provides commanders a valuable asset in accomplishing their basic command responsibility for the morale and welfare of Soldiers. AER funds are made available to commanders having AER sections to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers – active and retired – and their dependents when there is a valid need. And just like all the other aforementioned organizations, AER exists to help the men and women who serve or who have served.

I never knew some of these organizations existed; but after finding out that they do, I made a promise to myself and Mrs. Burns that I will always donate to these agencies. I would encourage everyone, especially Soldiers, when your AER representative shows up, make a donation. As for me, my heart is and will always be where the Soldiers are. I will donate to AER and other organizations that support our service men and women.

Lisa Oliver
AMCOM/Garrison Public
and Congressional Affairs

Ex-newspaper leader remembered as American entrepreneur

The late Sara Smith Grant published Rocket 1985-94

By PAMELA RAMEY
For the Rocket

Former *Redstone Rocket* publisher Sara Smith Grant died Jan. 30 after a brief battle with cancer.

Grant published the *Rocket* from 1985-94. She was a Huntsville native and a graduate of Huntsville High School, Lindenwood College, and the University of Alabama. She and her husband, Howard, moved from Huntsville to Birmingham in the early 1960s, where Howard worked as a reporter for *The Birmingham News*, and she taught high school in Bessemer. The couple later moved to Atlanta to briefly work for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and then moved to Anniston, where Grant served as publisher of the *Fort McClellan News*, *Tracks*, and the *Anniston Army Depot News*. In the mid 1980s, the couple and

their two children returned to Marshall County, and Grant became publisher of the *Redstone Rocket*.

Upon leaving the *Rocket* in 1994, Grant worked in real estate, first as an agent, and then as the owner of Allied Mortgage until her death.

Family friend Casey Caplin called Grant an “amazing, pull yourself up by your bootstraps, damned the adversity, sophisticated, streetwise classic and amazingly successful publisher, business person and American entrepreneur, who was a loving mother to so many. She made everyone she met feel special and loved.”

Survivors include her husband of 48 years, Howard Grant; two daughters, Kirby Grant Rutland and husband Mike, and Kendrah Grant Raney and husband Jim; two grandsons, Mikey Rutland and Grant Rutland; two sisters, June Hall and husband Steven, and Susan Smith of Decatur; a brother, Bob Smith and wife Lynn of Birmingham; and close cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Surgery

continued from page 2

of my cheek or maybe a bit of my lower eyelid. Soon, however, I knew I was losing my sight. I called the ophthalmologist who performed the cataract surgery.

By that time, I was totally blind in my left eye. It was the weekend, but the doctor met me at the office. The doctor examined my eye, told me I had separation of the retina and contacted a retina specialist. The retina specialist on call for their office came by in a few minutes, looked at my eyes and told me I had profound separation of the retina. The specialist told me that such separation of the retina was much more probable from cataract surgery in persons who had always been profoundly nearsighted. That was news to me. The ophthalmologist had told me that if the separation was not too bad an operation to correct it would be performed by the retina specialist immediately, but if it was very bad, it would be postponed until Monday. On Monday I had retina surgery. It took an hour or more. I was awake, and I could hear the retina specialist talking with the staff, and I could feel the laser as it hit the retina. It was a bit uncomfortable, though not painful. My adult son had come to help me. In addition the clergy was most helpful as well as comforting. Others in my family soon came to aid me.

I had to keep my eyes parallel to the earth for almost a month, even while sleeping. I could not go up on a plane or even up a small mountain. I just waited. I was unable

to drive. After the retina specialist gave permission, I was a passenger on a drive and spent Thanksgiving with my sisters in Charlottesville. I stayed with family until late in January, by which time I was able to drive a car. While in Virginia I went to another retina specialist. He did nothing to the eye which had had the profound retina separation, but he found a small retina separation in my other eye. He fixed this in his office with laser treatment. I had no anesthetic or pain killer. I had to turn my eye to a very uncomfortable position with a bright white light directly into my eye. Then the light blue laser came on. The pain was beyond belief. That was the first of about 12 laser shots which took about an hour, all equally painful.

Many people may tell you they had cataract lens replacement surgery with no ill effects. That should mean nothing to you. The small minority of people who have “long eyes” have most of the problems. If you are in this group, generally those with severe myopia, nearsightedness, you may be in this minority. Your chances of problems as retina separation are much, much higher. The retina is connected to a layer of cells that supply the stuff that keeps the retina alive. Disconnect this very long, and the retina will die. Minutes are important at that point.

Be totally sure you are not in the minority like me. Consult a retina specialist if there is the slightest doubt in your mind. Do so before cataract surgery. Eye surgery is no game. It is as serious as it comes.

Name withheld by request

Redstone bowler strikes second perfect game

Sergeant first class has another good, good night at the lanes

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

Somewhere around the seventh frame, Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cox's dad knew his son was on to something.

At the 10th, his wife Dana looked up and realized just how serious the situation was. And in that very same frame, Cox's hands started to shake.

It's not an uncommon occurrence for the league bowler to throw more than a few strikes in a row during a Wednesday night game at Redstone Lanes. But during league play Jan. 26, more than a couple X's marked the spot, or rather, the strikes.

"Going two or three in a row is not a big deal," Cox said. "When you get to six or seven, you think that it might be a good night."

And a good night it was – but it didn't start out that way. As is his tradition, Cox, a member of the Wednesday night league team "Cox's Army," made up of his mother, father, wife and sometimes daughter, hit the lanes around 3 p.m. to warm up before the league's competition began for the evening.

"My practice game was complete garbage," Cox said. "I thought it was going to be an awful night."

But something in his game changed when the evening's series started, as strike after strike made its way to the scoreboard. At the 10th frame, Cox began to shake, realizing how close he was to bowling a perfect game, as the pins fell in a Brooklyn strike. At the 11th shot, his foot stuck, causing him to fall to his knees, but the strike still followed. Finally, at the 12th, the strike came easy.

"It was a really fun night," Cox said.

The evening's accomplishments, however, were not over. Amped up from the perfect game, Cox threw a 217 in his

See Bowler on page 20

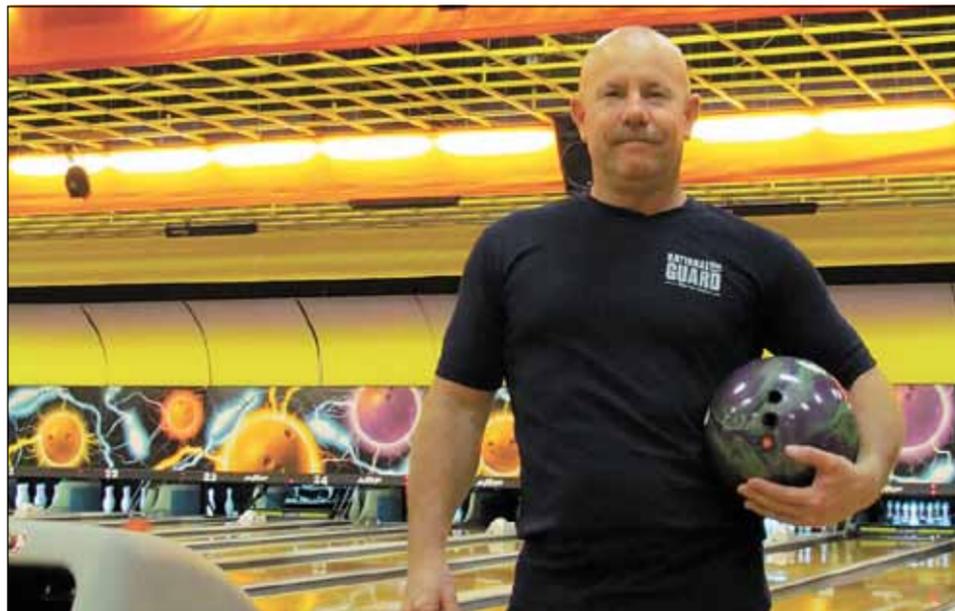


Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cox participates in the Wednesday Night League at Redstone Lanes, where he bowled a perfect game Jan. 26.

Gateway

continued from page 1

characteristically smaller in size than the Army EULs and are not at the level of planning as the Army program.

With the large size of the Army mission and its installations, “there’s a lot more opportunity to do big things like this in the Army,” Northridge said.

Northridge and the Garrison’s team of planners, including Brendan Bennick, project manager of Master Planning, and Tom Richardson, DPW’s civil engineer for base operations, are coordinating plans that will augment the Redstone Gateway development. While Northridge works primarily with the developers on the project, Bennick is working on plans that will involve moving Gate 9 and Richardson is working on plans that accommodate increased traffic at Gate 9 and along Rideout Road.

“The work is starting. This is real. We are going to see new things happening that are going to change the face of Redstone,” Northridge said.

In March, the first building in Redstone Gateway will begin taking shape. In addition, sewage and gas lines, utilities and infrastructure will begin to be installed, and work will be done in conjunction with the Tennessee Valley Authority and Huntsville Utilities to move

the substation from the middle of the development to further south along Rideout Road. Work has also started on upgrading a rail head that will be reopened in August.

Then, if the development proceeds as planned, a second building in the complex should get under way by the summer.

Also next month, the entrance to the Visitors Center will begin undergoing changes as the developer reshapes the entrance to make it, first, the construction entrance to the project, and, second, the eventual main entrance to Redstone Gateway.

“Temporary traffic adjustments will be made to accommodate construction equipment,” Northridge said. “In July, the actual traffic patterns in and out of the Visitors Center will begin to change.”

In addition, plans are being solidified to move Gate 9, add traffic lanes to Rideout Road, reroute Goss Road and ensure smooth traffic flow from I-565 and along Rideout Road.

“Any changes to Gate 9 and Goss Road are still in the conceptual stage,” Northridge said. “We are working to ensure the gate changes will meet Army standards, and we are working with the City of Huntsville on traffic patterns and with the state to ensure a smooth traffic pattern from I-565.”

Northridge knows that Arsenal em-



Courtesy photo

This rendering shows the first of more than 50 professional buildings planned for Redstone Gateway, which will span 468 acres outside the Arsenal gates on the western side of Rideout Road and inside the Arsenal gates on the eastern side of Rideout Road.

ployees are curious about Redstone Gateway.

“A lot of people are asking ‘How is this going to impact what we do normally?’ Redstone Gateway is bringing improvements to the installation that will help meet our mission,” he said. “We will see significant road improvements early on along Rideout Road, hopefully by

this fall, that will reduce some congestion coming in and going out of Redstone.”

Those road improvements are among several positive impacts of Redstone Gateway that are sure to increase the quality of life for Arsenal employees and the community, and “continue Redstone Arsenal as the economic engine for the region,” Richardson added.

Veteran knows personally the value of diversity

Police spokesman gives message for Black History Month event

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

Dr. Harry Hobbs has a unique perspective of the African American experience. His father was white, his mother was black and he grew up in a mostly black neighborhood in the 1960s in Louisville, Ky. "I learned to do two things quite well: run and fight," he said.

Hobbs, communications relations officer for the Huntsville Police Department, was the speaker for the 11th annual Black History Luncheon sponsored by the South Central Region Civilian Human Resources Agency. An estimated 150 people attended the event Feb. 23 in the Challenger Activity Center.

"African Americans and the Civil War" is this year's national theme for Black History Month in February.

Hobbs had an ancestor that fought with distinction for the Union Army during the Civil War. He described how black Soldiers contributed to the Union's victory.

"The military has always been the social experimentation ground for this society," said Hobbs, who retired in 2007 as a chief warrant officer 5 after 30 years service.

He related an incident from 1982 when he was a young Soldier in Alabama. A victim of vandalism, he was the target of racist remarks by a law enforcement officer who responded to his call. That officer is no longer in law enforcement.

Now, three decades later, Hobbs serves as Huntsville police department's spokesman. And both his daughters are members of the military.

A central thread in his personal testimony was this: Black history is part of American history. We're all in this together regardless of color or ethnicity. Now let's move on.

"Remember," Hobbs said, "it's because of our diversity that makes this country great."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Dr. Harry Hobbs, communications relations officer for the Huntsville Police Department, speaks during the 11th annual Black History Luncheon sponsored by the South Central Region Civilian Human Resources Agency.



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Jam session

Keyboardist Mark Bynum and guitarist Tony Gentry, who most recently toured with the soul, R&B and funk band the Bar-Kays, play during Redstone Arsenal's Black History Month celebration Feb. 16 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Brain

continued from page 4

Unfortunately, for many Soldiers returning home from war, the symptoms of TBI are very similar to PTSD and the emotions that accompany the return home from a deployment, often making it difficult for an individual or their family members to determine what the real cause of the symptoms are. Irritability, headaches and memory problems overlap between the two. An individual with PTSD will suffer from flashbacks, whereas someone with a concussion won't; those with PTSD will avoid situations that trigger their memories, whereas someone with a concussion will not; and while a person with a concussion can't sleep because they're restless, someone with PTSD won't be able to sleep due to night terrors.

"A lot of the time it's tackling depression, PTSD and concussions all at once and trying to sort out the treatment for that," Ebeling said.

Rehabilitation for brain injury includes getting seven to eight hours of sleep each night, writing things down to help remember things, avoiding alcohol, tobacco and excessive caffeine, sticking to a routine, staying both mentally and

physically active, as well as avoiding further head injury. Soldiers may experience a TBI while deployed, but may need to overlook the injury due to being in combat or other factors. It isn't "until they come back home and they realize that they are different," Ebeling said. "They can't do the normal cognitive things that most people do."

The damage a TBI does to an individual's brain has been found to increase as the number of concussions they experience increases, according to Ebeling, which makes it vital for a person to do everything they can to avoid further head injury, if at all possible.

"TBI, if it ends up being mild to moderate and you've had multiple concussions, you could end up with permanent injury where the person is permanently forgetful, permanently these headaches just don't quit, permanently distracted and permanently short tempered," Ebeling said. "When you kill neurons in the brain it changes who you are. We are our brain. We don't do or say or move or do anything without our brain. If you compromise that it affects who you are, how you act, how you do your job."

The neuropsychology/TBI clinic currently only serves active duty Soldiers, and is located in the behavioral medicine division at Fox. To schedule an appointment, call 955-8888, ext. 1032 or 1940.

Shadow defies gravity with success



Soldiers in Iraq prepare RQ-7B Shadow 200 for launch from a trailer-mounted pneumatic catapult. The "R" is the Department of Defense designation for reconnaissance while "Q" means unmanned aircraft system, "7" refers to it being the seventh of a series of purpose-built unmanned reconnaissance aircraft systems and "B" represents improvements over the previous A model.

Army photo



Photo by Sgt. Jason Dangel

Spec. Raymond Poltera, a Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle operator with 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, launches an RQ-7B Shadow 200 at Camp Taji, Iraq. The Shadow provides commanders on the ground throughout the area of operations the ability to see the over-the-horizon battlefield.

Improvements in unmanned aircraft grows aerial mission on battlefield

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

An unmanned aircraft system in the Army's fleet today is defying gravity, soaring ever higher in performance and zooming down on cost.

And, in a budget-conscious Department of Defense, exceeding performance and cost goals are enough to make the RQ-7B Shadow 200 Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle a target for recognition.

Such was the case last fall when Shadow won the prestigious Performance-Based Logistics Award from the Secretary of Defense. According to the award nomination package, the government partnership with contractor AAI of Hunt Valley, Md., to manage the Shadow PBL contract achieved exceptionally high readiness with the system, while simultaneously reducing its costs and improving its reliability.

But such recognition doesn't mean the Shadow is coasting on its merits. Rather, its government-contractor team is honed in on even better performance and cost savings.

"We've taken cost very seriously and we've indoctrinated a lot of things into Shadow to bring those costs down. We've also decreased incident rates," Todd Smith, deputy product manager for Shadow, said of the 43 Redstone Arsenal-based employees whose work is centered on product development, sustainment, cost, scheduling, performance and other life cycle management issues pertaining to Shadow.

Described as the "workhorse" of the Army's unmanned aircraft systems, Shadow has exceeded 600,000 combat hours in Iraq and Afghanistan since it was introduced to the Army fleet in 2003, flying missions for the first time during the U.S. invasion of Iraq. The Army has fielded 98 Shadows and the Marines 11. Its mission in unmanned, over-the-horizon reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition has made it a forerunner in providing situational

analysis to Soldiers on the battlefield.

Even so, those early Shadow years did present challenges.

"The Shadow has been the Army's first and most successful unmanned aircraft program of record," said Col. Gregory Gonzalez, project manager for Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Program Executive Office for Aviation.

"The program followed on the heels of other UAS programs that tried to do too much, too soon, failing in the process. Shadow's initial success was based on getting a simple capability quickly into the hands of the Soldiers."

Unfortunately, the simplicity in design caused problems with reliability, Gonzalez said. Early accidents of the Shadow system reached a rate of more than 400 per 100,000 flight hours.

"Even as the first systems were fielded to war fighters, the product manager embarked on a strategy to improve the capability and reliability of the system," Gonzalez said. "Early reliability improvements were easy to identify and fix. Over time it became much more difficult to build in reliability in a cost effective way, but the Shadow team pressed on and has done a miraculous job. The cumulative impact of these improvements is monumental."

For the quarter ending in December 2010, the Shadow fleet achieved the lowest accident rate in its history, approaching 29 incidents per 100,000 flight hours.

"It continues to fly unprecedented flight hours in theater," Gonzalez said.

Not only have the number of incidents been drastically reduced, so, too, have been the expense of repairs when incidents do happen.

"I think we can claim we're saving \$5 million a year in aircraft repair," Smith said. "I think that's a very conservative number. It's hard to say. But we used to have this amount of mishaps costing at least \$5 million a year."

See Shadow on page 18

Soldiers spend day with Cub Scouts

By MOLLY KING
For the Rocket

Soldiers give back to this nation every day just by the job they do and their willingness to sacrifice their lives for others, yet many of them still volunteer their time off work to help others, even when they are away from home.

Hundreds of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Scout leaders from across North Alabama attended the 13th annual ScoutReach Cultural Day held Feb. 19 at Alabama A&M University.

In order to attend the event, Cub Scouts were required to have an adult chaperone with them at all times. Unfortunately, many of the Cubs from inner city Packs do not have strong parental involvement, so they would have been left out of the event if not for some caring Soldiers.

Because the Urban Emphasis Scout Leaders Council, the group that organizes the event, is dedicated to making Scouting opportunities available to all youth, they contacted Soldiers from the NCO Academy to serve as adult chaperones at the all-day event for Cub Scouts who did not have chaperones available.

The Soldiers spent the day attending cultural awareness classes, eating lunch, and touring the Alabama State Black Ar-



Courtesy photo

Soldiers from the NCO Academy help Cub Scouts learn to count to 10 in German while serving as adult chaperones at the 13th annual ScoutReach Culture Day.

chives and WJAB-90.9 FM Radio station (both located on A&M's campus) with their Cub Scout partner. The afternoon culminated with an international fair that included interactive booths provided by numerous community groups, representing a wide variety of cultures from Egypt to the Philippines and a performance by an Irish dance group.

Throughout the day, the young Cubs were visibly impressed with the uniformed Soldiers and had plenty of questions, which the Soldiers patiently answered.

"One of the best benefits of the event was the interaction between the young boys and the positive adult male role models of the Soldiers," council president Vern Spearman said.

Cause

continued from page 3

from the AP and to dry the AP. AP wet with n-Butanol has high chemical energy and can be explosive.

During the process on May 5, friction from rotating parts inside the decanter centrifuge generated enough heat to cause a mixture of AP and n-Butanol to ignite. The flame led to an explosion within the decanter centrifuge causing fragmentation and ultimately producing an intense fireball that engulfed personnel present in the building.

The investigation also found that there was inadequate verification of Amtec's compliance with safety and technical requirements by responsible Army personnel.

As a result of this tragedy and investigation, Army organizations on Redstone Arsenal are taking actions that will improve their ability to verify contractor compliance with safety requirements.

These actions include:

- Evaluating current contract requirements and safety methods.

- Taking steps to ensure that contractors operating on Army property do not begin explosives operations with new equipment in Army facilities without active government knowledge.

- Enhancing the capability to monitor explosives operations performed on Redstone Arsenal.

- Incorporating lessons learned from this accident in future safety training modules.

"Our work force consistently takes on the hard jobs to ensure the best equipment for our sons and daughters in harm's way," Rogers said. "Daily, the Soldiers, civilians and contractors at Redstone work toward the goal of serving those who serve our nation. Although we strive to impose the highest safety standards and constantly improve the safety of our workplace, the work that we perform is inherently dangerous work.

"In memory of Jim and Jerry, their families and for all of Team Redstone, I promise that we will do everything we can to improve our overall safety. We will take steps to ensure that accidents like this one, that took the lives of two great Americans, will never happen again."

Army buyers work for success on battlefield

Front lines of contracting make difference for troops

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

The Army's acquisition corps may not be on the front lines. But its professionals are fighting every day to ensure Soldiers have the right equipment to accomplish the mission.

And, with two wars going on at the same time, that mission has been demanding.

"I have a deep respect for the Defense Acquisition University and for the acquisition community," said Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, principal military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) and director of Acquisition Career Management.

"Look at what we've accomplished as an Army. Much of what we've done and accomplished has been on the backs of the acquisition work force. Our people are important and it is important to invest in our people. No one does it better than DAU, and that's why we have a world-class acquisition force today."

The lieutenant general also had good things to say about Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal, where he has enjoyed previous assignments during his 34 years in the Army.

"It's indeed an honor to be back in Huntsville, Ala.," he said. "Huntsville has a special place in my heart. This is an extraordinary community that does great work in putting capabilities in the hands of Soldiers. I am extremely proud to lead the acquisition work force."

Phillips' praise came during his Feb. 22 luncheon presentation at the seventh annual conference and exposition for the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association-South Region at the Von Braun Center. The theme for the conference was Navigating Acquisition through a Changing Environment ... Practical Approaches for the Defense Community.

He went on to say that transformation is challenging the acquisition corps, just as it is challenging the entire Army and its processes.

"It's incredibly important that we think about change and transformation," he said. "We must become more efficient and effective along the way. The U.S. today faces a very complex strategic environment across many fronts."

Persistent conflicts, increasing complexity in global trends and tightening resources are issues pushing transformation.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, who has close ties to the Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal community, praises the community and Redstone Arsenal's acquisition professionals during his Feb. 22 luncheon presentation at the Defense Acquisition University conference at the Von Braun Center. Phillips is the principal military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) and director of Acquisition Career Management.

"Understanding the nature of conflict is important to the acquisition community because you are charged with fielding the greatest capabilities for the greatest Army in the world," Phillips said.

Acquisition corps officers are today working side-by-side with Soldiers in Afghanistan as they spend \$14 billion in programs in support of building the Afghan army and the national Afghan police. The acquisition corps is essential in meeting the goals of protecting the Afghan people and building their democracy, Phillips said.

Phillips told his audience about how the acquisition corps made a difference in saving the life of 1st Lt. Jason Miller, son of retired Col. Brick Miller who now works for the Aviation and Missile Command. Miller was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the 173rd Airborne Brigade when his platoon came under attack.

Miller was hit in the head by an enemy round, except the bullet never penetrated his skull. Rather, the Army-issued advanced combat helmet that Miller was wearing sustained extensive damage when the bullet penetrated its shell, traced the curvature of the inside the helmet and then exited.

"Jason somersaulted from the impact

and fell backwards into a lower area. But he was able to brush it off, re-engage the enemy and kill them," Phillips said. "He's alive today because the system worked and he was wearing the best helmet in the world.

"(Our acquisition system) is not quick enough. It's not fast enough. But Jason Miller is alive today because the process put the best capability in his hands."

Since 1907, when the Army let the first firm-fixed price incentive fee contract to the Wright Brothers, the Army acquisition process has grown in ways that have made its processes too difficult to manage, he said.

"It's a complex environment and it's difficult to understand," Phillips said. "We need to reduce the requirements in the acquisition process so we can do it cheaper, better and faster."

But in some areas, such as service contracts, there needs to be more oversight. Of every dollar the Army spends, 59 cents go to service contracts.

"We must have requirements, resources, acquisition and sustainment working together as we think about requirements generation and affordability," Phillips said. "Acquisition has to be linked to requirements, resources and sustainment

on major programs that come forward in the future."

The Army needs to have an affordable strategy that supports systems both now and into the future. Army leaders must look out to 2040 and beyond to plan acquisitions that are affordable and bring value to the Army arsenal, he said.

"The Army is taking a real close look at portfolio systems, and its laying out capabilities and what it costs ... It's not just about materiel. It's also about the operational work-force," Phillips said. "It's not about profit and what industry is making. It's how do we work with industry and our partners to make sure we do enough to ensure efficiency and effectiveness is in all our processes."

The Army faces tough decisions on what programs to cancel, on how to increase productivity and how to determine system costs.

"We have to start working together to make sure we get efficient and effective in all our processes. Our leaders expect it. Our taxpayers expect it," Phillips said.

The Army is restoring affordability and productivity by performing an Army Acquisition Study, a holistic assessment of Army organizations, policies, work force and processes.

"We will provide a blueprint over the next one to two years on how to do business," Phillips said. "We will look at the past, at the present and seek improvement for the future. The study will give us a blueprint for Army acquisition to use to improve processes."

Improvements in the acquisition process can be achieved, he said, by understanding and embracing efficiencies, paying attention to requirements, revising incentive strategies, sharing risk with government, seeking and implementing improvements, and supporting the war fighter in all respects.

"We need to look inside and figure out how we can be more efficient and effective. Industry, we expect to share the risk with you to do everything possible to support our Soldiers downrange," Phillips said.

"America's sons and daughters are serving downrange and they are defending our freedom and the world, and giving people hope for the future. I've been there and I've watched Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, and they are amazing in what they do every day. We can be so proud of what they do on the field of battle. ... We collectively owe our war fighters downrange the very best we can do ... Contracting and acquisition and everything we do is important on the battlefield."

Army pursues better buying power



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Frank Kendall, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, tells Redstone Arsenal's acquisition professionals that they are the watchdogs for taxpayer's money and that they should work to bring costs down on all Army contracts.

Acquisition professionals urged to watch bottom line in contracts

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

The Army's better buying power – the ability to acquire better weapons systems and capabilities at lower prices – starts with the acquisition professionals who sign defense contracts.

In a September 2010 memorandum to the Army's acquisition community, Dr. Ashton Carter, the undersecretary of defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, provided guidance in obtaining greater efficiency and productivity in defense spending. His five major areas for improvements – target affordability and control cost growth, incentivize productivity and innovation, promote real competition, improve tradecraft in the acquisition of services and reduce nonproductive processes – will lead to a transformation within the Army's acquisition corps.

Frank Kendall, Carter's principal deputy undersecretary, brought that message in person to Redstone Arsenal's acqui-

sition community during a Feb. 23 town hall hosted by the Army Contracting Command-Redstone. Kendall added the presentation to an already planned trip to Huntsville to speak at the annual Defense Acquisition Conference. The town hall, held at Bob Jones Auditorium, neared 650 in attendance.

Of the acquisition transformation, Kendall said “we are getting new ideas, we are learning as we go and we are going to continue to make adjustments. It's a long journey that we are on. Basically, there's room for improvement. It is imperative for our community to be better at what we do ... Dr. Carter wants us to be better at acquiring things and spending taxpayer's money ... We've got to do a better job of getting things into production.”

Although Kendall and Carter don't expect a dramatic decline in defense spending, the two executives do believe there will be a gradual decline combined with the Army's commitment to phase out unproductive programs to spend more money on those that are productive.

“We are finding ways to get more with less money,” Kendall said, stressing that

See Kendall on page 16

Night vision sensor delivered on target

'Eyes of the Apache' system arrives with improvements

By **SOPIA BLEDSOE**
For the Rocket

The first of its kind was delivered to the Army at the 2005 Army Aviation Association of America national convention.

Just shy of six years later, the 1,000th Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor was delivered to the Army and recognized in a celebration Feb. 16 at the Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control production facility in Orlando, Fla.

"The only reason I made this trip was to thank you for what you're doing," Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, told the work force. "I don't care what you do for this company, you are part of the team that supports our Soldiers."

Also known as the "eyes of the Apache," the MTADS/PNVIS vastly improves the capabilities of the Legacy system, which was first fielded in 1983. Its most important improvement is the Forward Looking Infrared's ability to simply see better with visual acuity, measured in resolution, increasing 10-fold. MTADS/PNVIS is designed to fly more and require less maintenance and has significantly more diagnostics capability.

"I wish I could talk to your families," Crosby said, "because they don't know how influential you have been to the Army."

Crosby mentioned the countless lives the system has saved because it provided the ca-

pability that pilots need to take care of the enemy and to protect the Soldiers on the ground.

A separate ceremony was held in Ocala, Fla., where Lt. Col. John Vannoy, product manager for Apache Sensors, delivered remarks to the workers there who could not attend the ceremony in Orlando.

The MTADS/PNVIS, also known as Arrowhead, is the advanced targeting and pilotage system for the Army's Apache attack helicopter. Noted as the "game-changer" on the battlefield, Col. Shane Openshaw, Apache project manager, said that the sensor helps make the Apache helicopter the most lethal and survivable attack helicopter in the world.

"But we are not done improving it," Openshaw said.

The dayside part of the sensor still has '70s technology and has become increasingly more difficult to support. Work is under way for the Modernized Day Sensor Assembly that will complete the modernization of the MTADS to enhance performance and prevent obsolescence. This will include a new laser, a color television, an internal measurement unit and an image fusion capability. The VN sight, a visible/near infrared sensor, is a low light level camera integrated into the M-PNVIS. The VN sight is the first spiral ca-



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Workers from the Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control production facility in Orlando, Fla., cheer in front of an AH-64D Longbow Apache helicopter as they celebrate the 1,000th delivery to the Army of the Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor.

pability to the Arrowhead kits and will provide the war fighter with increased situational awareness and enhanced flight safety, resulting in tactical advantages.

The sensor will continue to evolve like the aircraft. "Our challenge will be to keep this effort on track and get the next capability in the hands of the war fighter," Openshaw said.

"Arrowhead has proven itself in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan during nearly 462,000 flying hours since the I-82 Attack/Recon Battalion was first equipped in June 2005," Bob Gunning, vice president for fire control at Lockheed Martin, said.

"Together, our mission is to produce products that deliver, 100 percent of the time."

"You are doing hero's work," Openshaw told the work force. "The first system you delivered was good. The 1,000th system is significantly better."

An Apache helicopter from the 1st Battalion, 151st Aviation Regiment and its aircrew from the South Carolina Army National Guard were present during the celebration.

"Having the world's premier attack aircraft with these outstanding Army aviation personnel, both up close and personal, reminds all of us why we never forget who we're working for," Gunning said.

A DD-250 was signed by Openshaw during the ceremony, marking the official delivery and turnover of the 1,000th MTADS/PNVIS to the Army. In addition, Crosby and Openshaw received an original painting titled "On Station - With America's Warfighters" by Richard Thompson, commemorating the event.

"Because the system you design, produce and deliver, do what they expect them to do, our Soldiers have the confidence in the aircraft that they fly in and that sensor that they use to help track the enemy," Crosby said. "They are willing to face danger every day because of their confidence in the equipment that they use."

Kendall

continued from page 15

the Army must learn to work on a tighter budget while still sustaining and modernizing its force strength.

Referring to his own experience as an Army officer, Kendall said in 1971, when he graduated from West Point, the Army was undergoing a "long, slow decline" in spending, cutting out new programs and suspending modernization of existing programs. Spending increased dramatically in the 1990s and into the 21st century as the Army played catch-up in fielding systems for battlefield success. But, now, another "long, slow decline" could once again threaten the Army's force structure.

"There is an increase in cost to sustain the force. As equipment gets older, it costs more to maintain," Kendall said. "We will see a big reduction in force or we will see some of the force not modernized at the cost of others."

But the Army's acquisition professionals can have a positive impact on budget constraints by being more efficient and "smart buyers" for DoD.

Kendall, whose military and professional career has spanned the fields of engineering, acquisition and law, presented his audience with an Acquisition Efficiency Guidance Roadmap that outlined Carter's five areas of improvement.

The first area - target affordability and control cost growth - can be achieved by implementing "should cost" management, eliminating redundancy in the war fighter portfolio, achieving stable and economical production rates, and managing program timelines.

"Affordability is probably the most important area we should consider," Kendall said. "We canceled a lot of programs because they are unaffordable. But, we've already spent a lot of money on them that we shouldn't have. We should have realized they were unaffordable at the beginning.

"The Army has wasted an awful lot of its money for programs that never went

into production ... We are going to start treating affordability as a requirement ... Affordability is going to become a standard part of the process. It should drive requirements. It should drive desire."

The second area - incentivize productivity and innovation - can be achieved by rewarding contractors for successful supply chain and indirect expense management, increasing use of fixed-price incentive firm contracts, capitalizing on program payment structures, instituting a superior supplier incentive program, and reinvigorating industry and independent research and development.

"We want industry to be leaner," Kendall said. "We want to pay direct costs. We need to attack that. We have to get industry to eliminate indirect costs as much as possible ... We want industry in a position where they work hard and they get a reasonable profit."

Promoting real competition, the third area, is accomplished by emphasizing a competitive strategy at each program milestone, removing obstacles to competition, and increasing the small business

role and opportunities.

"There are a lot of things you can do to keep that competitive environment," Kendall said, encouraging acquisition professionals to open competition to small businesses.

"Small businesses tend to be lean. Their overhead is low and they are hungry. They are also a good source of a great deal of innovation. Small businesses can bring a lot to the table."

The other areas - improve tradecraft in the acquisition of services and reduce nonproductive processes - rely on the professionalism of acquisition employees to address internal issues that drive up costs.

"Congress keeps imposing things at the top. But I don't think our problems are at the top. The problems are at the grassroots level with execution," Kendall said.

"At the end of the day, you should do as good a job as you can to drive costs down. You're professionals. We are counting on you to protect the taxpayer's money."

Navy launches recruitment visit at UAH Job Fair

By Lt. (Dr.) TENG K. OOI

UAH Navy campus liaison officer

The Navy was represented during a job fair Feb. 17 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

Lt. (Dr.) Teng Ooi, UAH Navy campus liaison officer, and Chief Petty Officer Rodney Matthews, a Navy recruiter from Navy Recruiting District Nashville, participated in the UAH Job Fair/Career Information Day at the University Fitness Center. UAH's Office of Career Advancement sponsored the event.

The job fair attracted hundreds of students, alumni and job seekers from diverse fields including business administration, engineering, science, liberal arts, medicine and nursing. It was an ideal opportunity for job seekers to meet, interview and discuss various career opportunities with 79 national and regional employers. In certain cases, job applications and resumes were also submitted.

The job fair was free and open to all students and alumni interested in employment, including co-ops, internships, full and part-time positions, as well as those seeking to switch career paths.

Job seekers were eager to learn and discuss Navy officer programs, recruiting incentives and career opportunities. The CLO and Navy recruiter from NRD Nashville



Chief Petty Officer Rodney Matthews, left, and Lt. (Dr.) Teng Ooi talk to the UAH students about the Navy job opportunities available to them at the job fair Feb. 17.

Courtesy photo

were on hand to impart insights on the job opportunities available for current and future students specifically in the medical, nuclear and Navy Reserve officer programs. Financial aid, scholarships, and numerous incentive benefits available to students interested in pursuing Navy officer programs were also discussed.

"All they said was go to college. They didn't exactly say how to get there or how to pay for it," Matthews said. "These Navy officer programs benefit students by signifi-

cantly reducing tuition expenses, while at the same time providing continued training, personal growth and the opportunity for an excellent career after college. For many students, these programs may be the encouragement needed to complete their bachelor and graduate degrees and advance towards a more successful future."

A job fair is an effective employee placement tool because it facilitates establishing multiple contacts, receiving select resumes, and the conducting of brief interviews with potential officer candidates. It presents the needs of the Navy to qualified candidates and leads to mutually beneficial career opportunities. A job fair also helps job seekers research the newest and most exciting, competitive and challenging work opportunities.

"We feel that choosing from a large diverse pool of talents at a job fair, we are certain to find the right fit for our available positions,"

Matthews said. "Additionally, we assist college graduates in selecting Navy careers that best fit their skill sets, interests, aptitudes, intelligence and creativity. The Navy is the leader in preparing college graduates for the rigors of a technical-based career in aviation, medicine, nuclear engineering, intelligence and health care. We are also looking for engineers and scientists to design and build the next generation advanced supersonic jets, hypersonic bombers, unmanned fighter jets, and faster and more powerful ships and submarines."

Shadow

continued from page 12

Engine improvements have been the key to Shadow's increased reliability. In six months, accidents due to engine problems were reduced by 50 percent.

"Engine improvements led to the lowest mishap rate in the history of the Shadow," said Kristen Regula, who as quality lead for Shadow works with reliability engineer Ed Rymut on engine performance issues. "And, when we talk about preventing a mishap, we are saving \$100,000 per mishap."

The Shadow uses a 40-pound, 40-horsepower engine on missions that put a lot of stress on its engine.

"It's the only engine in the world that works with the constraints of high performance, high stress and weight issues. The reason it has had reliability issues is because of what we are asking it to do," Smith said.

Engine improvements addressed carburetor icing, which occurs when Shadow flies in airspace ranging in temperature from 25 to 45 degrees Fahrenheit, Rymut said. The improvement involved installing a heated throttle plate carburetor. In addition, the Shadow's oil pump was modified so that it could continue to pump oil at cold temperatures.

"Before the oil pump was modified, we had to restrict the Shadow based on temperature limitations," Rymut said.

"When it goes up in altitude, the air gets very cold quickly. So, Shadow was very limited in its mission. With the new oil pump, we were able to expand the mission significantly. Now, the Shadow can fly higher for a longer period of time, and it can fly in nearly all weather conditions in the winter months."

The product office has also incorporated post-flight inspections, requiring that a field service representative check Shadow engines after each flight.

"Twenty-one to date have been saved because of post-flight inspections that detected metal shavings, which means something failed internally in the engine," Regula said. "Ten of those 21 would have resulted in a mishap if they had flown again."

Instead, those engines were replaced so that the Shadows could continue their mission.

With as much flying as the Shadow does in battlefield conditions and often under poor weather conditions involving sand and heat on launch and landing, and cold temperatures at high altitudes, "engines will continue to deteriorate and, if not detected, result in a mishap," Regula said. "But we know what will deteriorate and what to look for, and we can replace the engine before a mishap occurs."

The Shadow's performance was also improved with the incorporation of a larger parachute, which was designed to decrease its rate of descent while also increasing weight and reliability, said Zach Zimmerman, system safety engineer for Shadow.

"We reduced the direct rate of descent from 45 feet per second to 30 feet per second," he said. "In addition, the parachute designed for earlier variations can only support a payload of 300 pounds. We were able to increase that payload to 400 pounds while working the descent rate exercise."

The parachute, now doubled in size, also "incorporated innovative and advanced technologies – like advanced packing techniques and deployment techniques – to minimize the weight of the system," said Jason Lucas, the Shadow's technical chief.

"The deployment of the parachute is



Photo by Sgt. Kimberly Snow

Spc. Robert Clarno of Sierra Vista, Ariz., and Spc. Jeremy Squires of Wellsboro, Pa., perform maintenance on a Shadow following the unmanned aerial vehicle's flight at Forward Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq.

very critical. We used six variants of older version Shadow aircraft in a controlled test environment to ensure that the new deployment mechanism worked."

In use since June 2009, the new parachute is more effective in controlling a smooth landing for the Shadow. Smoother landings mean more affordable repairs if there is a mishap.

"When we do have a mishap, the parachute lessens the impact so that repairs aren't as expensive," Regula said. "Instead of \$280,000 to repair a Shadow, it costs \$100,000."

Steps have also been taken to "error proof" Shadow operations, minimizing the affect operator mistakes can have on the system. Automation has been incorporated in the system, and serves to check the system during pre-launch to ensure Soldiers follow all steps for a successful Shadow launch.

"We've investigated every mishap we've had and what's caused those mishaps, whether they are operator related or material related," Lucas said. "We've instigated several advance technologies, and hardware and software solutions. We've increased automation, and decreased Soldier interaction and burden during the last three years. We've reduced operator workload and decreased the mishap rate."

The improvements are part of the growing pains that go along with a new system that is popular with Soldiers.

"As we fielded more and more units, Soldiers determine new things to do with them, and we are finding ways to incorporate those new missions to better serve the Soldier on the battlefield," Smith said. "For example, we've added an avionics and communications requirement to support Soldier requests."

Added Lucas: "Some of our solutions

have been very high tech and innovative. We are using state-of-the-art battle technologies to provide a long duration of power in a lightweight package.

"Other solutions use simple technologies, such as instituting a break-away cable to solve problems with cables that tangled in the engine at launch. We look for the right solution to the problem, not necessarily the most expensive and highest tech."

Along the way, the Shadow's flight endurance has gone from five hours to nine hours, which decreases the number of Shadows needed to field a battlefield exercise. The Shadow's mission has expanded to include night-time reconnaissance, laser tagging of buildings and communications capabilities from Shadow operators to ground troops. Future capabilities will include arming Shadow with a weapon system and communications systems connecting it to manned aircraft.

"The technologies that we've incorporated have expanded the system significantly," Smith said.

Now used at the brigade level, the Shadow management team said there is a potential for more Shadows to be fielded to brigade combat teams as the Army looks for ways to "fill the gap between local tactical reconnaissance and strategic level reconnaissance," Smith said.

As long as the team "continues to maintain reliability as a top priority, as long as we stay focused on reducing life cycle maintenance and improving reliability, the Shadow will have new mission possibilities," Lucas said.

"If we continue to invest in technologies like we have in the last five years, Shadow will take giant leaps forward in its mission and its contribution will continue to be significant."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Ed Rymut, third from left, is happy to review performance-based logistics numbers for the Shadow unmanned aircraft system with other employees of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, including, from left, Marine Maj. Tony Knight, Ground Maneuvers product manager Lt. Col. Andy Hamilton, quality lead engineer Kristen Regula and system safety engineer Zach Zimmerman.

TrainingDay

Leader development programs start year

Civilian participants selected for training

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

More than 100 civilians at Team Redstone are taking an initial step in their leadership development.

They filled the Community Activity Center auditorium Thursday for the 2011 Leader Investment for Tomorrow kickoff. This was a combined kickoff for all three programs under LIFT, which will be nine months of training at one day per month.

“We’re working together to be better leaders so we can provide for the Soldiers and the civilians,” LIFT administrator Jamie Candelaria, a human resource specialist, said. “And building the bench.”

The 104 participants include 12 in Ad-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers addresses the 2011 Leader Investment for Tomorrow kickoff held Thursday at the Community Activity Center auditorium.

vanced LIFT class 5; 48 in LIFT class 10 and 11; and 44 in UPLIFT (Upward Leader Investment for Tomorrow) class 9 and 10.

“We’ve done a five-year review,” Candelaria said. “And in that review we focused

on efficiency, having a Soldier focus, and building relationships. That’s the reason this is the first time we’ve done a combined kickoff. We are one team, one fight.”

LIFT is sponsored by the Aviation and Missile Command’s G-1 (Human Resources). Participants include AMCOM and the Program Executive Offices, the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, NASA, Army Materiel Command, the Missile Defense Agency, and the Garrison.

The Leader Investment for Tomorrow program began in 2005. LIFT 2, now called Advanced LIFT, started in 2006. In 2008, the LIFT program was deployed to Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., and Corpus

Christi Army Depot, Texas. UPLIFT was developed in 2009.

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers and deputy commander Ronnie Chronister expressed their support for the program during the kickoff.

“We’re placing a lot of emphasis – and the whole Army is – on the civilian education system,” Rogers said.

“Taking the step in this leadership course is the first step of many you need to take,” he said.

Phil Petri, a Lean Six Sigma facilitator in the AMCOM Office of Continuous Improvement, is among the LIFT participants. “It’s competitive. I did do an application and competed for this,” said Petri, who arrived at AMCOM six months ago from Anniston Army Depot and has 24 years of government service.

“I’m new to AMCOM,” he said. “And with a depot background, this is a whole different perspective. This is an opportunity for me to better serve AMCOM and also an opportunity for me to grow and better serve my career.”

Huntsville Center celebrates Engineers Week

By JO ANITA MILEY

Huntsville Center Public Affairs Office

In the U.S., the third full week of February is National Engineers Week. More than 70 engineering, education, and cultural societies, and more than 50 corporations and government agencies observe it.

The celebration of National Engineers Week was started in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers in conjunction with President George Washington's birthday, who is considered as the nation's first engineer.

Huntsville Engineering and Support Center's Engineering Directorate teamed up with the Huntsville Center Activities Association to put on the game show "Who Wants to be an Engineer," Feb. 23 in the cafeteria to recognize Engineer Week at the center.

The purpose of National Engineers Week is to highlight the contributions to society that engineers make. It is also a time for engineers to emphasize the importance of learning math, science and technical skills.

Boyce Ross, director of engineering at Huntsville Center, acted as host for the event. Huntsville Center's Engineering Directorate employees Levi Gabre, Maggie Crenshaw and John Nevels competed to win prizes during the 30-minute game show. Questions included Corps of Engineers history, Huntsville Center history, and tenets of quality, technical questions and trivia, which included basic questions about construction. All three contestants emerged as winners, each answering all five questions correctly.

"I participated in the event because it sounded like fun. I enjoyed being questioned and the whole game show feel," Nevels said. "It was a fun twist to the typical engineering day. Our days are definitely more technically driven."

Crenshaw, a secretary in the Engineering Directorate, said she wanted to show her support for the engineering community. This is largely why she works at the Huntsville Center – to support the engineers' efforts to get the job done.

Ross said the engineers in his directorate have an enormous workload. It was difficult to find the time to organize activities to celebrate Engineer Week, and the Activities Association was willing to give them assistance. Suzanne Zarger, a project management specialist with the Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate and current president of the center's Activities Association, organized the event.



Photo by William S. Farrow

Members of the audience provide a "life-line" to contestant Maggie Crenshaw, left, as host Boyce Ross, right, looks on during the "Who Wants to be an Engineer" game show Feb. 23 at Huntsville Center.

"It is very important that we take the time to recognize those within our profession during National Engineers Week," Ross said. "This event was a fun way for us to celebrate this week."

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers hosted E-Week activities this year. There were three events culminating with the Huntsville Engineering Societies' E-Week Awards Banquet held Feb. 24.



Courtesy photo

Guest reader

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper reads Friday to a kindergarten class at Weatherly Heights Elementary. The youngsters were learning about freedom and the American flag. Cooper handed out American flags, read them a story titled "The Fathers Come Home," and talked to them about the branches of the military service and the flag.

Bowler

continued from page 8

second game. Calmed down by the time the third started, he threw another nine straight strikes, but a second perfect game was not to be, as a spare came in the 10th. Cox's final game score – 289 – combined with his other games from the night, totaled 806 for the entire series. Cox will receive two diamond rings from the United States Bowling Congress for the evening's accomplishments – one for his perfect game, another for the total series being over 800.

The perfect game is the second in Cox's bowling career, the first occurring 12 years ago at the old bowling center on the Arsenal. Having achieved perfection twice is validation for the skills Cox has been working on ever since his mother introduced him to bowling when he was 6.

"The first one could be luck," Cox said. "When you do it a second time it says you've achieved something."

Bowling is a family affair for the Cox family, who not only bowl competitively as a united front during Wednesday night league bowling, but also against each other on the weekends, when they meet at Redstone Lanes for their own competitive family fun to practice for league play.

"We're a bowling family," Cox said. "We love it."

At the end of each weekend practice, Cox and his father will go head to head to compete for what they

call the "Championship of the World," to find out who the best bowler is for the week.

"The family dynamic is awesome," Cox said. "We always have something in common. It gives us an additional activity to do together."

They also never have a lack of something to talk about. By the time Tuesday rolls around each week the family is comparing notes to see who their competition is and what to expect from the next league game, but once that week's series is done the talk stops. The team allows themselves only a half an hour at the end of each Wednesday night to either fuss or gloat about the evening's competition, a rule obviously meant to be broken in the aftermath of Cox's perfect game.

As the family has spent time together, Cox has built up his skills, learning that you can't just throw the ball to guarantee a strike. One of the most important lessons he has learned over the years has been to let the shot go, whether good or bad.

"When you throw a good shot and it doesn't carry, you don't get that ball back. You've got to let it go," Cox said.

Retired from the military as of Friday after 11 years active duty in the Army, and 15 years active duty National Guard, Cox will now have even more time to devote to his game, and may even travel for competition. While he could compete in a more competitive league on the Arsenal, that's not the point for Cox.

"I'd rather be able to bowl with my mom and dad. I get one day a week that me and my wife get with my parents," Cox said proudly.

Win or Lose

Headquarters & Alpha makes surprise comeback

Gators overcome 17-point deficit at halftime en route to victory

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Headquarters & Alpha's basketball team didn't give up despite a double-digit deficit at halftime to league-leading HHC 59th.

The Gators chipped away until the 59th's 17-point cushion disappeared. This set up a frantic finish to what looked like a 59th rout.

Jeremie Ayers scored the winning layup with 22 seconds left as Headquarters & Alpha stunned the 59th 50-49 on Feb. 23 at the Redstone Fitness Center. Ayers finished with four points but one of his two baskets was the difference.

"It just showed us (if) we keep fighting, we keep hustling, we can come back from any deficit because we were down by 17," the 6-foot-3 center said. "We just kept hustling."

HHC 59th led 31-14 at halftime but the score was tied 46-all with just over two minutes left. Leroy Early's 3-pointer put the 59th up 49-46 at 1:38.

The Gators made it 49-48 on Lawrence Scott's layup with 52 seconds remaining. After another missed free throw by the 59th – the "Raise Up bunch" failed to convert on two one-and-one opportunities in the final minute – the 59th claimed the offensive rebound. But the Gators forced a turnover.

"One of our guys got the steal at the top of the key (on the defensive end)," Ayers said. "And they passed

the ball to Scott. He got it at the half-court line. And I was just running with him on a fastbreak in the middle of the lane. He did a bounce pass at the free throw line. And after that I just went up for the layup and the ball toilet-bowled on the rim and rolled in."

Ayers' shot rolled around the hoop and down the hole with 22 seconds left. The 59th rushed the ball upcourt and Early took two shots but missed as the game ended.

"The refs were on their side tonight," Early said. "But we'll get them again."

Ayers, who capped the Gators' comeback, played high school ball in his native Arlington, Texas. As a sophomore on the junior varsity team, he hurt his back lifting weights during the offseason.

"At the time they (the doctors) told me not to play and I kept playing on it – made it worse," Ayers recalled.

After not playing since his sophomore year in high school, the 24-year-old has made quite a comeback himself. Now healthy, he's one of the reasons Headquarters & Alpha improved to 5-3 with its third straight win.

"Whole team effort," said Ayers, who arrived Feb. 2 from Fort Myer, Va.

Tobias Hall scored 12 points for Headquarters & Alpha. Mark Grey and Scott had 10 apiece.

Jeff Reuter, the 59th's 6-foot-8 center, scored 12 points for the Raise Up bunch (6-2).

"We pulled back and then they got going," 59th guard/forward Kevin Thomas said. "They never gave up and we

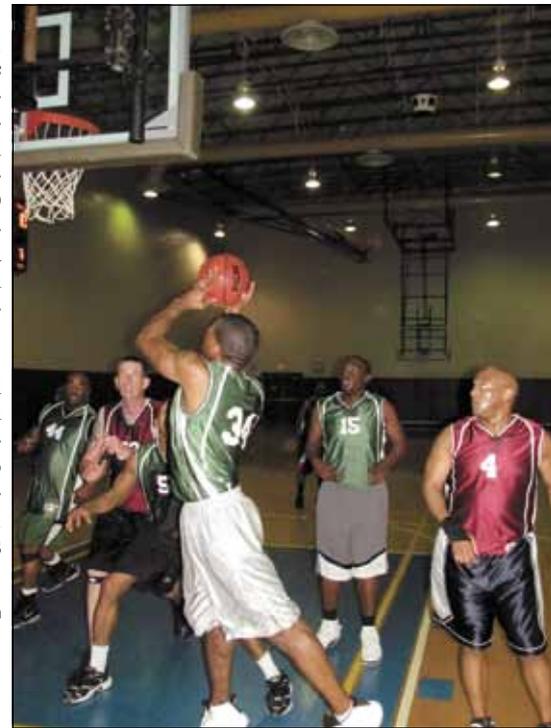
pulled back."

In last week's other games, the National Guard beat the Marines 60-39 and 326th Chemical edged NCO Academy 42-39 on Feb. 22; 326th Chemical won by forfeit over 375th Engineer and Bravo topped NCO Academy 62-44 on Feb. 23; Bravo beat Headquarters & Alpha 64-32, National Guard defeated Charlie 58-36 and 375th Engineer edged Marines 45-41 on Feb. 24.

Standings after week six had HHC 59th (6-2), National Guard (5-3), Headquarters & Alpha (5-4), 326th Chemical (4-2), Bravo Company (4-2), Charlie Company (3-4), NCO Academy (3-4), 375th Engineer (3-4) and Marines (0-8).

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Headquarters & Alpha's Jeremie Ayers, shooting in the first half against HHC 59th, would eventually score the winning layup.



Union officer positions up for election

Local 1858 of the American Federation of Government Employees will hold nominations for election of new officers at its monthly membership meeting March 14 at 5 p.m. at building 3202 on Mauler Road.

The method of nominations will be from the floor and may include by telephone for employees located at Kwajalein, Fort Bliss, SMDC/HELSTF, SAMD employees overseas, Moffitt employees and AMCOM LARS worldwide.

Employees on TDY or hospitalized can submit nominations in writing by mail to the AFGE Local Office by 4:30 p.m. March 14. Each person nominated must accept or decline the nomination at the time of nomination. This may be done verbally or in writing.

The election will be held April 11 from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Local office, building 3202. All dues paying members in good standing as of March 14 will be eligible to make nominations and vote in the election. In accordance with the AFGE Local 1858 Constitution, Article IV, Section 3 and the AFGE National Constitution, Appendix A, Part I, Section I (e) to be qualified as an officer or candidate for office, an individual must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a member in good standing.
- Be a member of Local 1858 for one year immediately preceding the closing of the nomination process.
- Must not be a member in any labor organization not affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

No write-in candidate will be accepted on the election ballot. The voting on April 11, 2011 will be by secret ballot.

The Election Committee will handle absentee votes under Appendix A, Paragraph 7 of Local 1858's by-laws which states: "Members who, for acceptable reasons, will be unable to attend the election meeting, upon written request to the chairperson of the Election Committee, shall be furnished ballots and properly marked envelopes

in which to send their ballots to the Election Committee chairperson. The absentee ballots shall be opened and counted with the remainder of the ballots."

All requests for absentee ballots need to be addressed to: AFGE Local 1858, ATTN: Chairman, Election Committee, P.O. Box 8362, Huntsville, AL 35898. All absentee ballots must be received by the Election Committee at the Local union office by 5 p.m. April 11.

The Election Committee includes Juan Mendoza, Steven Geaschel, Karen Moten and alternate Gregory Noble.

The following officer positions will be filled for April 2011 to April 2013: president, assistant president, executive vice president, secretary, treasurer, sergeant-at-arms, fair practices coordinator, AMCOM non-professional vice president, AMCOM professional vice president, OMEMS vice president, PM TMDE non-professional vice president, Garrison non-professional vice president, Garrison professional vice president, HELSTF professional vice president, SMDC non-professional vice president, SMDC professional vice president, MEDDAC/DENTAC vice president, PEO STRICOM non-professional vice president, AAFES vice president, TECOM non-professional vice president, TECOM professional vice president, Commissary vice president, LOGSA vice president, Corps of Engineers vice president, PEOMS non-professional vice president, PEOMS professional vice president, CPO non-professional vice president, DISA professional vice president, DISA non-professional vice president, NAF vice president, Kwajalein non-professional vice president, Kwajalein professional vice president, Printing Plant vice president, AMRDEC non-professional vice president, AMRDEC professional vice president, Army Contracting Command vice president, Network Enterprise Center vice president, PEO-C3T CRAM non-professional vice president, PEO-C3T CRAM professional vice president, PEO-C3T DFT-A2C25 vice president and Command Post Systems Integration vice president. (AFGE Local 1858 release)



Club art event

Photos by Ellen Hudson

Above, Col. Elizabeth Johnson, commander of Fox Army Health Center, looks over a collection of artwork during the second annual Evening on the Bayou fund-raiser sponsored by the Redstone Community Women's Club on Feb. 18 at Lake Forest. At left, Brigitte Kurowski and Linda

Moseley join with club vice president Lauri Sherrell to celebrate the fund-raiser while, at right, guest Jim Bradford takes a close look at a table of artwork arranged for the art auction. Artwork took center stage during an auction to raise funds for the club's community assistance program and merit award program for students. About 200 members and guests enjoyed the evening's festivities.

Sports & Recreation

Ten-Miler tryout

Redstone Arsenal's Ten-Miler Team, which will compete in the 27th annual Army Ten-Miler on Oct. 9 near the Pentagon, will hold an open tryout for runners April 2 at 7 a.m. The course begins at the Sparkman Fitness Center, continues south on Patton Road past Buxton Road to the five-mile point and then back to the fitness center. Redstone is the four-time defending champion in the government agency division and two-time defending champ in the all-comers division. The team will have members from the entire post community – including active and retired military, civilians and contractors. For more information, call assistant coach Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or coach Harry Hobbs 425-5307.

Golf tournament

Redstone Test Center will hold its annual Commander's Cup Golf Tournament on May 13 at the Links. 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.

Lady golfers

The Redstone Ladies Golf Association will kick off its 2011 golf season with a welcome coffee today at 9 a.m. at the Links at Redstone restaurant. "Having fun, making friends and playing golf are what RSALGA is all about, so lady golfers of all abilities come and join the fun," a prepared release said. For more

information, call the golf course 883-7977 or Jean Summers 772-2030.

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.

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

Golf league

The OMMCS Golf League seeks an additional team and more players for the 2011 season. The league plays each week, Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 3:45-4:52. Each four-member team will play one day per week. The team's roster should have from 6-12 players. The season runs from April 5 through the first week in September. An entry fee of \$110 is charged to all teams, which is used to pay winning teams for the first and second parts of the season, as well as individual and team wins each week. For more information, call Dean Anderson at home 852-3531, cell 797-3531 or e-mail dean-

Rocket Announcements

anderson1945@att.net; or Dave Parker 313-4196 or david.k.parker@us.army.mil.

Babe Ruth baseball

The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registrations for the 2011 spring season on this Saturday and March 12 from 9 a.m. to noon; and players ages 13 to 18 as of May 1, 2011 are invited. Players age 12 are eligible to sign up as well under the Local Swing Player Option. Registration forms will be accepted after March 12 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of the player's birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Contact one of the park representatives for registration locations. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts are: Northern Division, Mastin Lake Park, Emile Jones 990-5902, e-mail ejones@wilsonlumber.net; Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison 544-3180, e-mail timothy.t.harrison@nasa.gov; Eastern Division, Optimist Park, T. Poe 527-8763, e-mail wyatt.poe@gmail.com.

Senior baseball league

A Huntsville/Decatur men's recreational baseball organization, the Southern Senior Baseball League, is looking for new players for its upcoming season. The SSBL seeks players age 25 and older, with a special emphasis on players 40 and over. Weekly spring training practices will begin March 13 and be held each Sunday into late April. The practice field location/schedule is being finalized. The league plays a 20-game season (from mid-May through August), normally with two games per week (one weeknight and one Sunday afternoon or evening game). Games are played in the Huntsville/Decatur area. For more information contact either the Over-45 Division commissioner Bill McArdle at SSBL48s@comcast.net, the 25-35 Division commissioner Jim Crum at JimCrum10@yahoo.com, or e-mail joinssbl@comcast.net.

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 Officers and Civilians Club. Members are offered breakfast for \$6 plus tip. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 859-3784.

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.

Financial workshop

"Where's Your Money" will be held March 10 from 11 a.m. to noon in Bob Jones Auditorium. DoD civilians, military and family members are invited. The presenters include certified financial counselors Kathleen Riester and Mike Burden and certified financial counselor student Shakira Ellis. Topics include life cycle financial planning, spending plans, credit reports/scores, investing, mortgages and auto loans. There is no fee to attend. RSVP by March 7 to edwin.burden@us.army.mil, 876-5397.

Conferences & Meetings

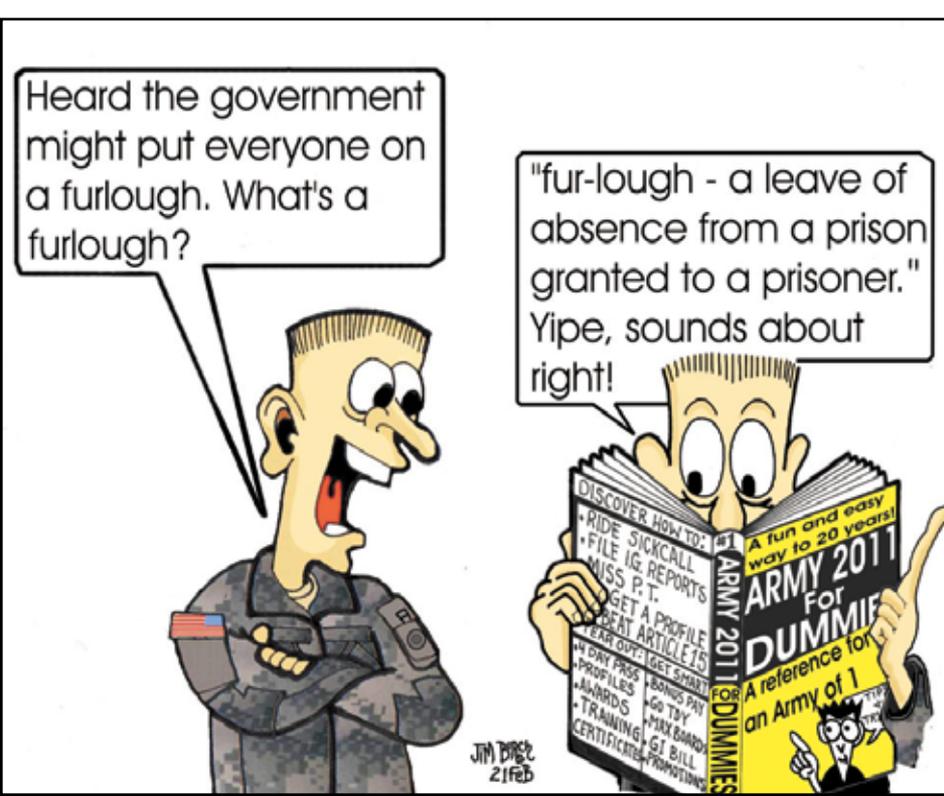
Weekly worship

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.

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

See Announcements on page 24



Rocket Announcements

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.

Admin professionals

Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 16th annual seminar March 7 at the Holiday Inn Research Park. The keynote speaker is John Croyle of Big Oak Ranch. Choose from afternoon sessions on: Communication in the Workplace, Interviewing Tips and Techniques, Women's Health, and Home Computer Maintenance. Registration form can be found at www.iaaprsa.org or by calling Alpha McRae 313-1957 or Gala Horry 842-8389.

University women

Huntsville Branch of the American Association of University Women will meet Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Carrabba's. Melissa Musgrove will speak on "Embracing Our Greatness" at AAUW's "Breaking through Barriers" luncheon. "The Breaking through Barriers" luncheon allows the Huntsville Branch of AAUW to provide opportunities to women student leaders from UAH, Alabama A&M, and Oakwood University to attend AAUW's National

College Student Women's Leadership Conference," a prepared release said. For more information, call 852-4802 or e-mail HSV.Branch.AAUW@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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.

Deployed work force ceremony

In appreciation and recognition of Team Redstone's service and sacrifice, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers would like to honor those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of Team Redstone operations for OIF/OEF. The Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is Thursday at 8:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The ceremony will recognize honorees for their deployments during June to December. For more information, call Carla Landers 876-2612 or Bruce Cline 955-6925.

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 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.

Civil War round table

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet March 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Jim Swan of Nashville will speak on "Chicago's Irish Legion in Dixie," including capture of three Confederate capitols and its march to the sea with Gen. Sherman. Visitors are welcome. Call 539-5287 for information.

Engineer extension

The North Alabama National Society of Black Engineers Alumni Extension invites the community to its 18th annual Scholarship Awards Banquet on March 10 at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Downtown, 401 Williams Ave. The keynote

speaker is Dr. Dorothy Huston, president of TMT Group Inc. Tickets are \$28 per person. Reserved tables are available. For more information, call Derrick Cameron 656-3591 or Chris Beatty 679-5757.

Women's coalition

National Coalition of 100 Black Women Inc., Greater Huntsville Chapter, will hold its 2011 SISTER Conference featuring actress/author Victoria Rowell, "Embracing Education Empowers the Mind," April 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Von Braun Center's East Hall. Tickets are \$50 until April 1, \$60 April 2-8. No tickets will be sold on event day. Call 859-4141 or 682-6230.

War fighter's perspective

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, the National Military Intelligence Association, the Air Force Association, and the Tennessee Valley Chapter of NDIA have joined together to bring retired Air Force Lt. Gen. David Deptula to Huntsville to discuss the current and future challenges in Joint ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance). Deptula was the first deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance at headquarters Air Force. The luncheon will be held March 10 at Von Braun Center North Hall. Corporate tables (eight) are \$300 and individual seating is available for \$30. The doors will open at 11 a.m., and lunch will be served at 11:30. You can register and pay through PayPal at <http://www.hsv-afa.org/index.php/component/content/article/25-huntsville-afa-chapter/109-admin1980>.

Fellowship program

The Senior Service College Fellowship at Huntsville is accepting applications through March 15 for the 2011-12 class. This 10-month resident program provides acquisition and senior leadership training to prepare civilian senior leaders for key leadership positions within the DoD acquisition community. Applicants must be Acquisition Corps members and be on track for executive level service. Applicants must submit their application online using the Army Acquisition Professional Development System within the Career Acquisition Management Portal/Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System at the following website: <https://rda.altess.army.mil/camp/>. For more information, contact SSCFS@dau.mil.

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
See Announcements on page 25



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Senior executive

Lisha Adams, executive director of AMCOM's Integrated Materiel Management Center, officially joins the Senior Executive Service during a ceremony Feb. 23 in Bob Jones Auditorium. She receives her SES appointment certificate from Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal.

Rocket Announcements

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.

Motorcycle safety

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

Reading with Taka

The Post Library presents the "Tales with Taka" reading program on the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. Children age 5 and older are encouraged to read to Taka, a registered therapy and Reading Education Assistance Dog. The program is available to anyone who has access to the Post Library. All children who participate in the program will receive a gift bag from Taka. Under "Taka's Frequent Reader Program," children who read to Taka five times will receive their own "pawtographed" copy of one of Taka's favorite books. Sign up to read to Taka at the library's front desk. For more information call the Post Library 876-4741 or Jamie Ward, Taka's owner and handler, 233-3962.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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>.

CFC agencies

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations for 2011. Under federal law, the charitable organization must be a current 501(c) (3) organization. The open period for accepting applications continues through March 24. On behalf of federal donors, the CFC is responsible for overall management, collection and disbursements of donor designations from federal, military and postal personnel within the Tennessee Valley area. The Tennessee Valley CFC serves charitable agencies in Madison, Morgan, Marshall, Limestone, Cullman and Lawrence counties. A copy of

the 2011 CFC package may be acquired by calling the CFC office 876-9143, the PCFO office 518-8214 or by visiting the website <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil>.

Circus tickets

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus will come to town with "Barnum's FUNundrum" Thursday through Sunday at the Von Braun Center. Active duty, retired, Reserve and Guard personnel, and Department of Defense employees, and their family members are eligible for a \$12 ticket in two price levels at six performances. The \$12 ticket is good for 300-level seating at the following performances: Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 and 5 p.m. Here are the three ways to purchase tickets: Show your government identification at the VBC box office; visit www.ticketmaster.com; or call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000. Use promotional code, "MIL," for online and phone orders. A convenience charge per ticket and handling fee per order will be added to Ticketmaster orders. For more information on military tickets, call Group Tickets USA at 776-1876.

Health fair/forum

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. will sponsor the North Alabama Community-wide Health Fair and Forum on April 9 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, University Center Exhibit Hall. This public event is free. For more information, call 656-7797.

Army civilian of year

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army will sponsor the Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award Dinner at 7 p.m. April 5 at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. This award and dinner recognizes local Army civilians who have demonstrated exceptional performance as members of the Army team. AUSA will recognize nominees from three groups: Management/Executive Award, Professional/Technical Award and Supporting Staff Award. These outstanding civilians will be nominated by their commands or agencies in February. "Plan to support these outstanding civilian nominees by attending the award dinner," a prepared release said. Individual ticket cost is \$35; corporate tables of eight are \$280. For more information, call AUSA event coordinator Jerry Hamilton 652-7437 or e-mail AJH72USMA@mchsi.com. For reservations, due by March 29, visit www.ausaredstone.org/Events.aspx.

Shredding service

Effective April 1, the Garrison will

discontinue the mobile shredding service for the destruction of sensitive and classified information. Mobile shredding service for the destruction of sensitive and classified materials will become the responsibility of each Garrison tenant after April 1. Tenant organizations are encouraged to make other arrangements for proper destruction of sensitive and classified materials. Tenant organization S2/G2/Security Offices should be consulted to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements concerning the proper destruction of sensitive or classified information. Ruby Childers, chief of the Security Division, DPTMS, is available at 876-1345 to address questions related to the destruction of sensitive or classified information. Bert Rivera, chief of DOL Transportation Division, can be reached at 876-1718 for questions related to the current destruction services contract.

Photography exhibit

Discover north Alabama's wildlife through the nature photography of Joe Romans in an exhibit of his works at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, 511 N. Water St., Tusculumbia, through March 11. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1-3 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$5 adults and \$3 students, with Sundays free and group rates available. Romans, a Shoals native and lifelong wildlife enthusiast, photographs Shoals and North Alabama wildlife with his wife, Valerie. For details, visit tvaa.net or call 383-0533.

Alcorn State scholarship

The Tennessee Valley Alumni Chapter of Alcorn State University announces its 2011-12 TVA ASU William E. James Memorial Scholarship application. For anyone who may be interested in attending Alcorn State, you must be a graduating high school senior/incoming freshman from the greater Huntsville community/North Alabama or Vicksburg/Warren County, Miss., school district. The amount of the William E. James Memorial Scholarship is \$1,000, with an application deadline March 21. A copy of the scholarship application may be picked up at your local high school senior counselor's office, or you may call Melvin Mayo 721-9336 or Sam King 694-1403 to request a copy.

Chapter scholarships

The 100 Black Men of America's Greater Huntsville Chapter announces its 2011 scholarship awards. As a part of its "Four for the Future" cornerstone programs (mentoring, education, economic development and health and

Rocket Announcements

wellness), the 100 BMOA-GHC is committed to the growth and development of America's youth. Scholarships will be awarded to individuals who maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 system. The program is for high school graduates who plan to enroll in fall 2011 at an accredited two- or four-year college or university, regardless of race, sex, creed or religious preference. Scholarship applications must be received or postmarked in the 100 BMOA-GHC business office by 5 p.m. March 14. Notification of awards will be sent by March 31. Scholarship awardees will participate in the 100 BMOA-GHC Scholarship Awards program scheduled April 17. Applications can be obtained from local high school counselors or by calling Freeda McDowell 536-8050 or e-mailing Gerald Moore at gmoor6@bellsouth.net. For more information about the scholarships or the awards program, call Gerald Moore 233-2334.

Systems engineering master's

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is now accepting applications for the Master of Systems Engineering offered through the Huntsville campus, located on Redstone Arsenal. There are two informational briefings scheduled March 10. The first session will be held at noon in building 3324, across from the ERAU office/Army Education Center on Snooper Road. The second session will begin at 6 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Space Center, 4801 Governors House Drive, near Landrys. Dr. Bruce Conway, Engineering Sciences Department chairman, will answer questions about the program. "The Embry-Riddle Master of Systems Engineering Program has been developed in response to the growing need by industry and government for engineers and managers who are not only specialists in a particular area, but who have a systems perspective in order to more effectively practice engineering and manage within

the aviation, aerospace and other business enterprises," a prepared release said. For more information, call the ERAU Huntsville campus 876-9763.

Give blood to troops

The Armed Services Blood Program will hold a blood drive March 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fox Army Health Center's Fox Den. For more information, call Dan Morgan 876-4990.

Youth ministry

Club H2O Military Youth Ministry is looking for volunteers with a Christian world view who can teach and instruct military youth how to fly radio-controlled model airplanes. "The goal is not only to mentor and teach a great skill in this program but also teach discipline, develop positive attitudes, develop a desire to learn and how to care for others," a prepared release said. If interested call Darrell Good, community youth director for Club H2O at Bicentennial Chapel, 842-3318.

Employment overview

Need help understanding how to apply for federal jobs? Reserve a seat for the Federal Employment Process overview March 10 from 9-10 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct this session. Topics will cover various recruitment sources, application procedures, how candidates are evaluated and the referral process. This session is open to all military ID and Common Access Card holders and their spouses.

To reserve a seat, call ACS at 876-5397 or e-mail debra.d.jefferson@us.army.mil.

Florida Tech signup

Florida Institute of Technology will conduct registration beginning March 7 for the summer semester. FIT is in the Progress Center building 7, Suite 720, 6767 Old Madison Pike. Florida Tech Redstone offers nine master level certificate programs including Acquisition and Contract Management and Logistics Management. For more information, call 971-9353 or 971-9354.

Marine Corps fellowships

The Marine Corps History Division seeks applications for its 2011 Marine Corps master's theses and dissertation fellowships on topics related to some aspect of Marine Corps history. The fellowships are funded by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation to help encourage contributions to the field of Marine Corps history and, more generally, military and naval history. Deadline for applications is May 1. Additional information and application materials can be found on

the division's website www.history.usmc.mil, or by contacting the coordinator of grants and fellowships (703) 432-4884 or charles.r.smith9@usmc.mil.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop is open this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations are always welcome. Consignments are taken from 9-11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call the NO-LIST number 881-6915 before coming in. 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.

Arts update

Youngsters are invited to the "Spring into Summer Activities Fair," Saturday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Sci-Quest, Hands-on Science Center, 102-D Wynn Drive. The Huntsville Arts Council will present the fair, a free event to provide parents with everything they need to know about local spring break and summer programs for children of all ages that focus on science, culture and the arts. For more information on this and other art oriented events, visit www.ourvalleyevents.com or www.arts-huntsville.org.

Contractor facility

LogiCore Corporation announces the opening of a new facility in Cummings Research Park, which will serve as its new corporate headquarters. Located at 920 Explorer Boulevard Suite B, this facility will house both management and customer support personnel. LogiCore delivers engineering support services, integrated/lifecycle logistics, training and education, programmatic services, and information technology to Department of Defense, government and commercial clients.

Indoor flying

Grace United Methodist Church welcomes pilots and spectators of all ages to its new full-court, high-ceiling gym for indoor small electric radio-controlled airplane and helicopter flying March 13 from 1-4 p.m. The church is at 2113 Old Monrovia Road. For more information, call Jim Marconnet 772-3946 or e-mail jmarconnet@gmail.com.

Microsoft courses

Oakwood University Technology Certification Program announces its 2011 Microsoft Certification courses. MCITP classes began March 1, and students have the potential of receiving full MCITP Certification in as few as eight months. For more information, e-mail Patricia Beale at pbeale@oakwood.edu or leave a message at 726-8284.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF FEB 24 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																				
SCBK11849326	Logistics Management Specialist	3-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X						X	X					
SCBK11885733	Human Res Specialist (Mil/Emp Ben)	3-Mar-11	USAG	GS-0201	11	11	58,343 - 75,843	X	X					X	X					
SCBK11805699	SPV Contract Spec	3-Mar-11	AMCOM	YA-1102	3	3	82,926 - 135,993	X												
SCBK11833663	IT Specialist	3-Mar-11	ACC	YA-2210	2	2	71,000 - 108,102			X			X	X	X					
SCBK10760499	Patent Attorney	4-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-1222	14	14	98,265 - 127,743											X		
SCBK11842559	Executive Assistant	4-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0301	9	11	48,221 - 75,843	X												
SCBK11876773	Program Support Assistant	4-Mar-11	ARDEC	DK-0303	3	3	39,422 - 56,754	X												
SCBK11856328	Logistics Management Specialist	4-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X												
SCBK11851294	Administrative Specialist	4-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0301	9	11	48,221 - 75,843						X	X	X					
SCBK11393710	Logistics Management Specialist	4-Mar-11	HQ AMC	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102			X				X	X					
SCBK11677425R	Inspector/Inspector Leader	4-Mar-11	AMC	GS-1801	14	14	98,265 - 127,743	X			X			X	X					
SCBK11821075R	Financial Management Analyst	7-Mar-11	US Army Space & Miss Def Cmd	GS-0501	12	12	69,930 - 90,907		X	X	X			X	X					
SCBK11887112	Program Analyst	7-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0343	12	12	69,930 - 90,907			X										
SCBK11887331	Systems Management Analyst	7-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0501	12	12	69,930 - 90,907			X										
SCBK11887490	Systems Management Analyst	7-Mar-01	AMCOM	GS-0501	13	13	83,156 - 108,102			X										
SCBK11536407	Logistics Management Specialist	8-Mar-11	AMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,823 - 106,369	X						X				X		
SCBK11889286D	Risk Reduction Prog Coordinator	8-Mar-11	USAG	GS-0101	11	11	58,343 - 75,843											X		
SCBK11889449	Human Resources Specialist	8-Mar-11	AMCOM	YA-0201	2	2	47,214 - 108,101		X			X		X	X			X		
SCBK11889412	Inventory Mgt Specialist	9-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-2010	11	11	58,343 - 75,843	X												
SCBK11883574	Budget Analyst	10-Mar-11	US Army Space & Miss Def Cmd	GS-0560	12	12	69,930 - 90,907				X	X		X	X			X		
SCBK11877776	General Engineer	10-Mar-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	69,930 - 108,102				X	X		X	X			X		
SCBK1111802848	Safety & Occupational Health Manager	10-Mar-11	Aviation & Msl Res, Dev & Eng Ctr	DE-0018	14	14	83,156 - 127,743	X												
SCBK11887576	Business Analyst	10-Mar-11	AMC	GS-1101	14	14	98,265 - 127,743				X	X		X	X			X		
SCBK11900932	General Supply Specialist	10-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-2001	11	11	58,343 - 75,843	X	X											
SCBK11849117	Psychology Technician (Psychometry)	10-Mar-11	US Army Med Dept	GS-0181	9	9	48,221 - 62,683			X				X	X			X		
SCBK11905535	Management Analyst	11-Mar-11	US Army Space & Miss Def Cmd	GS-0343	13	13	83,156 - 108,102				X	X	X	X	X			X		
NEAL10541178	Acquisition Management Specialist	15-Mar-11	Program Executive Office (PEO)	YA-0301	2	2	48,221 - 119,935				X	X		X	X			X		
SCBK10631319OCE	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102								X			X		
SCBK10631270OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102			X				X	X			X		
SCBK10482838OC	Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102				X			X	X			X		
SCBK10482845OC	Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	7	12	39,422 - 90,907			X	X			X	X			X		
SCBK10482850OC	Supv Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	YA-1102	3	3	98,265 - 127,743				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		
SCBK10631337OCE	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							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		
SCBK10444988OC	Contract Specialist	17-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779	X	X					X	X			X		
SCBK1044488OC	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		
SCBK10482841OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	14	14	98,265 - 127,743		X		X			X	X			X		
SCBK10482823OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907			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.