

Redstone Rocket

www.theredstonerocket.com

March 30, 2011

Vol. 60 No. 13 PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PERSONNEL AT REDSTONE ARSENAL, AL

Black Hawks fly to help Japan

Redstone workers provide support in Army's quake rescue mission

By KARI HAWKINS
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Black Hawks have long been viewed as “freedom flyers” in countries where the Army uses utility helicopters for medical, search and rescue, transport and combat missions in support of troops on the ground.

But since the March 11 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan, two of those “freedom flyers” have become symbolic with emergency assistance to this nation's people, who have been crushed by the two overwhelming natural disasters.

The mission success of the Black Hawks in Japan – flown by the Army's 78th Aviation Battalion based at Camp Zama – can be attributed to the helicopter's advanced technology, its well-trained pilots and crew, and the dedication of the U.S. to provide support to its allies.

That success can also be attributed to the behind-the-scenes work of 450-plus workers at Redstone Arsenal who daily ensure that Black Hawks are sustained and maintained throughout the world. Because of their work, the workers of the Utility Helicopters Project Office have a connection to the search-and-rescue missions flown by Black Hawks in Japan.

“We are very proud of our Soldiers and civilians who work around the globe in support of utility helicopters,” said Gregory Gore, acting project manager for the Utility Helicopters Project Office, which is part of the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

“The 400 Black Hawks in the fight in



Courtesy photo

The presence of the Army's UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, supported by the Utility Helicopters Project Office, is at a higher profile these days as two of the Army's Black Hawks provide search and rescue, and resupply assistance in Japan following the March 11 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

two theaters right now (Iraq and Afghanistan) are our number one priority. But we support the war fighter in whatever mission they are in, including the 78th Aviation Battalion in Japan.”

UH-60 Black Hawks are assigned to the 78th Aviation in Japan. Currently, two aircraft are assisting with search-and-rescue and disaster relief in that country. Other helicopters are deployed on mission to the Philippines. The two aircraft conducting Japanese emergency assistance are now operating from Sendai, the Japanese city closest to the earthquake's epicenter.

“How much flying these two Black Hawks are doing depends on the availability of the aircraft crew and the maintenance crew,” Gore said. “What we do here is make sure they have the spare parts and the maintenance training to keep those Black Hawks flying for whatever mission they are assigned.”

The 78th Aviation is part of U.S. Army, Japan, based at Camp Zama, and,
See Japan on page 20



Photo by Navy Spc. 3rd Class Alexander Tidd

Japanese citizens move food and water out of a HH-60H Sea Hawk helicopter March 15 following the March 11 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami that devastated the country. The Sea Hawk, assigned to the Navy's Black Knights, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron, is conducting search and rescue operations and resupply missions as directed in support of Operation Tomodachi in northern Japan. The Navy's Sea Hawk program is supported indirectly by the Utility Helicopters Project Office.

POST PROFILE

Ronnie Chronister, deputy commander for the Aviation and Missile Command, received the Secretary of the Army Diversity and Leadership Award.

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OVER THERE

Post Exchange workers reflect on their voluntary deployments.

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HAIL AND FAREWELL

In his more than three decades of civil service, Logistics Support Activity deputy commander Geoffrey Embrey has deployed 11 times.

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WIN OR LOSE

The postseason basketball tournament brings March Madness to the Redstone Fitness Center.

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RocketViews

What do you think of March Madness?

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Ted Stevenson
Aviation Mission
Equipment Product Office
“It’s an exciting time of the year. I like all of the suspense and the competition.”



Phylissa Shannon
Sports and Fitness
“I have not watched a single game because I’m more of a football person.”



Sgt. Edgar Howze
AMC Band
“It doesn’t matter to me until the Crimson Tide makes the cut for the tournament. We’re in the NIT so it’s OK.”



Brian Marbrey
Community Activity Center
“I’m a football guy. I don’t watch March Madness.”

Quote of the Week

“Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.”

— John Wooden

RedstoneRocket

The Redstone Rocket is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in the Redstone Rocket through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the Redstone Rocket is Tennessee Valley Printing Co., Inc., located at 201 1st Ave., SE, Decatur, AL 35603.

Retail advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday before Wednesday publication. Classified advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

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Letters to the Editor

Family action process resolves issues

I often say you can read about history or make history. This year, the voices of Soldiers, civilians and families that have contributed to the Army Family Action Plan process were heard and history was made at the 27th annual AFAP General Officer Steering Committee held the first week of February.

Senior Army leaders and program representatives from across the Army resolved 17 of 40 quality-of-life issues making great strides in support of our wounded warriors and families. These issues originally identified by AFAP representatives at the unit or installation level will make life better for Soldiers, their families and civilians for years to come.

Qualified wounded warrior job applicants now receive greater visibility in the federal government hiring process. Major accomplishments include the integration of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran Resume Inventory (VetSuccess.gov) into the Army recruitment process and the designation of human resource specialists as veteran employment coordinators. To learn more about this issue, visit the Army OneSource website at <https://www.myarmyonesource.com/familyprogramsandservices/> and search for issue number 617.

Through issue number 610 we have expanded treatment for Traumatic Brain Injury patients. Traumatic Brain Injury screening, identification, treatment and rehabilitation services are now in place at each Army medical treatment facility. To date, TBI programs at 40 facilities have achieved full validation, 10 have achieved initial validation and the remaining programs will receive full validation by this month.



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Wounded warriors will benefit from the availability of standardized respite care for their caregivers through Tricare and VA (issue number 630) and through the establishment of the Army Wounded Warrior Support Network (issue number 632). The AWWSN is a support program that connects severely wounded, injured and ill Soldiers and their families to a network of resources in the local community.

Three initiatives were completed in the Family Support category. These initiatives provide for more affordable child care to those who need it the most (issue number 566), Tricare coverage for children up to age 26 (issue number 632), and a policy revision that requires initial military training Soldiers with exceptional family members to receive new assignment instructions if the OCONUS travel approval authority has not notified the Soldier of the availability of EFM services 30 days prior to the Soldier’s graduation (issue number 639).

Ten of the 17 issues resolved were designated as unattainable due to resource or legislative constraints. Although the AFAP recommendations were unattainable, progress was made on many of the issues. An example of this is the increase in administrative and PCS weight allowances for grades E1 to E4 and E7 to E9, establishment of a hardship-based increase to PCS weight allowance, and 500 pounds of spouse professional weight allowance. To learn more, visit our website and search for issue 457.

The Army will continue to work the issues, but the Army Family Action Plan is your program. I encourage you to learn more about the AFAP process by visiting the Army OneSource website at <https://www.myarmyonesource.com/familyprogramsandservices/familyprograms/armyfamilyactionplan>. From here you can follow the progress on issues that are currently being worked by selecting “Active Issue Search” at the bottom of the page and then search by issue number or by keyword. The website also allows you to submit a new issue directly to your garrison or command’s AFAP process and provides AFAP brochures, articles and videos to download. You can also download the “HQDA AFAP Issue Search” application for free on your iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch.

My next article in this series will review the 16 new quality-of-life issues AFAP delegates identified as being the most critical and our need as an Army community to identify inefficient, redundant or obsolete family programs so we can redirect those resources to where we truly need them.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
Installation Management
Command commander

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Rocket articles are available at:
<http://www.theredstonerocket.com>
<http://pao.redstone.army.mil>

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The Redstone Rocket is distributed free of cost to any personnel at Redstone Arsenal and Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates for off post for the Redstone Rocket are \$30 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. “Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time.” (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual). We do not send subscription renewal notices.

Huntsville police break ground for memorial

Project dedicated to fallen officers

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Redstone police chief Art Riley and director of emergency services Mike Sheehy attended Friday's groundbreaking ceremony for the Huntsville Police Fallen Officer's Memorial.

The statue, by local sculpture and artist Dan Burch, is finished and will be installed in front of the Public Safety Complex at 815 Wheeler Ave. Dignitaries, family members and others gathered at the site.

"It's such an important event for our department," Huntsville police chief Mark Hudson said.

The \$350,000 project should be completed in about four months.

"It is time – it is past time for us to honor our fallen officers," Mike Fees, chairman of the Huntsville Police Citi-

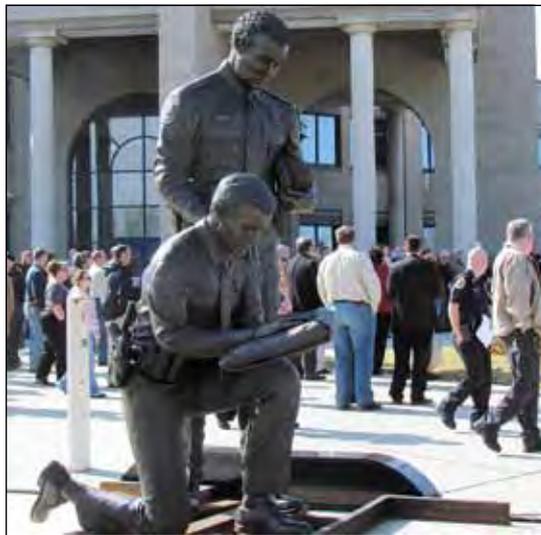


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Attendees walk toward Friday's groundbreaking ceremony for the Huntsville Police Fallen Officer's Memorial.

zens Foundation, said. "It is a long time in coming."

Burch, owner of Meridian Arts, said he worked on the statue for about a year and a half.

Former Redstone legal officer dies in mishap



Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts

Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts, a former chief of military justice at AMCOM, drowned March 21 while vacationing in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She was 28.

She and other tourists were in an inflatable boat that flipped over after hitting rocks near the base of a waterfall at the Iguazu Falls on northern Argentina's border with Brazil. Philip Musgrove, 70, was also killed and five others suffered injuries and were treated at a hospital, authorities said.

Her husband, 1st Lt. Robert Eberts, was at the scene and contacted her parents by phone.

A native of Mechanicsville, Pa., she was a member of the Redstone Ten-Miler Team in 2008 and 2009 before she deployed to Afghanistan.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

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

March 18: A civilian was cited for driving with a suspended license at Gate 10.

March 20: On Simpson Drive, a lawn mower and two bicycles were stolen from a residence.

March 22: A family member was cited when pistol ammunition was

found in her vehicle at Gate 9.

Traffic accidents reported: 10 without injury.

Violation notices issued: 17 speeding, 3 failure to yield right of way, 1 suspended driver's license, 1 security violation, 1 no driver's license, 8 stop sign violations, 3 expired driver's license or registration, 1 improper backing, 2 illegal parking, 1 no insurance.

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Felicia Brown-Clay

Job: Recreational assistant, Community Activity Center

Where do you call home?

I was born in Germany. I call my home Chicago.

What do you like about your job?

I like that it's a little more relaxed. I can come in from school (Calhoun Community College) and be at ease and not have to worry about a constant demand.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to hang out with my daughter (1-year-old Arilyn) and my friends.

What are your goals?

I plan to become a doctor. I've always wanted to help in the medical field –



specifically, to do research for diabetes.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?

I think that would be to go to Las Vegas with my daughter. It just sounds pretty. Everybody always talks about it. Just thought I'd get up and go.

Army's top testers recognized

Henry H. "Bucky" Waller III, Air Force C-27J Transition Cell support contractor in the Aviation Systems Project Office, received the National Defense Industrial Association "Tester of the Year" award from the Army during a luncheon ceremony March 16 in Tampa, Fla., as part of the 27th National Test and Evaluation Conference.

Dave Grimm, acting assistant deputy undersecretary of the Army for test and evaluation, and Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of Test and Evaluation Command, presented the



Henry H. "Bucky" Waller III

award to Waller and each Army recipient.

The awards event was the highlight of the annual conference where OSD and each military test and evaluation department had the opportunity to recognize three honorees as "Tester of the Year" for outstanding achievement in test and evaluation by servicemembers, Defense Department civilians and contractors. Fifteen "Tester of the Year" honorees across DoD were recognized during

the luncheon. (Program Executive Office for Aviation release)

Local Phoenix partner gets award

Summit Treestands has received the 2010 NISH Partnership Award for its work with Phoenix. The annual award recognizes productive partnerships between for-profit, commercial companies and non-profit Community Rehabilitation businesses.

Phoenix has been contracting with Summit since 2007, producing sewn parts for several of Summit's tree stand products.

Summit was founded in 1981 by John Woller, who started by making the tree

stands in his garage.

Phoenix has been providing jobs, job placement and a variety of other services to people with disabilities in Huntsville and throughout north Alabama since 1973.

The partnership between Summit and Phoenix employs an average of 20 people, producing items for more than 40,000 tree stands annually and generating more than \$150,000 in business during the past four years. (Phoenix release)

Parades open April's Month of Military Child

Kickoffs scheduled at both Goss, Mills Road centers

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Military children are special. And every year at this time, the military services make sure they know it.

April is the Month of the Military Child. Kickoff parades will be held Friday at both child development centers. The Mills Road center will have its ribbon-cutting event at 9 a.m., followed by the Goss Road center's event at 10. Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton will deliver remarks.

"The Stars of Today are the Leaders of Tomorrow" is this year's theme.

"My husband just retired (as an Army master sergeant)," Linda Smith, assistant director of the Goss Road center, said. "To me, having a Month of the Military Child is just letting the children know they're appreciated and it's in support of their parents."

The Goss Road center has 164 children, including 77 military youngsters. Deborah Nickles is the director.

"I think it's important to celebrate children no matter what," assistant director Diane Engbretson said. "These are going to be our future Soldiers and our future leaders in the community. So it's important that we recognize that these children are going to grow up and let



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Quenton Hubbard, Jimmy Pleasant, Jordyn Blackwell and Denalia Oliver speak with both their mouths and hands as they recite and sign the Pledge of Allegiance at the 2010 opening of the Month of the Military Child kickoff parade at the Child Development Center on Goss Road.

them know they're going to be leading us one day.

"I think all children are special," Engbretson said. "I just think military children have sometimes added stress. Sometimes other children don't understand

what it is to be deployed."

Said Smith, who has three grown children, "The (parent) deploying, the constant moving, the leaving of friends that they've met. It's a lot they have to endure but they seem to always bounce back."

The Mills Road center, which opened in November, has 140 children including 43 with military parents.

"We got possession of the building in October but we didn't actually open until November," Mills Road center director Karen Luckie said.

Month of the Military Child events are scheduled throughout April at both centers. "A lot of the things are going to be the same, just different days," Luckie said.

The Goss Road center's calendar includes Crazy Sock Day on April 4, Hat Day on April 5, Sunglasses Day on April 6, Open House from 4:30-5:30 p.m. April 7, Pajama Day on April 8, Bubble Day on April 11, Soldier Story Day (where military parents are asked to read to the children) on April 12 at 10 a.m., Clothes Inside Out Day on April 13, Outside Art Gallery on April 14, Olympic Day on April 15 at 10 a.m., Mismatch Day on April 18, Team Jersey Day on April 19, Outdoor Music Day on April 20, Stuffed Animal Day on April 21, Wear Your Month of the Military Child T-shirt on April 22, Easter Egg Hunt on April 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the sports field off Goss Road, Share a Book Day on April 25, Red White and Blue Day on April 26, Ice Cream Social on April 27, Tunnel Crawl on April 28, and Western Day on April 29.

For more information, call the Goss Road center at 955-0116 or the Mills Road center at 842-5862.



Photo by Sara Roberts

Library open house

Post library technician **Laura Howell** displays copies of "Wicked City" by Ace Atkins and "Rocket Boys" by Homer Hickam. Copies of these books will be given away April 5 at the Community-wide Read Open House.

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:

Karaoke at pub

Everyone's invited for karaoke Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m. until the end of April at Firehouse Pub. For information call 830-2562.

Golf tournament

The Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers Spring Kick-off Tournament, a four-person scramble, is Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at the Links. Breakfast starts at 7:30. Cost is \$50 per person plus greens fees if applicable. For more information, call 883-7977.

Babysitting class

Child Youth and School Services will have a babysitting class April 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 3466. This is a free class for ages 11-18; and participants must be registered with CYSS. Register at Parent Central Services at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. All attendees should bring a sack lunch and drink. For more information, call 313-3735 or 313-3609.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation will have a Customer Appreciation Open House, sponsored by Woody Anderson Ford, on April 7 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 876-4868.

Local students draw experience from art

By **SEDRIC PENNINGTON**
For the Rocket

Several times a year, Team Redstone holds heritage celebrations at Bob Jones Auditorium. These celebrations recognize a diverse aspect of American society and history such as Native American or African-American history month.

An important part of the heritage month celebrations is the student artwork contest. The contest gives local student artists the opportunity to compete and have their artwork seen by a large audience.

The art contest started two years ago and was the brainchild of Rosie Douglas, a human resources specialist with CPOC. Douglas approached Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green in the EEO office with the idea for the art contest, and thought it was a great way to involve the local community.

While Douglas does not have an art background, she has always enjoyed art. She continues to oversee the program that she created.

Douglas contacts local art teachers to see if they are interested in participating in the contest and gives interested teachers the details of the monthly celebration. The submitted artwork is judged by a local professional artist; and first, second and third place awards are recognized. Occasionally an honorable mention award is given.

The winners attend the celebration at Bob Jones Auditorium and receive certificates of accomplishment and a photo with AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers. The artwork is displayed in the lobby of the auditorium during the ceremony. Afterward the artwork is displayed in the first floor main corridor of building 5300.



Photo by Sedric Pennington

Rosie Douglas displays some of the student artwork.

The artwork is returned to the students so it can be included in their portfolio.

"This contest is good for Redstone, the children and the community," Douglas said. The contest is the first opportunity for many of the students to visit Redstone and meet general officers and other Soldiers and employees.

Douglas said several of the student winners have received art scholarships for college and one teacher received a letter from President Obama for her work with the program.

The next opportunity to attend a heritage celebration and enjoy the student artwork will be for Women's History Month today at 10 a.m.



Courtesy photo

Back in the day

Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson speaks during Columbia High's JROTC ball March 12 at the Huntsville Marriott, reminiscing about her days as an ROTC cadet at South Dakota State University. "I learned to listen, follow direction, trust others, work as a team and have the courage to try something new," she said.

Missiles conference on launch pad in April

Under the theme "Improving Affordability & Interoperability," the 13th annual AUSA Missiles Conference runs April 25-26 in Von Braun Center's East Hall.

The conference provides an open forum for the presentation of current and future Army tactical missile programs in a collaborative government and industry environment. It also provides senior government and industry project managers, and their staffs, opportunities to meet and interact with their counterparts.

Industry leaders will learn how to assess their independent research and development efforts, in light of current and future program directions, with an eye toward win-win collaboration.

The April 26 morning session will be highlighted by a Team Redstone overview from AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, followed

in the afternoon with a state-of-the-PEO Missiles and Space briefing from Brig. Gen. Ole Knudson.

Also during the morning, senior leaders from the Army Staff, headquarters Training and Doctrine Command, the Missile Defense Agency and the commanding generals from all tactical missile user centers will speak from their perspectives.

The conference luncheon will feature an address by Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, principal military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition logistics and technology. Afternoon presentations include all of the PEO Missiles and Space project managers.

On April 25, a golf tournament at Valley Hill Country Club will be followed by an icebreaker social at The Summit, Big Spring Park in downtown Huntsville at 5 p.m.

Register online at <http://www.ausaredstone.org>.

AMC to create logistics information warehouse

The Secretary of the Army directed the commander of Army Materiel Command to create a repository for Army logistics data that will provide a single, common location for all Army materiel stakeholders to access, acquire and deliver data and information for managing Army materiel.

The Logistics Information Warehouse will facilitate the optimization of materiel management in support of Army Force Generation and the Army's Equipping Strategy. LIW will be the Army's authoritative materiel data repository.

"Once we achieve total asset visibility we can then leverage it to make our generating force more responsive and agile in meeting the needs of the war fighter," secretary of the Army John McHugh said in a March 22 memorandum to Army leadership.

LIW will initially provide access to data from 12 separate, previously existing systems: Army Equipping Enterprise System; Army War Reserve Deployment System; Consolidated Issue Facility Installation Support Module; Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support

Joint Medical Asset Repository; Global Combat Support System- Army; Logistics Modernization Program; Materiel Enterprise Non-Standard Equipment Database; Property Book Unit Supply Enhanced; Standard Army Maintenance System-Enhanced; Standard Army Maintenance System-Installation Enhanced; Standard Army Retail Supply System; and Wildcat Maintenance Management Systems.

As the system grows, and information requirements change, the number of data systems accessible through LIW will increase. (*Army Materiel Command release*)



Thanking a few good enterprising employees

Five civilian honorees represent work force

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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As these planning meetings go, the Aviation and Missile Materiel Enterprise Strategic Review didn't break any rules – senior leaders of different organizations within the enterprise spoke bluntly of challenges they face while their peers listened intently and solutions were considered.

But the schedule did veer a little off onto the unbeaten path right after lunch March 23 at the Von Braun Center, when the Army Materiel Command's commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody and Dr. Malcolm O'Neill, the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, recognized a small group of Aviation and Missile Materiel Enterprise employees.

"We canvassed all five organizations that make up the enterprise here and asked for candidates that best represent the outstanding work of hundreds of employees," Col. Skip Sherrell, chief of staff for the Aviation and Missile Command, said.

And with that, the following Redstone Arsenal employees were recognized:

Program Executive Office for Aviation – Timothy Calcote (an Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center employee matrixed to PEO Aviation) was recognized for his work in completing acceptance testing of the first four Pakistan army Mi-17 aircraft in Lithuania. His efforts to expedite aircraft inspections in extreme cold and icy weather conditions, and to rapidly coordinate data collection and assessment for test flight safety risk acceptance facilitated on-time delivery to the Pakistan army.

Program Executive Office for Missiles

and Space – Jim Elliott was recognized for leading a multi-disciplined team of launcher and munition technical experts that provided crucial on-the-ground support to a deployed launcher unit in Afghanistan. Under Elliott's leadership, the team established and maintained superb communications with the supported unit, provided necessary software updates, advised the unit on proper ammunition storage and handling procedures, and conducted launcher crew training sessions. Elliott's efforts reinforced confidence in Precision Fires launcher and rocket systems, and improved crew performance.

Aviation and Missile Command – Seth Morgan, of the Security Assistance Management Directorate, was recognized for his management of foreign military sales cases to provide the government of Iraq with Bell Training-407 aircraft to meet Iraq and Operation Iraqi Freedom mission requirements. When he assumed case management duties in December 2009, there was no logistics package in place to deliver the T-407s and the delivery schedule was at risk. He developed a total package approach to these foreign military sales cases, which eased demands on U.S. war fighters while building lasting partnerships in the spirit of Operation New Dawn.

Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center – Kevin Kee was recognized for supporting the highly visible Mi-17 engineering team. He successfully led efforts to issue airworthiness releases for initial and continued airworthiness of the Afghanistan Mi-17 fleet. He traveled to Afghanistan to conduct airworthiness assessments and firing tests. His efforts allowed Army aviators to safely train Afghanistan pilots which will help Afghan troops become self-sustaining and bring Soldiers home sooner. He is now applying his leadership and technical expertise to the Czech Republic, Croatia, Yemen and



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Dr. Malcolm O'Neill, the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, third from left, and Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody, far right, pose with the honorees at an awards ceremony during the Aviation and Missile Materiel Enterprise Strategic Review on March 23 at the Von Braun Center. The honorees are, from left, Jim Elliott, Timothy Calcote, Ernestine Small, Kevin Kee and Seth Morgan.

other countries.

Army Contracting Command – Ernestine Small was recognized for support of non-standard foreign military sales programs to more than 70 foreign nations and international customers. She provided contracting knowledge and experience in the timely purchase of commercial helicopters to support the government of Mexico's War on Drugs; the purchase of helicopters to support the government of Pakistan; and was instrumental in the execution of Contractor Field Service support to the Pakistan government.

"This was a pretty neat ceremony. I was very surprised," said award recipient Calcote, whose wife, Lana, attended the ceremony. "I have an awesome job. I love supporting the guys in the field."

Long work hours and a trip to Lithuania in support of the Pakistani army's Mi-17 program meant Calcote's wife had to make sacrifices so her husband could support war fighters.

"He's gone a lot," she said. "So, he wanted me to be here for this award. I'm glad to be here for him."

Fellow recipient Morgan, a graduate student at the University of Alabama-Huntsville who began working for AMCOM about two and a half years ago, was equally surprised about his recognition.

"I found out yesterday about this,"

the 29-year-old said. "It's a pretty overwhelming honor, a pretty amazing experience getting an award from a commanding general and in front of this type of audience."

The challenge of working with foreign countries is a job opportunity that Morgan doesn't think he could match anywhere else.

"Dealing a lot with foreign countries and working with international business is incredibly fascinating," Morgan said. "Working in the field of international affairs has always been an interest to me. There are really very few other places where you can do this kind of work, and where you can work with foreign governments that are on the radar with the president."

The work was also a challenge for Morgan, who faced intense schedule demands in meeting the Operation Iraqi Freedom requirements for the Bell Training-407 aircraft.

"The timelines were dictated by political leaders. It was very intense with management and execution," he said.

Morgan's wife, Jessica, and their son, 15-month-old Stuart, also attended the awards ceremony. The young family is expecting a second baby.

"I'm here today to support my husband. This is important work for him, and I am so very proud of him," Jessica Morgan said.

Balance brings award for AMCOM deputy

Ronnie Chronister attributes honor to diversity efforts of work force

By KARI HAWKINS

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For Ronnie Chronister, it's all about balance.

From the way a person lives their life to the type of employees who work in an office, Chronister believes balance should rule the day.

And the Army agrees.

Chronister, deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, was recognized recently for the balance he has brought to AMCOM in terms of diversity and leadership in equal employment opportunity. In an awards program March 15 at the Pentagon, Chronister received the Secretary of the Army Diversity and Leadership Award.

"This really is a recognition of the great work this command does," Chronister said. "Bob (Coney of AMCOM's Equal Employment Opportunity Office) and his staff, and all the different organizations here at AMCOM embrace the concepts of diversity and equal opportunity."

The AMCOM deputy was among 16 Army workers recognized during the Secretary of the Army awards ceremony. Another recipient with ties to AMCOM was Kresten Cook, deputy commander for maintenance operations at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, who received the Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Award.

Chronister said two command programs – an educational outreach program that encourages employee participation in local school programs and a summer student employment program aimed at introducing an educationally diverse group of high school and junior college students to federal employment – brought his nomination, submitted by Coney, to the attention of Army secretary John McHugh.

The ceremony was conducted by undersecretary of the Army Dr. Joseph Westphal with Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody in attendance.

"It was a first-class ceremony. The Army staff did a phenomenal job," Chronister said. "It was a good day for Team Redstone. I was a little surprised by the whole thing."

Besides AMCOM's two educational programs, Chronister was also recognized for "his support and commitment to integration of equality employment opportunity ... (that) contributed significantly to enhancing the future readiness of the command and the U.S. Army.

"His commitment and recognition of the importance of senior leader involvement, inclusiveness and community outreach regarding Army transformation, diversity strategies and equal employment opportunity have resulted in increasing awareness, education and understanding of the Army by educational leaders and students at all levels and sets an example of diversity leadership for other senior leaders, managers, supervisors and employees."

A graduate of the Army Materiel Command Intern Training Center, Chronister, a civil engineer, has served as the AMCOM deputy since 2008. Previously, he held several positions at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, where he worked to establish the Prototype Integration Facility. He served as the executive director of AMCOM's Integrated Materiel Management Center before being promoted to AMCOM deputy. He joined the Senior Executive Service in October 2005.

In all the positions he's held, Chronister has strived to emulate the good leaders who have mentored him and who he has looked up to.

"I really think to be an effective leader, and it's a philosophy I employed before coming here, you have to pay attention to diversity," he said. "I think it is vitally important, especially as a civil servant, and that you have a responsibility to society to have diversity in employees who can excel, enjoy federal employment and have a great career. A good leader pays attention to that."

In regard to employee gender, race, ethnicity, age, education and other diverse characteristics, Chronister said every federal government organization should strive for balance in the workplace because of the benefits it brings to the organization.

"In a diverse work force, you have

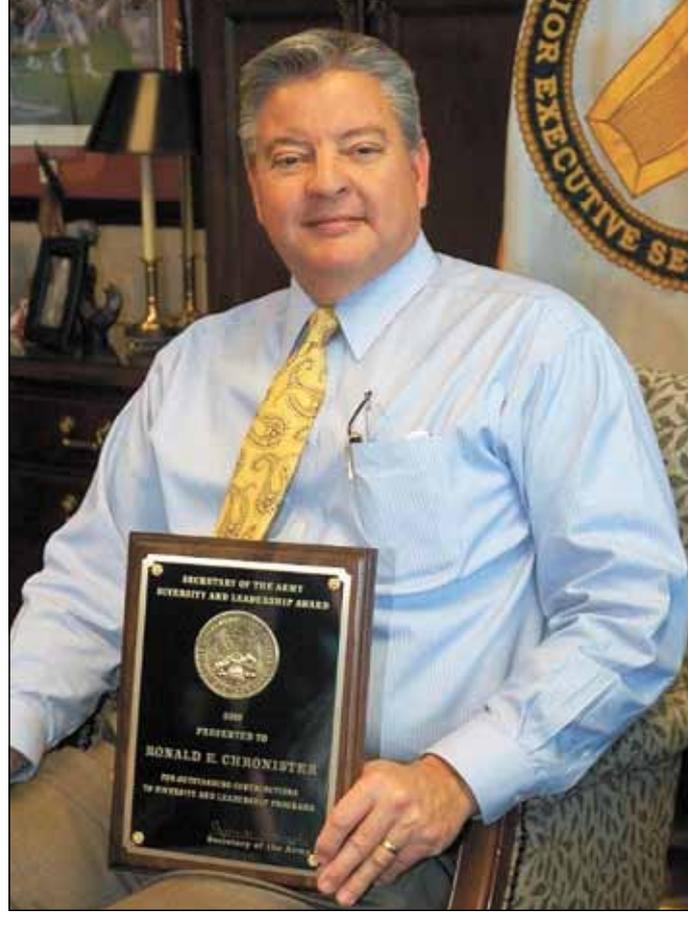


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Ronnie Chronister, deputy commander for the Aviation and Missile Command, says the entire AMCOM work force is recognized when he received the Secretary of the Army Diversity and Leadership Award for outstanding contributions to diversity and leadership programs. The award was presented during a ceremony March 15 at the Pentagon.

people who have different opinions, who think differently, who have different perspectives," he said. "As a leader, I want all the different perspectives, all the different inputs. If you only hear from one sector, it negatively affects your ability to lead and to make good decisions."

But working toward the right balance in diversity can be difficult. It should also be a career-long goal.

"To be balanced you have to know where your EEO weaknesses are and what your capabilities are," he said. "You have to be able to ask the question 'What is out of balance?' I don't think you're ever through or at a point where you are satisfied. Diversity is always a challenge. And success in one area means you need to move on to a different category."

Diversity is especially important when

developing the next generation of leaders to ensure those leaders represent the balance of diversity that should be mimicked throughout an organization. Chronister likes leadership to thrive within AMCOM at all levels and among all diverse populations.

"From a personal perspective, we all have the opportunity to exhibit leadership characteristics," Chronister said. "Employees who want to learn their jobs, who bring a technical foundation to the workplace, who share their skills and knowledge for the betterment of all – they are all leaders. And as they progress in their careers, they should be exposed to opportunities for leadership development."

Mentoring, formal leadership training, on-the-job leadership opportunities and taking on leadership roles in professional groups – all are ways to develop the future generation of leaders.

"Our current leadership has got to do a better job of developing the skill set of future leaders," Chronister said. "Ninety percent of the challenges we face today are leadership based. We have to do a better job of growing leaders."

As leaders strive to create diversity in the work force, employees should also strive to create diversity in their work experience and skills.

"Career paths don't always go from Point A to Point B.

Sometimes they go sideways or they are crooked," he said. "A diverse career augments an employee's abilities. It is rare that you grow up in an organization that you lead one day. It's OK to leave and take diverse assignments, to get out of your comfort zone and try different things. That's the way you develop and use leadership skills."

Employees should also seek out mentors that can provide them with constructive criticism on their career path, and they should learn how to build relationships at work, in the community and on a personal level.

"You need to know how to lead in different situations. How do you influence others that you don't have any authority over?" Chronister said.

See Deputy on page 18

Class discusses developmental stages of life for children

New parents given advice

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

Life as a parent can't be without surprises, but if you have a general idea of what to expect, you can at least be prepared.

Those were the words of wisdom of Nancy Schramm to the parents that attended her class on the developmental stages of young children Thursday, sponsored by the New Parent Support Program. Parents were given the opportunity to spend an hour and a half with Schramm learning what to expect in the early stages of life, and how to cope and prepare for those different phases.

"It's thinking ahead and being ready," Schramm said. "If you know where they're developing, you can prepare yourself so that you're not surprised."

Everything from the way a child learns to read, to the toys that interest them, noises they make and how they move is determined by the current developmental cycle they're in, including those embarrassing or frustrating moments in a parent's life, such as a child spilling their glass of milk when they're out to dinner or their desire to spend all day in costume as Spiderman. It's identifying the stage of development they're in that's key, according to Schramm.

"Sometimes if you know when things are normal, then when they happen, you can understand it," she said.

In addition to listening to Schramm's presentation, parents were given the oppor-



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Nancy Schramm discusses the importance of introducing blocks to babies to aid them in their development.

tunity to discuss their concerns, questions and achievements in regard to their babies. Schramm applauded the parents in attendance for taking an active stance in their child's life and investing in their success.

"It's an area in your life that doesn't really get congratulated," Schramm told the new parents. "I want you to leave here feeling good about being a parent."

In addition to educational programs, such as Thursday's class, the New Parent Support Program offers home visits, information and referrals as well as an interactive play group on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30. For more information, call Army Community Service at 876-5397.



Courtesy photo

Women's club grants

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club recently distributed more than \$12,000 in grants to several non-profit organizations which support the military and local communities. The grants were made possible by members who volunteered at various fund-raising events, such as this year's main fund-raiser "Evening on the Bayou" in February and the 15th annual Pineapple Open golf tournament. From left are community assistance chairman Demy Robley, Randy Withrow of the Veterans Memorial Museum, honorary president Reba Rogers and president Tonya Daniels.

Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

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

Some of the AER fund-raisers include the following:

Today – Krispy Kreme doughnut sale, sponsored by IMMC's Readiness Directorate, at 7 a.m. For information call Jan Pickard 842-6625.

Thursday – Homemade cupcake sale, sponsored by IMMC's Automation Division, MMD, at 7 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

Throughout drive – Candy sale, sponsored by Business Management Office. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 7 – Bucket drop, sponsored by IMMC's Field Operations Division, Maintenance, at 10 a.m. at the Commissary/Post Exchange. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 12 – A "Chicken and Biscuit Sale" begins at 7 a.m. in the corridor of building 5300 and 5301.

April 14 – Basketball throw, sponsored by IMMC's Readiness Directorate, at 10:30 a.m. at Redstone Fitness Center. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 15 – Gift basket drawing at noon, sponsored by LMP/MMD. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

April 18-29 – The AMCOM G-3/Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304.

April 21 – Bucket drop, sponsored by IMMC's Field Operations Division, Maintenance, at 10 a.m. at the Commissary/Post Exchange. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

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

May 3 – Hot dog sale and "homema-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Oscar Bothwell, owner of O' So Good Barbecue in Oneonta, works the grill during a barbecue fund-raiser March 23 sponsored by IMMC Supply Operations Division and Transportation Division at building 5302.

de" cake walk, sponsored by ILS/Publications, Maintenance Directorate, at 10:30 a.m. For information call Pickard 842-6625.

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

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

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

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

For Army Emergency Relief information, call Kathleen Riester of Army Community Service at 876-5397 or campaign chairman Capt. Blair Tighe at 955-0594.

OverThere

Post Exchange employees deploy to serve

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

They live to serve Soldiers.

For Mina Clay, Kathy Foote, Montina Hoefler, Sonia Lebron and Wendy Smith, working as Army & Air Force Exchange Service employees at the Post Exchange affords them the opportunity to thank Soldiers for the work that they do. But for this group of five, thanking them stateside wasn't enough – instead they decided to deploy with the Soldiers they serve day in and day out to fully show their gratitude.

“When you're over there, you realize what you're there for,” said Hoefler, operations manager at the PX, who deployed to Iraq from May to December 2008 to serve as a team lead and store manager at the Exchange at FOB Warhorse. “You're there for the troops and that's what it's all about.”

Of the approximately 43,000 AAFES employees worldwide, roughly 300 are

deployed at any given time, according to AAFES spokesperson Chris Ward. While deployed, AAFES employees fill jobs similar to the ones they hold stateside, working long hours in retail and food service to keep the Soldiers clothed, fed and entertained while they are serving their country overseas. The chance to thank the Soldiers in person as they are fulfilling the mission in a war zone is an opportunity that attracts many of the employees to the voluntary assignment.

“It was me giving back to the Soldiers for everything they do for us,” said Smith, who deployed to Iraq in 2004 and Qatar in 2010, and cannot wait for another deployment opportunity to arise. “Freedom is not free.”

Living, working and eating alongside the men and women they serve, AAFES employees travel as the Soldiers travel, whether it be by convoy, helicopter or plane, learning the life of a Soldier, which at times includes bombs, gunfire and other enemy threats. While everyone thought Clay was crazy when she deployed to Balad

from May 2007 to November 2008, for Clay, it was something she needed to do for herself and her country.

“I was not scared,” Clay said. “That's the job. We have to do what we have to do.”

The gratitude of the Soldiers who are thankful for the comforts of home in places like Iraq and Afghanistan make the risk well worth it for the PX employees, who would happily deploy again to the Soldiers.

“They appreciate it and thank you for everything,” Smith said. “If we weren't there they wouldn't have anything. You have to be there to feel it.”

Foote has deployed twice during her 25-year AAFES career – for 27 months to Iraq after Sept. 11th, and most recently to Afghanistan for 18 months, from which she returned in September. For Foote, the opportunity to deploy embodies the AAFES mission.

“It is such a rewarding experience,” Foote said. “That's what our company does – AAFES is there to serve the military and that's how we do it best.”



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Mina Clay, Wendy Smith and Sonia Lebron take a break from their work at the Post Exchange to reflect on their deployment experiences.

President says U.S. part of broad coalition in Libya



White House file photo by Chuck Kennedy

President Barack Obama told reporters in Santiago, Chile, that he directed Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen to move forward with military action only after it became clear that his warnings to Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi had fallen on deaf ears.

By **DONNA MILES**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – U.S. military actions in Libya are being conducted as part of a broad multinational coalition and in direct support of a United Nations mandate designed to set conditions for other coalition partners to play larger roles enforcing the no-fly zone there, President Barack Obama said March 21.

Obama told reporters in Santiago, Chile, that he directed Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen to move forward with military action only after it became clear that his warnings to Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi had fallen on deaf ears.

“He, despite words to the contrary, was continuing to act aggressively toward civilians,” Obama said. “After consulting with our allies, we decided to move forward.”

The United States played a larger role during the initial phases of the operation only because it had capabilities particularly well-suited to taking out Gadhafi’s air defenses, the president said. “That ... shapes the environment in which a no-fly zone can actually be effective,” he explained.

Fast action also helped to stop advances on Benghazi and sent “a clear message to Gadhafi that he needed to start pulling his troops back,”

the president said.

More European nations and Arab League members will step forward during the next phase of the operation to enforce a no-fly zone over Libya.

“There is going to be a transition taking place in which we are one of the partners among many who are going to ensure that no-fly zone is enforced, and the human protection that needs to be provided continues to be in place,” Obama said.

The manner in which the United States took leadership of the initial thrust and set the stage for other nations to participate “ensures international legitimacy and ensures that ... members of the international coalition are bearing the burden of following through on the mission as well,” he said.

Recognizing that the U.S. military is “already very stretched,” Obama welcomed the international cooperation being demonstrated during Operation Odyssey Dawn.

“Whenever possible for us to get international cooperation – not just in terms of words, but also in terms of planes and pilots and resources, that is something we should actively seek and embrace,” he said. “It relieves the burden on our military, and it relieves the burden on U.S. taxpayers to fulfill what is an international mission and not simply a U.S. mission.”

Huntsville Center shares career choices with students



Photo by Jo Anita Miley

Tony Torres, Huntsville Center's chief of Systems Cost Division, takes questions from students at First Baptist Child Development Center and Academy during the Science Week kickoff program March 14 at the school. Torres was among several scientists and engineers who helped out at the event under the Center's Community Outreach Program.

By **JO ANITA MILEY**
Huntsville Center Public Affairs

In just two outreach events in March, the Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville professionals reached more than 1,000 local students with the message that careers in science, technology, engineering and math are exciting.

Huntsville Center visited two schools to provide career information to students. The National Stem Awareness Program creates a climate for improving educational opportunities for all students, and encourages an increased awareness and interest in science, technology, engineering and math. The Huntsville Center sent speakers to the schools to inspire students toward STEM careers.

Eight Huntsville Center professionals participated in a Career Day hosted by Sparkman Middle School March 10 in Toney. Speakers led classroom discussions on career exploration, education and training, and their roles on various programs at the Center for the 850 sixth through eighth-grade students who attended. Speakers at the event were Atidya Williams, Business Management Office; Lillian Fox and Melody Hinkle, Center Contracting Directorate; Patrick Haas, chief of Chemical Demilitarization Directorate; Neil "Todd" DuVernay and Jelani Ingram, Engineering Directorate; Jo Anita Miley, Public Affairs Office; Darrell "Audwin" Davis, Resource Management Office; and William Eggleston, Safety Office.

Shana Winter, school counselor at Sparkman Middle, who also organized the event, said the event was a huge success. Career Day is designed to help students open their minds to making career choices.

"We are very pleased with Huntsville Center's participation in today's event. We are grateful that your organization filled eight of the 30 slots available to speakers - this was definitely a plus for our school," Winter said. "The speakers did an excellent

job showcasing the various careers at the Corps (of Engineers), and the students learned about jobs that are available at the Huntsville Center location."

In another event, nine employees from Huntsville Center's Engineering Directorate helped more than 173 students at the First Baptist Child Development Center and Academy celebrate Science Week, March 14-18.

Tony Torres, chief of Systems Cost Division at Huntsville Center, was the keynote speaker for the kickoff event March 14. Torres spoke to students about why we need more scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians, challenging the students to take more math and science courses to prepare for STEM careers.

"How many of you have heard of astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson? I like to think of him as one of the great heroes of our time - scientists should be our heroes too," Torres said. "If you want to be a scientist like him, you have to know how to understand our physical world. You'll have to take many science and math classes as you prepare for your career. If you choose a STEM career, you can work hard to provide a better way of living for everyone."

Weeklong activities at the school ended with a Science Fair March 17, where Huntsville Center employees judged more than 65 individual and group science projects. April Rafael-Adams, Ryan Bower, Dr. Michelle Crull, Lynn Helms, Eldric Jefferson, Michael Lanier, John Nevels, Marilyn Scott and Jacqueline White, all of Huntsville Center's Engineering Directorate, judged the projects.

In April, Huntsville Center employees will participate in two educational outreach opportunities at Moore County High School April 15 in Lynchburg, Tenn., and University Place Elementary School in Huntsville on April 20.

For information about outreach opportunities at Huntsville Center, call Jo Anita Miley at 895-1585.

Employees' union election scheduled April 11



AFGE Local 1858 will hold an election for president and assistant president April 11 from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. at its office in building 3202 on Mauler Road.

Any member who has paid dues prior to March 14 and is in good standing, will be eligible to vote. Members will be asked to present a driver's license or some other form of picture identification at the polls.

In the event any voter is challenged, that voter will be provided two envelopes, one plain in which to place the ballot, and the other (outer envelope) to identify voter and reason for challenge. The Election Committee will determine the validity of any challenged ballots immediately following the closing of the polls. If found valid, challenged ballots will be placed with other ballots prior to counting of ballots.

There will be no loitering at the polling place or campaigning within 50 feet of the polling place and parking lot. Each candidate will be provided an opportunity to have a reasonable number of member observers present throughout the election process. A candidate may not be an observer.

The candidate for each office must win by a majority (more than 50 percent) of the votes cast for each office.

All protests to the election must be in writing and received by the Election Committee prior to, during or within 10 days after the election. All protests must be mailed to Chairman, Election Committee, AFGE 1858, P.O. Box 8362, Huntsville, AL 35898.

This election is governed by the AFGE Rules of Conduct for an election, set forth in Appendix A of the AFGE National Constitution and U.S. Department of Labor.

The Election Committee will handle absentee votes in accor-

dance with 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 should be addressed to Chairman, Election Committee, AFGE 1858, P.O. Box 8362, Huntsville, AL 35898.

Members requesting absentee ballots citing TDY as a reason must enclose a copy of travel orders with their request. Members on leave may also request an absentee ballot in writing and must enclose a copy of their official leave application. Members permanently stationed at Kwajalein Island, Fort Bliss, HELSTF, New Mexico, SAMD overseas, or Moffitt who were furnished absentee ballots, should return them as soon as possible.

All absentee ballots must be mailed to Chairman, Election Committee, AFGE 1858, P.O. Box 8362, Huntsville, AL 35898, and received by the Election Committee by 5 p.m. April 11.

If a runoff is necessary, it will be held May 13 at building 3202; and the general voting rules will apply.

The elected president and assistant president will serve from 2011-13.

The Election Committee includes Juan Mendoza, Steven Geaschel, Karen Moten and alternate Gregory Noble. (*American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858 release*)

Planning under way for old ordnance cleanup

By TERRI STOVER

Garrison Public Affairs

Redstone will be performing interim remedial measures at known or suspect waste sites of chemical warfare materiel. Even though this recovery effort is scheduled to begin in 2013, extensive planning and coordination has already begun.

Redstone's history as an ordnance plant and chemical warfare depot in World War II produced munitions and chemicals that were later stored or buried after the war ended. Disposal regulations have changed in recent years to become more responsible to the environment.

In September 2010, Alabama issued a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit to Redstone Arsenal, citing 17 suspect CWM sites that need remediation. The RCRA permit governs the storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste, as well as corrective measures for multiple sites throughout Redstone Arsenal.

On March 29, an Interim Measures Work Plan was delivered to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management that lays out the scope of how Redstone will restore these 17 sites. Interim

measures are defined in the RCRA permit as the actions necessary to limit environmental exposure to contaminants while long-term corrective action remedies are evaluated and, if necessary, implemented.

The 17 sites are located throughout the post; however, they are in more remote parts of the installation, and pose no immediate threat to human or animal inhabitants at Redstone, or the environment. Remediation will require a unique approach at each site, and will be determined through technologies and site-specific preparations.

"Redstone takes seriously our responsibility for a clean environment and community. The remediation of these 17 sites is the next phase in Redstone's commitment to environmental responsibility. It's the right thing to do," Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, said.

Remediation and restoration is scheduled to begin in 2013, pending full funding for this project through the Army Environmental Command.

The Army takes the responsibility of promoting and supporting public stakeholder participation in the cleanup process, and will make all site-level cle-



Historical files

Standard post-WWII disposal practices of chemical warfare materiel by treatment and burial is documented in historical records. This photo was taken in 1947.

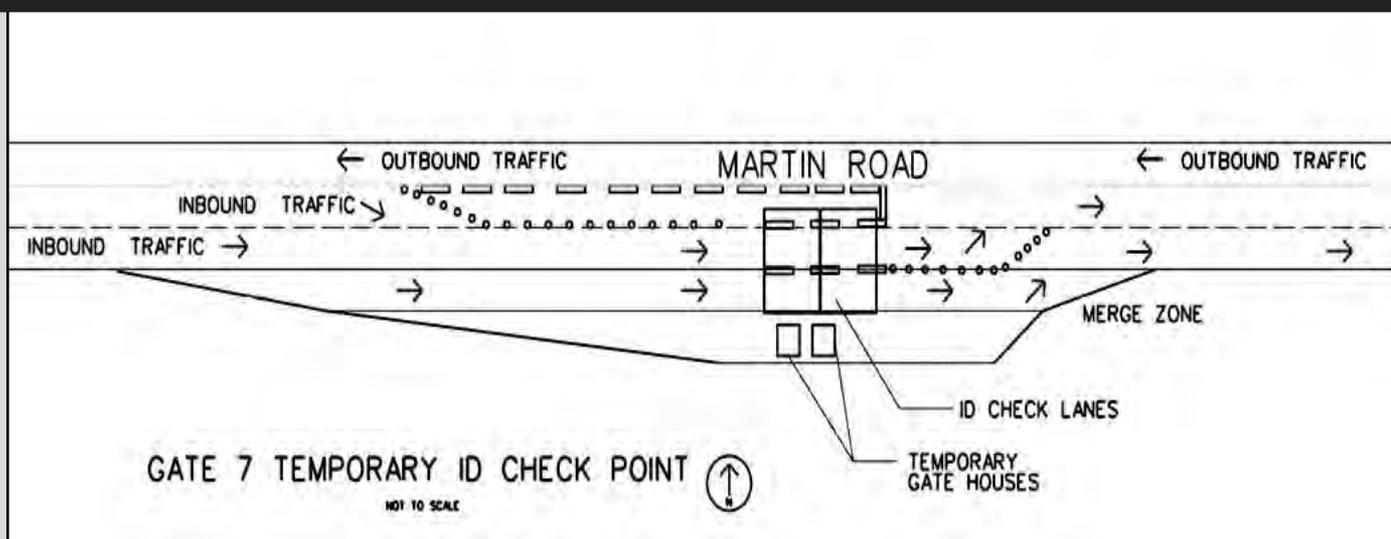
anup information available to the public. For more information call Environmen-

tal Management Division, Directorate of Public Works, at 955-6968.

Courtesy graphic

Gate 7 plan

Beginning April 4, traffic flowing inbound on Martin Road west at Gate 7 will see temporary access control points and lane shifts. Temporary guard huts and canopies will be set up approximately 800 feet from Zierdt Road; this is where the temporary access control points will be located while a new gatehouse and permanent access control points are under construction. Lanes will shift to the right and then merge back onto Martin Road. Also during construction, the speed limit will be 25 mph between Zierdt and Anderson roads. The Garrison asks drivers to stay alert and observe all traffic signs and warnings.



Deputy

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The AMCOM deputy said he still has mentors who he goes to for advice and counsel. Two of those mentors – now retired AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles and current AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers – “have taught me a lot about leadership and about being the kind of man I want to be.”

Good leadership is dependent on the credibility a leader has with their work force. Leaders who have credibility will be followed, he said. But developing that credibility comes by caring about employees and their careers, which takes Chronister back to his comments on leadership development.

“We have to give our employees the opportunity to develop so they can compete for career goals,” he said.

That can be difficult, however, as AMCOM and the Army face budget cuts, in a time when concerns are primarily fo-

cused on supporting the war fighter.

“We have been very tactically focused, very war fighter focused, as we should be,” Chronister said. “But we’ve lost a little bit of the focus on work force development. One of our strengths has been work force development and leadership, and we need to keep growing that. I am a proponent of pushing that down to the next line supervisor and the next line.”

He also encourages leaders and managers to develop strategies for work force development that include

one-on-one sessions between leaders and employees, regular performance appraisals and award programs. As leaders focus on work force development, their employees can be tactically focused, bringing a balance to the workplace, he said.

“A good leader is not self-serving. If they are, then they are not a leader,” Chronister said. “They should be serving their work force and, when there is recognition, like this award (from the secretary of the Army) the work force should look at it as their award as well.”

Crime fighter works with new partner

By Marine Corps Staff Sgt. HOUSTON F. WHITE Jr.
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE BARSTOW, Calif. – Crime fighting can be a dog-eat-dog world, but with his new four-legged partner by his side, Nadeem Seirafi, a Marine Corps Police Department working dog handler here, is ready to face the challenges that lay ahead.

Seirafi is teamed up with Kit Kat, an energetic 2-year-old German shepherd, after switching to one of his dream jobs.

“My partner’s never sick, he’s never late, he doesn’t talk back and he’s always happy to see me,” Seirafi said with a smile.

Before assuming responsibility for Kit Kat, the 32-year-old officer attended the Defense Department’s Military Working Dog School at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

“The school was fun, and I really learned a lot,” Seirafi said. “Like most military schools, they put a lot of work on your plate, but I had a lot of fun learning a new skill set.”

The 11-week course covered training and patrolling with a dog, searching

buildings and detecting narcotics and explosives.

Seirafi’s furry sidekick will have a tall task in front of him when it comes to living up to the standard his master already has set here. Seirafi received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award nearly a year ago for reviving a 19-month-old toddler at the commissary. He also received the 2010 Security and Emergency Services Lifesaving Award from Maj. Gen. Anthony L. Jackson, commander of Marine Corps Installations West.

“I was humbled and a little embarrassed,” Seirafi said. “I felt that I was just doing my job, and I wasn’t used to being the center of attention in front of so many high-ranking people. The general thanked me for doing a good job and told me the Marine Corps was proud of me and to keep up the good work.”

Seirafi expects great things from his collared co-worker.

“Kit Kat has come a long way since his training started, because he was really hyper when I first got him,” he said. “He’s a bit of a loner too, which I like, because he doesn’t need all of your attention 100



Photo by Staff Sgt. Houston F. White Jr.

Marine Corps Police Department working dog handler Nadeem Seirafi kneels alongside Kit Kat, his new crime-fighting partner, at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., March 16.

percent of the time like most dogs.

“I think we’ll be a good team because

we both love to work,” he continued. “We might even be the next Turner & Hooch.”

Military family members arrive in Seattle from Japan



Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Juan Manuel Pinalaz

Military family members voluntarily returning to the United States spend the afternoon waiting in line to register for travel out of Yokosuka, Japan, March 18. Some family members left Japan as a precaution, following the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami that devastated the country, including destruction to nuclear power plants.

By Sgt. 1st Class MICHAEL J. CARDEN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – About 200 military family members arrived March 19 at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Wash., after leaving Japan voluntarily, U.S. Army North officials said.

The family members left Yokota, Japan, aboard a government-chartered airplane, Col. Wayne Shanks, an Army North spokesman, told American Forces Press Service in a phone interview.

Shanks stressed that the family members were not forced to flee. Rather, he said, those who decided to leave Japan likely did so as a precaution. The 9.0 magnitude earthquake that struck northern Japan March 11, and the tsunami that followed, devastated the country, including destruction to viable infrastructure, such as nuclear power plants.

“We’re providing for Department of Defense families who want to (leave) Japan, and that could be for a number of reasons,” Shanks said. “I don’t think the radiation threat is the overriding reason, although it is a concern.”

As what officials have called a prudent precaution, the Defense Department is providing eligible family members of department personnel an opportunity to voluntarily leave Japan at government expense.

The only priority for volunteers is for those closest to the disaster or threat, Army North officials said, and flights will continue throughout the foreseeable future to accommodate servicemembers and their families.

“The underlying thing is that we’re here to help the people coming out of Japan,” Shanks said. “We’re doing whatever we possibly can to assist them.”

Japan

continued from page 1

as such is part of the Army’s efforts in support of Operation Tomodachi, a U.S. joint armed forces assistance operation to support Japan in its recovery following the earthquake and tsunami. Black Hawks from the 78th flew a disaster assessment team to northeastern Japan on March 14 to assist in relief and humanitarian operations as well as set up a forward logistic base for supplies.

Under normal conditions, the mission of the 78th Aviation and its Black Hawk fleet is to conduct general support aviation operations in support of the U.S. Army’s Japan/I Corps (Forward), and other U.S. services and agencies. The battalion deploys in support of regional contingencies, joint/bilateral exercises, and stability and support operations.

The Army’s aviation units are designed to be self-sufficient, with their own crews trained to provide repair and maintenance for their aircraft. But when Black Hawks aren’t flying, Gore is one of the first ones to know about it.

“Every morning we get operational reports of the 400 aircraft in theater,” he said. “We know the number we have down and why they are down. If those aircraft are down because of a needed part, it is our primary mission to make sure that part is delivered.

“We are involved in the day-to-day care and fielding of all Black Hawk aircraft out there. The team in this office interfaces with units in the field every day to discuss maintenance requirements, spare parts, redistribution of aircraft, fielding of new models to replace older models and the movement of the aircraft around the force structure.”

Since March 11, Gore and his team

have been receiving status reports on the two Black Hawks operating in Japan at the controls of the 78th.

“We haven’t received any reports back from the unit of any problems,” he said.

“It’s a testament to this office and the 450-plus people who come to work every day that Black Hawks are in a position to support and carry out missions. This earthquake is like any of the other humanitarian missions Black Hawks have been involved with in places like Deep Horizon in the Gulf (2010 oil spill) and the Haiti earthquake (in 2010), for example. They are there to do the mission.”

The Army has additional Black Hawk units positioned along the Pacific Rim, including units at Kwajalein, Korea, Hawaii, the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., and in Yakima. The project office also supports the Navy’s Sea Hawks indirectly with production contracts.

“There are a lot of Sea Hawks in Japan. We also support Navy Sea Hawks with spare parts as well as the Air Force and the Coast Guard. This is the most successful joint program in all the services,” Gore said.

In the early hours of March 11, workers of the Utility Helicopters Project Office were in contact with the 78th as well as with units in Korea and Alaska to check on the status of Black Hawk helicopters. That contact continues.

“So far, no decision has been made to move aircraft into Japan,” Gore said. “They are all strategically positioned to answer the call if that happens.”

The Japanese Self-Defense Force does maintain its own fleet of 170-180 Black Hawks purchased directly from manufacturer Sikorsky Aircraft. The Utility Helicopters Project Office does provide technical assistance with those aircraft if needed.

There are 3,000 Black Hawk helicopters in operation worldwide by both the U.S. and 22 foreign allies. Besides the Japanese

Self-Defense Force, other nations with their own fleets of Black Hawks include Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brunei, Colombia, Egypt, Greece, Hong Kong, Israel, Jordan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, People’s Republic of China, Saudi Arabia, the Turkish Jandarma, Spain, Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand.

“We still have an active production line for Black Hawk,” said Wallace Newcomb, assistant product manager for readiness and sustainment, and fleet management in the Utility Helicopters Project Office. “The current production is for 2,135 Black Hawks.”

The demand for this multi-platform medium-weight helicopter makes it difficult for the Army to fulfill all its mission needs for Black Hawks.

In future emergency situations, the Utility Helicopters Project Office expects to see the worldwide Black Hawk fleet assisted in emergency, rescue and medical situations by its up-and-coming sister helicopter – the light utility helicopter known as Lakota.

“The Lakota will free up 23 Black Hawks that will be reassigned to Guard units, and in support of the fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. Black Hawks are a combat aircraft and they are needed in theater. Lakota is for disaster relief, and if we can replace Black Hawks used for disaster relief with Lakotas, then we have more Black Hawks for theater,” said Newcomb, who manages the worldwide Black Hawk fleet.

The smaller and easier to maneuver Lakota is quickly becoming a popular choice for homeland security and homeland defense. Currently, there are 150 of 345 Lakotas fielded, said Lt. Col. David Bristol, product manager for Light Utility Helicopters.

“The Lakota does not have a combat mission. It only flies in permissive environments,” Bristol said.

Currently, the National Guard has been assigned 210 Lakotas with the other 135 assigned to active duty units in the U.S. and Germany. There are no current foreign military sales cases for the Lakota, but there is a lot of interest from U.S. allies, Bristol said.

But that doesn’t mean the Lakota doesn’t have an international presence.

“The Louisiana National Guard is getting ready to send two Lakotas to Haiti to help that country in its disaster relief,” Bristol said.

“The Lakota has a multi-purpose platform based upon the Medevac platform in the commercial sector. It can provide all kinds of support, from medical emergency to VIP-variants for transportation.”

Black Hawk and Lakota both have a worldwide mission that goes beyond the military.

“It’s so much bigger than military deployments, being on the tip of the spear,” said Jay Horne, operations chief for the Utility Helicopters Project Office. “Disaster relief is a worldwide operation we do, and that the Black Hawk and Lakota do very well. Utility helicopters have the largest fleet in all of PEO Aviation because of the missions they can do.”

That mission success is firmly based on keeping in close touch with those who work on and fly Black Hawk and Lakota helicopters. Trips are made twice a year to theater by management in the Utility Helicopters Project Office to obtain information on the status of the helicopters and the concerns of Soldiers.

“We talk to everyone from the wrench turner to those who fly these helicopters. We want to hear the voice of the customer,” Gore said. “We want to make this product better and better. The 450-plus employees who work on this program every day are proud of what these helicopters can do to support Soldiers and civilians.”

Kiowa Warrior copter steps up to 'F' model

By KRIS OSBORN
For the Rocket

The Army is beginning mission equipment upgrade modifications to its fleet of OH-58 Kiowa Warrior scout aircraft in an effort to build a new, high-tech "F" model helicopter designed with improved avionics, better sensors and stepped-up overall performance capability.

The first "F" model flight is slated for next year, said Lt. Col. Scott Rauer, product manager for Kiowa Warrior. Overall, the Army plans to acquire 368 "F" model OH-58s, an aircraft which comes to life through a series of technical upgrades and changes to the current "D" model Kiowa.

Today, 94 Kiowa Warrior scout helicopters have been performing a range of crucial missions in Iraq and Afghanistan to include light attack missions, general reconnaissance, IED detection and convoy escort missions, Rauer said.

"It's the highest demand rotary wing aircraft in Army aviation. It flies more than 90 hours a month – about seven times the normal usage rate," he added.

The "F" model Kiowa upgrade – which will ensure the aircraft's service life through 2025 – includes a host of technical upgrades being performed by an Army government design house at Redstone Arsenal

and a handful of its industry partners to include Bell Helicopter, Honeywell and Rolls Royce.

The thrust of the improvements center around a Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade Program which improves the sensors and moves them to the nose of the aircraft.

The new sensor, called the AAS-53 Common Sensor Payload, includes cutting-edge sensing technologies such as an advanced infrared camera, a color Electro-Optical camera and an image intensifier similar to what is used by Night Vision goggles, Rauer said.

The sensors are engineered to work together with laser designators and image trackers to pinpoint targets on the battlefield.

"This is a major leap ahead in situational awareness for the crew. The Common Sensor Payload does bring fusion technology where it can merge imagery. With this sensor, you can fuse imagery together to get the best picture," Rauer said.

Moving the sensor to the nose, which involves removing the mast-mounted sight which currently stands on top of the "D" model Kiowa, requires the transmission mounting structures to be redesigned, Rauer explained.

"You've got to be able to pass the ro-



Army photo

The OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, shown here in Iraq, remains the Army's aircraft of choice for theater missions providing direct support to units during Operation New Dawn and Operation Enduring Freedom. The project office for Armed Scout Helicopters, headquartered at Redstone Arsenal, is building the newest version, the OH-58F, which will be outfitted with next generation cockpit technologies and the Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade.

cockpit will include a Force Battle Command Brigade and Below display screen.

The aircraft will also be built with a dual channel full authority digital engine controller built by Rolls Royce, to ensure the engine operates at its required power level regardless of the environment and the various demands placed on the aircraft, Rauer said.

The OH-58 is configured with what is called Level 2 Manned-Unmanned teaming, which means that the pilots in the cockpit can view feeds from nearby UAS systems in real time.

In terms of protection, the Kiowa Warrior is configured with protective ballistic floor armor and the Common Missile Warning System which can shoot off flares to divert incoming missiles.

tor vibrations cleanly to the rest of the aircraft," he said.

The "F" model Kiowa will be outfitted with next-generation cockpit technologies called Control and Display Subsystem, version 5.

"This brings advanced processing power, more memory and throughput, full color graphics, and dual-independent advanced moving maps," Rauer said.

The improved cockpit avionics – made by Honeywell – include an increased capacity to store and process key digital information.

Later versions of the "F" model aircraft will include Blue Force Tracker 2 for improved battle. The "F" model

Hail and Farewell

'I love being in the field around Soldiers'

Well-traveled logistics deputy concluding his Army career

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Geoffrey Embrey can't count the number of times a high-ranking officer has asked him how long he served in the Army or when he retired, but for a man that has never himself worn the uniform, it is a question that speaks to the way he has lived his life as a civil servant.

"The compliment is they think I carry myself as an officer, as such that I served," Embrey said. "To me, that's the biggest compliment that a civilian could ever get."

Embrey, deputy commander of the Logistics Support Activity, will retire Friday.

"What I love about the Army is its tradition," Embrey said. "I still get teary eyed at change of commands, award ceremonies, retirement ceremonies. The set

of values in the Army are good principles to live by, and what I appreciate most is the discipline and the regiment about it. It really is a family. You have folks come from all walks of life, and they all have a common purpose, a common cause, and if somebody's been in and makes it a career, they absolutely love it, it becomes a way of life. Most civilians can't understand that unless they've been in the Army or been a military dependent. Because I've been deployed many times as a civilian, I've lived and breathed it and grown to really appreciate it."

In his more than three decades of civil service, he has deployed 11 times, and traveled to 44 countries and 41 states.

"I love being in the field around Soldiers that are working on tanks, working in motor pools, working in supply support activities, SSAs – I just love that instant rapport, communications and feedback," Embrey said. "I just love it. That's what it's all about. That's what we train for."

His awards include four Superior Civilian Service Medals, two Commander's

Award for Civilian Service Medals, the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, the Defense Civilian Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism and the Samuel Sharpe Master Gunner of Ordnance Award, many of which he attributes to the hard-working individuals he has worked with. His proudest work has come in his role as AMC's first program manager for LOGCAP, headquarters AMC, the logistics civil augmentation program, a multibillion dollar industry in Southwest Asia. Embrey helped transition the program from the Corps of Engineers to Army Materiel Command after the Balkans deployment. In the 28 jobs that he has held, one of his favorites has been the role he is retiring from, as deputy commander of LOGSA.

"It's just an incredible organization," Embrey said of LOGSA. "The mainstream Army doesn't really know what LOGSA does, they don't understand LOGSA. It's incredible the depth and breadth and complexity of this organization. A lot of stuff we do would bring the Army to their knees if it broke."

Embrey began his government career upon graduation from Virginia Tech in 1978, when a fellow fraternity brother helped him secure a job as a statistician with the Census Bureau. When President Ronald Reagan took office and began reducing domestic agencies to build up the defense, Embrey, in search of job security, took a job with AMC as a program analyst overseeing depot maintenance and maintenance support activities in the Deputy Chief of Staff for Supply, Maintenance and Transportation Directorate, as part of the worldwide Logistics Assistance Program, overseeing program management in the DCS for Readiness Directorate. As his career with the Army grew, Embrey took initiative to learn more about the vast organization he was working for, a practice he recommends to all new employees.

"If you want to work for the Army, you've really got to learn about the Army and understand it," said Embrey, who has lived his career by three words – proactive, initiative and integrity. "It's a great institution, but it's so large, you've really got to understand the magnitude of it to support it and really be able to



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Geoffrey Embrey, deputy commander of the Logistics Support Activity, takes time to reflect on his career as a civil servant. He will retire Friday.

work inside it."

His official retirement is Friday, April Fools' Day, but there will be no "just kidding" when Embrey takes the stage at Bob Jones Auditorium to bid LOGSA farewell. While he's not quite sure what lies ahead of him after he leaves the Arsenal, what is sure is a move to Atlanta with his wife Janice, to be closer to his daughter and granddaughter, and some much needed time with his other two children, Dusty and Skyler. Gone will be the long hours that have begun to wear on him – Embrey often would come into the office at 4 a.m. and work until 6, 7 or 8 at night – which he won't miss, but the people he has worked with on a daily basis will create a void in his newfound free time.

"That's the most concerned thing I've got going into retirement is the interpersonal communication, how you stimulate your mind," Embrey said. "The day to day, 8 to 12 hours a day interpersonal communications via email, phone, VTC, personal meetings, you can't replace that."

Embrey's retirement ceremony is Friday at 11 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. LOGSA commander Col. Robert Sullivan will preside.

What about Bob? He's enjoying life as retiree

Forty years. That's four decades of dedicated service to the government.

Bob Copeland of the Directorate of Emergency Services retired Feb. 28 after 40 years and received the Superior Civilian Service during his retirement ceremony Feb. 23.

"Forty years covers a lot of successes and regrets, so I have to take a holistic approach," said Copeland, who was a program analyst. "My

greatest success in a long career is learning to appreciate people for who they are,



Bob Copeland

help them when I can and empathize when I can't, and realize that we all succeed or fail in proportion to our ability to love people while understanding that they may feel differently about us. We are all in this together."

Growing up as an Army brat, Copeland was used to travel and change. He received his bachelor's of business administration from the University of Texas.

Shortly after graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infant-

try.

For the next few years he continued his military service and traveled to Korea, Georgia and finally Arizona where he lived for 25 years.

In Arizona he wore many hats, serving as a director of personnel and community activities and later as adjutant. Copeland decided to yet again try something new and embark on a civil service career.

In 2009, he came to work at Redstone Arsenal. He was assigned to the Garrison's Directorate of Human Resources and was later transferred to the Directorate of Emergency Services.

His accomplishments included a Lean

Six Sigma Black Belt, enlistment in the Arizona and Texas National Guards, assistant director for community activities, Total Army Quality specialist, and management analyst.

The new retiree plans to build sets for community theaters, restore a 1975 MG Midget, continue working on his garden, and finally take golf lessons. Copeland also plans to utilize his education and training to consult with area hospitals and public services to assist in improving his community. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Arab with their four cats, two dogs and one parrot. (*Directorate of Emergency Services release*)

NASA test should aid heavy-lift rocket design

NASA put the squeeze on a large rocket test section March 23. Results from this structural strength test at Marshall Space Flight Center will help future heavy-lift launch vehicles weigh less and reduce development costs.

This trailblazing project is examining the safety margins needed in the design of future, large launch vehicle structures. Test results will be used to develop and validate structural analysis models and generate new "shell-buckling knockdown factors" – complex engineering design standards es-

sential to launch vehicle design.

"This type of research is critical to NASA developing a new heavy-lift vehicle," NASA administrator Charlie Bolden said. "The Authorization Act of 2010 gave us direction to take the nation beyond low-Earth orbit, but it is the work of our dedicated team of engineers and researchers that will make future NASA exploration missions a reality."

The aerospace industry's shell buckling knockdown factors date back to Apollo-

era studies when current materials, manufacturing processes and high-fidelity computer modeling did not exist. These new analyses will update essential design factors and calculations that are a significant performance and safety driver in designing large structures like the main fuel tank of a future heavy-lift launch vehicle.

During the test, a massive 27.5-foot-diameter and 20-foot-tall aluminum-lithium test cylinder received almost 1 million pounds of force until it failed. More than 800 sen-

sors measured strain and local deformations. In addition, advanced optical measurement techniques were used to monitor tiny deformations over the entire outer surface of the test article.

The Shell Buckling Knockdown Factor Project is led by engineers at NASA's Engineering and Safety Center, and NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va. NASA's heavy-lift space launch system will be developed and managed at Marshall. (*NASA release*)

Employees make difference for AMC

Army Materiel Command leader expresses appreciation

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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The Army Materiel Command remains strong today thanks to the 70,000 employees who represent the command throughout the world, said its commander during Friday's packed Town Hall Meeting in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Despite the demands of two wars, budget issues, an Army in transformation and moving its headquarters from Fort Belvoir, Va., to Redstone Arsenal, AMC continues to provide its customer – the war fighter – with the best equipment and support, said AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody.

And that's because of the employees that make it happen.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for what you do because each and every one of you make a difference," she said. "I've never seen a more complex and busy time in our Army ... But you've made this very busy time seem seamless to our customer."

The work force has been instrumental, she said, in transforming the operational Army into a modular force that is agile, capable, flexible and lethal, despite all the other issues that try to get in the way. She said AMC has done in four years what it would have taken other organizations many years to accomplish.

"We would have never gotten here without the help of the entire team," she said. "We did all this while supporting two wars in very, very tough environments. ... Usually in-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of the Army Materiel Command, thanks AMC employees for providing seamless support to its customer – the war fighter – during a challenging time of transformation. AMC will open its new headquarters at Redstone Arsenal by midsummer.

stitutional change takes decades. Things that take decades you have done in four years."

To prove her point, Dunwoody took her audience "out of the foxhole to see what's going on across AMC." She talked about innovation, creativity and collaboration, the expertise of AMC's logistics and acquisition communities, the organization's global impact and global footprint, making changes in the way AMC does business and redefining AMC's core capabilities.

She also talked about challenges, such as worldwide political unrest, expanding military needs, uncertainty, budget cuts, the need to rid the Army of legacy systems and current workloads that are three times greater than those during Vietnam.

"We are blessed with Congress funding this Army during a period of war," she said. "Now, we have opportunities to fix ourselves, to shape ourselves to be more

effective and to become more efficient. ...

"We must do what's best for our country. It can no longer be what's best for me or for AMC. To keep from breaking this Army, we have to look at what's best for our Army."

With the uptempo drawing down somewhat, Dunwoody believes AMC and its employees can build back into the organization the efficiencies that were lost during a period of war when the Army was able to pay more for faster service. The move of AMC to Redstone brings with it an opportunity to build in efficiencies and transformation as the organization stands back up in its new facility.

"We are changing the headquarters so it looks like the headquarters of the future," she said. "We are going to build the expertise back into our headquarters" for things like contracting, foreign military sales and research, development and engineering.

AMC is also merging logistics and maintenance organizations into AMC, making for a "very, very powerful alignment of core capabilities," Dunwoody said.

In everything AMC does, it will perform the Army's business with a focus on the war fighter customer, she said. Changes at AMC – including championing the work force, modernizing the industrial base, building an enterprise network, focusing on condition-based maintenance, developing as the lead materiel integrator, spearheading acquisition research and development contracting reform and enabling security assistance – will turn the organization into a globally networked materiel enterprise.

With the move of AMC to Redstone nearing completion, Dunwoody said 11,000 of the organization's employees – or 3 percent – have been affected by the BRAC 2005 recommendation to move AMC.

"We are an Army in motion ... Our center of gravity has changed. Our center of gravity isn't Fort Belvoir. It is Huntsville. It is here," she said.

About 96,000 AMC-connected employees – 70,000 of those contractors – are deployed around the world. Because of those employees, AMC "around the world is making a difference," Dunwoody said.

AMC is working to support its employees by tailoring Soldier programs to meet the needs of its civilian work force, which is 97 percent of the 70,000-employee organization. Locally, Dunwoody and her team have fought and won the right to have a first-class cafeteria located with its headquarters on Martin Road.



Photo by Michelle Harlan

Employee recognition

Several employees from Army Security Assistance Command's New Cumberland office were recognized March 18 during the quarterly Employee Recognition ceremony. USASAC commander Brig. Gen. Chris Tucker presents logistics management specialist Kevin Turnbaugh with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Saudi Arabia Ministry of Interior for his exceptional support to its foreign military sales program. In addition to the recognition ceremony, Tucker also conducted a town hall and addressed topics such as USASAC headquarter's move in May to its new Redstone Arsenal building adjacent to Army Materiel Command's new headquarters, and upcoming military personnel changes at both commands.

Air and missile defense officials look toward horizon at offsite



Photo by Carrie E. David/SMDC/ARSTRAT

Maj. Gen. James Barclay, deputy G-3, Army headquarters, kicks off the Air and Missile Defense Task Force offsite.

By **MICHAEL LOCKE**
AMD Task Force

The Army's newest task force, Air and Missile Defense Task Force, conducted an offsite for key Air and Missile Defense Enterprise stakeholders March 8-10 at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica hosted the offsite. Before assuming command, Formica was responsible for standing up the task force

and served as its first acting director.

The offsite began with a general officer luncheon, which was followed by an opening session with briefings and comments by Formica; Maj. Gen. James Barclay, deputy G-3, Army headquarters; Maj. Gen. David Halverson, commander, Fires Center of Excellence; Maj. Gen. Thomas Spoehr, director, force development, Army headquarters G-8; Maj. Gen. Robert Brown, deputy for acquisition and systems management for the assistant secretary of the Army (acquisition, logistics, technology); and Dr. David Markowitz, Capabilities Integration Directorate, Army headquarters G-3/5/7.

Following the opening session, presentations on AMD capability portfolio review, enterprise governance, electronic attack, and prioritized capabilities were provided as a means to flesh out issues and guide discussions over the next day and a half. Team Redstone members entrenched within these groups were from the Army Materiel Command; Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Army Materiel Research Development and Evaluation Command; Missile and Space Intelligence Center; and SMDC/ARSTRAT.

'I'm doing exactly what I'm supposed to be doing'

State senator relies on his Marine roots

By KARI HAWKINS

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There are a lot of connections that bring recently elected District 2 state Sen. Bill Holtzclaw back to Redstone Arsenal.

Holtzclaw, a retired Marine war veteran, was introduced to Redstone twice during his military career – first in 1983 as a private who came here for ammunition specialist training at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School and, second, in 1999 as the officer-in-charge of the Marine Corps Detachment.

It was the second assignment that worked its charm on Holtzclaw and his family, including wife Pam and two daughters, one now in college and the other attending Madison City Schools.

“In reality, that first time was kind of a blur because of the time frame. I was young and concerned about learning about my career in the Marines. I rarely left the base as a young Marine at Redstone,” he recalled.

During the course of a Marine career that took him to Operation Desert Storm in 1991 and Operation Restore Hope in Mogadishu, Somalia in 1992, Holtzclaw kept Redstone in mind, remembering the sense of community that he felt even as a fast-paced, nose-to-the-grindstone private. Whenever he had the chance, he would request an assignment to be an instructor of Marines at Redstone.

“It was a coveted assignment,” he said. “It was a good career enhancer and also a unique assignment.”

He was a chief warrant officer 2 when the officer-in-charge at the Marine Corps Detachment had a medical issue that forced him to retire. Holtzclaw was tapped to take his place.

“Through patience and God’s timing, I got here as the officer-in-charge,” he said. “I came in with a lot of energy and a lot of ideas.”

Holtzclaw will tell anyone that it was the Marines that made him the kind of man he could be proud of.

“I lived in Arkansas for 18 years. But I grew up in the Marine Corps. During three months in boot camp, I learned discipline, drive, how to focus on being patient, how to set short term goals to get to long term goals,” he said. “The Marine Corps was made for me and I was made for the Marine Corps.”

As a senior in high school, a friend asked him to attend a Marine recruiting event. Holtzclaw declined, saying “Marines are insane. There’s no way I would



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Alabama Sen. Bill Holtzclaw, a retired Marine war veteran, walks away from the Marine Corps Detachment on Redstone Arsenal's parade field during the detachment's recent deactivation ceremony. Holtzclaw, who once commanded the detachment as the officer-in-charge, was the guest speaker at the ceremony. The detachment is moving to Fort Lee, Va., with the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School as part of BRAC 2005.

join the Marine Corps.”

Instead he entered college. But that didn't work out and in December 1982 Holtzclaw was working as a cook in a restaurant.

“Two other guys I knew from high school came in dressed in their Marine Corps blues. They were looking for me,” Holtzclaw recalled. “I knew if they could do it, I could do it, too. I stood up a date with my future wife that night to join the Marines.”

At 120 pounds and 5-foot-8, Holtzclaw did have some doubts of whether he could handle the physical demands of Marine boot camp. But, instead, he excelled, and added 40 pounds of muscle to his frame before graduating.

“You never know what you are made of until you challenge yourself and step out there,” he said.

A Marine career gave Holtzclaw plenty of opportunities to challenge himself, including two wartime deployments. He served in Operation Desert Storm in support of the 1st Marine Division.

“That was low intensity, low conflict in the grand scheme of things,” he said. “We went to Kuwait City and I re-enlisted at the U.S. embassy. The biggest thing we saw was planes flying overhead.”

His experience was totally different during Operation Restore Hope in support of the 3rd Light Infantry Battalion.

“The Marines are a contingency force. We went in (to Mogadishu, Somalia) dur-

ing a United Nations operation,” Holtzclaw said. “On Dec. 9 (1992) we went ashore in eight-wheeled fast-attack vehicles to secure the airfield. I was the battalion ammunition chief for three companies in theater.”

As the Marines grew their footprint, they moved from the airport to a soccer stadium, and secured city streets. Once the flow of UN forces moved in and saturated the city, the Marines moved out to secure the country and their mission was over.

“We pulled out in April (1993) before Black Hawk Down (the term used to describe a major battle in October 1993 on which a major motion picture is based). The bad guys realized they didn't want to take on the Marines and so they went underground. We didn't realize at the time that it was a hotbed for terrorist activity. Looking back, I wish we had done more,” he said.

“But we did establish a beach head, an airport, a base of operations. We patrolled the streets and we were involved in sprints of heavy action that were swift and brutal. That's where I earned my combat action ribbon.”

Also, in Somalia, Holtzclaw was responsible for munitions or piles of weapons the Marines would find during sweeping operations.

“I was the guy who had to determine if it was safe to move, what it was, if we had to call in explosive ordnance disposal to render it safe,” he said.

Throughout his Marine career, Holtzclaw felt trained and ready to take on any challenge and responsibility.

“It's a natural career progression,” he said. “As you show you can take on further responsibility, you are given more responsibility that helps you grow as a person. You learn how to make decisions and then to stick to those decisions. There is no finer place to learn leadership than in the military.”

Holtzclaw came to a major decision-making crossroads in summer 2002 when, then as a chief warrant officer 3, he learned his next assignment would take him from Redstone to Southern California.

“I was struggling with what to do,” he said. “I had come in as a young energetic warrant officer in charge of the Marine school and I didn't know if there was something else that would give me that kind of challenge. My wife said it best when she asked ‘Bill, where can you go that can give you the satisfaction that you are getting now?’ I felt I had reached the pinnacle of my career in the Marines.”

Holtzclaw also had a medical condition that had set him back somewhat physically.

“Leaders should lead from the front,” he said. “I had to take inventory. I decided I had had my run. The right thing to do was step aside and let others take over leadership.”

In February 2003, he retired, walking away from the Marines and into a civilian career that included positions with the Marine Corps, Madison Research Corp. and Wachovia Bank. In 2006, he graduated summa cum laude with a business degree from Athens State University and, in 2008, he returned to government service as a contracts specialist at Marshall Space Flight Center.

Along the way, public service called and, in 2008, he was elected to the Madison City Council, serving as the council's president in 2010. In 2009, he resigned from his NASA job to begin his run for the Alabama State Senate.

When asked about his 2010 state senate campaign, Holtzclaw rolls out a map that he referred to often during his campaign. One of his major strategies was to make personal contact with the voters of District 2, which includes Athens, Madison, Monrovia and Harvest. He and his volunteers knocked on more than 16,000 doors within the east Limestone/west Madison County district.

“My campaign was run like any military campaign,” he said. “It was a military-oriented plan that put it all together. It was about timing. If we talked to people too soon, they would forget about us. But the longer we waited the narrower the window of opportunity was. It took

See Senator on page 28

Cancer survivors make connection online

New website shares stories, advice, hope

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**
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Jody Hicks was looking for a battle buddy. When the diagnosis came – Hodgkins lymphoma – five years ago, Hicks, a self-described type A personality and retired Army aviator went into control mode.

“I immediately tried to take control of something you don’t have any control over,” Hicks said.

Porning over medical research and data on the Internet, Hicks mostly scared himself with the “what ifs” and uncertainties of his diagnosis. It wasn’t until he stumbled across the writings of other patients and survivors online – his battle buddies against cancer – that he began to find a reprieve from his anxiety.

“What I found solace in was other people who had gone through the disease and posted their blog on the Internet,” Hicks said.

As he triumphed over the disease, Hicks sought to make something of his second chance at life.

“You kind of feel feeble as a cancer survivor, you want to do something, but there’s not much you can do that somebody’s not already done,” Hicks said.

Drawing from the very place that gave him strength as he battled the disease, Hicks pondered the ways to connect fellow cancer patients with the resources he found online. When he came to work with fellow retired Army aviator Chris Perry two years ago, in the course of reminiscing about their flying days in the early 1990s at Fort Campbell, Ky., he mentioned his fight with cancer, and his



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Bob Price, Jody Hicks and Chris Perry look over the proposed cover for P2P Cancer Survivors e-magazine, CANSURVIVE. The three Army aviators have reunited for a new mission supporting those who have been affected by cancer.

idea. Six months later, another Army aviator from their Fort Campbell days Bob Price came to work for Perry, with an expertise in social networking and marketing, just what the duo needed to get their idea off the ground. Since their reunion, the trio have made it their life ambition to bring the comfort Hicks found online to all those faced with cancer, whether they are currently struggling with the disease, call themselves a survivor, or have a loved one with the diagnosis, through P2P Cancer Survivors, a new non-profit organization that brings together those touched by cancer through social media.

“My thought was to put people together

so they can just talk,” Hicks said. “It’s just talking about what you’re going through because most of the healing and most of the fight during cancer is in your brain.”

The social media website, similar to that of Facebook, Myspace or LinkedIn, allows users to create a profile, chat, join groups, read blogs, share information and check out upcoming events in the area, all the while allowing for those touched by cancer, no matter what kind, to connect with each other.

“I don’t care if you’re a cancer survivor or you were just diagnosed, you go there and get some type of relief,” Price said.

With all three of them affected by cancer

in some way, the non-profit aims to turn a highly profitable idea – social media – and use it for the greater good. Ninety percent of all proceeds the organization receives will go back into the cancer community, to the American Cancer Society, Livestrong and the Clearview Cancer Institute, for treatment and research.

“We’ve all done what we’re going to do,” Perry said. “We’re all at that point in our lives and career that we just want to give back and do something good for the community.”

In addition to the website, the group is also in the process of creating an inspirational e-magazine, CANSURVIVE, for its members.

“It’s really going to be about survivors and survivors’ stories,” Price said. “It won’t always be great stories, because all endings aren’t happy. And sometimes, faced with that end of life path, learning from someone else that went before you and how they did it is just as important as wake up tomorrow and the rainbow’s out. Helping that person deal with their path is just as important as a different ending for someone else.”

Whatever the ending, it is the journey that binds those affected by cancer together that the founders hope will bring people to the website to share stories of encouragement and loss, friendship, courage and strength. United by the common bond of cancer, the relationship between the 122 members currently registered on the site is unbreakable.

“It’s very strong,” Hicks said of the camaraderie between those that have cancer. “I would equate it to being as strong as someone that you’ve gone into battle with. It’s the same type of connection that you had.”

To learn more about P2P Cancer Survivors, visit www.p2pcancersurvivors.org.

Companies honored for carrying ethics torch

Team Redstone has joined with the Huntsville Association of Small Business in Advanced Technology to recognize four HASBAT member firms as recipients of the Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics.

“Congratulations to all of these great organizations,” Ronnie Chronister, AMCOM deputy commander, said. “Their superior accomplishments and demonstrated excellence in the marketplace further enhance our community and the entire northern Alabama region.”

Recipients of the Better Business Bureau of North Alabama 2010 Torch Awards for Marketplace Ethics were:

- WaveLink Inc. (Small Companies Category) – Wavelink Inc., a local small woman-owned business, provides program

management, engineering and technical support to major defense acquisition programs including aviation, rocket and missile. WaveLink’s mission is “To deliver dependable technology and professional support with the highest integrity.”

- LogiCore Corporation (Mid Size Companies Category) – LogiCore Corporation, an information technology, integrated logistics and engineering support company, was recognized for its commitment to quality. LogiCore recognizes that successful relationships are built on trust, honesty and integrity, and endeavors to earn a reputation that enjoys these values.

- Sigmatech Inc. (Large Companies Category) – Founded in 1986, Sigmatech’s 200-plus employees deliver technical and

management services to government customers focused on supporting the military. Proudly supporting Redstone Arsenal customers for more than 24 years, Sigmatech was named the 2010 Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year for Government Contracting and maintains an ISO 9001:2008 certified Quality Management.

- Women’s Business Center of North Alabama (Non-Profits Category) – Women’s Business Center of North Alabama provides complete client confidentiality, responsiveness, respect and fair treatment as it helps women and men to start a new business or grow an existing one. WBCNA provides business coaching, training, access to financing,

networking opportunities, government contracting assistance and more. It is committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

“Integrity and ethical practices are important to the WBCNA,” Joanne W. Randolph, WBCNA president and CEO, said. “We are honored to receive the TORCH Award that recognizes us for adhering to those practices.”

More than 140 companies and non-profit organizations were nominated for the Torch Award, recognizing ethical relationships with customers, employees and vendors. Winners were selected by a panel comprised of academic and business community representatives. (Huntsville Association of Small Business in Advanced Technology release)

Captain cares for pets left behind in Egypt

By C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – On Jan. 25, citizens of Egypt began protesting against the government of then-President Hosni Mubarak. By Feb. 1, the U.S. Department of State had ordered the departure of dependants and all non-emergency U.S. government personnel and their families from Egypt.

But not all “members” of the families departed – the four-legged ones stayed behind.

“A lot of people had pets that they really didn’t have a good plan for being taken care of in the event of evacuation,” said Capt. Eric Coulson, office of military cooperation at the U.S. embassy in Egypt. He’s part of a team that manages nearly \$1.3 billion in annual aid to the Egyptian military. “And the vets and the kennels here were kind of overwhelmed.”

Coulson’s wife Karen left Egypt – but he and the couple’s two dogs, Molly and Sayeret, stayed behind. Coulson and a fellow Soldier at the embassy, Maj. Alavora Roa, teamed up to take care of those pets that were left behind when their owners departed the country.

“We sort of organized an emergency kennel for all the people who didn’t have a place to put their animals while they were being evacuated,” he said. “We sort of reached out to people we knew had animals.”

In all, Coulson and Roa found themselves running an impromptu pet hotel for about 20 animals, scattered among the deserted apartments of their co-workers who had evacuated. The two checked in on the apartments of their co-workers and also stopped in to feed the animals

and take them for a walk.

One co-worker, Coulson said, had a fairly large roof available on his apartment, and they kept several animals there.

“We consolidated them at the apartment of one of the other persons involved in this – he has a large roof and we put them on the roof with some shelter – with large water bowls and large food bowls and we took turns taking them out.”

Coulson said the local Purina distributor in Cairo had made a generous donation of supplies to keep the officer’s kennel operating.

“Most of the people who were leaving told us where to pick up dog food,” he said. “The local Purina dealer did give us a couple hundred pounds of dog food, as well as cat litter and cat food. Between what people had and a generous donation from the Purina dealer here in Cairo, we’ve been able to take care of the animals at minimal expense.”

Now, several of the pet owners have come back to Egypt, Coulson said, and some of the pets have been shipped back to where their owners are – so the number of pets he’s looking after will continue to dwindle, he said, till eventually he’ll be left with just his two dogs Molly and Sayeret.

Coulson’s pet boarding days will eventually be a distant memory, but the events in Egypt will stay fresh for a while, he said. The speed with which recent events happened was thrilling, he said.

“It went from probably about 10 miles an hour to 60 miles an hour in just a matter of days,” he said, adding “it was absolutely interesting to watch. To be in the middle of history.”

And the recent events weren’t the first time he’s been struck by historical change in Egypt. He was just 13 when Anwar Sadat was assassinated – old enough to be able to gauge the impact and significance of what had happened.

“That was sort of one of my first big memory of things in the news – of what we had as far as ‘wall-to-wall coverage’ back in 1981,” he said. “I remember being riveted by the TV.”

And the most recent changes in Egypt mean there’s two things he’ll remember for a long, long time.

“The two transitions of power in Egyptian history that have taken place in my life are really sort of important memories to me,” he said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Two emblems of service grace the lapel of Alabama Sen. Bill Holtzclaw as reminders of his lifelong commitment to service, duty and the values he learned as a Marine. The top pin is his Alabama State Senate pin while the other is his Marine Corps pin.

Senator

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a lot of coordination with volunteers. I had the right people in the right places laying out that campaign plan.

“I also understood my opponent, and his strengths and weaknesses. It was just like what you would do if you were meeting an opponent on the battlefield.”

Holtzclaw beat the opposing incumbent by a 10,000 vote margin, or 20 percentage points. He received 35,000 of the 55,000 votes cast in a Senate race that drew one of the highest voter turnouts in the state.

“When you win by that kind of margin, you know that when you get in office that the people are truly behind you and supporting you,” he said.

As an elected official, Holtzclaw wears his state Senate pin proudly on his lapel. Right under it is his Marine Corps lapel pin.

“I want to always wear them together primarily to remember the Marine brotherhood and standards I want to live by,” he said.

Holtzclaw will rely on the values and principles learned as a Marine to help make the difficult decisions in the state Senate that will determine the future of Alabama and its residents.

“I understand there’s a big picture, and I also understand there’s a portion of it that looks to me for leadership,” he said. “I decided to run for the state Senate in support of the big picture. It’s a visionary thing that I want to be part of. As a platoon sergeant or a platoon commander, I led Marines to

accomplish a mission. I see a parallel as an elected leader.

“I understand there is a hierarchy. But I also understand how to tactfully interject my own opinions and base those opinions on grounded principles that I can defend. I will work to attain the high ground politically and to defend that high ground.”

When not in session in Montgomery, Holtzclaw’s Senate office is a front room in his Madison home. Whether in session or not, he plans to be accessible to voters and to use today’s communication technology – particularly email and a website that features a monthly newsletter and a daily blog – to maintain an open-door policy.

“A lot of people email me. They say do this, do that, don’t do that. A lot of them are venting about problems,” he said. “I respond back to all of them and people are blown away. I want to communicate. I want people to know I am listening. I want to tell them my perspective.”

Recently, Holtzclaw spoke to the Marines of the Marine Corps Detachment during a casing of the colors ceremony that symbolized the detachment’s move to Fort Lee, Va.

“My message to them is we have to live our lives every day so that we make a positive difference in other people’s lives,” he said. “That’s what I wanted those young Marines to hear. Some will only be in the Marines for four years. Some their whole life. Some will never see combat. Some will. But that message applies to all of them.

“It’s a rare moment in my life when I know I’m doing exactly what I’m supposed to be doing. It’s rewarding to know I am at that place right now.”



Courtesy photo

After many Americans evacuated Egypt, their pets were left behind, but were taken care of by Capt. Eric Coulson, who helped set up an impromptu pet kennel.

Win or Lose

Shining moments galore in postseason tournament



Top-seeded Bravo stays in control

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

This was a night of March Madness at Redstone Arsenal.

Crowd-pleasing slam dunks, dramatic 3-pointers, bruising battles for rebounds. Everything a basketball fanatic would savor at this time of year was on display March 23 at the Redstone Fitness Center.

It was the second night of the postseason tournament which will conclude Thursday with the final at 6 p.m.

Top-seeded Bravo Company routed defending champion Charlie Company 73-23 in the night's first game, followed by the National Guard's 53-50 win over the NCO Academy. Headquarters & Alpha Company won by forfeit over the Marines in the nightcap.

Tristan Wilson scored 24 points, including four dunks, for Bravo. The Bulldogs (10-2) scored the game's first 12 points and led 37-8 at halftime.

"We're the best," said Wilson, a 6-foot-3 small forward who played three years for T.L. Hanna High in Anderson, S.C. (the school depicted in

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Bravo's Tristan Wilson dunks over Charlie's Richard Robinson during the Bulldogs' 73-23 win March 23.

the movie "Radio"). "We're playing ball. We're just playing team ball. That's all it is. As long as we're playing under control, we'll never lose. That's what we try to do - keep the team under control."

Victor Evans, a 6-foot-2 guard, served as player/coach on this night.

"We're going to win it all," Evans predicted. "There's no ifs, ands or buts about it. We're going to win it all. As long as we keep playing like we're playing, I don't think there's any team that can beat us on this base."

Andrew Dixon led Charlie (4-9) with six points.

"They've got talent," Wolfpack center Josef Dunn said of Bravo. "Their second team could probably beat every team in the league. And they hustle. Not one of them stops. Can't take a break when you play against them, they'll burn you."

Chris Mack scored a game-high 27 points for the National Guard (7-6) in its close win over the NCO Academy. The NCO Academy (7-6) led 30-27 at halftime.

"We pretty much just stuck it out down the stretch," National Guard player/coach Bryan Christa said. "We found a little energy at the end. In a close game, instead of panicking we found a way to play it smart."

The NCO Academy got 17 points from Johnny Palmer and 16 from Corey Kelly.

"It was a good game," NCO Academy coach Shawn Jones said. "It just came down to the end and they got the better of us. But it's not over."

In other games last week, Charlie beat the Marines 52-26, 326th Chemical outscored Headquarters & Alpha 61-43 and HHC 59th defeated 375th Engineer 45-40 on March 22; 326th Chemical beat HHC 59th 45-31 and Bravo dropped the National Guard 60-32 on March 24.

Army baseball team has fruitful spring break

Henshaw powers Black Knights as team wins 3-of-4 in Florida

WEST POINT, N.Y. - Senior first baseman/designated hitter Joey Henshaw, who helped the Army baseball team win three out of four games March 15-19 during the Black Knights' spring break trip to Florida, was named the Army Athletic Association Athlete of the Week.

Henshaw posted a .438 batting average and a .688 slugging percentage that week as Army (5-11) knocked off Massachusetts (10-9), Indiana (12-10) and Northwestern (5-2). The Gainesville, Ga., native led the team with four doubles and drove in a team-high nine runs during the four-game span.

The left-handed power hitter began his productive week on March 15, going 4-for-5 with two doubles and three RBIs as Army rallied from a six-run deficit to defeat Massachusetts. He was held in check against Dartmouth on the morning of March 18, but he still managed to hit an RBI double in four at-bats versus the Big Green.

Henshaw cranked it up against Indiana that Friday afternoon, going 2-for-3 with a double and four RBI. His two-run double in the seventh inning tied the game at 10-10, and he scored on Clint Moore's go-ahead two-run home run later in that frame.

He went hitless in four at-bats versus Northwestern on March 19 in Army's Florida finale, but he did manage to drive in the game's first run as he hit a sacrifice fly in the first inning of the Black Knights' victory.

Henshaw, hitting .314 with a team-best seven doubles and 10 RBIs this spring, posted a .360 batting average and a .520 slugging percentage during Army's seven-game trip to Florida.

Notes: Henshaw and sophomore right-handed pitcher Chris Rowley were both named to the Patriot League's Weekly Honor Roll for their efforts March 15-19 ... Rowley pitched Army to its win over Northwestern, striking out a career-high seven batters in a career-best 8.0 in-



Army Athletic Communications photo

Joey Henshaw was hitting .314 with a team-best seven doubles and 10 RBIs after Army's first 16 games.

nings en route to his first career win. (Army Athletic Communications)

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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 Saturday at 7 a.m. The course begins at the Sparkman Fitness Center, continues south on Patton Road past Buxton Road to the five-mile point and then back to the fitness center. Redstone is 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 Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Hampton Cove. All proceeds will benefit the Military Child Education Coalition. Sponsorships and team slots are available now. Contact Sherry Hilley 842-6715, sherry.hilley@us.army.mil, or Mike Krause, mike.krauseSR@us.army.mil.

Troop golf championship

The Felix Milar Active Duty Post

Championship will be held April 8-10 at 8 a.m. at the Links. Brought to you by Woody Anderson Ford, this free tournament is open only to active duty military. Registration continues through Thursday. The unit level scramble for Commanders Cup points is that Friday. And the individual post championship is Saturday and Sunday. To register or for more information, call Gaylene Wilson 842-2574 or Joe Reed 313-1201.

Basketball benefit

Buckhorn High School will hold its inaugural 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament April 29-30. There will be multiple age divisions, three indoor gyms, slam dunk and 3-point contest. The cost is \$40 per team, and a portion of the proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. Registration on-site that afternoon at 4 or at any Jack's location. For more information, call 683-5439 or go to 977thezone.com and look in "events."

Boating safety

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will provide a Boating Safety six-week course April 14 through May 26 each Thursday night at 6:30 at the Garrison Safety Office, building 3687. Each session lasts about two and a half hours. The course is designed for all boaters and others interested in the safe handling of watercraft. There is a fee for the instructional manual only. For more information, call Tom

Kunhart home 830-6621, cell phone 527-4475 or email tkunhart@knology.net.

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.

Association golf

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

Golf benefit

Health Establishments at Local Schools will hold its second annual "HEALS on the Green Pro-Am Golf Tourney" May 2 at The Ledges. The shotgun starts are 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cost is \$250 per person or \$1,000 per team. Sponsors, players and volunteers are wanted. For more information, call Lauren Mosley 428-7560 or e-mail Lauren.Mosley@healsinc.org.

Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

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

Bible studies

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

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Community Activity Center. 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, Ma-

rines 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.

Industrial security training

Mid-South Chapter of the Society of Industrial Security Professionals will hold its 12th annual Training Seminar on April 14 at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. This full-day event will feature several government and industry security executives. Government agencies and security service suppliers will exhibit an array of complementary materials and media products. Registration is \$90. For more information, call Stan Miller 651-7118. Program content and online registration are available at <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1257997705%5D>.

Logistics society

The International Society of Logistics' Tennessee Valley Chapter and the American Helicopter Society will have a joint luncheon April 7 at 11 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Huntsville. The scheduled speaker is Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers. Cost is \$20. RSVP by Thursday by calling Jon Liddie 642-9145 or emailing jon.s.liddie@saic.com.

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.

Test week

Test Week 2011 will launch June 13-17 at the Von Braun Center's South Hall. This DoD-sponsored forum focuses on the issues of Test and Evaluation. Information can be found on www.testweek.org. Registration fee is \$425; visit Course Catalog F113TW in TIP. The conference will hold tutorials, technical program, TST 303 certification, exhibits and other events. For more information, call event coordinator Sherry Hilley 842-6715 or e-mail sherry.hilley@us.army.mil.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315

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Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Valerie Cortez 313-9753. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 5301, second floor, in room 1217. For information call Caville Blake 876-7351. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 8721 Madison Boulevard in Madison. For information call Margrit Carr 313-1952.

Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will meet April 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Cost is \$15. The feature is "Spring Fashions" by Christopher & Banks. Sheritha Ivy, community vocalist, will perform. Deb Atheneos, an Air Force retiree from Knoxville, will speak on "How She Became Rescued." Free child care for age 6 and younger is provided off-site. Reservations for lunch or child care are due by April 4. Call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339. HCWC is an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, a support ministry for military wives and other women.

Officers association

Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will have an informal social hour today at 4:30 p.m. at the Overlook facility (near the Officers and Civilians Club). Student

officers from the Command and General Staff School will share recent Afghanistan and Iraq deployment stories. "No meeting, no long talks," a prepared release said. "Just free finger food and a pay-as-you-go bar."

Air defenders

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

Tricare briefings

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

Active/retired employees

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter 443 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet April 9 at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. A breakfast buffet, catered by David King from Creative Catering, will be served at 9 a.m. Tickets (\$7) may be reserved by calling Louise Garman 461-9408. All breakfast attendees will have their name

put in a drawing for a \$25 Walmart gift certificate. The business meeting will begin at 10, and the program to follow. Scheduled speaker is Cynthia Parker, executive director of the Land Trust of North Alabama. For more information, call 508-8250 or 539-1333.

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.

Small business input

The U.S. Small Business Administration will bring its national Small Business Jobs Act Listening Tour to the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus April 15. The UAH Small Business Development Center and the District SBA

Office are coordinating the event to be held in the Chan Auditorium, located in the College of Business Administration Building. The program begins at 9 a.m., and is free to all participants. Meet with leaders from SBA, give input on new regulations, and learn how you can take advantage of new tools coming out of the Small Business Jobs Act that became law last fall. The SBA's office of Government Contracting and Small Business Development is seeking participants' input on regulations, and how SBA can help grow local businesses and create jobs. To learn more on the April 15 Small Business Jobs Act Listening Tour, visit <http://www.sba.gov/jobsacttour/sessions>. To register, go to <http://www.sba.gov/jobsacttour/huntsville>.

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

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Photo by Spc. Terence Ewings/4th AAB PAO

Training round

Iraqi soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 11th Brigade, 3rd Iraqi Army Division, set up a cordon outside a training "house" during urban operations training at Ghuzlani Warrior Training Center, March 20. Soldiers assigned to 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, trained and mentored Iraqi soldiers at the Iraqi training facility to help modernize IA units' light infantry skills and capabilities during small-unit fire and maneuver training.



Photo by June Pockrus

Administrative honorees

Dorothy May, right, of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, has been named Redstone's Administrative Professional of the Year. AMRDEC's Vicky Caylor, left, is the runner-up. They were judged by a three-member panel representing business management, the administrative profession and news media based on the content, organization and language used in response to a challenging question.

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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.

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.

Buying a business

Women's Business Center of North Alabama is host for "The ABCs of Buying a Business and Planning an Exit Strategy," presented by North Alabama Sunbelt Business Brokers, on Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. "Find out how to use your 401K to buy a business without tax penalty," a prepared release said. "Topics include: Financing Considerations, Legal Aspects, and Business Planning. This event is for both men and women and you are encouraged to attend." To register, visit www.WBCNA.org.

Romance readers

Bestselling author Kerrelyn Sparks will speak at the 14th annual Romance Readers' Luncheon, sponsored by Heart of Dixie, the North Alabama chapter of Romance Writers of America, on April 30 at 11 a.m. at the Von Braun Center. Registration is \$25 and must be received by April 15. For more information and registration forms, call 586-5962 or visit www.heartofdixie.org.

Organizational performance

The Huntsville Colloquium on Organizational Performance Optimization is April 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at PPT Solutions Inc., 4825 University Square, Suite 6. To register, e-mail tina.price@pptsinc.com.

Data reporting workshop

The Defense Cost and Resource Center training team invites you to a joint industry/government Cost and Software Data Reporting workshop. There is no cost to you personally for this training, which will be held April 5-6 at Embassy Suites, 800 Monroe St. For more information, call Claudia Rhen of G-3 CAD at 842-7843. For an overview of the DCARC training and to register, go to <http://dcarc>.

pae.osd.mil/Training/index.aspx.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, will hold its monthly luncheon April 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Wesley Hall. This month's topic will be "What you should know about Long Term Care" presented by Eric Jackson. For ticket information, call Audra Edwards 313-2382 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Miscellaneous Items

Civilian deployment

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

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.

Mississippi State alums

The Huntsville/Decatur Mississippi State University Alumni Chapter will hold a dinner with MSU president Dr. Mark Keenum on April 4 at the Heritage Club at Bridge Street Town Centre. The event begins with a social at 6:30 p.m. with dinner and a program beginning at 7. Also attending will be MSU's Dr. David Shaw, vice president for research

and economic development; John Rush, vice president for development and alumni; and Dr. Jimmy Abraham, associate vice president for development and alumni and executive director of the Alumni Association. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door. For reservations, call chapter president Brian Sabourin 883-9694.

Surplus sale

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

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.

Motorcycle safety

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

a space-available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. To enroll in 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.

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>.

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.

CFC volunteers

Preparations are being made for the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign. Federal volunteers are needed to serve on the Local Eligibility Review Team to review the applications received from local charitable organizations for participation in the 2011 CFC. The team will convene on April 4-7 at the CFC Office, building 3708. "This will be a great opportunity for the federal donor to learn more about CFC and the eligibility process," a prepared release said. "This will also be a great opportunity for new federal employees to learn about the fund-raising arm of the federal government." If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, call the CFC Office 876-9143.

AER book sale

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

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

Community grants

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association conducts an annual community support grant program to give back to Soldiers, military families and veterans. Local tax exempt organizations that qualify under Section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS Code may apply for one of the grants. Typically, the ADAA does not fund: recreational activities, tax supported institutions, cultural/civic organizations/businesses, religious organizations/institutions, social organizations/committees, and political organizations/campaigns. Rather, the grant is designed to support organizations and activities directly contributing to the education, health or social welfare of Soldiers and military families. Representatives of eligible organizations may request a grant application from the ADAA Grant Committee chairman, Ron Sumera, at 774-6029 or e-mail ron.sumera@us.army.mil. The deadline for grant applications is April 4.

School grants

The Huntsville Association of Technical Societies and its Science and Technology Education and Training Committee announce continuation of its Seed Grant Program for K-12 schools in Jackson, Madison, Marshall, Morgan and Limestone counties in Alabama and Lincoln County in Tennessee. Proposals, via the official online fill-in application form, must be completed and submitted by the lead teacher and approved by the lead teacher's principal before 4:30 p.m. Friday. Application forms are available at HATS STEDTRAIN webpage www.hats.org/STEDTRAIN/stedtr.shtml.

Women's history program

This year's Team Redstone Women's History Month Program is today at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The guest speaker will be author Joan Brock.

Chapter scholarship

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

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop is open this Saturday for shopping and its plant sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. "We have a 50-cent clothes section and a \$1 all-you-can-fit-in-a-bag area, as well as a vast selection of romance novels and Easter items for purchase," a prepared release said. "Healthy plants in good soil and pots are welcome for consignment along with

Easter items." Consignments are taken from 9-11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call the NO-LIST number 881-6915 before stopping by. The shop's hours 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.

Stepfamily seminar

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

Mr. Man pageant

SB Productions has begun its search for the exceptional caliber of men needed to compete in the 2011 "Mr. Man Premiere." This year's event is Aug. 27 at the Embassy Suites in Huntsville. Candidates will go through a screening process for the final selection. Finalists will have runway preparation and etiquette training for the pageant. For more information, call Samuel Brown 683-3083 or visit www.mrmanpremiere.com.

Reserve openings

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

Gardening workshop

A Home Gardening Workshop will be presented April 7 from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Mayfair Church of Christ, 1095 Carl T. Jones Drive. Attendees will learn the basics of gardening in North Alabama soil and climate. The workshop is sponsored by the Master Gardeners North Alabama and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. The workshop fee is \$25 and includes snacks, lunch, handouts and door prizes. To register, send a check to MGNA Workshops, ATTN: Diane Campen, 268 Dublin Circle, Madison, AL 35758. For more information, call 864-9470 or e-mail diane.campen@gmail.com.

Indoor flying

Grace United Methodist Church, 2113 Old Monrovia Road, welcomes pilots and spectators of all ages to its gym for indoor small electric radio-controlled airplane and helicopter flying from 1-4 p.m. this Sunday and April 24. For more information on this

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free event, call Jim Marconnet 772-3946, email jmarconnet@gmail.com or visit <http://tinyurl.com/GFFF2011>.

Fine arts festival

Williams Middle School will have a Fine Arts Festival from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday. There will be fun and games for all ages. Cost is \$5 per person.

Free wedding dresses

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

Charity car show

The seventh annual Charity Car Show, sponsored by Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners, is April 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bridge Street Town Centre. It's open to all makes of cars, trucks and motorcycles. Registration is from 8-11:30 a.m. with awards at 2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit local charities, including wounded warriors, Tut Fann Veterans Home, and Toys for Tots. Entry fee is \$20. For information call Ken Ille 828-5351.

Ballet performance

Huntsville Ballet Company will present its annual spring performance and discover dance community program April 9 at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center's Concert Hall. "A lively, colorful tribute to the military will highlight an evening of eclectic and exciting dance," a prepared release said. Tickets can be purchased at the VBC ticket office or through Ticketmaster. For more in-

formation, call the ballet office 539-0931 or visit www.communityballet.org.

Arts update

Alabama Youth Ballet Theatre will present "Arthur and the Magic Sword," its fourth in a series of fairytale ballets, at the Von Braun Center's Playhouse. The performances are Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. For more information on this, and other art-oriented events, visit www.ourvalleyevents.com or www.artshuntsville.org.

Health center ceremony

Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for Fox's new front entrance April 4 at 9 a.m. The public is invited.

Library open house

The Post Library will hold an Open House on April 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in celebration of the Community-wide Read. This event will feature the book "Wicked City," a novel by Ace Atkins, in conjunction with the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. The Post Library will also feature Homer Hickam's memoir "Rocket Boys." Free copies of both books will be given away at the open house while supplies last. Children's books about rockets and space will also be available while supplies last. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call the library 876-4741.

Senior volunteers

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

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS
REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF MAR 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																			
SCBK110848453	Civil Engineer	30-Mar-11	US Army Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0810	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X					X
SCBK11859989	Secretary	30-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-0318	7	7	39,422 - 51,253	X											
SCBK11930233	Administrative Spt Asst	30-Mar-11	US Army Acq Spt Ctr	GS-0303	7	7	39,422 - 56,754	X	X									X	X
SCBK11908217	Resource Analyst	30-Mar-11	AMC	GS-0501	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X										X	X
SCBK11873875	Project Director	31-Mar-11	AMC	GS-0301	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X				X	X
SCBK11734498	IT SPECIALIST	31-Mar-11	AMC	GS-2210	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X				X	X
SCBK11680529R	Equal Employment Specialist	31-Mar-11	AMC	GS-0260	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X										X	X
SCBK947412	Supervisory General Engineer	31-Mar-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266							X				X	X
SCBK11922740	Logistics Management Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X											
SCBK11823875D	Process Improvement Manager	1-Apr-11	USADTC	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102												X
SCBK11823875	Process Improvement Manager	1-Apr-11	USADTC	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X											
SCBK11945978	Procurement Analyst	1-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-1102	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X				X	X
SCBK11876447	General Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266							X	X			X	X
SCBK11898891	General Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266	X	X					X	X			X	X
SCBK1189579D	Aerospace Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	69,930 - 108,102												X
SCBK11915894D	Aerospace Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	69,930 - 108,102												X
SCBK11915894	Aerospace Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	69,930 - 108,102	X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X
SCBK10631319OCE	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102												X
SCBK10631270OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X				X	X
SCBK10482838OC	Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102								X			X	X
SCBK10482845OC	Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	7	12	39,422 - 90,907							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	X
SCBK11947565	Lead General Engineer	1-Apr-11	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	98,265 - 150,266	X	X	X				X	X			X	X
SCBK11932246D	General Engineer	4-Apr-11	US Army Mis Def Cmd	GS-0801	13	13	83,156 - 108,102												X
SCBK11930303	Logistics Analyst	4-Apr-11	Redstone Test Center	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102											X	X
SCBK11910205	Contract Specialist	4-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	11	12	58,343 - 90,907												X
SCBK11906457	Supv IT Specialist (CUSTSPT)	4-Apr-11	Expeditionary Contracting Command	YA-2210	3	3	92,277 - 157,779							X	X			X	X
SCBK11962314	IT SPECIALIST (PLCYPLN)	4-Apr-11	93d Signal Brigade	GS-2210	12	12	69,930 - 90,907											X	X
SCBK11856122	Civil Eng, Env Eng, Mec Eng, Elec Eng	5-Apr-11	Engineering & Spt Ctr	GS-0810/0819/0830/0850	14	14	98,256 - 127,743								X				
SCBK11918119	Lead Traffic Mgt Specialist	5-Apr-11	AMC	GS-2130	13	13	83,156 - 108,102								X				
SCBK11932248	Secretary (Office Automation)	5-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-0318	7	7	39,422 - 51,253							X	X			X	X
SCBK11959317	Secretary (Office Automation)	5-Apr-11	PEO	NK-0318	2	2	31,825 - 51,253		X					X	X	X		X	X
SCBK11965505	Human Resources Spec (HRD)	5-Apr-11	AMCOM	YA-0201	3	3	98,265 - 127,743	X											
SCBK11974056	Contract Specialist	5-Apr-11	ARSTRAT	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907								X			X	X
SCBK11965466	Supervisory Logistics Management Specialist	6-Apr-11	PEO	YA-0346	3	3	98,265 - 150,266	X											
SCBK11922751	Supervisory Traffic Management Specialist	6-Apr-11	AMC	GS-2130	14	14	98,265 - 127,743	X											
SCBK11934694	Supv Contract Specialist	6-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-1102	14	14	98,265 - 127,743								X			X	X
SCBK11971210	Contract Specialist	6-Apr-11	U.S. Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102		X						X			X	X
SCBK11958970	Practical Nurse	6-Apr-11	U.S. Army Dept Activity	GS-0620	5	5	31,825 - 41,369							X				X	X
SCBK11981275	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	8-Apr-11	U.S. Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X	X	X		X	X
SCBK11856117	Civil Eng, Env Eng, Mec Eng, Chem Eng	11-Apr-11	Engineering & Spt Ctr	GS-0810/0819/0830/0893	14	14	98,265 - 127,743											X	X
SCBK11856117A	Phy Scientist, Chemist, Geologist,	11-Apr-11	Engineering & Spt Ctr	GS-1301/1320/1350	14	14	98,265 - 127,743								X				
SCBK11974195	Contract Specialist	11-Apr-11	US Army Sp & Mis Def Cmd	GS-1102	11	12	58,343 - 90,907	X											
SCBK110938806	Spv Mec Eng, Spv Elec Eng, Ind Eng, Spv Civil Eng	15-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830/0850/0896/0810	14	14	98,265 - 127,743									X		X	X
SCBK110904386	Mechanical Engineer	19-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X	X			X	X
SCBK110904386D	Mechanical Engineer	19-Apr-11	USA Engr & Spt Ctr	GS-0830	12	12	69,930 - 90,907												X
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X				X	X
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							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	X
SCBK10674714OC	Contract Specialist (Price/Cost Analysis)	9-Jun-11	ACC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779								X	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
SCBK1044488OC	Contract Specialist	18-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	2	2	47,215 - 108,102	X	X									X	X
SCBK10482850OC	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	X
SCBK10482823OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

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