

SMDC officer ready to come home to Redstone

By JASON CUTSHAW

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

One Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command leader keeps the lines of communication open between the command and U.S. Strategic Command as both organizations stay on alert for national defense.

Lt. Col. Victoria Miralda, SMDC/ARSTRAT Forward Detachment commander at STRATCOM in Omaha, Neb., was at Redstone Arsenal July 16-17 to talk with leaders within the command in regard to U.S. STRATCOM policies, as well as prepare to make her way home to SMDC headquarters in the next few months.

"I came down for a meeting with the commanding general and key staff that concerns some of the future decisions for our capabilities," Miralda said. "I also began tying into the Future Warfare Center. I will be moving down here soon to work as the director of combat developments under the Future Warfare Center.

"The FWC is responsible for documenting requirements and capabilities related to space and missile defense for the Army," she continued. "We basically build the future, or as the commanding general says, 'We build tomorrow's capabilities.' So being in the heart of that is going to be perfect for me. This will be my third location in the same organization (FWC) for this command so I think between that and having the operational background experience, I can offer a new perspective of why these capabilities are required for the future force.

"I know a lot of the current Functional Area-40 Soldiers who have recently completed or are out there doing the mission right

now and so I will be able to make sure we reach out to them," Miralda added.

She graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned as a signal officer in 1990. She later earned a master's in telecommunications from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2000. She first came to SMDC after being appointed as a FA-40 officer in 2003 where she was assigned to the Force Development Integration Center in Crystal City in Arlington, Va.

After working at FDIC, she was on an Office of the Secretary of Defense Joint Test and Evaluation Team for Joint Space Control Operations Negation and then reassigned to SMDC as the executive officer to Brig. Gen. Roger Matthews, deputy commander for operations. Miralda then became the 1st Space Brigade's S-3 where she deployed to U.S. Central Command as the deputy director for space from November 2008 to December 2009.

"I have enjoyed all of my jobs because there is always a way to make a difference and a positive impact, not only for the command and the Army, but for its people," Miralda said. "So every day as we do our job, to be able to link the folks we come into contact with and to gain momentum as a team, to me, is a great success.

"I think as a senior leader, I will be able to



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Victoria Miralda, SMDC/ARSTRAT Forward Detachment commander at STRATCOM in Omaha, Neb., is shown in November 2009 as she prepared to deploy overseas.

see that opportunity and help bridge some of those gaps that we have and accomplish more as a team," she added.

Miralda discussed the importance of STRATCOM and SMDC's relationship and explained the purpose of her visit.

"Currently my job at STRATCOM entails representing the SMDC commanding general (Lt. Gen. Richard Formica) at the four-star headquarters to Gen. C. Robert Kehler, STRATCOM commanding general," Miralda said. "My job is to help keep Gen. Kehler and staff informed on all of our command issues, positions and priorities, how we integrate our capabilities and feed back to our command and its staff the STRATCOM objectives, priorities and requirements.

"That is what we do at the SMDC/ARSTRAT Forward Detachment; we basically ensure the lines of operation are open and healthy between our commands so there are no surprises and that our commander can then better support his boss," she continued. "We are physically present there building

personal relationships and making sure they know what our command has to offer, because not many arrive to USSTRATCOM knowing what a service, much less the Army service, component provides. We are the most robust service component to STRATCOM but it takes reinforcement to keep it that way in all aspects.

"It is important because providing capabilities is what we do," Miralda added. "It is our mission, and a lot of the capabilities that the regional combatant commanders need are provided through STRATCOM and our command providing those capabilities to STRATCOM in support of the regional combatant command plans. As we prepare to deploy and execute those missions, our readiness state, the availability of different types of systems and Soldiers all feed back up to STRATCOM."

Before heading back to STRATCOM headquarters, Miralda said she was excited about becoming a permanent resident of Redstone Arsenal.

"I am just excited about the new job. I just got to meet some of the team for the first time and some of them I have known professionally for a decade, so it is wonderful to work with people you know and share common history with," Miralda said. "It feels like family and it will be great to be working in Huntsville."

Technical writer transforms into futuristic novelist

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

beth.skarupa@theredstonerocket.com

Living in the Rocket City just might have affected Joe East's imagination. If nothing else it was an appropriate place to begin writing his first novel – a story about space marines, mining operations, and sabotage on the moon.

"Base Camp Freedom" is set in a future where the United States, Canada and Mexico have merged to form one country called the United American Republic. Mega corporations have attained enormous economic, political and military power, forcing the UAR to form a special unit within its military called the Space Marines. This unit's sole mission is to protect the space station, transport and mining operations run by UAR contractors. The novel focuses on the adventures of the marines assigned to Base Camp Freedom.

"I hope it's widely read and enjoyed and I hope one day it's made into a movie. That's what I hope," East said laughing.

Although he admitted that he would love for Clint Eastwood to read the novel and make it into a movie, he said that he enjoyed writing it and is delighted that he can now share his idea of adventure with others.

When he was growing up in Mississip-

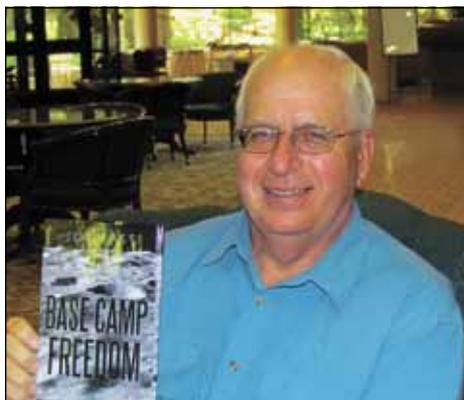


Photo by Beth Skarupa

Army civilian Joe East penned his first novel, "Base Camp Freedom," and has started his second.

pi, he enjoyed reading adventure stories but never imagined himself as a novelist. He served four years in the Air Force as a communications specialist and then spent more than 35 years as a civil servant writing technical publications and teaching courses to Soldiers serving in the Army.

East moved to Huntsville from Fort Lee, Va., 10 years ago, tasked by the Army to establish a satellite campus for the School of Systems and Acquisition Management. He retired as the school's department chairman two years ago, several months after the Army Acquisition

Center of Excellence was established at the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

For the past two years he has been running an intern training program for Army civilian employees in contracting. The interns are trained here at UAH, or sometimes the classes are held at other sites such as Warren, Mich., Rock Island, Ill., or even Korea – wherever the Army Contracting Command sends the teachers.

East became an avid reader of science fiction once he left home and joined the Air Force. Through the years he enjoyed many science fiction series, especially the Battle Tech series, and James Clavell's novels. He never thought of becoming an author until six years ago when one of Clavell's novels inspired him to write his own. He had an idea for a story, so he started writing on weekends and holidays.

"Trying my hand at a novel was a big departure from normal for me," he said.

He wrote whenever he had time, often waking up early and writing from 3-5 a.m. before getting ready for work. He usually wrote at home although his dogs, a cocker spaniel named Randy and a dachshund named Socrates, were a distraction because they wanted his attention. He finally completed "Base Camp Freedom" when he and his wife Joan took a three-week vacation to the Dominican Republic this spring.

"My wife is supportive. She's interested in my success and she's been helpful in that she lets me do what I need to do. She's proud of me and of the novel," he said.

He plans to retire from his current government position in October. Then he will devote more time to writing, as well as woodworking and singing in the choir at St. Timothy Episcopal Church in Athens. He is already writing his next novel, an adventure/romance set in the future tentatively titled "An Unfortunate War."

"I derived a great deal of knowledge from my military background that lends itself to writing these novels. I worked in communication intelligence in the Air Force and 10 years in the Army National Guard serving Field Artillery," he said.

His background in politics – he served 16 years on the city council in Petersburg, Va., while on assignment at Fort Lee – also informed the political coverage in "Base Camp Freedom." He said he also researched extensively to ensure accuracy in the novel.

"Base Camp Freedom" is available online from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, diesel eBookstore and iUniverse in both hardback and e-book form. It will soon be available as an audio book. For more information, go to <http://www.base-camp-freedom.com>.

Spouse

conyinned from page 17

being a Soldier," she said. "The understanding and support I get from my boss and my co-workers makes all the difference in having a job, having children and having a

spouse that's active duty."

Through the summer months, the Calhoun children have spent time with their grandparents and other family members. The youngest child attends preschool. During the school year, the children will also enjoy programs at School Age Services.

Calhoun works in an environment where all her co-workers have advanced degrees.

To be competitive in the adult education field, Calhoun, who aspires to be an educational counselor within the Army Continuing Education System, knows she must also hit her own educational bar.

"Going to school off and on takes a long time compared to the traditional way. Sometimes it has gotten tough and has gotten to be too much, so I've had to take a

break," she said. "There was a year between getting my bachelor's and starting for my master's. But I've always felt a need to go back until I finish my goal. I am 33 and my goal is to get my master's by the age 35."

"To be competitive, I needed my bachelor's degree. To stay competitive, I feel I need my master's degree. But, who knows, I may also go for a doctorate."

Photo by Jason Cutshaw,

SMDC/ARSTRAT

Summer study

U.S. Military Academy at West Point cadet James "Hunter" Jenkins IV teams up with recent University of Alabama-Huntsville graduate Tammy Cottam in

the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Concepts Analysis Laboratory. Jenkins and Cottam are simulating the plotting of orbits for the upcoming Space and Missile Defense Conference in August. Jenkins, a senior at West Point, will graduate in the spring with a degree in engineering management.



Courtesy photo

Triathlon competitors

Nine representatives from AMRDEC survived the heat, humidity and the grueling course at Point Mallard Park in Decatur to complete the 13th annual Wet Dog Triathlon. From left are Chris Roberts, Greg Reynolds, Evelyn Teats

(front), Tisha Guidry (back), Janet Baeder, Brian Baeder, Sgt. 1st Class John Herring, Jeff Rhea and Mike Turner. Roberts placed second overall with a time of 49:08. The event raises money for the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. For more information, visit <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wet-Dog-Triathlon/201384599888880>.

Grateful nation thanks World War II infantryman

Bronze Star presented posthumously at MDA

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

He was a humble man from Mississippi who didn't smile much. He turned 21 just two weeks before Pearl Harbor and went off to fight in the South Pacific with the 24th Infantry Division during World War II.

The late Pfc. Guy Marvin Nabors would have been proud to receive the Bronze Star Medal awarded posthumously Thursday for his service.

"I couldn't begin to tell you," Gena Turner Nabors, his wife of nearly 63 years, said of how he would react. "He would've been so proud because he didn't think they got what they deserved after the war."

The award ceremony at the Missile Defense Agency honored this member of the greatest generation who had died in September 2010 while residing in the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville. Attendees included his family members, dignitaries, veterans group representatives and MDA senior leaders.

"Welcome to a very special day here at Missile Defense Agency," MDA director for test Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown said. She delivered remarks and presented the medal to Gena Nabors.

While building a shadow box for his father-in-law's WWII medals in 2009, Jimmy

Ellis learned that Nabors was eligible for the Bronze Star Medal due to a 1947 change in the criteria for the medal's award, particularly for individuals having earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Nabors had received the CIB and other honors for his service which ended Dec. 7, 1945.

Ellis, a retired Navy captain who works at MDA as the lead for vessel engineering for the Sea-Based X-Band Radar, started the process which eventually led to awarding Nabors the Bronze Star Medal. "It took about a year to do that, almost a year," Ellis said.

Ellis and his wife, Jan Nabors Ellis, thanked the Army and MDA for the posthumous award.

"My dad was a really humble man," Jan Ellis said. "He was a typical World War II veteran. He didn't even share stories with me."

There were so many things she wished she had asked her father, she said, so many things she wished she would have known to ask him. But the story he did share with her was his recollection of having gone days and even weeks with very little food. He told his daughter that he had prayed that if he made it out of the South Pacific alive his family would never go hungry.

"He was truly a very humble man," she said.

The Ellis' three grown children have carried on their grandfather's legacy with their military service. Navy Lt. Krysten Pelstring, stationed at Kings Bay, Ga., has served 12 years and is among "the first group of women to go submarines," according to EL-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MDA's Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown presents the Bronze Star Medal to Gena Turner Nabors on behalf of her late husband, Pfc. Guy Marvin Nabors. Applauding at right is Nabors' son-in-law Jimmy Ellis, a retired Navy captain who works at MDA.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Standing at the ceremony's conclusion, from left, are MDA's Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown, Gena Turner Nabors, Jan Nabors Ellis and Jimmy Ellis.

lis. Navy Petty Officer 1st class Scott Barrow, stationed in Kauai in the Hawaiian Islands, has served 14 years. Rob Barrow, who resides in Jacksonville, Fla., served 10



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Pfc. Guy Marvin Nabors spent most of World War II following Gen. Douglas MacArthur around the South Pacific Theater of Operations.

years in the Navy before getting out as a petty officer first class.

"This is a very special day for us," Ellis said.

Fox Army Health Center schedules renovation

The first phase of Fox Army Health Center's heating, ventilation and air conditioning system renovation will begin Aug. 6.

Preventive Medicine, Wellness Center and Occupation Health will be closed Aug. 6 to move to their temporary location. In preparation for this event, they have re-scheduled their patient appointments affected by this date only. Normal schedules for those clinics will resume Aug. 7.

Trailers in the east end parking lot will house the facility's various clinics as each area of the health center undergoes renovations to the 34-year-old HVAC system. The project is estimated to take two and a half years. Directional signs will help beneficiaries navigate the facility through the renovations, which are estimated to be completed in October 2014.

The following are the estimated phases of the project, at which specified clinics will move to the transitional trailers in

the parking lot. Each phase is estimated to take 45 to 60 days, which is subject to change:

- Phase 1A/1B: Wellness Clinic, Preventive Medicine, Occupational Health and Medical Records
- Phase 2: Primary Care Clinics (Red, White and Blue Teams)
- Phase 3: Command Suite
- Phase 4: Radiology and Quality Management
- Phase 5: Optometry and Physical Therapy
- Phase 6: Behavior Health Department
- Phase 7: Managed Care
- Phase 8: Logistics, Industrial Hygiene, Facilities and Housekeeping
- Phase 9: Pharmacy, Laboratory and Dental

Fox officials apologize in advance for the inconveniences of this project, but patient care will not be impacted. (*Fox Army Health Center release*)

In this section...

AMC TURNS 50 WITH GROWING MISSION	PAGE 26
INTERNATIONAL CASE TEAM INVESTS IN COOPERATION	PAGE 27
GOLDEN KNIGHTS DECORATE SKY AT AIR SHOW	PAGE 28
HELICOPTER SOCIETY LANDS FIXED-WING GUEST SPEAKER	PAGE 30
MILPO MOVES INTO ONE STOP BUILDING	PAGE 32
ACCOUNTING SYSTEM COMPLETES FULL DEPLOYMENT	PAGE 33
NORTH CAROLINA REMOVES LICENSING HURDLES	PAGE 34
PANETTA: ALEPPO ATTACKS WILL CAUSE ASSAD'S DOWNFALL	PAGE 34

AMC turns 50 with growing mission

Soldier's choice provider since beginning in 1962

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.j.hawkins2.civ@mail.mil

Fifty years of history for the Army Materiel Command can be summed up with one descriptive word – provider.

On Aug. 1, 1962, when AMC became a full-fledged member of the Army team, its first commander, Lt. Gen. Frank Besson, said in a letter to its employees that the new organization is the first “single integrated organization specifically conceived and designed to provide the Army’s weapons and equipment.”

Today, that word – provider – is still a big word in the AMC vocabulary as this worldwide organization is the source for the power, production, process, people and performance needed to deliver the best weapons, equipment and supplies to Soldiers.

The AMC of 1962 brought together seven of the Army’s major component commands – five of those being the commodity-type commands then known as the Weapons Command, Munitions Command, Mobility Command, Missile Command and Electronics Command; and two functional-type commands known as the Supply and Maintenance Command, and the Test and Evaluation Command. Together, AMC represented about 166,000 civilian employees and 20,000 officers, a total weapons and equipment inventory of \$23.5 billion and estimated annual expenditures of \$7.5 billion. Its employees were located at more than 250 installations, activities, arsenals and laboratories.

Fast forward to today and AMC is headquarters for 11 major subordinate commands: the Contracting Command; Sustainment Command; Aviation and Missile Command; Communications-Electronics Command; Chemical Materials Agency; Joint Munitions and Lethality Command; Joint Munitions Command; Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command; Research Development and Engineering Command; Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command; and Security Assistance Command. It has close to 70,000 employees representing AMC in all 50 states and in 144 countries, an annual budget of nearly \$60 billion and more than \$96 billion in contract obligations.

AMC is one of the Army’s largest and most complex organizations. It spends nearly half of the total Army budget. It is the principal Army employer of civilian workers. The basic mission of the



File photo

Computers have come a long way since 1962. But even in those early days of the Army Materiel Command, they were instrumental to the organization’s mission to provide Soldiers with the equipment and supplies they needed to be successful.



File photo

The M-60 machine gun from 1965 was one of the weapon systems developed by the Army Materiel Command that gave Soldiers the leading edge on the battlefield.

command is to meet the materiel needs of the Army, whether that need is for new weapon systems, new helicopters and tanks, new machine guns or new types of food.

“The AMC that was created in 1962 is an entirely different AMC than it is today,” said AMC historian Mike Baker.

“From 1962 to 1988, AMC’s focus was project management at its core. The heart and soul for Lt. Gen. Besson when creating this organization was creating the concept of project management where organizations were in charge of making all decisions related to a specific system. Now, the focus is on life cycle management with research and development, logistics and acquisition at its core.”

Soon after its creation, AMC’s new structure was put to the test, providing

support almost immediately for the Cuban Missile Crisis and then, on its heels, for the Vietnam War.

“There were a lot of logistical challenges involved in support during Vietnam, and AMC and its major subordinate commands met the challenge,” Baker said. “With the end of the Vietnam War, AMC started to transform itself.”

During those first 10 years as a command, AMC had to its credit advanced telecommunication systems, the M-16 rifle, second generation night vision devices, the TOW missile, and advances in freeze-dried and concentrated foods.

In 1976, corporate changes at AMC were formalized with a name change to the Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command. During this time, AMC’s commodity commands were broken into separate commands for research and development, and readiness.

During the 1970s and ‘80s, AMC was home to the Army’s Big Five systems – the Abrams main battle tank, the Bradley fighting vehicle, the Apache helicopter, the Patriot air defense system and the Black Hawk helicopter – plus several other effective systems such as the Multiple Launch Rocket Systems, MK 19-3 40mm Grenade Machine Gun and High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle.

“It was the success of those big five systems that would be AMC’s claim to

fame during those years,” Baker said.

On Aug. 1, 1984, on its 22nd birthday, the organization’s name returned to the Army Materiel Command. The change led to a new chapter in AMC characterized by optempo support to the nation’s war fighters.

With the ‘90s and the beginning of the 21st century, AMC systems were definitely put to the test as the Army’s war fighters became more lethal, agile and expeditionary. AMC and its major subordinate commands made a critical difference in Operation Just Cause-Panama in 1991 and Operation Desert Storm/Shield in 1990-91. All total, AMC delivered more than 900,000 tons of equipment, supplies and ammunition to the war efforts.

In addition, AMC equipment and systems gained a larger profile in providing support for humanitarian and peacekeeping activities in Somalia, Haiti, Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo.

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 put AMC on the edge of the nation’s defensive and offensive measures, with its efforts quickly mobilized to assist first responders, secure valuable assets and support deployed Soldiers. It’s most impressive activity was the support its employees provided during Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan beginning in 2001 and Operation Iraqi Freedom beginning in 2003. The organization also took on a high profile in supporting humanitarian efforts after Hurricane Andrew in 1992, Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Haiti natural disasters in 2010 and the Japanese tsunami in 2011.

AMC: Then and Now Fifty years of history Part 1 of series

“During the past 10 years, AMC has continued to grow its reputation as it has supported war fighters on two fronts while at the same time keeping up with peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts throughout the world and managing the changes resulting from the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations,” Baker said.

Throughout its history, Baker said the operative words for AMC have been readiness, support and development as its employees have worked to provide Soldiers with the best in equipment, weapon systems and supplies.

“The leadership at AMC has been key to its success, starting with Lt. Gen. Besson, who led the organization for eight

See Mission on page 33

International case team invests in cooperation

By KIM GILLESPIE

USASAC Public Affairs Office

NEW CUMBERLAND, Pa. – The Security Assistance Command's crest includes the motto "Strength in Cooperation," which refers to the relationships developed between the U.S. and international partners through U.S. security assistance and the foreign military sales program. It also can refer to how USASAC employees, such as the small four-person Case Development Team, accomplish their workload.

Stephanie Rhoads, Mike Walp, Sue Glatfelter and Kim Rizzardo were recently recognized by Maj. Gen. Del Turner, USASAC commander, for maintaining a more than 96 percent average for developing cases for potential FMS agreements within a specified time frame. Additionally, the team completed more than 289 cases within a five-month period.

Richard "Rick" Berry, chief of the Logistical Programs Division, said the team's hard work is about providing a properly prepared and executable Letter of Offer and Acceptance (which is a formal agreement between the U.S. and another country), or LOA, based on the international partners' requests. This allows U.S. partners and allies to make better decisions regarding a FMS purchase, which can result in enhancing an already established relationship or creating a new one. USASAC

works with 145 countries around the globe.

In terms of FMS, case development has some similarities to developing a "scope of work" for a contract, but there are still many differences. Rather than a contract, the case is developed for a LOA or the case can be an amendment or modification to a previous case that was developed and was finalized as a LOA.

Case development begins when an approved country wants to make a request for Army materiel or services. The country will work with its assigned USASAC country program manager to determine the exact requirements of what it wants to purchase.

"The country sends a LOR (Letter of Request) to the CPM, who then submits the LOR into the Defense Security Assistance Management System, where it is received by the Case Development Team," Rhoads, team leader, said. It is up to the case writers on the Case Development Team to work with the "Sources of Supply," such as the Army Materiel Command Life Cycle Management Commands, Defense Logistics Agency, General Services Administration and other DoD/non-DoD agencies, to determine the source for the materiel/services, e.g., stock or acquisition, price, availability, time frame for purchase and delivery, etc.

According to Rhoads and Walp, once the LOR is received through DSAMS is when the real team work begins. Unlike the CPMs and country case managers who handle the same

countries and are aligned under geographic combatant commands, the Case Development Team is not country specific. Instead it prioritizes workload based on case development priorities and each team member's current workload.

The time specified for case development varies based on the type of case. Emergency LOAs are required as soon as possible, while defined order LOAs are required within 65 days, and Blanket Orders and Cooperative Logistics Supply Support Arrangement are required within 15 days of receipt of the LOR, Rizzardo said.

The Case Development Team members do not work with the same USASAC CPMs and CCMs or the AMC LCMCs as weapons systems-specific.

"But having different program managers facilitate our requests is not really a problem," Rhoads said.

Whether it is USASAC or AMC LCMC personnel, the most important factor is experience.

"It was a challenge when TACOM lost personnel because of the finalizations of the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure 2005)



Photo by Kim Gillespie

Mike Walp, Stephanie Rhoads, Kim Rizzardo and Sue Glatfelter, members of the Case Development Team for the Security Assistance Command in New Cumberland, Pa., are on track to exceed their goal for developing cases for potential foreign military sales agreements in fiscal 2012.

moves that occurred last year," Walp said. "There weren't always enough PMs and there is always a learning curve for employees new to FMS."

But USASAC faced a similar problem when it began its BRAC moves in 2009 and had a large turnover of CPMs.

"Having an experienced CPM can make a huge difference. A lot of being successful with FMS is based on the CPM helping the country develop the capability they need," Berry said. "That is not something that is taught in a class,

See Team on page 30

Golden Knights decorate sky at air show

By Sgt. ASHLEY OUTLER

28th Public Affairs Detachment

JOINT BASE LEWIS-McCHORD, Wash. — They are knights who wear flight suits instead of armor, Airborne Soldiers who jump into crowds instead of combat zones, whose mission is for entertainment — not war.

They are the Army's parachute team the "Golden Knights" and their exhilarating lifestyle grants them thousands of free-fall jumps in locations all over the world where they perform for huge crowds of cheering fans in hopes of inspiring the enlistment of future Soldiers.

"Free-falling is absolutely the greatest feeling in the world," Staff Sgt. Brian Karst, a demonstration parachutist for the Gold Team of the Golden Knights, said. "I get excited every single time I look out of the plane at the target below. There is no greater feeling than knowing that I'm about to land in front of all those people and all eyes are on me."

The Golden Knights Gold Team, one of their demonstration teams, performed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord where they jumped for the 2012 JBLM Air Expo at McChord Field July 21-22.

"I love being in the sky, (it) is like home for

me," said Sgt. Trey Martin, who is also a demonstration parachutist on the Gold Team. "I love jumping out of planes, especially for the Army. The American public is just awesome."

The Knights are no strangers to jumping out of planes, as they are required to have at least 100 free-fall jumps prior to even trying out for the team.

"It was six minutes of awesomeness. It was indescribable," Karst, a Vancouver, Wash., native, said about his first jump. "There was so much freedom up there. I couldn't think of anything else I wanted to do after that."

Their performances often include a variety of aerial formations, vibrant displays of smoke, sparks, proud Army parachutes and flags. They most often land at an air show or sporting event.

"You can't hear anything or see anything but the target," Karst said about his feelings after jumping. "It's so humbling because you have such a small area to land in and you have to really concentrate and your heart is pounding."

The demonstrators are split-up into two teams, black and gold. A total of 26 demonstration positions are available to anyone with enough jumps, a clean record and enough heart and skydiving skill to make the cut.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Sparks
17th Public Affairs Detachment

Sgt. 1st Class John Berentis, above, a team leader and Staff Sgt. Brian Karst, below, a demonstration parachutist, both from the Gold Team of the Golden Knights, descend together during an aerial performance at the 2012 Joint Base Lewis-McChord Air Expo held at McChord Field, Wash., July 21-22.

"Our tryout program is very intense. You go through two months of training in the middle of the North Carolina heat," said

Martin who is from Houston and has been on the team for almost a year. "You do about 200 free-fall jumps and a lot of physical exercise. They want to see who wants to be there. You got to love it if you want to be here."

Being a Golden Knight requires a great amount of teamwork as many of their preparations and aerial formations rely heavily on cooperation, Karst said.

"We all have one mission, which is to spread the Army word and through that we all have that common bond and that common goal. That's what sort of brings us together," said Karst.

Their events often conclude with a meet-and-greet with the crowd and by packing their parachutes with children or other spectators.

"We are ambassadors to the people," Karst said. "We travel around and talk about all the opportunities available in the Army and how great of a job you can have."

They travel for about 250 days a year and can complete up to 4,000 free-fall jumps during their four years with the team.

"Anybody who wants to do this should just go for it. Don't let fear hold you back," Karst said. "I've circled the globe and nothing can compare to the excitement of this job."

Helicopter society lands fixed-wing guest speaker

Project manager visits luncheon

By TRACEY AYRES

STRATCOM specialist/FW Project Office

It seems an unlikely fit for the Fixed Wing project manager to speak with a group of helicopter enthusiasts but that's exactly what happened Thursday.

Col. Brian Tachias spoke at a luncheon for the Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society.

Larry Thomas, president of the chapter, said fixed wing and rotary wing are part of one large community: Army aviation.

"The mission we have for AHS is to bring the technical community together for anything having to do with Army aviation," Thomas said. "We are always looking for an eclectic mix of speakers. Now that the Army has tasked Col. Tachias with bringing all of the fixed wing aircraft under the fold of PEO Aviation, it's an opportunity to have him here at the beginning

of his PM-ship and bring the fixed wing mission to our society."

The Fixed Wing Project Office originated in October to serve as a one-stop-shop for industry and the Soldier. As the office's first project manager, Tachias was selected to oversee better quality aircraft and support being provided to the user community. In the past nine months, the Fixed Wing Project Office has grown from 256 aircraft and seven contracts to 377 aircraft and 37 different contracts. That number could still increase as programs are transitioning to the project.

"Our first priority is to provide first class support to the Soldier by achieving improvements in aircraft safety, airworthiness certification, improved configuration management and maintenance of all air platforms," Tachi-



Photo by Tracey Ayres

Fixed Wing project manager Col. Brian Tachias is welcomed by Larry Thomas, president of the Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society.

ment Team to work with the AMC LCMCs to provide the specifications in a timely and efficient manner for what the countries requested. And ultimately, it is also about making priorities for the COCOMs work.

"Right now we have an eight-page LOR

as said. "We'll work diligently to reduce cost by consolidating contracts where it makes sense and achieve manpower efficiencies by working with other services like the Air Force and the Navy to partner for a common materiel solution. The Fixed Wing Project Office will work hard to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars."

Even though the Army is more widely known for having helicopters, rotary wing and fixed wing have long been a part of Army aviation. During the Vietnam era, a master aviator was rated in rotary wing and fixed wing. Both ratings were necessary.

While it's no longer the case to have both ratings, fixed wing and rotary wing still perform a lot of the same duties some of which are being transferred over from rotary to fixed wing in or-

der to free up assets for other missions.

"In theater, CH-47s fly a lot of transport missions which costs more money to fly than a fixed wing aircraft. To alleviate the pressure on maintenance and availability of CH-47s for more combat type operations, the fixed wing fleet has taken up that role of moving people and parts in theater to cover down on some of those areas," Tachias said.

While both rotary wing and fixed wing support the Soldier and Army aviation, AHS is supporting the future of it through its scholarship program.

"Some of these bright students may want to become part of our team after they graduate," Tachias said.

At the luncheon, the Redstone Chapter of AHS presented five \$2,000 scholarships to the following aerospace engineering students who are excelling in their fields: David Winter, University of Tennessee; Justin Anderson, University of Alabama; Matt Berke, Mississippi State University; Chris Potter, University of Tennessee; and Tony Favaloro, Mississippi State University.

Team

continued from page 27

it just comes from experience and learning the right questions to ask the country."

And then it's up to the Case Develop-

ing her as their caseloads permit. The 289 cases developed by the Case Development Team in five months put them on-track to exceed the 574 completed in fiscal 2011. For the Case Development Team, it's all about "Strength in Cooperation."

MILPO moves into One Stop building



Workers with C&C Office Relocating Services move office equipment through the main front doors of the new building. From left are Jacob Hood, Jason Nichols and Jeffery Narrell.

Photos by Ellen Hudson

Members of the Military Personnel Office have moved into the newly renovated building 3494 in the Garrison's One Stop customer service area.



Paving operations are under way July 25 in the back parking lot.



Steven Doyle, of O.F. Richard & Son Painting, paints some railing on the front of the building.

Accounting system completes full deployment

By PAMELLA B. GRAY
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – During a time of increased scrutiny of government spending, the General Fund Enterprise Business System steps forward to transform the way Army manages its finance and real property accounting.

On July 1, GFEBS completed the final wave for full deployment and supporting over 50,000 customers worldwide to facilitate the management of nearly \$140 billion in the General Fund, and an additional \$80 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations funds.

Previously, the Army's finances were tracked by multiple systems that were increasingly inefficient, costly and outdated, some more than 30 years old. In an effort to gain visibility over finances and inventories, many Army commands established their own methods and internal systems. These antiquated and fragmented systems impacted military leaders' ability to make informed decisions because there was no clear picture of full resources. This ultimately affected the Soldier.

GFEBS transformed this approach. The GFEBS solution will subsume 107 legacy systems into an enterprise-wide system integrating financial, real property, cost management and performance data. Leaders have visibility through GFEBS to data that has never been available through a single access point, taking into account the true costs of operations, functions and organizations when making budgeting decisions in support of war fighting capabilities. GFEBS allows leadership to make smarter, faster decisions, ranging from provisioning troops in the midst of battle to budget planning.

"GFEBS has enabled new financial management capabilities to more than 52,000 end users at 227 locations in 71

countries," Col. Patrick Burden, the project manager for GFEBS, said. "We have standardized business processes across the active Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve."

GFEBS is not an update of existing legacy systems, but an integrated, web-based solution replacement of the outdated systems used across the Army and by the Defense Financial and Accounting Service.

"GFEBS is an unprecedented leap forward in Army financial management," Edward Quick, deputy project manager for GFEBS, said. "It will fulfill the mandates for audit readiness and fiscal responsibility."

GFEBS is the Army's response to the 1990 Chief Financial Officers Act, which mandates federal agencies to centralize their finance systems to better account for their spending, and the 1996 Federal Financial Management Improvement Act, requiring federal financial management systems to provide accurate, reliable and timely financial management information to the government's managers.

As the largest branch of the armed forces, the Army has more than 550,000 Soldiers on active duty. Along with the more than half million members of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, as well as more than 279,000 civilians – "GFEBS touches everyone in the Department of the Army," Burden added.

In the last three years, GFEBS grew from one million transactions and \$1.2 billion in obligations in fiscal 2009 to 20 million transactions and \$30.8 billion in obligations in fiscal 2011. GFEBS currently processes approximately one million transactions a day and \$140 billion of the general fund annually.

"Reaching the full deployment in only seven years places GFEBS as the Army's flagship Enterprise Resource Planning system," Burden as-

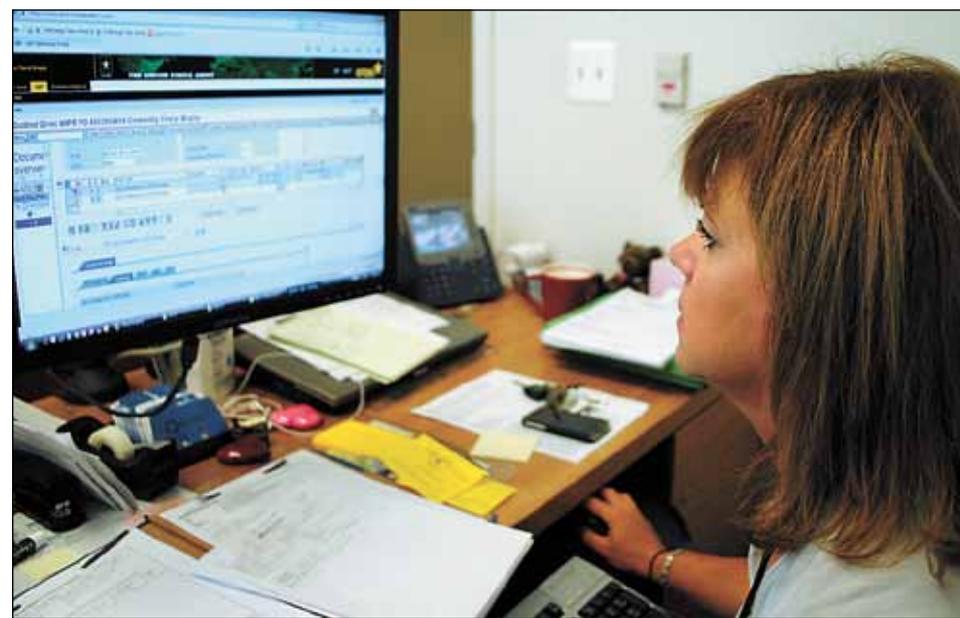


Photo by Pamella B. Gray

After working 24 years in legacy systems, Cheryl Brophy, General Fund Enterprise Business System budget analyst, now processes actions in the GFEBS system. The GFEBS system reached full deployment July 1.

serted. "This initiative is unmatched in the Army, and has come to fruition through the efforts of many dedicated personnel."

GFEBS focuses on simplicity and efficiency for the end user. A member of the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems family of systems, GFEBS reduces financial complexity and promotes standardization by subsuming legacy systems and driving improved end-to-end processes, improved compliance with congressional directives, audit-ready financials, increased internal and management controls, and, most importantly, provides timely and accurate data to make informed business and mission decisions that support Soldiers.

"GFEBS' achievement of the full deployment milestone will be an excellent example of how the Army is providing

cutting edge infrastructure and information management systems solutions to meet today's needs and tomorrow's challenges," Doug Wiltsie, the program executive officer for PEO EIS, said. "The GFEBS team and our strategic partners throughout the Army and Department of Defense have worked tirelessly as a team to mark an important advancement in the Army's technology evolution."

System users will realize these benefits, explained Maj. Scott Geary, National Guard Bureau Resource Oversight Branch chief, because "GFEBS has allowed us to better manage how we execute (these) funds by providing better interoperability with contracting systems, clearer visibility of fund status and reporting tools that allow improved data analysis from previous systems."

Mission

continued from page 26

years," Baker said. "All of its leaders have brought in skills that have been needed in leading this massive organization. Whatever AMC has had to deal with, its leadership and its employees have been able to adjust and respond."

Interestingly, throughout the years, AMC has been successful despite not

having its own permanent home. When it was created, the organization was temporarily headquartered at Temporary Building 7 at what is now the Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C. In 1973, it moved into a contractor-owned building at 5001 Eisenhower Boulevard in Alexandria, Va. With the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks that led to the need to move Army commands onto installations, AMC was moved to Fort Belvoir, Va., where most of its employees were

housed in portables.

"At Redstone Arsenal, AMC has been given its first permanent facility," Baker said.

Today, AMC's reputation as a provider has stood solid as the Army and its missions have evolved and adapted to meet an ever-changing military environment. Since its creation, AMC has developed everything from rations to rifles, helmets to helicopters, and bullets to missiles as it fulfills the role of providing materiel

(equipment and supplies) to the Army's war fighters.

That's not too bad for an organization that was once described by Besson, its first commander, as an organization of employees who "operate the hardware store and firework concession."

Editor's note: This is part one of AMC's 50th anniversary series which will include insight from each decade and comments from people who worked with AMC throughout the years.

North Carolina removes licensing hurdles

By Air Force Capt. AMBER MILLERCHIP
4th Fighter Wing

GOLDSBORO, N.C. – North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue signed legislation here July 24 making it easier for military members, spouses and veterans to obtain the necessary occupational licenses required to work in the state.

The new law streamlines the procedure for those already licensed elsewhere to apply to work in the same occupation in the state. During the bill-signing ceremony, Air Force Col. Jeannie Leavitt, 4th Fighter Wing commander, addressed the legislation's significance to the military community.

"As our nation continues to field an all-volunteer force, it is critical to address the challenges that are inherent in military service, and North Carolina House Bill 799 does just that," she said. "This bill removes many of those obstacles and affords service members and their families opportunities to obtain North Carolina licensing in reduced time, allowing them to more quickly enter the civilian work force."

However, the law requires all military or out-of-state qualifications meet or exceed North Carolina's licensure standards. A licensing board will determine eligibility based on training, experience and competency. For example, applicants must have been actively practicing

their occupational specialty for two of the last five years.

"This bill helps streamline the procedures, so military spouses in North Carolina can get the certification they need to work," Perdue said. "We owe it to them to provide this kind of support. As one of the most military-friendly states in the nation, I am proud to sign this bill."

These same rules apply to military spouses interested in transferring certifications and licensing, such as teachers, nurses and cosmetologists. They are also required to demonstrate competency in the occupation through means determined by the respective licensing board, such as continuing education credits.

When her husband was assigned to Seymour Johnson Air Force Base a year ago, Ashley Butler wasn't able to transfer her Florida cosmetology license to North Carolina. Her frustration with the licensing process finally led her to pursue a different career as a child care provider, in which certification can be obtained with military assistance.

"I think the bill is great, because it's hard enough as it is moving state to state and picking up and starting over," she said. "That's the whole reason I'm doing child care – it took too long, with too many hoops to jump through, to use my cosmetology license here."

North Carolina officials said more



Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Colette Graham

Air Force Col. Jeannie Leavitt, 4th Fighter Wing commander, speaks at a July 24 ceremony in Goldsboro, N.C., in which North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue signed legislation making it easier for military members, spouses and veterans to obtain the necessary occupational licenses required to work in the state.

than 100 different occupational licensing agencies and each licensing board will be required to implement the new statute within a year.

Editor's note: Air Force Tech. Sgt. Colette Graham and Air Force Airman First Class Mariah Tolbert contributed to this article.

Panetta: Aleppo attacks will cause Assad's downfall



DoD photo by Erin A. Kirk-Cuomo

Defense secretary Leon Panetta gives an in flight press briefing while flying to Tunis, Tunisia, July 29. Panetta was on a five-day trip to the region, including stops in Tunisia, Egypt, Israel and Jordan.

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

ABOARD A MILITARY AIRCRAFT – The Syrian regime's attacks on the citizens of Aleppo ultimately will be "a nail in Assad's coffin," defense secretary Leon Panetta said July 29.

Panetta was traveling to North Africa and the Middle East for a series of meetings, and Syria figured prominently in his conversations in Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Tunisia.

Bashar Assad's forces have launched heavy attacks against Aleppo, Syria's largest city. The violence that the regime is launching against its own people will ensure that the regime will fall eventually, Panetta told reporters traveling with him.

The international community has brought economic and diplomatic pressure on Syria to stop the violence and to have Assad step down for a transition to a democratic form of government.

"The key right now is to continue to bring that pressure to bear on Syria to provide assistance to the opposition and to provide whatever humanitarian aid we can to assist the refugees," Panetta said en route to Tunisia.

The United States must not do anything to show that the international community is anything other than unified in the effort to bring the Assad regime down, the secretary said.

Panetta also discussed the chemical and biological weapons sites in Syria that U.S. planners say need to be secured. "We've been in close coordination with countries in the region to ensure that this is happening," the secretary said.

The United States also is working with Turkey and Jordan to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees from Syria.

NASA approves Marshall's space launch system

WASHINGTON – The rocket that will launch humans farther into space than ever before has passed a major NASA review.

The Space Launch System Program completed a combined System Requirements Review and System Definition Review, which set requirements of the overall launch vehicle system. SLS now moves ahead to its preliminary design phase.

The SLS will launch NASA's Orion spacecraft and other payloads, and provide an entirely new capability for human exploration beyond low Earth orbit.

These NASA reviews set technical, performance, cost and schedule requirements to provide on-time development of the heavy-lift rocket. As part of the process, an independent review board comprised of technical experts from across NASA evaluated SLS Program documents describing vehicle specifications, budget and schedule. The board confirmed SLS is ready to move from concept development to preliminary design.

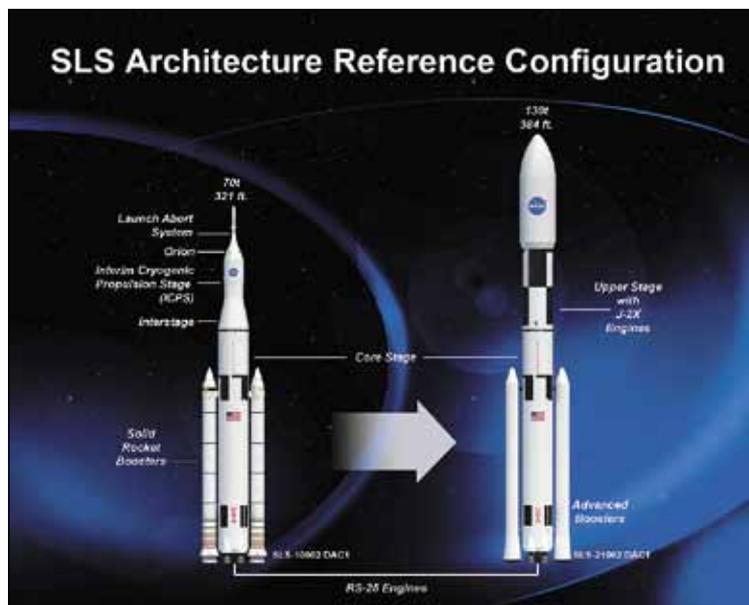
"This new heavy-lift launch vehicle will make it possible for explorers to reach beyond our current limits, to nearby asteroids, Mars and its moons, and to destinations even farther across our solar system," William Gerstenmaier, associate administrator for the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate at NASA headquarters in Washington, said. "The in-depth assessment confirmed the basic vehicle con-

cepts of the SLS, allowing the team to move forward and start more detailed engineering design."

The reviews also confirmed the SLS system architecture and integration with the Orion spacecraft, managed by NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, and the Ground Systems Development and Operations Program, which manage the operations and launch facilities at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

"This is a pivotal moment for this program and for NASA," SLS program manager Todd May said. "This has been a whirlwind experience from a design standpoint. Reaching this key development point in such a short period of time, while following the strict protocol and design standards set by NASA for human spaceflight, is a testament to the team's commitment to delivering the nation's next heavy-lift launch vehicle."

SLS reached this major milestone less than 10 months after the program's inception. The combination of the two assessments represents a fundamentally



NASA graphic

This is an artist rendering of the various configurations of NASA's Space Launch System, managed by Marshall Space Flight Center. The flexible configuration, sharing the same basic core-stage, allows for different crew and cargo flights as needed, promoting efficiency, time and cost savings. The SLS enables exploration missions beyond low-Earth orbit and support travel to asteroids, Mars and other destinations within the solar system.

different way of conducting NASA program reviews. The SLS team is streamlining processes to provide the nation with a safe, affordable and sustainable heavy-lift launch vehicle capability. The next major program milestone is preliminary design review, targeted for late next year.

two exploration missions. The Boeing Co. in Huntsville is designing the SLS core stage, to be built at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans and tested at Stennis before being shipped to Kennedy. (NASA release)

Aviation enterprise team honored for cutting costs

By HEATHER R. SMITH
AMRDEC Public Affairs

Representatives from the AMRDEC Aviation Engineering Directorate and the Corpus Christi Army Depot have received the Department of Defense Value Engineering Achievement Award.

Army photo

Receiving the VE award, from left, are Danielle Finley (CCAD), Jennifer Bennett (AED), Kevin Rees (AED), Brig. Gen. John Wharton (chief of staff, Army Materiel Command), Patrice Puckett (CCAD), Mark Velazquez (AED) and Pat Kelley (AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate).



AED's Maintenance Engineering Division was selected to receive the VE award for cost savings and benefits achieved from 2007-11. During this

period, the MED completed 244 VE projects and generated \$339.8 million in VE savings and cost avoidance.

The MED has actively participated in the VE program since 1990 and has generated more than \$1 billion in VE savings and cost avoidance. In fiscal 2011 alone, the MED completed 36 Value Engineering projects and achieved a total of \$41.4 million in savings and cost avoidance, representing nearly one-third

of the assigned \$130 million AMCOM VE goal and 37 percent of all savings and cost avoidance for Team Redstone that year.

Prior to MED's participation in the VE program, most non-overhauled used parts were discarded. Currently, used parts are gathered in a warehouse and engineers perform a VE study on high demand articles to see if they can be repaired or otherwise recovered.

In this section...

SCIENCE ADVISER FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR SOLDIERS	PAGE 36
REDSTONE GAINS ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM MANAGER	PAGE 36
SUPPLY AND SERVICES DIVISION GOES EXTRA MILES	PAGE 38
RATS RESEARCH MAY TEACH RODENTS TO DETECT EXPLOSIVES	PAGE 38

Science adviser finding solutions for Alaska Soldiers

By **HEATHER R. SMITH**
AMRDEC Public Affairs

Paul Thakur loves his job.

“Being a science adviser is one of the best jobs I had in my whole professional career. It is very rewarding and has been an honor to work with Soldiers to help make a difference in their lives, come up with solutions that save Soldiers lives and give them an edge in the battlefield,” he said.

The engineer with the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center was looking for something different after working for nearly 20 years supporting Army aviation programs. He was looking for a change in mission and location.

So when the opportunity came in 2002 to participate in the Field Assistance in Science and Technology program, Thakur took it.

“It was kind of getting old, doing the same thing for so long,” he said.

The FAST Program, managed by the Research Development and Engineering Command, places civilian and uniformed science advisers at Army commands and training centers throughout the world to provide on-site technical advice and quick reaction solutions to technical problems.

In addition to having personnel on the ground with Soldiers and their equipment, the FAST program provides reach back to the Army’s research and development community including AMRDEC. A team of teams.

Thakur is part of another Army team — one that traveled with him on his FAST assignment: his family.

In 2009, Thakur and his wife moved from Redstone Arsenal to Anchorage, Alaska, where he’s serving a second tour as

science adviser to the U.S. Army Alaska. His first tour was from 2002-06.

Being a member of the FAST is never routine. Soldiers come to Thakur with a problem or a capability gap, and it’s up to him to find a solution. “You don’t know what’s coming your way. You get in here and you just talk to the Soldiers, talk to the commanders, and they will throw some issues and some problems at you — ‘this technology isn’t working’ — and then you make your assessment of the available technologies and options to fix the problems.”

Through RDECOM, Thakur has reached back to more than 10,000 scientists, engineers and subject matter experts. RDECOM provides a rapid response through quick reaction coordinators in each of the command’s centers and labs. In addition, Thakur and RDECOM network with other armed services, government and non-government agencies, industry and academia to find novel solutions.

“You do some research; you collect the data and try to solve the problems,” Thakur said. “The problems could be related to improving the performance of a weapon system, Soldier readiness, safety, training and logistics support for the combatant command and units. You are in a multitude of roles. It’s not routine stuff. You move from one project to another to another to another. It is a pretty challenging and rewarding experience.”

When Thakur finds a possible solution, he works with the RDECOM-FAST headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to arrange a demonstration. “I show the technology to the Soldiers and to the commanders over here, and if they like it, they go ahead with training and all the work that is needed to acquire that system,” he said.

Recently, Thakur arranged several on-

site demonstrations and training sessions for Soldiers from the 2nd Engineer Brigade.

One demonstration was of the Reusing Existing Natural Energy Wind and Solar System, developed by RDECOM’s Communication Electronics Research Development and Engineering Center. RENEWS enables the harvesting and utilization of wind and solar power to provide portable power and battery recharging on the battlefield. RENEWS lightens the Soldier’s battery load and enables them to work longer without interruption due to power loss.

Another portable battery charging system developed by CERDEC, the Rucksack Enhanced Portable Power System, was demonstrated, too. REPPS is a lightweight, portable power system capable of recharging batteries and acting as a continuous power source. It combines anti-glint solar panels and interchangeable connectors and adaptors for increased charging options, while also lightening the Soldier’s load.

The 2nd Engineer Brigade will be taking several REPPS and RENEWS units with them to Afghanistan and providing feedback on the capability and use of the system. “There’s a two-way benefit,” Thakur said. “We’re helping the lab by providing them with Soldier feedback, and we’re helping the Soldiers, too, by coming up with a product the Soldiers can realistically use in the field.”

Another recent demonstration was of the Combat SkySat system, a capability that the 2nd Engineer Brigade is considering for their deployment to Afghanistan. “Combat SkySat is a balloon-based system for enhancing communication in hilly and mountainous terrain where satellites are not available or satellite time is very



Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew Winstead/U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs

Paul Thakur, far left, RDECOM science and technology adviser to U.S. Army Alaska, participates in a demonstration of the Combat SkySat system with Soldiers from the 2nd Engineer Brigade.

expensive,” Thakur said. “The system can be launched from a standoff location by a small team of two personnel. It provides beyond line of sight battlefield communications from above 65,000 feet, providing coverage to distances of over 500 miles and deep into canyons and valleys.”

On any given day Thakur is juggling eight to 10 different projects.

“You do these projects and you feel like you are part of the team and contributing. You have some success stories; you save money for the command on several efforts and you come up with a better technology and equipment,” said Thakur.

Living in “the Last Frontier” is just one of the perks of the job. “I like the atmosphere and the people here,” Thakur said. “The first six months was kind of hard. After you blend in and all, it’s a great place to live and work.”

He added that the Alaskan terrain reminds him of the mountainous area in India where he grew up.

Redstone gains electromagnetic spectrum manager

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

Rick Green is ready to assist Team Redstone with a wide array of communications needs.

Green, circuit operations manager in the Network Enterprise Center-Redstone, graduated July 29 from the Electromagnetic Spectrum Manager Course at the 7th Signal Command at Fort Gordon, Ga. The 10-week course included a variety of radio and skywave propagation along with new software programs and more.

He is now certified as an electromagnetic spectrum manager.

“It was a pretty tough course but it

was rewarding in itself, too,” Green, who works in NEC-Redstone’s network and switch division, transmission branch, said. “It was something you’re proud of, being a graduate. But it’s a tremendous undertaking for us in communications here because we’ll be the frequency management office for all of Redstone.

“It (the course) was pretty intensive. It was long hours, too. It was cramming classroom by day, studying by night.”

His primary duties as electromagnetic spectrum manager are to review, retain records and submit frequency requests through Spectrum XXI to the Army Frequency Management Office at Fort Sam Houston for all commands located on Redstone Arsenal. He’ll focus on resolving any spectrum usage conflicts, assur-

ing policy/procedural compliance and developing, improving and enhancing policy guidelines.

“The Army Frequency Management Office at Fort Sam Houston coordinates frequency management for all of the United States,” Green said.

A spectrum management work group meeting is scheduled for all Redstone spectrum managers on Aug. 15 from noon to 4 p.m. in building 3400 on Ajax Road. This work group will include spectrum managers from 93rd Signal Brigade, 7th Signal Command and AFMO. For more information, call Green at 876-6570.

Green, 55, has 31 years of government service, including 26 years with NEC-Redstone.

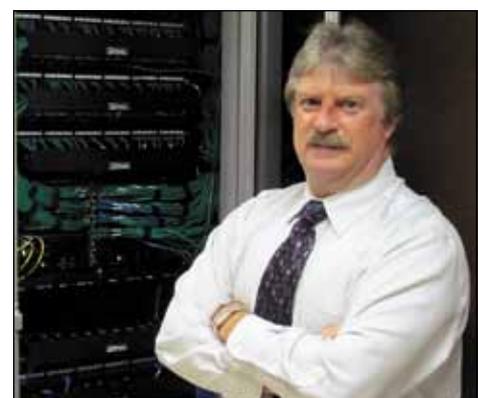


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Rick Green works in the Network Enterprise Center-Redstone’s network and switch division in building 3400.

Supply and services division goes extra miles to serve

Planned consolidation should help customers

By **BETH SKARUPA**

Staff writer

beth.skarupa@theredstonerocket.com

Several functional missions of the Supply and Services Division will soon be consolidated into two adjacent buildings in order to improve customer service.

"We're getting ready to co-locate to an area on Cottonwood Road. Right now we're spread out across the installation," Tony Fuller, chief of the Supply and Services Division, said.

Renovations are under way on buildings 8022 and 8024, the future home of the installation's Property Book, Central Issue Facility, Hazardous Material Management, and Fuel Operations.

In the next 45-60 days, customers can expect the CIF (currently in building 3471) and Property Book (building 3205) to move into building 8024. In 60-90 days, the Hazardous Material Management Program and Fuel Operations (both currently in building 3631) will move into building 8022.

"This all started when the installation commander and the director of logistics asked us to review and look at our space utilization," Fuller said. "Our analysis concluded that if we can optimize how we use our vertical space, we can condense our space. In other words, if we

enable ourselves to stack up and decide what to put on the floor, we will have gained efficiency on three fronts. We will also be able to move 95 percent of the division into the same geographic area."

First, the division will be able to consolidate the Supply Support Activity into one warehouse. Currently, the SSA is in two warehouses. Once consolidated, the central receiving area, the Authorized Stockage List, and the turn-in section will all be in the same building. This means that all functions of the SSA will be in one location except for packing and crating.

Second, the CIF and Property Book can move into the area that was vacated as a result of consolidating the SSA. This allows the two missions to be co-located. From the customer's point of view, this will be more convenient. Currently, customers have to drive back and forth across the installation to have documents signed by Jorge Clemente, Property Book manager and chief of the Assets Management Branch, and to receive items from Agrippa Sherrell, chief of Stock Control Branch and SSA accountable officer.

Third, by moving the CIF and Prop-



Photo by Beth Skarupa

From left, Ed Lopez, chief of the Ammunition Management Branch, Tony Fuller, chief of the Supply and Services Division, Roy Barrett, contract supervisor supporting the Supply Support Activity, Agrippa Sherrell, chief of the Stock Control Branch, and Jorge Clemente, chief of the Assets Management Branch, visit the future home of the installation's Property Book and Central Issue Facility.

erty Book, two buildings on the installation will be vacated and available for other use.

"Overall, we think it's a good thing to do. Something that's smaller in nature is moving the HMMP and the Fuel Operations to building 8022 because of the operational benefits that we realized,"

Fuller said. "Of course, you always have some kind of disadvantages with any decision. Now the customer will have to travel a little bit further to get some supplies, but we believe the benefits outweigh the inconvenience of going a few extra miles."

The only two facilities within the Supply and Services Division not moving are the Fuel Storage Activities, which will remain in building 3169, and the Base Supply Store operated by the Alabama Industries for the Blind, which will remain in building 3775.

"So we're excited about the move. All of our functions will be within one-and-a-half miles of each other," Fuller said.

He noted that all of Sherrell's people will be located together and Clemente's materials will be located next to his operation. Also Ed Lopez, chief of the Ammunition Management Branch and Ammunition Supply Point accountable officer, will be happy to have everyone closer to him.

"We'll be a closer family and we won't have to drive over 18 miles roundtrip to get to everyone," Lopez said.

Fuller added that the Supply and Services Division now is working with the Defense Logistics Agency-Energy and the Army Petroleum Center in an effort to privatize the installation's fuel operations and support infrastructure.

"Next year, hopefully sooner, we'll be getting ready to make some changes on that front," he said.

RATS research may teach rodents to detect explosives



Army Research Laboratory photo

The African giant pouched rat is socialized and readily handled. The Rugged Automated Training System research sponsored by scientists with the Army Research Laboratory, in collaboration with engineers at West Point and the Counter Explosives Hazards Center, explores whether small rodents could be used to detect improvised explosives and mines.

By Army Research Laboratory Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – A rat may never be man's best friend, but the Rugged Automated Training System research sponsored by scientists with the Army Research Laboratory, in collaboration with engineers at West Point and the Counter Explosives Hazards Center, will determine if and how these animals can be trained to save Soldiers' lives.

In July, Barron Associates Inc., Charlottesville, Va. was selected for an award under the Small Business Technology Transfer, or STTR, program to develop and test a rugged, automated and low-cost system for training rats to detect improvised explosive devices and mines, said Micheline Strand, chief of the Army Research Office's Life Sciences Division, which manages the program.

"The automated system we're de-

veloping is designed to inexpensively train rats to detect buried explosives to solve an immediate Army need for safer and lower-cost mine removal," said William Gressick, senior research engineer and the project's principal investigator at Barron Associates. "Beyond this application, the system will facilitate the use of rats in other search tasks such as homeland security and search-and-rescue operations. In the long-term, the system is likely to benefit both official and humanitarian organizations."

Said Strand, "If we can demonstrate that rats can be trained inexpensively to be reliable detectors, then this method would not only lower costs for the Army but would also create new opportunities for using animals to detect anything from mines to humans buried in earthquake rubble."

It is well established that animals are capable of identifying explosives

at lower concentrations than abiotic systems. The Department of Defense currently relies on dogs as the animal of choice for explosives detection. The goal of this STTR program is not to replace the use of dogs, but to expand the Army's detection capabilities.

"Training dogs is very expensive. If we can significantly reduce the cost of a trained animal, then we could provide more animals to protect Soldiers," Strand explained.

Trained rats would also create new opportunities; rats can search smaller spaces than a dog can, and are easier to transport.

Landmines kill between 15,000 and 20,000 people a year, and continue to kill adults and children decades after a conflict ends. An automated system to train rats to find mines could accelerate worldwide efforts to clear mined areas and return mined land to farming or other productive uses.

Win or Lose

A-Team show no mercy on softball field

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.v Vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The A-Team had a message on their lineup tacked to the fence inside their dugout: "I pity the fool!"

No doubt that was in reference to the 1980s television series with Mr. T on the action-adventure's cast. But this softball version is as hard-hitting as its fictional soldiers-of-fortune namesake.

Led by pitcher LaTesa "Ms. T" Graham, the A-Team blanked Redstone's Step-Children 20-0 on July 23 at the NASA softball field. The A-Team improved to 9-1-1 with their ninth straight win in Division B of the NASA/Army league.

"With great pitching from Tesa and great defense, great fielding," A-Team coach/right fielder Brad Harris said. "The other team scores zero runs, you can't help but win."

Graham had one strikeout and allowed nine hits with one walk. She retired all three batters in three of the game's five innings. "That's pretty good - 60 percent," Harris said.

At the plate, Graham went 4-for-4 and scored three runs. Harris went 3-for-4 with a triple and two runs. Jeff Norman and Adam Lacock both went 3-for-4 with a double and three runs. Jeremy "Germ" Lang was 2-for-3 with a triple and two runs.

The A-Team scored four runs in the first inning, eight in the second, three in

the third and five in the fourth.

Last week was the last of the regular season before the postseason tournament. The A-Team, in their first year, are a mix of NASA and mostly Army workers. About half of their players were on NASA's Dirt People team last year which lost to the TBE (Teledyne Brown Engineering) Integrators in the final.

The A-Team lost to their nemesis TBE Integrators 19-9 in the third week of this season before recording nine straight victories. TBE Integrators ended that streak by beating the A-Team 15-7 on Thursday for first place in the division. The double-

elimination tournament was scheduled to start July 31 and continue through August.

"We're going to win it (this year)," Harris said of the championship. "I'm confident. We want revenge from last year. We're hungry."

Redstone's Step-Children, from the Corps of Engineers, was 2-9 after last week. Michael Ashworth was the losing pitcher against the A-Team.

"We were short-handed today," Redstone's Step-Children coach Mark Dillinger said. "Short-handed and a lot of mental errors. Six guys were TDY."

NASA/Army softball league standings

Here are the standings entering this week's games:

Division A	Wins	Losses	Ties	Division C	Wins	Losses	Ties
Got the Runs	9	0	0	Hard Noc			
Hit Circus	7	3	0	Hitters	10	1	0
Expendables	5	4	0	Screw Balls	9	2	0
Kitchen Sinks	4	6	0	Bit Players	7	3	1
RTC	3	7	0	Renegades	7	4	0
Rotorheads Too	1	9	0	Misfits	6	5	0
Division B	Wins	Losses	Ties	Rotorheads	6	5	0
TBE Integrators	9	2	1	ET Throw Home	5	6	0
A-Team	9	2	1	Guns 'N Hoses	4	6	1
WYLE Coyotes	8	3	0	ESTS Jacobite			
Fireballs	5	5	1	Rising	4	6	0
Spaceballs	5	6	1	EVengers	4	7	0
Redstone's				Put em in Boots	3	7	0
Step-Children	2	9	0	Starz	0	11	0
Space Cowboys	0	11	0				



Photo by Skip Vaughn

A-Team leadoff hitter Jeff Norman singles in the bottom of the first inning and eventually scores on Vann Patton's single. At left is Redstone's Step-Children's catcher Rachel Wills.

World Class Athlete Program goal: Win the Olympics

By JENNIFER MATTSON

NCO Journal

FORT BLISS, Texas - Servicemembers have participated in the Olympics since 1896 as athletes and as coaches in both the summer and winter games. In 1997, the Army created the World Class Athlete Program with the explicit goal of competing - and winning medals - in the Olympic Games.

Since its founding, 40 World Class Athlete Program, or WCAP, Soldiers have brought home gold, silver and bronze Olympic medals.

This summer, the Army's World Class Athlete Program will send eight noncommissioned officers to London; four of them have competed in the Olympics in previous years, and four of them stand ready to show what it means to serve in WCAP. These NCOs

are charged with one task: to bring home medals. After the games, these NCOs will continue to serve the Army by supporting Army Recruiting Command, hosting clinics and promoting the Army. Then, they will either serve in WCAP by training for national and international competitions, or they will return to the operational Army to serve in their military occupational specialty.

Soldiers compete alongside other Americans at the Olympics. They wear the Team USA gear, and when they win, they step up to the podium to hear "The Star-Spangled Banner" play. But these Soldier-athletes continually represent the Army on and off the field - through their discipline and determination.

Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski, an air pistol Olympian, will return to the Olympics for the fourth time in the shooting event. Pre-

viously, Szarenski has gone to the Olympics with the Army Marksmanship Unit, which also sends Soldiers to the Olympics. The difference, Szarenski said, is that the World Class Athlete Program's focus is solely on the Olympics.

viously, Szarenski has gone to the Olympics with the Army Marksmanship Unit, which also sends Soldiers to the Olympics. The difference, Szarenski said, is that the World Class Athlete Program's focus is solely on the Olympics.

See Athletes on page 40



Photo by Tim Hippius

Athletes

continued from page 39

“Our mission is to go to the Olympics and win the Olympics,” Szarenski said. “Not everyone here will make the Olympic team, but we’re all pulling together to try to get the mission accomplished. We’re there to win.”

Szarenski started shooting in the sixth-grade and started competing in the eighth-grade. He earned a full scholarship to Tennessee Tech Rifle University after winning state and national competitions.

He was recruited by the Army Marksmanship Unit out of college to compete. After 21 years of service, Szarenski will retire from the Army after this year’s Olympics.

“I was in ROTC and had a chance to be an officer, and I turned it down in college because I wanted to be an NCO,” Szarenski said. “I wanted to be in with the troops, and I wanted to be more in with the guys and leading and helping the guys out.”

Szarenski said representing the Army means even more when it comes to the Olympic shooting events.

“The importance of the Army competing in the Olympics, especially in shooting, is we’re showcasing,” Szarenski said. “I came in during the Cold War, and (when) you would beat the Russians and Chinese in shooting, it was peace through sports. You look and say, ‘Those guys can shoot and those guys are competitive; let’s not poke the bear.’ The strength that I give back to the Army is when I win something that makes everyone say, ‘OK, he’s from the Army and the rest of those guys can probably do that, too.’ It makes them realize we are on top, and we’re not slacking. And don’t test us, because we do have the strength.”

Staff Sgt. John Nunn has served in the Army and the Army Reserves for 11 and a half years. Originally an infantryman, he has since changed his military occupational specialty, known as an MOS, to dental hygienist with hopes to one day be an Army dentist. He will compete in the 50-kilometer racewalk event in the Olympics, an event he has only competed in three times. He won the Olympic trials for the 50-kilometer racewalk and has competed in the 20-kilometer racewalk in the 2004 Olympics. He puts in 100 miles a week in training, and says he supports the other WCAP athletes as they head to London.

“Within the Army, everyone is striving for success and being the best that they can be in whatever the Army is asking them to do,” Nunn said. “This is a situation with the program when we make the Olympic team. It’s an honor, one, to make an Olympic team and represent your country. But for us, it’s even more of an honor because we get to represent the Army along the way. It gives you something to cheer on

and be a part of something bigger than just yourself.”

The World Class Athlete Program has benchmarks for those hoping to compete in the Olympics. If Soldiers fail to meet those benchmarks, they are sent back to the operational Army to serve in their primary MOSs. When the program begins to recruit, usually two years before the Olympic trials, NCOs in the program are charged with setting the example for younger Soldiers. The unit, which serves under Installation and Management Command’s Morale Welfare and Recreation Directorate, consists of a company with a commander and support staff.

“You’re still an NCO, and still in the absence of orders or the absence of leadership, take charge,” Szarenski said. “There’s not a squad or teams, but you’re still an NCO, and how I carry myself influences those younger guys. You have to maintain your military bearing.”

Sgt. 1st Class Dremiel Byers has served on and off with WCAP since 1997, when it was stood up at Fort Carson, Colo. Byers, who competes in Greco-Roman wrestling in the 120 kg weight group, said being professional and disciplined is a part of his training. Byers and other wrestlers also teach combative clinics for other Soldiers.

“It’s Soldiering all around,” Byers said. “There’s discipline that you have to have to be a highly competitive athlete and even more discipline to be a Soldier. The two go hand in hand, and they complement each other.”

Byers said he sees bringing home the medal on the international stage as a win for Soldiers everywhere.

“This victory is our victory,” Byers said. “Sometimes when we’re overseas, and I know I’m going to be the one on top of the podium, I love seeing the flag and love hearing our anthem being played. It feels good.”

As NCOs and competitors, many Soldiers in the program compete against one another when it comes to Army standards and tests – especially the Army Physical Fitness Test.

“The Soldiers in this program are some of the cream of the crop that the Army has to offer,” Nunn said. “Every Soldier in this program is not working to just get the bare minimum on their PT test or the bare minimum to pass so they can get a promotion. Everyone is striving for perfection. With that, it carries over into the Army aspect of being a Soldier. We’re constantly going to competitions, working to beat each other at PT tests and who can become Soldier of the month or NCO of the quarter and who maxes their boards when they go. It provides a great asset to the Army itself as far as deploying Soldiers and giving them opportunities to train for the Olympics. But then those Soldiers are put back into regular units and are incredible assets to those units by the discipline and things that they’ve learned being part of the World Class Athlete Program.”

Most WCAP Soldiers come into the Army with the explicit intent of serving the Army by winning Olympic medals. Most, though, say that Army training has helped them compete at the higher level by teaching them mental strength.

“The Army has taught me with discipline and being able to train every day,” Szarenski said. “With periodization, many people will taper down to 20 or 40 shots. With me, I’ve learned through the Army drilling and doing something over and over again until it’s second nature. Like anything you do in the Army, you do it until you can’t. It’s just second nature. The Army has taught me that if you think you have it down, you’re about halfway there and you just need to keep beating it down to the ground.”

Staff Sgt. Keith Sanderson served in the Marine Corps for eight years before joining the Army Reserve. He served for 12 years as an infantryman before he started to compete nationally in shooting events. Sanderson credits the Marines for his ability to shoot; before he joined the Marine Corps, the only thing he shot was a sling.

“WCAP is the ultimate expression of leadership by example that you can have in the Army for both physical fitness and shooting ability, which is the most fundamental skill anyone can have in the Army,” Sanderson said.

The techniques used to win gold medals at the Olympics are the same tools Soldiers use when under stress of combat, Sanderson said.

“I’m an infantryman,” Sanderson said, “Because (the Olympics is a) competition, the will to fight is very important. In the Olympic Games, it can get kind of stressful and the ability to deal with that stress is critical to be successful. The things you learn to deal with stress in competition are the same ways you deal with stress in combat – it’s the same techniques.”

Nunn said his time during basic training has helped him mentally prepare for competition.

“Physically, basic training was very easy for me,” Nunn said. “I actually got out of shape going through basic training since I was training at such a higher level. Mentally, I’d never been in a situation where they break you down by being mean and angry and building you up the way they want you to be. After I got out of basic, it really helped with my training. I was already a decent athlete, but racewalking requires so much mentally of you.”

Nunn said basic training allowed him to understand the bigger picture of what he was doing and why he was there. Those lessons, he said, are important when it comes to competing on the international stage.

Though their primary goal is to bring home medals, Soldiers with the World Class Athlete Program also make time to give back to the Army. They support recruiting efforts in which they can tell their Army story and inspire athletes to join, and they host wrestling and shooting clinics to make Soldiers more proficient in their warrior tasks.

“People should know we’re the same,” Byers said. “We learn from everybody around us; I’m truly humbled in the presence of every Soldier.”

“The people who are out there doing it every day cast a shadow over anything that I do.”

Their mission to win the Olympics makes them unique among Army units. It also means that many of them will come in and out of the program every two or three years. When not training for the Olympics, they maintain proficiency in their primary MOSs and work within the operational Army.

“Every job you can train a Soldier to standard and hold them accountable for failure,” Byers said. “There’s a handful of jobs where you just have to have it or you don’t. How many Soldiers can you pull out of the ranks and say, ‘Go get a gold medal?’ We can be number one in the nation and bring home world medals.”



Photo by Sgt. Michael MacLeod, Task Force 1-82 PAO

Puma launch

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Dylan Ferguson, a brigade aviation element officer with the 82nd Airborne Division’s 1st Brigade Combat Team, launches a Puma unmanned aircraft June 25 at Ghazni Province, Afghanistan. Ferguson uses the Puma for reconnaissance for troops on the ground.

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Run to remember

A Redstone Arsenal chapter of Run to Remember is meeting Saturday mornings to jog together as a living memorial to fallen Soldiers. For meeting locations and times, call Charity Watral 542-1208. Members are encouraged to wear royal blue T-shirts or the Run to Remember T-shirt that can be ordered from <http://www.wearblueruntoremember.org>.

Golf tournament

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its inaugural Retiree Day Golf Tournament on Sept. 27 at the Links. This is a shotgun scramble. The \$50 entry fee includes golf cart, golf, lunch and door prizes. For information and registration, call Arno Hoerle 837-6253. All profits will go toward scholarships for military dependents.

Rocketman triathlon

The 19th annual Rocketman Triathlon will be held Sunday, Aug. 26 at the Col. Carroll Hudson recreation area. This Olympic distance triathlon will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a 1,500 meter swim in the Tennessee River, followed by a 40 kilometer bike and 10K run. More than 500 participants are expected. For more information, visit the website <http://teamrockettri.org/content/races/rocketman-triathlon>.

Benefit at Colonial

The Limestone County Chapter of NAACP will hold its inaugural Golf Tournament fund-raiser Sept. 29 at the Colonial Golf Course. Onsite registration starts at 6:30 a.m. The tournament will be a four-man scramble and cost is \$60 per player. Prizes will consist of first, second and third place, longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, call Robert C. Bess Sr. 278-8347, email bess_robert@hotmail.com or Douglas Smith 808-561-8526, email dshank4@yahoo.com.

Boating safety class

Boating Skills and Seamanship will begin Aug. 9 at building 3704. It will cover a broad scope on boating safety including trailering a vessel, proper and safe launching, lines and knots, weather, marine communications and more. Successful completion may qualify you for reduced premiums on your vessel insurance policy; and it meets Alabama's requirement for a written boat operators examination. The course is offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary free of

charge with the student required to purchase the course textbook for \$25. For more information, call Thomas Kunhart 527-4475, 830-6621 or email tkunhart@knology.net.

Babe Ruth baseball

The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the fall season Aug. 18 and 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. Players ages 13 to 18 as of May 1, 2013 are invited; and 12-year-olds are eligible to sign up as well under the "Local Swing Player" option. Registration forms will be accepted after Aug. 25 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of the player's birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Contact one of the following park representatives for registration information: Northern Division, Mastin Lake Park, Emile Jones, phone 990-5902 or email ejones@wilsonlumber.net; Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison 544-3180 or tth3180@bellsouth.net; Eastern Division, Optimist Park, Jeff Abbott 653-5752 or jeff.abbott@adtran.com.

Football officials

The North Alabama Football Officials Association is accepting new officials. The group has more than 90 officials who work games under contract to high schools in Huntsville, Madison, Madison County, Limestone County and Lawrence County. Members will meet each Sunday at 7 p.m. starting July 8 in the Red Cross building at 1101 Washington St. To apply call Bob Arnone 763-1796 or visit the website <http://www.nafoa.biz>.

Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

The Contemporary Christian Worship Service is held each Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. For more information, call 842-2964.

Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the Redstone community to its mass services noon Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. For baptisms, weddings or any questions, call 842-2175.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at

The Summit. Breakfast is available at the club. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 955-0727.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Marva Morse 430-0860. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 4488, room B-306. For information call Claudinette Purifoy 955-9422. 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 Dan Cutshall 684-2359.

Men's ministry

Men's Ministry, "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 9 a.m. at the Redstone Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for \$5. For more information, call Hobbs 425-5307.

Meeting professionals

The 2012 Society of Government Meeting Professionals Southeast Regional Conference, "Navigating through Government Meetings," will be held Sept. 16-19 in Mobile. Information regarding the educational workshops can be found at <http://sgmpcentralflorida.com/rec>.

August 1, 2012 **Redstone Rocket 41**

Community women's club

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club invites you to its "Sweet Home Alabama" August Super Signup on Aug. 14 at 10:30 a.m. in The Summit. "Whether you are new to the area, have been here for several years, or just want to come see what we are about, the RSACWC is here to show you the exciting events we have planned for the upcoming year," a prepared release said. All new members will receive a gift from the membership chair. RSACWC along with many on-post agencies and services as well as Alabama artisans and local businesses will be present. This event is stroller friendly, and refreshments will be served. For more information, visit www.rsacwc.org and "Like" them on Facebook: Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club.

AMCOM town hall

Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar will hold his first AMCOM Town Hall on Aug. 7 from 2-3:30 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The commanding general will recognize some AMCOM personnel for their accomplishments, discuss his philosophies, and conclude with a question-and-answer session. All AMCOM personnel are invited. There will be a video-teleconference hookup for CCAD, LEAD, ACLC and Fort Eustis team members. The town hall will also be broadcast on Redstone Arsenal's Channel 42.

Federal employees

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter 443 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Aug. 11 at the Thomas Davidson Senior

See Announcements on page 42

Rocket Announcements

Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Refreshment and social time will start at 9:30 a.m. with the meeting at 10. The program will be a presentation of the Huntsville mayoral candidates in a candidate forum. If you cannot attend the meeting, but have a question for the candidates, call Cheryl Patterson 828-0773 or email drpatter@hiway.net. Active federal employees and retired non-members are invited to visit at any time. For more information, call 508-8250 or 539-1333.

Space society

Huntsville AL L5 Society (HAL5), a local chapter of the National Space Society, will hold its August public program Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. Billy Gonterman, one of the first test conductors during the development of the SSME, will speak on "Space Shuttle Main Engines Early Testing: Successes, Failures and Corrections." The program is free and open to the public. For more information about HAL5 and upcoming speakers, visit www.HAL5.org.

Leadership conference

The Global Leadership Summit, organized by Chicago's Willow Creek Church, will be simulcast Aug. 9-10 at Cove Church, 366 Old U.S. 431 in Hampton Cove. The conference features author and Willow Creek Senior Pastor Billy Hybels, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, "Good to Great" author Jim Collins, Geoffrey Canada, Patrick Lencioni, John Ortberg and other business, service and religious leaders. Special military rate pricing at \$99. For more information or to register, go to www.covechurch.com.

Stop the bullying

A "Stop the Bullying" prevention program will be held Saturday from 4-6 p.m. at the True Light Church of God in Christ, Harris Family Life Center, 6380 Pulaski Pike. Speakers include the Beta Epsilon Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.'s Social Action Program, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.'s "Z-HOPE- Zetas Helping Other People Excel" program and Dependable Hands Organization. The program will focus on victims of bullying and their attackers. It will include a dramatic skit, musical band performance and inspirational speakers. For more information email Benjamin Otey, 2012 "Stop the Bullying" campaign coordinator, at benlotey@att.net.

Miscellaneous Items

Civilian deployment

Army 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>. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM or AMC. Contractors or military personnel cannot be considered. Army civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and visit the deployment website or call Cindy Gordon 313-0369 or Nicole Massey 313-0365. Contractors and others interested can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Education test center

Thinking of changing your military occupational specialty or entering a commissioning program and need to take an Army Personnel Testing examination? If so, call the Army Education Center Testing Office 876-9764. Tests offered include the Armed Forces Classification Test, Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and the Defense Language Aptitude Battery test. If you speak a language and want it annotated on your records, call and make an appointment to take the Defense Language Proficiency Test. All Soldiers and qualified DA civilians are eligible to take the DLPT. In addition to APT exams, the Education Center offers the ACT, SAT, Test of Adult Basic Education and GT Improvement exams. If you are taking college classes and need a proctor, proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community (military/government ID card holders). Call 876-9764 to see if you are eligible to test and to schedule an appointment.

Senior volunteers

Madison County Retired & Senior Volunteer program is partnered with various nonprofit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. R.S.V.P. recruits, places and trains individuals who are 55 or older to fill community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Jennifer Anderson 513-8290 or email rsvp.dir@seniorview.com.

NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to [\[actions.gov\]\(http://actions.gov\), 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 544-1774.](http://www.gsaa-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Re-entry information

Just back from an overseas assignment and new to the Redstone Arsenal community? Feeling like a stranger in your own homeland? Contact the Relocation Readiness Program, Army Community Service, for a re-entry briefing to learn about community programs and services. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden, relocation readiness program manager, 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil.

Lending closet

The lending closet is stocked with basic household items to use before your household goods arrive or after you have been packed for your new assignment. Items may be borrowed for 30 days. ID cards and a copy of your PCS orders are required. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil. Stop by Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Community youth event

The second annual Community Awareness For Youth event is Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jaycees Building and Fairgrounds, 2180 Airport Road. CAFY is sponsored by the Huntsville Police Department in partnership with Mayor Tommy Battle. Its goal is to inform youth in Huntsville, Madison and Madison County about various career opportunities and four "Pillars of Success," which include health, physical fitness, careers and education. There will be free food and entertainment, with inflatables for the youngsters. The first 500 kids will receive a free backpack with school supplies. For more information, call Dr. Harry Hobbs 425-5307 or visit www.hsvpolice.com.

Space Camp for special kids

A "Special Needs" Space Camp will be held Aug. 24-29 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. It is for individuals or groups. The camp will be similar in nature to the regular Space Camp, but some activities may be modified, depending on the specific needs of the individual child. Since every child has different needs, organizers encourage parents to call and speak with them directly. The

camp is \$749, which includes meals and lodging. Lodging is on-site in the Space Camp habitat. If a child normally has a full-time aide, he or she may attend as an aide at no additional cost. For more information, call 1-800-637-7223.

A&M logistics registration

Alabama A&M University is now on Redstone Arsenal. Office hours are every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army Education Center, building 3222 in room 13 on Snooper Road. Available is program information leading to the undergraduate Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree, advising, evaluations (prior academic and military), registration and information for other degree programs offered at Alabama A&M University. The Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree is available to active duty servicemembers, their spouses and adult children, retirees, civilians employed on Redstone Arsenal, and on a space-available basis for all others. Classes are taught in the evenings to allow working professionals the opportunity to earn their degree without career interruption. For more information, contact retired Lt. Col. Samuel Scruggs at samuel.scruggs@aamu.edu or 372-8216 or 479-2730 and Kris Reed at kris.reed@aamu.edu or 372-5753. Interested persons may also visit <http://www.aamu.edu/business>.

Computer classes

Free self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, QuickBooks and SharePoint. Each class has about three levels and will take about three hours to complete each, but you can work at your own pace. Certificates of completion are issued after you successfully complete each course. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Reserve openings

The 375th Engineer Company (Army Reserve) in Huntsville offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing project management, construction and leadership skills. The unit has immediate openings for sergeant through chief warrant officer 2 and first lieutenant (Engineer specialties preferred) who want to make a significant contribution to the readiness of the Army. The 375th conducts vertical construction operations in CONUS and OCONUS during Extended Combat Training Exercises. All prior servicemembers are welcome to contact the unit. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Walker at miranda.walker@usar.army.mil, phone 535-6232 or Sgt. 1st Class Stumpe at roy.marcus.stumpe@

Rocket Announcements

usar.army.mil, phone 535-6229 or Capt. South at william.south@us.army.mil.

Photo contest

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table is holding its first photo contest through Nov. 1 with categories for middle and high school students, and for adults age 19 and above. Winners will be announced in January. Individuals may enter two of their photos in each category print and digital – with potential subjects pertaining to the Civil War. For more information, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/tvcwrt/>.

College evaluation

Columbia College is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will host a visit Oct. 1-3 with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. Columbia College is accredited by the commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the commission's criteria for accreditation. The public is invited to submit comments regarding Columbia College to: Public Comment on Columbia College, The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411.

Thrift Shop job

The Thrift Shop is looking for a cleaning team/person to clean once a week on Mondays. If you are interested, visit the Thrift Shop in building 3209 on Hercules Road or call management 881-6992.

Las Vegas night

Xi Omicron Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity invites you to its annual "Las Vegas Night" and the Silent Auction, Aug. 17 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Omega Center, 181 Import Circle. Proceeds will support the scholarship foundation and the Harris Home for Children. There will be music by DJs Ghon Bomb and Chief Rocka of 103.1 WEUP,

and photography by Radar Magazine. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.xi-omicron.com. For more information, call Richard Suttle 655-6769 or email richard.suttle@dps.alabama.gov.

Community day

Northwest Church of Christ, 5008 Pulaski Pike, is sponsoring a Community Day on Aug. 11 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This free community event includes a clothing giveaway for all ages and expert-led workshops on money and property management, healthy eating and more. Representatives from health-care agencies, the legal profession, financial planning and TARCOG will be on hand. Health South Blood Mobile will also be there to take blood donations. Continental breakfast and a light lunch will be provided. For more information on this free event, call John or Gladys Branch 837-9217.

Rumba dance classes

Rumba, a slow, Latin dance, will be taught for adult couples on six Thursdays from Aug. 16 through Sept. 20 from 8-9 p.m. at Pagano Gym. Tuition is \$66 per couple. No experience necessary. This course is also available as a five-week, \$55 review course (by eliminating the first class only) for those who have taken this course previously at Redstone. You may call the ITR Ticket Office 876-4531 and register using your credit card or stop by building 3711 at the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. Class size is limited to 25 couples. Instructors are Mary Jo Blount and Vince Guarin.

Veterans job fair

"Hiring Our Heroes Career Fair" – a job fair for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses – will be held Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville Marriott, 5 Tranquility Base. For more information on this free event, call Sheila McFerran of Still Serving Veterans 883-7035 or email sheilamcferran@stillservingveterans.org.

Car show

The Ardmore Quarterback Club presents the Ardmore Car Show, Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at John Barnes Park in Ardmore, Tenn. All proceeds go to support Ardmore High School athletic programs. Spectator admission is \$5 per person, \$15 per family; and children 12 and under are admitted free. For more information, call Rodney Willoughby (205) 908-2677, Sandy Hardiman (256) 656-3413 or visit ArdmoreCarShow@gmail.com.

Memorial open house

Open House at the Memorial will be presented the last three Thursdays in August – Aug. 16, 23 and 30 – from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial located in Veterans Park in downtown Huntsville. The open house will involve volunteers who will answer questions about the memorial's design, the symbolism of some of the memorial elements and other facts about the memorial. Information about the time capsule and the brick pavers will also be provided. Re-enactors dressed in period military uniforms will participate in the events.

Breast cancer awareness

As part of its vision to realize a world without breast cancer, the North Central Alabama Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is encouraging people to show their true colors by participating in Worship in Pink, a simple education program that inspires breast cancer advocacy and honors those affected by the disease. Worship in Pink Weekend will be held Aug. 25-26 throughout north central Alabama. The Worship in Pink program encourages and empowers places of worship to spread the life-saving message of early detection and honor survivors in their communities. Participants are encouraged to wear

pink and get creative to make the day fun and educational. After registering at komenncalabama.org, groups will receive a free participation kit that includes ideas and promotional materials for Worship in Pink Weekend. Groups host their own events and incorporate breast cancer education into their weekly service. For more information, visit komenncalabama.org.

Disabled/veterans recruitment

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs will hold a free Disability and Veteran Linkage Fair for Huntsville area federal contractors Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, 3000 Johnson Road. The purpose is to assist federal contractors and sub-contractors in their mission to develop meaningful relationships with community based organizations, educational institutions, state and federal government agencies and other sources in their efforts to identify and recruit qualified individuals with disabilities and covered veterans. The event will begin with speakers from OFCCP, Veterans Affairs and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. Registration is required for this free event. Submit registration requests to John Ambrose via email at John@DOL.gov.

Comedy show

McCloud Entertainment and eventblack.com will present a comedy show Aug. 18 at the Holiday Inn Research Park. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show at 8. It features from "P'Diddy Bad Boyz of Comedy" Marcus Combs and comedian Ron Ron; and the host is BET Comicview's Bo P. Tickets are on sale online at eventblack.com and at James Records & Tapes. For VIP tickets or more information, call 693-2004.

See Announcements on page 44

Rocket Announcements

Meet new principals

Huntsville City Schools is holding a "Meet and Greet" for the three new principals of Williams Elementary, Williams Middle and Columbia High School on Aug. 9 from 6-7:30 p.m. The event will be held at Williams Elementary, 155 Barren Fork Boulevard. In addition to meeting the new principals, the Redstone Arsenal community will have the opportunity to do onsite school registration, transportation signup, and learn more about course requirements, extracurricular activities and the extended day program.

Business seminar

"How to Start a Business" with Stephen Levy of SEL & Associates will be presented Aug. 8 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, briefing room. The \$20 fee is payable at the door. To register call 824-6422 or email SBDC@uah.edu.

Contract managers support

The Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will participate in the 2012 Walk to

End Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease is the nation's sixth-leading cause of death and this annual walk is held in more than 600 communities nationwide to raise awareness, funds for care, support and research. The Huntsville Walk will take place Sept. 15 at the Botanical Garden and NCMA is seeking participants of all ages and abilities to join it on this walk. If you wish to walk or volunteer with NCMA in support of this cause, call Amy Donlin 876-0500 and Kevin Powell 450-4675.

Artifact collection

The Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial Foundation is collecting historical and military artifacts for a time capsule that will be buried at the veterans memorial on or near Veterans Day. Artifacts are being collected at the SmithStoreIt at Church Street and Cook Avenue on the following dates: Aug. 25 for member organizations of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, and Sept. 15 and 22 for all Madison County residents. In addition, the foundation will collect artifacts from

members to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home on Aug. 11. Artifacts can include items such as military medals and ribbons, personal letters, hats and clothing, photos and books. Items not chosen to be placed in the 2-foot-square capsule will be returned to their owners.

YMCA summer camp

Registration is free for active duty or deployed military to the YMCA Summer Camp Aug. 5-8 at 4 p.m. at Camp Cha-La-Kee on Lake Guntersville. Cost for others is \$325 per camper for YMCA members, \$350 for non-members. First- through eighth-graders are invited. Register by Friday at the Hogan YMCA in Madison or the Southeast Family YMCA in southeast Huntsville. For more information or reservations, call James Gossett or Carole Forbes 883-9622.

Island-theme benefit

The Rotary Club of Madison will hold the 10th annual Parrots of the Caribbean, an outdoor evening of live music, food and libations, Aug. 25 from 6-11 p.m. at 58 Martin St. in downtown Madison. All guests must be 21 or older and are encouraged to bring their IDs, blankets and

lawn chairs. This event is held rain or shine. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 the night of the event and can be purchased from Madison Rotarians or online (<http://madisonrotary.org/parrots>) with an additional online ticketing service charge of \$2.09 per ticket. Tickets can also be purchased over the phone using a credit card; call 564-2075 and leave your call back number. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Madison Rotary Club's local and international projects. For more information, call the Rotary Club of Madison 564-2075 or email madisonrotary@gmail.com.

Eighth Army opportunities

The Eighth Army is looking for the Army's best and brightest. Expand your horizons by joining its team in the Republic of Korea. The Eighth Army offers you the opportunity to: grow professionally, play a critical part in the U.S. Pacific strategy, experience the most dynamic area in the world today, make lifelong relationships with America's Korean allies and experience a new and vibrant Korea with your family. Contact your assignment manager today, a prepared release said. Visit <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil> or Facebook: 8th-Army-Korea.

