

Office space to open for tenants



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Kara Malone and Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton are making plans for the repurposing of the schoolhouse buildings left empty when the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School moved to Fort Lee, Va., as part of the recent Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations. They are standing in front of building 3303, which is undergoing extensive renovations for employees of the Logistics Support Activity and the Lead AMC Integration Support Office.

Renovations of empty buildings create opportunity for growth

By KARI HAWKINS
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Moving days are coming for several Arsenal organizations.

And those moving days represent a perfect storm for administrative space realignment.

During the past year, four factors – 600,000 square feet of vacated space created by the reassignment of the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School from Redstone Arsenal to Fort Lee, Va., the need for consolidating and streamlining the administrative space allocations

of current Arsenal tenants to save money, the demand for more space on Redstone by tenants with offices off-post and the outlook for future growth needs – have come together to create opportunity that will reshape the Arsenal's work environment during the next three years.

"With the departure of OMEMS there are a number of facilities that have potential to be utilized for other missions," Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton said.

"Once these facilities are renovated, they will be suitable for other missions and they will represent the best way to reutilize space."

Yet, renovating facilities isn't beneficial and cost-effective if there isn't a need for those facilities. And that's where the Arsenal's growing number of tenants comes into the equation.

"Many Arsenal organizations have grown through the years. Their mission growth has occurred literally over decades. A lot of that growth has caused a split up of organizations with their employees and operations scattered in facilities around the installation," Hamilton said.

"So, we saw an opportunity here to not just move new people in those renovated OMEMS buildings, but to move on-post organizations so they would be better consolidated and to move organizations that are in leases off post into buildings on post."

The Garrison's efforts at administrative space realignment have been coordinated by project manager Kara Malone, who works for the Directorate of Public Works. Malone and a team of Public Works employees have spent months

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Wounded warrior welcomed home.

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RocketViews

What's your advice to this year's high school graduates?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Staff Sgt. Dirk Greenwood
AMC Band
"Have a plan. I'd say don't go to college unless you have a plan. You've got to have a goal, something to work toward. Don't

go to college just to go to college. Have a goal. And if you don't go to college, just be the best you can at what you do."



Angelica Cole
Education Center
"I would say be prudent and reflective. Don't go crazy now that you're free. Be safe out there. And take some time to think about

the next steps of your life. It's OK if you make some mistakes, but take some time to be reflective and safe."



Larry Moon
6th Brigade JROTC
"Continue their education – either college or technical centers. It's vital for their own future to expand their abilities, to secure a good-paying job."



Kaitlin Beard
Garrison Directorate of Logistics
"Study hard in college if you're going and don't pass up any opportunities you have. Because even though it's

something different, you may find it's something you're really interested in and you wouldn't have tried it before."

Letter to the editor

Rideout traffic improvements in the works

From what I can see, the new industrial park off of Rideout Road will have an entrance just past the off-ramp from 565. Given the amount of traffic that backs up all the way to 565 on most mornings, won't the additional amount of traffic make matters even worse?

Clif Officer

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for your question concerning the traffic on Rideout Road in the area of the Redstone Gateway business park. DPW is concerned about maintaining efficient access to the installation and is working to alleviate the issue of increased traffic volume. Ongoing improvements include

expansion of Rideout Road by adding southbound turn lanes into the Redstone Gateway which will segregate traffic entering the development from the traffic entering/exiting the installation. Also within this contract is the addition of another lane on the northbound side of Rideout Road near the gate to ensure we maintain three continuous lanes off Redstone Arsenal. These improvements are expected to be complete by the end of June.

"Also, our long-term development plans include moving the Gate 9 facilities further south to better facilitate multiple entrances into the Redstone Gateway complex. This will allow cars to enter much deeper into the Arsenal away from I-565 prior to stopping for ID checks.

"Improvements north of our boundary fence on Rideout Road are the responsibility of the Alabama Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration as they are within the I-565 interchange. To facilitate action within that area, we have worked with the City of Huntsville and the Redstone Gateway developer to prepare an interchange modification study outlining the future of this interchange. This study was recently submitted to the Alabama Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration and sets the stage for their future improvements."

Quote of the week

'Success is the ability to go from one failure to another with no loss of enthusiasm.'

— Winston Churchill

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Chris Hayes

Job: Access control specialist supervisor, MDA contractor Man-Tech

Where do you call home?
Somerville, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

I like the MDA organization because it has a family type atmosphere. And MDA, they genuinely care about their personnel.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Four-wheeler and any outdoor activities with my family – my wife of 26 years, Donna, and our daughters Kimberly, 24, and Courtney, 20.

What are your goals?

Right now I am trying to be elected mayor of my hometown (Somerville). That's my goal.

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

The top of my bucket list is cruise around the world with my wife. We like to cruise and I'd like to cruise completely around the world with my best friend, my wife Donna.



RedstoneRocket

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Space

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gathering data and determining the best plan for space realignment.

"It has taken a huge team effort to put together this plan," Hamilton said.

"We have worked closely with the organizations that are predominantly affected to help them define their requirements and find the best fit for their organization in an existing building. The team has done an exceptional job of bringing together all the data. Taking a building that is a certain size and a certain shape, and renovating it to serve a different mission is a challenge."

As the Garrison team made plans for administrative space realignment, the goal was to ensure that each organization would be consolidated in a single building or a campus if its requirement was too large for one building. Some organizations are so large that more than one campus was necessary to accommodate them.

"The plan is not perfect. But we are much, much closer to that goal," Hamilton said.

"The big driving force is that we need to make sure we are using existing buildings efficiently and we are extending the life of our existing buildings."

As buildings are renovated and organizations move, other buildings will be opened up for renovation and other movement throughout the three-year plan. Close to 8,000 employees will be involved in moves that involve 10 organizations.

"Every single small move in this plan has a domino effect," Malone said. "One organization's move causes all these ripple effects to happen across Redstone."

In June, renovations at building 5250 will be complete and the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space will be able to bring almost 400 employees on post and out of two off-post leases. In late summer, building 111 will be vacated and renovations will begin for future use by the PEO Missiles and Space.

Renovation construction has already begun at building 3303, which can be seen from the Gate 10/Patton Road entrance. It is the first of three buildings that will house the nearly 800 employees of the Logistics Support Activity and the Lead AMC Integration Support Office. Together, the two organizations will be housed in buildings 3303, 3305 and 3307. Renovation on buildings 3305 and 3307 will begin in the summer.

LOGSA and LAISO should be able to move into their buildings in mid- to late-2013 and early 2014.

Once LOGSA begins its moves out of the Sparkman Center, a lot of activity will take place that will move

employees into areas that consolidate their organizations. When the moves at the Sparkman Center are complete, the Aviation and Missile Command will occupy buildings 5300, 5301, 5302 and the third floor of 5304, the Army Contracting Command-Redstone will fully occupy building 5303, and the Program Executive Office for Aviation will occupy buildings 5307, 5308, 5309, and the first and second floors of 5304 along with its existing building 5681 campus. The renovations and moves should be complete by mid-2014.

Buildings 3458 and 3459 will begin to be renovated this summer to house the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Human Resources Agency, which is now scattered in offices at the Sparkman Center. The two organizations will be able to move into their renovated buildings by summer 2013.

By the fall of 2014, building 111 renovations will be complete for PEO Missiles and Space and the PEO Aviation 5681 campus renovations should also be complete.

In addition, Missile Defense Agency employees located at building 4505 will move to the Von Braun Complex and in fiscal 2015 renovations will be complete for the facility to be the new headquarters of the Army Contracting Command/Expeditionary Contracting Command.

Besides these plans, other remaining OMEMS buildings will be repurposed as the Garrison identifies other organizations that can utilize that area's remaining buildings.

The availability of the vacated OMEMS buildings provided an opportunity for expansion that is unique to Redstone at a time when most installations don't have the financial ability to expand. It has also presented a challenge.

"Because of budget constraints, funding for building a lot of new buildings isn't really available right now," Hamilton said. "We must first use our existing buildings before we ask for funding for new buildings."

It also provided a way to save about \$3.8 million a year in lease costs for off-post facilities, to incorporate upgraded "green" utilities in administrative areas, and to create new and better synergies among Arsenal tenants. For instance, the new headquarters facility for the Army Contracting Command/Expeditionary Contracting Command will be housed in the renovated building 4505 located across the street from the Army Materiel Command. The contracting command is a subordinate of AMC.

"First, we were looking at the efficient use of these buildings. But that's not necessarily the most important part of the plan. What is most important is how these changes impact the effectiveness of

organizations," Hamilton said. "Some organizations need to be adjacent to each other or physically co-located to operate effectively."

In addition to the administrative space realignment, the Garrison is also taking steps to consolidate employee, Soldier and family services into a one-stop shop in the former Military Personnel Office and at the now closed dining facility on Aerobee Road. These buildings are being renovated to accommodate MIL-PO, Finance, Military Housing, Army Community Service, Child Youth and School Services, employee badging and personnel, and other personnel support services. An education corridor will also be centralized at Toftoy Hall at the corner of Aerobee and Patton roads, and a commercial hotel chain will renovate some of the barracks facilities along Aerobee Road.

The development in the Gate 10/OMEMS area will have a substantial impact on the area.

"It's going to change the nature of what kind of work is going on in that area," Hamilton said. "There will be research and development activities in buildings previously used for training. Classrooms will be turned into office space. The number of people working in the area will grow significantly."

With any new change, there comes a level of stress, and Hamilton and the

space realignment team recognize that affected employees may not be happy with the moves. They have worked to ensure a minimal amount of upheaval in the work force.

"We've synchronized the timeline to minimize people having to move multiple times," he said. "Some will have to move twice. But the vast majority will move one time into a new facility."

Hamilton hopes that leadership within the affected organizations will ensure their employees are kept informed about their move and any changes in the timeline.

The renovations, Hamilton said, will better position the installation for future growth opportunities.

"As the Department of Defense and other federal agencies look at where they need to shift resources, whether because of new Base Realignment and Closure recommendations or other stationing actions, they will look at an installation's ability to take on more growth. They will look at capacity and other capabilities," Hamilton said.

"If we can show that we use existing space effectively, that we have the ability to grow capabilities, that we have the infrastructure to sustain growth, and that we are set to receive new organizations and execute orders, then we will have a better chance of meeting the needs of new tenants."

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for May 3-9:

May 3: A Soldier was arrested by Hoover Police for desertion. He was released to Redstone Police and transported to his Fort Campbell, Ky., unit.

May 4: A civilian who was at fault in a four-vehicle accident at Gate 9 was found to be driving under the influence of both prescription drugs and alcohol. The accident resulted in the at-fault driver and three victims being transported to Huntsville Hospital for various injuries. The three victims were released the same day. The subject was hospitalized for treatment of various injuries. The subject received violation notices for DUI and speeding.

May 5: During investigation of a suspicious vehicle near building 3531, the driver, a contractor, was found to be driving with a revoked license. The subject also had three outstand-

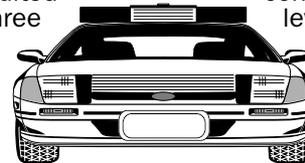
ing warrants issued by Huntsville City Court. As Redstone Police was securing the subject's vehicle, suspected marijuana was found in the vehicle. The subject was issued two violation notices and released to Huntsville Police.

May 7: A civilian who approached Gate 9 lost was driving under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested by Redstone Police and detained in the detention cell until his blood alcohol content reached an acceptable level. He was then issued a violation notice and released.

May 7: Investigation revealed that someone removed \$129.80 in cash from a safe at the Java Cafe.

Traffic accidents reported: 2 with injuries, 3 without injury.

Violation notices issued: 12 speeding, 3 driving under the influence, 2 inattentive driving, 5 failure to observe traffic control device, 1 no insurance.



Military spouses thanked with sweet reception



Appreciation Day cake shared at the Exchange

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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A poster on a stand thanked military spouses for their ongoing support. A ceremonial cake on a small table was ready for cutting, but one important ingredient was missing.

“Are you a military spouse?” Army Community Service director Sue Paddock asked a woman shopper. She wasn’t but a military spouse arrived shortly and agreed to cut the cake for a photo opportunity.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day was celebrated Friday at the Redstone Exchange.

“This is a combined effort with ACS, the Exchange and the Commissary to honor military spouses today,” Paddock said.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Military spouse Cheri Carney cuts Friday’s cake with her three children, from left, Jacob, 11, Caity, 8, and Julia, 4.

Cheri Carney, the designated cake-cutter, is the wife of Maj. Jason Carney of Redstone Arsenal. She smiled for the camera with their three children: Jacob, 11, Caity, 8, and Julia, 4. The Carneys arrived in July 2010 from Wiesbaden, Germany, and will be here two more years with the major’s new assignment.

“I think it’s a great thing,” Cheri Carney said of Military Spouse Appreciation Day, “because the military spouse is the backbone that’s the helper. And for them to be recognized I think is a wonderful thing. And when the whole family unit is appreciated and happy, it makes for a better worker.”

Military spouse Cecille Peebles was shopping that morning with her husband, National Guard Sgt. David Peebles, and their 3-year-old son, Jaiden. Their daughters, 10-year-old Arianne and 7-year-old Mattie, were in school. The family resides in New Market.

After taking their turn posing with the cake, Cecille Peebles was asked her thoughts about Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

“It means they recognize the wife also of the military for supporting the husband for what they do,” she said.

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Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

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

Outdoor Rec open house

Outdoor Recreation will have an open house Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at building 5139, Sportsman Drive. Get your questions answered about equipment rental and recreation facilities. Food will be available. Outdoor Recreation is open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to

5:30 p.m. For more information, call 876-4868.

Summer camp

CYSS Summer Camp will be held June 4 through Aug. 3 at the School Age Center, building 3155, for grades 1-5 and at the Youth Center, building 3148, for grades 6-12. Registration is now open. For more information, call 876-3704.

Camper rental

Travel in style with Outdoor Recre-

ation pop-up campers and hard side travel trailers. Campers can be rented for \$55 per night. Prices include: weekly pop-up \$330, daily rate \$55; weekly travel trailer \$450, daily rate \$75. Reservations can be made up to 90 days in advance. For more information, call 876-4868.

Pool passes

Swimming pool passes are now on sale. Outdoor Recreation offers three well-maintained swimming pools, fully staffed with Red Cross certified life-

guards during all activities. Costs include \$60 for individuals, \$100 for families; \$30 for active duty individuals, \$50 for their families. You can purchase your passes at Outdoor Recreation now or poolside starting May 26. Credit card purchases can be made at both locations. Daily pool passes for individuals and guests are \$3 per person; \$2 for active duty and family with ID cards. Daily pool passes will only be available at the FMWR pools. For more information, call 876-4868.

FMWR team cooks up win at barbecue contest



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

The Summit executive chef Ben Howard displays his wares from the WhistleStop BBQ Competition in Huntsville. Redstone MWR's Bar-b-Crew placed second in ribs, second in pulled pork, ninth in chicken, and fourth overall in the competition May 5.

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

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A sweet heat in the smoker was all FMWR needed for success at the 2012 WhistleStop Festival.

Redstone MWR's Bar-b-crew placed fourth overall out of 64 teams at Huntsville's annual barbecue competition May 5, with two second-place wins going to the team for ribs and pulled pork, and a ninth place in chicken.

"It was a good showing and lots of people came out to support us," said The Summit executive chef Ben Howard, whose skills at the smoker brought home the win for the crew. "Lots of MWR employees helped make it happen. It was very enjoyable."

The competition was Howard's ninth year at WhistleStop and his best showing yet, a far cry from finishing almost dead last in nearly every category his first year competing.

"I've been kind of working my way up and getting better and better each year," he said. "I finally settled on a recipe and here we are."

Preparations for that winning recipe began a few days prior to the competition, when Howard began making his dry rubs and sauces. The actual cooking started at 1 a.m. Saturday as Howard fired up the old fashioned wood burning smoker and prepared the ribs, chickens, brisket and pork shoulder, which take about 10, 5 and 2 hours respectively to reach the level of perfection. While it can be a slow and at times frustrating process, it's the blood, sweat and tears that go into barbecue that Howard loves.

"I just enjoy being outdoors and I love to grill and smoke meats," he said. "Some of the stuff when you do barbecue is hard to do and challenging. I enjoy challenge when I cook and being able to calculate the right window of when to pull the meat off and when it's done."

With four people on the Pit Crew helping Howard, and plenty others from FMWR pitching in to help set up, tear down, prepare and serve the food to the community, Howard was able to do what he does best – cook.

"We had so much help this year that I could completely focus on cooking," he said.

All that time and energy paid off when the winners were announced that afternoon. The recipe he had spent years perfecting through trial and error – which Howard describes as a "sweet

heat" – had brought success to the Bar-b-crew.

"People here know really good barbecue, and when they taste it, they just know," Howard said of the judging.

With the wins at WhistleStop, Howard and the gang not only got to show the community that Redstone knows how to barbecue, but also raised awareness for the great things FMWR does day in and day out.

"Not only does WhistleStop give us a chance to really showcase the talent we have within our team and foster esprit de corps, but it offers us the wonderful opportunity to be involved with the Huntsville community," said Francine Stone, FMWR team lead for the event. "We realize that active community participation is key to building an empowered community. Not only do we encourage participation in this event, we realize that getting out into the community and shaking hands, meeting people and creating awareness is critical to Family and MWR programs."

"Participation in the WhistleStop Festival each year is something that Redstone Family and MWR really looks forward to," Derrick Gould, director of FMWR, said. "We are a participating community and this venue allows us the opportunity to be involved with a great community activity. Participation encourages community involvement off post, fosters teamwork, and gives us a chance to reach out to a part of the community that we don't always reach from Redstone Arsenal. After all, our mission is focused on supporting our community, promoting morale and giving back to those that serve. So in that sense, this is a perfect venue for us to be a part of. Additionally, participating in WhistleStop signifies the work of team MWR because responsibilities are divided up so that the special talents and interest of our team are engaged. I think that plays a huge role in success."

If you missed out on the barbecue bonanza, you can always indulge in Howard's barbecue at The Summit. While it's not an exact replica of the award winning recipe, Howard said it's very close to it. Thursday lunch specials include barbecue brisket, but Howard's other culinary specialties, including German cuisine, are always on hand. Lunch hour is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. The Monte Sano Dining Room is open for dinner Friday and Saturday, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Women's club culminates year with thanks

By KARI HAWKINS

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The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club wrapped up its 2011-12 membership year with two major events last week – one to recognize their own group's leading volunteers and the other to honor the recipients of their merit awards.

As the club's outgoing president, Tonya Daniels thanked the group's many volunteers during their monthly luncheon May 8.

"I've always believed in the adage that it 'takes a village to raise a child.' It takes all of you wonderful women to make this club," she said.

Daniels was also thanked by club mem-

bers for her two years as president as was its outgoing executive board, including Liz Kirby, first vice president; Suzanne O'Donnell, second vice president; Joan Olszowy, secretary; and Amy Brodhage, treasurer.

"Thank you for your love and dedication to this club," outgoing honorary president Reba Rogers told Daniels. "You have walked the walk and we appreciate it."

Incoming president Tiffany Kraus said she was honored to be chosen to be the club's next leader.

"The Community Women's Club holds many wonderful memories for me," she said. "I want us to continue the same effort we have in the past and I want to thank people who have offered to go on this journey with me."

Serving with Kraus on the 2012-13 executive board are: Stacy Soldon, first vice president; Sharon Samuelson, second vice president; Sandy Pruneski, secretary; and Amy Brodhage, treasurer. They will be joined by several club volunteers who handle responsibilities for such activities as hospitality, membership, merit awards and newsletter.

During their second event of the week – the Merit Award Reception on Thursday – the club distributed \$10,000 in Merit Awards. Seven awards totaling \$9,000 were awarded by the women's club with an eighth scholarship totaling \$1,000 awarded by the Military Officers Association of America.

This year's recipients were: Kent Fellows, a Bob Jones graduate who plans to attend Brigham Young University; Sarah Macedonia, who just completed her sophomore year at Auburn University; Kelsey Kokes, a Bob



Photo by Kari Hawkins

New officers for the Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club are presented by 2011-12 honorary president Reba Rogers, far right, at the group's meeting May 8 at The Summit. The 2012-13 executive board officers are, from left, Amy Brodhage, treasurer; Sandy Pruneski, secretary; Sharon Samuelson, second vice president; Stacy Soldon, first vice president; and Tiffany Kraus, president.

Jones graduate who plans to attend Auburn University; Calla McCulley, a Huntsville High graduate who plans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham; Victoria Domitrovich, a Pope John Paul II graduate who plans to attend Samford University; Katherine McEwen, a Huntsville High graduate who plans to attend Birmingham Southern University; Ruth Williams, who just completed her sophomore year at Belhaven University, Jackson, Miss.; and Lorelyn Kilby, who just completed her freshman year at Georgia Tech.

Merit Awards are one-time grants based on academic achievements, community activities, an essay and recommendation letters, and are used to offset expenses that occur while pursuing further education, whether it is a vocational certificate, undergraduate or graduate degree. Military and Department of Defense civilian family members living within the Redstone

Arsenal community are eligible.

Through active fund-raising efforts during the year, the women's club is able to honor its mission to promote education, and to support the educational dreams and aspirations of high school students, college students and spouses. This year's Merit Award program was coordinated by club volunteers Teresa Lee, who chaired the committee, and Alice Myles.

Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, senior commander of Redstone Arsenal and commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, was the guest speaker at the reception. He said the club's Merit Award program is a "wonderful opportunity" and a "huge honor" for young students who have high educational goals.

After a summer break, the community women's club will begin the 2012-13 year with a super member signup Aug. 14 at 10:30 a.m. at The Summit.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, senior commander of Redstone Arsenal and commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, joins members of the Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club to recognize eight students from the local area who are recipients of the group's scholarship program. Standing with Rogers are, from left, Alice Myles and Teresa Lee, who led the Merit Scholarship Award Committee; recipients Kelsey Kokes, Kent Fellows, Calla McCulley and Victoria Domitrovich, club president Tonya Daniels, and recipients Sarah Macedonia, Katherine McEwen, Ruth Williams and Lorelyn Kilby.

Volunteers organize annual Armed Forces Week

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

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Joe Fitzgerald wants to make sure his community rent is paid.

Together, with other volunteers that live and breathe all things Armed Forces Week, Fitzgerald is paying it forward and giving a big thanks to the men and women that selflessly give of themselves in service to our country.

"It's a desire to serve," Fitzgerald said of what compels him and other volunteers. "All of us can't serve in uniform, and all of us don't serve in uniform. It's our opportunity to pay our community rent. We have got to pay our community rent."

A core group of 10 volunteer members make up the Armed Forces Week Celebra-

tion committee, the behind the scenes players who coordinate the week which celebrates the men and women living in the Tennessee Valley currently serving in the military, whether they be active duty, National Guard or Reserve. Approximately 1,000 service-members work on the Arsenal, with many more living outside the gates of the installation. This year's celebration is June 11-17.

"It's a week set aside in our community to recognize those serving in uniform," Fitzgerald said. "To recognize and to show our special appreciation to those serving our country in the military."

Without the volunteers the week would not happen, according to Fitzgerald. The group has been meeting since February to plan the week's events, which include a proclamation signing, Concert in the Park, Sol-

dier Show, AUSA Golf Tournament, 237th Army Birthday Celebration, and special to this year's celebration, the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Games. With many of the committee members holding full-time jobs outside their volunteer duties, it's an effort that takes a lot of personal time and effort, but one that many feel is well-worth it.

"For the most part folks have other jobs and they're making the time, making the sacrifice," Fitzgerald said. "They make the sacrifice because it's worth it and because they believe in their heart it's something they should be doing."

Pulled together principally by the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce's military affairs committee, which is

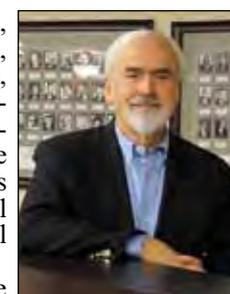


Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Joe Fitzgerald serves as the chairman of the Armed Forces Week Celebration committee, led by volunteers from across the Huntsville-Madison community, who organize the annual celebration of men and women serving in the military that call the Tennessee Valley home.

chaired by Fitzgerald, committee members come from a variety of organizations across North Alabama, including Team Redstone, AUSA Redstone-Huntsville chapter, the cities of Huntsville and Madison, and other civic organizations.

"It couldn't be done without them," Fitzgerald said of the volunteer committee.

Pedal through Redstone for fun, fitness

Tour d' Arsenal invites cyclists

BY AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Whether you're an avid cyclist or just enjoy a leisurely ride, channel your inner Lance Armstrong and prepare to pedal the pavement at the Tour d' Arsenal.

The 11th annual Director's Tour d' Arsenal Bike Ride will be Tuesday, May 22, beginning at 5 p.m. at the NASA Exchange Fitness Center parking lot, building 4315, on the corner of Morris and Digney roads. All adults with access to the Arsenal are invited to participate; helmets and bright reflective vests are mandatory for riders. Riders will have the opportunity to pre-register at a pizza party from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 22 at building 4316 on Digney Road.

"It's sure to be the biggest yet," said Jamie Miernik, a senior engineer with ERC Inc. for NASA, who is coordinating the ride.

Marshall Space Flight Center operations director Steve Doering will lead the ride with other directors from across the Arsenal. The 18-mile long route takes bikers down Dodd Road over to Buxton, up Patton and back across on Digney to building 4315, where the cyclists will finish between 5:45 and 7:30 p.m. The self-paced ride is a chance to experience the Arsenal's history with views of the original Redstone Rocket test stand, Mercury and Gemini, as riders bike through both the NASA test area and Test Area 1. No stopping or photography is allowed in Test Area 1. Revised city of Huntsville bike maps will be available for free at the ride for those bikers wanting to hit the road more often.

Whether cyclists have pedaled the Arsenal before or are experiencing it on two wheels for the first time, the ride is the perfect introduction to the opportunities available for cycling on the Arsenal.

"Redstone Arsenal for bike riding is a gem," said Miernik, a founding member of the City of Huntsville Bicycle Advisory Safety Committee. "A lot of people would not ride as much as they do, or would not ride period, because they're afraid to ride on the roads in town, but they'll come out here and ride."

"It's a lot of great roads that are empty on the weekends," added George Hamilton, secretary of AlaBike, the Alabama Bicycle Coalition, who works for NASA. "It's a game preserve. Think of it as a national park."

The ride coincides with National Bike Month, which raises awareness of cycling, including the reasons to ride and the safety involved, for both cyclists and motorists. All this week is National Bike to Work week,



Courtesy photo

The 11th annual Director's Tour d' Arsenal Bike Ride will be held Tuesday, May 22, beginning at 5 p.m. All adults with access to the Arsenal are invited to participate.

with Friday being the official National Bike to Work Day.

"As you know Alabama is racing Mississippi for first place in fatness," Hamilton said. "We as a society need to do something about that. Bicycling is one way. It's low impact on the joints."

Cyclists are required to wear both a helmet and a bright reflective vest when biking on the Arsenal, and need to use lights when riding after dark. When driving in the city or on busy streets, Miernik recommends bikers reconsider the route they might usually use in their car, for a less congested, more bike friendly option.

"Although you rarely ride the same way you would drive as far as route goes, you do ride and drive your bike in the same manner as cars. You follow the same rules of the road," Miernik said. "It's very important that bikers do that and drivers expect them to do that."

As for motorists, drivers must remain alert and be on the lookout for bicycles, which are vehicles, too – just think of them as a very narrow tractor.

"Find your brake and change lanes," Miernik said. "The bike is a vehicle. State law states bikes are vehicles. There is no sidewalk to jump on to, in fact in the city of Huntsville and on NASA grounds it is illegal for them to ride on a sidewalk. Some cars have such little education and knowledge and experience with cyclists they don't know that. They think it's a toy."

For more information about the Tour d' Arsenal or biking in general, call Miernik at 544-6534 or email janie.h.miernik@nasa.gov.

Huntsville Center celebrates Asian/Pacific heritage



Photo by James Campbell

Luz Tolentino-Ladrillono, an accomplished Filipino vocalist and theater actress, sings a traditional song in Tagalog during the Huntsville Center cultural observance May 9.

By JAMES CAMPBELL
*Army Engineering and Support
 Center public affairs*

The Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville held its Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month observance May 9.



Photo by Bruce Hudgins

Guest speaker Seunghee Lee, Safety Office chief, Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate at Marshall Space Flight Center, speaks about her Korean cultural background and her management and leadership style based on inclusion during the Huntsville Center cultural observance May 9.

A standing-room only crowd gathered in the cafeteria for an hour-long event featuring guest speaker Seunghee Lee, Safety Office chief, Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate at Marshall Space Flight Center, Luz Tolentino-Ladrillono, an accomplished Filipino vocalist and actress, and Filipino and Tahitian dance

demonstration by Lezith Benton from the Philippine-American Association of Alabama.

Tolentino-Ladrillono wowed the crowd with her soprano range while singing a traditional Filipino song performed in Tagalog and selections from Phantom of the Opera.

Lee addressed issues of leadership, caring and acceptance based on her career experiences and her Korean cultural upbringing.

“Care about your work and other people, including diversity,” she said. “Inclusion requires genuine sincere interest – if you do not have that, you cannot have true diversity.”

Lee challenged everyone to join her in becoming a leader by listening to differences and understanding perspectives, explaining that it made work and accomplishments a true joy.

Lee concluded by quoting Indian philosopher and cultural leader, Mahatma Gandhi.

“Be the change you want to see in the world – if you want to see excellence, leadership and inclusion, do not wait for someone else, it’s each of us who can bring change,” Lee said.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebrated in May

Redstone program scheduled May 22

Team Redstone will observe Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a program May 22 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium.

The speaker is Christine Chen, a leading civil rights activist for Asian Pacific Islander Americans.

She was profiled by *Newsweek* in 2001 as one of 15 women who will shape America's new century and served from 2001-05 as national executive director of the Organization of Chinese Americans, one of the leading APIA civil rights organizations in the country. Leading an organization with more than 80 chapters and affiliates across the nation, she worked with OCA's national board, executive council, chapter representatives, members and funders, while managing a staff of 13.

Chen's accomplishments at OCA include: increasing funding levels by 35 percent; expanding the national office by creating a West Coast branch office in Los Angeles; and managing the development and transition of national office staff from five people to 13. Her dedication to empowering the next generation of leaders is demonstrated through her leadership in launching innovative student development and outreach programs such as APIAU: Leadership 101, which trained more than 3,500 students. By expanding the scholarship and internship programs, thousands of student leaders were provided opportunities to expand their career and educational goals.

Chen is well-known by activists across the country. Her track record in building coalitions and working at the grassroots and national levels established her as one of the strongest voices in the APIA community. She has more than 10 years



Christine Chen

of experience in organizing and advocating on issues such as immigration, hate crimes, affirmative action, census, racial profiling, voting rights, election reform, and various derogatory and racist media incidents. Her role as a trusted coalition builder has her effectively building relationships with key congressional offices including the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, federal agencies and the administration.

She also was a member of the executive committee of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. She served on numerous boards such as the Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership, Youth Vote, Gates Millennium Scholarship Advisory Council, and Board of Advisors for the Midwest Asian American Students Union, East Coast Asian American Students Union, and the Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association. In 2003, she was a founding member of the Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund.

Chen is serving on the Kennedy Center Community Advisory Board, Demos Board of Trustees and the advisory board for the Progressive Majority Racial Justice Campaign.

Redstone stages lineup of young country stars

Summer concert tickets go on sale next week

By KARI HAWKINS
Assistant editor
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Each year, Redstone Arsenal builds on its reputation for staging one of the area's best summer outdoor concerts.

This year – with a lineup of seven country acts and an improved concert field – is sure to be a repeat performance.

And country is yet again taking center stage.

Billed as “Brantley Gilbert and the New Faces of Country,” publicity for the Aug. 26 concert is just now hitting the airwaves and will continue during a summer-long promotion campaign on local WDRM-Radio.

“It’s been country for us for quite awhile,” said Mark Germonprez, business operations officer for Redstone’s Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, referring to a long list of country stars that have taken to the Redstone stage.

“We’ve stayed country because country station WDRM, our major sponsor, has the lion’s share of the radio market. We have one shot every year at doing a concert at this level so we are going for what attracts the biggest audience we can get.”

Over the years, FMWR has also remained flexible about the date of its summer outdoor concert so that it can get the best acts available.

“We go to our promoter and ask them to bring us the best show and best acts they can put together and we’ll make the date work,” Germonprez said. “We don’t stick to a certain month during the outdoor concert season because we want to be open to any quality act that’s available.”

This year, FMWR hit the jackpot with Gilbert and the lineup of young country acts and, so, too, have country music fans. Tickets to the concert, which will be staged beginning at 2 p.m.

Aug. 26 at the activity field near Gate 10, are \$15 each during the week of May 21-27. The next week, tickets will go to \$20 each, and will remain there until the day of the show, when tickets will be \$25 each.

For that low ticket price, country music lovers will get about eight hours of live country music, opening with a foot-stomping performance by country singer and Hokes Bluff, Ala., native Drake White.

He will be followed by the country rocker Sonia Leigh, who will bring her hit “My Name is Money” to the Redstone stage. The stage will also include 2010 American Idol favorite Casey James, whose hit “Let’s Don’t Call It A Night” has made it to No. 21 on the Billboard charts, followed by the dazzling harmonies of Edens Edge in such hits as “Amen”; the edgy country musician Kip Moore, who debuted his first album in April and already has a hit in “Somethin’ Bout a Truck”; and guitar playing, country star Easton Corbin with his song list including his two No. 1 hits – “A Little More Country Than That” and “Roll With It.”

The concert’s headliner – Brantley Gilbert – will bring his Southern country rock sound to the stage to finish up the day’s lineup. Gilbert’s second album, “Halfway to Heaven,” peaked at No. 2 on the iTunes Country Album Charts and at No. 1 on the Billboard Heatseekers Album Chart for all genres. Gilbert has more than 7 million Facebook posts each month and his MySpace page has garnered more than 16 million total song plays, putting him in the No. 1 spot on MySpace Music Charts for both country and Southern rock. His song “Country Must be Country Wide” has topped the country music charts and his song “You Don’t Know Her Like I Do” came in at No. 13.

“All these stars are really hot right now. They are young, upcoming acts that the industry thinks will make it really big,” Germonprez said. “This collection of talent is something that our promoter put together for us. You won’t



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Kenny McDonald and Mark Germonprez of Redstone’s Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation hold a few of the soldout posters from previous summer outdoor concerts. This year’s Aug. 26 concert – “Brantley Gilbert and the New Faces of Country” – is expected to join the prestigious group of soldout concerts.

find this show anywhere else but at Redstone Arsenal.”

Besides general admission tickets, there are also a limited number of premium tickets available at \$65 each, which includes special seating in the Bell Helicopter Premium Seating Area, beverages and dinner.

Tickets can be purchased at Redstone ITR at the Community Activity Center, The Summit and post restaurants. Off-post purchases can be made through Ticketmaster outlets.

Sponsors for the concert include WDRM as the major sponsor, and the “I Am Strong” Army values campaign, Bell Helicopter, Fox 54, Knology, Miller Lite and *The Huntsville Times*.

Although the “Brantley Gilbert and the New Faces of Country” concert is expected to be another sellout performance for 12,000 country music fans, FMWR has not forgotten about those music lovers who prefer other music



Courtesy Photo

Country music artist Brantley Gilbert will headline Redstone Arsenal’s summer outdoor concert Aug. 26. Besides Gilbert, the event will include six other young country music artists that are among the industry’s most promising stars.

genres. On Sept. 29, FMWR will once again host “Blues, Brews and BBQ” featuring a variety of musical talent.

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Russellville students become career savvy

Redstone visit teaches about opportunities

By JASON CUTSHAW

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

High school students interested in different career paths came to Redstone Arsenal on Thursday to learn about options for their future.

The purpose of this tour was to interest the students in pursuing career options on the Arsenal. The Russellville High School students were provided an opportunity to observe what Arsenal employees do on a daily basis, and given hands-on experiences to encourage the pursuit of higher education.

The students visited the Corps of Engineers, and the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The group also heard from an education outreach panel.

“The purpose of today’s event was to take our children who are interested in science, math and engineering, and show them what opportunities are out there and still be close to home,” said Dr. Tim Guinn, Russellville High School principal. “Russellville is about

65 miles west of Huntsville, and many of our kids, even though they are familiar with Huntsville as far as where to eat, shop and go see a movie, many of them have no idea what is actually on Redstone Arsenal. This tour will give our children an opportunity to come here and discover what is actually here.”

That discovery was made with the students’ futures in mind. It is hoped their time at the Arsenal will help them make the connection between education and a future career.

“This tour is giving the students a chance to learn how people on the installation got from high school to college to here,” the principal continued. “They learned from people at the Corps of Engineers an idea of what they need to be doing now for future jobs in the 21st century.

“Today has been great. This has been a chance to put the hand with the mind and have them come together to learn what opportunities are available for the kids so they can prepare for what the future holds.”



Photo by Ashley Kalifeh

Students from Russellville High School look on as their principal, Dr. Tim Guinn, operates the counter Styrofoam airplane weapon system in the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Concepts Analysis Laboratory.

At SMDC, students visited the Simulation Center and Concepts Analysis Lab. At the Simulation Center, they got a chance to see how 3-D technology is being used alongside unmanned aerial vehicles by the Innovative Ventures Office within the Future Warfare Center. At the Concept Analysis Laboratory,

students witnessed several ongoing test programs, and learned about various school and employment programs available.

“This is a good opportunity for us to interact with the students,” said Kevin Nash, Concepts Analysis Lab supervisor. “We are really trying to build enthusiasm in engineering, math and science, and this is a chance to reach them while they are young. Hopefully we can reach a few who might not have thought about this path otherwise.”

The students finished the day with an education outreach panel that had representatives from across the Arsenal, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Missile Defense Agency, Aviation and Missile Command, Garrison-Redstone, and the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center. The panelists gave information about career, intern and co-op opportunities with the federal government. They also discussed various

See Students on page 15

Redstone takes measures to control coyotes

Coyotes have become very active and their numbers have grown substantially on Redstone, according to the Directorate of Emergency Services.

The coyote problem is not unique to Redstone Arsenal, as there have been several news reports on television in recent weeks of municipalities getting numerous complaints of coyotes coming close to residents. Control measures have been ongoing on Redstone in recent months, however those measures have not been enough to keep up with the coyote population growth so more intensive measures are going to be utilized in order to keep their numbers at a more appropriate level.

The measures will be conducted by trained, experienced wildlife personnel with safety always being paramount. There are some things that our residents, visitors and employees can do to help us expedite getting our coyote population under control.

Follow these helpful tips:

- Refrain from going into the wooded areas that are near residential areas. This includes keeping children and pets out of the woods/brushy areas for the next several weeks.

- Keep all pets, especially smaller sized pets, secure. If your pet has a tendency to get out of the yard/fence, take appropriate measures now to ensure

the pet can't continue to get out.

- Don't throw food scraps or old pet food out "behind the house" or into the woods. This draws wildlife straight to your residence.

- If you see a coyote, call the police desk at 876-2222 or the post game warden at 655-4981. The sooner you notify them the better. Wildlife can change patterns if you wait a week to call in your sighting.

- You are likely to hear electronic coyote calls being utilized. This is to induce actual coyotes to respond so that they can be effectively removed.

- If you see a coyote, don't scare it off. Unless it's to protect people or pets,

it's best to just keep clear of the animal without scaring it, and call it in.

- Measures are going to be utilized during this process that will kill a coyote. If it can kill a coyote, then it can probably kill your pet that's running loose. Most likely, no one will ever notice anything. Utmost care will be used during this process but it must be emphasized that during the next several weeks, it is important to stay out of the woods and keep your pets contained.

Notification will be given when these control measures are no longer being employed. (*Directorate of Emergency Services release*)

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career paths and the importance of continuing your education.

"Today has been fantastic," said Rus-

sellville High School senior Jordan Baker. "I have learned about technical and mechanical engineering, and have got a chance to see it in action. It has definitely got me looking into engineering.

"And it has been fun," he added. "I would definitely recommend this to anybody who is interested in learning

about engineering."

"Today has been amazing, I have learned so much," said Russellville High School senior Alex Cabaniss. "I would recommend everybody who can to come here and experience the things we have had a chance to see.

"I have learned a lot about engineering

and some of the careers that are available," she added. "We are taught a lot about math and science but we are not taught what engineers do, so today has been great. I think more people should come here because this is a great way to let people know about things they may not have a chance to normally."

Defense group builds partnerships among U.S. allies

International update at Redstone furthers understandings

By KIM GILLESPIE
USASAC Public Affairs

The Defense Memorandum of Understanding Attaché Group recently visited Redstone Arsenal and the Security Assistance Command Headquarters for its Army service-branch update.

The update was supported by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation to help articulate the Army organizations involved in security assistance.

The DMAG consists of 21 allies with reciprocal defense procurement Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Defense facilitating bilateral defense trade cooperation, and/or procurement of defense items through foreign military sales or direct commercial sales.

Ten DMAG countries and a total of 12 members participated in the event held May 1-2. The nations represented

were Australia, Canada (three members), Finland, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The meeting was designed to promote greater understanding of the Army foreign military sales process, challenges by both sides conducting business and one-on-one discussions with USASAC country program managers.

“First, it’s important that our partners understand how business is done and the various processes,” Richard Genaille, deputy director, DSCA, stated.

“Second, the insights we receive provide another benefit by building a sense of community in security cooperation ... We do good, but we can do even better if we approach cases from a community standpoint. It is important for all of us to understand the community, and understand what they do, how they do it and who is involved.”

Genaille also noted that in addition to having representatives from the Air Force and Navy FMS programs and industry participating, DSCA was using the meeting as an opportunity to educate newer members of its work force.

“We have a developmental program at

DSCA for those in entry level positions where these employees rotate through all the directorates at DSCA and participate in meetings such as this, which is good news for everyone because having employees who’ve had these types of [learning] opportunities makes us more effective,” he explained.

Redstone Arsenal’s selection as the site for the DMAG meeting was based not only on USASAC’s role in Army FMS, but also the numerous other organizations that are part of the Army’s Security Assistance Enterprise. In addition to USASAC and its G-4, which outlined the requisition flow of foreign military sales materiel, the group also learned about the process of requisition flow and freight forwarders from the Aviation and Missile Command’s Security Assistance Management Directorate. The roles of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space and the program manager for Patriot were also presented, while critical actions and customer participation were the focus of the Army Contracting Command briefing and discussion.

On the flip-side, a presentation titled “Customer Perspectives: Dealing with the FMS System” was given by Wing

Commander Debbie Richardson, counselor, Australia Air Force. Richardson noted that the Australians had received “excellent support from the U.S.” in recent years, particularly in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

She also specifically cited a foreign military sales case for two CH-47Ds lost in theater. “The LOA was completed in July 2011, and we received the CH-47Ds in January 2012,” Richardson said.

The highlight of the two-day event, however, was the one-on-one meetings between the USASAC country program managers and their DMAG counterparts.

“They [DMAGs] had a similar meeting earlier this year with DISAM (Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management) and AFSAC (Air Force Security Assistance Center). What made this unique was the time we set aside to give the DMAG members and their respective CPMs an opportunity to meet each other and discuss their programs which we hadn’t done before,” Clayton Holt, Security Cooperation Policy, DSCA, said.

Maj. Ann Karin Sondov, assistant air attaché, Norway, echoed his sentiments.

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Annual free throw shootout crowns perennial champion

Chronister wins contest third time in four years

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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A light wind challenged the six competitors in the fourth annual AER Free Throw Shootout held Thursday outside building 5302.

But the event had its usual outcome.

Ronnie Chronister, deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, won for the third time in four years. He made 25 free throws in three minutes during his turn shooting at a basketball goal set up in the parking lot.

"I paced myself," said Chronister, who

sank 36 shots last year. "Doing that for three minutes is pretty tiring. If you try to go too fast you tire yourself out in the last minute."

As the first shooter on a sunny morning, he got into his usual rhythm and set the bar high for the five competitors who followed. "Hey, who's picking that wind up?" he quipped at one point.

Tied for second place with 24 free throws were AMCOM chief of staff Col. Skip Sherrell and Jeremy Bolton, executive officer to the executive director of the command's Integrated Materiel Management Center.

Artro Whitman, director of supply chain management at IMMC, was next with 21. He was followed by 2010 winner John Schocke, IMMC's division chief for personnel/professional development, with 18. Curt Gross, air defense branch chief in the center's Readiness Directorate, had 17.

"This is a lot of fun," Chronister told the approximately 50 spectators afterward. "And thank you all for coming out and supporting this."

The proceeds went to Army Emergency Relief, "to help raise money for a good cause," he said. "Really it's about supporting our Soldiers."

He reminded everyone that there are Soldiers and aircraft that remain in theater supporting this nation.

"This is just a small way for us to help them and pay them back when they need our assistance," Chronister said.

Norman Curry and Stephen Walls, both from the Readiness Directorate logistics assistance program, were the event's organizers. "I would say roughly about \$500" was raised, Curry said.

As the competitors and spectators left to resume their work day, Chronister smiled and had a final thought about the contest, "Excellence prevailed."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister wins the fourth annual AER Free Throw Shootout by making 25 free throws in three minutes.

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"It was nice finally to put a name to a face," she said.

The face she was referring to belonged to Andrew Neuschaefer, CPM for Norway and Germany, and an employee of USASAC EUCOM Regional Operations Directorate. "We talk on the phone quite a bit, but it was great to finally meet her," he added.

Holt was also impressed with the support USASAC provided to the event. "It really meant a lot to have USASAC leadership, people like Maj. Gen. Del Turner (commanding general, USASAC) and

Mr. (Robert) Moore (USASAC deputy to the commanding general) and all of the regional directors sitting in the room throughout the briefings and discussions, and answering questions. It is important for the customers to see, first hand, the extremely high-level of expertise and professionalism resident in the U.S. security assistance community."

For the Army, the success and the benefits of the event were mutual. "This allows us to continue to move forward toward building partnerships that will make the entire FMS process run more efficiently. Everyone took away a common understanding from the experience," Pat Hill, Director, Strategy and Plans, DASA-DEC, summarized.

Full accountability required in emergencies

Organizations must know workers' whereabouts

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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Employees are valuable assets to any organization.

And as such the Aviation and Missile Command, just as other commands on Redstone Arsenal, wants to ensure that all of its employees are safe and accounted for in times of natural and man-made emergencies and disasters.

But to do that, the command needs its employees to voluntarily provide personal contact information through three confidential personnel systems – a DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, placed in their personnel file, and the on-line Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System and Redstone Employee Locator Database.

“One of the biggest things in the last probably 10 years – since 9/11 – has been accounting for people,” Karen Bandera, director of AMCOM’s Human Resources Management (G-1), said. “We don’t always know where our people are, and that makes it difficult for us to take care of our people and their families in times of emergencies. We not only don’t know where they are at, but many times we also don’t know how to contact them. Employee accountability is definitely one of our challenges.”

Servicemembers are required to provide contact information for themselves and their families. But Department of Defense civilians cannot be forced to provide personal information. The consequences of not providing such information became a reality during the days following the April 27, 2011, devastating series of tornadoes that left destruction throughout North Alabama.

“Locally, those tornadoes devastated all of us. We were all affected,” Bandera said. “And a lot of our employees didn’t even know there was an expectation within our command to account for ourselves. I spent the week after the tornadoes in the AMCOM Operations Center trying to account for every employee. We even sent supervisors and Soldiers to people’s houses to get accountability.”

Now, a new policy from the Army Materiel Command requiring 100 percent employee accountability within 24 hours of a disaster or emergency has renewed efforts to encourage employees to provide their personal contact information. In accordance with that requirement, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers signed a personnel accountability guidance report on May 1. AMCOM

G-1 will hold employee sessions on June 7 at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium to discuss personnel accountability with its employees.

In the case of an emergency or disaster, employees who are in an affected geographic area should contact their supervisor to report their status as soon as possible.

“We have to be able to quickly account for personnel whenever a disaster occurs. We have an accountability policy, and now we need to educate the work force that these are the things you need to do to help us account for them if a disaster or crisis occurs,” said Nicole Massey, deployment and reintegration specialist for AMCOM Human Resources.

As a proactive measure, employees are asked to complete the DD Form 93, Record of Emergency Data form, which provides the names of those who should be notified if an employee is involved in an emergency. This information, which is provided to their immediate supervisor, should be updated as needed.

They are also asked to provide personal information about themselves and their families through the Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System and the Redstone Employee Locator Database.

ADPAAS provides a way for Army personnel and their families in a disaster-affected area to report their status and how they were affected by the disaster. It provides a way for commanders to assess the impact of a disaster on their employees and to provide assistance if needed. Employees can enter and update their information in the system online at <https://adpaas.army.mil/>.

The Redstone Employee Locator Database, accessed online at <https://rpl.redstone.army.mil/>, is an AMCOM system that provides immediate supervisors a way to report daily on the status of employees when there is a disaster. It allows AMCOM to assess the location of all its employees.

“These two online systems are critical for us if we are to gain 100 percent employee accountability,” Bandera said. “If we have employee information and information about their family in the system, then we can more quickly assess if the employee and/or their family members have been affected by a disaster and how we can help them.”

In the event of a disaster or emergency, employees should first contact their supervisor or the AMCOM toll free accountability line at 1-888-275-8081 or ADPAAS at 1-800-833-6622. If they have access to a computer, they should also log into the system and update their status.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Karen Bandera, director of the Aviation and Missile Command's Human Resources Management, talks with employee Nicole Massey, standing, about the ways employees can provide their contact information so that the command has full employee accountability in times of emergencies and disasters.

After the tornadoes of April 27, 2011, Bandera pulled the Employee Locator Database records of employees who hadn't called their supervisor. If those employees couldn't be reached by phone, they were sent to their homes to check on them. It took four days for AMCOM to reach 100 percent accountability of its 4,400 local employees.

“It was impossible for us to know the exact status on those employees who hadn't given us their contact information,” Bandera said. “We didn't have a way of finding out if they were hurt or if their family was hurt. We had to wait for them to contact us.”

“Employees are innately private. They want to keep their personal information to themselves. But when it comes to issues of personnel accountability, we don't care where they live or who they live with. We just want to make sure they are OK.”

All personal contact information is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. It is kept strictly confidential by AMCOM Human Resources.

In a disaster situation, if AMCOM supervisors do locate employees who have experienced loss, AMCOM's Human Resources personnel do have the resources to make sure those employees have the assistance they need to recover.

“ADPAAS allows employees to provide information for a needs assess-

ment,” Bandera said. “If there is a need, a case worker will be assigned to assist them and to monitor them to make sure they are getting the help they need.”

Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Department of Defense issued instructions to all service branches to develop disaster personnel accountability plans that would quickly account for personnel. Army determined that a system was needed that would report the whereabouts and status of Army personnel and their families. ADPAAS was soon introduced as the personnel accountability tool to meet the DoD instructions, although it went a step further by being designed to account, assess needs and assist the Army to a rapid return to recovery and stability.

ADPAAS was first used in 2008 during Hurricane Ike. The disaster proved to Army leaders that the tool can quickly collect and consolidate the status and needs for active duty, Reserve and Guard military personnel and Army civilian employees as well as their families in the disaster area. Because of ADPAAS the Army was able to assess such disaster-related needs as housing, medical, financial assistance, employment, pay and benefits, transportation, child care, counseling and general legal matters for Soldiers and federal employees in the Hurricane Ike area.

But for the system to accurately work,

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Sustainment key for Army's deployed systems

AMCOM leader urges finding efficiencies

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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The Army's drawdown will affect all of its commands and organizations along with its Soldiers and civilian employees.

But work being done at the Aviation and Missile Command's senior leadership level will hopefully prevent any serious, long-lasting effects to the Army's aviation, missile and calibration systems, and the civilian employees that support them.

In his last town hall with AMCOM's employees Thursday in Bob Jones Auditorium, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers told the work force that recent reduction-in-force drills are preparing the command for the "what ifs" of the next few years. Rogers is retiring on June 1.

Rogers said there will "probably" be a reduction-in-force for the Army's civilian work force in the fiscal 2016 or 2017 timeframe.

"How much, though, we're not sure," he said. "In the next 20 to 30 years we

will be in a sustainment mode, we will be fighting for our Army.

"As the war fight continues, aviation and missile systems are the most deployed systems in the Army. My message to you is 'Be careful where you take your cuts. Sustainment must be maintained on all this equipment and AMCOM must continue to be the provider of choice, even if it means having to take money from other areas to support sustainment of systems.'"

With 38 systems in sustainment, AMCOM's role could very likely increase as the Army cuts funds for new systems out of future budgets.

"As more cuts continue to go, we will not modernize as quickly as we'd like to," Rogers said. "We have to ensure our systems' airworthiness and materiel readiness so that Soldiers have the safest piece of equipment that we can provide."

In considering budget cuts, the Army should consider, first, the war fighter and the effect cuts will have on their ability to do their job. If it doesn't affect the war fighter, then that's an area that can be cut, Rogers said.

AMCOM leadership has been involved in initiatives – such as Task Force Redstone and the AMCOM Staff Study

– to find ways to gain synergies and integration that would reduce costs and gain efficiencies without losing effectiveness. Centralizing business office functions is one area being considered.

"We are trying to get ahead of the 'what if' thing," AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister said. "Can I find some efficiencies? We are going to continue to do these kinds of things because we are trying to work this where we can manage this."

Talk of budget cuts can have negative impacts on the work environment. But Rogers encouraged employees to remember they are each important to the AMCOM mission and that they should get involved in finding efficiencies.

"Keep the faith and keep trying to improve your foxhole," he said. "Make us so effective and efficient that they can't live without us. We are already light years ahead, but we can't sit on our laurels."

The changes that have already occurred are part of AMCOM's transformation, which involves more than 30 teams working for changes that will incorporate both efficiencies and effectiveness. Rogers hopes the transformation will

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, speaks about the importance of sustaining aviation and missile systems even in an austere budget environment during the AMCOM town hall Thursday.

Accountability

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Massey said employees need to include all current contact information for their family and update it regularly.

“It’s important to put all your family information in the system, including a spouse, family members or others who may live with you and even pets,” Massey said. “If an employee with a family has only put their own information in the system, then if a rescue helicopter comes in to pick them up, they may have only one seat allocated for them on the helicopter and then they have to make the hard decision of who in their family is going to get that seat.

“If the Department of the Army completely understands who we need to provide assistance to, then we can better help the employee and their family. It’s a very useful system if we utilize it as the Army and the Department of Defense intended for us to use it.”

Besides disaster situations, the Redstone Employee Locator Database is also used in emergency situations where an employee has been hurt.

“If you pass out at work and are

rushed to the hospital, you want your family to know right away so they can come to you,” Bandera said. “If we have your contact information, your supervisor can quickly reach out to your family members and let them know what is going on.

“If something happened to me, I would like to know someone’s going to call my family. This is really about taking care of your family. We want to do what’s necessary to take care of employees and their families in times of disaster.”

A similar situation can also arise during a disaster if the family is geographically separated. Supervisors can use an employee’s contact information to notify family members in other parts of the country or world.

Some employees don’t take the time to provide their contact information because they don’t think they will be involved in a disaster.

“April 27th convinced me that it could happen to me,” Massey said. “Hopefully, it has convinced all of our employees that disaster can happen to any of us.”

Editor’s note: Questions on personnel accountability can be directed to Massey at 313-0365 or nicole.massey2@us.army.mil or Cindy Gordon at 313-0369 or cindy.gordon@us.army.mil.

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prevent AMCOM from being forced to lose employees, such as the 272 positions that will be cut by fiscal 2013. Those positions were cut through retirements, attrition and reassignment.

“I’d like to say it’s going to be over after that. But I don’t think it is,” Rogers said. “We are streamlining different things to reduce our costs so we can better situate ourselves for any more cuts coming our way.”

Defense spending trends show there are always substantial cuts – up to 70 percent of spending highs – following a war or conflict involving the U.S. In peacetime, troop numbers and spending levels always go down. But, Rogers said, even in peacetime AMCOM must sustain its systems.

AMCOM must give the Army Materiel Command “real numbers” as to how aviation, missile and test systems will be affected if there are deep funding cuts.

“Everything we adjust or change affects something else,” he said. “Changes affect everyone in this room. That’s why we have to be synergistic. And we have to look at what ‘right’ looks like. We have to ensure we can support the mission and find efficiencies.”

Even with budget cuts, AMCOM will still focus on its seven priorities: Support

the Soldier throughout the ARFORGEN cycle; Enable, support and improve weapon systems life cycle success; Recruit, develop and sustain a top performing war fighter; Integrate security assistance into the materiel enterprise; Install a culture of efficiency without sacrificing effectiveness; Leverage materiel enterprise relationships and collaborations to derive measurable benefit to the Soldier; and Assure technology protection.

So far in fiscal 2012, AMCOM transformation has resulted in \$1 billion in reductions in non-labor costs, which make up 84 percent of the \$6 billion AMCOM budget. There has been a 25 percent reduction in reset cost by missile defense systems in fiscal 2012 and a 10 percent reduction in the Test Measurement and Diagnostic Activity’s operating costs between 2011 and 2016.

There have also been reductions in inventory, increases in foreign military sales repairs, improvements in the supply chain and reductions in spares processing. In addition, on-hand inventory has been reduced by \$1.4 billion and back-orders reduced by \$633.8 million with AMCOM returned \$87.2 million to the Army due to reductions in cost, redundancy and turnaround time.

“If you’ve got ideas, we want you to be part of the solution,” Rogers said. “If you’ve got ideas that might improve things, bring them to us. That’s pretty powerful.”

Army Contracting Command salutes annual winners

By ACC Public Affairs

The Army Contracting Command will recognize outstanding individual and team performance at its third annual contracting awards ceremony today with Army Contracting Command-Redstone contracting center honored in seven categories.

"It's an honor for me to recognize the recipients for their hard work and dedication," ACC executive director Carol Lowman said. "These professionals exemplify the best of this command and are the type of individuals others can aspire to become."

The awards are presented for excellence in acquisition, contracting and small business. Selectees will be recognized for their outstanding achievements between Oct. 1, 2010 and Sept. 30, 2011. An awards panel of representatives from ACC, the Expeditionary Contracting Command, the Mission and Installation Contracting Com-



mand and the major ACC contracting centers reviewed more than 200 nominations before making the selections.

Teams and personnel from the ACC-Redstone will be honored in the following categories:

- ACC Excellence in Acquisition Leadership-Major Weapon Systems: Joan Detchemendy
- Outstanding Intern of the Year Award-MWS: Adam Kimbro
- ACC Innovation Award-MWS: Apache Sensors Division-Performance Based Logistics Team
- ACC Innovation Award-Other than a Major Weapon Systems: Expedited Professional & Engineering Support Services and Strategic Services Team
- Outstanding Active Duty Military Officer Award-MWS: Lt. Col. Jeffrey Caldwell
- Acquisition Change Advocate Awards-OTHMWS: Carole Hubbard
- Small Business Champion: Bryan Sasaki

Quick response to customer policy put to test for Guard

Indiana National Guard gets new system fast

The U.S. Army's Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center's Prototype Integration Facility recently put to the test its reputation as a one-stop shop for rapid response and providing integrated hardware solutions to the war fighter.

In less than five hours on the morning of April 3, PIF employees installed the Fast Rope Insertion and Extraction System, or FRIES, on a Black Hawk utility helicopter for the Indiana National Guard.

Performed as a fly-in fly-out modification, PIF employees installed the system in less than one business day, which enabled the unit to maximize operational availability.

The UH-60 Black Hawk aircraft arrived in the morning and was back in the air, headed for home, shortly after lunchtime, limiting the amount of time the aircraft was out of operational status.

Since its inception in 2002, AMRDEC's



Courtesy photo

PIF employees John Owensby, left, and Brandon Sharp show Capt. Robert Jendzio the newly installed Fast Rope Insertion and Extraction System on the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. Jendzio is with the Indiana National Guard.

PIF has met thousands of urgent customer needs. The facility takes great pride in the expediency of its work and its capabilities to assist the war fighter through rapid response efforts. (AMRDEC Release)

Health center introduces patient advocate

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Faleshia Hill is a listening ear, a one-stop shop for information, and the voice for Fox Army Health Center beneficiaries.

Hill was named patient advocate for Fox Army Health Center in February, a role in which she serves as the liaison between Fox patients and the health center.

"This is an important position within the health center, because as an advocate, she is an important voice for the patient," said Col. Elizabeth Johnson, commander of Fox Army Health Center. "She is a front line go to person if they have an issue or a concern."

"The patient knows that they have one person to go to," Hill said of the importance of her job. "Sometimes in a facility, they don't know where to go or how to address issues, problems or get those questions answered. That one person, that advocate for them, is their voice."

Originally from Birmingham, Hill joined Fox staff in 2008, where she previously served as medical support assistant and medical records technician, allowing her to gain familiarity with the facility, its staff, policies and procedures, which made her the right fit for the job when the position became available. With a passion for helping people, Hill is extremely motivated to do her new job well and make sure the patient's voice is heard.

"I love helping people, I've always been like that," she said. "I've always wanted to bring a positive impact. With this position I am out front and I am the go-to person, so that excites me."

Patients that have kudos or concerns, questions or suggestions, can stop by Hill's office on Fox Army Health Center's first floor, past the elevators in room 1J-27A, call 876-8621, or email faleshia.hill@amedd.army.mil. Hill takes the conversations she has with beneficiaries to the next level, passing on information to the command and leadership as needed. Patient Advisory Council meetings also provide beneficiaries with the

opportunity to voice their concerns and suggestions once a month in an open forum with Fox staff. Beneficiaries interested in serving on the council should contact Hill.

"No matter how big or how small the problem is, I'm here to resolve it and get them their answer in a timely manner," she said. "It can be anything that involves something we're responsible for, whether it be outside or inside. I will be the voice for them to the command team to get the problem resolved. We will get back to them no matter what."

Patients also have the opportunity to let their voice be heard through the Army Provider Level Satisfaction Survey, a questionnaire that goes out randomly to patients in the mail after an appointment at Fox. APLSS, is a comprehensive survey program that is administered by the Office of the Army Surgeon General. The survey focuses on issues ranging from how the provider communicated with the patient during the visit to questions about access to care, cleanliness of the facility, and courtesy of the staff.

There are three different ways a patient can fill out the questionnaire. The first is a short form survey of nine questions that uses a toll free number and a voice response system. The second method is utilizing a two-page written survey. The third method is an Internet based survey where the patients can log in with a username and a password, which is provided for the patient in the letter sent to them about the survey. The confidential results of this survey are processed and trends are noted that provide immediate feedback for the leadership of the Fox Army Health Center as well as the Office of the Army Surgeon General.

APLSS surveys are important to Fox, according to Johnson and Hill, because comments and concerns are always a top priority for every member of the Fox team as they continuously strive to provide the best healthcare for our patients. Patients are strongly encouraged to complete them. Fox Army Health Center continuously maintains an im-



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Faleshia Hill serves as the patient advocate at Fox Army Health Center, the liaison between Fox patients and the health center.

pressive 93 percent overall patient satisfaction, and is currently among the top 5 percent of all Army medical treatment facilities. Each survey returned is worth as much as \$500 if 96 percent overall patient satisfaction is reached, earnings which go right back into Fox to better serve the beneficiaries. One example of past surveys, comment cards

and conversations with the patient advocate making a difference at Fox is the upcoming installation of a drinking fountain in the pharmacy area, to allow those patients needing to take their medication a source for water.

Blue comment cards are also available for patients to comment on their experience through the Fox facility.

A&M advocate

Courtesy photo

Eugene Edwards, Aviation and Missile Research Development Engineering Center's University Research and Outreach Engineer, was honored as an Alabama A&M University Advocate Award finalist during its recent Black Tie Scholarship Gala. Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, AMCOM commanding general, gave the keynote address. Edwards, an alumnus of AAMU, was recognized for his continued support to the university's efforts to enhance student development as they enter the global workforce.



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Westphal presents 50th Pace Award to auditor, G-6 officer

By J.D. LEIPOLD

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – For the 50th consecutive year, the Pace Award was presented to an Army officer and Army civilian, for their outstanding performance in significant staff assignments that benefit the Army by providing substantial financial savings or technological or military development.

It was Lt. Col. Jeffrey Gribshaw of the office of the Chief Information Officer/G-6, at Fort Meade, Md., and Denise Fultz, an auditor with the Human Capital Audits Division, Army Audit Agency, at Fort Knox, Ky., who were presented double pen-sets and plaques by Undersecretary of the Army Joseph Westphal.

Army Auditor General Randall Exley accepted the award on behalf of Fultz who recently birthed her first child and was unable to attend.

At the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes, May 10, Westphal praised the awardees for their creative genius and the financial savings generated by their work. He said their contributions resulted in the increased flexibility that comes from a leaner organization.

"These two awardees asked difficult questions and sought innovation," Westphal said. "Ms. Fultz rooted out financial waste through her significant contributions in auditing the Army Reserve life insurance program."

Fultz's research, detailed summaries, and subject matter expertise, helped the Army avoid more than \$150 million in unnecessary life insurance and health care premiums for Reservists who had



Arnews photo

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Gribshaw, a staff officer with G-6, receives a 2011 Pace Award from Undersecretary of the Army Joseph Westphal at a Pentagon ceremony May 10. Denise Fultz, an auditor at Fort Knox, Ky., also won a Pace Award but was unable to attend.

missed at least nine drill assemblies.

"Lt. Col. Gribshaw significantly reduced redundancy in the way we transmit our digital data and through his work in executing the Army data center consolidation initiative," Westphal said.

Gribshaw was cited with being instrumental in setting the stage for the Army's successful efforts to address today's resource constraints while sustaining essential, high-quality information technology services to Soldiers and civilians worldwide.

The Pace Award is named for Frank Pace Jr., who served as secretary of the Army from April 12, 1950, through Jan. 20, 1953. The award has been presented annually to an Army officer under the grade of colonel and a civilian, GS-14 equivalent or below.

Missile Defense Agency welcomes new historian

MDA Public Affairs release

Missile Defense Agency historian Dr. John Dabrowski says he is excited about capturing and documenting the agency's missile defense efforts.

MDA in turn welcomes him to the agency, which he joined in March. He brings more than 30 years of civilian and military experience to the position.

Dabrowski started out his career as a logistician in a federal government intern program with the Army Materiel Command. However, an opportunity came available to him to enter into his career field of choice – history. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from East Stroudsburg University, Pa., and a doctorate from Kent State University, Ohio. He is also a graduate of both the Air Force and Army War Colleges.

Dabrowski recently retired from the Army Reserve for the third time. He was asked to return to active duty twice to serve this nation. His final tour of duty was as the historian/deputy commander for Reserve affairs at the Army Center of Military History, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. While serving in this position, then Col. Dabrowski was deployed to Afghanistan to assist in the collection efforts of the Army Military History Detachments in support of a history project ordered by the commander of the International Security and Assistance Force, Gen. David Patraeus,

and in conjunction with the Army Combat Studies Institute, to fully document the efforts of U.S. Forces Afghanistan. Col. Dabrowski had to often enter actual combat theater to capture and document the specifics of the U.S. forces operations. These historical monographs will be similar in scope to the Vietnam historical monograph, *Seven Firefights in Vietnam*.

He is also an author. His latest book, titled "To Sup With the Devil," was published in 2011. "To Sup With the Devil" is an alternate history novel dealing with the ending of World War II in Europe. The book gives a fictional perspective to the what-if questions relating to WWII. What if Adolf Hitler's attempt to split the Allies had been successful? What if Franklin Roosevelt had chosen someone other than Harry Truman as his running mate in 1944? What if Hitler had been captured and brought to trial? What if, after defeating Nazi Germany in April 1945, America had turned its military might and political will to the task of defeating Stalin and stopping the spread of Communism? Students of World War II and the Cold War will enjoy the twist and turns of this fictional yet factual novel.

"The MDA Historian office is open for business," Dabrowski said. He invites the MDA work force to contact him or his staff for any questions or assistance. He can be reached at 450-5488 or john.dabrowski@mda.mil.



Dr. John Dabrowski became MDA's historian in March.

Courtesy photo

Junior Achievement volunteer finds work fulfilling

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

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The looks on the second-grade students' faces – their smiles and the excitement bubbling up in their eyes – as they received their Junior Achievement certificates Friday was reward enough for volunteer instructor Corey Horn.

A logistics management specialist with the Army Materiel Command, Horn is happy that he put his name down to be a volunteer instructor for his son Rylee's class at Goldsmith-Schiffman Elementary School all those months ago. He volunteered for the Junior Achievement position at the beginning of the school year, but did not have to go through training until February.

He and another parent, adult ministries pastor Darin Miller, had both volunteered to teach the class. They went through the training and then coordinated with the classroom teacher, Dixie Seeley, about when and how to offer the program. They decided to divide the course up into one hour blocks of instruction on five consecutive Fridays, with Horn alternating teaching weeks with Darin and his wife Leah. They started after Spring Break and ended with an awards ceremony Friday.

"I would do it again," Horn said. "It's a great program. The teacher has a strict curriculum and this reinforces the building blocks with professionals able to come into the classroom and relate what the kids are learning to what it's like to be working."

During the course, the students were told that they would all be employees of a pretend donut shop. They learned about assembly line production and assembled pretend doughnuts made out of paper and stickers.



Photo by Beth Skarupa

Corey Horn speaks to students at Goldsmith-Schiffman Elementary School as a volunteer instructor for the Junior Achievement program in his son's second-grade classroom Friday.

Next, there was a robbery at the donut shop and they had to call the police to investigate. Some of the students were chosen to be policemen, firemen, a mayor, a librarian, and a city worker. Then the students were asked how they thought those types of workers should be paid.

"We gave everyone \$5 in play money, but then it was tax time. We explained that it didn't make sense for each of us to have our own private police officer, so we needed \$2 back from each of them to pay the government workers," Horn said. "Of course, some only wanted to give back \$1. We all laughed about it, but then we talked about what happens when adults don't

pay their taxes and how they can get caught and have to pay fines."

Horn said being a government employee helped him with the instruction. The following weeks included teaching the students about starting a new business as well as the importance of voting. When the students were learning about counting money in their regular class, Horn was able to relate it to what he does as a logistician and what the students will have to do in the future.

"I love it. I love teaching little kids. They are so impressionable and they hang on every word," he said.

"Mr. Horn has been great and he's done a great job with them," Seeley said. "The kids always love it – one, because they get to role play, and two, because I think the lessons are more embedded when they do this. They were learning about government jobs and taxes. When they actually had to give money away after they each had just been given \$5 in play money, I think they really understood it."

The students also enjoyed the treats that the volunteers brought and related to the lessons, especially the real donuts they received once they learned about assembly lines and the chocolate bars that they were able to buy with their play money.

"Treats are always a great incentive," Seeley said, laughing. "Our volunteers do a great job. They come from different backgrounds and they're able to put their own personal spin on it. They introduce themselves to the kids and tell them about their background and bring it into the lessons being taught."

Volunteering is nothing new for Horn. He is a Cub Scout den leader for his son and a preschool teacher for his 4-year-old daughter Emery's class at church. His wife Melanie, who is from Germany, is the room mom for Seeley's class and volunteers for the school library and with the nurse as well. She also volunteers with her husband for Cub Scouts.

"I think my wife grew up volunteering, especially with her church. I became familiar with volunteering when I was in junior high," he said. "Now that I'm more aware about volunteering, I'm very involved, especially with Cove Church."

The students all received certificates of achievement for completing the Junior Achievement course Friday. Horn handed them out one by one, calling each child's name in a mock graduation ceremony. He told the students to show the certificates to their parents at home and to tell them what they learned. Seeley took a photo of Horn with all the students gathered around him, then gave him a stack of thank you notes the children had written.

"Thank you, guys. This is very special," Horn said. "I hope to see you if I get to do this again next year."

Horn grew up in Savannah, Ga., and met his wife in Germany. He was in the Navy for eight years before becoming a civil servant. Although he and his family just moved here from Fort Belvoir, Va., in July 2010 as part of the Base Realignment and Closure Act, they quickly became part of the community thanks to all their volunteer work.



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Standout workers

A member from each project office in the Program Executive Office for Aviation and PEO for Missiles and Space was recognized May 7-8 by Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, principal military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology and director of the Army Acquisition Corps, during a visit to Redstone Arsenal. Phillips lauded them for their exceptional efforts and dedication to the management of each program and for going above and beyond their areas of responsibilities. From left are Phil Phillips from PM Fixed Wing, Lynn Tompkins from PM Aviation Systems, Lesa Valleroy from PM Apache, and Phillips. Other honorees from PEO Aviation included Snuff Thompson from PM Cargo, Kevin Bowman from PM Utility, Maj. Jeff McCoy from PM Armed Scout Helicopters, Aaron Kelly from PM Non-Standard Rotary Wing Aircraft, and Tracy Hedrick from PM Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

Photo by Jason Cutshaw, SMDC/ARSTRAT

Preparing to launch

Members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Future Warfare Center unload a Norwegian Advanced Surface to Air Missile System prior to its upcoming qualification tests May 16-17. During the tests, SMDC will facilitate system and sensor integration, and technical support for integrated air defense system test support. The FWC's Battle Laboratory is also coordinating test support on Redstone Arsenal for the NASAMS weapon system. NASAMS is a medium to long range air defense system. NASAMS was the first surface-based application for the AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to Air Missile, and the first surface-to-air missile system in the western world with active radar guidance.



Win or Lose

AMC golf tournament contributes to disaster relief

Command marks
50th anniversary

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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A golf tournament May 4 at the Links celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Army Materiel Command and raised \$3,000 toward disaster relief.

The 132 participants, representing 33 four-member teams, competed on a "perfect day, great day," according to organizer Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Timothy Sowers, AMC deputy command chaplain.

"It (the proceeds) goes to the Chaplains Fund Operation Helping Hands which is disaster relief," he said.

With the tragic tornadoes of April 27, 2011, it was appropriate to make this contribution as the community goes forward, according to Sowers.

AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody golfed with her husband, Craig Brotchie. Other competitors included retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Til-

ley, retired Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and the AMC commander's executive deputy John Nerger.

"People really enjoyed it," Sowers said of this first-time tournament. "With the commander's approval, I think folks would enjoy that to be an annual event."

The format was best ball, four-man scramble. There were first, second and third places for three different flights.

The overall winning team and first-place finisher in the First Flight, shooting a 54, included Clay Peacock, Rusty Gates, Matt Hunter and Ryan Pickett.

Second Flight's first-place winner included Col. Joseph Corleto, Maj. Craig Weisser, Mark Larrabee and Jason Mc-Colgan.

Third Flight's top team included Cathy Buttner, Alan Cobb, Lois Severs and Ireathea Hill.

"Everyone came out in full support of the recognition of the 50th anniversary of AMC and everyone had a great time," Sowers said. "It was a very positive experience."



Courtesy photo

Chaplain (Col.) Michael Coffey, outgoing AMC chaplain, receives an award from the commander, Gen. Ann Dunwoody, at the golf tournament. Coffey has left for the Pentagon to become chief of staff for the Army's chief of chaplains. His successor, Chaplain (Col.) Scott Carson, has arrived from Grafenwoehr, Germany.

Young golfer takes a swing at the LPGA

By **BETH SKARUPA**
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Sometimes you just have to go for it. When Karlin Beck graduated from Auburn with a degree in accounting last May, she decided to become a professional – not an accountant, a golf pro.

"My parents were on board with the decision. They thought if I didn't try it, I might regret it later. I knew I might regret not trying it more than if I tried and failed," the Montgomery native said.

For her parents, Steve and Kathy, supporting her and her golfing just made sense. They have encouraged her interest in golf from the time she was 12 years old, even though neither of them play. Steve, an Air Force retiree, works for the Department of Defense at Gunter Air

Force Base and Kathy is a nurse anesthetist in Montgomery.

It was Beck's maternal grandfather, Bob Avinger, who fostered her love for the game.

"He took me out on the golf course for the first time. Actually, he took me and my sister (Kinley) golfing but she didn't like it. She preferred driving the golf cart," Beck said. "My grandfather definitely was an influence on me. He got me started and he was my first coach. He did as much as he could and then he had me take lessons."

Although she enjoyed golfing with her grandfather, as well as her lessons at Arrowhead Country Club in Montgomery, her involvement in school and extracurricular activities prevented her from making as much time for golf as she would have liked.

However, Beck did find time to be on the golf team at Trinity Presbyterian School beginning in seventh-grade. She played on Trinity's team until she graduated as a senior in 2006. She also began taking lessons from a swing coach, Michele Drinkard in Birmingham (then head coach of the women's golf team at Birmingham Southern College, now head coach at the University of Mississippi), during her high school years.

"She got me thinking about trying to play golf on a college team," she said.

Beck attended BSC for one year on an athletic scholarship with the golf team. But BSC went from Division 1 to Division 3 after her first year there, so she transferred to Auburn.

Although she was a member of the golf team at Auburn, with Kim Evans as head coach, Beck once again found it difficult to make as much time as necessary for golf while completing her degree.

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Courtesy photo

Karlin Beck is a rookie golf pro on the LPGA tour this year.



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WYLE Coyotes batter Spaceballs for division lead

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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Brett Ackley set the tone on the first pitch in this battle of unbeaten teams in the NASA/Army softball league.

Ackley, leadoff batter for the WYLE Coyotes, ripped a double on the ground to left field. He came around to score on Jeremiah Kolb's single during the Coyotes' five-run first inning.

The Coyotes went on to beat the Spaceballs 19-10 on May 9 at the NASA softball field. The Coyotes improved to 2-0 atop Division B while the Spaceballs fell to 3-1.

"We've got a great team this year," Coyotes player/coach Philip Brown said. "We've got batting all the way up and down (the lineup) and these guys can field."

Ackley went 3-for-4 with a triple, two doubles, three RBIs and three runs scored. Kolb went 3-for-4 with four RBIs and two runs scored.

Jay Hollenbeck, whose wife Reagan plays first base, went 4-for-4 with a two-run homer. Chris Lesley had two hits and scored two runs.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WYLE Coyotes right fielder Chris Lesley bats May 9 against the Spaceballs. He finished with two hits and scored two runs.

"They just hit the ball better than we did," Spaceballs shortstop Tony Fiorucci said. "They were finding every hole."

Fiorucci went 3-for-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored.

NASA/Army softball league standings

Here are the standings entering this week's games:

Division A	Wins	Losses	Ties
Got the Runs	4	0	0
Kitchen Sinks	3	1	0
Hit Circus	2	2	0
Expendables	2	2	0
Rotorheads Too	1	3	0
RTC	0	4	0

Division B	Wins	Losses	Ties
WYLE Coyotes	2	0	0
Spaceballs	3	1	0
TBE Integrators	2	1	0
Fireballs	1	2	1
Redstone's Step-Children	1	2	0
A-Team	0	1	1
Space Cowboys	0	2	0

Division C	Wins	Losses	Ties
Hard Noc Hitters	3	0	0
Put em in Boots	2	0	0
Renegades	3	1	0
Screw Balls	2	1	0
ESTS Jacobite Rising	2	2	0
Misfits	2	2	0
ET Throw Home	1	1	0
Rotorheads	1	1	0
EVengers	1	3	0
Guns 'N Hoses	0	2	1
Bit Players	0	2	1
Starz	0	2	0

Baseball player on his way to living the dream

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

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Corey Williams is on his way to living his childhood dream – playing baseball professionally. He was drafted in the third round last June by the Minnesota Twins organization. Now he is the relief pitcher for their minor league team, the Beloit Snappers in Wisconsin.

“Growing up I always played baseball and ever since I can remember I dreamed of doing it professionally. Mom and Dad were always very supportive and they helped me get the best instruction,” Williams said in a telephone interview last week.

His parents, Mike Williams, a technical manager here at NASA, and Kelly, an engineer with the Army Corps of Engineers, are happy he is doing what he always wanted to do.

Mike played baseball in Little League and went up to Legion ball when he was 16 years old. He was a pitcher, like his son, but he said that Corey is a lot better than he was. Mike’s best was 15 strikeouts.

“He’s left-handed which made it hard for me to teach him. But we were always playing and throwing the ball. By the time he was 1 month old I would roll the ball to him on the floor,” Mike said. “He always had a good arm and loved baseball. I even bought him a right-handed glove and took it to the hospital with me when he was born. When he was old enough to use it he would pull it off and throw with his other hand.”

Mike was coach of his son’s baseball teams with the Monrovia Parks and Recreation Association up until Corey was in 10 and under, then he was assistant coach for 11 and 12U. Corey alternated between playing ball with MPRA when he was 9 and 11, and playing on a travel ball team when he was 10 and 12.

“My dad was right there with me. He helped me learn to pitch at an early age, the mechanics of it. He’s been there for me each and every step of the way,” Corey said.

Corey played travel ball at ages 13-16, as well as four years of varsity at Madison Academy under the guidance of coach Mike Good. His travel teams included the North Alabama Vipers, the Rocket City Stingers, and the Bayside Yankees. He graduated high school in 2008 and played that summer. He ended up getting several offers of athletic scholarships to college, but ultimately chose Vanderbilt University.

Corey was a relief pitcher at Vanderbilt, but an injury during a game on Easter weekend his sophomore year kept him out for the rest of the season. He was released to play again at the beginning of his junior year.

“He was very fortunate. His kneecap took the brunt of the line drive and it shattered into two pieces. But there was no soft tissue damage, that’s what helped,” Mike said. “He came out of the bullpen and played relief again that next year.”

Despite being injured on the play, Mike noted that Corey managed to throw the ball to first and get an out. The play can still be found on YouTube by searching for “Corey Williams.”

Vanderbilt went to the College Bowl Series for the first time ever in June 2011, the season when Corey got back to playing. Corey pitched as relief pitcher every game in the series and earned the first win for Vanderbilt on their first appearance. Earlier that same month he had been drafted by the Minnesota Twins.

Back when Corey played with MPRA, one of his teams was the Minnesota Twins. Mike still has a photo of Corey dressed in his Twins uniform. Corey has been a Twins fan since he was young because he and his parents and younger sister Nikki often visited his mother’s relatives in Minnesota.

“I was pretty excited when I was drafted. I had grown up watching Twins games and have always been a fan. I expected to be drafted, but not in the third round. It was a cool experience,” Corey said.

When Corey was drafted he was in his junior year at Vanderbilt. He is majoring in human and organizational development with an emphasis in business management and plans to complete his studies in the offseason.

“My goal was to get him to play ball in college. Going professional is just icing on the cake. He ended up going to a great school. It’s more than I ever expected,” Mike said.

He noted that there are over 2,000 college baseball teams in this country and only 754 spots on the major league roster.

“Look at the odds of playing at the major league level. And there are players from the Dominican Republic and South America – that’s a real variable. The odds are slim and it’s an uphill battle,” he said.

Mike has attended many of Corey’s games through the years, but was not able to see him play as much once he was traveling to far away games with Vanderbilt and now that he is playing for the Snappers. Mike plans to visit Corey next week in Wisconsin and see him play again.

Corey said that his favorite part of being in the league is just knowing that he gets to play baseball every day and be around guys who have the same dream he does – to be professional baseball players.

“What’s most challenging is that the travel is kind of tough. We play for a month and a half with no



Courtesy photo

Corey Williams, drafted by the Minnesota Twins, is relief pitcher for the Beloit Snappers. His father, Mike Williams, is a technical manager here at NASA and his mother, Kelly, works for the Army Corps of Engineers.

off days. So all the travel is challenging and also being mentally prepared every day to give it your all,” Corey said.

Mike advises parents who want to teach their children to play baseball to know that they cannot make their kids play, they have to want to do it.

“Teach them to like and really love the game because it takes so much time at the college level. They have to really love what they do,” he said. “When they’re young, make it fun.”

“Just don’t take it for granted,” Corey said, offering his advice to young baseball players. “If you love the game and you play it the right way and you work hard every day, you’ll be successful.”

Young players get into swing at batting cages

The new batting cages are a big hit with Redstone’s youth baseball teams.

Two batting cages were completed in early May at the intersection of Skinner and Goss roads, next to the baseball fields on Goss. They were funded through the Garrison, and they have lights.

There’s also a parking area where people can park to use the new cages.

“The feedback is positive,” Mike Gates, sports and fitness director for Child Youth and School Services, said.

The cages are always open for people to pitch to their players on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Redstone has three T-ball teams for ages 4-6, two coach-pitch teams for 7-8 and two minor league teams for 9-12.

The Arsenal’s little league baseball teams play from April through June with the Huntsville city teams. Games are played with the City of Huntsville Recreation Services at the CYSS sports complex on Goss and at the city’s sports facilities.

Golfer

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"I didn't really have a star college career," she said. "But once I decided I wanted to play professionally, everything changed. It changed once I was able to totally focus on golf and not worry about anything else."

Although she claims that her college career was not stellar, her bio on the LPGA website notes that she enjoyed a successful amateur career, winning the 2007 Women's Alabama Golf Association Stroke Play Championship and was a finalist at the 2010 WAGA State Amateur Championship. It also states that she posted a career best tie for 10th finish at the Auburn Invitational.

Beck said she first thought seriously about turning professional when she tried qualifying for a LPGA tournament in Prattville in September 2010. Although she didn't make it into the tournament, it made her realize that going pro was an option.

"It was like a light bulb. ... I thought, I'm enjoying this and I actually could do this for a living. I'm not that far off," she said.

In May 2011 she turned professional and tied for fourth at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament, where she earned Priority List Category 11 for the 2012 LPGA season. She played on the Symetra Tour in the summer of 2011 where she notched a career best T16th finish at the Tate & Lyle Players Championship in Decatur, Ill.

"What's my biggest accomplishment? Qualifying for the LPGA Tour on my first attempt. It happened so fast. In less than a year I was playing professionally. To make it to the LPGA on my first try to Q school is a good feeling," she said.

One of the most challenging aspects of being a golf pro has been the travel.

So far this year, Beck has traveled to Mobile, Australia, New Zealand, Arizona, California, and Hawaii on the LPGA tour. Unfortunately, she did not have time to see much more than her hotel room and the golf course at each destination.

"I think the travel has been difficult. When I was on the Symetra Tour, I was able to drive to all the tournaments," she said. "It's also challenging being a rookie and learning the ropes. Everybody has been great and helpful, but you can make mistakes with the hotels and the practices. There's a learning curve because some of the girls have been on the tour a long time."

Golf takes up most of her time now. She practices practically every day and, depending on what she is working on, she spends a full day practicing. When she's not golfing, she said she just takes time off and doesn't do much. Then she is ready for the next day.

"My goal is to play well right now and get into more tournaments," she said.

She also is trying to follow her parents' advice to just have fun and enjoy it, because her rookie year has been stressful. She is looking forward to the LPGA tournament in Prattville this September because her parents plan to be there to cheer her on.

"My favorite part of being in the LPGA is interacting with the fans. We have a lot of great fans out there and I enjoy meeting new people every day," she said.

Her advice to young golfers includes getting as much experience as possible by playing in junior tournaments and working their way up, as well as playing as much as possible to see if it is really something they want to do.

"When you play professionally, you really have to love golf because you do it all the time. It's not just something you do on the side," she said.

Wounded warrior gets hero's homecoming

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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MADISON – They didn't know him personally, but they knew of his sacrifice, which was enough.

Droves of children and adults alike came out to County Line Road in Madison Thursday morning, American flags in hand and patriotism overflowing from their hearts, to show support and welcome home Sgt. Colin Erwin, who was wounded in Afghanistan.

"We're very thankful that God has given us our country and the freedoms we enjoy, and we also know that there's a heavy cost for that. We all can't fight, but we want to support those that do," said John Roebke, pastor of Lamb of God Lutheran Church on County Line Road, who showed his support side by side with 3- and 4-year-olds from the church's preschool, Little Lambs Learning Center.

Led by the Patriot Guard, police and fire departments, Erwin, a member of the 203rd MP Army National Guard who deployed to Afghanistan as a contrac-

tor, arrived by limousine, extending one arm out the sunroof to wave to those that came out to greet him, which included students from Heritage Elementary.

"We want to show them that God loves the Soldier," Roebke said of the importance of bringing out the church's preschool students. "He's probably got a lot of confusion that he's going through right now, a lot of pain and wondering if it was worth it. This is our way to show him, 'Yes we love you. God will help you get through this tough time in your life. Your sacrifice wasn't for nothing.'"

Amidst the banners, flags and excited children stood the familiar uniform of a Soldier, Sgt. Albert Flores, who quietly watched as the children waved their red, white and blue and chanted, "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!"

"Any of us who have been deployed know that it could've been any one of us," said Flores, who returned from a deployment to Iraq in 2009. "If people are going to be out on the road supporting the Soldier, I thought it would be nice to be out here and show my support. It's nice to see the kids out here, excited about someone coming home. It's encouraging."



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Preschoolers from the Little Lambs Learning Center on County Line Road in Madison react as they spot the line of police cars and Patriot Guard riders escorting Sgt. Colin Erwin.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Heritage Elementary students wait and watch for Sgt. Colin Erwin's motorcade to come into sight.

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Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Sgt. Colin Erwin, with the Army National Guard who was injured in Afghanistan where he was serving as a contractor, gets a warm welcome home from Heritage Elementary students on County Line Road in Madison.

Army maps path for civilian education

Pay Band Equivalent		Pay Band Equivalent		Pay Band Equivalent	
GS-5/7/9	GS-11	GS-12	GS-13	GS-14	GS-15
NAF 1/2/3		NAF 4		NAF 5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civilian Education System (CES) is the underpinning of all leader development programs - Substantial policy changes effective FY12 - Increase Mobile Education Teams - Aligned with DOD Competencies - Must meet intent of National Defense Authorization Act - Must report to Congress 				Defense Senior Leader Development Program (DSLDP)	
				Senior Service College	
				Continuing Education for Senior Leaders (CESL)	
				Advanced Course (AC) – DL & Resident	
				DOD Executive Leadership Prgm (DELDP)	
				Manager Development Course (MDC) – DL	
				Intermediate Course (IC) – DL & Resident	
				DOD Civilian Emerging Leader Program	
				Basic Course (BC) – DL & Resident	
				Supervisor Development Course (SDC) – DL	
				Action Officer Development Course (AODC) – DL	
				Foundation Course (FC) – DL For ALL new Army civilians	
Communities of Practice Available at Each Level					

The Civilian Education System is a progressive and sequential leader development program that provides enhanced educational opportunities for Army civilians throughout their careers.

CES is not the Defense Acquisition University nor is it under the guidance of the Defense Acquisition Workforce

Improvement Act certification process. CES is provided and managed by the Army Management Staff College.

CES provides eight levels of civilian development courses which are applicable to respective civilian grade levels. In accompanying graphic, the courses are laid out with respect to the one's career level.

Army Materiel Command brings last MRAP home

AMC Public Affairs staff report

FORT BELVOIR, Va. – The last Army Mine Resistant Ambush Protected, or MRAP, from Iraq arrived at the Port of Beaumont, Texas, May 6.

Much media attention focused on the MRAP when it crossed from Iraq into Kuwait Dec. 18, 2011.

Once the vehicle crossed into Kuwait, it fell under the control of AMC's Responsible Reset Task Force, charged with the retrograde of 3.9 million pieces of equipment, including 30,000 wheeled vehicles.

The Army Materiel Command provides a forward presence in Kuwait to move equipment either stateside or to Afghanistan.

The MRAP left Kuwait March 24 on

the freighter Ocean Crescent, shipped by the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, one of AMC's major subordinate commands.

The arrival of the last MRAP marks the conclusion of one of the largest and quickest withdrawal efforts in Army history.

Designated the Lead Materiel Integrator on behalf of the Army, AMC is responsible for ensuring Soldiers have the equipment they need at the right time and place.

"It's important that we are good stewards of taxpayer dollars by saving every piece of equipment we can," Lt. Gen. Dennis Via, deputy commander of AMC, said during the fall Association of the United States Army symposium. "This mission would not have been possible without the relationships that were developed and in-

vested in with our strategic materiel stakeholders.

"Our successes were enabled with coordination and relationships between Department of Defense and Army agencies, as well as industry partners."

AMC faces multiple challenges in the coming year with the Afghanistan R2TF mission, removing millions of pieces of equipment from the land-locked and geographically constrained environment.

The MRAP's new home will be the 1st Cavalry Division Museum, Fort Hood, Texas.

Editor's note: To see AMC's video coverage about the last MRAP, visit <http://www.youtube.com/HQAMC>.



Army photo

The last MRAP is unloaded at the Port of Beaumont, Texas, in a formal ceremony May 7.

Secretary of Army visits 'Heavy Metal' Brigade

By Sgt. SEAN HARRIMAN
Army News Service

FORT BLISS, Texas – The 21st secretary of the Army, John McHugh, spoke to Soldiers of the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, during a walk-through of the 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment's, tactical assembly area at Fort Bliss May 9.

The 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, under the guidance of the brigade modernization command, is currently undergoing the third in a series of Soldier-led, capabilities assessments and integration called the network integration evaluation, or NIE, during which they will provide feedback on network and non-network capabilities in order to determine their implications across the Army.

"It's pretty cool when someone from much higher up in the chain comes out to see the Soldiers," said Sgt. William Wilson, one of the Soldiers with 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment, who spoke with McHugh. "It shows that they care about the Soldiers."

Wilson and the gunner of a mine-resistant, ambush-protected All-Terrain Vehicle, known as an MRAP ATV, gave McHugh a brief description of the new network systems on the vehicle and their purposes during the evaluation.

"When somebody important makes time from their busy schedule to come visit us like this, it means we have an opinion," said Staff Sgt. Darryl Eid, a section sergeant in Company C, 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment, who viewed the secretary of the Army's visit as a very positive thing. "It means they care what we think."

What the Soldiers think about the network and equipment is one of the largest driving-forces behind the NIE, and is a large

factor that determines whether or not equipment is purchased and fielded.

"We've helped the Army make some very hard decisions on cancellation of programs, radio systems and others, by providing the kind of feedback they needed from Soldiers about what really happened when we evaluated it," said Col. Daniel Pinnell, commander, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division.

The NIE 12.2, which began in late April, focuses on solidifying the current network baseline while adding the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical -- Increment 2, the Army's "on the move" satellite-based network connectivity set in a realistic, operational environment as opposed to a con-

trolled test in a laboratory.

"This is one of the most important things, strategically, that this Army has taken up in recent years," McHugh said. "At the end of the day, what they do here that makes it particularly unique is that they put the equipment in the hands of Soldiers, lets them work

with it, then takes their feedback and tries to make sure we're not just fielding something that looks good, but also operationally works well."

The NIE 12.2 will be ongoing through May and will conclude in the beginning of June.



Photo by Sgt. Edward Garibay, 16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Secretary of the Army John McHugh sits in an up-armored vehicle, while listening to a 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Soldier explain new equipment being tested during Network Integration Evaluation 12.2 at Fort Bliss, Texas, May 9. McHugh toured the NIE, a Soldier-led evaluation process that tests network and non-network equipment in a robust operational environment.

'Thinking out of box' pushes AMCOM audit system

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

Although the collective backbone of the Supply Chain Management Enterprise comprises 17 unique team efforts, the Product Verification Audit team, headed by Lori Harting, is "breaking and thinking out of the box."

"What we are doing has never been done before," Harting said. "We have an aggressive goal to craft an automated system to validate repair processes by aircraft contractors."

Delivery schedules are dependent on product verification audit approvals. Equally key is the fact that accurate delivery schedules increase forecasting precision, yielding inventory level reductions.

"With the system that we have planned



there will be no delays in communicating the product verification audit timeline between contract award and the final product verification audit approval," Harting

said. "Therefore, production lead times will be decreased and not delay asset deliveries."

"Our 20-member team has used a Value Stream Map to come up with a cross-organizational – AMCOM, AMRDEC, Army Contracting Command – synergy to produce a centralized database that will meet milestone metrics. That database will permit us to manage the process proactively, monitoring trends and identifying issues to reduce lead times."

Forty-four Opportunities for Improvement have been identified by the team, and are addressed in an implementation plan. That plan will come to fruition in a software enhancement to the Integrated Materiel Management Center's Interactive Configuration Management and Procurement Program.

Programming, testing and training – continuous improvement – will continue this summer, with a planned "Go-Live" goal in the first quarter of fiscal year 2013.

Greg Pearson, Bert Hernandez, Jeanie Clark, Alan Morgan, Jennifer Jackson, Lisa Hunter, Matt Isbell, Chuck Dublin, Doris Peoples, Wes Calloway, Ed Cholewa, Erika Curry, Victor Digesti, Mike Gutjahr, Freddie Harris, Ed Hogan, Jennifer Lynch, Amy Twilley, Mike Hopper and Stanley Kimmett are on the PVA Team roster.

All members of the AMCOM workforce are encouraged to visit the Supply Chain Management Enterprise "War Room" on the second floor of Building 5301, as well as visit <http://tinyurl.com/TransformingAMCOM>.

Help preserve and protect endangered species

Endangered Species Day is this Friday.

Endangered Species Day is an opportunity for everyone to learn about the importance of protecting endangered species and everyday actions that people can take to help protect our nation's disappearing wildlife and last remaining open space. Protecting America's wildlife and plants today is a legacy we leave to our children and grandchildren, so that all Americans can experience the rich variety of native species that help define our nation. The U.S. Senate has unanimously supported Endangered Species Day since 2006, providing for a national celebration of America's commitment to protecting our country's wildlife.

There are a number of ways for you to celebrate Endangered Species Day:

- **Learn about endangered species in your area:** Redstone Arsenal is home to five threatened and endangered species including the Alabama cave shrimp, American alligator, Gray bat, Indian bat, and the plant Price's Potato Bean. In addition, we have more than 30 sensitive species that are protected by other state or federal regulations, including Alabama least trillium, Green salamander, Bald eagles, and Tuscumbia darter. For more information about endangered species, visit endangered.fws.gov.

- **Visit an open space:** These protected lands provide habitat to many native wildlife, birds, fish and plants. Scientists tell us the best way to protect endangered species is to protect the places where they live. Get involved by volunteering, wildlife or bird watching, hiking or paddling in nearby parks. Within a 60 miles radius of Redstone



Arsenal there are National Wildlife Refuges (Wheeler, North Sauty, Fern Cave), Alabama State Parks (Monte Sano, Cathedral Caverns, Lake Guntersville, Buck's Pocket, Joe Wheeler, and Tim's Ford), Alabama Wildlife Management Areas (Swan Creek, Mallard-Fox, and Skyline), Land Trust of North Alabama Properties (Blevins Gap nature Preserver, Historic Three Caves, Monte Sano Nature Preserve, Rainbow Mountain, Trough Springs/South Monte Sano, and Wade Mountain), Nature Conservancy Lands (Roy B. Whitiker Preserve, Keel Mountain Preserve), Russell Cave National Monument, Harmony Park Safari, Huntsville Botanical Gardens, and William B. Bankhead National Forest.

- **Make your home wildlife friendly:** Secure garbage in shelters or cans with locking lids, feed pets indoors and lock pet doors at night to avoid attracting wild animals into your home. Reduce your use of water in your home and garden. Disinfect bird baths often to avoid disease transmission. Place decals

on windows to deter the millions of bird collisions that occur every year. For more information, visit http://www.fws.gov/asheville/pdfs/What_You_Can_Do.pdf.

- **Provide habitat for wildlife in your yard:** Native plants provide food and shelter for native wildlife. Attracting native insects like bees and butterflies can help pollinate your plants. For more information, visit <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx>.

- **Minimize use of herbicides and pesticides:** Herbicides and pesticides may keep yards looking nice but they are hazardous pollutants that affect wildlife at many levels. Many herbicides and pesticides take a long time to degrade and build up in the soils or throughout the food chain. Some groups of animals such as amphibians are particularly vulnerable to these chemical pollutants and suffer greatly as a result of the high levels of herbicides and pesticides in their habitat. For alternatives to pesticides, visit <http://www.beyondpesticides.org>.

- **Slow down when driving:** Many animals live in developed areas and this means they must navigate a landscape full of human hazards. One of the biggest obstacles to wildlife living in developed areas is roads. Roads divide habitat and present a constant hazard to any animal attempting to cross from one side to the other. So when you're out and about, slow down and keep an eye out for wildlife.

- **Recycle and buy sustainable products:** Buy recycled paper, sustainable products like bamboo and Forest Stewardship Council wood products to pro-

tect forest species. Never buy furniture made from wood from rainforests. Recycle everything you can, including cell phones.

- **Never purchase products made from threatened or endangered species:** Overseas trips can be exciting and fun, and everyone wants a souvenir. Avoid supporting the market in illegal wildlife including: tortoise-shell, ivory, coral. Also, be careful of products including fur from tigers, polar bears, sea otters and other endangered wildlife, crocodile skin, live monkeys or apes, most live birds including parrots, macaws, cockatoos and finches, some live snakes, turtles and lizards, some orchids, cacti and cycads, medicinal products made from rhinos, tiger or Asiatic black bear.

- **Report any harassment or shooting of threatened and endangered species:** Harassing wildlife is cruel and illegal. Shooting, trapping, or forcing a threatened or endangered animal into captivity is also illegal and can lead to their extinction. Don't participate in this activity, and report it as soon as you see it to your local state or federal wildlife enforcement office.

- **Protect wildlife habitat:** Perhaps the greatest threat that faces many species is the widespread destruction of habitat. Scientists tell us the best way to protect endangered species is to protect the special places where they live. Wildlife must have places to find food, shelter and raise their young. Logging, oil and gas drilling, over-grazing and development all result habitat destruction. Endangered species habitat should be protected and these impacts minimized. (*Garrison release*)

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Bass tournament

The third annual Homeland Security Bass Tournament is Friday and Saturday at Ingalls Harbor, Decatur. The entry form is available at <http://www.the-boat-house.com/>. For more information, call David Whitman 652-3446 or Ed Whitman 337-0909.

Wounded Warrior project

The Wounded Warrior Project golf tournament and fund-raiser is May 25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Links. The best-ball scramble has a shotgun start. Cost is \$300 for four-person teams or \$75 per person. To register call 527-4031.

Bicycle ride

The 11th annual Tour d'Arsenal is May 22 at 5 p.m. starting at NASA building 4315. As many as 200 bicyclists are expected for this self-paced ride. For more information, call Jamie Miernik 544-6534.

Children's cycling

Get the kids in on the biking fun at ERC's Kids Rocket Races, Saturday at 10 and 11:10 a.m., starting at Constitution Hall Park, adjacent to Big Spring Park. The event is free for unlicensed racers 12 and under; helmets are required. Prizes will be available for three places for boys and girls in each category, goodie bags and medals for all. Under age 7, two-wheel and two-plus-wheel categories, as well as the 7- to 8-year-old category races will be held at 10 a.m., ages 9-10 and 11-12 categories at 11:10 a.m. For more information visit <http://tinyurl.com/RocketCityRaces>, call or email Jamie Miernik at 520-2055, jambike@gmail.com.

Alabama Hammers night

Alabama Hammers arena football "Military Appreciation Night" is June 2 at the Von Braun Center. See the Hammers play the Richmond Raiders at 7 p.m. All active military components are asked to wear their duty uniforms. Free tickets, provided by the Association of the U.S. Army, are available at the Community Activity Center for all military ID and CAC card holders. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis; limited to four tickets per family.

Huntsville Stars night

Huntsville Stars baseball "Military Appreciation Night" is June 16 at Joe Davis Stadium. See the Stars play the Montgomery Biscuit at 6:45 p.m. All active military components are asked to wear their duty uniforms. Free tickets,

provided by the Association of the U.S. Army, are available at the Community Activity Center for all military ID and CAC card holders. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis; limited to four tickets per family.

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. The Redstone chapter will participate in the Cotton Row Run on Memorial Day and continue their activities with other area running events. 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.wearbluerun-toremember.org>.

Senior baseball

The local Huntsville/Decatur men's recreational baseball organization, the Southern Senior Baseball League, is looking for new players to participate in its upcoming season. The SSBL has two age divisions: Veteran's Division, with players from age 25 to early 40s, and Master's Division, with players from age mid-40s through 60s. Its weekly spring training practices are being held each Sunday afternoon at Butler High through late May (start times vary). The league plays a 20-game season from late May through August, normally with two games played per week (one weeknight and one Sunday afternoon or evening game). Games are played in the Huntsville/Decatur area. For more information, call Bill McArdle 876-9867 or email joinsbl@comcast.net.

County golf championship

The American Cancer Society 2012 Madison County Golf Championship is July 9 at the Valley Hill Country Club with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Lunch, provided by Carrabba's Italian Grill, is noon to 1 p.m. for all participants. For more information, call 535-1090.

Hobson memorial golf

The Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity 14th annual George H. Hobson Memorial Golf Tournament is May 26 at 7:30 a.m. at Colonial Golf Course, 400 Colonial Drive, Meridianville. Cost for this two-person scramble is \$80 per person. Proceeds benefit the Academy of Leaders Pursuing High Academic Standards. For more information or to register, call LeRoy Daniels 651-8518, Charlie Barnes 653-5797, Alvin Odoms 714-4354 or Bob Richardson 603-8555.

Valor Flight benefit

The Valor Flight Golf Classic will raise money to fly local Korean War veterans to see their memorial in Washington, D.C. The golf tournament is June 1 with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. at RTJ Hamp-ton Cove (Highlands Course). This is an 18-hole, four-person scramble. For more information, call Tony Thomas 466-2959 or email Valor1@ValorFlight.com.

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.

Protestant women

You are invited to join the Protestant Women of the Chapel on Thursdays at Bicentennial Chapel as they meet for friendship, fellowship and Bible study. Choose from three sessions: morning from 9:30-11:30, lunch time from 11:30-12:30 and evening at 6. Some child care is available at the morning session, upon registration with Youth Services.

Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the Redstone community to its mass services, set for noon Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 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 Clau-

dinette 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.

Logistics society

The International Society of Logistics, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will meet May 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit. The speaker is Dr. Robert K. Glenn, president of Athens State College. The luncheon cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers. The student rate is \$10 for student members, \$15 for student nonmembers. RSVP by May 21 with Sharon Adams at sadams@logicorehsv.com.

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/sec>. The conference is geared for administrative/technical professionals who plan/execute meetings, seminars, tutorials, etc. TIP information is: course title, SGMP Southeast Conference; vendor, Society of Government Meeting Professionals; catalog number, F124SGMP. For more information, call Barbie Baugh 876-7135 or Sherry Hiley 479-0198.

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.

Fraud hotline

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

Education test center

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 Pamela Donald 513-8290 or email pdonald@seniorview.com.

NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by state of Alabama, and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-1774.

Ride wanted

Rocket Announcements

Curtis Tucker and his dog guide are looking for someone to ride with to and from work. His hours at building 5304 are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and he resides at Whitesburg Estates in southwest Huntsville. If interested call 842-9289 or email curtis.tucker@us.army.mil.

Omega cruise

The Omega Q-Rooze with the Ques was established in 1998 as an excursion for the members and their guests to have a weekend getaway. Since its inception it has always been held in downtown Chattanooga during the local venue called Riverfest. Traditionally, attendees stay at the Marriott Chattanooga Hotel and Conference center. This year's event is June 9-10. Cost is \$80 per person and the hotel cost is \$109 plus tax. It includes transportation to and from Chattanooga, food and drinks en route, a 2.5-hour midnight cruise, heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks during the hotel hospitality hour and light hors d'oeuvres during the cruise. For more information, call Mike Sims 599-6612 or Gerald Vines 682-1071.

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.

Parenting classes

"Parenting 101," free classes presented by the National Children's Advocacy Center, will be held on the second

Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. upstairs in the ChildWise Building, 1413 Nike St. Topics include Keeping Your Kids Safe, June 12; and Positive Discipline, July 10. Space is limited; child care is provided with reservations. To preregister call Army Community Service 876-5397. This is sponsored by the New Parent Support Program, for birth through age 3.

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.

Alliance fund-raiser

The Alliance for Opportunity and Development is a new 501(c)(3) non-profit in the Huntsville area. AOD is raising scholarship funds to send low-income adults to J.F. Drake State Technical College to obtain technical training that will lift them out of poverty. AOD's reception and fund-raiser is Friday from 7-9 p.m. at Cooper House of Central Presbyterian Church, 405 Randolph Ave. southeast. There will be refreshments, presentations and a silent auction. Attendance is free. RSVP to staff@aod-alabama.org. For more information about AOD, visit www.aod-alabama.org.

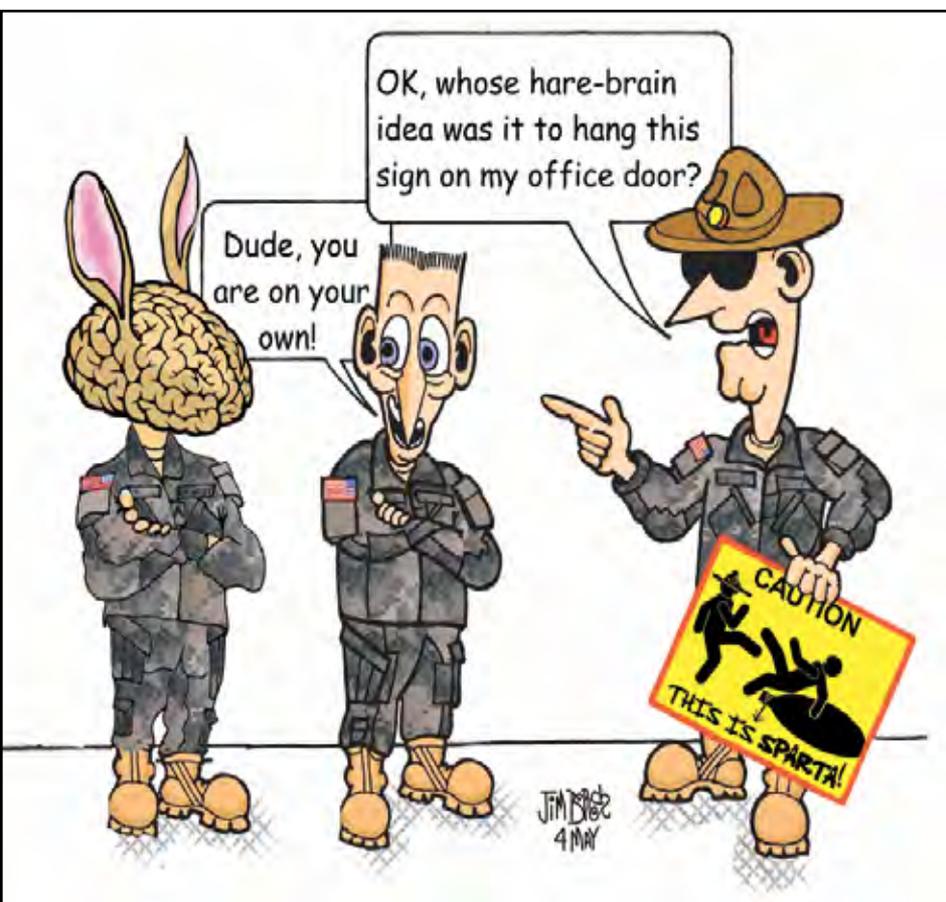
Fellowship graduation

The Senior Service College Fellowship graduation and reception is May 23 at 1:45 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. The keynote speaker is Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, principal military deputy to the ASA(ALT). Dress is business formal. RSVP to Ann.Lee@dau.mil.

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. 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 1,000 kids will receive a free backpack with school supplies. For more information, call Dr. Harry Hobbs 425-5307.

See Announcements on page 44



Rocket Announcements

Exchange holiday hours

The Redstone Exchange will have the following schedule for Memorial Day, Monday, May 28: Main Store open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Concessions: Alteration Shop, closed; Barber Shop, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC, closed; Flower Shop, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, closed; Nail Shop, closed; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optical Store, closed; optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, closed; Beauty Shop, closed. ... Food Court: Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Charley's, closed; Cinnabon, closed; American Eatery, closed; Burger King, closed; Café (Fox), closed; and HR, closed.

Garden tour

The Hidden Gardens of Old Town Tour is June 3 from 1-5 p.m. in Huntsville. The rain date is June 10. Tickets are \$10 and will be available the day of the tour on Walker Avenue, Holmes Avenue, Clinton Avenue, White Street and Steel Street. Advance tickets may be purchased at In Bloom, Harrison Brothers Hardware, and Brooks and Collier. There will be free parking at Holmes Street Methodist Church. This garden tour is a walking friendly tour. Water, lemonade and snacks will be available. The Hidden Gardens of Old Town Tour is sponsored by the Old Town Historic District Association. For more information, call 534-7083.

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.

Yard sale benefit

The Spay/Neuter Clinic Yard Sale is Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 701 Andrew Jackson Way. Sponsors include A New Leash on Life, Greater Huntsville Humane Society and the Spay/Neuter Action Project. To donate items for the sale, call 534-4566.

Workshop papers

This is a call for papers for the Hy-

perspectival/Polarimetric Community Collaboration Workshop scheduled July 18-20 at Redstone Arsenal. For more information, email angie.cornelius@us.army.mil or visit the workshop website at <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/SMAP-CENTER/Conferences/HyperPolar2012/index.html>.

Embry-Riddle classes

Embry-Riddle's Huntsville Campus says classes are forming now for its summer term, which starts May 28. It offers nine week on-site evening, on-line and video-conferencing classes to accommodate working professionals. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University offers undergraduate degrees in Aviation Business Administration, Aviation Maintenance, Professional Aeronautics and Technical Management; master's in Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Project Management, Leadership, Management, Aeronautical Science and Systems Engineering. For more information, call the Embry-Riddle Huntsville Campus 876-9763, email Huntsville@erau.edu or visit www.embryriddle.edu/huntsville.

Quarterly retirement ceremony

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is June 19 at 4 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. To make arrangements for participation, call Sgt. 1st Class Michael Tilley or Spc. John Hill 842-3032 by June 1.

Comedy show

Pinnacle Affairs will hold its second annual All White (Attire) Event on June 1 at the Roundhouse downtown, 398 Monroe St. Advance tickets are \$25, tables of four are \$135 and tables of eight are \$250. Jamel Lane' will be the host for the evening. There will be performances by comedienne B-Phlat, from Philadelphia, Pa., and the disc jockey duo 5D (Ghon Bomb and Chief Rocka). For more information, call 508-8674. Tickets are available at the Style Bar, 2601 Lee-man Ferry Road, Suite C, or visit www.allwhiteevent.com.

Stamp exhibition

The 45th annual Huntsville Philatelic Exhibition, billed as Northern Alabama's biggest stamp collectors' marketplace and sponsored by the Huntsville Philatelic Club, is June 2-3 at the UAH Tom Bevill Center, second floor, 550 Sparkman Drive. Huntsplex 2012 admission is free. Times are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 2 and 10-4 June 3. For more infor-

mation, call Art Cole 882-9951 or email hpc-stamps@att.net.

Rose show

Huntsville Twickenham Rose Society's annual Rose Show is May 26 at Parkway Place Mall. Competition is open to all rose growers and entries must be made 7-10:30 a.m. on the first floor of the mall. Arrangements and rose pictures will also be displayed. All roses, arrangements and pictures will be on display until 3:30 p.m.

Ability-Plus day

The third annual Ability-Plus Fun Day is July 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Friendship United Methodist Church, 16479 Lucas Ferry Road, Athens. Ability-Plus is a 501(c) non-profit organization that maintains residential homes for individuals in North Alabama with intellectual disabilities. Ability-Plus operates 26 homes and serves more than 70 special needs citizens in North Alabama providing 24-hour care, supervision and supportive services. Fun Day is sponsored by the Decatur-Athens Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. and the Central North Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. For more information, call Willie Boyd 842-3111.

Cyber security summit

The North Alabama Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association and Cyber Huntsville will hold the fourth annual Cyber Security Summit on June 7 at the Von Braun Center under the theme of "Next Generation Cyber: Developing Capabilities and Minimizing Vulnerabilities." With the expansion this year to the VBC, more than 500 attendees are anticipated to join in the separate Management and Technical Tracks and hear industry recognized speakers, as well as see exhibits from major security vendors. For more information, email sponsors2012@northalabama.issa.org or visit www.cyber-security-summit.org.

Record management workshop

NCMS Mid-South Chapter invites you to the "We Tell You How" Workshop - Back to Basics Series on May 22 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Dynetics Inc. The workshop will provide information on record management, preparing for a DSS audit and report requirements. Three CEU credits are awarded for this workshop. For more information, email chapter chair Stan Miller at stanta.miller@gmail.com or visit <http://ncmsmid-southchapter.eventbrite.com/>.

Civilian supervisor training

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2010, Section 1113, established the requirement for services to provide

mandatory training for all new and experienced supervisors. New supervisors must complete the initial training within a year of their assignment. Experienced supervisors must complete refresher training at least once every three years. Topics include performance management, conflict management and prohibited personnel practices. The training is required for all military and civilian supervisors of Army civilians by June 30. TRADOC's Army Management Staff College administers the online Supervisor Development Course. Training is documented in the Army Training Requirements and Resources System and the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System. Learn more and register at <http://www.t3ac.army.mil/leader/Pages/SDC.aspx>.

A&M logistics registration

Alabama A&M University will conduct onsite registration Thursday for its sought-after logistics degree program, which has doubled its students in the last two years. Registration will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Redstone Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. For more information, call Samuel Scruggs 372-8216 or Bonnie Banks 372-4777/4781.

Thrift Shop jobs

Applications for summer hire are now being accepted at the Thrift Shop. Applications may be picked up at building 3209 on Hercules Road, Tuesday through Thursday during normal business hours. Applicants must be at least age 16. This is a great opportunity for either high school or college students to come and learn about the retail industry. Hours and salary will be discussed during the interview. For more information, call 881-6992.

Military Sunday

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church will hold its second annual Military Sunday Event on June 3 at 11 a.m. with Pastor Timothy Rainey. The church is at 380 Indian Creek Road, Huntsville (through the traffic circle, behind Providence Main). Servicemembers are asked to wear their uniforms if they desire. All will be recognized during the 11 a.m. worship service for their service to this nation. The church's theme for 2012 is "Making Ministry Matter." For more information, email Renee Kelly at renee.kelly@knology.net, Cynthia Hughes at chugh1@hotmail.com or call the church office 837-2335 from 8-noon daily.

Book signing

Margret Mefford will be signing her book "Journey to Freedom" Saturday from 10 a.m. until closing time at the Huntsville Veterans Museum.