

# Redstone Rocket

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March 22, 2000

## Tuberculosis no longer a mystery

Modern health professionals know how this disease spreads and how to treat it after centuries of fear

By Skip Vaughn

Tuberculosis isn't as frightening as it was centuries ago.

Back then it was called consumption or wasting disease or the white plague. The victims usually ended up in sanitariums which was the worst thing that could happen because the disease would spread even more.

Today is different. Medical professionals know tuberculosis can be transmitted from person to person through the air; and they know how to treat this curable disease through medication.

"It's a disease caused by a bacteria called mycobacterium tuberculosis. It's affected humans for centuries," Lt. Col. Mary Johnston, chief of Public Health and Education Center at the Fox Army Health Center, said.

"It's spread by airborne droplet nuclei. And it's spread through the air from one person to another through coughing and sneezing. When a person with active TB

disease coughs or sneezes, the little tiny particles that contain TB are expelled in the air. And if another person inhales those particles, transmission can occur."

But there are three factors that affect the probability of transmission: how contagious is the TB patient, in what environment did the exposure occur, and how long did the exposure last.

"So the people at highest risk are people that have had close prolonged exposure in an enclosed place— like family members, which makes a whole lot of sense," Johnston said.

"TB can attack different parts of the body. But pulmonary TB is the most common."

A skin test is used to determine if someone has a TB infection, meaning the bacteria is in the body but not causing the disease. People with infection are not contagious; and medicine is often given to prevent the development of the disease.

"Ninety percent of the people that have a  
See Tuberculosis on page 8



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**SKIN TEST—** Johnston, right, does a skin test on nurse Paula Twichell at Fox Army Health Center. This test is used to determine tuberculosis infection.

## Ordnance 2000 captures attention

Three-day conference included munitions demonstration, briefings, Ordnance Ball

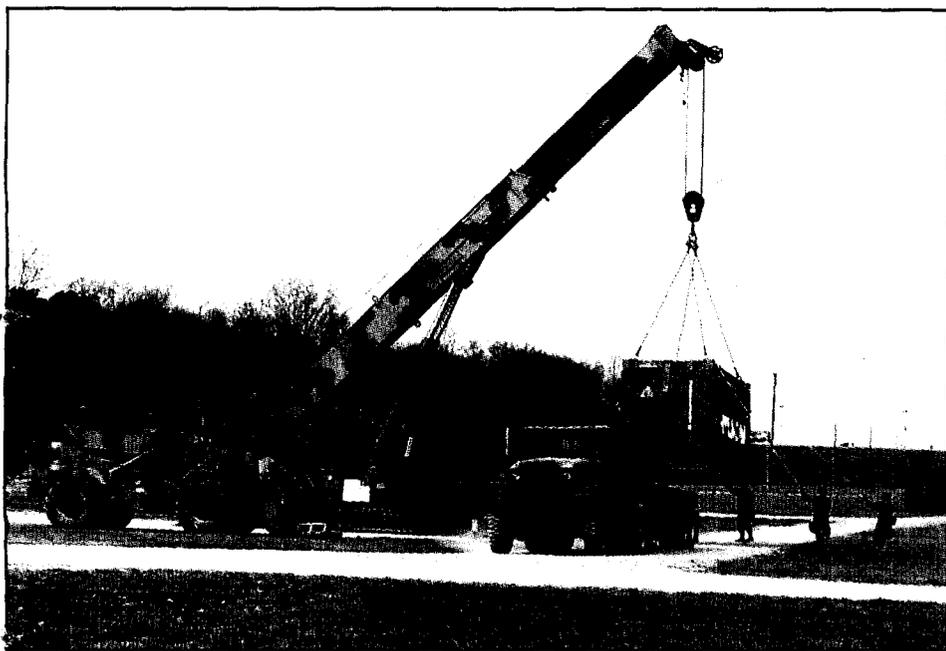


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**MOVING THE AMMO—** Conference attendees were treated to live demonstration focusing on the in-theater munitions distribution system. The scenario began with this 40-ton rough terrain crane offloading an ISO container.

By Sandy Riebeling

The scene was set. It was a mild March afternoon on the grounds of the Ammunition Supply Point at Redstone Arsenal

An audience of more than 200 military, reservists, contractors and guests, drawn from around the world were seated, awaiting the start of the demonstration. A 40-ton rough terrain crane was poised and ready to roar into action on the field in front of them.

A tractor trailer approached the crane, hauling a 20-foot ISO container, filled with much needed munitions to support the ongoing contingency in the theater of operation.

Like a well-oiled machine, soldiers and hardware worked in harmony to offload the container, extract the contents, complete accountability and move the shipment on toward its final destination. In the distance, the thumping of the Huey helicopter rotor

See Ordnance on page 9



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

### Original artwork...

SSgt. Julius Morris painted this portrait of the late Florence Griffith-Joyner, Olympic gold medalist, from a picture he took of her while she was visiting Fort Hood, Texas, where Morris was previously stationed. For story about the artist, see page 6.

Health center invites feedback

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## Letters to the editor

### Opportunities to grow

Many thanks to the Basic NCO and Advanced NCO course groups from the NCO Academy who came to Williams Elementary and Technology Middle School for a (very wet) workday on March 11! These men and women, under the direction of CSM Summerville, helped to make many improvements and accomplished the following:

- Two large new planting areas were established: a 40-by-32 foot "Extended Day" bed especially for the "4-H" group and a Willow Patch;
- The compost pile was put in "working order";
- Trees were staked up;
- Blue Rug Juniper was planted by the pond;
- A large "Pussy Willow" plant was moved to the new Willow Patch;
- Chain link was attached to the top of the Pergola (to keep the grapevines from falling down).

We at Williams thank the wonderful soldiers from the NCO Academy who helped us, specifically to Sgt. Jerry Swanson's group and to Sgt. Rick Troendle's group of hardworking soldiers.

More than 30 soldiers, men and women, worked in the rain and moved a lot of topsoil—over one dump truck, plus a few cubic yards of soil conditioner—to establish the two new planting areas. The



topsoil was wet and very heavy. It was hard work!

Sgt. Swanson surprised us by donating a gift of \$387 (earned by his men at a car wash) to the Outdoor Classroom fund! It will be put to good use! Thank you so much!

If you would like to volunteer yourself or a group to work in Williams' Outdoor Classroom, please call teacher Patti McKee at 772-5130. This growing project gives young people opportunities to grow various plants and to learn about trees, plants and wildlife. The Outdoor Classroom won the award of "Best School Project in the State of Alabama" for 1999 by the Environmental Education Association of Alabama.

J.E. Williams Elementary School is located off Zierdt Road, on Barren Fork Drive. It is part of the Huntsville City School District. Children who live on Redstone Arsenal attend Williams Elementary. Middle school students who live on base attend either Westlawn or Williams Technology Middle School. Presently Williams has 731 students, half of which are military.

**Patti McKee**  
kindergarten teacher,  
director, Outdoor Classroom

### Finance institute certifies Adams

Juanita Adams, a consumer affairs/financial management program manager at Army Community Service, has been awarded the designation Accredited Financial Counselor through the Institute for Personal Finance in Upper Arlington, Ohio.

An accredited financial counselor has certified skills to assist individuals and families in the complex process of financial decision making and also in overcoming financial indebtedness. AFC designees have been trained to help individuals in identifying and modifying ineffective money management behaviors, developing strategies for achieving financial goals, and developing new perspectives on the dynamics of money in relation to family, friends, and individual self-esteem.

In order to receive the AFC designa-

tion, Adams completed extensive course work in personal finance, debt management, and financial counseling. She agrees to maintain the highest ethical standards as written in the AFC Code of Ethics and is required to maintain up-to-date knowledge through continuing education in the fields of personal finance and financial counseling.

The Institute for Personal Finance is an educational service of the Association of Financial Planning and Counseling Education, a professional association which was formed by a group of financial counseling educators and practitioners to promote the education, training, and professionalism of financial counselors. (Release from the Institute for Personal Finance)

### Sacking the baggers

The commissary should do away with baggers and follow the other chain stores in the community. I raised four children in the military and have always hated to pay tips I just didn't have to the baggers. The lower ranks and retired military cannot afford to have this added expense! By the time you add service charge and the dollar or two given to the baggers, you haven't saved much. In some cases the baggers probably make more than the customers, especially the retired servicemembers! That's why most of us go to the commissary: to save money.

The last time I was in the commissary there were more baggers just standing behind the cashiers than customers (waiting their turn I guess). They have a waiting list I have heard just to be a bagger. That should tell you something.

This is a service that is outdated and should be stopped immediately. The commissary should pay the baggers themselves. They have no more patrons than the big chain stores like Food World, Krogers and Bruno's.

**Eve Martin**

*Editor's note: The Defense Commissary Agency provided the following response. "We certainly understand your concern, but it is a very complex issue. Baggers have been part of the commissary method of doing business on military installations for approximately 50 years. Baggers are self-employed licensees of the installation commander carrying on a personal business for profit in the commissary store. The commissary management allows licensed baggers access to the store to provide bag-*

*ging services to those patrons wishing to avail themselves of this service. The tradition is to provide a tip to a bagger after the patron accepts the bagger's services but patrons may use this service on a strictly voluntary basis. No patron is required to use the services of a bagger. As a valued patron, you are certainly entitled to bag your own groceries, if you so choose.*

*"The Defense Commissary Agency is a taxpayer supported benefit for the military and does not make a profit. Its budget is not sufficiently large enough to pay appropriated fund employees to bag and carry patron's groceries. To do that would mean increasing DeCA's budget from the Department of Defense, or cutting operational costs such as hours or personnel. Neither choice is ideal. Additionally, because the commissary benefit is a non-pay benefit for soldiers, sailors and Air Force personnel, the law requires the agency to sell groceries at cost, adding to that price only a 5 percent surcharge to pay for commissary construction and improvements. The agency has no ability to provide a service, such as bagging, and add the cost of that service to the cost of our products.*

*"Most customers might not realize that many commissaries, including Redstone Arsenal, have a customer volume several times that of commercial grocers. The service provided by baggers means our customers get out in considerably less time than if the customer or cashier bagged the groceries. The baggers provide a valued service and they lessen the waiting time for customers in line as well."*

### Road repair question

Reference a letter to the editor in the Rocket on Dec. 8, 1999, titled "Tire buster." I agree that there is a serious settlement of dirt between the south edge of the bridge and the pavement. The bridge in question is on Patton Road approximately one mile south of the Martin overpass. I drive over that bridge every workday and I see some drivers that apply their brakes and other drivers that wish to avoid the bump by swinging over the line to the edge of the bridge. The question is: When is this settlement going to be corrected?

**Name withheld by request**

*Editor's note: The Directorate of Environment and Public Works provided the following response. "The Directorate of Environment and Public Works, Construction Branch is aware of the settlement problem referenced in the Dec. 8, 1999 Redstone Rocket letter to the editor titled 'Tired of bridge bump on road.' A job order request is in place and is being worked through the Job Order Contract process (design, estimating, and contract negotiation). This process should be completed in the next couple of weeks. However, project execution will be dependent on the availability of funding and the weather."*

## Redstone Rocket

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# 'He was just a really super guy'

Engineering director remembered for his achievements, sense of humor at workplace

By Skip Vaughn

His unmistakable voice and sense of humor. That's how I will remember Dr. Larry Daniel.

Many knew him better, of course. He was a well-respected executive here for many years. But if ever a staid occasion needed a light moment, Daniel would provide it.

Daniel, director of Engineering Directorate at the Research Development and Engineering Center, was killed the night of March 13 in a one-car accident. He was 59.

An e-mail message the following morning reported the sad news to many of us in the work force. It came from June Pockrus, secretary for Dr. William McCorkle, the RD&E Center director.

"It was a pleasure to work with Dr. Daniel," Pockrus said in the message. "He had a great sense of humor, and he was a man you could depend on. I, personally, will miss Dr. Daniel very much. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Daniel family."

Col. Herb Carr, the AMCOM chief of staff, was among the many here who knew Daniel personally.

"He was just a really super guy," Carr said.

Daniel began his government service as a co-op student at Redstone in 1959. After graduation, he worked as part of the NASA team during the first moon landing.

He became assistant project manager for production for the Patriot missile system, responsible for transition of the system from development to production.

Daniel served as special assistant to the

commanding general of the then-Missile Command for total quality management, value engineering, and system engineering. Before becoming director of engineering, Daniel's assignments at RD&E Center included director of System Engineering and Production Directorate and associate director for systems.

Daniel served as standardization executive for the Aviation and Missile Command and the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

He was a member of the Auburn College of Engineering Research Committee and Auburn Engineering Council; and he served as AMCOM liaison officer with Auburn University.

Daniel was an adjunct professor with the Florida Institute of Technology.

He was twice selected as one of the outstanding Men of America, recipient of the Distinguished Auburn Engineering Award, and the Senior Executive Presidential Rank Award.

Daniel received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Auburn University in 1964. He received a master's in industrial engineering from Oklahoma State in 1971, and a doctorate in general engineering from Oklahoma State in 1977.

Survivors include his wife, Judy; a son,



Courtesy photo

DANIEL

Larry Daniel Jr., an assistant district attorney for Madison County; a daughter, Dr. Laura Daniel, who has a doctorate in pharmacy and works for the Children's Hospital in Birmingham; his mother, Joy Daniel of Huntsville; a brother, Jedge Daniel of Huntsville; and a grandson, Larry Daniel III.

The funeral was held Thursday at Trinity United Methodist Church in Huntsville, with Laughlin Service Funeral Home in charge. Daniel was buried at Maple Hill Cemetery.

The family asked that any memorials be made to Trinity United Methodist Church.

## Taking extra care

Fox Army Health Center staffers help resolve patient concerns

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

Cathy Collins wants patients to feel they receive the best care; and if they don't feel that way, she wants to know what's wrong. Collins is the patient representative for Fox Army Health Center.

"When Fox Army closed its inpatient units and became a health center, people thought everything went away," Collins said. "That's not the case. There is still a 24-hour service available that clients can call locally for health care problems at 955-8888, or if they are out of town, 1-800-223-9531."

She offers patients an avenue to address their concerns, and to remain anonymous if they choose. Collins, a licensed practical nurse, has been with the health center since 1986, and in her current position since 1994.

Throughout the center, in each of the clinics and pharmacy areas, comment

boxes are available. People can remain anonymous or leave their name and number; and Collins will call them back. If an immediate resolution is not possible, she will record the nature and specifics of the situation and investigate. Some concerns can be resolved in a day and some can take a week or longer. When the investigation is complete, she forwards them a letter or personally calls them.

One example Collins gave of a complaint that was corrected quickly was that of a patient who called the wrong number. Since everything is automated today, when someone calls in for a particular service, they find a lot of options on the telephone. Some people don't wait to hear all the choices. They just hit the first number. They become frustrated and that's where she comes in to help them. Collins was able to help clarify the patient's misunderstanding of the new automated system with just a telephone call.

See Care on page 4



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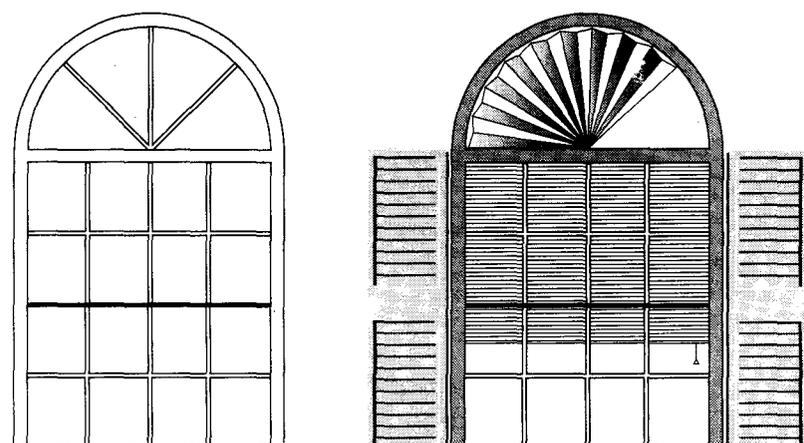
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### Health center representatives go extra mile for patients



Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

ITINERARY— Johnson, left, and Collins look over the list of patients they will visit at local hospitals and the rehab center.

## Care

continued from page 3

On the other hand, if a patient needs help about a prescribed treatment or medication, Patsy Johnson, a nurse care manager, is available to assist the patient or their family.

Johnson has 20 years experience in the nursing field. She was a clinical nurse on a medical-surgical ward, and then became the head nurse for that unit. After a reduction in force, she became the nurse care manager. Johnson works mainly with active duty military, but she will assist any patient, visitor or staff member.

"In our complex health system today, patients often receive care from more than one source," Johnson said. "This can lead to confusion about treatments and medications. I am there to address any concerns eligible active duty beneficiaries have about home health care, therapy, hospice, or social services. If they need special medical devices or equipment when they go home, I make arrangements for them."

Case management facilitates quality care by coordinated communication among

the patient, family and health care providers. Johnson is interested in working with the patient and their family to address any areas of concern.

Collins is worried that some of the military or their families have problems understanding the managed-care system. Therefore, they are unaware of how it has changed. She makes it her priority to explain the rules, restrictions, and changing priorities of health care to the clients.

In addition, Collins and Johnson make weekly afternoon trips to visit active duty, military retirees and their family members at local hospitals and rehabilitation facilities.

"When we go to the hospitals for our weekly visits we try and educate the patients on Tricare, formerly Champus," Johnson said. "We talk to them, answer their questions, and leave them an information packet explaining the benefits and the three options. Knowing the facts can help the sponsor and their families make an educational choice about their health care needs."

Collins can be reached at 876-8621, and Johnson at 955-9201.



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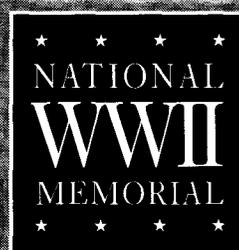
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# Artist sees life through Army eyes

Staff sergeant has sold his realistic paintings at duty stations around the world

By Sandy Riebeling

From the time SSgt. Julius Morris was 5, he knew he had a gift.

"When I would draw pictures at school, I drew in perspective," Morris said. "I didn't have a little house and great big people. My teachers noticed right away that I had an eye for drawing."

He won his first art competition in the second grade and worked all through elementary school drawing backdrops for the theater group and painting murals. From his Cleveland, Ohio, high school he earned the prestigious National Scholastics Hallmark Honor prize, which eventually led to a four-year scholarship at the Cleveland Institute of Fine Arts.

So how does a budding young artist end up at Redstone Arsenal as an ammunition specialist for the 832nd Ordnance Battalion?

Opportunity knocked.

Morris left college to help his cousin establish a political career, and perhaps, begin a public service career of his own. The election results left Morris disappointed but still enthusiastic about his art. He continued to paint and show his work around the area. This is when opportunity knocked a second time, with an art business venture that didn't quite survive. Still, he

Painted; and for a short time he taught at the Collingwood Performing Arts Center in Cleveland.

"I liked working at the Center," he said. "We got involved with the kids, showing each one of them that they had a talent and working on bringing it out. I liked the work but I eventually moved out to L.A. (Los Angeles) where I had family. I got into sign painting out there."

During these restless years, Morris continued taking classes whenever possible—summer classes, Saturday classes—whatever was available. His goal was to complete his bachelor's degree and make a career with his artwork.

"That's initially how I ended up in the Army," Morris said. "I wanted to get enough money to finish college but as time went on, after 10 years or so, it turned into a career. Now I want to finish this career and then move on to a career in art."

Besides the college money Morris earned, the Army gave him a chance to travel and see some of the most notable artwork in the world.

"I enjoyed my time in Italy," he said. "I was able to see some of the old masters' work—Michelangelo, some of the Florentine artists. I was also enrolled in college while I was in Europe."

Morris said it's a struggle to find time to

paint sometimes but he has remained steadfast in his craft learning new skills and techniques along the way. He works in ink, pencil, charcoal, oils, acrylics, watercolors, clay sculpting, print making, engraving and was even learning to forge bronze at his last duty station.

He most enjoys painting portraits and landscapes, the more detail the better. He has recently been working on a series of portraits that focus on women's faces, specifically, their smiles. His portrait of the late Olympic gold medallist Florence Griffith-Joyner is part of that collection.

"I took a picture of her when she came to Fort Hood (Texas), to talk to kids at the center there," Morris said. "She has a great smile."

Morris points out the meticulous detail that went into the focal point of the portrait, Joyner's face, and then the gradual reduction in detail toward the outer edges of the painting.

Joyner's portrait is displayed in the halls of building 3458 as a part of the display for Women's History Month in March. Next to Joyner hangs a monochromatic opaque watercolor portrait of Euzhan Palcy, the first African-American silver screen movie director.

Encouragement for Morris to explore his artist talent came mostly from his teachers



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**ON DISPLAY—** Morris' paintings were featured at the fifth annual African-American Festival for Black History Month, Feb. 29 at the Sparkman Auditorium.

and his mother. His father, a former Marine turned reverend, wasn't in favor of him pursuing a career in the arts. Morris did say that one of his favorite paintings was a mural depicting biblical events, probably due to his Christian upbringing.

Encouragement throughout his military career came from his brother.

"My brother is younger than me but I consider him my mentor," Morris said. "He's retiring from the Air Force this month and I'm going out to see his retirement."

It will be two years "and some change" before Morris completes his 20 years. He came to Redstone last September. While he continues to hone his skills in his spare

See Artist on page 13

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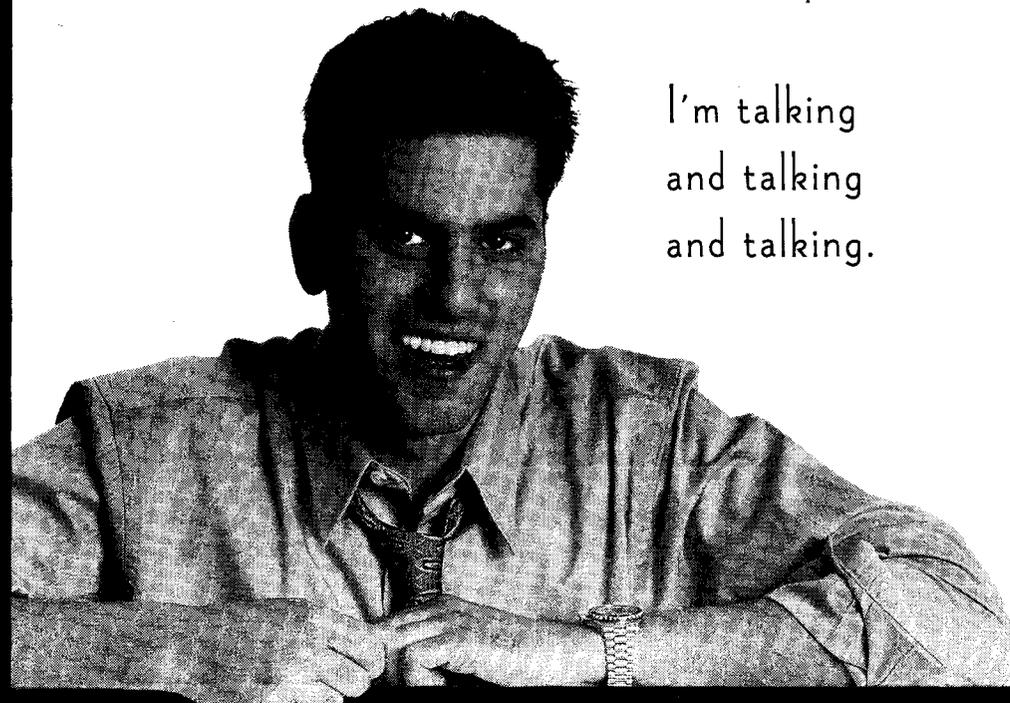
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# Supply transactions affected by logistics conversion

Redstone Arsenal has been selected as demonstration test bed for conversion to the Army's Single Stock Fund financial and logistical operation. Now the work begins.

Personnel within Redstone Arsenal

Support Activity's Directorate of Logistics, the Integrated Materiel Management Center, LEAD AMC Integration Support Office, and Resource Management Directorate have worked diligently for the past five months to clean supply and finan-

cial records for final conversion set for May 1. In a previous effort to inform the supply community, a Single Stock Fund Events overview was conducted Jan. 27 to detail requirements for customer processing prior to actual system conversion.

In order to meet specific pre-conversion requirements the DOL's office must curtail ordinary supply transactions that will affect financial and on-hand stockage balances. The following transaction curtailments must be made:

- April 1: Wholesale supply system will freeze all customer DODAACs and backorders to prevent further processing. Customer turn-ins will no longer be accepted.
- April 20: Only priority 01-03 will be

accepted. All transactions into the Army Materiel Command Installation Supply System (AMCISS) will be stopped.

• April 25: Final AMCISS cycle to be run prior to conversion April 27-30.

All requests for non-standard items, whether requested utilizing a DD Form 1348-6 or DA Form 2765-1 document, must provide fund validation with a name and telephone number. These transactions can only be processed citing customer funds.

In an effort to minimize disruption or answer any questions, DOL personnel are located in building 3777 north or can be reached by phone, 876-1702 or 842-8057. (DOL release)



Courtesy photo

## International festival...

The International Women's Club of Huntsville will present a family event titled "Year 2000— Celebrating Our Heritage," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 1 at Madison Square Mall. From left are Xa Rambo, Demy Robley and Maria Taylor, part of the planning committee. They invite you to learn about different cultures from people from throughout the world. There will be tables representing more than 30 countries. A program with skits begins at 2 p.m. on the stage by the elevator at the mall. For more information, call Robley 882-6064.

## Modern medicine cures centuries-old fear

### Tuberculosis

continued from page 1

positive skin test show no progression or do not go on to develop the disease," Johnston said. "With the actual active TB disease, the bacteria multiply in the body and cause the disease."

Tuberculosis symptoms include coughing up blood, chest pain, low-grade fever, night sweats, fatigue, weight loss, and a persistent cough.

"If someone is exposed to the active disease and their immune system can't fight off the bacteria, the first symptoms could occur within 12 weeks," Johnston said. "After exposure to someone with active TB disease, the greatest risk for developing disease is 6 to 12 months. After that time if you carried the TB infection and had other medical problems later in life, the TB bacteria might break out."

"Tuberculosis is very treatable. Once they diagnose it, they usually treat it with a combination of four drugs for 6 to 9 months. These days they use Direct Observational Therapy. Someone from the public health department goes to the person's home or office and administers the drugs— meaning they observe them

take the drugs because they've found better compliance that way."

So, these days tuberculosis is very curable in a short period of time. TB has been in the news lately after a worker at the Child Development Center tested positive. Redstone officials met with concerned parents; and skin tests have been administered to any child or parent upon request.

In the TB skin test, a small amount of fluid is injected under the skin on the forearm with a needle. The test must be read in 48-72 hours to see if there is a reaction to the test. The test must be repeated in 12 weeks because TB is slow growing.

"If somebody has a positive skin test, which means they have the infection, they can usually be treated for six months with medication to kill the bacteria," Johnston said.

"With the current medications available for treatment and rapid response of the public health departments to newly-identified cases of active TB disease, the risk of tuberculosis has decreased."

For more information about tuberculosis, call the Public Health and Education Center, Fox Army Health Center, at 842-0196.

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## ■ Annual conference draws worldwide audience

### Ordnance

continued from page 1

blades could be heard as it arrived on the field to transport the cargo. All the while, a narrator provided details to the audience about each piece of equipment, its function and capabilities, along with the techniques, tactics and procedures the soldiers were executing and how they supported the current/future munitions support doctrine.

It was an unusual beginning to the Worldwide Ammunition, Missile, and Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Conference, but an effective one. The three-day event, hosted by the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, began March 15 with the munitions demonstration. The bulk of the following two days was spent in the Sparkman Auditorium where more than 30 briefings were presented, covering a variety of Ordnance related topics.

Some 300 guests, representing the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and NATO attended the WAMTC 2000. Maj. Gen. Dennis Jackson, chief of Ordnance, opened the conference with a briefing on the health of the Ordnance Corps. Vendors were also on hand to display their wares and support concepts in the auditorium foyer.

"One of the biggest topics this year was discussion of the munitions support to the Brigade Combat Team, which is sometimes called the Medium Weight Brigade," Capt. Duncan MacMullen, officer-in-charge of the WAMTC 2000, said. MacMullen also serves as a supply management specialist for the Training and Doctrine Command Munitions Systems Manager Office at OMMCS. "The BTC needs to be up in a year. We have to figure out how we're going to get munitions to the brigade and provide TMDE support."

Because time is a premium during this conference, MacMullen had to prioritize topics and try to give everyone a chance to be heard. Sidebars were held in breakout rooms so that certain groups had an opportunity to expound on issues of par-

ticular interest.

One of these groups is the Reserve Component Advisory Group. Bob Barger, chief, OMMCS reserve assistance office, also serves as one of the RCAG's officers.

"More than 70 percent of the ammunition force structure is in the reserve component," Barger said. "We have a lot of mid to senior grade reserve ordnance folks here to see what's going on. The reserves only have 39 days a year to train and with 70 percent of the force structure in the reserves, it's important that we are prepared. If there's a contingency operation, we have to come on line prepared to support a high tonnage of munitions and an awful lot of it."

The RCAG held their Ammo Conference March 18 at Redstone Arsenal, on the heels of the WAMTC. Barger encouraged as many reservists as possible to attend both conferences, because several of the topics discussed at the WAMTC would not be repeated at the RCAG conference.

MacMullen said that there has been some discussion about expanding the conference next year. Preparations for this year's event began last August but really stepped up just after the holidays.

"This event takes an incredible amount of effort and resources," MacMullen said. "I've had some people from here working really hard to pull this together. And we've had fantastic support from outside agencies."

According to both MacMullen and Barger, one person in particular, Rebecca Fowler from Corporate Information Center, made miracles happen.

"We went to a web-based registration this year and she created the registration page and data base to make it all come together. She made our vision into reality— and fast," MacMullen said. "We're grateful to everyone that had a hand in this thing. Thanks to Col. (Stephen) Taylor for giving up the people to do this. He's been great."

The conference concluded with the Ordnance Ball held at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club Friday evening.

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## Renovated PX gets warm response on cold morning

By Skip Vaughn

The crowd couldn't wait to get inside the Post Exchange.

No, the occasion wasn't a special sale or bonanza on the latest hard-to-find novelty craze. Friday's event was a ribbon-cutting ceremony for completion of the PX renovation. The attendees were huddled under a tent outside the front of the store on a particularly cold and windy morning. The ceremony was brief and the crowd gratefully moved inside.

The project to renovate the food court and main PX started in May 1999. This included an upgrade of the PX retail store, an upgrade of the PX mall, and a new food court operation.

This \$3.2 million effort was funded from earnings generated by AAFES (Army

and Air Force Exchange Service). George Hicks Construction, of Talladega, was the contractor.

"It's a great investment," Dan Rubery, deputy to the commanding general, told the crowd. "It's money that you spend and part of that money gets returned to the community."

Until this project, the store had not been updated in more than 10 years. The renovation added about 3,500 square feet of retail sales floor space.

The expanded food court offers Anthony's Pizza, Robin Hood Sandwich Shop, Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream, Seattle's Best Coffee, Cinnabon (pastry shop), and a Church's Chicken with drive thru.

In 1999 the exchange gave \$1.4 million in dividends to Army and Air Force morale, welfare and recreation programs.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**RIBBON CUTTING**— From left are Kenny Barton, PX general manager; Mike Rohrer, senior vice president of AAFES Southeast Region; Rubery; Madison Mayor Chuck Yancura; Kathy Sullivan, wife of the commanding general; Col. Steven Hamilton, deputy post commander; and Kim Sumpter, PX sales and merchandise manager.



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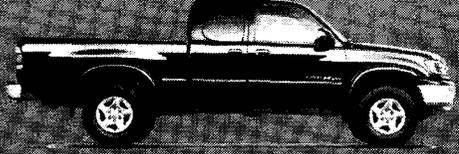
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# Boy Scout Troop 308 members soar with Eagles



Photo by Jim Baker

**HONOREES**— Tony Luchner, left, and his brother, Nate, received their Eagle awards Feb. 20.

February was a big month for the members of Redstone Arsenal Boy Scout Troop 308.

Three members of that troop were promoted to Eagle Scout, the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain. The honorees included Sam Baker, and brothers Tony and Nate Luchner. A fourth Scout, Joseph Hanovich, has moved to Okinawa and will be promoted to Eagle there.

Baker, son of retired Air Force Lt. Col. and Mrs. James H. Baker Jr., received his Eagle award on Feb. 12 in a court of honor ceremony at the Recreation Center. Baker, 17, is a junior at Madison Academy where he played soccer, baseball, football and will be playing varsity golf this year. He earned 32 merit badges. His Eagle project, completed at Andrews Air Force Base, encompassed the renovation and reconfiguration of the Girl Scout Hut's restroom to facilitate disabled access for a Brownie Scout affiliated with the troop. Baker plans to attend college.

Tony and Nate, sons of Stephen and Janice Luchner, received their Eagle awards Feb. 20 in a joint ceremony at the Huntsville-Madison County Botanical Gardens. Both Scouts were members of the Order of the Arrow. Tony, a senior at Grissom, runs cross country, pole vaults, hurdles and plays trumpet in the band. His Eagle project was to install the railway/train portion of the Huntsville-Madison County Botanical Gardens train. He departs for a tour with the Marines in June, after which he plans to attend college. Tony earned 26 merit badges.

Nate, a Grissom sophomore, runs cross

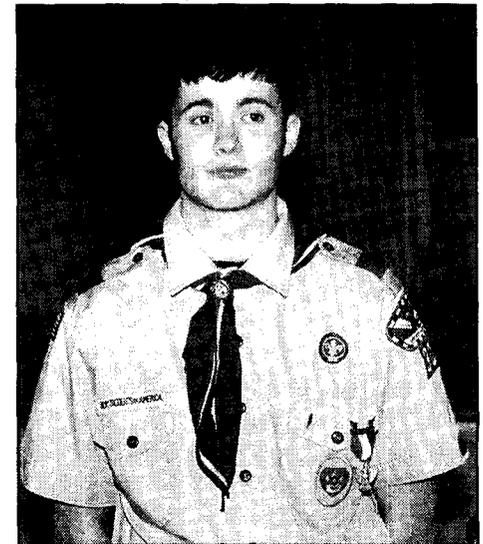


Photo by Ruthanne Baker

**NEW EAGLE**— Sam Baker received his Eagle South award on Feb. 12.

country, pole vaults, plays drums in the band, and volunteers for the Good Shepherd Church. His Eagle project consisted of installing all model buildings relating to the Huntsville-Madison County Botanical Gardens train as well as attending landscaping. Nate, who earned 23 merit badges and the snorkeling badge, plans to pursue an aeronautical engineering degree.

Hanovich, son of CWO Robert Hanovich, formerly assigned to Redstone Arsenal Marine Detachment, will receive his Eagle award in April in Okinawa. His Eagle project consisted of installing a playground at Ascension Lutheran Church. Hanovich, who earned 26 merit badges, plans to attend college.

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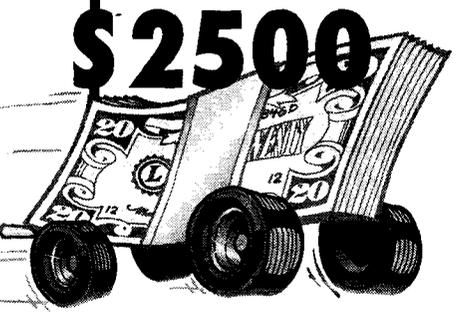
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# Redstone retiree searching for wartime roots

Downed World War II plane still missing in the wilds of New Guinea after crash landing

**A** Redstone retiree has begun a search for a P38 Lightning fighter plane that was lost in the Pacific during World War II.

Steve Cushman, an Army retiree with enlisted and officer service, started the search when contacted by a California relative of the pilot. The relative contacted Cushman after seeing another World War II aircraft in an underwater photo on the

Go Remote website ([www.goremote.net](http://www.goremote.net)). Go Remote Adventures is a small adventure travel company that Cushman started following his military retirement 10 years ago.

The P38 was crash landed on a remote island off New Guinea following battle damage that made it unable to return to base but the pilot survived the crash ... and the war in the Pacific.

The pilot's survival of the crash account, flying his P38 on a low level bomber raid as a fighter escort over New Guinea recalls, "I was hit with either flack or from several Japanese Zeros I tangled with." But he didn't immediately realize he was hit. On return, and low on fuel and unable to lower the landing gear, "I jettisoned the cockpit canopy, slowed down to as slow an airspeed possible and still have control. As soon as I stopped skidding, I was out of there running as hard as possible to get clear of any explosion."

Like many other World War II vets, he's quick to declare he was "Just a GI type P39 and P38 fighter pilot doing the best I could to help win the war in the Pacific and stay alive and to come home one day."

### Search complications

The current search for the P38 crash site is complicated by the passing of time,

changed names of many smaller islands and the difficulty in locating records. The net research is already under way and a dated roster of pilots of the "alumni" organization for the fighter group has already been located via the Internet. (Cushman, the principal of Go Remote Adventures, is himself a "graduate" of Vietnam as an Infantry company commander and has also graduated from various Army "adventure" training courses prior to his military retirement.)

Some of Cushman's local Missile and Aviation Command friends, both contractor and government, including Lockheed maker of the aircraft -- are assisting him with the search for information sources on the aircraft and the unit's operations logs. Various aviation and World War II pilot groups have expressed interest in the search. The pilot of the downed aircraft is also assisting in the search but wishes to avoid direct media contact. His current health will not allow him to join the search expedition.

A prior Redstone Rocket article reported Cushman's guide and logistic support of the National Science Foundation and a team of University of Southern California scientists immediately following the deadly tsunami (tidal wave) that killed more than 2,000 natives on the remote north coast of Papua New Guinea. Cushman was contacted by the scientists after they learned he had prior adventure travel experience in the remote area that is lacking a road net and among some primitive tribes.

More than 700 languages continue to be spoken in New Guinea; and tribal values and disputes are seldom regulated due to

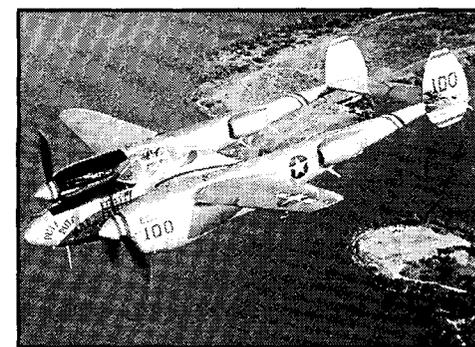
the lack of any government presence. Cushman has also made his way to some remote World War II crash sites known by the locals. He accompanied a Royal Australian Air Force recovery team following the mission to recover remains on a crash site that resulted in identification and later services for Australian airmen that had been missing since World War II.

### Summertime departure

Go Remote will work cooperatively with selected travel agents for 12 or fewer qualified adventurous travelers who want to join the search. Cushman will lead the expedition and coordinate guides, lodging and other logistic matters within Papua New Guinea. All World War II wreck sites are also protected by law from looting. Some crash sites are lost treasures that are highly valued to both aircraft collectors and museums. Following further research, the group will depart on June 28.

P38 fighter planes, manufactured by Lockheed, were an American mainstay of fighter aircraft in the Pacific with a distinctive profile of twin engines, a duel boom airframe and a square tail. Only a few remain in the hands of aviation collectors and museums.

There are thought to be more than 150 aircraft still missing in the jungles and waters of Papua New Guinea.



File photo

P38

Veterans, or others, that may be aware of documents, maps or other record sources of air operations, including airstrip locations, on the north coast of New Guinea during late 1943 are invited to contact Cushman, Go Remote Adventures on the Internet [adventure@goremote.net](mailto:adventure@goremote.net) or at (800) 824-8628.

Go Remote is planning for the search expedition to depart for two weeks in Papua New Guinea on June 28. The search will be limited to 12 qualified and adventurous travelers. Good health, basic outdoor skills and some travel experience are the primary qualifications. Progress reports of the expedition will be posted to the associated net pages when links in the Papua New Guinea's major port cities are accessible.

*(Editor's note: Cushman provided this article for the Rocket.)*

## Staff sergeant plans to pursue art career

### Artist

continued from page 6

time, he considers his obligation to the Army his first priority, at least for a little while longer. He will continue to go to school over the next two years, hopefully gaining some experience with computer artistry, something that he's never had a

chance to learn.

"I've gone to a lot of different schools over the years," he said. "Summer schools, Saturday schools. Talent will only get you so far. I believe in formal training. It helps you become a better artist. I would like to get my degree in graphic art and open a business in a few years."

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- Inside Computer Programming ..... May 1-5 • M-F • 5-9pm • 21000346N
- Windows Programming with Microsoft Visual C++ and MFC ..... May 1-12 • M-F • 8am-Noon • 21000293N
- Oracle Database Backup and Recovery ..... May 2-11 • T-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • 21000305N
- ActiveX Programming ..... May 15-19 • M-F • 8am-Noon • 21000347N

### Business & Management

- Contract Types and Structuring ..... Mar 27-Apr 3 • M • 6-9pm • 23000079N
- Effective Communication: The Key to Success ..... Apr 3-May 8 • M • 1-4pm • 23000096N
- Understanding Human Relations at Work ..... Apr 3-May 8 • M • 6-9pm • 23000097N
- Procurement Management and Contract Administration ..... Apr 4-25 • T • 6-9pm • 23000091N
- Operational Finances for Non-Financial Professionals ..... Apr 10&11 • M&T • 9am-4pm • 23000332N
- Cost and Price Analysis ..... Apr 10&17 • M • 6-9pm • 23000080N
- ISO9000 Internal Audits ..... Apr 20-May 11 • Th • 5:30-8:30pm • 23000088N
- Elements of Contract Administration ..... Apr 24-May 15 • M • 6-9pm • 23000081N

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08000570

# Still unaccounted for in Vietnam

Wife hopes missing pilot is alive 31 years after getting shot down over Laos

By Rudi Williams

ARLINGTON, Va.— Bahar Hess was 24 with a young daughter when her husband's aircraft was shot down over Laos on March 29, 1969. "Hope that he was going to be found" was her initial reaction to the devastating news.

"I still hold on to that hope today, because we don't have an accounting," Hess said recently here at DoD's annual POW-Missing Personnel breakfast. "We don't have anything more than we did the first day the news came."

Air Force 1st Lt. Frederick W. Hess Jr., a native of Kansas City, Mo., was 26 when the F-4D Phantom II jet he was copiloting on a defoliation mission went down in the Laotian jungle. The pilot ejected and was rescued, but rescuers couldn't find Hess, a member of the 390th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Da Nang, South Vietnam.

The Air Force administratively changed

his status from missing to killed in action on May 22, 1979, and promoted him to the rank of major. Since his remains have not been recovered and returned to his family, DoD lists him as unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

The "unaccounted for" status helps Hess hold onto the hope her husband's still alive. "This is the second prayer breakfast I've attended," she said. "Without faith in God, I couldn't have survived. That's how I hold onto the hope that he's still alive. And that's why I never remarried."

A member of the National League of POW/MIA Families, Hess said, "when you go to the annual convention, you see people that are kind of in the same boat. It's comforting being with people who have similar situations who share common causes and feelings."

Reminiscently, Hess said she met and fell in love with her husband while she was a Fulbright scholar at Georgetown University in Washington. Her then soon-

to-be husband, an Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs, Colo.) graduate, was working on a master's degree at Georgetown.

Hess, a native of Turkey, accepted the Fulbright "because this is the best place to get a higher education." Emigrating in 1962, she majored in international relations with hopes of working at the United Nations. That dream never became a reality, but she spent 11 years as secretary to the ambassador at the Turkish Embassy in Washington.

"When I got married, I started moving all over the country with my husband," Hess said. After he was listed as missing in action, she returned to the embassy secretarial job in 1970 and remained there until 1979.

Today, Hess is concerned that the American public's interest is waning in its unaccounted for servicemen. She tries to keep interest alive in them through local political activities, and since retiring in 1979 also spends her time volunteering for the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and the Women's Club of Arlington.

"I just take each day at a time," she said. "There have been some good days, some terrible days, but every day I'm hopeful that I'm going to find out what happened to my husband. I never had an unmarked grave for him, because it's very difficult to deal with. I would like to have a place where I can go and say this is where he's buried."

Hess said the most difficult time was in 1973, when more than 500 prisoners of war returned home. "I've relived those few days when we were waiting to see if our loved one's name was going to be on that list," Hess said. "That was even harder than the day the news of him being missing came."

Hess' daughter, Christine Bahar Hess, was a year-and-a-half old when her father was shot down and too young to remember him. "It has always been me and mom," said Christine, who attends the prayer breakfasts with her mother. "My mom did such a great job that I never had anything missing."

Christine Hess said children of missing servicemen who don't remember their fathers sometimes develop memories. "The lack of experiences with their fathers means



American Forces Press Service

**NOW MISSING—** Air Force 1st Lt. Frederick W. Hess Jr. stands proudly by his trainer jet during pilot training in 1968. The next year, at age 26, he was lost without a trace when his F-4D Phantom II jet went down over the Laotian jungle while on a defoliation mission.

more as children get older," she noted. "You start thinking about things you never thought about before: Would I have had brothers and sisters? Would we have moved (to another city or another state)? Where would I be living now? How would my life be different?"

There were difficult times during her early years when other children would ask where her father was and other questions. "I didn't have any easy answers because that's hard to explain to kids when you're a kid," said Hess, today the manager of industry programs at the National Association of Home Builders in Washington.

She was 25 when she joined Sons and Daughters in Touch, an organization formed in 1992 of children of servicemen who were killed in action or are listed as missing.

"It was good talking to and sharing experiences with other people who were a little older than me and had memories that I didn't have," Hess said. She thinks her life would be different had her father been with her as she grew up.

See Pilot on page 20

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# Announcements

## Sports & Recreation

### Bowling weekend special

Rocket Lanes is offering a Weekend Special now through April. Cost is \$1.25 per game open bowling every Saturday from noon until 11 p.m. and Sunday from 2-5 p.m. Rocket Lanes is located in building 3707 on Aerobee Road. For more information, call 876-6634.

### Youth dance classes

Youth Services is offering Ballet, Tap and Jazz Classes beginning in March. The cost is \$28 a month for one weekly class, \$45 month for two weekly classes, or \$55 a month for three weekly classes. Call 876-5437 for more information.

### Wellness class

The Redstone Arsenal Wellness Center will present "Healing with Magnets" from 11 a.m. to noon Thursday at building 5302, room 2139. Do you have tired or aching feet? Trouble sleeping? Chronic discomfort from an old injury? Learn how to take command of your own health and well being. Call 955-6844 to register or for more information.

### Golf tournament

The annual ASMC Golf Tournament will be held April 14 at Redstone Golf Course. There will be prizes for first and second place, plus closest to the pin and longest drive. This event is open to members and guests, and non-members. Entry fee is \$5 for non-members. Green fees are \$16; and cart fees are \$8 per person. To sign up call Pepper Takayama 876-8442, April Brooks 842-6944 or Sandra Garris 876-4885.

### Pro football player

James Willis, a professional football player for the Seattle Seahawks, will be at the Youth Center, building 3148, at 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday. Willis is also an independent representative for the American Communication Network. "James is an outstanding role model for youth and he will talk to the teens at YS about sportsmanship and careers in the sports field," a prepared release said. "At the end of his discussion with the teens, James will hold an auto-

graph session. Anyone in the Redstone community is welcome to attend."

### Ice skating show

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is selling \$16 tickets for \$13 for Wizards of Oz on Ice, 3 p.m. April 15 at the Von Braun Center. Checks should be made payable to VBC. For more information, call Jerry Campbell 876-3420.

## Miscellaneous

### Government/industry symposium

The upcoming Government/Industry Supportability Engineering Exchange (GISEE) 2000 is accepting proposals for presentations. The symposium will be held June 20-22 at the Sparkman Center. This year's event is co-sponsored by the Logistics Support Activity and the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics (SOLE). The symposium will provide participants with an insight into new and changing, high-level Department of Defense (DoD)/service policies. The symposium will again be an open forum, affording both industry and government personnel the opportunity to share ideas relating to best practices, lessons learned, process improvements, and new techniques for logistics acquisition. You can submit your proposals to any of the following addresses: mailing address Commander, Logistics Support Activity, Attn.: XMXLS-AL (Emerson McAfee), Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35898-7466; access the e-mail address: emerson.mcafee@logsa.army.mil or robert.salinas@logsa.army.mil; or via fax 955-9865. For more information, call Emerson McAfee 955-0808.

### Entertainment volunteers

If interested in volunteering to critique the entertainment at Panoply, April 28-30, call Janice Nash 876-5689, Amy Harris 922-1022 or Margaret Banish-Donaldson 842-0558.

### Space Camp scholarships

Each year Army Community Service awards full scholarships to attend a week of

Space Camp (fourth, fifth, or sixth graders), Space Academy (seventh or eighth graders), and Aviation Challenge (seventh, eighth, or ninth graders). These scholarships are open to children of active and retired military living within a 50 mile-radius of Redstone Arsenal. Applications for the Space Camp/Space Academy and Aviation Challenge Scholarship will be distributed through the schools and are also available at the Post Exchange, Commissary, and ACS. Application deadline is noon Friday. For more information, call Ann Cooper 876-5397.

### Wine tasting

An "International Wine Tasting" will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$7 at the door. Open to the entire Redstone community. For more information, call 830-2582.

### Charitable agencies

Tennessee Valley Combined Federal

Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations wanting to receive contributions. Under federal law, the organizations must be 501 (c) (3) agencies. The open period for accepting applications is March 1-30. The CFC campaign raises money from federal employees in Cullman, Lawrence, Madison, Marshall and Morgan counties as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. For more information or to obtain an application, call Melinda Seigler of United Way of Madison County 536-0745, ext. 108.

### Marshall open house

Preparations are under way for a May 20 open house at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. People nationwide are invited to join in the excitement of America's future in space when the center opens its doors to the public from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free to the event, featuring appearances by NASA astronauts, space exhibits, souvenirs, entertainment, live See Announcements on page 16

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# Announcements

propulsion test firings and an up-close look at real space flight hardware. Admission is free. For more information, call (888) 901-NASA or visit <http://openhouse.msfc.nasa.gov>.

## Moonbuggy race

More than 40 teams, representing colleges and high schools from across the country and Puerto Rico, will roll into Huntsville April 7-8 for the seventh annual Great Moonbuggy Race at the Space and Rocket Center. The race is inspired by development of the first lunar roving vehicle, which was designed and tested at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. The event challenges students to design and build a human-powered vehicle to address engineering problems similar to those faced by the original Marshall Center lunar rover team. For instance, prior to the race the unassembled vehicle must occupy a space no more than 4 feet high, 4 feet wide and 4 feet long. During the race, each vehicle is powered by two team members, one male and one female, over a half-mile obstacle course of simulated moonscape terrain.

Winners in each category – high school and college – are determined by the fastest vehicle assembly time plus time through the course. An additional prize is awarded to the team with the best technical approach to solving the engineering problem of navigating the "lunar" surface. The event is sponsored by the Marshall Center, the U.S.

Space & Rocket Center, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Event details, including the rules, information on the course and photos, can be found at the Great Moonbuggy Race website at: <http://moonbuggy.msfc.nasa.gov>. For more information, call Frank Brannon, the Marshall Center's university relations coordinator, 544-5920.

## Book sale fund-raiser

The Command Analysis Directorate is sponsoring its annual AER Book Sale. CAD is accepting donations consisting of paperback and hardback books, textbooks, encyclopedias, CDs, cassette tapes, videos, and video games. Please, no magazines. The sale will be during the last two weeks of April, building 5300, second floor, CAD lobby, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. each day. "Please help us in supporting the AER (Army Emergency Relief)," a prepared release said. The following people may be contacted for pickup and dropoff of donated items: Marla Cobbs 842-9925 or Joan Bates 955-0147.

## Retired eagles

Retired colonels/captains with their spouses, and widows of retired colonels/captains, are invited for cocktails and dinner Saturday at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. Reservations are required. These semiannual "gatherings of retired eagles" are social affairs to renew acquaintances

and meet other retired O-6s from the Tennessee Valley. For more information or an invitation, call 880-6701.

## Tactical missiles conference

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army will hold a conference on tactical missile issues Thursday at the Huntsville Hilton. The conference theme is "Transforming the Army—Providing Tactical Missiles to Meet the Vision." For more information call 539-1700, extension 113.

## Scholarship applications

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) has scholarship applications available upon request. The envelope must be postmarked by May 15. For more information, call Arnita Lee 876-8082 or Susan Douglas 876-6757.

## Women's club

The Huntsville Christian Women's Club will hold a luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. March 28 at the Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club. Scheduled speaker is Charlotte Coggin of Sylacauga, Stonecroft regional representative. Cost is \$10. Free child care will be provided if requested in advance. For reservations, call Judy 883-5468 or Des 650-2111.

## Newcomers orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation from 8:30 a.m. to noon April 4 at building 3447. Newly arrived, military personnel who are permanently assigned to Redstone should attend. And spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is offered during the orientation at the Child Development Center, building 3145. The child's shot records are required. The orientation features speakers, information booths, and a bus tour of Redstone Arsenal. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

## MSIC job vacancy

The Missile and Space Intelligence Center (MSIC) is recruiting for a senior intelli-

gence officer (general engineer), GG-0801-15. Vacancy Announcement Number 00-MS-000613-CT opened March 3 and closes March 24. The incumbent serves as a senior technical adviser for DIA, Army, Air Force, Navy, OSD, and BMDO on matters relating to SRBM performance. The complete announcement, to include specific job qualification requirements and application and submission instructions, can be found at the following web address: <http://www.dia.mil>. For more information, you may also call the DIA recorded vacancy announcement line 1-800-526-4629. Please check the DIA website for Vacancy Announcements for all MSIC positions which are open to all sources. Position vacancies with MSIC will reflect "MS" in the announcement number.

## Force protection briefing

Beginning on April 4, the Antiterrorism/Force Protection briefing for travel outside the United States will no longer be held in room 310, building 112 (Redstone Arsenal Support Activity headquarters). The new location is classroom 3 in building 3447 which is directly behind Toftoy Hall, a half block north of the intersection of Aerobee Road and Zeus Drive. The briefing will continue to be Tuesday as 9 a.m.

## Child care providers

A special introduction and orientation night for Family Child Care Providers will be held at 6 p.m. April 11 at building 113. Sign up for Family Child Care certification classes that night. For more information, call Evelyn Carnes 876-7801.

## Youth talent search

The Month of the Military Child is just around the corner. Enjoy entertainment for the entire family at Youth Services on April 7 from 6:30-9 p.m., building 3148. Youth ages 4-18 are encouraged to show off their talents, whether it's singing, dancing or playing a musical instrument. Prizes will be awarded in different ages categories. If you know a child or teen that would be interested in performing in Talent Search 2000, please call 876-5437 to sign up. Deadline for signup is April 3.

See Announcements on page 17

# WildFlour

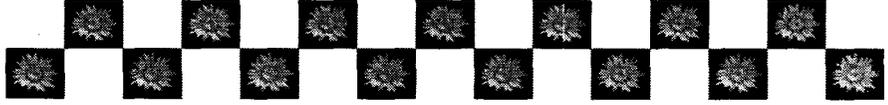
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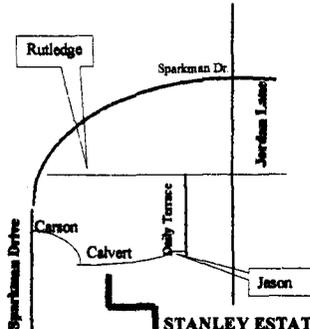
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# Announcements

## Retired officers

The Retired Officers Association's March meeting will be held at 11 a.m. March 29 at Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club. Stretch Schneider is to talk about "The Sahara Desert." For more information, call retired Capt. Al Castelli 859-1340.

## Military intelligence group

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Military Intelligence Association will hold its March luncheon at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday in the Regimental Room, Redstone Officers' and Civilians' Club. The scheduled speaker is Don Hammond, director, Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) Product Office. Non-members are welcome and reservations are not required. For more information, call George Lewis 830-3809 or Bob Westerfeldt 971-6533.

## Women's history month contests

Team Redstone is sponsoring an essay contest and a static display contest for

Women's History Month in March. The contests are open to the entire Redstone community. Essays, two pages or less, should be on the theme, "March 2000, an Extraordinary Century for Women— Now Imagine the Future!" Fax or mail essays by Friday to: Commander, Aviation and Missile Command, Attn. AMSAM-EO (SFC Bryant), Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35897, fax 876-8947, phone 876-8648; or to Commandant, OMMCS, Attn. ATSK-AE (SFC Quesenberry), Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35897, fax 842-6853 or phone 876-9224. Plaques will be awarded for the top two essays. Entries in the unit/department static display contest should be in place by Friday; and judging will be held next Monday. Trophies will be awarded for the top three displays.

Downtown Rescue Mission. Items you would like to donate may be dropped off from 12:30-5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at building 3400 on Gray Road. For more information, call the program office in building 3400 at 876-6595.

## Huntsville High reunion

The Huntsville High School Class of 1960 will hold its class reunion June 16-17 at the Huntsville Hilton. Any help in locating former class members would be appreciated. For more information, call Ken Coulter 882-3284 or Gertrude Strong Watson 539-8536.

## Car wash/blood drive

The EOD BNCOC Class is having a car wash and blood drive Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Super Wal-Mart on University Drive.

## Veterans healthcare

"The Broken Promise," an open meeting on the status of healthcare benefits for veterans and military widows, will be held 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Invited guest speakers include Miss Alabama 1999 Julie Smith; Congressman Ronnie Shows, author of HR2966; retired Maj. Gen. Dick Murray, NMVA; and retired Col. Bud Day, attorney. For more information, call Herb Dixon 880-6346 or Boyce Allen 461-9977.

## Communicators group

Universal Communicators, International Training in Communication, will meet April 13 from 5-6 p.m. at building 5681 (PEO Aviation), conference room 125. Learn to speak before two or 2,000. If you are interested in improving your communication skills, attend the meeting to see if ITC is what you're looking for. For more information, call Janice Isbell 313-4216.

## Food drive

The children of the School Age Program are having a food drive April 15 for the

See Announcements on page 18

## ARMY MERIT PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND THE HUNTSVILLE AREA

These announcements provided by the AMCOM CPAC can be found on the web at [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil). This list includes announcements that opened prior to Friday before Rocket publication date and close on/after the publication date.

Other announcements that are open to all U.S. citizens can be found at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov)

PVA NUMBER	POSITION TITLE	CLOSES	LOCATION	PP-SERIES	GRADE	POT
GU-00-052B	Supervisory Electric Engr	23-Mar-00	CofE RSA Res. Offic.	GS-0850	13	13
GU-00-052A	Supervisory Mech Engr	23-Mar-00	CofE RSA Res. Offic.	GS-0830	13	13
GU-00-052	Supervisory Civil Engineer	23-Mar-00	CofE RSA Res. Offic.	GS-0810	13	13
00D0758BL	Investigative Opns Assist.	23-Mar-00	USACIDC RSA	GS-1802	5	7
00C0727JH	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	23-Mar-00	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	12	12
00C0724RC	General Supply Spec.	23-Mar-00	AMCOM IMMC	GS-2001	12	12
00D0742BJ	Contract Specialist	24-Mar-00	PEO Tact. Missiles	GS-1102	11	11
00D0689DB	Supply Technician	24-Mar-00	USAOMMCS	GS-2005	5	5
00D0689DB	Supply Technician	24-Mar-00	USAOMMCS	GS-2005	5	5
00B0694AC	General Engineer	24-Mar-00	PEO Aviation	GS-0801	13	13
00B0693AC	General Engineer	24-Mar-00	PEO Aviation	GS-0801	13	13
HA00A3212	Management Analyst	27-Mar-00	CofE Huntsville Ctr	GS-0343	11	11
00D0749WT	Program Analyst	27-Mar-00	AMCOM RMD	GS-0343	9	9
00D0740DW	IDE Strategic Coordinator	27-Mar-00	AMCOM IDE Mgmt. O.	GS-0301	12	13
00D0764DB	Mgmt Assistant (OA)	28-Mar-00	AMCOM ISO	GS-0344	6	7
00D0748WT	Telecommun. Eqmt. Oper.	28-Mar-00	AMCOM CIC	GS-0390	7	7
00C0750RC	Secretary (OA)	28-Mar-00	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0318	6	6
00B0759DT	Secretary (OA)	28-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DK-0318	3	3
GU-00-059	Construction Rep	29-Mar-00	CofE RSA Res. Offic.	GS-0809	12	12
00D0763DB	Public Affairs Specialist	29-Mar-00	AMCOM PAO	GS-1035	12	12
00C0766JH	Log. Management Spec.	29-Mar-00	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	13	13
00D0761BM	Secretary (OA)	30-Mar-00	AMCOM Legal Office	GS-0318	7	7
00D0744BJ	Contract Specialist	30-Mar-00	AMCOM ACQ Ctr	GS-1102	7	11
00D0711BJ	Contract Specialist	30-Mar-00	AMCOM ACQ Ctr	GS-1102	5	11
00B0664SH	Supv. General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0663SH	General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0662SH	Supv. General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0661SH	General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0660SH	General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0659SH	General Engineer	30-Mar-00	AMCOM RDEC	DB-0801	IV	IV
00B0679AC	Supv. General Engineer	10-Apr-00	RTTC EMTD	GS-801	15	
NC08699	Criminal Investigator	13-Apr-00	CID	GS- 1811	9-12	12
00D0765DB	Intelligence Spec.	13-Apr-00	AMCOM ISD	GS-0132	11	11
00B0779AC	Supv Aerospace Engr	17-Apr-00	USAAESA PEO Avn.	GS-0861	15	15
00D0581DB	Training Instructor	9-Aug-00	USAOMMCS	GS-1712	11	11
00D0582DB	Training Instructor (HD)	14-Aug-00	USAOMMCS	GS-1712	11	11
HA00A3080	Elect, Mech, Civil Engineer	31-Dec-00	CofE Huntsville Ctr	GS-0850,0830		
				0810	13	13
00B0479SS	Aerospace Engineer	18-Jan-01	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0861	III	III

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**Plum Brook Operations Support Group**, a Joint Venture Company, has just been awarded a 10-year NASA contract to operate and maintain NASA's Plum Brook Station world class test facilities (**Space Power Facility, Spacecraft Propulsion Research Facility, Cryogenic Propellant Tank Facility, and Hypersonic Tunnel Facility**) located in Sandusky, Ohio.

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# Announcements

## Military wives

Bonnie Stone, a journalist in Enterprise, is researching a book on military wives and looking for a few good stories from military wives - active and retired - from the poignant to the funny, from the rigors of everyday life in the United States to the adventures of living overseas. The chapters for the non-fiction book would include: wives who made a difference; the Calamity Jane kind of stories of humorous mishaps; women who have adopted the motto of "have resume, will travel," stories of being a single mom; women who exhibited uncommon valor including those whose husbands have been killed on active duty; women who helped friends in need; first wives to go overseas, and stories about the palaces and pits military families lived in. Women who have stories they're willing to share can contact: Bonnie Stone, P.O. Box 311126, Enterprise, Ala., 36331 or e-mail at bstone@entercomp.com.

## TMDE users conference

The Program Manager for Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment5 is sponsoring, with the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association, the annual TMDE Users Conference, April 4-6 at the Von Braun Center. Static displays of military equipment, as well as vendor displays are included. Booth space is still available for organizations wishing to participate. The display

coordinator is Jodi Weiner 533-5923. Admission is free. For more information, call Frank Califf 313-2582.

## Orchid society

The Heart of Dixie Orchid Society will present an Orchid Show this weekend at the Ramada Inn in Madison, 8716 Madison Boulevard (Highway 20 West). Show times are noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

## Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, will be open the first Saturday of each month beginning April 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Gospel concert

Gospel singer Debbie White, a Huntsville native, will perform at 7 p.m. April 7 at Madison Worship Center, 5290 Wall Triana in Madison.

## Florida Tech

Florida Institute of Technology Graduate Center, Redstone will hold an information session on its master's degree in computer information systems April 6 from 12-1 p.m. and again 5-6 p.m. Seating is limited. Those interested should call FIT's administrative office 881-7878.

## Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic

Community at Bicentennial Chapel announces the following: Rosary is recited at 11:30 a.m. daily. Mass or a communion service is noon Monday through Friday. Latin mass will be held 5 p.m. this Saturday. Stations of the Cross is held every Tuesday during Lent at 6 p.m.

## Navy memorial

GEICO, the nation's sixth largest private auto insurer, has presented a check for \$5,000 to the Navy Memorial for its Homecoming Statue to be erected in Norfolk, Va.

## Military medical records

Attention all active duty and retired military personnel and family members: Fox Army Health Center requests a 100 percent return of all military medical records to the facility. "We need your help with this process," a prepared release said. "If you are currently hand carrying your medical records, please return them to Fox Army Health Center, Outpatient Records section immediately. We will process your medical records and ensure they are available in time for your next appointment."

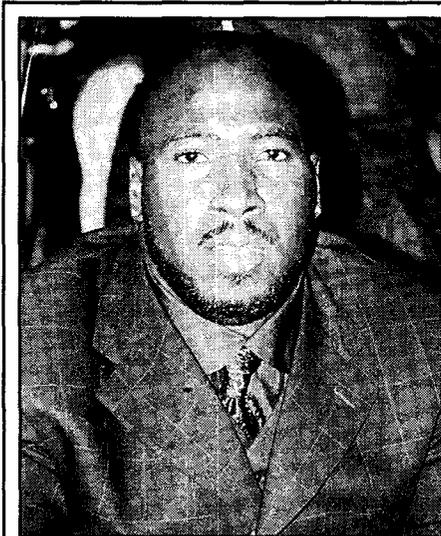
## Pastor anniversary

Beaver Dam Independent Church, 983 Indian Creek Road will celebrate the sixth anniversary of Pastor Eric Peoples on April 2. Apostle John Harris Jr. and the Voice of God Church will be in charge of the 11 a.m. service. The Rev. Leroy Cole and Hopewell M.B. Church will be in charge of the 4 p.m. service.

## Logistics data symposium

The Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command plans to have a TACOM/Industry Logistics Data Symposium, April 4-6 at the Northfield Hilton in Troy, Mich. This symposium brings together government and industry personnel to discuss issues and

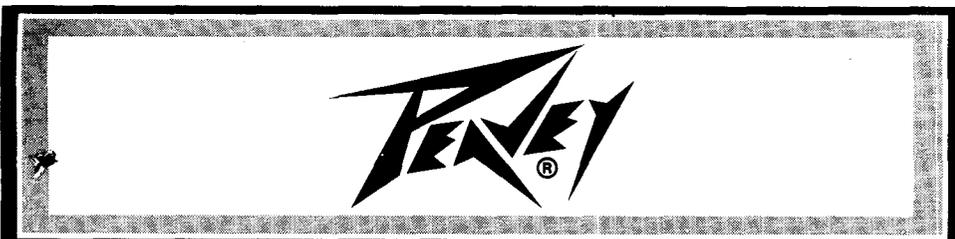
concerns relevant to the constant changes in the logistics environment. For more information call Cherice Carter, TACOM-Warren chairperson, (810) 574-4175 or Jerry Lane, NDIA vice president and co-chairperson, (810) 574-6683.



Courtesy photo

## Pro football player...

James Willis, a professional football player for the Seattle Seahawks, will be at the Youth Center, building 3148, at 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday. Willis is also an independent representative for the American Communication Network. "James is an outstanding role model for youth and he will talk to the teens at YS about sportsmanship and careers in the sports field," a prepared release said. "At the end of his discussion with the teens, James will hold an autograph session. Anyone in the Redstone community is welcome to attend."



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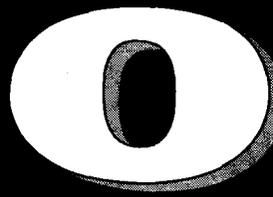
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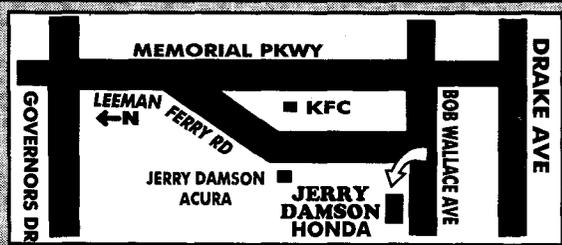
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## Wife still waiting for missing pilot

### Pilot

continued from page 14

Bahar Hess said not only did she and her daughter lose a wonderful husband and father, "his death was a great loss for humanity and this country. He was a bright individual who would have given so much to his community and his country."

Hess compared her husband to President Kennedy. "There was something special about him," she said. "The only other person I've seen it in was President Kennedy. He has a special sparkle in his eye — lights of intelligence and compassion. It was almost like he and President Kennedy were super humans." (American Forces Press Service)



Rudi Williams/AFPS

**WAITING FAMILY—** Bahar Hess, right, still hopes her husband, Air Force 1st Lt. Frederick W. Hess Jr., is alive after being missing in action for more than 30 years. Her daughter, Christine, was a year-and-a-half old when her father's F-4D Phantom II aircraft was shot down over Laos on March 29, 1969.



Photo from Ralph Yoder

### Rain, rain go away...

For nearly three hours a steady, drenching rain, fell March 14 at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas. The storm blew in from the Gulf, unexpectedly and stranded homebound CCADers. Here, ankle deep water on the road, temporarily held workers from crossing the street. The north gate of the Naval Air Station reported that debris covered the northbound lanes of Ocean Drive to Texas A&M University. A downed power line slowed homebound traffic for those leaving by the south (main) gate. There was water dripping into the Cribbins Conference Room. A more thorough damage assessment was planned.

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