

Redstone Rocket

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Culture cloth



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Army way of life suits local family

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Win or lose



Former high school star leads Marines in opener

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Conference collects community concerns

Volunteer delegates needed Feb. 25-26

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htimes.com

For people who aren't convinced that one voice can make a difference in the quality of life at Redstone, cruise down Vincent Road and take a gander at the new coin-operated car wash across the street from the commissary.

"We have a car wash because someone made the suggestion," Virginia Dempsey, coordinator for the upcoming Army Family Action Plan conference, said. "It didn't happen overnight but it wouldn't have happened at all if someone hadn't made it an issue. This conference gives equal opportunity for every person to be heard."

Redstone's Army Family Action Plan conference is Feb. 25-26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Volunteers from every segment of the Arsenal population are needed to serve as delegates, facilitators and recorders for the two-day event.

The mission of the conference is to collect information from the community through AFAP surveys concerning Army quality of life issues for soldiers, retirees, teens, civilians and military families — anything from local parking problems to pay and benefit increases Armywide.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

REVIEWING RESULTS— Retiree spouse Becky Taylor reviews notes from the Army Family Action Plan Worldwide Conference held Nov. 17-22. She and SSgt. Johnny Kennedy, an instructor at Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, served as delegates from Redstone. Volunteers and suggestions are needed for the local AFAP conference, Feb. 25-26.

"Sometimes a person may think an issue is small or only concerns them but a lot of times it turns out that the concern is shared by many people," Dempsey said. "It just takes that one person to get it going. We

want to hear what's going on out there. The command wants to know where the problems are so hopefully we can make some improvements."

See **Conference** on page 9

Investigators zone in when Hellfire missile goes astray



Redstone Technical Test Center photo

PASSING TEST— This Hellfire performed properly in an instrumented missile firing from a static fixture. An investigation continues into a firing that went awry in June 2001.

Team compiles list of lessons learned from 2001 incident

By JIM BOWNE
For the Rocket

A laser Hellfire missile was fired from a Kiowa Warrior aircraft at a stationary target 5.8 km down range in a training exercise June 2001 at Fort Bragg, N.C. However, shortly after leaving the rail, the missile flew straight up and impacted about 1.8 km outside the direct Surface Danger Zone.

"The Hellfire missile launched from the rail platform into a Lock-On-Before Launch climb and then began to porpoise," the gunner said. "The missile then turned into a hard right bank heading 180 degrees, leveling out to impact approximately 6 km southeast of the launch platform (erratic flight)."

The missile ended up going off-range and landing in a recreation area. No one would have known where the missile hit had the missile not caused a fire upon impact. Fortunately, the recreation area was closed, and no one was injured.

As a result of this errant missile incident, the Research Development and Engineering Center was asked to lead an investigation;

See **Missile** on page 10

Dr. King left legacy of freedom

Martin Luther King
Was a man of his word
He spoke of his beliefs
And his voice was heard.

He spoke about his dream
That yet was so true
He talked about the world
And the things we had to do.

He spoke about togetherness
Coming together as one
For we shall never overcome
The work that he has done.

He spoke about the killings
Robbery and rape
He said these things we'll overcome
If we take time to pray.

He spoke about the education
Of the many blacks
Trying to fulfill their dreams
And being held back.

He spoke about the blood
That is the color of red
In all God's people
That one day must be shed.

Then as his dream
Was heard by everyone
He had another dream
That one day we shall overcome.

Overcome the slavery
Of all God's people
To let them live a normal life
For all men are created equal.

To overcome the world
That is moving fast
To lay down his soul to rest
To be free; free at last.

Gloria Dorsey
retired SFC

Editor's note: Dorsey wrote this poem, titled "Free at Last," in 1986.

Resident concerned about movers

It appears that Redstone is clearing out the old enlisted family quarters off of Goss Road and is employing the Don Kennedy House Moving Company as the mover. I have been assigned to Redstone on five different occasions and can attest that the officials of Redstone have always maintained a great relationship with the Huntsville community.

We now have a problem. Don Kennedy has moved these condemned substandard duplexes from Redstone, separated them into single-family dwellings, and is emplacing three of them in the Westchesser Estates Subdivision to be used as rental property. The residents of this neighborhood know that the officials of Redstone have no control of Don Kennedy's intentions or disposition of these homes once they have been removed from the Arsenal. Or have they? Were there any restrictions placed on Don Kennedy by Redstone officials regarding the disposition of these homes?

We who reside in Westchesser are extremely grieved about this matter and want Redstone officials to be aware of our concerns.

Frank D. Wilson
retired CWO 4

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you very much for your inquiry as to the movement and final disposition of the housing units being moved off of Redstone Arsenal. This contract was set up to dispose of Army Family Housing units that were excess to our inventory. These housing units were not required in our long range plans to provide housing for the soldiers working on Redstone Arsenal and in the surrounding community. The housing units were not condemned or substandard. This is the reason that Don Kennedy and Sons chose to move the houses rather than demolish them in place. The contract does not have any provisions for the government to dictate the final placement of the housing units once they are removed from Redstone Arsenal. They are the sole property of Don Kennedy and Sons House Moving Company. The only restriction placed on these housing units is the compliance with state and federal environmental laws such as placement in unapproved landfills, etc. We are sorry that the placement of some of these houses has caused concern but we have no authority to dictate the final location of these homes."

Thoughts and prayers appreciated

Iwould like to express my appreciation for all the thoughts and prayers you have provided my wife and family during the past year. We received hundreds of cards of encouragement from my co-workers at Team Redstone. Most of the cards were from people that had never met my wife and she was extremely touched by your thoughtfulness. They provided us more strength than you will ever know.

Linda and I would have celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary on the day of her funeral. We were blessed with

three children: Sarah, 14; Mark, 12; and Rachel, 7. She was a very special person who touched many lives. She always had a kind word for all and helped anyone. During these difficult times, we have been reminding each other of the wonderful memories. We will keep Linda in our hearts forever.

We will always remember your compassion and kindness. Your continued thoughts and prayers are appreciated.

Steve Fisher
Resource Management Directorate

Parking abuse needs curbing

It totally agree with the person who wrote the letter concerning handicap parking abuse. I see this abuse, as do many others, every day at parking lots all over this area. For example, one day I witnessed a person exiting a huge four-wheel-drive truck with big tall mud tires on the vehicle. The truck was so tall, the person could barely get out of the truck and needless to say his vehicle was displaying a disability parking placard. The driver exited the monster truck and

walked perfectly into the store.

Most likely what is going to be done to curb this abuse is to have the person's photograph placed on the disability parking placard (similar to a badge), so only the person who is directly needing the handicapped parking space can use it. This picture placard will cut down on the abuse of illegally using the handicap parking spaces.

Gary Braden
contractor

Some handicaps aren't noticeable

Iam a 38-year-old female that is in congestive heart failure. I have a progressive heart muscle disease that has caused my heart to pump only half of what it should. I was told that I have the heart of an 80-year-old. I get stares everyday from people wondering why I am parking in a handicap space. Everyone that is handicapped doesn't necessarily walk with a cane, walker or limp.

I thought the same way that you do before I was diagnosed. I do not have a noticeable handicap, but most days I do have a hard time walking from my car to my desk without having to stop and rest.

So please don't judge people unless you know what their situation is.

Donna
(last name withheld by request)
CIC

Unlicensed docs don't know handicaps

Reference: "Handicap parking abuse hurts" (letter to editor, Jan. 15)... You know what makes me mad as hell, are those people that think they can play doctor and diagnose just by looking at someone. We should send all our doctors to the same school of medicine these people went to. It would save us lots and lots of money. First if these people are so concerned over misuse of

handicapped parking, they need to read the regulations concerning handicapped parking — which by the way does not state handicapped parking privileges are reserved for those who have a limp, walk with a cane or walker, or are in a wheelchair. Hell anyone can buy a cane, or rent a walker or wheelchair for that matter.

See Handicaps on page 3

Redstone Rocket

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■ Actual doctors can diagnose disabilities

Handicaps

continued from page 2

The handicapped person in question may have had a heart attack, have respiratory problems, or any other of a dozen real problems that qualifies them for handicapped parking. These types of illness do not project outward for the casual snotty onlooker to "see they are handicapped." I have had the "you don't look handicapped to me" snide remarks before; my response has always been "you don't look like a doctor to me." I think if the persons making the remarks were doctors, they would have lost their licenses for diagnosing without any examination of facts. I would also venture to say no doctor would sign a handicapped certification without knowing the individual

case facts.

Why do some people on the streets think they can just look at a person and tell if they are handicapped or not? I applaud the persons that are suffering in silence living with their pain. If they choose not to (or more than likely could convince a doctor of their longtime suffering) exercise their right to use handicapped parking, I say more power to them — or too bad, whichever applies. Don't rag on a handicapped person because you think the person does not "look handicapped." Before anyone makes a blanket statement that people are misrepresenting themselves, they should try walking a mile or better just a hundred feet in the other person's shoes; you would more than likely change your mind.

Name withheld by request



Shawn Harris/Photo Lab

Submunition milestone

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sorenson, program executive officer for tactical missiles, congratulates the government-contractor team that recently celebrated the production of Bat submunition number 1,000. Northrop Grumman's Land Combat Systems Division began producing Bats on the Arsenal in July 1999.

An open lane random survey

What do you think about mandatory smallpox vaccinations?

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer

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Maj. Kathleen Herberger

"I think that the smallpox program has been done really well. The information has been out there long before we ever got the immunization. So from a soldier's perspective, I was not at all concerned when I got my shot. I felt like I was armed with information. I knew what to expect. They covered everything — the before, the during and after."



Ann Parlato, physical therapy clerk

"I've seen the brochure and it looks pretty scary. I don't think I'd want to do it."



Thomas Prichard Jr., optometry clerk

"I was probably in one of the last generations to receive the smallpox vaccine. I believe it wouldn't be a bad thing to have it done again, just in case. I would certainly rather be protected than not."



Sgt. Djuan Steen

"I think, in regards to protecting our soldiers, it's great. I think civilians should have a choice whether to take it or not. Health care workers should have a mandate."

Scholarships abound, application deadline close

Army Emergency Relief aids military families

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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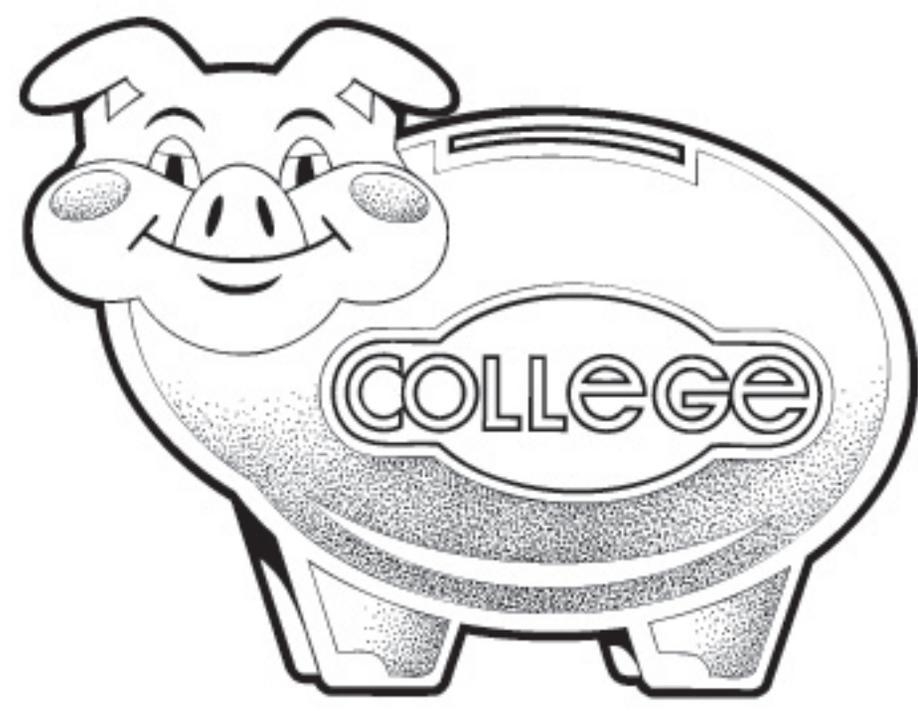
The bad news is: Every year college tuition increases.

The good news is: Every year the number of scholarships awarded to military dependents through the Army Emergency Relief Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund increases, too.

Last year, 95 percent of the students who properly completed the application received a scholarship ranging from \$700-\$1,800 per academic year. In real numbers, 1,898 students shared a total of more than \$2.4 million.

Odds are, the investment of the time and energy it takes to complete the application will be well worth it but the deadline to apply is March 3. Scholarships are awarded on an annual basis for up to a maximum of four years of undergraduate study.

And don't be fooled by the name. Some people hear AER in the title and think there has to be some sort of emergency hardship to receive money, which isn't the case. The awards are based primarily on financial need according to income, assets, family size, special financial obligations and circumstances. Sec-



ondary issues are academics and leadership.

Meeting the eligibility requirements, submitting all the required paperwork and getting the application mailed on time are essential for consideration.

"If you're interested, you have to get

moving now," Kristi Foster, Army Emergency Relief officer, said. "There's a good bit of paperwork to fill out but the application can be downloaded from the web so you can get started right away."

The web site is www.aerhq.org or students can come to Army Community Service and get a coupon to send away for an application to be mailed to them.

Scholarships are open to children of Army soldiers on active duty, retired, or leceased while on active duty or after etirement and children of certain active Army National Guard or Army Reserve oldiers. Applicants must be registered in he Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, unmarried for the

entire academic year and under the age of 22 on June 1, 2003 based on the 2003-04 academic year.

Guidelines also stipulate that applicants be enrolled, accepted or pending acceptance as full-time dependent students for the entire academic year in post-secondary educational institutions (colleges, community colleges or vocational schools) accredited by the Department of Education and maintain at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for funds to be awarded or disbursed.

One of the biggest reported problems with the application is the student aid report. Students must file a student aid report as part of their application, but the deadline for this one report is extended to April 30. All other portions of the application must be sent by March 3.

Students obtain the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form from the school they will be attending, fill it out and send it to the processing agency, not AER.

"It's the application used to see if you are eligible for Pell grants or other financial aid," Foster said. "Most colleges have the form. It's available on the web, too. When you send that in, you'll get back an SAR."

Scholarship awards are not affected by whether students receive financial aid from other sources. Letters are mailed in early summer to all on-time applicants stating scholarship award status. Funds are disbursed to the school in August.

Online applications will be accepted but supporting documentation must be mailed by the deadlines.

For more information about the scholarship and application, go to the web site, call Foster at 876-5397 or visit Army Community Service on Redeye Road.

Women's club hopes to draw crowd for art auction



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

GOING ONCE... GOING TWICE— Members of the Officer and Civilian Women's Club from left, Chris Swart, president, Leslie Dodgen, Katherine Sorenson and Lea Ann Bryant, show artwork from the collection available at the group's art auction fund-raiser Feb. 1 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Proceeds from annual event benefit community agencies

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer

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Attending last year's art auction sponsored by the Officer and Civilian Women's Club was a first for Leslie Dodgen, wife of the commanding general.

"I'd never been to an art auction," Dodgen, a college art major, said. "I didn't really think I'd buy anything but I ended up buying a lot and loving it. I didn't realize I'd get that rush — that feeling when someone else wants the picture you want. It was a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to this year's event."

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club Art Auction is Feb. 1 at the Officers and Civilians Club beginning with an exhibition at 5:30 p.m. and first bid at 7.

"The walls, all the way around the room, on tables and propped on the floor will be covered with original artwork from the Perry Berns Gallery based in Dallas, Texas," Lea Ann Bryant, art auction co-chair, said. "He's been doing our auction for at least the last 10 years and probably a lot longer than that. There's usually a great selection — something for everyone."

Artwork ranges from \$40-\$2,000 with most of the pieces priced between \$150-\$400. And even though the event is one of two major fund-raisers for the club, members are focused on providing an atmosphere for socializing as much as buying.

"This is a great night out for everyone, whether you bid or not," Katherine Sorenson, art auction co-chair, said. "The Officers Club puts on a great spread — heavy hors d'oeuvres and desserts, coffee, and there

will be a cash bar. It's fun to watch people bid and get caught up in the excitement."

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from any OCWC member or at the Officers and Civilians Club cashier window.

Sorenson urges everyone to pre-purchase tickets so that a guest list can be supplied to the Provost Marshal Office and distributed to the gate guards for quicker access onto the post. Guests without an Arsenal vehicle decal should be prepared to show photo identification and proof of vehicle insurance. All guests are requested to enter through Gate 9 on Rideout Road.

Tickets will be available at the door but those who pre-purchase tickets will be entered into a special drawing for a piece of framed artwork from the collection.

Upon arrival, each guest receives a bid number and information packet that includes a brief description of each piece and its corresponding number. As guests browse, they can use the guide to take notes and mark the selections they may want to bid on later.

"The art auction is something the average person will enjoy," Bryant said. "It's a fun night out — meeting new people, having some great food, seeing some beautiful art — and maybe you'll find something you love."

More than \$10,000 was raised at last year's auction. The OCWC uses the money to support a variety of local and national organizations including Total Tots (emergency child care for soldiers and their families), Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Hope Place, humane society, Pentagon Victims' Fund and college scholarships, among others.

For more information or tickets, call Sorenson at 837-3772 or Bryant at 864-2539.

Quality Institute offering emotional support

Classes on coping skills
scheduled for February

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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Are you emotionally intelligent? Are you ruled by your feelings and fears? Do you have trouble relating your personal emotions in an appropriate way at work? Are you unsure how to deal with the feelings of others? Are you looking for an edge to get ahead in today's work force? If so, then the Quality Institute has a workshop for you.

The next series of classes on emotional intelligence begin in February at the institute in Sparkman Center building 5304, third floor.

Since its establishment in 1991, the institute has helped Redstone maintain its reputation of high standards in the work force. This offering, in conjunction with Analytical Services Inc., is just another way of providing training in an area that may be overlooked.

Emotions in the workplace have not always been viewed with favor. Conventional wisdom held that they impaired the ability of an individual to make sound decisions and were a distraction. Employers are beginning to reconsider this viewpoint. Studies conducted by Johnson & Johnson and other corporate giants have shown that the highest performing managers are the most emotionally intelligent ones. Being able to identify and relate to the feelings of co-workers is becoming a much sought after skill in today's job market.

Studies compiled by the Institute of Health and Human Potential cite increased productivity and reduced turnover as appealing side effects of emotional intelligence. The topic is a hot one, having graced the cover of *Time Magazine* and the Oprah Winfrey Show. Several book titles on emotional intelligence have also been making headlines recently.

"We've been taught or told to put our emotions aside and that they have no business in the workplace — but they've always been there," Brenda Knox, the course instructor, said.

Knox was certified in emotional intel-



Photo by Kelley Lane

WORKSHOP LEADERS— From left Diane Samsonavicius, Brenda Knox and Nancy Hodges try to broaden the minds and emotions of those who attend Quality Institute workshops.

ligence through the 6 Seconds organization. "Some of the problems that we see cropping up in the workplace, with people getting angry, overloaded and anxious probably would not have escalated if we had been paying attention to our emotions farther back. They've always been important," she said.

But what is emotional intelligence? "I define emotional intelligence as the capacity to create optimal results in your relationships with yourself and others," Knox said.

Those attending the six-part series should expect to take away a better understanding of themselves and others, such as co-worker relations, time management, self-awareness, effective communication skills and relating these skills to others. When used effectively, emotional intelligence makes for not only a more efficient workplace, but also a more pleasant one.

"Can you imagine a whole organization where everybody possesses emotional intelligence? You'd probably rush to get to work," Knox said. "You'd feel so good about working in that environment, where everyone looks out for one another. Their emotions don't get in the way. They actually benefit you."

Emotions are not limited to the work-

place and neither are the benefits of emotional management skills. "People seem to enjoy the class. They each get something different that they can use in the workplace and in their personal lives," Knox said.

Feedback from those attending the workshop has been high. "I was able to speak up for myself to a co-worker, something I never dared to do before," wrote one. While another stated simply that "I have become a better co-worker. Just ask the people I work with."

The workshop is a hands-on experience, with a focus on group interaction. Class sizes are small, ranging up to 35 participants. There is no cost involved for members of Team Redstone, as the Quality Institute is a command-funded program. It satisfies continuous learning points for many organizations. Class schedules are flexible and held in three hour increments. Organizations wishing to train a group are accommodated.

"We have done adaptations and customized versions for organizations on the other end of the post. We do one for administrative professionals as well," Nancy Hodges, program administrator, said. They will travel off site and off post to an organization.

A 30-minute overview video is available through the Quality Institute for those wanting more information on emotional intelligence or considering attendance to the workshop. A workshop on counseling skills will also be available soon, taught by Diane Samsonavicius. The emotional intelligence course, along with others from the Quality Institute are available to the Redstone civilian and military populations by registration through the Training Information Program online system. Those needing assistance with the TIP system can call the Training Help Desk at 876-6297. Organizations that do not utilize the online system can fax a manual 1556 to 876-7002. Registration is open until the day before a class begins.

\$86 million contract casts unmanned aerial Shadow

The Army has awarded a \$86 million contract to AAI Corporation, Hunt Valley, Md., for nine RQ-7A (Shadow 200) Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle systems, six attrition air vehicles, ground control and maintenance equipment, and initial spares. Each Shadow 200 system consists of four air vehicles and two ground control stations.

The full-rate production contract award, a first for any Department of Defense unmanned aerial vehicle program, is a key event for the Army's transformation into a rapidly deployable, lightweight force. The contract award is the result of a fast-track acquisition program to provide a much-needed capability to the soldier. The contract with AAI Corporation includes options for additional procurements through fiscal 2007.

The Shadow TUAV will be employed by ground maneuver brigade commanders to gain a tactical advantage against adversaries. The system provides a near real-time, highly accurate, sustainable capability for reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition and battle damage assessment. It will significantly improve commanders' ability to detect and engage the enemy by having domi-

nant situational awareness so commanders can "see first, understand first and act decisively." The images and telemetry from the air vehicles can be used by the brigade commander and his staff, the brigade's subordinate maneuver battalions, supporting artillery units and supporting aviation assets.

The Shadow air vehicle has a wingspan of 13 feet and can carry a payload of 60 pounds. It has a gross takeoff weight of just over 300 pounds and has significant range and loiter capabilities. The air vehicle is equipped with an electro-optic/infrared suite to support day or night operations.

The Shadow TUAV program went from program initiation through Initial Operational Test and Evaluation to a full-rate production contract award in 36 months. The Shadow TUAV system met or exceeded all key performance parameters specified in its Operational Requirements Document during the April-May '02 IOTE. During the past two years, there have been more than 1,000 Shadow flights totaling more than 2,000 flight hours, with an operational availability rate of more than 95 percent.



Harold Garner/Photo Lab

DEAL SEALED— Col. John Burke, project manager for Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, and Richard Erkeneff, president and chief executive officer of AAI Corporation, shake hands following a contract signing ceremony Jan. 10.

Smart card customer service earns kudos from headquarters



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ALL IN THE CARDS— Theodore Tyson, lead human resource assistant in the Military Personnel Office, has a certificate of achievement from headquarters Army Materiel Command for his work in distributing the new Common Access Card.

Army Materiel Command brass cites military personnel worker

By SKIP VAUGHN
 Rocket editor
 skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

He's the guy who schedules people to get their new automated identification card. He has the tough duty of announcing in a filled waiting room that the computer system is down.

But even with the occasional irate patron, Theodore Tyson focuses on customer service. And he keeps working toward the goal of getting the new Common Access Card to everybody on Redstone by Oct. 1.

Tyson, lead human resource assistant in the Military Personnel Office, has received a certificate of achievement from headquarters Army Materiel Command.

The award, signed by AMC commander Gen. Paul Kern, was presented Thursday by Dan Ahern, director of personnel and community activities.

"I enjoy what I do," Tyson said of his work. About 5,500 of more than 13,000 people have received the Common Access Card so far.

"He's the point guy for us as far as trying to get this done," Joe Winston, chief of military personnel services and operations division, said.

Winston and Lew Spencer, human

resources specialist (military), joined Tyson during the brief award ceremony at Thursday's meeting of managers in the Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities. Winston's division became part of the directorate within the Garrison last October.

Tyson was recognized for ensuring a smooth transition to the Common Access Card. But sometimes there are computer delays.

"As long as the equipment keeps running, we do pretty good," Tyson said. "The biggest problem is equipment."

Randolph student advances to national contest level

A local high school student is Alabama's winner in the 56th annual audio essay competition sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary.

Molly Beucher of Randolph School will receive a scholarship award in the "Voice of Democracy" competition. All state winners receive at least a \$1,000 national scholarship and earn a chance at the \$25,000 first place award to be announced around May. A total of \$141,500 in national scholarships is awarded to student finalists.

"We haven't had a state winner in about the last 6-8 years," Glen Donoghue, adjutant and Voice of Democracy program chairman for VFW Post 5162 (South Huntsville), said. "We had a national winner in the

last 20 years. It's been quite awhile."

Winners at the post level included Beucher, Tiffany Davis of Hazel Green High and Rebecca Cook of Sparkman High. Local winners can advance to the district level and then to state and national.

During the past 56 years, more than 7 million high school students have participated in Voice of Democracy. Interested students write and then record a 3-5 minute audio/essay while expressing their view on the patriotic theme "Freedom's Obligation."

"Young people who participate in the competition benefit by gaining a better understanding of their country, their freedoms and their obligation to America," Gabriel Chiri, commander of VFW Post 5162, said.

Conference

continued from page 1

Surveys can be completed and sent electronically through forms online at www.redstonemwr.com. Survey forms and drop boxes are available at Army Community Service, soldier units, Fox Army Health Center, Post Exchange and the Commissary. They can also be downloaded from the web site and mailed to Army Community Service, building 3338, Redeye Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

Dempsey along with several volunteers collect and then sort all the surveys by subject matter. During the conference, delegates are divided into subject matter groups and given the issues pertaining to their group. They then must consider every issue, prioritize them and select the top three. The group then spends the rest of the conference defining the issues, developing the scope and providing resolutions.

The conference concludes with an out briefing to the commanding general. He's then given all the issues submitted to the conference for disposition.

"Some things can be fixed locally," said Becky Taylor, a delegate from last year's local conference who was chosen to represent Redstone at the Department of Army level AFAP Worldwide conference held in Alexandria, Va., Nov. 17-22. "Some issues have to be elevated to the next level and resolved there."

The next level up from Redstone is currently the Army Materiel Command but the structure is expected to change because of the reorganization into regions. In the past and for this year's conference, top issues that can't be resolved locally will be forwarded to AMC. AMC then conducts an AFAP conference in like fashion, prioritizing and working the issues it receives from subordinate commands. Top issues from the conference that cannot be resolved on that level are forwarded to the Department of Army. Two delegates from Redstone, Taylor and SSgt. Johnny Kennedy, an instructor with the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School who also served as a delegate for the Redstone 2002 AFAP conference, attended the DA conference.

"I was amazed and impressed at how seriously the senior leadership in the Army responded to the issues — to the point of being overwhelmed," Kennedy said. "They are serious about getting things done and making changes. It's incredible how much gets done at this one conference."

During the general officers' steering committee meeting at the conference, the decision was made to approve an increase in clothing allowance to cover the cost of running shoes twice a year, resolving an active issue from a previous year.

"We do a lot of PT," Kennedy said. "I can wear out a pair of tennis shoes in three months; and they're not cheap to replace."

The conference was conducted much like that of the lower level AFAPs, with some minor changes. The 112 delegates from the Army's major commands were divided into working groups to evaluate 146 issues and recommended 23 for entry into the AFAP. Among those, delegates voted to determine the top five conference issues. Delegates also voted for the most valuable services and the top six critical issues already active as a result of previous conferences.

In-state tuition was voted the No. 1 issue for the conference. Eligibility for in-state tuition rates is tricky for military families because of their mobile lifestyles. It was recommended that out-of-state tuition rates be waived for family members residing in that state on orders and the ability to retain in-state status once established.

The remaining four issues, in descending order are, the need to provide retiring servicemembers with a dislocation allowance to offset the financial burden of relocation; the selective use of military spouse preference to allow spouses to apply for any position without invoking MSP and authorize spouses to select job series and grade for which they invoke their MSP; elimination of the expiration date for the Montgomery GI Bill, an entitlement that ends 10 years after leaving the service or retiring; and medical coverage for activated reserve component families.

The top six critical active issues are: distribution of Montgomery GI Bill benefits to dependents; active duty spouse tuition/education assistance; modification of weight allowance table; revitalization of all Army family housing and eliminate the deficit by 2010; pay table reform; and Army retirement benefits awareness.

"We saw a couple of issues that came up at our AFAP at the DA level," Taylor said. "There was some different wording but the issues were nearly the same. So we saw that they were getting to the top and being discussed."

From 1983-2002, there are 71 issues active, 352 issues have been completed and 90 issues deemed unattainable. In that same time, AFAP resulted in 77 pieces of new legislation, 126 revised policies or regulations either DoD or DA and 139 improved programs or services.

"If I could tell people anything, it would be that this works," Taylor said. "I've seen it. And no, not every issue will be resolved the way people may want it but a lot of good changes are coming out of this. And every issue, no matter what the eventual outcome, has to be seen by the commander. Even though top issues are voted on and given priority, every issue is looked at. And hey, if your issue doesn't make the top list this year, resubmit it. The delegates change from year to year and different people have different priorities. Just keep sending it in."

For more information on submitting a survey or volunteering for the conference, call Dempsey at 876-5397.

■ Errant missile launch ignites investigation by team

Missile

continued from page 1

and the Aviation and Missile Command issued a Safety of Use message.

The investigation, which began in August 2001, continues.

"The most important lesson learned is that an investigation is a team project," Dr. Robin Buckelew, director of RDEC's Missile Guidance Directorate, said.

Because the incident involved an aircraft and a missile, the investigation team members represented several Team Redstone organizations and industry. Traci Ray and Kelly Craig, both from the RDEC, served as team leaders, with Ray serving as lead until September 2002. Craig is the current leader.

Additional team members included workers from the Safety Office; the Aviation Rockets and Missiles Project Manager's Office, under the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles; the Apache Program Management Office and the Kiowa Warrior Program Management Office, both under the PEO for Aviation; the Redstone Technical Test Center; and various contractors.

"Effective communication and cooperation is key," Buckelew said. "Of course, whenever there is more than one organization involved, there is always the possibility of hidden agendas. But our team had no hidden agendas. We weren't out to

place guilt, point fingers, or find fault. We all had the same view that the investigation was a team project, and we all worked together as a team to solve the problem at hand."

The goal of the investigation was twofold: to identify the root cause of the incident, and to demonstrate a solution that would return the Hellfire Surface Danger Zone to the area defined before the Safety of Use message as soon as possible.

Before the incident, about 2,000 missiles per year were being fired in training exercises. About 1,500 missiles had been fired at ranges in the continental United States, while about 500 were fired at ranges elsewhere.

There are two types of Surface Danger Zones for the Hellfire missiles: direct and indirect. Direct SDZ allows for Lock-On-Before Launch and Direct Lock-On-After Launch modes where the targets are in line of sight. Indirect SDZ allows for Lock-On-After Launch Low and High Launch modes where the targets are not in line of sight.

However, when the SOU was issued, all missile training exercises from all aircraft were restricted to the larger indirect SDZ. This move effectively eliminated the smaller ranges located at Fort Bragg; Fort Hood, Texas; and Fort Campbell, Ky., as well as those in Grafenwoehr (Germany), the Balkans and Poland, and many others.

"The reason these ranges are important

is that there are so few ranges that can support the larger Surface Danger Zones," Buckelew said. "This creates readiness and training issues because it restricts training."

The cause investigation was organized into three areas: missile failure, launcher failure and aircraft failure. Modeling, simulation and test activities were used to support the cause investigation and the demonstration of corrective actions.

The cockpit video had shown the missile within the field of view for a short time before it made what appeared to be a steep, pitch-up maneuver. Although the recovery of missile parts was limited, the control section and motor of the incident missile were recovered for failure analysis. However, no anomalies were discovered in the inspected actuator section hardware that could have caused the Hellfire missile to fly outside the SDZ.

"During the failure analysis, extensive lab tests and fielded aircraft inspections were performed," Craig said. "And once the team identified the problem, we performed field test shots which included missile ground and aircraft shots. The ground shots were from a rigid structure designed for this investigation, and the aircraft shots were static ground shots and hover shots. All field tests were live-fire."

Through testing, modeling and simulation, the investigation team determined that excessive roll rates cause errant Hellfire missiles, such as in the Fort Bragg incident. The excessive roll rate causes the missile gyro to tumble (lose flight path alignment) when the mechanical gyro on the air-to-ground missile hits either gyro stop prior to the missile achieving aerodynamic control. The aircraft, launcher and missile interaction at launch often imposes this high initial roll rate to the missile. The air-to-ground missile flight simulation has been modified and validated to include the failure mode and the simulation of this portion of the flight.

According to the historical evidence, about 7 percent of Kiowa and Apache misses flew erratically for no assignable cause. There were no erratic missile flights from rigid Fly-to-Buy stands. In 1995 a laser missile failure from an Apache aircraft was attributed to excessive roll tip-off. Modifications have been made to increase the structural stiffness of launching platforms and to reduce the load transferred into the structure.

The team subsequently determined that the most likely leading candidate for failure was the excessive roll rate induced at missile/rail separation. The excessive roll rate caused the gyro to lose reference, and the seeker never acquired laser energy.

Detailed structural modeling of missile launches and helicopter interactions (modal frequencies and wing/launcher vibration testing), and missile flyout simulation, supported failure determinations and identified a safe loading and firing configuration for

Apache. The Kiowa Warrior modeling and simulation efforts are ongoing.

A needed change in the mechanism that holds the missile on the launch rail has also been identified. This fix would prevent the transfer of roll energy into the missile at launch. The RDEC hopes to receive money to develop and test this modification, which is less expensive than missile modification.

The lessons learned keep growing. The investigation team says some of the most important include the following:

- Mechanical and 6DOF models of the platform, launcher and missile should be developed by the time the weapon system is integrated. The models are needed to prevent problems before they happen, but they should be in place for investigations when an anomaly arises.

- Maintain the models and simulations. As systems are used and more data is collected, they should be revised as an evolutionary process. The models should also be upgraded when modifications are made to the weapon system.

- When a missile anomaly arises, such as an errant flight or an inadvertent launch, all hardware (including the missile pieces) and aircraft data should be kept until a group of experts can arrive on site to investigate.

- All missile-training options should be considered during the development of the weapon instead of as an afterthought during production. System simulations built into the platform and launcher are working well for Longbow. Consideration should be given to live-fire training with short-range motors to prevent Surface Danger Zones from being so large.

- A design that requires a missile to push through a large detent force as it travels down the rail is a bad idea. The launcher and platform will move with this force and can snap back, imparting unwanted forces onto the missile before it is clear. It is better to move the force out of the missile's path as the launch is initiated.

- Missile designs should use electrical or inertial measurement units whenever possible, rather than mechanical gyros with physical stops and limitations.

The investigation team is documenting lessons learned. And Buckelew continues to emphasize the criticality of mechanical models to investigations.

"Unless detailed mechanical models are developed and maintained during weapon development and procurement programs, they will not be available for either failure prediction or failure diagnosis," she said.

"The lack of these models at the inception of the investigation, and the necessity of their development, held up the investigation for almost a year."

No excuse anymore for driving a dirty vehicle

Self-service car wash keeps grime at bay

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Members of this community enjoy many benefits and conveniences as part of Team Redstone. Now they can add another to the list.

Morale Welfare and Recreation has opened a car wash, located across Vincent Drive from the Commissary. A self-service facility, the new car wash has five wash bays, including one to accommodate taller vehicles such as RVs.

Each bay offers multiple settings, including a hot foam brush, tri-color conditioner and the standard multi-pressure wand with various presoak, wash and rinse capabilities. Clips for the cleaning of floor mats are also provided.

These amenities are available to the entire community at savings vs. similar facilities off post. The MWR car wash charges one dollar for the first four minutes and 25 cents per minute after that. Facilities off Redstone charge from \$1.25 for three and one-third minutes to \$1.75 for four minutes and upward.

Wash bays are not the only offering at the new facility. Two vacuum stations are available at a charge of 75 cents for four minutes. For when a simple vacuuming just won't do the job, the stations also

have shampooing capabilities. Then to keep your vehicle smelling sweet, fragrance sprayers provide nasal refreshment in six different scents.

If the vehicle should need more attention, check the contents of the vending machine located next to the change machine. It contains supplies for any auto detailing need at a nominal charge, including wheel cleaners, rain repellent and toweling. Even the most unprepared customers can give their vehicle a professional looking cleaning with the change found under their seats.

Since opening two weeks ago, response to the car wash has been good. Bill Woosley, who manages both Auto Skills and the car wash, said the new facility fills a need that has been present for years.

"I've talked to people using the car wash who can't see now how they've lived without it," he said. "I've seen people using it even when it's so cold that the front half of the car is froze by the time they finish with the back."

He added that "new" doesn't apply only to its age. "We've got all the bells and whistles," Woosley said. "It is so automated that it will even page me if it is running low on soap."

This means that all who patronize MWR's newest endeavor can rest assured that it is ready and fully stocked. Woosley and MWR invite the community to come out and try the new car wash. For more information, call Woosley at 955-7727.



Photo by Kelley Lane

OPEN FOR BUSINESS— The new facility, located behind the Shopette on the corner of Vincent Drive and Goss Road, turns spare change into showroom shine.

Wilson family adopts lifetime of Army service

*Dad a retired soldier,
Mom a civilian worker,
Son a helicopter pilot*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Levern Wilson didn't know he was starting a family tradition when he joined the Army for the money in September 1980.

After six weeks, he decided to stay 20 years. Now he's a retired first sergeant who served in the Military Police Corps, his wife works for the Army at Redstone and their son is a first lieutenant and future Apache helicopter pilot at Fort Rucker. The only holdout is their 15-year-old daughter.

"But I'm working on her, trust me," Wilson said, laughing. "Get her in the Army, too."

His wife, Ruthie, is a staffing specialist at South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center. The son, Marquis, graduated Dec. 18 from the Aviation School at Fort Rucker and will start the three-month Apache course May 29. The daughter, Nekia, is a freshman who runs track at Bob Jones High.

"I'm from a family of 12," said Wilson, a contract investigator for Defense Security Services. "And out of those 12 (six boys and six girls), I'm the only one that ever served in the military."

Wilson joined for money to return to college but a drill sergeant changed his mind. "He instilled a lot of leadership and I decided this is what I wanted to be doing for at least the next 20 years," he said.

He told Ruthie he'd serve 20 and retire. And he kept his promise, retiring in September 2000 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The former high school sweethearts in Bishopville, S.C., got married in March 1980. Ruthie began her government career in January 1982 in Heidelberg, Germany, during her husband's first overseas tour. He had two tours in Germany and one in Korea.

"I've always maintained civilian personnel related positions at various levels," Ruthie said of her career. Basically she worked wherever Wilson was stationed.

"For the most part wherever we went, (Army employment) was pretty much the only thing available," she said. "And when I started in Germany, I wanted to maintain my Army employment and provide services to other spouses."

Wilson was stationed at Fort McClellan from 1997-99. When that post closed

in September 1999, he moved to Fort Leonard Wood where he served until retiring as a senior evaluator at the MP school. He rejoined his family — from whom he was geographically separated since his unaccompanied tour in Korea from September 1996 to September 1997 — in the Huntsville area. Ruthie arrived in September 1998 as a staffing assistant and was selected for the local intern program in February 1999. She has been a staffing specialist about two years. The Wilsons reside in Madison.

Marquis, 23, attended Enterprise State Junior College for two years on a basketball scholarship as a 6-foot-1 point guard. He got a two-year ROTC scholarship to Jacksonville State University and graduated as a second lieutenant in June 2001. He became a first lieutenant last December.

"When I was in high school I had no intention of joining the military," Marquis said. "I decided to look at an ROTC scholarship on my own. But growing up I really hadn't wanted to join the military at all."

He chose the Army over the other military services because of its job opportuni-

ties. Then he decided on aviation.

"(Aviation) was just something I just woke up some day and decided to do," said Marquis, who will fly AH-64A Apaches. "Other branches in the Army just seemed kind of boring to me so it was the only one I was really excited about."

The Wilsons are proud of their son and understandably concerned about the potential war against Iraq.

"As with any parents, you're always concerned about your kids," Wilson said. "But there is no doubt in my mind that with the training he has received, he's going to be OK. And without a doubt, God is in his life. He'll do fine."

"I'm very concerned but I think any parents are going to feel that way," Ruthie said. "And I service Fort Rucker so I know the type training he's in. And there's no doubt he's received the right type training and they're a top-notch group down there."

Marquis is prepared to do his job whatever happens. "If it comes down to it and we go to war, you have to do what you have to do," he said. "So if I'm sent, I'll go."



Photo by Sidney Reese

GRADUATION DAY— 1st Lt. Marquis Wilson is among 40 graduates Dec. 18 at the Aviation School at Fort Rucker. From left are Levern, his father; Nekia, his sister; Marquis and his mother, Ruthie. He will start the three-month Apache helicopter course May 29.

Bush meets with Polish leader on economic relations, war on terror

By SFC DOUG SAMPLE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush met with Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski on Jan. 14 at the White House to discuss issues ranging from economic relations between the two countries to the Polish government's recent decision to buy U.S. warplanes.

Bush also hailed the Polish president as an equal partner and for his commitment to work with the United States in the war on terror. America has no better friend in Europe today than Poland, he said.

Earlier, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld greeted Kwasniewski at the Pentagon, where the two held private talks before the meeting with the president.

During a brief press opportunity, Kwasniewski said America has a "unique chance" to accelerate economic activities and investment activities in Poland, which has agreed to purchase several U.S. F-16 fighters to beef up its military forces and NATO presence.

The Polish president praised the addition of the F-16s to his military and called them a "good contribution to our NATO membership."

Kwasniewski agreed with the course of action President Bush has taken in dealing with North Korean nuclear involvement. Although the situation with North Korea is difficult, he said, there is

an opportunity for a peaceful resolution.

"We have a chance to propose something very positive to North Korea," he said, adding that there are "enough possibilities to propose a positive solution for this case, but with all international partners."

The White House visit marks Kwasniewski's second visit to Washington since becoming president, and he welcomed the support his country has gotten from the United States.

"I think this is a good sign that our cooperation, our relations are very active and very friendly. I think today is the best time to discuss, because before action, before large decisions, it's necessary to exchange of opinion, of experiences, of some ideas. And that is a very substantial element of my trip to Washington," he said.

Welcoming the contributions of the more than 10 million Polish Americans living in the United States, whom he described as "enterprising, hardworking, God-fearing, family-loving people," President Bush said America's might lies in its diversity.

"One of the great strengths of our country is our diversity, and part of our diversity is the fact that a lot of our citizens were born in Poland, and/or their fathers and mothers were born in Poland, or their grandparents were born in Poland," Bush said. "Truly one of the great blessings and gifts from Poland to this country is the Polish heritage."



Photo by SFC Doug Sample

TOP VISITOR— Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld escorts Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski into the Pentagon's River Entrance Jan. 14, 2003, for private talks. The Polish leader met with President Bush at the White House later in the day to discuss economic relations between the two countries and Poland's recent decision to buy U.S. F-16 fighter jets for its military.

Department of Army adjusts child-care fees beginning in January

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Child-care fee changes issued by the Department of Defense will become effective in January for families using Army child development centers and school-age programs.

Commanders use the DoD fee ranges as the basis for determining local fees. This year changes in the way fees are calculated will reduce fees for some lower-income families and dual military couples, while officials said other patrons will likely see a \$2-4 increase per week.

Army child-care fees adhere to Department of Defense Child Development Program Fee Ranges based on family income levels. After an 18-month review, two major changes have been made in how fees are calculated.

First, the income limit for the lowest family income category (Category 1) has been raised from \$23,000 to \$28,000. This is the first time the Category I income limit has been changed since the fee scale was established in 1990.

"We are hoping that more families will be eligible for Category I instead of Category II and thereby pay lower fees," said Nancy Campbell, a Child and Youth Services staff member at the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center in Alexandria, Va.

The Army fee guidance establishes the minimum weekly DoD fee (\$42/week) for all Category 1 patrons Armywide in response to an Army Family Action Plan recommendation. Commanders select installation fees in

the other five categories. Those patrons will likely see a \$2-4 increase per week.

Secondly, dual military couples living off post will benefit from a change in the way Basic Allowance for Housing is calculated as part of total family income. Previously, BAH for both soldiers was counted toward determining family income, which placed some families into higher income categories causing them to pay higher fees. However, starting this year, only the BAH for the senior member of the dual military couple will be used in determining total family income.

Campbell said that with 100 percent of Army child development centers accredited through the National Association for the Education of Young Children, soldiers are getting the best quality child care at a significantly reduced cost. In comparison, only 8 percent of off-post centers are accredited, and fees for comparable child-care are usually 20-50 percent more expensive than those on post, she said.

"Military child care is a terrific value in terms of what you get for your child care dollar... 10-12 hours of care per day, meals, snacks, trained staff, state of the art facilities, no additional charges for infants and the high quality of care your child receives," she said.

Another advantage of Army childcare is that child development centers and Family Child Care homes accept infants and usually have longer operating hours than do off post programs, Campbell said. Finding infant care and extended hours

care off post is both difficult and extremely expensive, Campbell said.

The fee policy changes will not affect FCC home fees, Campbell said. Family child-care homes run by military spouses in government quarters fall under the oversight of Child and Youth Services, but are private home-based businesses.

Patron fees generally cover only half the cost of Army child care, Campbell said. Appropriated funds cover the rest.

The new fees are effective in January so soldiers can use their December 2002 Leave and Earnings Statement to determine their family income category for fees, Campbell

said. The January LES will include a military pay increase which would bump many families into a higher fee category.

"The intent is to have their fees set at the lower level, before their FY '03 pay raise goes into effect," Campbell said.

Child and Youth Services is a component of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, the headquarters Department of the Army agency responsible for delivering more than 200 Morale, Welfare, Recreation and family programs worldwide.

Editor's note: Information provided by CFSC Public Affairs.

10-year-old sergeant loses battle, wins hearts

Youngster's final wish was to outrank brother

By Spec. CHUCK WAGNER
Army News Service

FORT MYER, Va. — The headstone will be inscribed "Sgt. Justin Bryce," even though the dates will show he was much too young to enlist.

His teary-eyed mother's description of him explains how a 10-year-old deserved every chevron.

"He was a brave little boy. It didn't matter what struggle he had to go through, he just faced them. I think the way he used to look at it was that no matter how tough life seems, you can still overcome everything. And he always had a smile," said Mary Bryce from the family's Grene, N.Y., home.

Justin knew something about struggles. He spent months battling liver cancer, which spread and wracked his small body.

Justin's request to the Make-A-Wish foundation was to outrank his brother, Pvt. Raymond Bryce of 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld told the Army to make it happen.

Over a few blustery November days, Justin enlisted and was promoted at the Pentagon, climbed around inside an opu-

lent limousine on his way to Fort Belvoir where he shot an M-16 with night-vision goggles and commanded an M-111 personnel carrier. Near day's end, the Army whisked him over Washington aboard a Black Hawk in a last-minute, unscheduled flight because soldiers heard him ask, "Can I fly in a helicopter?"

He rested that evening looking out over Baltimore Harbor aboard a Coast Guard ship. Ships, you see, were another of Justin's passions.

"Even up to a couple of days before, he was still calling himself sergeant," his mother said.

Justin, unresponsive over Christmas Eve, died at home Christmas day surrounded by the entire extended family.

Scores of friends visited him during calling hours on Dec. 28. Six National Guard soldiers from a local armory took turns standing vigil for four hours. The family dressed Justin in the battle dress uniform issued to him and hung his ID tags around his neck. His mother shined his boots.

Services were held for the family the next day. Justin's formal burial is planned in spring.

Instead of seeing Disney World, Justin had asked to join the Army family. His mother says he quickly realized how the Army takes care of its own.

More than 40,000 people have logged on

the web site www.caringbridge.org/ny/justin-bryce, to read about Justin and leave messages for him and his family. Many of the messages, as well as hundreds of e-mails to his mother, are from servicemembers. More arrive every day.

"Sgt. Justin, keep fighting and it was my honor to get to know you and my pleasure to serve with you in the Army," wrote 1st Sgt. Lee Branham before Christmas.

"May God give you strength to carry on each passing day. God Bless You," SSgt. Gerald Canada wrote to the family

after Justin's funeral.

His mother prints out e-mailed letters from servicemembers to put in Justin's keepsake book, which is bulging with notes, autographs and pictures of a proud, bald, freckled sergeant surrounded by his Army buddies.

"It touches my heart. You guys are very, very caring. Justin picked the right group of people," Mary said.

Editor's note: Spec. Chuck Wagner is a staff writer for the Pentagon newspaper at Fort Myer.



Photo by Peter Cielka

PENTAGON TOUR— Sgt. Justin Bryce made the most of his time as a soldier during his visit to the Pentagon and Fort Belvoir, Va., in October.

Soldier wounded in Afghanistan; weapons caches discovered

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A Special Forces soldier was wounded Jan. 17 in a firefight in far western Afghanistan. He was listed in stable condition.

The soldier was hit in the lower leg when the mounted patrol he was taking part in came under fire about 50 kilometers southeast of Shindand.

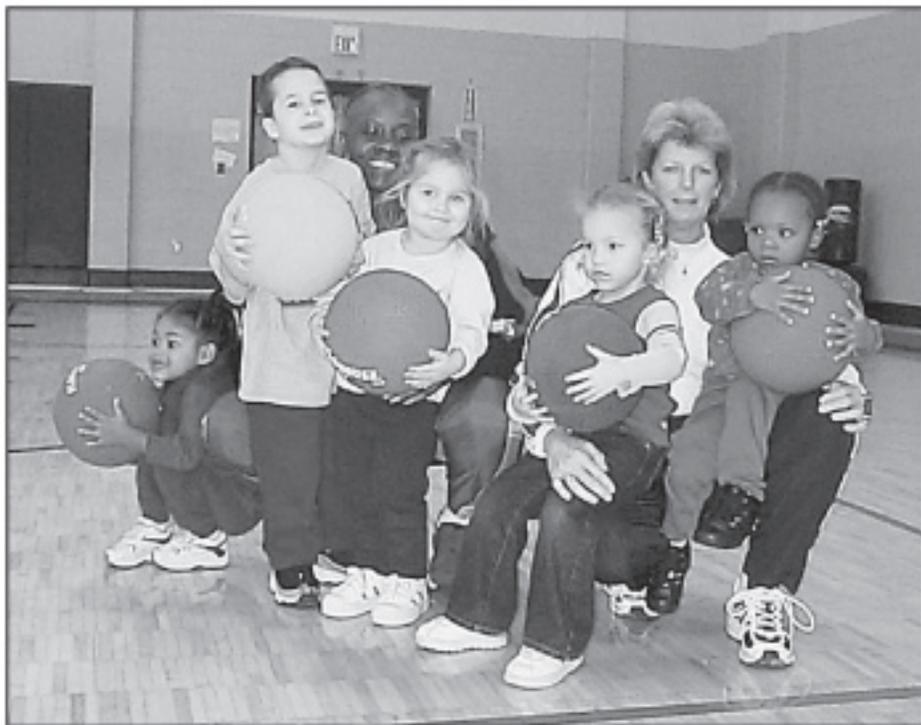
The patrol returned fire and broke contact, a U.S. military spokesman in Bagram said. U.S. officials evacuated the soldier to medical facilities at Kandahar Air Field.

This marked the second day in a row that a U.S. soldier was wounded in the country. On Jan. 16, two soldiers were wounded when a homemade bomb went

off under the vehicle they were driving in. They were treated at the facility in Kandahar and released. That incident occurred near Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan.

Coalition forces continue to find and confiscate weapons caches around the country. U.S. special operations forces found caches in Jalalabad, Bamian, Kandahar and Gardez. This follows a cordon-and-search operation conducted with Afghan military forces Jan. 15 that uncovered a cache in Paktia province.

U.S. officials are encouraged that local Afghan tribesmen are revealing many cache locations. U.S. officials in the country said this shows that the people of the area see the U.S. presence is fostering security.



Courtesy photo

Youth movement

A "Preschool Education Movement" class made its debut Jan. 8 at the Youth Center. Participating in the first class are, from left, Alyssa Monroe, 3; Zachary Pugh, 4; instructor Yolande Lewis; Shandi Burrows, 3; Deanna Vaughn, 3; Missy Richards and Anyiah McCrimmon, 3. Denise Jones and Genny Pugh provide Family Child Care for these youngsters.

Some airlines waive ticket exchange fees for troops

By GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Some U.S. airlines are adjusting their rules so servicemembers won't have to pay penalties if they need to alter ticket reservations because of military duty.

AirTran Airways, Delta Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines now waive ticket change fees for servicemembers on military deployment orders, while ticketing changes on Southwest Airlines are currently free, according to Jean Marie Ward of the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. Continental, Frontier and Northwest Airlines waive change fees and also will issue refunds on request, she added.

Ward said particulars of these carriers' programs can be viewed at DoD's Military Assistance Program web site at dod.mil/mapsite/airtickets.html. Information from more airlines will be added as it becomes available, she said.

According to General Service Administration officials, a number of other airlines will waive ticket change penalties if servicemembers present copies of their military orders or a letter from their commanders, Ward noted. The waiver procedures are official company policy for some carriers, she said, but not all reservation or check-in personnel may know that. She suggested travelers call their airline for waiver information before going to the airport.

Much of the U.S. airline industry has been in a financial tailspin since Sept. 11, 2001, and has instituted or boosted penalties for customers who want new tickets because of missed flights or changes in their travel plans.

Military travelers became prime penalty targets on Oct. 7, 2001, when America launched its military offensive against global terrorism. Many thousands of active and reserve component servicemembers already have been called up and deployed, Ward noted, and myriad thousands more have been tapped for duty as part of the U.S. military buildup for potential war against Iraq.

Questions were raised in late 2002 about the travel penalties faced by servicemembers called off leave for military operations.

At DoD's request, GSA officials queried City Pairs Program carriers — the contract carriers for government travelers — regarding ticket exchange penalties and waivers for military personnel, Ward remarked. Meanwhile, she added, Air Mobility Command officials pursued parallel inquiries and ultimately coordinated much of the discussion between DoD and the airlines regarding waivers.

Information on the Military Assistance Program web site notes that the Army Emergency Relief Society, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and the Air Force Aid Society may provide loans to cover unexpected expenses resulting when air carriers don't waive fees or penalties.

The web site notes that servicemembers needing financial help of this type can call or visit the relief society office at the nearest military installation. The three organizations have reciprocal agreements with each other and the Coast Guard.

Policies for changing reservations or travel plans vary across the travel industry, Ward explained, noting that Amtrak tickets, for example, can be changed without charge in most cases. In contrast, pre-arranged travel packages would be more difficult to alter.

"However, the travel issues related to short-term deployments are broader than changes in personal travel plans," Ward said. Certain military personnel, such as single and dual military parents, are required to have family care plans for deployments, she noted, adding that these plans can involve sending children to distant family members or bringing a caretaker into the home.

Ward said DoD is exploring the issue of this kind of short-fused family travel with the airlines. Pending new airline policies, she said, DoD recommends servicemembers implementing plans that call for short-fused family travel ask their airline representative about eligibility requirements for any special fares.

Military families whose care plans rely on other forms of transportation should check their carriers' policies, Ward said. In any case, she noted, local military service relief societies might offer loans to cover these expenses.



Sports & Recreation

Girls club

The Youth Center is offering a "Go Girl Go Club," for girls in grades 6-12, which will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Youth Center, building 3148 off Goss Road. Go Girl Go Club emphasizes sportsmanship, physical fitness and a positive self-image. Any girl who wishes to participate must be registered in Child and Youth Services. For more information call Yashica Smith, program coordinator, 876-5437 or Carolyn 313-3609.

Boating safety classes

Redstone Flotilla 2406 offers boating safety classes in room 215 at building 3305, Stillwell Hall, on Zeus Drive. Classes will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 13 through March 27, April 10 through May 22, June 12 through July 24, Aug. 14 through Sept. 25 and Oct. 9 through Nov. 20. A \$22 fee covers the cost of the class text and binder. For more information or to register, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 (work) or 830-6621 (home).



Conferences & Meetings

Nonprofit networking

Want to know how to get your message out in print? A representative from *The Huntsville Times* will share the "nuts and

bolts" of getting your story into the right place at The Market Place, a new network for local nonprofits with a focus on marketing related topics. At its first meeting, it will also survey attendees about future topics and dates. Bring a sack lunch and join the members Friday from noon-1 p.m. at the United Way building, 701 Andrew Jackson Way. For more information call Linda Bonner at United Way 536-0745, ext. 104.

Parent council

The Parent Advisory Council meets Jan. 28 at 11 a.m. at the ChildWise Center, building 1413, second floor, Spartan Drive. Parents with children in the Child Development Center, Youth Services, and School Age Services are encouraged to attend. Parents earn PAC participation points for attending. For more information, call Anita Epps 774-6737.

Military officers association

The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its monthly luncheon Jan. 29 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Retired Brig. Gen. Rod Wolfe, president of the Alabama Council of Chapters, MOAA, is to speak and install the chapter's new officers. For more information, call Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Diabetic support group

The Diabetic Support Group will meet

Feb. 4 at 10 a.m. at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Scheduled speaker is Dr. Todd Broome, kidney specialist with Nephrology Associates. For more information call 880-7080, ext. 226.



Miscellaneous

Apprentice program

The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program is held each summer to give academically talented high school and college students research experience with mentors at the Aviation and Missile Command. Applications are available from high school senior counselors or college placement services; and the deadline is Jan. 31. For more information, call Betty Duke of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center 313-4790.

Weather closings

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: Radio - WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKL, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM; Television - WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement or you can log on to the Team Redstone Internet site (www.redstone.army.mil) and click the button for weather information.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for Merit Awards to help offset the cost of tuition, books and related fees. Applications are available at OCWC board meetings and luncheons, and the deadline is Feb. 1. Applicants must: be a member, spouse of a member, or dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of last Oct. 1 and live within 50 miles of Huntsville. Candidates may compete in one of four categories - high school senior, undergraduate, graduate and member/spouse. Previous winners may compete in succeeding years, but may win only once in each category. Students receiving full scholarship may not apply. For more information about Merit Awards call Diane Moore, merit awards chairman, 864-2670.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.asmc.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Jar Howard 313-3447 or Debbie O'Neal 842-7501. Application deadline is Feb. 28. These may be mailed to Howard at PEO, Air and Missile Defense, Attn.: SFAE-AMD-BD-SE, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, Ala., 35807-3801 or taken to O'Neal, building 5300, third floor, Sparkman Center.

Welfare contributions

Every year the Officer and Civilian Women's Club makes contributions to a variety of organizations. This year a "Welfare Request Form" is being used to standardize the process by collecting the same information from each requesting organization. Welfare Request Forms are available at Army Community Service (building 3338), by mail (OCWC, Attn: Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35808), and via e-mail from adlunn@knology.net or dbusk@aol.com. All requests must conform to the OCWC Welfare Request Form. The request deadline is Feb. 28. For more information, call Angie Lunn 837-3310 or Dede Busk 430-1083.

National Guard recruiting

The Alabama Army National Guard is seeking motivated individuals for part-time employment. "Start or continue your military career with the best part-time job in America," a prepared release said. If you know someone who needs college money, job training, retirement or just wants to serve their country, call SSGT. Joe Cox 881-2889 or 707-8467 or call Sgt. Mike Alexander 350-1610.

Fashion benefit

The eighth annual Designers Against Breast Cancer/Runway Extravaganza is March 1 at the Senior Center auditorium. The reception, auction and exhibits begin at 6 p.m., and the fashion show at 7. Tickets are \$20 each. Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Interested exhibitors, and silent auction contributors, should call Ms. Smith 539-0001.

Drill sergeant of year

The 59th Ordnance Brigade Drill Sergeant of the Year luncheon is Jan. 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers

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and Civilians Club. For tickets and information, call SFC Lopez 842-6861 or Sgt. Maj. Battle 842 9767.

Garden plot assignments

Soldiers, retirees and DoD civilians should submit an annual request for the use of individual garden plots by March 10. Individuals wishing to retain their same garden plot should contact SFC Pate, the housing NCO-in-charge, from Jan. 30 through Feb. 14. Those failing to notify Pate by the prescribed dates are subject to assignment of a different garden plot. Priority of issue is as follows: first, active duty military request their plots Feb. 15 through March 1; second, retirees request their plots March 2-16; and third, DoD civilians make their requests March 17-31.

Art auction

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold its 31st annual Art Auction Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. The exhibition is presented by the Perry Berns Gallery. Tickets are \$10 per person and include hors d'oeuvres and dessert with a cash bar. The auction begins at 7. With your reservation the dining room will be open at 5, offering a buffet dinner just before the auction. Tickets are on sale now. For tickets or more information, call Katherine Sorensen 837-3772 or the Officers and Civilians Club 830-2582.

Butler High alums

The 1968 and 1969 classes of Butler High School will hold a reunion this year. For more information call Jeannie Sharpe King 772-1963, Glenda Swafford Anderson 837-9789 or Bill Baker 533-7234.

Airborne recruits

The Airborne Recruiting Team will visit Redstone Arsenal from Feb. 18-21. Information on when and where will be provided later. In the Ordnance field, PERSCOM is particularly interested in enlisted personnel in the following specialties: 27E, 35H, 35Y and 55B. For more information call SFC Tracy of Fort Knox, Ky., at DSN 536-0427.

Prayer breakfast

The next IMMC Prayer Breakfast is Jan. 28 at 7 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5308, room 8124. No food or drink will be served, but you may bring your own. Everyone is welcome.

Information technology rules

Section 508 requires that federal agencies' electronic and information technology is accessible to people with disabilities. The Federal Information Technology Accessibility Initiative is a federal government interagency effort to offer information and technical assistance to assist in the successful implementation of Section 508, effective June 21, 2001. Go to the Federal IT Accessibility Initiative web

site at <http://www.Section508.gov> to learn more about this new requirement. When purchasing a copier, fax machine, printer, personal computer, or other electronic information technology items, each organization or activity must comply with the Section 508 standards set by the Federal Access Board. The access board web site is located at <http://www.access-board.gov>. For more information contact Carol L. Smith, CIC-B-M, via e-mail at carol.smith2@redstone.army.mil or phone 876-3202.

Neighborhood news

Mayors are needed for Area 4 and Area 10A, Apollo Landing. If any current Redstone residents are interested in serving as a mayor, call Mary Breeden of Army Community Service, building 3338, at 876-5397. The Mayoral Program was established to improve the well-being of soldiers and their families residing on the installation. Duties include attending the monthly mayors' meeting to identify, assess and resolve community issues and programs. The Mayoral Program provides residents with opportunities to improve the community by identifying programs based on community needs and interests.

National prayer breakfast

Chaplain (Col.) Sam Boone, assistant commandant of the Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson, S.C., is to speak at the National Prayer Breakfast, Feb. 6 at

6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The officer-in-charge is Chaplain (Maj.) Fred MacLean of Bicentennial Chapel. Tickets are on sale for a suggested donation of \$3. For more information or tickets, call the chapel 876-2409.

Training opportunities

The South Central Training and Learning Center is offering the following regional training opportunities at the Sparkman Center: Federal Budget Process, March 4-5; Criticism and Discipline Skills for Managers, March 18; Effective Interpersonal Communications, March 18; and Staffing, Pay and Leave Fundamentals for Personnel Liaisons, April 23-25. A copy of the course announcements and the Payment Authorization Sheet for registration are located in the public folders under AMCOM Community Mail. This is regional training — not a TIPS course. The Payment Authorization Sheet must be completed by the credit card holder and faxed to the SC TLC to complete your registration. For more information, call Louise Olszewski 842-6540 or Charanne Harris 842-4545.

Newcomers orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation Feb. 4 at 8:30 a.m. at building 3338. The orientation features

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speakers, information booths, refreshments and a bus tour of Redstone Arsenal. Participants receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently stationed at Redstone. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is offered. For more information, call Mary Breeden 876-5397. Building 3338 is located at the intersection of Mauler and Redeye Road.

Charity fund organization

The Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications for a Principle Combined Fund Organization to administer the 2003 CFC. The organization is responsible for campaign management and fiduciary responsibility. Applications will be accepted through Friday. Only federations, charitable organizations, or a combination thereof are eligible to apply. All applications should be mailed to: CFC chairperson, AMSAM-CFC, building 3708, Redstone Arsenal, 35898-5795.

Space and missile defense

Lt. Gen. Joseph Cosumano, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command, is scheduled speaker at the Army Space and Missile Defense Association's annual membership luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Hilton. Ticket purchase deadline is Jan. 21. For more information

or to buy tickets, call Norma Osborne of the Army Space and Missile Defense Association 837-8004.

Johnson High parents

Parents of Johnson High are invited to an open house Thursday at 6 p.m. where they'll meet their children's new Spring Block teachers. Refreshments will be served.

Car wash

Redstone Arsenal's new self-service MWR Car Wash is ready for business. Just like all other MWR facilities, the car wash is open to the entire Redstone community. All revenues from the car wash are put back into the community. Stop by and wash your car for \$1 for the first four minutes and 25 cents for every minute after that. The car wash is behind the Shopette (the gas station) at the corner of Goss Road and Vincent Drive (across Vincent from the Commissary). For more information, call 955-7727.

Security tip

"Memorize, don't compromise," the Intelligence and Security Directorate advises. Use your telephone keypad to create coded number/letter safe combinations. Examples include: Coffee — Co-ff-ee, 26-33-33; United — Un-it-ed, 86-48-33; and States — St-at-es, 78-28-37. For more information, call Intelligence and Security Directorate 313-1047/313-1593.

Bingo special

Challenger Bingo, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, will have Special Pack Night, Friday. Buy one Bingo game pack and get a second one free. There's also free food and an extra game. Challenger Bingo is open to the entire Redstone community 19-plus years old. Active duty and retired military, DoD/Army civilians and Redstone/ NASA contractors are welcome. For more information, call 830-0750.

Youth arts contest

The Military Child Education Coalition is looking for children's artwork, poems and essays for April publishing of its "On the move" and "Month of the Military Child" magazines, as well as a 2004 calendar. The theme is "I Serve Too, I'm a Military Child." Any child in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade may enter. All work must be patriotic and mailed to Military Child Education Coalition, 108-E FM 2410, Suite D, Harker Heights, TX 76548. Entry deadline is Feb. 4. For information call Pam Berry 955-6309.

Chili cookoff

Want to prove you have Redstone Arsenal's best chili? Participate in the Redstone MWR Communitywide Chili Cookoff, Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center. Team participation (limit five persons) is allowed, \$10 per team or single entry and participants must make two gallons of chili for judging. For information call Brandie DeRemer 313-1202/1203.

Reading to children

Become a Redstone community volunteer reader and read to children at the Child Development Center each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m., beginning Feb. 5. Call Shellie or Evelyn 876-7952 to volunteer or for more information.

Bible study

The Bicentennial Chapel invites all women with access to the Arsenal to participate in a Lunch Time Bible Study. Participants are starting the study "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" on Jan. 30, and will meet every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Bring your own lunch and join them in the assembly room. To reserve your spot, e-mail the following: newtiques@earthlink.net.

Astronomical society

Von Braun Astronomical Society astronomer Dr. Roy Young is to speak on "The Winter Skies," Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Wernher Von Braun Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For non-members, admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Weather permitting, a star party — using the VBAS telescopes — will follow. For information call Mitzi Adams 961-7626.

Health week

AmSouth Bank will hold its annual Health Week promotion, Jan. 27-31. From 5:15-7:30 p.m., individuals can call the hotline numbers at 535-6835 or 1-800-947-7606 for answers to their questions on healthcare issues. This service is confi-

dential, free of charge and will be televised by WAFF-TV Channel 48. Local healthcare professionals will volunteer to provide callers with accurate answers to their concerns, and referrals to local and area agencies if appropriate.

Administrative professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its eighth annual Seminar and Education Forum, Feb. 11 at the Huntsville Hilton. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and the last class will end at 3:45 p.m. For more information, call Julie Manning 876-1501. Tuition is \$125.

Acquisition experience

The Army Acquisition Support Center sponsors the Acquisition Career Experience program at various Army locations. The program's intent is to recruit high-potential undergraduate sophomores or juniors with a discipline of study that underpins one of the Army's acquisition career fields of engineering, contracting, information technology, business or logistics. For more information, call Sharon Clodfelter 955-1632 or Maxine Maples 955-2764.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 scholarship awards to a high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is April 30. For more information or a scholarship application, call Patricia Motes 876-9317.

Smooth moving

Soldiers can make their next permanent change of station move a "Smooth Move" by attending the levy briefing Thursday at 1 p.m. at building 3338, Redeye Road. Representatives from Transportation, Education Center, Military Personnel, Finance, Travel, Housing, Legal, and Army Community Service will be on hand with information about moving. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Technology exposition

The Redstone community is invited to a technology exposition Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Many exhibitors will demonstrate the latest in Knowledge Management Solutions, Data Storage, Embedded Computer Products, Software and Hardware, Systems Integration, IT Solutions, Disaster Recovery, Web Services and more. There will be free refreshments and giveaways (while supplies last). For more information or to request a company or technology that you would like to see at the expo call Meredith Davis (888) 603-8899, ext. 214.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesday and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 9-5. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The shop has appointments Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3 p.m. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop is a collection site for New Futures; bring your cell phones that are in working order — Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia — and all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. For more information, call 881-6992.

Office manager job

The Thrift Shop is looking for an office manager Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, three hours each day. Pay is \$7.50 per hour. Computer skills are required. For more information, call Isabel 881-6992.

Air Force association

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association has established a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2003-04 school year in partnership with Calhoun Community College for students wishing to pursue an associate degree in aerospace technology. Applicants must be enrolled in a Civil Air Patrol cadet program, Air Force Junior ROTC program, or be a dependent of an Air Force, Air National Guard, or Air Force Reserve member or be a dependent of another military service member. Application deadline is April 30. For more information, call Terry Roop 313-7170 before 4:30 p.m. or 230-0396 after 5:30.

Unauthorized downloads

The Criminal Investigation Command determined that a public web site, which opened in January, was offering free screensavers that could severely affect the performance of government computers. The site is offering free screensavers similar to the SETI (search for extraterrestrial intelligence) project. The web site states that the screensavers will be used to find hidden terrorist communications on the Internet. The Internet sites are located at: <http://www.helpcombatterterrorism.com/ind ex.htm> and <http://steganographicdetecting systems.com>. Do not install the screensavers from these web sites onto your government computers. The integrity of this software has not been determined. Loading this software on your home computer is to be done at your own risk. For more information call Earl Seiler, special agent in charge, 876-2037.

Touring theater

The Army's BRAVO Touring Company is coming to Redstone Arsenal for a dinner theater Feb. 21 at the Officers and Civilians Club. (Its regular show is Feb. 22 at the Recreation Center; call 313-1202/1203 for \$3 tickets.) Army BRAVO Touring Company is a theatrical company of soldiers chosen to travel and perform at

Army installations. The theme for this year's show is, "Lift Up Your Hearts, America!" Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres are served at 6 p.m. with cash bar. Prime rib dinner follows from 7-8 and the show begins at 8. Cost is \$13.95 for club members and \$15.95 for non-members. Call 830-2582 for details or tickets.

Spring break registration

Child and Youth Services will accept applications to the Spring Break & Summer Camps at the School Age Services (grades K-5) and Youth Services (grades 6-12) programs from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 13 through March 14. Spring Break Camps are March 17-28. Application and registration information packets may be picked up at central registration in the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Registration costs \$15 and a current immunization record must accompany registration. Cost is based on family income per DoD regulations. This program is open to children of all military and military retirees, DoD/Army civilians, NASA, and DoD/Redstone contractors. Call 876-3704 or 955-6309 for details.

Breastfeeding basics

Child and Youth Services is offering a free "Breastfeeding Basics" class for expectant mothers who plan to nurse their infants. The class will be held Feb. 12 from 9-10 a.m. at the ChildWise Center, building 1413 on Spartan Drive. This class is open to the entire Redstone community to include contractors. To register or for more information, call 876-2798.

Commissary safety week

Defense Commissary Agency sponsors "Safety Week," Jan. 19-25 with the theme "Your Safety is Our Goal."

Redstone missile reunion

Aug. 18 will mark the 50th anniversary of the launching of the first Redstone missile at Cape Canaveral. Individuals who were involved in the design, testing or launch of this missile are invited with their families to a reunion dinner on or about Aug. 18 at the Beville Center in Huntsville. For more information, call Bill Pittman 876-1778.

Project proposals

The fiscal 2004 DoD Challenge Project is open for proposals from the work force. The Department of Defense's high performance computing resources should be dedicated to the highest priority and most demanding projects. Each year, the High Performance Computing Modernization Program conducts a review of the department's most important, high-priority, computationally intensive projects to determine which projects will receive DoD Challenge Project grants. Members of the local DoD community should send their submissions to Marshall McBride at the following address: Space & Missile Defense Battle Lab, Attn: SMDC-BL-SC (McBride), P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. He can be reached at 955-1355.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U

THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL

02BK0151945BR1	Log Mgmt Spec	22-Jan-03	ROCK ISLAND,ILL	GS-0346	13	13	66,813 - 86,859	X												
02BK0150068FM2	Electronics Engineer	23-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	54,495 - 84,241	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0142269MW2	Mechanical Engineer	23-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK01471197DF2	Personnel Mgmt Spec	24-Jan-03	CPAC	GS-0201	7	9	31,674 - 50,368	X												
SCBK03131676	Budget Analyst	28-Jan-03	RMD	GS-0560	11	11	46,878 - 60,946	X												
02BK0153345FM2	Mechanical Engineer	28-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X												
02BK0152936DC1	Supvy Police Officer	28-Jan-03	GARRISON	GS-0083	9	9	37,579 - 48,849	X												
02BK0140489MS1	General Engineer	30-Jan-03	PEO,SIM	GG-0801	14	14	76,580 - 99,552	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0137726OD2	Lead General Engineer	30-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	76,580 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0148742OD2	Lead Materials Engineer	30-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0806	4	4	76,580 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK03153623	Admi Support Asst	30-Jan-03	CofE Huntsville	GS-0303	7	7	31,674 - 41,177	X												
SCBK03156431	International Program Mgmt Spec	30-Jan-03	SAMD	GS-0301	12	12	56,185 - 73,041	X												
SCBK03150350	Engineering Technician	30-Jan-03	TMDE	GS-0802	7	7	31,674 - 41,177	X												
02BK0150688KJ2	Office Automation Asst	30-Jan-03	PEO AVIATION	GS-0326	6	6	28,503 - 37,035	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0150069FM2	Electronics Engineer	31-Jan-03	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK0129518MR2	Electronics Engineer	31-Jan-03	RTTC	GS-0855	12	12	56,659 - 73,041	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0140770BM1	IT Specialist (PLCYPLN)	31-Jan-03	CIC	GS-2210	14	14	76,580 - 99,552	X	X											
SCBK03140534	Supvy General Engineer	2-Feb-03	TMDE	GS-0801	14	14	78,953 - 102,642	X	X											
02BK0142077MW2	Lead General Engineer	6-Feb-03	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	76,580 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK03140541	Supvy Electronics Engr	8-Feb-03	TMDE	GS-0855	14	14	78,953 - 102,642	X												
03BK0145718MR2	Supvy General Engineer	13-Feb-03	ACQ SPT CTR	GS-0801	15	15	92,871 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK060779JH3	Equipment Specialist (Gen)	27-Feb-03	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	54,275 - 70,555	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK066825JH3	Equipment Specialist (Air)	27-Feb-03	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	54,275 - 70,555	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0665	Audiologist/Speech Pathologist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0665	11-13	13	44,668 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0683	Dental Lab Technician	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0683	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0603	Physician's Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0603	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0682	Dental Hygenist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0682	5-7	7	25,467 - 45,493	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0681	Dental Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0681	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0680	Dental Officer	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0680	12	12	55,958 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0662	Optometrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0662	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0668	Podiatrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0668	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0610	Registered Nurse	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0610	9-12	12	38,588 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-03-2653	Medical Technologist (VOS)	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0644	7-9-10	11-12	31,546 - 72,746	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-03-2673	Social Worker	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0185	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-03-2682	Counseling Psychologist	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0180	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0310741DC1	Supvy General Supply Specialist	31-Dec-03	GARRISON	GS-2001	13	13	64,803 - 84,241	X												
SCBK03127239	Architect	2-Jan-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0808	11	12	47,240 - 70,841	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV

X-SP-03-4686-ST	Emp Development Spec	22-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0201	11	11	46,878 - 60,946	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4662-ST	General Engineer	22-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0801	13	13	64,803 - 84,241	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4657-ST	Supvy General Engineer	22-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0801	15	15	90,078 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4679-HW	Electronic Techician	23-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	DE-0856	3	3	42,667 - 73,041	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4675	Mechanical Engineer	24-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4682-RD	Mechanical Engineer	27-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-AO-03-4684-RD	Public Affairs	29-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-1035	9	9	37,744 - 60,946	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4710-RD	Electronic Engineer	31-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0855	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4682-RD	Mechanical Engineer	31-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4707-ST	Health Systema Spec	31-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0671	9	9	38,744 - 50,369	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4536-ST	Electronics Engineer	31-Jan-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0855	12	12	54,954 - 70,841	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4676-	Lead General Engineer	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4680-HW	Lead Materials Engineer	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0806	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4683-ST	Medical Records Techn	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0675	8	8	35,078 - 45,602	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4695-RD	Lend General Engineer	14-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.
NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone 876-7772.