

Redstone Rocket

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April 23, 2003



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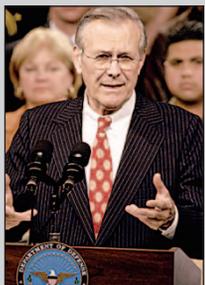
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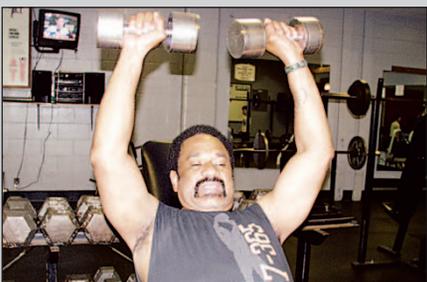
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'Pat yourself on back,' says General Dodgen

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen was a Patriot battalion commander in Iraq. He has friends who are deployed there now for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Now the commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, he has a message for the work force of the Aviation and Missile Command.

"I am just as proud of the people at AMCOM as I am of every soldier that's been forward deployed," Dodgen said during the command's Town Hall meeting April 16 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

He praised the work force for supporting the U.S. forces with missiles and helicopters, maintaining those systems and providing expertise in the field. In 21 days, the coalition forces moved into Baghdad, toppled the Saddam-led regime and began the process toward a new Iraq.

"Our soldiers are trained, they're disciplined, they're the best in the world, they

See Meeting on page 11



Q&A SESSION— Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen responds to a question during the AMCOM Town Hall meeting.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Worldwide SARS virus spreads like common cold

Initial symptoms may worsen and can be life threatening

By Capt. FARRELL ADKINS

Public Health and Education Center

By now, most everyone has heard of a new disease called Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. The Centers for Disease Control and World Health Organization believe this new virus started in China. Since its discovery, it has been reported in numerous countries including the United States. The United States has nearly 200 suspected cases and Alabama has one suspected case at the time this article was written.

Scientists at CDC and WHO believe SARS is caused by a previously unrecognized coronavirus. Coronaviruses are one of the causes of the common cold in mankind.

Public health experts think that SARS is spread by close and prolonged contact between people. Most cases to date have been among household contacts and health care workers. SARS is most likely to spread when someone sick with the disease coughs droplets into the air and someone else breathes them in. These droplets are in the air when someone sneezes but frequently they can't be seen. It is also possible that SARS can spread more broadly from touching objects that have become contaminated from fallen droplets or discharge from the nose or mouth of an infected person.

See Virus on page 11



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Soapbox car

The Tide race car visited April 15 for a Tide and Downy promotion sponsored by Proctor and Gamble and the Commissary. The simulator, among 16 show cars based in Mooresville, N.C., traveled next to Fort Polk, La. Looking it over is Spring Pilgrim, 6, and her mother Cristy Pilgrim, holding 21-month-old Seth. Cristy's husband, Maj. Allen Pilgrim of Redstone, is an instructor with Army Logistics Management College.

Help keep children safe

It is the Army's duty to protect and defend our Constitution, our country and its citizens. As soldiers, when we protect our children, we protect our nation's future.

There are four actions that soldiers, civilian employees, and family members can do to make a positive contribution to the growth and development of the children in their lives. First, we can build strong commitments with family, friends, neighbors and community to keep all children safe. Second, instill confidence in our children so that they can count on us as trustworthy adults. Third, acknowledge that child abuse is one danger we can control. Finally, volunteer and share your time and skills with other parents.

Officially, April is the month when we celebrate the well-being of all children in our Army family. April is both the "Month of the Military Child" and "Child

Abuse Prevention Month." This year, our campaign slogan is "Our Country, Our Children: Protecting Them Both."

Every member of our community needs to understand that any form of child abuse goes against Army values and undermines our mission. Everyone in our community has the responsibility for keeping children safe. If you see child abuse, report it.

As commander, I support our Family Advocacy Program in its child abuse prevention mission. Turn to them for information and assistance.

Child abuse prevention is a command priority at Redstone Arsenal. During April 2003 and throughout the year, join us in protecting America's future by protecting America's children.

Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen
commander, AMCOM and Redstone

Volunteers special people

The 30th annual National Volunteer Week will be celebrated April 27 through May 3. This year's theme, "Celebrate Volunteers - the Spirit of America," reflects the Army tradition of volunteerism, the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors, and the president's call to service.

During National Volunteers Week we salute our dedicated volunteers - soldiers, retirees, civilians, spouses and youth - for their contributions and their commitment to service. Join in celebrating our volunteers. They are truly the spirit of America, the spirit of the Army.

Volunteers are one of the Army's most valuable resources. They are thoughtful, committed citizens who support and change our military communities by responding to a need. They are people who contribute to our communities by making them happier, healthier places to live. Our volunteers are present in a broad range of organizations and

activities where they inspire and mentor our youth, support deployed soldiers and their families, assist in our chapels and hospitals, and offer support when there is a tragedy. Our volunteers are special people, and our communities would be very different places without their contributions.

We thank you, the members of the Army volunteer corps, for your dedication. Many of you have surpassed or are well under way in reaching President George W. Bush's call for Americans to perform two years or the equivalent of 4,000 hours of service during their lifetimes. We challenge and encourage each member of the military community to renew or make a commitment to volunteer service. We ask that you join the Army volunteer corps where you can begin to build a sense of community and make an investment in our future.

We ask that when you greet a volunteer, not only during National Volunteer Week but every day, that you express your gratitude for their service. God bless you, the Army, and our great nation.

Thomas White
secretary of Army, and
Gen. Eric Shinseki
chief of staff

Correction

Regarding an article on page 7 of last week's *Redstone Rocket*, the acronym FLIR refers to Forward Looking Infrared.

Team shines at creek cleanup

On Saturday, April 5, the storm clouds parted after sunup to reveal a refreshingly blue sky. Seventy-one volunteers arrived at the old Visitor Center at Gate 1 to help with the task that lay ahead - to clean up decades of trash deposited by floods into the bottomlands of Huntsville Spring Branch and McDonald Creek. As part of the Great American Cleanup, and sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, the

City of Huntsville and its volunteers were also cleaning up a two mile stretch of HSB between Drake Avenue and Redstone, and they too had about 70 volunteers. The Huntsville Canoe Club was also took part of the Great American Cleanup, getting tons of trash and appliances out of Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge in Decatur.

See **Cleanup** on page 5

On course for motorcycle safety

It was recently announced that Department of Defense requires all individuals who operate a motorcycle on DoD installation complete an approved motorcycle safety course. As a rider with approximately 40 years experience, I feel this course would be "preaching to the choir." In these years there is not much I haven't experienced. While the course certainly won't hurt me, I feel insulted that we motorcyclists are singled out.

The individuals that should attend the motorcycle safety course are the motorists driving in automobiles. Insurance statistics show that the majority of motorcycle collisions are caused by automobile drivers, especially making a left turn in front of an oncoming motorcycle. The most common excuse was "I didn't see the motorcycle." The real excuse is "the motorcycle is smaller than

See **Safety** on page 5

An open lane random survey

What is your biggest pet peeve?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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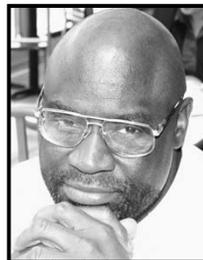


Chief Warrant Officer Robert Steele
"I think my biggest pet peeve is soldiers that don't wear the uniform correctly."



SSgt. Rogers Hilton
"My pet peeve right now is that I have to pay for my chow here at Redstone, but when I go to the chow hall I can't get what I want. If I'm paying for it I should be able to get what I want, not saying any amount, but what I want. I'm forced to eat what they want to give me."

Lewis Hughes, DoD civilian
"Telemarketers calling my house after 8 o'clock."



Nestor Centeno, retired military
"People parking in the handicap spaces when they're not supposed to."

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Commissary putting more life into grocery shelves

Renovations under way for interior, exterior

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

The Commissary is changing. Under the watchful eye of manager Rita Harper, improvements are under way to make the commissary a more useful and better looking place to shop.

Any who have ventured over to the store lately will



Photo by Kelley Lane

WHAT'S IN STORE— Rita Harper and John Terry point out the savings and quality available at the commissary.

have noticed that the entrance has been temporarily moved from inside the complex to the front. This is to allow the construction of a larger, wider doorway. The area has been opened up to accommodate a double entrance in place of the existing single door. The changes do not stop there.

The produce department has already had a makeover. Displays have been revamped to allow for a more open layout. Now it is possible to survey the entire department and locate needed items from any area in the department. Misters to keep the items fresh and crisp are coming soon. So far, all of this is a big hit with shoppers.

"This is excellent," Maj. Morris Bodrick, a commissary shopper, said. "It's wide open and you can see everything now."

Also new are the signboards suspended from the ceilings and on walls proudly comparing the current commissary price for common items versus the actual prices from outside stores. Along with prices, the percentage of savings is calculated and displayed on the signs. Now patrons can see exactly what they are saving. These signs are compiled from data collected by employees.

"We go out physically to the stores and do a comparison," Harper said. "We need to make sure our young enlisted soldiers know the difference in the savings."

New seafood and fish cases are already on their way to Redstone, with a lobster tank to provide a fresh new twist to commissary shopping. New displays and items, including flowers, are planned.

Shoppers and employees can also expect physical improvements beyond a new front door. The store makeover is proceeding from the ground up, with a new decor scheme bearing the L.I.F.E. logo, which stands for leadership, integrity, flexibility and enjoyment. Employees are already making good use of a new and improved break area. The room has been redecorated cafe-style with checkerboard tiles and a fresh coat of paint to go with the multiple seating areas and tables. New landscaping and an all-weather gazebo are on the agenda to beautify the outside as well. Expect a different look in the restrooms with the replacement of all plumbing and stalls.

These changes come together to not only improve the functionality of the commissary, but to add a higher element of sophistication to the dependable military institution. When the project is completed, it should rival the higher priced chain stores in appearance and convenience while still reflecting the Defense Commissary Agency core values of leadership, integrity, flexibility and enjoyment. The improvements are being phased in to ensure that the store stays open and work is as unobtrusive as possible for shoppers.

Have fun(d) raising money for Army Emergency Relief

Scheduled activities for the Army Emergency Relief fund-raising campaign include the following:

- Pentagon Commemorative Lapel Pins on sale for \$5 through May 15; sponsored by Integrated Materiel Management Center. Call Graciela Gonzalez 842-0861.

- Army Community Service Volunteer Cookbook on sale for \$5 through May 15; sponsored by the Garrison, Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities and Army Community Service. Call Phyllis Montgomery or Mary Breeden 876-5397.

- Valiant Bear Sale through May 15, sponsored by Resource Management Directorate. Call Janice Nolin 876-5134, Wilbert Brownlow 876-8929 or Martin Roggio 876-5133.

- Garrison Cookbook Sale (160 recipes) through May 15 at building 4488. Call Donna Johnson 876-9675.

- Book Sale through May 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5300, second floor, sponsored by Command Analysis Directorate. Call Brian Barry 842-9909.

- Garrison "AER Fun(d) Day," April 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 4488. Rain date is May 1. Call Donna Johnson 876-9675.

- Bake Sale, April 29 at 7:30 a.m. at building 5300, north hallway, sponsored by LAISO. Call Adrienne Wilson 842-6755.

- Cookout/bake sale, April 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5400, sponsored by Research Development and Engineering Center. Call Janet Martin 313-1996.

- Car wash, May 1 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at building 3494, sponsored by Military Personnel Office. Call Sgt. Bryan 842-0883.

- Poker Run, May 4 at CDs Pub and Grill in Madison, sponsored by Vietnam Veterans. Call Larry Bond 876-2025 or 772-9133.

- Cookout, May 7 at Col. Hudson Recreation Area, sponsored by Research Development and Engineering Center. Call Kathy Williams 842-0789, Ann Bickmore 842-6604 or Ernie Hazzard 313-0171.

- Plant sale, May 8 at Sparkman Center parking lot, sponsored by Integrated Materiel Management Center. Call SFC Snead 842-7883 or Romona Rice 313-1641.

- Golf Tournament, May 9 at Redstone Golf Course, sponsored by Integrated Materiel Management Center. Rain date is May 16. Call Nadine Manderson 842-8714, Jim Dabbs 842-0170, Austin Watson 313-2422 or SSgt. White 876-5399.

Embry-Riddle touches down at Redstone

Aeronautical university offers classes at Flying Activity this summer, fall

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer
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The sky is just the beginning for the partnership forged between Redstone Arsenal and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

After years of coordination and planning, one of the best-known aeronautical schools in the country has landed at Redstone and will begin offering undergraduate and graduate level courses this summer and fall.

"Redstone Arsenal has a long history of commitment to flight and to education," Col. Bob Devlin, garrison commander, said at the memorandum of agreement signing ceremony April 14 at the Flying Activity. "Our history of flight dates back to the early '50s when Huntsville became the 'Rocket City' and we brought some of the greatest minds in space exploration to Huntsville.

"Those early events brought a similar commitment to education, which has led to both the second largest research park in the U.S. and the highest density of engineers in the U.S. Our commitment to flight and education has only gotten greater," he said, making mention of the merge with the aviation command in 1997 and the fact that Redstone's flying activity is considered one of the top in the Department of Defense.

"Also, we have gone from a small education program to a diverse program that occupies over 160,000 square feet and offers multiple degrees from five on-post institutions... And now there will be six."

Two summer courses will be offered from May 27 through July 28. Aviation Safety, an undergraduate class, will be Wednesdays from 5-10 p.m. and Aviation Aerospace Accident Investigation, a graduate level class, will be Mondays from 5-10 p.m. Both are three credit hours and will meet at the Flying Activity building.

Fall evening courses in human factors in aviation safety and the air transportation system will run from Aug. 4 through Oct. 3.

"We're starting with just a few but we will be adding more classes and opportunities as things progress," Dr. Thomas Henkel, Embry-Riddle Southeast region manager, said. "We'll have weekend classes available, too. We'll offer two- and four-year degrees in professional aeronautics, a bachelor's in technical management, a master's of aeronautical science, an aircraft maintenance technician certificate and safety certificates. I think it's a great fit, being here with the people at Redstone and in the Huntsville community."

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has resident



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

READY FOR TAKEOFF— Col. Bob Devlin, garrison commander, and Dr. Robert Myers, chancellor, extended campus, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, agreed on classes for Redstone.

campuses in Daytona, Fla., and Prescott, Ariz., and is the world's largest fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace. It offers undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificate programs.

In 2002, U.S. News and World Report ranked Embry-Riddle's aerospace engineering program No. 1 in the nation among schools without doctorate programs.

Linda Cameron, education services officer for Redstone, expects a great deal of interest in the courses.

"We have 350 members in the flying activity alone," she said. "They may want to take bachelor's or master's program courses. We're starting slow but we'll grow as

big as the following demands. The courses are open to anyone."

"As the premier provider of aviation education here with Huntsville's rich aviation history — it's a marriage of two pedigree families," Dr. Robert Myers, chancellor, extended campus Embry Riddle, said. "We will bring no frustration, only opportunities. And, Col. Devlin, I've been dying to say this — hooah!"

A university representative is expected at the Education Center, building 3222, Snooper Road, within the next few weeks. For more information, call the Education Center at 876-9761 or 876-3465.



Courtesy photo

Resource managers

Retired Lt. Gen. James McCall, left, executive director of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, meets Jim Flinn, deputy to the commanding general. McCall spoke at the April 10 luncheon meeting of ASMC Redstone Huntsville Chapter.

Training reduces motorcycle accident risk

Safety

continued from page 2

me and won't hurt me." Motorists constantly push the envelope in road sharing with motorcyclists.

I understand this is DoD not locally mandated so your generic "our direction is" response is not required here.

Steve Huffman
MWO Branch (IMMC)

Editor's note: The Safety Office provided the following response. "Thank you for your letter regarding the Motorcycle Safety Course and congratulations on your extensive motorcycle experience. Your letter makes several valid points. However, because of an extremely high injury rate for riders of motorcycles, the Department of the Defense has directed that the training be required for all motorcyclists on DoD installations. In addition to motorcyclists having a greater probability of being involved in an accident than automobile operators, when an accident does occur, the severity is often much worse. For every mile traveled in 2001, motorcyclists were 26 times more likely to die in a crash than automobile passengers. As your letter correctly points out, the cause of many of these accidents is not the motorcyclist.

However, experience has shown that with proper training, motorcyclists can do a great deal to maximize their own safety. This training reduces the accident risk to the rider regardless of the cause.

"The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in conjunction with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation has created a national vision for motorcycle safety efforts. It serves as a blueprint to promote and enhance motorcycle safety. The greatest potential improvement that they have identified is crash prevention efforts in which training is a key component. The agenda also addresses roadway design, motorist awareness and injury mitigation.

"The Safety Office encourages refresher training for drivers of all type vehicles. We are currently pursuing Defense Driving courses for everyone who drives an Army motor vehicle and we encourage this training for drivers of all vehicles. Courses designed specifically for certain age groups, like the AARP Driver Program, are also beneficial.

"We understand that riding a motorcycle is a very enjoyable activity for many people. Our goal is to give participants as many tools as possible to reduce the probability and severity of an accident and make it a not only a rewarding experience, but also a safe one. The Motorcycle Safety Course is one of those tools."

Creek cleanup to become annual event

Cleanup

continued from page 2

We had about 10 canoes that were divided between the two creeks. Boy Scout Troop 308 focused on McDonald Creek, which had the worst concentrations of trash. Col. Bob Devlin, garrison commander, helped the troop in the bottomlands at the north end of the cleanup area. The rest of the volunteers were shuttled to various locations up and down the creek. NASA volunteers primarily walked and canoed about one and a half miles of Huntsville Spring Branch.

The Directorate of Environment and Safety had six group leaders to transport volunteers, help with the cleanup, and to be on hand in case of an emergency. We also had two volunteers from the Olin Environmental Research team, who brought an airboat and a johnboat. The boats helped transport people to other banks of the creek, and gathered all the bags of trash that volunteers left at creek side. Volunteers built a monument of trash at the south end of creek road. Keith Roberts and Steve Anderson of Olin should get special recognition because of the backbreaking work they did by moving tons of trash from creek banks to the trash pile.

On Monday, Chugach employees picked up the all the neat piles that were made by volunteers and hauled it to the city landfill. The tonnage weighed in there was almost exactly 10,000 pounds from our volunteers that one three-hour effort. In addition, Chugach removed several blockages from the creek before the cleanup, and fixed Creek Road to make it passable for the event. The tonnage they removed in that early effort was 18,880 pounds, giving a total of trash and stuff removed as over 14 tons!

Chugach crews under the guidance of David Dollar and Charles Demers deserve kudos for what they did. We could not have had a cleanup if it had not been for their work repairing the road and getting trees and trash out of McDonald Creek.

I have to mention one person that was pointed out to me as an exceptional worker. I saw him jumping in the woods and back out with large amounts of trash in tow. It reminded me of a phrase my mother used about someone working "like killing snakes," and that effort was given by Kenny Reynolds from RTTC. He had seen Channel 19 news the night before when they helped get the message out about the cleanup, and he came out obviously charged up for the event. Kenny was one of many tireless workers we had that day, and I wish I could acknowledge all 71 of them here.

Other Team Redstone folks also helped, such as MWR who provided eight canoes, Bobby Noles who provided signage, and the fire department that provided an on-site EMT. Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge and the Olin Research Team graciously donated snacks and drinks for the volunteers, TVA provided trash bags and gloves, and Coca-cola printed banners heralding the event.

On Earth Day, April 22, Col. Devlin and DES will recognize NASA as the group having collected the most bags and tires. In our appreciation of a job well done, every volunteer that signed in will get a letter of thanks. We hope to make the cleanup an annual event, and we would like to see 200 people out there next year, scouring the bottomlands for everything from household trash to 55-gallon drums, tires, toys and shopping carts. When a volunteer is confronted by the beauty of

the tupelo swamps that are on either side of McDonald Creek, they come away feeling they have done something very special in restoring them at least in

part to their pristine condition.

Susan Weber
cleanup chairman,
Environment and Safety

Volunteers of year enjoy giving their time freely



Photo by Skip Vaughn

DIANE MOORE

Redstone honors six community members

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

There's a common cause among Redstone's top volunteers.

They all seem to enjoy what they're doing as a way of repaying the community. In turn this community owes a debt to them.

Redstone Arsenal's volunteers of the year for 2002-03 include Diane Moore, for military community service; Rose Mary Bayer, military dedicated community service; Talbot Hackett, Redstone Arsenal military community service; Susan Carr, special events; SSgt. Johnny Kennedy, active service; and Tracy Silvia, new volunteer.

They will be honored at the installation volunteer luncheon Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Diane Moore

Moore, wife of Capt. Douglas Moore, arrived in April 2001 and is the volunteer Army Family Team Building program manager. In the past year, she has also served as Army Community Service volunteer program coordinator and as merit awards chairperson for the Officer and Civilian Women's Club. The Paramus, N.J., native served on the advisory council for Redstone's annual Army Family Action Plan conference Feb. 25-26. Her husband is in Kosovo and the couple will move to Vilseck, Germany in July.

"I am honored and overwhelmed," Moore, 33, said of the award. "This has been a very hard year with a lot of things going on. At times this year it was really, really difficult. I'm just actually proud and honored and thankful to all the people who've stood by me this year, who've been faithful and loyal friends and good volunteers who, when I was about to falter, wouldn't let me falter. And I'm just so pleased everything has finished well.

"You're only as good as the people you have around you. And I have had some absolutely fabulous, dedicated people surrounding and supporting me this year. So I feel so undeserving because sometimes I was about to give up the ghost. So I'm just thankful everything has ended well."

Talbot Hackett

Hackett, husband of Maj. Christine Hackett, is an Army Family Team Building master trainer. He serves as mayor of Freedom Landing in the housing area. He was a facilitator and on the planning committee for the Army Family Action Plan conference. Hackett also volunteered with the annual Pineapple Open golf tournament, a fund-raiser for the Officer and Civilian Women's Club.

"Redstone's a good community," he said. "I enjoy doing things that give back to it."

Hackett, 51, grew up in Warren, Maine. It's been nine years since he retired as a sergeant first class in Italy. His

wife, assigned to the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, also does volunteer work. The Hacketts will leave in July for Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

"It's an honor (to get the award) but the thing you have to understand is it's not a one-person show," Hackett said. "Without a team effort, as far as I'm concerned, none of the rest of us could be where we are. The AFTB group is a good solid team of concerned individuals to help the soldier. And just to be part of it is a privilege as far as I'm concerned."

Susan Carr

Carr, wife of retired Col. Herb Carr, volunteers at Army Community Service and at Bicentennial Chapel. At ACS she serves with Phyllis Montgomery as co-chairman of the Space Camp scholarship committee. She teaches a religion class for the Catholic chaplain. She did volunteer work at various points throughout her husband's career.

"I enjoy giving back," she said. "I feel like I've been blessed with a good life and I enjoy giving back to my military community."

Carr, 48, was born in Lowell, Mass., and raised as "an Army brat." The Carrs have two daughters: Sarah, 23, majoring in architecture at the University of Texas; and Elizabeth, who turns 16 on April 24, a sophomore at Huntsville High.

She said she feels "very humble" about the award. "It was a big surprise. I love these people at ACS."

SSgt. Johnny Kennedy

Kennedy, of Delta Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, served as a delegate for the past two years to the Army Family Action Plan conference and was on the 2003 planning committee. He was also a delegate to the Armywide AFAP conference. He has done volunteer work for the Enlisted Spouses Club and helped at the Officer and Civilian Women's Club annual golf tournament. He coached T-ball, coach-pitch and the Delta Company softball team.

"It's my way of giving back to an exceptional community and it's also my little piece of the pie just to keep it at that state," he said. Kennedy, 35, was born in Bien Hoa, Vietnam, and came to the United States with his parents in early 1971.

His wife, Jennifer, was the 2002 winner of new volunteer of the year. The Kennedys won last year's regional award for volunteer family of the year from the Association of the U.S. Army. They have a daughter, Meghann, 8, a third-grader at the Academy for Academics and Arts.

"I'm honored to receive (this award) but also a little baffled because I'm just doing things to improve the community for everybody around me," he said. "I'm just one small piece. There are a lot of volunteers that helped make this post what it is - a very enjoyable place to work and live."

Tracy Silvia

Silvia, wife of military police Sgt. Brad Silvia, does volunteer work at Army Community Service. She's an Army Family



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SSgt. JOHNNY KENNEDY



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TRACY SILVIA



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TALBOT HACKETT



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SUSAN CARR



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ROSE MARY BAYER

See **Volunteers** on page 8

Early immunization prescribed for disease prevention

By BARBARA ANDERSON
Community health nurse

April is National Immunization Month. This is a time to recognize past achievements in the field of disease prevention and focus on new efforts to see that all children and adults are immunized against preventable diseases.

An early start on immunization is important because an infant's immune system does not yet have the necessary defenses to fight infectious diseases. Children need more than 80 percent of their vaccinations in the first 24 months of life to protect them against the routine vaccine preventable diseases.

Parents and the community must not let their guard down and must work to ensure that all children are immunized. When immunization programs achieve high levels of community immunity, the likelihood that an infected person will transmit the disease to a susceptible individual is greatly reduced. This is important to those very few children and individuals who cannot be immunized because of certain medical conditions such as cancer or HIV. These children or individuals are at a higher risk of death and disability from preventable diseases.



Courtesy photo

Azalea queen

Tiffani Futch of Jackson, Miss., is crowned Azalea Court queen by the Pacesetters Club, March 22 in McComb, Miss. Her father, David Jones, and stepmother, Muriel Jones, both work at Redstone. She will attend Jackson State University starting this fall on an academic scholarship.

With almost no visible reminders of the dramatic effects of polio and other preventable disease, parents may have less concern about the need for immunization. Most of today's parents have never seen the suffering, injury and premature death from those diseases that can now be prevented through vaccination. Even though immunization is one of the most important tools we have to protect children from disease, more than 900,000 U.S. children still are not adequately immunized. In addition, each day approximately 11,000 more children are born who need protection.

Vaccination against disease does not stop after childhood. Today, the greatest vaccine preventable disease burden for the U.S. population is among adults. Approximately 36,000 people die annually from influenza complications; most are people age 65 or older.

Staying current on vaccinations and getting a flu shot every year is a safe and wise plan to prevent possible complications from vaccine preventable diseases.

Everyone should take time during National Immunization Month to do those things that protect their health and the health of their loved ones. The Madison County Health Department, 539-3711, offers certain immunizations for adults and children. Military beneficiaries can call Fox Army Health Center Immunization Clinic, 955-8888 extension 1238 or the Public Health and Education Clinic, extension 1026 for any questions about immunization. Making sure everyone is immunized is the most important way to protect all children and adults against serious disease. For more information on immunizations, visit www.cdc.gov/nip/.

Communications upgrade construction continues

The Installation Information Infrastructure Modernization Program construction project is expanding its work locations, according to Richard Mathena, 13MP team leader in Directorate of Information Management.

Construction crews will continue working on Rideout Road. New construction was scheduled to begin April 21 on Hale Road. Crews will continue on Patton Road south of Martin Road to Mills Road.

Care group reaches out to military, civilian families

Support, resources, sharing and prayer are at the heart of Christian meeting

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htrimes.com

Facilitating for the group last Wednesday night, military retiree Roger Cornelius shared a story someone had e-mailed him about a soldier's perspective of life at war in Iraq.

"I'm sure that all of you heard about the sandstorm in Iraq Tuesday and Wednesday (the worst in 100 years some say) and the drenching rain that followed the next day," Cornelius read. "Our troops were bogged down and couldn't move effectively. The media was already wondering if the troops were in a quagmire and dire predictions of gloom and doom came from the left wing media.

"What they didn't report was that yesterday, after the weather had cleared, the Marine group that was mired the worst looked out at the plain they were just about to cross," Cornelius continued. "What did they see? Hundreds if not thousands of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines had been uncovered by the wind and then washed off by the rain. If they had proceeded as planned, many lives would have undoubtedly been lost. As it was, they simply drove around them and let the demolition teams destroy them. Thank you, God, for protecting our young men and women."

As Cornelius read the last line of the e-mail "amens" echoed around the room, populated by military, family members, retirees and civilians gathered for the first meeting of the newly formed Whitesburg Baptist Church Military Care Group.

"We're here to support everyone in the community," Tina Tindle, church staff representative and core member of the care

See Support on page 17



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ON THE WEB— Military spouse Missy Hamner distributed a list of encouraging web sites to the Whitesburg Baptist Church Military Care Group.

Top volunteers giving back to community

Volunteers

continued from page 6

Team Building instructor and the Waiting Spouses volunteer coordinator. She serves as mayor for Voyager Village in the housing area. She's a team mom for coach-pitch and helped at the tax assistance center. She has been an Army Family Action Plan conference delegate the past two years and belongs to the Enlisted Spouses Club.

"I spent two years lonely and bored and then I met Johnny Kennedy's wonderful wife, Jennifer, and she got me in with the Enlisted Spouses Club and AFAP and AFTB," Silvia said. "Now I do it because I like it. I like the Enlisted Spouses group. I like Army Family Team Building because I want to show these spouses the Army has a lot to offer."

Silvia, whose 29th birthday is April 25, should know. She served in the Army with the military police 1997-99. She was born in Gainesville, Fla., and raised with a Marine Corps father.

She and her husband have three children: Michaelle, 9, a third-grader at Williams Elementary; Joey, 4, and Marjorie, 2 and a half, both enrolled at the Child Development Center. The family will stay here when Sgt. Silvia leaves in October for a year's assignment in Izmir, Turkey.

"I don't think that I do anything spectacular," Silvia said of volunteering. "I just do things that I enjoy."

Rose Mary Bayer

Bayer, wife of retired Lt. Col. Larry Bayer, serves as a Red Cross volunteer at the surgery clinic at Fox Army Health Center, does the good Samaritan ministry for the Catholic parish at Bicentennial Chapel and contributes her time to the Officer and Civilian Women's Club. About 10 years ago, she established a voting position for retired wives on the OCWC board.

"I enjoy the people. I enjoy the companionship," Bayer said. "You feel like you're being a help to the military community."

Bayer, 65, a Pittsburgh native, has volunteered in the surgery clinic for 14 years. The Bayers arrived at Redstone in August 1988 and the lieutenant colonel retired after 15 months. They have five children — Lawrence Jr., 43, of Arab, Craig, 42, and Steven, 37, of Huntsville, Janine Ballesteros, 39, of Concord, N.C., and Eileen, 35, of Phoenix, Ariz. — and 10 grandchildren.

"I'm just a little bit overwhelmed," she said of her award. "I didn't think I was doing that much for them to put me in for it. You just go along and do what you do. These ladies are my friends."

DoD leaders thank military for heroism, courage

War on terrorism not yet finished

By **JIM GARAMONE**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld thanked the men and women of the department for their service in the campaign in Iraq, but said much remains to be done.

Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Air Force Gen. Richard Myers spoke to Pentagon employees during a Town Hall meeting Thursday. The meeting was beamed to American servicemembers around the world.

"What you ... have done in the last month has been absolutely magnificent," Myers said. "Your courage, your talent, your leadership have given us — up to this point — a tremendous combat victory."

The progress in the war to overthrow Saddam Hussein, "is a credit to the men and women in uniform who are serving on the front lines in the theater," Rumsfeld said.

"What's happened is amazing for the speed with which it was executed," the secretary said. He noted that speed was responsible for reducing both coalition and Iraqi casualties. It was responsible for stopping the Iraqi regime from firing missiles at its neighbors. It was responsible for allowing the coalition to secure the Iraqi oil fields.

The Iraqi infrastructure is largely intact, he said, and there have not been massive civilian casualties. "This was not

just good luck," Rumsfeld said. "This was the result of very careful planning by extraordinary people in the region, at Central Command in Tampa (Fla.) and here in the department. But above all, what has made it possible is the same thing that has made success possible in other wars: the courage and heroism of the men and women in uniform."

"Such heroics are the daily work of men and women in uniform who serve not only in Iraq, but in Afghanistan and so many places across the globe, defending the American people."

The secretary said because of the presence of reporters embedded with units, now the American people have an idea of the professionalism and heroism of their military. Rumsfeld said the outcome of the embedding process was a "roll of the dice" during first discussions of the idea.

"But the outcome is pretty clear," he said. "There is no question but that the American people were able to see slices of what took place. They could see accurate presentations and representations and written accounts of what the men and women in uniform were doing."

Rumsfeld said that the embedding process has a side benefit. "There's now a new generation of journalists who have had a chance to see what kind of people volunteer to put their lives at risk. And that's a good thing."

Rumsfeld and Myers took questions from the audience on a variety of subjects.

Transformation was one hot topic. Rumsfeld said the U.S. Joint Forces Command is working with U.S. Central Command to capture the lessons learned from

Iraq. "If you think about it, what took place in Afghanistan significantly informed what took place in Iraq," he said.

The U.S. military will take the good lessons and apply them immediately. For example, Rumsfeld said he was "sure" that out of this "we're going to end up finding ways to reduce friendly fire casualties."

The secretary also said that some



DoD photo by R.D. Ward

DEFENSE SECRETARY— Donald Rumsfeld answers a question from the audience of military and Department of Defense civilian employees at a town hall meeting Thursday in the Pentagon.

aspects of the war confirmed other transformational thoughts. He has directed the chairman to examine ways to reconfigure active, Guard and reserve manning in areas like civil affairs. He said much of that capability is in the reserve components. Some of that capability needs to shift to the active force, he noted, "or else you're going to call people up every other year, which isn't really what they sign up for."

Myers said he wished he could say that the war is winding down. "But I can't. ... A lot more work remains in Iraq and around the world. We still have troops in Afghanistan facing danger every day, and in other countries as we fight this war on terrorism."

Looking at Iraq's neighbor, Myers said Syria needs to be more cooperative. "You want people in the neighborhood to be helpful," he said. "And to be helpful you can't be imposing an external influence, trying to work your own agenda."

Myers said that Syria is definitely harboring some of the families of Saddam's senior leaders and possibly some leaders themselves. He said Syria has sent in jihadists to fight against the U.S.-led coalition and sent equipment in for Iraqi forces. "That sort of behavior simply has to stop," he said.

Myers said there are still those who hate America and the values it stands for. Those enemies will use terrorism to attack America and Americans, he observed.

"So, for those of you still out there still wearing your Kevlar, still aboard ships — for that matter, for us here at home — I think our challenge is this: We have to always be prepared, we've got to stay true to the values that got us to this point and ... we've got to keep our guard up."

ERC Inc. wins contract for test and evaluation

The Aviation and Missile Command has awarded a contract to ERC Inc. to support the Redstone Technical Test Center electro-mechanical test division.

The contract, awarded March 18, has options for up to five years with a maximum value of \$77.3 million. The work requires a variety of skills, including engineers, technicians, computer specialists, drafters, and designers with experience and knowledge in the test and evaluation of weapon systems, assemblies, subassemblies, components, and associated equipment.

ERC Inc. was selected among other small businesses as the "best value" to the

government. Contractors were evaluated on their business and technical management capability, past performance on other contracts, and price. The Research Development and Engineering Center Directorate, Division A, of the Acquisition Center conducted the source selection.

ERC Inc. will provide the support services necessary to perform tests, evaluations, analyses and other activities scheduled to be conducted by the Component Test and Surveillance Branch, Electromagnetic Environmental Effects Test Branch, and Subsystem Test and Analysis Branch of the Electro-Mechanical Test Division of RTTC.

Workers receive update on personnel programs

Meeting

continued from page 1

have the best systems and they're unbeatable on the battlefield," Dodgen said.

He outlined his focus as commander: sustain current readiness; support Army transformation; prepare and shape the work force; embrace lean thinking; reinforce partnerships with program executive officers and project managers; greater integration of system support; and full utilization and development of the Research Development and Engineering Center.

Tim Grey, director of personnel and training, gave an update on civilian personnel programs. Dodgen answered questions from the audience for the rest of the meeting in the filled 650-seat auditorium.

"Pat yourself on the back and feel good about what we have done" in the war effort, Dodgen said.

Jean Grotophorst, an engineer in the value engineering group at RDEC, said she was impressed by the meeting. "I think it was very good that General Dodgen took time out to speak to us on this, and answer some of the issues that people are concerned about," she said. "Even though we have a war going on, he is concerned with our morale. This is a great place to work. It's a great community to live in."

"I'm in agreement with supporting of the troops, I think this command has done excellent," Abner Merriweather, of RDEC's aviation engineering directorate, said. "I think we're being very efficient and very quick to respond."

Merriweather, a candidate for union president, said he liked Dodgen's message. "I think it was great, I really do. I'm in support of everything that he said. We're working as a team."

Global health partners working to curtail virus

Virus

continued from page 1

Fortunately, the same measures that prevent one from getting a cold and other common communicable diseases can also prevent one from getting SARS. Wash hands regularly, limit contact with body fluids of others, and each person should avoid touching their own eyes, nose and mouth unless their hands are clean.

In general, SARS has initial symptoms similar to the common cold but may worsen and can be life threatening. The symptoms used to diagnose SARS are: temperature greater than 100.4, clinically diagnosed respiratory illness, and either close contact with a suspect case or travel to a known infected country within 10 days of

developing symptoms.

The CDC, WHO and other global health partners are working aggressively to prevent the spread of SARS. Their efforts target finding a cure, optimum treatments and a vaccine if feasible.

For current information on infected countries and any recommended travel restrictions, go to www.cdc.gov and go to travel and international resources. If you have an interest in SARS and want to stay current on all related developments, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars> and select the update. For SARS information specific to Alabama, go to www.adph.org and search or select news/information.

Editor's note: Capt. Farrell Adkins is chief of the Public Health and Education Center at Fox Army Health Center.

Former All-Army sports star has no regrets

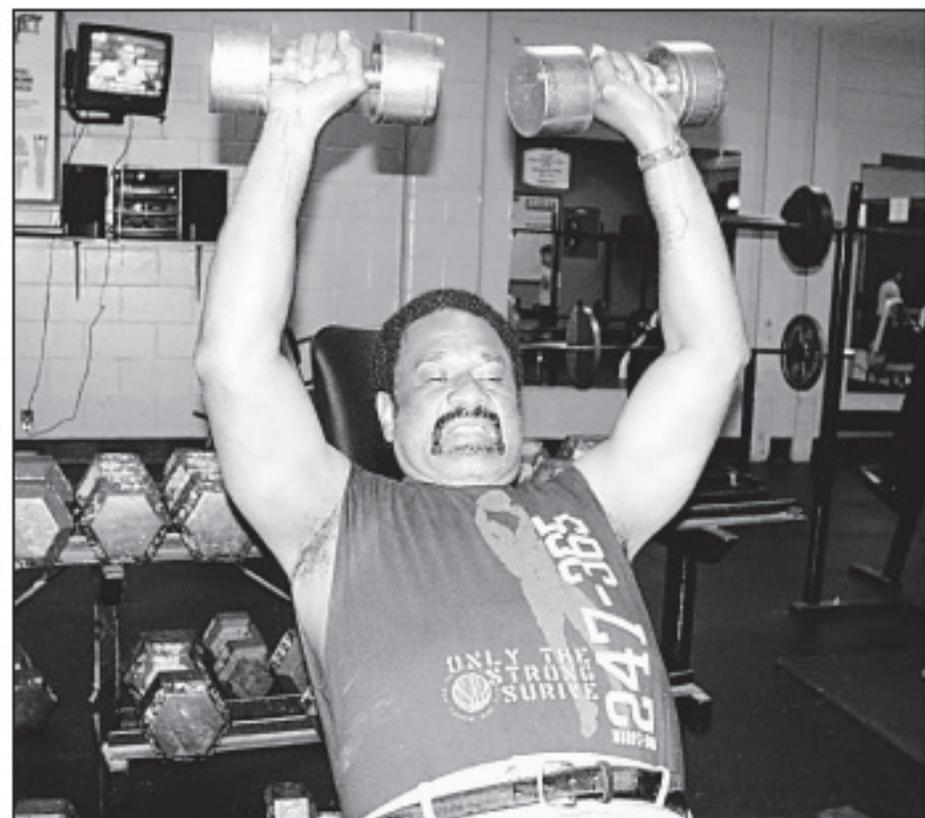


Photo by Skip Vaughn

STILL STRONG— Prentiss Thomas, facing his second hip replacement, works his upper body at Pagano Gym.

Prentiss Thomas coping with physical problems

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

Redstone has had its share of good athletes but Prentiss Thomas was among the best.

He starred in high school football in Columbia, Miss., with teammate Eddie Payton, Walter's older brother. He helped lead Alcorn State (then Alcorn A&M) to the black college national championship in 1968 and had an All-Army sports career as a soldier.

In his prime he was 6-foot-2, 186 pounds and could sprint 40 yards in 4.8 seconds.

"He was a good one," Irving Lyles, Redstone sports director from 1974-89, said. "Good enough to go to All-Army. He went to All-Army in softball; he went to All-Army in racquetball."

In "Never Die Easy," Walter Payton's best-selling autobiography with Don Yaeger, Thomas is mentioned in boyhood friend Les Peters' recollections from growing up in Columbia.

"(Walter Payton) was just one of the great athletes in Columbia we played

with," Peters said. "There was another guy called Prentiss Thomas, he played quarterback along with Eddie (Payton) when Eddie was a tailback."

Thomas, now a security guard for the Provost Marshal Office, played quarterback and linebacker at John J. Jefferson High from 1964-67. Jefferson High was so small that he, Eddie Payton and several other football players marched in the band at halftime.

"I played drums. I picked up the snare drums and played drums at halftime," Thomas said. "You were out there in a full football suit."

Back then college opportunities were limited for black athletes, no matter how talented. Columbia, a rural town of 7,500, is only 20 miles west of Hattiesburg, home of Southern Mississippi. But the only white colleges that showed interest in Thomas were Duquesne, Ball State, Southern Illinois and Wisconsin. "None of which I knew anything about," Thomas recalled, laughing. "Never heard of them."

Grambling's Eddie Robinson came calling, as did Alcorn defensive coordinator Theo Danzy. Thomas opted to sign with Alcorn in 1967. Ironically, his son, Pren, would later play at Stillman College

See Thomas on page 15

Thomas

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for head coach Danzy, who had also coached at Alabama A&M.

Thomas lettered two years at Alcorn. As a freshman he played on special teams. As a sophomore he was an All-Southwestern Athletic Conference flanker on the Braves' 11-0 team that beat previously undefeated Florida A&M 36-9 at the Orange Blossom Classic in Miami. He caught a touchdown pass in that nationally-televised game and got chastised by head coach Mariano Casem for his end zone celebration.

"I jumped up in the orange trees planted in the back of the end zones and pulled oranges off the tree. As I went back to the sidelines, coach Casem scolded me for being so country," he said.

The next year, he left school. He married the former Jacqueline Ford from Woodville, Miss., who he had met in college, in 1970 and played semipro football with the Columbia Jets in 1970-71. He joined the Army in 1972. After basic and advanced individual training at Fort Polk, La., he was stationed at Fort Greely, Alaska, from 1972-76.

He came to Redstone in 1976 and retired as a sergeant first class in 1994. Throughout his Army career he played football, basketball, baseball, softball and racquetball. He made All-Army in soft-

ball in 1984-85 and in racquetball from 1979-88. He led HHC MICOM to post championships in softball from 1979-82 and many titles in flag football and basketball.

"Basically sports for me are pretty much out of the picture," Thomas, in his 50s, said. "Having recently had my left hip replaced (in June 2002) and right now I'm getting ready to have my right hip replaced sometime probably this summer.

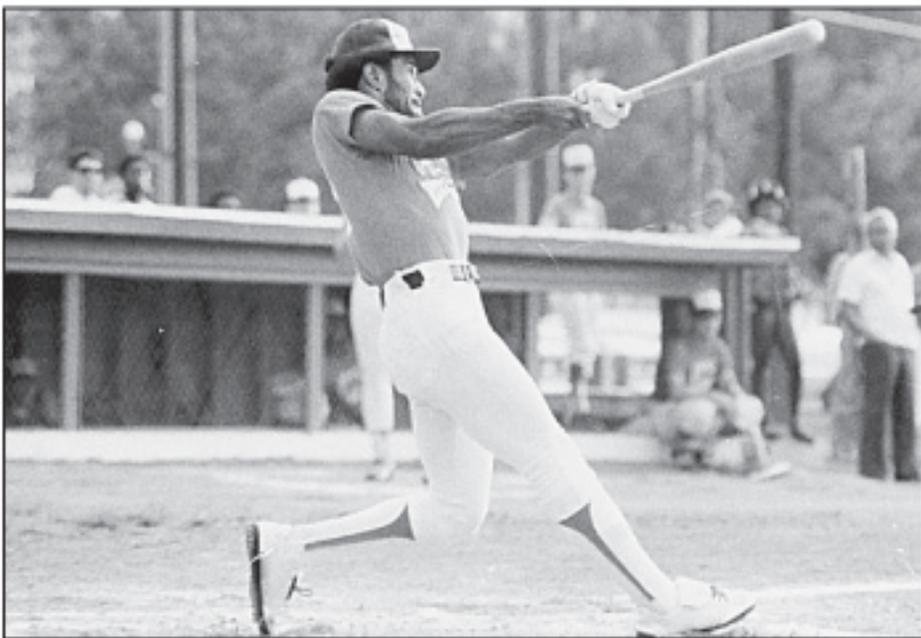
"I now weigh 242 pounds and growing every day," he added, laughing. "Growing in leaps and bounds."

He stays active by lifting weights for his upper body and then spending time in the steam room. "I'm trying to lose weight by fishing as much as I can," he quipped.

He and Jackie have been married 35 years. Their son, Pren, 26, is back home with them. And their daughter, Meshun, 33, works for South Central Bell in Birmingham. She played volleyball on scholarship for Ole Miss from 1988-92. Imagine Thomas' pride as he watched his daughter play for a school that didn't recruit him during the segregation years.

He knows that sports, and running in boots as a soldier, probably contributed to his current physical problems. But he said he wouldn't change anything.

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd do it the same way. You know, it's just one of those things that happen," Thomas said. "I have no regrets. I had a lot of fun."



Courtesy photo

GLORY DAYS— In 1983 Prentiss Thomas slams a home run for HHC MICOM in its post softball championship win over the 95th Service Company.

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Directorate applies new technology to Army aviation

Virginia-based organization under research center here

By Col. WILLIAM GAVORA and BRUCE TENNEY
For the Rocket

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — The Army Aviation Applied Technology Directorate is doing its part to support soldiers now and in the future.

Under the operational control of the Research Development and Engineering Command, AATD's mission is to transition critical technologies that enhance and sustain Army aviation as the premier land-force aviation component in the world.

AATD accomplishes its mission in three ways. First, it develops, demonstrates and applies critical technologies that enhance the capability, affordability, readiness and safety of Department of Defense aviation systems. Second, it provides quality and timely engineering services and rapid prototyping support to Army Program Executive Offices, the U.S. Special Operations Command and other customers. And third, AATD supports worldwide contingency operations by expediting the fabrication, application and support of innovative materiel solutions.

With numerous, worldwide Army deployments and the ongoing war with Iraq, support for contingency operations is a high priority for the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate. The directorate uses its expertise and resources (which have matured through years of technology development), to provide a unique capability to conceive, create, test and install expedited materiel fixes to "pop-up" problems in the fleet. Some recent examples of this type of support include the following.

Communication system

In less than six months, AATD successfully designed, tested and integrated the PRC-117 SATCOM radio UH-60L and the CH-47D helicopters inside Afghanistan. It worked collaboratively with the Research Development and Engineering Center's Aviation Engineering Directorate and the Army Test and Evaluation Command's Redstone Technical Test Center, both of which are located at Redstone Arsenal. This system allows for better non-line-of-sight communication between airborne assets, ground units, and Tactical Operations Centers currently operating in theater. The effort concluded when AATD deployed one military and five Department of the Army civilians to install and test the necessary modifications to the aircraft, train the troops in the operation of the PRC 117, and to troubleshoot and fix non-operational systems located overseas.

In August 2002, AATD was tasked to design, test and integrate the Blue Force Tracking Situational Awareness System into the UH-60L, CH-47D and AH-64A/D aircraft. Again, the directorate worked collaboratively with other elements of the RDEC, including the Aviation Engineering Directorate and the Prototyping and Integration Facility (also located at Redstone Arsenal), as well as the Redstone Technical Test Center. Again, the prototype aircraft integration and flight-testing were conducted at AATD's test facilities

in Virginia, while the system component testing was conducted at the Redstone Technical Test Center.

The Aviation Engineering Directorate issued an AWR for integrating the production kits that were applied to 197 aircraft in support of current operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The production kits and the integration of those kits, which included the deployment of OLR teams to apply the necessary modifications to the aircraft worldwide, were done by the RDEC's Prototyping and Integration Facility. AATD acted as the prime integrator for the PEO C3T and OEF C4I offices. This system provides situational awareness communication between airborne assets, ground units and Tactical Operations Centers. AATD applied the Blue Force Tracking System to the two demonstration A2C2S aircraft that are now deployed in Iraq and is working with the team to include the system in the production A2C2S and the EURO2C.

Also in August, AATD was tasked to design, test and integrate an Apache Instrument Meteorological Conditions/Instrument Flight Rules Kit into the A/D series aircraft for the AH-64 PMO. The directorate is again collaborating with the Aviation Directorate, Redstone Technical Test Center, and the aircraft manufacturer, Boeing Aircraft Company in Mesa, Ariz. Production kits will be applied to about 21 AH-64D helicopters in the Federal Republic of Germany and 21 AH-64A helicopters in Korea.

The production of follow-on kits and the integration of these kits (which include the deployment of OLR teams to apply the necessary modifications to the aircraft), is managed by the AH-64 Program Management Office. AATD is acting as the prime integrator of this effort for the AH-64 Program Management Office. This system allows for the safe operation of both models of the AH-64 in an IMC/IFR flight environment for both the training of aircrews and for possible intra-theater deployments. The testing for the AH-64A is complete, and the Aviation Engineering Directorate is working on the AWR. Electronics testing at the Redstone Technical Test Center on the AH-64D is presently ongoing.

Between September and December, AATD designed and installed the Enhanced Position Location Reporting System on 18 AH-64D and 16 OH-58D aircraft for the 4th ID at Fort Hood, Texas. These aircraft have deployed to the Gulf.

Early warning capability

In January 2003, AATD supported a special customer with the rapid installation of NBC detectors on aircraft that are currently protecting our troops with early warning capability. In late March, AATD was given a 48-hour window to apply the Grenadier-Brat, satellite-based situation awareness system to the 82d Airborne Division's OH-58D aircraft. AATD received the call from the Department of the Army on Wednesday morning. On Thursday, the 82nd flew an aircraft to Fort Eustis for installation and testing and flew it home on Saturday morning. The Aviation Engineering Directorate issued the AWR for six kits that were installed in Kuwait by OLR Teams deployed from Germany.

Just as AATD's technology development expertise enables it to develop innovative and rapid solutions for today's systems, the experience we gain through supporting real world operations gives our technologists great insight into what is needed for future systems. Clearly, there is a need for future unmanned aviation systems to supplement the capabilities of existing and future manned systems. This is widely acknowledged across the Army and the other military services. Successful engagements from the Predator and pictures from the Global Hawk seem to make headlines on a weekly basis. There is a growing set of expectations for unmanned systems that is fueled in part not only by these successes, but also by our collective, inherent imaginations and our desire to reduce the risk of human life.

AATD is fully engaged in the research and development of future unmanned aviation systems in an effort to create a full spectrum of unmanned capabilities that, when combined with those of manned systems, yield tremendous benefit in an affordable, reliable and sustainable way. This practical, real-world grounding, focuses AATD on not only the challenging technology issues, but also on the cultural, political and operational issues that must be overcome.

AATD is addressing these issues in four avenues of experimentation and development: Platform and Autonomous Flight; Mission Equipment Packages and Weaponization; Team-Based Intelligent Mission Operations; and Manned/Unmanned Battlespace Integration. This is a complete systems approach that includes developing autonomous platforms; integrating sensors and weapons that make them useful; developing the structure and software for autonomous and collaborative mission execution; and developing the means and methodology for safe, efficient, mixed air-space operations. Embedded in every aspect is the realization that these systems will be operated in complex locations by young soldiers working under stressful conditions as part of a combined arms, joint and coalition force. It is this complete view of technology in warfare that drives AATD to ensure its products are useable and highly capable.

Unmanned aviation systems

AATD is working to advance the development of unmanned aviation systems for insertion into both Interim and Objective Force units. Following are samples of the practical and far-reaching technology activities ongoing at AATD.

The Hunter Standoff Killer Team is a Department of Defense Advanced Concept Technology Demonstrator program that is teaming manned helicopters with a tactical UAV to achieve a synergistic capability for extended range Reconnaissance-Surveillance-Target Acquisition, precision target location, Battle Damage Assessment, and a variety of other missions.

HSKT and its supporting technology programs are developing intelligent software and systems to assist the manned aircraft mission execution and to manage the accompanying UAVs. HSKT will integrate a "Warfighter's Associate" into a company of Longbow Apaches and a

"Mobile Commander's Associate" into the Army Airborne Command and Control System Black Hawk and conduct an in-theater military utility assessment in Korea. The technical issues of Manned/Unmanned systems teaming and interface, autonomous and semi-autonomous mission operations, data fusion and common operating picture, and intelligent systems and information management are being addressed during the development and testing of HSKT.

The culmination of HSKT will be an in-the-field assessment of what is good, bad, relevant, effective, and ineffective about current generation systems, working together with enhanced capability. The final product will be upgraded capability for the Army's Apache, A2C2S, and Hunter systems directly, and technology transition to Shadow, A160 and other UAV and manned systems.

The RDEC is partnering with DARPA to develop the A160 Hummingbird UAV for Army use. The RDEC's AeroFlight Dynamics Directorate, located at Moffett Field, Calif., has been working with DARPA since the inception of the A160 as a rotor system demonstrator. The success and potential of the initial A160 development phase as an enabling capability for the Objective Force has created a strong

interest in advancing the platform and control technologies to a maturity level suitable for quick transition. Working together with DARPA and AFDD, AATD will be working to fully expand the flight envelope of the A160 while simultaneously working on integrating common data links, developing open systems architecture, and evolving to a common UAV control system. The technical issues of cost versus capability and reliability, autonomous controls, precision landing, advanced platform characteristics in endurance, range, payload, qualification and certification will be addressed in the A160 program. The final product of the A160 program is expected to be a long endurance, Vertical Takeoff and Landing UAV capable of meeting multiple mission requirements for the Objective Force.

Ongoing projects

AATD is also working with smaller Vertical Takeoff and Landing UAVs in the UAS Class III range to determine what the important platform characteristics are and how to develop an affordable, yet dependable system. Again, it is a systems view that prevails. AATD is working under investment agreements with ATI/SAIC and Eagle Aviation for experimentation with the Vigilante and Agile Eagle Vertical Takeoff and Landing UAVs, respectively. Each has characteristics and qualities that are of interest and important to assess. AATD is flying the Vigilante at Felker Army Airfield to assess the effect of normal flight operations, to mature the flight vehicle, and to develop a capability to use the vehicle for multiple types of experimentation.

One of the near-term plans is to integrate and test fire the Low Cost Precision Kill laser-guided rocket. This will require

Directorate

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integration of a stores management system and developing a trusted remote fire control system. The Agile Eagle is a variable speed coaxial rotor system platform that will be used along with the Vigilante for some airspace management investigations using derivatives of the C-17 station keeping equipment. These efforts address the practical issues of UAV ground operations, flying in civilian airspace, integration of sensors, weapons, and associated control systems, and again working on cost versus capability and reliability. These efforts move us collectively along the road to understanding what it takes to make UAV operations an integral part of a transformed, lighter, more lethal and versatile force.

AATD is working other UAV programs to develop concepts for tactical precision delivery of supplies, an organic wing-store UAV for helicopter carry and launch, launch and recovery of the

DARPA OAV from a Black Hawk, next generation Class I and II systems, heavy fuel engines for UAVs, and networked systems capabilities for all classes of UAVs. Each of these programs is being done to advance the state of technology and develop a capability consistent with the needs of the transformed Army. Each program contributes to a larger objective and vision that includes the daily use of multiple UAVs as integral and integrated elements of future military activities.

For more than 50 years, AATD's reputation has been built on quality work and excellent people. Its long history of Army aviation design and development gives us good insight into the issues, processes and practices that must be tailored to create affordable unmanned systems, while ensuring they will be reliable and capable. AATD is driven to bring reality to the vision for tomorrow's soldier while, simultaneously, meeting the needs of today's force.

Editor's note: Col. William Gavora is commander of AATD; and Bruce Tenney is associate director for technology.

■ Meetings set for families dealing with deployment

Support

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group, said. Tindle is also an active duty spouse. Her husband, CWO 2 Jack Tindle is stationed at Redstone.

"Because they've pulled in so many National Guard and Reserves, there's a lot of family members left behind who don't live the Army life all the time and don't know what's available to them, where the resources are and how to cope with all the changes going on in their lives," she said. "We're here for them. We care about them. We want to do everything we can to help."

Tindle recognized that deployed units offer support to families through their readiness groups but this care group offers a little more.

"We give them a Christian resource," she said. "This isn't about being churchy, though. We give them meat, real resources they can use, places to go to get help, people who can help them but we also give them hope through Christ. We want to make sure people feel better when they leave."

One such resource was a list of web site addresses compiled by military spouse Missy Hamner, the topic speaker for the April 16 meeting. Kristina Butler, another military spouse, serves as the liaison between the post and the group, and shares information supplied by Army Community Service and other organizations on post.

Church members have also stepped up to offer specialty services to families of deployed servicemembers. "We have an auto repairman and a plumber in our church who said they'd help out - sometimes doing the repair or at least offering advice about what the problem is and where to get it fixed. These are people that are known and trusted - people who won't take advantage of you," Tindle said.

The list of resources from the church is growing as word gets out about the group. But the group isn't just for those who are directly related to the military. Tindle spoke

of one woman who called in saying she was frantic with worry over her nephew who is serving in Iraq. "I told her to come in and meet with us. We'll get her through."

That's the beauty of the group, according to Tindle. Whitesburg Baptist Church has about 6,000 members, many of whom are military retirees or civilians with military service experience.

"We have people here who have lived it," she said. "They know the frustration and worry and they have the wisdom to help people get through it. We welcome anyone, any branch of service, civilians, men and women. We're here for people."

And they have free child care and refreshments at the weekly meetings.

Upcoming meeting topics include finances, keeping in touch, security issues, coping with news reports, legal assistance, behavior problems with children, dealing with loneliness, video greetings, readjusting to a loved one's return and others.

Tonight's meeting focuses on how to handle fear through a biblical perspective. Barbara Niedermeyer, retiree spouse and longtime Bible study teacher at Bicentennial Chapel, is the featured speaker for the meeting.

"We are also working closely with Army Community Service," Butler said. "They are going to come and speak at one of the meetings."

"You know, sometimes women who are left behind through a deployment just want to talk to other adult women," Tindle said. "They need companionship. They don't want to be a burden or to be pitied or to feel alone. They want to be connected with someone who has been in their shoes."

"The motto of this church is 'North Alabama's Caring Place.' That's what we hope the military families will feel like - that we care about them."

The group is nondenominational and meets every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Whitesburg Baptist Church. For more information about the group or available resources, call Tindle at 704-5678 ext. 205 or Butler at 682-6499.

Egg-ceptional egg nesting in White House display

Chemsak's decorated egg again represents Alabama

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htimes.com

Back in October while Halloween revelers were hacking away at pumpkins, turning them into creepy jack-o-lanterns, Mike Chemsak was concentrating on the delicate task of transforming a plain chicken egg into a creation worthy of representing Alabama in the White House Easter Egg display.

His efforts paid off. This is the third consecutive year Chemsak's decorated egg has been selected as the state's entry in the display, housed at the White House Visitors Center in Washington, D.C.

"Usually the display is in the east wing of the White House but since they've stopped public tours of the White House, they put the eggs on display at the visitors center, about two blocks away from the White House, so more people could see it," Chemsak, chief of the recreation and family support division, said, comparing his visit to the display in 2001 to this year's trip.

"Last time we went, Laura Bush welcomed us on the East Lawn for the reception then we went on a tour of the White House," he said. "This year there was no Mrs. Bush. We were greeted by the Secret Service."

Chemsak was told that President and Mrs. Bush were visiting with injured soldiers and their families at Walter Reed Medical Center.

"It was a lot different this year," said Chemsak, who joined 31 counterparts from other states along with their guests, about 120 total, for the exhibit's opening April 14.

Chemsak attended the opening with his wife, Maureen, and her sister and mother. "We went to see the egg display first then after several intense security checks, we went to the White House for a tour. Everything was much more controlled. Last time we were able to linger a bit but not this time. And we didn't go out the front entrance."

It was still a very enjoyable trip. Chemsak got a chance to see how other egg artists chose to represent their states. In the past he's seen some unique showings,



Courtesy photo

EGG MAN— Mike Chemsak stands next to his handiwork at the White House Visitors Center.

including an egg made into a pineapple to represent Hawaii, a cactus shaped egg from Arizona and an egg from Missouri touting St. Louis Rams and Cardinals sports teams.

"This year the guy from Virginia painted his egg with a picture of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," Chemsak said. "It was really great. I love to see the variety of techniques used and how people represent their state."

Chemsak's entry this year was an egg covered in beads with colored rhinestone chains running lengthwise from the top of the egg to separate it into four equal sides. Each side had a gold-beaded outline of the state of Alabama. Within the state outline was a lapel pin state flag on two sides and the state seal on the other two.

"I don't spend too much time really thinking about egg designs," he said. "They just come to me, sometimes in the middle of the night. If I concentrate, they won't come."

Chemsak has dabbled in the egg decorating hobby

nearly 30 years, a family tradition brought to this country with the emigration of his grandparents from Carpathorusyn, Slovakia. He spent hours watching his uncle decorate eggs in a style very similar to Pysanky, a waxy dye. "It seemed like a lot of work," he said. "I started watching other egg decorating styles then tried beads and jewelry – sort of my own made up style. I enjoyed doing it, liked the way it looked so that's pretty much what I do."

Requirements for the White House egg display limited Chemsak to chicken eggs but nearly any type of egg can be decorated. Chemsak prefers emu, a large green black colored egg, or the creamy-colored ostrich egg. He uses special tools to cut the egg and make hinged doors so that he can create a treasure on the inside of the eggs as well as the decoration on the outside.

Although Chemsak has been interested in egg decorating throughout his life, it was only in the past five years that he developed a passion for his hobby. In that time he's made about 80 eggs and collected them from countries around the world.

One of his favorites is an egg he made for his wife for their 25th wedding anniversary. The other was made for his youngest son, Nicholas, a student at Middle Tennessee University, who used it to propose to his girlfriend.

"I decorated the outside with crystals, beads and jewelry," he said, explaining that he'd designed this egg to open like a trinket box. "Inside on the top half was an engraved plate, with the words, 'Lacy, will you marry me?' I put velvet in the bottom and that's where he put the engagement ring."

He will attend their wedding next April, the weekend after Easter. Chemsak is not worried about a conflict if his egg entry is selected for the White House display because the opening is always the weekend before Easter.

This was Chemsak's third winning egg but only his second trip to the opening ceremony. Last year he and his wife chose to visit their son Stephen in Boston, during his spring break. Stephen graduated from Harvard with a master's in international education and is teaching English in Japan.

Much of Chemsak's egg collection, both original works and collected pieces, is on display at the Madison public library.

Analysis division recognizes four retiring members

Staff and employees of the Management Analysis Division of the Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity honored four retiring workers March 27.

Rosanne Harpe and Thomas McCray received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Ed Morfenski and Carl Penaranda received the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service.

Later that day, the retirees were honored with a luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club. During the luncheon, each retiree received a special gift from the staff and fellow employees. American flags, which had been flown over the U.S. Capitol, were also given to each retiree by friends.

Ed Morfenski, who earned a bachelor's degree from Grove City College and a master's from Golden Gate University, is a retired Air Force officer. During his military career, Morfenski's assignments ranged from staff action officer to various supervisory assignments including program manager, European manpower requirements at Air Force headquarters. From 1984 until his retirement from AMSAA, his assignments included senior management analyst and branch chief.

Thomas McCray, an Army veteran who served in Vietnam, was the division's supply technician at the time of his retirement from AMSAA. He previously worked as a mail handler and a supply technician at the then-Missile Command and as an industrial arts technician at Marshall Space Flight Center.

Rosanne Harpe worked for AMSAA since March 1981, excluding a five-year tour of duty in Heidelberg, Germany. She has a bachelor's from Birmingham-Southern College and a master's from Alabama. She retired with 24 years of service and anticipates more time for family and friends, travel and hobbies.

Carl Penaranda began his government career in the Air Force in Morse intercept operations and then served several years in the Air Force manpower-management engineering program. His civilian career included assignments as a management analyst with Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Gordon, Ga., and with Headquarters, U.S. Army Pacific at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. He retired as a senior management analyst with AMSAA.



Courtesy photo

GOING OUT— From left Ed Morfenski, Thomas McCray, Rosanne Harpe and Carl Penaranda retired March 31.



Sports & Recreation

Stars baseball

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring the annual Team Redstone night at Joe Davis Stadium, Saturday. Bring your family and friends to the ballpark to watch the Huntsville Stars take on the Greenville Braves at 7:05 p.m. There will be extra attractions and military displays for the evening. Look for your free general admission tickets at popular locations on the Arsenal, such as the Sparkman Center, other office complexes, PX and Commissary. You can also contact your CWFC representative for other free general admission ticket locations.

Bicycle ride

The second annual Tour de Arsenal Bicycle Ride is May 20 at 5 p.m., sponsored by the Jacob Sverdrup Marshall Space Flight Center Group Support contract Employee Welfare and Morale Committee. The 18-mile ride, starting at the NASA Exchange Fitness Center parking lot at Morris and Digney roads, roughly follows the historical railroad route around the southern part of Redstone Arsenal. Helmets are mandatory. For more information, call Jamie Miernik 544-6534.

Fund golf tournament

The 2003 AER Golf Tournament, a four-person scramble, is May 9 at 7:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course. Rain date is May 16. Entry fee is \$23 for members, \$35 for non-members. Call Nadine Manderson 842-8714, Austin Watson 313-2422, Jim Dabbs 842-0170 or SSgt. White 876-5399.

Conference golf tourney

In conjunction with the Army T&E Days 2003 Conference, a golf tournament will be held June 3 at 8 a.m. at the Canebrake Country Club in Athens. Fee is \$60. Registration information is on the web site: www.testevaldays.com or call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Benefit 5K

The second annual RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk to benefit Army Emergency Relief is May 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the area directly south of Patton Road soccer field (off Corporal Road). The registration deadline is May 7. The \$15 entry fee includes a T-shirt and race day refreshments. Pre-orders on T-shirts only (not running or walking) will be taken until May 7 for \$10. For more information, call Carolyn Farmer 876-3810.



Conferences & Meetings

Test and evaluation days

The Test and Evaluation Management Agency will sponsor its sixth Army T&E Days 2003 — "Building Test Capabilities for the Future: Supporting FCS, The Objective Force, and the Next Generation Army" — on June 3-5 at the South Hall of the Von Braun Center. Scheduled speakers include Claude Bolton Jr., ASA(ALT); Walter Hollis, DUSA(OR); Maj. Gen. Robert Armbruster, CG ATEC; Dennis Muilenburg, vice president-FCS, Boeing; and more to be announced. An exposition will be held in conjunction with the conference. Government and industry organizations are encouraged to participate in the exposition. Registration is \$325 (form is on web site) and is in TIP. For more information, call Mike McFalls 876-3462 or Sherry Hilley 842-6715. The web site is www.testevaldays.com.

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone Arsenal group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of Bicentennial Chapel.

Support group

The Mental Health Center of Madison County is offering a free support group for family and friends of loved ones overseas or anyone concerned about the American troops and country. Operation Group Resilience is a forum for coming together and talking; reducing isolation, feelings of sadness and anxiety; and developing empathy and understanding. Operation Group Resilience meets each Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Mental Health Center of Madison County, 4040 South Memorial Parkway. A mental health professional will facilitate each session and resource materials will be available. This group is open to all individuals in the community, and reservations are not required. For more information, call Kelley Robbins 533-1970.

Military care group

Whitesburg Baptist Church has formed the Military Care Group that meets

See Announcements on page 20

Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 in room 114. This group meets to support the military and their families, whether active duty, Reserve or National Guard, with Christian fellowship, hope and encouragement. The church, 6806 Whitesburg Drive, invites all military and families. For information call Tina Tindle 704-5678, ext. 205.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold its monthly meeting April 29 at 11 a.m. at Papa Lovetti's Restaurant, banquet room, on University Drive. For more information, call Meg Lipsey 955-6262, ext.112, or Mary Peoples 955-4275.

Military officers association

The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8:30 a.m. in the Redstone Golf Clubhouse. The association's luncheon meeting is April 30 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club with scheduled speaker Rich McAdams of the Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform. For more information, call Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Parent council

The Parent Advisory Council, for the Child Development Center and Child and Youth Services, will have its monthly meeting April 29 at 11 a.m. at the Challenger Activity Center. For more information, call 876-7952/2151.



Miscellaneous

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.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Her-

cules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop is now accepting homemade craft items for consignment. The shop seeks volunteers. For more information, call 881-6992.

Butler High reunion

Butler High class of 1983 will have its 20-year reunion Aug. 29-30. For information call Tammy 721-2246 or Kelly 829-1427.

Father of year

Madison County's Father of the Year will be chosen from among several hundred nominees by a panel of judges composed of Sybil Cleveland, judge, Huntsville Municipal Court; Col. Bob Devlin, garrison commander; Mike Gillespie, chairman of Madison County Commission; Brad Jones, CEO, Crestwood Medical Center; Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer; Paula Steigerwald, CEO, Huntsville/Madison County Botanical Gardens; Keith Wilson, general manager, Wiley Labs; and Dr. Susan Wu, founder of ERC Inc. The Father of the Year and each finalist will be honored June 21 at Huntsville's Depot Roundhouse with dancing to the music by the "Chevy 6," a silent auction, cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres. The event is a tribute to the importance of responsible fatherhood, and contributes to the mission of the Volunteer Center of Madison County. Nomination forms and more information are available by calling the Volunteer Center 539-7797 and from the center's web site: www.volunteerhsv.org. Nominees must work or reside within Madison County and will be reviewed for the qualities that make individuals outstanding fathers.

Aeronautics awards

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Alabama-Mississippi Section is requesting nominations for the 2002-03 annual Section Awards. The awards will be presented at the Officers and Board of Director Installation and Awards Banquet, May 15. Submit nominations by Friday. For more information, call Steven Noneman 544-2048.

IMMC AER fund-raisers

Want to know when the next sale of those Pentagon pins will take place? Maybe you are interested in the plant sale. Want to play in a golf tournament but don't know how to enter? You can find the answers anytime at <http://immc.redstone.army.mil/aer/>.

Motorcycle safety course

The Department of Defense and Department of Army require all soldiers who operate motorcycles either on or off post to have satisfactorily completed an approved Motorcycle Safety Course. This requirement also applies to all individuals who operate a motorcycle on DoD installations. Motorcyclists will be required to show proof of meeting this requirement when registering or renewing a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal. Experienced Rider Courses have been scheduled for the following dates: April 30, May 2, May 14 and June 14. Each course will start at 8 a.m. and end by 5 p.m. This training will be provided free of cost for military and DoD civilians. To qualify for the ERC, a rider must have at least one year experience and have ridden more than 1,000 miles. These requirements are reduced to six months and 500 miles if the rider has completed a Basic Rider Course. Individuals under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign a required waiver form before starting the course. Riders must bring a valid driver license with motorcycle endorsement to the course. Enrollees must provide a street-legal motorcycle which will need to pass an inspection by the rider coaches. The inspection includes tires and wheels, controls, lights, oil, chassis and kickstand. Motorcycles should be properly insured. Class participants should also provide their own helmet and all required safety gear. To register for one of these courses, call Bryan Lorge 842-8622.

NCO club

Knowing that the noncommissioned officer is the "backbone" of the military service, Redstone Arsenal has a new NCO Club program called the Backbone Lounge. This includes Friday afternoon "happy hour" with free buffet at the Challenger Activity Center, discounts on Child Development Center and School Age Services fees, 10 percent off all evening dining purchases at the Soldatenstube, more perks at Outdoor Recreation and swimming pools, discount Golf Course fees, Auto Skills Center fees, and the Bowling snack bar. Each member will receive a free quarterly birthday party dinner buffet plus an invitation to the three other birthday bashes. Membership is open to active duty, retired and Reserve/Guard NCOs (E-5 through E-9) and DoD civilians (grade GS-6 or equivalent and below). For more information, call LuAnne Hardee 830-9175.

Benefit book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief continues through May 2, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., in Sparkman building 5300 on the second floor by the elevators. "As in the past, we accept donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes," a prepared release said. "We will

be able to receive donations until April 29." If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 842-9909 to arrange delivery and pick up of those items.

Property tag sale

The Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities will hold a non-appropriated fund Property Tag Sale May 6-8 at building 7436. The sale is 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 6-7 and ends at 1 p.m. May 8. All sale items have a two-part, pre-priced tag attached. The bottom of the tag will be carried to the register to purchase the item; simply present your receipt to clear the building. All items must be removed the day of purchase. This sale is open to all members of the Redstone community, including contractors. For more information, call 876-1418 or go to www.redstonemwr.com.

Command sergeant major

A retirement ceremony and luncheon honoring post CSM Roscoe Johnson will be held May 1. The ceremony is 8:30 a.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Activity Field (Patton and Aerobee Road); and the luncheon begins 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call Lucretia Townsend 955-6925.

Association scholarship

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association will award a \$1,000 scholarship in August. Applications are due by July 15. For more information, call Bob Belton of Quantum Research International at 971-1800, ext. 257.

Prenatal class

Expectant parents (military beneficiaries) are invited to a free prenatal educational program sponsored by Fox Army Health Center. Registered nurses provide information on nutrition, exercise, labor and delivery, and newborn care so parents can make informed choices about their health during and after pregnancy. Family members and labor coaches are welcome. Free "What To Expect When You Are Expecting" books will be available for all who attend. The program is April 30 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at ChildWise, 1413 Nike St. Call Public Health and Education Center 842-0196 for information and to register.

Children's block party

Child and Youth Services will celebrate Month of the Military Child with its annual Block Party, Saturday from 1-4 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148 on Goss Road. For more information, call Yvonne 955-8401 or 876-5437.

Benefit yard sale

Waiting Spouses Yard Sale will be held May 3 at 7 a.m. at 305 Hughes Drive. All proceeds will be used in support of the Waiting Spouses, Army Community Service, Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call Tracy Silvia or Kristi Foster 876-5397.

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management

course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will reveal "Wimps and Machos at the End of the Universe" by astronomer Dr. Rob Preece, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Werner 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 big VBAS telescopes, will follow. For more information, call Mitzi Adams 961-7626.

Administrative pros special

Today is Administrative Professionals Day. The PX Mall "Lucky Bamboo" offers delivery for today to honor your most important staff member.

Women in leadership

Survival Skills for Women in Leadership Roles will be offered by the South Central Training and Learning Center, May 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Sparkman Center. "This course pays special attention to areas that enhance one's ability to take control, to demonstrate confidence and to fit into a team," a prepared release said. "Strategies will be taught which will enable you to set an atmosphere that builds teamwork, empowers employees and gets results so that everyone can succeed." Registration fee is \$100. To register or for more information, call Marsha Samples 842-6543 or Louise Olszewski 842-6540. Deadline for registration is May 14.

Winning leaders

The South Central Training and Learning Center will present "The Winning Leader — Leadership Skills for Federal Government Employees," May 6-7 in the Sparkman Center. "This course takes a hard, but creative look at the critical elements of leadership — and in the context of today's demanding workplace and organizational structure," a prepared release said. Call Louise Olszewski 842-6540 or Marsha Samples 842-6543 to register or for more information. Deadline for registration has been extended until Friday.

Engineering camp

University of Alabama in Huntsville announces its second annual Engineering Summer Camp, a weeklong program held on campus for high school juniors and seniors to discover the different areas of engineering. They will engage in lab experiments, presentations and group projects supervised by UAH professors. Some of the activities will involve bridge building, rocket launch, robotics, circuits, sensors, and chemical reactions. Camp is offered twice this summer: June 16-20 and July 14-18. Enrollment is limited to 20 students per session. Apply early. Deadline to apply for Engineering Summer Camp is May 16. For applications and information, call Veronica Molina in the College of Engineering 824-3590 or visit the web site at www.eb.uah.edu/camp.shtml.

Web site hoax

The Criminal Investigation Command cautions that people are providing personal information to a fake Army video game web site. People using the web site believe the personal information is going to the Department of the Army. The intention of the people running the false site is not known, according to Earl Seiler Jr., special agent-in-charge, but the potential for abuse is significant. In a memorandum dated April 9, Seiler cautioned people to not go to <http://www.aagame.com>. The official web site for the Army is <http://www.americanarmy.com>. Questions can be directed to Richard Browning Jr., investigative operations assistant, at 876-2037.

Soldatenstube Mayfest

Mayfest returns May 3 to the Soldatenstube German Restaurant, building 3512 on Gray Road. There will be German food, fun for the entire family, festive music and dance, a 10K Volksmarch and a car show. For registration in the car show, call 830-2582. For more information on Mayfest, call the Soldatenstube 881-5181 or 830-2582.

Club anniversary

The Officers and Civilians Club will celebrate its 20th anniversary and Membership Appreciation Night, May 2 at 6 p.m. Members will receive a \$25 complimentary ticket. Non-member ticket price is \$25 per person and this event is open to the entire Redstone community. Door prize drawings will be held and international foods will be served. For details or tickets, call 830-2582.

Resource managers

The annual American Society of Military Comptrollers picnic is May 15 at 11 a.m. at the NASA picnic area west. The picnic is free to members and costs \$5 for non-members. Non-members must make reservations by May 9 with Dennis Summers 313-0553.

Pilgrimage weekend

The Huntsville Pilgrimage Association invites you to Pilgrimage Weekend, May 3-4. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 3, you will visit five historic homes and two of the city's most beautiful gardens. The First United Methodist Church is also on the tour and will serve a box lunch from 11-2. On May 4 from 2-4 p.m., "Voices From Past Times" will be held at historic Maple Hill Cemetery. All money from the weekend goes directly toward maintenance and restoration of the cemetery. For more information, call 1-800-772-2348.

Self-care classes

Fox Army Health Center continues to offer Self-Care classes. This class is free and open to all health care beneficiaries of Fox Army Health Center and civilians of Team Redstone. The focus is to promote the health of Fox's beneficiaries and civilians of Team Redstone. The class will cover how to stay well and prevent illness and injury. All participants will receive a free home health reference book. Active duty, Tricare Prime, and Tricare Plus enrollees can enroll in the self-care pharmacy program. This class is offered on the first Monday of each month. The next

class is May 5 from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Public Health and Education Center's classroom at Fox. Participation is limited to 15 persons. To sign up, call the Public Health and Education Center 955-8888, extension 1026, Monday through Friday

from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Housing yard sale

The Housing Spring Yard Sale is May 2-3 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The postwide sale is open to anyone authorized on post.



Courtesy photo

Easter party

The Community Projects Committee of the American Society of Military Comptrollers sponsored an Easter party April 17 for the children at the Children's Rehabilitation Service on Governors Drive. From left are ASMC members Debbie O'Neal, Doris Byrd, Lily Garner, Adriene Fields, Easter Bunny (Corinne Campbell), Jennifer Feemster, Theresa McBride and Debbie Willman.

