

Redstone Rocket

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August 18, 2004

Survey says

Remembering your favorite school year

Page 2



Safety first



Paving the way to bicycle rules

Page 4

Going to chapel



Women's group studies Bible

Page 6

Just for kids



Youth programs ready to serve

Page 8

Win or lose

Soldiers take aim on Olympic gold

Page 18



Civilian reps deploy with Soldiers

Logistics assistance representatives battle heat, risk lives like troops

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htimes.com

Returning from a six-month deployment in the Gulf, civilian Bob Giles described Kuwait as "a paradise." He cleared his throat and smiled. "It was my turn to go. It could have been a lot worse. I could have been in Iraq where Mike was, having people shooting at me. So

everything being relative, Kuwait wasn't too bad."

Giles is a senior staff technical representative in the Fire Support Branch of the Readiness Directorate at the Aviation and Missile Command. This was his fifth deployment since becoming a logistics assistance representative in 1985, including serving with former AMCOM commander Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm when Dodgen was commander of the 843rd Air Defense Artillery.

See **Support** on page 13



Courtesy photo

AT WORK— Logistics assistance representatives work on a helicopter in the field. Aviation Branch has 92 LARs stationed throughout the world.

Test Week 2004 launches combined symposiums

Activities developed for Aug. 30 to Sept. 2

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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The Army test and evaluation community gets together annually in Huntsville to share ideas, but this year is different. "Test Week 2004," Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at the Von Braun Center South Hall, represents a partnership between the Army Test & Evaluation Days Conference and the International Test and Evaluation Association annual International Symposium.

"The biggest purpose is sharing different information about test and evaluation and systems engineering," McFalls said. "We're trying to learn how other people do their business — and that goes for whether it's DoD, NASA or commercial industry."

'The biggest purpose is sharing different information about test and evaluation and systems engineering.'

— Mike McFalls
Test Week 2004 host

This is the first time these symposiums have combined. T&E Days is in its seventh year; and the Rocket City Chapter last hosted the ITEA international symposium in 1995.

"Once you register, you get the whole week," Mike McFalls, host for Test Week

2004, said. The test manager for Research Development and Engineering Center, he also serves as president of the Rocket City Chapter.

Dr. John Foulkes, director of the Test and Evaluation Management Agency in Washington, D.C., is the sponsor for T&E Days. He leads the technical committee for base realignment and closure for the Army.

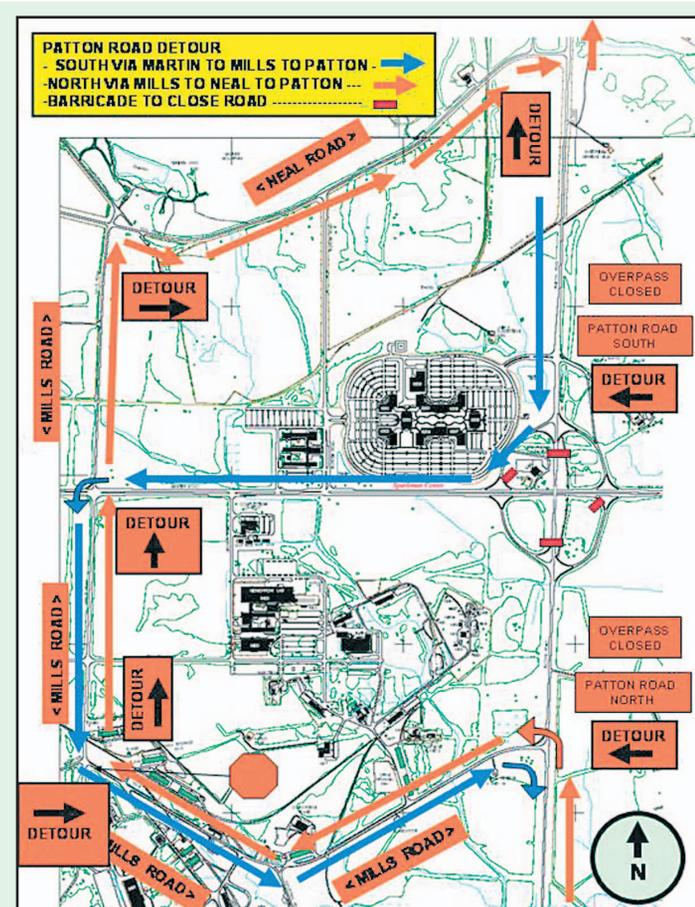
Counting exhibitors and attendees, more than 800 people will participate. There are more than 100 organizations, including companies and government entities, putting on exhibits.

"The biggest purpose is sharing different information about test and evaluation and systems engineering," McFalls said. "We're trying to learn how other people do their business — and that goes for whether it's DoD, NASA or commercial industry."

Technical sessions will be held Tuesday, Aug. 31 through Thursday, Sept. 2. Associated events Aug. 30 include a golf tournament and an 18-mile bike ride through NASA and Redstone technical test areas.

Some of the more than 20 scheduled speakers include Lt. Gen. Robert Wagner, deputy commander for U.S. Joint Forces Command; Mike Crisp, deputy director for air

See **Test** on page 13



Courtesy graphic

Route revised

Regarding the *Redstone Rocket* article dated Aug. 11 titled "Repairs en route to Patton Road Bridge overpass," the Directorate of Public Safety, in order to provide maximum flow with minimum control during this time of repair is changing the traffic flow plan as shown in this diagram. The directorate said this plan will require minimum detouring and cause less confusion while the overpass is inaccessible. This plan does away with having to cross over Martin Road from Patton Road which would conflict with the west and east bound traffic flow on Martin. Repairs on the Patton Road Bridge overpass at Martin Road are slated to begin Aug. 24 and continue about six weeks.

Letters to the Editor

Rules should go both ways

One would think motorcycles are being discriminated against on Redstone Arsenal due to all the of the "safety precautions" that are now required to be taken.

Let us compare motorcycles and bicycles. Bicyclists are only required to wear a helmet. Whereas, motorcyclists have to wear long sleeves, DOT helmet, full fingered gloves, eye protection, boots over the ankles, and brightly colored or reflective fabric and let's not forget the mandatory motorcycle safety course. Still, I have not been told exactly what constitutes acceptable size of brightly colored fabric or reflective material.

Bicyclists have accidents also. I have nearly come to a complete stop in my POV because someone wanted to ride their bicycle in the middle of Patton Road. I am a motorcyclist, and I ride to work as often as I can. I believe that anyone who rides on two wheels should have to take an equal part in safety precautions and wear the same protective equipment. The question to be asked is this: Why are there double standards for equally hazardous modes of transportation? I would like to see a bicyclist have to wear all the protection that motorcyclists have to.

Clyde Lackey
Redstone Fire and
Emergency Services

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for your concern regarding motorcycle and bicycle safety on Redstone Arsenal. First and foremost, the U.S. Army Garrison, the Garrison Safety Office and the Directorate of Public Safety are all committed to and concerned for the safety and welfare of all motorists on Redstone Arsenal to include motor vehicle operators, motorcyclists and bicyclists. The requirements for personnel to operate a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal are derived from Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4, dated July 20, 1999 and titled 'DoD Traffic Safety Program,' Army Regulation 190-5 paragraph 4-2c (1a-c) dated July 8, 1988 titled 'Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision' and USAG-RSA Policy Number 385-56, dated June 7, 2004, titled 'Motorcycle Safety Requirements for Redstone Arsenal.'

"While the DoDI and DA regulation provide some requirements, guidance and important safety information, the DoD instruction is somewhat vague and

ambiguous about certain safety requirements, so the Garrison has supplemented these instructions with additional safety requirements in order to remove the ambiguity. While these requirements may appear restrictive, keep in mind that most of the motorcycle safety requirements are already contained in the DoDI and DA regulation, but not clearly spelled out .

"On the other hand, regulations and safety requirements for bicyclists on military installations to include Redstone Arsenal are virtually non-existent. You are absolutely correct when saying that the only requirement for bicycling on the installation is the wearing of a helmet. With the change of community atmosphere and environment over the years at Redstone Arsenal and within the adjacent local communities, many folks now use bicycles to commute to and from work for exercise and fuel savings. Unfortunately, neither DoD nor DA regulations have kept up with these changes at their respective levels. Therefore, USAG-RSA recently realizing a need to further protect bicycle commuters from the 30,000 or so motor vehicles that travel on the installation's roadways every business day, the Garrison Safety Office, in partnership with the Directorate of Public Safety and representatives from local bicycle clubs, will be discussing ways to protect our bicyclists more effectively. Part of the goal of reducing the potential for accidents will be for this group to better define bicycle safety requirements during our discussions and by implementing new safety procedures that will improve the safety of bicyclists sharing the roadway with motorists on the installation.

"Even though only one serious accident involving a bicyclist/motorist has been recorded over the last two years, numerous near misses have occurred on our roadways. This is not an issue of double standards, but merely an issue of updating safety requirements as the community and environment evolves. Additional articles in the Redstone Rocket concerning changes to bicycle safety requirements will appear in future editions as new information becomes available. Remember, operating any type of vehicle on Redstone Arsenal or any other military installation is a privilege, not a right! It is incumbent upon you, the rider, to protect yourself through risk management (defensive driving, complying with safety requirements and traffic laws and regulations)."

New signs right on mark

I would like to commend the RSA Garrison Public Works Department, in particular Bobby Noles, for responding quickly to my July 28 request to retire an old faded stop sign on the multi-use trail. Within a week, new signs have appeared, including an added regulatory sign because where the trail crosses the road, Digney Road is one-way. Several maintenance issues were also addressed, like pruning trees

to improve visibility and patching maintenance excavations on the trail. Thank you for addressing these safety concerns. I hope this is just the beginning of a center-wide effort to improve traffic safety for the growing numbers of bicycle commuters.

Janie H. Miernik
ERC Inc./MSFC Group
Jacobs Sverdrup Technology

Speeding ticket unexpected

I recently received a speeding ticket for doing 54 mph in a 40 mph zone as I was leaving the Arsenal out the Martin Road gate. I will be the first to admit that I am guilty as charged. However (and you knew there had to be a however) usually on a road when the speed limit declines from 50 mph (as it is further up Martin Road until it goes under Patton) there is a warning sign that reads "Reduced Speed Ahead." This gives the driver time to slow down before realizing he is suddenly in a 40 mph zone for just the short distance going through the gate. My assumption

was that I was still in a 50 mph zone, and while I was still doing 4 miles over the speed limit, I probably would not have gotten a ticket.

I think it would be a good safety measure if whoever is in charge of signs on the Arsenal would erect "Reduced Speed Ahead" signs wherever appropriate. Further, it would save people like me from getting unwanted, and arguably undeserved, speeding tickets for which fines have to be paid and insurance rates go up. Thank you.

Name withheld by request

An open lane random survey

What was your favorite school year?

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

Lt. Kelly Vanveldhuizen
Bravo Company, 308th Military Intelligence

"Sophomore year in college. You were familiar with your peers, but the pressure wasn't on about careers. Junior and senior years you take more of a leadership role, but as a sophomore it's more low level."



Earl Starling
retiree
"My last four years of college inspired me to move on from high school and get a good job."

Petty Officer Ted Taylor
instructor

"Eighth-grade. It was a time of graduation on to high school. It was a big step."



Dr. Ted Mueller
DoD civilian

"I would have to say it was my senior year of high school. It was where I felt most comfortable and was able to grow the most."

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Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents.

Aug. 6: An individual was observed at the Post Exchange selecting a Game Boy game cartridge and then exiting without rendering the proper payment. He was processed and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7: An individual was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

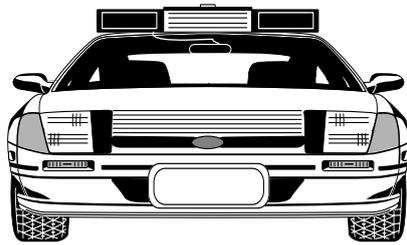
Aug. 7: An individual was found to be in possession of a weapon during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and an open container in the vehicle during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Aug. 8: An individual reported that someone removed his government-issued pressure washer from his quarters. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 8: An individual found a bicycle at a vacant quarters. The bicycle was secured by police. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 9: An individual struck a utility pole belonging to the U.S. government at an off post location. Investigation continues by Huntsville Police Department.



Aug. 9: An individual was found to be in possession of opiates and driving with a suspended license during an inspection at Gate 9. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 10: An individual entered the police station and reported that he was being harassed. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 11: An individual was stopped for failure to obey a traffic control device and found to be operating his motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. He was issued two violation notices and detained at the Provost Marshal Office until his blood alcohol level reached an acceptable level.

Lost identification/badge reported: 31
Traffic accidents reported: 5 without injuries, 1 with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 15 speeding, 1 expired registration, 1 failure to yield right of way, 1 no driver's license in possession, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 following too close, 2 controlled substance violation, 2 driving with a suspended license, 1 weapons violation and 1 open container.

Getting to know you

By KIM HENRY
Staff writer
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Name: Earlene Kather

Job: Flight dispatcher at Redstone Airfield, Dyncorp International

Where do you call home?

Originally from Centralia, Mo., but I now call Madison home.

What do you like about your job?

I trained for 20 years in the Army to do this job and am still able to do it after I retired. I feel I know the job well enough; that is why I like my job. I like meeting people. We get a lot of people through here.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Play golf and bowl and go geocaching (using Global Positioning System).



What are your goals?

To work long enough so that I can live off of my investments and my retirement. My husband and I want to buy an RV and travel the U.S.

Cyberspace security focus of conference

The Garrison and Marshall Space Flight Center will sponsor the sixth annual Information Technology Security and Assurance Conference and Exposition Aug. 25-26 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Theme for this year's conference is "Securing Sensitive Data and Protecting the Critical Military Infrastructure." Scheduled guest speakers include Wyatt

Kirby, chief information officer for the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command; Special Agent Jim Christy, director of the Defense Criminal Institute; and Special Agent Charlie Cox of the FBI. There will also be more than 20 IT vendor exhibits.

Admission is free. You can register for the event at www.TechnologyForums.com/Redstone.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Cameron Porter

Aviation logistics command

The Aviation Center Logistics Command, an AMCOM subordinate, is formally dedicated in an assumption of command ceremony Aug. 5 at Fort Rucker. Unfurling the ACLC flag are from left Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command; Brig. Gen. E.J. Sinclair, commander of the Army Aviation Center and Fort Rucker; Col. Richard Enderle, ACLC commander; logistics command 1st Sgt. William Riddlehoover; and Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn of AMCOM. The logistics center provides aviation maintenance and supply support to the Army Aviation Center.

Quote of the week

'Discipline is not a bad word to me. It's simply taking pride in doing what's right and doing the little things you're expected to do, day in and day out.'

— Sylvester Croom
Mississippi State football coach

Redstone pedals toward bicycle safety guidelines

Forums planned
to air concerns

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

The push to maintain physical fitness coupled with environmental concerns and the high price of gasoline is seeing a rise in traffic at Redstone — bicycle traffic, that is.

While pedaling about the Arsenal has always been an enjoyable way to spend an evening or weekend, commuters using cycles as their main mode of transportation to and from work has become common. This increase has prompted safety concerns from both cyclists and motorists alike. The Garrison Safety office, Provost Marshal and Redstone Police Operations are working with local cycling enthusiasts to make the motor-less commute a safer one.

Redstone has had one significant bicycle-motorist accident in recent years. Last year a commuter was struck and severely injured; he is still recovering.

The Defense Department has no official policy regarding cycling on an installation. In an effort to create an installation policy for Redstone, the safety office is preparing to hold open forums where anyone with related questions or concerns may come to present those items and have them addressed.

“There are issues and there are risk management options out there available,” John Blandamer, acting chief of the garrison safety office, said. “We want to establish a dialogue to allow us to set a policy document that meets our need to manage that risk and meets their (cyclists and motorists) need for enter-



Photo by Kelley Lane

ON THE ROAD AGAIN— Dave Stone takes his recumbent tricycle for a spin with friends a year after his near fatal bicycle accident.

tainment and transportation.”

Until that policy is created, cyclists and motorists must adhere to the standards set forth by local and state law, namely Title 32 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, articles 12 and 13 of Alabama Code. The new Redstone policy won't alter that law, simply add to it and clarify some of its vagueness. However, the root of many of the current problems may be found in ignorance of the guidelines already in place. Whether you are on a bicycle or sharing the road with one, it is the responsibility of every licensed driver to know the rules of the road. They are easily accessed by Internet and many of the most commonly applicable laws are to be found in printed materials, such as the book used to study for licensing exams. For the most part they are simple and similar to the rules pertaining to any other vehicle.

In Alabama, bicyclists are to use roadways and designated trails, not sidewalks. Cyclists moving below the speed of traffic on roadways are to stay as close to the right side of the road as possible in single file, except when making a left turn or passing another vehicle traveling in the same direction. When a usable path is provided adjacent to a road, cyclists should use the path instead of the road.

Cyclists are required to obey all traffic controls and signals including stop signs, yield signs and detoured or closed roads. This also includes using hand turn signals and yielding to pedestrians on crosswalks or sidewalks.

Never race or play games on public streets.

The number of riders per bicycle is limited to the number of people it is actually designed to carry.

A properly approved helmet is required. They are available at most retail locations selling bicycles, parts and supplies. Reflective, highly visible apparel is also recommended by the Provost Marshal Office and most cycling organizations.

It is against the law to carry an item or package that prevents a cyclist from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.

Cyclists, or anyone else, should not attempt to merge into traffic from a side road if they are unable to do so at the same speed that traffic on that road is moving.

Every bicycle used on public roadways is required to have brakes which allow them to stop within 25 feet from a speed of 10 mph on dry, level pavement. When riding at night or during reduced visibility, bikes must be equipped with a headlight visible from at least 500 feet in the front. A rear reflector is mandatory, but a red taillight is also recommended.

“When you ride a bicycle on Redstone Arsenal you are a driver,” Art Riley, assistant administrative officer of police operations, said. “You must follow state laws, give signals, obey stop signs, obey posted speed limits, one-way street signs and yield right of way just as car drivers do.”

Conversely, those in motor vehicles must respect the rights and safety of those they share the road with, be it another car, motorcycle or bicycle. Do not expect other vehicles or cycles to give up their legal right of way simply because you are in a hurry or compromise the safety of everyone involved by passing where it is not legal or advisable to do so. Janie Miernik, senior mechanical design engineer at Jacobs Sverdrup Technology and president of the Alabama Bicycle Coalition, agrees that motorists

need to put safety ahead of inconvenience.

“Anticipate the ‘bottleneck’ situations and know that they (motorists) must brake to the speed of the slower vehicle. Resist the urge to ‘blame the bicyclist’ for ‘being in the way’ and holding you up for a few seconds,” she said. “In these situations, bikes are not required to jump off the road to get out of the way of cars. Bikes are legal vehicles on the roads of every state in the union. Bikes are easily passed 99 percent of the time, except when traveling through a physical or momentary traffic bottleneck. Bicyclists don't have eyes in the back of their heads. It's up to the faster vehicle driver to find the brakes and slow to the speed of the slower vehicle when passing is not an option.” She reminds cyclists to be aware of what is going on around them.

“Commuting cyclists often ride during rush hour and must ride the narrow, shoulder-less roads to the gates in heavy traffic. If possible, don't ride in rush hour. Arrive early and leave later; it makes for less stressful riding,” Miernik said. “Ride as little as possible on main roads, such as Martin, Rideout, Patton and Redstone roads. Know where the physical bottlenecks are and where the momentary bottlenecks can form. Like at the top of the hill on Neal Road or when cars are in the left turn lane. Ride defensively when nearing these bottlenecks. Look behind to know if faster traffic is approaching.”

Bicycle forums will be announced as they are confirmed. Questions can be directed to the garrison safety office at 876-3383. More information is also available at www.alabike.org or at www.legislature.state.al.us/Code-ofAlabama/1975/22786.htm.

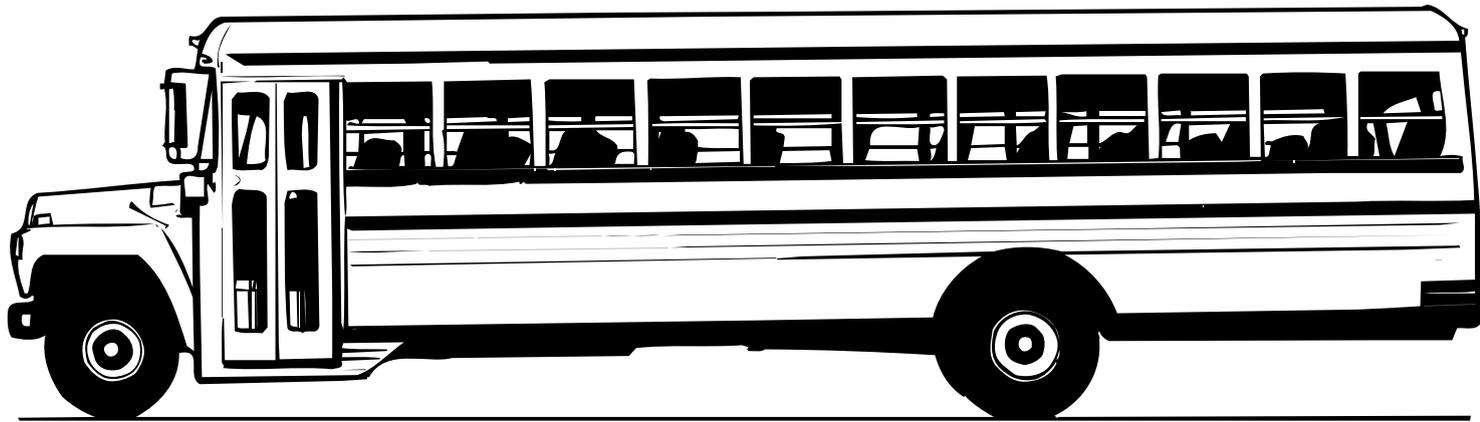
School bus safety has right of way

For some 22 million students nationwide, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. Unfortunately, each year many youngsters are injured and several are killed in school bus incidents.

School bus related crashes killed 164 persons and injured an estimated 18,000 persons nationwide in 1999, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System and General Estimates System.

Over the past six years, about 70 percent of the deaths in fatal school bus related crashes were occupants of vehicles other than the school bus and 20 percent were pedestrians. About 4 percent were school bus passengers and 2 percent were school bus drivers. Of the pedestrians killed in school bus related crashes over this period, approximately 77 percent were struck by the school bus. Of the people injured in school bus related crashes from 1994 through 1999, about 44 percent were school bus passengers, 9 percent were school bus drivers, and another 43 percent were occupants of other vehicles.

Although drivers of all vehicles are required to stop for a



school bus when it is stopped to load or discharge passengers, children should not rely on them to do so. The National Safety Council encourages parents to teach their youngsters these rules for getting on and off the school bus:

- When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic and avoid roughhousing or other behavior that can lead to carelessness and do not stray onto streets or alleys.

- Line up away from the street or road as the school bus approaches. Wait until the bus has stopped and the door opens before stepping onto the roadway.

- Use the hand rail when stepping onto the bus.

- When on the bus, find a seat and sit down. Loud talking or other noise can distract the bus driver and is not allowed. Never put head, arms or hands out of the window.

- Keep aisles clear — books or bags are tripping hazards and can block the way in an emergency.

- Before you reach your stop, get ready to leave by getting your books and belongings together.

- At your stop, wait for the bus to stop completely before getting up from your seat. Then walk to the front door and exit,

using the hand rail.

- If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk at least 10 feet ahead of the bus along the side of the road, until you can turn around and see the driver. Make sure that the driver can see you. Wait for a signal from the driver before beginning to cross. When the driver signals, walk across the road, keeping an eye out for sudden traffic changes.

- Do not cross the center line of the road until the driver has signaled that it is safe for you to begin walking.

- Stay away from the bus' rear wheels at all times.

- Parents should review with their children the correct way to

cross the street.

- Youngsters should always stop at the curb or the edge of the road and look left, then right, and then left again before crossing.

- They should continue looking in this manner until they are safely across.

- If students' vision is blocked by a parked car or other obstacle, they should move out to where drivers can see them and they can see other vehicles — then stop, and look left-right-left again.

Editor's note: This article was provided by the National Safety Council and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Benefit updates on tap for military retirees

Retiree Appreciation Day scheduled for Aug. 28

Military retirees represent a large part of the local community. They make good use of the benefits and services available to them, when they know what they are. Keeping up with changes to services can be difficult. One way to get all the information they need is to attend annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Aug. 28 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

"It's important for the retirees to attend and get acquainted with latest things going on as far as the VA, finance offices and activities that impact the daily lives of

our retirees," George Shepard, co-chairman of the retiree council, said. "It's important for them to be up-to-date in their information and know what's available and what they can get in the way of support."

Beginning that morning at 7, a free breakfast will be served and attendees will have the chance to socialize before the formal opening of the event at 8. A slew of speakers are scheduled throughout the day. Col. John Sackett, chief of Combat Related Special Compensation team, and Shari Burnum of Investors' Resource are the morning's speakers. Ann Schowalter, chief at benefits, eligibility and enrollment for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs medical and hospital, is scheduled to speak after the lunch break.

Lunch is available by reservation. A meal of roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole and buttered carrots with rolls, dessert and a drink will be served in the Sparkman Cafeteria for \$8 per person. No meal tickets will be sold at the door, so reservations are required. The Huntsville Concert Band will provide music in the cafeteria.

Attendees must enter the installation through gates 1, 9 or 10 on the day of the event. Those without a vehicle sticker should bring photo identification for themselves and all passengers. For more information on Retiree Appreciation Day events, scheduling, lunch reservations or for assistance call retirement services officer Cynthia Anderson at 876-2022.

Women's group devotes time to Bible

Protestant Women of Chapel plans more study sessions

By **KIM HENRY**
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Tonie Welch wished she had gotten involved with the Protestant Women of the Chapel when her husband joined the Army.

"It is the number one question most PWOC members ask, 'Why did it take so long to find,'" Welch, the new president of the Redstone Arsenal Chapter of PWOC, said. "But once you discover what it is, it becomes such an important part of your life."

The PWOC introduced the theme, "Delight in the Lord," (Psalm 37:4) for this year's Bible studies at a kickoff program Tuesday night. The weekly classes begin Thursday with three different times to choose from: morning, lunch and evening.

"You don't have to know the Bible by heart," Welch said. "Just come with a willing heart."

All females with access to Redstone are invited to attend PWOC. Welch said she would like to see more active duty and civilian women join the group this year. Those wishing to attend may choose a study time that best suits their needs. The morning study is 9:30-11:30 a.m., the lunchtime class is 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and the evening class is 6:30-7:30.

Jennifer Devlin, vice president for programs, said some people may misunderstand the commitment of coming to the Bible study. "You don't have to sign on a dotted line. People are always welcome to come anytime," she said. "We all know how schedules can change." All installations have the same PWOC theme, so a participant can pick right up where she left off if she has to move.

All groups meet in the assembly room of Bicentennial Chapel and then split up into individual classrooms at the chapel. The morning and lunchtime classes meet every Thursday; the evening class meets the first and third Thursday of each month.

For morning devotionals, women can choose from three classes: Life Principles for Worship from the Tabernacle, Women Gifted for Ministry: How to Discover and Practice your Spiritual Gifts and Covenant Relationship with God. The class for



Photo by Kim Henry

WARM WELCOME— Tonie Welch, PWOC president, and Jennifer Devlin, PWOC vice president for programs, stand in front of the entrance to the Bicentennial Chapel assembly room, where most PWOC events are held. PWOC welcomes all ladies with access to Redstone to join them.

lunchtime is Wisdom at Work, and the evening study is Essential Truth: Knowing God Personally.

"We provide books for the Bible study classes free of charge. There is also no fee for the child care or food," Devlin, who also serves as the Southeast Regional

coordinator for PWOC, said. "Just bring your Bible and a willingness to learn."

Besides the weekly classes, the PWOC offers monthly programs and a fall and spring retreat. The monthly programs include dinner, a skit and a speaker. "This is really a way to give those who come in the morning a chance to fellowship with those who come in the evening," Welch said. "Those who don't attend weekly studies are always welcome to pop in and we encourage all to bring a friend."

Welch said PWOC is a great support group for young wives and mothers whose husbands are deployed. "We really have a heart for the young wives and mothers," she said. "PWOC can also work as an extended family for ladies who are away

from their parents and their husbands are deployed."

Devlin said PWOC provides a safe environment for women. "When you can't solve your own problems, you can take them to God, who can," she said. "He can meet your needs."

PWOC is non-denominational. "All represented work together for Christ," Devlin said. "It is Bible based, Christ centered." The Redstone Chapter started about 40 years ago.

Welch and Devlin want to start a lunchtime Bible study at buildings 5300 and 4488 so that more civilian women can have access to a weekly lunchtime devotional. Those interested should contact Welch at 489-5646 or welchjoh@hiwaay.net.

Programs help youth reach for SKIES

Lessons for dance, gymnastics, tennis, Tae kwon do and life skills offered

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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The new children's activity program from Child and Youth Services is launching its fall schedule offering lessons in a variety of activities such as dance, tennis, gymnastics, tae kwon do and even study skills and career planning.

The name SKIESUnlimited combines the acronym for Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills with the word "unlimited" for the unlimited learning possibilities this new initiative offers children and youth.

"This program sets up quality standards for the instructors we hire to teach an unlimited number of instructional classes to children of the Redstone com-

munity," Brandie DeRemer, SKIES director, said. "Some instructional classes are already going on here very successfully, like cheernastics and kindernastics and tae kwon do. We have great instructors already. Those classes will move under this program but the students won't really see a difference. What we're doing with SKIES is going out into the community and recruiting more instructors on all kinds of things and bringing the classes here."

Or in some cases, like the new dance classes, getting great deals for Redstone youth to go downtown and participate in classes at a discounted rate. The SABA School of Dance and International Performing Arts studio on Oakwood Avenue offers a variety of classes for ages newborn to adult.

"It (SKIES) provides a continuity of excellence for our kids," Myra Garriott, the Child and Youth Services coordinator, said. "Children already give up so much moving from place to place. The Army understands how important it is to offer



Courtesy photo

TROPHY TIME— Garrett Tennis Academy coaches Ashley Robin, of Bob Jones High girls tennis team, and Willis Mbandi, of Alabama A&M University men's tennis team, prepare to award medals and trophies to the first SKIES Unlimited tennis camp students at Redstone. This camp was July 12-16.

these kids lessons and activities to keep them growing in their interests and give them the chance to explore new opportunities."

Children participating in any of the SKIES programs must be registered with Child and Youth Services, building 1500. Annual fee is \$18.

Tennis anyone?

Group tennis lessons for school age children (ages 5-10) and youth (ages 11-18) will be provided at Redstone on the youth sports tennis courts. Al Garrett, owner of Garrett Tennis Academy and director of the non-profit Youth Development Association in Huntsville, will coordinate coaches and offer instruction through the SKIES program.

"We had a great camp at the Arsenal this summer," Garrett, former contract specialist at the Acquisition Center, said. The transition from contracting to tennis developed during the early 1990s as his part-time work with Alabama A&M University's junior tennis program began to grow. He expanded the non-profit program from Huntsville to Madison in 1994, formed his own tennis academy in 1995 and resigned from the government in 1996 to go full time in tennis.

Class commitments are on a monthly basis but Garrett really views the program in three-month blocks.

"For beginners, we get them in, teach them the basics, introduce them to all the strokes, volley, serving, getting the fundamental techniques down to get them a good start," Garrett said. "Then we move them through the process. We try to have them up and playing well within the three month goal."

Long term goal for his players as well as the program on post is to develop the athletes and program into a competitive arena, playing matches against local teams in Huntsville and Madison, even create a tennis league on post.

"Of course, we have to stimulate enough interest to develop the program beyond the lessons we offer now, but it's a very good start, I think. This is a great opportunity to have on post. I'm looking very forward to it."

Lessons are as follows: children ages 5-10 — Tuesday and Thursday 3:30-4:30 p.m. and Saturday 10-11 a.m.; youth ages 11-18 — Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to noon.

See **Youth** on page 15

Chapel community members remember GG

Longtime volunteer dies from cancer

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

Her real name was Jackie but everybody affectionately called her GG.

She volunteered at Bicentennial Chapel for three decades – doing everything from starting a clown troupe with the chapel youth, to teaching Sunday school, to visiting the sick.

GG Todd of Huntsville died Aug. 9 at Crestwood Hospital after a yearlong bout with cancer. She was 53.

“I have known her 29 or 30 years through the chapel and her volunteerism,” Patty Wilson, religious education coordinator at Bicentennial Chapel, said. “GG was a wonderful volunteer. GG was a good clown, a good mother, a good wife, a good friend and a good volunteer.”

“She started a clown troupe with the youth of the Bicentennial Chapel and it was highly successful. She volunteered in almost every area of the church.”



Courtesy photo

VOLUNTEER WORK— GG Todd volunteered at Bicentennial Chapel for three decades.



Courtesy photo

IN PANAMA— GG Todd and her husband, Ken, were stationed in Panama from 1982-85.

Todd taught Sunday school every year at the chapel, encompassing many age groups. In recent years her specialty was with the senior high group. She sang in the choir each Sunday, visited shut-ins and prepared meals for the sick. She was president many years of the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Todd also served as a member of the Protestant Parish Council. For many years she led the children’s sermon in worship service. She, her husband, Ken and their children were named volunteer family of the year for Redstone Arsenal in the 1980s.

“GG was universally liked and admired and always positive,” Wilson said. “Before she died, she stated that she knew exactly where she was going and knew she would be with Jesus. She was such a good, good decent friend. I can’t say enough good things about her.”

“She did an awful lot with the kids (at the chapel),” said Logistics Support Activity contractor Renee McDaniel, a fellow Sunday school teacher. “She just did an awful lot of good. Even though she got cancer, she was just always upbeat.”

Todd worked for the Department of Human Resources in Huntsville before her illness. Ken, a retired sergeant first class, works at Virginia College on Bob Wallace Avenue. The Todds were in Panama from 1982-85, came to Redstone 1985-90 and went to Germany before Ken retired here in July 1992.

Besides Ken, survivors include three sons, Scott, Patrick and Thomas; three grandchildren, Aaron, Thomas and Kylie; her mother, Audrey Fender of Huntsville; three brothers, Thomas Fender of Huntsville, Ira Fender of Anaconda, Mont., and Richard Fender of Birmingham; her mother-in-law, Lieselotte Todd of Huntsville; and her beloved pets, dog Cai and cat Underfoot.

A funeral service was conducted Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel by Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Penney, Chaplain (Maj.) Joey Byrd and Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Barry Presley, who is stationed in Kuwait. Burial was at Valhalla Funeral Home on Winchester Road.

“A fun lady,” Wilson said, “I’m going to miss her.”

Soldiers get wish for good eating in Afghanistan

Fairy godmothers in N.Y. support Blue Moon Café

By KRISTI FOSTER
For the Rocket

"Jasper was sent to 'build things,'" said Beth Gladden, sister-in-law of Sgt. Jasper Russell, B Company, 279th Engineer Battalion, Birmingham.

The Soldiers were living in tents in the hot, desert sand of Afghanistan until the members of B Company arrived and started building B-huts to house them. Always the innovator, with an ardent love for

cooking and eating, Russell had the idea to turn one of the B-huts into a café. The only material around to cover the floor was blue. Thus, with a little sweat and ingenuity, the Blue Moon Café was born — a place for Soldiers to go and enjoy whatever meals Russell can put together.

"The first meal (at the café) was just butter beans in the crock pot that my sister, Tina, sent me. They went fast," Russell said.

Enter stage left a group of fairy godmothers. "I met Jasper quite by accident," said Donna Pandich, head fairy godmother, Fairy Godmother Brigade. "Our group sends monthly care packages to our troops

overseas. We shipped a box to a person who had already come home and the package was redistributed. In each of the boxes we send are form letters for Soldiers to fill out and return to us. Jasper was one of the people kind enough to write us back."

The Fairy Godmother Brigade has about 20 members and is based out of the small upstate town of Binghamton, N.Y. "The Fairy Godmother Brigade is not your average organization," Pandich said. "We're simply a few caring people dedicated to brightening the lives of as many Soldiers serving our country overseas, as our pocketbooks and donations allow, without a company or corporate affiliation."

Since that initial contact the fairy godmothers have included the Blue Moon Café in their mission, sending monthly "theme meals."

"In July we sent five boxes brimming with a Chinese dinner to feed approximately 20 people — complete with a chef's hat, apron, menus, coasters, napkins, candy tins, and T-shirts all with the Blue Moon logo imprinted on them," Pandich said. "We plan to provide a meal a month until this unit is home safely. We have a variety of theme menus already planned through January 2005."

Between the fairy godmothers and servicemembers' wives, husbands and friends the Blue Moon has become a popular place at Russell's camp.

"We cook lunch and supper through the week, serving from 15-25 servicemembers each meal," Russell said. "We are limited on the number due to the fact we only have two small pots to cook with. The guys and gals will bring stuff in to cook or have me cook for them. The locals have even brought us meat, tomatoes, onions and peppers from Kabul. And yes, camel meat tastes just like beef, not chicken!"

"We love iced tea," he added. "That's a big ticket item over here. We freeze water bottles and cut the ice out of them. Oh, I want some right now!"

"The café has been great for our people over there," Gladden said. "Jasper is from a large family. He has seven brothers and sisters, so he's used to being around, eating with, and taking care of lots of people. The Blue Moon is just a small piece of home away from home."

Although Russell's unit is moving to a new location soon, the Blue Moon Café will live on. "We will leave behind our Blue Moon Café," Russell said. "But fear not, we will open a new chain of Blue Moon Cafes throughout Afghanistan. Wherever we go the Blue Moon will rise again and again. As for me, my fellow Soldiers, and cooks, we will keep our heads down and the stove hot. Drive on!"

For more information about the Fairy Godmother Brigade and how you can help, send an e-mail to Pandich at apandich@stny.rr.com.



Courtesy photo

HOME COOKIN'— Sgt. Jasper Russell of B Company, 279th Engineer Battalion, Birmingham, proudly wears his Blue Moon Café chef's hat and apron sent to him by Donna Pandich, head fairy godmother of the Fairy Godmother Brigade.

Engineer earns award for medical shipping container

Frozen shipper system withstands hard travel

TOBYHANNA ARMYDEPOT, Pa. — A Packaging Storage and Containerization Center engineer here has earned national recognition for a shipping container that will be used worldwide.

Charlotte Lent, an industrial engineer

in PSCC's Logistics Testing and Applications Division, was among those who earned second place in the National Institute of Packaging, Handling and Logistics Engineers-sponsored 2004 national packaging design contest.

PSCC is part of the Army Materiel Command Logistics Support Activity. PSCC personnel provide worldwide technical and specialized assistance in

packaging, storage, containerization, transportation, hazardous materials, distribution facilities modernization, automatic identification technology and packaging applications testing to major and subordinate Army commands, Defense Department components and other federal agencies.

Lent, along with the contractors she collaborated with (HGI Skydyne, Heritage Packaging and BBI-Biotech), earned the award in the Long-Life Category. Lent designed, tested and guided the fabrication of the Frozen Specimen Shipping Unit, which can be used with dry ice to transport any infectious matter in vials, such as blood specimens and tissue samples, and non-infectious items.

The FSSU-24 is actually a complete system that can withstand hard travel and harsh environments.

"It can keep specimens at minus 40 Fahrenheit and below for three to seven days in transit and withstand drops of up to 30 feet at any angle, plus puncture by steel rods," Lent said. "It can also maintain 13.9 psi (pounds per square inch) internal pressure for air travel."

Work began in 1995 for the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases' Division of AIDS, part of the National Institutes of Health, when packaging requirements changed for transporting infectious substances such as HIV-tainted blood.



Courtesy photo

TO LONG LIFE— This award-winning shipping container can be used with dry ice to transport any infectious matter in vials and non-infectious items.



Photo by Kristi Foster

Watering hole

The newly renovated covered patio at the Soldatenstube, located at Redstone Golf Course, is a great place to enjoy a cold beverage and meal with friends after playing 18 holes. From left are George Stotser, Gerry St. Amour, Bill Boshers and Bob Hollis. Renovation for the patio was funded by Morale Welfare and Recreation. The Soldatenstube is open seven days a week and features authentic German cuisine Wednesday through Saturday. For more information, call 883-8636.

See **Container** on page 13

■ Logistics assistance representatives serving on front lines

Support

continued from page 1

His latest deployment was to Kuwait in December for an Army Materiel Command staff position monitoring and assisting with theater aviation readiness. "I was an advocate for AMCOM systems at the AMC headquarters operation there." He returned to Redstone in May.

The "Mike" Giles referred to is Michael Bulkley, a logistics assistance representative with AMCOM's aviation branch. Bulkley returned last week after a voluntary deployment to Iraq in January to support the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment out of Fort Hood, Texas.

"They were the guys I supported when I was active duty," Bulkley said. He retired as a first sergeant in July 1996 and spent four years as a LAR in Korea before coming to Redstone last October. "When the unit's LAR resigned, I volunteered to go with them. My wife wasn't too happy, being as how we'd just moved here. But after 28 years of marriage, 24 of those in the military, she understood why I needed to go."

Bulkley's job was to do everything necessary to keep the unit's 24 Longbow Apache helicopters flight ready. The unit's mission as an attack helicopter squadron is to provide close air combat support to ground troops as needed. "They have a lot of military convoys on the ground in Baghdad and surrounding cities. Those convoys are under constant attack from shoulder fired rockets, IEDs (remotely detonated bombs called Improvised Explosive Devices) along the roadside, anything you can imagine."

When an Apache sustains damage, Bulkley, along with the unit's production control officer, evaluates the damage and coordinates the support needed to get the helicopter repaired and back in the skies.

"I'm qualified in aircraft maintenance but this is my toolbox now," Bulkley said, opening the laptop computer he carried with him during his deployment. "I provide support with getting parts, logistics, maintenance problems – whatever. I'm the connection to item managers back here. I work with AMCOM engineers when we have to have permission to do certain repairs."

Keeping the aircraft flight ready is crit-

ical to the unit's mission. When damaged aircraft aren't repaired quickly, there are fewer in the air which means less support to ground troops and more lives put at greater risk. Time is everything. Delays can cost lives. Bulkley knows that. He saw it firsthand during his Desert Storm deployment in the first Gulf War. "It's why I wanted to become a LAR – to have an impact on readiness."

Even though this time he's a civilian, he works alongside the Soldiers – lives like them, battles the heat (140 degrees on the flight line, 120 degrees in the shade), risks his life, just like them. Attacks on Al Taji Air Base, where he was stationed, are a daily occurrence.

"Every day is a challenge. We were shooting artillery every day," he said. "I was in front of a hangar when it came under attack. One time (an enemy) rocket grazed the side of a tanker truck filled with 2,500 gallons of aviation fuel. It creased the side but didn't break through. For some reason, the warhead didn't explode. It could have been really, really bad."

The worst day for Bulkley was Easter Sunday.

"We lost an aircraft and two pilots," he said. "I knew the guys pretty well, back in Korea. They were providing convoy security when they were killed, shot down over Sadr City. It was heartbreaking for the whole battalion — tore us up pretty bad."



Courtesy photo

CIVILIAN VOLUNTEER— Michael Bulkley, a logistics assistance representative in the Aviation Branch, volunteered for a seven-month tour in Iraq to provide support for the Fort Hood, Texas, unit flying Longbow Apache helicopters in combat.

During his time in Iraq, Bulkley experienced some close calls himself but he remains devoted to the life. "I could get redeployed," he said. "Hopefully I get a year before I go back, if I have to, but it may be sooner. Interacting with the Soldiers – having an impact on readiness, helping them stay in the air – is what it's all about. From here to the front lines."

The Aviation Branch has 92 logistics assistance representatives stationed around the world. There are thousands of civilian LARs Armywide working alongside Soldiers to get the job done – whenever and wherever that happens to be.

■ Symposiums merge into week of activities

Test

continued from page 1

warfare at the Directorate for Operational Test and Evaluation in office of the secretary of defense; Col. Pat O'Reilly, program executive officer for combat support and combat service support, Tank-Automotive Command, Warren, Mich.; Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation; Al Goldstain, deputy commander for Arnold Engineering Development

Center, Tullahoma, Tenn.; Rex Geveden, deputy director of Marshall Space Flight Center; Rep. Bud Cramer, D-Ala.; Rep. Lincoln Davis, D-Tenn.; Brig. Gen. Jacques Sauvaget of France; Dr. Michael McGrath, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy; and Walt Hollis, deputy undersecretary of the Army for operations research.

Web sites for information are www.itea.org or www.testevaldays.com. For more information, call McFalls at 876-3462 or Sherry Hilley at 842-6715.

■ Shipping container delivers national award

Container

continued from page 12

The Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations requires packages to withstand the most rugged handling scenarios and the changes in pressure seen in air transport.

Other federal regulations stipulate strict temperature control requirements.

Lent and Jim Mott, packaging specialist, designed the first frozen shipper in 1996, which DDTP built.

That temporary container for 1,701 vials earned the NIPHLE 1996 Design Competition award in the Short-Life Package category.

After that prototype was approved, DDTP personnel built containers that are still in use today.

After several more drop and environmental tests, during which not one vial could break or leak, the final product turned out to be a plastic case lined with aluminum and shock absorbing and insulating foam that can protect up to 1,944 specimen vials.

The case measures less than 24 inches in each dimension, and when fully loaded with specimens and dry ice, weighs 150 pounds. Design, testing and validation

were completed in March.

PSCC played a key role in a storage bag that earned second place in the Short-Life Category.

In mid-2003 PSCC subjected commercially-designed storage bags to a series of rugged tests to see if they could protect rifles as well as the current bags, while making it easier to check rifles for auditing purposes.

The Marine Corps wanted a bag system with a window so the serial number can be checked easily without removing the rifle from the bag.

"Six commercial designs were submitted for comparison testing against the current package," Lent said. "We tested with actual M16s, so we could evaluate the effects on various metals and composite materials used in the rifle."

Lent and Mike Burns, distribution facilities specialist, conducted a number of tests, from how easy the bags are to use, to rough handling and environmental tests.

One bag, fabricated by Heritage Packaging and made of material from Valeron Strength Films, passed the tests and earned the award for Valeron.

Editor's note: Tobyhanna Army Depot provided this release.

PX radio network has announcements in store

EXCHANGE RELEASE

If you hear a familiar voice next time you're in the Post Exchange, it's part of the AAFES Radio Network program to record greetings from commanders, command sergeants major and chief master sergeants, other senior leaders, family readiness groups, sports teams or local personalities to remind you of any community message and of the value of shopping at your local exchange.

The AAFES Radio Network is the in-store music and information programming that also brings local announcement to customers.

"We want everyone to know about this great opportunity to keep community members informed and to also know about the importance of the mission and benefit of AAFES," Redstone Arsenal's general manager Carl Carpenter said. "A good way to demonstrate the partnership between local command and AAFES is through informational announcements from our post officials."

AAFES plays a pivotal role in the quality of life at Redstone Arsenal and saves you money every day. Your Exchange provides products and serv-

ices to authorized customers worldwide and generates earnings to supplement appropriated funds for Army and Air Force morale, welfare and recreation programs. Earnings fund the construction and renovation of Exchange stores and about 70 percent goes for MWR programs – more than \$220 million last year. AAFES shelf prices provide you 21 percent overall savings plus tax compared to off-base retail operations. While you can enjoy your exchange benefit in many ways, the greatest value is AAFES' pledge to "Go Where You Go."

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is a joint command of the Army and Air Force, and is overseen by a board of directors which is responsible to the secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through their chiefs of staff. AAFES has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and of generating non-appropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Morale Welfare and Recreation programs.

If you are interested in broadcasting messages through the AAFES Radio Network, call Sonya Boyd 883-6100.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample

Reciting pledge

Jamaica native Marine Cpl. Everton Bryon, 22, Headquarters Company Marine Barracks 8th and I, Washington, D.C., and Dominican Republic native Army Spc. Johanna Abreu, Southern European Task Force, Vicenza, Italy, recite the pledge of allegiance during citizenship ceremonies at the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Office in Arlington, Va., Aug. 3.

Youth

continued from page 8

Students can sign up for one lesson per week for \$32 per month or two lessons per week for \$56 per month.

For more information, call DeRemer at 313-3701 or the tennis academy at 464-9906.

Dance to the music

Besides the traditional jazz, tap and ballet classes taught at most dance schools, the SABA School of Dance and International Performing Arts offers Kindermusik for newborns up to age 5; Capoeira, from Brazil; and African dance. SKIES students attend classes at the Oakwood Avenue studio along with SABA's regular students but have the added benefits of discount prices and only monthly commitments, versus the five-month commitments required of students not in the SKIES program.

"We like for students to stay through the whole five month program and even participate in the December showcase and recital in May," Meka Jones Hubbard, part owner and instructor at SABA, said. "But we understand that the military families move often and so we want to be flexible and offer an opportunity for them to participate even on a short term basis. We have a Latin workshop for adults coming up soon. And we can accommodate groups who want to learn special dances for a specific event or program held on the Arsenal."

Hubbard has been involved with dance nearly all her life. She's studied dance at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in New York. She and her partners Sabrina Duffy-Jenkins and Dr. Aisha Fields have owned the studio four years.

Classes are as follows. Kindermusik classes are divided into three age groups: newborns to 18 months for Village; 18 months to 3 years for Our Time and 3-5 years for Imagine That. These classes build cognitive skills, social skills, body coordination and healthy development in all areas, according to Hubbard.

Classes for jazz, tap, ballet, Capoeira and African dance will follow the studio's regular schedule. Cost is \$35 per month for one class a week, \$60 per month for two classes per week and \$70 per month for three classes per week.

For more information and class times, call 533-3522.

Gymnastics on roll

Kindernastics, cheernastics, tumbling and Mommie and Me classes are all available at the Youth Center, building 3148, taught by Yashica Smith, who's been teaching these classes for the past year at the Youth Center.

"It's been going great," Smith said. "We've got some great classes going. And we have a lot of fun."

Kindernastics classes, for ages 2-5, are taught on Wednesday and Thursdays at \$30 for a six-week session.

Cheernastics, for girls ages 5 and older, is a combination of gymnastics and cheering. "We practice stunts, tumbling, voice projection, group cheers and a little dance," Smith said. Classes are Mondays from 5-6 p.m. or 6-7 p.m. Cost is \$35 for a six-week session.

Tumbling is taught Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 p.m. for ages 4 and older at \$25

for a six-week session.

Mommie and Me classes are held Thursdays from 11:30-noon for children ages 1-3. "If a child is walking, he's ready for this class," Smith said. "We have a lot of hands-on activities, rhythm, movement, stretches, motor skill development, hand-eye coordination and teach parents how to spot children on equipment. We also give parents a take-home lesson plan."

For more information, call DeRemer at 313-3701 or Smith at 325-1086.

Tae kwon do like 1-2-3

Jeffrey Davis has been teaching tae kwon do classes at the Arsenal for the past three years. He also teaches the program at Gold's Gym in Huntsville. He retired from the Army about a year ago and works as a contractor for the Logistics Support Activity.

"The intent when I started was to start an affordable program that the whole family can enjoy together," Davis said. "We all train together. There's not a lot of pressure from me for a child to progress at a certain rate. Being technically sound is very important to me. It is a journey; a journey they can go on as a family. But we do work hard. We did especially well at the Alabama Sports Festival in June."

There are two tournaments left this year, one in October, one in November. Ages are 5-adult.

"When I get new students, I do like to talk to them, find out their motivation for being here," Davis said. "I want to know if we're working on a particular personal issue, what they want to get out of the class so I know how to approach it with each child."

Classes are held at the Youth Center on Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 7:30-8:30 a.m. and 8:30-9:30 a.m. Monthly fees are \$40 per person, \$33 for a second family member and \$28 for a third family member. Students are welcome to attend as many classes a week as they want.

For more information, call DeRemer at 313-3701.

Growing skills

Dr. Elizabeth Hall will conduct an eight-week Skills for Success course at the Youth Center for eighth- and ninth-graders beginning Sept. 15 from 4-5 p.m. "It's a course about knowing yourself well and presenting yourself well," she said. "We build self-esteem and confidence in these young people and work on the transition from middle school to high school, work on study skills and how to be successful in school as well as in life." Cost of this course is \$150.

For students in grades 10 through 12, Hall offers a 10-week course, Career Exploration, beginning Sept. 15 from 5-6 p.m., which helps youth learn more about "who they are, where they want to go and how they are going to get there," Hall said. "I used this very career curriculum when I had to make the transition from teaching at Athens State College to life after college. I was there 18 years so I had to figure out what I really wanted to do for a living and how I was going to make it happen. Cost of this course is \$185.

A minimum of 10 students per course is needed to offer classes. For more information, call DeRemer at 313-3701 or Hall at 881-5959.

Exercise tests new technology, builds relationships

Determined Promise efforts part of homeland defense

By DEBRA VALINE
For the Rocket

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — The Avenger missile tracking system whirred to action long before human eyes could see the drone streak across the bright blue Florida sky Aug. 7.

The drone, picked up by Sentinel radar, was tracked and “destroyed” by the Avenger long before it could reach the exercise target of Headquarters, 1st Air Force at Tyndall Air Force Base near Panama City.

Before 9/11 the United States did not have the capability to watch the skies for threat vehicles. In the exercise scenario, SMDC Battle Lab employees and partners were looking to change that.

Amalgam Virgo 04/Determined Promise is a nationwide homeland defense exercise sponsored by the North American Aerospace Defense Command. 1st Air Force is the commander, Continental NORAD Region, and is responsible for air defense of homeland.

“This exercise is just a small facet of the larger homeland defense exercise,” said Air Force Col. Ed Daniel, vice commander, 1st Air Force. “This is the last line of defense for homeland security. If the fighter jets do not intercept the threat, it is up to the Avenger.

“We are testing new technologies that are available to us,” Daniel said. “A lot of people are working to make the United States more secure. All the agencies are doing yeoman’s work to make sure we think of everything.”

Cooperative effort

“We were asked to come down to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., and replicate the command and control architecture that would be used by Army ground-based air defense in line with the NORAD architecture. This is a similar structure to what is currently in place at the National Capital Region,” said John Buckley of the Space and Missile Defense Command’s Battle Lab in Huntsville.

“We are doing two things: providing support for the operational exercise with 12 Soldiers from the Florida



Courtesy photo

MAKING TRACKS— Florida Army National Guard Soldiers operate the Avenger during the exercise at Tyndall Air Force Base.

Army National Guard and airmen from 1st Air Force using real equipment,” Buckley said. “The scenario is that there will be a ‘terrorist attack’ from the air and they want to destroy 1st Air Force Headquarters. It is our job to prevent that from happening. We are providing the Army ground-based air defense and the connectivity with the 1st Air Force.”

Also participating will be a Navy Aegis destroyer, F/15-16 fighter jets, Airborne Warning and Control System, P-3 Orion and Federal Aviation Administration. All those are connected through the command center and the data is being passed on through 1st Air Force to NORAD and Northern Command headquarters.

“The second reason we are here is to do experimentation, primarily experimentation with the SHORAD (Short Range Air Defense) Project Office from Redstone Arsenal,” Buckley said. “Those experiments should provide better ways to perform the air defense mission to support the United States.” Both the Avenger and Sentinel are SHORAD systems.

“What is really unique about this

experiment is the close relationship between SHORAD and Battle Lab and working through all the issues together,” said Larry Burger, director SMD Battle Lab. “It is the first time we have worked together like this.”

Some of the ongoing experiments include the integration of Sentinel radar through the 1st Air Force data correlators and the integration of the SLAMRAAM or Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile system into a command and control architecture. Using new communications like secure wireless LANs and communication bridges allows military systems to talk to civilians. One scenario had a tracking device installed in a local sheriff’s car. Fighter jets were able to track the car in their cockpit display as it drove around and talk seamlessly to the county sheriff.

Other partners include the Redstone Technical Test Center; Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center; and the Aviation and Missile Command’s Software Engineering Directorate from Redstone Arsenal; 46th Test Squadron from Hansom Air Force Base, Mass.; U.S. Forces Command; and their respective supporting and prime contractors.

Long-term improvements

Another experiment the Battle Lab is doing is direct integration of the Battle Control System Fixed, the new command and control system being installed in all the NORAD air defense sectors. It is part of an upgraded Future Operations Capa-

bility Tactical Operation Center developed by the Battle Lab.

“We hope this leads to long-term improvements in the way we fight and provide homeland defense,” Buckley said. “We hope to get the good stuff to the Soldiers as soon as possible.”

The experimenters are using an FOC2 structure, trucks and software because the original FOC TOC was deployed on Sept. 12, 2001, and it is now permanently deployed to Washington, D.C. to provide command and control for ground-based air defense for the National Capital Region.

“In this exercise, we will have a several targets come at us during the course of the day from different locations, sources and angles,” said Glenn McPherson, the lead test engineer from the SHORAD Project Office. “We will track them as they come in with the Sentinel and Avenger, then ‘shoot them down’ with the SLAMRAAM. We are also using this opportunity to train members of the Florida National Guard on the newest version of the Avenger, which includes a slew to queue capability.”

“From this exercise we will take away a lot of data for analysis by the Battle Lab and system experts in OTII (SMDC’s Office of Technical Integration and Interoperability),” said Lt. Col. Dave Cox, chief of the Exercise and Training Division for the SMD Battle Lab. “We have learned a tremendous amount from our experiments, not all of it positive, but our primary objective was to provide a fully functional Joint Air Defense Center for the exercise and use the operational environment to evaluate new battle management technology. A lot of the experiments are working well. We made a lot of progress in all the areas we wanted to work on. OTII is particularly interested in getting this data from various correlator systems we employed. A lot of the data can be used by the Low Cost Interceptor program.”

“I am amazed at how SMDC is putting all these pieces together,” Col. Nanette Mueller, G-3, said. “The enhanced capabilities are very exciting.” Mueller is responsible for working integrated air and missile defense for the homeland defense. She brings a wealth of experience from NORAD in the planning for homeland defense.

“It has been a really good exercise in that we got to link with Col. Richard DeFatta’s group (SHORAD),” said Norman Goddard, director of the Battle Lab’s Missile Defense Directorate. “It bonded a lot of the elements together. You can only do that in an operational environment.”

Editor’s note: Debra Valine is editor of The Eagle at the Space and Missile Defense Command.

Soldiers aiming for gold in Athens

Army has 18 representatives
in Summer Olympic Games

By TIM HIPPS
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Eighteen Soldiers and four competitors from other U.S. military branches are representing Team USA in the Summer Olympic Games at Athens, Greece, Aug. 13-29.

The Army is providing eight shooters, two modern pentathletes, a race walker, a rower, a wrestler, a marathoner who may double in the 10,000 meters, a head coach for boxing, a Greco-Roman wrestling coach, a rifle coach and a gunsmith for the world's largest sporting event. The Air Force is represented by a hammer thrower, race walker and fencer. The Navy provides a rower.

First Lt. Chad Senior, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, will compete Aug. 26 in modern pentathlon, a five-sport event that includes pistol shooting, fencing, swimming, equestrian riding and cross-country running.

Senior, 29, of North Fort Myers, Fla., finished sixth in the event in the 2000 Olympics at Sydney, Australia. He was leading after three events before a skittish horse refused two jumps in the equestrian event, ruining his golden moment.

"I don't think the same thing can happen now; I'm a much stronger rider than I was in 2000," said Senior, who returned to the sport after 18 months of soul searching following his heartbreaker in Australia. "I just hope I can have the same day I had in Sydney, aside from the ride."

One day after Senior's grueling event, Army Capt. Anita Allen, 26, of Star City, Ind., will compete in the women's modern pentathlon.

Sgt. Oscar Wood, 29, an Army WCAP wrestler from Gresham, Ore., defeated five-time national champion and 2000 Olympian Kevin Bracken of New York Athletic Club in the finals of the 66-kilogram/145.5-pound Greco-Roman division of the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team Trials to earn an Olympic berth.

Wood, who will wrestle Aug. 24 and 25, will have another Soldier in his corner. Staff Sgt. Shon Lewis, 37, of Oakland, Calif., is one of three Greco-Roman coaches for Team USA. He has led All-Army wrestlers to three of the past four Greco national team titles and twice been named Greco-Roman Coach of the Year by USA Wrestling.

Army Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah, 41, of St. Louis, is the head coach for Team USA's boxers. He served as technical coach in the 2000 Sydney Games and will be assisted in Athens by Newport News, Va.'s, Anthony Bradley, a retired Army master sergeant and former WCAP coach who handled Abdullah during his career in the ring.

Capt. Matt Smith, 26, an Army WCAP rower from Woodbridge, Va., will team with civilians Steve Warner of Livonia, Mich., two-time Olympian Paul Teti of Upper Darby, Pa., and Cincinnati's Pat Todd on Team USA's lightweight four that began rowing Aug. 15 with a chance to compete again Aug. 17, 19 and 21 in the B final or Aug. 22 in the A final.

"I hope to succeed on the water but also to represent the Army, MWR and WCAP in a positive light and show the world that the U.S. is one of the better countries out there in rowing and in general — to show what freedom will do for you," Smith said. "It allows you to succeed."

Team USA also will feature Navy Ensign Henry Nuzum, 27, a two-time Olympian from Chapel Hill, N.C., who will team with Aquil Abdullah of Washington, D.C., in men's double sculls. They begin rowing Aug. 16 with the A final Aug. 22.

Oregon National Guard Capt. Dan Browne, 29, of Portland, Ore., qualified for the Olympics by finishing third in the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials with a time of 2 hours, 12 minutes and 2 seconds. He will run the marathon, the final competitive event of the Games, Aug. 29.

Browne, a West Point graduate and former member of Army's WCAP, secured a second Olympic berth by finishing third in the 10,000 meters with a time of 28:07.47 in the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team Trials at Sacramento, Calif. Should he decide to double in Greece, Browne will run the 10K Aug. 20.

Army Sgt. John Nunn, 26, of Evansville, Ind., earned an Olympic berth with a second-place finish in the 20-kilometer race walk with a time of 1:26:23 in the U.S. Track and Field Team Trials. Air Force Capt. Kevin Eastler, 26, a missile



Photo by Tim Hipps

RARIFIED AIR— Spc. Hattie Johnson, a member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit from Athol, Idaho, was to compete Aug. 14 in 10-meter air rifle shooting in the Summer Olympic Games at Athens, Greece.

combat crew commander stationed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyo., also made the team by finishing third in 1:28:49. They will compete Aug. 20.

Also in track and field, Air Force 1st Lt. James Parker, 28, a native of Great Falls, Mont., stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana, will throw the hammer in qualifying rounds Aug. 20 with the final Aug. 22. Parker won the event in the U.S. Track and Field Team Trials with a throw of 77.58 meters/254 feet, 6 inches and will be the only American in the field.

Air Force 2nd Lt. Weston "Seth" Kelsey, 22, of Santa Monica, Calif., was to fence in men's individual epee Aug. 17 and team epee Aug. 22. Kelsey, a 2003 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, is a two-time national champion.

Army Reserves Maj. David Johnson, 40, a native of Mount Holly, N.J., who lives in Colorado Springs, Colo., is a WCAP shooting coach and 15-year member of the U.S. National Rifle Team who competed in the 1992 Barcelona Games. He will serve as Team USA's rifle coach

Aug. 14-22 at Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre.

Four-time Olympian Sgt. 1st Class James "Todd" Graves, 41, of Laurel, Miss., became the first U.S. men's skeet shooter since 1984 to win an Olympic medal with a bronze in the 2000 Sydney Games. He will compete Aug. 22.

"I'm doing this for my family in green and I've decided that if I get a medal this time that I'm going to dedicate it to the troops," Graves said. "Every time I break a target or stand on a podium to get a medal, I'm dedicating it to all those guys and gals over there. That's the least I can do."

Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Duloher, 39, a world champion from Lee's Summit, Mo., downed 25 consecutive targets in the final round to edge Graves in the men's skeet competition in the U.S. Olympic Shotgun Team Trials at Fort Benning, Ga., home of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit.

"Hopefully in Athens, we'll both bring something of color home," Duloher said. "Just going through it together is going to be a big plus."

Two-time Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Bret Erickson, 43, of Bennington, Neb., was to compete in men's trap and double trap shotgun shooting Aug. 14 and 17 respectively.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker, 30, a world record-holder from Omaha, Neb., finished fifth in air rifle at the Sydney Games, missing a bronze medal by seven-tenths of a point. He was to seek redemption Aug. 16.

Maj. Michael Anti, a USAMU member attached to WCAP who recently won a national championship, will compete in 50-meter prone and 50-meter three-position rifle shooting Aug. 20 and 22 respectively.

Three-time Olympian Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Elizabeth "Libby" Callahan, 52, of Upper Marlboro, Md., competes Aug. 15 in 10-meter air pistol and Aug. 18 in 25-meter sport pistol. She is the oldest member of Team USA.

Spc. Hattie Johnson, 22, of Athol, Idaho, was to compete Aug. 14 in women's 10-meter air rifle, the first event of the Games. Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski was to compete later that day in men's 10-meter air pistol shooting.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Charles Gartland, 39, of Bardstown, Ky., will serve as Team USA's gunsmith.

Editor's note: Tim Hipps writes for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center and was on his way to Athens to cover the Olympics.



Sports & Recreation

Ten-miler tryouts

Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. Saturday on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team is to have six military – including active duty, National Guard and Reserves – and four civilian members. The 20th annual race is Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

59th organizational day

The 59th Ordnance Brigade will hold its annual organizational day Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Teams and individuals will have the opportunity to compete in tug of war, bowling, basketball, a golf scramble, volleyball, softball, track and field, ping pong, billiards, dominoes, horseshoes and spades. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Michael McGilton 876-5431.

Rocketman triathlon

The 11th annual John Masterson Memorial Heart Center Rocketman Triathlon is Aug. 29 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal. The race benefits the Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots” Program. For more information, call race director Bob Mulkey 883-7399 evenings.

Bike ride

The Spring City Cycling Club will hold an 18-mile bike ride through NASA and Redstone technical test areas Aug. 30 at 11 a.m. at Sparkman gym in conjunction with Test Week 2004, Aug. 30 through Sept. 2. Signup forms are on web site www.testevaldays.com or can be obtained from Sherry Hilley 842-6715. There is no fee for participation.

Chess players

Chess enthusiasts are invited to the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711, at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 24 to meet Donald Maddox, a renowned author and international expert on chess and computers. For more information, call 876-4531 after 1:30 p.m. daily.

Alabama A&M football

A chartered bus will leave the Wal-Mart in north Huntsville at 9 a.m. Sept. 4 to travel to Nashville for that evening's football game featuring Alabama A&M University vs. Tennessee State. Cost is \$75 which includes a game ticket (group rally session) and tailgate party at the stadium before game time. For reservations call 851-8778 or 653-7777.

Babe Ruth baseball

Registrations for the 2004 Huntsville Babe Ruth Fall Baseball Season will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at Sandhurst Park, Brahan Springs Recreation Center and Optimist Park. Players ages 13-19 as of July 31, 2005 are invited. The game schedule is tentatively set to run Sept. 18 through Nov. 14. The registration fee is \$65 per player, and a birth certificate is required for all new

players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. The Babe Ruth parks and their primary contacts include: Brahan Springs, Bud Gambrell 564-5612; Sandhurst, Tim Harrison 544-3180; Optimist, Ken Farnell 534-5060; and Mastin Lake, David Delisser 851-4006.



Conferences & Meetings

Test and evaluation

“Test Week 2004,” Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at South Hall, Von Braun Center, represents a partnership between the Army Test & Evaluation Days Conference and the International Test and Evaluation Association annual International Symposium. Keynote speakers, workshops and panels of experts will address the future of armed forces, systems engineering processes, automotive and aerospace activities, and international T&E. An exhibition featuring more than 90 industry, government and academia organizations demonstrating products and capabilities will be held in conjunction with the technical program of the conference. Web sites for information are www.itea.org or www.testevaldays.com. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Logistics engineers

The International Society of Logistics and the American Helicopter Society are co-sponsoring a luncheon Aug. 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, Madison Square Mall. Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation, is to speak on “PEO Aviation’s Implementation of Soldier Focused Logistics and Performance Based Logistics.” Cost is \$13.75 for members, \$14.75 for non-members. For reservations call Emma Louise Cooper 313-6763 or Randy Gibbs 313-2942 by Friday.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Aug. 25 at the Officers and Civilians Club. State Rep. Howard Sanderford is scheduled speaker. The chapter’s informal monthly breakfast is Aug. 28 at 8 a.m. at Victoria’s Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers; their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Reliability workshop

The SAE G-11 Reliability, Maintainability, Supportability, and Logistics Division and Probabilistic Methods Committee will meet Oct. 4-6 at Huntsville Hilton. The meeting will be hosted by both the Army and NASA. For more information, call Charles Birdsong of the Research Development and Engineering Center 876-5119.

Christian women’s club

Huntsville Christian Women’s Club will have its monthly luncheon Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Whitesburg Baptist Center, 7300 Whitesburg Drive. Shirley Craddock is to speak on “Let’s Make a Deal”; and local vocalist Lauren Green will perform. Cost is \$12. For more information, call Judy 883-5468 or Nancy 883-1339.

Information technology

The Garrison and Marshall Space Flight Center will sponsor the sixth annual Information Technology Security and Assurance Conference and Exposition Aug. 25-26 in Bob Jones Auditorium. Admission is free. You can register for the event at www.TechnologyForums.com/Redstone.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they are now authorized to convert to 75B as well. For an interview, call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the

Garrison Safety Office.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center’s surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays 9-5 and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-2. Handmade craft items are accepted for consignment. The shop can recycle all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. Volunteers are sought for the afternoons. For more information, call 881-6992.

Character counts

Child and Youth Services will soon host the Character Counts Program. Youth in grades 6-12 who attend will participate in activities centered around the six pillars of the Character Counts Program. Class time is Saturday from 1-5 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. The pillars are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, citizenship, caring and fairness. The session will include games, role-playing and group discussion. Participants will learn the importance of these positive character traits in everyday life. For more information, call 313-3609.

Office closing

The office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed Friday. In the event of an emergency, call Sgt. 1st Class Keith Willard (256) 212-2005.

Women’s equality luncheon

The combined Federal Women’s Programs present the Women’s Equality Day luncheon and awards ceremony, Aug. 26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Col. Mari Eder, Army’s deputy chief of public affairs. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased from Carol Toney of OPM, 837-1271, ext. 6; Demetria Cruz of COE, 895-1575; Becky Miller of Garrison, 876-9223; Billie Swinford of NASA, 544-0087; James Braxton of AMCOM, 955-7040; Mary Peoples of SMDC, 955-4275; or Angela Morton of MSIC, 313-7271. For special accommodations call Becky Miller of Garrison EEO Office, 876-9223.

Silent auction fund-raiser

The 2004 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is gearing up for this year’s campaign. An online Silent Auction will be held in late October as part of the CFC fund-raising activities. In 2002 the silent auction raised more than \$11,000 and helped increase awareness of CFC with federal donors. You can help by donating or collecting items for the auction. Suggested items include gift baskets, sport memorabilia, gift certificates, antiques, jewelry, paintings, handmade items, family business services, etc. All

donors will receive official acknowledgment for any items or services provided for their personal records. Items can be dropped off at the CFC Office, building 3708 on the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads. Donations are needed by Sept. 13. For more information call Maria Clark, chairman of the CFC Silent Auction Committee, 313-7620 (work) or 653-4695 (cell phone).

Back to school jam

How about a scavenger hunt with a high tech twist? Youth Services will be showing youngsters how to use 20 global positioning systems during its Back to School Jam at 4 p.m. Thursday at Youth Services, building 3148. This free event is open to youngsters throughout the Redstone community.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel's Fall Bible Studies will meet at the Bicentennial Chapel every Thursday. Morning studies are 9:30 a.m.; lunchtime study is 11:30 to 12:15; and the evening study starts at 6:30 p.m. Call Faith 890-0685 or Tonie 489-5646 for more information.

Engineering scholarship

The International Test and Evaluation Association, Rocket City Chapter and other organizations have established a University of Alabama-Huntsville scholarship for school year 2004-05 for an engineering student in memory of Robert McGowan, an engineer assigned to Research Development and Engineering Center. Presentation will be made during Test Week 2004, Sept. 2. Contributions should be payable to ITEA Rocket City Chapter, P.O. Box 4348, Huntsville, AL 35815. For information call Mike McFalls 876-3462.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for August include: Area 1, Columbia Centre – Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Pirapan Chanpuang, 504-A Walnut Circle; Area 2, Challenger Heights – Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. John Peters, 1034 Hof Circle; Area 3, Saturn Pointe – Capt. and Mrs. Richard Hall, 31 Ripley Drive; Area 4A, New Endeavor Village – Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. Derrick Whittington, 621 Wesson Circle; Area 4B, Endeavor Village – Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Manuel Vega, 650 Dyer Circle; Area 5, Freedom Landing – Capt. Laura Edwards, 293 Skinner Drive; Area 6, Voyager Village – Staff Sgt. and Mrs. James Nicholson, 356 Crowell Circle; Area 10A, Apollo Landing – Staff Sgt. and Mrs. William Boicourt, 471-B Tripp Drive; and Area 10B, Pathfinder Pointe – Maj. and Mrs. Timothy McRae, 491 Cooke Drive. The troop winner is Bravo Company, building 3411.

PX concert

The Post Exchange will have an annual Retiree Day celebration Aug. 28. A free outdoor concert by Dyers Daughters is 1-4 p.m. "We will be selling hot dogs and serving free Pepsi," a prepared release said. "We will give a free gift to the first 500 that come in the door at 2 p.m. Register to win a \$200 shopping spree at the Redstone PX. This is an event that you don't want to miss. Stop by and join the fun." For more information call Kim Sumpter 883-6100, ext.122.

Back to school sale

The Post Exchange has a Texier Purse back to school sale going on from now through Sept. 4. You will find new styles just in time for the fall season, as well as closeout prices on purses. For more information call Kim Sumpter 883-6100, ext.122.

Furniture store

The Post Exchange Furniture Store in building 3230 is having a GE appliance sale the entire month of August in honor of the Retiree Day celebration Aug. 28. Save from \$25 to \$100 on GE major appliances during this coupon sale. Stop by the Furniture Store today. For more information, call 883-7760.

Children's chorus

The Huntsville Community Children's Chorus is looking for boys and girls in fourth through ninth grade who love to sing. Auditions for new members will be held Aug. 23 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church on Governors Drive. A prepared solo is not necessary, but auditioners are advised to become familiar with the tune "Are You Sleeping? (Frere Jacques)." All auditions are on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, or for an audition appointment, call 461-6057.

Long term insurance

Long term care is ongoing care for people who need lengthy or even lifelong assistance with daily living due to an illness, injury, or severe cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer's. Created solely for members of the federal family, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is a valuable benefit designed to protect insured individuals from the potentially high cost of long term care. The insurance is sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management and offered by John Hancock and MetLife. It is administered by Long Term Care Partners, LLC, a joint venture company between John Hancock and MetLife. This program features group premiums for eligible members of the federal family, coverage for informal home care, access to care coordination services for qualified relatives of enrollees, and international benefits, among other benefits. A representative from LTC Partners is holding an educational seminar Aug. 24 in Bob Jones Auditorium. For your convenience, the seminar will be presented at noon and again at 2. Workers are encouraged to attend.

Small business awards

"Stars rising over Huntsville," the 19th annual Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce small business awards celebration, is Aug. 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Von Braun Center North Hall. Register online at www.hsvchamber.org.

Hispanic association

The Alabama Hispanic Association invites nominations for its first "AHA Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award." This award recognizes an individual whose contributions to the Hispanic community are noteworthy. It will be presented at the sixth annual Hispanic Community Festival at noon Oct. 2 at the Roundhouse Depot. Nominations are due by Sept. 6. For more information, visit the web site at www.alabamahispanicassociation.org or call president Margaret Rotger (256) 325-8464 or 325-4242.

Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will present a double program Saturday night at 7:30 at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Mitzi Adams will begin with "The Summer Skies"; and Richard Norman will present "Basic Astro Photography." Admission for non-members is \$3 for adults and \$2 for kids 6-12. If the skies are clear, a star party will follow. Visitors are encouraged to bring binoculars.

Veterinary clinic

The Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics Aug. 26 from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk-in basis for routine vaccinations. Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and the Home Again microchip identification system will also be available for pets. For more information, call the facility 876-2441.

Latin dance party

SaborLatino would like to invite you to "Latin Flava Nite" Saturday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Club Ozz at 1204 Posey St. with disc jockey Signey Hernandez. Cost is \$6 for age 21 and up, \$10 for ages 18-20. To reserve tables, call hostess Yvonne (also known as SaborLatino) 527-9364.

UAH homecoming

The University of Alabama-Huntsville's Industrial and Systems Engineering and Engineering Management Department will hold its annual homecoming Sept. 16-17 at Technology Hall. This annual event brings together local graduate students and distance learning graduate students for two days of information sharing about program particulars and offers the opportunity for students to network both academically and professionally. Registration is \$75 and covers lunches for the two-day event as well as the dinner Thursday evening. For more information, call the Distance Learning Office 824-6976.

Army family team building

Have you ever heard the terms AFAP, BNOC, CYS, DFAC, TA50 and MRE just to name a few? Did you ever wonder what the person was talking about when they used this foreign language? If you would like to translate these acronyms and more you are just the right person for Army Family Team Building. If you are new to the military lifestyle or would just like to learn more about the Army, AFTB Level 1 can help you make the connection. The classes are free and open to everyone who supports the mission of the Army — DA civilians, contractors, reservists, cadets, family members and friends. The first session of Level 1 will be held Sept. 21-23 from 6-9 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Call 876-5397 for enrollment or more information. Child care will be provided free of charge and enrollment for AFTB child care will be Sept. 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Army Community Service.

Aviation association awards

The Army Aviation Association of America Scholarship Foundation has recognized several members and family members of the Tennessee Valley AAAA Chapter by awarding scholarships or interest free loans totaling more than \$36,000 for aca-

ademic year 2004-05. Eligible award recipients include AAAA members (principals), their spouses, unmarried siblings and unmarried children of current or deceased members. This year's recipients with ties to the Tennessee Valley Chapter include Chad Armstrong, Krystal Bunnick, Rachel Hamblin, James Hesson, Carie Hilton, Zachary Lewis, Amelia Mccarrell, Timothy McFalls, Angel Merritt, Jonathan Miller, Ashley Morrow, Ashley Nemec, Kathryn Parr, Zachary Seitz, Erica Wales and Emily Wilkerson. These individuals, along with recipients associated with other chapters, will be recognized in the August/September issue of Army Aviation Magazine. AAAA awards thousands in scholarships and interest free loans to eligible individuals annually. To qualify for both Tennessee Valley Chapter and national awards in academic year 2006-07, principals must be members of AAAA by May 1, 2005. The Tennessee Valley Chapter vice president for membership is Jim Pepper 922-1211; and the chapter vice president for scholarships is Tom Harrison 964-8460.

International beer tasting

The Officers and Civilians Club will have its 13th annual International Beer Tasting, Friday from 6-8 p.m. "Come join us for a relaxing evening of friendly conversation, party atmosphere, and the opportunity to enjoy a very large selection of beers from all across the world," a prepared release said. This event is open to the entire Redstone community, but ROCC member price is \$12 and the price for all others is \$14. For tickets or more information, call 830-2582.

Parents night out

Child and Youth Services is offering the Redstone community a "Parents Night Out" every third Saturday of the month beginning Aug. 21 from 6-11 p.m. Reservations for this after-hours care can be made by calling the Child Development Center 876-7952. Military personnel may make their reservation starting at the beginning of each month. All others in the Redstone community (including contractors) must make their reservations starting the Monday prior to the third Saturday. Enlisted grades E-4 and below will pay \$10 per child; all others will pay \$15 per child. A 10 percent multiple child reduction will also be given. An evening snack is provided. For more information, call 876-7952.

Computer classes

Army Community Service offers free computer classes to help boost your career opportunities. You will learn the basic and advanced features that will help maximize your productivity, help you manage documents, organize your communications, build spreadsheets, databases and professional looking presentations. Classes are available for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access and Publisher. At the conclusion of each class, you will receive a certificate of completion. You may take the classes during ACS regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Debra Jefferson 876-5397.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?															
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																							
SCBK04058313	Budget Analyst	18-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-0560	13	13	70,133 - 91,174		X														
SCBK04049472	Logistics Management Specialist	18-Aug-04	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	58,977 - 76,667	X	X														
SCBK04028600R	Procurement Analyst	18-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	70,133 - 91,174		X														
SCBK04031746	General Engineer	19-Aug-04	RDECOM	DB-0801	IV	IV	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04023514	Lead General Engr	19-Aug-04	RDECOM	DB-0801	IV	IV	82,876 - 126,735	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04060100	Logistics Management Specialist	19-Aug-04	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X															
SCBK04029084	Logistics Management Specialist	19-Aug-04	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	70,133 - 91,174		X										X				
SCBK04027892	Supv General Engineer	19-Aug-04	RDECOM	DB-0801	IV	IV	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04029691	Management Analyst	19-Aug-04	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0343	9	9	40,669 - 52,871	X	X										X				
WTST04004865	Administrative Support Assistant (QA)	20-Aug-04	CofE Huntsville	GG-0303	5	6	26,841 - 38,900		X														
SCBK04058324	Human Resources Specialist (R&P/Class)	20-Aug-04	CHRA CPAC	GS-0201	12	12	58,977 - 76,667		X														
SCBK04059643	Security Assistant (OA)	20-Aug-04	SMO	GS-0086	5	5	26,841 - 34,899	X	X														
SCBK04914615	Supv Electronics Engr	20-Aug-04	TMDE	NH-0855	IV	IV	70,133 - 91,174			X						X	X	X	X				
SCBK04030506	Supv Logistics Mgmt Specialist	23-Aug-04	PEO AVIATION	NH-0346	4	4	82,876 - 126,735			X		X	X			X	X	X	X				
SCBK04052361	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	23-Aug-04	TMDE	GS-0303	6	6	29,919 - 38,900	X	X							X	X	X	X				
SCBK04055596	Budget Analyst	23-Aug-04	AMRDEC	DE-0560	II	III	26,841 - 76,667	X	X														
SCBK04074023	General Engineer	23-Aug-04	ACQ Support Ctr	NH-0801	3	3	58,977 - 91,174	X		X	X					X	X	X	X				
SCBK04063912	Human Resources Assistant (Military/OA)	23-Aug-04	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0203	5	5	26,841 - 34,899	X					X										
SCBK04012058	Supv Program Manager	23-Aug-04	PEO AVIATION	NH-0340	4	4	82,876 - 126,735			X						X	X	X	X				
SCBK04075501	Secretary (OA)	24-Aug-04	ACQ Support Ctr	NK-0318	3	3	36,821 - 58,222	X	X					X	X								
SCBK04069409	Aerospace Engineer	25-Aug-04	RDECOM	DB-0861	III	III	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04049379	Inventory Mgmt Specialist	25-Aug-04	IMMC	GS-2010	11	11	49,207 - 63,967		X							X	X	X	X				
SCBK0466289	Program Analyst	25-Aug-04	GMD JPO	GS-0343	14	14	82,876 - 107,741	X	X							X	X	X	X				
SCBK0479329	Training Instructor (HD)	25-Aug-04	OMEMS	GS-1712	11	11	49,207 - 63,967	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
WTST04959902	Aerospace Engineer	26-Aug-04	TSMO	GG-0861	5, 7, 9, 11	12	31,302 - 70,529	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04076380	General Engineer	26-Aug-04	RDECOM	DB-0801	III	III	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04856699R	General Engr, Architect, Civil Engr, Env Engr, Mech Engr, Elec Engr	26-Aug-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0801, 0810, 0819, 0830, 0850	14	14	82,876 - 107,741	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04854754R	Supv Architect, Supv Civil Engr, Supv Env Engr, Supv Mech Engr, Supv Elec Engr, Supv Chem Engr	26-Aug-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0808, 0810, 0819, 0830, 0850, 0893	14	14	82,876 - 107,741	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04996126	Deputy Project/Product Manager	27-Aug-04	PEO AVIATION	NH-0340	4	4	82,876 - 126,735								X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04028569	General Engineer	27-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-0801	12	12	58,977 - 76,667			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK0428569	General Engineer	27-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-0801	12	12	58,977 - 76,667			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
WTST04959873	Computer Engineer	30-Aug-04	TSMO	GG-0854	5, 7, 9, 11, 12	13	32,836 - 76,804	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04071961	Supv Contract Specialist	31-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-1102	15	15	97,486 - 126,735			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04069976	General Engineer	31-Aug-04	SMDC	GS-0801	12	12	58,977 - 76,667			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04064662	Lead General Engr	2-Sep-04	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG04045152	Flight Test Pilot	3-Sep-04	ATTC	GS-2181	13	14	69,762 - 107,170			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04055945	IT Specialist (APPSW)	3-Sep-04	CIC	GS-2210	13	13	64,792 - 91,174	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04243330	General Engineer	6-Sep-04	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04013515	Environmental Engineer	7-Sep-04	EELO	GS-0819	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04058723	Budget Officer	8-Sep-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0560	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X	X														
SCEG04080873	Electronics Engineer	10-Sep-04	ATTC	GS-0855	13	13	69,762 - 90,692			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04073764	Lead Program Analyst	13-Sep-04	PEO AVIATION	NH-0343	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X								X	X	X	X				
WTEJ040010802OC	Electronics Engineer	30-Sep-04	TSMO	GG-0855	5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13	5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13	26,841 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG04002284	Aerospace Engineer	6-Oct-04	ATTC	GS-0861	13	13	69,762 - 90,692							X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG04080873	Electronics Engineer	11-Oct-04	ATTC	GS-0855	13	13	69,762 - 90,692			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG04045152	Flight Test Pilot	29-Oct-04	ATTC	GS-2181	13	14	69,762 - 107,170	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCEG04080873	Electronics Engineer	10-Nov-04	ATTC	GS-0855	13	13	69,762 - 90,692			X				X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04646611OC	Architect, Chem Engr, Civil Engr, Elec Engr, Env Engr, Mech Engr, Landscape Arch	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0808, 0893, 0810, 0850, 0819, 0830, 0807	13	13	68,748 - 89,369	X	X														
SCBK04914966OC	Electrical Engineer	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0850	12	12	58,977 - 76,667	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04914142OC	Electrical Engineer	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0850	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04920074OC	Engineering Technician	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0802	11	12	49,207 - 76,667	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04964710	Equipment Specialist (Aircraft)	31-Dec-04	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	58,977 - 76,667							X					X				
SCBK04964596	Equipment Specialist (Aircraft & Electronics)	31-Dec-04	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	58,977 - 76,667							X					X				
SCBK04974896	Equipment Specialist (General)	31-Dec-04	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	58,977 - 76,667							X					X				
SCBK04983599	Logistics Management Specialist	31-Dec-04	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	70,133 - 91,174							X					X				
SCBK04651453OC	Safety & Occ Health Sp	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0018	12	12	52,281 - 67,968	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04651628OC	Safety & Occ Health Sp	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	48,236 - 62,707	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04651434OC	Project Mgmt Specialist	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0301	13	13	68,748 - 89,369	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04941367OC	Physical Security Specialist	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0080	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04685735OC	Civ Engr, Architect, Chem Engr, Elec Engr, Env Engr, Mech Engr, Landscape Arch	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0810, 0808, 0893, 0850, 0819, 0830, 0807	12	13	54,024 - 89,369	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK04697994OC	Project Mgmt Specialist	31-Dec-04	CofE Huntsville	GS-0301	12	13	57,812 - 89,369	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X				

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SOPM.GOV																			
X-LW-04-6715-RD	General Engineer	18-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	3	3	58,977 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SL-04-6649-ST	Aerospace Engineer	20-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	GS-0861	13	13	70,133 - 91,174	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6665-LW	General Engineer	20-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6721-LW	Lead Quality Assurance Specialist	24-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DE-1910	4	4	70,133 - 107,741	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6695-RD	Electronics Engr (Lead)	26-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0855	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-04-6679-FL	Special Projects Specialist	26-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	NH-0301	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6694-RD	General Engineer	27-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6713-RD	Supv General Engineer	30-Aug-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-04-6718-FL	Supv General Engineer	2-Sep-04	Office Sec of Army	NH-0801	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-04-6717-FL	Supv Electronics Engr	2-Sep-04	Office Sec of Army	NH-0855	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-04-6719-FL	Logistics Management Specialist	2-Sep-04	Office Sec of Army	NH-0346	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6716-RD	Interdisciplinary (Aerospace or Elec Engr)	3-Sep-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0855	4	4	82,876 - 126,735	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-04-6726-RD	Lead General Engr	10-Sep-04	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4													