

Redstone Rocket

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April 14, 2004

Survey says

High gas prices
raise question

Page 3



Getting technical



Helicopter pilots
see new windshield

Page 6

Hail and farewell

Retiring
ombudsman
lauds Team
Redstone
Page 8



Post profile



All aboard shuttle bus

Page 14

Win or lose

Volleyball teams
swing into
season

Page 18



Thanks for contributing services

Volunteers of year to be announced

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

They give and give and don't ask or expect anything in return. Many organizations depend on their services.

They are Redstone's volunteers.

The 20th annual Redstone Arsenal Volunteer Recognition Luncheon is 11 a.m. April 22 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Thirteen winners of Volunteer of the Year awards will be announced from among 30 nominees, according to Larry Leggett of Army Community Service.

"The Redstone Arsenal military community has just a phenomenal volunteer force of very dedicated people and Redstone Arsenal is very lucky to have them," nominee Deidre Busk of Madison said. "It's probably unusual to have a volunteer force this big and this dedicated."

Busk was nominated by the Officer

and Civilian Women's Club. She was also among the nominees in 2000.

"My husband (retired Col. Arlan Busk) retired after about 26 years in the military and during that time I worked a lot," she said. "Now, basically I retired from the work force and I decided it was time for me to give back to that military community that has helped us through the years. I mean I enjoy that. I volunteered throughout his military career but not to the extent that I do now."

Her husband retired in December 1996 and works for a defense contractor. The Busks arrived in 1994.

"We're going to be giving out 31 awards to the organizations and 30 awards to the honorees," Leggett, ACS quality of life program manager and the invitation-only luncheon coordinator, said. "The (individual) winners will be announced at the luncheon."

Four judges selected the winners in 13 categories. Redstone has more than 700 volunteers in 31 organizations.

See **Volunteers** on page 10



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BUSY BILL— Retiree Bill Howard, among the nominees for volunteer of the year, loads his vehicle at Redstone. He picks up donated blood and delivers it to Birmingham for the American Red Cross.



Photo by Greg Patch

He's baaack

Greg Patch, Test Area 1 photographer, spotted this alligator Sunday night, April 4, and shot this photo the following day at lunch time. He took a similar photo last year from farther away. "I'm pretty sure he's the same gator as last year because his tail has a bite taken out of it," he says. "That must mean he's not alone."

Letters to the Editor

Bone marrow drive worthwhile

On Wednesday, May 12, Redstone will host a Bone Marrow Drive in the Diane Campbell Recreation Center from 9 a.m. to noon. All active duty military, active duty dependents, Department of Defense civil service employees, Coast Guard, National Guard, and drilling Reserve personnel, ages 18 to 60 and in good health are eligible at no cost.

Important to note is the fact that even if you cannot donate blood — due to living or visiting overseas to certain countries, tattoos or piercings — you may still donate bone marrow. The Red Cross is having a blood drive the same day, and we encourage you to give blood as well as have this important test. You may do both at the health fair at the RSA Fitness Center, building 3705. Those who are unable to donate blood should visit us at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center.

The test is no more difficult than a blood test and some paperwork. Please consider giving one vial of blood (about

two tablespoons) to help save a life. The results of the HLA (human leukocyte antigen) typing, along with some of the information from the questionnaire you complete, will be added to the National Marrow Donor Program Registry. The information is coded so you can only be identified by C.W. Bill Young/DoD Marrow Donor Center personnel. Once you are in the system, you do not need to be tested again.

From now until May 12, I ask you to think about what if it was you who had a child, spouse, parent or friend who needed blood or a bone marrow transplant, what would you do? What would you want someone else to do to help?

Look at it as insurance that you cannot buy — if anyone you care for should ever need a bone marrow transplant, you are already a step ahead in the process. For those already in need, you could possibly give the "Gift of Life."

Becky Pillsbury

Ifs, ands or butts in courtyard

Now that the nice weather is here again, it is great to be able to take breaks outside and enjoy; however, there is a problem with this situation. In the courtyard and outside the courtyard, at the end of each bench, or nearby, are "butt containers." I understand the designated smoking area for the Sparkman Center is and always has been the courtyard; I also understand that there are "butt containers" outside the courtyard because of the smokers putting out their cigarettes on the way in to work. What I don't understand, is that since there are smokers and non-smokers working at the Sparkman Center, why the non-smokers can't have benches (without "butt containers" nearby) in a separate area (i.e., the parking lot in front of the buildings since there are now barricades there) where we can sit down and enjoy the weather, too?

By the way, I raised this question at a CO2 Quality of Life meeting over a year ago which was then forwarded to the Sparkman Management Office. This is the response that came back: "The Courtyard is the designated area for smoking. I suggest your organization purchase some benches and place them in the barricaded area for their non-smokers, which would prevent us from having so many different smoking areas."

Could you please just tell me where the designated "non-smoking area" is and why would I, as a non-smoker, have to purchase benches to sit there? Specifically, where are the benches that the non-smokers can sit on during these nice days without also sitting next to the "cigarette disposal containers"?

See **Courtyard** on page 5

Quote of the week

'My mother used to say to me, 'Elwood' — she always called me Elwood — 'Elwood, in this world you must be oh-so clever, or oh-so pleasant.' For years I was clever. I'd recommend pleasant — and you may quote me.'
— Elwood P. Dowd
from the Jimmy Stewart movie 'Harvey'

Red Cross volunteers ready

Becky Pillsbury and Gabriel Cannon met with some of the Fox Army Health Center Red Cross volunteers at a luncheon in their honor on April 1. Mrs. Pillsbury will serve as the honorary chairman for all Red Cross volunteers and Mrs. Cannon will serve as Redstone Arsenal services chairman. Both indicated their willingness and enthusiasm to actively support and improve the services provided to Fox by the volunteers.

Chuck Quantock

Squeezing through Gate 3

You would think with all the engineers we have on this base, someone could design a better entry at Gate 3.

Why do they funnel three lanes of incoming traffic into one or two lanes (if you go off in the gravel on the north side of the gate)? Why are the barricades so close together that you have to almost squeeze through? This is an accident waiting to happen.

Can anyone design a well functioning entry for all of us to benefit from?

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Traffic flow at all the gates is a continuous concern for the Provost Marshal Office. We have done and will continue to conduct traffic surveys to maximize the flow of traffic with minimum control. Gate 3 is a unique situation due to the location and limited travel lanes. As a result of one of the traffic surveys, we were able to channel three lanes into two lanes providing a better flow of traffic. The barriers at the gate are placed in a manner to slow the flow of traffic as it enters the installation but we agree that Gate 3 as well as Gate 10 are tight for some of the larger SUVs and we will adjust the barriers at both of these gates 'slightly' to alleviate this problem."

See **Congestion** on page 5

Deployed Soldiers send regards

We would like to extend our appreciation to all the Redstone operators for allowing us to have MWR (Morale Welfare and Recreation) calls to call home.

Company A 279th (Arab unit) and
Company B 711th
(combined Arab/Hanceville/Mobile unit)
Signal Battalion, stationed in Iraq

Concerned about traffic congestion

I applaud the Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce's Base Realignment and Closure committee whose charter is to beat back any attempt to close Redstone Arsenal during the upcoming 2005 BRAC process and, if possible, attract military units and government offices to the diverse Army post here. Yet, I wonder why the City of Huntsville and its Huntsville Planning Commission would not work in concert with the Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce's BRAC committee to alleviate the traffic congestion during morning and evening rush hours near the intersection of Zierdt and Martin Roads (outside Gate 7 to the Redstone Arsenal) for our federal workers and contractors to enter the Arsenal, and military dependents to leave the Arsenal to go to school at the nearby Williams Elementary and Middle School.

Like most frustrated motorists waiting in line to enter the Arsenal, I question why the Huntsville Planning Commission approved the proposed development of the new "Shadow Springs" subdivision with 170 new houses on a 20-acre field less than a quarter mile from the busy intersection of Zierdt and Martin Roads without any traffic, environmental, or safety studies on how the proposed subdivision would impact that intersection; and despite numerous nearby home owners and federal employees who voiced their strong opposition during a HPC public hearing March 23 based on the current and expected traffic congestion at the intersection during morning and evening rush hours as a result of the additional 3,500 employees at the new Von Braun Complex on Martin Road over the next five years to the current work force at the Arsenal.

Redstone Rocket

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Rocket Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Al Schwartz
Editor: Skip Vaughn
Reporters: Sandy Riebeling
Kelley Lane
Kim Mason
Copy Editor: Scott Seeley
Advertising Sales: Aletha Pardue
Petie Sims

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Getting to know you

By KIM MASON
Staff writer
kimberly.mason@redstone.army.mil

Name: Stephanie Tucker

Job: Sales associate, Sparkman Center Gift Shop

Where do you call home?

Huntsville, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

I get to meet some good people and I like working for my dad.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I volunteer at the Ark (a no-kill animal



shelter), take night classes at Calhoun and watch TV.

What are your goals?

To become a forensic investigator and to raise donations for the Choroideremia Research Foundation (Choroideremia is an eye condition my dad has).

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

April 2: The Huntsville Police Department reported that a Soldier was being held at the Huntsville Metro Jail after he was observed operating his motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

April 4: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a canceled driver's license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

April 5: The Huntsville Police Department reported that two Soldiers were involved in a physical altercation outside Gate 8, and that one of them was being held at the Huntsville Metro Jail for being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest and the other Soldier was released.

April 5: An individual was observed exceeding the posted speed limit on Patton Road. When stopped he was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and released.

April 5: An individual was detained after the Provost Marshal Office received information he was at his Redstone Arsenal workplace and was wanted for armed

robbery. The individual was located and a subsequent inspection revealed he was in possession of dangerous drugs and drug paraphernalia. He was issued two violation notices and released to the Madison Police Department.

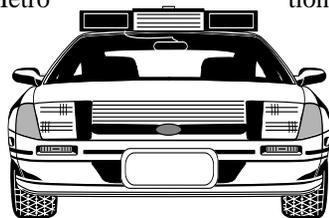
April 7: An individual reported that he lost his Common Access Card at an off-post location. A search of the area by the individual met with negative results.

April 8: A Soldier stationed at Fort Polk, La., reported that he lost his CAC at an off-post location. A search of the area by the individual met with negative results.

April 8: An individual was detained after a verbal dispute turned physical when the individual struck another person. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Traffic accidents reported: 2 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 79 speeding, 1 possession of drug paraphernalia, 1 possession of controlled substance, 4 parking, 4 no proof of liability insurance, 4 failure to obey a traffic control device and 2 driving with a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license.



An open lane random survey

How have rising gas prices affected you?

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



Pvt. Stephen Green
Bravo Company

"I really have to plan out where I'm going now and take a taxi or a bus if it's available to save on gas money."

Richard Johnson
DoD civilian

"Prices are bearable, it's not to the point of being catastrophic yet. I did switch from super to regular unleaded. The car runs just as good."



Dave Dudkiewicz
retiree

"It hasn't really affected me that much. I don't go a lot of places."



Glenda McLaurin
DoD civilian

"I let it get down lower than normal before I put more gas in it. Then I don't put as much in it at once."



Defensive driving on course for older motorists

SAFETY OFFICE RELEASE

The AMCOM Safety Office will sponsor the American Association of Retired Persons Over-50 Safe Drivers Program April 28-29.

The program, designed for drivers over age 50, addresses the specific risks as driver's skills change over time. The course utilizes Defensive Driving Techniques. However, it addresses age-related physical changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

Typically older drivers do not commit traffic violations such as speeding, drunk driving or reckless driving to any significant degree. Older drivers do have problems when involved in driving situations requiring quick response, full vision and interaction with other drivers. Typical violations include failure to yield right-of-way, improper turning, incorrect lane changing, passing, and entering and leaving

ing expressways. This course teaches attendees how to adjust their driving to these age related changes.

The Over-50 Safe Drivers Program has proven results in reducing accident claims by 10 percent. Successful completion of the course may entitle the attendee to insurance savings. This issue will be between the attendee and his or her individual insurance company.

The course, limited to 30 people, will be given in two four-hour classes April 28 and 29 from noon to 4 p.m. in building 5301, room 1146/48. The cost of the course is \$10. This cost will be covered for AMCOM government civilian and military employees. The commanding general has approved duty time to AMCOM employees to attend this training.

To sign up or for more information, call Mike Davis 842-8642 at the AMCOM Safety Office.

Fund-raisers on tap for AER campaign

The Army Emergency Relief campaign office provided the following calendar of events.

- Magnetic yellow ribbons for sale for \$5 through May 15 at Army Community Service, sponsored by ACS volunteers. For information call Inger Frye or Mary Breedon 876-5397.
- Stuffed patriotic bears for sale through May 15 at Resource Management Directorate, building 5300. For information call Linda Manning 876-1706.
- Patriotic teddy bears and pins for sale through May 15 in front of cafeteria at building 5400, sponsored by Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Janet Martin 313-1996.
- Chocolate Gallery Easter and Mother's Day Baskets for sale through May 15, sponsored by the Acquisition Center. For information call Sarah Kilpatrick 876-2698.
- Flag Bag Totes for sale through May 15, sponsored by the Acquisition Center. For information call Amy Pierce 842-6045.
- America 2005 calendars for sale through May 15 at building 5301, sponsored by Integrated Materiel Management Center, Materiel Management Directorate. For information call J.D. Crownover 876-8303.
- Pentagon Memorial Pins and Stickers for sale through May 15, sponsored by IMMC, MMD. For information call Crownover 876-8303.
- Domino Pizza fund-raising cards for



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

POP-ULAR SALE— Helen Hayes buys popcorn from Ginger Black, standing, and Sonja Shiflett, at the Directorate of Information Management's Army Emergency Relief fund-raiser last week.

- sale through May 15 at building 5309, second floor, sponsored by IMMC. For information call Aileen Jacques 313-1653.
- Scented candles for sale through May 15 at building 5302, sponsored by IMMC. For information call Teri Benson 842-7717.
- Friendly Folks personalized cartoons for sale today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sparkman Cafeteria, sponsored by IMMC, DMA Team. For information call Pat Reilly 876-0209 or Sandra Swartz

- 842-6772.
- Boxed lunch prepared by Sparkman Cafeteria, today at building 5400, room S-142, sponsored by Technical Management Directorate, Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Dorothy May 842-8391.
- Barbecue Plate and Bake Sale, Thursday and May 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the north end of building 5309. For information call David Moudy 313-1069 or Roosevelt Pitts 313-1068.
- Book sale April 19-23 at building

5300, first floor corridor between 5303 and 5304, sponsored by Command Analysis Directorate. For information call Brian Barry 876-5743.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, April 22 at Military Personnel Office, building 3494. For information call Barbara Moudy 842-2717.
- Golf tournament four-person scramble, April 23 at 7:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course, sponsored by the Integrated Materiel Management Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Wilbur Williams or Sgt. 1st Class Roy Mixon 876-5399.
- Second annual Charity Car Show, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parade field by the bowling center, sponsored by Fox Army Health Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1106.
- Plant Sale, April 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot in front of Sparkman Cafeteria. For information call Romona Rice 313-1641.
- Yard Sale, April 29 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in front of building 5301. For information call Angela Green 876-3207.
- Garrison Fun Day, May 4 at building 4488. Rain date is May 5. For information call Donna Johnson 876-9675.
- Car wash/hot dog sale, May 7 at the Car Wash complex by Shopette, sponsored by Morale Welfare and Recreation. For information call Bill Woosley 955-7727.
- Car wash/hot dog sale, May 13 at MILPO. For information call Moudy 842-2717.

Annual car show drives home help for Soldiers



Courtesy photo

LOT OF FUN— Imports, hot rods, street rods, classic and trucks are all welcome at the second annual "Cars and Camouflage" car show which benefits Army Emergency Relief.

AER fund-raiser arrives April 24

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

Are you looking for a way to support our troops? Do you love cars? If the answer is yes to either of these questions, then Army Emergency Relief could use your help at its second annual AER car show fund-raiser, "Cars and Camouflage," April 24, and for setup the day prior.

The event will be held on Redstone Arsenal at the parade field off Patton Road, near Gate 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This year's car show is being held during the Army Emergency Relief 2004 fund-raising campaign.

"Imports, hot rods, street rods, classics and trucks," said Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins, senior medical noncommissioned officer for Fox Army Health Center and coordinator for the show. "The more cars, the more money we can donate to AER."

The show is not only open to all types of cars, but it is also open to the public. "Access to the car show will be through Gate 10, but anyone entering post must present a valid photo ID and proof of automobile insurance to gain entrance," Perkins said.

The event is free admission, but individuals entering cars will pay \$15 for the

initial vehicle. "Remember, funds raised are going to a great cause — our Soldiers and their families," Perkins said. Donations for AER and units participating in the show will also be accepted on-site.

"Not only will we have cars and trucks, but we will also have military equipment displays, a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place, and in the categories of 'People's Choice' and 'Best in Show,'" Perkins said. "This is a great family event, and all we ask is that you support our troops with a donation."

Last year's car show was not only fun for car owners and viewers, the volunteers that worked the show also had a great time, according to Perkins. "We still need volunteers for a wide range of activities."

Volunteers are needed for everything from directing participants to staging areas and traffic control for public parking areas, to registration, setup and judging. "We do prefer that individuals volunteering for judging have experience with car judging, or at least have been in the hobby of working or restoring cars," Perkins said. "We need people that have a working knowledge of the effort that goes into preparing a car for show."

Anyone interested in the event is encouraged to volunteer; and the only restriction is that individuals be at least 14. The car show is an outdoor event, but

Annual chili cookoff proves hot event

By ADRIAN BAKER
MWR sales and marketing

The second annual Redstone Arsenal Chili Cookoff was held March 18 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. The Directorate of Morale Welfare and Recreation sponsored event was hosted right after the Army Community Service FACTS meeting.

Good-natured ribbing and banter went across the tables as chili simmered and jalapenos were diced for cauldrons of culinary inferno. Redstone Fire and Emergency Services had antacids on hand for

good reason: its team bore the name "PyroChili Technicians." Similar to last year, the members were present with a host of firefighting gear, ready to extinguish torched participants.

This year's cookoff was also the first time a grease-flinging contest was in full effect. The contestants' chili entries were flung against a hanging sheet and judged for thickness, liquidity and grease. Watching food fly through the air was an apparent favorite of everyone present. Husband and wife team Sandy and Joey Boyd of the Redstone Fire and Emergency Services took away the first prize trophy.

MWR's own Mike Chemsak, Martha Piskulic, Christal Howard and Bob Bertoldi took second place with the Officers and Civilians Club's Amanda and Bob Beeble taking third with their Jack Daniels' inspired chili.

Chili cookoff judges were Becky Pillsbury, Teri Holly and Darrell Brewer, deputy to the garrison commander. Next year's event is sure to be another hit. For information on this and many other great MWR events, go to www.redstonemwr.com.

■ Car show gearing up for charity

Cars

continued from page 4

volunteers will be provided access to an air conditioned area for breaks, a free

lunch, drinks and a commemorative T-shirt.

Potential car registrants and volunteers should call Perkins at 955-8888, ext. 1106 or e-mail him at thomas.perkins@se.amedd.army.mil.

■ Designated smokeless area wanted

Courtyard

continued from page 2

And from the March 17 letter, "Give Smokers a Break," I think we are all entitled to "due consideration" — non-smokers and smokers.

Joyce A. Scharf
IMMC

Editor's note: The Sparkman Management Office provided the following response. "The Sparkman Management Office did a walk around the outside of the Sparkman complex April 8. We found that all 'cigarette butt containers' are 50 feet or more from the building main entrance. We found benches without 'cigarette butt containers' next to them. If you wish to go into the courtyard (which is the smoking area for this complex), there are several benches without 'cigarette butt containers' next to them also. There are two picnic tables located at the pond/fountain near building 5308. There are two picnic tables located at the entrance of the Sparkman complex (Burose Road). We removed the 'ciga-

rette butt container' from the left side of the parade field (north side of 5300) so non-smokers would have a bench available there also.

"As far as the answer you received from your CO2 Quality of Life meeting over a year ago, I pulled my copy of the e-mail that was sent to me from your organization which asked three questions, then the last paragraph gave a recommendation for two of the questions. It stated as follows 'Would recommend (1) they (SMO) add benches without urns sitting next to them' which SMO has done. It continues to state, (2) 'have the designated smoking area and urns in the areas that are blocked off (in other words, put them (smokers) in the parking spaces that are barricaded).' My answer back was to not set up additional smoking areas because we already had the courtyard. We have benches without smoking urns next to them so why would I want to buy additional benches and set them in the barricaded parking spaces? Yes, your organization is welcome to purchase benches. What I have in my e-mail from your CO2 meeting and what you are saying in this letter are two different things."

■ Proposed subdivision traffic a concern

Congestion

continued from page 2

The estimated additional 510 vehicles (estimated three per household) in the proposed heavily populated 'Shadow Springs' subdivision will only compound the existing traffic hazards/delays to a gridlock during rush hours on Martin and Zierdt Roads, especially during days with 100 percent vehicle search, let alone the delay during the widening of Zierdt Road in 2009.

It does not take a rocket scientist (no offense to the genuine and highly technical rocket scientists working on the Arsenal) to realize that putting 510 unintended vehicles from a new subdivision near the busy intersection to the Arsenal during rush hours prior to the widening of Zierdt and Martin Roads in 2009 not only will cause further traffic delay and inconvenience to military dependents and workers at Redstone Arsenal, but it will also be a safety hazard for motorists during an emergency

as they literally have to drive their vehicles into a ditch next to a road to yield to fire and emergency vehicles from Fire Station 11 at 530 Martin Road outside the Arsenal, about one-eighth of a mile from the busy intersection of Zierdt and Martin Roads. I hope Redstone officials and the Huntsville/Madison Chamber of Commerce's BRAC committee can instill common sense to the Huntsville city officials in their urban planning process regarding the proposed development of the 'Shadow Springs' subdivision that it should happen after but not before the widening of both Zierdt and Martin Roads in 2009; and the widening project should happen soon before the worsening traffic condition on Zierdt and Martin Roads outside Gate 7 scares away any potential local or out-of-state military and government tenants to the Arsenal. Our (Arsenal and city) mutual success depends on sensible decisions on urban development and cooperation by the Huntsville City Council.

John Yim

Helicopter windshields get tougher for the road

Mylar protective sheets adapted from car racing

By JIM BOWNE
For the Rocket

It may not be the first time the Research Development and Engineering Center has benefited from adapting NASCAR solutions for its own use.

But for Staff Sgt. Paul Kagi, his thinking out-of-the-box netted him an idea that was picked up as a Value Engineering initiative and identified by Reliability, Availability and Maintainability Engineers/Defense Logistics Agency for priority emphasis. What was his idea? To apply Mylar sheets, the type used by NASCAR, over the top of helicopter windshields.

“Staff Sgt. Kagi’s idea was a simple solution to a tactical problem,” Ken Bowie, an engineer with the RAM Engineering and Test Division, said.

“The environment in Iraq represents a major problem for our helicopters,” he

said. “According to some of the pilots who have returned from Iraq, they are flying missions over there with windshields that they usually wouldn’t fly with if they were in the United States. The windshields are pitted to the extent that they look as though they’ve been sandblasted which, in effect, they have.”

In addition, Iraqi campaign data has shown a significant increase in windshield demand.

“There is no question that sandstorms and ‘brownout’ conditions play havoc with helicopter windshields,” Doug Felker, aviation team leader of the RAM Engineering and Test Division, said. “Helicopter windshields are expensive. Not only are they expensive, but it takes about eight hours to replace a windshield.”

There may not be anything that can be done about the sandstorms, but RAM engineers are partnering with the Defense Logistics Agency and PRO-Tint to provide help to helicopter pilots. “Our focus is primarily on readiness,” Felker said. “A return on our investment is secondary.”



Courtesy photo

PIT STOP— Cole Motorsports employees install a tear-off windshield on a race car.

Although the Army provides the funding, it is RAM that manages the Mylar windshield program. “Pro-Tint makes a single sheet Mylar, about 7 millimeters thick,” Bowie said. “However, we’re also working with other companies, such as Cole Motor Sports, which distributes a four-layer, 4-millimeters-thick Mylar.”

Mylar windshields offer a relatively inexpensive, viable solution to providing helicopter pilots with a “quick fix” for their damaged windshields. Mylar sheets are a lot like contact paper — they are simply rolled on smoothly to the windshield, making certain there are no air bubbles, and the Mylar helps protect the windshield from blowing sand, small rocks and other debris.

“The tear-offs supplied to NASCAR teams are custom fitted by employees of Cole Motorsports for each customer,” Felker said. “This product was specifically produced for automobile racing and is designed to stay attached to the windshield at speeds over 200 miles per hour. It’s a great example of spin-off technology.”

“One unit that recently returned from Iraq replaced over a dozen aircraft wind-

shields, which accounted for one-third of their fleet,” Bowie added. “All of the aircraft windshields were replaced during Reset upon their return. Glare in the sun, and night vision goggle flight, are the biggest drivers to replace windshields in theater. I have great respect and admiration for helicopter pilots. They are very tolerable of defects and crazing. Some have even suffered rock-strike damage to their windshields due to other aircraft taking off or hovering near parked aircraft.”

“Of course, the Mylar sheets won’t stop bullets or bricks,” Felker said. “But, we have thrown rocks at the windshields to test the Mylar sheets. And we’ve even shot BBs at it at 23 miles per hour.”

RAM engineers are working with the Utility Helicopter Program Office to develop putting Mylar tear-offs on the Black Hawks. Once developed, the Mylar tear-off may be applied to other Army aviation platforms such as the Apache and Chinook.

“We love working this program,” Felker said. “We know we’re helping our Soldiers complete their mission by providing services that enhance readiness. And readiness is the name of the game.”

Retiring ombudsman says people make the job

Tucker hopes to remain part of Team Redstone

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htimes.com

On the threshold of retirement, command ombudsman Gerald Tucker ponders his 36-year career in government service. It's not the assignments or the accomplishments that have made the journey worthwhile. It's the people.

"The thing I see are people's faces," he said. "Some are no longer living, but they've been important. One of the best things about the Junior Executive Award I received was that one of my heroes got it before I did. O.C. Ashworth Jr., my first boss, among other things, just made a young co-op comfortable. He gave me challenging assignments from the start. He was an excellent professional example and mentored me to grow professionally. I have been absolutely blessed throughout my career with leaders who took an interest in me and helped me to grow."

Tucker came to work in the logistics organization at Redstone in 1968 as a co-op student attending the University of Alabama. His career has encompassed an array of assignments in the wholesale logistics disciplines. One of his most memorable was as chief of the Logistics Management Division in the Patriot Project Office where he managed the Patriot Emergency Operations Center during the first Gulf War.

"I'll always wear the Patriot T-shirt," Tucker said. "The attitude in Patriot is that



Courtesy photo

TIME TO GO— Gerald Tucker will retire at the end of April with 36 years of federal service.

we can do anything, just watch." Tucker's son, Ryan, was born at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 16, 1991, the exact time the U.S. fired the first Patriot missile in anger. "They nicknamed my son Stormy because that was the day the operation went from Desert Shield to Desert Storm."

In the role of ombudsman, Tucker served as the command's representative to industry responding to inquiries and complaints concerning the command brought to his attention by industry partners, others in the private sector or internal government sources.

"As ombudsman, the support I've received from Team Redstone has been tremendous. Everyone, including AMRDEC, IMMC, CIC, PEOs, PMs, legal, they've all been there, answered the phone when I've called. I appreciate that more than they'll ever know.

"Command leadership — Gen. Sullivan, Gen Link, Gen. Dodgen and now Gen. Pillsbury and the deputies throughout the years, Ernie Young, Dan Rubery, Mr. Flinn, could not have been more supportive. They were fun to work for. Marlene Cruze, Scott Wilson and all the directors and leaders in the Acquisition Center — thank you. I had a blank check to work at the contractor officer level to resolve issues brought to me as ombudsman and most of those issues were never elevated. We got it fixed right there. Thanks to Wade Griffin, competition advocate for AMCOM who acted for me during my recent absence for nearly a year, and Mit Merritt, from small business, for all the great support.

"And I wish Randy Richardson well," Tucker said. "He'll do a wonderful job as the new ombudsman. His experience is ideally suited for the job. I've had the opportunity to work with him during my career, sometimes he was across the table. You can learn a lot about a person when they have opposing views."

Throughout his career, Tucker has received numerous awards including the Superior Civilian Service Award. He has a bachelor's degree in industrial management and a master's from Vanderbilt. He is a graduate of the 1998-99 Huntsville-Madison County Chamber Leadership Program and has completed

the Senior Executives Fellows Program at Harvard.

And now "after prayerful consideration," Tucker is ready to move on. Last year he closed the book on a 30-year Army Reserve career, retiring as a colonel. His last assignment was as G6 (information technology) for the 87th Division (Training Support) in Birmingham.

"I'm the oldest guy at the PTA meetings," he said, "but I'm there. We're a young family. My wife, Celeste, takes care of most of the family responsibilities; I just hang on. But spending time with my family is what I like to do with my spare time. Ryan (13) and Lauren (11) are into a lot of activities. I don't want to miss any of it."

And then there's golf. "I love golf," Tucker said. "I'm not quite as good as Jack Isom yet but soon after retirement he'll hear footsteps."

But even with all this talk of recreation, Tucker isn't ready to quit work altogether. He retires at the end of April and will take two months off to vacation with the family before he starts his third career.

"Even though I'm leaving the government, I hope to get a job in industry that keeps me connected with Team Redstone," he said. "Team Redstone isn't contained in the boundaries of Redstone Arsenal. The community, industry partners, Arsenal supporters all over North Alabama who help us do the work — they're all like family. I'll always be a card carrying member of Team Redstone."

Tucker's retirement ceremony is 5-7 p.m. April 28 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Administrative professionals have expanding duties

Association sponsors annual observance

Administrative Professionals Week, April 18-24, calls attention to the important workplace role of administrative professionals.

Observed since 1952, the week is sponsored by the International Association of Administrative Professionals. IAAP recommends that employers observe the week by providing education and training to administrative staff through seminars, continuing education and self-study materials. Administrative Professionals Day is April 21.

Wise employers are investing in the professional development and training of administrative support staff.

"As administrative professionals expand their responsibilities, new avenues are opening up for admins to build skills and increase their value to the organization," said Shelia Brownfield, IAAP international president. "Administrative professionals are being called upon to utilize not only computer and technology skills,

but also interpersonal communications, project management, negotiation and more."

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of IAAP understands the importance of education, networking, mentoring and professional development. The chapter offers a \$1,000 college scholarship annually to a graduating high school student and a college student majoring in business. The chapter also offers several educational seminars a year, as well as programs during monthly meetings. Programs range from investing, leadership skills, public speaking and organizational skills. Membership is open to all government and government contractor personnel.

The chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information call president Julie Manning at 313-6745, vice president Myria Chastain at 876-2024, secretary Susan Douglas at 876-6795, treasurer Rob Archer 313-8137, member-at-large June Pockrus at 842-9888, membership chairman Marylin Dale at 955-7743 or visit the web address www.geocities.com/iaaprsa/home.htm.

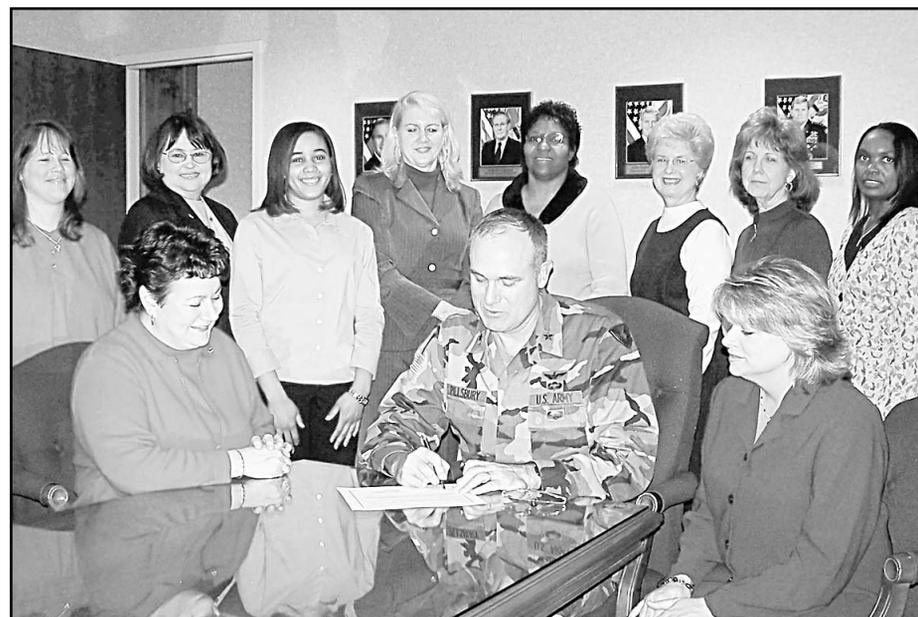


Photo by Ryan McGill

PROCLAMATION SIGNING— Brig. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone, signs the proclamation for Administrative Professionals Week. Looking on are members of Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals.

Base supply store offers one-stop shopping

Day set aside for customers

There's a place on the Arsenal where you can find everything from pencils to cleaning supplies and tools to dry erase boards all under one roof.

That place is the Base Supply Store. "We offer a wide range: from basic office supplies to specialty items, anything you need we can get," store manager Morris Burbank said.

Whether a customer is shopping online, in person or faxing in an order, the base supply store is committed to getting customers what they need. In fact, they are so committed to their patrons that they offer an annual Customer Appreciation

Day to show they care. "It really is a day set aside to give back to the customers," Burbank said.

Customer Appreciation Day, April 13 featured 18 office supply vendors including Grainger, Command Supply and Newark Electronics. Those attending were able to talk with vendors about new items coming out. Customers also enjoyed complimentary breakfast foods and barbecue from Gibson's for lunch.

The Base Supply Store, operated by Alabama Industries for the Blind, is in building 3775 on Maintenance Row, one mile north of the Sparkman Center off Patton Road. Its hours are 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 876-4011 or 382-1111.

■ Annual volunteer recognition luncheon slated

Volunteers

continued from page 1

Bill Howard, a retired Navy captain, was nominated by the Military Officers Association of America which he serves as Navy vice president. He arrived in Huntsville in 1956 and retired from Marshall Space Flight Center in December 1980 with 37 years of government service.

"I volunteered when I was 17 to go in the Navy," the 79-year-old World War II veteran said. He's been volunteering ever since.

"It just seems natural," he said. "It's just something I feel needs to be done and I enjoy doing what I'm doing."

The other nominees include retired Chief Warrant Officer Aniceto Bagley, Military Officers Association of America; Tayla Blake, Youth Center; Danny Brandon, Army Family Action Plan conference (Army Community Service); Sharee Brinson, Child and Youth Services; Karen Brown, Army Family Team Building (Army Community Service); Julie Clippinger, AFTB (Army Community Service); Michelle deGroot, AFAP conference (Army Community Service); Carolyn Denno, Thrift Shop; Danielle Denno, School Age Services; Inger Frye, Army Community Service; Barbara Hayes, Army Family Team Build-

ing (Army Community Service); Janeshia Henderson, Youth Center; Adora Ihediwa, Child and Youth Services; Christopher Johnson, Child and Youth Services; Nathan Johnson, Youth Center; Gabrielle Loew, Thrift Shop; Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Lundy, Youth Sports; Chester Marty, Red Cross; Yolanda McDonald, Child and Youth Services; Amanda Medley, Army Family Team Building (Army Community Service); George Moore, Army Community Service; Gisela Mullek, Outdoor Recreation; Cydney Nichols, School Age Services; Marg Ogles, Thrift Shop; Byron Parrish, Youth Bowling; Amber Pitre, Child and Youth Services; Sharon Samuelson, Thrift Shop; and Katrina Wynn, AFAP conference (Army Community Service).

The 13 award categories include Redstone Arsenal school age service young leader, Redstone Arsenal middle school young leader, Redstone Arsenal teen young leader, Redstone Arsenal service to youth, Redstone Arsenal dedicated service to youth, Redstone Arsenal special events volunteer, Redstone Arsenal new volunteer, Redstone Arsenal community service, Redstone Arsenal community dedicated service, Redstone Arsenal community lifetime service, military community service, military community dedicated service and military community lifetime service.

Dial up assistance for voting absentee

GARRISON RELEASE

It's time to start thinking about and getting ready to mail in those absentee registration forms if you are living outside your voting area and you want to vote in a primary election.

In addition to calling one of the voting officials listed with the Redstone operator, some mailing tips are shown below. Remember that the Federal Post Card Application does not require postage if mailed in the U.S. Postal system, which includes all U.S. military post offices (APO, FPO) overseas as well as diplomatic pouches. If you happen to be overseas, many embassies and consulates have access to U.S. military post offices. Those that have access will accept the FPCA and give it to the U.S. military post office where it will be mailed with no postage required. This form may also be sent postage free through the diplomatic pouch at embassies and consulates, but this pouch may not have a regular pickup schedule.

For addressing, type or print legibly in uppercase letters. No punctuation is needed. Include all of the following address information: recipient's name, street address, post office box number, rural route number, box number, highway contract route number, suffixes, directionals, locators, apartment number, suite number or room number, recipient's city, state and zip code (and if known, the four-digit add on, ZIP+4 — be sure to hyphenate the ZIP+4). For zip code information, visit the Postal Service web site at www.usps.gov. Also, always use a return address which should appear in the upper left corner of the mail.

If a post office box number and a street address are used, make sure that the place where you want the mail delivered appears on the line immediately above the city, state and zip code or ZIP+4 and that the zip code or ZIP+4 code corresponds to that address.

If you plan to be overseas, include the applicable foreign code, city or town, province or state name and country name. Place the foreign postal code in front of the city or town name and on the same line. Place the city or town name and the province or state name on the next line after the street address information. Write the name of the foreign country in capital letters on the last line of the address.

For all uniformed services members deployed to the Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom regions the following dates are recommended to ensure mailing receipt of balloting materials: Request ballot from election officials by Aug. 15 and mail voted ballot back to election officials by Oct. 11. For all other servicemembers overseas, the recommended



date to request the ballot is Aug. 15 and mail the voted ballot back to the election official by Oct. 15. With these dates, servicemembers should safely receive their state ballots in time to be voted, returned to the local election office, and be counted. However, even if the ballot arrives late or after the last mailing date, fill out the vote ballot and mail it back immediately. Also, as an alternative, a voter outside the U.S. may use the federal write-in absentee ballot if their state absentee ballot is not received in a timely manner (by Oct. 15).

Many states allow you to fax your voter registration and voted ballot. Here are some tips: Each request should have a separate completed cover sheet. Only one person's FPCA or ballot should be transmitted at a time — use separate transmissions. Be sure to specify the local election official (county, city or town office). If faxing from overseas, ensure a complete country (and city) code are provided along with the fax number. Provide a commercial return phone and fax number. Always mail the original after an electronic transmission. If a state allows you to fax the voted ballot, the voter must sign a statement waiving his or her right to secrecy. Last but not least, in the "remarks" section of the FPCA, provide any information that may assist your state in determining your eligibility to vote, i.e., a maiden name or other names used, a name and telephone number of a local contact or your e-mail address in case they wish to get in touch with you.

Here are a couple of contacts for Department of State overseas citizens services in the event you find yourself overseas during the period: chief voting officer Jack Markey, telephone (202) 736-4937 and e-mail markeyjd@state.gov; deputy voting officer Bonita Harris, telephone (202) 647-5435 or e-mail harrisbg@state.gov. Depending on your affiliated service, you may want to call one of the following for information: Army — James

Davis telephone (703) 325-4530 or e-mail davisj@hoffman.army.mil; Navy — Lt. Brian Campbell, telephone 1-866-827-5672 or e-mail MIL_navyvote@navy.mil; Air Force — Lt. Col. Lee Shick, telephone (210) 565-2338 or e-mail afpc/dpsfvotingpgmdlist@randolph.af.mil; Marines — Gunnery Sgt. Kenneth Warford, telephone (703) 784-9511 or e-mail warford-kb@manpower.usmc.mil; or Coast Guard — YNCS Lori McNaught, telephone (202) 267-1636 or e-mail LMcNaught@comdt.uscg.mil. In addition to these contacts, you can always get voting information and contact information at <http://www.fvap.gov>. If you have trouble accessing the FVAP web site, try going to <http://131.84.1.219/>. If you still have trouble connecting, send an e-mail to vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

There was a lot of information put out earlier on about the Internet Voting Project wherein citizens could vote via Internet. In December 2001 Congress requested DoD conduct an electronic voting experiment to gather data and make recommendations regarding the use of the Internet for registration and voting by uniformed services personnel and overseas citizens. In this purview, the Federal Voting Assistance Program personnel worked closely with seven volunteer states and nearly 50 counties to develop a highly secure web-based registration and voting system for use in the 2004 elections. However, given the current vulnerabilities of the Internet as well as voters' personal computers, the Department of Defense has decided not to deploy the Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment system rather than potentially bringing the integrity of the election results into doubt.

The senior voting officer for Redstone Arsenal is Joe Winston, 842-2411; and the alternate senior voting officer is Lew Spencer, 842-2418. In addition, all unit voting officers are listed with the Redstone Arsenal information operator.

Voting do's and don'ts for servicemembers

GARRISON RELEASE

Department of Defense Directive 1344.10 states that members of the armed forces may do the following election activities:

May

- Register, vote and express his or her personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the armed forces.
- Promote and encourage other military members to exercise their voting franchise as long as such promotion does not constitute an attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election.
- Join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform.
- Serve as an election official if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while not in uniform, and with prior approval of the Secretary concerned.
- Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot, if the signing does not obligate the member to engage in partisan political activity and is done as a private citizen and not as a representative of the armed forces.
- Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing the member's personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign or concerted solicitation of votes for or against a political party or partisan cause or candidate.
- Make monetary contributions to a political organization, party, or committee favoring a particular candidate or slate of candidates.
- Display a political sticker on the member's private vehicle.

May not

- Members of the armed forces may not do the following election activities:
- Use official authority or influence to interfere with an election, affect the course or outcome of an election, solicit votes for a particular candidate or issue, or require or solicit political contributions from others.
 - Be a candidate for civil office in federal, state or local government, or engage in public or organized soliciting of others to become partisan candidates for nomination or election to civil office.
 - Participate in partisan political management or campaigns, or make public speeches in the course thereof.
 - Solicit or receive a campaign contribution from another member of the armed forces or from a civilian officer or employee of the United States for promoting a political objective or cause.
 - Speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind for promoting a partisan political party or candidate.
 - Use contemptuous words against officeholders described in 10 USC 888.
 - Perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or on an election day.
 - Solicit or otherwise engage in fund-raising activities in federal offices or facilities, including military reservations, for a partisan political cause or candidate.
 - Sell tickets for, or otherwise actively promote, political dinners and similar fund-raising events.
 - Allow or cause to be published partisan political articles signed or written by the member that solicit votes for or against a partisan political party or candidate.
 - Serve in any official capacity or sponsor a partisan political club.
 - Participate in any media or group discussions as a partisan advocate.
 - March or ride in a partisan political parade.
 - Display a large political sign, banner or poster on a private vehicle (bumper stickers are allowed).
 - Participate in any partisan effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls.
 - Attend partisan political events as an official representative of the armed forces or while in uniform.
- When in doubt, contact the legal or staff judge advocate officer.

Museum exhibit dedicated to Army's ex-chief

*Retired Gen. Eric Shinseki
a native of Hawaiian Islands*

By Sgt. BRADLEY RHEN
Army News Service

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii — Growing up on Kauai, one of the Hawaiian Islands, Eric Shinseki never imagined that one day he would lead the greatest Army on earth.

Nor did he ever think there would ever be a museum exhibit about him.

But on March 30, he got to cut the Maile Lei, as the U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii in Waikiki opened the Shinseki exhibit highlighting the former Army chief of staff life and career.

The exhibit contains artifacts from nearly every aspect of Shinseki's life: a cowboy glove he wore as a boy on Kauai, his uniform from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the object with which he will probably forever be linked — his black beret.

From June 1999 to July 2003, Shinseki served as the Army's 34th chief of staff.

During his tenure, Shinseki led the Army's transformation to

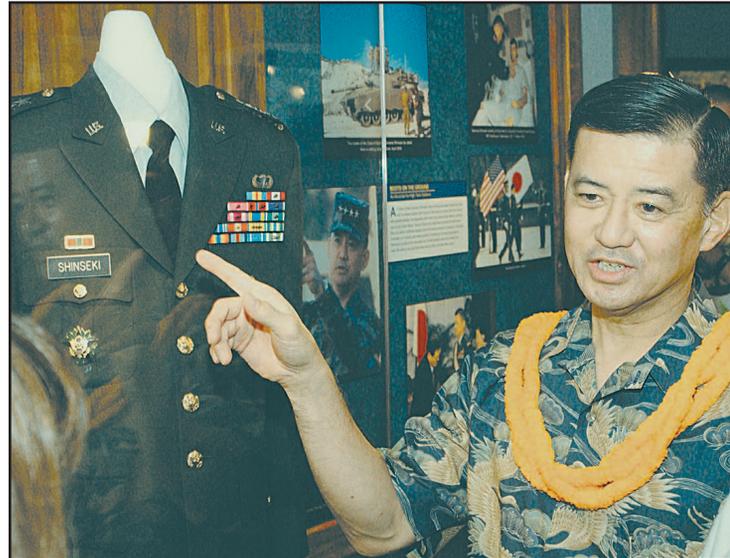


Photo by Sgt. Bradley Rhen

LIFE AND TIMES— Eric Shinseki, a former Army chief of staff, stands in front of a Hawaii museum exhibit in his honor. U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii in Waikiki opened the Shinseki exhibit highlighting the former Army chief of staff's life and career.

a lighter, more deployable force, including the formation of six Stryker Brigade Combat Teams.

Shinseki said the black beret, which was previously worn by Army Ranger units, would be a symbol of transformation and all Soldiers began wearing it in 2001.

Shinseki was born on Kauai

on Nov. 28, 1942, a year after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and other military installations on Oahu, bringing the United States into World War II.

He grew up on Kauai in a family of modest means, did well in school and was a popular leader in high school. A turning point in his life was a six-month

visit to New Jersey as an exchange student at the time Hawaii entered the Union as a state.

He found many mainlanders interested in statehood for Hawaii, but partly found it amusing that mainlanders were surprised that Hawaiians used U.S. currency, could use a fork and knife and spoke English.

"From a youngster who grew up prowling the wilds of the Island of Kauai, I'm just an average kid who grew up in the public school system there, but was blessed by having made a couple of good decisions in my life: one was to join the United States Army and the other one was to marry this wonderful woman who has seen fit to spend nearly the last 39 years with me," he said. "Those are the only two good decisions I made in my life, and they turned out pretty well."

After having spent a lifetime in a profession he loved, Shinseki said he was lucky to come back and have this kind of recognition. He also said it was humbling to have the exhibit in his honor.

"I'm a little embarrassed by the exhibit with the name Shinseki on it as, you might understand, and I would ask you to

consider this an American story about opportunity and it just happened to be this family, and this kid named Ric Shinseki," he said.

On the day before he was to deploy to Afghanistan for a year in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, attended the exhibit dedication.

"As a native son of Hawaii, it's good for both Hawaii and the Army that Shinseki is honored," Olson said. "General Shinseki was a man who truly took the Army on the course that I think it's going to be on for the better part of this century, so it's a fitting tribute for him."

Shinseki said that when people come and look at this exhibit, they will probably focus on the last four years when he served as the chief of staff.

"But I would tell you that the great honor of my life was to be able serve every day of those 38 years as a Soldier," he said. "I served with great Americans, and not all of them came home."

Editor's note: Sgt. Bradley Rhen is the editor of the Hawaii Army Weekly.

Shuttle buses at your service for on post activities

Free transportation caters to military

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

All aboard the Redstone shuttle bus. The Garrison provides a shuttle bus service to transport military personnel to on post activities such as legal, finance, the health center, military personnel office and travel. Evening and weekend shuttle service is also provided.

"There are two buses Monday through Friday and then one in the evening and one on Saturday and one on Sunday," Diane DeHart, chief of equipment management division in Directorate of Logistics, said. "Active duty (military) has priority but DoD civilians and dependents can use it."

The service has existed for years but many family members apparently didn't know they could use it. Two additional stops are planned for the summer as a result of an initiative from this year's Army Family Action Plan conference.

"The youth have always been able to use it (the service) but they weren't aware," DeHart said. "The new thing we're doing is adding some stops for the youth (from June through August)."

The 15-passenger shuttle buses, which include a handicap ramp, are operated by Northrop Grumman, a subcontractor to base support contractor Chugach Management Services.

Active duty servicemembers are the main passengers and space-available transportation is provided to off-duty military, Defense Department civilians and family members of active duty military. Family members under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Identification — such as badge or military ID card — should be provided when requested.

"With the military, it gets good business I'd say," Garrison logistics director Don Olsen said. The free service averages 2,500 passengers monthly Monday through Friday and 1,200 per month for evenings and weekends.

"I think it's excellent," Pvt. Meredith Kick of Bravo Company said. "I mean it's a great way to get around. It's inexpensive and efficient."

Morning pickup points for Monday through Friday include: 7:30 a.m., building 3417 ATM (barracks); 7:35, Military Personnel Office building 3493; 7:45, Travel building 4488; 8:00, Fox Army Health Center; 8:05, building 111; 8:10, Bicentennial Chapel; 8:15, Post Exchange; 8:20, Finance building 3207; 8:25, MILPO building 3493; 8:30, building 3417 ATM; 8:35, MILPO building 3493; 8:45, Travel building 4488; 9:00, Fox Army Health Center; 9:05, building 111; 9:10, Bicentennial Chapel; 9:15, Post Exchange; 9:20, Finance building 3207; 9:25, MILPO building 3497; 9:30, building 3417 ATM; 9:35, MILPO building 3497; 9:45, Travel building 4488; 10:00, Fox Army Health Center; 10:05, building 111; 10:10, Bicentennial Chapel; 10:15, Post Exchange; and 10:20, Finance building 3207.

Evening pickup points for Monday through Friday include: 6:15 p.m., building 3417 ATM; 6:25, Post Exchange; 6:35, Shopette; 6:45, Post Exchange;

6:55, building 3417 ATM; 7:05, Post Exchange; 7:15, Shopette; 7:25, Post Exchange; 7:35, building 3417 ATM; 7:45, Post Exchange; 7:55, Shopette; 8:05, Post Exchange; and 8:15, building 3417 ATM.

Saturday pickup points include: 1:05 p.m., building 3417 ATM; 1:15, Post Exchange; 1:25, Shopette (to Madison Square Mall); 1:45, Madison Square Mall; 2:05, Shopette; 2:15, Post Exchange; 2:25, building 3417 ATM; 2:35, Post Exchange; 2:45, Shopette (to Madison Square Mall); 3:05, Madison Square Mall; 3:25, Shopette; 3:35, Post Exchange; 3:45, building 3417 ATM; 3:55, Post Exchange; 4:30, Shopette (last trip to mall); 4:50, Madison Square Mall; 5:10, building 3417 ATM; 5:20, Post Exchange; 5:30, building 3417 ATM; 5:40, Post Exchange; and 5:50, building 3417 ATM (last stop).

Sunday pickup points include: 1:05 p.m., building 3417 ATM; 1:15, Post Exchange; 1:25, Shopette; 1:35, Post Exchange; 1:45, building 3417 ATM; 1:55, Post Exchange; 2:05, Shopette; 2:15, Post Exchange; 2:25, building 3417 ATM; 2:35, Post Exchange; 2:45, Shopette; 2:55, Post Exchange; 3:05, building 3417 ATM; 3:15, Post Exchange; 3:25, Shopette; 3:35, Post Exchange; and 3:45, building 3417 ATM (last stop).

A revised schedule for the summer should be published in May. For more information about the shuttle bus service, call contracting officer representative Ray Boles at 876-3119 or DeHart at 842-2363.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PASSENGERS WELCOME— Elaine Johnson, a light motor vehicle operator, makes a weekday stop at building 4488.



Photo by Adrian Baker/MWR

Winner line

Winners in the Morale Welfare and Recreation "Online MWR Trivia Sweepstakes" include from left Eddie Simpson, third place; Earl Underwood, second place; and Anna Richter, first place. With them are MWR director Dan Ahern and MWR webmaster Francine Stone.

Redstone worker puts faith in new guide dog

Learning way around Sparkman takes time, patience and treats

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
sandy@htimes.com

Getting a new guide dog is “a major undertaking, sort of like boot camp,” Curtis Tucker, human resource specialist at

the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, said. “You have to give up everything – forget everything for a time – to build a relationship with a new dog.”

Tucker, blind since 1987, spent most of March at The Seeing Eye, a guide dog school in Morristown, N.J., training with his new guide dog, Faith, a 21-month-old German shepherd. The four-week training session ended with a test – a walking tour

in New York City, with Faith leading the way.

“She did great, led me all around Times Square,” Tucker said. “We went into the Toys R Us store. It’s so big they have a Ferris wheel inside. Even with all those kids and distractions Faith did just fine.”

The pair have been at work at the Sparkman Center for two weeks now and things are progressing well. Faith is learning the routes to places like the elevator, bathroom, snack bar, cafeteria, gift shop, even the barber shop.

“At first, she’ll stop at every door you pass and turn her head in the direction of the doorway, sort of asking, ‘Do you want to turn here?’” Tucker said. “Once she learns the route, she’ll be able to go straight to there. It’s a learning process that takes time, patience, treats and lots of praise. But we’re taking it slow and she’s doing very well.”

As Tucker talks, Faith lays on the floor next to his chair, dozing. She’s very calm and quiet during the day. No barking or playing, at least not while she’s at work.

“When we get home and take the harness off, it’s a different story,” Tucker said. “She’s just like a pet. We have a bunch of toys in the living room for her to play with. She plays with the grandkids when they come over. But when the harness goes on, it’s back to work.”

It’s very important in the beginning for Faith to distinguish the difference in work and play and that she bonds with Tucker.

“That’s why when she’s wearing the harness, I don’t want people to pet her. Dogs make friends very easily. That familiarity with others can be distracting for her while she’s working.”

Faith is fitting in well at the office but she’s got some pretty big paws to fill. For the last five years, Tucker’s guide dog Gordy has taken care of getting him from here to there with great success. Not only that but last year, Gordy alerted the office when a scanner on Tucker’s desk began to burn.

“There was no smoke or flames because the fire was on the inside,” Tucker said. “Gordy sensed something was wrong and drew attention to the problem. When they checked it out, the components inside the scanner were charred. Gordy got a certificate from CPOC for that.”

Last October, Tucker was named the 2003 Employee of the Year from the Huntsville Area Committee People with Disabilities. “It was a great honor,” he said.

Gordy retired earlier this year. “It got to where he didn’t want to get into the harness in the morning. Sometimes he just didn’t want to go,” Tucker said. “Dogs are like people in a lot of ways. They like to work for a while but they know when it’s time to quit. Gordy was 9 years old when he retired. I’d had him for five years. Now my grandson has him.”

Now it’s time for Tucker to lean on Faith, and she’s doing great.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

MAN’S BEST FRIEND— Curtis Tucker, human resource specialist with the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, breaks in his new guide dog, Faith.

Young adults at higher risk to sexual diseases

Public education goal for month

By BARBARA ANDERSON
Community health nurse

April is "National STD Awareness Month." The goal is to educate the general public about STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) and the need for testing.

Despite years of control and prevention efforts, sexually transmitted diseases remain an epidemic in the United States. From 12-15 million Americans contract an STD each year and two-thirds of them occur in people under age 25.

Adolescents and young adults are at higher risk for acquiring sexually transmitted diseases for a number of reasons. Adolescents and young adults are more likely to have multiple sexual partners and more likely to engage in unprotected sex. They may be more likely to select a partner from a high-risk population. They

may not understand their risk for becoming infected with an STD. They may not know that a person can be infected and not have symptoms. They may falsely believe that all STD infections are curable.

Having sex with an infected person or sharing needles with an infected person puts one at high risk for becoming infected. It's not easy to avoid infection because persons with certain STDS (chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV) may have no signs or symptoms of disease and some STDS (herpes, warts, syphilis) can be transmitted by intimate touching.

Signs that may signal an STD infection can be burning or pain when passing urine; sores, bumps or blisters near the sex organs or mouth; fever, chills, night sweats, swollen glands; pain, swelling or itching in the genitals; an unusual discharge; bleeding that is not menstrual, or pain in the lower part of the belly. STDs do not go away on their own and they are not treatable with any over-the-counter medication. STDs require diagnosis

and treatment by a health care provider.

Early treatment is essential in preventing complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease, sterility, miscarriage, tubal pregnancy, blindness, and damage to heart, lungs, joints and tissue. Some infections such as herpes, Hepatitis B, and genital warts are treatable but not curable. In some cases, infections can be passed from mother to baby. Sexually active individuals should be screened and tested at least annually for STDS.

Not having sex and avoiding contact with another person's body fluids is the only sure way to avoid becoming infected with a behavior related STD. You can lower the risk for infection by avoiding high risk behaviors such as: pickup

encounters at clubs, paid encounters, having sex with someone known to use injectable drugs or known to have multiple sex partners, and combining drug or alcohol use with sex. It is important to know that once a person is infected with any STD, they are at a higher risk of getting an HIV infection.

STD Awareness Month is a good time to talk to our youth. For more information or educational handouts that can provide facts and help open up discussions on sexually transmitted disease, come by or call Fox Army Health Center, Preventive Medicine Service 955-8888 ext. 1026. Age appropriate STD information for children and teens over the Internet can be found at www.kidshealth.org.

Alcoholism help available for military families

AL-ANON RELEASE

Recent published reports show that heavy drinking has increased in the military. What data is not shown are the effects of this drinking on others.

For nearly 53 years family members and friends of alcoholics have found help and hope in Al-Anon meetings. There are meetings held on or near military bases in the US, Canada and around the world. Al-Anon provides a safe, confidential and free place for military families to share with and learn from other family members and friends of problem drinkers.

The latest Al-Anon/Alateen Membership Survey (completed in November 2003) shows that 25 percent of Al-Anon members and 29 percent of teen members surveyed have a relationship with a problem drinker on active duty in the military. An additional 6 percent have a relationship with a reservist; and 10 percent of adults and 29 percent of teens are dealing with a problem drinker retired from the military.

The common bond among Al-Anon/Alateen members (and indeed the only requirement for membership) is

that there is a problem with alcohol in a relative or friend. The relationship with an alcoholic may be current or past, and members come together for mutual aid and support. There are no dues or fees for the confidential meetings. There are no professional counselors; members take turns facilitating the meetings where they share their own experience, strength and hope with each other, to learn how to better cope with the effects of alcoholism on their lives.

Al-Anon (which includes Alateen for younger members) was founded in 1951 by the wives of two early AA members, and has evolved from 87 scattered groups to the more than 27,000 Al-Anon Family Groups in 115 countries that can be found today.

Additional information is available on the Al-Anon/Alateen Headquarters web site, www.al-anon.alateen.org. For local meeting information, look in the white pages of your phone book under "Al-Anon." Local Al-Anon offices are also listed on the web site. A toll-free meeting line is also available for the U.S. and Canada 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666). For information locally call 885-0323.

Don't let mosquitoes bug you this season

Be prepared, not scared of West Nile Virus

By Pfc. JENNIFER LIDDLE
Preventive medicine specialist

It's just about that time of year again. Barbecues, parades, swimming pools and an uninvited guest, the mosquito. By now the mosquito is almost synonymous with West Nile Virus. Here is what you need to know to have a fun, safe summer.

The West Nile Virus is spread by infected mosquitoes that get it by biting infected birds. Although no one is quite sure how it got to the U.S., the West Nile Virus first appeared in dead crows in the late summer of 1999 at the Bronx Zoo in New York City. The virus is now found throughout the continental United States, with the exception of Washington and Oregon. Unfortunately, there is no way to prevent the virus from spreading and there's no way to predict which areas it

will hit hardest. Being informed is the best defense.

Less than 1 percent of mosquitoes carry the virus and less than 1 percent of persons infected have severe symptoms. The West Nile Virus rarely kills, and in fact most infected people never show any symptoms. Those most likely to have severe effects, such as encephalitis and meningitis, are the elderly and those with weakened immune systems. With an incubation period of 3 to 14 days, symptoms may include flu like characteristics such as headache, muscle aches, fever, neck stiffness, disorientation and sometimes paralysis.

There is no cure for the West Nile Virus, but its symptoms and complications can be treated. However, it does appear that once a person has been infected with the virus that a natural immunity develops.

Since birds are carriers of the virus, it is important that certain dead birds be tested for monitoring purposes. Only crows, blue jays and birds of prey are collected for testing. If you come across a dead bird do not touch it with your bare hands. If the dead bird is on post, call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888, ext. 1026. If calling from off post, call Madison County Department of Public Health at 539-3711 and select option 2. Only freshly dead birds will be collected for testing. Birds that are decomposed or scavenged cannot be used for testing. These birds may be disposed of by double bagging and plac-

ing in the trash. Keep in mind that birds may die for many reasons.

Several measures are being taken to protect Redstone Arsenal from the West Nile Virus. Contractors will be spraying areas around post and setting mosquito traps for surveillance purposes. These traps are usually set in a wood line and are white with netting, so please do not touch if you come across one. However, the most important measures are the ones that you take. The risk of acquiring a mosquito-borne disease is so low that staying indoors is not necessary. However, when outdoors be sure to take the following precautions:

- Wear loose, light colored clothing and make sure that skin is covered as much as possible.

- Avoid wearing anything with a fragrance in it. This will only attract the mosquitoes.

- Wear insect repellent and apply according to manufacturer's directions.

- Limit activities at dawn and dusk, for this is when mosquitoes are most active.

- Ensure screens are in good condition.

- Get rid of any stagnant water, such as in gutters, for these are breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Note that chlorophyll tablets, citronella candles, vitamin B and "ultrasonic" devices are not effective defenses against mosquito bites.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/westnile or call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888, ext. 1026.

Officials warn against education diploma mills

By KARA MOTOSICKY
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Expect to get promotion points for a college degree that requires no class work or tests? Think again, warn Department of Defense education specialists.

A diploma mill is a college or university that operates primarily to make money, often offering college credit for life experiences rather than any formal education.

Diploma mills prey on naïve people who are often too busy with families and careers to attend classes. The school isn't properly accredited and issues degrees without ensuring an education occurs. Diploma mills used to be the province of mail-order schools, but with the Internet, many more such schools are popping up.

The best defense against diploma mills for Soldiers are Army Education Centers, according to one Department of Defense official.

"Before they make any contact, sign anything, they should visit their education center," said the official. "That way, the counselor can help them find out if the school's accredited."

Nancy B. Adams, an education services specialist at the Fort Belvoir, Va., Army Education Center, agrees that the education center should be a Soldier's first stop.

"Our job is to help the Soldier define his educational goals," Adams said. "If they have a school they're researching, they should bring it in to the office. We'll let them know if it's accredited."

Deployed Soldiers must be savvy, said the official.

"If Soldiers are deployed, you usually have an (education service officer), but they may not know which schools aren't accredited," said the official.

The Army will not recognize a degree from a non-accredited school, said Adams. For schools to be recognized as accredited by the U.S. Department of Education they have to meet certain standards, including quality of education, library size and student/faculty ratio.

Schools can be accredited on a regional or national level, but not all accrediting agencies are recognized by the DoEd.

One particular school, Trinity College & University, is actively pursuing the Soldiers in Iraq. The school, which is

based out of Metairie, La., is not accredited by a recognized accrediting agency. The school, though similar in name, is also not affiliated with Trinity International University in Deerfield, Ill.

Soldiers who don't have access to an education center can go online to check a school's accreditation.

"It can be difficult to validate a school's accreditation," said the DoD official. "Many diploma mills bury their accreditations, if they have any, so deep in an official-looking web site that they are impossible to find."

Do not discount all distance-learning schools, though.

"There are some very reputable online schools out there," Adams said. "They're held to the same standards as a brick-and-mortar school, except they may have an online library."

Also, there are some accredited institutions that do give credit for work experience, usually awarding a degree in conjunction with credit hours earned through attending normal college courses.

Soldiers who pursue degrees from non-accredited schools will quickly learn some hard lessons.

"With a degree from a diploma mill, you're not going to get financial aid," said the DoD official.

"Soldiers only receive \$4,500 per fiscal year for education," Adams said. "We want them to be good stewards of their tuition money."

Having the diploma mill degree can leave a permanent black mark on your record, even after leaving military service for the civilian sector, the DoD official said.

"More and more articles are popping up, employers are getting savvy," said the official. "There's always a risk that you will be demoted or fired."

Some tips in recognizing diploma mills:

- The school does not require studying, tests or essays.

- The school boasts of accreditation, i.e., "fully, nationally or worldwide accredited," but has no legitimate accreditation.

- The school relies on "portfolio assessments" or "life experience."

- The school advertises through e-mail messages sent to millions.

For more information on school accreditation, visit the DoEd at www.ed.gov.

Headquarters & Alpha roars into volleyball season



Photo by Skip Vaughn
SERVE'S UP—
The Marines' Tracy Wisdom serves against HHC 59th during the preseason tournament which was eventually won by Headquarters & Alpha.

Gators beat HHC 59th for preseason title

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

Headquarters & Alpha didn't settle for second this time.

The Gators, runners-up in last year's postseason volleyball final, beat HHC 59th 25-15, 25-21 for the preseason tournament championship April 5 at Pagano Gym.

"The team put it all together. They fought the battle and won," Gators coach Anthony Thomas said. "It was nip and tuck the whole way."

The Gators (4-0) trailed by five points in the second game when they called timeout. "We regrouped real quick, put in one or two substitutions and got the momentum back," Thomas said.

Headquarters & Alpha standouts included hitter Rodney Goldman and setters Robert Roberts, Phillip Galmines and

Earnest Simpson. Kristy Willis, the team's lone female, served for match point.

HHC 59th (4-2) advanced from the losers' bracket by beating the Marines 12-25, 25-16, 15-5 on April 1.

Thomas is optimistic as the season begins this week. Bravo beat the Gators in last year's final.

"We're looking good right now," Thomas said. "A lot of my guys are students. We're going to have fill-ins along the way but I should maintain the core of the team throughout the season. I think we should compete for the championship again. I don't see any reason why not. I think we're going to go all the way."

The Gators include Goldman, Roberts, Galmines, Simpson, Willis, Nelson Wilcox, Clinton Hulslander, Thomas Breen, John Barkle, Robert E. Smith, Robert Sotta, Jason Wing, Todd Dudinsky, Wesley Salesberry, John Clem and assistant coach Aalsekyi Gaither.

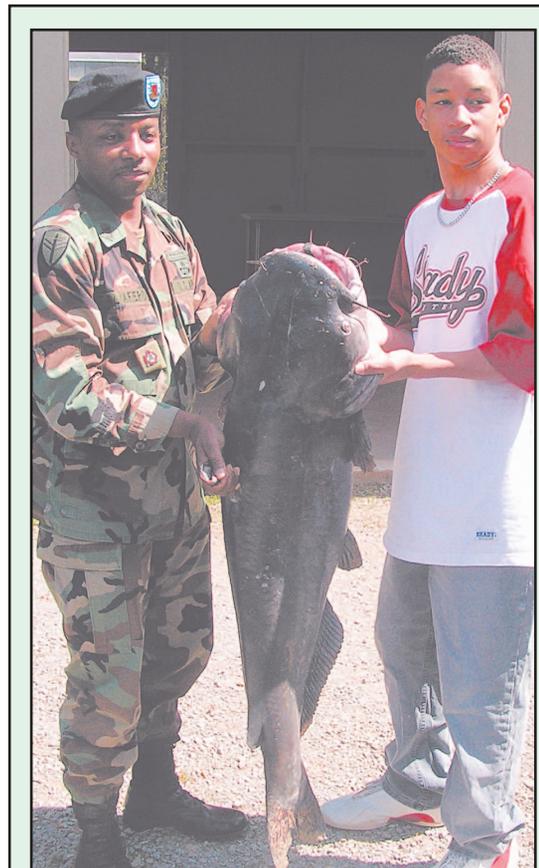


Photo by Spc. Ryan McClymont

Catch of day

Staff Sgt. Norval Taliafero, an ammo supply specialist instructor/writer from Delta Company, and his son Trevor, 14, show off the 61-pound catfish they caught April 8 at the Easter Posey Recreation Area on the Tennessee River. It took Taliafero 20 minutes and the help of his son and his daughter, Sonja Jackson, 18, to finally reel the fish in.

No pain, no gain makes no sense for exercising

Physical therapist prescribes caution

By DIRK CARSON
Physical therapy chief

What a great time of year! The cold, sleepy days of winter are changing over to the warm, active days of spring. Now that the winter hibernation period is over, it is time to start exercising and losing weight. This article will help you avoid making some of the most common mistakes in training as you prepare your exercise program.

First and foremost, let's debunk the saying "No pain, no gain." Ignoring pain is a great way to bring on a serious injury or injuries. I compare it to driving a car and seeing the oil light come on but still continuing to drive. It could be just a bad sensor, or it could be your engine is about to lock up. Do you want to take the risk? Pain is not your friend. And, contrary to all those T-shirts, pain is not weakness leaving your body. Pain comes from the Greek word meaning "payment or penal-

ty." These are not positive outcomes. Exercising should be a rewarding experience. If you have pain while exercising, something has gone amiss and you need to stop or at least change what you are doing until the pain resolves.

Now there is also a nasty little thing called Delayed Onset Muscle Soreness. This is muscular discomfort that generally starts the day after you exercise or participate in a sport or activity that you do not normally engage in on a regular basis. This can be a very educational process as you learn just how often a certain muscle is used during the course of a day. Being a little more cautious and conservative when initiating an exercise program as well as stretching after exercising can help reduce the effects of DOMS. Remember, "no pain, no gain" has no validity.

Another common mistake people make when initiating an exercise program is to do too much, too quick, too soon with too little rest and too little recovery time between exercise sessions. This also comes into play with people who exercise on a regular basis but had to stop for six weeks or longer due to sickness, extend-

ed travel, slothfulness or whatever. The mistake these people make is that they tend to resume their exercise program where they last left off. If you were walking two miles a day three times a week for the past eight months, but caught the flu in early January and haven't exercised since then, you need to build back up to your pre-flu mileage. Starting back at the same mileage is a great way to bring on shin splints, plantar fasciitis, or Achilles tendonitis. Proper aerobic conditioning is a lot like money, it is hard to get but easy to lose. Ideally, you want to get 30 minutes of aerobic activity 3-5 times per week. Remember, start slowly and build up to this level over the next couple of months. A 10 percent increase in distance or intensity per week is generally recommended.

Finally, if you do suffer a minor musculoskeletal injury, think of the acronym RICE (rest, ice, compression, elevation). Resting and immobilizing the injury site is important to prevent further injury. This should generally last 2 or 3 days and might be achieved by using crutches, splints or wraps. Ice or

cold packs are essential to decrease pain, inflammation and swelling. Applying a cold pack for 20 minutes at a time and repeating every couple of hours is recommended for the first 48 hours (or longer if injury site is still warm to the touch). Compression in the form of an external pressure can assist in controlling hemorrhage and hematoma formation. Elastic wraps are commonly used to apply compression and should be used throughout the day but removed at night. Elevation of the injured site, along with compression and ice, helps to reduce internal bleeding. Best elevation results occur when the injured part is elevated above the heart. If you aren't getting relief after 48-72 hours of using RICE, seeking medical attention is recommended.

As you head out to start that exercise program that you promised yourself you would do, remember to listen to your body's warning signs (one of which is pain), don't be too aggressive initially; and if an injury occurs, think R.I.C.E. For more information on sports injury prevention, go to www.active.com.



Photo by Spc. Ryan McClymont

Seasonal buy

Randall Crow, a civilian heavy mobile equipment repairer for the 926th Engineer Battalion, Army Reserve, buys a riding lawn mower April 5 from the Post Exchange. The Cullman native said he needed a new mower to tackle roughly an acre of land.

5K fund-raiser

The RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate will hold the third annual RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk, May 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the physical training track off Corporal Road, to benefit Army Emergency Relief. Military, civilian, contract employees and their family members are welcome. Registration deadline is May 4; and the entry fee is \$15 which includes a T-shirt and race day refreshments. Rain date for the event is May 13. To register, e-mail carolyn.a.farmer@us.army.mil. "Redstone Federal Credit Union has offered to match our donation up to \$1,000," Carolyn Farmer said. "So if we, the RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate, can raise \$1,000, RFCU will donate another \$1,000, giving us a potential \$2,000, more if we can get additional participation."

Sports ball

The seventh annual Sports Ball is 6 p.m. May 8 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Organizations provide free support to athletes from local schools at this event which has helped hundreds attain their college goals through scholarships. For more information, call coordinator Constance Jones 859-4850.

Bass tournament

The Army Aviation Association of America's spring bass tournament is May 1 at the Jackson County Park in Scottsboro. For entry information, call Bob Vlasic 881-4144, Tom Geoffroy 313-5719 or Tony Giannelli 313-6054.

Youth soccer

The Madison Soccer Club Shockers will hold two free soccer clinics for boys and girls, ages 7-13, on May 2 and 16 from 2-4 p.m. at Dublin Park in Madison. Skills covered will include shutting down the attacker, beating your opponent, scoring goals and building soccer skills. Attend either or both sessions. To register call 864-7026.

General services expo

General Services Administration's Southeast Sunbelt Region invites you to Orlando, Fla., May 11-13 to experience Expo

2004. Admission is free to all civilian and military personnel. Attend more than 250 hours of professional procurement-oriented training, with CEU credit. Visit more than 700 commercial partners, across 300,000 square feet, exhibiting their products and services — all available through GSA schedules. GSA is offering free meeting rooms to federal activities as part of the expo May 10, 11 and 13, 2004. For details check the web site <http://expo.gsa.gov> or call 1-888-272-5565. To schedule a meeting, contact Barbara Petersen at Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov.

Logistics engineers

International Society of Logistics will have its monthly luncheon April 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Ron Dalton, from the Cargo Helicopters Project Office, is to speak on Soldier Focused Logistics. Cost is \$12 (\$11 for SOLE members). For reservations call Emma Louise Cooper 955-8462 or Randy Gibbs 313-2942 by April 19.

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.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold a general membership meeting Thursday at 11:15 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club in the Regimental Room. The buffet line may be used for lunch; and visitors are welcome. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.

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 Gleria Edwards 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Aerospace scholarship

The Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present a \$1,000 scholarship to an Air Force Junior ROTC cadet, cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, dependent of active duty or retired Air Force personnel, dependent of Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel, or dependent of an active duty member of another service (Army, Navy, or Marine Corps). Applicants must pursue a full course load toward an aerospace technology associate degree at Calhoun Community College. This scholarship will be for the 2004-05 school year and will be broken into \$500 awards to the school for each semester attended. Candidates may apply until May 1. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m. or e-mail at TLRoop@charter.net.

Warrant officer scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present two \$1,000 scholarship awards in 2004. Eligible participants include dependent or adopted children/stepchildren of military (active, retired, National Guard or Reserve) and DoD civilian residing in the Tennessee Valley. Applicants must be high school seniors or college freshmen. Deadline to apply is May 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

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, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesday

9-5 and Wednesday and Thursday 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted, and tax slips are available. The shop accepts handmade craft items for consignment. It is a collection site for New Futures, so bring your cell phones that are in working order — Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia. The shop can recycle all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. The shop is seeking volunteers for the afternoons. For more information, call 881-6992.

Bookkeeper job

The Thrift Shop has a bookkeeper position. Salary is \$4,200 annually for approximately 10-hour weeks. Applicants must know the Quick Books financial program and be proficient with bookkeeping procedures. Applications can be picked up during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

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.

Continuing education

Oakwood College's Leadership Education for the Adult Professional bachelor's degree classes will begin this spring at Redstone Arsenal. Pre-register from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19-22 at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. Earn your degree in 18 months. For more information, call 876-9761.

Panoply volunteers

The Army Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, Community Projects Committee is supporting Panoply 2004 by providing volunteers to help with this community arts festival April 23-25 in Big Spring Park. Volunteers are needed in various areas such as helping in the children's activities, selling Buffalo Rock-Pepsi products, selling Panoply novelty items in one of the Panoply Stores, or welcoming the many visitors to the park at one of the entrance gates. The public hours for Panoply are April 23 from 5-10 p.m., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and April 25 from noon to 8 p.m. The shifts for volunteers are two hours long with many time slots still available. For more information or to volunteer call Eura Reaves, co-chairman of ASMC Community Projects Committee, 955-8222.

Book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 19-23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, in the first-floor corridor between 5303

and 5304. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape will be accepted until April 20. To arrange delivery and pickup of donated items, call Brian Barry 876-5743.

School grants

The Huntsville Association of Technical Societies has issued a call for proposals for its 2004-05 seed grants. Grants are awarded to K-12 schools in Madison, Marshall, Morgan and Limestone counties. For the past 16 years, HATS has awarded seed grants ranging from \$200 to \$1,000 for innovative projects that help promote student interest in scientific and technical subjects. More than \$17,000 was awarded to 19 teachers in 2003. May 3 is the proposals deadline. For more information, call 882-1234.

Military personnel office

The DEERS/Rapids office will go through an equipment/software upgrade May 17-18; and the ID Card section is closed both days. There will be no Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System or identification card services available. For more information, call Theodore Tyson of Military Personnel Office 842-2415.

95th change of command

Capt. James Coe will succeed Capt. Jason Mackay as commander of 95th Maintenance Company in a ceremony Friday at 9 a.m. at Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, building 5435. For more information, call 842-7706.

Butler High reunion

Butler High School Class of 1969 will hold its 35th reunion June 19 at the Clay House Museum, 16 Main St., Madison. Class members are urged to call Glenda Swafford Anderson 837-9789 or Robin Hall Brewer (256) 325-1018.

Father of year

The Volunteer Center of Madison County will hold its second "Father of the Year" Gala June 25 at the Huntsville Museum of Art. The evening will include announcement of the 2004 Father of the Year, dancing to the music of The Blue Savoy Combo, wine/beer with heavy hors d'oeuvres, and silent auction. Spouses, children, friends or co-workers may make nominations. Nominees must reside or work within Madison County and may include "father figures" who have made a significant impact on a child's life. Each will be reviewed by a panel of judges for the qualities that make individuals outstanding fathers. Nominations for Father of the Year will be accepted until Thursday. Forms and more information are available by calling the Volunteer Center 539-7797 and from the Volunteer Center web site: www.volunteerhsv.org.

Administrative professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold a free training session May 4 from 8-11 a.m. in building 5400, SELA Auditorium. Registration is from 7-8 for the course on "Projecting a Professional Image." Attendees are reminded that building 5400 is a restricted

area and no cell phones are allowed in the building. For more information call Myria Chastain 313-8158 or 876-2024 or Julie Manning 313-6745 by April 27.

Masquerade ball

The Janice Mitchell Isbell Academy will hold its third annual Masquerade Ball "Mardi Gras in May" at 7:30 p.m. May 1 at Holiday Inn Research Park (at the Madison Square Mall). The tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for college students. For more information, call the school 746-9206 or Janice Isbell 313-4216.

Society scholarships

Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society offers a college upperclassmen and graduate student scholarship. There are two \$2,000 awards for 2004-05. Applications are due by April 23. For more information, call Steve Parker 722-1039.

Children's block party

Child & Youth Services invites you to the Month of the Military Child "Block Party," April 24 from 1-4 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148 on Goss Road. For information go to www.redstonemwr.

Post Exchange news

The Post Exchange's Vitamix Total Nutrition Demonstration is April 30 through May 9. A Vitamix representative will be on hand to show you the value of healthy food preparation. Register to win a \$50 gift card while at the demonstration. May is National High Blood Pressure Awareness Month; and the PX will hold a Blood Pressure Clinic May 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fox Army Health Center representatives will be on hand to provide the blood pressure screening. Stop by and find out what you need to know and how to take proper care of yourself. Also, save 20 percent on blood pressure monitors all day. And pick up a free blood pressure guide compliment of the PX.

Multicultural choir

Rehearsal for the Redstone Multicultural Choir is April 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 2139, building 5302. For more information, call Carol Howard 876-3139.

Bone marrow drive

Redstone will hold a Bone Marrow Drive, May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711. All active duty military, active duty dependents, Defense Department civilians, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserve personnel ages 18 to 60 that are in good health are eligible at no cost. All that is involved is a small blood sample and a consent form. For more information call Jean Weisser 842-0343, the C.W. Bill Young/DoD Marrow Donor Program 1-800-MARROW-3 or visit the web site www.dodmarrow.com.

Astronomical society

NASA astronomer Dr. Bill Cooke will lead a tour of the night sky from the ancient Egyptian perspective Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Wernher Von Braun Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For non-

members, admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Weather permitting, a star party using the VBAS telescopes will follow. For information call Mitzi Adams 961-7626.

Red Cross youth volunteers

The Red Cross Youth Program at Fox Army Health Center is about to begin and will provide valuable experience to teens. The youth volunteers will be staffed throughout the health center and assist in clinics, the records room and in other areas. Teenagers 14 or older with valid military ID cards are eligible. Those interested in volunteering must call the Red Cross 536-0084, extension 210 to pre-register and then attend a training meeting June 1 at 9 a.m. at the Red Cross Chapter House, 1101 Washington St. Parents are encouraged to attend the meeting with their teenager.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold an information meeting on its weekend Master's of Business Administration degree program at 6 p.m. Thursday at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E at 102 Wynn Drive. Complete a master's degree in 18 months with classes on alternate weekends in Huntsville. The next class begins in October. For information call Bill Spade 800-672-7223, ext. 5046, or Bruce Pieper (256) 227-7899.

Waiting spouses

Waiting Spouses will go to "You're Fired," a paint your own pottery shop, this Saturday. For more information, call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397. Waiting spouses is going bowling April 24 from 5-9 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. The activity will cost \$6 and includes three games of bowling, shoe rental and the "Betty Burger" combo. Child care is provided free of charge. For more information and to RSVP for the event and child care, call Foster 876-5397.

Pageant auditions

Auditions for "Pageant" at Renaissance Theater, 1216 Meridian St., are April 24 at 1 p.m. and April 25 at 5 p.m. Directed by Lee Deal, roles are available for seven males, ages 18 and up. Those auditioning should prepare a short song (an accompanist will be provided). For more information, call 881-5387.

Law Day observance

The office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed to celebrate Law Day, Monday, May 3. If there is an emergency and you need to speak to an attorney, call Sgt. 1st Class Willard (256) 212-2005.

Space Camp scholarship

The Military Child Education Coalition is funding the 2004 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarship. Winning applicants will receive a full tuition to the five-day U.S. Space Camp, which includes meals, lodging, program materials and transportation. Applicants must be a child of an active duty military parent, be enrolled in grades 6 through 9, submit a handwritten essay

stating why he or she should be selected, submit two letters of recommendation, from other than relatives, with contact information, and complete and submit the application by May 17. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Richard Weber 876-9224.

Youth job fair

The 11th annual Youth Job Fair is Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville High gym. The job fair is sponsored by the Madison County Commission (phone 532-1505). This event will provide a convenient and safe means for youths 16 to college age to apply for summer jobs with off-post businesses. Bus transportation is available by calling 876-5437 or 876-5397 to reserve a seat. The bus will depart from the Youth Center at 8:30 and return at noon.

Missile munitions degree

The Missile Munitions Technology degree is a unique program existing between Calhoun Community College and Redstone Arsenal. Soldiers who have completed electronics or munitions training on Redstone may receive up to 42-semester hours of college credit toward this degree. This leaves only 7 to 8 college courses required for an associate degree. The Basic MMT exists for the Soldier with sufficient missile or munitions training on Redstone. Those who trained in a calibration military occupation specialty may get an MMT degree Option I Calibration; and those who have reached the 40 or 50 skill level in the electronics field may get an MMT degree Option II Technical Management. For more information, visit Calhoun's web site, www.calhoun.edu, or call John Lybarger 955-0976.

World War II veterans

A national memorial to World War II veterans will be dedicated in Washington, D.C., May 29 honoring the 16 million American servicemembers who served, fought and died. Today men and women from the "Greatest Generation" are living in every community throughout America, many of whom will be unable to participate in the formal celebration in Washington. They are equally deserving of the recognition and honor bestowed on those able to be in the nation's capital. For more information on the recognition day, visit <http://www.wwiimemorial.com>.

Train in concert

The 2004 Miller Lite Army Concert Tour, featuring Train and special guest Graham Colton, is coming to Redstone Arsenal on June 19. Discount tickets will be on sale for the Redstone community April 27-29 during the annual Redstone Appreciation Sale. Tickets are \$2 off the advance ticket price of \$15. Limit four per customer. If you can access Redstone Arsenal, buy your tickets at Sparkman Cafeteria, Redstone Lodging, and the ITR Center in building 3711 at the corner of Patton and Aerobee Roads. General admission tickets go on sale to the public at more locations May 1, according to Morale Welfare and Recreation.