

Redstone Rocket

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Coming soon a theater near you

Movie house
eyed for rerun

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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The big screen may make a return engagement to Redstone Arsenal.

Lack of patronage forced the Post Exchange to close its movie theater July 15, 1996. Now an effort is under way to open a contractor-operated movie house at an existing building.

"Right now we're soliciting with the local theater houses," PX general manager Kim Sumpter said at the RSA Community Town Hall Meeting held Oct. 14 at the Recreation Center. "The post is going to let us use an existing facility. The two proposed sites are Heiser

Hall (the former post theater) and Rocket Auditorium."

The old theater was a Post Exchange venture, but this will be a contractor venture where the business would pay the PX a fee for providing this service to the soldiers. And unlike the former operation which limited its patronage to soldiers and their families, this will be open to the entire Redstone community.

"It'll be a community theater which will be a great thing, a Redstone community theater," Sumpter said.

The theater won't have first-run flicks but will feature movies before they become available on DVD. Proposed show times include Fridays, two shows, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Saturdays, three shows, 4, 7 and 9 p.m.; and Sundays, three shows, 3, 5 and 7 p.m.

See Theater on page 5



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BACK TO THE FUTURE— Heiser Hall, formerly the post theater, is one of two proposed sites for a contractor-operated movie house.

President nominates Dodgen for third star



Photo by Skip Vaughn

GENERAL'S DESK— Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen arrived Sept. 10, 2001.

AMCOM commander
selected for assignment

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld announced Friday that the president has nominated Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen for appointment to lieutenant general and assignment as commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command, Arlington, Va.

The nomination is subject to Senate approval. Dodgen has served as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal since Sept. 10, 2001.

From 1999-2001, he was director of the Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Organization in the Pentagon.

Dodgen, 54, is a New Orleans native who received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Louisiana State University in 1972. He also holds a master's in public administration from the University of Missouri and a master's in national security and strategy from the U.S. Naval War College.

From June 1989 to December 1991, he commanded the 8th Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery; and he led his battalion into combat in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm.

His wife, Leslie, volunteers her time in the Redstone community with organizations such as Army Community Service.

All sand and no pizza

My son, Spec. John Mark Fuqua, is with the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, Texas, and is in Iraq. He drives a Bradley Fighting Vehicle. He recently sent an interesting letter (almost poetic) that I thought might make humorous reading, if you can print it.

Mark Fuqua
Scout/Attack Helicopters

Editor's note: Here's the text of the letter from Spec. John Mark Fuqua.

"The light is fading fast in this vast expanse of desert on the border between Iran and Iraq. Soon the sun will be gone, leaving a crescent moon not far behind in the west and a brilliant night sky flickering with thousands of stars. A million endless thoughts creep slowly through my mind as I sit here in my Coleman camp chair, wiping dust from my eyes and staring off into the mountains of Iran just a mile or two to the east. My Bradley is humming and rattling behind me, shading me from the setting sun. The wind, which must be 20 degrees cooler now, moves a piece of dirt in front of me which catches my eye and distracts me. Out here every little movement has meaning. Every little sound carries with it the prospect of the unknown. This is the reality of the combat zone. A reality which we face everyday and which challenges our sanity.

"I sit thinking not of the sand blowing in my eyes or the burning heat which we

must endure every day, but rather my thoughts are of road signs in English, pizza and McDonalds, or standing behind someone in line at the bank, telling the girl to hurry up. And I also think I'll never yell at the waiter again for putting eggs on my side salad at Texas Road House, or I'll never again be upset because once again McDonalds put pickles on my Quarter Pounder with cheese. The reality that conveniences exist to make our lives simpler, not to give us an excuse to vent when something goes wrong, is a reality or revelation commonplace to soldiers deployed to war. And we will be all the better for that when we return to our families — and pizza.

"Pizza! Now there's the focal point of my existence. I realize that all of life's eternal questions cease to exist upon the mention of pizza: Questions such as regular or premium? One lump or two? Democrat or Republican? Peanut or plain? Those are all very deep, emotional, thought provoking questions. But do they really matter? I say they all fall by the wayside at the mention of that delightful delicacy, that mouthful of mastication magnificence — namely pepperoni or sausage. Thin and crispy or deep dish? Pork or Italian sausage? But who cares? It's pizza! Just give it to me however it comes! Don't even bother to slice it; just wad it up and throw it in my mouth.

"Well, that's an update from the front lines. How's everything at home?"

Understanding goes both directions

In reading Mr. Chavez letter (Oct. 15), I detected a level of resentment for the South that represents the same bigotry that he is complaining about. It is troubling that there has to be a categorical feeling of resentment rather than regarding a person for who they are whether southern, or black, or Mexican, or simply from the North.

There was a time when establishing a home in America meant bringing in a productive trade of some type. Basically, you had to prove your worth by exhibiting some type of skill or method of supporting yourself and family. Now, some individuals come to America in order to take advantage of the welfare and free benefits that are offered. Every individual who comes here is not looking for government support but there are some who do. If each person came here desiring to be a productive citizen rather than immediately becoming a liability, there

would not be the resentment that we so often see.

The Army used to say "Be the Best You Can Be." I love that — what more can you say. If each of us would strive to be the best we can be, we wouldn't have to be experiencing the increase in crime or having to acknowledge there is a certain group of people being reported as committing crimes more often than others. Resentments are not always unfounded and there is room for improvement in each of us. This is definitely an individual thing and everyone should be held responsible for their own actions; race is not the problem — people are. Also, there are a lot of really nice people from the South; we're not all bigots as well as all the people from the North are not whatever the people from the South say they are.

Sarah Bryan

An open lane random survey

What did you do over the schools' fall break?

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

CWO 3 Curtis Blanchard,
95th Maintenance



"I took my kids to Disneyland with my wife. It was a vacation that we've been wanting. We finally had the money and everything to go and so we went."



Diane Bavis,
DoD civilian
"We went to Orlando to Disney World, Universal Studios and Sea World."

Maria West,
retired military spouse



"On the break, I went to Michigan and went fishing. I caught an almost 23 pound salmon."



CWO Tom Morris,
CLAWS Program

"We were recovering from the effects of Hurricane Isabel. We all had a couple days off and were recovering from the downed power lines and throwing out spoiled goods because we didn't have power."

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or

faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

Quote of the week

"Intellectuals solve problems;
Geniuses prevent them."
— Einstein

Redstone Rocket

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Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Oct. 10 — A contractor reported that someone removed a trailer from his work site which contained several thousand dollars worth of equipment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 10 — An employee at the Aviation and Missile Command reported that she lost her Common Access Card at an unknown location while at her workplace. A search of the area met with negative results.

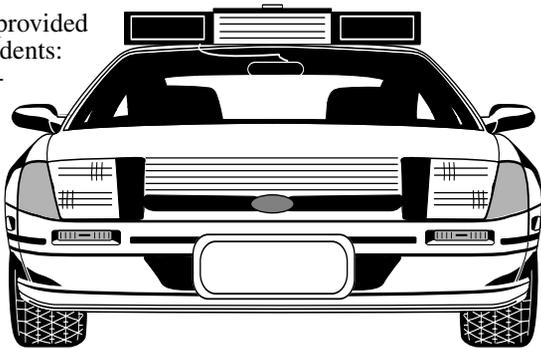
Oct. 10 — An employee at Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School reported that she lost her Common Access Card, Redstone Arsenal badge and Alabama driver's license at an unknown location while at her workplace. A search of the area met with negative results.

Oct. 11 — An individual was detained after she failed to stop at Gate 10 for an inspection and was pursued by officers from the Provost Marshal Office south on Patton Road into the igloo storage area where she lost control of her vehicle and drove off the roadway. The individual then abandoned her vehicle and ran from the scene. The individual was later found in the Col. Carroll Hudson recreation area. A check revealed that the individual was operating her motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and that she was wanted on several warrants issued by the Atalla Police Department. The individual was issued several violation notices and then released to members of the Atalla Police Department.

Oct. 13 — A contractor reported that someone removed several hundreds of dollars worth of equipment which was stored at the Von Braun Complex construction site. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 14 — An individual was detained during an inspection at Gate 1 after it was discovered that he had several arrest warrants, issued by the Madison Police Department outstanding. He was transported to the Provost Marshal Office where he was released to members of the Madison Police Department.

Oct. 14 — An individual was detained and issued a violation notice at the Post



Exchange after she was observed removing merchandise without rendering payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 14 — An employee at the Post Service Center reported that someone damaged a vehicle left for repairs by breaking the rear window. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 15 — An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a forged Alabama decal during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 15 — An individual was arrested after it was found that he was using his government issued computer to access and solicit who he believed was an underage person for sexual relations. Investigation continues by the Citrus County (Fla.) Sheriff's department and the Huntsville Police Department.

Oct. 15 — An individual was found to have a 9mm automatic handgun during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and the weapon was seized. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Oct. 16 — A contractor was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 3. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Violation notices issued: speeding, 15; no proof of liability insurance, 2; trespassing, 2; shoplifting, 1; reckless driving, 2; no license in possession, 1; failure to obey a traffic control device, 1; failure to display proper registration, 6; expired driver's license, 1; attempting to elude, 1; and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended/revoked driver's license, 2.

Getting to know you

By KIM MASON

Staff writer

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Name: Tommie Lemons

Job: Senior engineering technician
Hydraulic & Pneumatic Pressure, Physical Standards Laboratory

Where do you call home?

Huntsville, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

Being able to give the soldier the best and most accurate calibration and give them complete service. We do the best we can so they can do the best they can.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Playing tennis, reading, social work for house-to-house ministry.

What are your goals?

To work in quality management.

Follow operations security steps

GARRISON RELEASE

The operations security process consists of five steps designed to determine how adversaries may obtain your critical information in time to be of value to them and how you can keep that from happening.

- Identify critical information that must be protected. If you do not know what is critical to your organization, how will you know what to protect?

- Identify potential threats, their goals, capabilities and intentions, including manmade and natural disasters. Know the threats!

- Analyze your vulnerabilities to find

out where your organization may be making information available to adversaries. Is your unclassified sensitive information being reviewed prior to public release?

- Conduct a risk assessment. What considerations may your organization take to balance a vulnerability against a threat? Does the resultant risk warrant applying a countermeasure?

- Apply countermeasures to deny or reduce the availability of critical information to your adversaries. Simple, straightforward, procedural adjustments are the most effective countermeasures.

If you don't know your OPSEC processes, contact your organization's OPSEC officer today.

Retiring project manager applauds proven Patriot

Col. Tom Newberry
saw missile in action

By PAM ROGERS
For the Rocket

It's nearly unheard-of for a project manager to shepherd a weapon system through developmental and operational testing, production and fielding, and then have that very weapon save his life. But that's what happened to Col. Tom Newberry, the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense project manager.

About 15 minutes after he walked into the headquarters of the 32nd Air and Missile Defense Command at Camp Doha last March the first Iraqi tactical ballistic missile of the war was launched at U.S. forces at staging areas north of Kuwait City.

"I got to Doha about 9 a.m., found a bunk, changed into my uniform, and 15 minutes later the siren went off and the war was on. That night was when all the power went off in Baghdad.

"We knew almost immediately it was an actual engagement. Almost simultaneously the guys watching the monitors reported a target," he said. The target was an Iraqi Al-Samoud missile headed for a U.S. troop staging area. It was taken out by a Patriot GEM missile. Several days later, an Iraqi missile targeted Camp Doha itself.

"The Combined Forces Land Component Commander headquarters was across the street from the building we were working out of," Newberry recalled. CFLCC headquarters was the target of a ballistic missile attack at the outset of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

And for a guy who has had to steer his program through budget woes, unwieldy test schedules and constant nay-saying by critics of missile defense, the intercept felt pretty good.

"All the test data proved it would work, but it's one thing to test, and another thing to give it to soldiers and send it to war," he said.

"What makes it work is the soldiers. It's the 18- and 21-year-old kids sitting in the engagement control station, and the



Photo by Pam Rogers

SHORT TIMER— Col. Tom Newberry's change of charter and retirement ceremonies are scheduled 10 a.m. Oct. 31 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

warrant officers that kept it running. Those are the heroes, in my opinion."

And the people who continue to bash the system in the media — they're a different story. "It frustrates me when people who don't understand — don't have any insight into the details — make proclamations because it's sensational. They don't have to justify anything, just say it," he said. The official word on how Patriot performance has not yet been publicly released, and the pundits continue to make their thoughts heard in the meantime. When the performance numbers are released, Newberry expects them to speak for themselves.

In a few days, after three years of heading up the grandam of Team Redstone's project offices, Newberry is stepping down at the end of the month. He's been in Huntsville a total of 14 years, and has worked at the Space and Missile Defense Command, at the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, and was the Stinger product manager/acting Short Range Air Defense project manager and project

manager for Kinetic Energy Missiles, among other jobs. As far as he is concerned, he has just completed the best of all his assignments here.

Patriot has been around under one name or another for 38 years now, and the project office has survived numerous crushing blows, including the loss of several of its top scientists and managers in a fiery plane crash in Georgia in 1976, and the searing criticism of the missile's performance during Operation Desert Storm in 1991.

Newberry took the helm in September 2000 and realized almost immediately he would have to replan the test schedule for PAC-3, the newest version of the system. He oversaw five developmental and four operational tests, all done at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., except for the last operational test, carried out on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Despite a few glitches, the system successfully completed its operational testing and now production and fielding of the final component of the PAC-3 system, the intercept-

tor, is under way.

Throughout his tenure Newberry has understandably been the system's biggest champion, doggedly taking on all critics of the program and patiently explaining to a string of reporters the improvements and proven capabilities of Patriot.

"I'm very pleased with the program right now. I don't think things could be going any better," Newberry said.

And things are definitely going. In addition to the PAC-3 program, the project office is involved in the Patriot recapitalization program — completely overhauling legacy Patriot equipment that is older than some of the soldiers who use it, and working to integrate the Medium Extended Air Defense System, in partnership with Germany and Italy, into the Lower Tier project office. Newberry is on the road almost constantly, and relies on people back home to keep the program going. He asserts that if he didn't know how to delegate, he would be dead by now.

"This is my favorite job. Part of it is the people — the quality of the folks and the diversity of the program. You think about the upgrades to Patriot, the development of PAC-3, eight international partners and the Germans and Italians. The program life cycle is going on simultaneously — production, testing, fielding, sustainment, then throw a war in the middle ... it's never overwhelming. That's a state of mind. It's challenging. A guy who micro-managed this would have to commit suicide. You delegate the work to folks who can do it."

He credits the people who work for him, especially Sid Gaddy, his deputy, with bringing the project through the tough times and keeping it on track.

"You tell people what needs to be done, give them the authority and resources to accomplish it, then let them run and miracles start to happen."

Newberry has not yet announced his plans for after retirement, but he and his wife, Carla, do plan to reside in Huntsville.

Newberry's change of charter and retirement ceremonies are scheduled 10 a.m. Oct. 31 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Chemical specialist joins Reserve officer ranks

Kimberly Granger becomes 2nd Lt.

By Col. STEVE SPATOLA
For the Rocket

Spec. Kimberly Granger of the 4th Chemical Battalion, 100th Army Reserve Training Division was promoted Oct. 5 to second lieutenant in the Reserves.

Granger is an environmental engineer contractor in the Engineering, Environmental and Logistics Organization in support of AMCOM. Her supervisor at Titan Corporation is David Bonwit, a retired lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps.

Granger was working in the AMCOM Operations Center in January 2002 when she decided that she wanted to give something to her country in support of the global war effort. She enlisted in the Army Reserves with the help of SFC Steven Morgan, recruiter for the 81st Reserve Support Command. He has an office at the Army Reserve Center at 2720 Patton Road. Granger was on her way home and made a stop at the military recruiting center at 6125 University Drive and wanted to learn about the opportunities for enlistment in the Army Reserves.

Luckily for her an Army Reserve chemical unit is located in this area. She especially liked the student loan repayment benefits and the \$5,000 enlistment bonus for the military occupational specialty 54B, chemical operations specialist.

Shortly before she was to leave for basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., she announced to all the Army reservists in the AMCOM Operations Center that she was leaving to joining the Army. They were surprised but supportive.

Col. Steve Spatola talked to her about getting a direct commission when she returned from the basic and advanced training she was to receive. She had to wait one year before applying for a direct commission to gain some experience. She entered basic training as a specialist because she had a bachelor's degree. She actually has a master's in chemistry that benefited her advanced training requirements.



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Edwin Rudolph
GOOD AS GOLD— 2nd Lt. Kimberly Granger sports her new second lieutenant bars.

When she returned from training in September 2002, she joined her assigned unit. With the help of Morgan with the required paperwork and the support of her S-1, Capt. Chandra Roberts, she submitted the paperwork required. Spatola and his staff wrote several letters of recommendation to the 81st RSC convening board on behalf of then Spec. Granger. It took about nine months for the procedure of interviews, missing documentation and updates to get the final approval.

Granger was sworn in Oct. 5 with the battalion in formation, as a new second lieutenant (Chemical Corps), by battalion commander Lt. Col. James Pickett. Spatola then pinned her gold bar on her collar and gave some words to the members of the battalion on seeking leaders from within their unit.

The 4th Chemical Battalion seeks more people like Granger. If interested call Morgan at 535-6223.

Editor's note: Col. Steve Spatola is director of the AMCOM Operations Center.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Departing Guardsmen

From left PFC Jamie Terrell, Spec. Robert Gilley and Spec. Gary Seal were among the departing members of the 2117th Ordnance Company who were honored Friday at a farewell ceremony in the Recreation Center. The 33 National Guardsmen were thanked for helping to augment Redstone security. Other members of the 2117th remain on duty at the perimeter gates.

■ Curtain rises on proposed movie theater

Theater

continued from page 1

"The only way that it'll work is if the entire community will patronize it," Sumpter said. The theater idea was revived during a community forum.

"We're going to need everybody's support," Col. Bob Devlin, the garrison commander, said.

Regal and Carmike own the theaters in Huntsville. Ann Mims of the PX said phone numbers for their corporate offices were forwarded to the Army and Air

Force Exchange Service to inquire if the corporations were interested in providing movies at Redstone.

In other business, Dwain Elder, chief of operations division at Directorate of Public Works, gave updates on current and future projects including the residential communities initiative, family housing replacement and the Von Braun Complex. In family housing replacement — under a \$12.6 million contract awarded in fiscal 1999 — all 118 of the enlisted family housing units have been completed and only some landscaping remains.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WELCOME— Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin welcomes attendees at the town hall meeting.

Two civilian retirees tap into sense of duty

Volunteer buglers perform during military funerals

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

Few images can touch the heart and bring a tear to the eye like that of a lone bugler standing solemnly over the grave of a soldier while the mournful notes of Taps wash over those gathered to pay their last respects. It is an honor accorded to servicemembers, a final thank you for the service they provided and the sacrifices they made in the name of their country. But the bugle is an instrument that is fading into obscurity as time and technology march on. The Redstone funeral detail team is proud to have had two buglers join their ranks last summer.

Jim Weaver and John Williams take turns playing the historic song at services. Before they stepped forward, the funeral team was forced to use a CD recording played from a boom box. While doing so complied with all regulations, it was a source of nervousness for team members.

"With the CD player, if the weather is not good or it is misty out there, you can't depend on that thing playing," Sgt. Maurice Conner, the outgoing NCO-in-charge for the team, said. "Several times we had it out there and it just didn't want to play."

Having a living, breathing person with an instrument puts the team at greater ease when the time comes for them to perform their duties. Sgt. Craig Mitchell, outgoing funeral team leader, also believes that a recording cannot compete with the raw emotion of the real thing.

"I think it gives more authentic emotional feeling to the ceremony and it gives the family a little more," he said. "It shows a little more appreciation, too, for their next of kin and what they've accomplished in the military, whether it's a veteran, a retiree or a person who died on active duty."

Both Williams and Weaver are happy to perform their somber duty.

"I never thought I would be doing this at this time of my life," Williams said.

"But it's something that I enjoy doing and it is an honor to sound Taps for these funerals."

The funeral team is also proud to have them. "We want to give the best performance we can possibly give," Mitchell said. "Mr. Williams and Mr. Weaver volunteer for this and we really appreciate them. They have played an intricate role in our success. They have been a big help."

Weaver began his bugling days as a small boy, admiring the shiny instrument of another child. When he began crying after an altercation with a bigger boy, the child with the bugle let him try it to silence his tears. "I started to squall and Randy came over with his bugle because those were the days when we didn't have air conditioning and the windows were all up," he said. "It wasn't going to be long before a bunch of mothers came to see what was wrong. So he came around there and said he'd let me play the bugle."

After producing what he terms a terrible racket, Weaver wanted a bugle of his own. He saved his allowance and for \$4.99 he ordered his first bugle from the Sears & Roebuck catalog. Later in high school, he performed for several military funerals. He retired from Raytheon in 1999.

Williams, who retired from Aviation and Missile Command last year, also began by making the acquaintance of a boy who played. In high school he befriended a new student who lent him his instrument. The next term, a band was formed at school. Williams joined and has been playing since. During his high school years, he played at the funeral of a Korean War veteran. It was his first military funeral performance. His second came in June when he joined the funeral detail.

When they heard of the shortage of buglers and that Redstone's team was being forced to use prerecorded music, both men felt it was their duty to step forward.

"It's kind of cold, in my mind, to use a recording," Williams said. "The recording may be perfectly played — I certainly don't play it perfect every time, though I strive to — but sometimes a little bit of emotion comes through when a live



Photo by Kelley Lane

STEPPING FORWARD— John Williams, left, and Jim Weaver volunteer to play Taps for funeral services on either bugles or trumpets.

bugler is playing and it fits in."

Since joining the team, they have performed at more than a dozen services. They have found it to be a rewarding experience and urge others who play the bugle or trumpet to come forward and participate.

"We know the majority of them have

jobs and are not free to just take off this afternoon like I am and go play," Weaver said. "But we think there may be some more of us retirees who might be willing to do this and we want to put out a call for them."

Those wishing to volunteer can call casualty assistance coordinator Jean Manley at 876-3148.

Veterans recognize Madison resident

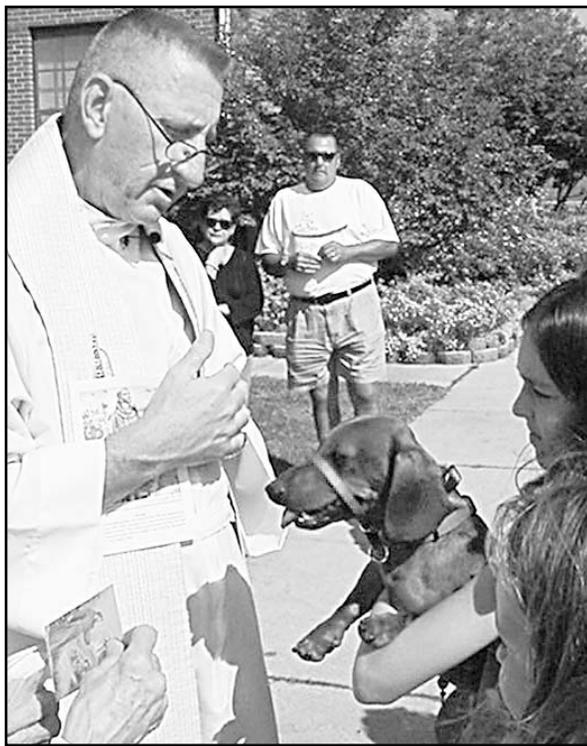
Todd Alkire of Madison has received a certificate of achievement from Post 5162 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The South Huntsville Post recognized him for his help in VFW's annual sponsorship and support to the National Wild Turkey Federation of North Alabama's fifth annual safety program in August at

the Auburn Research Farm in Limestone County. A record 362 children, ages 6-18, attended. Twelve members of the post participated in the safety program.

Post commander John Schmitz presented the certificate to Alkire at the group's September general membership meeting.

Chapel celebrates Blessing of Animals



Courtesy photo

SHARING PRAYER— Chaplain (Col.) Michael Chilen blesses one of the many pets at the chapel's observance.

By **DAVE MACEDONIA**
For the Rocket

Bicentennial Chapel celebrated its annual Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 4. The Blessing of the Animals has been celebrated at the chapel for more than 20 years. More than 50 chapel patrons attended. Chaplain (Col.) Michael Chilen blessed more than 42 dogs, five cats, four horses and one mule and numerous stuffed toy animals.

Oct. 4 is recognized by the Catholic Church as the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. Founder of the Franciscans, and patron saint of animals, St. Francis lived in Italy from 1181 to 1226.

Francis came from a wealthy Italian family. After a traumatic war experience, he began giving food and money to any beggar he encountered. This displeased his father greatly. Francis visited hospitals and minis-

tered to the sick, giving away money freely. His father disinherited Francis. Francis then gathered a group of men of like mind. They agreed to take a vow of poverty and preach penance. Francis referred to all creatures as brothers, and legend has it that he preached to the animals.

In his honor, a life-affirming ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals is celebrated at many Christian churches.

"The Blessing of the Animals reminds us of the sacredness of all life, and provides an opportunity to celebrate the animals who share our lives," Debra Brazzel of Duke University said.

Following Chilen's individual blessings, each animal was treated to packaged animal food while their owners were treated to cake and punch.

Take these steps for trick-or-treating safety

PROVOST MARSHAL/GARRISON SAFETY RELEASE

It's that time again when children enjoy dressing up and roaming the neighborhoods in search of some of their favorite candy. Halloween trick-or-treating hours on post are 5:30-8 p.m. Oct. 31.

Here are some things you can do to help make this Halloween safer for everyone:

- ✓ Ensure pathways to your residence are well lit.
- ✓ Use clothing or a costume that allows others to see your child from a safe distance (reflective markings or tape).
- ✓ Inspect your children's candy before they eat it.
- ✓ Make sure your child walks or rides around with other children and not alone.
- ✓ Adults are required to accompany and supervise young children.
- ✓ Carry a flashlight.
- ✓ Obey traffic signals.
- ✓ Stay in familiar neighborhoods.
- ✓ Don't cut across lawns.
- ✓ Stay on sidewalks.
- ✓ Walk, don't run.
- ✓ Make sure costumes don't drag the ground.

Drivers should drive slowly all evening. The provost marshal will provide additional motor patrols, walking patrols and bicycle patrols as available.

Black Hawk pilots flying by the seat of their laptops

Knowledge office builds electronic data base

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

Manuals that come with electronic equipment can be hard to understand. Could you wade through to locate exactly what you need when you need it? Thanks to the Knowledge Engineering Project Office, troops working with the Black Hawk helicopter don't have to anymore.

The office staff has spent the last six years compiling crucial information, packaging it neatly into a web page, CD and next, into a DVD. They were the first to undertake such a project, earning them an Army Integrated Logistic Support Achievement of the Year award from the Pentagon in 1999.

With all the technical equipment that makes up a Black Hawk, the paper manual has gotten steadily larger and more complex. The additional bulk makes transporting and using the manual more cumbersome. In an environment where precious moments cannot be spent turning pages, a searchable electronic manual saves time better dedicated to the mission. That means less downtime for equipment and a higher rate of readiness. The difference is being proven in Iraq. The CD ver-

sion of the knowledge data base has been fielded with the 101st Airborne deployed to Iraq.

"We got an e-mail from them stating that during the time they've been over there, they have experienced 400 hours more flying time per aircraft than all their sister units," Darwin Oberlander, knowledge engineer, said. "They attribute it to the fact that rather than having literally tons of paper manuals, they have everything they need in a way that's searchable and meaningful to them."

The CD and web site are set up identically, making it easier for users to go between the two.

"Think of an M16. The trigger and housing is identical in form and feel to every other M16 and in theory, the parts are interchangeable," Oberlander said. "We want to have that interoperability and that instant look and feel. 'Oh, yeah. I recognize this' and without even thinking about it they know exactly where they need to go."

Updates and more information pertaining to the Black Hawk are added to the web site as quickly as received, or when specific needs are expressed by users. It can be downloaded and added to the existing CD or users can compile their own CD manual, customized to their needs. This makes it valuable not only to the soldiers in the field, but also to the many offices that deal with the Black Hawk. With the

helicopter in widespread use throughout the Department of Defense, the needs of users vary. With the web site, they can choose what they need.

There is so much information pertaining to the Black Hawk that even a CD cannot hold it all. The Knowledge Engineering Office sees the DVD as the next logical step. A DVD holds roughly seven times more information than a standard compact disc. The CD manual holds only a portion of the total information data base. Their supplemental CD holds another portion.

"Ultimately, we're going to make a DVD available with everything," Oberlander said. Soldiers in the field may not have the necessary hardware yet. As they receive the equipment, use of the DVD will become more common.

Electronic manuals should improve

readiness, according to Oberlander. "With split operations, a unit may have 10, 15 or 20 aircraft. Part of the aircraft go in one direction geographically, the other part go somewhere else. They may not be back to home base," he said. "Well, they have to have their manuals with them and everything else to do their maintenance. They can't very well do their maintenance if they don't have that. When they have it on a notebook computer, they have it with them."

Technology and equipment for the Black Hawk is constantly growing and changing, as are the needs of those who use and maintain them. Oberlander sees the data base project as doing the same.

"This is never an end state. It is a journey," he said. "We're always evolving, making this thing more current, faster, better and smarter."



Photo by Kelley Lane

WEB SITE REVIEW— Darwin Oberlander, standing third from left, surveys the web site with other members of the Knowledge Engineering Project Office.

Soldiers see benefits from electro-optic test facility

New equipment released to field

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

Ensuring that soldiers have the most advanced and best maintained equipment in the world is what AMCOM is all about. The release of the new Electro-Optic Test Facility means soldiers can now perform tests on both electronic and optics equipment for current and future force weapons systems.

"This new equipment means no more 'coming back later' to determine what is wrong. Instead soldiers can do it now! Now, not later," Brig. Gen. Roger Nadeau, program executive officer for combat support and combat service support, said at the Oct. 15 ceremony. The event made official the fielding and handoff for sustainment of the equipment from the program executive office to the Aviation and Missile Command.

Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, AMCOM commander, also mentioned the immediate capabilities the Electro-Optic Test Facility provides, noting that it makes maintenance viable to the situation. Dodgen's signature at the ceremony means the equipment can now be fielded to the soldier. Twenty-seven units have been produced, and the first will be received by the 1st Cavalry Division's 615th Aviation Support Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas.

The units are housed in two environmentally controlled shelters mounted on (and can be relocated from) five-ton trucks. "The EOTF is transportable by C-130, which means it can go anywhere our soldiers go," Curtis Snider, EOTF project leader for the Electro-Optic Test Facility, said.

In addition to meeting the transportability needs of the current and future force, it also offers improved technical capabilities.

"The Electro-Optic Test Facility has the capability to totally replace the Base Shop Test Facility that supports many current force systems such as Multiple Launch Rocket System, Avenger, Paladin, and TOW missile. However, the Base Shop Test Facility configuration only tested electronics, and not optics," Snider said. "By adding optics, we enhance the number of systems this facility can support."

The new capability gives the Army the opportunity to fully support future systems plus the existing force systems. "The immediate benefit for the Army is that we now have the ability to organically support Kiowa Warrior, OH-58, Mast Mounted Sight Optics as well as the Apache, AH-64, Target Acquisition Display System/ Pilot Night Vision System," Snider said.

SSgt. William Sauerwald, an Electro-Optic Test Facility instructor for the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, said the facility consolidates more than 48 pieces of commercial test equipment capabilities into one integrated system. He praised the simplicity of operating the facility, and the complexity and thoroughness of the work it does. "We just attach the test station to the piece



Photo by Kim Mason

IT'S OFFICIAL— Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, AMCOM commander, signs a material release for the Electro-Optic Test Facility, while Brig. Gen. Roger Nadeau, program executive officer for combat support and combat service support, observes.

that is failing and run it to see what's wrong with the item," he said. The facility includes a touch screen and visual read-out which allow for ease of operation.

Snider summed up why the facility is so important to the soldiers deployed in the War against Terrorism and maintaining the world's best fighting equipment. "The soldiers, both fighters and maintainers, know that having mobile and effective organic support equipment will enable them, after a maintenance is identified, to fly again soon, shoot again soon, and communicate again soon, thus helping to improve every weapon system's readiness to fight and protect," he said.

As an instructor for the Electro-Optic Test Facility, Sauerwald has already trained more than 35 soldiers to operate the new, state-of-the-art equipment. Training is just one of the many responsibilities associated with the new equipment that was performed by Team Redstone. AMCOM's Deputy to the Commander for Systems Support, Integrated Materiel Management Center, Acquisition Center, and Legal and Safety Offices all played a part in the development and production of the system.

AMCOM not only played a role in developing the system, but it is also the system sustainment manager and a user. The Aviation Center Logistics Command Center at Fort Rucker is managed by AMCOM, and it will use the new system to keep both the Kiowa Warrior and Apache helicopters electronic and optics systems operational, according to Snider. "It will test the line replaceable units in both helicopters, so this will be major step forward in improving the efficiency of our helicopter training and maintenance," he said.

The Combined Arms Support Command, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Armaments RDEC, Logistics Support Activity, Redstone Technical Test Center, and Program Executive Office for Aviation also supported development and prepared the sustainment plan. Contractor production and engineering support was provided by Analytical Services Inc., Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems,



Photo by Kim Mason

DEMONSTRATION— SSgt. William Sauerwald, an Electro-Optics Test Facility instructor, demonstrates the new equipment at the Worldwide Ordnance Corps and Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Conference.

and Science Applications International Corp.

Congratulating the team for the development and production of the Electro-

Optic Test Facility, Dodgen said he had the easy part. "They did all the hard work — I'm just here to let you know it functions as it should."

Police academy: the sequel

Former MP returns to academy to qualify for special Army team

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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Being a PT fanatic really paid off for Levern Wilson. Five months ago, the 45-year-old military retiree found himself back at the academy hoofing those middle of the night “motivational runs” alongside cadets half his age.

Keeping up with the young ’uns wasn’t a problem, according to Wilson, who spent 20 years in the Army’s Military Police Corps. “They said I was the best shape old man they’d ever seen. It wasn’t hard really. It reminded me a little of boot camp.”

Wilson retired from service in 2000 but when he learned of a civilian position on Redstone’s Special Reaction Team (the military equivalent to S.W.A.T.), he was ready to return to police work, even if it meant going through the police academy, again.

“If you’re out of police work for more than six months, you’re required to attend an accredited academy to reenter the field,” he said. “I could have gone to a federal academy because SRTs are federal, but in my opinion, Huntsville’s police academy is one of the top 10 in the U.S. Good instructors, discipline, physical training. And it was good to be able to learn things on the state level.”

Even after 20 years of law enforcement, Wilson did pick up a few new techniques he found very valuable — the most important was learning to shoot with both eyes open.

“I’ve been taught all along to aim with one eye closed,” Wilson said. “The Army teaches that. It’s the way I’ve always done it but now they’re training officers to hit

the target with both eyes open. That way you have use of your peripheral vision on both sides. You can see movement you couldn’t with one eye shut.”

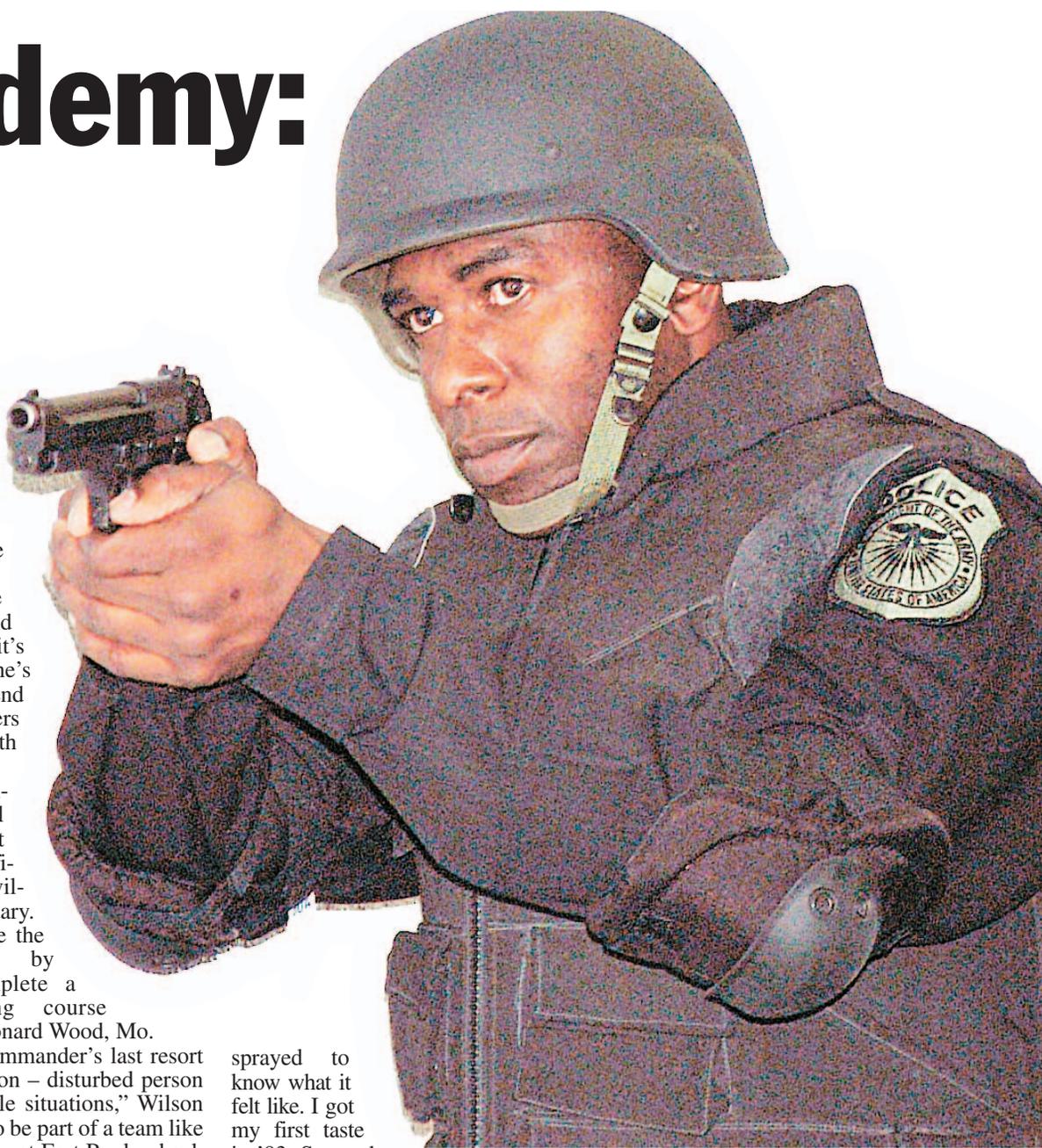
It will take time to retrain himself and build accuracy but it’s worth it. In fact, he’s going to recommend that all SRT members learn to shoot with both eyes open.

Redstone is forming its Special Reaction Team that will include 10 officers — six DoD civilian and four military. The goal is to have the team assembled by March, then complete a two-week training course together at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

“An SRT is a commander’s last resort in a difficult situation — disturbed person in a building, hostile situations,” Wilson said. “I’ve wanted to be part of a team like this since I saw them at Fort Rucker back in the ‘80s. It takes almost constant training and frequent qualifying on several types of weapons. But if there ever is a situation that we do have to react, I want to be the person to react to it.”

He wanted to be a part of it so much that he was willing to go back to the beginning.

“The worst part (of academy training) was getting OC sprayed again,” Wilson said. “When it first came out, everyone had to get



sprayed to know what it felt like. I got my first taste in '93. Sprayed in the face. It's awful. You can't keep your eyes open; you have difficulty breathing. There are a few people it doesn't affect at all. Unfortunately, I'm not one of them.”

Wilson graduated from the Huntsville Police Academy Sept. 12. He's hoping to spend a little more time with his wife, Ruthie, a staffing specialist at South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, and their 15-year-old daughter, Nekia, who plays soccer at Bob Jones High.

Photo by Sandy Riebeling

GUN DRAWN— Levern Wilson, former MP and a member of the Army's Special Reaction Team, demonstrates proper technique for securing a building.

The couple's son, 1st Lt. Marquis Wilson, is an Army Apache pilot deployed to Iraq since August.

Star-studded *present*

City donates 3 homes for general officers

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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New homes are worth the wait — especially when they're gifts.

A ribbon cutting was scheduled Oct. 21 for three new general officer quarters donated to Redstone by the city of Huntsville. Officials have renamed the end of Wadsworth Drive as Cribbins Court; and these new homes are on Cribbins Court.

"The city of Huntsville has set up a group called the Federal Building Authority and they have made a collective gift to the Army of three new general officer housing units," Joe Davis, chief of master planning division in the Directorate of Public Works, said. "There will be an open house to the general populace of the Arsenal on the 22nd (from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.) and 23rd (from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)."

Total cost for the project was \$1,050,000. The city gave the money to the Federal Building Authority, led by Bob Ludwig, which in turn hired the Huntsville-Madison County Builders Association. The association used two of its builders, Garber Construction Company and Reeves Custom Homes, both of Huntsville, to build these houses.

Quarters 1, the new commanding general's house, is 4,295 square feet. The two side houses on the cul-de-sac are 3,805 square feet apiece. Quarters 2 is to be occupied by Maj. Gen. Joe Bergantz, the program executive officer for aviation; and quarters 3 will be the home of the new PEO for tactical missiles.

"The first two units actually will be complete the 21st of October," Davis said last week. "The third unit will be completed by the 15th of November."

Dwain Elder, chief of operations division at Directorate of Public Works, outlined the plans during the community town hall meeting Oct. 14.

"We are real excited about these (houses)," Elder said. "These are top quality. They have every amenity you can think of, so the city has done a great job for us."

Harry Garber owns Garber Construction Company; and Tim Reeves leads Reeves Custom Homes.

Ludwig, the federal building authority chairman, said the city's effort started about eight years ago after the first base realignment and closure. "It started with a discussion with the guys that really worked that first BRAC, that there were areas that the Arsenal here needed to shore up," he said. "One of them was the Martin Road extension, which is now done. And the other one was the lack of adequate general officer quarters."

The mayor formed a committee to find a way for the city to contribute new quarters to the Army which was considered unprecedented. After years of legal roadblocks, officials

figured how several years ago to get state legislation written to enable the city to form a federal building authority.

Money for this project came from funds that were originally to widen Mastin Lake Road in Huntsville. The state agreed to up its investment in the road project, enabling the city to move more than \$1 million to the federal building authority.

"Our purpose is to try to support the military and base efforts" from an economic development standpoint, Ludwig said.

"We actually constructed the homes," Larry Myrick, president of the Huntsville-Madison County Builders Association, said. "We paid all the bills. Of course the authority did the financing. We selected two of our members — Harry Garber and Tim Reeves — to actually construct the homes."

The two-story brick homes have four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Quarters 1, brick with stone accents, has three and a half baths. The kitchen features granite counter tops, stainless-steel appliances, custom-built maple cabinets and ceramic tile flooring. There are hardwood floors in the great room, dining room and study; and ceramic tile in all the bathrooms.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BRICK AND STONE— The two-story house, brick with stone accents, has four bedrooms and three and a half baths.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

QUARTERS 1 – This will be the home of the commanding general.

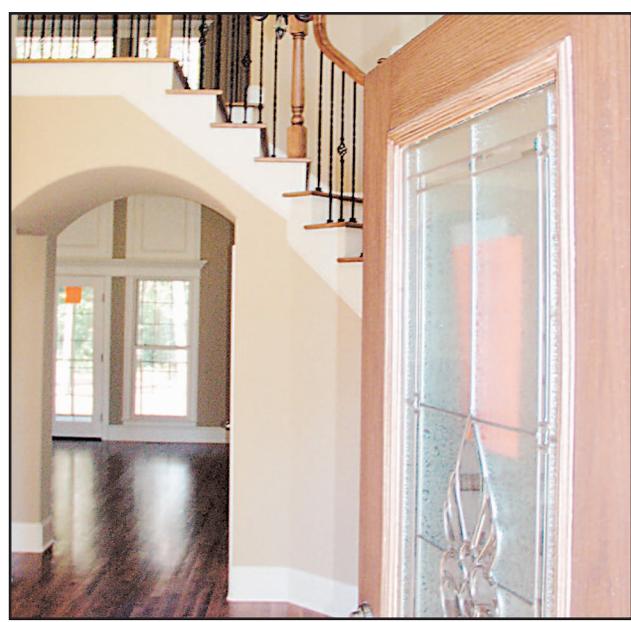


Photo by Skip Vaughn

WELCOME— An open house is planned for today and Thursday.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

KITCHEN— The kitchen features granite counter tops, stainless-steel appliances, custom-built maple cabinets and ceramic tile flooring.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WELL LIT— The chandelier adds a touch of class.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WALK-THROUGH— Joe Davis, in white shirt and tie, leads a walk-through of the new homes.



Photo by Skip Vaughn
ON SHELF— There is plenty of shelf space and closet area.

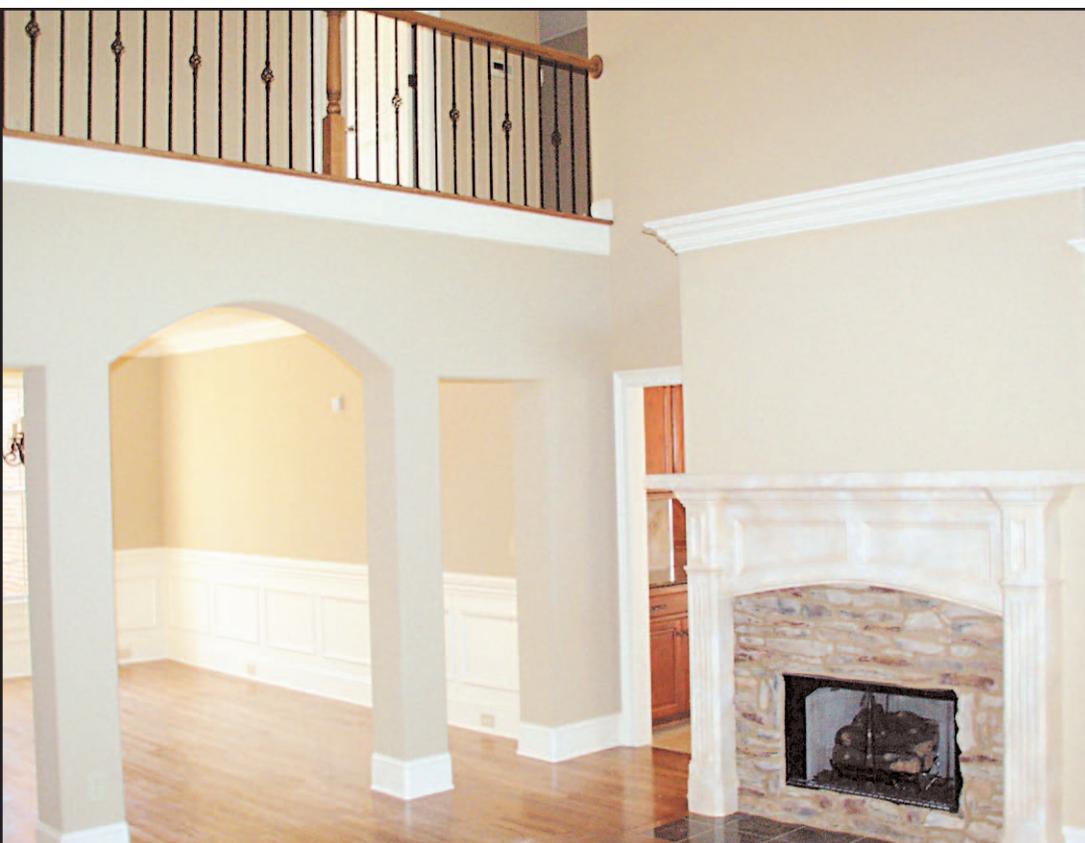


Photo by Skip Vaughn

STAY WARM— The home includes a fireplace.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CLEAN LIVING— All the bathrooms have ceramic tile.



Photo by Kim Mason

Aircraft 101

Aviation and Missile Command and PEO-Aviation workers get a close look at the only flying AH-1G Cobra helicopter in the world. Army Aviation Heritage Foundation president Mike Brady flew the helicopter to the Sparkman Center on Oct. 14. The foundation educates the public about Army aviation in hopes of reconnecting people to their past. For more information, call 876-4142.

Tactical program delivered to Army

GENERAL DYNAMICS RELEASE

General Dynamics Decision Systems welcomed visiting executives, representatives from the Army program office, and community leaders Sept. 30 to celebrate the successful completion of delivery of the Tactical Operations Center program to the Army.

The TOC program provides the Army with fully-integrated communications, information management, and computing

equipment so that battle commanders can make decisions based on real-time information in the field of operation. The TOC units have been designed, integrated and tested in Huntsville by an expert engineering, operations, and quality assurance team followed by fielding of the units at Fort Hood, Texas. The four and a half year old program contributed to the creation of more than 100 local jobs with a program value of more than \$100 million.

Students learn Army lessons for successful living

AFTB graduates 32 in level I, largest class in recent history

By **SANDY RIEBELING**
 Staff writer
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Barbara Hayes married SSgt. Dana Hayes while he was on leave in April. They had two weeks together before he returned to his post in Korea. Barbara lived in Jasper and expected to stay there until Dana's return this summer but his tour was extended for three months and her lease on their house, wasn't.

That's when she decided to move to Redstone.

"I went to ACS when I first got here," Hayes said. "My husband showed me where it was when we came here together. He said, 'This is where you go when you need help.'"

Army Community Service provided her with more than she bargained for and according to Hayes, has changed her life dramatically.

"I went there to get directions," she said. "I needed to go to housing and Self Help. But one of the problems was that even when I found the place I was looking for, I couldn't do business because I didn't understand Army lingo - all the acronyms. I really wanted to learn how everything works but my husband wasn't here to explain things."

Enter, Larry Leggett, quality of life program manager at ACS. "The first time we talked he told me about Army Family Team Building," she said.

"This program was designed for people like Barbara," Leggett said. "It was started back in the early 1990s because of lessons learned from the Gulf War. Families weren't prepared for the sudden separation and they weren't sure where to go to find answers. AFTB helps families become self-reliant. It gives them an education on Army life and empowers them with the knowledge they need to gain confidence and become independent."

The program is divided into three levels. Hayes attended the level I class Sept. 23-25, which is geared for the new military spouse and as a refresher for the more experienced military spouses.

It does everything from explaining how to read a leave and earnings statement to teaching basic rules, like the fact that if



Photo by Sharon Samuelson

GROWING FAMILY— Larry Leggett, Quality of Life program manager, celebrates with PFC McKinley McBride and his wife, Kelley, both level I graduates of Army Family Team Building.

you leave Redstone, you'd better have your military ID with you so you can get back on post.

"I didn't worry about having my ID with me because I never lived on a post," Hayes said. "One day I decided to go to the Commissary and do a little shopping but when I drove by, they were closed so I just drove on out the gates and went to Wal-Mart. When I got back, I couldn't get on post. I had to call someone I knew to come get me. I found out later that I would have needed my ID to shop anyway. This is a whole new lifestyle. Having a program like AFTB makes it so much easier to live it."

Hayes isn't the only grateful graduate of the most recent level one class. Kelley McBride and her husband PFC McKinley McBride were among the 32 AFTB students. And like Hayes, it was a life changing experience.

"Ooooh, I'm so glad I went," Kelley said. "I learned so much. Now I'm the one explaining to my husband how things work. And the money you can save by just knowing how to read his LES ..."

The list of benefits just keeps going for Kelley, who was reluctant to even attend the class initially.

"My husband had to attend so he asked me to come with him," she said. "I didn't want to go, but we support each other. That's why our marriage works. It sounded like I'd have to sit through three long nights of a bunch of boring lectures but it wasn't like that at all. By the second night, I was the one ready to go early."

The majority of the students listed Benefits and Entitlements as the most useful topics covered in the course. Acronyms was listed as a favorite among several. Kelley was excited about it all — especially the discussion on moving. The family will report to Fort Polk, La., in December.

"I learned so much about the move we're going to make," she said. "How that I could have had our stuff in storage for free but we've been paying rental fees because we didn't know."

The couple have been married six years, but in the Army since April.

"When he was finally able to move off post and live here, we didn't realize he was still paying the meal deduction but he didn't have to," Kelley said. "He was eating at home now. Because I didn't know how to read the LES, I didn't know what all that meant. All I knew was base pay and BAH. After the class, we figured out what everything meant on the LES and had the deduction taken off."

Once a little bit of the knowledge paid off, Kelley was on a roll. She started investigating the process of moving, getting all the information about options and what expenses are allowed.

"I learned how important it is not to wait until the last minute to call for a moving truck," she said. "And the other day, when McKinley came home, I told him we wouldn't have to sleep in our car. I can actually call and get a reservation at the Magnolia house. He looked at me and said, 'What's the Magnolia House?'"

"I'm so glad we took the class," she said. "I don't have to go to Louisiana blind. I can go with sight and knowledge. I know how to start planning now. I feel like I can conquer the world."

It's a sentiment shared by Hayes as well. Both graduates were so excited about all they learned, they began working through the level II course online so that they could attend the AFTB instructor training class Oct. 20-23.

"The course has been so helpful," Hayes said. "It's the reason I want to volunteer to help other people get their answers. I want to be a part of ACS because of the great support they give. I learned about the Enlisted Spouses Club and the Waiting Spouses Club from them. I've made all my friends through ACS and what I've learned there. I want to be able to do the same for others like me."

Kelley was in the same situation. She didn't know anyone when they moved to Huntsville. "I didn't know how to meet other people in the same environment. It was frustrating for me at first because I didn't understand why my husband didn't call me every night and write every day while he was in basic. Then I learned a little about what training is like and why he couldn't call or write sometimes."

"I'm very proud of my certificate," she said. "I'm looking forward to becoming an instructor. It's hard not knowing. I've been there. Now I want to help others. And our instructors were so great — all of them. And we learned so much. None of it was that boring lecture type stuff. We laughed and had fun."

"You'll never know what you're missing until you step out and do something," Kelley said. "Take this class. You won't regret it."

The next level I AFTB class is Nov. 18-20. For more information about the program or a schedule of classes, including levels II and III, call Leggett at 876-5397.

Corrosion demo gets good review

SPARTA RELEASE

Battalion maintenance officer CWO 4 Robin Coutts arranged corrosion demonstration training for the Patriot Missile System Battalion, 1st 203 ADA Patriot Battalion, on Oct. 3.

The training was conducted by the Sparta Corrosion Program Team headed by Marlon Turner. Coutts, MSgt. Charles Doyle, and Spec. Colton Dempsey attended the demonstration and were receptive to the idea of corrosion prevention.

Col. Walt Lorcheim, Lt. Col. Robert Rivas, PEO ASMD; Steven Carr, AMCOM corrosion program manager; and CWO 4 Thomas Lafontaine of SHORAD also gave their support to the demonstration. The most current technology and tools to prevent corrosion were shown.

"Special thanks to Ted Connolly of 3M Corporation, Tom Tull of So Sure Inc. and Jim McArdle of PRC-Desoto for their support in providing the products and material to conduct the demonstration," Turner said.

Event gives fair opportunity for career

Job search help
available Nov. 13

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE RELEASE

There are many opportunities available today to help you search for employment but nothing can compare to meeting employers face-to-face.

If you are looking for a new job or a career change, make plans to attend the Job Fair, Nov. 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center, building 3711.

This event, sponsored by Army Community Service, is open to all active and retired military spouses, veterans, guards, reservists and sponsoring employees. It will provide a unique opportunity to meet with many local employers in one place at one time. So, it's a time efficient way to search for employment, make valuable contacts, hand deliver resumes to prospective employers and save substantial money on mailing out resumes.

Here are some of the companies that

have confirmed their participation: Alabama State Employment Service, Palco Telecom Service, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Redstone Federal Credit Union, BAE Systems Analytical Solutions, Sears, Comcast, Snelling Personnel Services, ECHOTA Research & Science, Volunteers of America, Jacobs Sverdrup Technology, West TeleServices, and Nonappropriated Funds CPO.

Making the most out of the Job Fair will require more than just showing up and handing out resumes. The hard part takes place before the job fair. The following tips are provided to help you prepare.

- Check the list of participating employers. Target the companies that you are interested in applying with and research them before the job fair.

- Ensure that your resume is updated.

- Dress professionally but comfortably.

- Be positive, enthusiastic and maintain a friendly attitude toward all employ-

ers and participants. (You never know who may be watching.)

- Expect to spend 3-5 minutes with each employer. Be familiar with your background and "sell yourself" — give employers reasons why they should hire you. Describe how your qualifications, accomplishments and applicable skills will benefit the company.

- Collect business cards and take notes on what you learned after visiting each employer. It shows interest and could be useful during your second interview or for your followup letter.

- Write thank you notes to employers within 4-5 days after the job fair. Let them know you are interested in the position. Follow up 2-3 weeks later with a phone call to check on the availability of the position and to express continued interest.

ACS will offer job search workshops Oct. 23, 30 and Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon to provide tips on resume writing and interviewing. Call Debra Jefferson at 876-5397 to register.

Smile and brush up on dental hygiene

By KATHY BROWN and HOWARD JACOBSON
Redstone Dental Clinic

First impressions, good or bad, can be determined in part by your smile, or lack of a good smile.

Your mouth and teeth are an important part of your appearance. To ensure you maintain good oral health and appearance, we advise you to heed the following guidance.

Good oral hygiene results in a mouth that looks and smells healthy. This means your teeth are clean and free of debris, gums are pink and do not hurt or bleed when you brush and floss, and bad breath is not a constant problem.

Daily preventive care, including brushing and flossing, is important for your overall well-being. Here are some tips to help you maintain your teeth and a youthful appearance.

- Brush twice daily (especially bedtime) at two minutes per brushing.

- Floss daily to remove plaque from between your teeth and under your gums.

- Eat a balanced diet and limit snacks between meals.

- Ensure that children under 12 drink fluoridated water or take a fluoride supplement if they live in a non-fluoridated area.

The first key to keeping a bright, healthy smile is proper brushing. This should include: tilting the brush at a 45 degree angle against the gum line and vibrating the toothbrush in tiny circles. Gently brush the outside, inside and chewing surfaces of each tooth. Brush everything inside your mouth, especially your tongue (90 percent of the bacteria inside your mouth is on your tongue).

The next key is proper flossing: Use about 18 inches of floss. Wrap the floss around your middle fingers and walk (rub back and forth) between the teeth. Then gently following the curves of your teeth, rub the floss up and down. You can use your thumbs on your upper teeth and your first fingers on your lower teeth, or any combination that works for you.

And, last but not least, visit your dentist regularly.

By properly following these guidelines, you will greatly increase your chances for good oral health and appearance. And that's the tooth!

Team effort cutting delays in contracts

Lean processes
find wide support

By JOHNNIE BRADT
For the Rocket

The AMCOM Administrative Lead Time Strategic Implementation Team started using "Lean" to reduce lead time in August 2002. Since then the team has completed many kaizen events, also known as Rapid Improvement Events and Value Stream Maps attacking waste, specifically long lead times.

The Acquisition Center Apache Team Value Stream Mapping and Kaizen were two of the initial events of the implementation team, which included Integrated Materiel Management Center participation. The relationship between the IMMC and the Acquisition Center is relevant since they are both key organizations in the administrative lead time process. The IMMC initiates the requirement, and the Acquisition Center takes it through contract award.

The team members experienced success using 5S — short for Sort, Shine, Set-In-Order, Standardize and Sustain — in their work areas, and they started reducing inventory, motion and transportation wastes through central consolidation of their files. Many eyes were opened as participants started to visually see the benefits of office lean.

As a result of the value stream mapping process, the Acquisition Center realized a key driver to lead times was outside the Aviation and Missile Command; and that key driver was supplier relationships. It was imperative that suppliers be involved in the process.

The Acquisition Center and IMMC embarked on a journey that took them to five of their key contractor sites: Fenn, Purdy, Northstar, Canadian Commercial and Boeing. Jim Chiarizio, Apache Division chief at the Acquisition Center,

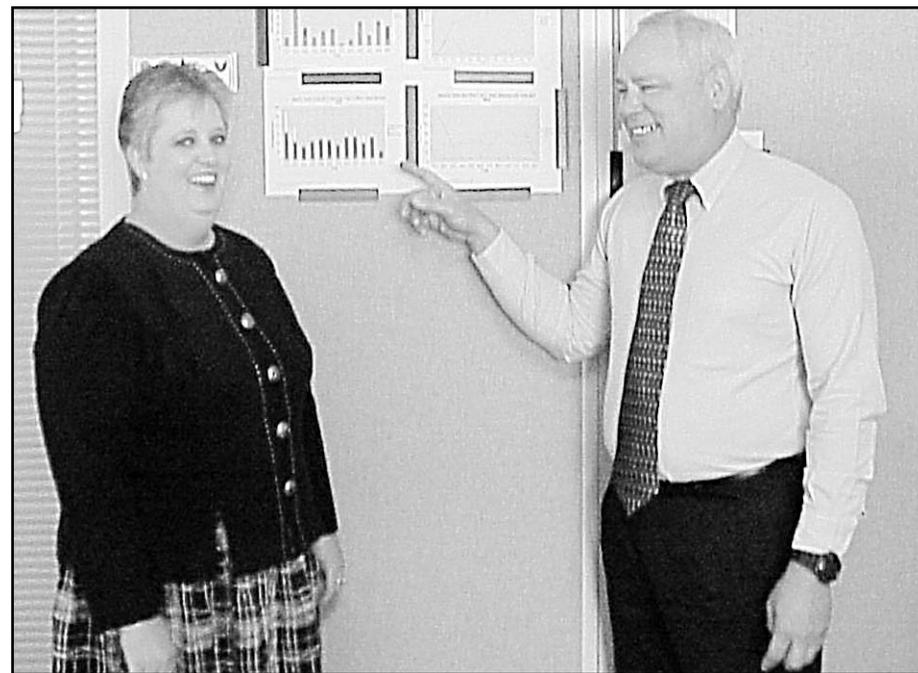


Photo by Johnnie Bradt

GETTING RESULTS— Roberta Bodine and Jim Chiarizio, Acquisition Center Apache Team, are pleased with results from Lean initiatives and improvements.

helped orchestrate the visits and went to each site with fellow team members Roberta Bodine of Acquisition Center and Kathy Elfrink of IMMC.

"Every visit was a success," Chiarizio said. "Each contractor was very receptive to our visits and doors were opened that have never been opened before through the sharing of information."

The Acquisition Center team members also toured the shop floors and saw how Lean was being used in production. A pleasant surprise to the team was that all five contractors are using Lean techniques and tools in their processes, primarily focused on the production aspect. This facilitated the communication with each site; everybody was speaking a common

See **Effort** on page 19



Courtesy photo

Battle of sexes

The touring play "Letters From the Front," slated Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. in Pagano Gym, isn't just about war correspondence. It's also a classic battle of the sexes between Katherine Hartgrove (Bobbi Kravis) and Johnny Chastain (Bob Curren); and the winner discovers America. Admission is free; it's open to the entire Redstone community, and tickets may be picked up at the Recreation Center, building 3711 (corner of Patton and Aerobee roads). For information call 876-4531.

Contractors express support for Lean goals

Effort

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language, using the same methods for achieving complimentary goals.

The visits resulted in the development of seven long-term contracts, with input from all parties. The seven contracts will be either sole-source or limited competition to the contractors visited. Chiarizio said the long-term contracts will allow the

contractors to plan and make better decisions once they are in place.

Almost all contractors said the end result will be better pricing, reduced production lead times and better delivery schedules. One contractor has a goal to decrease PLT by 80 percent, and said the efforts by the Apache team will only help them to achieve this.

Editor's note: Johnnie Bradt is executive assistant to the deputy to the commanding general.

Redstone Arsenal Environmental Program Information Meeting and Poster Session 6-8 p.m. Thursday, October 23, 2003 Whitesburg Baptist Center

6:45-7:15 p.m.

The Army will provide an update of environmental cleanup activities conducted at Redstone Arsenal
6-6:45 p.m. and 7:15-8 p.m.

Posters and experts on a variety of topics, including an invitation to form and participate in a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for Redstone Arsenal

Redstone Arsenal is hosting this public meeting and poster session to inform the public about its efforts to clean up old hazardous waste sites and the groundwater. The Army will present information about the ongoing cleanup as well as extend an invitation to form and participate in a Restoration Advisory Board.

Whitesburg Baptist Center Fellowship Hall
7300 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama

Public Comment Period
October 12-November 10, 2003

For Time-Critical Removal Actions and Non-Time-Critical Removal Actions

The Army also invites the public to review and comment on various time-critical removal actions and non-time-critical removal actions conducted at Redstone Arsenal. A fact sheet will be available at the meeting or at the information repositories.

To send comment or for more information contact:

Commander
U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone
Attention: AMSAM-PA (Pam Rogers or Al Schwartz)
Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35898-5020
Telephone: (256) 842-0561 or 876-4161 Fax: (256) 955-0133
E-mail: "pam.rogers@redstone.army.mil" or "al.schwartz@redstone.army.mil"





Sports & Recreation

Hunter orientations

Redstone Arsenal Hunting Orientations, for everyone planning to hunt on post, will be held at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 6 and Nov. 20 at the Recreation Center, building 3711. Participants only have to attend one session. For information call Missy 876-4868 or Mike 876-0901.

Army football game

Discount tickets are available for the Alabama-Birmingham vs. Army football game Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. at Legion Field in Birmingham. Military personnel are invited to purchase UAB flex packs which include four tickets for \$25. Regular single admission tickets start at \$12. Flex packs can be purchased before Oct. 28 by sending checks payable to UAB Athletics to the following address: Ashley Fulmer, c/o Army Flex Pack, AB 1370, 1530 3rd Ave. South, Birmingham, AL 35294-0113. Purchasers are asked to include their name and shipping address with payment.

Monday night football

Come out and enjoy Monday night football with friends at Firehouse Pub. Each Monday night throughout the NFL season, they're serving up free hot dogs and hamburgers with beverage purchase and watching MNF on the big screen. They'll also have door prize drawings. Come early for a good seat. The Firehouse Pub, located in building 114 on Hankins Road (north off Goss Road, near the pool), opens at 4 p.m. For more information, call 842-0748 or 830-2582. Coming games include Oct. 27, Miami vs. San Diego; Nov. 3, New England vs. Denver; Nov. 10, Philadelphia vs. Green Bay; Nov. 17, Pittsburgh vs. San Francisco; Nov. 24, N.Y. Giants vs. Tampa Bay; Dec. 1, Tennessee vs. N.Y. Jets; Dec. 8, St. Louis vs. Cleveland; and Dec. 15, Philadelphia vs. Miami.

Bowling fund-raiser

Big Brothers/Big Sisters annual fund-raiser, Bowl for Kids Sake, is Nov. 14-16 at Monarch Lanes on Bob Wallace Avenue. Bowl one game for the kids. For more information, call the office 880-2123.

UAH hockey

The University of Alabama-Huntsville hockey team will play host to Connecticut Oct. 24-25 and Air Force Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 at 7:05 p.m. at the Von Braun Center. The Chargers and Air Force compete in the College Hockey America Conference.

Youth basketball

Registration for the CYS Youth Basketball League continues through Nov. 4 for ages 5-16. Register at the Challenger center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Cost is \$35 sports fee plus \$15 Central Registration fee if not already enrolled. Practice begins the week of Nov. 17 and the preseason tournament begins Dec. 6 for ages 7-16. League play starts Jan. 5. This is open to dependents of active and retired military, DoD and Redstone/NASA contractors. Volunteer coaches are needed. For more information, call 876-3704 or 313-3699.



Conferences & Meetings

Protestant women

Protestant Women of the Chapel meets Thursdays from 9:30 to noon at Bicentennial Chapel. Four studies are offered. "Come for fellowship, worship, prayer and Bible study," a prepared release said. Child care is available. Other classes are held Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and in the evening. For more information, call Tonie Welch 489-5646 or Jennifer Devlin 716-0107.

Federal bar symposium

The Federal Bar Association will hold its 31st annual Symposium, Nov. 5-6 at the Huntsville Marriott next door to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. The title is "Recent Developments in Government Contracting." Cost is \$250 for both days. To register call treasurer Cindy Van Rassen 955-5717.

Simulation conference

The annual Huntsville Simulation Conference, sponsored by the Society for Modeling and Simulation International, is Oct. 29-31 in Huntsville. This year the conference is adding a day of classified presentations to be held entirely on the first day, Oct. 29 at the Army's Advanced Research Center. Admittance to the classified sessions will be limited to U.S. citizens with secret clearances who submit proper visit requests. There is no extra charge for the classified sessions. Visit the web site for details at www.scs.org/hsc. For more information, call chairman Joseph Gauthier 520-2275.

Air defenders

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association will hold its annual St. Barbara's Dinner Dance and Ball, Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. in the ballroom of the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Maj. Gen. Michael Vane, commander of the Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Texas, and commandant of the Air Defense Artillery School. Cost is \$30 per person for members, \$40 per person (\$70 per couple) for non-members. To RSVP, contact keith.furney@lmco.com by Oct. 21.

Health expo

The Personnel and Training Directorate will hold an Employee Health Benefits Expo on Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Sparkman Center, building 5304, room 4233 (second floor). Informational health-care brochures as well as health provider representatives will be available to answer your questions. Representatives invited to attend include: Blue Cross Blue Shield, Mail Handlers GEHA, PDP, National Alliance, Rural Carrier, NALC, APWU, and Healthspring of Alabama.

Officers association

The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Oct. 29 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Richard Jackson is to discuss the admission process at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and related topics. All active, retired and former officers; their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired CWO 4 Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.



Miscellaneous

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club each year presents Merit Awards to qualified applicants based on their scholastic achievements, citizenship and sincere desire to pursue higher education. These awards are designed to help offset the cost of tuition, books and related fees. All applicants must meet the following criteria: be a member, spouse of a member, or the dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of Oct. 1, 2003 and live within a 50-mile radius of Huntsville. Candidates may compete in one of four categories: high school senior, undergraduate, graduate and member/spouse. Previous award winners may compete in succeeding years, but may win only once in each category. Additionally, students receiving full scholarships are not eligible to apply for a Merit Award. Applications will be available at all OCWC board meetings and luncheons beginning in October. The deadline for Merit Award consideration is Feb. 11, 2004. For more information call Michelle Archer, the Merit Award chairperson, 534-5783.

Reserve unit

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal is looking for prior active duty soldiers who want to return to duty, or soldiers who wish to transfer from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 74B information systems operators, and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification/waiver action to 74B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, PC programming languages, networking/systems administration and telecommunications skills. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the character and personal qualifications to pass a SBI Investigation check to obtain a top secret clearance required by the specialty. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For MOS 75B/H, you must be MOS-Q prior service or transfer from another unit. For information 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. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Jane Wyatt 876-

4106 or Maj. Felicia Carter 313-3867.

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.gsauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Community outreach

Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will assist CASA in the annual winterization of houses for Madison County elderly and homebound Nov. 1. To volunteer to help, call Bill Trevey 313-2607 or Karen Trevey 955-9784.

Computer classes

Army Community Service offers free computer classes to help military spouses increase their computer skills. Classes are offered in Windows 98, Word, Excel, PowerPoint Outlook, Access and Publisher. These classes are set up on computers at ACS, building 3338 on Redeye Road, with full-motion video, audio and integrated hands-on exercises. Classes are offered Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Participants work individually. Sessions typically amount to four hours of training, but may be taken in one-hour increments. Certificates of completion are issued after successfully completing each course. The classes are free and open to all military ID card holders. Reservations are encouraged; walk-ins may take classes on a space-available basis. To register call Debra Jefferson 876-5397.

Logistics achievement awards

The 2003 Ernest Young Logistics Achievement Awards will be presented Nov. 6 at a luncheon ceremony at Officers and Civilians Club. The award winners for the Professional/Technical and Management/Executive categories will be selected from 32 nominations submitted from Team Redstone organizations. Integrated Materiel Management Center nominees include Imtiaz Ather, O.V. Bonner, John Chapman, Kathy Elfrink, Thomas Fitzgerald, Judith Gerley, John Henrikson Manuel Jones, Marsha Lawson, Mitchele Pryor-Betts, Elaine Rucker, Dennis Urhahn and Bernhard Wiegand. Nominees from the Acquisition Center include Sheri Baskins, Cheryl Moore Davis, Charles Miller and Brian Wood. Nominees from the PEO Aviation offices include Ronald Dalton, Michael Haragan, Capt. Bryan Phillips, Barbara Quick and Ralph Smith. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems Project Office nominees include Anthony Grayson, Ani Powers and Terri Schwierling. Nominees from Letterkenny and Corpus Christi Army Depots include Hallie Dubia and Carol Bullington. Missile Defense Agency nominee is James Hatchett; Lower Tier Project Office nominee is Gifford Lee; representing PEO for Tactical Missiles is Lisha Adams; Space and Missile Defense Command nominee is Lt. Col. Robert Steward; and the Garrison nominee is William Holliday. Tickets for the luncheon are \$13. For more information, call Faye Yates 876-1757.

See Announcements on page 21

Simulation council

The newly-formed Alabama Modeling and Simulation Council will hold its first public event Oct. 29 at the Holiday Inn Research Park. There will be speakers from government, academic and commercial organizations. For more information, call Charlotte Sallas 922-0802.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5 and Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. The shop now accepts handmade craft items for consignment. Currently it is accepting fall and winter clothes and items. Donations are welcome; and tax slips are available. The shop seeks volunteers. For more information, call 881-6992.

Wilson's Farm tickets

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring discount tickets for Wilson's Farm Corn Maze in Union Grove. The maze opened Sept. 13 and will remain open through Oct. 31. CWFC discount rates for Redstone employees and their families are \$3 per person for ages 11 and under, \$5 per person for ages 12 and up. Children 5 and under are admitted free with a paid adult. To get your CWFC discount, you should bring a copy of this announcement with you and show it to the attendant at Wilson's Farm. To schedule special group appointments, call (256) 931-6768 and leave a message. Be sure to mention that you are a Redstone employee.

Education week luncheon

The American Education Week luncheon is Nov. 17 at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Lucy Baxley, lieutenant governor of Alabama. Tickets are available at the club for \$16 per person or \$150 for a table of eight. Deadline to buy tickets is Nov. 7.

Original play

Redstone MWR will host "Letters From the Front," Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. in Pagano Gym. "Letters From the Front" is an original play about personal letters written by

soldiers and their loved ones throughout American history. Reviews state the play as a "powerful message behind actual war correspondence that provides the catalyst for this poignant and stunningly funny story of the home front in 1945." Admission is free; it's open to the entire Redstone community, and tickets may be picked up at the Recreation Center, building 3711 (corner of Patton and Aerobee roads). For information call 876-4531.

Association breakfast

The Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8:30 a.m. in the Redstone Golf Clubhouse. For more information, call retired CWO 4 Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Graduate classes

Florida Tech Graduate Center begins registration for spring 2004 semester Nov. 10 at building 5304, room 4326. Class meets weekly from 5-8 p.m. at building 5304. For more information, call 881-7878.

Job fair

Whether you're looking for a new job or just a change in careers, don't miss the Job Fair. Many employers will be available to discuss employment opportunities. The Job Fair is Nov. 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Recreation Center, building 3711. This event is sponsored by Army Community Service and is open to all active and retired military spouses, veterans, guards, reservists and transitioning employees. "It will provide a unique opportunity to meet with many local employers in one place at one time," a prepared release said. "So come dressed professionally and bring lots of resumes." ACS also invites you to attend classes for resume writing and interviewing tips. Classes are scheduled Oct. 23, 30 and Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 876-5397 to register.

Child car seat

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter, will give a free booster seat to qualifying children Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wal-Mart on North Memorial Parkway. This event is supported by United Way and Safe Kids.

