

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 54 No. 38

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

September 21, 2005

## Post profile

Practice shows for golf champ  
**Page 6**



## Hail and farewell



Safety career rewarding  
**Page 8**

## Family focus



Stuffed toys add warmth  
**Page 10**

## Over there



Engineer visits troops in Iraq  
**Page 12**

## Win or lose



Wolfpack roars in preseason  
**Page 14**

# Helicopter pilots like what they see

## Apache Longbow sensors upgraded

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The new generation of pilots flying the Apache attack helicopter will be able to see better at night and hit a target from farther away.

The reason is a modernized target acquisition designation system and pilot night vision system. A second-generation forward looking infrared is being fielded for both systems.

Eight Apache aircraft were equipped with the new FLIR on June 30 for a company within the 1st Battalion, 82nd Aviation Regiment out of Fort Bragg, N.C., which is undergoing training at Fort Hood, Texas. The battalion has 24 helicopters, including three companies with eight apiece. The second company is to be equipped in mid-October, and the third unit in September 2006.

"It's the entire sensors team that deserves the recognition for bringing this extreme capability and, quite frankly, this combat multiplier to the warfighter," Lt. Col. Scott Bosse, product manager for Apache sensors in the Apache Project Office, said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**NEW STUFF**— Experimental test pilots Alwyn Chapman, left, and Mike Meely show the nose of an AH-64D Apache Longbow equipped with the modernized target acquisition designation system and pilot night vision system.

Experimental test pilots Meely, both of the Army Aviation Technical Test Center at

Fort Rucker, were here last week testing the new equipment.

"This new FLIR makes our job safer because we can see better at night," Chapman said.

"It's 2-3 times greater range and target acquisition capability," Meely said.

The 1970s-era system used in the field today gives pilots the equivalent of 20-80 or 20-100 visual acuity while the new system improves that to 20-35 or 20-40, according to Bosse. "So it's a significant enhancement," he said.

A development contract was signed in 2000 followed by the production contract in 2003 and fielding for the first unit last June. The contractor team includes Lockheed Martin of Orlando, Fla., and Boeing of Mesa, Ariz.

The Army's fleet of 704 Apaches includes anticipated end strength of 597 AH-64D Apache Longbows, which is the upgraded A-model, and 107 A-models which first entered the inventory in the mid-1980s.

Fielding of the new FLIR won't end with the 24 helicopters of the 1st Battalion, 82nd Aviation Regiment. The Army's current production schedule for the retrofit continues to 2011.

See Apache on page 11

# AMC executive gives update on headquarters move

## President to act on proposals

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

About half of the headquarters Army Materiel Command workers would be expected to move with their jobs to Huntsville, if the president and Congress approve the base realignment and closure recommendations as anticipated.

Kathryn Szymanski, acting executive deputy to the AMC commander, gave an update last week on the plan to move more than 1,700 positions to Redstone from Fort Belvoir, Va. She was guest speaker at a luncheon of the North Alabama Chapter, Federally Employed Women on Sept. 14 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

The president has until Friday to accept

or reject the BRAC recommendations as a whole. He will submit the package to Congress which will have 45 days to review. A final decision is expected by mid-December.

"I personally am looking forward to moving," Szymanski said. "I think Huntsville is a great place to live."

Some 198 people attended the luncheon, including mayors from Huntsville and Madison. Both presented a memento to Szymanski.

"I love the Huntsville community," she said. "I loved the Huntsville community before BRAC."

She praised the Federally Employed Women organization. "I really appreciate what FEW has done for women, particularly for me," she said.

Donna Rigsby, president of the North Alabama Chapter, welcomed the attendees.

"We're a national organization working to improve the status of women employed by the federal government," Rigsby said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HAPPY TO BE HERE**— Kathryn Szymanski, acting executive deputy to the AMC commander, talks with well-wishers after last week's luncheon.

# An open lane random survey

*What do you think of the government response to Hurricane Katrina?*

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

*Scott Schofield contractor*

**"I think the government response was as quick as it could have been under the circumstances, with the resources we have and the bipartisan-ship of our government."**



*John Heath security officer*

**"It's been good. It's just been overwhelming, bigger than they thought it would be. I think if the mayor and the governor had done their job, help would have come a lot sooner. They're there. They know more about what's going on down there than the president does. If they need help, they need to ask for it."**



*Gary Dallas Sr. retiree*

**"I think it was poor. They knew it was a category 5 hurricane. They should have evacuated those people. They didn't**

**have means of transportation, so the government should have gone in and moved those people before the hurricane."**

*Ruby Bishop retiree*

**"I think it's been very good. They've done what they can."**



# Historical display noteworthy

Coming into the Sparkman Center through building 5301, I have noticed and was very impressed by a wonderful display put together by the AMCOM Historical Office. This display was also used during the Huntsville Bicentennial celebration. It shows Redstone's history and the many people that influenced the success of Redstone Arsenal and the Huntsville community.

I realize many people enter and

exit through building 5301; however I feel this display would be much better appreciated if it could be seen by all. I think the lobby of building 5300 would be an excellent place for this display. This location will provide the opportunity for many more Redstone employees, as well as visitors to the Sparkman Center, to enjoy.

**Judy Smith**  
G8 (Resource Management)

# Cutting down on badges

In speaking with the Provost Marshal Office it appears that in addition to the required decal, a CAC or AMCOM or NASA ID badge is acceptable to enter the Arsenal, but an SMDC badge is not. Since SMDC is an Army tenant organization on Redstone and its government employees work for the DoD like those of AMCOM, I don't understand why this is the case.

A recent experience makes me believe that this policy goes beyond security and borders on harassment. Last week, I used my Common Access Card to access the DTS travel system (which is required) and inadvertently left the card in the computer reader. That evening, I left work still without realizing that I had

See **Badges** on page 4

# World War II vet's special day

Independence Day has become bigger and more spectacular every year. The bottle rockets I had as a child have become huge bursts of color that dazzle the eyes. The media, radio, TV and newspaper must think so too because that's what they talk about, show or print. But sometimes, the great stories aren't the ones with the most fireworks.

On July 3, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski awarded the Bronze Star to Pfc. James Bozeman, a medic in Patton's Army, 61 years after the events that made him a hero.

Every hero has a day that defines what made him a hero. In 1944 Pfc. Bozeman was a medic with Patton's Army. Like so many Soldiers then, what he did every day was a responsibility that he took seriously. On one of those days there was a firefight between

his squad and a German squad. An American GI had been hit and was pinned down. When Pfc. Bozeman's commanding officer asked him to go help the man that

See **Award** on page 4



Courtesy photo  
**OVERDUE HONOR— Former medic James Bozeman receives the Bronze Star from Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski for his actions in World War II.**

# Desert commute tougher

There have been several letters in the *Redstone Rocket* complaining about the traffic conditions at the temporary Gate 2 or about the length of time required for the reopening of the new Gate 3. In my opinion, the mission statement of Redstone Arsenal and its Army tenant organizations is to support the Soldier, not provide you with a cushy commute. While you slowly advance through the gate in the morning, sitting in your air conditioned vehicle with its ultra sound system and contoured seats, and sipping your cappuccino, you might think about the living conditions our Soldiers are enduring in the Middle East. Considering that they are separated from their families, working in sweltering heat wearing heavy armor and weaponry, patrolling hostile desert neighborhoods in open air vehicles, having their faces, hair and skin sand blasted every day, and risking death daily at every turn, your complaints about Gates 2 and 3 are really trivial.

**Charles Urban**  
Acquisition Center

# It takes Gate 2

I see that the Rocket once again has its share of complaints about the situation with Gate 2 being open and Gate 3 closed. I had to weigh in and offer that I love it this way and I wish Gate 2 could be open from now on. Please advise the complainers that they can arrive at the gate at a different time or they can go in another gate. As for me, I hope the project at Gate 3 takes at least 10 more years to complete, as I am thrilled to have Gate 2 open.

**Wesley Key**  
contract specialist

# Yield sign has purpose

I have had it! A yield sign simply means yield if you observe a yield sign in your lane of travel. Moreover, a driver traveling north and entering the Sparkman Complex via Burose Road should yield to oncoming traffic. And yes, there is a yield sign at the Burose entry to the Sparkman Complex! And therein lies my dilemma. I have experienced more near collisions at the Burose Road entry to the Sparkman Complex than I wish to remember.

At approximately 6:15 a.m. Sept. 16, while entering the Sparkman Complex via Burose Road, a dark colored 2004-05 Audi blatantly disregarded the yield sign at the entryway and crossed irresponsibly in front of my vehicle to make a left turn onto

See **Yield** on page 4

# Redstone Rocket

Editorial office 876-1500 Editorial fax 955-9138 Retail Advertising 532-4539 Classified Advertising 532-4300 Fax 532-4349

The *Redstone Rocket* is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The *Redstone Rocket* through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the *Redstone Rocket* is *The Huntsville Times*, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, Huntsville AL 35801.

The deadline for display and commercial classified is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil  
Rocket articles are available online at the following:  
[https://ams36.redstone.army.mil:4443/portal/page?\\_pageid=614,1983766&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL&p\\_cat\\_id=6&menupairid=prdz1870500](https://ams36.redstone.army.mil:4443/portal/page?_pageid=614,1983766&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_cat_id=6&menupairid=prdz1870500)

**Rocket Staff**  
Public Affairs Officer: Al Schwartz  
Editor: Skip Vaughn  
Reporters: Kelley Lane  
Kim Henry  
Spc. Eliamar Trapp  
Kari Hawkins  
Copy Editor: Scott Seeley  
Advertising Sales: Susan Lavender  
Shelia Smith  
Chad Ludwig

The *Redstone Rocket* is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by *The Huntsville Times* a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed by writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised within this publication.

The *Redstone Rocket* is distributed free of cost to Army personnel at Redstone Arsenal, and

Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates off post for The *Rocket* are \$30 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual) We do not send subscription renewal notices.

Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origin of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in refusal to print advertising from that source.

# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Lee Latham

**Job:** Graphic support, Jacobs Sverdrup

**Where do you call home?**  
Huntsville

**What do you like about your job?**

Working with different people and having new challenges every week.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I like to hang out with my family, play with my kids (2-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter). I like to watch football and play poker.

**What are your goals?**

I'm part time now so I eventually want to work out here full time. That's my main goal.



**What's your favorite football team?**  
Alabama, of course

# Korean women share their culture and faith at chapel

*Bible study group meets weekly*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

When Kumhi "Kim" Smith's mother decided she wanted to learn about Jesus Christ and Christianity, she didn't turn to the Bible.

Rather, she found the meaning of Christ's teachings in a hymnal.

Smith and her four sisters didn't grow up in a Christian home. They moved to the United States in the 1970s. But, Smith didn't attend church until 1982, beginning a spiritual walk that has made a difference in her life as well as in the lives of her father and mother.

"I began to understand who Jesus Christ really is and who I am," she told members of the Protestant Women of the Chapel at a luncheon recently.

"I'm a sinner. I was so ashamed. I wanted to know Jesus as savior and lord, and I wanted to build a personal relationship with God."

Through visits with her father and mother over the years, Smith shared the story of Jesus Christ.

"My father was dying of cancer. But I knew he knew Jesus Christ. I saw him kneeling in prayer," Smith recalled. "There were times when I worried about my mom and her spiritual life."

Smith's mother has also developed her own relationship with Christ, an answer to Smith's prayers.

Smith's story and the stories of other Korean-born women were shared with other members of the Protestant Women of the Chapel during a cultural exchange recently that included a Korean cooking demonstration and lunch. The Korean women also taught the group how to sing "Jesus Loves Me" in Korean.

"The Protestant Women of the Chapel is an organization of women whose main goal is to bring other women to Christ," said Judy Haynes, who does publicity and programs for PWOC.

The group meets every Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel, with more than 35 women participating in various Bible study groups. During this time, a group of Korean women conduct a Bible study, often using their native language to share their faith and discuss the Bible.

"The Korean women tend to be a little shy about doing things in front of people and the public," Haynes said. "They are very spiritual people. We wanted them to share with the rest of us so that we can get to know them better."

Many of the Korean women came to



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**FOOD FOR SOUL**—Lee Wilkins, left, stirs a bowl of vegetables during a cooking demonstration of Korean foods while Sue Scott gets ready to make California rolls. The women, members of a Korean women's Bible study group that meets on Thursdays as part of the Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study program, helped host a cultural exchange.

the U.S. with their families or as brides of American Soldiers. The immigration of Korean families to America peaked in the 1970s and today there are more than 1 million Korean-Americans living in the U.S., Young Walker told the group of women. One-third of Korean-Americans are Christian and that number is growing rapidly, she said.

For the Korean women who are members of the Protestant Women of the Chapel, their faith and their church are central in their lives, said Korean-American Soran Thrasher, who conducts the Korean women's Bible study on Thursdays.

"We are glad to be a part of the Protestant Women of the Chapel," Thrasher said. "The chapel and the other women are very important to us. Nationality is not a boundary to being together in Jesus Christ. There is a wonderful fellowship and friendship developing between our two groups."

All women who have access to Redstone Arsenal are invited to join the Protestant Women of the Chapel. For more information, call Haynes at 882-7857. The group meets every Thursday at the chapel for Bible studies. They come together at 9:30 a.m. for praise and worship, and then break into Bible studies from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A luncheon Bible study is also conducted from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

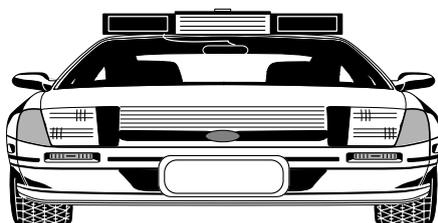
**Sept. 9:** An individual reported that she was threatened by persons unknown while in the post housing area. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Sept. 9:** An individual reported that someone entered his vehicle which was parked and secured and removed several items. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Sept. 9:** An individual reported that someone entered his garage and removed several items. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

**Sept. 10:** An individual reported that someone entered his barracks room and removed a cellular phone. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.



**Sept. 13:** An individual reported that someone removed a government winch from his GSA vehicle while it was parked and secured. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Sept. 13:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**Sept. 14:** An individual was found to be in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia during an inspection at Gate 10. The individual was issued two violation notices and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Traffic accidents reported:** five without injuries, none with injuries.

**Violation notices issued:** 12 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 expired tags, 2 driving with a suspended license, 1 possession of a controlled substance, 1 possession of drug paraphernalia.

## Quote of the week

'Imagine all the people living life in peace. You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us and the world will be as one.'

— John Lennon

# ARH contract lauded as aviation boost

By Staff Sgt. CARMEN L. BURGESS  
Army News Service

FORT WORTH, Texas – Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard Cody marked the beginning of a new era in Army aviation Aug. 29 when he signed a ceremonial contract with Bell Helicopter for the Army's \$2.2 billion Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter.

At a ceremony held outside Fort Worth, the ARH became the first new manned airframe slated for fielding under the Army's Aviation Modernization Plan since 1983.

"This is a significant moment in Army aviation history, a much-needed advance in the capabilities of our aviation fleet, and a key component of the Army's overall transformation," Cody said.

The ARHs will be the first of three new

platforms procured including the Light Utility Helicopter and the Future Cargo Aircraft, to revitalize and modernize the existing fleet of aircraft in the Army's arsenal.

"These are exciting times for Soldiers across the Army," Cody said. "They are seeing rapid technologies developing throughout our war-fighting equipment. From unmanned aerial vehicles to advanced weapons to state-of-the-art communications and night vision systems. And now our aviation Soldiers will get 900 new helicopters fielded for the multi-functional aviation brigades, a key component of the Army's modular force."

"We are focused on getting this system into the hands of our Soldiers as soon as possible, so they can meet the war-fighting challenges," Bell chief executive officer Mike Redenbaugh said during the ceremony.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carmen L. Burgess

**PREFLIGHT—** Before taking a test flight at Bell Helicopter, Army vice chief of staff Gen. Richard Cody checks out the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter. The ARH will be the first of three platforms fielded in the transformation of Army aviation.

## ■ Veteran finally receives Bronze Star

### Award

continued from page 2

was injured; there was only one answer. While his squad laid down cover fire to keep the Germans busy, Pfc. Bozeman sprinted to the injured man in an attempt to save his life. He didn't run into German fire to be a hero. He did it because it was his job.

The confusions and ravages of war force priorities to be on defeating the enemy and saving lives, often at the expense of the recognition each man deserves. Thus the recommendation for the Bronze Star submitted by Pfc. Bozeman's CO was not immediately processed. As a matter of fact it was

filed, and forgotten. It would be some 40 years later, in 1985, and he would be 60 years old before the oversight was discovered. After the paperwork was done, the medal was shipped to him in a cardboard box. That's all the recognition he would receive for the next 20 years.

In 2005, at a family gathering, James jokingly said to two of his sons, "I'm going to be 80 this year, and I expect a big deal too." The two told this to the third son and that's how it started. A party by itself is not a big deal. So what would be a big deal? How about the presentation, to Pfc. James Bozeman, of his Bronze Star by the new Garrison commander of Redstone Arsenal? That would be a big deal.

Col. Olshefski was just taking over command when public affairs specialist

Lira Frye asked if he would be available to present a medal to a World War II vet at a birthday party. Being the extraordinary officer that he is, he jumped at the chance. Not only would this be a welcome break from the official duties of taking command but it would give him the opportunity to honor one of those that his wife, Sharon, often referred to as our "greatest generation," a sentiment he shared.

On July 3, Col. Olshefski, his wife Sharon, and his father drove from Huntsville to Spring Park in Tuscumbia. There, they attended a celebration for James Bozeman given by his wife, Bernice, and his three sons, Jimmy, Jack and Alan. There were some 70 of James' peers and family at the party. In front of this gathering of his peers and family, Col. Olshefski presented the Bronze Star to Pfc. James Bozeman.

During this presentation Col. Olshefski revealed that he was in the Third Army. And that to this day, it is still called "Patton's Army." And, not only was he in Patton's Army but he had just come from where Patton's Army is today. He said medics like Mr. Bozeman are still performing with valor as they did in World War II.

And that's how James Bozeman, an 80-year-old veteran and former medic, was honored, not just by any officer, but by an officer of the same Army he had served in 61 years before. And not just by any officer in Patton's Army, but by a former commander of a group that still saves lives, the Medical Corps.

Among the things presented to Pfc. Bozeman was a Letter of Recognition from Congressman Bud Cramer, and a certificate guaranteeing that a U.S. flag would be flown over the U.S. Capitol on his birthday, July 10, courtesy of the efforts of Mickey Ellis who works for Congressman Cramer. As extraordinary as the circumstances were, events like this do not work themselves out. My mother, brothers, and I, and all of the rest of my family would like to thank public affairs specialist Lira Frye and Mickey Ellis from Congressman Cramer's office for all the help and the extra effort they put forth to make July 3 a day my father will always remember.

And a special thanks to Col. Olshefski, whose genuine expression of admiration for my father and his generation of Soldiers made July 3 such a special day.

**Jack Bozeman**

## ■ Post reducing forms of identification

### Badges

continued from page 2

forgotten my CAC. Upon trying to get through the gate the next day at Gate 1, the guard informed me that since I didn't have my CAC, I would have to call SMDC and have an escort either bring my card or escort me to the office. The fact that I had a valid decal and an SMDC photo ID badge — which is required to enter the Von Braun Complex — didn't matter. This same incident has happened to several of my co-workers. Surely, since 9/11 we can do a better job of consolidating data bases and procedures?

#### Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for the opportunity to clarify entrance requirements for Redstone Arsenal. In the not too distant past, Redstone Arsenal's access control points recognized more than 20 versions of identification cards for entrance onto Redstone Arsenal. Realizing that this was a potential vulnerability and definitely a burden on the security guards at the gates, we attempted to reduce the numbers and various*

*forms of identification recognized and authorized at the gates with a "Badge Reduction" policy letter that was signed by the Garrison commander and distributed in April 2004. A Joint Services Integrated Vulnerability Assessment was conducted in August 2004 which also reconfirmed that Redstone Arsenal's past recognition of so many various types of ID cards had been, in fact, a major vulnerability for the installation.*

*Since April 2004, we have reduced our authorized forms of ID down to only a few, thus eliminating the vulnerability and the potential for confusion at the installation's gates. We now recognize all forms of legitimate military ID cards (to include the Common Access Card), the Redstone Arsenal AMSAM Form 2341 (Redstone Arsenal Security Badge) and the Marshall Space Flight Center family of badges. Additionally, MSFC currently has plans to adopt the CAC in the near term which will eliminate their current badge for recognition at the installation gates. This policy is in effect to ensure the safety and security of the installation and the Redstone Arsenal community. Even though someone may perceive this as harassment, it is merely a prudent security and force protection measure that ensures only authorized personnel are granted the privilege of entering our federal installation."*

## ■ Motorists should obey sign

### Yield

continued from page 2

Sportsman Drive (Sparkman Circle), forcing me to abruptly stop my vehicle, avoiding a collision with my vehicle by less than a foot.

Due to other such incidents I contacted Lt. Col. Brad Scofield, director of Public Safety Redstone Arsenal, and he states that the yield sign must be obeyed by the motorist. Moreover, I have the right of way. Nevertheless, I have always exercised extreme caution at this particular yield sign when simultaneously approaching the junction with a vehicle entering via the northbound lane. This morning was the closest I have come to having an accident at this intersection. Why? Because this driver blatantly disregarded the yield sign and compounded the situation by using excessive speed as he entered the entryway, thus crossing dangerously close to the front of my vehicle. I was steamed,

and as I eventually entered the right turn lane I observed the vehicle behind me, which conjured up the thought that I could have easily been rear ended as well.

In addition, in an article published several weeks ago in the *Rocket*, the Sparkman facility management professed with pride the reduction of the speed limit on the Sportsman Drive from 30 to 25 ... I have witnessed drivers driving in excess of 40 to 60 mph. It's not my stated job, but I once warned a young driver who passed me while definitely exceeding the posted speed limits. If nothing is done to address this issue another serious accident, like the one that occurred at the Martin Road and Burose Road intersection, is going to happen. I am not out to prove I have the right of way and cause an accident, as there are more negative factors than just stopping and allowing the violator to pass on.

**Ricky E. Terrell**  
PM Utility Helicopter

# Office contributes shoes for Iraqi children

## Dual benefits seen in gifts

The first week of August brought a challenge to an office that usually provides services to train Soldiers for war. The Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Targets Management Office was given the mission of providing shoes for Iraqi children.

Steve Milburn, TMO director, approached his employees and asked if they would help support an Army unit deployed in Iraq. The men and women of TMO, with the help of Willbrook Baptist Church's Early Education Program, took this challenge to heart and over the last three weeks have donated more than 300 pairs of shoes for Iraqi children ages 3 through 12.

The challenge was originally presented to the Newcomers club of Madison County. Karlene, Milburn's wife, is a member of the club. At a recent club meeting Angela Fabrizi, the wife of Col. Frank Atkins, asked if the club would support her husband and 100th Battalion/442nd Infantry to provide shoes for children in Iraq. The unit would use the shoes to foster good will between the Soldiers and the people.

"The donations are a win-win

situation; we are able to help the families and ourselves," battalion commander Lt. Col. Colbert Low said. "Whenever we patrol an area that we've helped, the children come out to greet us and we know the area is safe."

TMO is proud to make a small contribution by helping the Iraqi children and U.S. Soldiers at the same time. (*Targets Management Office release*)



Courtesy photo

**COLLECTION BOX— Michelle Williams adds to the shoes for Iraqi children.**

# Golfer seals another course championship

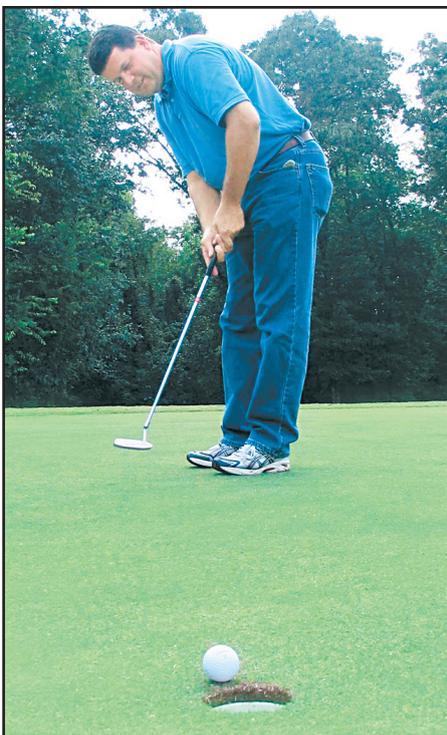


Photo by Kelley Lane

**IN THE HOLE—** Gary Seal spends as much time as possible working on his game.

## Contractor wins third 3rd straight

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

Good golf takes work, according to Gary Seal. He ought to know.

He is the post Morale Welfare and Recreation course champion for the fourth time since 2001.

Seal, an engineer for Raytheon and military policeman with the 203rd Military Police Battalion National Guard unit, won the post championship held Sept. 3-5. This makes his third consecutive title. He took home a \$100 gift certificate for the Redstone pro shop, a place on the winner's plaque and a specially designated parking space at the post course. Seal also won in 2000, the first time he had entered. He credits his winning ways to practice, practice, practice.

"I practice hard," he said. "I play all summer. The highlight of my year is the tournament out here, so I prepare for it."

Seal took up golf at age 13 playing with his father.

"I started playing with my father who

is also an avid golfer for most of his life and I played to be with him," Seal said. "He has always been there for me and we have golfed together for 25-plus years. He is still my favorite golfer to play with." Seal adds that his father is now in his mid-70s, but still plays 3 or 4 days per week. He shoots in the mid-80s.

He said, however, that he didn't get serious about the sport until later when he joined the Marines in 1984. Then he found that beside being a fun past time, golf was also a great way to meet people and make friends.

"I can go anywhere in the world, to any course, meet people, play golf with them and become good friends. Everywhere you go, with golf, you have something in common," he said.

Being both a contractor and guardsmen, Seal found himself in the unique position of qualifying for both the post championship tourney and the active duty tourney in 2001 while on active duty as a gate guard. He won that tournament as well. Since he has another eight years in the National Guard, Seal hopes to one day compete as part of the All-Army Golf Team. He applied this year, but was not selected.

"It has a lot to do with how many local tournaments you have won, so I'm going to keep trying to win locally. Hopefully I'll be lucky enough to be selected," Seal said. "But that's my goal, to make the All-Army team. My unit commander is very supportive. He enjoys golf as well so we play together every chance we get."

Seal hits the links 2 or 3 times a week in pursuit of the game, armed with his bag full of Taylor Made woods, Callaway irons and Titleist golf balls. He practices with all of his clubs, but said he spends more time working with his sand wedge — which has become his favorite.

"I practice my wedge the most of any of my clubs. I love hitting my driver. I've had a lot of putters, but I guess I love hitting my sand wedge the most," he said. "It's the most difficult. It's the club that you've got to really play well to score."

Seal cites consistency as the strongest part of his game.

"I tend to be pretty consistent in the fairway. Because I practice my wedge so much I'm able to chip and putt," he said. "But I guess the main thing is I rarely get into trouble. I'm consistent in the fairway, in play and hitting the greens. That's where I get my success."

Seal has three children. Although his wife, Alison doesn't golf, he said she understands his need to be on the greens. His 4-year-old son is becoming a chip off the old tee. Named Nicholas Payne Seal in honor of famed golfer Payne Stewart who was killed in a plane crash shortly before his birth, Nicholas loves spending time playing golf with his dad. Seal says the little chipper even has his own set of clubs.

"We get out and play all the time. He loves it," Seal said. "He's good. I don't push it though. If he wants to go, I'm glad to take him."

Besides the desire to be an Army golfer, Seal cites an admiration for professional golfer Tiger Woods, both on the course and off.

"Despite his fame and fortune, he stays so humble," he said. "He has several charities that he contributes to and runs. He's very grounded."

Like Woods, Seal has been known to sport a red shirt on the final day of a tournament. This year's three-day competition saw him wearing blue, white and then red on the consecutive days.

Seal sports a game that would make even longtime golfers envious. With a 2 handicap, the 69 Seal shot on the opening day of the tournament followed by two consecutive 75s made for a total score of 219 or 3 over par, business as usual for Seal. He said his favorite hole on Redstone's course would have to be the fifth hole on the Whispering Pines course, but he has favorites on each nine.

"I like the par-3 on the Hillside course, number three. It plays well for my game. I like Whispering Pines number five, the par-5 dog leg right," he said. "It's a very demanding hole. From the blue tees it's very, very tough. I like that challenge. So I'd have to say it's my favorite overall."

## Safety career filled with challenges, rewards

Command safety chief closes in on retirement

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

At 55, John Frost is a personal testimony to the challenging and rewarding career a civil servant can experience with the Army.

"When I look back over the years, I remember all the tremendous responsibilities and opportunities the Army gave me," Frost said. "I couldn't have asked for any more or better opportunities. And, I couldn't ask for any better people to work with than those I've worked with here."

Frost started his career as a safety engineer intern with the Army Materiel Command Field Safety Office while attending graduate school at Texas A&M University in the early 1970s. In the 30-plus years since, he has worked on many of the Army's major missile and helicopter systems. In 1995, he became the chief of AMCOM's (then known as MICOM) Safety Office.

Frost will retire Sept. 30 from a career that has included overseeing system safety engineering for the Army's fleet of aircraft and missiles, and occupational safety for AMCOM's work force. He has served under 13 different commanding generals.

The Birmingham native planned a career in product safety. But a safety engineering internship with the Army in the mid-1970s showed him the multitude of career opportunities the Army had for young engineers. He first worked for the Army Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J. In 1978, he came to Redstone Arsenal as a safety engineer, working with contractors at their manufacturing plants on designs for such missiles as the Hellfire, Stinger and Patriot.

"I've worked with dozens of missiles during my career," he said. "From the beginning of my career, I've been responsible for working to make sure missiles are safe. At a very young age, I was responsible for making sure missile systems were safe enough to give to thousands of troops to fire."

Safety issues have become more complex and sophisticated over the years as systems have become more reliant on computer software systems and wartime environments have changed.

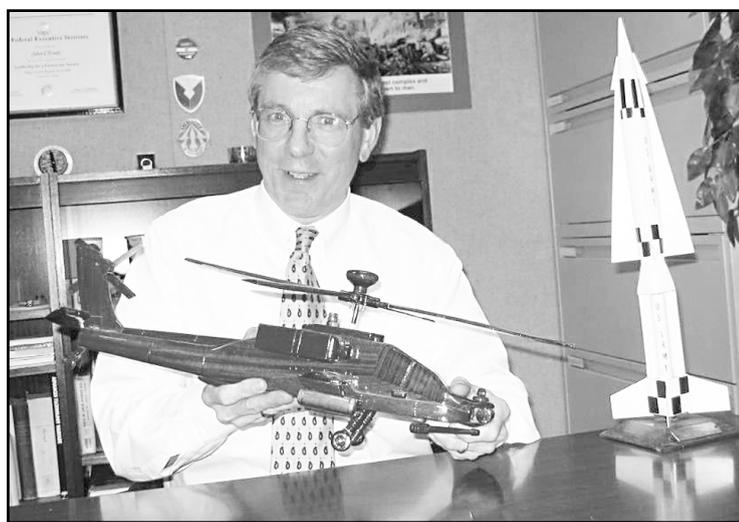


Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TIME PASSES**— John Frost will retire as AMCOM chief of safety after a career that started as an intern.

"It's become much more sophisticated and analytical, and it involves the true owners of the equipment and the project managers in decisions about safety," Frost said. "It has gone to extremely complicated analysis and statistical studies. Software issues have become crucial. And computer models have become much more important in our work."

But keeping safety the top priority for all systems has never been out of focus for Frost and others who he has worked with over the years, including AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury.

"General Pillsbury is the world's leading proponent for safety," he said. "No one believes more in making systems safe for the Soldiers than him. Our work is to keep Soldiers safe in the field during war. In that role, we address everyday safety issues. Several times a day safety issues come up about weapon systems."

Frost's office works directly for AMCOM's chief of staff, who reports to the commanding general, and interfaces with many departments within the Army, including the Aviation Engineering Directorate, Combat Readiness Center and Redstone Technical Test Center. Often, working issues means reviewing statistics and data on performance and safety records. It is not unusual for the Safety Office to communicate directly with Soldiers on safety issues via phone calls.

"The people in the Safety Office are brilliant people who are working on a huge national need," Frost said. "They are dealing with human life decisions all day long. But, it's not a stressful

job because we have such good people that I know we are making the right decisions."

Keeping Soldiers safe in the harsh Iraqi environment has been a challenge for the Safety Office.

"It is a very unique environment," Frost said. "We had a lot of trouble trying to fly aircraft in the dust. The Army has developed new techniques that have greatly improved the ability to safely fly in dust conditions."

Frost and his office implement all Safety of Flight messages for AMCOM that ground or unground Army aircraft worldwide, such as the Black Hawk helicopters that were temporarily grounded in 2002 due to a transmission gear problem.

"You have to balance the risks," Frost said of that situation. "The Black Hawk is used to save lives. But we were saving lives by keeping it grounded until we were satisfied it was safe to fly."

Under Frost's leadership, safety engineering has evolved to become a part of every aspect of missile and aviation systems at AMCOM.

"Safety engineering is part of the design team," he said. "We give advice on how to design missiles and aircraft so they are safe for the Soldier. We are involved in research and development of new systems. We provide technical support when the Combat Readiness Center has to investigate an incident. We're the coordinator of a lot of technical people when a safety issue is concerned."

Frost oversaw a significant change in his office's responsibilities in 1997, when MICOM became AMCOM and the Safety Office was charged with the safety of the Army's helicopter

fleet.

"It was a culture shock for us. We'd spent all these years working with missiles that are shot at helicopters and then we were given the responsibility of the helicopters themselves," he said.

"We were really lucky, though. Some of the smartest people in safety transferred here from St. Louis and taught us how to support helicopter systems."

With that move, the Safety Office grew more in capabilities than it did in size. Today the office employs a staff of 28 safety engineers, safety specialists and health physicists, and 10 safety contractors.

"We are almost the same size we were when we were MICOM, but we are one of the largest safety offices in the Department of Defense," Frost said.

Today the Safety Office consists of three divisions – Safety of the Work Force, which includes everyday safety issues arising from a workplace community of 8,000, Missile System Safety and Aviation Safety.

Frost has always enjoyed working with contractors on safety issues related to the development of newer and better missiles and helicopters.

"It's real exciting seeing the world's best scientists working on a project that has national defense need," Frost said. "We try to make you see how to make systems safe. Our goal is not to keep a missile from firing or a helicopter from flying. There's a way to do anything safely and we'll help engineers and scientists figure that out."

Though rewarding, his career with the Safety Office has also been time consuming as Frost has worked on many immediate safety issues pertaining to field performance.

"You hate to go home at night if somebody needs your answer in Baghdad," he said.

Yet, the time-consuming nature of the job has often been offset by the rewarding challenges it has provided.

"I can't imagine doing anything different," Frost said of his career. "Everyday there's something different and I am working with the world's greatest minds and helping save Soldiers' lives."

Besides leading AMCOM's safety engineers, Frost has also been supportive of promoting the field of safety engineering. One of AMCOM's safety workers sponsors a safety award for the annual Moon Buggy Race at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Safety Office employees are

working with local universities to try to develop safety engineering courses and a curriculum for a degree in safety engineering. They are also active in leadership roles with the local chapter of the System Safety Society, which has been named best chapter six times during the past eight years.

"Huntsville has become one of the centers for system safety," Frost said. "It's gone from being a sleepy Southern town to one of the world leaders in system safety."

Frost said he is leaving AMCOM's Safety Office in good shape, staffed with many capable engineers to continue to provide the high quality of service the Safety Office is known for.

"We have the best safety staff of any Department of Defense office," he said. "I couldn't be prouder of the professionals who work in this office."

He plans to spend a lot of time traveling with his wife, Linda, who is his high school sweetheart. But that doesn't mean he won't still get excited when he sees a Black Hawk or Apache on the nightly news completing a safe and successful mission or seeing an aircraft fire one of AMCOM's missiles.

"It's awesome to see my favorite object on TV," Frost said. "The helicopter is a high visibility machine that gets a lot of attention. Its complexity intrigues me. But at the same time, they are used to fire the missiles we are also responsible for. Though so different, the two systems work together to achieve their missions."



Courtesy photo

### Scholarship winner

Christina Ridgeway, left, president of the American Society of Military Comp-trollers, presents a \$1,000 scholarship to Christine Waldrup during ASMC's September luncheon.

# SMDC supports hurricane relief efforts

AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, members of Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command deployed to Camp Shelby, Miss., to provide key planning support in the form of commercial and spectral imagery, to Joint Task Force-Katrina, responsible for relief and recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast region.

A five-person team, from the Spectral Operation Resource Center, a component of the newly formed STRATCOM MASINT/AGI Node, is taking raw data from commercial imaging satellites and turning the data into a variety of imagery analysis products. The products include “before” and “after” views of areas, which reveal the extent of damage. The images are also being manipulated to show what roads are passable and which areas are under water.

“The SORC created immediate disaster response products that they provided to forces conducting search and recovery missions,” said Brian Plaisted, an operations planner who supports the MASINT Node. “Their products included current image maps of New Orleans with the individual streets identified. As the rescuers are doing the search and rescue, they have a product they can look at and say ‘OK here are the street names’ and know where they are.”

These maps have become critical because search and rescue teams are not from the flood affected areas and are not familiar with road names or neighborhood streets.

The path to providing this critical support began after SMDC/ARSTRAT submitted a list of capabilities to U.S. Northern Command’s crisis action team. On Sept. 1,

SMDC/ARSTRAT received a Request for Forces specifically calling for 24-hour imagery assistance in support of relief forces operating in the disaster area. The following morning, team leader and JTF-K liaison, Lt. Col. Mike Foss along with four other SMDC members deployed with equipment and supplies to Camp Shelby. By Sunday, the team was up and running and has since been producing valuable planning and operational imagery tools for the rescue and recovery operations.

While the forward team continues to provide on-the-ground support to JTF-K, the rest of the SORC element remains busy. An additional SORC analyst was requested over the weekend to join a joint team composed of analysts from the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National

Ground Intelligence Center to help with analysis of an airborne hyperspectral sensor. The sensor will be flown to identify environmental hazards that pose a threat to relief personnel. This team’s first priority is the gas stations and superfund sites that have been inundated with water.

Their goal is to determine which tanks may be leaking fuel into the water, so they can concentrate their efforts on stopping the leaks and hopefully stemming some of the environmental problems that have been caused by the situation.

The rest of the SORC personnel remain at the operational headquarters on Peterson Air Force Base and have been providing reach-back support for the forward deployed JTF-K team, as well as direct support to NORTHCOM and the National Guard Bureau to name a few. To

address one request for data from NORTHCOM the SORC analyzed elevation data and current imagery to identify helicopter landing zones in Mississippi. The SORC analyst used current imagery to identify areas covered with standing water and the vegetation cover of the land, and the elevation data to identify relatively flat areas. Based on this information, the SORC analyst identified areas where helicopters could land safely.

The multitude of products provided by the SORC continues to provide users with planning support to determine where to focus their efforts and potentially save lives. The SORC has also assisted in other disaster relief situations to include fighting wildfires, earthquake and tsunami relief efforts as well as providing space support to the warfighter. (SMDC release)

# Special Forces Soldiers help bring calm to storm

## Task force aiding Hurricane victims

By Maj. STEVE OSTERHOLZER  
*Joint Task Force Katrina*

NEW ORLEANS — “I’m not a very religious man, but I think God put us together for a reason.” That is the heartfelt conviction of Tim Bayard, a New Orleans police captain as he contemplated the actions of the National Guard’s Special Forces amidst the chaos and terror of Hurricane Katrina. As his weary officers worked feverishly to rescue people the day the levees broke in New Orleans, the quiet professionals of the Special Forces were by their side to save their fellow Americans.

These highly-trained Special Forces warriors from the Special Forces Task Force demonstrated exceptional ingenuity and determination during the first few days following Hurricane Katrina. Hurrying from their bases in Southern and Western states, the unit arrived just hours after the levees broke and immediately began rescue operations.

“We linked up with the local police in the area and we each had what the other needed,” said Maj. Derek Lipson, operations officer for the Special Forces element in New Orleans. “We had the boats and the motors but didn’t know the streets. They knew the streets like the back of their hand but didn’t have the boats. By throwing their officers into our watercraft, we rescued over 300 people that first day.”

Another urgent need was to make order out of chaos surrounding the thousands of people stranded on the highway overpasses. Helicopters both laden with supplies and others trying to evacuate people out encountered a crowd so desperate that they would rush the helicopter in a panic for help. Fearful for the crowd’s safety, the helicopters could not land. Once again the quiet professionals of the 20th Special Forces Group brought calm amidst the chaos. One location alone had grown to more than 1,000 people and was cleared by eight Special Forces operators via helicopter in less than five hours.

“We brought in several Special Forces Soldiers to control the crowd around the

helicopter landing zone,” Lipson said. “Just the presence of having SF Soldiers on the ground resulted in the crowd being calmed enough for the helicopters to land.”

Building trust and confidence with the local population is extremely important to Special Forces Soldiers. Since 9-11 the relationship-building skills of the Soldiers have been most needed in places like Afghanistan and Iraq. These same principles of “backing up your word with your actions” were likewise critical in the floodwaters of New Orleans.

“There were several times when the trucks were full and we had to tell people to stay at a particular school,” Sgt. Maj.

Andy Anderson said. “We gave them our word we would be back for them in one or two hours. We moved heaven and earth to make sure that we did come back when we said we would. Word soon spread that you could trust the Special Forces Soldiers.”

Lipson said that his unit brought approximately 4,200 people to safety during the four days his Soldiers were in the water. As his unit begins to redeploy back to prepare for another operation, their commander reflected on the tragedy, heroism and hope that emerged after the wrath of Hurricane Katrina. “My Soldiers here showed the best part of being a Soldier,” he said. “They are true Americans helping their fellow Americans.”

# Stuffed toys bring family through hard times

*Beanie Baby collection continuing to grow*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

“Curly” was a cuddly addition to the Puga family in January 1999.

The little brown bear was hard to find in Aachen, Germany. Beanie Babies were not popular in Europe at the time. So, for the Puga family, finding Curly was like discovering a treasure during a fun day of exploring, searching and shopping.

“We laughed and talked like we hadn’t in months during our search for Curly,” recalled Lorie Puga, who was joined by her husband Staff Sgt. Fernando Puga and their three daughters, Kim, Cathy and Stephanie, during the search for the family’s first Beanie Baby.

“His name made him even more special because of my curly hair and because my girls have curly or wavy hair.”

At the time, the family didn’t know Curly would be the first of hundreds of Beanie Babies that would find a home in the arms of the Puga family.

At last count, Staff Sgt. Puga and his family had 2,011 Beanie Babies, although those purchased at a recent garage sale have yet to be added into the mix. The family proudly displays at least one of each Beanie Baby in a collection that graces an 8-foot high and 14 1/2 foot long wall in their home at Redstone Arsenal’s Apollo Landing housing area. The little stuffed animals are kept in plastic containers, two rows deep, with the manufacturer’s famous Ty labels still attached to their ears.

There are also Beanie Babies throughout the house, with each of the girls keeping their own personal stash in their rooms upstairs.

“The first of each Beanie Baby goes into the collection,” Lorie Puga said. “Then the other ones go to the girls.”

Collecting Beanie Babies has been a type of therapy for the Puga family. Difficult family issues involving the blending of two families – Lorie Puga has two daughters from a previous marriage, Staff Sgt. Puga has two sons from a previous marriage and both have one daughter together – caused the family to split up in 1998. While Staff Sgt. Puga’s sons lived with their mother, bringing the rest of the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WALL OF BEANIES—** Staff Sgt. Fernando Puga, his daughter Kim and his wife Lorie pose with Beanie Babies from Kim’s personal collection in front of the family’s “Beanie Wall.” The family has collected more than 2,000 Beanie Babies from Europe, the U.S. and Korea. Many of them are displayed in plastic containers on their “Beanie Wall.”

family back together again required family counseling.

“The girls were angry. We were all feeling bad,” Lorie Puga recalled. “We knew we wanted to try to get back together. A counselor suggested we find something to do as a family that we had never done before. They suggested we find some kind of hobby that could help us come together.”

While living in the Netherlands, they made their first search for Beanie Babies in Aachen, Germany. During the next couple of years, they would take weekend outings to different places in Europe to search for Beanie Babies.

“They gave us an excuse to go out and do something as a family,” Staff Sgt. Puga said. “It was fun to find Beanie Babies. We never knew what we would find on one of our outings.”

“While looking for Beansies, we would also see other things,” Lorie Puga added. “The things we discovered gave us things to laugh and talk about. Even on the outings when we couldn’t find a Beanie, we would still have a lot of fun and use it as an excuse to stop for pizza in Aachen or do some other fun adventure.”

Even though the family had been through counseling, those first Beanie Babies encouraged them to continue talking to each other.

“A lot of times when you leave counseling you still have feelings that you have to get out,” Staff Sgt. Puga said. “Sometimes going out to find Beansies helped

us relieve the feelings of hurt. We saw so many other things while we were searching.”

“It was fun to go out and get lost trying to find a Beanie store,” Lorie Puga added.

Because the family has lived in Europe and the U.S. during various times in Staff Sgt. Puga’s military career, their collection is unusually eclectic and international in scope. They have bears from Germany, Belgium, Britain and Korea.

“When we came back from the Netherlands, we had 256 Beansies,” Lorie Puga said. “Right before we left, we went shopping and bought another suitcase full of Beansies.”

The family then lived at Fort Campbell, Ky., for two years and moved to Redstone three years ago.

“As soon as we get the house unpacked, we go Beanie Baby shopping,” Lorie Puga said.

Their searches have been rewarding. Right now they are missing only 12 of the very first Beanie Babies, which were first on the market in 1993, six years before the Puga family began their collection.

“This year they are coming out with so many international ones that we are missing 100 of the newer ones,” Lorie Puga said. “Beanie Babies are not as popular as they once were, so they are harder to find.”

The Puga family likes to shop for Beanie Babies locally at Candy Candy at Madison Square Mall, at Hallmark stores and at

Cracker Barrel.

Each has their own favorites in their collection. Lorie Puga loves the seven Beanie Babies that make up the Garfield movie collection – Pooky, Odie, Arlene, Lewis, Normal, Luca and, of course, Garfield.

“I grew up in Indiana and I knew (Garfield creator) Jim Davis’ mom. She had Jim sign all seven of my Garfield Beanie Babies,” Lorie Puga said.

Staff Sgt. Puga especially favors the military bears, such as “Hero” who is dressed in desert cammies, and the military Eagles, such as “Baldy,” “Valor” and “Free.” His favorites also include the Beanie Babies his family sent him while on a hardship tour in Korea, including a Father’s Day bear and an English bulldog. Staff Sgt. Puga returned from Korea with a set of six Asian Pacific flower bears, a bear named LaBearty who is the first white bear with a brown nose, and the original “thank you” bear that Ty distributed only to retailers.

While 18-year-old Kim Puga enjoys her Beanie bears, her sister Cathy likes collecting Beanie cats and dogs, and sister Stephanie has always enjoyed the Beanie bugs, spiders and monkeys.

“But my favorite is the Peace Bear,” said 12-year-old Stephanie, a seventh grader at Williams Middle. “He is jumbo-sized because he is 42 inches tall. When I got him, he was taller than me.”

Kim, whose first Beanie Baby was a robin named “Early the Bird,” recently was given the 2005 graduation Beanie owl named “Smarty.” Each girl has Beansies that share their birthday, and each have holiday Beansies.

When the girls were younger,

they would play together with their Beanie Babies.

“We interacted with each other through Beanie Babies,” said Kim Puga, a graduate of Grissom High.

“They helped us to be better sisters at that time.”

The sisters, though, didn’t get their Beansies mixed up during play times.

“We’d either mark them or we would know where our own jelly mark was on ours,” said 16-year-old Cathy, a junior at Columbia High. “There are still spaghetti stains on Kim’s turtle ‘Snap.’”

The Beanie Babies are an easy way to decorate a home, especially for a military family often on the move to the next assignment. The entire family gets involved in rearranging the collection every month. Special holiday bears, such as their Fourth of July collection, a Halloween pumpkin, an angel bear and Christmas mice, get prominent display during holidays. Every year, the family decorates its Christmas tree with teddy bear Beansies.

“When I have all my Beansies out, they get me in a cheerful mood,” Kim said.

The Beanie Babies are also good at jogging memories of what the family was doing when they purchased a particular Beanie. Mom Lorie Puga is good at remembering the stories about each Beanie Baby and where they are now located in the family’s collection. But her daughters often have to refer to the Ty labels to make sure they get the names right.

“There’s so many of them, I can’t remember their names,” Stephanie said, with a laugh and a shrug.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**CUDDLING WITH BEANIES—** From left Cathy, Kim and Stephanie enjoy keeping their personal collection of Beanie Babies in their rooms. The family started collecting Beanie Babies as a way to get through a difficult family time. They enjoy looking through their collections and using the Beansies to decorate their rooms.

# Unlimited opportunities for children's fun

*Classes available for ages 2-18*

By PATRICIA KLAVER  
MWR Sales and Marketing

Are your children looking for something fun to do? Are you hoping for something that won't break your bank? Look no further than SKIESUnlimited.

SKIESUnlimited stands for "Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills" with unlimited learning possibili-

ties. Children from age 2 to 18 are bound to find something of interest among the many classes that are offered year-round.

"This is a great program with quality classes taught by certified teachers," program manager Brandie DeRemer said.

Children as young as 2 can try Kinder-nastics in one of the year-round, five-week sessions. Also offered are piano lessons, Tae Kwon Do, tennis lessons, dance and cheer teams, and dynamic arts, such as knitting and sewing.

August through December programs bring dance lessons such as Hip Hop, Bal-

let and others, as well as Kindermusik, African Dance and African Drumming. Summer brings various sport camps for youngsters to attend.

"The classes are simply less expensive here than off the Arsenal," DeRemer said. "There are no contracts to sign or commitments to make."

Since there is a monthly payment program, and several classes are held in sessions, the parent only pays as the child attends. Prices vary per class, but the average monthly price is about \$35.

The SKIESUnlimited program helps the development of life, leadership and social skills. Best of all, this program provides the

framework for all instructional programming in the worldwide Child and Youth Services system. Your child can continue to have these learning opportunities no matter where in the world he or she might travel.

Classes are open to children in the Redstone community. If you work on, live on or can access Redstone Arsenal, your child is eligible to enroll in any one of these programs. To learn more about Morale Welfare and Recreation's SKIESUnlimited, or to register for a class, visit Central Enrollment Registration, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call DeRemer at 313-3701.



Photo by Brandie DeRemer

**GETTING KICKS—** Master Jeffrey Davis' Tae Kwon Do class is part of the SKIESUnlimited program.

■ First unit equipped with modernized helicopter gear

## Apache

continued from page 1

"This system seeks to ultimately reduce the operational and support costs of the aircraft," Bosse said. He added that components in the older system are harder to maintain — "like driving an old car."

"Any chance we can reduce that maintenance burden on the back of those Soldiers, we'll try to do that," he said.



Courtesy photo

**TEST FLIGHT—** Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation, sits in the front seat during an M-TADS/PNVS demonstration flight Sept. 12.

# Engineer brings message from the frontlines

Visit with Soldiers in Iraq  
inspiring, enlightening

By **KIM HENRY**  
Staff writer  
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

A full sanctuary on a Sunday morning in the heart of Dixie is a typical sight. The message for this service was a little untypical.

Ronnie Chronister, acting director of the Engineering Directorate at the Research Development and Engineering Center, spoke to members of the Athens First United Methodist Church about his recent trip to Iraq.

Chronister was in Iraq July 4-13 with Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone; Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general; Capt. Brady Traum, the general's aide; post Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn; Dr. Tom Pieplow, assistant program executive officer for aviation; Oswald Ingraham, commander of the Apache Project Office and Gary Cope, branch chief for analysis and sustainment in the Integrated Materiel Management Center's readiness directorate.

The primary purpose of the trip was to visit the aviation maintenance units in various locations. "We all went over to get a firsthand view of the things that were going on in our areas," Chronister, who has 23 years of civilian service, said. "I went over primarily to look at engineering issues that the units might have and to ascertain a status of the test equipment that I manage out of the AMRDEC that the aviation maintenance units have to support their operation there."

In the interest of American Soldiers in Iraq, a small group of women at the church asked Chronister to speak about his trip. Within a day of his presentation, the Athens FUMC minister called Chronister and asked him to talk to the adult Sunday school classes in between church services.

Though the task was daunting, Chronister had two goals in talking to his church.



Photo by Kim Henry

**IN THEATER—** Ronnie Chronister, acting director of the AMRDEC Engineering Directorate, says it was an uneasy feeling to wear the Army uniform. "There are kids that die in that uniform and fought for our freedom and I didn't feel worthy wearing it," he says.

First he wanted to let them know, without getting into the details of his work at Redstone, how good it is to go hear things firsthand instead of having it filtered and more importantly he wanted to share the inspiration he drew from the Soldiers.

"I wanted people to know what good quality men and women we had over there that were representing our country very well," he said. "I also wanted people to know, based on what they (Soldiers) told me, they were very well received over there. Yes you see things on CNN about someone blowing something up, but I was told that the vast majority of Iraqi people were very supportive of us being there and I wanted people to know that. I felt like that was important."

While in Iraq, Chronister says he was able to talk to several Soldiers and was moved by their dedication. "I never heard one complaint from a Soldier about being over there. Of course all of them are separated from families and we talked about some of that, but there was never one complaint," he said. "Just, 'Sir, this is what I do and I am proud to be here and we're doing the right thing.'"

Chronister, 46, said the real significance came when so many people attend-

ed the presentation and reacted so positively to it. "It even became more important because of the reaction I got, maybe more significant than I had thought," he said. It appeared to Chronister that the majority of attendees didn't know about the part Redstone plays in the war or how high morale was among Soldiers.

"It is so hard to get firsthand information," said Bob Murphree, who attended Chronister's presentation. "When someone you know goes and sees firsthand it just clarifies things. I felt better after I heard it from him."

Chronister told the group about how initially his family was leery of him going into a war zone, especially his wife Susan. He said that after Susan explained all the reasons why she didn't want him to go he gave his reasoning.

"I told her, I am a leader in my organization. There are things I do that directly support the Soldier and we talk to our work force all the time about you need to support the Soldier. I think that runs hollow to some degree," he said. "I think it is important for the leadership of this command, including AMRDEC, to actually go see what's going on. To see are we doing things we need to or can we do more."

"When you can come back as a leader and stand before your organization and say we're going to support the Soldier and tell them specifically what we're going to do and why we're going to do it. I think your work force is more motivated, you have much more credibility to your work force and you can go off and do things you need to support the Soldier."

Once he explained his motive, Chronister said his wife was understanding and gave her blessing. "That's what makes her so great," he said. "Not everyone has that support. It was real important that I have her blessing."

Chronister said his kids, Kelly, 21, and Keith and Kyle, both 14, had their concerns. Even some of their friends stopped him to express their worries about his going there.

Even with the worries, Chronister said he felt God's presence throughout his trip. "I saw God through this whole process. Through my wife in the beginning. Through a little girl that was so concerned. The compassion of a child that didn't even know me. That's the face of God to me," he said. "Certainly in the eyes of our Soldiers and their commitment to what they're doing over there. I just saw God everywhere in Iraq and Kuwait. It was a very inspirational event in my life, maybe one of the most."

In making the trip to Iraq, Chronister said he felt relatively safe. He described to the church members how he flew over on a C-130 from Kuwait to Baghdad and that an airman on board told them that they were not flying at a good time of day, it was when they typically got shot at. He also said there were some other scares; while in Balad a mortar was lobbed into the city and when leaving Baghdad the Black Hawks they were in flew maneuvers to make them harder to hit.

"I would say that I was never totally comfortable," he said. "There were times I felt a little concerned. I never took it for granted. It was no where near what some of our kids are subjected to, no where near. Not even in the same arena."

Even in these times, Chronister felt God's presence. "When I was on the airplane we were told about flying into Baghdad, when we were at Balad and there was the threat of a mortar attack and while flying out of Baghdad on the helicopters I was very much at peace," he said. "Not that things were going to work out like I wanted them to, but I was there and that was God's will for me to be there. And I don't know what the reason was but that was where I was supposed to be no matter how things turned out."

While on the trip, Chronister learned that a few things he managed were not working as well as he thought. Specifically, he said the Electrical Equipment Test Facility, which is used to run diagnostics on helicopters, was not operating up to par.

"The issue is they're flying helicopters at four times the OPTEMPO of peace time environment and so obviously things are failing. This piece of equipment becomes much more important, but yet its legacy equipment — it's old. It's using antiquated technology and so there are issues with it operating," he said. "If it's not operating then they can't test the Line Replaceable Units and find out what's wrong with them and get them back on the aircraft. So that's the significance of this piece of equipment."

Once he sensed the urgency, Chronister said he didn't wait for the units to tell him they had issues with the EETF, he went

See Message on page 15



Shawn Harris/Photo Lab

**Thanks for  
support**

Col. Joyce Napier, outgoing commander of 59th Ordnance Brigade, receives a plaque from Lt. Col. Keith Hirschman, product manager of ground maneuver at Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems Project Office. This award was in appreciation for her assistance. Col. Jose Enriquez succeeded Napier at the 59th on Sept. 2.

# Wolfpack roars to preseason tourney title

Charlie wins four straight in unit-level flag football

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

Charlie Company has gotten off to a fast start in flag football.

The Wolfpack beat the Marines 20-18 on Sept. 12 at the troop field off Patton Road in the first game of the six-team preseason tournament. Charlie went on to win the tourney title Friday.

Charlie quarterback LaQuaine Bess threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score against the Marines. He threw a 30-yard TD pass to David Hooks in the first half, scored on a 10-yard run in the second half and threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to Fernando Faust with less than five minutes left. Faust caught the ball on the Marines 10 and ran to the end zone.

"We basically controlled the clock and the ball for the last five or six minutes of the game and ran it out," Charlie cornerback Sean Doyle said. "We were like on the 1 with enough time to score again but we just let the time run out."

The score was tied 6-all at halftime. Marines quarterback Antonio Posey



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**RETURN ENGAGEMENT—** Charlie's Fred Costello Jr. (93) and Tyler Turgeau (81) help stop Marines ball carrier Josh Terry on the opening kickoff.

threw a 50-yard touchdown pass to Lawrence Lee in the first half. He connected with Lee again on a 10-yard TD pass with seven minutes left in the game. Posey scored on a 10-yard run with six minutes left.

"They beat us by two points," Marines coach/safety Marvin Fletcher said. "We had too many penalties to win the game."

Charlie went 4-0 in the tournament, capped by a 22-12 win over Headquarters



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**LOOKING FOR YARDAGE—** Charlie quarterback LaQuaine Bess tries to elude Marines pursuers on an option run in the first half.

& Alpha in Friday's final.

Wolfpack coach/middle linebacker Chelsie Stokes attributed his team's early success to "our speed on offense." He added, "We've got a good running back (Guyron Brock)."

Stokes is optimistic about Charlie's future. "I think we can go all the way," he said last week. "I think we can go all the way and win the championship – the preseason and the regular season championship."

The regular season was tentatively scheduled to start Oct. 11. Results from the preseason tournament include the fol-

lowing:

**Sept. 12** – Charlie def. Marines 20-18 and Headquarters & Alpha won by forfeit over NCO Academy.

**Sept. 13** – Charlie def. MEDDAC 26-16 and Headquarters & Alpha def. Bravo 26-6.

**Sept 14** – Charlie def. Headquarters & Alpha 26-20, Bravo def. Marines 18-2 and MEDDAC def. NCO Academy 12-6.

**Sept. 15** – MEDDAC def. Bravo 20-18 and Headquarters & Alpha def. MEDDAC 18-12.

**Sept. 16** – Charlie def. Headquarters & Alpha 22-12 for championship.



Courtesy photo

## Telethon helpers

Volunteers from the American Society of Military Comptrollers help work the phones during the annual telethon for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. ASMC provided 14 people, including two non-members, and gave \$100 plus a number of personal donations.

# Crimson Tide ready to stew hogs

## Alabama favored over Arkansas

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil



Skip's Picks were 164-45 three weeks into the college football season. Here are my predictions this week:

Arkansas at Alabama — **Bama**  
Western Kentucky at Auburn — **Auburn**  
Allen University at Alabama A&M — **A&M**  
Tennessee at LSU — **Tennessee**  
Florida at Kentucky — **Florida**  
Georgia at Mississippi State — **Georgia**  
Wyoming at Mississippi — **Ole Miss**  
Richmond at Vanderbilt — **Vandy**  
Troy at South Carolina — **S.C.**  
Tuskegee at Arkansas-Pine Bluff — **Tuskegee**  
Iowa State at Army — **Iowa State**  
Air Force at Utah — **Utah**  
Navy at Rice — **Rice**  
Bowling Green at Boise State — **Boise**  
California at New Mexico State — **Cal**  
Boston College at Clemson — **B.C.**  
Colorado at Miami (Fla.) — **Miami**  
East Carolina at West Virginia — **W.Va.**  
Iowa at Ohio State — **Ohio State**  
Michigan State at Illinois — **Mich. State**  
North Carolina at N.C. State — **N.C. State**  
Penn State at Northwestern — **Penn State**  
Purdue at Minnesota — **Minnesota**

Western Michigan at Temple — **W. Mich.**  
Hofstra at Furman — **Furman**  
North Texas at Kansas State — **K-State**  
Youngstown State at Pittsburgh — **Pitt**  
Florida A&M at Tennessee State — **Tenn. State**  
TCU at Brigham Young — **BYU**  
Duke at Virginia — **Virginia**  
Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech — **Va. Tech**  
Maryland at Wake Forest — **Maryland**  
Notre Dame at Washington — **Notre Dame**  
Appalachian State at The Citadel — **The Citadel**  
Hampton at Morgan State — **Hampton**  
Jackson St. at Mississippi Valley State — **Miss. Valley**  
Michigan at Wisconsin — **Michigan**  
Marshall at Central Florida — **Marshall**  
Nevada at Colorado State — **Colo. State**  
Louisville at South Florida — **Louisville**  
Holy Cross at Delaware — **Holy Cross**  
Indiana State at Texas Tech — **Texas Tech**  
Jacksonville State at Southeast Missouri State — **Jax**  
Memphis at Tulsa — **Memphis**  
Texas State-San Marcos at Texas A&M — **Texas A&M**  
Chattanooga at Georgia Southern — **Chattanooga**  
Southern California at Oregon — **USC**  
Southern Mississippi at Houston — **So. Miss.**  
Albany State at Southern — **Southern**  
Alcorn State at Alabama State — **Bama State**  
San Jose State at San Diego State — **San Diego**  
Tulane at Southern Methodist — **Tulane**  
UNLV at Utah State — **UNLV**  
Hawaii at Idaho — **Idaho**  
New Mexico at Texas-El Paso — **El Paso**  
Arizona State at Oregon State — **Ariz. State**

■ Trip to Iraq delivers to-do list for engineering director

## Message

continued from page 12

straight to the warrant officer or non-commissioned officer responsible to find out what their problems were. Before he left the theater, Chronister said he recognized that they were going to have to pull together a team of organizations that support the equipment to rectify the issues.

"I'm cautiously optimistic. We're reacting right now," he said. His plan is to make the system more proactive by developing sources of supply for the critical EETF spares.

"So we're in a reactive mode now. We've had initial success because all of the units except for one are operational to some level, fairly consistently," said Chronister, who has spent his entire career in the engineering directorate. "The idea then is to become more proactive. In terms of the parts they need, the technical support that they need, the calibration support that they need for that piece of equipment. It is going to take a while for us to get to that point. We want to keep them running right now, that's the initial goal."

More than anything, talking with Soldiers hammered home the significance of fixing the equipment. "I talked to a kid at dinner

one night that had driven 15 hours in a convoy. He had just woken up, was eating dinner and was going back," he said. "You get a real, clear perspective of the danger that those men and women face in the convoys. When you sit there and talk to a kid who has been through that then you think about the importance that if I keep this helicopter flying it is going to minimize that type of vulnerability."

Chronister said that this made him realize that getting parts to Soldiers in days was no longer an option. "So three days, while it sounds like that is not a big deal over here, it's a huge deal there. So we've got to get it down to hours. We can't be happy and pat ourselves on the back for getting something over there in a couple of days, we've got to try to do better."

While Chronister has work to do, he is grateful that he was able to go on the trip and believes that the leadership should continue to make the trip. If not for learning issues, Chronister also believes for personal meaning.

"Like I said I went over there to see if there were issues that I could fix and I came back with so much more," he said. "It's something that will never leave me. It is something that I will leave this world with, the inspiration that I got from that trip. I saw God everywhere, it was amazing."



## Sports & Recreation

### Basketball beginners

Child and Youth Services offers the parent-participation Smart Start Basketball Program for ages 3-5. This six-week session runs from 10 to 11 a.m. every Saturday beginning Sept. 24 at the Youth Center, building 3148 off Goss Road. Your child will practice basic motor skills needed for basketball in a safe, relaxed environment. Lessons include the essentials of dribbling, handling, passing and shooting. Each child will receive a Start Smart T-shirt. Registration is \$30 (plus \$18 if you have not joined CYS), and takes place now through Friday. To register, visit the CYS Registration Office at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Gates 682-0304.

### Fall bass event

Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America will hold its 2005 Fall Bass Tournament on Oct. 1 from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Easter Posey Recreation Area on post. Registration deadline is Sept. 26. Entry fee per boat is \$25 for members, \$30 non-members. Big bass pot is \$5 per boat. For more information, call tournament director Bob Vlasics 881-4144 or Tom Geoffroy 895-4162.

### Atlanta baseball trip

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center is hosting a tour to the Atlanta Braves vs. Florida Marlins baseball game Saturday at

Turner Field in Atlanta. Tour will include chartered bus transportation, and reserve seats at "field level" down the first base line. There will be an early dinner stop on the way to the game. The bus will depart the recreation center, building 3711 at noon. Game time is 6:05 p.m. CST. Sign up is under way and the cost is \$68.50. Seating is limited. For more information and to register for the tour, visit building 3711 between 1:30 and 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday (weekends 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) or call Gail 876-4531.

### Visionland tickets

The Information, Ticketing and Registration Office, building 3711, has Visionland combo tickets available at Redstone community discounted prices. Visionland in Birmingham offers adult tickets at \$26.50, a savings of \$6.14 off the gate price and \$18.75 for junior/senior tickets (ages 3 through 9 and 62 and over), a savings of \$3 off the gate price. Visit the ITR office – open 1:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday – or call 876-4531 for more information.

### Street hockey

If you like team sports, like to have fun and need some exercise, then Madison street hockey is looking for you. This adult-non-contact-tennis-shoe league plays on Sundays starting in October. For information call Al Bryan 679-2506 or e-mail bamabryans@knology.net.

### Hunter orientation

Redstone Hunter Orientation Course for the 2005-06 season will be held at 4:30

p.m. on Sept. 22, Oct. 6 and 20 and Nov. 3 and 17 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711, Aerobee Road at Patton Road. Items required to hunt on Redstone Arsenal include: 1. Alabama state hunting license; 2. any state's hunter education certificate (more information can be found regarding local classes at [www.outdoorAlabama.com](http://www.outdoorAlabama.com)); 3. Redstone Arsenal hunting orientation; and 4. Redstone Arsenal hunting permit. Hunters must have items 1-3 before they can purchase the Redstone permit.



## Conferences & Meetings

### AMCOM town hall

The AMCOM Town Hall, with commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, is Sept. 26 from 8:30-10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. It will be broadcast on Team Redstone television channel 42, and via Internet portal TV to computer desktops equipped with the IPTV application. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the Auditorium. Badges must be worn by all attending. All AMCOM, PEO Aviation and PEO Missiles and Space employees are encouraged to attend.

### Fleet association

Attention all military retirees (including National Guard retirees) with enlisted sea service time in Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy, and all current active duty and reserve enlisted of those services: Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting on Saturday at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For information call Gene Aittala 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

### Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Mike Ward from the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce is scheduled speaker. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited. For more information, call retired Air Force Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

### Hispanic heritage panel

Individuals interested in participating in the planning, coordination and execution of this year's Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration are invited to attend the weekly planning committee meeting held every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Garrison Equal Employment Office, room 124, building 111.

### Security awareness week

The G2s for Aviation and Missile Command, Space and Missile Defense Command, in addition to NASA Security, are sponsoring Security Awareness Week from Nov. 14-18. The training offered will satisfy the mandatory annual Department of Army security awareness training requirement for participating organizations. The projected participants in the Security Awareness Week include AMCOM, SMDC, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, PEO Aviation, the Research Development and Engineering Center and NASA. Each of these organizations will have specific times throughout the week to attend training sessions in Bob Jones Auditorium. The purpose of the Security Awareness Week is to promote security awareness in the Redstone community through a series of

events that will inform and educate in a manner that will interest, entertain and have a solid impact on the community. For information on the schedule, call Doug Lee 313-5783.



## Miscellaneous

### Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 25B/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 have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B/74B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-5390.

### Civilian deployment

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

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-4 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Motorcycle safety course

Motorcycle safety training – for experienced riders – is conducted behind the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership building off I-565 and Greenbrier Road, exit 3. The contact is Keith Coates of the Garrison Safety Office 876-3383 (e-mail [keith.coates@redstone.army.mil](mailto:keith.coates@redstone.army.mil)). Students in this Experienced Rider Course should have ridden for at least a year, and have ridden more than 1,000 miles. Bring your own motorcycle – fully serviceable, good tires, charged battery and topped off with fuel. You can rent a bike at the dealership for \$25. To participate you must have a DOT approved helmet, eye protection, long sleeve shirt or jacket, boots or

shoes that cover the ankles, full fingered gloves, and long pants. The course will start promptly at 8 a.m. and should be completed between 5-6 hours. If it rains, rain gear is required. Cost is covered for active duty and retired military and Defense Department civilians. All others pay their own fee. The instructor is Ralph Harris 341-9424, ext. 424

#### **Quarterly retirement event**

The Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is Thursday at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Russell Kimball 876-2819. Retirement ceremonies are scheduled Dec. 15, March 23 and June 22.

#### **Chapel services**

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) – noon Catholic Mass. Saturday – 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday – 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11 a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

#### **Native American drum**

“Little Turtle” will hold a Native American Drum Class every Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Max Luther Learning Center, 301-A Max Luther Drive. This free class is intended for all ages who want to learn the art of Native American drumming. Children are encouraged to attend. For information call 655-2125.

#### **Bible study**

Protestant Women of the Chapel members invite all the women of the community to join them at their weekly Bible study Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. Four studies take place from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. A lunch study begins at 11:30 until 12:15. Child care is provided at the chapel. For more information, call Toni Welch 489-5646 or Erica Hobbs 489-3018.

#### **Women’s health**

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women, and all women are at risk. The good news is that heart disease can be prevented. You can learn how. On Saturday, call the Go Red HeartLine toll-free at 1-877-GO-RED-05 anytime between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to speak to a knowledgeable registered nurse who will answer your questions about heart disease. You can discuss your personal risks for women’s No. 1 killer and what you and your doctor can do to prevent this disease at no cost to you. The Go Red HeartLine is offered by the American Heart Association’s Go Red For Women movement, nationally sponsored by Macy’s and Pfizer. The 2005 Go Red HeartLine is made possible by SHPS’ CareWise Nurse Line with support from PacifiCare Health Systems.

#### **Organizational day**

AMRDEC Organizational Day is Oct. 6 (with rain date Oct. 13) at the Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area for all AMRDEC personnel. Entertainment, games, softball, volleyball, prizes and

**See Announcements on page 18**

# Rocket Announcements

food will be available. Chicken or pork meal tickets are \$8 adult; hot dog meals are \$3.50 for children 12 and under. For tickets and more information, call Dr. Steve Smith 876-8331.

## Aeronautical university

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is now registering for the winter term, Oct. 18 to Dec. 19. Deadline to register is Oct. 14. For more information, call 876-9763, visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222; the web site at <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>; or e-mail [huntsville.center@erau.edu](mailto:huntsville.center@erau.edu). Embry-Riddle is now offering a master of science in management program on Redstone Arsenal.

## Logistics award nominations

Nominations for the Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award are being accepted for deserving individuals (civilian or military) assigned to Team Redstone who have made significant contributions to the logistics community and whose leadership and expertise have made a major, positive impact on the Army's logistics program. The 2005 "Ernie" format will include two awards – the Management/Executive Award for GS/GM-13s and above (or military equivalents), and the Professional/Technical Award for GS/GM-13s and below (or military equivalents). Submit nominations by Friday to Kathryn White 876-1757 or Debra Foley 842-6783. The winners will be announced at a luncheon Nov. 3 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

## Big Spring Jam

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is selling advance Weekend Tickets for the Big Spring Jam, Sept. 23-25. You may purchase a weekend pass for \$35. Weekend passes beginning on the day of event, available at the gate only, are \$40 for the weekend and \$20 for a day pass. Make checks payable to Big Spring Jam. Today is the last day for advance ticket sales. CWFC representatives selling tickets are: building 5302, Jan Pickard 876-2569; building 5307, Randy Bigler 955-0505; DAU, Don Clark 722-1035; building 5304, Jerrel McCollum 313-1595; building 5681, Robert Olson 313-4975; building 5309, Nancy Braxton 842-6038; building 5435, David Braxton 842-6080; and building 5220, Sarah Trail 955-3552. You may also purchase tickets at any of your Post Restaurant facilities in buildings 5302, 6263 and 5250. Log on [www.bigspringjam.org](http://www.bigspringjam.org) for more BSJ information and the schedule of entertainers.

## Hispanic festival

The Alabama Hispanic Association invites everyone to its biggest cultural event of the year,

the seventh annual Hispanic Community Festival, Oct. 1 from noon until 7 p.m. at Big Spring Park downtown (across from the Holiday Inn Select, near the gazebo). There is no admission charge. You are encouraged to bring your lawn chairs or blankets, but no pets or outside coolers will be allowed on the festival grounds. The festival will go on rain or shine. For information on AHA, visit [www.alabamahispanicassociation.org](http://www.alabamahispanicassociation.org) or call president Margaret Rotger (256) 325-8464 or 325-4242.

## Resume writing tips

This workshop will introduce participants to all aspects of written self-marketing tools including resumes, cover letters, networking cards, and thank you letters. It will be held Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3332 on Redeye Road. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

## Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

## Job application briefing

The RESUMIX Briefing will provide information on the federal application process and the RESUMIX system. "This will be an excellent opportunity for you to ask questions and have them answered by a subject matter expert from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center," a prepared release said. The briefing is 9 a.m. Oct. 6 at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Seating is limited, so call 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

## Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for September include: Troop area – Headquarters & Alpha, building 3413; Area 1 – Spc. Matthew Hudnall, 509-C Walnut Circle; Area 2, Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins, 1011 Buffington Road; Area 3 – Capt. Vince Hawley, 27 Ripley Drive; Area 4 – Staff Sgt. Patrick Belle-Oudry, 645 Dyer Circle; Area 4A – Sgt. 1st Class Derrick Whittington, 621 Wesson Circle; Area 5 – 2nd Lt. Jacob Quinn, 281 Skinner Drive; Area 6 – Staff Sgt. Bradley Smith, 310 Hughes Drive; Area 10A – Sgt. 1st Class Richard Creager, 478-B Cooke Drive; and Area 10B – Lt. Col. Stephen Reed, 480 Cooke Drive.

## Flying open house

Redstone Flying Activity will hold an open house Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Mini flying lessons with a certified flight instructor are \$30 for adults and \$25 for children 12 and under. There will also be aviation videos, simulators and free food and drinks. This event is open to the entire Redstone community. For more information, call 880-9495 or 876-0237.

## Postwide garage sale

Morale Welfare and Recreation will hold a postwide garage sale Oct. 1 from 8 a.m. until noon at the south end of the Post Exchange parking lot. Permits to sell items may be purchased for \$7 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 (corner of Patton Road and Aerobee Road). All items being sold must be personally owned or used. Sellers must be in place by 7:45 the morning of the sale. No vendors will be allowed. For more information or official guidelines, call 876-4531 or 876-5492.

## Unsolicited relief

The Internet Crime Complaint Center has issued an alert regarding fraudulent web site solicitations for Hurricane Katrina

relief. More than 2,300 web sites were soliciting for donations for relief. The FBI said most of these are fraudulent and many are coming out of Europe. There are several dangers in responding to these sites. The first is identity thief, the second is your funds are not going where you intended, and last is the possibility of getting a computer virus. The safest way to ensure you are not a target of a fraudulent web site is to contact a recognized agency directly. The Red Cross ([www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org)) is the biggest site that is being duplicated. Many people are getting unsolicited e-mails that appear legitimate, but when you click on the link in the e-mail, you are actually re-directed to a web site that is not associated to the Red Cross in any way. It is advisable not to follow any link sent to you in an unsolicited e-mail. If you are the recipient of spam e-mail asking for donations that you suspect is a fraudulent web site, contact [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov).

## Newcomers' orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community

Service newcomers' orientation Oct. 4 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned to Redstone Arsenal. Spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

## Veterinary clinic

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics Sept. 28 from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk-in basis for routine vaccinations. Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and microchip identification will also be available for pets. For more information, call the facility 876-2441.

## ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE		WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	R	T	V	U
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																				
ASCB05808842	Lead Logs. Mgmt Spec.	21-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05791897	Supply Technician	21-Sep-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-2005	7	7	34,363 - 44,673	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05737422D	Electronics Pub. Spec.	21-Sep-05	LOGSA	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ASCB05737422	Electronics Pub. Spec.	21-Sep-05	LOGSA	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05812741	Supv. Mechanical Eng.	23-Sep-05	Redstone Tech Ctr.	GS-0830	14	14	85,656 - 111,355	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05812741D	Supv. Mechanical Eng.	23-Sep-05	Redstone Tech Ctr.	GS-0830	14	14	85,656 - 111,355	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05796080D	Supv. Logistics Mgmt Spe	23-Sep-05	IMMC	NH-0346	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799677	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	23-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799680	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	23-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799678	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	23-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05798861	Mgmt. Analyst	23-Sep-05	AMC - Gen. Staff	GS-0343	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784701	General Engineer	25-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784701D	General Engineer	25-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05838570	General Supply Specialist	26-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-2001	9	9	42,034 - 54,641	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05701790	Lead Logs. Mgmt Spec.	26-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05738640	Facilities Coordinator	26-Sep-05	PEO C3T	GS-0301	11	11	42,034 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799686	Technical Writer-Editor	26-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-1083	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05761742	Lead General Engineer	26-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05761742D	Lead General Engineer	26-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05843432	Budget Analyst	27-Sep-05	RDEC	DE-0560	3	3	46,289 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05819709	Int. Prgm. Mgmt. Spec.	28-Sep-05	AMC, Security Asst	GS-0301	9	9	42,034 - 54,641	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799682	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	28-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799685	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	28-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05799687	Logistics Mgmt. Spec.	28-Sep-05	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05805361D	Bus. Mgmt. Ofcr	28-Sep-05	ASC, UAV Sys Bus	NH-0301	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05805361	Bus. Mgmt. Ofcr	28-Sep-05	ASC, UAV Sys Bus	NH-0301	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05792218	Secretary (OA)	29-Sep-05	PEO, MSC, CCW	GS-0318	7	7	34,363 - 44,673	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784260	Proc. & Prod. Ofcr.	29-Sep-05	PEO Acq. Mgmt Prj	NH-1101	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784260D	Proc. & Prod. Ofcr	29-Sep-05	PEO Acq. Mgmt Prj	NH-1101	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05797923	Public Affairs Specialist	30-Sep-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-1035	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

<b>THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.S.OPM.GOV</b>																				
SCBK05733422D	Electronic Publication Spe	21-Sep-05	LOGSA	GS-0301	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05812741D	Supv. Mechanical Eng	23-Sep-05	RTTC, ETD	GS-0830	14	14	85,656 - 111,355	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784701D	General Engineer	25-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	14	15	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05761742D	Lead General Engineer	26-Sep-05	ARDEC	DB-0801	14	15	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05805361D	Bus. Mgmt. Ofcr.	28-Sep-05	ASC, UAV Sys. Bus	NH-0301	14	15	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK05784260D	Proc & Prod. Ofcr	29-Sep-05	PEO, Acquis. Mgmt	NH-1101	14	15	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

**NOTE:** If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.  
**NOTE:** The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) or you may telephone 876-7772.  
 Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit [www.amccareers.com](http://www.amccareers.com) or [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil), search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647, for more information.