

Redstone Rocket

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Proven center of testing excellence

Army's test and evaluation
commander lauds his Redstone
subordinate element

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Customers have good reasons for coming to Redstone, according to the Army's test and evaluation commander.

Maj. Gen. James Myles, commander of the Army Test and Evaluation Command, visited the Redstone Technical Test Center and other organizations here Nov. 7-8. RTTC is a subordinate of the Army Test and Evaluation Command.

"They work friendly, they work effectively, they work smart – technically smart – and they're great patriots. They love Soldiers," he said of the Redstone center. "You want to take your most important requirements to Redstone."

He cited as an example the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defense Organization, under the Office of Secretary of Defense, which came to Redstone because of the synergy between the Prototype Integration Facility and RTTC. "They wanted something done quickly," Myles said.

Redstone Technical Test Center is "the center of excellence for rapid integration and prototype," according to the general.

The Army Test and Evaluation Command, based in Alexandria, Va., has 9,500 people – including Soldiers, civilians and contractors – and runs a third of the Army's land. Under base realignment and closure, the headquarters is to move from Alexandria to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., in fiscal 2011.

Also under BRAC, the Aviation Technical Test Center at Fort Rucker is moving to Redstone by 2009-10.

"I think we're going to see a synergy there which we've never had the opportunity to see before," Myles said. "It brings together the (Program Executive Office for) Aviation, PEO Missiles and the testers. It's a synergy there that's pretty powerful."

"We think you'll see rapid prototype testing and integration on the aviation side that we've seen accomplished by the RTTC missile side."

Besides visiting the Redstone center, Myles also received an update on the ballistic missile defense ground-based test that's ongoing between here and Colorado Springs, Colo. He visited the Program Executive Office for Aviation. But his main mission was to visit the Redstone Technical Test Center.

"They're really a model of how we're



OFFICE MEETING— Maj. Gen. James Myles, the Army's test and evaluation commander, visits Paul Bogosian, the program executive officer for aviation.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

able to work closely with the acquisition community," he said of the center.

The center has supported the Global War on Terrorism on several fronts, according to the general. It has provided some aircraft survivability equipment testing which has deployed its results to the field within weeks, for example.

"One can argue that the work that Redstone has done in support of and in close coordination with the PMs (program managers) is probably responsible for air crews being able to come back from Iraq to their families," Myles said.

The South Carolina native, who was raised in Nashville, assumed command of the Army Test and Evaluation Command in May 2004. He was commissioned in 1974 upon graduating from Middle Tennessee State University. His wife, the former Alice Myers, is from Chattanooga.

"I'm proud of (RTTC) for what they're doing to support our Soldiers," Myles said. "They are a national asset and we are committed to the RTTC work force to make sure they're resourced to continue their mission."



Photo by Jon Sells/SAIC

Simulated attack

Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville-Madison County emergency responders joined forces Nov. 8 in responding to a simulated terrorist attack on Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville during exercise Blister Rain. The exercise tested the Garrison's response capability and gave tenant organizations and local community organizations an opportunity to evaluate their response as well. The Arsenal and Huntsville-Madison County coordinated actions and shared information to improve teamwork among all members of Team Redstone.

An open lane random survey

What's your pet peeve?

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Scott Welcher
Integrated Materiel Management Center
"Coming from a high cost of living area (Seattle, Wash.), everything here is great. It seems like every time we turn around we're saving money. The gas is cheaper, food's cheaper. Everything. Right now I don't have any problems here. I could say ask me this again in six months (laugh)."



Earnest Hobson
Integrated Materiel Management Center
"Tardiness. Being in the Army - I did 20 years in the military - that was always one of the things that was stressed. Being on time, being in the right place."



Monty Hill
deputy G-2 (Intelligence and Security)
"Long waits at restaurants. If I make a reservation and the wait is longer than 30 minutes, I will leave."



Linda Morgan
Cost Analysis Directorate
"I would say inconsiderate drivers. And that's not just on the Arsenal, it's off the Arsenal, too. I think it's off post more than on post. On the way to work you run into them. People who don't use their turn signals, and talk on cell phones, and don't pay attention to what they're doing."



Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Tina Rockwood
Job: Public affairs assistant, AMCOM/Garrison Public Affairs Office

Where do you call home?
Gulfport, Miss.



What do you like about your job?
I will probably like dealing with people. I'm very much a people person. My first day was Oct. 30th.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Really I've been spending most of my (spare) time trying to go back home to the Coast to check on my family and friends.

What are your goals?
To learn everything I can about this base and be an asset to the Public Affairs Office.

What's your favorite type of music?
Classical

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

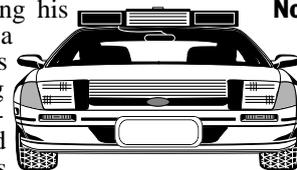
Nov. 2: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.

Nov. 2: An individual reported someone stole his Sony PSP player, valued at \$250, from his room in the barracks. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Nov. 5: An individual stopped at Gate 10 was found to be operating their vehicle with suspended license. The subject received a violation notice.

Nov. 6: An individual stopped at Gate 9 and requested a visitor's pass with an expired driver's license. A check was conducted

and a felony warrant existed for the subject out of Colbert County. The subject was released to a Colbert County sheriff's deputy.



Nov. 7: A contractor working on the Wernher Von Braun Complex reported that someone stole two rolls of copper wire valued at \$1,400. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Investigation Section.

Nov. 8: An individual was stopped for speeding by an officer and found to be driving with a suspended license. The subject received two violation notices.

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

Violation notices issued: 5 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 2 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 failure to yield.

Move out of the way for emergency vehicles

Imagine working as a police officer and being stopped on the side of the roadway, only to be struck by a passing vehicle and killed.

"Redstone Arsenal police officers and other emergency responders routinely stop their vehicles roadside, and that makes them especially vulnerable," said Maj. Art Riley, acting provost marshal and director of emergency services.

A new Alabama law requires motorists on roadways with four or more lanes to move over one lane when approaching emergency vehicles stopped with their flashing emergency lights activated.

Known as the "move-over" law, the act requires motorists to change into a lane not adjacent to an authorized emergency vehicle that has stopped and is displaying flashing emergency lights. The law also stipulates that when changing lanes is unsafe or not possible, motorists instead should slow down and maintain a safe speed for the road conditions.

Act 2006-546 was passed during the regular session of the Legislature and became effective July 1. The law's "move-over" provision applies to roadways with four or more lanes,

with at least two lanes proceeding in the same direction as the vehicle being approached.

Drivers are also reminded of a closely related Alabama law (32-5A-115), requiring motorists to yield the right-of-way to authorized emergency vehicles approaching them. Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle with its emergency equipment activated, the driver should immediately proceed to the right-hand edge of the roadway, clear of any intersection, and stop and remain there until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed. (Note that this requirement applies to vehicles on both sides of the roadway.)

Motorists can be aware of any authorized emergency vehicles in their area by practicing good driver safety at all times. (Directorate of Emergency Services release)

Smooth transition promised for new defense secretary

WASHINGTON - DoD personnel will work diligently to ensure a seamless transition between outgoing Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Robert Gates, Pentagon officials said.

President Bush accepted Rumsfeld's resignation Nov. 8 and announced he was appointing Gates to succeed him. DoD personnel will work to ensure that transition goes without a hitch, officials said. Rumsfeld will remain in the position until the Senate confirms Gates.

Senate officials said it is too early to say when the confirmation hearings will be held. (American Forces Press Service)



Robert Gates

Quote of the week

'Ain't no man can avoid being born average, but there ain't no man got to be common.'

— Satchel Paige
baseball great

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The Rocket will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the Rocket is noon Friday.



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Flag retirement serves as veterans tribute

Ceremony significant for Grissom High

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Grissom High School students and faculty gathered Thursday in front of their school for a solemn ceremony that many people have never witnessed.

An American flag that had flown outside the school was retired as a Veterans Day tribute.

“We try to do something

every year for our veterans and respect for them,” Grissom principal Tom Drake said. “Many of our students including myself have never seen the retirement of a flag. So I felt this was appropriate.”

Former students of the southeast Huntsville school are among the servicemembers fighting abroad in the Global War on Terrorism. One has died and another was wounded.

“This is kind of our way to show our students what Veterans Day is all about,” said Drake, clearly moved by the ceremony. “And I think today we were successful.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

OLD GLORY— Members of Grissom High School's Army Junior ROTC cut the flag into sections during the worn banner's retirement ceremony Thursday.



Photo by Skip Vaughn
WARM FEELINGS— Cadet Lt. Col. Kristina Azar, a senior who serves as the Grissom battalion commander, places part of the flag into flame during the ceremony in which the worn banner is retired and destroyed.

Community honors veterans in big way

Dinner draws 600 attendees

By KARI HAWKINS
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Military heroes from Madison County graced the presentation stage at a dinner in their honor on the eve of Veterans Day as the Huntsville community came out in full force to show their appreciation for their service.

Calling it a “night to say thank you,” retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet, who served as emcee for the eighth annual Veterans Dinner on Nov. 10, told the audience “when others turn away it’s our veterans who are willing to stand up and be counted and put their boots on the ground.”

More than 600 attendees representing the community, local businesses and the military attended the dinner in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center. During the event, eight veterans were inducted into the Madison County Hall of Heroes and 17 veterans were recognized as Purple Heart recipients while retired Department of Defense/Redstone Arsenal employee and current community leader Emily Vandiver received the Distinguished Service Medal, the highest award presented by the governor of Alabama.

The evening’s recognitions opened with a Soldiers Tribute, a rendition of the warrior ethos by members of the 19th Alabama Reenactment Group and Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal. It continued with a Tribute to Fallen Comrades presented by Vandiver, president of the Redstone-Huntsville chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, the reading of President Bush’s Veterans Day message by Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Scott, Redstone Arsenal’s Drill Sergeant of the Year, a special airing of the new “Army Strong” advertising campaign and music by WAFF-48’s Lee Marshall and the Huntsville Police Department’s Blue Notes Five.

But, the centerpiece of the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REMEMBERING WARRIOR ETHOS— Members of the 19th Alabama Reenactment Group and Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal present the warrior ethos at the eighth annual Veterans Dinner. Retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet, in background, emcees the dinner Nov. 10 at the Von Braun Center North Hall.

evening’s dinner was the veterans who received recognition.

Veterans inducted into the Madison County Hall of Heroes by the Madison County Military Heritage Commission were:

- Harvey E. Stewart, recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Soldier’s Medal; Bronze Star and Air Medal with Valor for service in Vietnam War;
- Thomas A. Kahlert, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with Valor for service in the Vietnam War;
- William E. Pedigo, recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bronze Star with Valor for service in the Vietnam War;
- Thomas W. Dunn, recipient of the Bronze Star with Valor for service in the Vietnam War;
- Vernon L. Frosberg, recipient of the Bronze Star with Valor for service in the Vietnam War;
- Judson Walker, recipient of the Bronze Star with Valor for service in the Vietnam War;
- Michael J. Rogers, recipient of the Air Medal with Valor for service in the Vietnam War; and
- Mark V. Burns, recipient of the Army Commendation Medal

with Valor for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The names of these veterans will be added to the Hall of Heroes display located in the lobby of the Madison County Courthouse.

Veterans who were recognized as Purple Heart recipients by Chapter 2201, George A. Raugh Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart were: Michael S. Braswell (now serving in Iraq), Glenn A. Byrd (Vietnam), the late Jack Greenshaw (Vietnam), Lindsey B. Jenkins (Vietnam), Tony L. Lawson (Vietnam), the late Scott M. Love (killed in action in Iraq), James O. McLinnaham (Iraq, still on active duty), William E. Moore (Vietnam), the late Kermit Payne (Korea), Truman R. Payne (Vietnam), Henry C. Phillips (Korea), Deiter Prigmore (Vietnam), Michael J. Rogers (Vietnam), Harvey E. Stewart (Vietnam), the late Sam W. Stewart (Vietnam), Judson Walker (Vietnam) and Ralph W. White Jr. (Vietnam).

“I don’t know where you can go in this country and see a ceremony like we’ve conducted tonight,” Drolet said in closing.

Army Community Service gets car seats donation

Military parents invited to ACS lending closet

Infants and toddlers with parents stationed at Redstone Arsenal will be assured of safer automobile travel because of a gift from the Government Employee Insurance Company.

“Traffic crashes, not disease, are the leading cause of death among young children,” said Richard Kidd, former Sergeant Major of the Army and now the vice president, GRF/Military Departments of GEICO.

“The lifesaving value of properly positioned and installed children car seats is demonstrated on a daily basis. It is a fact that child car seats reduce injuries and save lives of small children,” he said.

GEICO donated five infant/toddler car restraint seats to Army Community Service for use in the Lending Closet program. Military parents may borrow an infant/toddler car seat for up to 30 days at no cost to the servicemember.

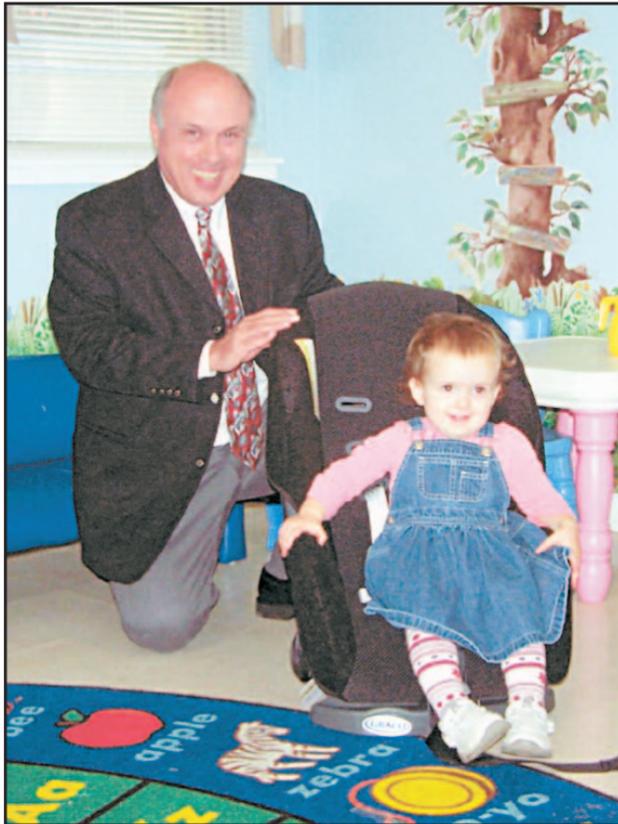
“Our hope is that by providing the seats for loaners, we can help parents protect their children without busting their budget,” Kidd said.

Since 1985, GEICO has donated more than 10,000 infant and toddler car seats for use by military families through the Department of Defense programs such as ACS.

Currently the law in all states and the District of Columbia requires that parents use occupant restraints for their children usually up to age 3 or 4.

Alabama law requires the following:

- Infant only seats and convertible seats used in the rear facing position for infants until at least 1-year-old or 20



Courtesy photo

CONTRIBUTION— Louis Zarrilli, GEICO direct agent, sits with Ellie Ottum, daughter of Megan and Dennis Ottum. The Government Employee Insurance Company donated five infant/toddler car restraint seats to Army Community Service for use in the Lending Closet program.

pounds.

- Convertible seats in the forward position or forward facing seats until the child is at least 5-years-old or 40 pounds.

- Booster seats until the child is age 6.
- Seat belts until age 15.

Military parents interested in learning more about the infant/toddler car seat loaner program should call ACS at 876-5397. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ACS is in building 3338 on Redeye Road. (Army Community Service release)

59th Ordnance Brigade exceeds reenlistment goals

Receives top award from headquarters

By Sgt. ELIAMAR TRAPP

Staff writer

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The 59th Ordnance Brigade received the top brigade retention award category two, medium installation, for fiscal 2006 among Training and Doctrine Command units during a retention awards ceremony Nov. 3 in Addison, Texas.

Staff Sgt. Tamara Price, 59th career counselor, was presented a trophy by Brig. Gen. Dennis E. Rogers, deputy commanding general and chief of staff for the Army Accessions Command and Sgt. Maj. Khadijah Sellers, command career counselor, TRADOC.

"The award means a big deal to the brigade," said Price, after returning to Redstone Arsenal to present the trophy to brigade commander Col. Jose R. Enriquez and Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle, brigade command sergeant major. "Retention success says a lot about the morale and command climate. It shows that our Soldiers are ready and willing to take the next step in their careers while supporting the Army's mission."

During fiscal 2006, the 59th surpassed its retention goals by accomplishing 107 percent initial reenlistments, 142 percent mid-career reenlistments, and 106 percent career reenlistments. Also, the brigade surpassed its goals for two additional categories consisting of Soldiers who were scheduled to leave the Army within fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2007 by accom-

plishing 136 percent and 131 percent respectively.

"This is an outstanding accomplishment for the brigade," Enriquez said. "The credit goes to the leaders at lower levels who ensure they incorporate reenlistment mentoring into their everyday missions and don't wait until a Soldier's reenlistment window opens up."

Enriquez added the retention mission is crucial in keeping experience

in the Army by retaining Soldiers who are trained, ready and have developed the necessary leadership skills to accomplish the Army's mission.

"It's not all about the numbers," Price said. "It's about ensuring our Soldiers have a better future in the military and have the assignments that will help their career progression while ensuring the Army's force structure is strengthened."



Photo by Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

BEST BRIGADE— From left, 59th Ordnance Brigade commander Col. Jose R. Enriquez, 59th career counselor Staff Sgt. Tamara Price and Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle show off the trophy presented to the brigade for winning the top brigade, second category – medium installation – retention award for the Training and Doctrine Command.

Black Hawk training up with new devices

"Supporting the war effort with highly trained Soldiers" is the focus of the Army Aviation Logistics School. The school has teamed up with the Utility Helicopters Project Office to provide state-of-the-art UH-60 training devices for Army maintainers.

These new devices ensure that Soldiers arrive at their units ready to launch and recover today's complex and capable mechanized formations.

The UH-60 Black Hawk is the workhorse of Army aviation. The modernized UH-60A/L/M airframes will be critical in the fight against terrorism. The Army needs equally modernized training devices in order to prevail in its wartime missions.

The aviation logistics school's mission is to train aircraft mechanics on many tasks and specialties, some of which include Avionics, Electronics, and Power Train. The school, led by Col. Conway Ellers, and the Utility Helicopter Project Office, led by Col. Cory Mahanna, are changing the way the Army teaches mechanics to bring training into the 21st century.

Maj. Tom Huff, assistant project manager for Utility Helicopters, recently fielded eight Black Hawk Avionic Wiring System Trainers to the school. The new trainers have the look and feel of the UH-60. Students gain a working

See **Devices** on page 10

Australia appreciates Air Warrior system

CH-47D air crews get safety gear

Col. Charles "Jock" Crocombe, commander of the Australian Army Aviation Systems Program Office, visited Redstone Arsenal last week to personally thank members of the Air Warrior program for their fast work in equipping the Australian Defence Force's CH-47D air crews with the Air Warrior system during a three-month time frame before their deployment to Afghanistan (known as the Chinook Rapid Acquisition Program).

Air Warrior is an air crew ensemble that provides advanced life support, ballistic protection and chemical-biological protection, and includes a primary survival gear carrier, flexible body armor, universal holster, air crew survival egress knife, ballistic plates and a microclimate cooling system.

The Australian Defence Force purchased 50 ensembles for the CH-47D air crews. The success of the program has generated interest in equipping the ADF's Black Hawk fleet with the Air Warrior system.

LME contractors Issaias Ortiz, a logistician for Air Warrior, and Don Harp, a logistics management specialist for Air Warrior, traveled to Australia to train soldiers on using the system while EDO-CASS contractor Mike Curran, an Air Warrior analyst, managed the foreign military sales case, and logistics chief John Jolly oversaw the program.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

VISIT FROM DOWN UNDER— From left, Don Harp, a logistics management specialist for Air Warrior, and LME contractor Issaias Ortiz, a logistician for Air Warrior, discuss the engineering and design features of the Air Warrior system with Maj. Peter Fowles, liaison officer to Redstone Arsenal for the Australian Defence Force; Col. Charles "Jock" Crocombe, commander of the Australian Army Aviation Systems Program Office; and Lt. Col. Shannon Womack, Air Warrior product manager.

Partnering makes perfect at Corpus Christi

Depot symposium
showcases skills

By KIM HENRY
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CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — Partnerships. Some have joked that the word boils down to two words: parts and ship. From experience and in preparing for the future, the Army has learned that partnerships mean much more.

“Partnering with industry is critical today, but it is even more critical for the future,” said Gen. Benjamin Griffin, Army Materiel Command commander. “I think it really gets at the industry base and how best to ensure we’ve got the industrial capability that we need.”

Through opportunities like Corpus Christi Army Depot’s Luther G. Jones Aviation Summit held Oct. 17-19, Army



Photo by Kim Henry

THE RIGHT STUFF— From left, Col. Timothy Sassenrath, Corpus Christi commander, and Gen. Benjamin Griffin, Army Materiel Command commander, accept the AS 9100 International Aerospace Quality Systems Standard certification from R. J. Falconi, Quality Management Institute vice president general counsel and corporate secretary. QMI audits and certifies organizations to the AS 9100 standard.

depots can showcase what capabilities they have to offer industry above and beyond DoD workload

“If we can complement what we do first and foremost, which is always for the Soldier, it’s the right road,” said Carol Bullington, CCAD Business Development chief. “When we perform commercial work it’s very complementary to our mission to maintain our skills, keep our costs in line and provide the best value package of services to our war fighter. Commercial work performance is beneficial to our private industry partners and also helps us leverage our production capability to maintain skills and reduce long term costs to our Soldiers.”

For Griffin, partnering has become a mission he seeks for all of AMC’s depots. When he first came onboard, Griffin said several major corporations told him that if he would become more efficient in his facilities then they would do more work with him.

“Today, I think through efforts like the AS (Aerospace Standard) and the ISO (International Standard of Operation) certifications and the recognition of Lean Six Sigma that partnering with those groups has occurred,” Griffin said.

And what better way to show a commitment to the same quality of work as industry than to become certified in the same standards. During the aviation summit, CCAD received certification for AS 9100 International Aerospace Quality Systems Standard. CCAD is the first Army base of its type to achieve this registration. The depot received its ISO 9001:2000 certification in December 2005.

“Certifications like the AS 9100 and the ISO 9001:2000 demonstrate to partners and

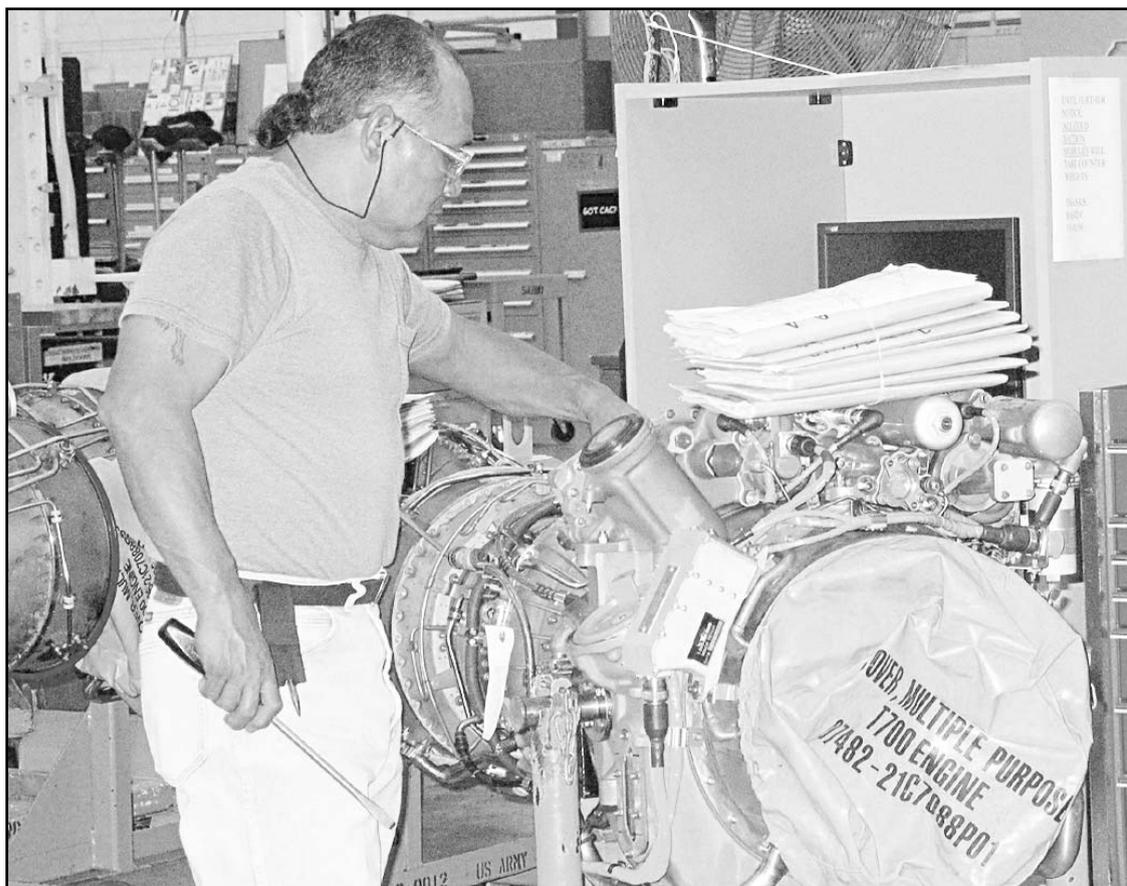


Photo by Kim Henry

LEAN MEAN MACHINE— Corpus Christi Army Depot workers partner with GE on the T700 engine line to compress the engine parts manufacturing lead time and depot repair turnaround time. The repair turnaround time is down from 252 days to 78 days with little variation.

potential partners the level of commitment of the work force, efficiency of operations and the fact that we are good to partner with,” Griffin said.

Worldwide there are over 700,000 certified to ISO 9001, while only 6,500 have achieved certification to the AS 9100 standard.

“I have not seen anything that this depot has been asked to do by anyone that they were unable to do. We’re not going to stop here, we are right now working toward our AS 9110 standard,”

Corpus Christi commander Col. Timothy Sassenrath said. “The message to industry customers is this: CCAD will achieve whatever it needs to do for the war fighter to meet their needs and to be a supplier, whether that is FAA certification, AS 9100, 9110 or Z10, we will achieve those.”

Even with certifications, it is important for the depots to assess where they have excess capacity before they offer their business to potential industry partners.

“We have to make sure that whatever extra work we do does-

n’t impact the capacity inside the depot,” Bullington said. “Anything that we consider to do with private industry requires us to do a capacity analysis review before we undertake it. It doesn’t work very well to try to do work for private industry if you do not have good schedule compliance with current DoD customers.”

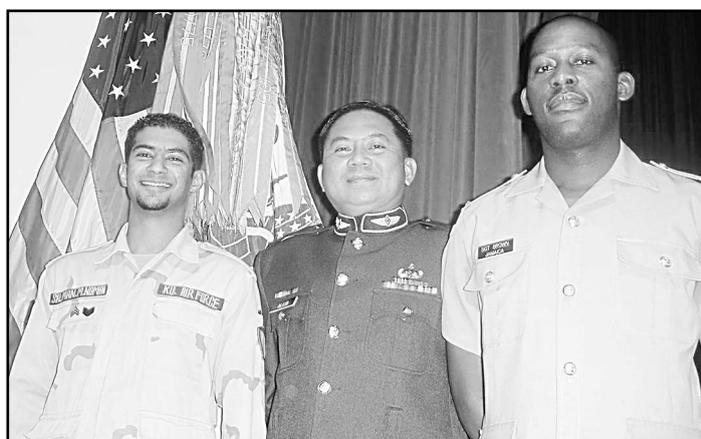
Partnering can almost be described as a Catch 22 – you have to partner to be able to produce more in order to partner.



Nature's gift

Courtesy photo

Warrant Officer Abdulkarim Alyamany from Saudi Arabia visits the butterfly exhibit at the Tennessee Aquarium as the International Military Student Office took nine international soldiers on a field studies tour of Chattanooga on Oct. 28. They were from Pakistan, Kuwait, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Greece and Jamaica.



Honor graduates

Courtesy photo

International military students, from left, Sgt. Salman Abdulatif of Kuwait Air Force, Tech. Sgt. Don Alcid of Philippine Air Force, and Sgt. Rohan Brown of Jamaica Army all graduated with honors Nov. 2 from the Ammunition Specialist Course. Abdullatif and Brown were Honor Graduates; and Alcid was a Distinguished Honor Graduate.

International student office seeks host sponsors

Redstone Arsenal is scheduled to support international students from 19 countries in fiscal 2007.

Most international students are in the United States for their first and only time. The International Military Student Office is looking to find social sponsors to show these men and women this country as it really is. Students attend training in Huntsville from three weeks to eight months.

If you think you would like to become a social sponsor or want more information

about the program, call the International Military Student Office at 842-0582.

Courtesy photo

SPACE TRIP— From left are Capt. Shadi Khashashneh from Jordan, host sponsor Stan Johns and Capt. Ahmed El-Houty from Egypt. Johns teaches international students about the U.S. Space & Rocket Center as part of the host sponsorship program.



■ Realistic training for mechanics

Devices

continued from page 6

knowledge in component identification, location, and removal/installation, because all components are located on the trainer just as they are on the actual aircraft.

The project office and school are also developing Interactive Multimedia Instruction that allows students to learn complex material at their own pace while under the supervision of instructors.

Another new device developed for UH-60 maintainers is the Black Hawk Landing Gear Trainer, a stand-alone 3D training device that will allow students to learn maintenance tasks and troubleshooting procedures on a full size mockup of the UH-60 landing gear system. (*Utility Helicopters Project Office release*)



File photo

UPLIFTING HARDWARE— The UH-60 Black Hawk is considered the workhorse of Army aviation.

Native American heritage comes alive through dance

Event celebrates tribal diversity

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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With the soft notes of a wooden flute, the dance of a warrior and the amazing footwork of a fancy dancer, Redstone Arsenal celebrated the ancient and modern-day contributions Native Americans have made to the nation's heritage.

Held in Morris Auditorium at Marshall Space Flight Center, the NASA-sponsored event on Nov. 7 kicked off Native American Heritage Month on the Arsenal. Both NASA and Army employees were invited to attend.

"This is an opportunity for all Americans to learn more about the culture and contributions of Native Americans," NASA employee Rose Allen said about the month's recognition.

Though a national celebration, Redstone Arsenal has its own very personal connection to Native American Heritage Month. The role of Redstone Arsenal in the heritage of Native Americans is extensive, Allen said.

"More than 400 prehistoric and historic archeological sites are on Redstone Arsenal," she said. "The Arsenal was once home to the Chickasaw and the Cherokee ... It's very appropriate that we celebrate this recognition on this land."

The Arsenal event included



WARRIOR DANCE— Red and black face paint along with turkey, eagle and hawk feathers witness to the bravery of warriors as they dance the Cherokee Warrior Dance. Will Tushka sings Native American songs while Robert Trampler, Sonny Ledford and Jeremy Sequoyah perform the dance of their ancestors.

Photo by Kari Hawkins

storytelling, dance and music performances, craft demonstrations and food.

Ron Colcombe, who emceed the event, said Native Americans had a "very, very diverse" culture in North America in the pre-Columbus days. An estimated 16 million Native Americans lived on the continent before war and disease killed millions of the natives.

"In those days, 1,600 different languages were spoken by Native Americans," Colcombe said. "Now, there are about 200 languages and a population of 2 million Native Americans."

European settlers brought "small pox, measles and chicken pox to the Native Americans, who had no resistance," Colcombe said. "If you caught these

diseases, you got sick. If we got them, we died. A lot of tribes were decimated by the disease."

They also brought war against the natives, often referred to as the Indian Wars. There were more than 40 wars between settlers and Native Americans between 1775 and 1890, when they were forced to relocate on reservations.

Today, the Cherokee Nation is the federally recognized government of the Cherokee people. The seat of tribal government is the W.W. Keeler Complex near Tahlequah, capital of the Cherokee Nation. There are about 260,000 Cherokee citizens in the U.S., with about 7 percent considered full-blooded Cherokee. Many of the performers at the Redstone Arsenal event represented Cherokees from both the western band, based in Tahlequah, Okla., and the eastern band, based in Cherokee, N.C.

In the early days of the reservations, Native Americans weren't allowed to do many of their traditional dances because they were made illegal by the government.

"The state believed all of our dances had something to do with war," Colcombe said.

"Today, those dances show our diversity. There were war dances. But a lot of dances were dances of celebration or of pride. There were social dances where people could come together to



Photo by Kari Hawkins

BEADS TELL ALL— Native American Carol Trampler of the Cherokee Nation strings beads for jewelry she is designing. The necklaces, bracelets and earrings worn by Native Americans carry symbolic meanings.

have fun. They were educational and entertainment."

Deer Clan Productions, which put on the event in Morris Auditorium, uses the dances to dispel many of the stereotypes about Native Americans.

"There's a lot that people don't know other than the stereotypical things they've learned from Hollywood or television," he said. "The thing people are most surprised about is our diversity."

Diversity can be found in the different dress, beliefs and lifestyles of the various Native American tribes.

"We want to bring some of that diversity to you," Colcombe said.

"We want to bring to you things steeped in the past, in the old dances and the old songs. We want you to know the fact that Native Americans are not dead, they are not in the past ... We want to bring our present day culture to you and show you our past. We are alive. We are vibrant."

During the Redstone Arsenal event, "Amazing Grace" was sung in Cherokee, nationally recognized Native American performer Tommy Wildcat played the flute and several dances were demonstrated, including the Warrior Dance, Eagle Dance, Courtship Dance, Jingle Dress Dance, Grass Dance and Hoop Dance.

"Our dances bring back alive our identity," Colcombe said. "We hope they helped you learn a little about our culture."

Editor's note: Child and Youth Services/School Age Services invites the Redstone Arsenal community to a Native American Heritage Celebration today from 1 to 5 p.m. The event will feature Native American artists and educators, storytelling and demonstrations. Jon Thunder from the Apache tribe will be the guest speaker. The event is hosted by the School Age Services Flying Eagle Club. SAS is at building 3400 on Gray Road. For more information, call 876-6595.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FLYING LIKE AN EAGLE— Robert Trampler portrays the flight of the eagle in the Eagle Dance. The dance is a very sacred Cherokee dance that combines the Native American's thankfulness for victory on the battlefield with thankfulness for peace.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

RE-ENACTMENT— Native American Robert Trampler of the Cherokee Nation takes on the costume and dance of a warrior in the Southern Straight dance style. The dance was performed by warriors around the evening fire to re-enact the day's battle.

Soldier from 'Down Under' tops Military Idol field

By TIM HIPPS
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. – A percussionist with the D.C. National Guard's 257th Army Band is the second Military Idol.

Spc. Vicki Golding used the contrasting styles of Stevie Wonder and Barbra Streisand to win the military singing contest Nov. 5 at Wallace Theater. But the sounds were all Golding's.

"I think she's probably a student of Streisand in that she has the same brilliant technique," Military Idol artistic director Victor Hurtado said of Golding's version of "The Way We Were." "She stayed true to the piece, but I still heard Vicki Golding doing it. She threw a few riffs in there, which comes naturally to her. It was really wonderful."

Earlier in the program, Golding had the audience dancing in their seats during her rendition of Wonder's "I Wish." Hurtado, who doubles as director of the U.S. Army Soldier Show, said the contrasting styles worked fabu-



Photo by Tim Hipps

WITH FEELING— Spc. Vicki Golding of the D.C. National Guard's 257th Army Band sings Barbra Streisand's "The Way We Were" en route to winning the 2006 Military Idol competition Nov. 4 at Wallace Theater on Fort Belvoir, Va.

lously.

Golding followed third-place finisher Sgt. Quanda Brown's rousing rendition of Chaka Khan's "Tell Me Something Good" with the more sedate "The Way We Were" to close the competition that began on 29 Army installations around the world.

"It brought everybody back to a focus for the end of the

show," Hurtado said. "Sometimes less is more. And a beautiful instrument, just in its simplicity without all the bells and whistles, was a really brilliant, brilliant thing to do."

That was the plan for Golding, 35, a native of Brisbane, Australia, who studied as a tuba player and vocalist at the Queensland Conservatory of Music.

"There was a bit of a strategy to pick a song that was fun and upbeat and easy to listen to like 'I Wish,' but I also enjoy performing songs like that because they're more fun to perform," she said. "The audience gets more involved and the feedback from the audience helps you drive the performance and make it more enjoyable."

"If you're enjoying yourself, the audience will enjoy themselves. And if the audience is enjoying themselves, you enjoy yourself more and you relax more. It just rolls that way."

Editor's note: Tim Hipps works with the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command.

Computer misuse can end government career

Legal Office outlines range of penalties

Technology has made office work faster and easier – in some respects anyway – but also more likely to lead to abuse.

Computers are great, as long as they're used as intended. That's especially true in the workplace.

Using government computers for other than official purposes – such as prohibited Internet chats, games, downloads and other forbidden activities – is punishable by penalties ranging from a written reprimand to removal.

The AMCOM Legal Office has provided an information paper to serve as an "Internet Acceptable Use Policy Disciplinary Guide."

"The intent of this paper is to emphasize personal accountability for violations of command policy," it states in part. "There is no intent to deprive managers, supervisors or commanders of their discretion in handling Internet misuse in a manner appropriate to each individual case."

Civilians who use the Internet for prohibited activities are subject to disciplinary action along Office of Personnel Management guidelines. Military personnel who use the Internet for prohibited activities are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military

Justice and Army regulations to include administrative, non-judicial and judicial punishment, as determined by the appropriate commander.

Contractors who misuse the Internet should be handled through contract channels, the paper said. Unauthorized use may result in the loss of Internet privileges.

Here is a sample schedule of potential Internet misuse offenses and progressive penalties:

- Misuse of government property (using government property in a duty status for other than official purposes, such as prohibited Internet chats, games, downloads and other prohibited activities): first offense, written reprimand to removal; second offense, one-day suspension to removal; and third offense, 14-day suspension to removal.
- Failure to observe written regulations, orders, rules or procedures: first offense, written reprimand to one-day suspension; second offense, 1-14 day suspension; and third offense, five-day suspension to removal.
- Conduct unbecoming a federal employee (activities that adversely affect official duties and reflect adversely on the command, such as sexually oriented material or illegal activity): first offense, one-day suspension to removal; second offense, removal.

Veteran finds healing in retelling stories

Book details experience during Vietnam War

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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It's been 36 years since Wade Franks left Vietnam. And, yet, Vietnam has never left the young Soldier whose heart still hurts with the memories of his fallen comrades and the heroic scout dog who saved his life.

Today, this decorated Vietnam veteran is sharing his story of bravery and struggle, hoping to keep alive the sacrifices that so many Soldiers made in Vietnam. By telling their stories, he is giving meaning to his own life.

"When I was in Vietnam, I still remember those days when I would hurt so bad," Franks said. "I remember how I thought if I die no one will ever know what I've seen or heard or felt, no one would know what really happened ... I've got to share my story to make my life count. And, it's something I've got to do to bring healing into my life."

Franks, a Madison County native, will sign copies of his recently published book "Never Forgotten" this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Museum off Airport Road. He will also share his Vietnam story with visitors during the book signing.

These days, Franks feels he has gone full circle since being drafted in 1969 to serve primarily in Vietnam's A Shau Valley as an infantryman in the Army's Bravo Co., 2/501st Infantry Co., 101st Airborne Division. The despair and sense of loss and hopelessness that he discovered on the Vietnam battlefield followed Franks when he returned home after an 18-month tour. He struggled through homelessness, and alcohol and drug abuse before finding his salvation in God's divine plan for his life, a plan that eventually took him back to Vietnam.

Now, Franks, who is retired from the Tennessee Valley Authority, is an author, speaker and evangelist, and a member of the advisory board for REAP International, a ministry focused on providing educational tuition and opportunities to the disadvantaged poor and orphaned children of Vietnam. He shares his stories of Vietnam with all types of audiences, and he has traveled to Vietnam a dozen times since 1999 to participate in various mission projects.

But, the proudest achievement for Franks is the work he has done to remember his fallen comrades and the scout dog Little Joe who saved his life and the lives of other Soldiers. Little Joe will be remembered by the State

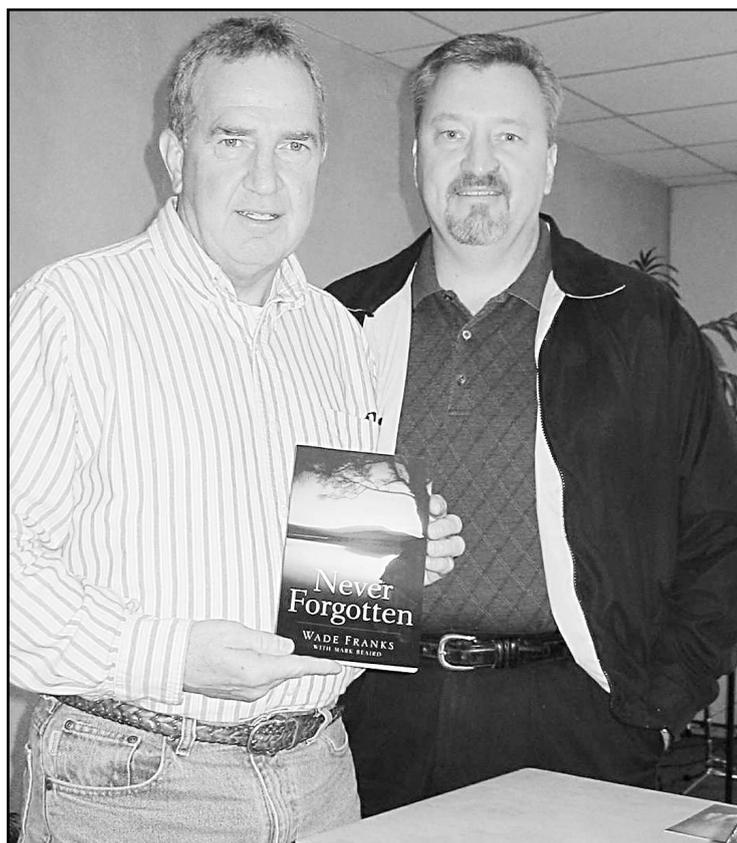


Photo by Kari Hawkins

HEALING A LIFE— Decorated Vietnam veteran Wade Franks, left, has recently written a book about his war experience with the help of his pastor, Mark Beard of the International Worship Center. "Never Forgotten" is a book about Franks' Vietnam experiences, the heroes he met while fighting the North Vietnamese Army and how God's plan for his life has sent him back to Vietnam as a missionary.

of Alabama in a War Dog Memorial to be unveiled in Mobile on Memorial Day weekend in 2007. Little Joe and Franks will be depicted on the memorial, which will honor seven dog handlers and the dogs that died in Vietnam.

"Little Joe and I worked with a lot of infantrymen, who we called 'ground pounders,'" Franks said. "I don't know their names or where they are, but I know Little Joe worked to save them."

During one incident, Little Joe was able to track down members of a Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol who were trapped in the jungles of Vietnam.

"We only had a short period of time to escape," Franks said. "I never saw those Soldiers again. But, they know Little Joe found them and I hope some day to find some of the guys Little Joe saved in Vietnam."

Though many years have passed, Franks still gets emotional when he talks about the Soldiers he knew in Vietnam and the experiences they shared fighting the North Vietnamese Army. He remembers the many battles he lived through, only to see the Soldiers he "loved and appreciated die in the Vietnamese boonies."

He recalls surviving the notoriously bloody Battle of Hamburger Hill, a battle that left deep emotional scars.

"It took such a toll on my life. After the battle, I was no good," he said.

"It seemed like life had been taken away from me. I didn't want to be in Vietnam, but I didn't know where I wanted to be. I still don't know if I have the words to explain how I felt about losing friends. After Hamburger Hill, I didn't have a squad anymore. The Soldiers in my squad were either dead or wounded, or they were given rear jobs. It was just overwhelming."

Soon after the battle, Lt. James Bradshaw agreed to let Franks transfer into the 101st's scout dog platoon without going through the Army's required scout dog training at Fort Bragg, Georgia.

"Little Joe was already trained," Franks recalled. "After we got attached, it was a love relationship."

During their time together, Little Joe rarely left Franks' side, and the two connected in a special way. Franks was able to work the dog without a leash. The team walked point in the Vietnam boonies for countless squads of Soldiers.

"On numerous occasions, Little Joe alerted us to the enemy and we made it through," Franks said.

"We were saved by his alerts. Even though the firefight would still happen, we were at least better prepared because he alerted us. He really is a true hero."

The perk of his ears and the moving of his tail or neck were some of the signs Franks looked for to detect the enemy.

"If he ever stopped and turned and made eye contact with me, that was the most dangerous alert," he recalled.

On Feb. 22, 1970, Little Joe did make eye contact with Franks more than once. But, a commanding officer put the Soldier-dog team into a deadly situation.

**"Never Forgotten" book signing
Saturday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Museum**

"That day he told me twice what he told me all those other times," Franks said. "I told our new captain that they (the NVA) were there on the ridge. I knew from experience with Little Joe. He was a dog that didn't lie."

The company stopped. But, in the late afternoon, they were on the move again. Franks and Little Joe were again on point.

"Little Joe was about 20 feet in front of me and he alerted again," Franks recalled.

"I hit the ground and so did the seven or so Soldiers who were with us. I called Little Joe back and talked to him."

Franks pulled back and told his commanding officer, but he was again ordered on point.

"I wanted to refuse. Little Joe had done his job. He'd alerted us to the enemy on the ridge," Franks said. "But, I got him back on point and we walked right into enemy fire. We couldn't even move. We fought until almost dark when they finally let up on us."

Little Joe would always crawl back to Franks during a firefight. But, this time he didn't return. Franks knew he had been shot. When they found Little Joe he was in the middle of what had been the NVA's position, his body riddled with gunshot.

"He charged into that position to save us," Franks said. "God used a German shepherd dog and that dog sacrificed his life so that I could live."

With the help of other Soldiers, Franks buried Little Joe. But, although Franks received three Bronze Stars, two Purple

Hearts, an Air Medal and a Combat Infantry Medal for his service in Vietnam, he and Little Joe did not receive the Silver Star because their commanding officer did not sign the paperwork.

Franks went on to scout with a second dog. But, then he shifted to the rear as leader of a squad of dog handlers, and soon completed his tour and returned to the U.S. in 1970.

Upon his return, Franks was surprised by all the anger Americans felt toward him and other Soldiers. It sent him into a tailspin that led to four years on the road hitchhiking across the U.S., living in Salvation Army shelters and flop houses, sleeping along the roadside and under highway bridges, and becoming addicted to drugs and alcohol.

"I couldn't see no way out. I couldn't see how I could make my life count," Franks said. "I didn't drink or do drugs to get away from Vietnam, but to live with Vietnam. There was a lot of hurt and pain."

It was a chance encounter with an old high school sweetheart that was the beginning of a new life for Franks. He returned to Huntsville in 1974, reconnected with his future wife Gail and, eventually, found his salvation in Jesus Christ.

"The day when I knew I accepted Him in my heart, I never did alcohol or drugs again," Franks said. "He not only saved and recorded me, but He also healed me and He continues to heal me. I am really about making my life count and He is allowing me to do that. It is part of my healing."

In his book, written with the help of his pastor, Mark Beard of the International Worship Center in Huntsville, Franks highlights the sacrifices of his fellow Soldiers and Little Joe. Writing the book was a way for Franks to continue the healing in his own life.

"Vietnam is such a different kind of experience," Franks said. "It's about having your heart broke over and over again, and then you survive and go home. But, you can't tear yourself away because you lived it and you saw wonderful men die because of it."

For more information on Franks experience and his book, visit his web site at www.wadefranks.org.

Patriotic colors brighten dreary Veterans Day

Parade's a winner despite weather

By KARI HAWKINS
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Hundreds of local residents braved the cold and rainy weather on Veterans Day to participate in one of Alabama's largest recognition events for veterans and active military.

Although the Veterans Day Parade began at the traditional time – the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, a special opening ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Saturday set the tone for the parade. Held in front of the Von Braun Center's North Hall, it included a color guard ceremony by members of the Madison County, Buckhorn, Huntsville and Johnson schools' Junior ROTC students and patriotic music sung by members of the Buckhorn High choir.

Among those watching on Clinton Avenue at the start of the parade was Marine Pfc. John Blaha IV, a Calhoun Community College student who graduated from Grissom High, and Fred Whitman, a Vietnam Army veteran who works in missile logistics for the Apache helicopter program at Redstone Arsenal.

"It's going to be rough," Blaha told Whitman as they talked about his commitment to serve in the country's military.

"But, it will be worth it," Whitman replied.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FIRST LADIES— Veterans Day Parade grand marshals Becki Pillsbury and Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer wave to crowds as they lead the parade on a 1927 Huntsville City fire truck. The two women are described by parade organizers as the community's "first ladies." Pillsbury, the wife of Redstone and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and vice president of Still Serving Veterans, is considered the "first lady of Redstone Arsenal" while Spencer is the "first lady of Huntsville."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

MARCHING BY— Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal make up the color guard for the Veterans Day Parade. They lead the parade through the streets of downtown Huntsville.

Although the Veterans Day Parade is all about showing appreciation to the community's veterans, it also speaks volumes about the community's support for and pride in the Soldiers of today and the future.

"How we show our support for our veterans really means a lot to the Soldiers of today," said retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet, who has helped organize local Veterans Day activities for about 10 years.

"There's a transfer of relationships. Those on active duty today see how veterans are respected and supported, and they realize it will be OK for them, too."

Just over 160 parade entries filled downtown Huntsville city streets as the parade marched in front of the Von Braun Center, around the southern end of Big Spring Park, through the heart of downtown Huntsville and in front of the Veterans Memorial Park on Monroe Avenue.

"This is certainly one of the largest Veterans Day parades in the state, if not the largest," said retired National Guard Sgt. David Carney, one of the parade organizers.

"And, it gets bigger every year because this community wants to show its support for the military."

Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer and Becki Pillsbury, the wife of Redstone Arsenal and

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and the vice president of Still Serving Veterans, were the grand marshals for the parade. The major general accompanied the two grand marshals on a 1927 Huntsville City fire truck. Following them were members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, who were passing out American flags to spectators.

The theme of this year's parade was "Supporting Our Deployed Military and Their Families." It was evident in the number of families of deployed Soldiers who walked at the front of the parade. Family members of deployed Soldiers from the 108th Division Army Reserve of Huntsville and from three Alabama National Guard units – the 128th Military Police Co. of Huntsville, the 152nd Military Police Co. of Scottsboro and the 1169th Engineer Group of Huntsville – were applauded by spectators.

Applause and flag waving also greeted units of Redstone Arsenal Soldiers, high school Junior ROTC units and bands, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, the Cahaba Shriners, Alabama Marine Moms, Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club, Patriot Guard Riders, the Rainbow Division of the 82nd Airborne, Vets for Vettes corvette club, Alabama State Nurses Association and dozens of local veterans and community

groups, and companies.

In the crowd of spectators was Ladonna Chambers of Huntsville, whose uncle Sam Stewart was recognized as a Purple Heart recipient by Chapter 2201, George A. Raugh Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart at a Veterans Day Dinner at the Von Braun Center Friday night. She was joined by several family members from Virginia.

"This is a great day for my uncle and all veterans," she said.

Deanna Knox of Huntsville and her daughter, 4-year-old Sara Delong, enjoyed the parade with Knox's parents and her nephew, 7-year-old Andrew Thompson, despite the cold.

"We usually come to the parade every year. It's a tradition for us," she said. "My grandpa was in World War II and Sara's (late) father served in the military."

There were plenty of young children watching the parade march by as well as participating in the parade itself. Although most of the Soldiers were adults, the young men of Redstone Arsenal's Young Marine program also marched in a formation that wasn't quite as tight as that of their older comrades.

Alisha Collins attended the parade with her two daughters, 3-year-old Scheeli and 2-year-old Bronwyn. They were searching the parade's Soldier ranks for



Photo by Kari Hawkins

WAVING FOR DADDY— Alisha Collins and her two daughters – 3-year-old Scheeli and 2-year-old Bronwyn – wave on the Soldiers in the Veterans Day Parade. They were able to find a Soldier among the troops who is very special to them – husband and father Spc. Nathan Collins of Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

ZOOMING THROUGH— North Alabama chapters of the Cahaba Shrine speed through the parade in their miniature cars. The Jackson County Shrine Club members ride their white miniature cars in the parade.

one very special Soldier – their husband and father Spc. Nathan Collins of Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

"We actually saw him," Collins said. "We didn't know if we would."

The girls, who were bundled up against the cold, nodded when asked if their daddy looked good in the parade.

"He always looks good," Collins said with a smile.

That was a sentiment shared by family, friends and interested spectators who enjoyed the Soldiers, support groups and volunteers who made Huntsville's most patriotic parade "look good."

Unmanned aircraft offers protection

Agreement puts Raven in skies over Redstone

By **KIM HENRY**
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With more than 50 federal, Department of Defense and international organizations at Redstone Arsenal it is no surprise when one organization can meet a need of another.

So when the Garrison had force protection concerns, the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office answered the call. Col. Don Hazelwood, UAS project manager, offered the Raven small UAS as the solution.

“My number one mission here at the Arsenal as the Garrison commander is security,” Col. John Olshefski said. “Anything and everything we can do to enhance our security capability on this Arsenal is goodness for us.”

So in July six members of Redstone’s Department of the Army police and Garrison Operations Center were trained on the Raven A system, a first for Army installations. Each earned their Operator’s Certificate while learning about system functionality, emergency procedures, and airspace de-confliction to ensure safe operations.

The Garrison officially signed a memorandum of agreement with the UAS project office and accepted the Raven A UAS in a ceremony Nov. 6.

“Today’s MOA is a permanent tool that Redstone now has for securing the Garrison,” Hazelwood said.

“We’ve got trained folks now. We have the ability to fly it and see targets,” Olshefski said. “We’re grateful that he (Hazelwood) is helping us with this, he doesn’t have to do this. This is part of Team Redstone.”

For more than two years the



Photo by Kim Henry

READY TO FLY— Unmanned Aircraft Systems project manager Col. Don Hazelwood and Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski hand over the Raven UAS to Daniel Welch, Michael Hespe and Andrew Dunn, all Army police officers certified to operate the Raven.

Raven has provided commanders enhanced situational awareness and invaluable intelligence throughout Iraq and Afghanistan. Soldiers have routinely used the Raven UAS at the tactical level for reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition to receive real time data.

Redstone used the Raven at the Carrie Underwood concert in July for security. Considering the size of the event, the Raven UAS can significantly reduce man hours.

“We have used it at the Carrie Underwood concert, which makes me feel a whole lot more secure considering I am letting upwards of 10,000 people on this Arsenal of which probably 8,000 don’t have a badge,” Olshefski said. “To have the Raven flying around gives us a degree of confidence.”

The Raven system includes a day and night (infrared) camera, portable ground control unit, and remote video terminal, which are all easy to transport and set up.

“It’s on the horizon to have more trained,” Olshefski said. The beauty of having the UAS project office at Redstone is they have master trainers on hand to support

the Garrison requirements, so if they need to double their numbers

then the project office can get them trained up immediately. If those already trained want to learn the next level after a few months of operating the Raven then the UAS project office can support.”

“I think it will be an unbelievable tool for force protection or concerts, but also for higher risk situations,” said Daniel Welch, a patrolman who is trained on the Raven. “To be able to launch it at a moment’s notice and not have to send an officer so close to the area, we can have a bird’s-eye view of what’s going on before anybody is even there.”

Though Redstone is the first Army installation to use the Raven for force protection it may not be too long before others catch on. “We have a strategic objective,” Hazelwood said. “I will tell you that this technology will be at

every installation within five to 10 years and it will be integrated into their force protection plan. It will be common that we have it everywhere and people will say, ‘How did we ever get by without it?’”

Because the technology and its uses for force protection are so new to Army installations, there is a lot of ground work that has to be laid. Certificate of Authorization to fly at a moment’s notice is something the project office and Garrison are working on.

“We’re taking a slow approach. As we learn more about the system we are developing procedures to integrate it into the Garrison airspace,” Hazelwood said. “I envision a day where we have an emergency Certificate of Authorization so that if there is a problem you can put this thing up immediately within minutes.”

Education Center open house on blackboard



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SPECIAL OBSERVANCE— Education services officer Laura Peck and Joe Winston, director of the Garrison’s Human Resources Directorate, talk during last year’s American Education Week open house.

Event celebrates Education Week

The Education Center will celebrate this year’s American Education Week with an open house today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The center provides education services to Soldiers, reservists, civilians, family members, retirees, DoD civilians and contractors on post, and other eligible ID card holders.

College representatives and education staff are available to meet with you to answer any questions you may have in planning your educational future. The center, building 3222 on Snooper Road, can be reached at 876-9761.

The following colleges and universities planned to participate in today’s open house:

- J.F. Drake College, American Military University, Athens State University, Columbia College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, DeVry University, Calhoun Community College, Florida Institute of Technology, Excelsior College, Western Governor’s University, University of North Alabama, Auburn University;
- Columbia Southern University, Faulkner University, Strayer University, University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa, University of Alabama-Huntsville, Wallace State College, American Intercontinental University, Alabama A&M, Universal Technical Institute, Coastline Community College, Duquesne University, Auburn University-Montgomery, University of Maryland, and University Alliance.

Depot

continued from page 8

Bullington describes the evolution of partnering at Corpus Christi in two stages. The first stage involved the partnering with the Army's current Original Equipment Manufacturers like Boeing, Sikorsky, General Electric and Honeywell.

"In 2000 time frame we began initiating partnerships with current OEMs that we have partnerships with today," Bullington said. "That was the right thing to do because we addressed current programs and our current DoD customers."

For example, Corpus Christi started partnering with GE on the T700 engine line in the 2000 to 2001 time period to compress the T700 engine parts' manufacturing lead time and depot repair turnaround time. For the T700 engine, completion of work previously took approximately 252 days and varied widely around that average.

By initiating the partnership with GE and obtaining technical engineering and logistics support as well as the induction of the RECAP program and Corpus Christi's internal Lean initiatives, the depot's artisans achieved a major reduction in repair turnaround time — down from 252 days to 78 days with little variation. GE introduced Corpus Christi to Six Sigma and together with the depot's Lean journey the resulting production increase was tremendous.

"Until you can harness something like this it would be counter-productive to attempt more work — you want to address process improvements for current customers," Bullington said.

The second stage involved partnering with industry to provide direct Corpus Christi services. "There's potential to provide commercial services, but we always undertake the necessary capacity and business review to ensure we don't impact our current customers' work," she said. "We can achieve what our new customers need and make it a win-win situation for our depot, for our current military customers and our potential new customers."

Over time the depot has invested in a variety of capabilities that they can offer to industry. The three main cate-

gories of capabilities are Test and Inspection, Metal Processing, and Fabrication and Repair. Test and Inspection includes the skilled artisans, engine and transmission test cells, aircraft rigging fixtures and rotor blade testing. Metal processing is backed by the depot's trained work force, and includes a wide variety of equipment, facilities and resources including metal finishing, plating and unique coating capabilities.

"Investment in our Advance Metal Finishing Facility has resulted in an environmentally compliant, safe facility for a wide range of metal processing work," Bullington said. "It provides an opportunity for private industry, in their business decisions, to consider CCAD to perform work that may allow businesses to avert capital investment."

The final category — Fabrication and Repair — includes machining, composite fabrication and repair, milling, tool and dye and sheet metal work.

Partnering is beneficial to all parties involved. Not only does it help industry and the depot, but it also helps the industrial base. By keeping the depot work force engaged in non-DoD work during times of peace it helps reduce the long term costs of surge during times of national emergency. This is critical to the mission of organic depots: to provide the capability to surge and do so in an efficient manner through the best use of taxpayers' dollars.

"The bottom line will always be the war fighter. In order to meet the surge capability of the war fighter and to make sure that we are always improving our speed, lowering our cost and maintaining our infrastructure for long term service to our war fighter," Bullington said. "We will look to commercial workload to be as efficient as possible for our war fighter: performing effective services for our commercial customers and sustaining our artisans' critical skills on behalf of our military aviators and Soldiers over the long run."

"I am proud of what we have here at Corpus Christi. I am committed as the AMC commander to support what we have here," Griffin said. "But again, the challenge we've got is continuing to build these partnerships. It's critical."

The few, the proud, the champions

Marine Detachment captures Commander's Cup for sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

They won the softball and golf titles and scored points in every other event. If troop participation was a sport, they'd probably lead that, too.

They are the few and proud members of the Marine Detachment. And they are the winners of the Commander's Cup sports trophy for fiscal 2006.

The Marines won by accumulating 319.1 points from unit competition in six sports throughout the year. Bravo Company was second with 308; and Headquarters & Alpha placed third with 280.

"Being one of the smallest units on the installation with the permanent staff and the turnover of students, we've been able to reach down and stand up and be a challenge with every event," Marines commanding officer Maj. Tim Collins said. "We didn't win every event, but they definitely know we're here. And it paid off in the long run."

Collins and the Marines accepted the Commander's Cup in a ceremony Nov. 6 at Pagano Gym.

"It's just a good deal," Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski said of the sports competition. "It gives them something to

look forward to every day. This is developing that camaraderie and teamwork."

Here are the Commander's Cup final standings for fiscal 2006:

- Marines (319.1) – softball (75), flag football (62.6), volleyball (61), basketball (48.6), 5K run (46.9) and golf (25).

- Bravo Company (308) – softball (68.8), flag football (42.1), volleyball (65.7), basketball (68.8), 5K run (50) and golf (12.6).

- Headquarters & Alpha (280) – softball (57.9), flag football (75), volleyball (62.6), basketball (65.7), 5K run (0) and golf (18.8).

- HHC 59th (263.5) — softball (62.6), flag football (37.1), volleyball (68.8), basketball (35.5), 5K run (43.8) and golf (15.7).

- NCO Academy (236.9) — softball (65.7), flag football (57.6), volleyball (71.9), basketball (41.7), 5K run (0) and golf (0).

- MEDDAC (200.4) — softball (65.7), flag football (68.8), volleyball (0), basketball (59.5), 5K run (0) and golf (6.4).

- 326th Chemical Company (194.1) — softball (10), flag football (49.8), volleyball (49.8), basketball (75), 5K run (0) and golf (9.5).

- Charlie Company (118.9) — softball (0), flag football (57.9), volleyball (0), basketball (61), 5K run (0) and golf (0).

- AMCOM (31.9) — softball (10), flag football (0), volleyball (0), basketball (0), 5K run (0) and golf (21.9).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NO DOUBT— Members of the Marine Detachment celebrate with their fiscal 2006 Commander's Cup.

Dragons roar into flag football season

326th Chemical
beats 59th 30-8

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The 326th Chemical Company had everything working in its season opener last week.

The Dragons won 30-8 over HHC 59th on Nov. 6 at the flag football field off Patton Road.

"We went with what works best for us," 326th coach Samuel Davis said. "We have a basic formula that we use and I think we executed it just about to perfection."

Quarterback Johnie Walker ran for two touchdowns and threw for another. Running back David Ollie threw an option pass for a touchdown.

Walker opened the scoring on a 25-yard keeper with about nine minutes left in the first half. A two-point conversion pass fell incomplete.

With two minutes left in the half, Ollie connected with Jeremy Hamilton on a 20-yard touchdown pass. Walker ran for two points and

a 14-0 lead.

Walker broke an 8-yard touchdown run midway into the second half. He then passed to Gregory Miller for two.

Receiver/cornerback David Gleaton caught a 15-yard touchdown pass from Walker with 46 seconds left. Walker passed to Eddie Bryan for the game's final two points.

But the Dragons didn't fare as well Thursday night when they lost 18-16 to Headquarters & Alpha.

Last week's results included:

- **Nov. 6** — 326th Chemical def. HHC 59th 30-8, Marines def. MEDDAC 36-6 and Charlie def. NCO Academy 24-20.

- **Nov. 8** — Marines def. Charlie 22-16, NCO Academy def. Bravo 7-0 and Headquarters & Alpha won by forfeit over MEDDAC. (MEDDAC dropped from league.)

- **Nov. 9** — Headquarters & Alpha def. 326th Chemical 18-16 and HHC 59th def. Bravo 13-12.

League standings entering this week had the Marines (3-0), Charlie (2-1), Headquarters & Alpha (2-1), HHC 59th (2-1), 326th Chemical (1-1), NCO Academy (1-2) and Bravo (0-2).

Ladies golf association completes season

The third annual Nancy Reilly Memorial Tournament was held Oct. 25 at the Links at Redstone. Nine holes were played as a scramble and nine holes were played using alternate shots from D, C, B and A players.

Here are the winners:

- **First place** — Joan Arnold, Pam Bucey, Fran Shaner and Carol Umstaedter

- **Second place** — Becky Gaillard, Linda Leonard and Kathy Newton

- **Third place** — Mary Aagesen, Betty Butler, Judy Finch and Kathleen Stirling

- **Closest to the pins** — Judy Finch, Lois Goodman, Jacki Lane and Kathleen Stirling

The Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association held its end of the year luncheon Nov. 1 at the Officers and Civilians Club. New officers were elected for the 2007 season.

Awards for the most improved golfers for the year were presented to: Sally Zavakil, winner of the first half; and Linda Vergara, for the second half.

A welcoming coffee March 7 will begin the new season. (Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association release)

Auburn should roll in Iron Bowl

Tigers get nod
over Alabama

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Skip's Picks went 288-100, 74 percent, for the first 10 weeks of the college football season. Here are my predictions this week:

Auburn at Alabama — **Auburn**
Michigan at Ohio State — **OSU**
Tennessee at Vanderbilt — **Tenn.**
Utah at Air Force — **Utah**
Arizona at Oregon — **Oregon**
UCLA at Arizona State — **ASU**
Arkansas at Miss. State — **Arkansas**
Army at Notre Dame — **ND**
Oklahoma at Baylor — **Okla.**
Utah State at Boise State — **Boise**
Maryland at Boston College — **Md.**
California at Southern Cal — **USC**
Colgate at Bucknell — **Bucknell**
Duke at Georgia Tech — **Ga. Tech**
East Carolina at Rice — **Rice**
Prairie View A&M at Alabama A&M — **Ala. A&M**
New Mexico at Brigham Young — **BYU**
Illinois at Northwestern — **Northwestern**
N.C. State at North Carolina — **N.C. State**
Oklahoma State at Texas Tech — **Okla. State**
Oregon State at Stanford — **Oregon State**
Middle Tennessee State at South Carolina — **S.C.**
UAB at Southern Miss — **Southern Miss**
Virginia Tech at Wake Forest — **Va. Tech**
Washington at Wash. State — **Wash. State**



PREDICTING THIS GAME CAN BE RISKY

Western Carolina at Florida — **Fla.**
Houston at Memphis — **Houston**
Indiana at Purdue — **Purdue**
Iowa at Minnesota — **Iowa**
Missouri at Iowa State — **Missouri**
Kansas State at Kansas — **K-State**
Louisiana-Monroe at Kentucky — **Ky.**
South Florida at Louisville — **Louisville**
Ole Miss at LSU — **LSU**
Miami at Virginia — **Miami**
Michigan State at Penn State — **PS**
Temple at Navy — **Navy**
West Virginia at Pittsburgh — **W.Va.**
Rutgers at Cincinnati — **Rutgers**
Tulsa at SMU — **Tulsa**
Texas-El Paso at Marshall — **UTEP**

Events shed light on support to veterans



Photo by Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

FIREPLACE— Pvts. Danny Rodriguez, left, and Gregory Race, both of Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, look at a fireplace display at the Huntsville Botanical Garden's Galaxy of Lights Nov. 9.

Army trainees enjoy local celebration

By Sgt. ELIAMAR TRAPP

Staff writer

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Ever since an Act of Congress changed Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954, Nov. 11 is the day the nation takes time to recognize servicemembers of all of America's wars. The local community came together to recognize all the servicemembers who have taken the extra step by joining the military while the country is at war.

There are more than 400 Soldiers undergoing initial entry training at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School with the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, 59th Ordnance Brigade at Redstone Arsenal. The Huntsville/Madison community took the time to ensure all those Soldiers enjoyed a very special Veterans Day weekend by providing free entertainment — and a little time off from training — to thank them for

their service.

Galaxy of Lights

On Nov. 9, more than 350 Soldiers were the guests of honor and the first to see the Huntsville Botanical Garden's Galaxy of Lights. For the past 11 years the garden has featured the Galaxy of Lights, a mile-long attraction of more than 130 light displays featuring variety of themed displays including a patriotic display featuring red, white and blue 'fireworks.'

The Galaxy of Lights is possible every year because of the hard work of more than 600 volunteers — many of them veterans — who jumped at the opportunity to do something for Soldiers, even if it meant getting the show ready early so the Soldiers would be the first to see it.

"We believe in what (Soldiers) are doing for this country," said Lynn Carden, Galaxy of Lights chairman. "When we were approached about doing this, we wanted to do it for the Soldiers. It started out small and then it turned into this."

See Lights on page 23

Corps of Engineers worker returns to Iraq

Civilian worker volunteers for second tour of duty

Civilian employees with the Army Corps of Engineers have supported the Global War on Terrorism since the beginning. An East Limestone County resident is one of many civilian employees who volunteered to serve in Iraq with the Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

Brad McCowan, an Army veteran and 30-year employee with the Corps of Engineers, answered the call to duty to serve a second tour in Iraq. He will serve from six months to one year as the program manager for Huntsville Center's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program in Iraq.

McCowan said he raised his hand to join the mission



Brad McCowan

again for two main reasons.

"One, I believe in what the United States is doing in fighting the war on terror, and the work in Iraq is just one important facet of this war," he said. "Second, as a Huntsville Corps employee, I believe in supporting to the best of my ability the directorate's efforts."

McCowan works in a vital role for Huntsville Center, and he wears many hats for the CMC Program.

"I actually have a multifaceted job here that involves several aspects," he said. "As the CMC program manager in Iraq, I am the liaison between the Army Multinational Corps-Iraq and the CMC activities of Huntsville Center. I am also responsible for all CMC personnel and equipment assets, and I conduct contracting officer representative duties in support of the Huntsville Center contracting officer."

Huntsville Center. I am also responsible for all CMC personnel and equipment assets, and I conduct contracting officer representative duties in support of the Huntsville Center contracting officer."

Even though McCowan is working 12 hours a day for seven days a week, he said it is worth it for the personal satisfaction he receives from doing his job.

"The most rewarding part of my job is knowing that our mission is providing a safer environment for Iraqi civilians and Soldiers because we are getting rid of materials that insurgents use to make improvised explosive devices," he said.

Huntsville Center is the Army Corps of Engineers' Center of Expertise for Military Munitions. Huntsville Center's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program is responsible for receiving, transporting, segregating and destroying captured or any other munitions posing a danger in Iraq. Storage and disposal of the ammunition is performed at several locations throughout Iraq. To date, more than 400,000 tons of ammunition have been destroyed by the Huntsville Center program, significantly reducing risks to Iraqi citizens and U.S. personnel serving in Iraq. *(Huntsville Center release)*

■ Soldiers visit local attractions

Lights

continued from page 22

With the help of the sponsors like Dominos Pizza, Coca-Cola, BellSouth, the Garden Guild and volunteers, what was supposed to be just a stroll through the garden turned to dinner, a show and more. More than 170 pizzas, 400 drinks and 2,000 homemade cookies put smiles on the Soldiers' faces as they walked through the garden.

"Everyone wanted to do (this)," said Paula Steigerwald, Huntsville Botanical Gardens CEO. "We have an ongoing relationship with the Army. We love working with them. We look for (opportunities) like this to give back to them for what they do for (our country). We really feel good about doing this."

The Soldiers received guided tours from the same volunteers who put up the displays. Pvt. John Figueroa, with Bravo

Company, 832nd Ord. Bn., said he walked along with one of the guides, who told him how the displays were set up and what each of the displays represented. A big favorite for Figueroa was the saluting toy soldiers toward the end of the trail and the homemade cookies which he called "the best cookies ever."

The trip to the garden was extra special for Pvt. Tonya Tettleton, with Bravo Company, 832nd Ord. Bn., who has only been in the Army for four months and is training to become a radar repair specialist.

"I haven't been off post since I joined with the exception of the trip from basic training to (Redstone), so this is the first time I've seen appreciation from someone," she said. "The pizza, the cookies, the drinks ... these people didn't have to do any of it but they did it anyway. For being my first experience off post it has definitely been a good one."

U.S. Space & Rocket Center

After a fun night at the Galaxy of

Lights, the Soldiers of the 832nd Ord. Bn. were up early Nov. 10 to visit the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. They had the opportunity to see some of the rockets developed in Huntsville which range from the Army boosters that put America's first satellite and astronauts in orbit, to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Saturn V moon rocket and the Space Shuttle. They also got to do some indoor rock climbing and try the various rides which simulate how astronauts feel as they travel into space. The Soldiers were treated to free popcorn and drinks from the center to enjoy a special IMAX viewing of *Magnificent Desolation: Walking on the Moon*, a documentary of trips to the moon courtesy of Association of the U.S. Army.

"This is the best of the jobs that I get to do. (Through this) we're allowing Soldiers to have a little free time structured around learning about the space program while having fun," said retired Col. Cliff Broderick, U.S. Space & Rocket Center executive vice president.

Broderick, who retired from the Army at Redstone and is a Vietnam and Desert

Storm veteran, knows all too well how important it is to support the troops.

"When I came into the Army in 1970 Vietnam was ongoing so it wasn't a very popular time to be in the military," Broderick said. "Coming back from Desert Storm was my first real experience with seeing the outpour of America coming out to say thank you and I think that's very important. As we continue with the war in Iraq (it is important) for people to still look to the military and the Soldiers and say 'thank you for what you're doing in preserving the freedom of our nation.'"

Col. Jose R. Enriquez, 59th Ordnance Brigade commander, took the time during the space center visit to send a Veterans Day message to his Soldiers.

"Veterans Day is a perfect time for us to take time not only to reflect on ourselves but also to reflect back on those that have walked the grounds before us and have led the way," he said. "There have been many folks in the past that have paid the ultimate price and have made the ultimate sacrifice to have and to keep the freedom that we enjoy today."

Ordnance Corps welcomes new chief

By **ANDRICKA THOMAS HAMMONDS**

Ordnance Center and Schools public affairs officer

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — Gen. William Wallace, commander of the Training and Doctrine Command, bid farewell to Maj. Gen. Vincent Boles, outgoing chief of Ordnance and commandant of the Ordnance Center and Schools, on Oct. 30 and welcomed Brig. Gen. Rebecca Halstead, former commanding general for 3rd Corps Support Command, as the new chief of Ordnance and commandant of OC&S.

A 13-cannon salute honored Boles, among the 31 general officers in attendance that day. Wallace captured the major accomplishments in Ordnance during Boles' two-year tenure.

In the last two years, OC&S trained more than 40,000 Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Department of the Army civilians.

"In an Army at war, nothing is more important than the task faced by the Ordnance Center and Schools' leadership to prepare our great Soldiers and leaders for the complex and uncertain challenges of combat," Wallace said.

He commended Boles' contributions to the Ordnance Corps and said TRADOC is not anxious to see him leave the TRADOC family.

"A visionary leader, his (Boles) efforts set the stage for the future for the Ordnance Corps," Wallace said. He said

Boles has done a magnificent job instilling pride and esprit de corps in the mind of every Soldier trained by the OC&S.

"You (Boles) have inculcated the 'Warrior Ethos' through realistic and rigorous training," Wallace said. He also mentioned the contributions incoming commandant Halstead would bring to the Ordnance Corps.

"This Soldier (Halstead) understands that leading Soldiers is a privilege, a sacred trust and an affair of the heart," he said. "I personally vouch for her abilities, her talent and her leadership."

"Halstead's reputation of service is legendary," Boles said. Halstead has served and led teams in combat.

"The Ordnance Center and Schools and our Ordnance Corps is blessed to have her experience and caring leadership," Boles said.

Halstead graciously accepted the responsibility of being the 34th chief of Ordnance.

"I am honored, humbled and privileged to be the 34th chief of Ordnance," Halstead said. "To train a representation of America's sons and daughters, those willing to die for us, is an honor."

Boles will continue his Army career as the assistant deputy chief of staff to the Army, G-4 (logistics) at the Pentagon.

"They (Soldiers) go for us," Boles said. "Not for riches, glory, or fame. They go for you. My name is Boles and I am Army strong."



Photo by Ralph Brouth

COMMAND CHANGE— Gen. William Wallace, commander of the Training and Doctrine Command, passes the colors from Gen. Vincent Boles, former chief of Ordnance, to the new chief of Ordnance and commandant of the Ordnance Center and Schools, Brig. Gen. Rebecca Halstead, on Oct. 30 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Halstead visited the Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School on Nov. 7-8.

Thanksgiving feast brings good taste to holiday

About 700 expected for traditional meal at dining facility

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

Every meal is special for the staff of the troop dining facility, but this particular feast stands out.

It's the Thanksgiving meal, a time for servicemembers, military retirees and guests to enjoy the traditional holiday trimmings. The date, Nov. 23, is already circled on the calendar at the facility.

"It is the biggest meal of the year," Dan Tyree, project manager for K&K Food Service, said. "It's when we let the cooks do what they do best – home cooking. They put pride in their work every day, but on this day they just let it all shine out."

Assistant manager Dennis Hardin agreed. "It's just one of our largest family-oriented meals of the year," Hardin said.

Single Soldiers will eat that day from 11 a.m. until noon; Soldiers with family members, from 12-1:30 p.m.; and retirees, from 1:30-2:30. Retirees are authorized to bring their spouse and one guest.

"Please emphasize to retirees: Let us do our Soldiers first, then we'll get to you," Hardin said.

"We just want the retirees to honor the time we have set aside for retirees, not come in when it's troop time," Tyree said.

Also, there are no carryout orders. Last year some people tried to fill up back packs, garbage bags – even children's lunch boxes. That's a no-no. "It's consumed here in the building; it's not taken out," Tyree said.

Meal rates are \$5.90 for all active duty personnel, spouses and retirees with their spouses. Cost is \$5 for family members only of E-4 and below. Children under 6 and younger eat free. All personnel who are on meal card status or not receiving separate ration will eat free. Attendees should use both entrances at the dining facility; and there is no reserved seating.

More people are expected at this year's Thanksgiving feast. The facility is feeding about 600 troops per meal daily. Some 43,135 meals were prepared and served during October.

"Last year we did 500 (at Thanksgiving) but the troop count was down. This year we're looking at roughly 700 just for that one meal," Tyree said.

A limited breakfast will be served to the troops that morning from 7-8. And the facility will still serve dinner to the troops that afternoon from 3-5. About 40 of the facility's 60 workers will be on duty.

Here's the Thanksgiving feast menu and the preparation quantities: roast turkey (720 pounds), baked ham (100 pounds), beef steamship round (185 pounds), orange glazed Cornish hens (165 pounds), chicken cordon bleu, steamed broccoli, seasoned corn and green beans, cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, shrimp cocktail (30 pounds), a full salad bar, assorted pastries and beverages.

Holidays spark fire prevention advice

With fire-wise common sense, you can make sure tragedy does not come between you and the festive holiday you have planned, according to Redstone Arsenal Fire and Emergency Services. Follow these fire prevention tips to help you and your family have a safe and happy Thanksgiving:

- Keep your family and overnight guests safe with a working smoke detector on every level of the house, in every bedroom, and in the halls adjacent to the bedrooms. Test smoke detectors monthly and replace batteries at least twice a year.

- Overnight guests should be instructed on the fire escape plan and designated meeting place for your home.

- Have a fire extinguisher available not more than 10 feet from the stove, on the exit side of the room.

- A two-and-a-half-pound class ABC multipurpose dry chemical extinguisher is recommended. Know how to use your fire extinguisher.

- Start holiday cooking with a clean stove and oven.

- Keep the kitchen off-limits to young children and adults that are not helping with food preparations to lessen the possibility of kitchen mishaps.

- When cooking, do not wear

clothing with loose sleeves or dangling jewelry. The clothing can catch fire and the jewelry can catch on pot handles, causing spills and burns.

- Cook on the back burners when possible and turn pot handles in so they don't extend over the edge of the stove.

- Never leave cooking unattended. If you must leave the kitchen while cooking, turn off the stove or have someone else watch what is being cooked.

- Keep Thanksgiving decorations and kitchen clutter away from sources of direct heat.

- Candles are often part of holiday decorations. Candles should never be left burning unattended, or when you are away from home, or after going to bed. Candles should be located where children will not be tempted to play with them, and where guests will not accidentally brush against them. The candle holder should be completely non-combustible and difficult to knock over. The candle should not have combustible decorations around it.

- If smoking is allowed inside, provide guests with large, deep ashtrays and check them frequently. After guests leave, check inside and under upholstery and in trash cans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering. (*Fire and Emergency Services release*)

Don't let improper cooking spoil holiday

Fox Army Health Center talks turkey preparation

By CHERIE MILLER
Fox Army Health Center

Let's talk turkey. Thanksgiving turkey, that is. Yes, it's time to start thinking about purchasing and preparing the main attraction of many holiday feasts. Unfortunately, improper handling and preparation of turkey may result in a visit from an unwanted guest — food borne illness. The following tips will help you provide a tasty and safe holiday meal.

Always look for the USDA inspection label when purchasing turkey or turkey parts. This ensures that the turkey has been inspected for wholesomeness. You may also look for a grade stamp on the label. Most turkeys on the market are Grade A. They are meaty and have fewer pinfeathers, bruises, broken bones and other imperfections than lower grade

turkeys.

Turkey may be purchased fresh or frozen. Frozen turkeys should be frozen solid at the time of purchase. They may be stored up to one year at zero degrees without a noticeable loss of quality. Unless the packaging on the turkey has been torn or damaged there is no need to rewrap the bird for the freezer. Fresh turkeys should be purchased 1-2 days before cooking and stored in the refrigerator at 40 F or below to avoid spoilage.

Thawing is a primary consideration when preparing frozen turkey. Turkeys may be thawed in the refrigerator, under cold running water, in the microwave, or as part of the cooking process. The key is to plan ahead to ensure you have enough time to complete the method you choose. Turkeys should never be thawed at room temperature. Bacteria will grow on the warmer surface while the inside is still solidly frozen.

If thawing a turkey in the

refrigerator, simply place the wrapped turkey on a tray to catch the moisture as it thaws. You may also place the unopened turkey in a pan or sink and place it under running water that is 70 F or below. Cook the turkey as soon as it is thawed. If thawing in a microwave, check the oven manufacturer's instructions for the correct number of minutes, power level, etc. The turkey may also be thawed as part of the cooking process by roasting the frozen bird, unstuffed, in a baking pan.

Use the following chart to determine the amount of thawing time needed for these methods:

- Weight 8-12 pounds – refrigerator 1-2 days, cold water 4-6 hours, frozen (cook time) 6-7 hours.

- 12-16 pounds – refrigerator 2-3 days, cold water 6-9 hours, frozen (cook time) 7-8 hours.

- 16-20 pounds – refrigerator 3-4 days, cold water 9-11 hours, frozen (cook time) 8-9

hours.

- 20-24 pounds – refrigerator 4-5 days, cold water 11-12 hours, frozen (cook time) 9-10 hours.

After thawing the turkey, remove the giblets and neck from the body cavities and wash the turkey, inside and out, with cold water and drain. Prevent the spread of bacteria by washing your hands, sink and all utensils that may have contacted the raw turkey.

The turkey should be stuffed immediately prior to roasting. If stuffed sooner, bacteria may grow in the stuffing and cause food borne illness. Dry stuffing ingredients may be mixed ahead of time. Refrigerate perishables (butter, broth, vegetables, etc.) and mix them with the dry ingredients just before stuffing the turkey.

Roast the turkey to an internal temperature of 185 F. A meat thermometer may be used by inserting it into the thick part of the thigh muscle. Dressing should be cooked to an internal temperature of 165 F.

Remove any dressing from the turkey immediately after cooking to reduce the chance of bacterial growth.

All turkey leftovers should be refrigerated or frozen within two hours of removing the turkey from the oven. Disease-causing bacteria may multiply if the turkey is left at room temperature for longer than that. Place the leftovers in shallow pans or bowls to allow quicker chilling. Turkey leftovers will keep in the refrigerator for 3 to 4 days. Gravy and stuffing leftovers should be used within 1 or 2 days. Frozen leftovers should be used within one month.

If you have more questions about turkey or turkey preparation, you may call Preventive Medicine, Fox Army Health Center at 955-8888, ext. 1026 or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-mphotheadline.

Editor's note: Cherie Miller is an environmental health coordinator in Preventive Medicine Service at Fox Army Health Center.

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Hunter safety

Outdoor Recreation is having a Hunter Safety Orientation Thursday at 4:30 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 on Aerobee Road. You must attend one of these classes to be eligible to hunt on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call 876-4868 or 876-6854.

Hockey bus trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a hockey bus trip to Nashville to watch the St. Louis Blues take on the Nashville Predators. The bus will depart the Kroger parking lot at Drake Avenue and South Memorial Parkway at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6 and return immediately after the game. The game starts at 7. Cost is \$65 per person and includes a premium lower bowl game ticket, transportation, and snacks and beverages on the bus. This trip is open to all Team Redstone members and their families. However, children must be chaperoned. If you are interested in attending this game, you must put your name on the priority list by e-mailing your contact and ticket request information to Robert Olson at Robert.J.Olson@us.army.mil. Payment in full must be received by Dec. 1.



Conferences & Meetings

Town hall

AMCOM LCMC Town Hall is Friday, Dec. 1 from 9-11 a.m. at Bob Jones Audi-

torium. The meeting, with AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, will be broadcast on Team Redstone Television Channel 42, and via Internet Protocol to computer desktops. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the auditorium. Badges must be worn by all attending.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel have Bible studies each Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. The morning Bible studies are at 9:30 a.m., the lunch Bible study at 11:30 a.m., and the evening Bible study at 6:30 p.m. Nursery care is provided for all Bible studies. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 489-3018 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

Toastmasters

Tennessee Valley Toastmasters meets the first and third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Radisson Inn, 8721 Highway 20 West, Madison. For information call 876-8706 or e-mail amy.donlin@us.army.mil.

Electronics tutorial

IEEE Huntsville Section Aerospace Electronics Systems Society announces a one-day IEEE AESS Distinguished Lecturer Tutorial on GPS and Inertial Data Processing by Dr. James Farrell of VIGIL Inc. on Thursday at the Von Braun Center West Hall. Cost is \$60. Contact Buddy Bishop at rbishop744@aol.com for more information and registration.

Resource managers

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrol-

lers will have its November meeting and luncheon Thursday at 11 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will sponsor a luncheon program today at 11:15 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club in the Regimental Room. Lunch will be served through the buffet line for those who will eat lunch. Management from the Huntsville District Office of the Social Security Administration will give a presentation on the Social Security Windfall Elimination Provision/Government Pension Offset Provision and the impact on retirement benefits for government employees (and their spouses/widows). The public is invited. For more information, call Shirley Burke-Mitchell 895-1292.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 at the Officers and Civilians Club, Regimental Room. For more information, call Michael McSwain 842-6778.

Strategic speakers

Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in room 3018 of building 5225 (Von Braun Complex). Toastmasters is a non-profit organization that assists with the development of communication and leadership skills. For more information, call C. Purifoy 651-3621 or 313-4696 or e-mail cpurifoy@bellsouth.net.



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 information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, 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 have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

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,

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logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. The shop is accepting fall/winter items. It will be open Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10-2. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Water cooler refills

The Thrift Shop has begun to stock water cooler refills as part of its goal to raise more money to give back to the community. Water cooler replacement bottles, 5-gallon jugs, are available at good prices at the shop. For more information, call Christi Graves 881-6992.

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.

Shop contributions

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number. The deadline for these requests is Nov. 30. Please include in the written request your federal tax number and the purpose of the request. Mail or deliver it to: Redstone Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898, Attn: Mary McCarthy, welfare chairperson, 881-6992.

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.

Quarterly retirements

The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony

is scheduled Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are required to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. To arrange participation, call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-7969. Deadline for signing up is Nov. 30. Retirement ceremonies are also scheduled March 22 and June 21.

CFC weekend

The Costco on North Memorial Parkway in Huntsville will allow people who contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign — via pledge card — to shop at its store this Friday through Sunday without paying a membership fee. "All you have to do is bring in your copy of the pledge card and they will let you in," a prepared release said.

Cruise missile family

Col. Edward Mullin, the project manager for Cruise Missile Defense Systems, invites all former CMDS/SHORAD employees to attend the annual CMDS Dining Out on Friday at the Officers and Civilians Club. "This is a great opportunity to see old friends, catch up on what's going on and enjoy a fine dinner," a prepared release said. "Several former project managers have already agreed to attend, so please join us for a fun night." Cost is \$34 per person. For more information, call Bonnie Coleman 876-4927.

Free car wash

Join Morale Welfare and Recreation for its Quarterly Customer Appreciation free Car Wash today from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Each customer will get a free car wash, fragrance and vacuum. This is a "wash-your-own" event. There will also be free food and drinks for customers washing their cars. This is open to the entire Redstone community. For more information, call 955-7728.

Car show benefit

Alabama Custom Car and Truck Club will present its first "Just Showin' Off," for Toys for Tots, Dec. 9 behind the Veterans Memorial Museum at 2060A Airport Road southwest. Registration starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. for cars, trucks and motorcycles. Entry fee for the show is a \$20 cash donation or an unwrapped toy of equal value. Rain date is Dec. 10. For more information, e-mail Jay McGiboney at JayMack75@aol.com or visit www.alabama-customcarandtruckclub.com.

Instructor of year

The Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School and the 59th Ordnance Brigade invite you to the Instructor of the Year Awards Presentation Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tickets are \$10 and are now on sale. For more information and tickets, call Sgt. 1st Class Richard James 842-9771.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for merit awards. Forms are available at OCWC monthly luncheons, the Education Center and Army Community Service. For more information, call K.C. Bertling 325-0490 or e-mail samnkc@knology.net.

Grissom High reunion

Grissom High School Class of 1977 is planning a reunion in July 2007. Organizers are looking for all graduates from that year. If you are a grad or know one, please e-mail GHS77@comcast.net.

Aviation challenge

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America is sponsoring two Aviation Challenge 2007 Scholarships in conjunction with the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Children and grandchildren — between the ages of 9/attending or completed fourth grade and 18, not started college — of individuals who are Tennessee Valley AAAA Chapter members by Dec. 31, 2006 will be eligible to compete for the scholarships. The scholarships will be awarded in the form of certificates for use during 2007. Applications for scholarships and membership and more information on Tennessee Valley AAAA Aviation Challenge Scholarship application procedures will be available at the chapter Christmas social as well as on the web site www.tennvalleyquad-a.org. Applications are due Jan. 31. For information call Tom Harrison, chapter vice president for scholarships, 319-0100.

Weather closings

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: radio — WDRM 102FM, WEKR 1240AM, WEUP 1600AM, WGSV 1270AM, WJAB 90.9FM, WLRH 89.3FM, WRAB 1380AM, WTKI 1450AM, WVNN 770AM, WWIC 1050AM and WZYP 104.3FM; television — WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures: you can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement, or you can find adverse weather announcements on the Team Redstone Internet site (<http://www.redstone.army.mil>) by clicking on "Links" and then Adverse Weather; on the AMCOM Portal Intranet site (<https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/>) by clicking on Adverse Weather under Key Sites; or the AMCOM Internet site (<http://www.amcom.redstone.army.mil>) by clicking on Adverse Weather.

Casino night

HarborChase of Huntsville will celebrate its seventh anniversary with "Holiday Casino Night," a fund-raiser event for the Blount Hospitality House, on Dec. 14 from 6-9 p.m. at HarborChase Assisted Living, 4801 Whitesport Circle, behind Crestwood Medical Center. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$25 per couple. For tickets call Nicole Thompson 650-1155.

Officer association party

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold a Mardi Gras at Christmas Party, Dec. 2 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cocktails will be served at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Costumes are encouraged but tux, dress blues, or business suits are acceptable. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes. Reservations are required by Nov. 27. For more information, call Carrie Hightower 882-3992.

Employment briefing

The Federal Employment Briefing is designed to give an understanding of the federal application process. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct this session Nov. 30 from 9-11:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Topics will include veteran and military spouse preference, recruitment sources, Resumix procedures, candidate evaluation and referral lists. Call ACS at 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

Commissary hours

The Commissary will maintain normal hours through most of the holiday season. It will be open Monday, Nov. 20, with regular hours (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.). It will have limited hours Friday, Nov. 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will also have limited hours, Sunday, Dec. 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Foster children

The Foster Children's Alliance is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to meet the needs of foster children in Madison County and assist them in maintaining a higher quality of life that is comparable to that of their peers. At present it is working to fulfill these children's Christmas wishes. Members of the local community are asked to help by sponsoring Madison County foster children. There are 360 children in foster care that the alliance is assisting. If interested in sponsoring a child and fulfilling their Christmas wishes, call one of the following FOCAL board members: Page Banks 288-1100, Donna Hamlett 535-4657 and Stephanie Tolen 534-6495, ext.106.

Prayer breakfast

The next LCMC Nondenominational Prayer Breakfast will be Thursday morning at 7:30 in Sparkman Center building 5308, room 8124 (conference room). No food or drink will be served, but you may bring your own. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Richard Doty 313-1537 or Sharon Board 876-0194.

Science apprentices

The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program announces applications for 2007. The Defense Department initiated the SEAP in 1980, under the direction of the Executive Office of the President, to involve academically talented high school and college students in hands-on research activities and student-mentor relationships during the summer. The high school and college programs are designed for students who are U.S. citizens and 15 years old by the beginning of the program June 4, 2007. The apprentice program is divided into 8, 10 and 12 weeks. Applications should be available from senior counselors at all public, private and parochial high school and college placement services. Possible career placement areas at the Army Garrison-Redstone Arsenal include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The deadline for applications is Jan. 31. If the student is unsuccessful in getting an application from the high school senior counselor or college placement service, call Julie Lumpkins of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center 313-4834.

