

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 56 No. 38

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

September 26, 2007

## Training day



Automated system undergoes change  
**Page 4**

## Looking back



60th anniversary for Air Force  
**Page 8**

## Around town



Honor Flight memories  
**Page 12**

## Over there

Homecoming for 1169th  
**Page 16**



## Win or lose

Army team captures armed forces title  
**Page 20**



# Paving the way for growing post

2nd Recruiting Brigade site now under construction

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

With construction under way, the 2nd Recruiting Brigade is leading BRAC changes at Redstone Arsenal that will forever reshape the landscape, and further enhance the significance of the Arsenal both within the Army and the local community.

And, that lead role is only fitting for a brigade that is consistently one of the Army's most successful recruiting organizations.

"I've seen every single post and fort in the Southeast," said Col. Jeffrey Young, who, as deputy commander of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, spends his weeks traveling to recruiting stations in his brigade's region.

"Team Redstone is the most open-arms-embracing, come-be-a-part-of-our-family installation I've ever been on. Team Redstone and its leadership grabs you and pulls you in. It's a great team to be a part of."

Young moved to Redstone Arsenal in the early summer, taking on responsibilities of overseeing the construction of the brigade's new \$9.4 million, 25,000-square-foot headquarters at the corner of Aerobee and Vincent roads on Redstone Arsenal. It is the first of four major Base Realignment and Closure construction projects on the Arsenal totaling 1.654 million square feet at a cost of \$403 million.

The 2nd Recruiting Brigade, which will relocate from Fort Gillem, Ga., is part of the Army's Recruiting Command, headquartered at Fort Knox, Ky. The brigade is under the command of Col. Rod Symons. It oversees nine recruiting battalions, 54 companies, and 357 recruiting stations in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. It employs 1,319 Army recruiters and 518 Reserve Army recruiters. The brigade headquarters employs a staff of 26 military personnel and 29 civilians, and has a budget of \$29 million.

"The headquarters is command and control, and data archives," Young said. "We work to keep the integrity in the process of recruiting throughout our region. We make sure our recruiters go out into the communi-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**READY FOR STEEL COLUMNS**— EDT company owner Joe Vara and his son, Joe Vara Jr., check out the paving spread footing and grade beams required for the placement of steel beams in the construction of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade's new headquarters at Redstone Arsenal.



ty to build bonds with schools and churches, and to offer opportunities."

Young and others from brigade headquarters review applications for any "red flags" and are "constantly traveling across the footprint of the region to make sure recruiters are doing things right with integrity, penetrating the market and getting high-quality recruits."

These days Young is spending more time on Redstone Arsenal, working from a temporary office in Garrison headquarters as the pace of construction on the brigade's new facility quickens.

"I'm out at the construction site on Saturday or Sunday or Monday morning to check the progress," he said. "Every few weeks, I ask for a detailed report on how far we've gotten."

See **Brigade** on page 32



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**MAKING NEW NEIGHBORS**— Col. Jeffrey Young of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade points out the brigade's new headquarters to, from left, West Virginia National Guard Staff Sgt. Danny Bowlds, Nebraska National Guard Spc. Michael Bradley and Reservist Staff Sgt. Sean Toubman of New York, outside the Dining Hall. The brigade will be the Dining Hall's neighbor on Aerobee Road once construction is complete. All three young Soldiers have been deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom — Bowlds for two tours, Bradley for three tours and Toubman for 17 months. They were at Redstone Arsenal to attend ammunition training at OMEMS.

# An open lane random survey

What's your favorite autumn memory?

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

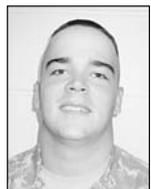


*Barbara Cummings*  
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs  
**"Fall colors in upstate New York – gorgeous. Buying apples and grapes at roadside stands, and it's also state fair time. They have their state fair in September."**

*Julie Jordan*  
Phoenix Services  
**"When I was little and my mom was showing me all the different colors, like the leaves change and the different kinds of trees."**



*Pvt. Russell Fletcher*  
Bravo Company  
**"We don't have fall in Florida. We have hot and cold – that's it. Probably just going to the beach; because when you go to the beach in the fall, it's really nice – not a lot of people."**



*Pvt. Matt Powers*  
Bravo Company  
**"Hiking, camping – it's nice and cold then (in New York)."**



## At odds with ultimate fighting

When I realized that the "Ultimate Combat Experience" was coming to Huntsville, I was shocked. I had always thought that Huntsville was the intellectual oasis of the south and this degrading form of entertainment would not be tolerated. Basically the "Ultimate Combat Experience" consists of throwing two guys in an octagonal cage and let them beat the crap out of each other. This violence is legal and accepted but everyone wants to send Vick up the river for dog fighting? Morality should trump legality. Years ago, slavery was legal but it was never moral.

I recently googled "Ultimate

Combat Experience." I noticed a tab labeled "Sponsors." Before I clicked, I vowed not to patronize any company who sponsored this cruel, degrading entertainment. When I clicked on the tab, I was shocked to see the main sponsor was the "U.S. ARMY." This is a slap in the face to the great Soldiers that are fighting for our freedom...

### Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: Ultimate or extreme fighting is an established sport and the participants are monitored closely to avoid serious injury. Local participants have included a Redstone Soldier who is on his way to Afghanistan.*

## Defining moments in life

A few of years ago, while in Orlando, Fla., during the weekend of a severe hurricane, I sat quietly reflective in my hotel room. Since that time, we have experienced numerous life changing events, regional such as Hurricane Katrina and other tragedies. All of these incidents entered my thought process as I sat safely in the comfort of my room. I was aware of the fact only minutes and a few miles away, someone's world as they knew it was coming apart. I was reminded of how blessed I am, and how often we can take life, loved ones and living for granted.

One person whom I have

admired for many years was former President John F. Kennedy. I can remember certain excerpts from his inaugural address, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country!" Somehow, even as a little boy, I sensed something profound about those words, and felt one day I would take on that challenge.

In his book, "Profiles in Courage," President Kennedy describes how there are those rare transcendent moments whereby certain key words, acts and decisions define and determine one's own destiny. How accurate that statement is. How many of us have heard inspirational words from preachers and teachers; motivational thoughts from family, friends, co-workers and leaders which continue to shape how we see ourselves even today? The reverse is true as I wonder how many of us have longed to have those key people in our life to convey they genuinely care about our welfare and that they believe

## Bowled over by prices

I have enjoyed bowling at the new Redstone Lanes but the latest price hike will now limit how often we bowl. This was one activity families could afford to go and enjoy some fun family time but now this is getting out of reach for them also. The same goes for seniors on fixed income. The exercise they got from bowling will now be cut back.

This is the second or third time prices have increased since they opened. When I asked why the increase I was told "have you looked at the civilian places lately?" Why does the MWR

See **Bowling** on page 3

## Fed up with gasoline cost

I would like to know why the on-post filling station gas prices are so much higher than off-post filling stations. Just a quick check Sept. 17, the price was \$2.66 per gallon on post and only \$2.55 to \$2.54 off post.

What happened to checking prices each morning off post and adjusting the price accordingly?

It is really a ripoff when you stop and think the filling station on post doesn't even have the taxes added into the cost as do the off-post filling stations.

John Zuber

*Editor's note: PX general manager Carl Carpenter provided the following response. "Thank you for your letter inquiring about gas prices at the One Stop Shoppette. Redstone is one of several locations in continental U.S. selected by AAFES to conduct a test on gasoline pricing. Based on current margins, and our processes we follow for purchasing, AAFES is losing \$9.2 million that could be applied toward the mission to support MWR.*

*"Previously we surveyed and matched the lowest price. Many times matching the lowest price would cause the Exchange to sell below cost, negatively impacting the mission to fund MWR. During this test we continue to survey daily and use the average survey price to establish the sell price on our gasoline.*

*"In your letter you also indicate the Shoppette does not have taxes included in the price*

See **Life** on page 3

See **Gasoline** on page 3

## Quote of the week

It appears we have appointed our worst generals to command forces, and our most gifted and brilliant to edit newspapers. In fact, I discovered by reading newspapers that these editor/geniuses plainly saw all my strategic defects from the start, yet failed to inform me until it was too late. Accordingly, I am readily willing to yield my command to these obviously superior intellects, and I will, in turn, do my best for the Cause by writing editorials — after the fact.

— Robert E. Lee (1863)

# Redstone Rocket

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

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

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

Retail advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday before Wednesday publication. Classified advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil  
Rocket articles are available online at the following:  
<http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil/>

### Rocket Staff

Editor: Skip Vaughn  
Reporters: Kari Hawkins  
Kelley Lane-Sivley  
Copy Editor/Layout: Scott Seeley  
Advertising Sales: Shelia Smith  
Lacy Pruitt

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

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

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

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

# Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Cpl. Cleodus K. Bar

**Job:** Marine Corps Detachment mascot

**Where do you call home?**  
Toney, Ala.



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

It motivates me to be around junior Marines. After all, I outrank all the students. I especially enjoy attending events like going to change of commands and graduations; and meeting with senior enlisted Marines and officers.

**What are your goals?**  
To be promoted to sergeant major, and get my gray belt.

**What's your favorite type of music?**

I like country music, and "The Marine Corps Hymn." But Kanye West is a good artist as well.

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

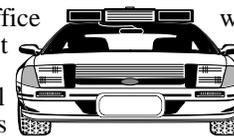
I like to sleep, and go to PetSmart. And I like to eat a little, too. And I like to spend time with my family. The Marine Corps emphasizes family values.

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**Sept. 15:** An individual cashed three money grams issued by Wal-Mart, which were found to be counterfeit, unknown to her. But a check through National Crime Information Center revealed an outstanding warrant from the Huntsville Police Department. She was arrested by the Redstone Police and later released to the Huntsville Police Department.

**Sept. 16:** An individual attempted to enter Gate 10 with an expired ID. When asked he twice gave the officers



wrong information. When patted down, a wallet was found which contained his correct information. A check through NCIC revealed two misdemeanor warrants from a Georgia police department. They declined to extradite; and he was issued a court summons and released.

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

**Violation notices issued:** 6 speeding, 2 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 expired driver's license, 1 failure to use seatbelts, 1 expired registration, 5 cell phone policy violation.

## ■ Reminder of precious moments

### Life

continued from page 2

in us... but didn't. These "missed opportunities" were also defining moments.

In the month of October 1994, I went to my son's community league football game. During that game he ran four touchdowns. I was so proud of him, and my heart filled with joy as the announcer called out his name each time. Every time my son ran the ball, he looked over to my seating area to see if dad was watching him. That was a defining moment for both of us.

During Thanksgiving 1999, I made it home to share this holiday with family. My dad's poor health included partial paralysis causing him confinement to a wheel chair, limiting his movement and his ability to consume food. Throughout my foreign travels in the military, I would often send my parents gifts from overseas locations where I happened to be. I explained to my dad that I had not brought a gift to him this time due to his health. As I sat beside him, and watched him muster up the strength to raise his hand, he stroked my face and told me, "You are the gift!" Those words reverberate in my heart today. That, for me, was a defining moment.

In the year 2001, my dad passed away and I delivered his funeral service. He had never liked dressing up so this was the first time to get him to wear a suit. At the conclusion of the service many people suddenly just got up and left, which seemed rather odd to me. I later found out those people had felt compelled to go home and to phone, letting those whom they love know they loved them.

It is never too late to create a defining moment in someone's life, or make a difference to your family, community, organization for which you are a part of. It is important to give people the flowers now, while they can see and smell them. What legacy will you leave behind personally as well as professionally? The torch has been passed, what will you do with your dash?

Stanley Walker

## ■ Prices at Redstone Lanes explained

### Bowling

continued from page 2

think they have to keep up with the civilian community? This is supposed to be to support our troops, both active and retired, and our military community.

**Name withheld by request**

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "MWR and Redstone Lanes work very hard to offer outstanding service and programs at reasonable prices. We are sorry if any patron feels the fees at Redstone Lanes are too expensive. While the answer*

*you received from the staff is regrettable, please consider the following. The Army classifies Redstone Lanes as an MWR Category C Activity. Category C activities are required by regulation to charge fees for similar goods and services within 25 percent of off-post prices.*

*"According to Army Regulation 215-1 12-8 e, 'When patrons are charged a fee in a category C MWR program, including annual dues established for military clubs, prices ordinarily will be established within 25 percent of the average prevailing off-base cost for similar goods or services. Annual surveys of off-post commercial, municipal, and/or private enterprises will ensure costs are within the 25 percent rate.'*

*"Local Huntsville prices Monday through Saturday range from a low of \$3.20 including tax and a high of \$5.50 including tax for one game of open bowling. This compares to Redstone Lanes price of \$2.50 a game. Shoe rental ranges from \$3 to \$3.75 including tax in Huntsville bowling centers compared to \$1.75 at Redstone Lanes.*

*"As illustrated by these price disparities charged off and on the Arsenal, we are very sensitive to price increases and do everything possible to keep prices reasonable and fair while working within the regulation. Redstone Lanes will as always continue to offer our patrons the best bowling program and customer service in the Huntsville area and in the Army at fair and reasonable prices."*

## ■ Exchange service pays gasoline taxes

### Gasoline

continued from page 2

*of gas. Let me assure you AAFES does pay federal, state and local taxes on gasoline. AAFES, as a U.S. government instrumentality, is immune from state and local taxes unless the immunity is waived by an act of Congress. The U.S. Congress has waived this immunity with respect to motor fuel sold by AAFES (Hayden Cartwright Act, 4 U.S.C. 104). AAFES pays federal tax as well — 26 U.S.C., section 4081(a) is the U.S. code that covers federal tax on gasoline. Accordingly, AAFES pays state, federal and local motor fuel taxes, as well as underground storage fees, etc. on motor fuel. The federal and state motor fuel taxes and other applicable fees paid by AAFES are included in the motor*

*fuel price to the military customer and paid to the appropriate taxing authority.*

*"Unlike commissaries, AAFES is a 'non-appropriated fund' activity. We operate almost entirely on money earned from the sale of goods and services — not tax dollars. We must establish our prices to cover operating expenses such as inventory costs, employee salaries, utilities, plus new construction and renovations of existing facilities. At the same time, we have a financial commitment to support the morale welfare and recreational (MWR) activities of the Army and the Air Force (i.e., libraries, bowling alleys, gyms, golf courses and more). In fiscal 2006, AAFES paid \$228.2 million to the MWR funds. Every cent we earn goes back to our customers in one form or another!*

*"I hope this gives you a better understanding of the AAFES gas pricing policy."*

## Change on way for automated training system

*Cost avoidance, less confusion among expected advantages*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Don't you just love those command-wide electronic messages you get reminding you to take this mandatory training or that mandatory training? They tend to arrive in duplicate – from both your supervisor and your training contact – and lead to confusion about what courses you're required to take.

Well, relief is on the way from these mass e-mails. The Training Information Program will undergo changes beginning Oct. 1.

"No more multiple e-mails for mandatory training," Penny Koger-Thomas, human resource specialist at AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources), said.

Under the revised TIP system, users will log in and see a list of required and recurring training they have to take within a given year. When the training is



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**BRAINSTORMING—** Maxie Pooler, left, of the AMCOM Office of Continuous Improvement discusses the revised training system with Penny Koger-Thomas of AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources).

announced, they'll receive individualized e-mails from the system on what course they must complete. Their supervisor and training proponent won't have to send out mass e-mails.

"The e-mail will be individualized for that particular person," Koger-Thomas said.

The user will still have to self-certify on the system that he took the required course. And once that happens, he won't receive anymore e-mail reminders.

"Management was concerned that too many hours were wasted by employees trying to research the type of training required of them," Koger-Thomas said. "Management themselves were wasting hours trying to figure out which employees completed training."

The revised system, sponsored by AMCOM G-1 and G-3 (Operations), is expected to eliminate this confusion.

The changes resulted from a two-day rapid improvement event held in April by G-1, G-3 and the AMCOM Office of Continuous Improvement. They analyzed the current process from when training tasks are received from higher headquarters to when the training proponents make their reports.

"We brainstormed opportunities for improvement and then created future state of how we wanted the process to look in

4-5 months," Maxie Pooler, a Lean Six Sigma facilitator in the Office of Continuous Improvement, said.

This revised process will affect the more than 10,000 users of TIP. Besides eliminating confusion on required and recurring training, the system is expected to cut costs.

"It was cost avoidance to the command," Pooler said. "What we've consolidated so far, it's saved us \$891,024 (which is not yet validated)."

Training Information Program users should ensure their TIP profile is up-to-date with their current phone number, office information and Army Knowledge Online e-mail address. Training on the revised system should be held for the work force in early fiscal 2008. The TIP help desk can be reached at 876-6297.

"It'll eliminate the confusion associated with the former mandatory training," Pooler said.

Said Koger-Thomas, "And it'll allow supervisors and proponents of training to better track completion of (required and recurring) training."

# NCO Academy Soldier gets Bronze Star

*Served in Afghanistan as mentor from '06-07*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

An instructor at the NCO Academy has received the Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Loren Vigil, the academy's chief of training, served with the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan from June 2006 through May 2007 in Kandahar. He received the Bronze Star for exceptionally meritorious service while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as a senior mentor, 2nd Forward Support Depot, Defense Reform Directorate, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan.

Vigil single-handedly organized the Ammunition Supply Point in formulating ammunition storage policies for ammunition valued at \$5 million. He identified 600 rounds of unserviceable mortars for destruction.

He received the award Sept. 18 from Brig. Gen. Rebecca Halstead, the Army chief of ordnance, before her town hall



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**DISTINCT HONOR— Sgt. 1st Class Loren Vigil receives the Bronze Star from Brig. Gen. Rebecca Halstead, the Army chief of ordnance.**

meeting at Heiser Hall.

"I thank you for your service," Halstead told him when pinning on his medal and presenting the citation.

Vigil, 36, from Phoenix, Ariz., and his wife, Sarah, have a 5-year-old son, Dylan, and 7-year-old daughter, Kaelyn.

"I learned a lot in Afghanistan, mentoring those Soldiers," he said after receiving his award. "It's definitely a rewarding mission."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## *Two-star promotion*

Newly promoted Maj. Gen. Patrick O'Reilly, deputy director of the Missile Defense Agency, takes the oath of office administered by Air Force Lt. Gen. Trey Obering, the MDA director, during his advancement ceremony Friday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

# New checkout system in store for Commissary

Commissary customers can soon expect an improved level of service when they pay for their groceries, according to store officials. Starting Oct. 17, the store will begin installing the Defense Commissary Agency's state-of-the-art checkout stations.

This new front-end operation, known as the Commissary Advanced Resale Transaction System, or CARTS, features new cashier stations designed to make purchasing groceries easier and more efficient, store administrator Linda Ruffin said. It also includes self-checkout modules that will enable customers to scan and pay for their own purchases.

"Our customers will definitely benefit from this new system," said Ruffin of the checkout operation that is scheduled to be installed in each of DeCA's 261 stores. "DeCA wanted a checkout process that was simple to use, accurate and secure in scanning purchases and reliable in that it wouldn't disrupt store operations. We have that with CARTS.

"We are especially excited about the enhanced self-checkout stations," she said. "The automated teller machine has become a staple of the banking industry and self-checkouts will do the same for the commissary benefit."

The commissary agency contracted

with IBM in December 2005 to replace the commissaries' aging front-end system with a newer, more reliable operating system "that was built specifically for retailers," Ruffin said. "We have improved the look and function of check stands thanks to an ergonomic design that reduces a lot of unnecessary 'stuff' between the cashier and the customer."

Other features of the new checkout stands include the following:

- A 15-inch, color-screen display to allow customers a better view of their purchases. The screen can also be used to remind shoppers of store specials and other promotions.
- A touch-screen display for cashiers that will speed up the checkout process.
- A handheld scanner that allows cashiers to reach bulkier items in the cart.
- Price-check stations that will enable customers to scan the price of products before they reach the checkout station.
- Electronic check conversion which speeds up the check-writing process by eliminating handling of paper checks and bank deposits by store personnel.

"This system represents a new era of service for the customer," Ruffin said. "Our customers will be amazed at how this technology will improve their shopping experience." (*Commissary release*)

# Flying Activity greets guests with wings wide open

*Open house slated Oct. 6*

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

If you yearn to be a pilot or are just curious about smaller aircraft, the Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity invites you to come out and look things over. They are having an open house and everyone is welcome.

The event, Oct. 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at building 4828 on Hale Road, will be the second one of this year for the activity. Attendance for the spring event was high, but Mother Nature didn't cooperate.

"We had a good turnout, but it was raining the whole day," Derek Romine, RAFA maintenance manager, said. "Nobody flew that day."

The weather looks to be good for the autumn event. That means that nine of the planes at the Flying Activity will be on the runway, ready to take attendees into the wild blue yonder. Mini flying lessons with a certified



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**TWO MEN AND A PLANE—** Maintenance manager Derek Romine, left, and Telton Tolvert, aircraft mechanic and inspector, perform routine maintenance on one of the planes getting ready for the Flying Activity's open house.

instructor will be available at a reduced cost – \$30 for adults and \$25 for children under 12.

"You can somewhat choose what type of plane you want if

you don't mind losing your place in line to wait for it," Romine said. "You can decide if you want to sit in the back and sight-see or up front and fly."

If the 30-minute flight over Redstone merely whets your appetite, you can get more information on pursuing a pilot's license while you're there. RAFA is a certified FAA computer test station. They also have several licensed and experienced instructors ready to help you make the dream of flying a reality.

It takes almost six months and just under \$4,000 to go from wistful dreamer to dashing pilot.

Initiation fees are being waived for those signing up for membership at the open house. That leaves just the \$35 monthly dues.

"It saves you a little money getting started," Romine said.

The RAFA is not just for the beginner, however. Once you are an established pilot, you have access to all of the activity equipment, such as the computers, clubhouse, maps and even the planes themselves. Members can rent aircraft from the activity and pay only for the flying time while the engine is running, not how long they are gone. That means that for a two-

day trip that only includes three hours actually in the air, the member only pays for those three hours. It's a great way to have the fun and freedom of being a pilot, but save some of the expense of owning and maintaining a private plane.

"We make sure that all the maintenance and inspections are up to date," Romine said. "We keep everything in good working order."

Although the mini flights are the main attraction, they aren't the only thing going. There will be aviation themed videos and displays as well as flight simulators for those who like to keep their feet on the ground. They will also fire up the grill for hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza – all free for those attending the event.

For more information, call RAFA at 880-9495 or visit them on the web at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).

"It's a great way to try things out, fly the plane and see how they like it," Romine said. "If you're scared or think you might be, come see how stable and smooth it is."

# Center celebrates Air Force's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**APPRECIATES SERVICE**— Air Force Col. Gordon Lee, deputy director of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, speaks during MSIC's celebration for the 60th anniversary of the Air Force.

*Missile and space intelligence plays role throughout history*

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

The ceremony was indoors and there was no flyover as originally planned, but these changes didn't make the Air Force birthday party any less special.

The Missile and Space Intelligence Center celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Air Force on Sept. 18. MSIC, part of the Defense Intelligence Agency, has about 10 Air Force officer and enlisted members. And a number of its civilian workers served in the Air Force.

"We really do appreciate the opportunity to assemble here and celebrate this great event," Air Force Col. Gordon Lee, MSIC's deputy director, said.

He recalled some of the Air Force's history since 1947 and MSIC's involvement through the years.

"MSIC's played a vital role in much of what the Air Force prizes," he said.

The ceremonial cakes were cut by Air Force Lt. Col. Sam Domino and Air Force Staff Sgt. Mario Richardson, the most senior and junior members, respectively, of their service at the center.

Domino, 49, from Belzoni, Miss., has been in the Air Force more than 27 and a half years and at the center about three years. A deputy office chief, he plans to retire in June 2008.

"Obviously, I like it (the Air Force). I've stayed in it



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CAKE CUTTING**— Air Force Lt. Col. Sam Domino, left, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Mario Richardson acknowledge applause after cutting the ceremonial cakes during the 60th anniversary celebration.

this long," Domino said. "I could've gotten out at 20 (years service), but I decided to stay in till they kick me out," he added laughing. "I love the service."

Richardson, 26, from Seattle, Wash., a signals analyst, has been in the Air Force eight years and at the center nearly three years.

"It's pretty good," Richardson said of the Air Force. "It's taken me a long way. I like the travel, I like the experience, education benefits – pretty much the Air Force overall."

## Commemorative items on sale to community

By SHARON WATKINS LANG  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command has designed a special commemorative coin to celebrate its 50th anniversary.



In the military tradition, coins can be traced to the Roman Empire when generals used them to reward their legions for loyalty and achievements. Although the American military tradition dates only to the last century, the value of the coins is indisputable. Not only do they recognize the contributions made by an individual or unit, they create a sense of esprit de corps.

In that vein, the 50th anniversary committee, spearheaded by Sgt. Maj. Randall Williams, has designed a commemorative coin for SMDC/ARSTRAT. The coin depicts a full-color representation of the 50th anniversary logo designed by Eric Gronquist. This emblem salutes the command's heritage and its contributions to research and development, test and evaluation, and operations in the fields of missile defense and space. The reverse side shows that SMDC/ARSTRAT is a proud member of a much larger organization — the U.S. Army.

The coins, which sell for \$3.50, are available to everyone in the SMDC/ARSTRAT community. For more information or to submit an order, contact Williams at 955-4531 or [randall.williams@smdc.army.mil](mailto:randall.williams@smdc.army.mil).

## Project office workers find perfect outing

### Organization day features scavenger hunt in park

By DAN O'BOYLE  
For the Rocket

With perfect fall weather serving as a backdrop, the Non-Line-of-Sight Launch System Project Office workers gathered at Monte Sano State Park Thursday to celebrate their annual organization day.

Resplendent with their unique, trademark, monogrammed Hawaiian shirts, staff members feasted on a traditional picnic menu of burgers and hot dogs, complete with all the fixings.

Following lunch, members divided up into eight, eight-person teams, fanning out throughout the State Park grounds in quest of bringing in the scavenger hunt winning trophy by finding objects that began with the 26 letters of the alphabet.

For example, many teams, of course, came back with tree branches to fill in the B blank.

Following a one-hour search of the park grounds and trails, a three-person judging panel inventoried the team's trash bags and picked the winning team.

"This PM is on the cutting edge of working to equip the current and future force," project manager Col. Doug Dever

said. "Our folks are first-class and this sort of team-building effort produces a valuable return on investment."



Photo by Dan O'Boyle

**THRILL OF VICTORY— Jim Tucker, NLSO-LS technical management chief, serves as captain of the winning scavenger hunt team.**

# Headquarters company activated at SMDC

By DIANE SCHUMACHER  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command has been an active, growing command (under a variety of names) for 50 years and has never had nor seemingly needed a Headquarters and Headquarters Company, but that changed in September.



Courtesy photo

## Speaker's gifts

Aviation systems project manager Col. Michelle "Shelley" Yarborough presents gifts to Master Sgt. Marius Dockery during the Aviation Systems Project Office's meeting Sept. 13 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Dockery, force modernization NCO for air traffic control systems, was recognized for his presentation at the 2007 Army Aviation Association of America convention in Atlanta.

In the early afternoon hours of Sept. 14 during a formal ceremony, Maj. Pamela Tingle assumed command and activated the new HHC for the command's headquarters. The actual assumption/activation was completed in about five minutes and was followed by encouraging remarks for Tingle and snippets of SMDC/ARSTRAT history from Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, SMDC/ARSTRAT commander.

Campbell spoke of getting to know Tingle when she worked in the G-2 office while the command headquarters was still located in Arlington, Va. He said he had noticed Tingle's dedication to duty and the late hours she put in for the command's mission and because of that he knew she was the right officer to serve as the commander of the new HHC.

"Your charge is to discipline me, telling me where to be," Campbell said to Tingle, "but only if it's Army business," he added with a smile, looking straight at Tingle.

"This command isn't large in numbers," he said to the audience, "but it is spread around the globe."

Then looking at Tingle, he said, "Trying to pull this all together isn't that easy but I know you're going to do a good job."

Then almost as if it were a side note, Campbell said, "Pam is the first female officer to ever beat me in the two-mile run ... then you abandoned me!" The attendees laughed raucously at the statement. With a grin on his face, he added, "Now as the HHC commander you can never abandon me again."

"You certainly have my support but I think you'll get very close to Col. Hamilton," Campbell said. Tingle and audience members laughed at that, surmising the meaning of the statement. Smiling, he added, "I'm confident you'll do a great job." (Col. John Hamilton is the command's chief of staff.)



Photo by Diane Schumacher

**FIRST COMMANDER—** Maj. Pamela Tingle, new commander of HHC, unfurls the company's guidon with the unit's 1st Sgt. Petey Smith.

Campbell closed his remarks by stating, "How appropriate in this 50th year we have this (activation) take place." Next, Tingle went to the podium to address her staff and the audience. She thanked attendee retired Col. James Bedingfield "for putting this into motion."

"What an amazing opportunity to help shape and mold a new unit into existence. It's a privilege and an honor to serve as the first Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander for SMDC/ARSTRAT," she said.

"Creating an HHC is about taking care of people," Tingle said. "Soldiers will be taken care of and training will be taken care of. Families will be taken care of. We will provide unwavering support to our war fighters."

And before the company was activated, Tingle thanked everyone within SMDC/ARSTRAT — in advance — who will assist in making HHC succeed, because it truly is a team effort.

# Child's death raises awareness for cancer research

## Fund-raising dinner honors memory of Chapstick Baby

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Stewart Wakefield is keeping his daughter's memory alive in the best way he knows how – by raising money to fight the life-threatening cancers that afflict hundreds of babies and children every year.

One of those cancers – AT/RT (atypical teratoid rhabdoid) – took the very life of Wakefield's 13-month-old baby in November 2005.

But, in her short life, Janna Grace Wakefield taught her parents, doctors and nurses, and everyone else she met about strength and courage, and happiness in the face of suffering and death. In the halls of Children's Hospital of Alabama, Janna is still known as "The Chapstick Baby."

"Janna had such an impact in other people's lives," said her father. "I am always interested in opportunities to share Janna's life and to speak out about the cancer that took her life."

Janna became the official "Chapstick Baby" at Children's Hospital of Alabama when Chapstick learned how she shared tubes of the lip lubricant with nurses, doctors and visitors at the hospital.

"Janna won several local beauty pageants and won State of Alabama Most Photogenic," Wakefield said.

"She would wear Chapstick at her competitions. When she got sick, Janna latched onto Chapstick. She took Chapstick with her into surgery, and she always wanted it after surgery. When people visited her, Janna would give them a tube of Chapstick and ask them to put some on. It brought some normalcy back into Janna's world, which was turned upside down by cancer. To this day, many nurses at Children's Hospital carry Chapstick in their pockets in memory of Janna."

Wakefield, a financial liaison for the Army's Security Assis-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**REMEMBERING JANNA— Stewart Wakefield holds a picture of his daughter Janna Grace, known as "The Chapstick Baby" at Children's Hospital of Alabama. Janna died at the age of 13 months from a rare brain cancer in November 2005. Wakefield is keeping Janna's memory alive through events that promote awareness and fund-raising in the fight of life-threatening cancers that afflict hundreds of babies and children each year. The Chapstick Baby Dinner of Dreams honoring Janna's memory is slated Oct. 7 at The Ledges. The event will raise money for pediatric cancer research at Children's Hospital of Alabama.**

tance Command in support of AMCOM and the Security Assistance Management Directorate, is organizing the first Chapstick Baby Dinner of Dreams, scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 7, at The Ledges. The dinner program, which will begin at 6:30 p.m., will include entertainment by Nashville Star's top performer Angela Hacker and a motivational program by Edie Hand, a best-selling author, celebrity chef, radio and television personality, and inspirational speaker. Tickets are \$100 per person, with proceeds benefitting pediatric cancer research at Children's Hospital of Alabama.

"This story is not so much about Janna," Wakefield said. "Janna was a special child put here for many reasons. I believe she wasn't put here to live a long period of time. Her cancer was so rare. It was a fatal form of brain cancer that is most com-

mon in children under age 3.

"This story is about all the parents and children who must cope with the devastating tragedy of cancer, and what we can do to help fight these cancers, and make a difference in the lives of these families and children."

Cancer is the second leading killer of children in the U.S., and AT/RT is a cancer affecting three children per the 1 million in the U.S. diagnosed with a central nervous system cancer each year. There are about 30 new cases of AT/RT each year.

Janna was born in Decatur General Hospital on Sept. 24, 2004, one day after her father's birthday.

"She was a beautiful birthday present for me," Wakefield said. "She was full term. She was eight pounds at birth. She was a healthy, beautiful child. Everything was going well. There were

no symptoms of any problems. She was a happy child who never cried."

But, at about 8 months of age, Janna started showing signs of what doctor's first thought was severe acid reflux. Despite many changes in her formula and baby food, Janna vomited frequently. She would have good weeks and bad weeks. But, the bad weeks came with a lot of vomiting, weight loss and dehydration.

"It got worse over several months," Wakefield said. "Then, Janna began showing neurological signs. Her right pupil enlarged to three times the size of her other pupil. And, when she smiled, her face drooped slightly on the right side. I just knew in my heart as a parent that there was something seriously wrong."

On Sept. 15, 2005, Janna was sent to Children's Hospital of Alabama in Birmingham. She was immediately examined by a team of doctors.

"They did a CAT scan within 30 minutes of us getting there," Wakefield said. "They found a brain tumor that appeared to be malignant and spreading. An MRI showed a mass tumor on the back right side of her brain, three other areas that were cancerous and a spread of the cancer into her spinal cord."

The news was devastating to Janna's parents.

"Words cannot explain it when it's your child," Wakefield said. "But, I believe it was God's blessing that the tumor wasn't found sooner. Janna got to experience being a child before she got very sick."

Within five days of Janna's diagnosis, she underwent a 7½ hour brain surgery to remove the mass tumor. A team of 10 doctors performed the surgery.

"The tumor was in a very sensitive area and we were told it may be embedded in the brain stem area," Wakefield recalled. "The surgery was successful. They got 75 percent of the mass tumor. But, the other 25 percent was embedded and couldn't be removed without Janna's vital signs going crazy. The other areas and the spinal cord area were inoperable."

Still, there was hope. Wakefield believed chemotherapy would take care of the cancer that surgery couldn't.

"At that time, we were worried that the surgery would change Janna, that maybe she wouldn't know us when she woke up or that her quality of life would be affected," Wakefield said.

"But, we were truly blessed because Janna made an amazing recovery. She spent five days in the pediatric intensive care unit and on Sept. 23 – my birthday – she woke up and spoke for the first time since surgery."

On Sept. 25, she was moved out of pediatric intensive care. Her parents were hopeful.

But, then came the most devastating news.

"I saw the doctor and the nurse walking toward us with a box of tissues," Wakefield said. "I thought 'It's not news we want to hear.'"

The biopsy showed the cancer was AT/RT. The long-term survival rate of the rare cancer is 12 months from the time of diagnosis. The only possibility for Janna was six rounds of heavy chemotherapy.

She only survived through two rounds. Janna died on Nov. 6, 2005, in her parent's arms.

"It was the most peaceful, powerful experience you can imagine," Wakefield said. "It was just a blessing we had her as long as we did. I don't question 'Why?' But, not a day goes by when I don't think of her and wish I could hold her.

"I truly, truly didn't understand life until I understood the passing of life, and I understood that through Janna. It's brought me closer to God. I look at life now in a much more precious way. I have complete peace knowing I now have an angel in heaven who continues to bless me in many ways."

*Editor's note: To purchase tickets to The Chapstick Baby Dinner of Dreams, call Rene Gilliland, North Alabama coordinator for Children's Hospital of Alabama, at 256-682-8115 or e-mail rene.gilliland@chsys.org.*

# WWII veterans grateful for Honor Flight experience

*Guardians make day in D.C. extra special*

By **KARI HAWKINS**  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

Grateful. That's the word that best describes the feelings of 117 World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C., on Saturday, Sept. 15, with the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Honor Flight to see their war memorial.

And, they were grateful for many things — the opportunity to go on a one-day deployment with fellow WWII veterans and visit not only their memorial but also Arlington Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial and the Korean War Memorial; the volunteer leadership who planned and coordinated their trip all the way down to which medical personnel would escort each veteran off their travel buses; the individuals, schools, churches, organiza-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**REMEMBERING HIS SERVICE—** Honor Flight guardian Nancy Watts looks through a scrapbook of World War II memories compiled by veteran Phil Boss. Watts served as Boss' guardian on the Honor Flight trip to see the WWII memorial Sept. 15. The two have become good friends.

tions and businesses throughout the Tennessee Valley who helped fund the trip; and the appreciative Americans who met their

plane and welcomed them throughout their trip. But, more than all those, many were especially grateful

for the guardians who stayed with them throughout the day, helped them in little ways, pampered them, talked to them and became their friends.

"I never thought I would be so thrilled and emotionally impressed by the entire operation," said WWII veteran Phil Boss. "It is something I will never forget.

"I was especially impressed by the guardians and their role in the entire trip. I was never left alone all day ... My thanks go out to all the volunteers for this magnificent project. I thank them from the bottom of my heart."

Boss' guardian was Nancy Watts, an employee with Huntsville Utilities who has a natural propensity for caring for others.

"My dad — Charles Hill — will be on the next flight. I wanted to see what it was all about so I could tell him what to expect," she said. "He was in the Army — in the 737 Tank Battalion — and

he was part of several battles, including Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge. It's interesting to watch these veterans together because they don't talk much about the war unless they are together."

While Boss didn't actually see combat — he was in basic training when the war ended — he remembers being very much a part of the war effort.

"We grew up as children of the Depression," said Boss, who grew up in Phenix City, Ala. "We had hard times all around.

"The Pearl Harbor attack came on my 15th birthday. I was a sophomore in high school and I saw how the country came together. The very next day there were lines at recruitment centers all over the country. I knew when I got out of high school, I would be going into the service."

Boss remembers the rationing of things like shoes, gasoline, tires, butter and clothing because

See **Flight** on page 15

# Logistics activity garners defense program award

## Information warehouse cited during summit

A Logistics Support Activity program has been recognized as a standout DoD logistics effort.

LOGSA's Integrated Logistics Analysis Program was named the Outstanding Military Logistics Program for 2007 by the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement. The award was presented Sept. 11 during the Military Logistics Summit in Adelphi, Md.

LOGSA and CALIBRE, a management and technology services company contracted by LOGSA, were honored for developing and maintaining the program as part of LOGSA's Logistics Information Warehouse. The virtual database warehouse is the Army's single authoritative source for logistics data, providing near real-time supply, maintenance, transportation, distribution, in-transit visibility, and financial data to the Army's Single Army Logistics Enterprise.

Thomas Edwards, assistant deputy chief of staff, G-4, at Army headquarters, accepted the award on behalf of the Army. Joe Goodbody, vice president, logistics management, accepted the award for CALIBRE. Retired Gen. John Abizaid presented the awards to Edwards and Goodbody.

The Military Logistics Awards were established by the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement to honor the top innovators in logistics technology in support of military operations. They are given annually and judged by a volunteer panel of logistics experts representing the Department of Defense, active duty military, industry partners and academia.

The criteria for the awards include: major reduction in footprint to sustain the war fighter while improving readiness effectiveness; highly improved,

measurable reliability of a crucial product or system; potential of applications to other military logistics programs; and significant reduction in cycle time.

LOGSA gathers, produces and manages key logistics information for Army war fighters around the world. The activity is the Army's authoritative source for logistics data. It provides life cycle support and logistics technical advice to the present and future force. (LOGSA release)



Courtesy photo

**DATA ENTRY**— Joe Munson, Logistics Information Warehouse project director, looks on as Tony Fuller, CALIBRE's deputy Integrated Logistics Analysis Program project manager, checks the Integrated Logistics Analysis Program data upload for the Logistics Information Warehouse.

# Research center joins forces with UAH

## Educational agreement promotes marketing

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center has entered into an educational partnership agreement with the University of Alabama-Huntsville to promote the marketing of AMRDEC intellectual property and provide UAH with case studies to be used in upper division and graduate technology marketing studies.

The marketing of intellectual property is one of the major functions of the AMRDEC Office of Research & Technology Applications in the Advanced Science & Technology Directorate. The agreement is in effect beginning with the fall semester at UAH.

"We are hoping that the students at UAH will provide us with an in-depth marketing analysis that we may use to

find potential licensees for our intellectual property here at AMRDEC," Tisha Guidry, support contractor for the Office of Research & Technology Applications, said.

The agreement provides a benefit for UAH as well because it allows students access to advanced technologies and AMRDEC inventors as they analyze potential products and markets for the technologies.

"We are pleased to be working with the Army to investigate the commercial potential of intellectual property developed at the AMRDEC," Dr. David Berkowitz, UAH professor of marketing, said. "This gives our students opportunities to work in a 'real life' situation with local researchers who developed this technology. We hope some of the commercial plans developed for Army technologies by UAH students will lead to new products and startup businesses." (AMRDEC release)



Courtesy photo

**CEREMONIAL SIGNING**— Participants in educational partnership signing between AMRDEC and the University of Alabama-Huntsville are, seated, from left, AMRDEC director Dr. Bill McCorkle and Dr. Ron Greenwood, UAH vice president for research. Standing are Dr. Russ Alexander, chief ORTA for AMRDEC; Cindy Wallace, deputy ORTA for AMRDEC; Tisha Guidry, technology transfer specialist, contractor support; Kannan Grant, director of technology transfer for UAH; Dr. David Berkowitz, professor of marketing for UAH; Dr. James Snider, associate vice president for research at UAH; and Dr. C. David Billings, dean of the business school at UAH.

# Hispanic American heritage program scheduled Oct. 3

Team Redstone will celebrate Hispanic American Heritage Month with a program Oct. 3 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Hispanic Heritage Month is from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

The program's guest speaker is Yolanda Maldonado-Echevarria who serves as the deputy for Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights and Outreach and Special Emphasis Programs for the Department of Army. She is responsible for policies and programs affecting all special emphasis programs and supervises a cadre of EEO professionals.

Maldonado-Echevarria is a native of New York City. She attended the Air War College, Montgomery, and received a master's in military strategy in 1999 and a bachelor's of arts degree in 1976 from the State University of New York at Albany. She was in the Defense Leadership and Management Program, Class of 1997. She is also a graduate of the Army Management Staff College, Class 97-1 and of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, Commandant's List, 1991.

Maldonado-Echevarria entered the federal service in 1978 as an urban park ranger with Gateway National Recreation Area, National Park Service, Brooklyn. She has held various positions as a teacher, Hispanic employment program manager, Federal Women's Program manager, affirmative employment officer, equal employment opportunity officer and acting director of Individuals with Disability Program, EEO Program Evaluation, and Minority College Relations Program.

She began her career with the Army in 1984 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and has since worked at the following Army posts: Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Nuremberg Military Community, West Germany; U.S. Army Berlin Command, Germany; Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., and Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District. Maldonado-Echevarria also worked for the Defense Information Systems Agency as an equal employment specialist where she managed the discrimination complaints program and Federal Women's Program.

In addition to her operational assignments, Maldonado-Eschevarria has served as an assessment member of the Secretary of the Army's Task Force on Extremist



**Yolanda Maldonado-Echevarria**

Activities: Defending American Values for the active Army component. She was also a member of the second Task Force on the Army Reserve, National Guard Bureau and Civilian Work Force Components.

She has received the Department of the Army Meritorious Award for Civilian Service and the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, and Vice President Gore's

Team Hammer Award.

In addition to the speaker, there will be ethnic music performed by the Latin Rhythms, dance demonstrations, and after the program, a food tasting of various ethnic dishes. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon at 876-8648 or Jackie Williams at 876-9259. *(Garrison release)*



Courtesy photo

## Guest speaker

**"Workers with Disabilities: Talent for a Winning Team!"** is the theme for National Employment Disability Awareness Month in October. All employees of Team Redstone are invited to the Marshall Space Flight Center's program 10 a.m. Oct. 4 at Morris Auditorium, building 4200. The guest speaker is Glenn McIntyre of Camarillo, Calif., accompanied by his service dog Boylan. McIntyre is a nationally recognized educational speaker and trainer.

# Flight

continued from page 12

of the need to dedicate the country's resources and manufacturing capabilities to the war effort. He remembers selling war stamps and war bonds in school, and participating in scrap drives. The efforts of the students at Boss' high school — Central High — caused the Army to dedicate two fighter planes in their honor, naming them Red Devil and Red Devil Jr.

"It became a national thing — that war. We first thought we'd whip them in six months. We soon learned that was not the case," Boss said.

"The auto industry converted to tanks and jeeps. By the end of the war, around 2,000 military aircraft were being built each week. And, in 1943, Auburn didn't have a football team — the only year they haven't — because all the male students were fighting in the war."

At 17, Boss tried to sign up for the Army Air Corps, but color blindness kept him from pursuing that path. Instead, after turning 18, Boss completed four quarters at Auburn University before his draft notice landed him in the Army. It was 1945.

Yet, the end of the war soon after Boss started artillery basic training at Fort Bragg, N.C., meant an end to the need for more Soldiers. He served for 18 months in the mule pack artillery at Fort Riley, Kan., and then returned to Auburn University to complete his education.

"Those two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan could have very well saved my life because I was training for an invasion of Japan," Boss said. "If we hadn't have won that war we'd have been subjected to German or Japanese rule."

Those war memories came flooding back for Boss as he visited the memorials on the Honor Flight trip with Watts at his side.

"The whole thing was quite a great emotional and wonderful trip," Boss said. "I walk several times a week so it wasn't too bad on me. But, there were a lot of veterans in bad shape physically. It was a thrill to see them have a good time. And, it was nice having my own private guardian."

For Watts, the trip was a marvel in organization, even down to the black-and-white shirts that made it easy to spot members of the Honor Flight group from Huntsville. Nothing seemed to go wrong and the weather cooperated, offering a beautiful, sunny day with comfortable temperatures.

"It is incredible what these veterans experienced," said Joe Fitzgerald, president of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Honor Flight. "It was an honor to go on this trip and see what those veterans experienced. I think the guardians would also agree it was a special honor to be chosen to be a guardian on this trip."

The trip was the first large-scale group of local veterans to participate in Honor Flight. Earlier in the year, Fitzgerald and other volunteers took a small group of 14 WWII veterans to D.C. on a test run for

the larger groups.

"There were no incidents on this trip," Fitzgerald said. "We had a lot of veterans who were extremely frail and who had serious medical conditions. And, that will continue on our other flights. So, we take every precaution to make sure they are well cared for."

Half of the guardians traveled with the veterans, Honor Flight staff and medical personnel to Washington, D.C.'s Reagan International Airport. The other half was recruited from the D.C. area and met the chartered flight of veterans at the airport.

"The fewer volunteers who have to fly up and back means you can take more veterans," Fitzgerald said. "So, on the airplane we had one guardian for every two veterans. But, once we got in D.C., we had a guardian for each veteran."

Guardians went through special training for the flight. Their number one charge, Watts said, was "to do whatever their veteran wanted to do."

WWII Marine veteran Alice Bennett said the guardians were "fantastic."

"My guardian held my hand the whole day. I ended up calling her 'Mom,'" Bennett said. "I haven't been babied like that since I was 3 years old. The guardians were just top flight. They were so caring. They were there for us."

Honor Flight volunteers were in constant contact with veterans during the weeks before the flight to make sure all veteran seats on the plane remained filled.

"It was a real miracle that we planned for 117 veterans and 117 veterans showed up," Fitzgerald said. "Even up to the week before the flight, we were taking veterans off the list because of health problems and adding other veterans in their places."

On the Wednesday before the flight, veteran Aubrey Smith canceled his participation because of the sudden death of his daughter's husband, who was to be buried on the Sunday after Honor Flight. It was too late to fill the seat because the manifest had to be turned in a week before the flight due to security reasons.

"But, he very much wanted to go," Fitzgerald said. "At about 9:15 Friday night, I was taking care of last minute items when I got a phone call from Aubrey Smith's daughter asking 'Could he still go?' She said her husband would have wanted him to go. Of course, we took him with us because his name was still on the flight list."

The day in D.C. included a ceremony at the WWII memorial, the changing of the guard at Arlington National Cemetery and recognition of the group's seven Marine veterans by a Marine color guard at the Iwo Jima Memorial. Everywhere they went, the veterans were greeted by Americans who expressed their gratitude for their service. They arrived at Reagan International — which was decorated in red, white and blue, and which orchestrated a water salute to the veterans by its fire department — and returned to Huntsville International Airport to crowds of well-wishers.

"At the memorials, citizens and veterans and servicemembers from all the branches recognized and thanked our vet-

erans for their service to the point of tears," Fitzgerald said.

A Navy admiral, who happened to be at Reagan International upon Honor Flight's arrival, personally greeted every single veteran.

"He'd never heard of Honor Flight. He said he wanted to know more about it," Fitzgerald said. "Many ordinary citizens on that day recognized these veterans as very special people and they wanted to meet them because they may not get a chance to meet another WWII veteran."

The flight back to Huntsville was a chance for the veterans to talk about their day's experiences, share war stories and further establish the new friendships started that day.

"On the way back, we had a birthday party for three veterans who were having a birthday that day and four others who had birthdays sometime that month," Fitzgerald said. "We passed out red, white and blue cupcakes. It was kind of funny because on the way back in the airplane, the guardians were dosing. But, the veterans were wide awake."

# Donations needed for Honor Flight

Honor Flight is a national program that flies veterans to Washington, D.C., to see their memorial at no charge. The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Honor Flight is a group of volunteers committed to fly more than 550 WWII veterans from the Tennessee Valley to their memorial in a series of flights that began in April and will continue through 2009.

The next Honor Flight out of Huntsville is slated for April 19, 2008. Organizers hope to host three Honor Flights in 2008 for WWII veterans. About \$160,000 is still needed to cover the expenses of the three flights. Other war veterans will also be flown to Washington to see their memorial after the WWII program.

Donations are needed to pay for transportation, meals and other expenses. Send donations to Honor Flight Tennessee Valley Chapter, c/o The Huntsville Times, P.O. Box 1487 West Station, Huntsville, AL 35807. For more information on Honor Flight or to obtain an application, visit the Honor Flight web site at [www.honor-flight.net](http://www.honor-flight.net).



**HONOR FLIGHT**  
**TENNESSEE VALLEY CHAPTER**

# Engineer unit welcomed home from Iraq

## Families and friends greet 1169th members

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

A year of frustration, sadness and worry melted away for Sandee Hughes when her husband stepped down from a coach bus outside the Alabama National Guard Armory on Green Cove Road.

She couldn't contain her relief and happiness at the sight of Lt. Col. Marc Hughes as he lined up in formation with about 30 Soldiers of the 1169th Engineer Group at about 6 p.m. Sept. 19. Before she knew what she was doing, Sandee Hughes ran across

the parking lot and jumped into the arms of her husband.

"I don't know what happened. I ran my shoes off," Sandee Hughes said later about her sudden actions as she began looking for the shoes she lost on her dash across the pavement. "We've had a hard year."

Besides enduring the deployment of her husband to Operation Iraqi Freedom, Sandee Hughes and the couple's two children — Michael and Mary Beth — have also mourned the loss of Sandee's mother and Marc's sister during the past year.

"I am so relieved," Marc Hughes said, as co-workers from Boeing shook his hand and welcomed him back.

"I wanted to see Sandee something fierce. We've talked by e-mail all

year, but it's not the same as touching and seeing each other. It's hard to see her crying today, but I know she's happy. I wasn't expecting such a big homecoming."

The homecoming for the Alabama National Guard's 1169th Engineer Group, which deployed for training in July 2006 and then to Iraq in October 2006, included an escort of Patriot Guard Riders and Huntsville Police, a very brief and teary-eyed welcome home from Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, balloons and "Welcome Home" signs, and lots of family, friends, veterans and neighbors who milled about for an hour or so after the 1169th's return.

Declaring the unit "successful and victorious" in completing its mission, Col. Randal Martin, commander of

the 1169th, released the Soldiers to their families and friends within minutes of disembarking their bus. Although 86 Soldiers were in the group, many from the southern part of Alabama rejoined their families at Camp Shelby, Miss., rather than make the trip to Huntsville.

While in Iraq, the 1169th conducted more than 1,800 engineer missions, resulting in the construction of 27 coalition outposts, 26 joint security stations, five safe neighborhoods and three markets. Soldiers were also involved in removing bombs from roadsides and construction areas, conducting intelligence missions, and performing other battle-related activities.

The Soldiers and families of the 1169th made sacrifices during the past year that most families are never asked to make. Being separated created household issues — Whose going to mow the lawn while he's gone? Who's going to help get the kids to their after-school activities? — that families had to manage on their own.

"I told him I was not mowing the yard," said Nancy Martin, the commander's wife, who has now seen her husband deployed twice to Iraq.

"But, he went out and bought me a new John Deere zero turn riding lawn mower. So, I did mow. But, I didn't weed eat or blow grass. Well, at least I didn't until this past weekend when I did everything to make the yard look great. A man doesn't walk out of a war zone to mow a lawn the next day. They have to decompress."

With the group made up of 86 Soldiers from across Alabama — and with only 25 of those from Madison County — it was difficult for the Family Readiness Group to coordinate activities during the deployment. The FRG did host a Christmas dinner and a Blue Star Service Banner ceremony, and there was a lot of e-mail communication among families. Huntsville families also had some casual get-togethers.

But, mostly, the families of the 1169th went about day-to-day activities, carrying extra burdens due to the absence of their Soldier and counting the days until their Soldier's return.

"We just had to keep ourselves occupied," said Jennifer Cowan, wife of Command Sgt. Maj. Cliff Cowan, whose daughters kept her busy during her husband's year-long absence. Her oldest daughter Brooke, who graduated from Boaz High School in May, was the school's drum major during the 2006-07 school year while younger daughter Nicole performed with the dance team.

"We have three kids — Cody, 17, Brooklyn, 13, and Michael, 11 — and they were very supportive during the deployment," said Tasha Izzo, whose husband, Maj. Mike Izzo, will take over as captain of the Huntsville Police Department's North Precinct when he returns to work.

"We stayed very busy. We painted the whole house, and we pulled up bushes and did spackling everywhere. With Mike working the second shift, I normally take care of everything any-

way when it comes to the kids. But, when he was gone, I missed the support I got from him. I just didn't feel like I had anyone to talk to — even though we talked almost every day."

Today's technology allowed the families to stay in close contact with their Soldiers. But, it was no substitute for their physical absence. Just knowing the Soldiers were within a few hours of the armory made family and friends exuberant on Sept. 19. While waiting, retired National Guard Sgt. David Carney and Mojo of WYZZ got some of the Soldiers on a cell phone and broadcast their conversation for the gathering crowd. In return, the crowd yelled their delight so the Soldiers on the other side of the cell phone could hear them.

Each family received a commendation letter from Gov. Bob Riley, and both Mayor Spencer and Jim McCamy of Rep. Bud Cramer's office spoke of their appreciation for the Soldiers, their families and the support the families gave their Soldiers.

"We celebrate with you their return today," said Chaplain Jim Henderson, a Vietnam veteran and a board member of the Association of the U.S. Army. "We prayed for them every day."

"It means so much to the Soldiers for you all to be here," Nancy Martin, the unofficial mentor for the Soldiers' families, told the waiting crowd.

Nancy Martin's Bible study group at Parker Chapel United Methodist Church in western Madison County canceled Bible study class to attend the Welcome Home celebration. Many friends, neighbors and co-workers were on hand with family members.

"These are the people who kept us going," Martin said, referring to friends in the crowd. "They kept us in their prayers on a daily basis. They helped take up the slack while our Soldiers were gone."

The families have been counseled to give their Soldiers time to decompress, rest and get back into normal routines.

"They're wired tight when they return because they are used to being somewhere where things happen that could kill them," said retired Alabama National Guard Command Sgt. Maj. Skip Hocutt, who served in Iraq in 2003-04.

"They have to always be watching their backs. They aren't even safe at the Forward Operating Bases because they can get mortared. They are never really down."

Hocutt said many will express a desire for the simple things in life — watching a football game while sitting in their favorite chair, taking a car ride through the city, shopping at the mall, eating at restaurants and going to sleep in a home where they are safe.

When it comes to those simple things, each family had their own plans for celebrating their Soldier's return. The Lawson family of Huntsville — including Jane Loeffelholz, who works in the Lower Tier Project Office — planned to dine with 2nd Lt. Jeremy Lawson on sushi.

"We sent him fly strips, mosquito wraps, snacks and Wasabi dried peas. But, we couldn't send him what he really wanted — sushi," said mom Barbara Lawson. "He can't wait to get back and eat sushi."

A college student, Jeremy Lawson signed up for the National Guard on Sept. 13, 2001, because of the 9/11 attacks. He always knew there was a possibility he would get deployed.

The Lawson family expects a period of adjustment as their 29-year-old Soldier and the other Soldiers get their boots planted back on U.S. soil.

"When you've spent a year with a sidearm on 24 hours a day prepared to shoot, it takes awhile to get away from that," Barbara Lawson said.

Spc. Kyle Ernst, 22, is glad to be home with his parents Adele and Tom Ernst, who works in command management support and protocol at AMCOM. At the top of his things-to-do-list is to get a car.

He shares that priority with his commander, Martin, who is an engineer for Advanced Sensor Guidance Electronics at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, has dreams of trading up his Corvette for a nicer, newer model. And, it will probably happen because his wife is in full agreement with the plan.

Betty Nelms of Geraldine, mother of Master Sgt. Jimmy Nelms of Albertville, knows exactly what she plans to do once the family gets their Soldier home.

"I'm going to take a deep breath and look up at the sky and say 'Thank you, God,'" she said. "Then, this weekend we are going to have a big barbecue to celebrate his return, my grandson's and granddaughter's birthdays, and my birthday."

One of the biggest crowds at the Welcome Home celebration included 27 family members of Sgt. Arrogance Winton.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WAITING FOR THEIR HERO—** Peggy Ryan of Cullman waits with her grandchildren, 4-year-old Preston and 6-year-old Aaliyah, for the arrival of their hero — Alabama National Guard Sgt. Jonathan Ryan. The children planned to greet their daddy with lots of hugs. Families and friends of the 1169th began arriving at the National Guard Armory on Green Cove Road about three hours before the Soldiers' scheduled arrival.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**HUGS FOR DAD—** Alabama National Guard Master Sgt. Jimmy Nelms of Albertville embraces his son, Jeremy, upon his return from his deployment with the 1169th Engineer Group in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Behind Nelms, Lt. Col. Marc Hughes of Huntsville hugs his wife, Sandee, while children Michael and Mary Beth huddle around their parents. About 30 Soldiers from the 1169th Engineer Group returned to Huntsville Sept. 19 following a one-year deployment. They were welcomed home by about 200 family members, friends, neighbors and veterans at the National Guard Armory on Green Cove Road.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**ONE LAST FORMATION—** Alabama National Guard Col. Randal Martin, commander of the 1169th Engineer Group, quickly dismisses a formation of about 30 Soldiers following their return home to North Alabama on Sept. 19. Eighty-six Soldiers from across Alabama made up the 1169th. But, those living in South Alabama were dismissed from duty at Camp Shelby, Miss., which is closer to their homes.

# Army commemorates Operation Arkansas

*Soldiers helped integrate school in Little Rock 50 years ago*

By GREGORY FRYE  
 Army News Service

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. – Fifty years ago, the 101st Airborne Division made history as troops deployed to Little Rock, Ark., to escort nine black high school students into the all-white Central High School amid racial protests.

Nine Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division were to redeploy to Little Rock, Ark., for a 50th anniversary celebration Sept. 24 to escort the same students back into the school, once again ensuring their safety.

The event was part of a dedication ceremony, which marked the opening of the Central High School National Historic Site, a visitor's center built by the National Parks Service.

The students, who became known as the Little Rock Nine, comprised the first black students to attend a previously-white school in Little Rock after Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus refused to follow federal integration laws established by the Supreme Court in their 1954 ruling, *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

The deployment of Army troops to the city was not a big surprise because newspapers had been covering the conflict between President Eisenhower and Faubus for weeks.

## Quick response to order

Within an hour of President Eisenhower's final decision Sept. 24, 1957, Soldiers from the 1st Airborne Battle Group, 327th Infantry Regiment, were airborne and the

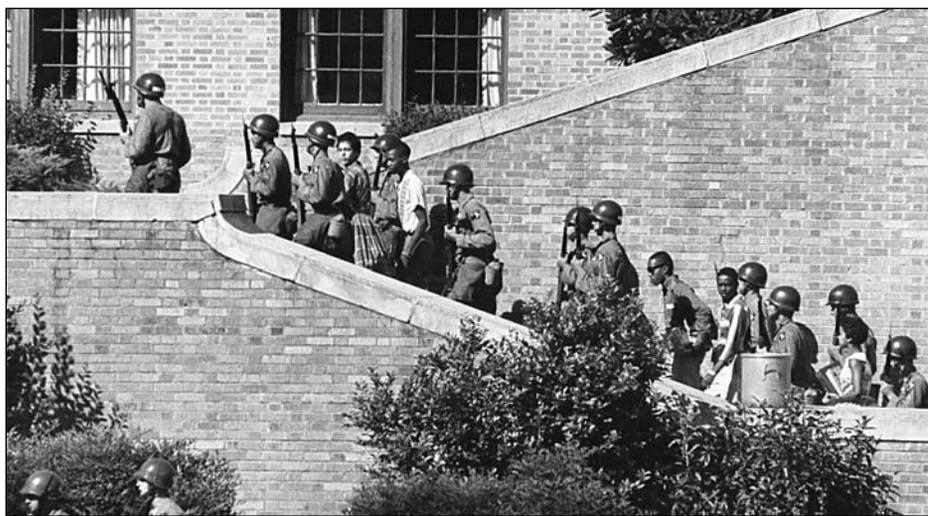


Photo courtesy of the National Archives

**HISTORIC DEPLOYMENT—** Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division escort the Little Rock Nine students into the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Ark.

segregation of Central High School was effectively over.

"The message we put out was that we were Soldiers, and we do what the president says – whether others believe in it or not," said Ivan Worrell, a public information officer with the division in 1957.

The Army itself had already set the bar for desegregation in 1952, when it finished integrating white and black units.

The Army's job was to protect the school and the students, Worrell said, "and not just the black students but the whole school."

## Intense first days

The first couple of days were the most intense, said Jack Damron. A young lieu-

tenant at the time, he was part of the convoy that escorted the Little Rock Nine to and from school.

"There was a look of astonishment and bewilderment on many faces as our convoy rolled through the city on the way to Central High School," Damron said, mentioning residents were mostly stunned by the military presence.

"For the first two or three days there was a certain amount of tension, but it was mostly on the part of a few hecklers who crossed the line and were moved back from the school," he said.

The convoy was subjected to a few choice words by the locals, but that was about it.

"This happened for a few days and then it just ceased," Damron said, adding

that after the third day, there was more media across from the school than curiosity seekers.

"I was honored to be chosen as the escort officer for the students," he said. "It was a grave responsibility and fortunately there were no incidents or threats made against the students while they were in my charge."

## Professional appearance

This was just another example of the 101st Abn. Div. being called on to do a job or a mission that the president of the United States had outlined, Worrell said. "We were selected to do that job, and I think we did it in a very professional manner."

Worrell believes the Soldiers in Little Rock gave those who watched through newspapers or television a solid impression of the 101st Abn. Div. and the U.S. Army. Their fatigues were laundered and starched every day, giving them a professional appearance to go with their professional demeanor.

"There were no sloppy Soldiers on the street," Worrell said. "The Soldiers were always sharp; they looked good."

He believes the nation had a positive view of the troops in Little Rock, despite a Time magazine cover featuring a Soldier thrusting a bayonet toward a civilian. He pointed out that the Soldier in the photograph was not being overly aggressive.

"The person who would have been the beneficiary of the bayonet was getting too close," Worrell said, mentioning a line the Soldiers manned to keep people from crossing. "That civilian was not where he was supposed to be."

Soldiers from the 101st Abn. Div. were to redeploy to Little Rock for a 50th anniversary celebration Sept. 22-24.

*Editor's note: Gregory Frye writes for the Fort Campbell "Courier."*



Courtesy photo

## *Birmingham tour*

The International Military Student Office took four international soldiers on a field studies tour of Birmingham on Sept. 20. Visiting a sculpture in Kelly Ingram Park, dedicated to the Birmingham civil rights movement, are from left Staff Sgt. Nikolaos Anastasopoulos from Greece, Sgt. Fitzgerald Lawrence from Trinidad and Tobago, Lt. Col. Qasem Bashayreh from Jordan and Ghassan Twal from Jordan.

# Soldiers dethrone Air Force for Armed Forces softball title



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

**BIG LEE—** All-Army Staff Sgt. Lee Diaz, formerly of Redstone Arsenal and now at Fort Meade, Md., drives the ball into the outfield during the 2007 U.S. Armed Forces Men's Softball Championships at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

*Former Redstone star helps lead champions*

By Air Force Staff Sgt. MIKE MEARES  
*Army News Service*

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — The All-Army team spoiled All-Air Force's bid for a fourth consecutive championship by capturing the gold medal at the Armed Forces Men's Softball Championship tournament Sept. 12-14.

The All-Army team claimed its first Armed Forces men's softball title since 2003 — and sixth overall — with six victories and two losses. Lee Diaz, formerly of Redstone Arsenal and now at Fort Meade, Md., was among the All-Army players. He was selected for the All-Armed Forces team.

The All-Marine Corps team finished second with a 6-3 record.

"Any team can beat any team at any given time," said All-Army coach Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Rivera of Fort Drum, N.Y. "My strategy is to beat everyone at least twice."

The three-day, round-robin tournament featured hand-picked players from around the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy. Each team played nine games.

The All-Army team, with only three rookies, relied on the experience of 12 veterans. After losing 20-8 in their tournament opener to the All-Marine Corps squad, the Soldiers made adjustments and dropped only one game to All-Air Force during the rest of the tournament.

"Not only did we win it for ourselves, we won it for our units, divisions, and most importantly,

the Army," Rivera said. "We can brag for the next year that we are the softball champs."

All-Air Force had just one win before defeating Navy, 18-9, in the final game of the second day of the tourney. They entered the final day needing to sweep all three services.

"We just didn't hit," Air Force coach Stephen Shortland said. "You have to put the pedal to the medal every pitch of every out of every inning of every game to win this tournament. It is what it is. It's disappointing to know that we had so much talent on the field and couldn't get it done."

The Soldiers got it done with their bats. Five of the top 10 hitters in the tourney hailed from the All-Army squad. Mason Elmer led the way with a .700 batting average, including 21 hits and 12 runs batted in.

All-Army's Dexter Avery and All-Air Force veteran Joshua Wiggs had a tournament-high five home runs.

"The teams keep getting stronger and stronger," said All-Army utility player Mike Dochwat of Fort Campbell, Ky. "The services bring more dedicated players that sacrifice their egos for championships."

After the tournament, the coaches selected an All-Armed Forces Men's Softball Team that will represent the U.S. military at the Amateur Softball Association Class A National Championships Sept. 29-30 in Oklahoma City.

The 2007 All-Armed Forces team:

- Stephen Shortland, U.S. Air Force, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas (coach);

- Scott Feterl, U.S. Army, Fort Leonardwood, Mo. (assistant coach);

- Toby Urenda, U.S. Air Force, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. (trainer);

- Nicole Boynton, U.S. Air Force, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. (project officer);

- Christopher Bast, U.S. Air Force, Kunsan Air Base, Korea;

- Richard Mercer, U.S. Air Force, Hurlburt Field, Fla.;

- Anthony Patrick, U.S. Air Force, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.;

- Christopher Markey, U.S. Air Force, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.;

- Randy Wilhide, U.S. Air Force, Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.;

- Maikeld Quarles, U.S. Army, Kaiserslautern, Germany;

- Gabriel Beltran, U.S. Army, Fort Bliss, Texas;

- Lee Diaz, U.S. Army, Fort Meade, Md., formerly of Redstone Arsenal;

- Jacob Jenkins, U.S. Army, Fort Knox, Ky.;

- Chris Smith, U.S. Navy, Naval Safety Center, Norfolk, Va.;

- Dustin Kentzell, U.S. Navy, Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, Italy;

- Mike Swerda, U.S. Navy, Naval Air Station Norfolk, Va.;

- William Read, U.S. Navy, Naval Air Station, Sigonella, Sicily, Italy;

- Alex Puskarich, U.S. Navy, Naval Air Station Oceania, Va.;

- Cherylton McRae, U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Ga.

*Editor's note; Air Force Staff Sgt. Mike Meares works for the 96th Air Base Wing public affairs office.*

# Stormy forecast this weekend in Florida

FSU picked over Alabama; Gators should beat Auburn

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

Skip's Picks after four weeks were 126-45 for 73 percent. Here are my predictions for selected games this week in college football:

Auburn at Florida — **Florida**  
Alabama at Florida State — **FSU**  
Texas Southern at Alabama A&M — **A&M**  
Memphis at Arkansas State — **Ark. State**  
Southern Mississippi at Boise State — **Boise West**  
Virginia at South Florida — **W.Va.**  
Michigan at Northwestern — **Michigan**  
North Carolina at Virginia Tech — **Va. Tech**  
Penn State at Illinois — **Penn State**  
Temple at Army — **Temple**  
Indiana at Iowa — **Iowa**  
Mississippi State at South Carolina — **SC**  
Air Force at Navy — **Navy**  
Florida Atlantic at Kentucky — **Ky.**  
LSU at Tulane — **LSU**  
Massachusetts at Boston College — **BC**  
Mississippi at Georgia — **Ga.**  
Utah State at Utah — **Utah**  
California at Oregon — **Oregon**  
Clemson at Georgia Tech — **Clemson**  
Kansas State at Texas — **Texas**  
Louisville at N.C. State — **Louisville**  
Southern at Alabama State — **Bama State**  
Texas-El Paso at Southern Methodist — **El Paso**  
Hawaii at Idaho — **Hawaii**  
Baylor at Texas A&M — **Texas A&M**  
Colorado State at TCU — **TCU**  
East Carolina at Houston — **EC**  
Eastern Michigan at Vanderbilt — **Vandy**  
Louisiana-Monroe at Troy — **Troy**  
North Texas at Arkansas — **Ark.**  
Northwestern State at Texas Tech — **TT**  
Pittsburgh at Virginia — **Va.**  
UAB at Tulsa — **Tulsa**  
Sam Houston State at Okla. State — **OS**  
Arkansas-Pine Bluff at New Mexico State — **NM State**  
Ohio State at Minnesota — **Ohio State**  
Southern California at Washington — **USC**  
Brigham Young at New Mexico — **BYU**  
Arizona State at Stanford — **ASU**  
Duke at Miami — **Miami**  
Iowa State at Nebraska — **Neb.**  
Maryland at Rutgers — **Rutgers**  
Michigan State at Wisconsin — **Wis.**  
Notre Dame at Purdue — **Purdue**  
Oklahoma at Colorado — **Okla.**  
UCLA at Oregon State — **Oregon State**  
Washington State at Arizona — **Wash. State**



# Radiance Cup golfers support Army Emergency Relief

Invitational tournament contributes to AER

By MARK STRICKLAND  
For the Rocket

Radiance Technologies held its inaugural Radiance Cup Invitational Golf Tournament Sept. 18 at Canebroke Club in Athens.

The idea for the tournament came from Radiance president George Clark, whose son is serving in the Army in Iraq. Clark decided that staging an invitational golf tournament to benefit Army Emergency Relief was the best way he and his company could directly impact Soldiers' lives in a positive way.

His idea was to make a donation to AER on behalf of everyone who participated in the tournament. He estimated that 40-50 people would commit to play. Little did he know that his idea to support AER would bring 100 players. Nor did he realize that once the word got out about the tie to AER, the local community would rally to support the tournament with gifts and prizes.

Local merchants donated Big Spring Jam tickets, free rounds of golf, tickets to the upcoming LPGA event in Prattville, gift cards and dinners at leading restaurants in Huntsville.

Clark presented AER officer Kristi Foster a check for \$3,300. As a surprise, he followed that by presenting her a jar that contained all the donations for AER collected at the course. The total exceeded \$1,600.

Here are the Radiance Cup Invitational results:

• **Skills competition** – Denny Hays of Birmingham



**EVENT PROCEEDS—** Radiance Technologies president George Clark presents a jar containing more than \$1,600 to AER officer Kristi Foster. He also handed her a \$3,300 check. At center is Steve Keller, director of the Radiance Cup Invitational Golf Tournament.

Courtesy photo

• **Closest to the pin** – Brian McDaniel  
• **First flight** – 1. Tim Jones, Mark Strickland, Denny Hays and Bill Rhuland; 2. Mike Zana, Brian Pitts and Henry Murphy; and 3. Scott Dublin, Hobie Frady, Scott Weaver and Donovan Wright.

• **Second flight** – 1. Charles Kelly, Scott Butler, Tim Singleton and Mike Woeber; 2. Doug Scalf, John Smith, Brad Blume and Doug Barclay; and 3. David Fentress, Chris Brunhoeber, Derek Wiseman and Chris Brown.

• **Chipping** – George Clark, Thomas Mankowski

• **Putting** – Lenor Bouska, David Provan-cha, Mike Nowaski, Denny Hays



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Day's a hit

Spc. Dechelle Dodge doubles, and subsequently scores, for Charlie Company in the first inning of the Wolfpack's softball game against HHC 59th at Linton Field. The catcher is Staff Sgt. Soren Fries. This is part of last Friday's organizational day for the 59th Ordnance Brigade.

# Rocket Announcements



## Sports & Recreation

### 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 on Nov. 17. The bus will depart the Kroger parking lot, Drake Avenue and South Memorial Parkway, at 3:30 p.m. that Saturday and will return immediately after the game. The game starts at 7 p.m. This year the two ticket pricing options are \$90 and \$45. Each ticket package includes either a premium lower bowl or sideline balcony 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 Oct. 26. Space is limited so get on the priority list today.

### Heroes' 5K/half marathon

The Huntsville Track Club and Semper Fi Community Task Force are sponsoring the Heroes' 5K and Half-Marathon on Nov. 10 at Hillwood Baptist Church in Huntsville. The half-marathon starts at 8 a.m. and the 5K at 8:20 at Hillwood Baptist Church, 300 Kohler Road, located just off South Memorial Parkway. "Come out and support veterans recovering from combat injuries sustained in Iraq and Afghanistan by participating in the 5K run," a prepared release said. "Show Alabama's support for wounded veterans of all the armed services, as we proudly recognize these brave young Americans to whom we owe so much, by running at their side." For more information, e-mail Dick Franklin at dickfranklin@knology.net.

### Ribbon Run team

"Will you join the fight and help save lives?" Donna Johnson asked in a prepared release. "Join the Redstone Roadrunners Team." She is organizing a team for the fourth annual Liz Hurley Ribbon Run, a benefit 5K run/survivors' walk Oct. 20 in Huntsville. "My goal is to get 100 team members signed up for this event from Redstone Arsenal," Johnson said. "This event will feature a male and female 5K run and a survivors' walk on Oct. 20." Registration cost for team membership is \$10. Even if you cannot actually participate, you can support the team "in the spirit" and still register as a team member. Johnson can be reached at 876-

9143. For more information or to sign up, visit her web page at <https://www.lizhurleyribbonrun.org/mypage.php?p=366>.

### Youth basketball

Registration is under way through Nov. 5 for the CYS Basketball League for ages 5-17. Practices begin in mid-November and games begin in January and run through February. Registration is \$50 per child and includes a uniform. A \$10 late fee applies if registering after Nov. 5. The child's CYS Registration and sports physical must be current. For more information, call 313-3699.

### Garrison golf

Join the Links for the All Garrison 4-man Scramble Golf tournament Saturday. Cost is \$30 per person. For more information, call 883-7977.

### Boater safety

Redstone Flotilla 2406 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a boating safety class on Thursday nights from Oct. 11 to Nov. 21 at Stilwell Hall, building 3305, room 215 on Zeus Drive. Classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m. A \$25 fee covers the cost of materials. Successful completion exempts students from taking the state boat operator's examination and may save you up to 15 percent on boat insurance. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 830-6621 or cellular 527-4475.

### Hunter orientation

Join Outdoor Recreation Oct. 2, 16, Nov. 6 and 20 at 4:30 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center for its annual Redstone Arsenal Hunter Safety Orientation. This class is mandatory for all who want to hunt on Redstone Arsenal. For information call 876-4868.

### Twilight golf

Twilight golf starts Oct. 1 at the Links at Redstone. Starting at 2 p.m. daily, pay \$20 and get all you can play before dark. For more information, call 883-7977.

### Boating class

America's Boating Class will be held Oct. 4, 11 and 18 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Public Library, Meeting Room C. The optional book is \$20. To register call Debbie Miller 617-0869. This free class, offered by the Huntsville Power Squadron, meets requirements for vessel authorization by the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

### Bass tournament

The AAAA Fall 2007 Bass Tournament will be held Oct. 13 at Jackson County Park in Scottsboro. For more information

and registration, call Bob Vlasick 881-4144, Chuck Ogle 883-7974, Matt Boenker 313-9117 or Tom Geoffroy 876-5359.

### Youth basketball

Registration is under way for the Vigilance Sports Fall Basketball Camp for boys and girls in grades 3-9. The camp is Oct. 8-11 from 8 a.m. to noon at Madison Academy. Registration costs \$75 for a single camper, \$125 for two campers; and the cost includes a camp T-shirt. For more information, call coach Kerry Johnson 527-2388. Register at <http://www.vigilancesports.com/>.

### Golf fund-raiser

The family readiness group for 1/167th Infantry, Cullman, is holding a four-man scramble golf tournament at 1 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Cullman Golf Course. Cost for this fund-raiser is \$60 for individuals and \$240 for foursomes. For more information call Ronda Rusk, family readiness group chairman, 737-0836.



## Conferences & Meetings

### Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites you to study God's word each Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Free child watch is available. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 325-3152 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

### Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Huntsville City Council member Sandra Moon is the guest speaker. For more information, call retired Col. Danny Burttram 325-1938.

### Air defenders

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association invites all active and retired ADA officers, members and friends to attend its annual Saint Barbara's Day Awards Dinner and Dance Oct. 27 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The guest speaker is Brig. Gen. John Seward, deputy commander for operations, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with a pay-as-you-go bar. Dinner is served at 7:15. Cost is \$30 per person for members and their guests or \$60 per couple, and for non-members \$40 per person or \$70 per couple. Payment must be received by close of business Oct. 15. Call Janett Beasley 837-5282, ext. 1524. For more information, call Mike Howell 830-3912, Rob Jassey 861-6456 or Dick Pendleton 964-5401.

### Staff appreciation luncheon

The Parent Advisory Council is sponsoring a staff appreciation luncheon for the School Age Services and Youth Center staff members today at 12:30 p.m. "Parents, let us take this opportunity to show how much we appreciate each staff member's hard work and dedication in providing outstanding care to our children," a prepared release said.

### University women

American Association of University Women will meet at 10 a.m. Oct. 6 at Alabama A&M University's Ernest Knight Reception Center, 4900 Meridian St. north. The meet and greet starts at 10 and brunch at 10:30. Make reservations by Thursday for brunch (\$14). Call Lois 880-8643.

### Blacks in government

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government will meet Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club, in the Loft (old Regimental Room). Lunch can be purchased via the buffet line and brought to the meeting room. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.

### Computer users

The Huntsville PC User Group's Windows/Internet Special Interest Group will meet at 9:15 a.m. Oct. 13 at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Ron Schmitz, the HPCUG president, will talk about how to go wireless with a home network and demonstrate the setup features of several wireless routers. At 10:45, retired scientist Andy Karabinos will continue the discussion from the October meeting on conducting research on the Internet. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

### Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Oct. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St., north entrance. Jimmy Pemberton will speak on "The Capture of Georgia Mill Workers and the Charges of Treason During Sherman's Atlanta Campaign of 1864." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

### Geospatial conference

Directions Media, organizer of the inaugural Rocket City Geospatial Conference, Oct. 15-17 at the Huntsville Marriott, has announced the final program for the event. More than 50 presentations will be offered representing a diverse mix of topics that address government and private industry applications of geospatial technology. Featured keynote speakers

include the director of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security, James Walker, and the director of the Earth System Science Center at the National Space Science and Technology Center at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, Dr. John Christy. For more information, e-mail Joe Francica at [joe.francica@DirectionsMag.com](mailto:joe.francica@DirectionsMag.com).

### Weapon system forum

The fifth AIAA Biennial National Forum on Weapon System Effectiveness is Oct. 16-18 at Samples Auditorium in Huntsville. This event, hosted by Miltec, a Ducommun Company, will address the themes of major weapons, test and evaluation, performance analysis, and future systems. Registration is now open. For more information or to register, visit the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics web site located at [www.aiaa.org/events/wse](http://www.aiaa.org/events/wse).



### 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 Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 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, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil) for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

### 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](http://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 9-12:30. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. The shop will be open Saturday, Oct. 6 from 10-2. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Donations from shop

The Thrift Shop is accepting written requests for donations from Oct. 1-15. It can only accept requests from charitable organizations that have a federal tax exemption number. Include your number and reason for your request, and mail or deliver it to: Thrift Shop Attn: Mary McCarthy, welfare chairperson, building 3209, Hercules Road, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

### 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, Out-

# Redstone Announcements

look, 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.

### 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.

### Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on any DoD installation, the Defense Department requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. The one-day course is offered free to anyone authorized access to Redstone. For information call Keith Coates of Garrison Safety Office 876-3383. The instructor is Ralph Harris at [93hdstc@bellsouth.net](mailto:93hdstc@bellsouth.net).

### Green to gold

The Alabama A&M Army ROTC program, which includes the University of

See Announcements on page 26

Alabama-Huntsville and Athens State University, is seeking proficient enlisted Soldiers interested in completing an undergraduate or graduate degree and commissioning as Army officers upon receiving the appropriate degree. If you are an enlisted Soldier who has served at least two years on active duty, this is an opportunity for you to advance. Enroll in Army ROTC on campus by using opportunities provided through the Green to Gold Program. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023 or e-mail [annette.woods@aamu.edu](mailto:annette.woods@aamu.edu). You may also visit online at <http://www.aamu.edu/rotc>.

## Lateral entry

Opportunities to excel under a competitive learning environment are available to qualified prior service individuals who wish to train and commission as second lieutenants in the Army. These opportunities are also available to you if you are an enlisted member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer. The Lateral Entry Program will allow you to enroll — as a junior, senior or graduate student with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation — as a cadet in the ROTC Program at Alabama A&M University. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023.

## Organizational day

All associated with security assistance/foreign military sales are invited to SAMD LCMC Organizational Day on Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rustic Lodge. Activities will include bingo, a cake walk, horseshoes, volleyball, door prizes, sunrise golf and more. To schedule golf, call Steve Dirigo 842-1106. A barbecue beef or pork lunch will be catered by Rolo's. Lunch begins at noon and cost is \$14 a ticket. Please get your tickets by Friday from a Security Assistance Management Directorate contact or call Stephanie McWhorter 842-1078.

## Poker run

A poker run, a benefit ride for Operation Smile, "changing lives one smile at a time," is scheduled Oct. 13 at 10 a.m. at Weatherly Road and Bailey Cove in

southeast Huntsville. Everyone is invited — all bike clubs and non-club riders. This event is sponsored by Chips & Salsa Cantina, 10300 Bailey Cove (phone 880-1202). Entry fee is \$10 rider, \$5 passenger. The grand prize is \$240. Plaques will be awarded for largest club, traveled farthest, oldest rider, best poker hand and worst poker hand.

## Retiree appreciation day

The Commissary will celebrate Retiree Appreciation Day on Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Open to all ID cardholders, this event will include games, giveaways, door prizes and sale items. You must be present to win.

## Bridge construction

The Toftoy Thruway bridge over Martin Road is closed in order to replace the bridge deck. Construction is expected to take four to five months. Motorists can detour around the bridge by exiting onto Martin Road via the Toftoy Thruway ramps. Detour routes should be clearly marked. Martin Road will remain open during the project; however, an occasional detour may be necessary during certain construction procedures.

## Butler High reunion

Butler High School class of 1972, 35-year reunion is 7 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Elks Lodge on Franklin Street. Previous and post classes welcome. Cost is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. Food, fun, beverages and fellowship included. You need to pay in advance so they can order food. For more information, call Greg Welch 508-4644 (cell) or e-mail [greg.welch1@conus.army.mil](mailto:greg.welch1@conus.army.mil).

## SMDC anniversary

The Space and Missile Defense Command 50th anniversary celebration event is Oct. 3 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Social begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Guest speaker is Norman Augustine, retired chairman and chief executive officer for Lockheed Martin Corporation. Cost is \$30 for individual seating or \$750 for a sponsorship table of eight. This event is sponsored by ASDMA, NDIA, ADAA and the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce. For

more information, call Sigma Services 533-6986. Register online at <http://conferencesbysigma.com/50years>.

## Name that lounge

Do you work on Redstone Arsenal? Are you retired from Redstone Arsenal? Here's your chance to leave a legacy. An icon of the Officers and Civilians Club is getting a facelift and you get to give it a new name to go with its new look. Rename the Big Spring Lounge at the Officers and Civilians Club, and win dinner for four and \$50 in MWR bucks. Submit your suggestion to rename the Big Spring Lounge at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com). The drawing for the MWR prize will held at a later date.

## Ballroom dance class

Registration is under way through Oct. 16 for Intermediate Ballroom Dance Classes at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. This six-week course is taught by Mary Jo Blunt and Vince Guarin. Classes are Thursdays, Oct. 18 through Nov. 29 from 7:30-9 p.m. The cost is \$66 per couple. Participants must have prior dance experience. Call 876-4531.

## Science festival

Sally Ride Science Festivals bring together hundreds of girls in grades 5 through 8 for a festive day of science and socializing. Parents and teachers are welcome, too. The Oct. 6 event at the University of Alabama-Huntsville includes the opportunity to meet and listen to astronaut Jan Davis. The festival will take place at the UAH Fitness Center. The day begins at 11 a.m. with check-in and the street fair, and ends at 4:15 p.m. The cost is \$18 in advance and includes lunch, and all festival activities and materials. Advance registration is required. Teachers, parents and students can register and learn more about the festivals by visiting [www.SallyRide-Festivals.com](http://www.SallyRide-Festivals.com) or by calling 800-561-5161. Northrop Grumman Foundation is a national sponsor for Sally Ride Science Festivals.

## Hispanic heritage program

The Hispanic American Heritage Month Program is Oct. 3 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. The keynote speaker is Yolanda Maldonado-Echevarria, deputy for equal employment opportunity and civil rights, outreach and special emphasis

programs, Washington, D.C. There will be ethnic music; and after the program, there will be a food tasting of various ethnic dishes. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon 876-8648 or Jackie Williams 876-9259. Hispanic American Heritage Month is Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

## Pancake breakfast

Get breakfast and a song with the Southern Splendor Chorus on Oct. 6 from 8-10:30 a.m. at the Applebee's in Athens on Highway 72 and Exit 351. "Enjoy pancakes while listening to some great a capella music," a prepared release said.

## Logistics training

The Logistics Proponency Office, Fort Eustis, Va., is coming to Redstone Arsenal on Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Bob Jones Auditorium. Roberta Hermann and Sandra Haskins, of the Logistics Proponency Office, will provide an overview to Team Redstone workers on training opportunities. The target audience is civilians/supervisors in Career Programs 13-Supply, 17-Maintenance, and 24-Transportation & Distribution. Activity career program managers are encouraged to attend. From 12-1 p.m., graduated interns are invited to lunch-and-learn with Hermann and Haskins in the Sparkman Cafeteria. To reserve a seat, call Betty Lee, of IMMC Training Office, 876-5044. One-on-one career guidance will be available from 1-4 p.m. at building 5304, third floor, room 4366. For more information call Jerrel McCollum, Redstone CPAC, 313-1595 or Lee 876-5044.

## Health center holiday

Fox Army Health Center will be closed on Monday, Oct. 8 in observance of the Columbus Day holiday. Tuesday, Oct. 9 the Primary Care Clinic will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and services will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The health center is closed on Saturday, Sunday and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments. Fox has no emergency room or emergency medical services. Dial 911 to activate EMS.

## Employment briefing

A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct a Federal Employment Briefing on Oct. 4 from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. The information provided will help participants to understand the federal application process. Topics will include recruitment sources, Resumix procedures, candidate evaluation and the referral process. This session is open to all military ID card holders. Call ACS 876-5397 to reserve a seat.

## Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on Oct. 2 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at building 3338, Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone. Civilian employees, contractors and spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

## Fire safety expo

American Red Cross Madison-Marshall County Branch will present a Home Fire Safety and Prevention Expo on Oct. 9 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Madison Square Mall. There will be door prizes and live entertainment. The purpose of the expo is to provide information to help eliminate home fires in Alabama.

## Federal jobs workshop

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government will sponsor a Community Federal Employment Workshop on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church, 2115 Winchester Road. "Come join us for some networking and insightful information on how to get a federal job if you have never worked for the federal government before," a prepared release said. "If you are looking for a temporary job or a permanent career path, this workshop is for you!" This event is free to the public. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.

## Jazz concerts

The Watters Brothers Quintet, featuring trombonist Harry Watters and trumpeter Ken Watters, will present two concerts at UAH Roberts Recital Hall on Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 7 at 3 p.m. The UAH

See Announcements on page 28

# Rockets Announcements

Jazz Band, directed by Dr. Don Bowyer, will also be featured. Proceeds will benefit The Harry H. Watters Memorial Scholarship Fund for Excellence in Jazz. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at AB Stephens, The Bandwagon, The Fretshop and UAH Music Department. For more information, call 824-6436.

## Army family team building

Join Army Community Service for Army Family Team Building instructor training Oct. 1-4 from 6-9 p.m. In these free classes, participants acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities to become AFTB instructors in their community. To register or for more information, call ACS 876-5397.

## Officer candidates

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year college degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the Active Army and the Army Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

## Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking

qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and be from age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. Experience in flight training or related disciplines are encouraged, but not a requirement. Applicants will be required to take the Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and score 90 or higher. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511,

## Reserve cadets

Join the Army Reserve and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the Active Army or the Army Reserve. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 922-1422.

## Choir benefit

The Alabama A&M University Choir invites you to attend a luncheon fund-raiser to support the choir's trip to Leipzig, Germany to participate in the American Choral Festival in May 2008. The luncheon Thursday at 11:30 a.m. is sponsored by the Outback Restaurant, 4777 Whitesburg Drive. "One hundred percent of the

See **Announcements** on page **29**



Courtesy photo

## Sparking interest

Youngsters from Morris Elementary School surround Sparky the fire dog while visiting Redstone Fire Department. Oct. 7-13 is Fire Prevention Week with this year's theme, "Practice Your Escape Plan!" If you have fire-related questions or concerns, call 876-7005.

proceeds will go toward the cost of the trip for the students," a prepared release said. Tickets are \$20. There will be in-house seating and a limited number of to-go boxes with free delivery. For tickets visit the Alumni Association and Welcome Center at 105 Chase Road or James Records & Tapes, 2422 Memorial Parkway northwest, or call 372-5513.

### Dog fair

Huntsville Obedience Training Club's annual Dog Fair is Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Monte Sano State Park. This event,

which supports the American Kennel Club's annual Responsible Dog Ownership program, is free to the public. (Monte Sano does charge a nominal park entry fee.)

### Waiting spouses

The Waiting Spouses talk time is noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 2 at the ChildWise play morning building, 1413 Nike St. Karen Scott, a licensed professional counselor with Behavioral Medicine Division, Fox Army Health Center, will coordinate the group. The group is open to anyone who is geographically separated from their spouse who belongs to

any branch of the armed forces or Department of Defense employee and is active duty and deployed or away on an unaccompanied tour or attending extended training. For more information call Scott 955-8888, ext. 1032. Free child care will be available, but registration is required by calling Mary Breeden 876-5397. Child care services will be provided at the ChildWise play morning building from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Shot records are required to use the services.

### Acquisition work force

Army Acquisition, Logistics and Technology work force members should look for the following program announcements on the USAASC web page. The Competitive Development Group/Army Acquisition Fellowship Program announcement for YG08 is open from Sept. 10 to Nov. 2 at <http://asc.army.mil/events/>; the Project/Program Managers' announcement is open until Oct. 2 at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/project/active/opfam51/ambmain.htm>; and the Army Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program is open until Nov. 15 at [http://asc.army.mil/career/programs/ata/ata\\_p\\_announce.cfm](http://asc.army.mil/career/programs/ata/ata_p_announce.cfm).

### River fest

The Integrated Materiel Management Center will hold its Fall River Fest at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreational Area on Oct. 4 at 10:30 a.m. All IMMC employees, to include retirees and

# Rocket Announcements

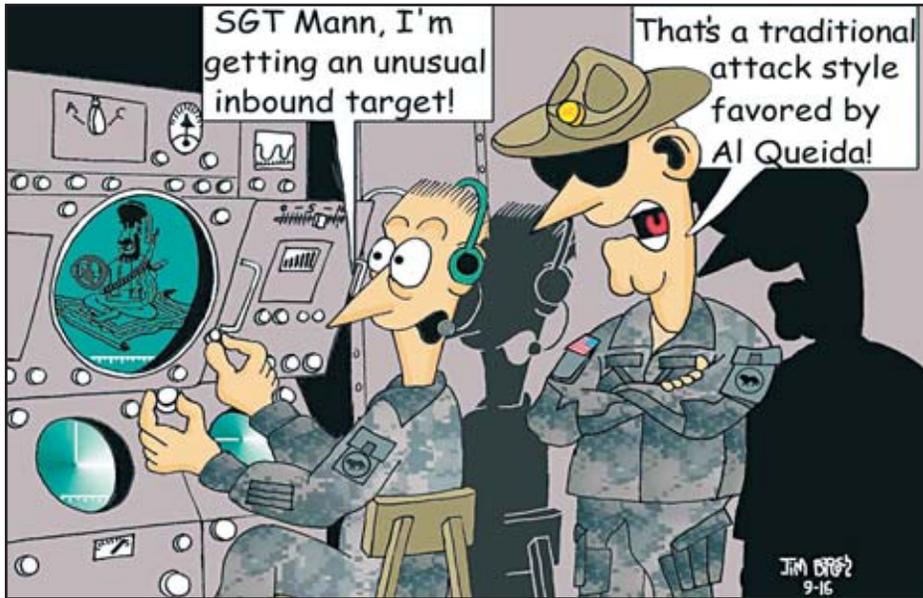


Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Health Fair

**D. Ann Norris of NLOS Project Office takes a bone density scan during a health fair Sept. 19 at Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office. The event, conducted by Fox Army Health Center, was organized by K.C. Bertling, executive assistant to project manager Col. David Rice.**

matrixed personnel, are invited. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children and include hamburger or hot dog, chips, drinks and ice cream. Attendees should bring lawn chairs, blankets, boom boxes, radios and mosquito repellent. There will be karaoke, softball, horseshoes and other events. For more information call Jan Pickard 842-6625, Tony Caldwell 876-2877 or Kim Lund 842-2468



# ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

September 26, 2007 The Redstone Rocket Page 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
<b>AS OF 20 SEPT 07</b>																			
<b>THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL</b>																			
SCBK07173490	Environmental Engr	26-Sep-07	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville, AL	YD-0819	2	2	44,104 - 98,876		X										
SCBK07256952	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07256952D	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07240355	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07240355D	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07231966	Mgmt & Tech Spec	27-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DE-0301	2	2	29,108 - 57,334	X											
SCBK07231768	IT Spec (INFOSEC)	27-Sep-07	GARRISON	GS-2210	11	11	55,429 - 127,060		X										
SCBK07250845	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	27-Sep-07	IMMC	YC-0346	3	3	89,875 - 137,434			X									
SCBK07203924	Logistics Mgmt Spec	27-Sep-07	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148		X						X			X	
SCBK07205531D	Procurement Analyst	28-Sep-07	SMDC	GS-1102	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07205464D	Contract Spec	28-Sep-07	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07243562	Equal Opportunity Supp Assistant (OA)	28-Sep-07	SMDC	GS-0361	6	6	32,446 - 42,180		X						X	X			
SCBK07196671	Lead General Engr	29-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 134,434		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07176486	Computer Engr	1-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07176486D	Computer Engr	1-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07259034	Mgmt Analyst	1-Oct-07	GARRISON	GS-0343	12	12	63,658 - 83,148		X										
SCBK07192817	General Engr	1-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801	14	14	89,875 - 116,835				X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07205528D	Procurement Analyst	1-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07198985	Operations Research Analyst	3-Oct-07	AMCOM, G3 (Oper)	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X						X			X	
SCBK07198985D	Operations Research Analyst	3-Oct-07	AMCOM, G3 (Oper)	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07270642	Operations Research Analyst	3-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-1515	12	12	63,958 - 83,148			X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07204918	Supv Medical Tech	3-Oct-07	MEDDAC	GS-0644	11	11	53,362 - 69,373			X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07245761	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	4-Oct-07	AMCOM, SAMD	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148								X	X		X	
SCBK07245761D	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	4-Oct-07	AMCOM, SAMD	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07295844	Electrical Engr	4-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0850	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X		X	X			X	X		X	
SCBK07295844D	Electrical Engr	4-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0850	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07287820	Budget Analyst	5-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0560	13	13	76,056 - 98,876				X				X			X	
SCBK07192840	General Engr	9-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801	13	13	76,056 - 98,876				X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07280696	Electronics Engr	19-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07280696D	Electronics Engr	19-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07245244	Materials Engr	26-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0806	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X		X	X			X	X		X	
SCBK07245244D	Materials Engr	26-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0806	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07171020	Equip Spec (Gen)	13-Nov-07	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	63,958 - 83,148				X				X			X	
<b>THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV</b>																			
SCBK07234113D	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	2	2	73,377 - 113,438	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07256952D	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07240355D	Aerospace Engr	26-Sep-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07205531D	Procurement Analyst	28-Sep-07	SMDC	GS-1102	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07205464D	Contract Spec	28-Sep-07	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07176486D	Computer Engr	1-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07205528D	Procurement Analyst	1-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07198985D	Operations Research Analyst	3-Oct-07	AMCOM, G3 (Oper)	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07243685D	General Engr	4-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801	13	13	66,951 - 87,039	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07245761D	International Prgm Mgmt Spec	4-Oct-07	AMCOM, SAMD	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07295844D	Electrical Engr	4-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0850	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07230819D	Supv Prgm Mngr	11-Oct-07	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville, AL	YC-0340	3	3	104,826 - 136,273	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07280696D	Electronics Engr	19-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07245244D	Materials Engr	26-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0806	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

**A** - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.

**B** - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).

**C** - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).

**D** - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)

**E** - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)

**F** - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)

**H** - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)

**I** - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)

**R** - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)

**T** - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)

**V** - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).

**U** - All U.S. citizens

**NOTE:** If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

**NOTE:** The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) or you may telephone 876-7772.

Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit [www.amccareers.com](http://www.amccareers.com) or [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil), search for **Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647**, for more information.