

Redstone Rocket

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Headquarters news



Acquisition executive conducts town hall
Page 4

Around town



Local Marines form task force
Page 6

Over there

128th MP Company welcomed home
Page 8



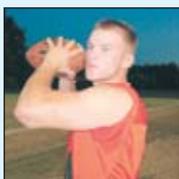
Looking back



World War II vet gets Bronze Star
Page 15

Win or lose

First week results for flag football
Page 20



Ordnance Soldier leads the way

New Orleans native, Iraq vet commands 832nd battalion

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

For a young ordnance Soldier, the gateway to service in Iraq, Afghanistan or anywhere in the world could very well be the 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Soldiers in 13 military operational specialties related to missiles, munitions and maintenance pass through the battalion on assignment for training at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School. Once training is complete, they are assigned to Army units with the very real potential of being deployed.

So, Lt. Col. Randle "Keith" Jackson and his battalion command of 50 to 60 Soldiers are committed to ensuring training for these inexperienced warriors is top-notch, thorough and inclusive of situations they may face during a deployment.

"We train Soldiers, and we want to make sure that when they leave here they have the skills necessary to go to a unit and immediately have a positive impact," Jackson said.

"We're part of the transition from citizen to Soldier. When they come here, they've had the basics of Soldiering. They know how to march, how to fire a weapon. What we teach them is how to do a job in the Army and do it well. We use a lot of hands-on training to give them a feel of what they will do in the field. We want to give them every skill we can think of that they'll immediately need when they go on to their unit assignment."

And, that includes being assigned to a unit deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan.

"The Soldiers trained here could very well be deployed into a war situation with their next unit," Jackson said.

At any given time, there are about 600 Soldiers assigned to Redstone Arsenal with the 832nd for training. Another 600 are assigned to the 832nd, but are participating in follow-on training in explosive ordnance, radar or artillery at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., Fort Sill, Okla., or Fort Bliss, Texas. Besides active military, the 832nd also provides training to National Guard and Reserve Soldiers. The Soldiers are assigned to the 832nd for anywhere from 8 to 30 weeks, depending on the length of their training.

While OMEMS provides Soldiers with their advanced individual training in their military operational specialty, the 832nd



Photo by Kari Hawkins

DIFFERENCE MAKER— As the new commander of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, Lt. Col. Randle "Keith" Jackson is involved in ensuring Soldiers receive the training they need to make a difference in the Army. The Soldiers assigned to the 832nd are at Redstone Arsenal for their advanced individual training in an ordnance field. Besides receiving technical training, the Soldiers are also schooled in combat readiness.

oversees a Soldier's physical training and values training.

"We try to get the Soldiers grounded in the Army value system," Jackson said. "We're working to develop them into the total Soldier, the total warrior. We're looking for Soldiers with character, who have adopted the Army culture and who comply with our Army values."

The 832nd also provides Soldiers with additional weapons training, and is involved in coordinating a field training exercise that puts the Soldiers in the field for a week to show them how to work together in a combat environment. The 832nd also assists with and evaluates technical training.

"We constantly have a presence in training situations so we can evaluate what is going well and what needs to be improved," Jackson said.

"The battlefield is so dynamic. It's important to develop combat skills no matter what your MOS is. Soldiers who are in fields like logistics need to be prepared to be in combat operations on a daily basis in a place like

Iraq. We put thousands of trucks on the road every day. On any given day in Iraq, logistics Soldiers who are truck drivers, mechanics, fuel or munitions handlers or any number of jobs are having to engage the enemy just like an infantry Soldier. We need to make sure they have the necessary skills and confidence to do that."

Jackson – along with many on his staff – has recent experience working in the Iraqi war environment.

"We're getting more Soldiers coming back with recent combat experience and they are here to help train these Soldiers," he said. "Their experience is helping us really make sure Soldier training relates to the combat environment they'll have to deal with. We're doing our best to make sure the training we give to Soldiers who are going to Iraq, Afghanistan or anywhere in the world is relevant and timely."

Even so, the battlefield in Iraq is constantly changing. Jackson saw a lot of that

See **Soldier** on page 3

An open lane random survey

Who do you go to when you need advice and why?

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Staff Sgt. Felix Knight

Headquarters & Alpha Company

"I go to my best friend, and for me my best friend is my wife. And the reason being there's no one closer than my best friend. So if it's something negative she'll give me negative and if it's something positive she'll give me a positive. And that way I know how to adjust and approach things. I mean all around you're looking for honesty. And who best to get it from than your best friend – somebody who'll be real and honest to you."

Staff Sgt. Joseph Kimbrough
NCO Academy

"I go to my first sergeant (Debra Buie) because she knows a lot about me and she understands a lot of situations that a small group leader might encounter."



Staff Sgt. Anthony Cardona
21st Theater Sustainment Command
Kaiserslautern, Germany

"To my senior advisers; I go through my chain of command. That way they can help me because that's the reason they are there."

Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Hughes
NCO Academy

"When I need advice I go to my husband because he's a retired NCO and he's very experienced in things we go through as NCOs. And I go to a good friend of mine that I've had since sixth-grade because I trust her and she knows me so well."



Driver, please slow down

To the driver of the white Dodge pickup truck driving onto the Arsenal via Martin Road on Oct. 16 at approximately 7:50 a.m., shame on you. I don't know where you had to be or what time you had to be there but trying to kill everyone in your path in order to get there has me worried.

You were not satisfied traveling behind any vehicle and chose to swerve in and out of the lanes with no regard for the vehicle behind, beside or in front of you. I shudder to think that you may have come through school zones in the same manner. God takes care of fools and babies. Not hearing of any accidents on the road you traveled certainly strengthens my faith. Next time, leave home earlier.

Cynthia Ziegler

Opening discussion on gates

I keep hearing that due to manpower, certain gates are going to start closing early. What is the reason behind all of this? Didn't whoever in charge know the costs to operate these gates and the manpower required? I heard that the Redstone Road gate is going to start closing at 1 p.m. I work at the southeast corner of post and now I'm going to have to drive to Martin Road just to drive back south to get home? Why is this great inconvenience being allowed to happen? Does Garrison know about this?

Phillip Quillen

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "During the past year, Installation Management Command conducted a traffic survey of the access control points for Redstone Arsenal. During the survey, IMCOM determined the traffic volume entering Redstone Arsenal did not justify the personnel required for current gate hours of operation. The Directorate of Emergency Services conducted a second survey Sept. 4-17 and the results supported IMCOM's findings. Funding assistance from AMCOM and Marshall Space Flight Center have allowed for extended gate hours, specifically Gate 1, 3 and 7, beyond those recommended by IMCOM. Effective Oct. 9, DES changed hours of operations slightly at installation access control points as follows:

"Gate 1 — open seven days a week from 5:30 a.m. to midnight. Gate 3 — open Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; note, the hours of Gates 3 and 7 will not change; closed weekends. Gate 7 — open Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; closed weekends. Gate 8 — open seven days a week from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Gate 9 — open seven days a week, 24 hours. Gate 10 — open seven days a week from 5:30 a.m. to midnight."

Celebrate Italian American heritage

I would like to know why in this day and age it seems so crucial to publicize and celebrate the many different cultures and ethnicities of our American citizens, yet we let go unnoticed one of the largest ethnic groups. October is Italian Heritage Month, and with an estimated 26 million Americans of Italian descent, it would seem only natural that we should take hold and embrace this time.

Italian Heritage Month is not something universally known, either, as I have only recently learned of it myself through research on the Internet. The Italians were among some of the first groups of immigrants in America to deal with racism and oppression in society. They dealt with the same hurdles and struggles as many of our current day immigrants deal with. Upon entry into the new world, Italian immigrants were made to feel unwelcome as they were greeted with numerous discriminations. The American press printed cruel and biased remarks in their descriptions of Italian immigrants. Italians were labeled as ignorant, poor, unskilled and lazy. References often linking Italians to the Mafia were also included in these articles, and the Italian was portrayed only in the negative. This caused residents in the community to view the Italian immigrant as a threat to their social and economic status. They saw Italian immigrants as inferior, illiterate, dirty, lazy and unable to contribute positively to society.

Overcrowded and unsanitary living conditions were contributing elements to illnesses of the Italian immigrant. Living conditions often consisted of unused storage areas and run-down abandoned buildings. In the 1880s, Buffalo, N.Y., once a prospering, thriving city, experienced the closing of many businesses, dropping of real estate prices and the moving of Italian immigrants into run-down homes that previously belonged to the Irish. Many of the dwellings the Italians used as their living quarters were small in size, and it was not unusual for entire families to live in just one room. These "living quarters" lacked the warmth needed in the winter and coolness and proper ventilation needed in the summer.

See Heritage on page 5

Quote of the week

'Money talks. Mine always says goodbye.'

— Bumper sticker

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Tim Jennings

Job: Senior data base administrator, Quantum Research International

Where do you call home?
Huntsville

What do you like about your job?

Getting to do something to support the war fighter. I like the cutting edge technology that I'm getting to work with. I like the intelligent and interesting staff that I work with in the SMDC Battle Lab.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Play music and perform in a band. There's actually two bands – the Ms. Johnnie Blues Band and Boogafunk. I

perform in both (on drums, on guitar in Boogafunk and does vocals in both).



What are your goals?

I'm currently working on a master's degree at Alabama A&M in computer science. Getting the completion of that, and getting recorded onto CD original music of the bands. Upon completion of the master's, I hope to have more time to devote to the Butler High School Alumni Association. We've gotten together to help facilitate the network-

ing of current students and former students, the alumni, to get the alumni into the school for mentoring and tutoring.

What's your favorite type of music?

Good music – music with thought in the lyrics and quality musicianship. I can find this in blues, rock, soul, gospel.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

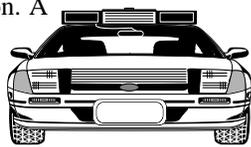
The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Oct. 11: An individual stopped at Gate 10 to inquire about a subject Redstone Police had in custody, and did not have a license in possession. A check through NCIC revealed outstanding warrants from Florence Police Department. The subject was arrested by Redstone Police and turned over to Florence PD.

Oct. 15: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after being stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.

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

Violation notices issued: 12 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 driving with a suspended/canceled/revoked driver's license, 1 following too close, 1 no driver's license in possession, 1 failure to yield right of way, 3 expired tags.



Flu shots arrive at Fox Army Health Center

Fox Army Health Center has received flu vaccine for the 2007-08 flu season. Shots will be given according to the following schedule.

Active duty Soldiers will have their flu shots coordinated by their command (as an entire unit) by calling 955-8888, ext. 1442.

Active duty family members over age 12 and military retirees and family members over age 12 may get their flu shots today and Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14 and 28, Dec. 5, 12 and 19 from 8 a.m. to noon at Heiser Hall, building 3712 on Patton Road.

Family members with a Fox Army Health Center provider, as well as children 12 and younger, may get their flu shots on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. in the Warrior Medicine Clinic, Fox Army Health Center, with one exception. The health center will observe a training

holiday on Tuesday, Nov. 13 and the health center will be closed that afternoon.

Family members without a Fox Army Health Center provider may get their flu shots on Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. starting today at the Preventive Medicine Clinic, Fox Army Health Center.

Flu shots will also be given to retirees and their family members on the Redstone Arsenal Retiree Appreciation Days, Nov. 2-3 at the Sparkman Center. DoD Civilians who are deploying need to make an appointment with Occupational Health by calling 955-8888, ext. 1026.

DoD civilians who are not deploying will be given the flu vaccine in January, if vaccine is still available.

For more information, call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888, ext. 1026. (Fox Army Health Center release)

■ 832nd Ordnance Battalion works to ready warriors for combat

Soldier

continued from page 1

change himself during two deployments – the first in 2004 as the executive officer of the 4th Corps Materiel Management Center of the 13th Corps Support Command at Anaconda, Balad, where he oversaw the management of all the logistical supplies in Iraq in support of the war; and the second from August 2006 until March 2007, during which he was the logistics officer for COSCOM charged with managing the internal logistics for the command's seven brigades.

"I left Iraq with mixed emotions," Jackson said. "The Army is about teams, and whenever you deploy with people on a team it's hard to leave that team when it's still in combat. I had to come back from Iraq early for this assignment. I had to disengage when the mission was not complete. That's hard when you want to make sure your team comes home safe."

Although his team was constantly in danger, particularly during travel around Iraq, all returned safely to Fort Hood in September. Jackson still remembers the risk of traveling the war-torn country.

"I worked from the FOB (forward operating base) in Balad, but there were more than 22 different logistics locations that I was responsible for," Jackson said. "We had units at every major installation FOB in Iraq. About every two weeks, I visited different locations to check on what was needed and what the support was like."

Most of those visits were made by helicopter, but it wasn't much safer than the ground transportation Jackson used during his first tour.

"We were shot at all the time," he said. "We had a whole lot of harried situations in the air. But, it wasn't any different for me than for other Soldiers. Being shot at happened every day. It's part of the combat experience. It's a very tough war and our Soldiers are doing great."

Protecting and rebuilding Iraq while facing the constant threat of terrorism is frustrating for Soldiers and civilians alike, Jackson said. A New Orleans native, he is familiar with the struggles and challenges of rebuilding after devastation. He has seen his own family deal with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"I had a lot of family there when the storm hit," he said. "I had four brothers living there. Two have returned to New Orleans. Their homes had minimal damage and they were able to rebuild. Two other brothers lost everything and they won't be returning."

Jackson deployed to the city to assist in bringing safety back to its streets after the hurricane and during the initial recovery and rebuilding efforts.

"New Orleans is a work in progress. But, it's a long way from finished," he said.

"There have been improvements. But, I still have not seen what I was expecting. It will take a long time and a lot of resources to recover from the magnitude of the devastation. What progress we have seen has been made pretty much along the economic lay of the city. Homeowners with good insurance have been able to rebuild. Renters still do not have homes to go back to. And, the rental properties that are available are now too expensive for them to be able to afford."

Jackson, 40, comes from a family steeped in the military. Jackson's father served with the Army in the Korean War. Jackson and his seven brothers always viewed the military as a career option. Five of the Jackson brothers did join the military – two served in the Navy, one was a Marine and two served in the Army.

Jackson attended Southeastern Louisiana University, where he joined the ROTC program. He joined the military in 1985.

"I've always been ordnance. I grew up on the maintenance side of ordnance," he said.

Besides his deployments to Iraq, Jackson's career has included a deployment to Bosnia where he was a brigade logistics officer and an assignment with the 5th Army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he was a Reserve component adviser who assisted with the training of Reservists and National Guard Soldiers in a nine state area to prepare them for deployment.

Jackson and his family — which includes wife Vickey, who is now a kindergarten teacher at Mt. Carmel Elementary in northeast Madison County; daughter Kiera, a freshman at Alabama A&M University; and son R.J., an eighth-grader at Liberty Middle School in Madison — are enjoying their new home in North Alabama.

"We were all very excited about this assignment. I'd never been to Huntsville, Ala., but I had heard a lot of good things about it," Jackson said. "Redstone Arsenal is kind of one of those secrets in the Army. When you do hear about it, you hear people talk about it in a very positive light. We love Huntsville. It's the kind of place you want to come back to when you retire."

With base realignment and closure, the 832nd along with OMEMS and the 59th Ordnance Brigade will be moving to Fort Lee, Va. But, when that will happen is still undetermined.

"The whole transformation of Redstone Arsenal under BRAC is pretty exciting," Jackson said. "You have a three-star command coming in. You're preparing for the Army Materiel Command. Even though this battalion will eventually go to Fort Lee, there are so many good things coming to Redstone Arsenal."

"BRAC is happening all over the Army. It's about improving the Army. And, once it's done, the Huntsville community and its military community will be just as strong or stronger."

Army acquisition executive applauds work force



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FROM THE TOP— Claude Bolton, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, speaks last Thursday in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Claude Bolton does town hall

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Defense spending represents just 3.9 percent of the gross national product, a top-level Army official pointed out to acquisition workers Thursday.

Claude Bolton, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, addressed members of the acquisition work force in a town hall meeting at Bob Jones Auditorium. Several members of the audience seemed most interested in one of his briefing charts which showed the nation's historically low percentages of defense spending.

"We as a country need to ask some basic questions: What is it

that you want your military to do, and how much are you willing to spend?" Bolton said.

During his presentation, which covered numerous topics, he talked about the importance of the Future Combat System.

"Great program, and it is what the Army needs in the future and it is what the Army needs today," Bolton said.

He praised the acquisition workers for their efforts, which he said receive "extremely positive" feedback from the war fighters.

"You do an incredible amount of work," he said, "and you do it for the right reasons."

Bolton answered questions from the audience after his briefing. Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, expressed a concern about the future of lead system integrators. Bolton responded that this

shouldn't be a problem, no matter who fills their role.

"I thought this (town hall meeting) was excellent," AMRDEC engineer Jean Grotophorst said afterward. "However, I do disagree with his (Bolton's) position on the lead system integrator ... I think we have people here at Redstone Arsenal who can pull off being an LSI."

Sky Evans, an Army Materiel Command fellow in the Redstone Technical Test Center, said he found the session beneficial.

"I enjoyed the top-level look at it, and the perspective from that high level and the long-range where we're going," said Evans, 30. "And hopefully I'm young enough and things move fast enough so I can see the transition to us getting from the acquisition community – separate communities – into the life-cycle community itself."

Retiree seeks answers on health benefits

The following questions and answers originally appeared in the NARFE Magazine and are reprinted with permission from the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

Question: I would like to find out what the best health benefits option is for a child who will soon turn age 22 and is going into his senior year of college. The Office of Personnel Management notice says to contact your personnel office; the BC/BS letter says contact them.

Answer: As a retiree, you must contact OPM to enroll your son in an FEHBP plan under Temporary Continuation of Coverage for up to 36 months. This is quite expensive, however, since he or

you will have to pay the entire premium with no government contribution, plus a 2 percent administrative fee. The cost for TCC equals the Employee and Government share of the premium, plus the 2 percent administrative fee. You might consider the health insurance offered through his school, if any. This is generally cheaper, since most students are young and in good health. You can also go online and check for insurance. If your son has no serious pre-existing conditions, this may provide an affordable option. Although the premium may be less than the TCC, the plan may have maximum payment limits and/or higher out-of-pocket expenses.

Question: I am a federal employee and am trying to get all my paperwork in a file for my son in the event of my death. Say I died on the 20th of August, does the money I received on Aug. 1 as an annuity stay in my account or does it go back?

Answer: Retirement payments are made on the first of the month for the previous month. In your example, if death occurred on Aug. 20, the payment on Aug. 1 would have been for the month of July and would not have to be returned. The payment for Sept. 1 would have to be returned, if made, but 20 days of that payment (through the date of death) would be due your beneficiary under the retirement law and upon proper application.

Schoomaker rejoins Camber Corp

Camber Corporation has announced that former Army chief of staff, retired Gen. Peter Schoomaker has rejoined the company board of advisers. Schoomaker was an adviser to Camber prior to returning to active duty at the secretary of defense's request.

"We are pleased to have Pete return to our talented board of advisers and look forward to the additional dimension his wide expertise on Army issues will add to the board," Camber president Joe Alexander said. (Camber release)



Photo by Skip Vaughn

High-level pilot

Claude Bolton, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, is greeted at the Sparkman Center helipad by Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles after co-piloting a CH-47F Chinook on Oct. 17 from Redstone Airfield. The pilot was Randy Bolding of the Aviation Technical Test Center.

Corpus Christi Army Depot has annual summit

By JAMEY GIDDENS

Corpus Christi publicist

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT, Texas — A virtual “Who’s Who” of the elite players in the global aviation and aerospace industries converged on the balmy beachside community of Corpus Christi Oct. 3-5 for the fifth annual Luther G. Jones Aviation Summit, sponsored by the Corpus Christi Army Depot. The summit was held at the American Bank Center.

“The Luther G. Jones Aviation Summit is an excellent opportunity for the key players in the defense aviation community to come together and exchange ideas and best practices related to the common

goal of better serving our joint services war fighter,” said Corpus Christi commander Col. Joe Dunaway said.

This was Dunaway’s first time to host the summit. The event was originally the brainchild of then-commander Col. James Budney.

“It was truly an honor to host this auspicious occasion for the first time and I look forward to doing my part to help the event grow even more in years to come,” Dunaway said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, and Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, served as keynote speakers for this year’s event.

Italian immigrants faced discrimination

Heritage

continued from page 2

Every year the U.S. president signs an executive order designating the month of October as National Italian American Heritage Month. Coinciding with the festivities surrounding Columbus Day, the proclamation is recognition of the many achievements, contributions and success-

es of Americans of Italian descent as well as Italians in America. Over 5.4 million Italians immigrated to the United States between 1820 and 1992. Today there are over 26 million Americans of Italian descent in the United States, making them the fifth largest ethnic group. The country was even named after an Italian, the explorer and geographer Amerigo Vespucci.

Spc. Brian Lee Kausek

Around town

Task force stands up for wounded Marines

New group organizes Heroes' Weekend

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
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Standing up a group of Marines is not a difficult task in North Alabama.

All it takes is an idea, a few Marines to do the planning and an organization focused on making a difference in the community. And, the rest falls into place.

That's what happened when a few local Marines put out invitations to stand up a new organization last spring that is now known as the Semper Fi Community Task Force of North Alabama. It formed with one goal in mind — to formulate a plan to allow Marines to better serve their community.

"Semper Fi means 'Always Faithful,'" explained retired

Marine Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti. "Even though many of us are no longer in the Marines, we want to continue to serve and support our community. There are over 200 former Marines in North Alabama. This organization is about standing up a group of Marines in North Alabama to provide the area with a significant level of volunteer support."

The Semper Fi Community Task Force will be coming to the forefront in Huntsville and North Alabama in a big way the weekend of Nov. 9-14 when it hosts 16 to 20 Marines wounded in the Global War on Terrorism, and provides them with a weekend of athletic, patriotic and Marine events, many of which are open to all local Marines and Marine retirees.

"The idea behind the organization was volunteerism," Libutti said. "We want to volunteer to support community organizations like Marine Moms, Still

Serving Veterans and the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition. We want to be prepared as volunteers to support major events and even major catastrophes in the North Alabama area.

"But, as a spin-off of that, we wanted to support and recognize Marines and their families, and, by extension, Soldiers, sailors and airmen. So, we focused our efforts on helping Marines who are wounded warriors from Iraq."

Besides a weekend of recognition and appreciation, the wounded Marines will also participate in a local Career Fair for veterans Nov. 13 that will conclude their visit to Huntsville.

"These members of the U.S. Marine Wounded Warrior Regiment sustained significant wounds while serving our country, and will soon be leaving



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PLANNING FOR HEROES— A group of retired and active duty Marines in North Alabama are hosting the area's first ever Heroes' Weekend Nov. 9-14 to recognize the sacrifices of Marines, Soldiers, sailors and airmen wounded in the Global War on Terrorism. Members of the Semper Fi Community Task Force of North Alabama who are spearheading the weekend planning are, from left, Marine 1st Sgt. Alan Caldwell (background), and Marine retirees including Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bill Holtzclaw, Lt. Col. Bob Marshall, Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, Cpl. Jim Samuelson and Col. Kenny Watts.

See **Marines** on page 7

Social sponsors sought for international students

The International Military Student Office is looking for a few good social sponsors.

Redstone Arsenal is scheduled to support international students from 20 countries in fiscal 2008. Most international students are in the United States for their first and only time. The office wants to find social sponsors to show these men and women this country as it really is. Students attend training in Huntsville from three weeks to eight months.

The International Military Student Sponsor Program is a hospitality program to provide international students, and possibly their families, an opportunity to become acquainted with American life in the broadest sense.

A good sponsor must be willing to expose the international military stu-

dent to American life; and the sponsor must agree to take a genuine interest in the students.

Sponsors must have a sincere interest in the purpose of the Department of Defense program and be interested in making a student feel at home and part of their family. A desire to learn about his or her country is also important.

"Your reward will be knowledge about the student and his or her country and personal satisfaction from participating in the program," a prepared release said. "You will see your life, community and country in a different light through the eyes of your student. Deep personal relationships may develop through these informal relationships, and knowledge of other countries, customs and people will be

rewarding to you and your family and friends."

Sponsors should invite their student to participate in some activity at least once a month. Entertainment need not be lavish; in fact, students prefer experiencing day-to-day American life.

Some suggestions for things to do are: Go on picnics, show slides or home movies of trips you have taken, take the student sightseeing around the area so he or she can take snapshots to send home, take the student to local sporting events, bring them golfing or fishing, or just take them shopping at a local mall.

If you would like to become a social sponsor or have questions about the program, call the International Military Student Office at 842-0582.



Courtesy photo

SHARING TIME— Pvt. Lester Phipps of St. Kitts & Nevis talks with Gertrude Powell, sponsorship coordinator for the International Services Council of Alabama, at a joint event with the International Military Student Office.

■ Full weekend planned for wounded Marines

Marines

continued from page 6

active service to re-enter the work force," retired Marine Cpl. Jim Samuelson said. "We want to honor these wounded warriors and to get a head start on helping them to reintegrate into our community ... When I returned home from Vietnam in 1973 no one was willing to step up and help. We cannot allow that to happen ever again."

Heroes' Weekend will begin when wounded Marines who are members of the Wounded Warrior Regiment arrive in Huntsville on Nov. 9. Currently, the regiment has selected seven wounded Marines from the west coast, seven from the east coast, one from Florence and one from Birmingham to participate in the weekend's activities.

"Through the events we've planned, we want to recognize their service and sacrifice, and we want to show them how much we appreciate what they have done for the entire country," Libutti said, adding that all Marines and Marine retirees in North Alabama are encouraged to participate in the Heroes' Weekend

events.

The first event of the weekend will be the University of Alabama-Huntsville hockey game at the Von Braun Center on Nov. 9.

On Nov. 10, the Heroes' Half-Marathon and 5K Run will be hosted by the task force and the Huntsville Track Club, and sponsored by Lockheed Martin, Hillwood Baptist Church, Fleet Feet Sports, Buffalo Rock Company, Huntsville Police Department, HEMSI and City of Huntsville Parks and Recreation Services.

The Half-Marathon will begin at 8 a.m. and the 5K Run will begin at 8:20 a.m. at Hillwood Baptist Church, located on Kohler Road just south of the Memorial Parkway and Mountain Gap Road intersection.

The wounded Marines will be recognized at the event and may also participate in one of the runs. The course is a relatively flat out-and-back course and includes a 2-mile section on the Aldridge Creek Greenway.

The entry fee for the Half-Marathon is \$15 until Nov. 1, and \$20 after Nov. 1. The entry fee for the 5K is \$12. Runners are also asked to donate one canned food item to the Hillwood Baptist Church food

pantry.

The first 400 registered Half-Marathon runners will receive a long-sleeve, multi-colored T-shirt and the first 200 registered 5K runners will receive a short-sleeve, multi-colored T-shirt. Awards will be presented to the top three runners in male and female categories, and in age divisions. For more information and a registration application, check out the Huntsville Track Club web site at www.HuntsvilleTrackClub.org or contact Dick Franklin at 881-0331 or dickfranklin@knology.net. Registrations can be mailed to 1304 Hearthwood Circle, Huntsville, AL 35803.

On the evening of Nov. 10, the wounded Marines will attend the 232nd Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Von Braun Center. The ball is sponsored by the local Marine Reserves Battery K, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division.

The ball is a formal affair that begins at 6 p.m., and will include dancing and recognition of Marine Corps achievements through its history. Tickets are \$40 each and can be reserved by calling 213-9683, ext. 106. Organizations or businesses can reserve a table of eight for \$500.

On Nov. 11, the wounded Marines will attend a Tennessee Titans football game in Nashville.

On Nov. 12, they will participate in the

AUSA Veterans Day Breakfast and the Veterans Day Parade in downtown Huntsville. That afternoon, they will participate in a resume training program hosted by Still Serving Veterans. The training will prepare them for an all-day Career Fair on Nov. 13, also sponsored by Still Serving Veterans.

The Career Fair is open to all veterans with disabilities and their family members. It will be held at the Embassy Suites from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For event details, call 883-7139 or e-mail Kirsten@stillservingveterans.org. The Still Serving Veterans web site is www.stillservingveterans.org.

Organizers for Heroes' Weekend include retired Marines Bob Marshall, David Bonwit, Kenny Watts, Bill Holtzclaw, Jim Samuelson and Frank Libutti, and Marine Lt. Col. Mike Dahl, Gunnery Sgt. Orless Moss and 1st Sgt. Alan Caldwell. Several local businesses and churches have volunteered to assist with the weekend events.

It is expected that costs for hosting 16 wounded Marines for the weekend will be around \$50,000. Donations have been made by several local organizations, businesses and individuals, and by the Marine Corps Scholarship Fund. But, donations are still needed. For more information, visit the task force's web site at <http://www.semperfectf.org/>.

Soldiers welcomed home with cheers, hugs and flags

Families and friends of 128th give 'unbelievable' greeting

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Staff writer
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Dennis and Donna Baughn traveled far to give their son the kind of homecoming he deserved.

The couple drove 400 miles from Mobile to be among the hundreds of family members and community well-wishers welcoming home the 137 Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company who arrived back at the Alabama Army National Guard Armory on Johnson Road in Huntsville on Oct. 13 after a yearlong deployment in Iraq.

The 128th is one of three National Guard units that have recently returned from Iraq. The 1169th Engineer Group of Huntsville returned Sept. 19 and the 152nd Military Police Company of Scottsboro returned Oct. 18. While many of the Soldiers in the 128th were from Huntsville, the group also included Soldiers from places like Mobile, Prattville, Dothan and Phenix City.

The Baughn's Soldier – Spc. Jonathan Baughn – was one of three Soldiers from Mobile who deployed with the Huntsville unit.

“He received a lot of medals



Photo by Kari Hawkins

BABY'S FIRST KISS— 1st Lt. Lee Barnes of Hazel Green reaches out to kiss his baby, 9-month-old Sydney Paige. His wife, Alicia Barnes, who is holding Sydney Paige, got a lot of help from her sister, mother and best friend during her pregnancy and delivery.

for his service,” Dennis Baughn said. “He saved one of his sergeants twice. He was injured twice by IEDs (improvised explosive devices). The first one burned his leg. The second one

put shrapnel in his leg. He could have come home early. But he told me ‘Daddy, I’m coming home with my unit.’

“We’re proud of him. But, we’re proud of all these Soldiers, every doggone one of them. I’m proud that my boy got to go with this unit. We love the 128th. But, we also love the 169,000 Soldiers still over there picking up a weapon every day and defending our country. That’s who we need to pray for.”

The Baughn's daughter and son-in-law are also serving in the Army, and have recently been stationed in Mobile. With Jonathan home, it will be the first time in 15 years that the couple will have all three of their children on U.S. soil.

“Jonathan celebrated his last three birthdays – 18, 19 and 20 – away from home,” Baughn said.

“He was on scholarship at the Marion Military Institute for his first one, and then he was at school at South Alabama when he got activated. Now, he’ll be home for 16 days and then report to Camp Shelby (Miss.) to train other Soldiers full time.”



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FINAL FORMATION— Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company stand at attention before being officially relieved of their deployment assignment. The Soldiers spent time with family and friends when they first returned to the Alabama Army National Guard Armory on Johnson Road on Oct. 13. After they said their “hellos,” Soldiers got into formation to hear praise from their commanding officers. They will not have to report for drill for 90 days.

The couple planned to drive their son straight home after his arrival at the armory.

“That 400 miles ain’t nothing compared to what he’s been through,” Baughn said. “It will give us some good quality time, and then we will have 16 straight days together.”

Parents, grandparents, wives and husbands, uncles and aunts, cousins, sisters and brothers, sons and daughters, and friends crowded around the doors of three large coach buses on a late Saturday afternoon as Soldiers of the 128th disembarked to cheers and plenty of flag waving.

“It’s unbelievable,” said Staff Sgt. Christopher Black, expressing a sentiment felt by the Soldiers as they took in the hero’s welcome. Soldiers hugged newborn babies, fiancés and, even, new family pets. Besides her family, Sgt. Sophia Malone of Greenbrier also got to put her arms around the family’s Australian shepherd, who was a small puppy during Malone’s two-week leave.

For Black, the homecoming meant getting to hug his two sons – 5-year-old Lake and 3-year-old Alex, his wife Kelly, and his grandmother Polly Riddle. He also got his first glimpse of the 2008 Nissan Titan truck that carried the words “I’m yours, Staff Sgt. Christopher Black.”

“My 1990 Rodeo broke down right before the deployment, and

I didn’t bother to replace it,” Black said. “I gave Kelly a shopping list of what I wanted. And, now I get to ride home in this.”

Black was looking forward to playing Uno with his two sons, who play the game with Spiderman cards. The family will spend a few days packing beach towels and sun days, and making daily trips to the Wal-Mart in Arab in preparation for a trip to DisneyWorld.

Disney is definitely a world far away from what Black experienced as the squad leader of a 34-Soldier platoon in Samara, which was charged with working with the Iraqi police department and responsible for communications between coalition and security forces.

“We were reacting constantly to changes in the city and helping the police department,” Black said. “The first six months, we really made a lot of headway under a local police chief that was a very strong leader. We had about 800 Iraqi police we were working with.”

“But, in May, a VBEP (vehicle borne explosive device) killed the police chief. With his death, the local police force fell down to below 100. They were afraid to come back to work. From May to September, 30 to 40 members of the police force were assassinated or kidnapped.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

WAITING FOR HEROES— Cub Scouts from Cub Scout Pack 236 in East Limestone County hold their flags as they wait for the return of the Soldiers of the 128th Military Police Company. From left are Chase Laxson, Cameron Handley, Gerald Ashmore and Tyler Reyes. Their den leader, Jennifer Laxson, heard about the Soldiers’ return on WZYP radio station and decided welcoming the Soldiers home was a worthwhile project for her Scouts.

Home

continued from page 8

It's a very common tactic used by terrorists to keep things in chaos. When a good seed is planted and the Iraqis start to stand up for themselves, then they strike."

Though he's returned from Iraq, Black hopes to continue to have a positive effect on the war effort. Like Baughn, he will be reporting to Camp Shelby with about 30 Soldiers from the 128th who will help train other Soldiers for deployments to Iraq.

"It's an opportunity for me to continue this mission, which is so important to us and to our country," said Black, who will be leaving his job at Syncro Corp. in Arab to take the job with Operation Warrior Trainer at Camp Shelby. His family will move with him.

"My life has changed so greatly. My priorities have changed so greatly. I'm a whole different person. A lot of people struggle with the question 'What will I be when I grow up?' For some time now, I've been struggling with the question 'What will I do when I get home?' I knew I wanted to do something to continue to help with this effort and serve my country. I can do this for another one to three years."

As they waited for their Soldiers, families talked about their plans for quiet celebrations. Warren McLoughlin, a police officer with the Phenix City Police Department, and his wife Cindy, had plans to watch the Auburn game with their son, Spc. Matthew McLoughlin; 5-year-old Katie Wright and 7-year-old Tyler Wright of Cookeville, Tenn., were planning to give their dad Sgt. Darren Wright a big hug when they saw him; and Lisa Grissett of Mobile had plans for a two-week vacation at Gulf Shores with her husband Sgt. Raymond Grissett and their two 11-year-old daughters and his Harley motorcycle.

Family members were aware of the need to give their Soldiers plenty of time to relax and readjust to the normal routine of everyday home life.

"It takes a lot out of you when you are gone," said Staff Sgt. Albert Mosely, uncle of the 128th's Spc. Tamara Pickett. Mosely just returned from a tour in Talill, Iraq.

"You need at least a month off. When

you come back, everything is balled up in you. You need time to get rid of that."

The Soldiers stayed connected to their families and friends via phone, Internet and web cam. Brian Russell of Huntsville even managed to make wedding plans with his fiancée Whitney Jones while he was deployed.

"He proposed on the phone from Iraq in June," Jones said. "We've been talking a lot about the wedding and everything. We are getting married Nov. 10 and then we are going to Camp Shelby, where he will be full-time National Guard."

Joy Bolt of Prattville and her two children – Stephen, 5, and Sarah, 3 – enjoyed

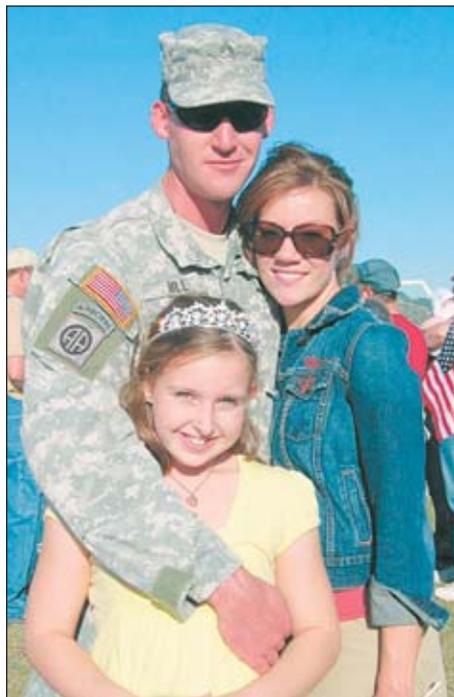


Photo by Kari Hawkins

BACK TO FUTURE— Cpl. Christopher Todd Hill of Florence poses with his fiancé Leah Batson and his 11-year-old daughter Karli Hill. Hill and Batson were engaged before his deployment. They will now finish making plans for their wedding. Hill is also planning to attend the University of North Alabama full time. "Words can't describe how I feel right now," he says.

talking to and seeing Spc. James Bolt with the use of a web cam during the last couple months of deployment. It allowed the family to see each other every day. But, it wasn't technology that gave Bolt the support she needed during the deployment.

"The only thing that's gotten me through this is prayer, my family and my church," Bolt said. "Our children did pretty good, but they missed him a lot. They had a daddy doll that slept with them every night. We talked about their daddy and we prayed for him every day before school."

Bolt made a family picture calendar for her husband and marked the holidays, family birthdays and other important dates. The calendar helped him keep up with what was going on at home and made the year go by faster. It also helped him remember key dates.

"He mailed me flowers on our anniversary," Bolt said.

Bolt relied a lot on her in-laws support during her husband's deployment.

"My son was gone and my best friend was gone," said James Bolt Sr. "I tried my best to entertain my grandkids while their dad was gone. I tried to make sure they had somebody. It was the least I could do. My son has sacrificed a year of his life for his country, and that's a big thing."

The Welcome Home Ceremony included a brief formation inside the armory, with National Guard officials and Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer praising the troops and their families.

"We're here to welcome home some heroes from Iraq, and say 'Job well done'

and 'Thank you' to the families who have made the sacrifices," Maj. Robert Cook of the 203rd Military Police Battalion told the Soldiers and the standing room only audience of family and friends.

The feedback Brig. Gen. Wendell McLain, commander of the 31st Chemical Brigade, received about the service of the 128th was all positive, he told the Soldiers.

"It was great and wonderful things you did over there," McLain said. "It doesn't matter what job – big or small – or what rank you are, you all played an important part in Iraq ... The people in Iraq will never forget what you did for them. They will experience democracy and a different way of life for what you did."

About an hour after the Soldiers returned, the parking lot around the armory started to empty. Soldiers left the Welcome Home Ceremony in cars and trucks carrying banners and window decorations that said things like "My daddy is a hero," "I survived Operation Iraqi Freedom," "My husband and our daddy is home from Iraq," "We love our Soldier" and "Our son just came home from Iraq."

As Sgt. Ashley Beaver walked across the parking lot carrying his daughter Brook piggyback style, his other daughter, Jenni, asked to be picked up. He scooped her up and proceeded to carry both girls across the parking lot.

"Daddy, you can put me down now," Jenni told her father.

"No, I'm not going to put you down," he said, giving her a squeeze and a smile. "I'm going to hold onto you forever."

Corps waives day use fees on Veterans Day

WASHINGTON – The Army Corps of Engineers will waive day use fees for veterans, active, reserve and guard servicemembers and their families at its recreation areas nationwide on Nov. 11.

"Our intent is to honor and support the men and women who have served our nation in the armed services," Maj. Gen. Don T. Riley, the Corps' director of civil works, said. "We chose this occasion to encourage our veterans and those on active duty to enjoy our parks and realize the benefits of outdoor recreation activities."

On Nov. 11, day use fees will be waived for veterans, active, reserve and guard servicemembers and their families visiting Corps-managed recreation areas.

This waiver includes boat launch ramp and swim beach fees. However, fees for camping and camping related services as well as fees for specialized facilities, such as picnic shelters, will not be waived.

The Corps is one of the largest providers of outdoor recreation, operating 2,625 recreation areas at 423 projects (mostly lakes) and leasing an additional 1,867 sites to state or local park and recreation authorities or private interests.

The Corps hosts about 371 million visits each year at its lakes, beaches and other areas, and estimates that 25 million Americans (1 in 10) visit a Corps project at least once a year to recreate. (Corps of Engineers release)

Pathfinder Chapter presents educational grants to schools

The Huntsville based Pathfinder Chapter of the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International has presented educational grants totaling \$ 22,550 to 18 local schools and the Alabama Council for Technology in Education.

The grants were presented by the chapter vice president John Latimer and education chairman Joe Fitzgerald in a ceremony Oct. 4 at the Huntsville Public Library Auditorium. The grants ranged in size from \$500 to \$ 3,000 and will be used to support robotics technology instruction by the schools.

This marks the 17th consecutive year that the Pathfinder Chapter has provided educational grants to the local community. Each year, schools throughout north

Alabama and south central Tennessee are invited to submit requests for funding support by the association. Winners include schools from Huntsville, Madison, Arab and Fayetteville, Tenn.

Schools use the funds to purchase robot kits, computers and other items to support robotics education and to compete in robotics competitions.

The ACTE grant will help to pay for its annual Technology Fair held each spring at the Von Braun Center. At the fair, more than 700 northwest Alabama students in public and private grades 3 to 12 demonstrate how they are learning and using computer technology in school. *(Pathfinder Chapter release)*



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Happy 50th?

AMCOM special security officer Donald Altgilbers spends his 50th birthday Oct. 15 in his workstation, which was decorated by members of the intelligence division in the G-2 (Intelligence and Security). "I'd rather they had not," he says, "although it's greatly appreciated."

Red ribbons reflect drug-free lifestyle

The Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 20-28 each year.

"Wear your Red Badge proudly and have the courage to say no to drugs," a Garrison release said.

Red Ribbon Week is an ideal way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against drugs. Show your personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle through the symbol of the red ribbon Oct. 20-28.

The Red Ribbon Campaign was started when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered Drug Enforcement Agency agent Kiki Camarena in 1985. This began the continuing tradition of displaying red ribbons as a symbol of intolerance toward the use of drugs. The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a drug-free America. *(Garrison release)*



Photo by Susan Smith

Employee of quarter

Security specialist Cheryl Neill is the 2007 third quarter Employee of the Quarter in the G-2 (Intelligence and Security).

Hunters should remember basic rules for firearms

Safe handling of firearms begins with four basic rules. An easy way to remember these rules is to ACTT responsibly around firearms. ACTT stands for:

- Assume every gun to be loaded. Consider any firearm you have not just unloaded to be loaded and treat it accordingly.
- Control the muzzle — point guns in a safe direction. You must decide what the safest available muzzle direction is and keep your firearm pointed in that direction. Never point a firearm at yourself or others.
- Trigger finger — keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire. The natural instinct when picking up a firearm is to put your finger in the trig-

ger guard, but don't do that. This could cause an accidental discharge if the gun is loaded.

- Target — be sure of your target and beyond.

Never point your firearm at something you do not intend to shoot. Make sure you positively identify what you are shooting at and know what lies in front of and beyond it.

Do not use telescopic sights as a substitute for binoculars when identifying persons, animals or objects.

To help you remember these four basic rules, think of the acronym ACTT: Assume it is loaded; Control the muzzle; Trigger finger; and Target and beyond. *(Garrison Safety release)*

Garden club has roots in service

Projects branch into community

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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The Officer and Civilian Women's Garden Club is a lot like the flowers they spend their time tending – quietly making life a little nicer for everyone around them.

Having been in existence 27 years, the club may be one of the longest running groups that many people have never noticed. Almost everyone has seen their handiwork, however. They are responsible for many of the flowers gracing what would otherwise be plain and unattractive areas, such as the Gate 8 entrance and the large electronic sign across from the Shoppette on Goss Road.



Courtesy photo

WHAT'S UP?— The OCWC Garden Club took home an honorable mention from the Huntsville Botanical Garden's Scarecrow Trail for its original entry.

"Our main focus is the areas on post," Diane Breffelh, project coordinator for those areas, said. "We are a service oriented club."

They are also in the process of lending a green thumb to the post library. This past weekend was the beginning of their stepping stone project to create a garden at the library. Rather than simply raising money to fund the project, they found a way to reach their goal while letting the community be an integral part of the completed work.

"They get to make a stepping stone for the library and another one for themselves," Pat Hamilton, club president, explained.

The stones themselves are concrete. Creators can decorate them with their choice of embellishments, such as rocks and marbles. The stepping stone project will continue for the next two Saturday mornings, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3, from 9 to 11 at the library. The \$7 fee and advance registration are required before the events and can be done at the library during their normal business hours.

"Any extra money we make will go to Dollars for Scholars," Hamilton said. "It's a state level scholarship for students to go to Auburn to study botany or horticulture."

Army Community Service will be benefiting from their botanical attention as well very soon. Master gardener and club member Carol Umstaedter is developing a garden design for ACS. Bringing that plan to life will be a joint effort between garden club members and Soldiers from the Community Based Health Care Office.

Their shovels reach beyond Redstone's boundaries. They do projects at the Burritt Museum and Constitution Hall, and have an entry on display at the



Courtesy photo

PLANTING SEASON— From left Atty Allred, Carol Stewart and Michelle Archer plant pansies at the Gate 8 entrance.

Huntsville Botanical Garden's Scarecrow Trail. As the members have spread into the community, so have the club's projects.

"When this club started, most of the members lived on post," Hamilton said. "We've spread to the suburbs. This is a group of women involved with lots of things in the military and civilian communities. You'll find our members busy with lots of different things."

As the Christmas season approaches, the club is gearing up for a new effort. Members are raising funds to make wreaths for the graves in the veterans' section of Maple Hill Cemetery. The wreaths will be silk greenery with bows so that they will last longer. Members also intend to collect them in January so they can be reused. The wreaths cost \$5 each for the club to purchase and prepare. The idea has been

well received in the community.

"We've raised \$2,000 already," Hamilton said. "AUSA (Association of the U.S. Army) alone gave us \$500."

The club is first and foremost a service organization, in keeping with the tradition of garden clubs.

"In the South, ladies' garden clubs have traditionally been powerhouses of community projects," Hamilton said. "They were more of a social group, very white glove. We like to get our hands dirty."

However, it isn't all work, work, work. Most of their monthly meetings involve a guest speaker or program from the larger gardening community, such as horticulturalists and subject matter experts. They also take gardening tours both in the local area and even as far away as Nashville.

You don't have to be a master gardener to be a club member, although there are four in the club. Three certified landscape developers and two Botanical Garden docents are also part of the club's 37 members. Club members represent every kind of gardening enthusiast.

"We're a club for people of all levels of skill and all levels of interest," Hamilton said.

There are only three requirements to join the garden club. Because they are a subgroup, you must join the Officer and Civilian Women's Club first. Second, they have annual dues of \$15. The only other must-have is a love of gardening or desire to learn more about it.

To contribute to the Veterans' Wreath Project, checks can be mailed to club treasurer Laura Gomez, 211 Haddington Court, Madison, AL 35757.

Bronze Star recipient represents World War II veterans

*Teasley accepts honor
on behalf of many others*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

World War II veteran Ralph Teasley has finally received long overdue recognition for his combat service. And local veterans advocates hope this is the start of a trend.

Teasley, 81, of Huntsville, received the Bronze Star in a ceremony Oct. 17 at a filled 650-seat Bob Jones Auditorium. The medal was presented by Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal.

After the ceremony, veterans advocates Joe Fitzgerald and Randy Withrow said the Honor Flight and the Veterans Memorial Museum are starting a campaign to ensure that World War II veterans know of their eligibility for the

Bronze Star. AMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates said prospective applicants for this medal should contact him at 876-1874 or through email as follows: ricky.p.yates@us.army.mil.

“It’s the right thing for us to do for these Soldiers of the past for they’re the ones who brought us to the future, to where we are today,” Yates said.

The Bronze Star was first awarded in February 1944 and was retroactive to Dec. 7, 1941. As a result of a study conducted in 1947, a policy was implemented that authorized the retroactive award of the Bronze Star to Soldiers who had received the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge during World War II. The medal continues to be awarded for bravery, acts of merit, or meritorious service.

“If they meet all the requirements, paperwork will be submitted from the command through the appropriate channels for the issuing of the award and issuing of the

certificate,” Yates said.

Teasley, a Hartwell, Ga., native, was drafted into the Army in July 1944 when he was a sophomore in college. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, Rhineland (crossing the Rhine River) and in the final campaign of Central Europe.

“I am representing many others who should have gotten this same Bronze Star,” Teasley said at the award ceremony. He retired 16 years ago as an aeronautical engineer at Marshall Space Flight Center.

In attendance were his wife, Catherine, and their three sons, Ralph III of Anniston, David of Marietta, Ga., and Charles of New Market. Their daughter, Gloria, resides in Houston, Texas.

Myles pinned the Bronze Star on Teasley’s left lapel as Catherine stood next to her husband on stage. The World War II veteran received a standing ovation.

“Sir, on behalf of a grateful country,” said Myles, “thank you for your service.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HONORED VETERAN— Ralph Teasley is congratulated by Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles after receiving the Bronze Star for his combat service in World War II.

Reservists join Retiree Appreciation Days

Preparation for transition among presentation topics

By **ANDY ROAKE**
For the Rocket

For the first time, retiree issues specific to Reservists will be discussed at the annual Redstone Arsenal Retiree Appreciation Days on Nov. 2-3.

Retired Col. Steve Welch, chief of the retirements and transitions branch at Human Resources Command in St. Louis, will give a presentation Nov. 2 at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. He will also be at Bob Jones Auditorium on Nov. 3 to answer questions.

Welch will be at the event to discuss specific issues related to gray area Reservists, which are Reservists who ceased reserve duty after receiving their 20-year letter indicating they are eligible for retirement, but have not yet reached age 60 to start receiving their retirement pay.

"I'll focus on preparation, getting records straight and keeping copies of everything. A Reservist Soldier could get retirement eligible at age 38 or 40 and then wait 20 years until retirement," Welch said. "So it's vitally important that they get ready for retirement early."

The Redstone Arsenal Retiree Appreci-

ation Days will be the first event to host a representative of the retirements and transitions branch of the Human Resources Command.

"We used to have a road show we would take to various locations across the country to talk about retirement issues. We haven't taken the information on the road since our office reorganized in 1995-1997," Welch said. "I'm looking forward to being there."

Various agencies represented

Additional speakers at the event include representatives from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Cleveland Center, who will discuss issues and concerns regarding retirement and annuitant pay and will be able to make changes to retired and annuitant pay accounts.

A representative from Combat-Related Special Compensation will discuss program eligibility and new combat-related programs.

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski will discuss changes occurring at Redstone over the next few years. Representatives from legal services and the Fox Army Health Center will talk about services they provide to military retirees. And representatives from the Department of Veteran Affairs in Montgomery (benefits) and Birmingham (health services) will explain their programs and answer questions.

Health and legal services

On Nov. 2, the event will be held at the Officers and Civilians Club from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The club will have a breakfast buffet and lunch specials. A health fair will be held at the club until 1 p.m. Throughout the day, special MWR activities will be held at various locations across Redstone with motor tours leaving from the club.

On Nov. 3, the event begins with a free breakfast at 7 a.m. in the Sparkman Cafeteria. The 129th Army Band of the Tennessee National Guard will perform and formal opening remarks start at 8 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. Speakers are scheduled throughout the day and the popular "county fair" of exhibits, information booths and services for retirees will be set up in the Sparkman Center.

The entire agenda is on the AMCOM and Garrison internal web sites.

The Provost Marshal Office will offer vehicle registration service for post decals. Redstone's Military Identification

branch will make and update identification cards.

Fox Army Health Center will provide medical screenings, such as cholesterol, bone density, blood pressure and eye screening. Retirees can order eyeglasses if they bring in a current prescription.

Legal Assistance Office attorneys will provide notary services, prepare simple wills, and draft powers-of-attorney. Call the office at 876-9005 to be included on a will signup list and to get information on additional required documents for legal services.

Retirees or family members without a vehicle sticker must enter Redstone Arsenal through Gate 9 or Gate 10 and bring their military identification card, photo identification for all passengers, vehicle registration and proof of insurance.

For more information on Retiree Appreciation Days, call the Retirement Services Office at 876-2022 or e-mail cynthia.anderson1@us.army.mil.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Power demo

Systems engineer David Moak of Diversified Technology explains a newly developed Onboard Vehicle Power System, to power a Humvee, Oct. 16 at the Space and Missile Defense Command. The demonstration included stationary and on-the-move electric power generation from a Humvee at power levels up to 7 kilowatts continuously. The goal of this project includes replacing towed generators into tactical situations.

Level-headed logistician lauded by professional group



Courtesy photo

COMMENDATION— Robert Salinas, left, receives a personal thanks and commemorative coin from Kurt Weidenthal, chairman of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics.

Salinas recognized by logistics chapter

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**

Staff writer

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Logistics professionals work hard to ensure that people get what they need when they need it to keep things running as smoothly as possible, whether working with the military or in private industry. Even though they are masters at their craft, large scale luncheons and conferences with hundreds of attendees, speakers and VIPs can get out of hand quickly. For the last three years, the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics has asked Robert Salinas to help keep the train on the tracks. At its Sept. 25 meeting, it recognized his efforts with a commendation.

“The right people and the right things in the right place at the right time is basically what we do,” said Salinas, logistics management specialist in business development and team lead for acquisition logistic division of the Logistics Engineering Center in the Logistics Support Activity.

During the chapter’s events, Salinas acts as emcee. He also makes sure that the day follows the set schedule. This means juggling presentations, wrangling VIPs and coordinating technical requirements.

“It can get hectic,” Salinas said. “I can keep a cool head when things get crazy.”

He was recognized for both his personal efforts, specifically the May 15-16 Performance Based Logistics Symposium, and as a representative of LOGSA. The two organizations work closely on several events, including co-sponsoring the annual Government Industry Supportability Engineering Exchange.

“They wanted to recognize LOGSA’s support within their organization for the year,” Salinas said.

Most of the work that goes into a conference takes place behind the scenes; and because of that many people do not appreciate how much effort it takes to bring the finished product. Since they are logisticians, the members of SOLE are experts in efforts invisible to the untrained eye. Having their faith in him and gratitude means all that much more, Salinas said.

“I was very honored to receive the award. I have worked with this organization (SOLE) for the last three years now. It’s always been my pleasure to emcee their events, particularly since Kurt (Weidenthal) has taken over,” he said. “I know he has asked me to be involved since he was familiar with my work when he was the commander at LOGSA. It’s always nice to be recognized by outside organizations for the work you do. It’s not really as easy as it looks, the trick is making it look easy.”

Win
or lose

NCO Academy has victorious debut

Beats Headquarters & Alpha 19-12 in flag football opener

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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The NCO Academy players huddled at midfield and shouted in unison. They laughed when someone suggested that they needed to show more enthusiasm.

They'd just beaten Headquarters & Alpha 19-12 on Oct. 15 to open the flag football season at the field off Patton Road.

"It was all about the team," Academy coach/linebacker Shawn Jones said. "We came together as a team and pulled it out."

"Just hard work and practice," Academy left guard Loren Vigil said. "We practiced quite a bit. We've got some strong players out there."

Headquarters & Alpha, which trailed 13-6 at halftime, had possession in its own territory in the closing minutes but turned the ball over on downs.

"We weren't a complete team," Gators running back Draper Hollier said. "We've just got to practice a little more, play a little harder, stay focused and win ballgames. We're going to get better though. We've got to stay disciplined."

Said quarterback Cody Earle, "We have a lot of talent. We just need more practice."

The Gators took the opening kickoff and drove to a 6-0 lead on Earle's 30-yard touchdown pass with 12:30 on the clock.

The Academy responded with a drive leading to Eric Anderson's 12-yard touchdown reception from quarterback Terre Warren for a 6-all tie.

On Headquarters & Alpha's ensuing possession, Academy middle linebacker Cheruan Newsome intercepted a pass to put his team on the Gators' 20. Newsome, at halfback, scored on a 2-yard option run with about a minute left in the half. The Academy converted the extra point on Warren's pass to John Sweden for a 13-6 lead at intermission.

The Academy took the second-half kickoff but was forced to punt. Headquarters & Alpha's ensuing drive was stopped when

Warren, at cornerback, intercepted a pass and returned it to the Gators' 2. On the next play, Warren threw a touchdown pass to Anderson for a 19-6 lead. Headquarters & Alpha made it 19-12 on quarterback John Tucker's 20-yard touchdown pass to Hollier with five minutes left.

After the first week, the Eastern Conference standings had 326th Chemical Company (3-0), NCO Academy (2-1) and Charlie Company (1-2). The Western Conference had Headquarters & Alpha (1-2), Marines (1-2) and Bravo Company (1-2). Games are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6, 7 and 8.

Here are last week's results:

• **Oct. 15** – NCO Academy def. Headquarters & Alpha 19-12; 326th Chemical def. Bravo 42-0; and Charlie def. Marines 30-28.

• **Oct. 16** – 326th Chemical def. Charlie 8-6; Headquarters & Alpha def. Marines 22-0; and NCO Academy def. Bravo 34-0.

• **Oct. 18** – Bravo def. Charlie 28-8; Marines def. NCO Academy 18-12; and 326th Chemical def. Headquarters & Alpha 21-20.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WARMING UP— Headquarters & Alpha quarterback Cody Earle gets ready on the sidelines against the NCO Academy, but the Gators lost to the Academy Oct. 15.

Alabama A&M should rule Magic City Classic

*Bulldogs favored
over rival State*

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

Skip's Picks were 209-83 for 72 percent after seven weeks. Here are my predictions for selected games this week in college football:

Alabama State vs. Alabama A&M — **A&M**
Florida at Georgia — **Florida**
Mississippi at Auburn — **Auburn**
Mississippi State at Kentucky — **Ky.**
Florida International at Arkansas — **Ark.**
Miami (Ohio) at Vanderbilt — **Vandy**
Boston College at Virginia Tech — **BC**
Air Force at New Mexico — **N.M.**
Boise State at Fresno State — **Boise**
Colorado at Texas Tech — **TT**
Indiana at Wisconsin — **Wis.**
Michigan State at Iowa — **MSU**
North Carolina at Wake Forest — **Wake**
Northwestern at Purdue — **Purdue**
Pittsburgh at Louisville — **Louisville**
West Virginia at Rutgers — **W.Va.**
Delaware at Navy — **Navy**
Iowa State at Missouri — **Mo.**
UNLV at Wyoming — **UNLV**
Arizona at Washington — **Ariz.**
Memphis at Tulane — **Memphis**
Southern Methodist at Tulsa — **SMU**
UAB at East Carolina — **East**
Southern California at Oregon — **USC**
Clemson at Maryland — **Md.**
Minnesota at Michigan — **Mich.**
Nebraska at Texas — **Texas**
South Florida at Connecticut — **SF**



Baylor at Kansas State — **K-State**
Rice at Marshall — **Rice**
Virginia at North Carolina State — **Va.**
Utah at Colorado State — **Utah**
Stanford at Oregon State — **Stanford**
UCLA at Washington State — **UCLA**
Kansas at Texas A&M — **Kansas**
Troy at Arkansas State — **Troy**
South Carolina at Tennessee — **S.C.**
Duke at Florida State — **FSU**
Ohio State at Penn State — **OSU**
Houston at Texas-El Paso — **El Paso**
Brigham Young at San Diego State — **BYU**
California at Arizona State — **Calif.**
New Mexico State at Hawaii — **Hawaii**
UCF at Southern Mississippi — **Southern Miss**



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 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 Friday. Space is limited so get on the priority list today.

5K with veterans

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.

NASA 5K

The NASA MSFC Running Club is sponsoring the NASA Health and Fitness 5K on Oct. 31 at 9 a.m. at the NASA Wellness Center, building 4315. The 5K is open to anyone with access to Redstone Arsenal. Registration is \$5. Race day registration is from 8-

8:45 a.m. For a registration form and more information, call Ryan Decker 544-0368 or e-mail rkilmartindecker@hotmail.com.

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.

Boating safety

A Boating Safety Rally will be held at the Gander Mountain store on North Memorial Parkway on Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Coast Guard Auxiliary personnel will conduct Boating Safety orientations in the Gander Lodge throughout the day as well as hand out safety literature and answer questions on boating safety, water sports and events. A vessel Safety Check Station will be set up in the parking lot to provide courtesy safety checks on boats and equipment. This is a free service offered by the Auxiliary that it will inform boat owners and operators if their vessels satisfy all federal, state and local boating safety requirements. For more information, visit www.gandermountain.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. Saturday 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.

Benefit walk

Bringing Up Down Syndrome will hold its annual "Buddy Walk" on Saturday at Big Spring Park east (next to Huntsville Utilities). Registration for this free event is at 11 a.m. and the walk starts at noon. For more information, call Janet Suter 828-2167 or Susan Edwards 464-7065.

Garrison golf

An all Garrison four-man Scramble Golf

tournament is Saturday at 8 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. The \$30 per person cost includes golf car, food, drinks and prizes. For more information, call 883-7977.



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.

Parent council

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council will meet Oct. 30 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room of the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 (phone 876-7952). Parents are encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent Participation Points are awarded for attendance - five points equals a 10 percent discount on child care fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Child and Youth Services facilities and to voice your ideas, opinions or concerns," a prepared release said.

Fleet reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565 Exit 3. For information call Bill Marriott 974-3763 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

Civil War round table

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. southeast. Sid Lyons, a longtime Civil War collector, will speak on "Civil War Photography." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 southwest Memorial Parkway. The chapter will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Oct. 31 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Certified financial planner Todd Carden and Carol Wallace, of the Elder Law Firm of Connie Glass and Carol Wallace, will be the guest speakers. For more informa-

tion, call retired Col. Danny Burtram 325-1938.

Catholic women

Military Council of Catholic Women will meet Nov. 2 at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room of Bicentennial Chapel. Any woman with a military ID is eligible to join MCCW. The meeting and refreshments begin at 9:30, followed by optional Holy Hour at 11 and Mass at noon. For more information, call Chris Johnson 701-6490 or Phyllis Gibat 842-2175. Please let Gibat know at least two days in advance if you need child care.

Computer users

The Huntsville PC User Group's Windows/Internet Special Interest Group will meet at 9:15 a.m. Nov. 10 at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Kevin Wangbickler, the past HPCUG president, will demonstrate Movie Maker for combining video, still pictures and music. Movie Maker is a free program from Microsoft. At 10:45, Kathleen Staggs, the library media specialist for Grissom High, will demonstrate the Huntsville Education System's web pages for two-way communications between parents, teachers and students. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Crimson Tide speaker

Joe Kines of University of Alabama athletics will speak Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Austin High School's Auditorium. This event, sponsored by the Austin High School Athletic Booster Club, is free of charge and open to everyone. The school's address is 1625 Danville Road in southwest Decatur. For more information, call Heath Holdbrooks 318-3024.

Honoring veterans

Col. Mark Smith, commander of Fox Army Health Center, will speak about patriotism, the military and his experience in Iraq at the Nov. 6 meeting of the Columbia/New Century Technology High School PTSA. The meeting will be in the Columbia High School auditorium beginning at 6 p.m. The meeting will honor veterans of the armed forces. The public is invited.

Emerging technology

The Tennessee Valley Emerging Technology Conference will be held March 26-28 at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence Auditorium. For more

See Announcements on page 23



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 assur-

ance, 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 for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

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

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:30. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and Thursdays. The shop will be open Saturday, Nov. 3 from 10-2. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in

Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

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.

Green to gold

The Alabama A&M Army ROTC program, which includes University of Alabama-Huntsville and Athens State University, is seeking proficient enlisted Soldiers interested in completing an undergraduate or grad-

Announcements

uate 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. 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.

Retiree appreciation days

New Combat-Related Special Compensation programs will be discussed during the Redstone Arsenal Retiree Appreciation Days on Nov. 2-3. Col. John Sackett from

See Announcements on page 24

Announcements

CRSC will hold briefings at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club on Nov. 2; and at 10:40 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium on Nov. 3. Additional briefings and special events for military retirees and their families will be held at various locations across Redstone on Nov. 2-3. For more information, call the Retiree Services Office 876-2022.

Commissary's appreciation

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.

Butler High reunion

Butler High School class of 1983 is planning its 25-year reunion. Tentative dates are next May 23-24 or Aug 29-30. If you are a member of the Class of '83, e-mail bellecambron@yahoo.com or call 509-6014 with your latest information and your preference on the dates.

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 opportu-

nity 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.

Missouri scholarship

The North Alabama MSM-UMR Alumni Section announces its annual section scholarship to prospective students who intend to enroll at the University of Missouri-Rolla. This annual \$1,000 renewable scholarship is contingent on the student maintaining a 2.75 grade point average. Any prospective UMR student desiring to apply for this scholarship and who meets the UMR qualifications for admission should contact either the UMR Office of Admissions, 106 Parker Hall, 1870 Miner Circle, Rolla, MO 65409, phone 1-800-522-0938 (toll free) or 573-341-4166 (direct), e-mail admissions@umr.edu or Cathy Tipton at crowell@umr.edu. Prospective students can learn more about UMR at www.umr.edu.

Project office dining

Col. Edward Mullin, project manager for Cruise Missile Defense Systems, invites all former CMDS/SHORAD employees to the annual CMDS Dining Out on Nov. 9 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$35 per person. For more information, call Bonnie Coleman 876-4927.

See Announcements on page 25



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

Spreading wings

Matthew Bishop takes his imagination for a flight in a UH-1H Huey helicopter on display at the Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity open house Oct. 6.

Technology day

Barco Federal is having a Technology Day on Oct. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Huntsville Marriott, in the Atlantis and Discovery ballrooms. "This is an educational session for you to learn about their company and their capabilities," a prepared release said. For information call Dee Campobasso 527-6438.

Toast of city

Turner Universal and Junior Achievement of Northern Alabama Inc. invite you to "The Toast of Huntsville" on Nov. 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Early Works Museum. This event features wine, martini and beer tastings, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, music, auctions and a networking venue. All proceeds from The Toast of Huntsville will benefit JANA programs which will reach more than 15,000 area students this school year. Tickets are \$50 for regular admission and \$100 for the VIP package. Corporate rates are available as well. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Nancy Haragan at the JANA office 533-4661.

Military service awards

The GEICO Military Service Awards Program has begun its 12th year. The program honors one enlisted member from each of the five military services, and one enlisted member from the Guard/Reserves component, for outstanding service to his or her military or civilian community. Nominations are due by Oct. 31. For more information, call the local GEICO Insurance office 837-0551.

Operation Stand Down

On the weekend of Nov. 2-4, Operation Stand Down-Huntsville will coordinate an event at Joe Davis Stadium to help homeless veterans obtain VA benefits and the community services they need to rebuild their lives. At the event, homeless veterans will be able to get a medical physical, register for VA benefits, enjoy free food, clothing and shelter, and obtain counseling. The VA hospitals in Birmingham and Montgomery are involved with the event and several local organizations and businesses are assisting. But, volunteers and donations of money and supplies are still needed to make Operation Stand Down-Huntsville a reality for homeless veterans. If you would like to assist in either area, contact Sandra Childress at bsjenings@bellsouth.net, Jane Dow 508-0042 Valerie Coffey 885-7387 or Doug Dietz at 509-4579.

Stop domestic abuse

October is Domestic Abuse Prevention Month. A Domestic Violence Awareness Seminar will be held Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Clifford Chunn Family Life Center, St. Luke MB Church, 1800 Sparkman Drive. Crisis Services of North Alabama will present this seminar and lunch will be served. The seminar is free to the public. For more information, call 721-1294.

Fox Army health center

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Nov. 12 in observance of Veterans Day. On Nov. 13, the Primary Care Clinic will

be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and the Pharmacy will be closed all day. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day, at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox doesn't have an emergency room. Dial 911 in the event of an emergency.

Logistics awards

The 2007 Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award Luncheon/Ceremony is Nov. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The two awards to be presented are the Management/Executive Award to GS-13s and above (or military equivalents) and the Professional/Technical Award to GS-13s and below (or military equivalents). Tickets cost \$15. For tickets call Kathy White 876-1757, Marveline Readus 313-1588, Faye Yates 876-1824, Jan Huys 313-1504, Vanessa Adair 313-1475, Debbie White 313-4165, Linda Cosgray 313-4004 or Katie Clark 876-1093.

Garden plots

Garden plot owners on Redstone Arsenal should ensure their plots are cleared and clean by Dec. 15 to prepare for winterization procedures. Requests will be sent to Directorate of Public Works to bush hog and plow plots for winter no earlier than

See **Announcements** on page 26

Rocket Announcements

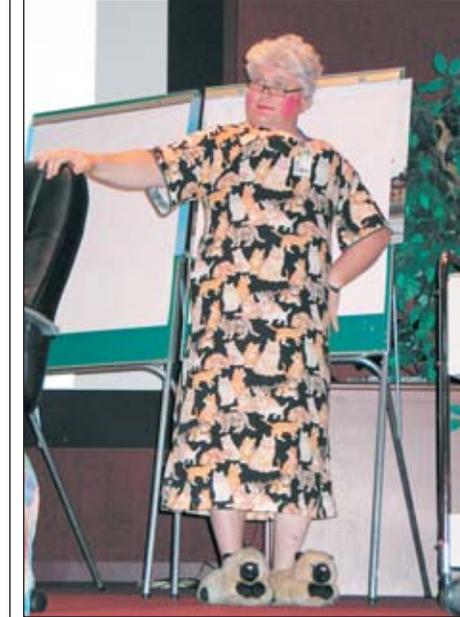


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Totally insecure

Chris Lindberg of G-2 (Intelligence and Security) portrays "Helga" during a skit for security awareness training last week at Bob Jones Auditorium. Security 101 was designed to take Redstone workers back to the basics for Security Awareness Week, Oct. 15-19.

Rocket Announcements



Courtesy photo

State visitors

Maj. Ghassan Twal, left, and Lt. Col. Qasem Bashayreh, both of Jordan, pose at the monument of Sam Davis outside the Tennessee State Capitol in Nashville. The International Military Student Office took eight international students to tour the capitol Oct. 17 to learn more about how state government operates.

Dec.15. For more information, call Stephanie Stone 830-9175.

Stepping stones

The Post Library and the OCWC Garden Club are teaming up to teach you how to make a stepping stone. Class members will make and decorate one to use as a border around the Butterfly Garden at the library and one to take home. The class is open to anyone who can use Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities. This is a class for all ages, but children from 6 to 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Classes will be offered Saturday and Nov. 3 at 9 a.m. at the Post Library, building 3323 on Redeye Road. The class will last about two hours, depending on the number of students. Cost is \$7. Your pre-payment at the library will be your reservation for the class. For more information, call 876-4741.

Book sale

A Civil War book sale will be held Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Library Auditorium. There will be books and videos about the Civil War at this sale which is sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table. The sale is to benefit Civil War Battlefield Preservation and the Heritage Room Archives of the Huntsville-Madison

County Public Library. For more information, call 858-6191.

Latin dance

Sabor Latino invites you to a Halloween Latin Dance this Saturday from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. at the American Legion, 2900 Drake Ave. There is a \$10 cover charge. For reservations call Yvonne 783-5756 or DJ Ed 651-9626. You must be at least 19 to party, 21 to drink.

Military children's party

Military children are invited to a Halloween party and parade Saturday at 10 a.m. at Harrison Brothers Hardware, 124 South Side Square downtown. The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of Association of the U.S. Army and Harrison Brothers Hardware are the hosts. For more information, call store manager Ginger Cobl 536-3631.

Haunted house benefit

A Halloween haunted house will be held from 6 p.m. until midnight Friday and Saturday and from 6-9 p.m. Oct. 31 at Lassie's Friends Animal Sanctuary in Athens. Cost is \$5 per person for this fund-raiser. To get to the sanctuary, take Highway 72 West approximately three miles west of Jefferson Street. Turn left onto Reed Road. Lassie's Friends Animal Sanctuary is about two miles south of Highway 72.

Tax center volunteers

The Redstone Tax Assistance Center needs volunteers interested in learning tax law at an IRS certification class and

then helping servicemembers, retirees and their family members complete their 2007 tax returns. The training and certification will be held Jan.14-23. The training is required, but flexible for those who can volunteer. The Tax Center will be open for business from Jan. 24 through April 15. Volunteers are asked to work at least one four-hour shift each week "This is a highly rewarding volunteer opportunity that not only provides a tremendous service to Redstone community, but will give you an in-depth understanding of the tax system and the ability to prepare your own tax return free of charge," a prepared release said. To volunteer or for more information, call Rachael Yeoman 876-9007.

Women veterans

A group of women veterans from the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, National Guard, Coast Guard and Reserves are joining ranks to march in the Veterans Day parade on Nov. 12 in downtown Huntsville. The group will meet at 10 a.m. in Lot K at Clinton Avenue. A map of the parade route can be found at <http://www.waff.com>. To sign up or for more information, e-mail cbsscott76@yahoo.com.

Instructor job

There is a job opening for a procurement analyst (instructor, GS-1102-12, at the Army Logistics Management College with duty location in

See Announcements on page 27

Huntsville. Annual salary is \$63,958 to \$83,741. Closing date is Nov. 2 for vacancy announcement SCAQ07303071. If interested call Joe East, director of ALMC-Huntsville Campus and chairman of the systems acquisition department, 864-1825.

Christmas charities

Christmas Charities Year Round, 2840 Jordan Lane, has red stockings ready to be picked up and filled to give to needy children at Christmas. The agency needs good used or new board games for boys and girls ages 6-13. All help is greatly appreciated. For information call 837-2373.

Instructor of year

The Instructor of the Year awards ceremony luncheon, for the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School and 59th Ordnance Brigade, is Nov. 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tickets are \$10. Call Sgt. 1st Class James 842-9771.

Breast cancer awareness

Fox Army Health Center has partnered with the Center for Imaging Excellence, Crestwood Medical Center and Huntsville Hospital to provide the Redstone family with breast health information, displays and demonstrations on Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the MEDDAC Classroom on the second

floor of Fox. Signs will be posted throughout the building to direct attendees to this mini-health fair.



Courtesy photo

Space trip

From left, Lance Cpl. Morten Hansen, Sgt. 1st Class Kraen Platz and Holger Straadt from Denmark try the Space Shot simulator at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center on their field trip Oct. 10 with the International Military Student Office. The IMSO took 12 students from Denmark and two from Jordan to the local space museum and Jack Daniels Distillery in Lynchburg, Tenn.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

October 24, 2007 The Redstone Rocket Page 30

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
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																			
SCBK070310282	Financial Sys Spec	24-Oct-07	AMCOM, G8 (Res Mgmt)	GS-0501	9	9	44,104 - 57,334		X										
SCBK07306548	ADP Acq Spec	24-Oct-07	GARRISON	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X											
SCBK07333314	Secretary (OA)	24-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DK-0318	3	3	36,057 - 51,914	X											
SCNAFBK0765	Senior Travel Clerk	24-Oct-07	Community Rec Division	NF-2102	3	3	21,100 - 40,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07192780	Gen Engr; Physical Scientist; Oper Research Analyst	25-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801; 1301; 1515	14	14	89,875 - 116,835			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07192780D	Gen Engr; Physical Scientist; Oper Research Analyst	25-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801; 1301; 1515	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07320058	Trng Ammo Mngr	25-Oct-07	GARRISON	GS-0301	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	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	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
SCBK07282115	Inspector	26-Oct-07	AMCOM, Ofc of Inspector General	YA-1801	2	2	53,362 - 98,876	X							X				X
SCBK07282070	Inspector	26-Oct-07	AMCOM, Ofc of Inspector General	YA-1801	2	2	53,362 - 98,876	X							X				X
SCBK07276534	APM (Assistant Prjt Mngr) for Homeland Defense	26-Oct-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0301	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X		X		X		X		X		X
SCBK07276534D	APM (Assistant Prjt Mngr) for Homeland Defense	26-Oct-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0301	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK070332755	Traffic Mgmt Spec	26-Oct-07	LOGSA	GS-2130	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X											
WTST07047558R	Aerospace Engr	29-Oct-07	TSMO	GG-0861	7	9	41,262 - 62,116	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07314380	Tech Oper Spec	29-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07314380D	Tech Oper Spec	29-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAL07085106	Prgm Integrator	29-Oct-07	AMDCCS	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X					X		X		X		X
NEAL07085106D	Prgm Integrator	29-Oct-07	AMDCCS	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07311289	Financial Mgmt Analyst	29-Oct-07	AMCOM, G8 (Res Mgmt)	GS-0501	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X											
SCBK07321270	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	2	3	29,108 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07321270D	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	2	3	29,108 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAL07094576	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	30-Oct-07	PEO, C3T	GS-0303	8	8	39,932 - 51,914	X					X		X		X		X
NEAL07094576D	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	30-Oct-07	PEO, C3T	GS-0303	8	8	39,932 - 51,914	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07334252	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07334252D	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAG07331041	Supv Human Resources Spec	30-Oct-07	CHRA	YC-0201	3	3	94,368 - 144,306	X					X		X		X		X
NEAG07331041D	Supv Human Resources Spec	30-Oct-07	CHRA	YC-0201	3	3	94,368 - 144,306	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST07304718	IT Spec (INFOSEC)	1-Nov-07	TSMO	GG-2210	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07310107	Logistics Mgmt Spec	1-Nov-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X											
SCBK07266243	General Engr	2-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07266243D	General Engr	2-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07305940	Industrial Engr	2-Nov-07	SMDC	GS-0896	13	13	76,056 - 98,876			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
SCBK07339682	Operations Research Analyst	16-Nov-07	SMDC	GS-1515	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X											
SCBK07295798	Supv General Engr	16-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07295798D	Supv General Engr	16-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07258783OC	Contract Spec	19-Nov-07	ACQ CTR	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07258778OC	Contract Spec	19-Nov-07	ACQ CTR	GS-1102	12	12	62,751 - 81,572			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07266161	Equip Spec (Gen)	21-Nov-07	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	56,301 - 83,148			X					X				X
SCBK07266185	Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Nov-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	66,951 - 98,876			X					X				X
SCBK07282335	Equip Spec (Aircraft)	26-Nov-07	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	56,301 - 83,148			X					X				X
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV																			
SCBK07192780D	Gen Engr	25-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-0801	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07192780D	Oper Research Analyst	25-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-1515	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07192780D	Physical Scientist	25-Oct-07	SMDC	GS-1301	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	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
SCBK07276534D	APM (Assistant Prjt Mngr) for Homeland Defense	26-Oct-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0301	14	14	89,875 - 116,835	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07314380D	Tech Oper Spec	29-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	48,570 - 83,148	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAL07085106D	Prgm Integrator	29-Oct-07	AMDCCS	GS-0301	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07321270D	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	2	3	29,108 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAL07094576D	Prgm Supp Assistant (OA)	30-Oct-07	PEO, C3T	GS-0303	8	8	39,932 - 51,914	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07334252D	General Engr	30-Oct-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NEAG07331041D	Supv Human Resources Spec	30-Oct-07	CHRA	YC-0201	3	3	94,368 - 144,306	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST07304718	IT Spec (INFOSEC)	1-Nov-07	TSMO	GG-2210	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST07047558R	Aerospace Engr	1-Nov-07	TSMO	GG-0861	7	9	41,262 - 62,116	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07266243D	General Engr	2-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07295798D	Supv General Engr	16-Nov-07	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	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 or you may telephone 876-7772.																			
Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee.. Visit www.amccareers.com or www.cpol.army.mil, search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers:																			