

Redstone Rocket

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Ky., wins
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Stay in school, make a difference

General officer gives advice
to Grissom JROTC cadets

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

“Attention!” The Grissom High JROTC cadets stood as one of the Army’s top leaders entered the local school’s audiovisual room.

Gen. William Wallace, commander of the Training and Doctrine Command based at Fort Monroe, Va., made Grissom High the first stop of his Dec. 11-12 visit to Huntsville.

He addressed about 40, two combined classes, of the Army JROTC program’s 178 students at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 11. Wallace brought two main messages to the youngsters.

“One is stay in school,” he said. “And the other is make a difference.”

Wallace mentioned that the nation is at war and discussed worldwide trends. “There’s some things that I believe that are kind of changing in the world today that suggest there’s a dangerous future,” he said.

And he pointed out the worldwide role of the U.S. Army.

“It takes Soldiers with boots on the ground to establish some degree of stability in this world of ours,” Wallace said.

American Soldiers serve in places like Iraq and Afghanistan “because the nation asks them to do it and because of the opportunity” to help people in need, the Soldier for 38 years said. “It is a noble calling,” he said of Army service.

Wallace also discussed recruiting. Last year the Army recruited 80,435 people into active duty; and the Reserve component entries brought the total number of new Soldiers to 175,000.

“Every one of them had a high school education (a diploma or GED),” he said.

But of the nation’s 24.8 million young people, only 3 in 10 are qualified to be a Soldier. Seventy percent of people age 17 and above are not qualified to enlist because of physical, mental or moral reasons.

The Army does give waivers to people who have been charged or convicted one



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LOOKING AHEAD— Gen. William Wallace, commander of the Training and Doctrine Command addresses JROTC cadets of Grissom High School on Dec. 11.

time of a felony offense. Last year the Army enlisted about 800 people with felony offenses – none with more than one – and more than half of them weren’t convicted of those crimes.

“We’re giving opportunities to young people to do something with their lives at a time when other people wouldn’t give them that opportunity,” Wallace said.

But this wasn’t a recruiting visit, he said. He told the youngsters to stay in school and make a difference in their communities.

Questions from the audience included when he became a four-star general (on Oct. 16, 2005). Wallace wasn’t in ROTC, nor was he in Junior ROTC – because his high school in Kentucky didn’t offer it back then – but he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1961.

Among the interested youngsters was Cadet Maj. Joe Maxwell, a Grissom senior and son of retired Col. Jody Maxwell. He plans to attend either Auburn University

or Notre Dame on an Army ROTC scholarship, get commissioned as a second lieutenant and earn his degree in chemical engineering.

“The educational opportunities (Wallace discussed) are pretty interesting because I’m interested in looking at some of those – like getting an ROTC scholarship,” Maxwell said.

Cadet Capt. Alexis McAllister, a senior, plans to attend college – Calhoun, University of North Alabama or Troy – but doesn’t see the military in her future.

“I thought it was rather interesting,” she said of Wallace’s talk. “It was a different perspective than what I usually hear – interesting and informative.”

Cadet Pvt. Kevin Thai, a freshman, hasn’t made any plans yet.

“I thought it was very interesting,” Thai said of Wallace’s talk. “The fact that it taught us to be thoughtful about our situation in this country.”

An open lane random survey

How will you spend the holidays?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Jillian Douglas
Program Executive Office for
Missiles and Space
"I'll spend it with my family here in Huntsville."

Bridget Moorefield
Program Executive Office for
Missiles and Space
"I will spend it at home (in Grant) with my family – eating more than I probably need to."



Sgt. 1st Class Chelsie Stokes
Charlie Company
"At home with my family. Probably go visit my mother in Virginia, then probably go visit my wife's family in Jacksonville, Fla."

Pvt. Kalynn House
Charlie Company

"Five of the days I'm going to be on a Greyhound (bus) going back to Seattle, Wash. And the rest of the time I'm going to spend with my family members that are coming to visit from different states. And I'm going to spend time with my recruiter (in Port Angles, Wash.). I'm going to try to spend as much time as possible with my family because I miss them."



Quote of the week

'The only blind person at Christmastime is he who has not Christmas in his heart.'

— Helen Keller

Letters to the Editor

Bugged by gym insects

Utilize the gyms here on the Arsenal very frequently. I appreciate the availability of the fitness facilities and the health benefits that come along with working out on a regular basis. I am writing to bring to your attention a problem that is occurring at both Redstone and Pagano Gyms. I have seen huge water bugs (some dead, some alive) inside both Redstone and Pagano Gyms. I believe the bugs are entering the gyms through the wide open spaces between and at the bottom of the front doors. I also believe they then proceed to the water drains and multiply.

I've asked fitness center personnel at both Pagano and Redstone whether anything is being done about the bug problem. In both cases, the gym personnel explained that bug spray is applied in the gyms as a remedy.

I used to exercise at Pagano Gym every morning around 5:15 just after it opens for the day. I got to the point where almost every day, one or more huge water bugs would greet me as I walked into the bathroom or the locker rooms. I decided I would stop going to Pagano Gym, and utilize Redstone Gym instead to avoid the bug issue. I started noticing water bugs at Redstone Gym about two weeks after I started working out there. One day last week, I was in the sauna at Redstone Gym, and a really large water bug was inside the sauna also.

I read on the Internet that certain types of water bugs carry disease organisms on their bodies. I also read that if certain types of water bugs are seen crawling around in well-lit areas, it can mean that the water bug population has become so large that they are being forced to move out of the safest areas for new places to start another infestation.

This problem also causes

patrons to not want to place gym bags on the floor and in the lockers because the bugs might get inside our personal belongings. This creates a space shortage when, as a result, patrons place all personal belongings as well as shower accessories/toiletries on the wooden benches between the lockers.

I have been told by other gym patrons that at least one snake and several birds have also gotten inside the gyms. Is there something that can be done to determine what is causing the bug infestation problem at Redstone and Pagano Gyms? Would it be feasible to seal the outer rim of all gym doors to make them airtight? Can the bug spray be applied more often or could a stronger version be used? Resolution of this problem would be greatly appreciated.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for being a loyal patron of our fitness facilities and taking the time to bring this concern to our attention. We do apologize for your unpleasant experience. When the water bug sighting was reported, a work order was called in immediately and the facility as well as the drains were sprayed. The fitness facilities are now set up to be sprayed on a monthly basis, and not just when a bug sighting occurs. Also, the staff will be more diligent in their observation of the facility. These measures will resolve the problem. Please feel free to contact Gaylene Wilson, sports and fitness director, (phone 842-2574) directly should you experience any other problems. Again, we apologize for your unpleasant experience, and we will do what we can to ensure your future visits are enjoyable."

Vehicle following too close

This week I have been driving my GMC truck to work while the economy car was in for repair. The truck is used primarily by the wife and daughter to pull their horse trailer. The mirrors on the truck are set to let them see the end of the trailer 22 feet behind the truck.

My commute brings me northbound on Patton Road. Tuesday (Dec. 11) a vehicle was so close I could only see the roof and part of the windshield in my inside rear view mirror. The vehicle turned off to the Sparkman Center complex and I noticed the car was very similar to my economy car. Our economy car was back home that afternoon and I backed the truck up until the sight picture was the same, roof, part of the windshield. I measured the distance, 12 feet, 6 inches. Way too close for 50 mph.

Ray Patrick

Redstone Rocket has holiday break

The Redstone Rocket will celebrate the holidays by taking a two-week break Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. After today's publication, our first issue next year is Jan. 9. We hope you enjoy the upcoming holiday season.



Letter policy

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

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Pvt. Keisha Farmer

Job: 89 Bravo (ammunition specialist), Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion

Where do you call home?
Princeton, W.Va.

What do you like about your job?
Dealing with all the people. Operating forklifts.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Four-wheeling, shopping, spending time with my boyfriend and family.

What are your goals?

Complete college and be a forensic scientist.



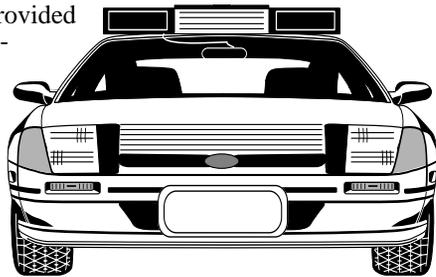
What's your favorite type of music?
Rock

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Dec. 8: An individual in the Post Exchange was caught shoplifting by tearing out pages in a magazine. The subject was processed and released to their sponsor. Investigation continues by the Redstone juvenile probation officer.

Dec. 10: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license after stopping at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.



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

Violation notices issued: 10 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 driving with a suspended/canceled/revoked driver's license, 1 failure to yield right of way, 2 expired tags.

Exchange sponsoring online video contest

DALLAS — The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is giving military shoppers a chance to show off their video making skills (and maybe even win one of three possible shopping sprees) with the "It's My Benefit" video contest.

From now through Feb. 15, authorized AAFES shoppers are invited to produce a 30- to 60-second commercial about their military exchange and Morale Welfare and Recreation benefits. The Internet audience as well as AAFES leadership will judge submissions.

The winner of the "It's My Benefit" contest will have the choice of an Apple G5 Computer with software or a \$2,000 online shopping spree. Run-

ner-up contestants will receive a \$1,000 and \$500 online shopping spree.

"I can't wait to see the entries," AAFES chief marketing officer Richard Sheff said. "As this is our first ever user-generated online contest, I think it's going to be fun and engaging for both participants and judges."

The contest is open to all authorized shoppers of the military exchange. Entries must be received by Feb. 15. No purchase is necessary to win.

A complete description of the "It's My Benefit" contest rules can be found online at AAFES.com. That address is http://www.aafes.com/Patriot_Family/videocontest.asp. (AAFES release)

Bicentennial Chapel up for renovation

Services moving to other locations

Bicentennial Chapel will be under major renovations starting Jan. 7 until June.

The temporary location for all Protestant and Catholic worship services starting Jan. 12 will be building 3714, the old

chapel on Patton Road.

All religious education programs — i.e., CCD, Sunday School, PWOC, MCCW, Bible Studies, etc. — will be held in another location at building 3466 which is at the intersection of Hercules and Snooper roads off of Vincent Road.

Times for services and programs will not change. For more information, call 842-2964. (Garrison release)

Chapel women's group prepares for new year

Bible study classes move in January

By MADELINE JACKSON
For the Rocket

Protestant Women of the Chapel, an international organization, is open to all women in the chapel community and general vicinity (active duty military and family members/retired military/veterans and family members).

PWOC aims to lead women to accept Christ as personal Savior and Lord; teach women the history, beliefs and programs of the church, all built on a solid foundation of worship and Bible study; develop in women the skills of prayer, evangelism, stewardship, and social service, against a background of personal spiritual development; and to receive women in the work of the chapel, in keeping with their abilities and interests.

Activities include weekly Bible studies,

monthly programs, retreats/seminars, praise, fellowship, outreach projects, and prayer vines.

Bicentennial Chapel will be undergoing renovation from January through March. Spring Bible study classes have been moved to building 3466 on Snooper Road starting with a Jan. 10 kickoff program. A Child Watch Care Program is provided for many of the PWOC activities.

For the spring session starting in January, child watch will be moving to the Child Development Center. For more information, call Sharon Olshefski at 489-0404.

PWOC board members include Erica Hobbs, second vice president, spiritual life; Sharon Olshefski, president; Karyn Wilson, secretary; Sue Goldsmith, first vice president for programs; Madeline Jackson, newsletter and publicity; Lexi Meissner, praise and worship; Marne Gannon, Titus II; Kay Stoffel, Titus II; Louise Jackson, treasurer; Lynn McCallister, retreat coordinator; Carleene Myer, prayer coordinator; Beryl Cutts, participation; and Lavinia Ferguson, attendance and offerings.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

KEEP THE FAITH— Protestant Women of the Chapel board members include, from left, Erica Hobbs, Sharon Olshefski, Karyn Wilson, Sue Goldsmith, Madeline Jackson, Lexi Meissner, Marne Gannon and Kay Stoffel. Not pictured are Louise Jackson, Lynn McCallister, Carleene Myer, Beryl Cutts and Lavinia Ferguson.

Newcomers from Washington like what they see

Hospitality and traffic make good impression

By **BETH CLEMONS**
AMC (Forward) Public Affairs

The first phase of headquarters Army Materiel Command's five-phase Base Realignment and Closure execution plan is complete and the Advance Team members are on the ground.

The Phase I move has brought nine employees from headquarters AMC to Redstone Arsenal, to join two employees who were already on site. Each member represents a different staff section, creating a mini-headquarters AMC.

Advance team members include Ronald Lewis, Nasu Bethea, Bo Bowers, Beth Clemons, Gene Duncan, Mike Edwards, Denise Hamner, Roy Owens, Penelope Pietrowski, Debra Schaefer, Bo Bowers and Steve Thornburg. Members represent the offices of Deputy Chief of Staff G-2, G-3/5, G-4/7/9, G-6, Safety, Public and Congressional Affairs and Command Contracting.

Most of the AMC Forward team works in Sparkman Center building 5302, room 2134.

Each member volunteered to be part of the move and has different personal circumstances that led to their decision.

"My family is located in Huntsville so I was excited at the opportunity to permanently relocate to the area," Lewis, DCS G-3/5, said.

Lewis, and his wife, Cindy, who works in the AMCOM

Acquisition Center, reside in Harvest.

Owens, a contractor from Alion Science and Technology, said returning to Huntsville was a good move for him and his wife.

"This is a return to the Redstone area for me," Owens said. "I was stationed here from 1992 to 1995 in Program Executive Office Tactical Missiles and wasn't ready to leave when the Army gave me a new assignment. After too many years this opportunity presented itself and I took it."

Owens purchased a home in Priceville. "My wife and I love it here and the only thing we miss about northern Virginia is Wegmans, the supermarket of supermarkets. But that's the only thing."

Said Schaefer, "I volunteered because my family is down in this area. I have a grown daughter that lives in Athens, Ala., and my son and his three children live in Athens, Ga."

Schaefer, Lewis' administrative assistant, rents in Madison but plans to buy when she finds the right house. She made her move with her recently adopted 13-year-old daughter, who she said has adapted well to her new environment.

As each person transitioned to their new duty station, they speak of the warm welcome they received from Redstone Arsenal employees and the community at large.

Said Thornburg, "(My reception has been) wonderful, my neighbors are wonderful. I've been treated very nicely by the folks at the city council - I even



Gene Duncan



Mike Edwards



Roy Owens

got my picture in the paper."

Thornburg, BRAC systems engineer, is originally from Alexander City, Ala. He and his wife moved to the Arab area. Their decision to move was based on getting closer to their grown children and grandson, who live in southern Alabama.

"Through my years in the community," Lewis said, "I have found the town and people to be welcoming and look forward to spending many years in the Tennessee Valley area. One will not find more accommodating people than those of the Tennessee Valley region."

Said Duncan, "I have found everybody here to be very friendly, very open. All you have to do is mention the word BRAC to people and they all nod their head. They all know what's going on... everybody seems to do their best to welcome people."

Duncan, Integrated Procurement Systems Office chief, made



Debra Schaefer



Steve Thornburg

the move to Alabama with his wife and adult son. They purchased a home in Hampton Cove, but plan to build on their land in the New Market area.

Members of the Advance Team each expressed satisfaction with the entertainment and retail choices in the area, the cost of living and the helpful nature of those in the community.

"There's so many new things to do here," Edwards said. "This area is very community-based; the people that live in the community support each other. It's nice."

Edwards, Transformation Team program manager, moved to New Market in September with

See **Newcomers** on page 5

Launch system fielded to armored division

Fort Bliss delivery marks milestone

By Maj. FREDERICK HUGHES

For the Rocket

The Non-Line of Sight-Launch System has achieved a milestone through the completion of the first fielding of NLOS-LS equipment to 5th Brigade/1st Armored Division in Fort Bliss, Texas.

The first deliveries of two XM501 Command Launch Units and a Humvee-mounted Control Cell were fielded to the Army Evaluation Task Force's Fires Battalion in October. The AETF was established to serve as the Army's test unit for the Future Combat System program. This event marked the first prototype equipment fielding to the AETF to support the FCS Limited User Tests scheduled for summer 2008.

The Non-Line of Sight-Launch System consists of a highly deployable, platform-independent Container Launch Unit with self-contained tactical fire control electronics and software for remote and unmanned operations. Each container launch unit will consist of a computer and communications system and 15 missiles.

The NLOS-LS will provide Brigade Combat Teams with a networked, extended-range, precision attack capability against stationary and moving targets during all-weather conditions. NLOS-LS'

ability to target and hit moving targets in conjunction with Forward Observer Systems brings a new level of capability to the Army.

Additionally, NLOS-LS' compatibility with current radio waveforms, as well as developing FCS waveforms, ensures the system's responsiveness to current and future force indirect fire needs.

During the new equipment training at Fort Bliss, Soldiers were trained on tasks and procedures to configure, operate, reload, transport and maintain the NLOS-LS CLU. Other Soldier teams were trained on configuration and operation of the Humvee Control Cell.

After two weeks of classroom and local area training, the NLOS-LS system will travel to the field for its first use in a realistic field environment. The Fires Battalion will put the equipment to use in a one-week Field Training Exercise to further refine section level training, as well as begin the development of collective level tasks.

The NLOS-LS is one of the FCS program's 16 core systems. FCS is the Army's leading modernization program to develop manned and unmanned systems linked by a common network and equipped with leading edge technology. FCS will enable future Army leaders and Soldiers to successfully operate in complex environments.

NLOS-LS was developed by the Net-Fires LLC, a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Raytheon.

■ Headquarters advance team members enjoy new home

Newcomers

continued from page 4

his then-pregnant wife and three children. They welcomed their fourth child, a boy, at Huntsville Hospital in November.

"If you're looking to raise your quality of life, this is the place," Edwards said. "It's not typical Alabama. It's no different than Woodbridge (Va.). You've got everything you need here."

"Huntsville is not what people think, it's a lot more cosmopolitan," Schaefer said. "There are plenty of things to do. There's the same movies, the same malls, the same restaurants – they just have sweet tea on the menu down here."

The change that seems to have affected each individual the most is the traffic – or the lack thereof.

"The biggest difference for me is just the traffic," Duncan said. "Unlike Northern Virginia you don't have to plan your day around rush hour. There's some traffic; there's road construction but everything moves. There's not the volume of traffic on the roads. It's a much more pleasant experience, even just going out for dinner."

"Traffic – I don't have to fight the traffic to get to or from work," Thornburg said. "Getting to and from anywhere is easy. It doesn't take me an hour to go to the mall. That's the biggest thing (for me). My stress levels have gone down... 80 percent."

The Advance Team will move to transitional facilities on the southeast side of the Arsenal early next year. Phase II of the headquarters AMC BRAC move is scheduled to begin in the summer and will bring more than 100 additional personnel.

Veteran agencies reach out to help

First supermarket of benefits provides information to vets

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
karihawk@knology.net

"Can we help you?" "Would you like me to show you how to go through that process?" "Can I provide you with information on that program?"

The questions were often the same, repeated over and over again, as veteran service representatives and community representatives worked to provide assistance to veterans who attended Thursday's first ever Supermarket of Veterans Benefits at Madison Square Mall. Coming from throughout north Alabama, an estimated 600 to 800 veterans – many who served in Vietnam – attended the event to learn about the benefits they are entitled to receive from the government.

"There's not a more perfect city than Huntsville and not a more perfect venue than at this mall," said retired Navy Rear Adm. Clyde Marsh, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs.

"This is our way of coming out in the community to help veterans. There are 425,000 veterans in the state and 67 veteran offices. Wherever I go in the state, vet-

erans tell me they didn't know they have benefits. Helping veterans receive their benefits is our primary goal."

Vietnam veteran Burnis Coleman traveled with a friend from Decatur to see what kind of help he could get finding a job in distribution or warehousing.

"I think people are real receptive to hiring veterans," said Stephanie Pack of the Alabama Career Center, one of the exhibitors at the event.

And applying for those jobs is easy, too. Pack told Coleman he can go on the web site from his computer at home to complete an application or he can visit the Alabama Career Center and use the center's computers.

Vietnam veteran Bobby Jefferson, who is 80 percent disabled, checked with veterans service representative Steve Langford about the assistance he could receive through the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs. He also talked to veteran representatives about the process he needs to go through to receive his Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

"I was 20 years old when I came home. I had no idea what I should have done. I was so depressed I never followed up on what needed to be done to get benefits," Jefferson said. "I got a concussion in Vietnam that took me out of the field. I haven't gotten a Purple Heart for that

injury. When I got back into the brush, my unit had all received Bronze Stars. I should have gotten one, too. Stuff like that haunts me every day."

Vietnam veterans Gene Hart, Ray Broaden and Wayne Fretnell traveled together from Lawrence County to get information on the local level about veteran benefits.

"I want to know about back pay, education opportunities and disability payments," Hart said.

After talking to Fretnell a few minutes, Raynea Call of the veterans office in Florence pulled him aside to look at various paperwork he had with him.

"He is getting some veterans benefits," Call said. "But, we've discovered other things he should have filed for. He has knee damage and he has been heavily exposed to Agent Orange."

Army veteran Marvet Minto was interested in finding out about her eligibility. Because of recent moves, she has also lost her military ID card. She obtained information on how to get a new one issued to her along with information that will help her with her job and apartment search.

On the other end of the spectrum, Vietnam veteran Joseph Cassoni was finally signing up for veterans benefits at age 63. His recent retirement from the Army Corps of Engineers motivated him to check into medical and educational benefits.

"I've never signed up for VA benefits," he said. "I knew they were available and I could take advantage of them. But, I had a

good job and a family, and I just didn't have time to look into it. Now that I am retired, I do have time and I am interested in taking college classes with the help of VA education benefits."

Many veterans don't know about the benefits they can receive, said Madison County Veterans Affairs Office representative Mike Beard, who organized the Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Huntsville.

"How can they apply for benefits if they don't know about them? We have to keep getting the message out because applying for benefits is complicated but the end result is well worth it," Beard said.

Helping veterans who don't even know there is help for them is "our challenge," Marsh said. "That's the very reason we started this. We have to reach out in places where we can find veterans and they can at least ask us questions. Many didn't take time to apply for benefits years ago because they thought they were handouts. These are not handouts, these benefits are something each earned for their service. We need to take care of our veterans."

With Huntsville's growing veteran population and the future growth of Redstone Arsenal, the city is an ideal location for a Supermarket of Veterans Benefits, organizers said.

"We are so honored that the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs used Huntsville as one of its sites for this event," Huntsville mayor Loretta Spencer said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

MAKING CONTACT— AI Hinson of Gov. Bob Riley's Office of Grateful Heart takes down contact information from Vietnam veteran Gene Hart during the first ever Supermarket of Veterans Benefits sponsored by the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs at Madison Square Mall on Dec. 13. Besides state veterans representatives, other agencies, including Tricare, Fox Army Health Center, the Small Business Administration, Still Serving Veterans and the Alabama Career Center had representatives at the event to provide veterans with information.

Research center buys defibrillators

Devices can save lives of heart attack victims

By MERV BROKKE
AMRDEC PAO

In an effort to improve safety and the capabilities of first responders in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest, the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center Facilities Office has begun installing Automated External Defibrillators and certifying employees to use these lifesaving devices.

According to the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, 95 percent of people who have sudden cardiac arrest die from it, most within minutes. Rapid treatment of SCA with a device that sends an electrical shock to the heart (called a defibrillator) can be lifesaving. Automated external defibrillators, which are often found in public places like airports and office

buildings, can be used to save the lives of people having SCAs.

“An automated external defibrillator is a machine that analyzes the heart’s rhythm and, if necessary, tells you to deliver a shock to a victim of sudden cardiac arrest. This shock, called defibrillation, may help the heart to re-establish an effective rhythm,” Ken Stacy, AMRDEC safety intern, said.

Early response by trained defibrillator operators, along with other first aid and calling 911 are the keys to survival during an SCA.

“We looked carefully at the regulations and our particular building layouts to place the AEDs in the best locations knowing that electrical malfunction of the heart can affect anyone, anywhere at any time and for every minute that passes after a sudden cardiac arrest, the chance for survival drops by 7-10 percent,” Stacy said.

AMRDEC has purchased 71 defibrillators and plans to buy more.

Three contractor workers killed in Iraq

Huntsville Center employees in munitions clearance effort

Three U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville contractor employees died in Iraq Dec. 9 when the vehicle they were riding in was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device.

The victims were Michael B. Doheny, 35, from Omaha, Neb.; Micah Shaw, 32, from Vancouver, Wash.; and Steven Evrard, 36, from Arlington, Texas.

All three men worked as security specialists for Tetra Tech EC Inc., headquartered in Morris Plains, N.J.

One contractor was injured during the same incident. He was listed in serious but stable condition.

Forty-three contractors have been killed since September 2003 while working for the Coalition Munitions Clearance Program.

“Our condolences go out to the family,” Bill Sargent, program manager for coalition munitions clearance, said. “Our personnel are highly trained and experienced and are doing a superb job, but it remains a very dangerous mission.”

The incident was under investigation.

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

Helping hands

Business woman sends goody boxes to Soldiers

Monthly shipments go to 36 she's adopted

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Becky McNutt signed up to serve in support of the Global War on Terrorism during the first Gulf War.

And she is still serving today.

McNutt isn't on the front lines of the war in Iraq or Afghanistan. But, her Soldiers are, and she is determined to make sure they know someone back home is thinking about them.

So every month, McNutt packs boxes of goodies and specially requested items to send off to her Soldiers – now 36 in all split between three different units. She also sends them letters and cards, and e-mails.

"I started this when we had two Decatur police officers deployed with the Reserves during the first Gulf War," said McNutt, who co-owns Billy's Mini-Market in Decatur with her brother Paul.

"While they were gone, I decided to send them little boxes from home so they would know we miss them and we haven't forgotten about them."

When those two Soldiers returned

home, McNutt temporarily closed up her personal mailing program. But, then she saw a report on CNN about how anyone can adopt a Soldier from anysoldier.com, which supplies Soldier names, e-mail addresses and biographies on those who want to be adopted. It was all the push she needed.

"That's kind of when I got addicted," McNutt said. "I adopted a Soldier and things just snowballed. I wasn't required to take a whole unit. But, I just couldn't see picking one Soldier and somebody else not getting any mail.

"I picked a Soldier. I e-mailed and found out how many he had in his unit. I was taking either all or none of them because I'm not leaving anyone out."

This firecracker of a lady is outspoken and matter-of-fact about what she does for her Soldiers. She funds her mailing program out of her own paycheck, thanking God that she is debt free so her money can go to buy items for Soldiers and then pay the postage to send them.

She does get a bit of a discount on many items because she can purchase them through her store. And, a few local banks give her free pens and paper. Sometimes, church

See Boxes on page 9



Photo by Kari Hawkins

READY TO SHIP OUT— Becky McNutt of Decatur is constantly buying things and packing them for shipment to Soldiers serving in the Global War on Terrorism. During the first Gulf War in 1991, McNutt adopted two Decatur police officers who had been deployed with their Reserve unit. That adoption led to other adoptions and today McNutt mails goody boxes to 36 Soldiers every month.

■ Monthly shipments to troops originate from local woman

Boxes

continued from page 8

groups will add cards to her mailings and police officers often donate loose change to a coffee mug program at McNutt's store to help pay postage.

But, beyond that, McNutt is her own financial backer.

"I don't want to ask anyone to help me out because everyone has their own financial situation and they get asked to give to things all the time," she said. "I quit counting how much this costs me a long time ago. It's very expensive. The majority of my paycheck goes to the Soldiers."

Over the years, as units have rotated out, McNutt has taken on new units. Her Soldiers often tell their successors about McNutt.

"One unit would get ready to rotate out and they would tell me about another unit

that doesn't get much mail," she said. "Or, I will get an e-mail from a Soldier who has left Iraq and then later been redeployed and he'll ask me 'Are you still doing boxes?'"

Right now, McNutt is supporting a unit from Fort Hood, Texas, that includes Soldier Jonathan Wright, who McNutt has supported during previous deployments; a composite unit that includes National Guard Soldier Adam Holzer, who is a Decatur police officer; and a unit out of Germany that replaced a Fort Riley, Kan., unit that included Staff Sgt. Robert Petrie, who recently returned home to his family at Redstone Arsenal.

"I will go out to visit these troops when they return," McNutt said. "I went out to Fort Hood and met Jonathan's wife. I will go out there again in February when his unit returns. I also plan to go to Fort Riley in January to meet all of Petrie's Soldiers. I like to check out the base, take them to dinner and meet their families."

Culinary Olympics champ brings skills to post

SMDC commander's aide has cooked at White House

By **DOTTIE WHITE**
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

A small white replica of the SMDC/ARSTRAT commanding general's quarters, brightly lit from within, sits on a round table surrounded by holiday greenery in a room off the entrance of his quarters here. When looking at this masterpiece of artwork, one might think it is made of crystal or marble. In fact, it is made of a sugar-based dough called pastillage, which is made of powdered sugar, gelatin and water.

"This was a fairly simple piece," said Sgt. 1st Class Felix Green, who created the model in about a week.

He said first he had to cut out a cardboard template like a puzzle and make sure all the pieces fit. Once that was complete, he could start rolling out and cutting out the pastillage pieces. Then he had to let it dry for about a day and half.

"The pieces are really fragile, and you

break pieces as you go," Green said. "It's better if you cut more than one piece out for each section in case this happens.

"Then you start pasting pieces together with icing," he added. "Each piece has to sit and dry before you can put the next piece on, then the next piece on. Then you put the top on, and it just builds up like that. After it's done, you take your icing and you start decorating it like a cake. You put the windows on and shutters and so on."

In some of his past assignments in Washington, D.C., Green created pieces such as the Pentagon and the entire National Mall.

Green began his duties as the enlisted aide assigned to the government quarters of Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, on Nov. 4.

Most three-star generals are authorized one enlisted aide; most four-star generals are authorized two enlisted aides. General officers in special command positions such as the chief of staff of the Army are authorized up to four enlisted aides. There

are one- and two-star generals who are authorized enlisted aides based on the position they hold.

The duties of an enlisted aide generally vary as they are tailored to the needs of each general officer; however, most include maintaining the general officer's uniforms; arranging social events; meal preparation, to include menu planning and shopping; administrative duties and record keeping; quarters maintenance to include daily routine tasks and seasonal requirements; and performing tasks that aid the officer in accomplishing military and official responsibilities.

Green made the pastillage house for the Campbell's holiday party held Dec. 8. In addition to creating this piece, he also planned, shopped, set up and decorated for the party. Then, he put his chef hat on and started cooking.

He said it took him about a week to prepare for the event. Two days of that was for food preparation. He spent one day on pastries and one day on meats.

Green had two women from the Officers and Civilians Club assist him with serving on the day of the party.

The commanding general's wife, Kathy, said Green was very relaxed and not at all uptight. "He is so independent and professional. He was so kind to the two ladies who worked with him and really mentored them throughout the day. He was wonderful."

Lt. Gen. Campbell said, "We could learn something from Sgt. 1st Class Green when it comes to multi-tasking ... he produces what you would expect from three people. (He is) a great NCO who forms the backbone of our Army (and) the strength of our nation!"

Green has been in the Army 21 years. The Army has paid his way to some of the top culinary schools such as Le Cordon Bleu School in Frankfurt, Germany; Advanced Culinary School in Fort Lee, Va.; Johnson & Wales at Norfolk, Va.; and Stratford Culinary School of Arts in Alexandria, Va.

In 1992, the Army had a Culinary Olympic team which was comprised of its top chefs competing against civilians around the world. Green's five-man team won two gold medals. Individually, Green won a silver medal in cake decorating. He also made the 1996 Culinary Olympics Army team, in which he won a gold and a silver medal in individual competition.



Photo by Dottie White

PIECE OF CAKE— Sgt. 1st Class Felix Green, aide to Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, sits next to his replica of the SMDC/ARSTRAT commander's quarters.

Green has also competed in the Culinary Nationals in Chicago seven times and has won various medals there.

In 1994, he started at the White House and the Blair House (the official state guest house for the president of the United States) cooking for the president's guests. He has cooked for dignitaries such as U.S. presidents, Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, former Chairman of the Joints Chief of Staff Gen. Hugh Shelton, members of the Kuwaiti government, and many more.

Green also catered on the side during his personal time when he lived in Washington. He said most people in D.C. don't cook. "They just don't have time. They would rather cater it in."

Green has a wife and two daughters — a 10-year-old and a 17-year-old — who have stuck by him through all the years of various competitions and assignments. He said his older daughter would sometimes go with him when he catered on the side to assist as she is interested in learning the planning and culinary skills in which her father is so talented and gifted.

Green said he would like to stay in the business after retirement from the Army. Not necessarily the cooking, but more of the managerial, protocol and human resources aspects of the job. Cooking is just a small part of his duties.

"Sgt. 1st Class Green is the quintessential aide — a noncommissioned officer chock full of initiative, with extraordinary culinary skill, an eye for what right looks like, and absolute dedication to the mission," Lt. Gen. Campbell said.

Somers serves as aviation Soldiers voice



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

ON THE LINE— Chief Warrant Officer 5 Tom Somers stays connected to the Soldiers in the field. He is the regimental aviation maintenance officer, a new position created this year at the Aviation and Missile Command.

Chief warrant officer 5 joins command group

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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Communication between program offices, acquisition teams, engineers and the Soldiers who use the equipment those offices handle is vital. However, it can be difficult for them to talk directly. That's where Chief Warrant Officer 5 Tom Somers comes in.

Somers is the regimental aviation maintenance officer, a new position created this year at the Aviation and Missile Command.

"What it is really is that I'm the senior aviation warrant officer in AMCOM," he said. "I'm the senior adviser to the CG (commanding general) for aviation related issues."

Somers serves a multitude of functions. First and foremost, he serves as a direct connection for the general to the Soldiers who are using what AMCOM produces.

"I interface with all the units — active, National Guard and Reserve," he said. "I like that I get to

walk into the CG's office and say that I just got off the phone with a Soldier in Iraq or Afghanistan, he just said this. There's not a lot of filtering going on. It goes directly from the Soldier to the CG. I relay their concerns and try not to put any spins on it."

He has spent his life in aviation. Somers actually began his military career as a Marine. After four years in the Corps, he became a Reservist in order to transition to the Army.

"I wanted to come fly in the Army," he said. "I've been doing it ever since."

Twenty-three years after making that switch, Somers is happy with where it has led him. Along the way he has flown some of the best the Army has to offer. He started out in a Cobra attack helicopter and later made the move to the Black Hawk in 1999.

"Now it's a desk," he said, laughing. "It's unusual for warrants. If you're a flight warrant, then you fly. But there are a few jobs in the Army where we need somebody with my kind of background, but not actively flying."

He also serves as a translator of sorts between Soldiers and

AMCOM. He said that often the problem with the two talking directly can be one of different terminology.

As a seasoned helicopter pilot, Somers can give a practical perspective on ideas and innovations.

"I interface with all the program managers' offices. I assist them in whatever direction they're going with their individual platforms," he said. "I get in there to help them wherever they need it. Wherever they're looking for some expertise they may not have readily available."

While he is here to help others see the Soldier point of view, Somers is trying to see things from their side of the table as well. Learning the management side of aviation is a challenge,

"I think it's understanding the acquisition process and the rules in effect," Somers said. "I'm not an acquisition guy. I'm learning and going through the courses now, but it's tough. I'm getting the hang of it."

He came to Redstone in July from Fort Campbell, Ky. While there he had made the transition from helicopter seat to office chair.

Logistics representative university named for originator



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BANNER DAY— Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, AMCOM commander, joins Norb Lutz, chief of the logistics assistance division, in a ceremony dedicating the Norbert R. Lutz LAR University.

*Norb Lutz realizes
'ultimate dream'*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Norb Lutz listened quietly to the account of how he started the Logistics Assistance Representative University in 2000.

When it came time for him to speak, he gave the credit to others. That's just the LAR way: the weapon system experts prefer to just do their jobs, often behind the scene in war zones. But the Soldiers know who they are; and aviation and missile maintainers know who they are.

LAR university was dedicated as the Norbert R. Lutz LAR University in a ceremony Dec. 12 at building 3777. Lutz, chief of the logistics assistance division in the Readiness Directorate of the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Man-

agement Center, is retiring Jan. 3 with 60 years service, including 27 years in the military.

"This is fabulous," Lutz said of the recognition. "This is what you call the ultimate dream."

Lutz, 76, plans to stay in the local area with his wife of 51 years, Kimiko.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, praised Lutz and the university.

"The reason why we have this great university is because of you and people like you who have told the LAR story," Myles said.

The first class began in 2001. Logistics assistance representatives, typically 16 per class, are trained in a combination of virtual and on-site campuses. They take everything from inception through certification programs. The university's goal is to support the war fighter with a knowledgeable, well-rounded LAR.

"You LARs are important," Myles said.

Mountain climbing quenches thirst for excitement

*60-year-old worker
accepts challenge*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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At age 60, Jim Higgins still has a mountain to climb.

Higgins, a systems analyst in the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center, does mountain climbing as a hobby.

"I had spent 13 years sitting here in one location for the first time in my life," he said. "I got tired of sitting around. I realized I need to get out and do things."

He plans to scale Mount Everest in spring 2010. Higgins just returned in October from a month trip to Nepal where he climbed Ama Dablam, considered one of the most challenging and beautiful mountains in the world.

"It's more technical than Everest is. You've got 40-foot cliffs," he said. "With Everest there are fewer obstacles. The altitude is the problem. At 26,000 feet you start putting oxygen on."

He had originally planned to attempt Everest this spring, but found he wasn't physically ready.

"I was doing one-hour workouts," he said, laughing. "Turns out it's a six-hour climb per day."

Higgins has always been a fitness buff, spending many hours in the gym. He has given himself two years to get ready. Sheer fitness won't get you up the highest peak on the planet. The holy grail of mountain climbing takes more than that to make it.

"It's a lot of acclimation. You may stay at base camps for four or five days. You're also doing training while you're there," he said. "I'm going to have to do six-hour workouts — three and then break for lunch before the other three."

The Ama Dablam climb was Higgins' first. He made it to 18,000 feet of the mountain's more than 22,000 foot height. Due to weather conditions, no one was able to reach the summit at that time.

"It rained and it's not supposed to. The rainy season was over. Then that night it snowed," he said. "There was just too much snow, a lot of overhangs. They lost five people last year in avalanches on Ama Dablam. To this day they've not been found."

In fact, avalanche threats have

stopped most climbers from attempting the mountain at all. Higgins said that should be a relief to the locals, who see the death of climbers on their mountain as a bad omen.

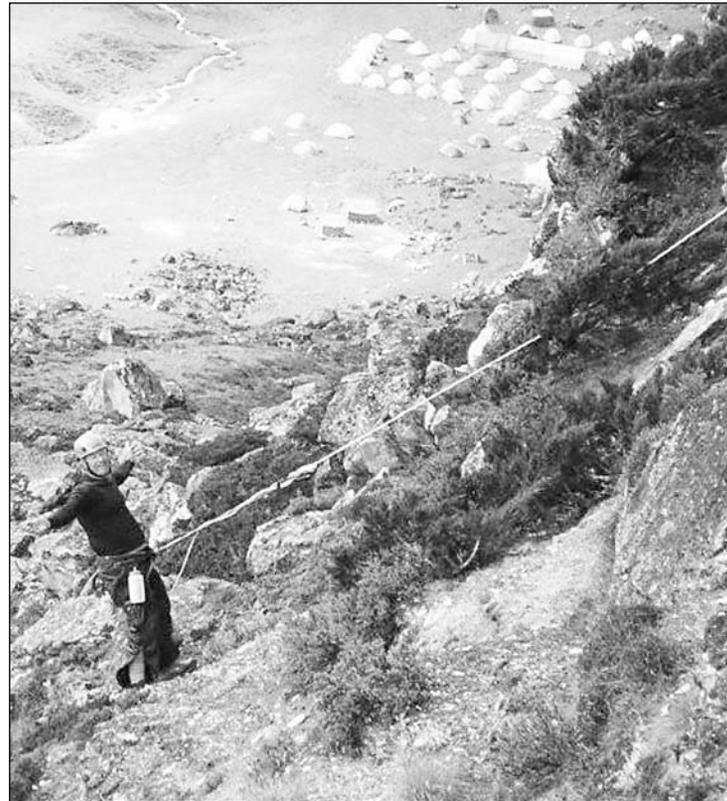
"The people in the villages don't like for people to try to climb that mountain," Higgins said.

Mountain climbing is the latest of Higgins' quests for excitement through physical exertion. He has been skydiving and is exploring the bungee-jumping options in the area.

"I do things once and then I don't do it again," he said. "I've been that way all my life. I go on to something else then."

As a retired Soldier, the need to stay active is natural, he said. Higgins spent 23 years in the Army, including three tours in Vietnam. Since becoming part of the civilian work force, he has also done three overseas deployments to Asia — two in Kuwait, and most recently, Iraq. He spent seven months in Mosul as a site manager for add-on armor.

"We were putting armored doors, gun turrets and belly armor on Hummers," he said. "It was a great experience."



Courtesy photo

GOOD WORKOUT— Jim Higgins, an AMCOM systems analyst, rappels down Ama Dablam in the Himalayas to prepare for an upcoming Everest climb.

Technical library goes online with new resource

One of the newest information resources at the Redstone Scientific Information Center is Aviation Week Intelligence Network, which is now highlighted on the RSIC web page.

Users of aviation resources will find that current information on military and defense aviation, space industries, and commercial aviation is easily accessible through this database. AWIN includes online subscriptions to Aviation Week and Space Technology, Aerospace Daily and Defense Report, Overhaul and

Maintenance, Defense Technology International, and the World Aerospace Database.

The information in these resources is topical and relevant to engineers and other Team Redstone researchers, according to a release from the Redstone Scientific Information Center. For example, the latest edition of Defense Technology International includes short articles on MRAP, robotics, and artillery accuracy.

Using the AWIN database is simple. At the RSIC home page, simply logon and go to the

“online databases” link in the library catalog. On the database page, select “Aviation Week Intelligence Network” from the list of databases and then select the journal title you need from their list. A drop-down menu provides access to the table of contents for specific dates. From the table of contents users can access the full article. At the top right of each screen there is a quick search option, with a link to advanced search. The advanced search option provides a user-friendly but sophisticated

option for searching by plain language, key words, dates, etc.

Another useful feature of this database is the channel option, highlighted in red at the top of each screen. These links allow users to focus their scope on defense, space, or business/commercial aviation and get quick access to current articles on these topics. For example, the defense link features articles on UAVs, the Army’s helicopter program, and the defense spending conflict between President Bush and Congress. The space link

includes news articles on the European Galileo program and the International Space Station. The database also provides a tutorial on the most effective searching strategies.

Like the other online databases available through RSIC, access to the AWIN database does require that users be registered with the library. If you would like to use AWIN but are not registered at RSIC, call the library staff at 876-5197. (*Redstone Scientific Information Center release*)



Courtesy photo

Famous place

This launch site at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., gained fame 50 years ago when America’s first satellite, Explorer I, was launched.



Photo by Dan O'Boyle

Honorable display

Standing in front of an Avenger static display are, from left, Brig. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, the program executive officer for missiles and space; Col. Ed Mullin, project manager for Cruise missile defense systems; and Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command. Avenger displays are now in place on the south side of building 5250, PEO Missiles and Space, and the east side of building 5308, home to the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office. The weapon system serves in Operations Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and in the National Capital Region.

Missile defense element hits target

A seeker characterization test for the Net-Centric Airborne Defense Element was successfully conducted Dec. 3 at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Preliminary indications were that planned flight test objectives were achieved.

This test involved the successful imaging at close range of a boosting Orion sounding rocket by an NCADE seeker equipped AIM-9X missile launched from an F-16 aircraft. Although not unexpected, the subsequent intercept destroyed the target. A second AIM-9X launched during the test observed through its seeker the intercept of the target by the first and was also on a trajectory to intercept the target. The target missile was launched from White Sands.

The NCADE concept uses modified components of the existing AIM-9X and AIM-120 "AMRAAM" air-to-air missiles, combined with a new liquid propellant second stage to produce a missile capable of boost-phase intercepts. The proposed missile could be carried by manned fighters or unmanned aerial vehicles and could be used against all ranges of missiles in the boost phase in those cases where aircraft could penetrate to within about 100 miles of the launch site.

The Ballistic Missile Defense System will be capable of providing a layered defense for the U.S. homeland, its deployed forces, friends and allies against ballistic missiles of all ranges in all phases of flight. (Missile Defense Agency release)

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Courtesy photo

Graduating interns

The Army Logistics Management College recognized the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center's interns that graduated from their Logistics Intern Training Program on Dec. 12 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Certificates were presented to, from left: first row, Dianna Westbrook (honor graduate), Shonda Brown, Constance Horton-Sales, Jennifer Wilborn (honor graduate), Marshall Grice; second row, Allen Wampler, Beverly Suits, Monique Harper, Stephanye Bankston, Blake Martin, Erica Curry, Richard Thomas; third row, Becky Myers, Ashley Johnson (distinguished graduate), Jonathan Beuoy, Patrick Burns and Robert Sullivan.

Pushing insurance papers means big gains for Fox

Collections of \$1.6 million go toward patient care

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Wade Hamlett has been pushing papers this past year at a speedy rate.

So speedy, in fact, that he has not only grown his department to keep up with the work but has also brought in \$1.6 million in collections for Fox Army Health Center, resulting in major benefits for the center's staff and patients.

That's big pocket change from the cen-

ter's Third Party Collections Program, which came in at \$700,000 in fiscal 2006 and \$500,000 in fiscal 2005. It also represents a lot of completed paperwork.

"To obtain \$1.6 million in hand we had to file about 35,000 claims that bill at two and a half times the actual amount we received," said Hamlett, chief of the Uniform Business Office at the health center. "You won't receive 100 percent return on your claims because some charges aren't billable, a procedure might not be covered or there is a deductible or co-pay that must be satisfied first."

Hamlett said medical and health centers Armywide are seeing an increase in third party collections due to better education, better collection systems and more patients. Armywide, the Third Party Collections Program totaled \$62.3 million in fiscal 2007, which is the highest in 10 years and the second highest in 20 years.

Hamlett expects collections at Fox to be even higher in fiscal 2008. With increased staff (he's gone from two employees to four), improved processes and a growing patient base, the Uniform Business Office has already collected \$768,000 in third party collections since October, up from \$58,000 for that same time last year.

In 1986, Congress passed an act that authorized military facilities to file third party insurance claims on private carriers. The act didn't affect the insurance coverage of Soldiers, but it did open up the ability to collect insurance costs on military spouses and dependents who carry private insurance other than Tricare.

"We can bill insurance companies like Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Aetna," Hamlett said. "We can't bill Tricare or Medicare, but we can bill Medicare supplemental insurance."

Although Fox has filed third party collections since 1986 through its Uniform Business Office, in fiscal 2007 the center's Uniform Business Office focused on better educating patients on the benefits of reporting third party insurance, and on making sure third party claims were completed and filed. That combined with a growth in patient numbers.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PROUD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT – Wade Hamlett, chief of the Uniform Business Office at Fox Army Health Center, is proud of the work he and his employees have done to bring in \$1.6 million in third party insurance collections. Hamlett's staff includes, from left, accountant Juanita Adcock, and billers Terry Jo Hamilton and Audrey Hall. The funds they have collected go toward patient care improvements at Fox Army Health Center.

"Lower numbers in previous years resulted because of a combination of patients not providing us with information, not having sufficient staffing and changes in the program itself. In fiscal 2007 there was also a change in pharmacy rates where we went from charging one set fee to being able to use itemized billing," Hamlett said.

Reporting third party insurance coverage is easy. Once a patient reports that they have a third party insurance carrier, the Uniform Business Office takes care of the rest.

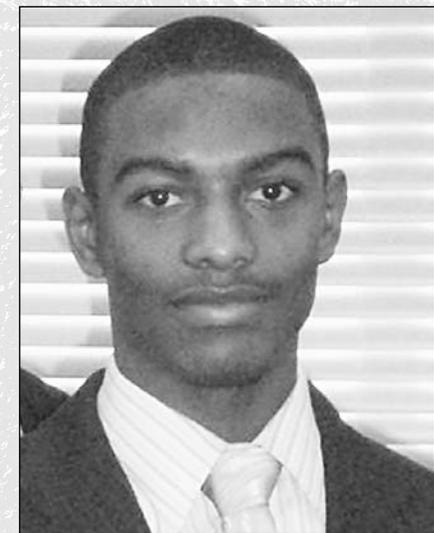
"When a patient comes in they have to fill out an insurance form where they are supposed to declare whether or not they have third party insurance outside the Tricare system," Hamlett said. "These patients may be married to a Soldier or a child of a Soldier, but they may be working for a company

where they have third party insurance."

When the patient declares a third party insurance carrier, Fox's Uniform Business Office can bill that carrier for expenses through its Third Party Outpatient Billing System. The claims paid by the third party insurance carrier help to meet the patient's Tricare deductible, if applicable, and provides extra funding for new equipment, services and renovations at Fox.

"The commander can use that money to enhance patient care," Hamlett said. "The improvements benefit the facility, its patients and its Soldiers."

So far, Col. Mark Smith, commander at Fox Army Health Center, has spent \$50,000 of third party collections on medical equipment, \$350,000 on state-of-the-art optometry equipment and \$400,000 on automation systems. All expenditures support better patient care, Hamlett said.



Courtesy photo

Honor student

Columbia High junior Christopher Dickerson was inducted into the National Honor Society on Nov. 29. He has a 4.05 grade point average and is a member of the varsity basketball and football teams. He also runs track and is a member of Student2Student. His parents are Henry Dickerson of OMEMS and Janet Dickerson of PEO Aviation.

Soldiers in Iraq hear sons win state football championship

Fort Campbell youngsters win 2A Kentucky title

By PATTI MARQUESS
Army News Service

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — Twelve Soldiers in Iraq were not able to see their sons win the Kentucky Class 2A state football championship Dec. 8 as the Fort Campbell High School Falcons defeated highly-favored Newport Central Catholic 21-7.

Even though they have not been able to see their sons play football this season, the Soldiers have been able to listen to the games via the Internet at www.oldies1480.com, a local radio station out of nearby Cadiz, Ky. These Soldiers and many others were gathered Dec. 8 to listen to the state championship game online.

"This victory means so much to so many, and we are very excited over here about Fort Campbell being state champions," said Lt. Col. Chris Croft, father of Falcons quarterback C.J. Croft, by telephone from Iraq immediately following the game. "We had a packed house listening to the game, and it was absolutely fantastic.

"Obviously, I'm very proud of C.J., and all that he has accomplished, but there is also a lot of pride among all Fort Campbell Soldiers for this football program. This team represents our community extremely well every time they take the field, and this is just a great way to wrap up a wonderful season, and we just want to say 'way to go Falcons!'"

The championship game, played in the vast setting of Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville, Ky., was attended by about 1,000 enthusiastic Falcon fans, and the outcome brought tears and smiles to everyone in attendance.

"We're all very emotional right now because winning this state championship means so much to our kids and our community," said Falcons head coach Shawn Berner after the game. "Our guys played with so much heart and emotion today because they wanted to make their dads and their school proud, and they fully accomplished that. I don't think I've ever seen a happier bunch in my life."

The camaraderie and spirit exhibited by the Fort Campbell players and coaches developed through the season, and eventually spread throughout the entire high school, the post and surrounding communities.

"The way this team went about achieving this goal all year was amazing," David Witte, Fort Campbell High School principal, said. "There was never really a star in this group — they all worked together as a team, which is a theme we try to push throughout the entire school. This team sort of set the example for all of us to follow."



Robert Smith/The Leaf-Chronicle

WE'RE NO. 1— Fort Campbell's Sean Tighe and quarterback C.J. Croft carry the championship trophy after they defeated Newport Central Catholic during the Class 2A state championship in Louisville, Ky., Saturday. The Falcons won the championship 21-7. (Photo reprinted by permission of the Leaf-Chronicle.)

"We had a very emotional send-off Friday (Dec. 7) when the team left for Louisville. The whole school and half the post turned out to wish them well. When the buses pulled out, there was not a dry eye to be found."

This faith and support was very important to the Falcons when they took the field Dec. 8 as 21-point underdogs to the Thoroughbreds.

"We started the season 0-2, and nobody really gave us a chance," Falcons senior defensive back Olan Andrews said. "We've had so much support from everyone at Fort Campbell all year, and we believed in ourselves and our coaches,

and now we've shown everyone what we can do."

Many people came to the huge stadium in Louisville expecting Newport Central Catholic to take a big lead on Fort Campbell early in the game. Instead, the first quarter turned into a defensive battle with neither team being able to score.

"We knew they were going to try to run the ball, control the clock and keep our offense off the field," Falcons senior linebacker Sean Tighe said. "But on defense, we just stopped them, and stopped them early, and I think that really surprised them."

It was not until midway through the

second quarter that the scoreboard lit up with any digits other than zero, and to the surprise of many, Fort Campbell scored first.

Sophomore running back Troy Turner, who quietly rushed for 109 yards on 17 carries, helped lead the Falcons downfield on their first drive of the second period to get into scoring position.

With 7:30 showing on the clock, Falcons' sophomore wide receiver Chris Allen made a diving catch in the back of the end zone to haul in a 10-yard pass from Croft. Senior kicker Allan R. Johnson then made good on the point after kick to give Fort Campbell a 7-0 lead.

Newport Central Catholic answered the Falcons challenge with only 35 seconds left in the first half when Thoroughbred quarterback Rob Kues hit wide receiver Matt Ritter with a 26-yard pass for the touchdown. The Thoroughbreds point after kick was good, and the two teams headed to the locker room at the half with the score knotted at 7-7.

"Our defense has really stepped it up today, and we're going to continue that in the second half," Falcons junior linebacker Josh Carter said. "We just have to execute our game plan and do what we do best, and we'll be fine."

The Fort Campbell defense did indeed hold strong in the third quarter, but Newport Central Catholic's did also, and when the period ended the score remained 7-7. With 11:25 showing on the clock Fort Campbell made its second strike of the game when Croft hit senior wide receiver Lorenzo Hines with a 7-yard pass for the touchdown. The extra point kick was good, and the Falcons led 14-7.

Newport Central Catholic, however, was not about to roll over, and the Thoroughbreds stormed back for a first-and-goal opportunity on the Falcons 6-yard line at the 6:20 mark.

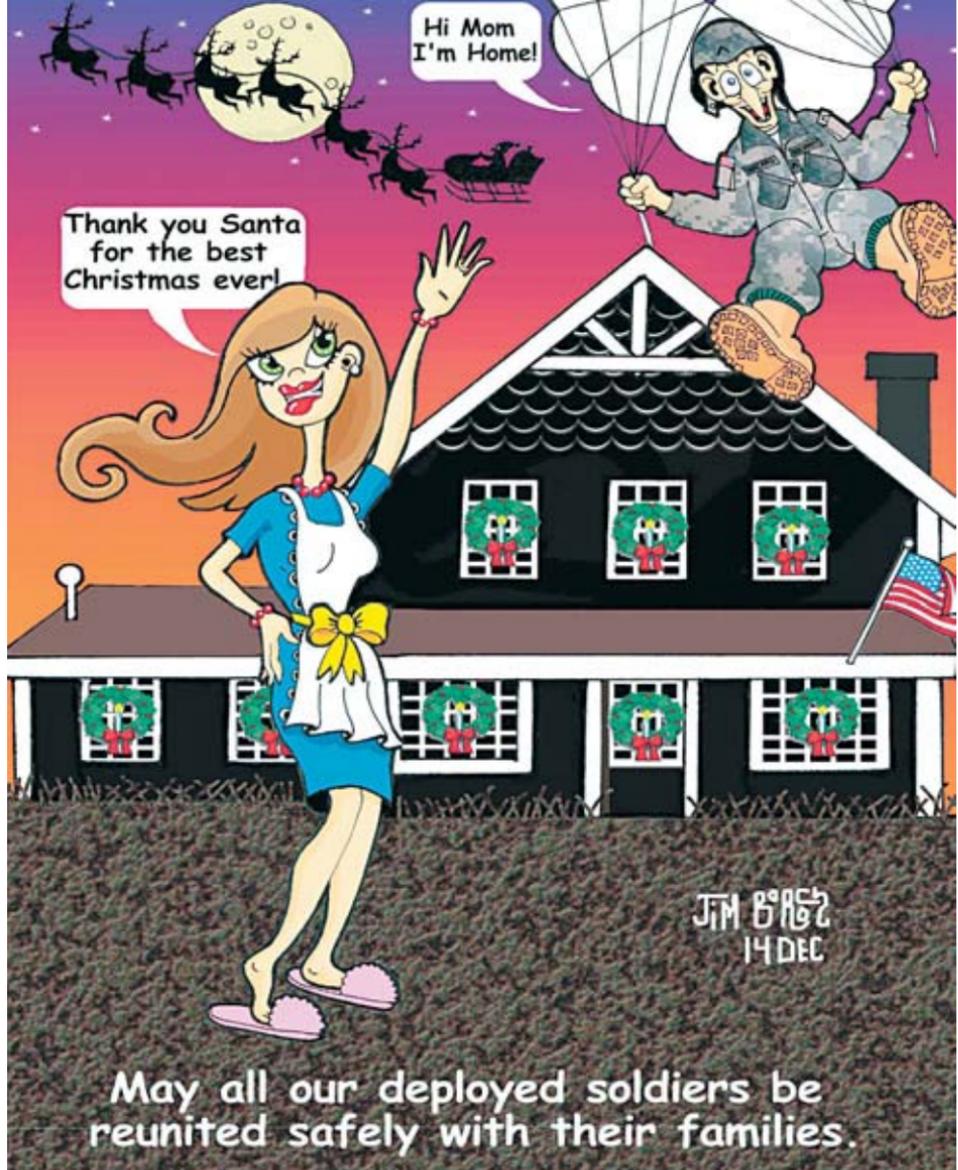
Fort Campbell's dominating defense then rose to the challenge, making a memorable goal line stand.

Aided by three Thoroughbred false-start penalties, the Falcons defensive line prevented Newport Central Catholic from scoring on six consecutive attempts, the closest coming from inside the 1-yard line.

The Thoroughbreds scoring threat vanished on their seventh attempt when Ritter caught a pass on the 5-yard line and was immediately hit by Falcons junior defensive back Raquan Durrante, forcing a fumble which was recovered by Falcons senior linebacker Josh McWherter.

McWherter knew the fumble recovery was crucial, and he also knew his dad, Lt. Col. Fred Wintrich, serving in Iraq, was listening online.

See **Championship** on page 21



May all our deployed soldiers be reunited safely with their families.

■ Proud day for Fort Campbell Falcons and their dads

Championship

continued from page 20

"I just grabbed the ball and held on to it as tight as I could," McWherter said. "I knew my dad was going to listen to the game, and I wanted him to know I was doing all I could to help us win the game. I hope they're proud of us over there and know we were playing for them."

A few plays later, Falcons senior running back Dexter Durrante Jr. blasted through the Thoroughbreds defense up the left sideline on a 67-yard touchdown run, giving Fort Campbell a commanding 21-7 lead with 2:54 left in the game.

On the final set of downs, Newport Central Catholic advanced the ball to the Fort Campbell 32-yard line at the 2:17 mark. Central Catholic launched a long pass toward the end zone which was intercepted by Raquan Durrante to end any hope the Thoroughbreds had of another state championship.

"I read the quarterback's eyes, and I saw the ball coming," Durrante said. "I knew I had to make the play, and I just waited for it to come down."

When the final buzzer sounded to end the game, Fort Campbell had defeated a

tough Newport Central Catholic team 21-7 to earn the coveted state championship rings and trophy.

"This win shows everybody what hard work and good kids can do," Berner said. "I just can't describe how proud I am of this group of guys right now. This is just an awesome feeling."

During the post game ceremony, a teary-eyed Dexter Durrante Jr. was awarded the game's Most Valuable Player trophy.

Durrante, whose father 1st Sgt. Dexter Durrante Sr. was blinded in a training accident shortly before football season started, had every reason to be emotional. His team had just won a state championship, and his dad, who is still recovering from his injuries, was able to make it to the game.

"This is all so overwhelming," Dexter Jr. said. "The MVP trophy is nice, but I'm more excited about winning the state championship. This is even more special because my brother and I both had good games today, and our dad was here to share this with us, and that really means everything. This is just a great feeling for all of us right now."

Editor's note: Patti Marquess writes for the Fort Campbell Courier newspaper.

Sports & Recreation

Twilight golf

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

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.

Toastmasters

Anyone interested in improving their speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Ellen Jones 544-6616.

Test/evaluation papers

Test Week 2008 — "Test & Evaluation for the Future: What Lies 10-15 Years Ahead?," scheduled June 2-5 at the Von Braun Center — announces its call for technical papers from the acquisition, S&T and T&E communities (industry, government and academia). Deadline for submission is March 1. Guidance and instructions may be found on www.test-week.org or by e-mailing Sherry Hilley at sherry.hilley@us.army.mil.

Executive women

The Huntsville Chapter of Executive Women International invites young women in grades 8-12 to attend the Executive Women of Tomorrow Conference on Feb. 23 at the University Center, University of Alabama-Huntsville. The theme is "Executive Women of Today – Mentoring the Executive Women of Tomorrow." Proceeds will benefit the EWI Huntsville

Chapter Scholarship fund. Early bird registration is \$40 until Dec. 31. For more information, call 533-4661.

University women

American Association of University Women will present a legislative update by Laura Hall (District 19) and Sue Schmitz (District 6) on Jan. 12 at the Ernest Knight Center, Alabama A&M University. The meet and greet begins at 10 a.m., Stallworth's Buffet brunch (cost \$13) at 10:30 and the program at 11. Seats are available for those not wishing brunch. Everyone planning to attend should make reservations by Jan. 6 with Lois Guendel 880-8643.

Computer users

Huntsville PC User Group's Special Interest Group will meet Jan. 12 at 9:15 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. At 10:45, the features and major changes in Microsoft's upgraded Office 2007 will be discussed by Ken Pickett, a retired engineer and longtime computer user. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Catholic women

The Military Council of Catholic Women invites all ladies with a military or civilian ID to its regular monthly "first Friday" meeting Jan. 4 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bicentennial Chapel meeting room. The program, "A Sharing of Faith," will be accompanied by refreshments and followed by optional Holy Hour at 11 and Mass at noon. Please call ahead for child care to Phyllis 842-2175; or for more information, call Chris 701-6490.

Emergency 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 information, visit the conference web site <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/ETC08/>.

Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Scheduled speak-

er is Mark Hubbs, senior historian for the Space and Missile Defense Command and a member of the Company of Military Historians. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil 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 closed Dec. 25 through Jan. 3. It will reopen for business Jan. 8, and is also open Saturday, Jan. 12 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 graduate degree and commissioning as Army officers upon receiving the appropriate degree. If you are an enlisted Soldier who has served at least two years on active duty, this is an opportunity for you to advance. Enroll in Army ROTC on campus by using opportunities provided through the Green to Gold Program. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023 or e-mail annette.woods@aamu.edu. 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.

Officer candidates

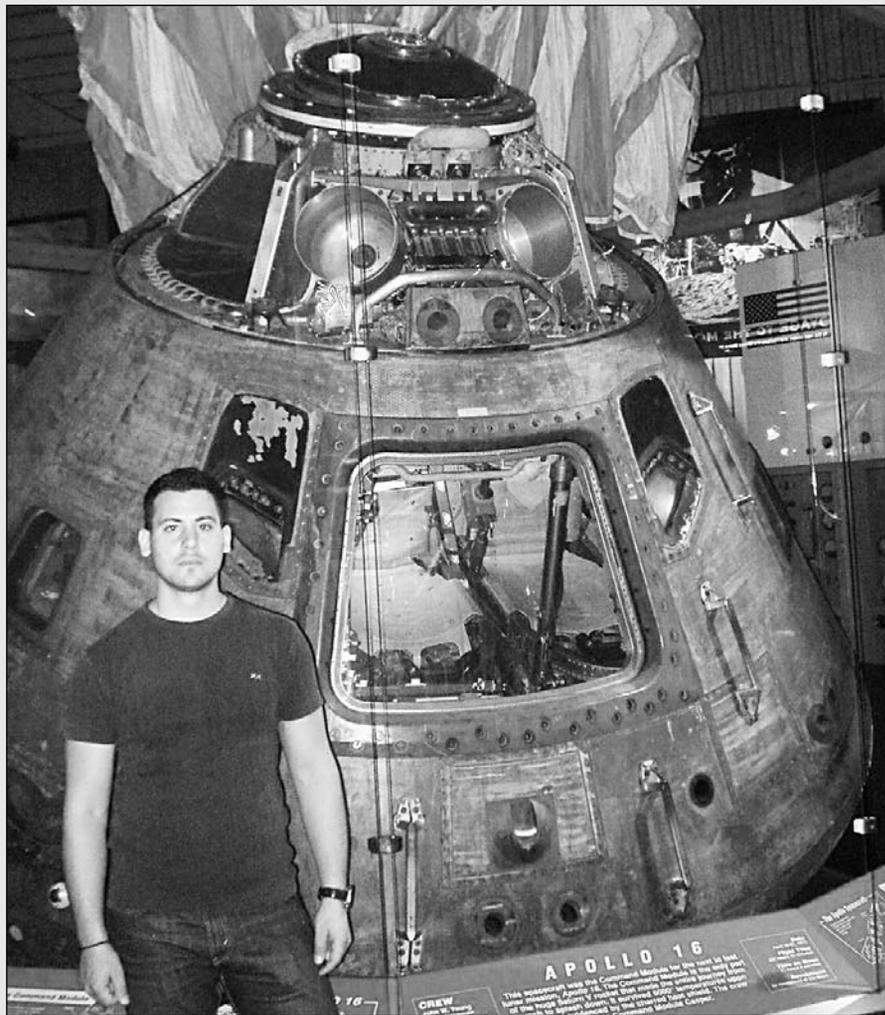
The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year college degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors 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.

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. 7-23. 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 pro-

vides a tremendous service to the 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.



Courtesy photo

Space visit

Staff Sgt. Nikolaos Anastasopoulos of Greece stands next to an Apollo 16 command module on display at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center during a visit Dec. 12 by the International Military Student Office.

Rocket Announcements

Pilots wanted

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

Reserve cadets

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

Flu shots

Flu shots will be available for active duty Soldiers and their family members over age 13, military retirees and family members over 13, and current DoD civilians from 8 a.m. to noon today at Heiser Hall. "Active duty Soldiers are especially encouraged to get their flu shots (today)," Fox Army Health Center said in a prepared release.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief offers "free" money for education. The 2008-09 Army Emergency Relief Scholarship Program instructions and timelines for applying for the scholarships are now available on the AER web site, www.aerhq.org. Assistance is available for spouses and children of active duty and retired Soldiers. All applications and supporting documents must be sent to AER headquarters and postmarked by March 1, 2008. For more information, call AER officer Kristi Foster 876-5397.

See Announcements on page 24

Dance classes

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center is taking signups for Fox Trot and Rumba classes to be held Thursday evenings beginning Jan. 10. Cost is \$66 per couple. The class is taught by professional instructors Mary Jo Blount and Vince Guarin. For more information, call 876-4531.

Science/engineering apprentices

The Department of Defense initiated the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program in 1980, under the direction of the Executive Office of the President, to involve academically talented high school and college students in hands-on research activities and student-mentor relationships during the summer. This program is designed for students who have demonstrated aptitude and interest in science and engineering courses and careers. A major benefit of the program is pairing the students with university and professional engineering mentors. The high school and college programs are designed for students who are U.S. citizens and age 15 by the beginning of the program June 2, 2008. The apprentice program is divided into periods of eight, 10 and 12 weeks. Both programs are fast-paced and require disciplined professional work habits. Junior and senior scientists and engineers gain additional experience by serving as mentors for first time students, and providing guidance through interactive research processes. The contacts for applications are senior counselors at all public, private and parochial high school and college placement services. Possible career placement areas at the Garrison-Redstone Arsenal include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The deadline for postmarking applications is Jan. 31. If the student is unsuccessful in receiving an application from the high school senior counselor or college placement service, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Julie Lumpkins in building 5308, at 313-4834.

Community assistance

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club distributes money to nonprofit groups each year, and is now accepting applications for grants. To receive a copy of the application, write to RSAOCWC, Attention: Demy Robley, Community Assistance Chair, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808. Forms are also available in the OCWC Southern Exposure Newsletter and at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. All requests must conform to the OCWC Community Assistance Request Form. Deadline for the request is Feb. 28. Requests postmarked or received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information, call Demy Robley 882-6064.

Health center holidays

Fox Army Health Center will be closed for the holidays Dec. 24, 25 and 31 and Jan. 1.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comptrollers offers a scholarship program for ASMC members and their families. Applicants must be current ASMC members or high school seniors, undergraduates, or those working on graduate programs (immediately related to an ASMC member). They must have maintained a 3.0 gpa. Applications are due by Feb. 28. For more information all Judy Smith, chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, 313-2379.

Warrant officer scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present its annual \$1,000 scholarship award for 2008. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen), and spouses of members of the active, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Valley area. Deadline to submit packet is March 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrents.com.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is again offering its Merit Award Program to the Redstone community. "The club has traditionally offered a scholarship program to its members and their families that assist them in pursuing their educational goals and aspirations," a prepared release said. "This year, Government Service ID card holders and their families may also apply for a scholarship. The focus is to provide financial assistance to spouses and high school students who are not eligible for OCWC membership." Merit Awards are based on the applicant's scholastic achievements, activities and an essay. Applications are available at the monthly luncheons and by contacting the Merit Program co-chairs. The deadline for applications is Feb. 4. For more information, contact Kathleen Riester riesterc@knology.net or Audrey Osterndorf osterndorf1@aol.com.

Social Security move

Chances are many have been to the Social Security Office in Huntsville; whether you just got married, needed a replacement card, filed for disability or filed for retirement. "In order to better serve our public, it is with great pleasure to announce our upcoming move to a new office," a prepared release said. Effective

Rocket Announcements



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Sparkman tree

Mack Ennis and other members of the Sparkman Management Office trim the Christmas tree in the front lobby of Sparkman Center building 5300 on Dec. 12.

Dec. 24, the local Social Security Office will be located at 4970 Research Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805. The office hours will remain the same: Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For information about Social Security and its services, call 1-800-772-1213 or visit the web site www.socialsecurity.gov.

Christmas trees

All offices, day rooms, military personnel on active duty, and other activities requiring Christmas trees, are authorized to cut trees on a self-help basis in the area northeast of the Ammunition Supply Point area which is located across the road from the Redstone Arsenal Saddle Activity. Trees shall not be cut for commercial or unauthorized use. This area has been marked with orange flagging for easy recognition. Travel will be limited to the single pasture trail along the east side of the open pastureland. Cutting operations will be limited to inside the Christmas tree cutting area only. Caution should be exercised to pre-

vent straying outside of the area or off the access route and removing any objects other than a Christmas tree. Trees should be cut by Dec. 24 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The trimmings should not be left on grassed rights-of-way, railroad tracks or access roads. For more information and a location map, call the Outdoor Recreation Office, building 5132, 876-4868.

Dental clinic hours

The Dental Clinic will be closed through Friday for renovations and Dec. 24-25 for the holiday. The clinic will reopen Dec. 26 for normal hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Commissary holidays

Here are the Commissary hours for the holiday season: Dec. 23 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Dec. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Dec. 25 closed; Dec. 26-30 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Jan. 1 closed.

See Announcements on page 25

Box Army Health Center will be closed Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the holidays. Advice nurses are available at all times to give care advice at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531. The health center does not have an emergency room. Dial 911 to activate emergency medical services.

Military personnel division

The Military Personnel Division is closed Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the holidays. In the event of an emergency, call the following for assistance: in case of casualty, call the the Emergency Operations Center 313-2066. For personnel actions, call Eather Moore, chief of Personnel Service Branch, 683-6508 or 679-3680; Barbara Moudy, chief of Strength Management & Personnel Operations,

like, chief of Transition Services, 871-1387 or 508-1090.

Military spouse scholarships

Military spouses are eligible for partial scholarships or grants to reduce out-of-pocket tuition costs with Andrew Jackson University. The AJU understands the special needs of military spouses and has developed more than 20 online accredited certificate and degreed programs to help them gain employable skills and achieve their educational goals. A representative from AJU will visit Army Community Service on Jan. 9 at 9 a.m. to provide information about the Military Spouse Scholarship Program. If you are interested in attending, call Debra Jefferson 876-5397 to reserve a seat.



Courtesy photo

Holiday helpers

Soldiers of Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, supported the Huntsville community on Nov. 27 by helping Burrirt on the Mountain prepare for its biggest event of the season. "We really appreciate the work these Soldiers did," Cynthia Masucci, the volunteer coordinator, said. "They helped out tremendously." In preparation for the holiday week, some of the tasks included candle stick making, furniture upholstery, and general area beautification. Once the work was done, the Soldiers were given a tour of the premises.

Rocket Announcements

Holiday performances

Ars Nova will present "Hansel and Gretel" Dec. 21-23 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Ars Nova Recital Hall. Tickets are \$12 general admission and can be purchased by calling 883-1105, online at www.arsnovahsv.com or visit Ars Nova at 7908 Charlotte Drive, near the Eleanor Murphy branch of the library.

Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society) presents a free public lecture Jan. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Main Public Library, 915 Monroe St. A social will follow. Craig Russell, president of Americans in Orbit-50 Years Inc., will speak on "Back to the Past, Recreating Friendship 7." For more information, call Ronnie Lajoie 509-3833.

PX holiday hours

Here's the Post Exchange's holiday schedule. Dec. 24 – Main Store, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Concessions, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber at building 3479, closed; GNC, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Furniture, closed; One Stop, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tire Store, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Military Clothing Sales Store, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; food court Cinnabon, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Hood, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Baskin Robins, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Churches, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Burger King 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25 – All facilities will be closed with the exception of the One Stop, open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 31 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Concessions, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber in 3479, closed; GNC, noon to 3 p.m.; Furniture, closed; One Stop, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tire Store, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; MCSS, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; food court Cinnabon, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Anthonys, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Robin Hood, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Baskin Robins, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Churches, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Burger King, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1 – Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Concessions, closed; Furniture, closed; One Stop, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tire Store, closed; MCSS, closed; food court Robin Hood, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Baskin Robins, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Burger King, closed.

Junior achievement ceremony

Junior Achievement of Northern Alabama Inc. will hold a ribbon cutting and holiday open house at its new location, 2809 Newby Road southwest, Suite 116, today at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 533-4661.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																			
SCBK07436456	Physicist	19-Dec-07	TMDE Actvty	GS-1310	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X										
SCBK07434467	Oper Research Analyst	20-Dec-07	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	GS-1515	14	14	89,875 - 116,835		X										
SCBK07430802	General Supp Spec	20-Dec-07	IMMC	GS-2001	9	9	44,104 - 57,334		X							X	X		X
SCBK07404563	Inspector	21-Dec-07	AMCOM, Ofc of the Inspector General	YA-1801	2	2	53,362 - 98,876		X							X			X
SCBK07401292	Aviation Tech Spec (RAM)	24-Dec-07	AMRDEC	DE-0301	4	4	76,056 - 116,835	X											
SCBK07434338	Tech Writer-Editor	26-Dec-07	IMMC	GS-1083	12	12	63,958 - 83,148		X							X	X		X
SCBK07439281	Prgm Analyst	26-Dec-07	AMRDEC	DE-0343	2	3	29,108 - 83,148		X										
SCBK07385376	Oper Research Analyst	27-Dec-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X		X		X		X	X		X	X
SCBK07385376D	Oper Research Analyst	27-Dec-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07434646	Lead Logistics Mgmt Spec	27-Dec-07	IMMC	GS-0346	14	14	76,056 - 98,876		X										
SCBK07381796	Logistics Mgmt Spec	28-Dec-07	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	76,056 - 98,876		X										
SCBK07435880	Secretary (OA)	31-Dec-07	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-0318	7	7	36,057 - 46,874				X		X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK07384124	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	31-Dec-07	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-1102	13	13	76,056 - 98,876			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK07440361	Supply Tech (OA)	31-Dec-07	MEDDAC	GS-2005	5	5	29,108 - 37,839		X	X						X			X
SCBK07434644	Mech Engr	31-Dec-07	AMRDEC	DB-0830	3	3	63,958 - 98,876		X		X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07434644D	Mech Engr	31-Dec-07	AMRDEC	DB-0830	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07401755	General Engr	4-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434		X		X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07401755D	General Engr	4-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504	Supv General Engr	7-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434		X										
SCBK07391738	Industrial Property Spec	7-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-1103	2	2	44,104 - 98,876							X		X			
SCBK07413621	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK07413621D	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07436766	General Engr	25-Jan-08	PEO AVN	NH-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434								X		X	X	X

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV																			
SCBK07438450D	Aerospace Engr	26-Dec-07	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07385376D	Oper Research Analyst	27-Dec-07	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-1515	13	13	76,056 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07413621D	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	11-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07347979D	Electronics Engr	30-Sep-08	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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

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

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

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com 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