

Redstone Rocket

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Make a difference again this year

Combined Federal Campaign prepares for kickoff Sept. 15

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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"Time is just moving so fast," Donna Johnson, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign, said before her scheduled appointment with the commanding general.

She's right. It seems like last year's CFC just ended, but the 2008 drive has arrived.

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is Oct. 6 through Dec. 12 with a \$2 million goal. The kickoff is Sept. 15 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium in the Sparkman Center.

Johnson presented a CFC shirt to Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, at his office Sept. 2.

Myles, the campaign's honorary chairman, described the significance of this annual drive to raise money for charities.

"It's allowing this great work force an opportunity to help others," he said. "And all this work force needs is an opportunity and they will definitely help."

The approximately 15,000 employees in 36 federal agencies can give to the charities of their choice. The federal workers are in six North Alabama counties – Cullman, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall and Morgan – plus Lincoln County, Tenn.

They can select from the 180 local and 2,200 national and international organizations in the 2008 charity listing.

"Our CFC dollars promote family well-being," Johnson said. "And stronger families create a stronger community."

Like last year, the 2008 theme is "Give Today – Change Tomorrow." Patti Kurth of the Logistics Support Activity received a plaque at the 2007 kickoff for her contest-winning slogan.

"And that's exactly what our giving does," Johnson said. "The contributions that we give today help change tomorrow for someone."

She wants a filled auditorium for the kickoff Sept. 15.

"Our keynote speaker will be Lee Marshall. She's the founder of Kids to Love Foundation, which happens to be one of the new charities that's participating in our campaign this year," Johnson said. "We're going to have entertainment by the Liberty Belles. That's the dance team from Liberty Middle School."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOP SUPPORT— Donna Johnson, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign, presents a CFC shirt to Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal.

The agency fair is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sparkman Center Parade Field, located between buildings 5303 and 5304. About 80 charitable organizations will be represented to talk about the services they provide to the community.

Mojo from WZYP Radio in Athens will provide music. There will be food, drink and refreshments. Ten \$100 gas cards will be given away as door prizes; and people must be present to win.

"And so we're just looking for a good time, a fun time and a time to be able to educate the work force about the contributions our CFC dollars make in the community,"

Johnson said.

People should give "to help those in our community, to help those in our country, to help those in our nation," she said.

Last year's campaign raised \$2,240,000 to surpass a \$1.9 million goal.

Everyone can contribute by cash or check. Federal employees can give through payroll deduction. Contractors are not solicited but they can also give cash or checks. The CFC Office, building 3708 near the intersection of Aerobee and Patton roads, can be reached at 842-1037.

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An open lane random survey

What's your favorite charity?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Leonard Luqman
AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center
"Basically, it's to help the homeless. In spiritual terms, you're supposed to try to help if you're a child of God."

When I was growing up, we were homeless (my mom and six children in Huntsville). We were always taking handouts. It's being able to try to help other people build their life back. If you've been there before, you know where they're coming from. If I can give to help someone improve their life I'll do that."

Ron Helton
Analytical Services Inc.
"Still Serving Veterans because these are the guys that have been injured in the war – missing limbs. And we're trying to do good things for them."



James White
Kratos/Madison Research
"American Heart Association and then the Christmas Tree Angels – about even on those. Christmas Tree Angels – naturally kids having a great Christmas that otherwise wouldn't have one. American Heart Association – I just know a lot of people that have had heart problems and just family and friends. And it's just something we need to work on."

Regina Prewitt
Kratos/Madison Research
"It's called Voice of the Martyrs. The organization keeps us informed about people around the world who are currently being imprisoned and/or tortured for their faith. It's something you won't see on the evening news. The word needs to get out. And that's what the money goes for – it's articles about people's experiences related to their persecution."



Commentary: You should visit a Warrior Transition Unit

By Col. JIMMIE O. KEENAN
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — As a Soldier, officer, trauma nurse, military spouse and mother, I live every aspect of Army health care, and I know what works and what doesn't.

Nothing is more disappointing than to see other people doubt what the Army is doing to take care of wounded, ill and injured Soldiers without having the facts right. It might not make the headlines, but Soldiers taking care of Soldiers is what we do. It's our ethos, it's our passion and it's our job.

Since the war on terrorism began, the Army faced the necessity of putting into place the infrastructure to handle the extraordinary number of outpatients a protracted war generates. I know I certainly did not see the attack of Sept. 11, 2001 coming, nor did the Army medical system. We also did not expect to be into our seventh year of war either.

Once we realized the care requirements an ongoing war placed on the Army, we moved quickly to bring about needed changes. In less than a year, we developed and opened 35 Warrior Transition Units, or WTUs, and nine Community Based Health Care Organizations to provide the necessary support structure to care for the more than 30,000 wounded, ill and injured Soldiers we have treated since the war began.

See Visit on page 11



Photo by Heike Hasenauer

WORKING TOWARD RECOVERY— Spc. Nicholas Williams, who was wounded in Iraq in July 2007, works out with his new prosthetic leg at Walter Reed's Military Advanced Training Center, which opened in September 2007.

This Soldier's view: Could you save your enemy?

By Spc. RYAN STROUD
59th Ordnance Brigade Public Affairs

When thoughts of war pass through people's minds, many sights they see are gunfire, explosions and Soldiers dying. But what happens to the enemy who is injured and lives through an attack? How do the Coalition Forces treat these Soldiers?

On a cold Iraqi morning, I was asked by a commanding officer in my unit to accompany him to the medical station to photograph the medics of our units in action. I jumped at the opportunity of some great photos but had no idea what I was in for.

As I approached the facility, the officer gave me per-

mission to do what I needed to do to get my pictures. I took his words to heart, hoping to achieve the best pictures to best show how important and reliable our Army's medics are. But what started out as a chance to get some great photos turned into a life lesson in compassion.

An ambulance carrying three wounded Iraqi men quickly rolled up to our site. The Soldiers, knowing that this was no longer training in garrison but the real deal, sprung into action. The doors to the building flew open as a line of medics grabbed the injured men and pulled them inside.

I stood on sandbags to the side to get a good view as all three men were carried past me. Thoughts of typical war movies played through my head, but one thing was different – this was real life. These are not actors playing injured people and these are not "Hollywood's A-List" portraying the doctors. These men were really hurt; they were dying right in front of me.

Time stood still for a moment. I could see the injuries with my own eyes and smell the burnt flesh that was eating

See Medics on page 11

Quote of the week

"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

— Maya Angelou

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Name: Pfc. Courtney Pryor

Job: Ammunition technician, Marine Detachment

Where do you call home?
New Braunfels, Texas.

What do you like about your job?

You get to learn all the different types of ammunition and see all the different things ammunition can do.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to workout. Just hang out with friends and family. And I guess go to the movies.

What are your goals?

To get a college degree and become a second-grade teacher.



What's your favorite type of music?

I love reggae.

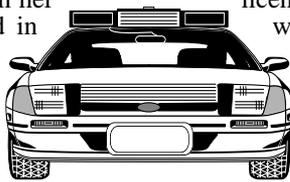
Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents:

Aug. 28: An employee reported that her wallet was removed from her vehicle while it was parked in the Sparkman Center parking lot. The vehicle was not locked at the time of the larceny.

Aug. 28: Someone damaged a private vehicle while it was parked in the OMEMS area. The vehicle sustained damaged windshield wipers and a bent license plate.

Aug. 31: When a man requested a visitor's pass at Gate 10, it was revealed that he was operating his vehicle with a sus-



pended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Sept. 2: A man approached Gate 10 and could not produce a valid driver's license. It was revealed that he was operating his vehicle with a suspended driver's license. And a misdemeanor arrest warrant had been issued for him by the Southside Alabama Police Department. He was issued

a violation notice and released to Southside Police.

Traffic accidents reported: two without injury, none with injury.

Violation notices issued: 17 speeding, 2 suspended driver's license.

Missing laptop causes airport scare

A pilot's laptop, filled with top secret security information including airport access codes, was reported missing recently at Dulles Airport — and the effects were felt across the country.

The Mesa Airlines employee couldn't find the personal laptop he brought with him while co-piloting from Birmingham. As a result, 17 airports were forced to

make emergency changes to access codes. Officials within the airline industry admitted that with these access codes, someone who went through security could, with the touch of a few buttons, get onto a plane or get outside, right below a plane.

Editor's note: AMCOM G-2 (Intelligence and Security) provided this release from the National Security Institute Inc.

Former student aide's work ethic leads to top



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

EARLY START— Brenda Forte, chief of the aviation and missile systems division of AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate, goes over the day's workload before the rest of her team arrives.

Division chief studies regulations before beginning her workday

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**

Staff writer

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Redstone is full of people who have worked their way up through the ranks to the top of their fields. Brenda Forte is among them.

She took over as chief of the aviation and missile systems division of AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate on Sept. 1.

A local native, she took the lesson her parents taught her about what it takes to succeed in life to heart. They taught her about humility and determination. Forte said they gave her the tools she needed to get where she is.

"I grew up in a small town (Mooresville) in Limestone County, Ala.," she said. "(I) learned at an early age from my father how important it is to work hard and exhibit the proper work ethic required to advance in your

chosen profession."

Forte's government career had humble beginnings. She started as a student aide when she was a junior in high school. When that assignment ended, her hard work had impressed her supervisors enough that they found another position for her.

"When that first summer was over, they said they wanted to find a way for me to stay and they did," Forte said. "When they ran out of money, they sent me to (building) 4505, the Army missile lab. When that year was up, my supervisor came to me and said that he knew someone in the personnel office who would love to have me working for them."

After high school, Forte began college at the North Alabama College of Commerce in downtown Huntsville. Being a part of one of the first classes of black students to attend a white private college wasn't easy. After 15 months, Forte withdrew.

"It was more than I could take," she said.

Forte instead made her job her college. She threw herself into regulations

and requirements, studying them as intently as any student. She was determined to be as knowledgeable about her job and its expectations as anyone with a degree in their hand.

"I buried myself in government regulations so that I could become, what I felt in my heart, an expert," she said. "I learned from two of my prior supervisors, Ray Malone and Jerry Williams, that the race is a marathon and not a sprint. One must be sincere and willing in everything they do."

After 10 years in personnel, she was selected as an intern in the International Logistics Directorate, which became SAMD in 1985. Enjoying her new job as program developer, she once again began studying the regulations and requirements. This time her focus was foreign military sales. She credits her team leader at the time, Penny West, with taking a personal interest and educating her on FMS.

"She mentored me. She prepared me to move up," Forte said. "After she

See **Chief** on page 7



Courtesy photo

Graduating interns

AMCOM's Integrated Materiel Management Center recognized its graduating Army interns Sept. 4. From left, certificates were presented to: front row, Kerstin Fort, Brittany Sikes, Tynasha Malone, Kisha Campbell, LeLorna Bennett-Chunn, Jackie Garner; second row, Joseph Munson, Steven Powell, Elizabeth Morrow, James Pauly, Brian Etu; back row, Shay Mitchell, Keith Witherspoon, Allison Riddle, Kevin Gipson and Carolann Bledsoe. Not pictured is Sharon Thrasher.

■ Annual fund-raising drive has \$2 million goal

Difference

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"CFC belongs to us, the federal employees," Johnson said. "So it's important for us to contribute to CFC to ensure

the overall success of our campaign. It's our opportunity to give to the community. It doesn't belong to management; it belongs to us, the federal employees. It's about people helping people."

In her fifth year as chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee, she said, "Time has gone by."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

OFFICE STAFF— From left are Melinda Seigler, CFC director with United Way of Madison County, which is the campaign's principal combined fund organization; Donna Johnson, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign; and Wendy Dickerson, management assistant for the CFC Office.

Military retirees drive miles for annual event

Retiree Appreciation Day popular throughout South

By SKIP VAUGHN
 Rocket editor
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Redstone's annual Retiree Appreciation Day last weekend didn't just draw military retirees from North Alabama.

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Abe Adkins and his wife, Mary, drove about five hours from Memphis. Retired Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Barker and his wife, Carol, came up from Anniston.

"It's great," Adkins said. "I've been coming out here since '93.

"I like the information that I get, and the camaraderie, man. I meet a lot of guys. It's good. Yeah, and the little health fairs — all that's good.

"They have the same thing at Fort Campbell (Ky.). It's closer, but the event is only one day. You can't get anything out of it. That's why I come here," Adkins said.

This was the second time in its 37-year history the event was held two days — Friday and Saturday. Retiree Appreciation Day is co-sponsored by the Garrison and the Retiree Advisory Council.

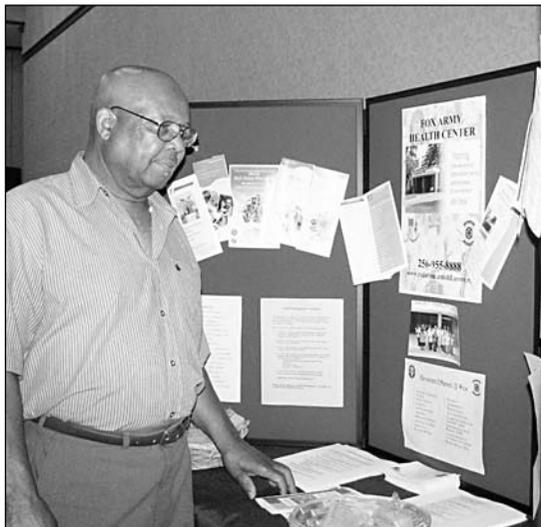


Photo by Skip Vaughn

HEALTH TIPS— Retired Sgt. 1st Class Abe Adkins of Memphis looks at Fox Army Health Center information Friday at the Officers and Civilians Club during Retiree Appreciation Day.

"I love it, it's great," said Barker, who recommended more roadside signs because he had trouble finding the location. "This is a major event that should be going statewide — one in northern Alabama and one in Montgomery every year. I'd like to see a smaller one at Fort McClellan."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MWR UPDATE— Morale Welfare and Recreation marketing director Amelia Flanagan talks with Retiree Appreciation Day attendees, from left, retired 1st Lt. Bob Coats, a member of the Retiree Advisory Council; and retired schoolteacher Carol Barker and her husband, retired Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Paul Barker of Anniston.

Units add 45 Soldiers in month

The Garrison provided the following in-processing list for August. In some cases, Soldiers were already here but transferred to other units.

- Col. Steven Ray Busch, Aviation and Missile Command; Col. Harvey Baxter Jones III, Space and Missile Defense Command; Col. Craig Langhauser, Program Executive Office STRI Orlando; Capt. Timothy Bogard, HHC 59th; Capt. Rodney Davis, HHC 59th; Capt. Juan Garcia, SMDC; Capt. Joel Leflore, PEO C3T Redstone; Capt. Laura Matejick, AMCOM; Capt. Douglas Warren, HHC 59th; Lt. Col. Kenneth James, PEO STRI Orlando; Lt. Col. Michael Kosalko, Corpus Christi Army Depot; Maj. Brian Adams, SMDC; Maj. Jeffrey Dudley, PEO STRI Orlando; Maj. Calvin Lane, PEO Aviation; Maj. Michael Navarro, Missile Defense Agency; Maj. Thomas Nguyen, PEO STRI Orlando; Maj. Daniel Palmeto, AMCOM; Maj. Thomas Ryan, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense; Maj. Jeffrey Simpson, THAAD; Maj. James Stephen, PEO Missiles and Space;

- Maj. Kim Thomas, Huntsville; Maj. Stephen Thomas, PM Future Combat System (BCT); Maj. Pamela Tingle, SMDC; Master Sgt. Frank Rose, Logistics Support Activity; Pvt. Jessica Patterson, Charlie Company; Pvt. Jessica St. Louis, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class David Beier, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class Stephanie Fortenberry, LOGSA; Sgt. 1st Class Garrick Hipskind, Missile and Space Intelligence Center; Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Liles, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class Sheila Newsome, LOGSA; Sgt. 1st Class William Pritchard, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Wilson, HHC 59th; Sgt. Ashley Hubbard, WT Co. A; Spc. Eric Beard, Garrison; Spc. Alisha Cooper, HHC 59th; Spc. Cesor Silva, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. James Akers, Bravo Company; Staff Sgt. Michael Davis, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Kevin Hamilton, AMCOM; Staff Sgt. Steven Hester, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Carlton Neal, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Jim Thomas, AMCOM; Staff Sgt. Louis Thompson, HHC 59th; and Staff Sgt. Kellie Tyler, HHC 59th.

■ Hard work is division chief's forte

Chief

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retired (in 1993), there was nothing that I hadn't been doing all the time anyway."

Forte worked diligently to learn all that she could, arriving an hour early for work every day so she could study requirements. She took every course she could find pertinent to her job. For seven years, she did it while also working part time at a local department store.

Over the years, she transitioned from the program development side of her department to the program management side. Because she had spent so many years working as a developer and studying the requirements, she said it was an easy change to make.

"I had written long enough that I knew everything about the contracts," she said. "So it was easy. I enjoyed the management."

That position led to one in Internal Review, looking over the contracts before they were submitted to higher headquarters. She eventually returned to the department as a program manag-

er and later was promoted to international program manager.

"I've been in the same department doing the same kind of job for 25 years," she said laughing.

This month she took over as division chief of that same department. Following in the footsteps of the team leaders and supervisors who helped her get to where she is, Forte sees herself as a facilitator there to guide and support the developers and managers who work under her.

"If nothing else, I hope to offer young federal employees – interns, co-ops and student aides – the same support and opportunities that were extended to me by my mentors," she said.

She still arrives an hour before the business day begins. She uses the time to work issues that came up at the end of the previous day and prepare for the coming day. She still reads regulations.

"That hour really pays for itself," she said. "I have never claimed an hour of time for it. It is my choosing. I can take my time. And if I have the slightest bit of doubt about anything anyone tells me business-wise dur-

ing the day, I can go to my regulations and look it up. By the time they come to work I can have a copy for them."

In her personal life, Forte shows the same commitment. Embracing her parents' lessons about family and reverence for her elders, Forte spends several hours every evening with her mother in a local nursing home. She is an active member of the Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She also dotes on the four children she shares with her husband, Michael, and the two grandchildren who live in the area. Her family is the entirety of her life outside of work, she jokes.

"We go from volleyball and swimming to Chuck E. Cheese," she quipped. "Every weekend we have something."

Someday, once she has retired, Forte thinks she will go back and finish the formal education she stopped all those years ago. Until then she plans on continuing her studies in being the best government civilian she can.

"It will be a challenge, but one I will enjoy," she said. "I've already asked someone to give me (the information on) every system they have on the aviation side. I'm ready to get started."

Oktoberfest promises German-flavored fun



Photo by Kari Hawkins

A TOAST TO OKTOBERFEST— Staff members of Family Morale Welfare and Recreation toast a weekend of fun as Oktoberfest prepares to open its gates tomorrow at the Arsenal's parade field. From left are, Kenneth McDonald, FMWR resource management chief; FMWR director Derrick Gould; and Mark Germonprez, chief of the FMWR Business Division.

Arsenal's annual festival well known in region

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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With a loud "Oompah!," German culture is once again invading Redstone Arsenal.

This week, as the tents at the parade field go up and carnival workers set up a pageant of carnival rides, food vendors and midway games, the Arsenal is making plans for its annual weekend of German food, music and fun.

Now in its 13th year, Oktoberfest will be bigger and better than ever, with rides for children and adults, a smorgasbord of German foods and beers, an outdoor circus and several craft and art vendors.

The fun starts Thursday when Arsenal officials join with representatives from title sponsor Papa John's Pizza and other sponsors at a grand opening reception at 5 p.m. in the Fest Hall Tent, complete with a keg tapping and music by ever-popular Terry Cavanaugh and the Alpine Express. But, while the grand opening will be celebratory, it will also include a more somber element in honor of those who died in the attack on the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001.

"We are starting the festival on a day that is important in our nation's history," said Derrick Gould, director of Family Morale Welfare and Recreation, which hosts Oktoberfest every year. "We will have a moment of remembrance during our opening ceremony to recognize the loss we had on Sept. 11, 2001."

Thursday evening's opening ceremony will begin a weekend of Oktoberfest fun known to residents throughout North Alabama and South Tennessee. Although Arsenal employees, Soldiers and their families are often part of the carnival crowds, Oktoberfest is also open to the general public with access provided through Gate 10 on Jordan Lane/Patton Road.

"Visitors can come through Gate 10 as long as they have a driver's license, and proof of vehicle insurance and registration," Gould said. "Once they get in the gate, they will be directed to parking near the parade field."

Festival hours are from 5 to 11 p.m. Thursday, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, noon to 1 a.m. Saturday and 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$8 on Thursday and Sunday and \$10 on Friday and Saturday.

While the music, food and beer will have a German flare, the Oktoberfest crowd is sure to overflow with a variety of carnival-fun seekers.

"The atmosphere at Oktoberfest is really an interesting phenomenon," Gould said. "We have a lot of families that enjoy both sides of the carnival – the German food and entertainment and the carnival rides and games. But then we have people who are there mostly for the German fun in the Fest Hall Tent. And then we have another crowd who is there mostly for the carnival rides and the carnival food. Our Oktoberfest is fun because you can enjoy all that at one festival."

Last year, about 13,000 carnival-goers enjoyed Oktoberfest. Gould is hoping that number will increase to about 15,000 this year.

"Our biggest Oktoberfest was last year because we had great weather," Gould said. "But every year our weekend crowd is always big. Our smallest crowd is on Thursday night. Even though we always have to compete with sports events and other activities, we always get a large crowd for the overall weekend."

To increase the Thursday night crowd, Oktoberfest will offer \$2 off admission to active duty military and their immediate families.

And to offset the competition from sporting events, Oktoberfest will offer

See Festival on page 23



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CARNIVAL BLASTOFF— Festival goers enjoy the thrill of the giant swing as they fly out over the carnival midway during Oktoberfest 2007.

Local Soldier shares spotlight with robot

Army magazine cover photo shows robotics demonstration

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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Sgt. 1st Class Stephan Faddis was just doing his job – demonstrating a small unmanned ground vehicle to a group of tourists on the National Mall in the nation’s capitol – when a magazine photographer took his picture.

A few months later, Faddis received a call from his co-workers at Fort Bliss, Texas, who were excited to discover a picture of the same unmanned ground vehicle on the cover of the August issue of *Army* magazine.

And standing at the controls just behind the robot happened to be Faddis.

“I was just demonstrating the robot. There were a lot of people taking pictures,” he said.

“I didn’t know I was on the cover until people from Fort Bliss told me. I’ve done a few demonstrations at conferences, and for the Congress and Senate. But I didn’t know it would get me on the cover of a magazine.”

Faddis, who is assigned to Fort Bliss but who works in Huntsville for the Future Force Integration Directorate, Training and Doctrine Command Capability Manager, Future Combat Systems, was operating the robot as part of an FCS capabilities demonstration in early June during the Army’s birthday week. The event spotlighted several FCS technologies and included the unveiling of the Army’s Non-Line-Of-Sight Cannon (NLOS-C).

The demonstration was observed by visiting citizens to



Photo by Kari Hawkins

KEEPSAKE FROM AUSA— Mike Howell, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, presents color copies of the cover of the August issue of *Army* magazine to Sgt. 1st Class Stephan Faddis, who is featured on the cover with a Future Combat Systems robot.

the National Mall as well as by members of Congress and the national media. Among those visitors were thousands of middle school students who were touring the capitol, and Army chief of staff Gen. George Casey Jr.; Col. Gus Stafford, assigned to the Office of the Chief, Legislative Liaison, Department of the Army; and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

“We were located on the national mall between the capitol

building and the Washington monument,” Faddis said. “We had well over 1,000 visitors. We explained FCS and demonstrated it repeatedly. The major reaction we had to it was ‘This is going to be great for sending into buildings to see if Mr.-I-Hate-Americans is in there.’”

Faddis, who served in Iraq in 2005-06 with the 302nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 205th Military Intelligence Brigade, spends a lot of work time

explaining and defining what robots need to do in support of Soldiers.

“In Huntsville, I’m one of the liaisons between the military and the companies building robots,” said Faddis, who is one of four FCS Soldiers in Huntsville. “I assist in developing engineering ideas from the military perspective of what the robot needs to be and what it needs to do.”

Faddis works with SAIC and Boeing, the lead systems integra-

tors for Army robotics, to ensure all FCS robotics are integrated and able to communicate with each other. There are FCS Soldiers stationed throughout the U.S. in support of robotics development and integration.

“All robotics have to be able to function with each other,” Faddis said. “They are important in providing Soldiers with better situational awareness. Soldiers can send robots into harm’s way to assist the Soldier in determining what kind of situation they are dealing with. It’s better to have a robot out there than to have an actual Soldier who could get injured. Robotics is all about the protection of the Soldier.”

Although the robot on display with Faddis in the photo has not yet deployed to Iraq, robotics such as the Packbot have a major role in the Global War Against Terrorism. Many of the robots used in Iraq have been developed, tested and repaired by the Joint Robotics Program at Redstone Arsenal.

Last week, Mike Howell, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, presented Faddis with an 11-by-17 copy and four actual size color copies of the magazine cover. The four copies will be given to Faddis’ children – Stephanie, 17, a junior at Priceville High; Cody, 19, who attends Mitchell College in Connecticut; Blake, 20, of Altus, Okla.; and Marie, 24, of Panama City, Fla. The copies were obtained from AUSA’s national headquarters in Washington, D.C.

“Sgt. 1st Class Faddis’ wife, Alicia, called us and asked if we could get copies of the magazine cover for each of their children,” Howell said. “We took care of it for them. This is something special that we can do for one of our Soldiers and his family.”

■ Army taking care of its wounded warriors

Visit

continued from page 2

Today, we provide health care, counseling and leadership support along the entire continuum of care, all within an environment mirroring the Soldier's former unit. This care goes beyond medical care and includes specialized help with personal relationships, stress management, counseling and a whole range of offerings aimed at encouraging each warrior to take positive steps toward overcoming adversity. This effort is done in conjunction with the Soldier Family Assistance Centers which are specifically designed to offer recovering Soldiers and their families education, vocational and financial services. Veterans Benefits Administration counselors also provide support at these centers.

We have come as far as we have because we listened to our Soldiers, and our medical and personnel professionals. We continue to gather their thoughts and ideas to further transform the system to make it more responsive. We conduct town hall meetings, make available to Soldiers and their families ombudsmen who are able to cut through mountains of red tape to provide needed assistance, and operate a 24-hour-a-day hotline (1-800-984-8523) to provide two-way communication with our Soldiers and their families. This is not an example of an organization in denial — it's proof that we are agile, adaptable and responsive.

Today these WTUs provide our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers more personalized care than ever before in our history. We ask these Soldiers to focus on their healing, and, in turn, we offer them a familiar environment of support, focus and discipline.

As we wrapped our arms around all Soldiers with complex medical issues, the WTU population grew. It grew because we added Soldiers into the program whether they were injured in combat, had a sports injury or were going through the medical evaluation system. We felt that this approach was the morally right thing to do, and yet over and over again I see the Army being criticized for doing what is right.

We need to work on how we communicate our story to the American public and the media because I find the coverage to be off target.

We may not be exactly where we want to be today, but we are working hard to get there.

The healing process takes all of us. Recently, I met a 14-year-old daughter of a Soldier who was wounded in combat, and she told me that when her dad was wounded, their whole family was wounded and needed to heal. These wounds, illnesses, and injuries touch families, communities and industries — all of us.

I would encourage every American to go visit a WTU or become a volunteer to help our wounded, ill and injured warriors and our nation heal. To sign up, go to <http://giftstoarmy.army.mil>.



Courtesy photo

Technical fellowship

Camber Corporation chief executive officer Walter Batson, far right, and Camber president Joe Alexander, far left, recognize Dr. Clark Edward Runnion, left, and Dr. Clarence Longcor, right, as Camber Technical Fellows. The third honoree, Ronald Lawson Reilly, was unable to attend the awards ceremony.

■ Soldiers render aid to wounded enemy

Medics

continued from page 2

at their skin. I was shocked but quickly snapped out of my trance. "I am a Soldier, it's my job to be focused," I said to myself.

I hurried into the building behind the wounded men, careful not to disrespect them with a large camera in their face while they are in pain.

Screams filled the operating room as the wounded men were being worked on. Two of the men lost both their legs while the other broke every bone from his waist down. The medics worked together to stop the bleeding from the extremities, and save the life of these men who were quickly losing blood.

And that's when it really hit me.

Our Soldiers, men and women, young and old; working together to save the very lives of those who tried to bring harm to us. This is not a new practice; Soldiers have saved the lives of their enemies for

years. But you never really see this in the movies or even on the local news stations. The media outlets such as CNN, Fox News, BBC and others only show trouble in the streets or car bombs going off.

These Soldiers were showing true compassion to the lives of others. Compassion, this is something the Army doesn't teach you. This was what these medics stood for; it's what they believe. It didn't matter to them that these men looked different or worshiped a different god; they were people who needed their help.

Time quickly flew as the men were being worked on. The lives that were soon to be lost were brought back to life by the undying efforts these medics gave. All three men survived.

After I left the medical station, I started to cry. Not because of the gruesome reality of war that I saw, but because I was reminded by a group of Soldiers that there were still good people in the world — kind, noble people.

These medics gave those men the best gift in the world — a second chance at life.

Helping hands

Citizen-Soldiers distribute food as Louisiana recovers

*Racing to give support
after Hurricane Gustav*

By Staff Sgt. JEFF LOWRY

Special to American Forces Press Service

LIVINGSTON, La. – Like a scene from pit road during a stock car race, cars and trucks formed a line as National Guard Soldiers, looking like pit crew members, gave away packaged meals and water to Louisiana residents suffering from damage left in Hurricane Gustav's wake.

That was the scene at one of many distribution points set up across the state to help citizens recover from the storm and deal with the loss of electrical power.

"I think it's great," Floyd Wagner of Killian, La., said, commenting on the food and water he was about to receive. "(Louisiana residents) need all the help they can get, because everybody in the community needs it."

Two tractor trailer trucks delivered more than 6,000 boxes Sept. 3, each box

containing 12 meals. Later, a tractor-trailer load of bottled water arrived.

Depending on the specific distribution point, citizens could receive water, ice, food or tarps.

First in line here was Ruby Mayeaux of Livingston. She said she was driving by and saw the trucks arrive at a local kennel club. "The Lord blessed me," she said of her prized position in line.

Radio reports said lines at some distribution points were nine hours long. Within an hour, the line at the Livingston distribution point extended a mile down the exit ramp to Interstate 12; another line extended about a half mile on the overpass.

The National Guard Soldiers said they are happy to deliver the food and water.

"It feels really good that we can help out," said Pvt. Marvin Warner of Vidalia, La., as he helped stack the boxes of meals. Warner is a driver for the 1086th Transportation Company.

"It's pretty fun going to different places every day," said Warner, who has been to five towns since Aug. 28. Warner



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry

PACKAGED MEALS— Pvt. Marvin Warner of Vidalia, La., a driver with the Louisiana National Guard's 1086th Transportation Company, helps stack boxes of packaged meals Sept. 3 at Livingston, La.

See **Hurricane** on page 15

Family joins veteran in visiting memories in Italy

Residents in northern region recall Soldiers of WW II

By KARI HAWKINS
 Staff writer
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World War II veteran Robert McCall has spent several summer vacations revisiting the memories of his Army service in northern Italy.

For the past five summers, McCall has visited the Italian village of Fusine Laghi in what is now known as the Friuli Venezia Giulia region and where he was stationed in 1945-46. This past summer, his family joined him – sharing in a family reunion that allowed McCall to show his five children, their spouses and seven of his grandchildren where he served during WW II and to once again renew his longtime friendships with Italian citizens.

“Over the years, I have met old friends and made a number of new ones in the area,” he said. “During these travels, I came to realize how great an impact these years had on my life. Lately, I have been bringing family members with me. I felt it was important that they know something about the area where I spent some of my formative years.”

It was during his summer trip of 2007 when a friend, military historian Selvino Ceschia of Gorizia, Italy, suggested Italy could be the destination for the next McCall family reunion.

“We have enjoyed reunions at varied locations over the years – the Gulf coast of Florida and Alabama, the mountains of West Virginia and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, to name a few,” McCall said.

So, McCall and 17 of his family members descended on the northern region of Italy together, taking in the sites, learning about military history, meeting McCall’s Italian friends and enjoying several social events.

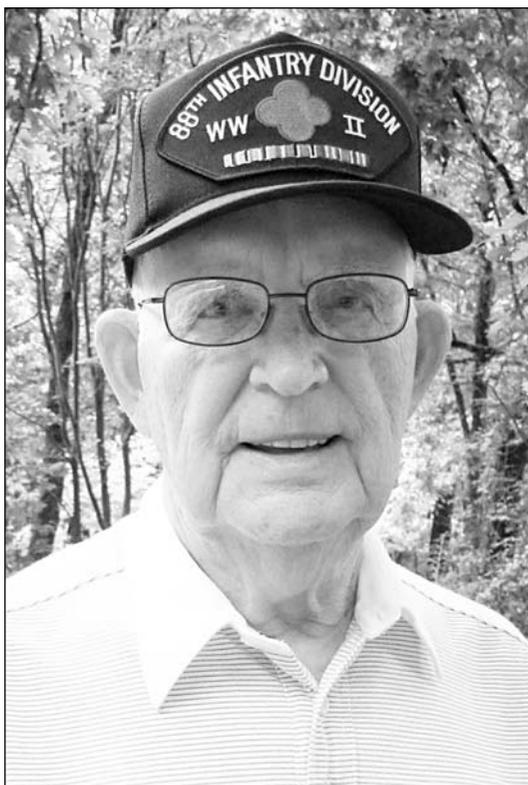


Photo by Kari Hawkins

VETERAN SOLDIER— Robert McCall enjoys reminiscing of his time in the Army, especially his service with the 88th Infantry Division along the Mmorgan Line between Italy and Yugoslavia in the months following World War II.

“We were pretty well organized,” McCall said. “There were certain things we all did together, like visit the historical sites and have dinner together. But there were other times when we would all take off where we wanted to go. We were traveling in five cars so we all had freedom to pursue our different interests.”

“But to be able to take my family to this little village where I was stationed and to have them meet my friends there, that was very special for me.”

McCall was drafted into the Army in 1945 at age 18.

“During my last week of basic training, the U.S. dropped the atomic bomb,” he said. “All our training was geared toward



Courtesy photo

FAMILY TIME IN ITALY— World War II veteran Robert McCall, far left, poses with some of his family members and student guides at the Gorizia Castle in northern Italy. McCall and his family enjoyed a summer reunion visiting the Italian villages where McCall served during the months following the end of WW II.

fighting in the Pacific. But then we ended up in Italy.”

McCall’s first Army duty assignment was with Company F, 351st Infantry Regiment, 88th Infantry Division along the Mmorgan Line in Fusine Laghi in the months after the end of World War II.

“There was a lot of conflict between Yugoslavia and Italy over that territory,” he recalled. “We were charged with policing the area. Our Soldiers engaged in several small firefights along the border.”

During his two years in Italy, McCall went quickly up in rank from private to sergeant first class.

“I was a private on Dec. 1, 1945, when I got to Italy,” he said. “I was promoted to private first class on Dec. 5th or 6th. On Dec. 20th, I was promoted to sergeant. By June 1946, I was a sergeant first class.”

“Because it was the end of the war, a lot of NCOs and officers were going home at about the time we arrived in Italy. They needed us to step up and do the work these Soldiers were leaving behind. Most of us

who were left were just young kids – 18, 19, 20 years old. But if we did the work, we got promoted.”

McCall remained in Italy until late 1946 and was discharged from the Army in early 1947. He went to work for Ford Motor Company, in Detroit, Mich., married and started a family. During that time, he remained in the Army Reserves. He was recalled in 1950 for active duty during the Korean War, serving in Korea and Japan as the personnel sergeant major for the 56th Amphibious Tank Battalion.

After this second tour of duty, McCall decided to dedicate himself to a career in the Army. His 27 years of service included multiple assignments in the U.S., Germany and Vietnam. He retired in 1972 as a chief warrant officer 4.

Although he first served in the Army as an infantryman, McCall completed a class in radio repair before being drafted and hoped to eventually make that his career.

See Memories on page 23

Center of Standardization does construction contract

Children's center set for Fort Campbell

By JENNY STRIPLING
Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville

Next year, life for Soldiers and their families at Fort Campbell, Ky., will become a little easier with the development of a new child development center for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years.

The Center of Standardization at the Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, awarded a contract July 18 for the child development center, ages 0-5 project, at Fort Campbell to Nation-view/Bhate JV III of Birmingham for \$7,649,768.

Under the contract, 30 child development centers will be built over the next several years across the southern U.S., beginning with Fort Campbell, covering three age groups including 6 weeks to 5 years, 6-10 years and youth activity centers.

The child development centers and youth activity centers will be built according to an Army standard which was signed in March by Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, assistant chief of staff for installation management. The standard simplifies construction methods and reduces construction costs.

Care on installations

The COS for child development centers will be out in the field for all design

meetings when a geographic district is preparing to design a facility at an installation. They ensure the design meets the standards for such things as square footage per child and services offered.

"The ultimate goal is to have a safe, clean and convenient place on installations for the families to bring kids," said Art Dohrman, COS program manager for the Huntsville Center. "We want to make things as easy as possible for the Soldiers and let them focus on their jobs and not have to worry about taking their children off base for day care and then rush back to work on the installation."

Huntsville Center employees from the Engineering, Installation Support and Programs Management and Contracting directorates and Office of Counsel worked with a variety of external team members including Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Fort Campbell Garrison, Louisville District of the Corps, and the U.S. Army Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Command, who is the customer and proponent, to procure this contract.

"We have several team members who have helped tremendously," Dohrman said. "Jay Clark is an architect with Huntsville's Engineering Directorate and has been the lead on the CDC age 0-5 standard, creating the final building plans that incorporated all of the new modules and functional requirements."

Team project

Roger Young, Engineering Directorate, is the Source Selection Board chairman for the Southern Region Child and Youth Services facilities contract acquisition. Young assembled the team of experts who evaluated multiple contractors and selected those considered a best match for the projects and contracts.

"The team worked long hours to develop design standards for these facilities that reflect the current national certification standards for child care facilities," Young said. "This project was truly a team effort."

The project engineer for the child development centers is Sandy Wood, Engineering Directorate, who has been deeply involved in the standard designs of the centers and served as an adviser to the selection boards. Lisle Lennon and Aaron Kelly, who work in the Contracting Directorate, have also played an integral part in the process.

"We are confident that we are providing Soldiers outstanding facilities where their children are safe, secure and well cared-for," Young said.

■ National Guard responds to hurricane victims

Hurricane

continued from page 12

is a physical therapy major at University of Louisiana Monroe when not serving in the Guard.

Spc. Zachary Morrison of the Tennessee National Guard said he takes honor in helping his fellow Americans.

"It's good to help Americans in their time of need," he said as he directed the drivers to pit road.

"It's good to help, but home is home. It's good to help Americans when you can," said Morrison, an infantryman with Headquarters Troop, 2nd Battalion, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry serves with the 120th Public Affairs Detachment.

SMDC provides direct support to war fight

Space and missile defense organization serves number of roles and functions

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
 Staff writer
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National defense and war fighters rely on missile capabilities and space-based communications. The Space and Missile Defense Command leads the Army's effort in both fields.

"We are the premier space and missile defense organization within the Army," Col. John Hamilton, SMDC chief of staff, said. "We have a number of roles and functions that we perform."

SMDC completed its move to the Werhner von Braun Complex in 2007 as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure. It was a return home of sorts. Their predecessor, the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile Office was created on the installation in 1957 and the organization has maintained a presence of some sort at the installation ever since. Over the years, the organization has seen many changes to reflect its mission in the evolving Army. Most recently, its name took on the added title and responsibilities of the Armed Forces Strategic Command in 2006.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

HOME BASE— Space and Missile Defense Command is headquartered in the Werhner von Braun Complex.

Their mission breaks down into two main components, an operational portion and one that deals with research, development and acquisition. Both sides have a direct effect on Soldiers in the field, Hamilton said. Knowing that makes for a rewarding job.

"We're actually supporting war fighters every day. Every day there is a Soldier on the ground that's relying on the capabilities we provide. It's a 24-7 operation," Hamilton said. "Without those capabilities, our Soldiers would be even more at risk. It feels good to know that we are as an organization contributing directly to that."

The operational portion is global, as is their mission. They have numerous brigades and battalions of active duty and Guard Soldiers on the job worldwide providing the communications, warning and interceptor services crucial to the battle-front.

"We provide all the communications from the president right on down to the Soldier on the ground through satellite communications. We provide that globally," Hamilton said.

They also have a Washington, D.C. location which handles the integration of training, doctrine, leadership education, materiel and the like for all Ballistic Missile Defense System components.

Tenants of Redstone

14th in a series

The primary elements of the RDA part of their business are located here at Redstone. Some 800 civilians and contractors work within their walls at Redstone as part of the over 2,000 people they employ

worldwide. The RDA component is comprised of three main areas. While they each have individual functions, they come together to provide advanced capabilities that fit Soldier's needs in a cost effective way.

"In addition to being a war fighting command — which most commands are either a research, development and acquisition or a training and development kind or organization or operational — we span all of that," Hamilton said.

The three components, Technical Center, Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, and Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center, represent the organization's efforts to develop and improve technology. They find ways to use space capabilities for the war effort. They are technical managers, materiel and combat developers. They handle the business end of SMDC/ARSTRAT operations. They also oversee employees working within other organizations.

Their relationships with other organizations are important, Hamilton said. Moving to Redstone with the organizations which are located here was not a random decision.

"If I had to say one thing that was important about the command's move to Huntsville and MDA's move to Huntsville, it's that it's all synchronized to make Redstone Arsenal the center of excellence for missile defense and future technology," Hamilton said. "We partner with them in a lot of areas. We do the operations and they do the research and development. Our research, development and acquisition people are in support of MDA in a lot of what they do. It's a great relationship there."

Lesser known is the fact that SMDC also manages the Army's astronauts at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. There are four Army astronauts in the program. The next to launch is preparing for a November mission. SMDC provides operational support for them, as they did their 11 predecessors.

SMDC plans on being busy with new technologies. Some of their projects are already making headlines.

"We have proponency for the Army for the Ground-Based Midcourse Missile Defense System, which is the new system you hear so much about," Hamilton said. "We're also the lead for the Forward-Based X-Band Radar."

Other projects are not as grand in scope. While they may be smaller in size, they are big in impact to Soldiers. They

Army Experience Center opens in Philadelphia

Gives virtual view
of Army lifestyle

By CARRIE McLEROY
Army News Service

PHILADELPHIA— The Army opened the Army Experience Center, a one-of-a-kind, 14,500-square-foot virtual educational facility Aug. 29 at the Franklin Mills Mall.

The AEC, central to the Army Experience Pilot Program, offers visitors the opportunity to virtually experience many aspects of Army life, while evaluating new marketing strategies.

Located near a popular entertainment facility and an indoor skate park, the AEC features a number of interactive simulations and online educational opportunities. It is manned by more than 20 Soldiers who are available to share their stories with visitors and answer questions they may have about the Army. Although the Soldiers who run the center are trained recruiters, the AEC is not a recruiting center, according to Ryan Hansen of Ignited Corporation, who partnered with the Army on the project.

“The center is an attraction tool. There is no recruiting mission here,” Hansen said. “Here it is more about changing perceptions.”

The Soldiers at the AEC don't have quotas. They don't wear traditional Army uniforms, but rather black Army polo shirts and khaki pants. They are from diverse backgrounds and have unique stories to tell. At first glance they seem more

■ More than 2,000 people
worldwide represent SMDC

Support

continued from page 17

are working on technologies to address immediate communication needs in the war fight, Hamilton said.

“It's called SMDC-1 and it's a small nanosat,” he said. “We have these big satellites operating in space. Everybody relies on them. Everybody is counting on them. But there are also capabilities for the war fighter in the field where they may need for communications or enhancements in his little part of the world. So we're looking at the capability to put small little satellites a couple of feet wide up in space that for a short period of time can handle his communication needs.”



Photo by Carrie McLeroy

SIMULATOR— Visitors to the Army Experience Center in Philadelphia are afforded the opportunity to get to know the Army via interactive components like the armored Humvee simulator.

like tour guides than Army recruiters, and in a sense, they are. They guide center visitors through their tour of the facility.

“They are the Army,” Hansen said. And as the center's slogan states, “The Army is more than you think it is.”

Through market research, and proven outreach tools like the “America's Army” game and the mobile “Virtual Army Experience,” Hansen said the Army learned that the best way for people to become acquainted with their Army was for them to be able to touch, feel and see the Army in a non-threatening environment. By incorporating the lessons learned from and technologies of those outreach tools, officials believe the Army Experience Center will make the Army accessible to visitors.

“What we are doing here is reaching out to Americans, giving them the opportunity to understand their Army,” said Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, head of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. “Often-times people have a negative perception of the Army, but the negatives are a very small part. Our Soldiers are well-trained, well-equipped and serving a great mission.”

The Army Experience Center, Bostick added, will help dispel many of the myths that exist about the Army.

Transparency was one of the main focuses in the design of the center, said Maj. Larry Dillard, AEC program manager. The outside is made of glass, as are the fronts of every enclosed space within the center, with the exceptions of the simulator areas, which require low light to operate.

“Everything's transparent. We don't want to fuel the misconception that once our Soldiers tell their great Army stories, we drag kids behind a ‘black curtain’ and they come out enlisted,” Dillard said. “We have nothing to hide. If someone wants to know more about the Army, great. If not, at the very least we will have changed their perception of the Army. The Army is a great deal and people just don't understand that.”

The idea of the center, which cost \$12 million to design and construct, was first conceived in December 2007, said Ed Walters, chief marketing officer and principal deputy secretary of the Army. “Visitors to the center will have a better idea of the training and career opportunities

afforded our Soldiers, and the high-tech nature of our institution.”

Upon entering the AEC, visitors provide a minimal amount of information to register – name, date of birth, address and education level. They have the option to receive additional information about the Army, but are not obligated to do so. People of all ages are welcome to visit the center, but gaming activities are limited to people 13 and older, as the Entertainment Software Rating Board rates many of the gaming activities T for teens.

Following registration, visitors are then issued an identification card, which is swiped at each station within the center. All activities are free to participants.

“Everything in the center showcases a piece of the Army,” Dillard said.

The Global Base Locator highlights Army installations throughout the United States and abroad. The Career Exploration Area lets visitors use its touch-screen technology to learn about 179 different Army career fields. The simulator area houses three simulators, including an Apache helicopter with pilot and co-pilot

See Life on page 18



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

Big boom

Members of HHC 59th blew up a car with explosives during Ordnance chief Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar's visit to Redstone. The explosion was to show Collyar methods of training for the Soldiers going through Explosive Ordnance Disposal instruction.

Service academy applications available

WASHINGTON — Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) on Sept. 2 announced that applications are available for U.S. service academy nominations. The service academies include the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy.

"I hope that many young people in Alabama will consider applying to our nation's service academies to further their education," Shelby said. "The service academies provide outstanding educational opportunities while instilling the virtues of leadership, strength in character and

service to our nation."

Service academy nominees must be residents of Alabama and must complete the required ACT or SAT exam. Applicants are also required to provide a completed application form, letters of recommendation and their school transcript.

For more information about how to apply for a nomination, contact Shelby's Tuscaloosa office at (205) 759-5047 or visit Shelby's web site at www.shelby.senate.gov to access information and download an application. *(Release from Shelby's office)*

■ Virtual educational facility tries to change perceptions

Life

continued from page 17

experiences, Black Hawk helicopter with four door gunner positions, and an armored Humvee with driver and gunner positions.

The gaming area lets visitors play America's Army, the Army's official computer game, as well as other games. There are a number of Xbox 360s plus networked PCs for video games.

The Tactical Operations Center highlights Army career opportunities in communications, command and control, military intelligence and technology. The area can also be used for group presentations and online education, Dillard said.

A large lounge area fills the middle of

the AEC, and there is a small retail area that offers Army-branded merchandise and snacks for sale (the Army does not receive profits from sales).

The Army will run the Army Experience Center as a pilot program for up to two years, Walters said.

"We will be analyzing results of the various areas throughout that time, and determine if any of the innovations can be used as separate entities at other locations."

There are no plans to replicate the center in other markets at this time, Walters said.

"The Army is not all about boots and guns," Dillard said. "We want to give people the opportunity to experience the Army for themselves, so they have an understanding of what Soldiers do, and they can be proud of their service."

Win or lose

Bravo Company regroups for postseason

League leaders rebound for victory over Academy

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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The Bravo Company volleyball team may have been looking past the NCO Academy last Thursday night.

But the first-place Bulldogs found themselves trailing the resurgent Academy team after the first set.

Bravo rallied to win 24-26, 25-19, 15-8 at Pagano Gym. The Bulldogs improved to 8-1 with one game remaining Sept. 9 before the postseason tournament scheduled Sept. 11-18.

“What won the game was good teamwork,” Bravo player/coach Edwin Villamil said. “We came to this game a little overconfident because the NCO Academy totally changed their team. The team they had first part of the season wasn’t this good. The team they had last night was great. We regrouped after the first set. Then we were able to take it all the way home the second set.”

Bravo remained alone in first place with its only loss Aug. 26 to the Civilian Welfare Fund. The Bulldogs responded by beating HHC 59th 25-14, 25-17 on Aug. 28 and then the NCO Academy.

“When the season first started, it was only us and the Marines that I was worried about,” Villamil said of the league’s early leaders. “Now going into the postseason there’s four teams that could really take it – the civilians, the Marines, the NCO Academy and us. Four teams that are really good enough to take it all.”

“We are the best team. But we’re going to have to bring our ‘A’ game to every game in the post-season if we want to take it all.”

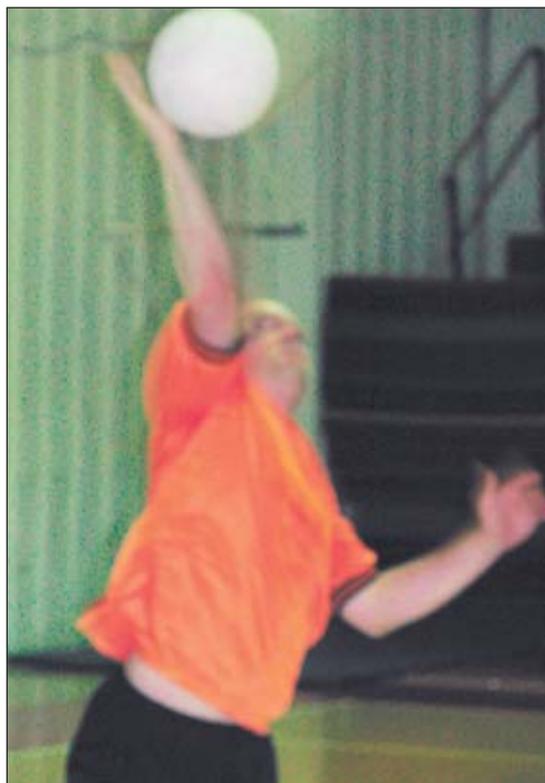


Photo by Skip Vaughn

SERVES UP— Bravo player Patrick Caton serves during Thursday’s win over NCO Academy.

In Thursday’s other games, the Marines beat defending champion Headquarters & Alpha 25-16, 25-16; and CWF defeated HHC 59th 25-16, 25-12.

Standings entering this week had Bravo (8-1), CWF (7-2), Marines (6-3), NCO Academy (3-6), Headquarters & Alpha (2-7) and HHC 59th (1-8).

Georgia shows bite against South Carolina

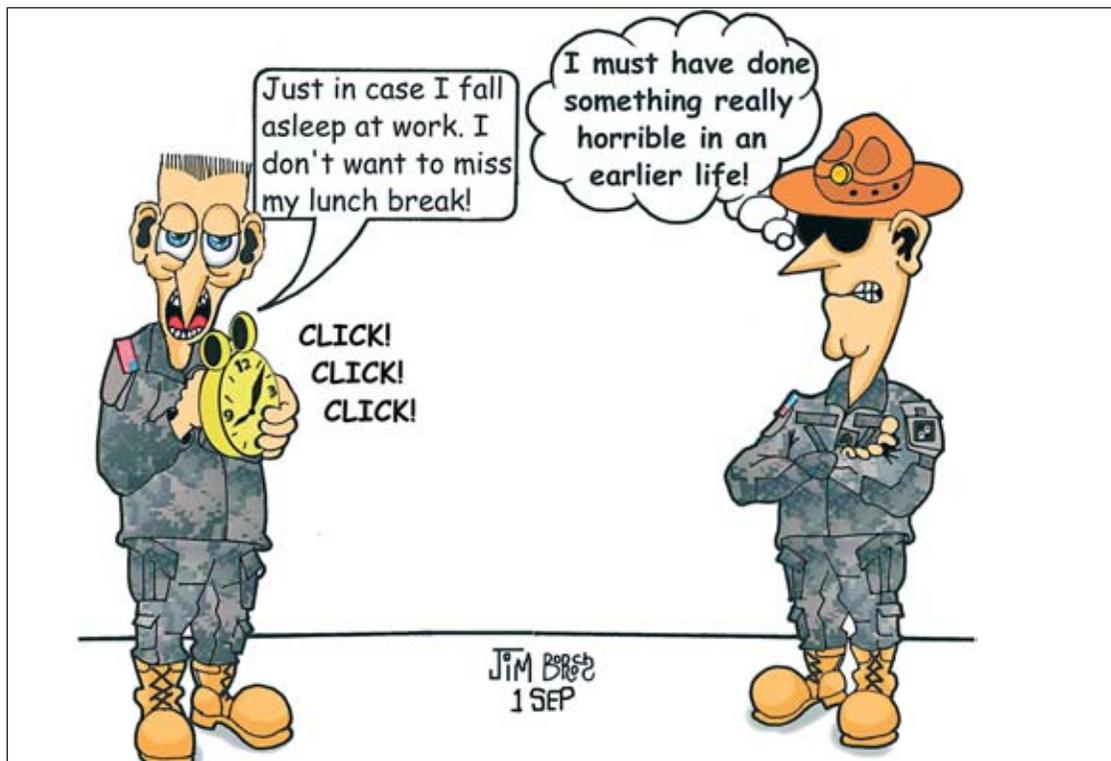


Bulldogs picked to win on road

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@htimes.com

Skip’s Picks are 81-19 after two weeks of the college football season. Here are this week’s predictions:

- Georgia at South Carolina — **Georgia**
- Auburn at Mississippi State — **Auburn**
- Western Kentucky at Alabama — **Bama**
- Alabama A&M at Louisiana-Monroe — **La.**
- North Carolina at Rutgers — **Rutgers**
- Kansas at South Florida — **Kansas**
- California at Maryland — **Cal**
- Iowa State at Iowa — **Iowa**
- Navy at Duke — **Navy**
- N.C. State at Clemson — **Clemson**
- UAB at Tennessee — **Tenn.**
- Washington State at Baylor — **Baylor**
- East Carolina at Tulane — **EC**
- Air Force at Houston — **Houston**
- Arkansas at Texas — **Texas**
- Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech — **Ga. Tech**
- Michigan at Notre Dame — **Mich.**
- Oregon at Purdue — **Oregon**
- Penn State at Syracuse — **PSU**
- UCLA at Brigham Young — **BYU**
- Chattanooga at Florida State — **Fla. State**
- Hawaii at Oregon State — **Ore. State**
- Middle Tennessee at Kentucky — **Ky.**
- Rice at Vanderbilt — **Rice**
- Samford at Mississippi — **Ole Miss**
- Southern Methodist at Texas Tech — **Tech**
- Stanford at TCU — **TCU**
- Southern Miss at Arkansas State — **Ark. State**
- Virginia at Connecticut — **Conn.**
- Oklahoma at Washington — **Okla.**
- Arizona at New Mexico — **Arizona**
- North Texas at LSU — **LSU**
- Ohio State at Southern California — **USC**
- Utah at Utah State — **Utah**
- Wisconsin at Fresno State — **Wis.**
- New Mexico State at Nebraska — **Neb.**



Army releases 2008 Modernization Strategy

New capabilities tested to meet today's needs

By LINDY KYZER
OCA Media Relations Division

WASHINGTON — The Army has released the 2008 Army Modernization Strategy, the blueprint for the future of Army modernization.

Maj. Gen. Dave Halverson, the director of force development, discussed the new strategy in an interview with online journalists. He provided information about the survey and how it supports the Army's goals to provide the best equipment and capabilities to Soldiers.

Specifically, Halverson focused on how the modernization strategy offered an actionable way ahead for today's Army.

"Many times, with a modernization strategy, everyone's so focused on 'here's a weapons system' or 'here's a certain thing and here's what it can do; here's what it can't do' ...and it's like a catalog of performance measures," Halverson said. "This strategy that we've worked very hard with is much shorter, much better — because it actually explains why we have modernization and why we modernize within the forces — especially in persistent conflicts."

Halverson also pointed out how the modernization strategy is linked to the recently released FM 3-0, and how the modernization strategy supports the overall Army objective of dominance as a landpower.

In outlining Army progress in modernization, Halverson noted the need to continue to field talented scientists and engineers to build and create new equipment.

As a member of the Army Science and Technology Board, Halverson said he is frequently involved in discussions as to how science and technology investments today can pay off for Soldiers tomorrow.

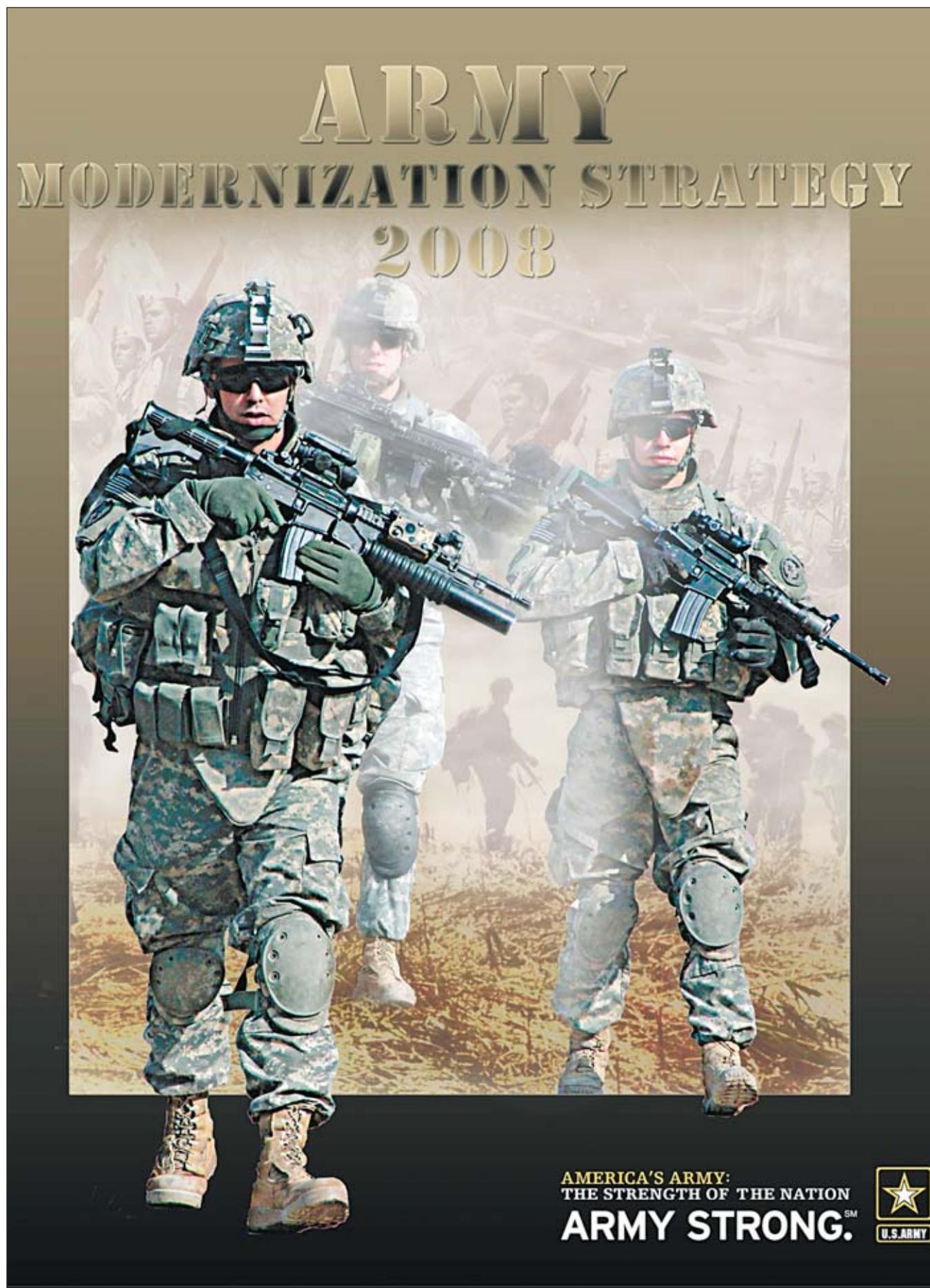
"Within the Defense Department, and obviously within the Army, we are pushing those things because I think it's very important," Halverson said, "because our Soldiers deserve the best, as they're fighting on foreign soil, and we have to have that so we can quickly give them the best advantage over the enemy."

One of the ways to provide that best advantage, according to Halverson, is through the fielding and acceleration of Future Combat Systems technologies into the battlefield.

"The reality is that it's just not future anymore," he said. "It's going on now, and we're giving capabilities to the Soldier...we're testing it now at Fort Bliss. As soon as we see things that we like, we can bring it up to the senior leaders and say, 'yes, this is where our investment needs to be.'"

One of the key components of today's modernization strategy is that it isn't just focused on where the Army wants to be in the future. In this era of persistent conflict, it is also fielding technologies today and continuing to modernize for tomorrow.

"We need to sit there and modernize to the next iteration," Halverson said, "because we have a learning enemy in this persistent conflict. He's trying to pull new things out there. We're seeing new threats... so we have to learn with that. And we have to do it with those Soldiers in contact — we have to give them the best and the most, so they can defeat this enemy and come home with their heads held high in victory."



STRATEGIC FRONT— This is the cover of the Army 2008 Modernization Strategy booklet.

Festival

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again for the second year a Sports Tent, sponsored by Knology and H.H. Gregg, where sports enthusiasts can watch their favorite sporting event on one of five big screen televisions.

“The Sports Tent was an overwhelming success last year. We’ve put an Alabama spin on Oktoberfest with the Sports Tent,” Gould said. “Visitors can watch college football on Saturday and professional football on Sunday. There is also a NASCAR race that weekend.”

The Sports Tent will include plenty of tables and chairs. And this year, for the first time, tent visitors will be able to enjoy Southern barbecue and Hot Wings provided by the Officers and Civilians Club.

Oktoberfest will also offer a local art show and a craft vendor area, and an outdoor circus that will perform at various times during the day. There will also be festival sponsors exhibiting their products, such as vehicles displayed by Bill Heard Chevrolet and Enterprise Rent-A-Car and recreational vehicles displayed by Madison RV. Home Depot, another festival sponsor, will offer a chance for children to make a birdhouse or small bench. Other sponsors with displays will include WZYP, Redstone Federal Credit Union, Verizon, Fox 54, the Arsenal’s Child & Youth Services and *The Huntsville Times*. Supreme Beverage Co. and Coca-Cola are also festival sponsors and the Officers and Civilians Club will be a sponsor exhibitor this year with a crowd-pleasing special.

“One thing we’ve noticed is our lines at the funnel cake vendors have always been long at Oktoberfest,” Gould said. “So, this year, we will also be selling funnel cakes at the ROCC exhibit area.”

Festival organizers will also work to keep lines down in the Fest Hall Tent, where German and domestic beers along with German foods such as bratwurst, schnitzel, sauerkraut and red cabbage will be served. Of course, the main event under the Fest Hall Tent will be Terry Cavanaugh and the Alpine Express, which has brought its style of traditional German music and polkas to Oktoberfest for many years.

“They are always a big hit,” Gould said. “The kind of music they play and the German-inspired dancing

and celebrating are the centerpiece for our Oktoberfest.”

Terry Cavanaugh and the Alpine Express will perform from 6 to 11 p.m. Thursday, 7 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday, and 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday.

There will also be a German-inspired carnival souvenir available at Oktoberfest. FMWR’s Arts and Crafts Center will be offering a festival mug personalized with a photo.

Whether Oktoberfest is attractive because of its authentic German food and music or because of its carnival rides, there’s plenty for everyone to enjoy at this festival.

“We want everyone to have fun,” Gould said. “We have always offered a lot of things to do at Oktoberfest and at a cost that is much more affordable than some of the other local festivals.”

Photo by Kari Hawkins

OOMPAH!— Dressed in traditional German fashion, an employee of the Officers and Civilians Club takes time out from her waitressing duties during Oktoberfest 2007 to dance to the music of Terry Cavanaugh and the Alpine Express.



■ World War II vet takes family to Italy for reunion

Memories

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“My brother was wounded in World War II and he told me to get a skill that would really let me contribute to the Army. So, when I went in, I had already taken the radio repair class,” he said. “But they needed infantry and combat Soldiers. So it took me another 10 years to get back into electronics.”

Eventually, McCall’s Army service led him to work in research and development of missile systems. In 1966, he came to Redstone Arsenal, where he was an instructor on the Hawk missile system. After two tours in Vietnam with the 128th Signal Company, he returned to his instructor position at Redstone Arsenal. He was deployed again to Vietnam in 1971, and retired in 1972.

McCall then worked as a government

contractor at Redstone Arsenal, obtained a master’s degree and an education specialist degree, and taught business classes at Athens State University for 20 years.

In 2003, the 88th Infantry Division Association placed a plaque at its last headquarters in Italy. McCall, who is now president of the association’s southeastern chapter, traveled to Italy to be part of the presentation.

“I had always wondered about that period and that place,” he said. “It had a big impact on my life and was one reason I became career military. When I was there, I felt like we were doing something very worthwhile. The people there had been through terrible, terrible times and we were necessary to keep the peace.”

The trip in 2003 brought those memories back for McCall. During that trip, he met Selvino Ceschia, who helped him find Fusine Laghi.

“At first glance, it looked almost exactly as it did 60 years ago,” he said.

During his visit, McCall talked to residents of Fusine Laghi, many who were children during WW II and who remembered the Americans stationed there during that time.

“I had an album of photographs from the period when I was there,” McCall said. “They were starting a small museum at the time and they had nothing from that period. So I shared my photographs. A few months later, they asked me for a narrative to go along with the photographs. Then they asked me if I could come back in September for the opening of their museum. My photographs and narrative were the first showing for the museum.”

McCall met many more residents of the area during his second trip. He then began going back every year. In 2004, he participated in the dedication of a plaque at Fusine Laghi honoring the American Soldiers who served there and in 2005 he coordinated the exchange of gifts between the mayor of Tarvisio, Italy, and Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer.

This year, his family met him in Gorizia, the location of the 88th Infantry Division’s last headquarters in Italy, on June 21. The family spent 11 days in the Gorizia and Tarvisio areas of Italy, filling their days with trips to local sites, wineries and historical sites and their nights enjoying local entertainment. In Fusine Laghi, the family visited a wine bar and restaurant that was formerly the Third Platoon quarters and that is now the location of the famous “Sergeant McCall Room” where McCall slept during his tour of duty 60 years ago.

“Everyone in my family agreed this was the best reunion ever,” McCall said. “They were impressed with everything about the region, from the beauty of the Adriatic coast in the south, to the majestic mounts in the north; the friendly people; the delicious food; and the wonderful wine. The children and grandchildren were so pleased to see and experience the places that they have heard about all their lives. My youngest grandson described it as the ‘trip of a lifetime.’”

Redstone NCO recognized for setting example

Marvan receives award from chief of Ordnance

By Spc. RYAN STROUD
59th Ordnance Brigade Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, the Army's 35th Chief of Ordnance, made a special stop Thursday during his visit to Redstone to meet one of 59th Ordnance Brigade's most outstanding Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Anthony Marvan.

Marvan, a member of HHC 59th and instructor/AIT squad leader to Charlie Company, recently competed for the Training and Doctrine Command Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award, placing second in the competition.

Collyar, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks, Army Ordnance Corps Center and Schools' command sergeant major, took a moment to personally congratulate Marvan on his achievements.

"This is quite an honor," said a smiling Marvan. "To make it to this level and to be recognized this way, getting to personally meet with Gen. Collyar and Command Sgt. Maj. Eubanks, it really is amazing and an honor."

During the meeting, Eubanks

awarded Marvan a special award for his accomplishments.

"This (award) is something I have developed for the Ordnance Center Schools that I want to give to senior leaders as they depart, but I felt (Marvan's) accomplishment could not go unnoticed and I really appreciate what he has done," Eubanks said.

"You are the first staff sergeant to receive one of these," Eubanks said to Marvan. "Everyone else who has been awarded has either been a sergeant major, lieutenant colonel or above, but you are extremely deserving of this."

Marvan, the Redstone Arsenal NCO of the Year, also hopes his students take note of his success and learn from it.

"I'm trying to set the example for (the students), teaching them to aim high," he said. "When you put your mind into something and work really hard, you can achieve great things and I hope they see that in me."

Collyar also had a special message for Marvan.

"The general told me to continue to set the example, inspire others and to continue to take the tougher jobs and compete," Marvan said. "He said my efforts will inspire others to do great things."



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

SPECIAL TRIBUTE— HHC 59th's Staff Sgt. Anthony Marvan, center, is congratulated by Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Eubanks, left, and Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, both of the Army Ordnance Corps Center and Schools. Marvan, Redstone Arsenal's NCO of the Year, was runner-up in the Training and Doctrine Command competition.

59th Ordnance Brigade

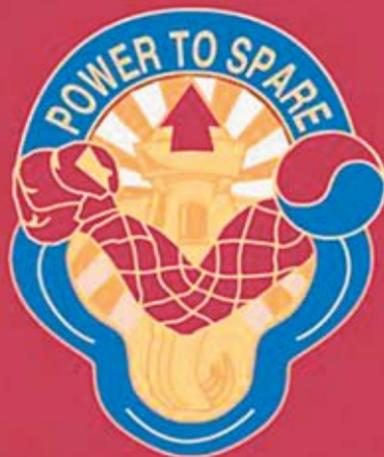
is having a Birthday!

Come help us celebrate
65 years of service
at the 59th Ordnance
Brigade Ball

03 October 2008
6:00 p.m.

Redstone Officer's and Civilian's Club

Tickets available in each Department



Crimson and gold are the colors
of the Ordnance Corps.

The unit's World War II service in
the Central Europe and Rhineland
campaigns is represented by
the castle tower and the
wavy band in the base,
and the general configuration
of the tower is an allusion to
ordnance material.

The dragon leg is adapted from
designs found on Korean artifacts.
Its five claws refer to the number
of campaign credits, and the
Taeguk symbol on its shoulder
denotes a Meritorious Unit
Commendation for
Korean Service.

A Celebration of Time → A Mark In History

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Pineapple open

The 14th annual OCWC Pineapple Open Charity Golf Tournament is Oct. 17 at the Links at Redstone. Sponsored by the Officer and Civilian Women's Club, this four-person scramble (no handicap) will have a shotgun start at 8 a.m. The entry deadline is Oct. 1. For more information, call 539-5996 or e-mail pineappleopen@primelogicllc.com.

Triple Threat run/walk

The Triple Threat Run/Walk is the morning of Oct. 4 at the Edgewater Community in Madison. Sponsored by the Marine Corps Reserve Center, this event benefits Toys for Tots. It includes a mile run/walk for beginner runners, a mile run for intermediate runners and a mile run for advanced runners. To preregister, mail the \$10 entry fee or any donations to Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3506 Memorial Parkway, Huntsville, AL 35801. For more information, call 213-9683. Sgt. Bradley Easley's extension is 102; and Gunnery Sgt. Wayne Byron's extension is 105.

Hunter orientation

MWR and Outdoor Recreation will hold the Hunter Safety Orientation for all those that want to hunt on Redstone on Sept. 16, 30, Oct. 14, 28, Nov. 11 or 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center. For more information, call 876-4868 or 876-6854.

School House 5K

The second annual School House 5K, to benefit Christmas Charities Year Round and the Councill High School renovation, is Saturday in downtown Huntsville. Registration is \$15, \$20 on race day. The 5K run starts at 8 a.m. and a fun run at 9. For more information, call 837-2373. Applications are available at www.christmascharitiesyearround.org.

Football books

The Post Library invites college football fans to its collection of books about their

favorite teams. "Those native to the state understand the fascination Alabamians have with the past, present and future of the University of Alabama and Auburn University football teams," a prepared release said. "Newer residents may still be learning. The MWR Post Library has a number of books highlighting the two football teams. From legendary coaches to unforgettable games on Southern Saturday nights, there's a book covering every aspect of those teams. Not an Alabama or Auburn fan, but interested in football? Have no fear — there are a number of selections to meet your needs. For example 'Big Games: College Football's Greatest Rivalries,' by Michael Bradley, does include Alabama-Auburn, but also details Harvard-Yale, Army-Navy, Michigan-Ohio State, and others." The library, on Redeye Road off Vincent, can be reached at 876-4741. For a library catalog, visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Punt/pass/kick

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter of Alabama A&M University Alumni Association is host for the second annual NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition sponsored by the Tennessee Titans on Sept. 20 at 1:30 p.m. at Louis Crews Stadium on the A&M campus. This competition is open to all male and female youth ages 8-15 in the Tennessee Valley area. Registration is free starting at 1:30 with the competition beginning at 2 on the visitors' side of the stadium. Parents or guardians signature is required on the Entry and Release of Liability Form along with child's birth certificate. Only sneakers are allowed to be worn by participants (no cleats' allowed). Participants in the PPK competition will receive a free ticket to the A&M vs. Central State (Ohio) football game starting at 6 that night at the stadium. Parents or guardians must purchase game ticket(s) to accompany participating youth. For more information, call C. Lamar Sterns 722-8093 or 679-8961 and Tourischeva Stubbs 372-4059.

Adult kickball

An adult kickball 2008 fall league is now forming in partnership between MWR

and Sports, Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine/Health Promotion and the Civilian Welfare Fund. A league formation and committee meeting is scheduled Sept. 17 at 9:30 a.m. at Pagano Gym. All players and team representatives are encouraged to attend. You only need four men and four women to field a team. The recommended number is 11 players. Rules will be disseminated at the meeting. For more information, call Rick Stock 955-8888 (ext.1443) or Gaylene Wilson 842-2574.

5K walk/run

The C.A.R.E. Center 5K race, the first of what is to become an annual event, is Sept. 20 at 8 a.m. at New Hope High School. "The purpose of the race is to raise funds that will allow the C.A.R.E. Center to continue to meet the needs of those who need assistance in southeastern Madison County," a prepared release said. For more information, e-mail Erin Owens at erinowens1@yahoo.com or Laura Hale at lth@comcast.net.

Benefit golf tournament

Still Serving Veterans, a Huntsville-based 501c non-profit organization, is teaming with Analytical Services Inc. to sponsor a golf tournament fund-raiser that will benefit wounded veterans and their families. The tournament is Oct. 3 at Cherokee Ridge Golf Course. To sponsor, visit www.stillservingveterans.org. Interested golfers should visit www.stillservingveterans.org.



Conferences & Meetings

Sergeants major

The Sergeant's Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Members are offered breakfast for \$6 plus tip. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For

more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain 842-6778.

Bible studies

Protestant Women of the Chapel meets each Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 for lunch and 6:30 p.m. for Bible studies, praise and worship, prayer, fellowship, food and fun at Bicentennial Chapel. Child care will be provided at the Child Development Center; and home-schooled children ages 6 and up will have a home-work/lesson room and supervisor provided for them at the chapel. For more information, call Sharon Olshefski 489-0404 and Laura Keegan 489-7686.

Veterans group

VFW Post 5162 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion building on Triana between Bob Wallace Avenue and Governors Drive. For more information, call Robert Davenport 679-3180.

Youth leadership

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars is holding its annual Youth Leadership Conference from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. This event is for high school sophomores and juniors, and select seniors who are returning as cadre. Students are selected for attendance through their school or home school association. The focus of the program is on leadership, patriotism/citizenship and free enterprise complemented by interaction with experienced professionals in government and industry. This program is on the National Association of Secondary School Principals' National Advisory List of Contests and Activities for this school year. Students interested in attending should contact their high school guidance counselors or principals/administrators.

APBI conference

The 2008 Advance Planning Briefings for Industry will be held Sept. 17-18 at the Von Braun Center East Hall 1. The theme for this year's conference is "Team of Teams — Supporting the Warfighter." The conference will provide information on the Army's aviation and missile technology efforts and requirements and information on potential contract opportunities.

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The conference will begin at 7 p.m. at a networking session the evening of Sept. 17. To register and for more information, visit <https://www.apbi.redstone.army.mil>. On-site registration will not be offered. For more information, call 842-9967 or e-mail redstone-apbi@conus.army.mil.

Toastmaster open house

Come enjoy some free pizza and learn about how to improve your speaking ability. Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club will have an Open House on Oct. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Paul Pickett 544-6078.

Ad federation

The Tennessee Valley Advertising Federation will have a luncheon Sept. 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Redstone Federal Credit Union's Education Center on Wynn Drive. Brian Hilson, president and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County, will speak on "Marketing Huntsville in Today's Economy: New Opportunities and Challenges."

Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. Students with a valid identification card may attend for \$5. The event fee can be paid upon arrival or in advance at tvaf.org.

Geospatial conference

The 2008 Rocket City Geospatial Conference, Nov. 18-20 at the Huntsville Marriott, will focus on geographic information system and location-based services applications developed by organizations, local and state governments from Alabama and surrounding regions. The conference should see its attendance expand this year, as the fifth annual Alabama GIS Symposium will be co-located with the event. For more information, visit www.DirectionsMedia.net.

Fleet reserve branch

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Sept. 27 at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565 Exit 3. For more information, call Bill Marriott 974-3763 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

Women in defense

Women in Defense will hold a membership reception Sept. 18 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Heritage Club in downtown Huntsville. "Come to network with WID members and potential members for our quarterly membership appreciation/recruitment reception," a prepared release said. "All AMCOM LCMC attendees will receive a special badge to encourage networking focused on meeting AMCOM LCMC attendees." Register by e-mail to Cristina Hinkle at chinkle@cohesionforce.com or call 562-0600.

Genealogical society

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society will meet Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library auditorium. The program is "New Places in the Wild, Wild World Wide Web," with speaker Robert Davis. For information call 883-5650.

Engineer post

The Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers meets at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The cost of the buffet lunch is \$10. Spotlight speaker is Weston Solutions. For reservations call Dan Foran 830-1031 or e-mail dforan@shearerassociates.com.

Security professionals

The Mid-South Chapter of NCMS, the Society for Industrial Security Professionals, invites you "The NISPOM Tell You What, We Tell You How" presentation Oct. 14 from 7 a.m. to noon at the Dynetic Corporation. DSS IS representative Derek Fleischmann will hold a "DD 254 Preparation" workshop. Teresa Dyers, FSO for CSC, will hold "The Role and Responsibilities of an FSO" workshop. The cost for NCMS members is \$25 and \$35 for non-members. To register call Paul Malone 428-1308.

Security luncheon

The Mid-South Chapter of NCMS, the Society for Industrial Security Professionals, will hold its next luncheon Oct. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn (by Madison Square Mall). The

luncheon costs \$15. The U.S. Investigative Service, contracted to Office of Personnel Management, will discuss "The Security Clearance Background Investigative Process." To register call Paul Malone 428-1308.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, Personal Growth Center. Joe Fitzgerald, president and founder of Honor Flight-Tennessee Valley Chapter, is guest speaker. For ticket information, call Kim Wright 876-6163 or Lisa Lowery 876-7086. Cost is \$11 for members, \$12 non-members.

Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table is Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. The presenter is Dr. Michael Bradley, a retired history professor at Motlow College in Tullahoma, Tenn., who will discuss "Nathan Bedford Forrest's Escort and Staff." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. For more information, call 890-0890.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer Group will meet Saturday at 9:15 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Rod Rakes will discuss "GPS for the Consumer." Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Federal employees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. in the cafeteria; and the cost is \$6. Members will then move to the auditorium at 10 for the program. The speaker is retired state employee Bill Adams of the Alabama Silver Hair Legislature. For more information, call 519-3327 or 539-1333.

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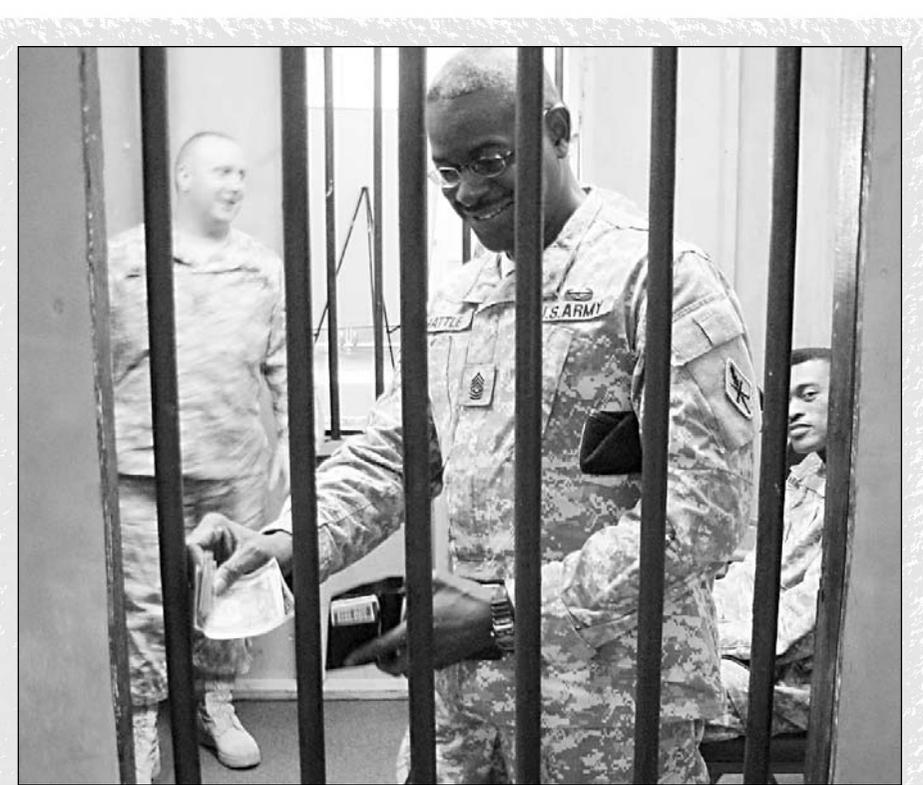


Photo by Capt. Allen Hughes

Jail bait

Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle, command sergeant major for 59th Ordnance Brigade, tries to bribe his way out of the HHC 59th jail Aug. 28. The jail house was set up by members of HHC 59th to help raise money for the upcoming Brigade Ball on Oct. 3. Soldiers could purchase minutes in jail for their superiors while their superiors could try to pay to get out.

Announcements

Admin professionals

The International Association of Administrative Professionals invites all civilians and contractors in any type of admin field to attend its meeting held every third Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call Hillary Marshall 313-1349.



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. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/o telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9436 or Chief Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

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Courtesy photo

Rocky Top tour

The International Military Student Office took four international students to the Nissan Factory in Smyrna, Tenn., and to the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center and Opry Mills Mall in Nashville. The students were from Egypt, Morocco and Jordan. From left are Maj. Salem Al-Domour from Jordan, Staff Sgt. Addi Jedgane from Morocco and Capt. Mwuafak Al-Hinnawi from Jordan.

Rocket Announcements

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.

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.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal, the DoD requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. There are two programs offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. For information call Keith Coates at the Garrison Safety Office 876-3383, e-mail keith.coates@us.army.mil or e-mail MSF instructor Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Thrift Shop job

An assistant manager is needed at the Thrift Shop. The hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday from 9-5. Salary will be discussed during interview. Location is building 3209 on Hercules Road. Application deadline is noon Thursday. For more information, call Karen Thompson 881-6992.

Reserve unit

If you have several years invested in your military career, you do not want conflicts between Reserve duty and civilian life to keep you from earning 20 qualifying years. The 184th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment affords you the opportunity to drill for retirement points

on Tuesday evenings. You still earn pay for and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

Butler High reunion

The Butler High School Class of 1973 is having a reunion, with a special invitation to the classes of 1972 and 1974, on Saturday at the Bevell Conference Center and Hotel on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. The cost is \$35 per person. Checks should be made out to "BHS 1973 Class Reunion" and mailed to Paula Neely Yerby, 2888 Bob Wade Lane, Huntsville, AL 35749-9160, or Margie Keever Jefferson, 25904 Jay Bee Way, Elkmont, AL 35620. For more information, call 852-4662. The web site is as follows: <http://www.srbutlerhighreunions.com/>.

Acquisition careerists

Quality applicants are being sought to apply for fiscal 2010 project/product manager and acquisition director positions at the GS-14/15 (or pay band equivalent) level. The announcement, open until Friday, is located on the USAJobs and Human Resources Command web pages. For more information call LaVerne Kidd 313-5039 or your acquisition career manager. You must be an Acquisition Corps member to apply.

Monte Sano art show

The 10th annual Monte Sano Art Show, a free outdoor event, is Sept. 20 in Monte Sano State Park. Everyone is invited to

bring friends and pets and enjoy a day of art, music, food and nature. More than 140 Southern artisans participate. For more information, visit www.MonteSanoArtShow.org.

Oktoberfest schedule

Redstone Arsenal's 13th annual Oktoberfest is Thursday through Sunday. Games, carnival rides, entertainment and parking are included with your low gate admission. Oktoberfest 2008 will be held on the Redstone Activity Field near the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. Fest times are Thursday from 5-11 p.m.; Friday from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturday from noon to 1 a.m.; and Sunday from 1-8 p.m. Price is Thursday and Sunday, \$8; and Friday and Saturday, \$10. For more information, call 876-4531 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.

VA benefits

Veterans Administration representative Andrew Carver will visit Redstone Arsenal on Wednesday of every week from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to provide anyone with assistance and information about veterans benefits and VA processes. Please give him a call and schedule an appointment at (334) 430-8860; or you can reach him at 842-2718 Wednesday only. Office location is building 3493, Retirement Services Division, Military Personnel Office. Family members, retirees and active duty are welcome to solicit information regarding VA benefits.

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 degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an Army

officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the active Army and the Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Cadet program

Join the Army Reserves 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 Reserves. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 922-1422.

Jam tickets

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is selling Big Spring Jam three-day passes for the corporate rate of \$45. Children 10 and under are admitted free with a paid adult. Payment is by check or money order only, payable to BSI. The last day for CWFC advanced three-day pass sales is Sept. 19. Three-day passes will not be sold at the BSI gates. The individual ticket price at the gate is \$25 per day. You can purchase your three-day passes from the following CWFC members: building 5250, Starla Bond 759-1854; building 7471, Charles Urban 955-7662; building 5303, John Everett 842-7819; building 5400, Bob Olson 876-4993; building 5304, Melissa McWhorter 313-6839; Missile Defense Agency (three locations) Don Clark 313-9442; building 5302, Jan Pickard 842-6625; 106 Wynn Drive, Sharon Whittaker, 955-2016; building 7804, Tom Bramhall 876-3836; building 5309, Jason Jones 842-2542; building 4545, Loretta Brooks 313-7406; building 5435, Dave Landrum 842-8534; building 111, Sue Sammons 842-2072; and building 5301, Luereen Phillips 876-6942. For the Big Spring Jam entertainment lineup, visit www.bigspringjam.org.

Employee orientation

The next New Employee Orientation for civilian employees is Sept. 16 from 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. NEO participants will receive training to orient them to federal employment and the installation, which will include: Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director remarks, staffing/classification procedures, employee benefits, Human Resources Development, management and employee relations and labor, American Federation of Government Employees, Equal Employment Opportunity, Legal, Communication Security, Defense



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

Morning run

Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, the Army's 35th Chief of Ordnance, leads Charlie Company through the darkness of night for a physical training run Sept. 5. The run is to inspire the Soldiers of Charlie and to motivate them for their upcoming day of training.

Acquisition University, Employee Assistance Program, and Morale Welfare and Recreation. For more information on how to participate in NEO, call Jessie McCray 313-0146 or Greg Hill 876-4803, CPAC HRD specialists. To obtain a space in this course, you must register by Sept. 15 in TIP at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil/>.

Veteran education

The North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence is accepting applications for the Veterans Upward Bound Program. Free services include career assessments, academic instruction, tutoring, counseling, life skills workshop and others. For more information and eligibility requirements, call 372-4600.

Military service awards

The 21st annual GEICO Military Service Awards Program, sponsored by the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation, is under way. The program honors one enlisted member from each of the five military services, and one enlisted member from the Guard/Reserves component, for outstanding service to his or her military and/or civilian community. Nominations are due by Oct. 31. For more information, call the local GEICO Insurance office 837-0551.

Diabetes walk

The "Step Out Walk to Fight Diabetes" is Sept. 28 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville lakeside. Registration starts at 1 p.m. and the walk at 2:30. Children 12 and under participate free. All other participants should raise or donate at least \$21 to participate. For more information, call Doris Lewis 539-4404.

Driver's license office

The Redstone Arsenal Alabama Driver's License Satellite Office, located in the PX/Commissary complex, has provided service on Tuesday and Wednesday during the summer. It will continue to be open Tuesday and Wednesday — from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed for lunch noon-1 p.m. — as long as the workload supports it staying open. The services available include transfer out-of-state driver's license, issue Alabama I.D. cards, renew your driver's license or state I.D., testing/license of vessel and motorcycles, and testing for learner's permit (no testing after 3 p.m.). The office can be reached at 882-8698.

Astronomy day

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will celebrate Astronomy Day on Sept. 27 at Monte Sano State Park. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6-11 p.m., activities include telescopes, planetarium shows, model rockets and more. Special guest is Roger Reid, author of a new children's book "Space," a murder mystery for middle school age children set in Monte Sano State Park and Swanson Observatory. Reid will autograph his books.

Honoring the deployed

Team Redstone's second Deployed Workforce Ceremony is Sept. 18 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. In recognition of Team Redstone's service and sacrifice,

Stomach commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles will honor all those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of Redstone Arsenal operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom from Jan. 18 to Aug. 10. Myles will present letters of recognition to Soldiers, civilians and contractors who have deployed and/or family members who have deployed in support of Redstone Arsenal operations. For more information, call Julia Story 842-7954 or Sofia Bledsoe 842-9828.

Motorcycle benefit

Birmingham Ride for Kids, benefiting the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, is Sunday at Barber Motorsports Park, 6040 Barber Motorsports Parkway, in Leeds (exit 140 off Interstate-20). "Join hundreds of other motorcyclists for a scenic ride through the Alabama countryside," a prepared release said. "You'll have a great time while raising funds for the PBTF's medical research and family support programs. Riders on all makes and models are welcome." Registration opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 9:45. The police-escorted ride starts at 10, rain or shine. The minimum donation to ride is \$35, but the more money you raise, the more premiums you earn. For each \$300 you raise, your name will be entered into a drawing for a new Honda motorcycle. For more information, call 800-253-6530.

Home school classes

Child and Youth Services will begin offering home-school support classes for the upcoming academic year beginning on Sept. 18. Home schooled children ages 5-18 are encouraged to attend. Children 5-9 will attend instructional classes at the School Age Services building located on Gray Road while students 10 and up will receive their instruction at the Youth Center on Youth Center Drive. There will be a brief parent orientation Sept. 18 at 12:30 p.m. at the Youth Center and again at the SAS center at 1:30. There is no cost associated with the program. Students at both centers will receive instruction in physical education, art and technology. For more information, call Dewayne Baldwin 842-9642.

Car show

The Bob Jones High School Drumline Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show is Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Madison City Schools Stadium. Proceeds from the show go toward the purchase of percussion equipment and travel expenses to drumline competitions. For more information, the web address is <http://www.geocities.com/bjhs-drumlinecarshow>.

Craft show

The Northeast Alabama Craftsmen's "Fall Craft Show" is Sept. 19-21 at the Von Braun Center. Admission is free. The hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

Ordnance ball

The 59th Ordnance Brigade's ball, celebrating 65 years of service, is Oct. 3 at 6 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tickets should be available in each

department at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School.

Disease awareness

The Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded in 2001 to accelerate research efforts leading to a cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, while educating, supporting, and advocating for the community of patients, families and medical professionals fighting this disease. National IPF Awareness Week is Sept. 7-13. For more information, call 1 (888) 222-8541 or visit www.coalitionforpf.org.

Engineer gala

The T.O.R.C.H. Gala presented by the North Alabama National Society of Black Engineers Alumni Extension is Saturday night at 7 at the Four Points Sheraton Huntsville Airport. The gala will feature a Celebrity Roast honoring former Alabama A&M University dean of engineering Dr. Arthur Bond and current Madison County District 6 commissioner Bob Harrison. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served and music will be performed by The ABSTRACT Band. Tickets and information are available by calling 694-0760 or 694-5594 or visiting www.nsbe-northalabamaae.org.

Marriage retreat

Grace and Truth World Outreach will hold its Hearts Ablaze Marriage Ministry Fall Retreat and Conference on Oct. 23-25 at Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa, 800 Cox Creek Parkway South in Florence. Cost of registration for the weekend is \$390 per couple and covers two nights stay (Thursday and Friday nights) at the hotel, a dinner on Friday night, afternoon snack on Saturday, a conference bag, two T-shirts, and conference materials. The registration deadline is Sept. 20. Call Cathy and Bruce Richardson 837-2180 or Denise and Ezell Grant (314) 277-9992 or e-mail heartsablazeconference@yahoo.com.

Men's health

Prostate cancer is one of the most common types of cancer in men, affecting about one in six men in the United States. A diagnosis of prostate cancer can be scary not only because it can be life-threatening, but also because treatments can cause side effects such as bladder control problems and erectile dysfunction (impotence). But diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer have gotten better in recent years. You are invited to learn the latest information provided by a Fox Army Health Center nurse educator Sept. 18 from noon-1 p.m. in the Wellness Classroom. The class is open to all active military and their family members, retired military and their family members and Army civilians. Class size is limited to 24 people. Call 955-8888, ext .1430 to sign up.

Impact aid form

The Federal Impact Aid Form, if filled-out and returned to your child's school, puts

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millions of dollars into local public school systems. Children of the 30,000 Redstone Arsenal employees — including military, DoD civilian, and contractor — qualify as federally connected students. Students were given the forms Sept. 3. Parents should fill them out and return them as quickly as possible. Forms are also available on the Schools Foundation web site www.theschoolsfoundation.org.

Plastic modelers

The Huntsville Plastic Modelers' Society presents its annual scale model exhibition and contest Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Jaycees Community Building, 2160 Airport Road. Free admission to the general public, fees for contestants. Special awards for best Army and Space subjects. For more information, call 348-8392 or visit <http://hpmsweb.topcities.com>.

AMRDEC day

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center will hold its annual Organization Day on Oct. 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. Lunch tickets can be purchased from directorate representatives: \$9 for adult meal that includes pork and chicken barbecue with three sides, beverage and dessert; meals for children 12-and-under costs \$3 and

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includes jumbo hot dog, chips, beverage and dessert. Planned activities are softball, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments; fishing rodeo, bingo, cake walk, and face painting for kids. Please bring lawn chairs, fishing poles and other personal entertainment items. Purchase tickets by Oct. 7. In case of rain, the event will be held Oct. 16.

Road advisory

Anticipate some traffic delays at Gate 9 inbound lanes starting Sunday, Sept. 14. They will begin work and remove some of the rock wall, approximately 400-500 feet from both sides of the wall in each direction. They do not plan to close any lanes but advise Redstone Arsenal drivers to please be cautious of road construction debris and watch out for workers. Starting Sunday, they will remove the flashing lights and electronic signs (the ones that direct drivers/visitors where to go for passes). They will post a different sign at a different location for the visitors lane on the same day. Anticipate construction work to last 60 days, according to the Garrison.

Brigade day

59th Ordnance Brigade's Organization Day is Sept. 19. Come join in the fun as members of 59th will compete for the Commander's Cup.

Veterans office

The local office for Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs provides assistance to veterans and their families in applying for benefits from the VA. These benefits include, but are not limited to, Service Connected Compensation Claims, Non-

Service Connected Pensions, Appeals, Death Benefits for Widows, Education Applications, VA Insurance, and applications for VA Headstone/Markers. The office can also assist you in filing for state veteran benefits, for example the Alabama Dependent Scholarship Program and admittance to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville. "We are a full service office with accredited veteran service officers available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and are located at 115-B Washington St. off the Courthouse Square in downtown Huntsville," a prepared release said. "Service is based on a first come, first serve system. No appointment necessary." For more information, call 532-1662.

Rose show

The Huntsville-Twickenham Rose Society will hold its Fall Rose Show on Sept. 20 at the Parkway Place Mall. Competition is open to all rose growers and entries must be made between 7 and 10:30 a.m. on the first floor of the mall. Standard and miniature rose arrangements will also be displayed. The show is free and will be open to the public from noon-4 p.m. For more information, e-mail greenmntroses@comcast.net.

Veterinary clinic

Veterinary Services will have walk-in evening clinics Sept. 18. Animals owned by personnel authorized DoD medical care will be seen from 3:30-6 p.m. at building 3583 on Shillelagh Circle. Vaccinations, heartworm test, feline leukemia test and microchip implants will be available. For more information, call 876-2441.

