

# Redstone Rocket

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# Helicopters joining Iraqi Air Force



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GOING TO IRAQ**— This is one of five Bell Jet Rangers which have been readied by AMRDEC's Prototype Integration Facility for delivery to the Iraqi Air Force.

## Prototype Integration Facility converts commercial aircraft

By **SKIP VAUGHN**  
Rocket editor  
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When AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate needed to get helicopters quickly to the Iraqis, it knew where to turn – the Prototype Integration Facility.

The facility, part of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, converted five Bell 206 helicopters from commercial to military use. The aircraft were modified for delivery to the Iraqi Air Force.

"This is the PIF working in support of SAMD," Danny Featherston, manager of the Prototype Integration Facility, said. "We had a very tight schedule to outfit five Bell Jet Rangers for the Iraqi Air Force. And this is part of our trying to equip the Iraqis. And as soon as we can get them trained and equipped, we can pull our Soldiers and civilians out of there."

Helping the facility on this mission is

the Prototype Integration Facility's prime contractor JVYS, Joint Venture between Yulista Management Services and Science & Engineering Services. The aircraft should be ready by Nov. 15.

"It's absolutely a gorgeous aircraft," Dan Parker, deputy director of the Security Assistance Management Directorate, said. "This is a major success for us."

The helicopters will be delivered to a U.S. training school in Iraq and eventually turned over to the Iraqis, according to Miranda Oden, a branch chief at the Prototype Integration Facility.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, co-piloted one of the helicopters Sept. 8 from the facility to the Madison County Executive Airport in Meridianville. Dean Doudna of Fort Rucker was the pilot for this demonstration flight.

"This isn't about me flying the aircraft," Myles said. "This is about helping get our Soldiers back (home). It's about giving the Iraqis a way to defend their own country so our Soldiers and civilians can get back. And the PIF is doing that."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FLIGHT CREW**— Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, adjusts his pilot gear before flying the Bell Jet Ranger from the Prototype Integration Facility to the Madison County Executive Airport in Meridianville.

# An open lane random survey

What does 9/11 mean to you?

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



**Erick Antonson**  
 Yulista Management Services  
**"It's when our freedom was broken when we had four terrorist attacks on the United States. That'll be the Twin Towers, the Pentagon and the flight that they took down there outside of Washington."**

**Jay Ragan**  
 Yulista Management Services  
**"9/11 means to me that my country was violated. And that if we don't go overseas and take care of it and try to put a stop to it over there, our country will be violated time and time again. And that's what people in the United States have got to understand, that that's what your military is for – to protect the innocent in your homeland by going to theirs and taking care of them over there so we can live peaceful."**



**Susan Blankenship**  
 Phoenix Service  
**"It changed our nation a whole lot. It just totally changed our thinking. It changed security. It changed how we looked at stuff."**

**Col. Tom Newman**  
 AMCOM chief of staff  
**"It means pain, anger, desire to avenge and protect and not stop till the mission's done."**



## Quote of the week

**'H**e enjoys that perfect peace, that peace beyond all understanding, which comes at its maximum only to the man who has given up golf.'

— PG Wodehouse  
 British humorist

## Security processes in place

In regard to entering the post via Gate 9, there is a lane of traffic to the far right that is dedicated for people who process in through the visitors center. This lane of traffic is segregated from the rest of the lanes by traffic cones. There is no check of the decal or post pass as the car goes through the gate in the busy morning hours.

Are there security processes in place that would keep a person from just driving over the traffic cones, to enter the right hand lane, and thus proceed through Gate 9 without review of the vehicle decal or vehicle content?

On the face of things, it appears that if one were so inclined, you could enter the far right hand lane by simply driving over the traffic cones and then proceed through Gate 9 with no security review.

### Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "At present we rely on the vigilance of the Security Guard personnel assigned to the gate to identify and stop individuals who choose to drive over the traffic cones, which are in place to delineate the visitor lane from the normal traffic flow lanes. Law Enforcement personnel are also assigned during heavy traffic times to monitor and enforce compliance in that area."*

*A project has been approved to place a guardrail the length of the visitor lane which is scheduled to start on Sept. 14 with completion early October. This should prevent anyone from attempting to cross over into the designated visitor lane in the future."*

## Getting to know you

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

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Troy Davis

**Job:** Platoon sergeant, Headquarters & Alpha Company

**Where do you call home?**  
 Syracuse, N.Y.

**What do you like about your job?**  
 The Soldiers. They teach me. I learn a lot from the Soldiers – how to become a better NCO, and a better person.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**  
 I like to spend time with my family (including wife, Linda; daughters Linda Hernandez, 15, and Tyshia Davis, 4; and twin sons, Troy Jr. and Tre', 2). And I like to bowl, watch football and cook.



**What are your goals?**  
 First, I would like to retire as a command sergeant major. And if that should not happen, I'd like to start my own business with my wife, our own restaurant. And live a long time, I'd like to see my kids have kids. And most importantly, love my wife.

**What's your favorite type of music?**  
 R&B

## Motorcyclist tired of waiting

Ride a motorcycle and several of the traffic signals on post will not change until a four-wheeled vehicle is on the sensors with me. If I am the only one there and there is no traffic going in my direction, I can be in for a very long wait. Most noticeably for me is the light at Martin and Rideout. I approach that light on Martin from the west and have seen several light changes in the other directions without getting the green myself. Another intersection is Neal and Burose.

Can anything be done to help with this issue? I am forced by regulation to dress very warmly, and sitting for several minutes at a traffic signal in extremely warm weather can be uncomfortable. It still beats driving a car...

**J. Gary Smith**  
 Retired sergeant first class

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for bringing this situation to our attention. With the advent of high gas prices, we realize the number of motorcycles on post have significantly increased over this past summer and commit to keeping the flow of traffic as safe and smooth as possible. From your letter we understand there is an apparent problem with the traffic signal loops not detecting motorcycles at the intersection of Martin and Rideout roads and also at the intersection of Neal and Burose roads. Our detectors are adjusted to not pick up vehicles in adjacent lanes and sometimes that will exclude motorcycles. To alleviate this problem, it will be necessary for us to gradually step increase the sensitivity of the loops at the intersections in question in order to keep from picking up vehicles in the near lanes. We will begin the adjustments on or about Sept. 11. Again, thank you for your interest in making Redstone a better place to work and live. Should you have additional questions regarding traffic related topics, please don't hesitate to contact the Directorate of Public Works at 876-3516."*

# Redstone Rocket

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# Defense Logistics Agency to assume spare parts buys

## AMCOM gets head start toward making transition

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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As part of the 2005 base realignment and closure decisions, military services are changing how they purchase repair parts. And the Aviation and Missile Command has already started this transition.

Management and related support functions for the procurement of depot level reparable will transfer from the military services to the Defense Logistics Agency on Feb. 15, 2009.

An AMCOM Plan of Actions and Milestones Kickoff Meeting was held Sept. 10-11 at the Sparkman Center.

"And these people (at the conference) are all the planning groups to make that happen from both DLA and AMCOM," said Amy Sajda, the Department of Defense pillar lead for the depot level reparable implementation. She is responsible for implementing the BRAC decision for depot level reparables.

A kickoff meeting will be held in early October for the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command.

"And then the kickoff for CECOM (Communications-Electronics Command) hasn't been scheduled yet. They're later on," Sajda said. "So AMCOM's the first

(to hold a kickoff)."

On Feb. 15, acquisition workers who are currently doing the buying at AMCOM and TACOM for depot level reparables will transition to the Defense Logistics Agency. This represents about 62 people at the Aviation and Missile Command, according to Sajda.

Last week's kickoff drew about 30 attendees, including Sajda and other representatives from the Defense Logistics Agency based at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Marsha Thornton of the Aviation and Missile Command and Steve Mason of the Defense Logistics Agency are the program managers for making the transition.

## Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

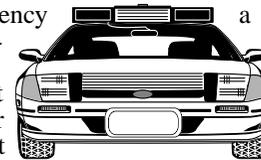
**Sept. 4:** When a subject could not produce proper identification at Gate 10, it was revealed that a misdemeanor warrant existed for the subject issued by the Madison Police Department. The subject was released to Madison Police.

**Sept. 5:** A subject was stopped by police for seatbelts and cell phone violations on Goss Road. It was revealed that his driver's license is suspended. He was issued three violation notices and released.

**Sept. 6:** Redstone Fire Department responded to a family housing fire on Walnut Circle. The quarters sustained fire and smoke damage to the kitchen area. The family was relocated to temporary housing. There were no injuries and the investigation continues by the fire department.

**Sept. 6:** A subject in the Post Exchange selected cosmetic items and exited the store without paying. She was detained by Store Security and processed by police. She was released to her unit.

**Sept. 7:** A subject attempting to obtain



a visitor pass at Gate 1 was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**Sept. 8:** A subject approached Gate 1 and could not produce a valid driver's license. It was revealed that the subject's license is suspended and that a misdemeanor warrant was issued by the Decatur Police Department. The subject was issued a violation notice and released to Decatur police.

**Sept. 8:** Police stopped a subject for speeding on Goss Road; and it was revealed he was driving with a suspended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**Sept. 10:** When a subject was stopped by police for a stop sign violation on Vincent Drive, it was revealed that he was driving with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and released.

**Traffic accidents reported:** one without injury, none with injury.

**Violation notices issued:** 29 speeding, 1 traffic control device, 1 seatbelts, 1 expired registration, 5 suspended driver's license.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**DISCUSSION GROUP—** From left are Diane Helser of AMCOM G-1 Human Resources, Kotina Gladney of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Tom Barger and Harvey Hodak, both of Defense Logistics Agency J-1 Human Resources.

# Disabled employee living dream of 'working girl'

*Carey Link overcomes challenge of cerebral palsy*

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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If there was a Redstone Arsenal poster promoting opportunities for disabled employees, chances are Carey Link would be on it.

Link, a May 2008 graduate of the University of Alabama-Huntsville, has worked for the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center since 2001 in a temporary clerk position while also attending college. Recently, she was hired by the Arsenal's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, where she will be able to put her bachelor's degree in psychology to work as she counsels Army employees with EEO issues.

This friendly, brown-eyed 32-year-old has a growing list of achievements that includes membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, volunteering with the American Red Cross and Special Olympics, writing poetry and speaking out for people with disabilities.

And she's accomplished all of this

despite fighting the debilitating aspects of living with cerebral palsy.

"I always wanted to contribute, to work at a job," Link said. "I never saw my disability as getting in the way of that. I have to deal with it on a daily basis. I have to overcome. If you let a disability get in your way you will stagnate yourself."

Link, who suffers from a mild case of cerebral palsy that affects her ability to walk and control her muscles, uses a motorized wheelchair and relies on telephone technology to help her do her job. She easily fits in with her co-workers and the work environment at CPAC.

"I've never made a difference with her and she's never made a difference with me," said her supervisor Jackie Bennett, a Human Resources specialist with CPAC.

"I was told she had some kind of physical challenge. But I hired her based upon her resume. Everything is a partnership with Carey. I selected her and then she came in and talked to me and selected me. She wanted to make sure she could do the job and it was an office environment where she would be able to work. It has been a partnership since day one."

In her job at CPAC, Link has been responsible for office correspondence,

answering the phone, receiving visitors, accepting packages, and producing spread sheets and reports.

"It does take some extra time to do things," said Link, who often works on a computer at her desk in building 5308. "But I have a good attitude and I like to work. Advancement in technology has helped me. It's not only the technology, but also the connection between people and technology that helps us."

Link admits she does get a lot of help from her parents – retired Lt. Gen. Jim and Judy Link – and she has had teachers during her school years who have challenged, mentored and inspired her.

"My parents and my teachers knew that I had similar goals and aspirations as anyone else, and they motivated me," she said. "I always wanted to have a college degree and be a working girl."

Still the journey hasn't always been easy. There were times in her early school years when Link had to face discrimination due to her disability and overcome the lack of school services that kept her from achieving her goal of an education. During those days, Link's mom and dad were her advocates.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**AT WORK—** Carey Link, daughter of retired Lt. Gen. Jim and Judy Link, has always aspired to graduate from college and find a job that would be fulfilling, despite the physical limitations that cerebral palsy has caused her. She has done just that by graduating from the University of Alabama-Huntsville with a psychology degree and working for the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Recently, she has been hired by the Garrison's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, where she will be able to put her degree to work. She reports to her new job at the end of September.

See **Dream** on page 7

# PX worker retires after 30 years service

Post Exchange  
like 2nd family

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Post Exchange workers and shoppers alike will miss her German accent and smiling face.

Administrative assistant Liz Brumm retired Friday after 30 years service. The PX won't be the same without her.

Brumm will stay in Huntsville and eventually volunteer like her husband, Bill. Their daughter, Karen, is a configuration management specialist at the Prototype Integration Facility.

"It's been great," Brumm said. "I had 30 wonderful years with great management and co-workers. I will miss it."

"AAFES (Army & Air Force Exchange



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FAMILY MOMENT—** Retiring PX worker Liz Brumm gets a hug from her daughter, Karen, while her husband, Bill, looks on during Friday's reception at the Post Exchange.

Service) is her second family," Karen Brumm said. "It really has been."

## 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

# Morale welfare and recreation honored regionally

## Recreation Center cited Armywide

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
*Staff writer*  
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The quality of the Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation programs is not news to the Redstone community. This year, Redstone's FMWR swept the competition with seven regional awards for each division and the program as a whole. One segment has even won the Department of the Army award for being this year's outstanding recreation center.

"We won for six activities: Library, Arts and Crafts, Auto Skills, Outdoor Recreation, Recreation Center, and Sports and Fitness," Mike Chemsak, FMWR recreation division chief, said. "Then we also won for the overall garrison program."

Every year, FMWR programs at every installation submit summaries of their year's activities to the Installation Management Command. It includes any new programs they have begun, along with existing programs, financial reports and marketing efforts. Installations are divided into size categories based on their Soldier population.

"The medium garrisons compete against other medium garrisons. Likewise for the other sizes, that way it's fair," Chemsak said. "You never know how you stack up against what everyone else is doing. Really you don't do it for that. You do it to provide outstanding customer service and meet the needs of your community. Awards are just an added bonus."

When FMWR representatives attended a training conference in Louisville three weeks ago, they were pleasantly surprised during the awards ceremony. Each of the six facets of Redstone's program entered in the competition took home top honors at the regional level.

"We've been competing since 2002," Chemsak said. "We've won several times and even swept it once before. Outdoor Recreation took home the Armywide award last year."

Winning programs at the regional level then competed for Department of Army honors. Chemsak just received notification that the Diane Campbell Recreation Center had won the award for recreation centers in the medium installation category for the entire Army. The actual trophy will be presented to them in October at another conference in Baltimore, Md.

Although other Redstone programs have won at the highest level before, this is the first time the Recreation Center has taken the honor, according to Bryan Marbre, Recreation Center assistant manager. The news has buoyed their spirits.

"We're a little cocky right now," he said laughing.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**TROPHY HORDE— Mike Chemsak, recreation division chief, displays the seven regional awards won by FMWR programs.**

Marbre believes the reason they won this year may be due to the new things they have been trying. This year the Recreation Center has added live music events and movie nights. New Xbox 360 consoles and flat panel televisions have made videogame tournaments a popular pastime at the center. They have also added a weekly role-playing game league.

"We've added a couple new programs to what we do on an annual basis and I'm pretty sure that is what put us over the top," Marbre said. "Plus there is the number of successful programs we do on a continual basis."

The biggest of the continuing programs is the Salute to the Military dinner the center hosts every Thanksgiving. Soldiers are treated to a multitude of happenings during the event, such as door prizes, game tournaments and movies. In addition to a traditional holiday meal, attendees can enjoy pizza and other foods as the evening wears on.

"It's a huge event," Marbre said.

However, the dedication of the center's staff and the Soldiers they serve is by far their biggest asset, he said. Many of the new programs exist and succeed because they have offered the ideas and the hard work that have gotten them off the drawing board and onto the calendar.

"It takes a great staff to make stuff happen," Marbre said. "We love the military. We want to support them. That is what the programs are all about. Without our Soldiers, none of it would be possible."

# Child and Youth Services name now includes 'school'

By **ROB MCLLVAIN**  
*FMWRC Public Affairs*

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Army Child and Youth Services will now be Army Child, Youth & School Services. The Army is renaming this key Family and MWR Program because of the renewed focus at every level to support the schools serving Army children.

"Often," said M.A. Lucas, director, Child, Youth & School Services, "a teacher looks out at the class and sees his or her students behaving normally, but there might be one child in his class whose life has just turned upside down." As a result of the impacts on military-connected students caused by the stresses of deployment and troop movements, she says, more emphasis is being placed on support services to parents, guidance counselors, principals and teachers.

"This is a tangible sign of delivering on the promise [of the Family Covenant] for active, Guard and Reserve Soldiers and their families," Lucas said. "Some schools have many military children and understand the pressures they face, but other schools only have a few military students in their classes. This is why we advocate for school liaisons to help school officials and parents help military youth make the transition."

The reflagging of Army Child and Youth Services to Army Child, Youth & School Services will need to be phased in across the Army. This is an important reminder to parents and students that the Army recognizes the challenges youth face and is actively addressing these issues. Recently distributed training or promotional materials will obviously still reflect the previous name. But as new material is developed and published, the required changes will be made. Commensurate with this emphasis on school support initiatives, Garrison commanders will want to introduce parents to the fact that new responsibilities reside in the schools function of CYS Services at the garrison.

The scope of what is to be incorporated as part of the expanded mission (i.e., enhanced school liaison and transition actions) is currently under development as part of a comprehensive Installation Management Command School Support Strategy.

"Although each school's standards vary," Lucas said, "as the Army transforms to an Expeditionary Force during this time of persistent conflict, teachers need to know that children will suddenly have to take time off to either say goodbye to their father or mother or welcome them home after a year or two overseas. In between, the wait can be stressful."

The Army, through CYSS, will do all it can to mitigate those stressors and help its children cope through close cooperation with the school systems.

# Dream

continued from page 4

That advocacy included pushing locally for ramp access into schools, acceptance in the classroom, restroom accessibility in schools, physical therapy classes and adaptive physical education classes.

"The principal at Carey's elementary school (in Huntsville) wouldn't allow buses with handicapped children to park and unload at the front door," recalled Link's mom, Judy. "Instead, the bus had to park at the side door. I was livid about that and worked to change it.

"I wanted Carey to be mainstreamed in the school system because she was smart. We always felt we had to give Carey every opportunity to succeed. We became strong advocates for the disabled. Just because you're disabled doesn't mean you can't contribute. Just because you can't walk doesn't mean you can't think. The disabled are the most discriminated against population in our nation, no doubt about it. It's better, but there's still a long way to go."

Link learned from the example set by her parents.

"My mom and dad taught me to be my own advocate," Link said. "Sometimes you have to look for support. It's always there. You just have to look for it."

Once in college, Link received assistance from UAH Student Development Services to

make sure she had accommodations in her classrooms. She used a tape recorder to record classroom lectures and was given extended time to complete her tests.

"It was hard physically keeping up with other students. But I didn't let that stop me," Link said.

"It's hard to really recognize what someone else is going through unless you live it. But a lot of people did understand and helped me get where I am today."

One of those helpers was Dr. Aurora Torres of the UAH psychology department. Another was Bennett, who offered Link her first job opportunity. And, of course, Link's mom was always there to help her, and to drive her to and from class.

"Carey has worked so hard. It took her 13 years to get her college education. It never occurred to her, though, that she couldn't do it," said Judy Link, who continues to drive Link to and from work every day.

Many members of Link's family were on hand for her college graduation, as was her boss.

"Graduation was a real good day," Link said. "It was not only a day for me, but for everyone who has helped me get to the point of graduation. I can't do anything alone."

Link does not want to be treated differently because of her disability or because she is the daughter of a retired general who once served as commander at Redstone Arsenal.

"I'm proud of my dad and what he's done," she said. "But I'd like to be known for myself."

And she is thankful for the Americans

with Disabilities Act of 1990 that prohibits private employers, state and local governments, employment agencies and labor unions from discriminating against qualified individuals with disabilities in job application procedures, hiring, firing, advancement, compensation, job training, and other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.

"It's a shame that it took so long, really, to have that kind of awareness because everyone deserves an opportunity," Link said.

Opportunity is now taking Link on to her second job at AMCOM, a job that will offer her new challenges and help develop her skills as a counselor.

"I'm going to miss the people I've worked with. But I'm really looking forward to this opportunity," she said.

Her new boss – Becky Miller, chief of the Garrison EEO Office – is also looking forward to adding Link to her seven-person staff at the end of September. Link will not only bring her experience and capabilities to her new job, but also a unique perspective that only someone living with a disability can offer the position.

Miller said she was also impressed that, despite the limitations caused by her disability, Link has proven her commitment and dedication to pursuing a career as a government employee and being a productive member of the Arsenal's civilian work force.

"I reviewed her application. She was a psychology major and she's already shown that she can contribute to the work force. She has a good background with issues pertaining to individuals with disabilities," Miller said.

"I feel she will be a good fit for the EEO career field because of her knowledge and

experience with individual-with-disabilities issues. She's already established a good background in counseling and mediating and other types of things we do in EEO. She will get additional training. But she has such a good background to start with that I know she will be an asset to the command, the Garrison and the EEO field."

In her new job, Link will be involved with managing the EEO complaint process, mediating, counseling and special emphasis programs. Hiring a capable employee like Link also helps move the command closer to complying with the federal government's mandate to increase the hiring of disabled employees, Miller said.

"The command is a little low in the area of disabled employees, as are all commands Armywide," she said. "In many ways, Carey will be a bonus to the whole organization. We are trying really hard to set a good example for the entire command."

Link is not shy about counseling other disabled people about living up to their own dreams and aspirations.

"Keep your goals and dreams in sight, and believe in yourself," she said. "Always remember your dreams and what you want to do. And don't let anyone or anything stop you. You have to find ways to get past the barriers that get in the way."

Link is very definitive when it comes to her expectations of how society should treat people with disabilities.

"First of all, they need to be treated like everyone else," she said. "Then, they need to be given a chance because we all have gifts to contribute whether we have a disability or not."

# Oktoberfest weekend entertains families

German-style festival  
Sept. 11-14 in pictures



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**LET THE MUSIC PLAY**— Terry Cavanaugh and his accordion – along with the crazy members of his Alpine Express band – are popular entertainers at Oktoberfest, where they perform German folk music and polkas in the Fest Hall Tent.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TASTY TREAT**— Victoria Tabb, a volunteer for Youth Services, rolls cotton candy at the Youth Services booth. Selling cotton candy and other refreshments at Oktoberfest is an annual fundraiser for Youth Services.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TRYING A BIG RIDE** — Jordan Collins, 15, escorts his sister Kanani, 6, on her first big ride – the Spider. Though she was happy before the ride started, Kanani screamed and cried to be let off after its first spin. The carnival worker took notice and stopped the ride so Kanani could rejoin her mother. Jordan went on to enjoy the ride by himself. Their parents are Staff Sgt. Corey and Sheri Collins.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**CRASH COURSE**— Brandon Wade, 7, gets a thrill out of crashing and spinning in his car in the Scooter bumper car ride. His mom, Teresa Wade, waited patiently while her son tried his skill at the wheel. Oktoberfest offered lots of rides for both children and adults.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**UPSIDE DOWN FUN**— Best friends Taylor Byrd and Jessica Rikard, both of Huntsville, wait in their “cage” on the Ring of Fire. The friends rode the ride, which swings around a loop and goes upside down, more than once. Jessica is the daughter of Brenda and James Rikard of Huntsville. The Rikard family, which includes several Redstone Arsenal employees, has made Oktoberfest a family tradition with 15 family members who attend the festival together every year. “Jessica and Taylor hit every fair in town, but they like this one the best,” Brenda Rikard said.

CAMP ALAMO, Afghanistan – Challenged with mentoring the Afghan National Police on weapons and ammunition issue, storage and accountability procedures are noncommissioned officers deployed from Redstone Arsenal.

They use the ANP ammunition storage depot just four miles from their forward operating base, which also mentors Afghan National Army recruits and trainers.

Sgt. 1st Class Loren Vigil, previously an NCO Academy chief of training, now serves as the accountable officer of the ANP Ammunition storage depot.

A member of the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, he ensures “all ammunition and weapons issued to ANP officers are issued from this depot.”

Vigil, who arrived here in August, assumed his duties from another Redstone NCO Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Bean, who just completed a yearlong deployment here.

“His team made some outstanding improvements to the storage and accountability of the police ammunition,” Vigil said.

According to Vigil, Bean and his team of ammunition NCOs and Afghan contractors built the national storage depot from the ground up. Previously, ammunition for the ANA and ANP were collocated.

“The project took five months and over a million dollars to complete,” Bean said.

For his part, Vigil, who served tours of duty in Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2006 and



Courtesy photo

**DAWN OF DAY— Sgt. 1st Class Loren Vigil, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Bean prepare for a new day of mentoring Afghan National Police.**

2007, expects a smooth transition.

“Afghanistan is still a dangerous place, you can never forget that, but the military transition team training we received at Fort Riley (Kan.) and my knowledge and experience from my last tour should make this one a little easier,” Vigil said.

With the storage depot construction completed, he can now concentrate on the mission of mentoring the ANP to take over complete responsibility of the daily operations of the storage facility.

Bean, who was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharp for his service during Operation Enduring Freedom, returned stateside to the 59th Ordnance Brigade at Redstone Arsenal. (Camp Alamo release)



Courtesy photo

## Morocco grads

Morocco students Staff Sgt. Addi Jedgane, left, and Sgt. Maj. Abdelaziz Setouti graduated Sept. 4 from the Ammunition Specialist Course. They arrived July 2 for training.

# Remembering American freedoms on Patriot Day

*AMCOM commander emphasizes work force role in ongoing war*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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The commanding general reminded AMCOM on Sept. 11 of the importance of taking the fight to the enemy.

“We will stop them from trying to harm our way of life,” Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, said during the annual Patriot Day tribute. The event, in a filled 650-seat Bob Jones Auditorium, marked the seventh year since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

“We’re spending a lot of time and a lot of resources to find them,” Myles said. He pointed out that 4,300 servicemembers have died in

the Global War on Terrorism.

Myles described the magnitude of this command’s role in the war. Of the more than 600 U.S. aircraft in Iraq and Afghanistan, less than 20 were down for parts that morning.

“The importance of you is so critical to this fight,” Myles said. “Nothing moves without aviation in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

He asked the members of the work force to take time that day to remember their freedoms under the U.S. Constitution.

The military and civilian workers returned to their offices after the Pledge of Allegiance, led by AMCOM chief of staff Col. Tom Newman, and the playing of the Army Song.

“It was wonderful,” Clif Gordon, a budget analyst at AMCOM G-8 (Resource Management), said. “I’ve only been here less than a year but I was impressed with General Myles’ passion. He brought up some very good points about 9/11 and about service to this country.”



**ARMY VOICES**— Members of the audience sing the Army Song at the conclusion of the Patriot Day tribute Sept. 11 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

# Letterkenny Depot kit credited with saving lives

*Applies armor plating  
on mine-clearing vehicle*

LETTERKENNY, Pa. — Letterkenny Army Depot answers the call by providing Soldier support and saving lives. A request from the Program Office for Force Projection, through Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command, requested that Letterkenny fabricate armor plating for installation on the Buffalo vehicle.

Buffalo vehicles have been used to clear thousands of miles of dangerous roads in Iraq and Afghanistan and open safe passage for troop convoys and other vehicles.

The Buffalo was first deployed in Afghanistan in 2003 and is the only vehicle to fill the military's Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Category III program requirement.

Letterkenny's responsiveness and experience in fabricating armor met the mark. Team Letterkenny worked with Tank-Automotive Research and Development Command on prototype and Technical Data Package finalization and then quickly shifted into production fabricating Explosive Formed Penetrator kits for Buffalos as quickly as possible. Letterkenny employees participated in installing EFP kits in the states and by sending kits overseas for installation to vehicles in service.

Recently one of Letterkenny's produced EFP Kits installed on Buffalo 79 took an EFP hit and the Soldiers riding in the Buffalo survived.



Photo by Don Bitner

**IN APPRECIATION—** Letterkenny commander Col. Steven Shapiro, left, receives a plaque of appreciation from Lt. Col. Charles Dease, product manager for assured mobility. Other Letterkenny team members also receive accolades.

Lt. Col. Charles Dease, product manager for assured mobility systems, traveled to Letterkenny to personally thank the Letterkenny team and presented them with a plaque.

“Hard work and dedication pay off when Soldiers walk away from an EFP hit,” Dease said. “This crew in this Buffalo survived because of the EFP kit built at Letterkenny. Letterkenny Army Depot saves lives with EFP kit development.” (*Letterkenny release*)



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## *Future Soldier*

Sgt. Patrick Gainey of the Huntsville Recruiting Company watches Johnson High senior Melissa Martin, 17, descend the rock wall at Military Appreciation Night on Friday at Madison City Stadium. Forty future Soldiers took the oath of enlistment on the field before the night's football game in which Bob Jones High beat Florence 46-22.

# Seventeen workers earn Army efficiency status

## Awards presented for Lean Six Sigma

By SKIP VAUGHN  
 Rocket editor  
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This award ceremony marked a milestone in Team Redstone's ongoing quest for improved business processes.

Seventeen workers became the first in AMCOM's life cycle management command to earn Department of Army certification as Lean Six Sigma green belts and black belts. Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, presented the awards Thursday in Bob Jones Auditorium.

"I congratulate every one of you for what you did to go the extra mile," Myles said.

Each green belt recipient had two weeks of training and completed a process improvement project. The black belts did four weeks of training and a project.

"Lean Six Sigma is a process improvement methodology that involves efficiency as well as quality," Brian Wood, director of AMCOM's Office of Continuous Improvement, said. "It focuses on efficiency and quality improvements as well as elimination of waste and reduction in variation."

Wood serves as the Lean Six Sigma deployment director for AMCOM. His counterparts at their respective organizations include Joe Kendig of the Program Executive Office for Aviation, Frank DeLuca of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, and David Allton of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"The Lean Six Sigma is a proven business transformation model," Kendig said. "And we're kind of in the stages where we're just starting off. This is a marathon we have to run. Budgets are going to get tighter and tighter, and we have to get the organization trained so that we can improve our organi-

zation to be better, faster and cheaper."

People interested in attaining certification as Lean Six Sigma green or black belts should advise their chain of command of their interest and they can contact their organizational Lean Six Sigma deployment director.

Members of Wood's office mentor and coach black belt and green belt candidates as they perform their process improvement projects.

"Because that's what this is all about," Kendig said, "process improvement."

Black belt certifications were awarded to Johnnie Bradt, Ray Forrester, Danita Brooks, Maxie Pooler, Brenda Winfrey, Tom Flournoy, Frank DeLuca and Rachele Lapperre. Green belts included Steve Duncheskie, George Cash, Erik DeBolt, Maj. Ralph Borja, Steve Weems, Margaret Moulder, Maj. Jonathan Slater, Dennis Morris and Misty Glover.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**STEPPING UP—** Recipients of Lean Six Sigma black belt certification from Department of Army include, from left, Johnnie Bradt, Ray Forrester, Danita Brooks, Maxie Pooler, members of AMCOM's Office of Continuous Improvement; and Brenda Winfrey of the Integrated Materiel Management Center.

# UAH professor returns from war zone

*Political science department chairman has firsthand answers for her students*

By KARI HAWKINS  
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In true professor fashion, Dr. Kathy Hawk of the University of Alabama-Huntsville sees every question as an opportunity to learn.

So, when people ask her what should be done to bring an end to the war in Iraq and help the country rebuild in peace, this political science professor is eager to share her view of this war-torn country and its challenges.

But the answer to the question — “What should be done in Iraq?” — is often murky and contingent on several different factors.

“I’m heartened when people seriously want to understand what it’s like in Iraq and how we should deal with the challenges there ... What’s going on in Iraq is not rocket science. It’s harder than rocket science,” said Hawk, speaking to a standing-room-only audience at a UAH Honors Forum on Sept. 11.

“A lot of scientific communities do experiments, change a few variables and see what happens. But in social science, you are dealing with human beings and you get dif-



Courtesy photo

**BOOTS ON GROUND**— Navy Reserve officer and University of Alabama-Huntsville professor Dr. Kathy Hawk stands next to an up-armored Humvee on the Balad Air Base. Hawk returned in January from a six-month deployment to Iraq, where she served as a member of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force in Balad.

ferences in what will happen when variables change. It is a very uncertain process.”

Hawk has more than earned her right to stand at a university podium and speak out about policies concerning the war in Iraq. Her credentials include serving as a foreign service officer at the U.S. embassy in Cairo, Egypt; working under contract to the Strategic Defense Initiative Organizations and the Department of the Air Force; serving as press secretary to Sen. Byron Dorgan; and teaching college classes in international relations, U.S. foreign policy and U.S. national policy.

But beyond these credentials is one that stands out above the rest — Hawk is a Navy Reserve officer who recently returned from a six-month deployment as a member of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force in Balad, Iraq. Hawk, who is the wife of Marshall County Circuit Judge Howard Hawk and the mother of an 11-year-old son, has served 17 years with the Navy Reserves. Currently, she holds the rank of commander and is the executive officer of the Navy Reserve Unit Office of Naval Intelligence 0682 based in Millington, Tenn.

Although the recent surge in U.S. military strength in Iraq has calmed the swell of violence, Hawk said “the challenges in many ways haven’t been resolved.”

She worries that, with the recent downturn in violence, Americans believe the problems are solved and that U.S. operations should end.

“The surge was reasonably effective in reducing violence. But the overall goal of bringing about political reconciliations has not been achieved,” she said. “We’re kind of in this holding pattern and not much has changed.”

Changes in U.S. military strategy and

leadership, the shift on the part of Sunnis away from Al Qaida because of the terrorist organization’s excessive brutality and the cease fire declared by Shiite leaders have all worked to bring more stability to Iraq. But Hawk is concerned that a basic lack of trust between the Sunni, Shiite and Kurd factions will undermine any cooperation between them.

Hawk said the conflict in Iraq is continuing to evolve. During the past five years, U.S. troops have fought against a Sunni insurgency and Al Qaida terrorism in Iraq. Now the conflict is turning into an Intra-Shiite competition over who will rule Iraq. Shiite Arabs make up 55 percent of Iraq’s population while Sunni Arabs make up 20 percent and Kurds make up another 20 percent. Shiite and Kurds dominate most of the country’s provincial governments.

“Saddam was a master at dividing and conquering. There’s not a natural type of leadership class or group that people are drawn to,” Hawk said.

The result is a weak government, with the conflict becoming more internal.

“Compromises can be made, but many are out of our control,” Hawk said. “The phases we’re moving into are not necessarily as much in the U.S. interest. Do we care which Shiite group gets control? Do we care if Kurds get their own state?”

“How much blood and treasure do we want to expend over there?”

Hawk said the upcoming provincial elections will be a major decision point in the future of Iraq.

“Until you have a government that people can have confidence in, it’s hard for the U.S. to do anything,” she said. “We’re not going to have a democracy if they have provincial governments people don’t think

are legitimate and they can work through. But how much can we force the national government to make sure the rules are fair?”

Hawk views the U.S. policy options in Iraq as being quite narrow.

“Everybody agrees we need some draw-down and we need to progress. The question is ‘How much?’” she said. “There’s not much difference between (presidential candidates) Barack Obama and John McCain on the question that we do need a draw-down.”

At the end of the surge, 145,000 troops were in Iraq. A reasonably rapid drawdown would involve 5,000 or so troops leaving each month until it hits a floor of 25,000 troops, Hawk said.

A lot of rhetoric brings the war effort down to victory versus defeat, leave now versus stay forever. That rhetoric, Hawk said, clouds the real issues.

“We’re an outside force. There are limits to what we can do. Compromises must be made by the Iraqis,” she said.

While the outcome in Iraq is important to the U.S., so, too, are conflicts brewing in other parts of the world.

“The generals need to call the shots on how to fight the war. Congress, informed by citizens, needs to call the shots on how important Iraq is versus the other challenges that confront our country,” Hawk said.

“Russia is invading Georgia. China is investing in technology. Do we need to pay as much attention to Iraq?”



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WALKED THE TALK**— As chairman of the Political Science Department at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, Dr. Kathy Hawk often discusses the war in Iraq and the future of the war-torn country along with other international issues with her students. She is fielding more questions about Iraq from both students and local residents since returning from a six-month deployment to Balad, Iraq, where she served as a Navy Reserve officer with the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force.



Courtesy photo

## Baghdad meeting

George Williams, right, of the Engineering Directorate of AMRDEC, was among more than 600 Soldiers, Army civilians and supporting contractor employees, to meet and be photographed with Gen. David Petraeus this month in Al Faw Palace on Victory Base Complex, Baghdad. Petraeus, who is being reassigned from his job as commander, Multi-National Forces, Iraq, conducted this photo session as a tribute to those who were under his command. Williams is one of a number of quality assurance specialists (ammunition surveillance) currently deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. QASAS have deployed to every Army theater of war since World War II.

# Fox undergoing changes to catapult into 21st century



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**ON THE MOVE**— Lt. Col. Emery Fehl, deputy commander for administration at Fox Army Health Center, is overseeing major and minor renovations at Fox Army Health Center that will improve efficiencies, provide better patient care and accommodate FAHC’s growth needs. The modular building located behind Fehl is now being used as the temporary offices for Behavioral Medicine as the department’s area on the second floor undergoes renovation. Behavioral Medicine will move back into the FAHC facility in about eight weeks and then the Primary Care Clinics will be temporarily moved to the modular building during about four months of renovations in the clinic area.

*Modernizing results in efficiencies, better care*

By **KARI HAWKINS**  
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Fox Army Health Center is undergoing a major facelift designed to catapult it into a leading military health center for the 21st century.

While the 30-year-old center’s exterior walls are still standing, its interior is undergoing a vast renovation to improve efficiencies, provide the best patient care and accommodate FAHC’s growth needs.

“When I came here in June 2007, Col. (Mark) Smith (the center’s commander) clearly articulated to me his vision of inspiring wellness and bringing us into the 21st century with a state-of-the-art health center,” said Lt. Col. Emery Fehl, FAHC’s deputy commander for administration. “My job was to

match the health center with its overall vision and mission.”

FAHC’s vision – “Inspiring those who serve our nation, past and present, and their families, to live a lifetime of wellness” – and its mission – “Manage the health care needs of our patients by providing exceptional primary care health services and referring our patients for specialty care, when necessary, to local Tricare providers” – didn’t mesh with its outdated medical equipment, and patient and administrative areas.

And, while FAHC offered its patients highly trained doctors, nurses and support staff, medical care was being provided in 1970s-style facilities that were inefficient, lackluster and ill-designed for today’s purposes. In addition, FAHC had to find additional space to service a growing number of patients. FAHC’s current 10,000 patients are expected to increase to 12,000 to 13,000 in the next few years.

With his charge from Smith, Fehl put together a team of center

employees involved in logistics, finance and facility management to develop an overall physical plan for a modern-day health center. That team included facility manager Chris Christopherson; logistics chief Patty Albert; Col. Kevin Michaels, deputy commander for clinical services; Lt. Col. Iuminada Chinneth, deputy commander for nursing; Master Sgt. Rick Bauer; and representatives from clinical areas.

“We set about putting together a master plan of what we wanted the facility to look like to fit the command’s mission,” Fehl said. “This center was converted from a hospital some 10 years ago, but surgical suites and inpatient rooms were never reconfigured into office space or outpatient areas. Staff people were put into rooms that weren’t optimally designed for the type of work they do. So, first we looked at what was completely inefficient. We developed a grand master

# Center

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plan that would make our space much more efficient and better for our customers."

For example, the basement included a large cafeteria that was used when FAHC provided inpatient care. Since removing inpatient care, the cafeteria has sat empty.

"One major project was to gut the cafeteria and turn it into 1,500 square feet of usable classroom space along with a small fitness center for our employees," Fehl said. "Like the cafeteria, every area in the center was looked at critically before we started our renovations."

**A**s specific areas were redesigned, employees were brought into the decision-making process to help with the details.

"We asked them to help us conform the space to their needs," Fehl said. "We asked them to tell us how form follows function in their areas."

As a result, the renovations became focused on being user friendly. For example, optometry exam rooms were reconfigured to provide the space needed for eye exams, the dental lab expansion included a professional waiting room, the mail room was made more efficient to meet post office standards, the size of the immunization clinic was tripled from its original closet-sized space and the primary care clinics were redesigned as one large clinic with one main reception area.

In August 2007, Fehl met with Fox employees to review renovation plans and the timetable for construction.

"I pledged to them that we would leave the walls standing, but in two years we would renovate, reconfigure and update the facility," Fehl said.

That was a hefty commitment, considering

the age of the facility.

"This building has a 30-year-old infrastructure that has never truly been updated," Fehl said. "There were a lot of challenges with communications, water lines and the electrical grid that we had to overcome in our design."

The other challenge was funding. First, Fehl led efforts to find funds within the Army to purchase state-of-the-art medical equipment. Then, funding was located for renovations, with smaller renovations paid for out of FAHC's existing budget and larger renovations funded by the Southeast Regional Medical Command. In all, \$940,000 was budgeted for furniture and medical equipment, \$1.6 million was budgeted for phase one of the facility renovations and between \$1.2 and \$1.7 million for phase two, which includes the Primary Care Clinics.

"We targeted specific areas for funding and then went after the funding we needed," Fehl said.

"For example, we were able to get funding for our Welcome to Wellness center because we showed the command that it fit into our vision and mission to inspire a life of wellness. We committed to showing a return on investment and making a difference in the lives of military families with programs in things like diabetes management, smoking cessation and diet. The command agreed to fund the establishment of our Welcome to Wellness program and to fund the first two years of the program."

**A**s for funds needed for FAHC's major renovations, Fehl and other center employees were able to convince Southeast Regional Medical Command that certain renovations were due to be made.

"We were very, very successful last summer in articulating Redstone's need for not just a facelift but a renovation project that would bring us into the 21st century. We needed a major renovation just to bring us up to

standard. We want to position Fox Army Health Center for the future as a model of efficiency and exceptional health care. Brig. Gen. Donald Bradshaw (SERMC commander) did a site survey and we impressed upon him then that we wanted to match facility excellence with our existing physician excellence."

After the Welcome to Wellness Center was complete, renovations then moved to Radiology, the Dental Clinic and Preventive Medicine Clinic. Early renovations included the main hallways and lobbies, some administrative areas, the center's laboratory and the optometry area. Ongoing renovations include the basement area where classroom space and a fitness center will be located. And renovations still to be made include Behavioral Medicine and the new Traumatic Brain Injury/Psychological Health Clinic as well as the Primary Care Clinics and Warrior Medicine Clinic.

"With the Primary Care Clinics we are planning to reconfigure the area so all exam areas are in one section and all doctors offices are in another section, just like what you would find in a civilian doctor's office," Fehl said. "There will be one reception desk for both clinics."

**S**o far, the renovations have had minimal impact on FAHC's patients. But as the renovations reach into the very heart of the center – its Behavioral Health Clinic on the second floor and its Primary Care Clinics on the first floor – patients will be directed to appointments in a temporary modular building set up in the FAHC parking lot.

Starting immediately, patients of the Behavioral Health Clinic will be directed to the modular building for their appointments. That will continue for at least eight weeks, when the clinic will move into its new space. The Primary Care Clinics will then move to the modular building for about three to four months.

"The beauty of this renovation and upgrade is that it's created a snowball effect," Fehl said. "As the staff and patients have seen

the changes, they've begun anticipating the changes in other areas. There has really been a cooperative spirit among employees.

"We are hoping patients will be OK with using the modulars on a temporary basis because they know the end result will be modern facilities for their use. We've had a very active campaign of educating our patients when we do our moves so they understand the little bit of inconvenience is worth it."

**W**hile the renovation designs were created in-house, the center did reach out to Fort Benning, Ga., for assistance with the center's interior decorating. The result will be a center decorated with modern flooring, interior wall colors, lobby furniture and artwork.

All renovations are scheduled to be completed by fall 2009. Yet, Fehl, who is a 1984 West Point graduate, will not be at Redstone Arsenal to enjoy the success of the renovation completion. In January 2009, he will become the deputy commander of administration for the 47th Combat Support Hospital at Fort Lewis, Wash. The CASH is scheduled to deploy to Iraq in early 2009.

"We have plans made for an easy transition," Fehl said. "Renovations will not stop when I leave. They will continue and be completed as planned. This is an investment in Fox Army Health Center."

Although it has taken 30 years for the center to be renovated, Fehl doesn't think FAHC's staff and patients will have to wait so long for the next round of modernization.

"We are getting to a place where there is a cultural expectation to provide a certain standard of care," he said. "In the past, there has been a cultural mindset to just accept the way things are. But now we've proven you can go out and actively seek funding for changes that you need to provide the best medical care with the best equipment in the best facilities. That is now the new cultural expectation at Fox Army Health Center."

# Win or lose

## Unit teams racing toward Commander's Cup

5K competition to decide trophy

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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Headquarters & Alpha and the Marines are leading the race for the 2008 Commander's Cup with one event left on the sports calendar – the 5K run.

"We've got volleyball left to score and then the 5K run," sports director Gaylene Wilson said. The volleyball post-season tournament is Sept. 15-22 at Pagano Gym; and the 5K run is Sept. 27 at 7:45 a.m. at the Tin City track.

Not counting volleyball and the 5K, Headquarters & Alpha and the Marines are tied with 230 points. Bravo is next with 209.8 followed by NCO Academy (177.2), Charlie (154.7), 326th Chemical (133) and HHC 59th (103.3). The Marines are the defending champion for the annual unit-level competition which includes softball, flag football, volleyball, basketball, the 5K and golf.

"We believe we can at least come in second in volleyball and we think we can take the run," Sgt. 1st Class Benson Pace of Headquarters & Alpha said. "So we think it's going to be real close though in the end."

Bravo is the top seed entering the volleyball tournament. The Bulldogs finished the regular season at 9-1 by beating the Marines 25-15, 22-25, 15-4 on Sept. 9 at Pagano Gym. The Marines fell to 6-4.

The night's other results had the second-seeded Civilian Welfare Fund (8-2) over NCO Academy (3-7) by 25-21, 26-24; and HHC/59th (2-8) over defending post champion Headquarters & Alpha (2-8) by 0-1 (forfeit), 25-19, 15-10.

The double-elimination tournament began Sept. 15 with NCO Academy vs. HHC 59th and the Marines vs. Headquarters & Alpha,

with Bravo and CWF awaiting the respective winners Sept. 16. The championship is Sept. 22 at 6 p.m.

Flag football season opens in mid-October. Depending on the number of teams, the first games will be either Oct. 15 or Oct. 16. Games will be played Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6, 7 and 8 at the field off Patton Road.

Planning is under way for a unit-level basketball tournament before the holiday exodus in December.

"I've been wanting to do something else for the Soldiers," Wilson said. "And I think a holiday tournament will be great."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**NET GAIN**— CWF setter Edwin Lopez looks toward the postseason tournament during warmups Sept. 9 at Pagano Gym. The Civilian Welfare Fund (8-2) is the tournament's second seed behind Bravo.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**WARMUP**— Members of Team Redstone jog together in preparation for the Army Ten-Miler.

## Ten-Miler team seeks repeat performance

Redstone to defend championship in government agency division

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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Team Redstone is in an unfamiliar position entering the 24th annual Army Ten-Miler.

For the first time, Redstone is a defending champion after winning the government agency division in last year's road race in Washington, D.C. This year's 10-mile run is Oct. 5 near the Pentagon.

David Riddle, whose 2007 finish time of 52 minutes, 31 seconds represents the team's fastest time ever, returns to help defend the title. He's joined by two other young engineers from the Aviation and Missile Research Development

# Florida should swamp Tennessee

## Gators the pick over Volunteers

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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Skip's Picks went 105-28 for the first three weeks of the college football season. Here are this week's predictions:

Florida at Tennessee — **Florida**  
LSU at Auburn — **Auburn**  
Alabama at Arkansas — **Bama**  
Georgia at Arizona State — **Ga.**  
South Carolina State at Clemson — **Clemson**  
Central State at Ala. A&M — **A&M**  
West Virginia at Colorado — **WV**  
Baylor at Connecticut — **UConn**  
Central Michigan at Purdue — **Purdue**  
Iowa at Pittsburgh — **Iowa**  
Ohio at Northwestern — **N'western**

Temple at Penn State — **PSU**  
Troy at Ohio State — **OSU**  
Akron at Army — **Akron**  
Eastern Michigan at Maryland — **Md.**  
Delaware at Furman — **Furman**  
Arizona at UCLA — **UCLA**  
Louisiana-Monroe at Tulane — **Tulane**  
Wyoming at Brigham Young — **BYU**  
Boise State at Oregon — **Oregon**  
Houston at Colorado State — **Houston**  
Marshall at Southern Miss — **SM**  
Notre Dame at Michigan State — **ND**  
Rutgers at Navy — **Rutgers**  
Alabama State at UAB — **UAB**  
Utah at Air Force — **Utah**  
South Florida at Fla. International — **SF**  
Jacksonville State at Chattanooga — **Jax**  
Ball State at Indiana — **Indiana**  
Massachusetts at Texas Tech — **Tech**  
Middle Tenn. at Ark. State — **Ark. State**  
New Mexico at Tulsa — **Tulsa**  
Rice at Texas — **Texas**  
Sam Houston State at Kansas — **Kan.**



Vanderbilt at Mississippi — **Vandy**  
Wake Forest at Florida State — **FSU**  
Miami (Ohio) at Cincinnati — **Cincy**  
TCU at Southern Methodist — **TCU**  
Fresno State at Toledo — **Fresno**  
Iowa State at UNLV — **Iowa State**  
San Jose State at Stanford — **Stanford**  
East Carolina at North Carolina State — **EC**  
Miami (Fla.) at Texas A&M — **Miami**  
Miss. State at Georgia Tech — **Tech**  
Virginia Tech at North Carolina — **Va. Tech**

## Redstone runners want second consecutive title

### Team

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and Engineering Center, Brad Schroeder and Jason Reneau, who have posted the top times in tryouts.

"I feel confident this year," said Riddle, 26, an aerospace engineer at AMRDEC. "I'm strong again and looking forward to it. And I think we have a real strong team this year. I think the team is going to be better this year with the addition of Brad Schroeder and Jason Reneau."

A Madison native, Riddle ran cross country and track for Auburn University from 2001-05.

Schroeder, 24, originally from Shelby, Ohio, came to Redstone in September 2007 when he was offered a job by the AMC Fellows program. He ran cross country and track for Ohio Northern University from 2002-06.

"I'm very excited to be part of such a nice group of people and hopefully I'll be able to do well and help the team," Schroeder said. "That's my goal, it's to help out. I'm hoping to be able to break 60 minutes and go from there."

Schroeder is assigned from AMRDEC as a mechanical engineer with the Joint Attack Munitions Systems Project Office. The other fast newcomer from the research center is Reneau, 32.

Capt. Wade Preston, 31, a native of Springfield, Mo., returns to this year's team after serving 2007 in Iraq. "It was rewarding," he said of his tour. He was deployed to the Anaconda logistical support activity in Balad for a year until June 7 and returned to Huntsville in mid-July. He ran with the 2006 team.

"I was excited that you guys asked me to go again," Preston said. "And I was really looking forward to going again with the team."

Capt. Laura Matejik joins Lt. Col. Chris Hackett as the 16-member team's two female runners. Matejik, 26, from Mechanicsville, Pa., is chief of legal assistance for the Staff Judge Advocate Office at the Aviation and Missile Command.

"I've never run with a team before and never run with an Army team before," she said. "So I'm real excited to be able to compete with everyone. And it's an honor being one of the two females on the team."

Team Redstone coach Harry Hobbs is optimistic about the chances of a championship repeat. This is his fifth year with the team and fourth as coach.

"Without a doubt this is the most talented team that we've had during my five years here," said Hobbs, 48, a retired chief warrant officer 5 who serves as professor of military science for Columbia High JROTC and as human resources management adjunct professor at Florida Tech. "And besides the talent, more importantly

I think we have a great chemistry and friendship among the runners.

"We all work in this community and support the war fighters and we want to honor that by giving our best performance on the track. And I want to give a special thank you to Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, MWR (Morale Welfare and Recreation) and Mr. Derrick Gould, and AUSA (Association of the U.S. Army)

representatives Mr. Steve Taylor and Mr. Bob Whiteford for supporting the Redstone Arsenal Ten-Miler team this year."

The other members of Team Redstone include Brett Addington, Tim Vinson, Jason Gilliam, Nathan Graham, Capt. Paul Laracy, Randy McFarland, Col. Tom Newman, Joseph Robenson, alternate Staff Sgt. Anthony Marvan and assistant coach Skip Vaughn.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**LOOKING AHEAD—** Team Redstone members include, from left, in front row, Brett Addington, Brad Schroeder, Lt. Col. Chris Hackett, Tim Vinson and Joseph Robenson. In the back row are Jason Gilliam, David Riddle, Randy McFarland, Nathan Graham, Capt. Wade Preston, Capt. Laura Matejik, Col. Tom Newman and coach Harry Hobbs.

# 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](mailto:pineappleopen@primelogicllc.com).

### Triple Threat run/walk

The Triple Threat Run/Walk is 8 a.m. Oct. 4 at the Edgewater Community in Madison. Sponsored by the Regions Bank and the Marine Corps Reserve Center, this event benefits Toys for Tots. It includes a 3 mile run/walk for beginner runners, a 6 mile run for intermediate runners and a 9 mile run for advanced runners. To pre-register, mail the \$10 entry fee or any donations to Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3506 Memorial Parkway, Huntsville, AL 35801. After Sept. 27 please call if planning to register, but wait until 7 a.m. Oct. 4 to register in person. For more information, call 213-9683. Sgt. Bradley Easley's extension is 102; and Gunnery Sgt. Wayne Byron's extension is 105. Make any entry fee or donation checks out to Toys for Tots Foundation.

### Hunter orientation

MWR and Outdoor Recreation will hold the Hunter Safety Orientation for all those that want to hunt on Redstone on Sept. 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.

### 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 Saturday 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 Sports, Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine/Health Promotion and the Civilian Welfare Fund. A league formation and committee meeting is scheduled today 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.

### Tennis tournament

Huntsville Women's Tennis Association annual Fall Charity Tournament is Sept. 25-28 at the Huntsville Tennis Center. Format will be ladies doubles and mixed doubles for regular and senior players. Entry fee is \$25 per player. For more information and to download an entry form, visit [www.huntsvillewomenstennis.net](http://www.huntsvillewomenstennis.net).

### 5K walk/run

The C.A.R.E. Center 5K race, the first of what is to become an annual event, is Saturday 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](mailto:erinowens1@yahoo.com) or Laura Hale at [lth@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://www.stillservingveterans.org). Interested golfers should visit [www.stillservingveterans.org](http://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 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 homework/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.

### Geospatial conferences

Organizers of the Rocket City Geospatial Conference and the Terrain Summit have agreed to merge their two events. The first Rocket City Geospatial Conference was held in 2007 and the Terrain Summit, a biennial event, was first held in 2005. The combined event will see its attendance expand as it also joins with the fifth annual Alabama GIS Symposium, typically held at Auburn University. The combined events will be held Nov. 18-20 at the Huntsville Marriott. For more information, visit the conference web site at [www.RocketCityGeospatial.com](http://www.RocketCityGeospatial.com).

### 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.

### **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 Thursday 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](http://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 Thursday 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](mailto:chinkle@cohesionforce.com) or call 562-0600.

### **Engineer post**

The Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers meets at 11:30 a.m. Thursday 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](mailto: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.

### **Women's connection**

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will hold its monthly luncheon Sept. 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. There is free child care for ages 6-and-under off site. Reservations, essential for the luncheon and for child care, are due by Thursday. Call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339.

### **Officers association**

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting at 11 a.m. Sept. 24 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Ralph Petroff, Carina Board adviser, will speak on "The Greatest Story Never Told - how Alabamians worked with their former enemies to create the 20th century's greatest event." The informal monthly breakfast is Sept. 27 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. For more information, call retired Col.

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Danny Burttram 325-1938.

### **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.

### **Catholic women**

The Military Council of Catholic Women invites all ladies with a military or civilian ID to its First Friday meeting on Oct. 3 at 9 a.m. in the large Activity Room of the Bicentennial Chapel. Refreshments will be served and after a short business agenda at 9:30, members will view the DVD "Really BAD Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs. The members say they hope you'll stay for Holy Hour at 11 a.m. and Mass at noon. To request child care and for more information, call Phyllis Gibat 842 2175 or (after Sept. 28) Chris Johnson 701-6490.

### **Logistic engineers**

This month's SOLE program and luncheon is Sept. 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$16 for non-members, \$15 for members. For reservations call Jane Reeves 544-7991 or Dave Welch 837-5282, ext.1706.

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## 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/or 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.

### Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil) for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

### Surplus sales

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

### 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](mailto:keith.coates@us.army.mil) or e-mail MSF instructor Ralph Harris at [93hdstc@bellsouth.net](mailto: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](mailto:jwk108@yahoo.com) or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

## Monte Sano Art show

The 10th annual Monte Sano Art Show, a free outdoor event, is Saturday 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](http://www.MonteSanoArtShow.org).

## 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 BSJ. The last day for CWFC advanced three-day pass sales is Friday. Three-day passes will not be sold at the BSJ 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](http://www.bigspringjam.org).

## 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.

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## 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

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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 Thursday at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. In recognition of Team Redstone's service and sacrifice, AMCOM 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.

## Home school classes

Child and Youth Services will begin offering home-school support classes for the upcoming academic year beginning on Thursday. 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 Thursday 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 Saturday 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/bjhsdrumlinecarshow>.

## Craft show

The Northeast Alabama Craftsmen's "Fall Craft Show" is Friday through Sunday 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.

## 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 Saturday. Call Cathy and Bruce Richardson 837-2180 or Denise and Ezell Grant (314) 277-9992 or e-mail [heartsablazeconference@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Thursday 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.

## 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 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

Traffic delays are anticipated at Gate 9 inbound lanes. 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. Workers are removing 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 two months, according to the Garrison.

## Brigade day

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

## Veterinary clinic

Veterinary Services will have walk-in evening clinics Thursday. 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.

## 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 Saturday 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 [greenmtnroses@comcast.net](mailto:greenmtnroses@comcast.net).

## Acquisition work force

The fall 2008 Army Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program announcement is open through Oct. 22. ATAP is a robust tuition assistance program open to all eligible Acquisition, Logistics and Technology work force members who have met their position certification requirements, and are interested in pursuing their 12-24 business-hour requirement (at any level), associate degree, or bachelor's degree. Master's degree funding is also available to those GS-11 (or broadband equivalent) AL&T work force members who meet their position certifica-

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tion requirements (at least Level II) and are interested in pursuing graduate study in a business, scientific or technical specialty. For more information on ATAP, visit the ATAP section on the USAASC web site.

## Army training

Do you want to be on the cutting edge of Army training? The 1st Battle Command Training Group offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing your professional management, training and leadership skills. It has immediate openings for sergeant first class through lieutenant colonel — specialty and branch are immaterial — who want to transfer and make a significant contribution to the readiness of the Army. The 1st BCTG conducts continental U.S. pre- and post-mobilization computer simulation based Battle Command Staff Training exercises. It trains and validates Army Reserve and National Guard units throughout the Southeast in wartime readiness. It offers CONUS mobilization opportunities training and preparing USAR and ARNG units for deployment. Unit benefits include Fragmented Annual Training, and opportunity to travel throughout the Southeast. It encourages and supports attendance at Army professional development schools. For information call 1st Sgt. Larry King (205) 987-8443 ext. 4410, Capt. John Walker (205) 444-5208 or Lt. Col. Anthony Escott (205) 444-5163.

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Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

## Brigade coin

Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle, 59th Ordnance Brigade command sergeant major, places (while shaking hands) a 59th Brigade Coin of Excellence in the hand of Staff Sgt. Robert Kennedy of HHC 59th, an instructor to the IET students. Kennedy has helped conduct more than 150 military funerals in Alabama. "It's been a privilege to help honor our nation's heroes," Kennedy said. "I've gotten the chance to hear about many great Soldiers and their heroic stories. I'm glad to have had this opportunity, though hard at times, but very rewarding in the end."

### Future engineers

The National Engineers Week Foundation, a coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies, is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering work force. Engineers Week raises public understanding and appreciation of engineers' contributions to society. The Alabama Regional Future City Competition will be held Jan. 17 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville's Shelby Center. Regional competition winners travel to Washington, D.C. to vie for the grand prize, a week at Space Camp. School deadline for the 2009 Future City Competition is Oct. 20, 2008. All interested schools, teachers, students or engineers are encouraged to participate. For more information on entering or volunteering in the Future City Competition, call 1-877-636-9578 or visit [www.futurecity.org](http://www.futurecity.org).

### Library book talk

Get an early start on your holiday "spirit." Join other book lovers around the library fireplace Nov. 7 from noon until 1 p.m. at the Post Library for a discussion of the Charles Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol." This is the Victorian era story of the miser Scrooge who learns the true meaning of Christmas when visited by the ghosts of his past, present and future. Coffee and tea will be provided. Bring a bag lunch if desired. Call 876-4741 for more information.

### Customer services

Do you have a comment or opinion about the services provided at Redstone Arsenal? Team Redstone and all DoD installations want your feedback about the services you are receiving at your home station. This is a new approach to customer service with the resources, enthusiasm and manpower to ensure your voice is heard and understood. Each installation is now assigned a full-time customer service officer, whose sole responsibility is to ensure customers have multiple avenues to offer feedback on all services that are provided by the Installation Management Command. The process for your individual feedback is through the Interactive Customer Evaluation System which is automated through the Internet or filled out with an ICE comment card at the service provider's location. You can access the Interactive Customer Evaluation site at <http://ice.disa.mil> or [www.redstone.army.mil](http://www.redstone.army.mil) and leave a comment. You can reach customer service officer Steve McFadden at 876-3294, e-mail [steven.ray.mcfadden@us.army.mil](mailto:steven.ray.mcfadden@us.army.mil) or the ICE administrator Wendy Norris at [wendy.norris1@us.army.mil](mailto:wendy.norris1@us.army.mil).

### Church bicentennial

Shiloh United Methodist Church, 495 Ryland Pike in Ryland, will celebrate its 200 years Oct. 4-8. The church is eight miles east of Huntsville, off Highway 72 East, at the corner of Dug Hill and Ryland Pike. For more information, call 651-2031.

### Newcomer orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation on Oct. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The orientation features speakers, information booths and a tour of Redstone Arsenal. Attendees will receive Morale Welfare and Recreation bucks redeemable at MWR activities. Attendance is mandatory for active duty personnel permanently assigned for Redstone. Civilian employees, contractors and spouses are encouraged to attend. Free child care is available through the Child Development Center. Shot records are required for children using the child care services. For more information call Mary Breeden, relocation assistance program manager, 876-5397.

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