

# Redstone Rocket

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# Vice chief of staff lauds community

Chiarelli addresses Salute Dinner  
during Armed Forces Celebration

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Calling Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville “home to several of our nation’s critical military operations,” the Army’s vice chief of staff thanked an audience of about 600 supporters of the Association of the U.S. Army “for what you do every single day for our Army.”

Gen. Peter Chiarelli said Department of the Army civilians and contractors at Redstone Arsenal as well as the local research community are important in providing the “technology, tools and equipment” that Soldiers need to be successful on the battlefield. His comments were made June 17 during the Salute Dinner hosted by AUSA’s Redstone-Huntsville chapter as part of the Armed Forces Celebration Week.

Combine the area’s technological and scientific expertise with its southern hospitality and Huntsville “exemplifies what we mean when we say ‘Army family.’ You are at the heart of what defending the nation is all about,” he said.

Prior to the dinner at the Von Braun Center, Chiarelli told local media he had an opportunity to drive around the city and the Arsenal and described what he saw as “absolutely fantastic.”

“To see the construction and facilities here is amazing. I’m absolutely impressed,” he said.

Commenting on Redstone Arsenal’s “huge future,” Chiarelli said the work of its employees is “absolutely essential to Soldiers.”

Chiarelli, whose military decorations include the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit, is the 32nd vice chief of staff. His military career has included service at Fort Hood, Texas and throughout Europe as well as serving as director of operations, readiness and mobilization at Headquarters, Department of the Army. He served as commander of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood and in Iraq during the early days of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has also commanded the Multi-National Corps in Iraq.

The Army family includes all Americans who have contributed to the defense of freedom, Chiarelli said, telling his audience that they “are important members of our extended Army family.”

Chiarelli spent the Army’s 234th birth-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**PART OF ARMY FAMILY—** Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the Army’s vice chief of staff, compliments the supportive community and the dedicated work force at Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville.

day on June 14 at a ceremony at the Navy’s historic U.S.S. Intrepid at Pier 86 in New York City. At first thought, a Soldier spending the Army’s birthday on a Navy ship may seem out of the ordinary. But, he said, that, in fact, it was very appropriate.

“During World War II, the Intrepid transported thousands of GIs and tanks and airplanes and other equipment to the fight. It provided cover fire over numerous beaches,” he said. “It represents our brothers and sisters in arms. We may wear different uniforms, and have separate and distinct missions, but when bullets fly we are one team. The Intrepid and its crew are an important part of the Army family.”

He also spoke of veterans who have contributed to the Army’s history, including Pfc. Humphrey Donahue who was killed in action in the Philippines in 1944. On the Army’s birthday, Chiarelli presented Donahue’s great-niece and her son with medals to replace their veteran’s lost and destroyed medals.

“I could see in her face and hear in her words how much it meant to her,” Chiarelli

said. “She said ‘These medals will be a part of our family forever.’ She and her son and Private First Class Donahue are a part of our Army family forever.”

Chiarelli recounted the birth of the U.S. Army in 1775. Its first battle — the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775 — is where U.S. victory “first demonstrated to the world that America’s Army is a force to be reckoned with. And we have shown that countless times since then,” he said.

Yet, Chiarelli said today’s Army is “tired and stretched” with the demands of fighting two wars while at the same time contributing to an Army that is in transition.

“The battlefield is increasingly dynamic,” he said. “Change happens in minutes. Soldiers at all levels bear a tremendous responsibility, and are required to show a maturity and strength never demanded of us ... They must take risks and come up with creative solutions on the battlefield.”

Before the Army’s transition, success was measured by how little risk had to be

See Salute on page 17

# An open lane random survey

What is your favorite cartoon character and why?

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
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**Megan Cotton**  
Garrison/AMCOM Public and Congressional Affairs  
"I'll have to go with Donald Duck, because I've always been a really big Disney fan and I've always thought he was the funniest."

Kay Goodloe-Cutts

AMCOM Resource Management  
"I watch Little Bill, that's Bill Cosby. I guess because I have five grandsons and he reminds me of all the questions that they ask and all the things little boys do."



**Jonathan Pierce**  
PS Magazine,  
Logistics Support Activity  
"Wile E. Coyote. His tenacity of purpose and the inevitable smiles that he brings to my face in failure."

1st Lt. Kenney Washington  
Fox Army Health Center

"I would say my favorite cartoon character would be Bugs Bunny, because of his creativity, his savvy, his energy. Also he's just the consummate optimist. He finds the best out of every situation – at least the best for himself. He lives on the upswing of life."



## Quote of the week

**S**pread the diaper in the position of the diamond with you at bat. Then fold second base down to home and set the baby on the pitcher's mound. Put first base and third together, bring up home plate and pin the three together. Of course, in case of rain, you gotta call the game and start all over again.

□ Jimmy Piersall  
former major league baseball player on how to diaper a baby

# Letter to the Editor

## Kudos to first-rate security

I suspect that comments from the general public regarding the performance of police and security officers are all too frequently in the form of complaints or grievances. It is for this very reason that I would like to share my personal observations about these officers, especially Walden Security officers Frederick Frink and Leroy Potter who are assigned to Gate 8.

Far too often the first-rate works of people are overlooked and that of the officers stationed at the installation gates are no exception. Somehow, despite the fluctuations in the weather and the thousands of personalities that pass through their gates, your officers maintain a quite positive perspective and remain upbeat. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge their noteworthy individual and collective professionalism in appearance, demeanor and diligence in the performance of duties.

I have more routinely passed through Gate 8 to enter the Arsenal and consequently have had frequent contact with officers Frink and Potter. This team of security officers is a complement to the installation and the total force.

**Don S. Counter**  
retired sergeant major

## Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for June 11-17:

**June 11:** An individual was observed by Post Exchange security selecting a pair of shoes and exiting the store without paying. The individual was processed by police and released.

**June 11:** A driver was stopped for failing to stop at a traffic light and subsequently found to have a suspended license. The individual was cited and released.

**June 12:** Left unattended at the Visitors Center for several days, a vehicle was observed being driven in the parking lot. An officer stopped the vehicle to warn the driver about extended parking, and found the driver to have a suspended license. The individual was cited and released.

**June 14:** Officers on routine patrol found a culvert that had been vandalized with spray-painted graffiti and broken bottles. Investigation continues by DES investigators.

**June 15:** During the early

morning, unknown subjects entered four vehicles parked in the housing area and stole various personal items including a wallet, CDs and an Apple iPod. Investigation continues by DES investigators. Residents are reminded to lock their vehicles.

**June 16:** An individual approached the police desk to file a police report and was found to have a suspended driver's license and active traffic warrants with the City of Madison. The driver was arrested and later released to the Madison Police.

**June 16:** Unknown subjects entered two unsecured lockers at a Redstone Arsenal gym and stole the wallets and cell phones of two patrons. Investigation continues by DES investigators.

**Traffic accidents reported:**  
Two with injury, five without injury.

**Violation notices issued:**  
16 speeding, 2 driving while suspended, 2 failure to obey a traffic control device, 3 inattentive driving resulting in a traffic accident, 2 parking.

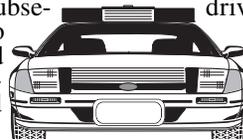


Photo by Martina Kaiwi

## Celebration pact

Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle shake hands during the proclamation signing for last week's Armed Forces Celebration. The kickoff event was June 15 at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade.

## Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@htimes.com

**Name:** Sandy Boyd

**Job:** Fire inspector, Directorate of Emergency Services

**Where do you call home?**  
Jackson, Tenn.

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

Letting the people know about fire safety, working with the kids.

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

Photography. And me and my husband, Joey, have been doing barbecue cookoff challenges professionally.

**What are your goals?**

To learn what I can here to try to help educate, make Redstone safer.

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

I guess modern-day music, a little country.



# Redstone Rocket

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# McChrystal assumes command of Nato-led force in Afghanistan

By DONNA MILES  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal assumed command of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan on June 15, vowing that the coalition will prevail despite a struggle he conceded will be “long and hard.”

“2009 will be a critical year for Afghanistan, and a critical year for our coalition,” McChrystal said at a morning assumption-of-command ceremony at the ISAF headquarters in Kabul. “Although we face many challenges, with your steadfast commitment, professionalism and dedication and with the help and support of our Afghan friends and the international community, we will prevail.”

McChrystal acknowledged the legacy and achievements of Gen. David D. McKiernan, who he replaces as commander of ISAF and U.S. Forces Afghanistan. “His tireless efforts, clear thinking and calm direction have placed ISAF in a position to develop real momentum in the coming months,” McChrystal said. “To a fellow Soldier and friend — my gratitude and thanks.”

The incoming commander acknowledged the challenges ahead to achieve a

peaceful, stable and free Afghanistan. “It will require the full commitment and talent of each of us, as well as the continued support and resolve of the international community,” he told an assembly of representatives from Afghanistan, the United Nations, the NATO alliance and 14 non-NATO nations supporting the coalition. “But together we will prevail.”



Courtesy photo

**IN COMMAND—** Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal receives the ISAF guidon during the assumption of command ceremony in Afghanistan.

# Troops in Iraq capture 12 suspects, seize weapons

WASHINGTON — Coalition and Iraq forces detained a dozen suspects and seized weapons during recent operations in Iraq, military officials said June 15.

Combined forces arrested a suspected criminal on a warrant June 12 in north-west Baghdad's Kadhamiyah district. The man is suspected of participating in criminal activities throughout the district, military officials said. The suspect was transferred to a secure facility for further questioning.

In a separate operation that day, Iraqi police and coalition advisers arrested a suspect on a warrant in Basra. Military officials said the suspect's capture will reduce his group's ability to mount effective attacks and could yield information

that leads to more arrests.

In a June 11 operation, combined forces arrested a suspected terrorist on a warrant in Mosul. The man is suspected of organizing attacks against Iraqi and coalition forces in the area.

Iraqi police and soldiers arrested nine suspects wanted for terrorism in Kirkuk in a June 10 operation.

Troops also discovered weapons caches in the villages of Thalilla and Algair in the Hawijah district of Kirkuk province. The caches included a 57 mm projectile, 82 mm high-explosive mortars and 60 mm mortars.

*Editor's note: American Forces Press Service compiled this article from Multi-national Corps Iraq releases.*

# Medical officers among honorees

Two officers of the Army Medical Service Corps were among 28 company-grade Army officers recognized with General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards during a ceremony at the Pentagon on May 8.

Capt. Jeffrey A. Duncan, training officer for the Army Reserve's 807th Medical Deployment Support Command in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Capt. Paul B. Lester, a psychologist on the faculty of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., received busts of MacArthur from Army chief of staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. (*Army Medical Command release*)

# Letterkenny takes youth on adventure

By Staff Sgt. LISA LEVACK  
*Letterkenny public affairs/protocol*

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — It has been eight years since Letterkenny has had so much energy and excitement at the depot's recreation center. This year Letterkenny, along with Child Youth and School Services Carlisle Barracks, is welcoming school age

children kindergarten through fifth-grade to American Adventure Summer Camp 2009.

Adventure camp is a 10-week program that physically engages the campers through activities such as lacrosse, soccer, hiking and Taekwondo. Besides physical activities the Adventure Camp will also stimulate

their minds through many educational activities like art class with a certified art instructor, science projects, and various field trips every Thursday.

Camp Adventure has returned to Letterkenny to give the depot employees' children and grandchildren a place that is educational, safe and fun during their summer break.

# Teachers get opportunity to fly in program

*Civil Air Patrol offers flights*

The Redstone Composite Squadron along with other Civil Air Patrol squadrons from Huntsville, Pell City and Birmingham participated June 13 in the CAP National Fly-A-Teacher Program.

There were 34 teachers in attendance from all parts of the United States — as far away as Alaska. Redstone CAP deputy commander Ande Boyer was the flight coordinator for the event and Redstone's Capt. Don Hunnicutt attended to help fly the teachers.

The teachers met with CAP personnel at Madison County Executive Airport, just north of Huntsville. After brief introductions, some classroom time and a short wait for the weather to clear, the pilots escorted the teachers to the aircraft and explained to them the various control surfaces of the airplane and their

functions. At the same time, the pilot performed the preflight inspection and explained its importance.

The path of the flight took the teachers to Fayetteville, Tenn., and back. During the flight the pilot explained instruments and controls, then gave the teacher a chance to fly the airplane.

“The flight was fun,” said teacher Lisa Weier, who was given the opportunity to fly the aircraft. “It was hard work. There is so much to look at.”

At the end of the day, the teachers headed to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center where they spent the rest of the week studying aerospace education.

The Fly-A-Teacher Program provides the opportunity for teachers to experience orientation flights in CAP aircraft at local area airports which allows them to go back to the classroom and share their experiences with their students. (*Civil Air Patrol release*)



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Health fair

Geneva Simpson, an independent distributor with Advocare, talks with Master Sgt. Matthew Gallegos of the Program Executive Office for Aviation during the “Go Blue for Men” Health Fair on June 16 in the lobby of Bob Jones Auditorium. “We’re a nutritional supplement company out of Dallas, Texas,” she says.

June 24, 2009  
Local community gives  
outpouring of prizes

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Patterson and Spc. Randal Rhodes are Redstone Arsenal's "best of the best" for 2009.

Patterson is the NCO of the Year and Rhodes the Soldier of the Year. They were announced as winners of their respective competitions June 15 during a luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club. Each received more than \$4,000 in merchandise and checks from various sponsors from throughout the Redstone and surrounding communities.

"You represent our NCOs and you represent our Soldiers well," Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, said. "Congratulations to you."

Patterson, 41, from Foxfire Village, N.C., belongs to Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion. He and his wife, Joy, have a son, James Albany, 24, of Richmond, Va., and a 2-year-old grandson. Patterson has been in the Army about 16 years.

"I think the best part of it was to have a little competition with some outstanding NCOs and Soldiers and learn something from them," Patter-

son said. "And (Bravo) Bulldogs lead the way."

Rhodes, 33, from Corpus Christi, Texas, belongs to Medical Department Activity. He is a laboratory technician at Fox Army Health Center. He and his wife, Tracy, have a daughter, Stephanie, 8. Rhodes has four years service.

"It's a great sense of accomplishment. It feels good to compete and win," Rhodes said. "It's a privilege to be here. I feel privileged more than anything else."

About 200 people attended the luncheon. Redstone's Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates thanked the program's 50 local sponsors.

"Being at the FORSCOM (Army Forces Command) level, even at the 18th Airborne level, the support that's here is even more than the support at the FORSCOM level," Yates said. "I've actually had people from Fort Bragg (N.C.) ask me how they can get the same support that we have because they see what this community does for the NCO and Soldier of the Year."

The NCO/Soldier competitions are held every quarter of the year. Each quarter a winner is determined by competing with other Soldiers by taking a written exam, an Army Physical Fitness Test, an intense land navigation day course, Army warrior task test, and appearance before a formal board of senior leaders and noncommissioned officers asking questions on a variety of military subjects.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HONOREES— Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Patterson and Spc. Randal Rhodes share congratulations after being named Redstone Arsenal's NCO and Soldier of the Year.**

# Army Community Service opens doors for celebration week

Army Community Service does just what its name implies.

The organization offers family-oriented support programs for all families associated with Redstone Arsenal.

ACS invited everyone Thursday to its open house which was among the activities during Armed Forces Celebration Week.

“We do this to promote awareness of all our programs,” ACS division chief Sue Paddock said. “And we do this during Armed Forces Week which is a perfect opportunity to showcase and educate about our programs.”

ACS, in building 3338 on Redeye Road, has 12 paid staff members and more than 20 volunteers.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**TOUR—** Army Community Service division chief Sue Paddock, left, gives an ACS tour to 832nd Ordnance Battalion Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Fisher, his wife Sara and their daughter, Sophia, 18 months.

## Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

The Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation provided the following list of upcoming events:

### Block party

Child Youth and School Services Block Party is Saturday from 1-4 p.m. on Youth Center Road. This free event is open to all of Redstone. For more information, call 876-3704.

### Dancing lessons

Registration is under way through Aug. 5 for Basic Samba, Mambo and Merengue for \$66 per couple. Classes

are Aug. 6 through Sept. 17 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711.

### Insomnia workshop

“Stress, Insomnia, and Work Productivity” Sleep Deprivation Workshop will be held today from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Army Community Service conference room, building 3338 on Redeye Road. For more information, call Virginia Dempsey 876-5397.

### Babysitting class

A babysitting class is June 30 at building 3466. For more information, call 313-3735 or 313-3609.

# Opportunity takes Redstone officer to Kuwait

## Lt. Col. Hackett accepts two-year assignment

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer  
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Lt. Col. Chris Hackett understands opportunity when she sees it.

But it's not necessarily the opportunity to advance her career that is the driving motivator for this well-known Redstone Arsenal officer. Rather, it's the opportunity to contribute to the Army and make a difference in the lives of Soldiers.

That driving motivator is what is taking Hackett to Southwest Asia for a two-year assignment as the commander of the Army Contracting Command-Kuwait, which is located at Camp Arifjan and subordinate to the 408th Contracting Support Brigade.

"There are two reasons I took this job," Hackett said. "One is this is what the Army has trained me to do. This is what an acquisition officer is supposed to do. The Army selected me for this command based on my skill set. This was a good fit.

"And, two, you can't have any more of a relevant job than supporting current operations and missions for the Soldiers. I'm looking really forward to doing the job."

Even so, the move to Kuwait presents challenges for Hackett and her husband, Talbot, both of whom have immersed themselves in the Huntsville community. They were first stationed at Redstone Arsenal in 2001 when Hackett worked as a contracting officer for the Missile and Space Intelligence Center. She returned in 2005 as the assistant program manager for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, Lower Tier, Patriot and MEADS, and continued her work at Redstone Arsenal in a third assignment as a teacher in the Army Logistics Management College.

Since 2005, the couple have purchased a home in Madison County. Talbot Hackett, a retired sergeant first class, has been an Army Community Service volunteer and has started a local business that is successful and growing. And, Hackett has been involved with such organizations as Women in Defense, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, and the Officer and Civilian Women's Club. She was also a runner on the Arsenal's 10-miler team.

"It's the closest to home that we have come in our careers," Hackett said. "We have spent a lot of time overseas and we've moved around a lot.

"This is the first time I've been in a job where I could go home at 5 in the after-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**WORKING AS TEAM— Lt. Col. Chris Hackett relies on her strong relationship with her husband, Talbot, a retired sergeant first class, for support as she continues in her Army career. Assigned to Redstone Arsenal since 2005, Hackett is now traveling to Kuwait to assume a two-year assignment as commander of the Army Contracting Command-Kuwait. Talbot Hackett will remain in Huntsville, where he manages a successful and growing business.**

noon on a regular basis. The work I've done here has been a little less time consuming. So, I got involved in a lot of things. And we realized that we really liked Huntsville and the people here."

But the opportunity to serve as a commander — either in contract or program management — was calling Hackett. Her assignment in Kuwait will be her first battalion-level command assignment.

"What's really cool about this job is the contracting staff is predominantly civilian and works with a contingency contracting team of military personnel to provide them with relevant job experience and training," she said.

There are anywhere from a few to as many as 300 contracting officer representatives assigned to each of the units the contracting office supports in Kuwait.

"They are the eyes and ears of the contracting office," Hackett explained. "They make sure what's been ordered has been received, and that the services we contract are timely and correct. They make sure the Army and the taxpayer are getting what they paid for. We are focused on spending money wisely and getting the best value."

As commander, Hackett's first duty when she arrives in Kuwait will focus on the contracting office's personnel requirements.

"My new job's number one activity that will require my constant engagement is finding and keeping qualified civilians to fill my organization's positions," Hackett said.

See **Officer** on page 13

# AMCOM's new chief of staff jumps into assignment

*Colonel finds home in Huntsville and plans to stay when he retires*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
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Thanks to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, Col. Jeff Young has found a home in Huntsville.

This Georgia-born Soldier has been all around the world during his 25-year career — working in 16 different countries, moving his family 17 times and taking on assignments in both the Army's armor and logistics branches.

In 2007-08, Young oversaw the building of the \$9.4 million, 25,000-square-foot headquarters of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade at Redstone Arsenal, a project that was part of the 2005 BRAC Commission recommendations. As deputy commander, Young assisted with the transfer of the brigade headquarters to the Arsenal with the grand opening of its new facility in the fall of 2008, making it the first BRAC-related move to the Arsenal. Recently, he assumed the responsibilities of chief of staff for the Aviation and Missile Command, following the retirement of Col. Tom Newman.

And he and his family have made Huntsville home. "My wife, Susan, is a quintessential military wife," Young said. "She loves to travel. She doesn't see moving as a problem. She sees it as an opportunity.

"But we love Huntsville and we will eventually retire here. We are moving my 83-year-old parents from south Georgia to Huntsville. We are building a house here. Huntsville is a good transitional place geographically with the river valley and mountains and the territorial waterway for migrating ducks."

Those ducks — along with the area's abundant deer, turkey, dove and quail — have made Huntsville, Redstone Arsenal and north Alabama a good choice for this avid hunter. The area has also become a good choice for his wife, who has grown to love Huntsville as she's become familiar with the area; daughter Ashley, who attends the University of Alabama-Huntsville and is a summer hire at the Garrison; and son Ryan, who is a third-year lifeguard with FMWR, and who recently graduated from Columbia High and plans to attend Calhoun Community College this fall.

**W**hile his family settles down in their new hometown, Young is concentrating on the new challenges and opportunities of being the chief of staff for a life cycle management command charged with research, development, prototyping, producing, fielding and sustaining the Army's aviation and missile systems. He leads the day-to-day activities of an AMCOM work force of more than 9,000 people with an annual budget in excess of \$22 billion.

"This is the longest breath and scope job I've had in my career. It's huge," he said. "It was humbling following a 30-year career guy like Tom Newman.

"The seniority, experience and professionalism of all of the LCMC staff is quite amazing. They make this job so much easier."

Young is responsible for coordinating the AMCOM

executive staff in achieving the goals of AMCOM and the Army Materiel Command.

"It's more complex because we are a life cycle management command that includes the program executive offices of aviation, and missiles and space, and the AMRDEC (Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center) and the contracting command," he said.

"We have a lot of professionals in this who do not directly work for us but who are part of us. My job is to work to keep the communication channels open and to ensure our coordinated efforts so that our Soldiers in the field are being taken care of."

This is not Young's first time in a management role of a command. Among his many leadership roles, this decorated Desert Shield/Storm veteran has served as executive officer for the 47th Forward Support Battalion in Bosnia and the 200th Theater Materiel Management Center, as commander of the Defense Distribution Depot-Europe and as deputy commander of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade.

"I understand how to run large, complex staffs that are geographically dispersed," he said. "But this is the first time I've coordinated across multiple command channels. The people I work with are so good at what they do that it constantly reminds me that the strength of the team is so much stronger than the strength of one individual."

**Y**oung comes from a strong military family that includes pre-Civil War, World War II and Korean War veterans. His father is retired military.

"I'm the first colonel in the family since the Civil War. We've mostly been non-commissioned officers," he said.

Young is a 1984 graduate of the Army ROTC program at Auburn University.

"I was really into team sports in college. A friend of mine who was in ROTC and whose father was a colonel said 'Jeff, this is just like playing on a ball team. You'd love it. You're a natural leader,'" Young recalled. "I was offered an ROTC scholarship and I haven't looked back since."

He began his military career as an armor officer, serving in various roles, including tank platoon leader, tank company executive officer, mortar platoon leader and battalion leader. In 1989, he transferred to the Quartermaster Corps (logistics) and was assigned to the 1st Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C., and was immediately deployed to Southwest Asia. During Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Young served as an operations officer for the 528th Special Operations Support Battalion in support of the Joint Special Operations Task Force. In 1991, he returned to Fort Bragg and served the Special Operations Command in a variety of positions.

In 1997, Young returned to Europe to serve the 21st Theater Army Area Command as chief of maintenance. In 1998, he was reassigned to the 1st Armored Division and served as the executive officer of the 47th in Bosnia and then back to Europe as the executive officer for the 200th. He commanded the Defense Distribution Depot-Europe and then returned to the U.S. as the operations officer for the Southeast Region of the Installation Management Agency. From there, he was assigned to the 2nd Recruiting Brigade and then to AMCOM.

"There's a lot of diversity in what I've done and I think that will help me in this job," Young said. "I've been all over the world. I've jumped out of airplanes, and worked with foreign military and leaders in 15 or 16 different countries. I've had great mentors who have taught me about discipline and leadership."

Young's service has earned him a Bronze Star; the Legion of Merit, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Master Parachutist Badge; Parachute Rigger Badge; and Australian, German, French, South African and Dutch Parachutist Badges.

**B**esides leadership opportunities, Young's career has also been interspersed with educational opportunities. He has master's degrees in logistics management and strategic studies, and has graduated from the Armor Officer Basic Course, Quartermaster Officer Advanced Course, Aerial Delivery and Materiel Officers Course, Logistics Executive Development Course, Command and General Staff College and the Air Force Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base.

"The Army is in the business of training leaders, of developing leaders," he said. "The Army gives opportunities at an early age to manage large resources of people, equipment and money.

The Army is constantly leading Soldiers into management and leadership."

The key to being successful in his new chief of staff position, Young said, is to "trust the staff and to help them develop good

courses of action and allow them the flexibility to do their job. Being a chief of staff is about managing resources — money, people, physical properties and programs — so that the commander's mission, philosophy and guidance is translated into the command's programs."

Throughout his military career and then as deputy commander of a recruiting brigade, Young has talked to many young people about the opportunities to serve their nation.

"If they are interested in the military, I first tell them to figure out a way they can serve their country, whether that's in or out of the military," he said. "They need to be dedicated to something bigger than themselves.

"If the military meets their vision of what they want to do with their life and how they want to serve, that's all the better. There are a lot of service organizations out there and they should focus on an organization of their choice that will let them give back to their country. Not everybody is born with a warrior spirit. Not everyone is meant to serve in the military. But everyone can find a place to serve and give back to their nation."

For Young, serving Soldiers is his way of giving back to the nation.



Col. Jeff Young

# Soldiers soak up training to stay alive

## Army drown proofing teaches water safety

By Spc. RYAN STROUD  
59th Ordnance Brigade public affairs

Members of the 59th Ordnance Brigade have made it their mission this summer to ensure no Soldier or family member drowns while enjoying time in the water. With the national average at 6,000 deaths a year, it was time once again for the Soldiers of HHC to jump into the pool for training June 16-17.

Cold water couldn't stop these Soldiers as they swam 25 meters, floated in the 12-foot deep end of a pool for five minutes, learned how to remove themselves from a flak vest while swimming and use their uniforms as a flotation device.

"What we're trying to do is teach Soldiers and give them the confidence in their ability to use their uniforms as flotation devices," said Staff Sgt. Nathanael Skinner, a drown proof instructor and member of the NCO Academy.

"If the Soldiers get in a situation where they're in the water, we want them to relax and use what we teach them to save their and their buddy's life," the veteran instruc-

tor since 1991 said. "If they panic, the water will suck them down. The water is a lot like quicksand so it's important to teach them to relax and be confident."

Soldiers can use their Army combat uniform jackets and pants as techniques to stay above water. With the jackets the Soldiers pull their collars tight around their necks, put their mouths into the top

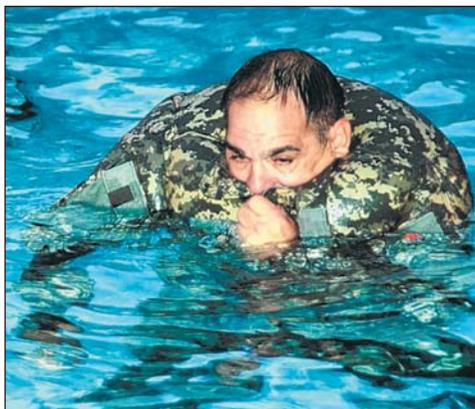


Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**AFLOAT— Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Saam of HHC 59th uses his Army combat uniform jacket as a flotation device by filling it with air.**

of their jackets, leaving their noses above to inhale air. If a Soldier breathes in through the nose and pushes the air out through their mouths, the jacket will quickly fill up, giving the Soldier a flotation device.

"Their equipment can be used to survive," Skinner said. "When you fall into the water, your shirt is going to fill up with air. We teach the Soldiers to take advantage of that and to use it to their benefit. We also teach the Soldiers how to use their pants as a flotation device. We advise them to loose the pants because it lightens their load by about 10 pounds and then they can tie the ends of the pants together and fill them up with air to be used to float."

Among the swimmers was Sgt. Rosalyn Anderson, S-1 NCO and a member of HHC. Anderson is an avid fan of water fun and yearly anticipates this training.

"I was actually looking forward to this training because it's enjoyable and you get something out of it," she said. "I think it's good to be properly prepared to handle any kind of extreme situation in the water. You never know when you might find yourself in trouble.

"We also learned about floating, like the fetal float and the dead-man float," she said about the training. "These are

just in case you get tired, you can rest for a moment and conserve your energy. We also were taught how to assist a battle buddy in the water if they can't swim or are getting tired while trying to stay afloat."

Like many Army training aids, drown proofing can also help Soldiers during their leisure times.

"I would like to think a lot of the training we receive in the Army can be used in real world situations outside of the Army," Anderson said. "This training really touches on that."



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**GROUP SESSION— Soldiers from HHC 59th, assisted by a drown proofing instructor, learn how to tread water during drown proof training June 16.**

# Redstone makes cents to accountant

## Intern likes opportunities for career advancement

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY

Staff writer

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Cynthia Raulerson was looking for a way to broaden her professional horizons in a place with advancement opportunities. A job offer from the Garrison Intern Program was just what she wanted.

"The exposure and experience is something you can't get anywhere else," she said.

Raulerson joined the Garrison on June 8 and is preparing to begin her first rotation soon.

"I will start in Human Resources in July," she said. "Learning about each of these complex organizations in the time we have there is challenging. I hope that I can get a good grasp of each of them."

She thinks that she will ultimately land in resource management once her intern days are done. She hopes to be a comptroller.

"I just want to contribute to what Redstone does," she said.

Korea home because that's where she spent the bulk of her formative years.

"I was there as a young child and also all through high school," she said. "I do speak Korean, but not as well as I would like."

Raulerson spends a lot of time with her two daughters, Savannah, 8, and Brooklyn, 7. Their activities are a big part of her life.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

**ON THE JOB—** Cynthia Raulerson joined the Garrison on June 8 and will start in Human Resources in July.

## Garrison interns

Part 16 of series

Raulerson has bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting from Jacksonville State University. After her 2007 graduation, she began working for a defense contractor. After getting a taste of what the Army has to offer civilians, she knew she wanted to pursue it further.

She is also studying for both the Certified Managerial Accounting exam and Certified Public Accountant exam.

Growing up with a military father, Raulerson moved around a lot. Although she was born in Huntsville, she considers

"Savannah is playing basketball and she loves that," Raulerson said. "They both have been doing soccer, tumbling and cheerleading."

The house she bought in March is keeping her busy with repairs, decorating and shopping. She quipped that she may spend the rest of her life unpacking. For her personal time, Raulerson likes to run. She began running cross country in high school and has stayed with it over the years.

"I try to run three to eight miles a day," she said. "I'm training for a half-marathon this fall, so I'm working on increasing my distance."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Product change

Lt. Col. C. Barry Higgs, left, retires as product manager for Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter last Friday in a ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium. His successor is Lt. Col. Courtney Cote, right, a senior Army aviator and member of the Army Acquisition Corps. At center is Col. Keith Robinson, the Armed Scout Helicopter project manager.

## Army decides to cancel FCS, and divert efforts to brigades

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
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Assigned since July 2008 as deputy program manager for the Future Combat Systems Brigade Combat Team-Network Integration, Brig. Gen. Lee Price has been overseeing a program that is facing its own demise.

"FCS will be terminated," she said, speaking to about 250 business and industry executives at a membership luncheon for the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense on June 18 at the Huntsville Marriott.

"FCS consists of 14 different combat vehicles, eight of those are manned combat vehicles. We are trying to figure out how these systems can be worked into the current formation."

Formally launched in 2003, FCS was envisioned to create new brigades equipped with manned and unmanned vehicles linked by a fast and flexible battlefield network. In April and May, Pentagon and Army officials announced that the FCS vehicle-development effort would be canceled and the FCS effort would be swept into a new program called Army Brigade Combat Team Modernization. FCS had completed about one-third of its development before the cancellation.

Original FCS plans included the five-layer software network, unattended ground sensors, unmanned aerial vehicles, unmanned ground vehicles and the eight manned ground vehicles. The FCS Network was to consist of five layers that provide seamless delivery of data to forward-deployed Army units. Network sensors integrated on manned and unmanned ground vehicles and used in unattended ground sensor systems are meant to enhance situational awareness and understanding of the battlefield.

The first combat brigade equipped with FCS was to be rolled out around 2015, followed by full production to equip up to 15 brigades by 2030.

"The philosophy of the program was to get together the entire brigade and then modernize the brigade as a whole," Price said. "That no longer is affordable to taxpayers. Now, we are looking at what pieces of FCS we can take out and work into the brigades."

Those systems include the non-line-of-sight unmanned ground vehicle, tactical unattended ground sensors, urban unattended ground sensors, unmanned aerial vehicles and the network integration kit.

"The feedback from theater is however Soldiers can use it they are going to use it," Price said. "There is some of the goodness of the FCS program that we are trying to take forward as we restructure. These are the things we think can make a difference in the current situation. We are asking 'What technologies are we going to take forward? What can we use for the future?'"

One network system that will be used in the modern Army will be the common controller device, she said. This device is one common piece of equipment that will be used to control all types of unmanned systems.

Another system – the Joint Tactical Radio System – is planned to be the next-generation voice-and-data radio used by the Army in field operations after 2010. JTRS is a software-defined radio that will work with many existing military and civilian radios.

"JTRS is getting ready for prime time. It is pretty close," Price said.

In network systems, Price said the challenge is to connect the current force and the future force.

"Products are coming to fruition," she said. "We must do this right for Soldiers. There are always different schools of thought when we talk about where we are going to be in 10 years. We have to be able to refurbish the infrastructure and move forward. It's vital that we get that right."

In the development of Army systems – such as the Army's \$23 billion MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle – questions regarding how it will be used by future forces and how it will be integrated into those forces always surface, she said. With new systems, there are challenges regarding power and operating issues regarding the production of heat and too much noise, all which can develop into safety issues.

Similar questions pertain to the use of networks that connect Army systems, and Price said the Pentagon as well as many contractors are addressing those challenges.

Price also commented to her audience about her visit to Alabama. The Birmingham native and former Alabama National Guard Soldier said visiting her home state makes her appreciate what it has to offer its residents today.

"It's just so neat to come back and see how far the state has come along," she said. "I was raised in Birmingham in the 1960s and I've had to defend my home city my entire life. It is known for its race riots, 'good' air and steel mills. Today it has some of the cleanest air anywhere and diversity in its work force. Alabama has come a long way."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**PROGRAM UPDATE—** Brig. Gen. Lee Price talks to members of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense about the cancellation of the Future Combat Systems. As deputy program manager for the FCS Brigade Combat Team-Network Integration, Price is working to integrate the program's winning systems into today's Army.

## Women in Defense local chapter plans national security workshop

*Signup under way for October event*

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
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The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense is holding a half-day workshop on national security.

The Oct. 14 workshop, titled "Preparing to Support Challenges in National Security," will begin with a WID membership luncheon at 11 a.m. It will continue with general panel sessions throughout the afternoon and will conclude with a 5:30 p.m. reception.

A general session will include comments from Margaret DiVirgilio, president, Women in Defense National; and Vickie Plunkette, professional staff member, HASC-Readiness. Plunkette will present a congressional update and an overview of DoD challenges. Brig. Gen. Heidi Brown, deputy commanding general, Sustainment, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, will be the workshop's closing speaker.

Panel sessions include technology challenges, acquisition and contracting challenges, intelligence and cyber and FMS Challenges in National Security.

Confirmed panel speakers include

Redstone Arsenal's Debra Wymer, director of technical interoperability and Matrix Center, Space and Missile Defense Command; Patricia Martin, director for systems engineering and support, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; Marlene Cruz, executive director, Acquisition Center, Aviation and Missile Command; Cathy Dickens, principal assistant responsible for contracting, Space and Missile Defense Command; and Tom Pieplow, director of Security Assistance Management Directorate, Aviation and Missile Command.

Other speakers are still in the process of being confirmed.

Cost of the workshop is \$200 for WID members, \$235 for non-members and \$150 for government representatives. Sponsorship opportunities are also available to local industry. To register, contact Sigma Services at <http://www.conferencesbysigma.com/wid> or call 533-6365. The conference website is <http://www.ndia-tvc.org/wid-tvc/NatlSecWkshp.htm>. Questions can be directed to [chin-kle@cohesionforce.com](mailto:chin-kle@cohesionforce.com).

WID is an affiliate of the National Defense Industrial Association. Local WID members automatically become members of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of NDIA.

# Soldier Show deemed great success

*Traveling performance proves crowd pleaser*

By MEGAN COTTON  
*For the Rocket*

This year's U.S. Army Soldier Show showcased many talented Soldiers. Not only were they excellent singers and dancers, but they also displayed their rollerblading, jump-roping and acting skills. The program, which was more than 20 songs long, kept the audience entertained and excited for the entire two hours.

The June 17 afternoon show was attended by nearly 700 Soldiers from the Arsenal who enjoyed the show from start to finish. They

started off the program by chanting "We want the Soldier Show" and continued with their high energy, supporting the performers and cheering the whole way through. Many times audience members were out of their seats dancing along, swaying their hands and singing.

My favorite was watching the Soldiers in the audience enjoy the performers' version of Taylor Swift's "Love Story." Everyone seemed to have a great time laughing and cheering as they sang along with the song and cheered on the singers.

At the end of the show, the performers were thanked by many members of the community including Army astronaut Lt. Col. Shane Kimbrough. He

gave each performer a framed picture of photos that he took during his trip to space.

For the very last number, everyone joined in singing the Army Song. It brought the entire audience to their feet.

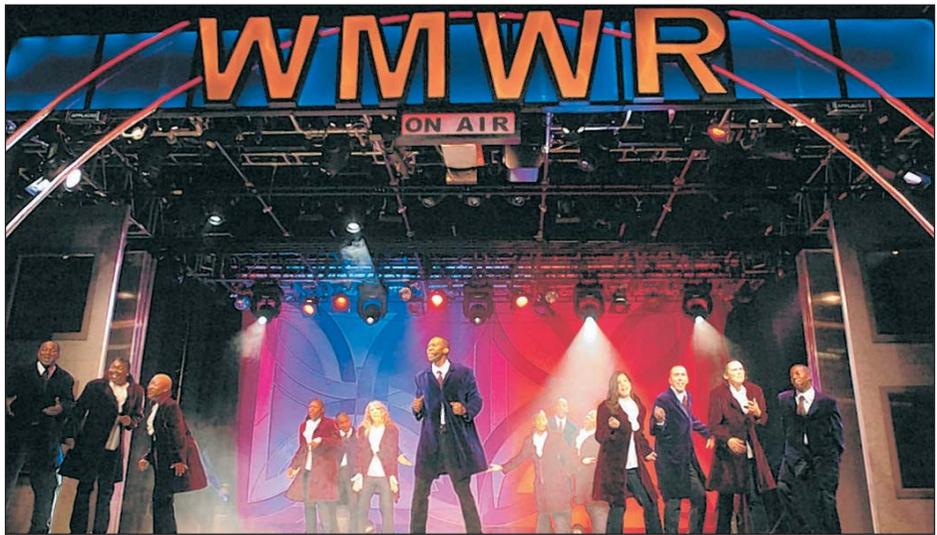


Photo by Eric Schultz

**PUTTING ON SHOW**— The entire cast of the 2009 U. S. Army Soldier Show starts the program with a big opening number. The performers are all Soldiers who auditioned to be a part of the traveling production.



Photo by Dottie White

**OUT OF THIS WORLD**— Army astronaut Lt. Col. Shane Kimbrough representing the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command presents a montage to the Soldier Show participants at the end of the 3 p.m. show June 17. The montage included photographs and a crew patch as well as a small flag which was flown in space during Kimbrough's mission to the International Space Station in November as part of STS-126.



Photo by Eric Schultz

**SOLO ACT**— Sgt. Jennifer Noel sings Rihanna's "Disturbia." During the show, the Soldiers did a mix of covers of popular songs and some old hits to entertain the crowd.

Career officer's next job will get sand in her boots

## Officer

continued from page 6

Toward that end, she left the U.S. on June 19 with a planned stop en route in Heidelberg, Ga., to meet with civilian personnel officials before reporting for duty in Kuwait.

The contracting command in Kuwait employs about 30 civilians to provide contracting support to U.S. forces — primarily Army, but also Air Force and Navy.

“We handle a lot of the smaller requirements in theater in support of all companies in Kuwait,” Hackett said.

“In the past — in 2006 and earlier — there was a lot of fraud in this office. The Army realized the size of the office really wasn’t staffed to handle the amount of work generated by the footprint in the area. So, the Army reached back and large contracts over \$1 million or complex actions are coordinated by the Rock Island (Ill.) Contracting Center.”

The mission of the Kuwait contracting office is to acquisition basic living supplies, services and equipment in contracts involving less than \$1 million each. These items are acquisitioned for units assigned to Kuwait and for units passing through the country on their way to and from Iraq.

“It’s a dynamic environment in Kuwait. The mission ebbs and flows based on the region,” she said. “It’s in a constant state of change for acquisition professionals. Until I get the sand in my boots, I won’t know what to expect. I’m looking forward to the transition.”

The Army has given Hackett many opportunities during her nearly 18-year career, which began with an ROTC scholarship at Boston College and a commission as an ordnance officer in 1991. She has especially enjoyed her assignments at Redstone Arsenal.

“Working the Patriot program management office at PEO-Missiles and Space was really exciting for me because I had worked in the Patriot Missile Maintenance Office when I was assigned to the 32nd Army Air Defense Command in Europe (now the 32nd Army Aviation and Missile Command at Fort Bliss, Texas),” she said. “It was really exciting to work with Patriot again because I got to see the technical and program side of the system as opposed to the maintenance side.”

She also enjoyed the challenges of assisting with the management of an Army program and working on the international development program for MEADS, the future Patriot system.

“Program management is really about coordination,” Hackett said. “It’s about keeping all the pieces moving, technically and programmatically while also working the cost side of the house. Risk management also is a big one in the equation.”

Her second assignment at Redstone Arsenal involved training all new acqui-

sition professionals who were required to take the acquisition basic course.

“It was mostly military in the classes. But we occasionally had civilian interns,” Hackett said. “It was good when we had both sides mixed so they could come to an understanding of each other. For the military, in acquisition they are coming over to a world that is predominantly civil servant or contractor. In programming or contracting offices, most of the staff are civilian engineers or analysts. The military professionals have to be able to work with DA civilians to accomplish program objectives.”

Although others may take notice that Hackett is one of a small number of women who have been promoted to the senior officer ranks of the military, she does not see it as an exception. In her career, she considers herself a Soldier first and a woman second.

“What we’re seeing is the evolution of women in the services, whether it’s Army or otherwise,” she said. “Like everything, it takes time to build a bench. It comes down to supply and demand — once you have the supply of folks — in this case, females — who have the skills and desire to stay in the Army then the system will continue to promote and move those folks into positions of greater responsibility.”

**L**ast year’s promotion of Gen. Ann Dunwoody to four-star general is an example of a Soldier who made the commitment to stay in the Army and contribute to the Army over the long-term. There will come a time when Hackett will also have to decide if she is willing to make such a commitment.

“As with any Soldier, at the 20-year point, you have to ask yourself ‘Do I stay? What do I want to do? Am I still a relevant contributor? Are my goals and objectives the same as the Army’s?’ It comes down to a personal decision at that point,” Hackett said.

“We are finding that more and more women are staying and finding they are still relevant and sought for their skills in a system that promotes the qualified candidate.”

During her assignment in Kuwait, Hackett’s husband of 16 years will remain in Huntsville to manage his business, with the couple communicating frequently via e-mail and video web cams and looking forward to leave time that will bring Hackett home for visits. She is not sure where her Army career will take her after Kuwait.

“I would love to come back to Huntsville. But I know that the Army is going to put me where it needs my skill set,” she said.

And she is not sure if future promotions will lead her into the general ranks.

“I’d like to continue doing what I do for as long as I think I can contribute,” Hackett said. “Further promotions will come based on my contribution. If you do what the Army expects of you, if you support the mission, vision and goals of your commander and chain of command, and if you do everything to develop people and help accomplish the mission, then promotions will take care of themselves.”

# Customer service process puts community first

June 1 marked the first Garrison Commander’s Steering Committee that combined the proven Army Family Action Plan and the upstart Community FIRST program from Installation Management Command’s Customer Management Services.

The Community FIRST — which stands for Feedback, Issues, Resolution, Solutions, Today — is a structured process for obtaining, vetting, prioritizing and resolving installation level issues that cannot be addressed through the Interactive Customer Evaluation system.

Focus groups of specific constituent groups — active military, family members, teens, retirees, veterans, civilians, surviving spouses and Warrior Transition Unit — are conducted to determine the needs of that demographic group at Redstone Arsenal.

Focus groups from teens, family members, Soldiers and retirees compiled 21 issues that affected the quality of life, work and play on the installation. Issues that cannot be completed at the installation but can be an area that affects the total Army family are deemed to be Army

Family Action Plan issues and are submitted to the Team Redstone AFAP conference for possible prioritization and forwarding to the Army Materiel Command AFAP conference.

Issues determined to be Community FIRST level (installation) are brought before the GCSC chaired by the Garrison commander and the membership formed by the Garrison staff directors, tenant service providers (Fox Army Health Clinic, Commissary and Post Exchange), and members of the constituent focus groups. The representatives of each focus group address the issue and impact of that issue with each group. All items are discussed with decisions made to fix and close, modify, research/revisit, deem unobtainable or advance issue to AFAP and higher command level.

Volunteers are wanted for the civilian employee focus group scheduled in August. For more information and to volunteer, call customer service officer Steve McFadden at 876-3294. AFAP program manager Cathy Hays can be reached at 842-8375. (Garrison release)



# Win or lose

## Charlie Company captures championship

*Wolfpack scores in seventh inning to beat civilians in softball final*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Known for its comeback wins, the Charlie Company softball team didn't need a late rally this time against the Civilian Welfare Fund.

All the Wolfpack needed was one run in their final at-bat in the biggest game of the year June 16 at Linton Field. And they got it.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HEADING HOME—** Chad Moniz rounds third base and scores during Charlie's five-run second inning in the final.

Seth Bush tripled home the game-winner with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning as Charlie beat the CWF 10-9 in the postseason tournament final. The Wolfpack went 4-0 in the tournament.

"Just determination," player/coach Scott Brock said. "We wanted it bad all season and we finally put it all together and we won it as a team."

Brock, the winning pitcher, led off the seventh and reached second base on an error. Travis Roop flied out to left field; and Brock tagged up and advanced to third. But the civilians contended that Brock had left second base too early and the umpire agreed, so Brock was called out at second.

With two outs and the score still 9-all, Brent Stone singled up the middle. He scored when Bush tripled to left. "I just hit as hard as I can every time I get up there," said Bush, the Charlie left fielder. "It worked out good."

"We've come a long way," Stone, the shortstop, said of the Wolfpack. "When we started out we were nothing. And we practiced every day and became the best."

Demetrius Vieira and Scott Bell each had three hits and scored two runs apiece for Charlie (11-3). Leadoff batter Josh Neal had two hits and Roop added two RBIs.

Matt Fangohr, the right center, opened the second with a single and scored on Vieira's triple. The Wolfpack went on to score five runs in the inning for a 6-0 lead.

"It's a big morale booster," Fangohr said of the win. "It just picks up the spirit around the company area."

Elton "Gator" Grissom had two hits and scored twice but took the loss for the Civilian Welfare Fund (10-5). Brad Harris hit an inside-the-park grand slam during the



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**SIMPLY THE BEST—** The Charlie Company softball players celebrate after beating the Civilian Welfare Fund 10-9 in the postseason tournament final.

civilians' five-run fifth.

Player/coach Andrew Myrick, CWF's leadoff batter, went 3-for-3 with a walk, two RBIs and scored two runs.

"We started off real slow. We made errors in the field," Myrick said. "It's hard to go out and stop a team from scoring one run in the last inning when they know all they've got to do is score one run to win it."

The civilians advanced to the final from the losers bracket by beating the National Guard, two-time defending champion, 13-4. The Guard (11-4) eliminated Bravo Company 14-4 on June 15; and the Bulldogs finished at 10-4.

Commander's Cup points are awarded to military teams based on order of finish. Charlie took the first-place points, the National Guard second and Bravo third.

# Top professional bowlers to roll into Redstone Arsenal

*Instructional tour opens registration*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**  
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Bowling is a sport anyone can play. The idea is simple: roll the ball and knock the pins down. Doing it well can seem more complicated, however. Some of the world's greatest bowlers will be at Redstone Lanes on July 12 to help bowlers of all ages and skill levels.

Bowl Like The Pros, sponsored by the United States Bowling Congress, is a nationwide tour where hall of fame bowlers travel to local lanes and share their skills with amateurs. In addition to demonstrations, the pros will go lane-to-lane, giving attendees personal instruction on better bowling.

"They will actually each get to meet these people you see bowling on TV," Mark Germonprez, Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation business operations, said. "They're probably the greatest bowlers ever to walk the planet. To have them telling you how to improve your game is huge."

The event, slated to begin at 8:30 a.m. and last until 6 p.m., will include an exhibition match and trick shot competition between the instructional sessions.

"There are all kinds of things they can do," Germonprez said. "They bowl under chairs, with two balls and just some crazy stuff."

The \$50 registration fee includes the popular buffet lunch at the bowling lanes. For those who just want to watch, spectator admission is available for \$15. It also



Courtesy photo

**TRICK SHOT—** Former Army bowler Brian Voss prepares for a trick shot from atop the ball return at a Bowl Like The Pros event.

includes lunch. The lunch buffet at Redstone Lanes is famous in its own right. So many people come to eat at the center each day that they have scheduled a solarium expansion of the Brooklyn's sports bar later this year to add additional seating for 40 to 50.

BLTP brings big names in bowling. Three bowler/coaches will be on hand to teach, compete and sign autographs. For Redstone's event, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Chris Barnes and Brian Voss are slated to appear.

Dorin-Ballard is a 20-time professional champion, USBC High School spokesperson and silver level certified coach. She is considered one of the top women's bowlers in the world. In 2007, she was inducted into the USBC hall of fame.

Barnes is known for being an amazing trick shot bowler. He has 12 career PBA Tour titles and has bowled a perfect 300 game 78 times. He has been selected to represent the United States in the 2009 World Games, taking place in Kaohsiung, Taiwan just a few days after the Redstone event.

Voss is a 24-time PBA champion. The trip to Redstone is a return one for him. While active duty, Voss played on the Army bowling team and won the All-Army Championship several times. While stationed on post, he frequented the old bowling alley just off Aerobee Road.

"It's one of the reasons he chose to come for this," Christal Howard, FMWR, said. "He was part of the Army bowling team and he bowled here."

Registration for the PLTP event is required. They will be accepting registration through July 11.

"We don't want to turn anyone away," Howard said. "But if I have to get you cleared through the gate, I need to know in advance. Plus we need to know how many people we're feeding."

For more information on BLTP, go to [www.bowl.com/bowlLikethePros](http://www.bowl.com/bowlLikethePros). To register or purchase spectator tickets, visit Redstone Lanes or call 876-6634.



Photo by Martina Kaiwi

## *First pitch*

**Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles makes the first pitch for AUSA Military Appreciation Night on June 13 at Joe Davis Stadium. The Huntsville Stars baseball game was among the events during the weeklong Armed Forces Celebration.**

# Corps of Engineers recognizes outstanding workers annually

The Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, recognized eight employees and one team Friday during its annual Engineer Day celebration. The event commemorated the birthday of the Army Corps of Engineers which turned 234 years old June 16.

Mary "Liz" Hayes of Chemical Demilitarization Directorate was selected as Administrative Support Employee of the Year for her work as the administrative support technician for the Chemical Demilitarization Directorate.

Greg Havo of Chemical Demilitarization Directorate was awarded the Commander's Leadership Award for his superior leadership as the project manager for a 120-person Corps of Engineers design-construction team supporting Blue Grass and the Pueblo Chemical Demilitarization Pilot Plants that are comprised of Huntsville Center and the field Resident Office construction resources.

Michael Duffy of Contracting Directorate accepted the Contracting Professional of the Year. Duffy serves as the contracting officer for the Environmental team.

Anita Norton of Resource Management was named the Resource Management Professional of the Year. Norton serves in several roles within the Resource Management Branch that impact the entire Center; working each week to compile payroll files for transmission to

Defense Financial Accounting System.

Roy Wright of Engineering Directorate garnered the Engineer of the Year Award. Wright is a senior structural engineer in the Structural Branch.

Alicia Allen of Installation Support and Programs Management Directorate earned the Program Manager of the Year Award. Allen is a senior program manager for the virtual furniture team providing centralized management support for procurement and installation of Army furniture.

Cyndee Oleyte of Ordnance and Explosives Directorate was named Volunteer of the Year for spearheading decoration support for several major extracurricular activities at the Center during 2008-09.

James Clark of Engineering Directorate accepted the Employee of the Year award. Clark leads Huntsville Center's Facility Engineering Standards and Program Architect responsibilities for Child Development Centers and Physical Fitness Center Facilities

The Pueblo Chemical Agent Resident Office of the Chemical Demilitarization Directorate received the Teamwork Award. Team members include Steven Light, Dale Campbell, Lawrence Seeba, James Bongers, Robert Schanke, Claude Jones, David Greenwood, Mary Matsumura, Paul Dudek, Urlike Berg and Theresa Rede. *(Huntsville Center release)*

# Engineer society awards annual scholarships

The Huntsville Post Society of American Military Engineers has selected the recipients for its 2009-10 scholarship awards.

The Lt. Col. William Earl Bowers Memorial Scholarship goes to Jennifer Kennedy of Huntsville. She is majoring in chemistry at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. This \$4,000 scholarship is presented in memory of Lt. Col. Bill Bowers, a Huntsville Post member killed in Iraq in 2004.

Julie Hardesty of Knoxville, who is majoring in mathematics at Lee University, received a \$2,000 award from the Post.

Other SAME scholarship recipients include Josh Yost, Nathan Tinker of New Market, and Kimberly Howard of Quinton.



Photo by Judy Wilson

**PRESENTATION— Charles Joyner of the Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers, presents scholarships to Jennifer Kennedy, center, of Huntsville and Julie Hardesty of Knoxville.**

# Community steps out to honor armed forces

Year of NCO prominent theme of Salute Dinner

By KARI HAWKINS  
Staff writer  
karihawk@knology.net

The Year of the NCO was a prominent theme during the Armed Forces Celebration Week Salute Dinner on June 17 at the Von Braun Center.

Recognized for their heroism, courage, unselfishness and drive to protect America, and defend its ideas and citizens, non-commissioned officers exhibit qualities that all Soldiers aspire to have, said Mike Howell, outgoing president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

During the dinner, Redstone Arsenal's 2009 NCO of the Year – Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Patterson of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion – and 2009 Soldier of the Year – Spc. Randal Rhodes of the Army Medical Activity – were recognized. So, too, were NCOs, Soldiers, officers and veterans in the audience, both active and retired.

Though Armed Forces Celebration Week is always a big event for the community, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle said showing appreciation to the military is not just a one-week event.

"We respect and honor our armed forces all year round," he said.

In closing the evening's program, Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, thanked community and congressional leaders and AUSA members for their support. But his biggest thanks went to the leaders of the local AUSA chapter.

"This is the best chapter for the last five years because of the leadership that makes it happen," Myles said, garnering a round of applause.

The message Myles wanted to leave with the AUSA audience was that every American should support the Soldiers who sacrifice much for their country.

"Don't worry about the bottom line," he said. "Do what's right for the Soldiers."

"We still have work to do to support Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines all around the world. Keep the families in your thoughts and prayers. This is the best Army that has ever existed on the face of the earth."

Once again, Boeing was the presenting sponsor for the Salute Dinner.

"These events bring tears to your eyes," said retired Lt. Gen. Tony Jones, now vice president of Boeing's Huntsville Business Operations.

"They give you a sense of pride. They give you a sense of feeling that we should be proud to be an American."

Jones said the Army remains strong because of its Soldiers and its leadership, and because of the bond between military families and the communities where they live.

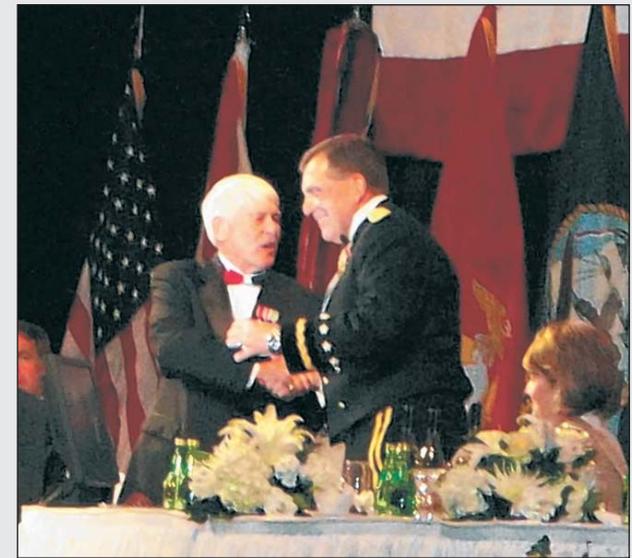


Photo by Kari Hawkins

**SPECIAL VISITOR—** Mike Howell, outgoing president of AUSA's Redstone-Huntsville chapter, thanks Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the Army's vice chief of staff, for traveling to Huntsville to be part of Armed Forces Celebration Week.

## Vice chief stresses importance of taking care of Soldiers

### Salute

continued from page 1

taken. Today, risk is focused at the brigade level and "game changing decisions are being made by Soldiers on the ground ... The environment that we operate in is extremely complex."

Because of the Army's high-stress demands, many of today's Soldiers are turning to alcohol and recreational drugs to escape. There is more depression, anxiety and post traumatic stress among Soldiers. And there are more suicides.

Today's Soldiers are experiencing many of the same issues faced by Soldiers of a previous generation, who, Chiarelli said, are represented by Sgt. Audie Murphy of World War II. Murphy admitted publicly of suffering from that era's version of post traumatic stress – known as battle fatigue – and using drugs to battle his depression.

"He broke the taboo of discussing war-related problems and became an advocate," Chiarelli said. "As important as winning the war is making sure we take care of Soldiers and their families."

The four-star general is heading a task force to address the increase in suicides among today's Soldiers. Last year, 141 active duty Soldiers committed suicide.

Admitting to his audience that the topic of sui-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**TIME FOR BRASS—** Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the Army's vice chief of staff, visits with Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper, left, and Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, center, during a reception prior to the Salute Dinner on June 17 at the Von Braun Center.

cide is a "dinner downer," Chiarelli said he "uses every opportunity I get to talk about this because we need to talk about it ... The mission has extended beyond suicide to include the overall well-being and mental health of Soldiers."

Chiarelli wants to ensure there is no stigma associated in the Army with asking and receiving help for mental health issues.

Yet, the general said the support and advocacy Soldiers received from DoD civilians and contractors, and from their communities will ensure the Army stays strong despite the challenges it faces today.

## Remotely piloted vehicle contract awarded

The Aviation and Missile Command has awarded Griffon Aerospace a five-year contract for the production, maintenance, engineering and flight services for the Remotely Piloted Vehicle Target program. The contract also provides for aerial target scoring systems and services at Department of Defense ranges worldwide.

As the incumbent contractor, Griffon has manufactured more than 2,000 unmanned air vehicles, making them one of the highest volume UAV manufacturers in the United States.

The primary air vehicle manufactured by Griffon is the OutlawTM, a 120-pound gross weight air vehicle capable of carrying 30 pounds of payload.

The OutlawTM is used by air defense units for qualification training and tactics developers interested in perfecting unmanned aircraft system engagement techniques. The OutlawTM is also used by a

number of weapon system developers as a surrogate unmanned aircraft systems and by the Department of Defense test community to stress developmental weapons systems under test.

"As an incumbent this award has been a validation of our customer's confidence in Griffon and allows us to continue leveraging our volume production into the growing low cost Unmanned Aircraft System market," Griffon CEO Larry French said. "Griffon's flight crews have been flying autopilot Outlaws and payloads for DoD worldwide for several years, which has helped to mature our design and increased our versatility for a number of UAS missions."

Griffon, a Madison-based small business, designs, develops and manufactures composite structures for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, space applications and aerial targets. (Griffon release)

# Season of change arrives at schoolhouse

## Brigade, battalion shuffle leadership

This is a summer of leadership changes at the 59th Ordnance Brigade and 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Col. Thomas Keegan, commander of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, will leave in July

for Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Lt. Col. Sean Cusker succeeded Lt. Col. Randle Jackson as commander of 832nd Ordnance Battalion in a change of command ceremony June 17.

Cusker said he's proud to accept the challenges of what lies ahead and looks forward to leading the 832nd to high standards.

Jackson will not be traveling far to his next mission because he is the incoming chief of staff for the 59th Ordnance Brigade.



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**CEREMONY—** Incoming 832nd Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Sean Cusker holds the battalion's colors during 832nd's change of command ceremony June 17 at Warrior Activity Field.



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**THANK YOU—** Col. Thomas Keegan, right, receives a gift from the 832nd Ordnance Battalion during his farewell luncheon June 16 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Keegan, outgoing commander of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, will report in July to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.



Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

**BRIGADE BOUND—** Outgoing 832nd Ordnance Battalion commander Lt. Col. Randle Jackson speaks at his farewell luncheon June 12 at the Officers and Civilians Club. He will become chief of staff for the 59th Ordnance Brigade.

# PEO Soldier showcases gear at Pentagon

By C. TODD LOPEZ  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A water-cooled vest can take the heat off in Iraq — making Soldiers more comfortable, and extending mission times.

As part of an Army birthday-related event June 12 in the Pentagon courtyard, representatives of Program Executive Office Soldier displayed to visitors some of the technologies they are field-

ing or plan to field — including a water-cooled vest, a lighter machine gun, and a common control panel for unmanned vehicles.

Scott Center, of PEO Soldier's Mounted Soldier System Program, displayed a microclimate cooling system for mounted Soldiers, similar to one already used as part of the Air Warrior system.

"It'll allow the drivers, commanders and gunners and the scouts to wear a vest

underneath the body armor that will allow them to run longer missions than they are today so their body will stay at a constant cool temperature in hot vehicles when they are standing up out of turrets," Center said. "It'll keep their body at a constant 68 to 70 degrees instead of being at 112 that we were seeing when we were deployed."

The one-pound vest is lined with coils of tubing through which cold water is circulated. The chiller is a small metal box

that can be mounted inside a vehicle next to the turret or driver's compartment. Soldiers connect the vest to the chiller via a quick connect cable.

"We had it deployed with the 4-9 Infantry Battalion in Iraq with the Strykers, for the drivers only," Center said. "And it's being put out in Abrams and Bradley (now). They love it. They don't want to leave without it. If it's not working or functioning, they make sure it is before they go out for a mission."

# Chemical weapons destruction facility starts in Russia

The Russian Federation held an opening ceremony May 29 in Shchuch'ye, Russia, to recognize the startup and operation of the Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility.

The facility, built through the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, is a joint effort between the Russian Federation and the U.S. Department of Defense.

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency implements the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program for the Defense Department.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the functional expert in facility design, construction and contracting, worked with DTRA on the project. The Corps' Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville provided a project manager who served as the chief of the Chemical Weapons Destruction Support Office in Moscow during various times throughout the 12-year relationship.

Huntsville Center established on-site presence in Shchuch'ye in November 2003, providing contract support and oversight on construction, safety and verification of work performed by the U.S. and Russian subcontractors.

"As of May 21, all the buildings are complete with the exception of the U.S.-funded production building that is scheduled to be completed in December," said Greg Havo, one of Huntsville Center's project managers for the facility. "Efficiencies in the trilateral contracting approach have saved approximately \$40 million which will be applied toward completion of the facility and extended vendor support."

Construction of the facility was accomplished with more than 10 million man-hours worked without a lost-time accident.

"There was exceptional cooperation between the Russian Federation and U.S. government in the construction and startup of the facility," Havo said. "We were able to generate a large amount of savings due to cooperation between the governments and thinking 'out of the box.'" (Defense Threat Reduction Agency release)

# Aviation program executive outlines objectives

*Thanks community for ongoing support*

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**  
*For the Rocket*

Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby described Army aviation's goal of establishing a single voice to guide the science and technology community on how to best support current and future fleets.

The program executive officer for aviation spoke at the Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association luncheon June 12 at the Officers and Civilians Club,

"Our enemy is not stupid," he said. "We've got to be very proactive."

Crosby said his team bears the responsibility of executing the life cycle management of manned and unmanned aviation weapon systems for the current force and the transformation of the future force.

"Because we currently operate four to six times the normal operational tempo, the Army is continuously trying to get smarter on how to conduct our business," Crosby said. "The bottom line is we've got to invest in our future. And our first consideration should be the training requirement of the brigade commander."

The Program Executive Office for Aviation is the Army's manager for the Apache Helicopter, Cargo Helicopter, Utility Helicopter, Unmanned Aircraft System, Armed Scout Helicopter, and



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

**BUSINESS OUTLOOK— Program executive officer for aviation Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby speaks June 12 to the Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association.**

Aviation Systems programs. "All six programs are led by a combat veteran colonel, who provides instant credibility with the war fighter," Crosby said. "And behind each of those green suiters are our civilians and contractors."

There have been over 3 million hours flown in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom since 2003. Despite the great increase in operational tempo, Army aviation's mission capable rates still exceed the standard. "We are blessed to have the work force that we do," Crosby said.

He gave some examples of PEO Aviation's accomplishments and future goals. He said 1,144 new aircraft have been delivered to the field in 2008, including 347 new UAS systems. Over 4,911 additional aircraft are planned for future delivery; 3,900 will be UAS systems. Some of PEO Aviation's specific initiatives for the future of Army aviation include accelerating the Aircraft Survivability Equipment; funding the Apache Block III conversion, the Black Hawk UH-60M upgrade, and the CH-47F; investing in common cockpit, fly-by-wire; aviation munitions and science and technology; initiating joint multi-role helicopter program, resourcing Army UAS requirements, and purchasing the Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter.

"We're taking the time to do that properly," Crosby said.

PEO Aviation's work force includes approximately 2,250 civilians, military and contractors, with about 260 in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Crosby thanked the Huntsville Aerospace Marketing Association for "taking on the unknown" in light of the current national economy. Families and employers have all been affected in one form or another, he said, but despite all that, this community continues to strive to advance aerospace technologies and capabilities and continue to fight against all odds.

"You all represent the type of heroes for the small businesses," he said.

# Rocket Announcements



## Sports & Recreation

### Basketball shootout

North Alabama Hoopster first July Shootout Boys & Girls 10-16 AAU Tournament is July 10-11 at Lauderdale County High School, Rogersville. Entry fee is \$150. The deadline is July 4. There are discounts for multiple teams. Spectator admission is \$4. Trophies will be awarded for first and second place. For more information call Dewayne Shoulders 874-7221, Otto Nance 394-9976 and Shun Fletcher 777-3775.

### Scholarship golf tourney

PME Education Foundation will hold a Scholarship Golf Tournament on July 24 at 1 p.m. at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville. There will be two-person teams. Individual entrance fee is \$75 per player, which includes greens fee and cart. Please register by July 18. For more information, call Tom Patrick 882-0231 or Doris Ellison 852-0485.

### Fitness centers

The Wellness Center is closing down for renovation/expansion beginning July 15.

It will take approximately nine months to complete. You can visit one of the other facilities: Pagano Gym, building 3474, phone 876-6701 or 876-2943; Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705, phone 313-1201 or 313-1202; and Sparkman Fitness Center, building 5302, phone 313-6091 or 313-6096. Their website is [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com).

### Golf classic

The 10th annual John Riche Memorial Golf Classic is July 24 at the Links at Redstone. Registration is at 7 a.m. and tee time at 8. The format is Four Man Scramble. Cost is \$100 per player, \$400 per team. For more information call Mirie Westbrook 694-0646, Robert Clark 759-6060 or the 100 Black Men of America business office 536-8050. Register online at [www.100ghc.org](http://www.100ghc.org).

### Speedway nights

Military Appreciation Nights at the Huntsville Speedway include July 11, Aug. 1 and Sept. 12. Active duty, reserved and retired military will be admitted free. For more information, visit [www.huntsvillespeedway.com](http://www.huntsvillespeedway.com).

### Basketball camp

J Smith Hoops presents the second annual J Smith All-American Basketball Camp, for ages 6-15, on July 13-16 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Columbia High School. The cost is \$90. For more information, call 1-866-595-4449 or visit [www.jsmithhoops.com](http://www.jsmithhoops.com).



## Conferences & Meetings

### Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Members are offered breakfast for \$6 plus tip. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain 842-7910.

### Bible studies

Protestant Women of the Chapel holds Bible study classes every Thursday at 9:30

a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Childwatch is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis for the 9:30 study. PWOC also provides adult supervision for home-schooled children at the chapel for the 9:30 study. "The lunchtime Bible study meets from 11:30-12:30 so take an hour off from your busy workday to release, refresh and regroup while learning of the healing power of God's word," a prepared release said. For more information, call Laura Keegan 489-7686 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404. The contact for the lunchtime group is Mattie L. Jones 828-9890 or 508-7744.

### Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Huntsville/Redstone Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is July 9 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. This month's speaker is Bill Stender, chairman of the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial. For ticket information, call Kim Oauttara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

### 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.

### Computer users

The Huntsville PC User Group's Windows/Internet Special Interest Group, conducted by Ron Schmitz, will meet at 9:15 a.m. July 11 at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. At 10:45, member Gayle Fairless will conduct a program on smartphones. For more information, call 534-4324.

### 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 Alphadella McRae 313-1957.

### Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club 9783, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Paul Pickett 544-6078. The Research Park Club 4838 meets Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30 at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Valerie Cortez 313-

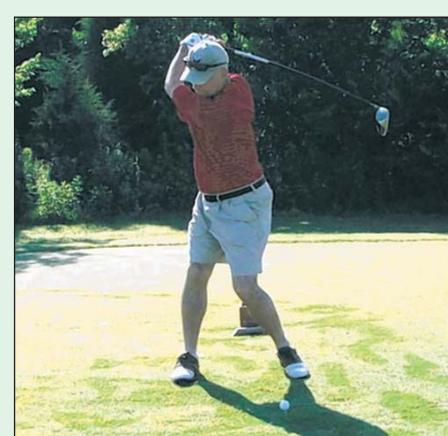


Photo by Megan Cotton

## Teeing off

**Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles starts the Armed Forces Celebration Golf Tournament held Friday at the Links.**

9753. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30 at building 5301, second floor, in room 1217. For information call Caville Blake 876-7351.

### Union election

At its regular union membership meeting July 13 at 5 p.m., AFGE Local 1858 will hold nominations and election of delegates to attend the 38th national convention. The American Federation of Government Employees convention is Aug. 24-28 at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nev. In order to be qualified as a delegate or candidate for delegate, an individual must be a member in good standing; be a member for one year of an AFGE Local, immediately preceding the closing of the nomination process; and must not be a member in any labor organization not affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

### Autism support group

Making Connections, Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group, will meet Saturday from 3-4:30 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, the corner of Whitesburg Drive and Airport Road. Meetings are free and open to the public. For child-care reservations, call Julie 998-6129.

### Industry day

The Missile Defense Agency will hold an Industry Day Conference today from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 7 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Bridge Street Westin Hotel. The conference is part of the agency's ongoing effort to provide industry with information on existing programs, given MDA's revised focus, and to provide potential business partners with an oppor-

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Photo by Tony Medici

## Tobyhanna ceremony

Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., Sgt. Maj. Kelvin Spencer, right, and Master Sgt. Maureen Simpkins place a wreath during the depot's Memorial Day observance ceremony May 28. The wreath symbolizes remembrance of the nation's war dead. Simpkins is a member of the High Tech Regional Training Site-Maintenance.

unity to participate in "one-on-one" discussions with senior agency leaders. For more information, call Brian Harrington (703) 882-6133 or Lynn Worsham (703) 882-6161 or register online at [www.mdaindustryday.com](http://www.mdaindustryday.com).

### Sorority regional

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will hold its 42nd Southern Regional Conference, "A Mission of Service Ignited by Sisterhood," Thursday through Sunday in Huntsville. A public Gospel Fest is Friday at 7 p.m. at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church on Winchester Road. The conference will conclude Sunday with a 9 a.m. public ecumenical service, featuring the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter Sisters in Praise, at the Von Braun Center South Hall.

### Spiritual conference

Minister Leria Wilkerson and Kingdom Reign Ministries will sponsor a Proclamation of Spiritual Freedom Conference July 3-4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of the Firstborn, 5650 Sanderson St. in Huntsville. The church is located in the mall strip that overlooks Sam's of University. The guest speaker is Apostle George G. Lakes Jr. of Kansas City. For more information, call Wilkerson 783-3414.

### Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society Chapter) will hold its annual members meeting and elections of officers July 3 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library's auditorium, 915 Monroe St. Projects and the coming year's activities will be discussed and planned. A social

will follow the meeting. For more information, visit [www.HAL5.org](http://www.HAL5.org) or [HAL5.Help@gmail.com](mailto:HAL5.Help@gmail.com).

### Federally employed women

The North Alabama chapter of Federally Employed Women will meet Thursday at 11:15 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club in the Loft Room. The public is invited. "We will have a special guest presenter from Whitten and Associates, Federal Employee Benefits Division who will speak to us on topics about retirement planning to help improve your financial status," a prepared release said. For more information, call Crystal L. Todd 313-7241.

### Fleet Reserve branch

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

## 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 telecommunica-

tions. 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 655-9435 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.

### 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

# Announcements

(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. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

### 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.

### 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).

### 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.

See **Announcements** on page 23



Courtesy photo

## Birthday party

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Unit 2201, Huntsville, celebrates the 90th birthday of member June Morris on June 1. From left are Dale Turner, member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; Theresa McPeters; Adriana Rauh; Lula Campbell, past president of the auxiliary; June Morris; Ann Turner and president Geraldine Draper



The 184th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment affords you the opportunity to drill for retirement points on Tuesday evenings. You still earn pay and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

### 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.

### Interactive feedback

Have you ever gotten “hot” over a situation and you wanted to tell someone? Take it to the source so you can “cool” down with ICE, the Interactive Customer Evaluation web site. You have direct access to all Redstone Arsenal service providers to let them know how they are doing, tell them of shortcomings or offer a pat on the back for a job well done. Log onto the Internet at [www.garrison.redstone.army.mil/](http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil/); click on the ICE icon on right; and scroll down and find the service category you wish to rate or scroll to bottom and click “show all” to see the entire list for Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call 876-3294.

### 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).

### 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. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

### 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 518-3972.

### Motorcycle benefit

Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club will have a fund-raiser poker run Aug. 15 at 9 a.m. at Woody Anderson Ford in Madison to raise money for Tennessee Valley Honor Flight. For more information, call Kevin Newey 509-1036.

### Mr. Man Premiere

SB Productions has completed the selection process for this year’s Mr. Man Premiere. The 11 contestants selected include a doctor, an Army officer, Navy officer, Air Force reserve recruiter, Madison police officer, Madison fireman and Marine, research analyst, minor league baseball player, engineer, sales and catering manager, and an engineer student from

abroad. The Mr. Man Premiere has been produced since 1981 on both a local and international level. The 2009 competition is scheduled Sept. 19 at the Marriott Hotel near the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Seating is limited. For tickets and more information, call SB Productions 683-3083 or visit [www.mrmanpremiere.com](http://www.mrmanpremiere.com).

### Comedy luau

Black Pearl Select Salon will hold its fifth annual comedy luau July 11 at 10 a.m. at Cahaba Shrine park. Adult admission includes up to five children free, under the age of 17. More information and registration forms are available at [www.blackpearlselect.com](http://www.blackpearlselect.com).

### Veterans home visits

Redstone Soldiers are visiting Tut Fann State Veterans Home on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. Remaining dates for this year include July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 15. For more information, call Jessica Merritt of Wireglass Hospice 519-8808.

### Social security event

The local Social Security Administration will hold a free Fourth of July themed event on July 2 from noon-2 p.m. at 4970 Research Drive in Huntsville. “We will be handing out goody bags and materials educating the public on what all they can do online,” a prepared release said. “We will have ice cream, soda, popcorn, balloons and a few other fun surprises as well.” For more information, call (866) 593-0665.

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop has plants, jewelry, baseball cards, collectibles, books, toys, clothes, household goods and more. The store offers everyday discounts of 50-75 percent. Visit building 3209 on Hercules Road on Tuesdays 9-4, Wednesdays 9-4, Thursdays 9-5 or the first Saturday 10-2.

### Deployed work force

In appreciation and recognition of Team Redstone’s service and sacrifice, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles would like to honor those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of Redstone Arsenal operations for Operation

# Rocket Announcements

Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom. The fourth Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is scheduled for the fall. This ceremony will recognize honorees for their deployments during the time frame of April to August 2009. Additionally, those who were not able to participate in the last three ceremonies — held April 7, Sept. 18, 2008 and Jan. 22, 2008 — are invited to participate in this ceremony. For more information, call Jeanna Reitmeier 876-5302 or Bruce Cline 955-6925.

### Call for papers

This is a call for papers for the Research and Evaluation of NEMS/MEMS Workshop Sept. 8-9 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, e-mail [angie.cornelius@us.army.mil](mailto:angie.cornelius@us.army.mil) or visit the website <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/SMAP-CENTER/Conferences/RENMO9/>.

### Astronomy group

Von Braun Astronomical Society holds planetary shows every Saturday night at 7:30 at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Telescopes are open after the show if weather permits. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and free to VBAS members. For more information, visit [www.vbas.org](http://www.vbas.org).

### Children’s camp

Camp Merrimack is an arts half-day camp July 27-31 for children ages 3-12. The camp is open to children with special needs including Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, autism and others. Cost is \$40 per child. For information, visit [www.merrimackhall.com/artscamp09.html](http://www.merrimackhall.com/artscamp09.html).

### Blood drives

Red Cross blood drives in July include the following: July 2 from 7 a.m. to noon at SMDC building 5220. July 16 from 7-noon at the Sparkman Center. July 17 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4487. July 21 from 4-8:30 p.m. at Bravo Company. July 23 from 7-noon at buildings 4488 and 5400. July 24 from 7-noon at Corps of Engineers and 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency.

See Announcements on page 24

**Animal fund-raiser**

A New Leash on Life Inc. is throwing a party to help homeless and abandoned animals. You can help this non-profit organization raise money to build an animal sanctuary which will provide a safe place for homeless, sick and injured animals until they can be placed in foster or permanent homes. The annual "Wine & Dandy" event is 6 p.m. Sunday at the Chef's Table Restaurant, 2030 Cecil Ashburn Road in Huntsville. The Chef's Table and Ingenium Wines are sponsoring the event and will offer eclectic foods from around the world paired with wines. Music to be provided by Five O'Clock Charlie; and there will be a silent auction. Tickets are limited and may be purchased daily at Valley Animal Hospital in Jones Valley or from A New Leash On Life, at the Jones Valley PetSmart on Saturdays. You may also purchase will-call tickets at www.anewleash.org. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$80 per couple. For more information, call 489-PETS or visit www.anewleash.org.

**Military collectors**

Alabama Military Collectors Show is Saturday and Sunday at Huntsville Jaycees building off Airport Road. See displays, buy, sell and trade all types of military collectibles. There will be a special guest Saturday. Show times are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. All military, police, firefighters and re-enac-

tors in uniform are admitted free. All others pay \$5. Children under 12 are also admitted free. For more information, see alilitarycollectors.org.

**Fox health center news**

Fox Army Health Center will be closed July 2-3 in observance of Independence Day. On July 2, the Primary Care Clinic will be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. for scheduled appointments. The pharmacy, medical records window, and the Tricare Service Center will be open until 11:30 a.m. The Appointment Call Center telephone line will be answered until 4:30 p.m. All other clinics and services will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The Health Center is closed on Saturday, Sunday, Thursday afternoons and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox is an ambulatory care clinic and does not have an emergency room. In an emergency, dial 911.

**Art contest**

June M. Hughes Military and Civilian Arts and Crafts Center is accepting artwork for the annual U.S. Army 2009 Arts and Crafts Contest. The juried show deadline is June 30. Compete for cash prizes against the best artists and artisans in the Army. Enter your best 2D or 3D artwork. Contest information and assistance is available at the Arts and Crafts Center, building 3615 on

Vincent Drive. For more information, call 876-7951 or email Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation at redstone-mwr.art@conus.army.mil. The contest website is new.armymwr.com/recreation/art-sandcrafts/default.aspx.

**Older drivers**

AARP Driver Safety Program, an eight-hour driver improvement course that may help graduates receive a multi-year discount on their auto insurance premiums, will be held July 6-7 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Crestwood Women's Center, 185 Chateau Drive in Huntsville. Tuition is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. There are no tests. For information and registration, call AARP certified instructor Vince Guarin 880-6928 or 883-2245.

**Disability art tea**

Anyone interested in assisting the disabled through art is invited to a tea served at St. Mary's Church of the Visitation Parish Center at 220 Lincoln St. NE from 1:30-3 p.m. Aug. 5. The tea will celebrate the formation of the Academy of Internationally Enabled Artists. The academy is dedicated to the use of painting, singing, writing, acting and dancing to assist career-minded artists who are disabled. The event will also recognize five female artists who support art programs that use talent and faith to overcome disabilities. RSVP by July 21 to hostess Carole Esk'ridge 429-8697 or caroleeskridge3@gmail.com.

**School supply drive**

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers' Community Projects Committee has chosen the "Kids to Love Foundation School Supply Drive" as one of its July community projects. The Kids to Love Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that is committed to meeting the needs of foster children in Alabama.

The foundation has provided financial support in adoption placements. School supplies and tax deductible monetary donations will be collected through July 8. All the donations will be delivered July 9 after the monthly ASMC luncheon at Trinity United Methodist Church to the Kids to Love Foundation warehouse. If you would like to donate supplies or a monetary donation, call one of the following according to your location: Dana Wilbanks, building 5400, 876-4283; Sandy Balog, building 5300, 842-8012; Patsy Steakley, building 5300, 842-8046; Debbie Barringer, building 5681, 313-4884; Deborah Chambers, building 5678, 955-0481; Jessica Dunaway, building 5308, 313-0533; Becky Lake, building 5308, 955-0053; Eura Reaves, building 5302, 842-7093; and Michael Antonio, building 7612, 450-9154. If there is not a contact person in your area, call Wilbanks.

**Family aviation**

A free "Family Fun Fly and Swap Meet," featuring indoor radio-controlled and free flight aviation, will be held July 12 from 1:30-4 p.m. at Madison United Methodist Church Christian Life Center Aerodrome, 127 Church St. in Madison. Free loaner Vapor airplanes and MCX helicopters will be available to fly. For more information, call Jim Marconnet 772-3946.

**PX holiday hours**

The Post Exchange will have the following hours for the Fourth of July weekend. July 3: Main Store 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Concession 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Furniture Store 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; One Stop 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Tire Store closed; Military Clothing Sales Store 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Food Court - Cinnabon 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Anthony's Pizza 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Robin Hood 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Baskin Robbins 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Church's 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., American Eatery closed, Burger King 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... July 4: Main Store 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Concession closed; Barber Shop closed; GNC closed; Furniture Store closed; One Stop 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tire Store closed; Military Clothing Sales Store closed; Food Court - Cinnabon closed, Anthony's Pizza 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Robin Hood closed, Baskin Robbins closed, Church's closed, American Eatery closed, Burger King closed.

**Book discussion**

Join the Post Library on July 23 for a discussion of the book "Three Cups of Tea." This bestselling book by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin tells the story of a young man who was mountain climbing in Pakistan, nursed back to health in a poor village, and has since spent his life bringing schools to isolated areas of the region. The book talk will be held at building 3323 from noon to 1 p.m. July 23. Feel free to bring your lunch and to come and go as your time allows. For more information, call the library 876-4741.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Fun afloat**

Dylan Vigil, 6, takes a relaxing break in FMWR's pool on Goss Road. He launched his floating fun off his mom's feet. Dylan is the son of Sarah and deployed Master Sgt. Loren Vigil.