Redstone Rocket

VOL. 58 No. 45 | *Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL* | August 19, 2009

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Near end of the line at Redstone

832nd Ordnance Battalion commander prepares for move to Fort Lee, Va.

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@htimes.com

Photo by Kari Hawkins

ON THE GO— Lt. Col. Sean Cusker is the new – and last — commander of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion located at Redstone Arsenal. Besides overseeing the ordnance and Army training of more then 1,000 Soldiers, Cusker is also charged with coordinating the move of the battalion from Redstone to Fort Lee, Va., during the spring and summer of 2011. The move is part of BRAC recommendations to create a sustainment center of excellence at Fort Lee. When the battalion's colors are unfurled at Fort Lee in two years, the battalion will undergo a change-in-command ceremony.

Lt. Col. Sean Cusker has walked in the boots of both an enlisted Soldier and an officer.

With duty on both sides of the spectrum, he brings a unique point of view to his new assignment as commander of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Yet, no matter how he looks at it, building physically fit, confident, moral and highly skilled Soldiers ready to answer their nation's call is the top priority of Cusker's command team.

"We want to be successful in making sure the Soldiers who come through here become a positive contributing member of their organization from the first day they arrive at their first job assignment," Cusker said. "They need to understand the technical and tactical side of the house when they leave here. They also need to understand the operational Army.

"We have a vested interest to make sure these Soldiers adhere to the Army culture and know what it takes to be a successful Soldier."

Besides commanding a battalion that oversees Soldier training in Army values and its ordnance fields, Cusker will also hold the distinct honor of being the last commander to lead the 832nd while located at Redstone Arsenal. As called for by the 2005 BRAC recommendations, the battalion will relocate along with the 59th Ordnance Brigade to Fort Lee, Va., in the spring and summer of 2011 as part of building the Army's sustainment center of excellence.

"We'll be moving the third and fourth quarters of fiscal year 2011 all while still training Soldiers," he said. "We still have a full mission of training for fiscal year 2011. We will move portions of the battalion between training sessions. If a Soldier starts his training at Redstone, he will finish it here before that portion of the battalion can move. Once all that happens, we will case the battalion colors at Redstone, relocate and then uncase the colors at Fort Lee along with undergoing a change in command."

This Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom veteran has nearly 23 years of success in the Army. He enlisted in January 1987 in the simultaneous members program, whereby he served as a military police officer in the Reserves while at the same time participating as an ROTC cadet at Montana State University.

"When I enlisted the Cold War was still going on," Cusker recalled. "The wall (separating East and West Germany) was just coming down. The Warsaw Pact (a 1955 agreement between Europe's communist states to protect each other against aggression from NATO nations) wasn't dissolved until 1991. I saw a lot of changes after I enlisted. Enemies became our allies."

And then Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm interrupted his college studies.

"It's one of those things that when your unit is going to war and your buddies are going, you want to go, too," said Cusker, who was a sergeant in 1991. "That was my job. My heart was there, so I was going."

Cusker was first drawn to the duties of a military police officer because of the work they do to help people in crisis situations. He put his training to full use during his deployment.

"I was a traditional Reservist who was activated," he said. "My mission was to help run the prisoner of war camps in Saudi Arabia. The prisoners were pretty

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An open lane random survey

What's at the top of your 'bucket list' of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?

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

Sgt. Job Warner
EOD Training Department, HHC 59th
"Run a marathon. Because it's you and you alone and you have to push yourself to finish 26.2 miles on your two legs."

Ken Wise
Resource Management, OMEMS
"I wish I really knew; I really do. I've lived a full life – seven children, 15 grandchildren. And the most I want to see in life out of all that is to spend as much time as I can with my children and grandchildren."

Rebecca Allen
59th Ordnance Brigade S-1 (Personnel)
"I want to make sure that my family is taken care of. Number one on my list is spiritual – it's to make sure that I'm living the life through Jesus Christ. That's my first (goal), that's my ultimate one – to ensure that happens. And to make sure that I see my husband and my children and grandchildren and give them hugs and kisses before I part, and let them know that I love them."

Priscilla Sanders
59th Ordnance Brigade protocol officer
"Travel. Because I've been raised in the country. I've been living in Huntsville all my life and there are just places I want to see – California and New York and even overseas, different countries."

Quote of the week

'Wake up Maggie. I think I got something to say to you. It's late September and I really should be back at school.'

— *Rod Stewart*

Community projects to help military

Two groups on Redstone Arsenal are involved in unique projects to show their support for deployed military.

One lady has crocheted 175 stocking caps since April that were mailed overseas to military. She is looking for donations of 4 ply, worsted weight yarn (not rug yarn). She can even use partial skeins of yarn, but please no wool because she is allergic to wool.

The Redstone Toymakers (two gentlemen who don't want their names used) created wonderful handcrafted wooden toys that were given away during Operation Christmas Bear, a free event held in December for military families. They are working on more toys for the children, but are running out of wood, dowels and plastic eyes.

If anyone is interested in supporting these projects, they can reach me at Army Community Service at 876-5397. Thanks ahead of time.

Mary Breeden
ACS relocation assistance program manager

Retired teacher offers education service

Great piece in the *Redstone Rocket* — It's back to school days on post, Aug. 12. You can do one more service to kids at Redstone and places. Please have a look at my website and consider printing the website for teachers, parents, administrators — to help kids learn.

Click onto www.momteachers.com. There is no cost or obligation.

Carroll D. Killingsworth
retired teacher, Huntsville

Word of advice to the over-connected

Luddite, as defined by a Merriam-Webster online search, is one of a group of early 19th century English workmen destroying laborsaving machinery as a protest; broadly: one who is opposed to especially technological change.

I'm afraid I'm about to meet up with a label that will stick with me for quite a while. This will be the natural result of what I am about to say: I am opposed to Blackberrys. Not the juicy, sweet kind that make a wonderful cobbler, but those large, atrocious, annoying growths that figure so prominently on many belts around America, even the world, in general.

How they became so ubiquitous, it's plain to see. When Blackberrys first came out, it was the novelty of it all. "Yes, while sitting here at the conference table, I just looked up that company online. Don't they have a factory in Malaysia?" "I got to get me one of those things!" "I just now read an e-mail from the home office. You're fired!" "I got to get me one of those things!"

And there was the thought of becoming more productive, of always being in touch with the office. But, as I explain below, these are false illusions. Blackberrys are, in fact, something of a redundancy. Let me explain.

So, where do you think you can use your Blackberry? In the car? Only if you want to be a danger to yourself and others. And that's just if you are talking. Have mercy on all of us if you decide to text, or even dial!

How about on an airplane? Nope, sorry; that's prohibited by federal regulations. In the airport, maybe? So, you want to read Sensitive, Proprietary, For Official Use Only information in the International terminal? Really?

Well, we can always use them when we are in meetings. Shouldn't you really be paying attention to what's being said? If you are going to use your Blackberry in my meeting, I'll use mine when you get up to speak… and I'll be playing "Brick Breaker" in the back of the room!

That always leaves the possibility of using it at home. You can do that, if you like, but start saving now for either family counseling or a good divorce lawyer. Funny how the family actually expects you to "be there" when you're at home.

So, where can one use a Blackberry? I would suggest one place: in your office… in easy reach of your computer… and your telephone.

Like I said, the Blackberry is redundant.

More productive? Well, that depends on how you define 'productivity.' If you mean getting more work done per man-hour, that's how I define productivity. But I'd like to see something that shows that Blackberrys actually improve productivity this way. I'm not saying such a study doesn't exist; I just haven't seen it (not that I've looked that hard, honestly). But one thing I don't do is to define an increase in productivity as extending the workday and being available to the office 24/7. That's not an increase in productivity; that's an increase in the number of hours worked.

Well, as I sit here typing on my computer, with my digital watch on my arm, doing pretty advanced technical work, I guess I am something of a Luddite on this issue. But do me a favor. Turn off your Blackberry once in a while; kiss your spouse, and hug your kids. You may find that you, too, become a convert to Luddism.

Patton Bradford

Redstone Rocket

Editorial office 876-1500 Editorial fax 955-9138 Retail Advertising 532-4539 Classified Advertising 532-4300 Fax 532-4349

The *Redstone Rocket* is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The *Redstone Rocket* through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the *Redstone Rocket* is The Huntsville Times, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, Huntsville AL 35801.

Retail advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday before Wednesday publication. Classified advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: skip.vaughn@htimes.com
Rocket articles are available online at the following:
http://pao.redstone.army.mil

Rocket Staff

Editor: Skip Vaughn
Reporters: Kari Hawkins
Kelley Lane-Sivley
Copy Editor/Layout: Scott Seeley
Advertising Sales: Shelia Smith
Christie Vail

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Getting to know you

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

Name: Desi Burgess

Job: 59th Ordnance Brigade S-1/senior human resources supervisor

Where do you call home?
Abilene, Texas

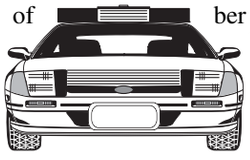
What do you like about your job?
Since I'm retired military, I love that I've come back to service the Soldier again. I love the people that I work with – the civilians and the officers, NCOs and Soldiers — and the individuals within my section and the other S-1s in the brigade. I also enjoy working with the military personnel office, finance and HR community and public affairs who provide wonderful service to us on a daily basis.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I go to Atlanta and hang out. And read and I write and listen to music.

What are your goals?
I have several. One, to be an SES (senior executive). And to write a children's book – a mystery novel for teenagers. And to be the best supervisor/employee. I just want to be an overall good person. I want to be a well-rounded individual – sister, friend, family member. My goals also are to get my doctorate in psychology.

What's your favorite type of music?
I like easy-listening music.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences



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

Aug. 6: A Soldier was arrested by the Jefferson County Sheriff Department as a deserter. He was released to Redstone Police and processed back to Fort Hood, Texas.

Aug. 6: When two subjects approached Gate 9, they were found to be illegal immigrants. They were processed and released to Customs and Immigration agents.

Aug. 7: Post Exchange security observed a subject concealing a bottle of cologne and leaving the store without paying. He was processed by Redstone Police and issued a violation notice.

Aug. 10: Two Soldiers were charged with use of dangerous drugs after a taxi driver sold them drugs. The taxi driver was charged with distribution of dangerous drugs. Investigation continues by Criminal Investigation Division Command.

Aug. 10: A former PX Barber Shop employee has been charged in the theft of $4,411 of barber shop funds after he failed to deposit the funds properly. Investigation continues by CIDC.

Aug. 11: An employee who approached Gate 7 realized that she had left her Redstone Arsenal identification badge at work. She was instructed to wait at the gate until a co-worker could bring her badge to Gate 7, but she failed to follow instructions and drove through the gate to her work location. She was later located by Redstone Police and cited for a security violation.

Aug. 11: A Soldier entered the Police Station and surrendered as a deserter. He was processed and returned to his unit at Fort Stewart, Ga.

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

Violation notices issued: 10 speeding, 1 no driver's license, 1 misjudged clearance, 1 improper backing, 1 parked in a handicap space.

■ 832nd continues training while preparing for move

Line

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amazing. Most of them were either National Guard Iraqis or Republican army guards. They were glad they were no longer being bombed at and shot at.

"Then, I worked a refugee mission in southern Iraq. There were thousands of Shiites running from Saddam Hussein and his Republican Guard. It was a huge humanitarian mission. I worked in a dislocated civilian camp where we were documenting the refugees and providing them the basic necessities of life."

When he returned to the U.S., Cusker rejoined the ROTC program at Montana State, graduated and was commissioned into the Army as an armor officer. He served as an armor platoon leader at Fort Carson, Colo. He then attended the combined logistics officer's class (quartermaster) at Fort Lee. In 1995-96, Cusker served in Operation Sea Signal as the quartermaster lieutenant at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba, during the Cuban/Haitian migration to the U.S.

"We had 60,000 Cuban and Haitian migrants at Guantanamo Bay," he recalled. "We had to provide everything for the families, things like diapers, batteries, cots and three meals a day."

Cusker also served with the 302nd Forward Support Battalion S-3 in Korea, and as an aide to a two-star general and as a commander of a quartermaster supply company at Fort Lewis, Wash. His next assignment took him where he started – back to Montana State – where he recruited operations officers for the Army.

Then, after attending the Army's Command and General Staff College, Cusker deployed again in 2005-06 with the 29th Support Group S-3 in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, where he was the joint logistics command chief of operations and plans in support of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command. His three-year position with the 29th Support Group S-3 also took him to Romania, where he worked on a logistics planning task force. He then served as a transportation battalion executive officer in Japan for a year before transferring to Redstone Arsenal in 2008.

"My first job at Redstone Arsenal was as the deputy director for the missile systems and electronics training department (Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School)," Cusker said.

"I took command of the 832nd on June 17. This is an awesome job because I'm getting a chance to work with a great cadre and our mission to train these Soldiers is really a super job. I love Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal. This is really a great place to serve. It's a wonderful community. I've enjoyed all my overseas time and I've had the opportunity to see the world. But this is a unique and special place to be."

Cusker's wife, Leah, and three children have often followed him around the world, living in both Germany and Japan. His 21-year-old son is now a corporal in the Marine Corps while his two daughters attend elementary school in Huntsville. Cusker's father is a retired Army colonel, his twin brother is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force and his older brother serves with the Montana National Guard.

Cusker hopes to draw on his experience as both an enlisted Soldier and an officer as well as his family connections to the military to lead the Soldiers of the 832nd.

"The experience I gained as enlisted paid lots of benefits as an Army officer," he said. "I've gone to basic training and advanced individual training. I've been a private and a sergeant. I have those experiences under my belt. I know personally what it is like to go through this process."

Cusker also benefitted from the Army's extensive educational opportunities, both within the military and through college. He hopes other young Soldiers will take advantage of those opportunities.

"The training we receive reinforces our profession," he said. "It really boils down to warrior ethos and values, and what defines us as a Soldier. The Army is a great way for young people to give to their country and to have a job that has some value, meaning and purpose to it.

"There are lots of opportunities in the Army. It offers a life experience, a technical MOS (military occupational specialty), a chance to see the world – all while serving the country. But it's not about the individual. It's about what you are doing as part of a team in support of the Army. It's about working together to achieve the mission. It's about being mentally and physically fit to do the job. But, number one, it's about discipline, about doing the right thing when no one is watching."

While the job of commanding the 832nd is certainly rewarding and worthwhile, it is also challenging for many reasons, especially when it comes to serving as a gatekeeper for the Army.

"We have to identify those who aren't able to embrace Army values and culture and the discipline and the physical and mental attributes of the Soldier. We want them to be successful, but if they can't then it is our job to move them out," Cusker said.

Every Monday, Cusker and his command team welcome new Soldiers to the 832nd. With MOS classroom instruction varying in length for each technical specialty, the roster for the 832nd is continually changing. Currently, the battalion includes 1,000 Soldiers, but that number is expected to climb to 1,050 by the end of August and continue to increase after that. Much of the growth is attributed to the increase in Soldiers being trained or retrained in explosive ordnance.

"These Soldiers are here and assigned to us while they are getting their advanced individual training," he said.

"As director of their instruction and as their battalion commander I am working with a command team that is continuing their soldierization process. While they receive technical training for their military occupational specialty, my cadre is working with them on discipline, customs and courtesies, drill and ceremony, warrior tasks, physical training and battle drill training. We are helping them to understand and embrace the Army values and the Army culture. We are helping them transform from civilian life to becoming a Soldier."

The 832nd's Soldiers range in age from 19 to 42, with the average age being 22. The battalion consists of three companies – Headquarters & Alpha consisting of MOS-qualified Soldiers who are reclassifying to another specialty, participating in the Blue to Green program that allows Air Force, Navy and Marine members to switch their branch to Army or transferring from the National Guard and Reserves into the active Army; and Bravo and Charlie consisting of Soldiers who have completed basic training and are now receiving their initial training in their MOS.

When they complete their training, it is Cusker's hope each Soldier leaving the 832nd will be ready to serve the Army wherever the call may be or whatever it may require.

"The goal is to see each Soldier graduate and really embrace the Army culture and values, be physically and mentally fit, be technically and tactically proficient, and be a warrior and an ordnance Soldier," he said. "If we've done that, we've succeeded in our mission."

Customer service survey opens next week

Annual assessment throughout Army

Customers who live, work or do business at Redstone Arsenal will have an opportunity Aug. 24 through Sept. 18 to provide detailed feedback on all of the post's services.

The 2009 annual Customer Service Assessment, which falls under Customer Management Services, is the Installation Management Command's annual Army-wide program for collecting customer feedback and using the data to evaluate and improve the delivery of installation programs and services. The assessment is intended to answer the all important question affecting resource allocation in IMCOM: "What does it matter to Soldiers and to their families?"

Most installations participated in this survey in 2008 when more than 20,000 individuals completed the survey. The customers — leaders, Soldiers, family members, retirees, veterans, civilian employees and contractors — provided information about the importance of programs and services, as well as rating how well the installation is providing services for them. Many survey results are already incorporated by installations throughout the Army.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for Soldiers and their families to directly affect how services are provided at their installation," Joey Skinner, chief of the Garrison's Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, said. "All customers will be able to rate how well the services they receive

See **Survey** *on page* **5**

Photo by Skip Vaughn

SERVING THE CUSTOMER— Members of the civilian focus group listen to customer service officer Steve McFadden.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

FOCUS GROUP— The civilian focus group, under Customer Management Services, meets Aug. 11-13 at Garrison headquarters. From left, seated, are Bonnie Stewart, Bill Holliday, Candra Buchanan and Danny Herron. Standing are Abner Merriweather, Kadee Waterbury, Deane McKay, Glenda Waters and Ralph Langford.

Courtesy photo

Running support

AUSA Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's Dave Seay, left, and Steve Taylor, right, present a $500 check to the Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation. This provides food support for the Redstone 10K Run on Sept. 26 at 7 a.m. at the Sparkman Center building 5302 parking lot. Accepting the donation are Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli and FMWR director Derrick Gould.

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:

Bowling leagues

The Mixed League plays Tuesday nights; and Peterson Point plays Thursday nights. To sign up, call the Bowling Center at 876-6634.

Hunter safety

Outdoor Recreation sponsors Hunter Safety Orientation classes. You must attend one of these classes to be eligible to hunt on Redstone Arsenal. Classes are Aug. 25, Sept. 15, Sept. 29, Oct. 6, Oct. 20, Nov. 3 and Nov. 17 at 4:30 p.m. at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 near the corner of Aerobee and Patton roads. For more information, call 876-4868.

Parenting class

Parenting 101, "Just for Dads," will be presented by Tony Hawkes on Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. upstairs at the Child-Wise building, 1413 Nike St. To register for this free class, call Army Community Service at 876-5397.

Oktoberfest

The annual family festival is Sept. 17-20 at the Redstone Arsenal Activity Field. Enjoy authentic German food, beverages and music by Terry Cavanagh and the Alpine Express. Ticket prices and hours are Thursday, Sept. 17 from 5-11 p.m., $10; Friday, Sept. 18 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., $13; Saturday, Sept. 19 from noon to 1 a.m., $13; and Sunday, Sept. 20 from 1-8 p.m., $10. Admission includes carnival rides, parking and entertainment.

Dancing like stars

Register through Sept. 23 for dancing classes in Basic Waltz and Cha-Cha. The classes are Sept. 24 through Oct. 22 on Thursday nights from 7:30-9. Cost is $55 per couple. Call 876-4531 to register.

Redstone 10K

FMWR Sports and Fitness, Fleet Feet and AUSA present the Redstone 10K Run on Sept. 26 at 7 a.m. at the Sparkman Center building 5302 parking lot. The $10 registration fee includes a T-shirt when registered by the Sept. 16 deadline. Late registration of $15 is available to those who have access to Redstone Arsenal. Each participant will receive a $5 gift certificate to Fleet Feet. Registration is available at Pagano Gym (phone 876-6701), Redstone Fitness Center or the Sparkman Fitness Center. Off-post registration is at Fleet Feet Sports, 2722 Carl T. Jones, Suite 2B (Bailey Cove Shopping Center), phone 650-7063. For information visit www.redstonemwr.com.

■ Customers have chance to give feedback

Survey

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match their expectations. IMCOM can use this feedback to improve services, which should ultimately affect Soldier and family quality of life."

Customer service officer Steve McFadden also emphasized the survey's importance.

"This is a chance to actually get the voice of the customer back to IMCOM and the chain of command," McFadden said.

For more information about the upcoming survey, call McFadden at 876-3294. The web link is www.myarmyvoice.org/. *(Garrison release)*

Huntsville native joins Senior Executive Service

Cornelius expresses pride in Redstone's legacy

By MERV BROKKE
AMRDEC public affairs

Family, friends, colleagues and fellow members of Team Redstone gathered in Bob Jones Auditorium to share in the experience and bear witness as Steve Cornelius, associate director for missile development at Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, was sworn in as a member of the Senior Executive Service.

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, who officiated the ceremony, spoke of Cornelius' selection to the SES, and his dedication to Team Redstone and, most important, to the Soldier.

"We got it right with this guy. I've been doing this thing in the Army for about 34 years and every once in a while I know what right looks like. It's about building a team and being able to make things better. It's about what we can do for others. This guy is made of gold. His heart is huge. These are the type of people we want to sustain the great work force that we have now and actually take it to the next level," Myles said.

In his current position Cornelius leads the strategic planning for technology programs and executes efforts directed toward the development of materiel for new or improved Army guided weapons, missiles, free rockets, directed energy weapons, and associated supporting technologies including aero-thermo chemistry, guidance and control sensors and seekers launchers and propulsion and modeling and simulation.

"It's not about how smart you are, it's not about the technology and the engineering that you have — you must have that to do what you have to do in this business especially if you are an SES, an SES inside of AMRDEC. What it does require that brings you to the next level that has made this guy a no-brainer to come step forward to become an SES is this guy's heart; this guy's leadership," Myles said.

After taking the oath, Cornelius paid tribute to his roots, those who went before him and those who continue to serve the nation and its war fighters.

Courtesy photo

ALL SMILES— From left are AMRDEC associate director for missile development Steve Cornelius; his wife, Amy; and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles.

"If you take time and look around this Arsenal you cannot help but being in awe of the fundamental and groundbreaking work that was done here," Cornelius said. "Some of you in this audience were here from the very beginning when the pioneering and engineering and science work of the United States Army paved the way not only for the development of extremely precise and effective weapons but also led the United States in the peaceful exploration of space.

"Since those early days the words 'Huntsville,' 'Redstone' and 'missile' have been forever and inextricably linked. We have played a part in making the United States Army the most feared, the most adaptable, the most survivable, the most respected and the most capable Army in the world — of all times. I am proud to be a small part of that ongoing legacy here at Redstone," Cornelius said.

As a native of Huntsville, Cornelius and his family lived the legacy of the Rocket City. His father was a NASA engineer for 36 years and he remembers coming to work with his father on visiting days and seeing all of the rockets and missiles on Redstone Arsenal.

The Senior Executive Service is comprised of the men and women charged with leading the continuing transformation of government. This dedicated corps of executives shares a commitment to public service and a set of democratic values grounded in the fundamental ideals of the Constitution. As the leaders of the federal civilian work force, senior executives strive each day to create a more citizen centered, result oriented government.

Retiring worker recalls career of opportunities

Pat Cross will remember friendships through years

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@htimes.com

Pat Cross has gone from telephone operator to motor vehicle operator to administrative assistant in her 35 years of employment with the Department of Defense.

And, along the way, she has ridden in a Huey helicopter and a tank, taken a maiden dependent voyage on the U.S.S. Aubrey Fitch, and helped make a difference as a member of the Civilian Welfare Fund Council and an executive with the Combined Federal Campaign.

She has also managed to break through a few glass ceilings that, at the time, she didn't even know were there.

"My dad was retired civil service, so working as a civil servant just seemed the natural thing for me to do," she said.

Now this longtime federal employee is retiring to spend time with her three children and four grandchildren, get more involved in her church and civitan club in Fayetteville, Tenn., and participate in the Wings of Love ministry that assists unwed mothers. Today is her last official day working as an administrative assistant with the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Photo by Kari Hawkins

TRAILBLAZER— Pat Cross is leaving civil service after 35 years that have taken her from working as a telephone operator and motor vehicle operator at naval bases in Florida to a career as an administrative assistant for PEO Aviation. She admits she has broken a few female barriers along the way.

Cross began her DoD career in 1973 at age 23, working as a telephone operator at the Naval Air Station at Cecil Field in Jacksonville, Fla.

"When I worked as a telephone operator, every phone call came through the operator at the naval base," Cross said. "The population on a naval base can increase and decrease practically overnight by a thousand people because of ships coming and going. So things could get quite hectic."

But the job was rewarding – and the kind of job that was open to women in those days. After Cecil Field modernized its telephone system, Cross transferred to the Naval Station Mayport in Florida, where she worked as an operator for 10 years.

It was at the Mayport station that Cross broke through her first glass ceiling.

"I became a motor vehicle operator. I was the first female motor vehicle operator since World War II," she said.

"When I started, I ran the parts truck back and forth to get parts. But they taught me how to drive a lot of different vehicles. I drove a street sweeper, dump truck and a bus. I transported Soldiers around the base in a bus."

She was once teased by her male co-workers who didn't think she could drive a 2 1/ 2 ton cargo truck to downtown Jacksonville to pick up three barrels of oil.

"But I did it," Cross said. "It was 20 miles there and 20 miles back. And I did it."

Those were the days when relationships between men and women in the workplace were more relaxed. Cross didn't mind that her male co-workers watched out for her, joked around with her and offered extra help when she needed it.

"I was very fortunate in that the drivers, mechanics and transportation officers – all these men – treated me like a sister or a daughter," she said. "They were supportive. They were absolutely wonderful to me."

But an on-the-job injury took Cross back to being a telephone operator. She then applied for an upward mobility position and became a transportation clerk typist.

"I took a lot of correspondence courses. I studied really hard and I qualified as a shipment clerk," Cross said of her next job. She then worked as a claims examiner in Mayport's transportation office, remaining there for 16 years. At her third naval station – Naval Air Station Jacksonville – Cross also worked as a claims examiner.

See **Career** *on page* **29**

Newest addition to security assistance command

Roland brings experience from deployment in field

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
kelleylanesivley@att.net

As more of their staff is relocated or hired in, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command is seeing their team come together at Redstone.

Their newest member, Col. Gwendolyn Roland, is the director of regional operations for four of the organization's six global areas. She took over the position Aug 4.

Roland's military career has spanned 23 years. During that time, she served all over the world. Her years of experience in ordnance, maintenance and forward support landed her an assignment as the security assistance officer to the Office of Military Cooperation in Egypt in 2003. Her time there, coupled with her field experience, gives her a unique perspective on what it is that USASAC does.

"I have a little bit of experience in FMS (foreign military sales)," she said. "I've been deployed forward. So, I've seen our troops in action and the foreign troops as well. I can talk to them about my experience and the equipment they have."

Most recently, she commanded the Army Field Support Battalion in Hawaii. While moving from the islands' balmy shores to the Deep South may not sound like fun, Roland said she has been pleased with the differences.

"It's been awesome," she said. "The weather is great. It was raining when I got here. But since then it has been beautiful."

Although she has been at USASAC only a matter of days, she has hit the ground running. She is already taking on what she sees as one of the biggest challenges Base Realignment and Closure has brought to the organization, building and maintaining the relationships among their work force as they relocate from Fort Belvoir, Va., and hire in new people.

To help them renew old acquaintances and form new friendships, she put together a team-building cookout for Aug. 14. At the event, the USASAC team shared food and fun on another beautiful Alabama day. Having a strong bond between members of the organization is important for the work they do within their walls, she said, but it also spills over into what they are doing in the field. While they are in the business of foreign military sales, their biggest export doesn't show on any invoice.

"We are the face to the world for foreign military sales," Roland said. "Everyone who goes out (into the field) takes a little bit of America with them when they go to or deal with another country. Sometimes that can build a better cooperation and partnership with that nation."

Roland spends a lot of her spare time in her kitchen. She enjoys taking ingredients and letting their inspiration guide what the finished dish will be. Lately, she said sweet potato pancakes had been at the top of her favorites. There have been hints that an organizational breakfast featuring Roland's sizzling griddle would be welcomed.

"We might be able to arrange that," she said, laughing.

She is excited about learning more about what USASAC does for each of the regions and the nations they encompass. Roland has also set a high goal regarding those nations.

"I'm looking forward to learning how to say hello in each of the 30 or 40 different languages," she said.

Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR— Col. Gwendolyn Roland has joined the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command as the director of regional operations for four of the organization's global areas.

Summer employment benefits Garrison, students

Expanded program builds for future

By JENNI WILLIAMS
Garrison summer hire

The Garrison is at a critical point. Of its government employees, 28 percent are eligible for retirement, and many more will be eligible within the next few years. Due to the aging work force, preparations must be made for the future.

The mission of the Garrison is to "continuously (provide) superior installation operations support and quality of life to enable Team Redstone's mission success."

Besides the aging work force, Base Realignment and Closure will require more employees in order to accomplish this mission.

BRAC will cause an estimated 15 percent growth in the number of people on the Arsenal, and will increase facilities square footage by about 20 percent. According to Curtis Clark, deputy to the Garrison commander, the Garrison work force needs revitalization.

Clark's goal is to provide young people the opportunity to experience a real work environment. He recognizes the benefit in younger employees working with more experienced employees, and hopes that this program will teach them to "appreciate the value of hard work and know what it takes to succeed."

This summer, the student employee program was expanded to include more than 60 summer employees, ranging in age from 16 to 27.

"One of the beauties of this program is that we have high school students and college graduates (working together)," Joe Davis, director of public works, said.

The Garrison benefits in several ways by emphasizing the student program. First, the program is an opportunity to renew the work force. Younger employees not only provide inexpensive labor, but they also energize the current employees and provide a fresh perspective to challenges.

"We like to give them challenges and see what happens," Clark said. Often, students are capable of more than their supervisors expected.

Second, it gives directors an opportunity to evaluate the students over a short period of time, enabling them to make future decisions about whether to employ that student or not. Students who strive for excellence stand out, and the directors and other employees notice. Excellence is more than work performance. Clark particularly emphasized dressing appropriately.

"I pay attention to dress," he said. "You need to dress for success."

See **Students** *on page* **9**

Courtesy photo

DEPTH PERCEPTION— Daxton Maze, left, and Austin York measure water valve depth off Martin Road. The two students helped gather information for the Martin Road expansion project.

Students

continued from page **8**

Third, this younger generation comes equipped with a skill set their older counterparts didn't have initially. Because of today's emphasis on technology, students have computer knowledge that allows them to have an impact almost immediately. "Production is just astonishing," Davis said.

Besides the benefits to the Garrison, the student program has obvious benefits for the students themselves. Ask any of the students what his or her favorite part of the program is, and money will be near the top of the list. In addition to their pay, students learned valuable lessons.

First, students are able to use this time to determine what interests them and what careers they may want to pursue. Even the high school students were able to use this work experience to guide them toward what they want to study in college.

Scott Funderburg, a senior at New Century Technology High School, reinforced his decision to study computer science. "I was pretty sure that is what I wanted to do, but now I am sure that is what I want to go into," he said.

Students can also use this opportunity to network. Each division within the Garrison depends on the other divisions to function and because of this students gain experience in more departments than just their own. This gives them ample opportunity to meet other directors and employees. Students are also able to network among themselves by building friendships that may provide them with future job opportunities.

Finally, the student employee program provides valuable experience to the students. Depending on their skill level, students were given responsibilities and tasks they might not have in similar jobs.

Alanah Burney, a rising freshman at Calhoun, worked with Army Community Service this summer.

"I focus a lot on helping others and where I got placed for the summer is the exact place I needed to be for that," she said. "(My co-workers) have made me a better person I believe."

The directors will soon discuss the direction of the program for next summer and will also decide which students to bring back to the program.

"We have a good foundation to work on for right now," Clark said. "All this is a building tool for the future."

Courtesy photo

PLANNING AHEAD— Students, from left, Shandi Wright, Ashlyn Hatfield and Ashley Garth talk with Alvin Odoms, director of plans, training, mobilization and security. All three worked in the security division of Odoms' directorate.

Looking *back*

Native son of Redstone and member of work force

Photo by Skip Vaughn

BACK HOME— Ward Stirling, a system administrator III for the AMCOM Command Group, returns to building 112 last week for the first time since he was born there in 1970.

Ward Stirling, 38, represents 'dying breed,' says historian

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

Ward Stirling didn't realize until recently that he may be one of a kind. The Redstone worker was born on post.

Stirling was born Sept. 9, 1970 in building 112, which served as the hospital here until Fox Army Hospital opened in 1978. He's a system administrator III for the AMCOM Command Group.

"In the 30 years that Mike (Baker) has been around as historian we have met maybe less than five people born on the installation who moved away," Claus Martel, a historian in the Aviation and Missile Command's Historical Office, said. "I can think of no other person that's working here that's 40 years old (or younger) that was born on Redstone Arsenal."

Not long after Stirling was born, the Army shut down its obstetrics/gynecology ward – which had opened in 1958 — and referred those services to Huntsville Hospital. Babies were never delivered in the current Fox building, now called Fox Army Health Center.

The historical office staff would like to know if any other current Redstone workers, besides Stirling, were born at building 112.

Historical Office photo

ORIGINAL BUILDING— This is building 112 as it appeared around four decades ago.

"Ward is a dying breed," Martel said.

The laid-back, 38-year-old didn't realize his uniqueness until after talking with the historians. Stirling's birth certificate reads that he was born in a U.S. Army hospital, Redstone Arsenal. He thought he was born at Fox until the historians told him the birth was up the road at 112, which is now occupied by the Non-Line of Sight Launch System Project Office.

See **Native** *on page* **11**

Honor Flight extra special for brotherly veterans

Redstone retiree Costello shares flight with sibling

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@htimes.com

Like all the other veterans making the Tennessee Valley Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. on Aug. 29, Joe Costello of Huntsville is looking forward to visiting with other veterans and seeing the World War II memorial.

"I hope to see some of my friends that I knew in the service," he said. "It will be an honor to see the World War II memorial and the changing of the guard (at Arlington Cemetery). I will be proud to see the names inscribed on the World War II memorial because I know they are the ones who are heroes, the ones who died."

Yet, his trip has become even more special with the addition of a much-loved companion.

Costello, 86, will be traveling with his brother, 95-year-old Charles Costello of New Orleans. Both are World War II veterans, one serving with the Army in the Pacific Theater and the other with the Army Air Force in the European Theater.

"I tell people that between Charles and I we had the whole war covered," Costello joked recently from his southeast Huntsville home that he shares with his wife of nearly 60 years.

"He's excited, too, about this trip. He's in a wheelchair and he will be coming from the retirement home where he lives. He will spend a few days with us and go on the trip with me."

Costello was 23 and working for the Department of the Army at the Port of Embarkation in New Orleans when, in 1944, he was drafted into the Army. He served 18 months in the Philippines. His brother volunteered at age 33.

"I was worried about going," he recalled. "But all my friends were gone, so it was time for me to go."

See **Brothers** *on page* **15**

Photo by Kari Hawkins

MEMORIES OF SERVICE— World War II veteran Joe Costello, a former Redstone Arsenal employee, shares stories of his military service and the years after the war with his son-in-law, Jerry Dalrymple, who works as a program analyst for Joint Attack Munition Systems. The 86-year-old veteran will be participating in the Aug. 29 Tennessee Valley Honor Flight with his brother, 95-year-old WW II veteran Charles Costello.

■ Stirling returns to his Redstone Arsenal roots

Native

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"It just hit me like yesterday. I just found out I might be one of the only ones that actually was born here that works here," Stirling said. "I actually found out I might be an artifact so it's kind of neat. I'd definitely be interested to find out if anybody else works here that was born here."

He has no memories of Redstone from back then because he only lived here six months. His father, Bill Stirling, was a first lieutenant and captain here from 1967-70 before going to Vietnam. Bill returned to Redstone as a colonel and served as commandant of the then Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School from 1992-93 before retiring in 1994. The Jamaica, N.Y., native worked in Saudi Arabia with Vinnell Corp. from 1994-99. Bill, 65, has worked for Combat Support Associates in Kuwait the past 11 years.

Stirling graduated from high school in Vienna, Va., in 1988. He did miscellaneous jobs before joining the Army in 1991. He was stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., in 1992-94 and in Kaiserslautern, Germany, from 1994-97. He left the Army as an E-4 specialist in May 1997 and returned to Huntsville. Stirling graduated from the University of Alabama-Huntsville in 2006 with a bachelor's in management information systems. He began working at Redstone in 2007.

He and his wife, Angela, reside in Harvest with their daughter, Nichole Hornbuckle, 17, and son, Bentley, 9.

"It's a neat feeling," he said, "to kind of be hanging my hat where I was born and be working here."

Editor's note: If you were born at Redstone Arsenal, the AMCOM historians would love to hear from you. Send them an e-mail at redstone.history@conus.army.mil and let them know when you were born and where you're working now at Redstone. Also let them know if someone in your family took pictures at the hospital when you were born.

Black Hawk helicopter headed for the border

Homeland security force receives new aircraft

By MERV BROKKE
AMRDEC public affairs

The two members of the official party exchanged handshakes and passed the log book and keys between them. This moment signified the official transfer of a UH-60M from the Utility Helicopter Project Office to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency.

The delivery marked the first UH-60M aircraft to enter service for the CBP which currently utilizes UH-60A aircraft to protect this nation's borders. The CBP will take delivery of four UH-60M aircraft by July 2010.

This state-of-the-art helicopter will allow the CBP to modernize its rotary wing fleet and better achieve its agency mission requirements. The aircraft will be used to provide mobility and communication for CBP agents along the United States borders and between official ports of entry.

The host for this ceremony, Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, is the Army manager for the Apache helicopter, Cargo Helicopter, Utility Helicopter, Unmanned Aircraft System, Armed Scout Helicopter, and Aviation Systems programs. He is the responsible management official who provides overall direction and guidance for the development, acquisition, testing systems integration, product improvement and fielding of assigned programs.

This ceremony was a symbol of partnership and teamwork in an effort to improve U.S. security.

"This is about partnership; in order to be able to provide this great capability, this great aircraft, to our partners in the Department of Homeland Security," Crosby said. "What enabled that to happen is a partnership within the Army, the Army pulling together with our brothers in AMCOM and RDECOM to procure this aircraft and to modify it to meet the requirements that our Department of Homeland Security so validly needs to execute the tough, very, very difficult mission."

Courtesy photo

TRANSFER— During a recent ceremony conducted at the Prototype Integration Facility, Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, left, program executive officer for aviation, passes a log book and keys to John Stanton, executive director, National Air Security Operations for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of CBP Air and Marine. This signifies the official transfer of a UH-60M from the Utility Helicopter Project Office to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency.

Handing over the log book and keys to the newest Black Hawk was difficult for Crosby the aviator.

"This is the first of four M-configuration aircraft. Great capability. I'm jealous of you guys flying it out in Arizona. I wish I could go with you," Crosby said.

Accepting the aircraft was John Stanton, executive director, National Air Security Operations for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of CBP Air and Marine.

The CBP is one of the Department of Homeland Security's largest and most complex components, with a priority mission of keeping terrorists and their weapons out of the U.S.

The mission of the CBP Office of Air and Marine, the world's largest aviation and maritime law enforcement organization, is to protect the American people and nation's critical infrastructure through the coordinated use of integrated air and marine forces to detect, interdict and prevent acts of terrorism and the unlawful movement of people, illegal drugs and other contraband toward or across the borders of the United States.

"This is a fantastic day in the Department of Homeland Security and for us in the Office of Air and Marine; to accept a brand new, brand spanking new, Black Hawk and a Mike model no less; glass cockpit and everything," Stanton said.

The relationship between the Army and Homeland Security has been ongoing for a quarter of a century.

To illustrate this, Stanton told the story of one Black Hawk that was flown during Operation Urgent Fury in 1983. The Black Hawk crashed at sea, was hoisted out, "hosed off, painted black, it's got a gold strip on it, and its name is 423 and it's in Tucson — still today," he said.

"This is an awesome platform. We will use this every day to protect America from our enemies both foreign and domestic," said Stanton. "We are responsible for the borders and we have a lot of internal missions as well that we use these kinds of platforms both in humanitarian roles such as supporting FEMA and also in our border security roles to keep bad people and bad things out."

Built by the Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, with an improved airframe, avionics and propulsion system, the UH-60M helicopter is the latest and most modern in a series of Black Hawk helicopter variants.

The Utility Helicopter Project Office is teaming with the Prototype Integration Facility to integrate Customs and Border Protection mission-specific equipment into the UH-60 L/M model aircraft. The PIF is responsible for the management, design, fabrication, integration and installation of mission kits to include navigation, communication, emergency and environmental controls. In addition, the PIF will team with the Aviation Engineering Directorate to obtain an airworthiness release for these aircraft.

Apache returns to southwest Arizona

AH-64D attack helicopter undergoing test at Yuma

By MARK SCHAUER
For "The Outpost" at YPG

YUMA PROVING GROUND, Ariz. — A primary responsibility of Yuma Proving Ground is to improve existing weapons systems, even on platforms considered the most lethal of their kind, such as the AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopter. Having been involved in Apache testing for more than 25 years, the Aviation Systems Branch of Yuma Proving Ground boasts a huge amount of institutional knowledge and experience related to the platform.

"We even have a few people in this office who were part of the proof-of-principle testing on the very first model of the Apache back in the early 1980s," said Pat Franklin, a test officer in the division.

The next generation of Apaches will feature a wide array of upgrades, from a new engine and transmission to instrumented flight capability normally associated with large airplanes. The gunner aboard the updated Apache will be able to control an armed, fully functional unmanned aerial system from the cockpit. Many of these improvements were originally slated to appear in the experimental RAH-66 Comanche helicopter that was canceled in 2004.

"The Block III Apache is the most sweeping, all-encompassing set of product improvements on the current model since it went into production," Franklin said. "Everyone has been at a very up-tempo, robust workload for months to make these major tests happen."

Testing will take place on the same range utilizing the same targets and testing methodologies as the current model back in 1998.

Survivability is a critical component of any attack helicopter, and the Apache has been designed as a heavily-armored fortress. When deployed overseas, it has proven to be a robust aircraft with a remarkable ability to return to friendly territory and land safely even when severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire.

The Apache is no lumbering behemoth, however. Its primary defensive strategies are stealth and evasion. The craft is particularly adept at low-altitude flying as a means of escaping radar detection, even sporting tough titanium-tipped rotor blades that can safely withstand inadvertent contact with tree limbs. It has always been identified with state-of-the-art sensors and precision guidance systems.

When the platform first became operational in the mid-1980s, its missiles were guided by laser technology. Though highly advanced and effective, cloud cover sometimes impeded target acquisition, and keeping the laser positioned on the target meant the helicopter and crew were exposed to return fire until the fired missile struck its intended target. In its current Longbow incarnation, the targeting system uses radio waves, which penetrate clouds and allows the crew to evade return fire immediately after firing. New fire control radar components currently under test at YPG are even more sophisticated and versatile. To verify their effectiveness,

See **Apache** *on page* **14**

Courtesy photo

ON PROWL— Survivability is a critical component of any attack helicopter, and the Apache has been designed as a heavily-armored fortress.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Change of charter

A change of charter ceremony for Apache Block III Product Office is held Aug. 10 in Bob Jones Auditorium. From left are Apache project manager Col. Shane Openshaw, outgoing Block III product manager Lt. Col. Jeff Hager and incoming product manager Lt. Col. Dan Bailey.

Transport aircraft can carry Lakota

The LUH Product Office, Joint Readiness Training Center, the Mississippi Army National Guard and EADS-North America have validated the ability to load a UH-72A Lakota onto a C-17 transport aircraft.

The validation confirmed that up to five helicopters may be loaded into the C-17 although multiple load configurations were tested.

The successful validation supports the UH-72A fielding to Europe and Kwajalein next year. This milestone continues the Light Utility Helicopter program success as a key part of Army aviation modernization.

Courtesy photo

LOADING UP— A Lakota helicopter is loaded onto a C-17 transport aircraft.

■ Next generation of Apache helicopters upgraded

Apache

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YPG testers will conduct more than 120 unique test flights in which the targeting system is put through its paces against a wide variety of stationary and mobile targets from multiple angles that simulate actual combat conditions.

"If you're on the battlefield, you'll be presented with a target at any aspect," Franklin explained. "The radar needs to function at any conceivable angle a threat could be coming from."

The new radar equipment is more compact than previously found in the Longbow, creating room for future additions of equipment while helping to lighten the craft's weight, which translates into increased performance.

"The current Apache Longbow Fire Control Radar has two large boxes of radar equipment and the Block III Apache will have one box," Lt. Col. Jeffrey Hager, the project manager for the Block III program, said. "This saves approximately 83 pounds of weight on the aircraft while also giving the Fire Control Radar more computing power than before. The Block III Apache will be a big combat multiplier on the battlefield."

The new Radar Electronics Unit is also easier and less costly to maintain and repair than the configuration found in the current Apache Longbow. A malfunction in the current radar system generally requires the entire unit to be replaced, whereas the Block III Apache's REU is sub-divided into separate electronic card modules that can be individually removed and replaced.

Some of the aircraft's formidable range and firepower is now contained in a UAS that is wholly independent of the Apache itself, yet controlled by the helicopter's gunner, who can guide the unmanned system's flight path, fire its weapons, and seek out targets using its on-board video cameras. This system will also be tested at Yuma Proving Ground.

Minor modifications can have major impacts on an aircraft's performance. As an example, a modest component of the Block III upgrades is the addition of new composite rotor blades, which are lighter and longer than the blades the Longbow model is outfitted with. The size difference could potentially result in noticeable changes to the craft's aerodynamics, which could in turn have a negative impact on the accuracy of its rockets. Thus, test flights with rocket firing are necessary to measure any adverse reactions to the changes in order to facilitate their correction.

"There is a lot of interconnectivity between one thing and another," Franklin said. "If you change one thing, you may affect something totally different."

In addition to these important developmental tests, later this year Yuma Proving Ground will host a limited user test in which Army aviators will use YPG's vast ranges to test fully functional Block III Apaches by conducting simulated missions that replicate those conducted in theater.

"Block III is the future of Apache," Roger Breece, the project's test director, said. "Once the user gets this aircraft into their hands, they aren't going to want to go into the fight with anything else."

Whether it is testing specialized upgrades on the world's premiere attack helicopter or conducting realistic user tests, Yuma Proving Ground's versatility is well known in the test community.

"It's cost effective for the government to conduct this test here," Hager said. "The terrain and weather give us a good operational flavor of what the system has to operate in when it gets overseas. I'd characterize the experience at YPG as very beneficial to our program."

■ Brothers in arms prepare to take Honor Flight

Brothers

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Costello has a similar attitude about Honor Flight, which takes veterans to see their memorial in the nation's capital free of charge. Although he has known about the program for some time, he only signed up three months ago.

"If everyone else is going, I might as well go, too," he said. "I feel honored to be able to go on this trip."

But the addition of his brother as a travel companion has made the trip even more worthwhile for both brothers.

"We've had flights with brothers before," said Joe Fitzgerald, president of Tennessee Valley Honor Flight. "Because they are brothers who both fought in World War II we wanted to get them on the same flight."

Most WW II veterans on Tennessee Valley Honor Flights are from north Alabama and south central Tennessee. There have been a few exceptions, though, since the program started in April 2007.

"Great citizens across the Tennessee Valley are funding transportation of these wonderful World War II veterans to see their memorial. World War II veterans fought for America and, no matter where they are from, they are special," Fitzgerald said. "If our veterans don't live in the Tennessee Valley, then they have a very strong local connection, like an adult child or other relatives. They will come to the Tennessee Valley, stay with their loved ones for a few days and then take the flight with us. In this case, we would not separate brothers."

The Costello brothers will be among an estimated 130 veterans who will fly on a chartered Boeing 757 for the Aug. 29 Honor Flight.

"We are continually updating our lists to make sure we have a full flight. We do tend to lose some veterans in the process either because they are too ill to go or they have passed away," Fitzgerald said. "We will make two confirmation calls before we fly to make sure we have all our veterans on the flight."

Veterans are chosen for each Honor Flight first based on their age and health. If they are over 90 or if they are critically ill, they are put at the top of the flight list. Others on the list are chosen based on when their application was received. A total of 764 veterans have flown so far on Honor Flight. Future flights are slated for Oct. 24 and the spring of 2010.

Because of high probably of hot weather conditions on the Aug. 29 flight, this Honor Flight will not include the traditional flag ceremony at the WW II memorial. Organizers want to limit the amount of time veterans spend in the heat. Other precautions are also being taken.

"They will all have caps and sunscreen and water bottles," Fitzgerald said. "They will also each have a battery operated fan and a cool gel bandana. We are taking every possible precaution under the advice of our medical team. We don't want to see anyone get overheated."

In case there is a medical emergency, Honor Flight always travels with an experienced medical team that continually monitors the health of the traveling veterans.

Honor Flight will depart Huntsville International Airport following a 5 a.m. departure ceremony on Aug. 29. The day will include stops at the WW II, the Women in the Military, Marine Corps and Korea War memorials in addition to a visit to Arlington National Cemetery. Honor Flight will return to Huntsville at about 8:30 p.m. The public is invited to participate in Honor Flight's departure and return ceremonies.

Each veteran on Honor Flight has their own unique story of their experiences during WW II, Fitzgerald said. Often, these veterans share stories during the flight and sometimes they do meet other veterans on the flight who served in their same unit or at the same location.

For Costello, his story of WW II began when he was drafted. He was assigned to 16 weeks of basic training at the Cavalry Replacement Training Center at Fort Riley, Kan., even though he had no experience with horses.

"I never rode a horse until basic training. And not only did we ride, but we had to clean out stalls and all kinds of other things to care for the horses. We had to take care of the horses and mules before we took care of ourselves," he said. "I wanted to be part of the mechanized cavalry because they had tanks. Instead I got horses."

But the horses didn't go with Costello's unit when they were shipped to the Philippines. The unit was assigned to the 743rd Army Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion attached to the 1st Cavalry Division. Costello served in administration in the capital city Manila.

Although his role was primarily to collect data for the morning reports on troop numbers, Costello was close enough to the fighting to know the toll it took on Soldiers.

"It was a war. We had to kill people. We had to capture them. It's a job you just have to do," he said.

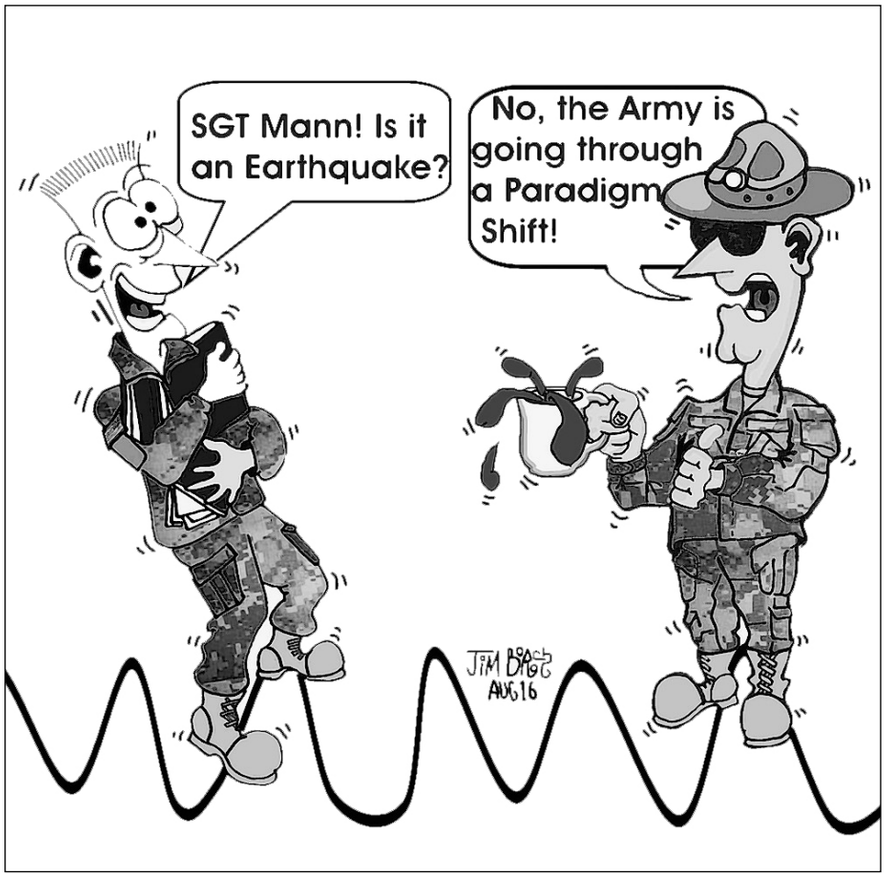
He did get to see Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who led the U.S. forces in the Battle of Leyte Gulf and who was on the island when the Philippines were recognized by the U.S. as an independent nation, July 4, 1946.

After the war, Costello joined the Reserves and returned to the Port of Embarkation, where he worked until it closed in 1964. He then moved to Huntsville, where he worked at Redstone Arsenal in supply and maintenance for various organizations, including the Integrated Materiel Management Center. He retired from the Reserves in 1983 with 36 years of service and from civil service in 1986 with 44 years of service.

Costello, who received a Bronze Star, Victory Ribbon and several other commendations for his service, is a Soldier who appreciates the impact the U.S. victory in WW II continues to have on the nation.

"I don't think I realized the seriousness of the war at the time," Costello said, recalling his period of service. "If we hadn't bombed (Hiroshima and Nagasaki), we would be speaking Japanese."

Editor's note: To make a donation or to register for Honor Flight, visit its website at www.honorflight.net.



General officers on target in missile firing

Photo by Claus Martel

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED— Maj. Gen. Jim Myles and Brig. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco have reason to smile at their Javelin missile firing Aug. 10.

Myles, Dellarocco shoot Javelin weapon system

By MISTY GLOVER
For the Rocket

A large crowd gathered Aug. 10 to witness the star-studded firing of two Javelin missiles.

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles and program executive officer for missiles and space Brig. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco each fired a Javelin missile as part of the normally scheduled Javelin Stockpile Reliability Program testing.

The general officers demonstrated confidence in not only the Javelin weapon system and training program, but also the SRP. The Javelin SRP was designed to provide the data needed to assure the Javelin missile maintains the expected performance, reliability and safety for the duration of its use in the field.

"This morning's firings are an evaluation of the Javelin program," Myles said. "But most importantly, it serves to remind us of our Soldiers operating around the world right now and ensuring that their weapons work every day, every time they pull the trigger."

The target was a tank hull 500 meters downrange, which both generals hit successfully, Dellarocco in direct attack mode and Myles demonstrating the top attack mode.

"It was an awesome feeling," said Myles, describing his firing. "There is nothing better than locking on and hearing that bang before seeing the target disappear. This weapon is a game changer. Our Soldiers are lucky to have it."

Addressing the crowd of more than 70, including scientists, engineers, logisticians and acquisition professionals from Close Combat Weapon Systems Project Office; Redstone Technical Test Center and AMRDEC personnel; and congressional staffs, Myles stressed how important the community at Redstone Arsenal is to the success of the ongoing fight.

"One of the most important things to a Soldier is confidence in their weapon," Myles said. "Your continued dedication and teamwork builds that confidence. It allows them to do their mission."

The Javelin weapon system, a true "fire-and-forget" shoulder-launched missile, is fielded to the Army and Marine Corps. This close combat missile system is capable of defeating armored vehicles, fortifications, and soft targets in full spectrum operations. Man-portable, Javelin consists of a missile in a disposable launch tube and a reusable Command Launch Unit that houses the day sight, night vision sight, and controls. The CLU allows for battlefield surveillance, target acquisition, missile launch, and battle damage assessment.

Dellarocco, speaking of his nephew who recently started infantry training at Fort Benning, Ga., said "his uncle just demonstrated that the Javelin works."

"We demonstrated that the Javelin stockpile is reliable," he said.

Contract awarded for mission planning

The Aviation Integration Directorate, Aviation and Missile Command and the U.S. Special Operations Mission Planning and Execution Program Office have awarded QinetiQ North America a contract for the continued design, development and maintenance of Advanced Mission Planning Tools.

Awarded to the company's Systems Engineering Group, the indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract has a five-year period of performance and a $10 million ceiling.

Located at Fort Eustis, Va., SOMPE provides integrated mission planning software to the U.S. Special Operations Command. *(QinetiQ North America release)*

Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

Marksmanship

Retired Col. Bonnie Pearson aims her weapon while visiting the EST 2000 simulated rifle range during 59th Ordnance Brigade's Experience Course and Orientation, an event to inform new civilian employees on how the Soldiers of 59th are trained.

Fire ignites concern for microwave safety

A recent fire on Redstone Arsenal involving paper towels used in a microwave oven under a microwavable popcorn package caused approximately $500 of damage, according to the Garrison.

The paper towels were placed under the popcorn bag while cooking. During the process the paper towels were ignited and started to smolder, causing a visible scorched spot, both on the popcorn bag and on the paper towel.

"Although not all microwaves have the same power settings, we are stressing the need to stay in the area and do not leave cooking unattended," a prepared release said. "These paper towels were subsequently discarded into a plastic trash can in the break room. The paper towels continued to smolder and ignited the other trash in the trash can, causing a small fire. Fortunately, the trash can was almost empty, damaging only the trash can and some floor tiles."

A review of the operating instruction manuals of several brands of microwave ovens revealed that under "Cookware and Utensils Guide" it states that for paper towels and napkins, do not use recycled paper towels, which may contain metal and could ignite.

"Further investigation revealed that some paper towels supplied throughout this installation and possibly the ones you buy for home use may contain a percentage of recycled material," the release said. "Some paper towel manufacturers use metal in their process; this metal may continue to heat up after their use in the microwave which may cause a delayed flare up as did in this case. We recommend all users of paper towels in microwaves for work and home use, read the product package information and your microwave manuals."

Ushering in a new era of testing at Redstone

Photo by Kari Hawkins

NEW COMMAND— David Byrd and Col. Steven Kihara will represent the Army's leadership team at two events this week ushering in a new era of missile, sensor and aviation testing at Redstone Arsenal. On Thursday, the Redstone Technical Test Center will be officially retired as an organization and in its place will be the Redstone Test Center, which will combine RTTC and the Aviation Technical Test Center, formerly of Fort Rucker. Kihara will command the new RTC and Byrd will be its technical director. On Friday, they will participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for a new RTC Rotary Wing Center and headquarters.

Ceremonies introduce Redstone Test Center

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@htimes.com

Missile and aviation testing will make history simultaneously at Redstone Arsenal this week.

Two Army organizations well-known for providing the best testing of weapon systems used in theater will merge on Thursday to become the Army's premier testing facility. The Redstone Technical Test Center and the Aviation Technical Test Center, formerly of Fort Rucker, will merge to become the Redstone Test Center at 10 a.m. Thursday in Bob Jones Auditorium. In addition, a groundbreaking for new RTC facilities will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at the Redstone Airfield.

Both RTTC and ATTC were formed in the 1950s, with RTTC charged with the testing of missile, aviation and sensor systems, subsystems and components while ATTC – in various organizational forms throughout the years – was charged with testing the airworthiness and safety qualifications of aircraft and related aviation equipment.

While the merger itself is big news, so, too, is the introduction of Col. Steven Kihara as the first commander of the new organization. Kihara is looking forward to working to bring the resources of RTTC under its first officer commander, moving the resources of ATTC to Redstone Arsenal and building the profile of RTC at Redstone Arsenal.

"Basically, our mission is the qualification of missile, sensor and aircraft subsystems and components, and full system components. That is not changing. What is changing is that we will be integrating two great organizations," said Kihara, who was most recently the commander of the Aviation Applied Technical Directorate at Fort Eustis, Va.

"Missile expertise has been here at Redstone Arsenal for a long time. Aviation testing has been done right at Fort Rucker. We are bringing these two components together in one platform to develop more effective weapon systems, decrease duplicative testing and provide full life cycle test capabilities for not only missiles but also aviation."

The new Redstone Test Center will further position Redstone Arsenal as the Army's leader in missile and aviation systems, and will bring missile, sensor and aviation testing capabilities closer to its customers – the Army Materiel Command, the Aviation and Missile Command, the program executive offices and others, said Byrd, who will be the new organization's technical director.

"This is about the co-location of the research and development community, the program management community and the test community. These are all different aspects in the acquisition of missile and aviation systems," he said. "We are bringing them together at one location so they can work together as a team and that's what Redstone Arsenal is all about."

The Thursday event will actually be three ceremonies in one, said Kelly Helser, director of plans and operations for RTTC.

"It will be the casing of colors for RTTC, the stand up of Redstone Test Center Provisional and the assumption of command by Col. Steven Kihara," he said.

The event will be hosted by Jim Johnson, previously director of RTTC and now the current director of the Developmental Test Command at Aberdeen, Md., which will be the command organization for RTC. Also in attendance will be Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commander of the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, and other high-ranking military officials.

While the 10 a.m. Thursday event is historic for many reasons, the groundbreaking on Friday is the event that will actually raise the profile of RTC on Redstone Arsenal. The event will officially begin the construction of RTC's Rotary Wing Center at the Redstone Airfield and the RTC headquarters on Martin Road. The groundbreaking of the $46.5 million project will be at the airfield next to the Redstone Flying Activity.

See **Testing** *on page* **19**

Test organization builds toward expansion

Building boom provides for growing work force

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@htimes.com

When the Redstone Test Center is officially stood up Thursday, it will inherit a family of top-notch test facilities that will make it a "world-class" organization from day one.

Many of those facilities are currently on the missile and sensor testing side of the organization, thanks to a "building boom" funded almost entirely by the Redstone Technical Test Center, which will be merged with the Aviation Technical Test Center into RTC on Thursday.

"We've been spending about $6 million a year, on average, on RTTC construction projects," said Richard Lewis, the RTTC test facility manager.

"This was a vision of Jim Johnson's (previously director of RTTC and now director of the Developmental Test Command at Aberdeen, Md.). The number one problem at RTTC according to branch chiefs at the time were the old buildings we inherited from the Army Research Development and Engineering Center in the 1950s and '60s. Jim Johnson wanted us to have world-class facilities so that we can provide the best testing in safe conditions while also retaining our work force. He wanted to get buildings built in a timely manner to fulfill our existing mission."

Because 95 percent of RTTC's budget is reimbursed by its customers, the organization has more freedom than other Army organizations to build the facilities it needs to fulfill the mission to provide technical expertise and state-of-the art facilities and capabilities to plan, conduct, analyze and report the results of tests on missile, aviation and sensor systems, subsystems and components.

Many of the new RTTC facilities are administrative buildings built adjacent to or near existing lab facilities.

"Labs are very expensive to build. Office space is less expensive.

See **Expansion** *on page* **19**

Photo by Kari Hawkins

OUT FRONT— RTTC's Richard Lewis oversees the building of new office and lab space for the organization's test engineers. RTTC has built several buildings at Redstone Arsenal since 2005.

■ Redstone Test Center on horizon for community

Testing

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"The new hangar will be on the opposite side of the runway from our existing buildings," Helser said. "It will be a significantly larger hangar than anything we have out there now."

The two-story RTC headquarters will be built on Martin Road in front of the existing RTTC building 4500 and across the street from the new Army Materiel Command headquarters.

"This central location will work well for us," Helser said of the headquarters. "We will not just be missile and sensor testing or aviation testing. We will be an organization involved in a wide variety of testing and this more centralized location will represent that."

Several dignitaries from the Thursday ceremony will also participate in Friday's ground breaking, including Myles and Johnson. Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, whose organization oversees all construction projects on the Arsenal, will also participate.

Both events are a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations.

"It's about providing the right testing at the right time while also decreasing costs and providing a faster turn-around for our customer – the Soldier," Kihara said.

Yet, that doesn't mean the new RTC will not have to address some issues related to the merger. For that reason, the organization is considered "provisional" until October 2010.

"We've had two great organizations in existence for a long time doing a very good job," the colonel said. "We want to make sure we have the right footprint at Redstone Arsenal. We are going to take this year to refine our processes. It's a transitional phase that is a common way for the Army to stand up a command."

Much of the work that will done in the coming year is making sure the right employees are positioned to successfully continue the new organization's mission.

"Our people are the greatest asset we have," Kihara said. "We want to make sure we have the right folks doing the right jobs to maximize our effort. We are working to integrate all the pieces so we have the correct expertise and the mutual support to be effective and successful."

RTTC currently has about 700 employees. ATTC has about 400. They will come together to create a 1,100-member work force by the BRAC-mandated date of Sept. 15, 2011.

"We will be integrating at the same time that we are working our mission for our customers. That's our challenge – we must continue our testing mission while at the same time we are moving and standing up the organization," Kihara said.

The good news, he said, is that many of ATTC employees are looking forward to the move to Redstone Arsenal. About 100 of those employees are already relocated.

"The current polling of our work force at Fort Rucker is that they are very, very excited to come here," Kihara said.

And he said the advance work that's been done by RTTC and ATTC officials to make the move successful has been phenomenal.

■ New organization inherits top-notch test facilities

Expansion

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So, we decided to build administrative buildings that could free up lab space that was being used for office space. We've also built some new lab space to replace antiquated labs and to increase our laboratories," Lewis said.

"It is very critical to our mission that we keep lab space as lab space and that our engineers have the right kind of office space. These buildings are critical to the recruiting and retention of engineers and test support, to the efficiency of our testing, to the footprint RTTC has with its customers, and to the future growth of its testing services and work force."

The building boom includes six buildings in 2006, seven in 2007, eight in 2008 and seven in 2009. New test facility buildings for 2009 included the Climactic Test Engineers Building 7250, Salt Fog Test Chamber Building 7287, E3 Test Engineer Building 8978, E3 Storage Building 8988 and Integrated Aviation Test Bed at RAPTR Building 8554. Construction for the Field Sensors Test Operations and Control Facility was awarded in July.

In addition, several other buildings – a $1.99 million E3 Aviation Instrumentation Facility, a $750,000 Insensitive Munitions Control Blockhouse, a $750,000 ASIC Microelectronic Design Facility, a $440,000 Acoustic Facility Expansion and a $750,000 Shipping and Receiving Building – are scheduled to receive funding before the end of fiscal 2009. There are other buildings – including a $4 million Climatic Conductivity Test Facility — in the planning stages for funding in 2010.

Lewis has worked with nine branches of RTTC to pull together the organization's construction projects. He coordinates each project, from getting it scoped, designed, awarded, funded and under contract to be built. Many buildings are replacing inadequate office and lab space.

"RTTC had a lot of relocateable buildings (trailers). We had over 60,000 square feet of trailers," he said. "My mission was to replace those with permanent buildings that were modern, professional and efficient.

"We still have some trailers, but we hope to replace all of them. We still have a lot of wants and a lot of wish lists. RTTC still has room to make more progress."

Besides office space, new RTTC buildings include break rooms, showers and bathrooms, conference rooms and reception areas.

"The guys working at these test sites really appreciate what we are doing to make their work areas more professional and more efficient," Lewis said.

While most of the buildings add office space, others were built to directly answer customer needs, including the Integrated Aviation Test Bed, Telemetry Tower, the Redstone Aviation Propulsion Test and Research Facility, and the Hydraulic Components Testing Facility.

"We operate these buildings associated with the testing of a specific missile or aviation system," Lewis said.

Many of the buildings are located at remote sites throughout the 14,000 acres that RTTC uses for missile and sensor testing. Some are located in its test areas and near building 4500 on Martin Road.

Lewis said, although much of the building is paid for with RTTC funds, the work could not be done without the assistance of the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works, including its director Joe Davis and employees Keith Cook, Jerry Hinson and Greg Calvert. Lewis worked with project engineers to develop facility plans and then DPW coordinates the architectural plans and oversees construction.

"They are very much part of the success we've had," Lewis said.

Lewis, who will be leaving RTTC at the end of August to take a position with AMCOM G-4 (Logistics), has also worked closely with the Developmental Test Command and the Army Test and Evaluation Command to get approval for construction.

Win or lose

NCO Academy looks to advance in volleyball

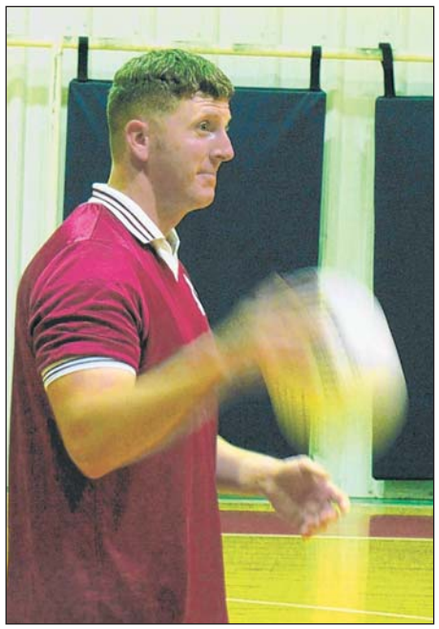

Photo by Skip Vaughn

ACADEMY ACE— The NCO Academy's Brad Dearmon handles the ball before serving an ace against the Marines.

Postseason tournament set to open next week

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

Entering the final week of the season, the NCO Academy volleyball team is focused on a new goal.

And that quest is to capture the postseason tournament.

The Academy gained momentum Aug. 11 by beating the Marines 27-25, 13-25, 15-9 at Pagano Gym.

"Pretty much it was just teamwork," Academy coach Michael Harris said. "I just put the guys in position and they did the rest of it. They got to talking out there and everybody played together."

The Academy improved to 3-4 while the Marines fell to 2-5 and had their two-game winning streak snapped.

"It means a lot," Academy center server Charles George said of the win. "Half our team's leaving because their school's over with. We've just got to keep working. If we don't win the season, our goal is to win the tournament."

Joseph Kimbrough had five kills for the Academy. George, John Butler and Brad Dearmon added three kills apiece.

In the night's other two matches, HHC 59th stayed unbeaten at 7-0 and Bravo advanced to 5-2.

HHC 59th tames Wolfpack: The 59th's Anthony Cardona made five service aces and three kills against Charlie Company on his final night at Redstone.

Cardona, who has finished warrant officer training school and departed the next day, paced the 59th past Charlie 25-9, 18-25, 15-6. The 59th played its reserves in the second game and saw the Wolfpack even the match. It was the 59th's first setback all season.

"We were trying to break the monotony a little bit, give the second string a chance to play," 59th coach Dynetha Childs said.

The 59th's 6-foot-5 outside hitter Cornelius Halliburton had nine kills and an ace. Clarissa Lewis made four assists.

"We just thought about what we were doing wrong (after game two)," Halliburton said. "We capitalized on their mistakes and we came out with the win."

Bravo gets back on track: The Bulldogs snapped their two-game losing streak by beating Headquarters & Alpha 25-14, 25-23.

"We decided to stop playing under pressure and have fun with it," Bravo player/coach Edwin Villamil said. "We always had the skills. We just decided to relax, have fun and win it."

Villamil had three aces, three kills and two assists for the Bulldogs. Shaun Donohue added three aces.

In games Aug. 13, Bravo def. Charlie 20-25, 25-20, 15-10; HHC 59th def. NCO Academy 25-22, 25-18; and Marines def. Headquarters & Alpha 25-21, 25-22.

Standings after week four had HHC 59th (8-0), Bravo (6-2), NCO Academy (3-5), Marines (3-5), Charlie (2-6) and Headquarters & Alpha (2-6).

The regular season will end Thursday night. The postseason tournament is tentatively slated Aug. 24 through Sept. 1.

Courtesy photo

Hoop finalists

The North Alabama Hoopsters 13U girls basketball team placed second Aug. 1 in the Atlanta Dream WNBA Tournament of Champions. Kneeling, from left, are Samaria French (Tanner Middle School), Darriah Johnson (Monrovia Middle), Jasmine Lucas (Athens Middle) and Destiny Bailey (Athens Middle). Standing are coach Felicia Fletcher, Whitney Crowell (Monrovia Middle), Levata Swope (Tanner Middle), Vonelece Richardson (Providence Middle), Aliyah Fletcher, (Tanner Middle), Jasmine Hicks (Athens Middle), Oleightra Nance (Lauderdale County), coach Victoria Lucas and coach Dwayne Shoulders.

Skies the limit for youth education on post

Program offers classes to kids in recreation, music and more

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
kelleylanesivley@att.net

While everyone knows the opportunities the Army offers its Soldiers, civilians and contractors in their careers, they may not realize the opportunities it offers for the children to learn and explore their interests.

The SKIESUnlimited program offers fun and educational classes for Team Redstone's youngest members.

Currently, the Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills Unlimited offers three continual programs. Kids from as young as 3 can take weekly classes in piano, Taekwondo or choose from dance, cheerleading and gymnastics offerings. All classes are taught by instructors who express their enthusiasm for the youngsters.

"I do this because I love it," Taekwondo master Jeffrey Davis said. "Some of these kids came to me at 7 or 8 and now they're getting ready to go off to college. It's fantastic to watch them grow into who they are going to be."

The program began about five years ago as a way for military children to have continuity in extracurricular offerings as they move from post to post over the year.

"We were very excited to see master Davis was still here," Sgt. 1st Class Rick Potter said. "My oldest two and I took classes with him when we were stationed here before. We all got our yellow belts with him. Now, my youngest, Sam, is getting the same experience we had."

These days, however, the Redstone population is becoming a more civilian one. All SKIESUnlimited programs are open to the children of civilians, retirees and contractors. If space allows, the programs will also accept kids without a post affiliation, according to Andre Terry, chief of Child Youth and School Age Services.

"We do have a special provision for those outside the gate, however our priority is for anybody who works within the gates," Terry said. "That's not just Soldiers. It's civilians, contractors and anybody who can get through our gates."

Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

CLASS PRACTICE— The youngest students of SKIESUnlimited's Taekwondo class practice for upcoming belt testing.

All kids attending a program are required to sign up through the central registration office in building 1500. However, Terry said all fees have been waived to do so. Parents just need to fill out the paperwork and supply the necessary documents – such as immunization blue cards and a birth certificate.

Instructional programs have a flat monthly fee. Fees for the courses currently offered range from $35 to $50 monthly, which can be a considerable savings for parents.

"We just want to break even," Terry said. "We're not worried about making a profit, so we are able to do things at a reasonable cost – even if our bottom line is zero."

New course offerings are in the works. Terry said plans are to begin five new programs, the first of which will kick off in the next few months. The rest will be added over the course of this school year. The final addition should begin by fall 2010.

Two more music classes are planned first. One will be a class in the electronic keyboard, exploring its different sound and capabilities. SKIESUnlimited will also be adding guitar lessons to their course list. The classes are designed for beginners and carry an extra incentive for parents – kids are not required to have an instrument. They will be able to use an instrument belonging to the program while they are at class.

"Parents worry about buying instruments when kids are just starting lessons," Terry said. "This is a way for them to see if the child will stick with the lessons without worry about being stuck with an instrument if they don't."

Two languages will be offered through SKIESUnlimited. Kids will be able to learn Spanish or American Sign Language through weekly classes with a language expert.

"We've never had these before," Terry said. "It's coming during this school year."

The last slated addition may also be the biggest. Terry said plans are under way to bring Drivers Education to Redstone.

"It will probably be fall of next year," he said. "We're working on the contracts and legal aspects of it."

For more information on current or upcoming classes, call 976-6674 or visit central registration.

Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

INSTRUCTOR— Taekwondo master Jeffrey Davis kicks up the tempo in his class.

Disaster preparedness sessions planned

Disasters can strike at any time of year. The American Red Cross and Redstone Arsenal want military families to stay safe should disaster strike this area. Having a Disaster Preparedness Kit can save lives and offer basic recovery from a disaster.

In partnership with the Garrison, the American Red Cross is offering two free Disaster Preparedness Sessions on Aug. 27 at Heiser Hall. The Disaster Preparedness Sessions are for active duty personnel and their family members. The first session will begin at 11 a.m. and the second starts at 1 p.m. Each session last around 30-45 minutes.

Free disaster preparedness kits will be given to those attending sessions until quantities run out (one kit per household). The preparedness kits were made available by a sponsored grant.

For more information call the American Red Cross' Shirley Crutcher at 536-0084 ext. 310 or Edd Gancarz at 842-2152. *(American Red Cross release)*

Guardsmen airdrop 10-ton artillery load

Howitzer delivered to troops in remote eastern Afghanistan

By Staff Sgt. J.G. BUZANOWSKI
Army News Service

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — A team of airmen airdropped an M198 artillery piece to an Army unit in the remote eastern part of the country Aug. 8.

The 155mm howitzer weighed just over 10 tons rigged and loaded onto a C-130 Hercules aircraft from the Missouri Air National Guard.

The mission was the first of its kind since U.S. officials announced additional forces would be deployed to Afghanistan in support of current operations.

"Five good chutes, that's all we could ask for," said Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Gifford, a joint airdrop inspector from the New York ANG. "It means the Army loaders did their job right, and we did our job right and everything went according to plan."

Gifford was onboard the C-130 to ensure the enormous cargo pallet would exit the aircraft properly and safely. He and the loadmasters — Missouri Air Guardsmen Staff Sgt. Ed Huff and Master Sgt. Dennis Mowry — loaded the howitzer from one location and airdropped it to the crew waiting below.

"Anything the guys on the ground need to do their job we get to them — beans, bullets and sometimes artillery pieces," said Mowry, a 34-year Air Force veteran. "This was just our way of helping out in the war. Now that the Soldiers have that howitzer, they have something bigger to shoot back with."

The crew of the 36-foot long cannon will have the ability to send high-explosive shells at insurgents threatening the peace and security of the Paktika Province.

Airlift is an essential part of operations in Afghanistan, where the mountainous region can delay or even prevent delivery convoys, said Lt. Col. Dave Koltermann, the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron commander from the New York Air National Guard.

"Airlift gives us the ability to get cargo anywhere on the planet," Koltermann said. "It gets troops off the roads and rather than risking a convoy, we can fly cargo anywhere it needs to go. This was a joint effort by the Army and Air Force... all working seamlessly to help the troops on the ground."

Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Michael B. Keller

SPECIAL DELIVERY— Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Gifford of the New York Air National Guard guides a 10-ton pallet aboard a C-130H Hercules aircraft from the Missouri Air National Guard at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. Gifford and the Total Force aircrew from the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron delivered an M198 howitzer artillery piece to a forward operating base in Afghanistan Aug. 8. The 36-foot long cannon will give troops the ability to send high explosive shells at insurgents threatening the peace and security of the Paktika Province.

Courtesy photo

Hawaii hi-lo

The Utility Helicopter Project Office fields the Army's newest Black Hawk helicopter to the Hawaii National Guard on Hilo, Hawaii by conducting a strategic air load operation at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., in cooperation with a L3 Maintenance Team from Lakehurst, N.J. This operation was conducted in two iterations of Air Force aircraft, one with a C-5 Galaxy and another with the C-17 Globe master.

■ Pat Cross achieved as female in nontraditional jobs

Career

continued from page **6**

It didn't bother Cross that she was often working in areas where women hardly went.

"I would go aboard ships to get supply documents signed at a time when women weren't allowed on anything but the tug boats," she said. "I once had to be a bus driver for members of the Chinese Navy at a time when women in China were not allowed to drive. When I sat in the driver's seat, the entire bus got quiet. I had to drive them across a bridge that spanned 60 feet up in the air. They thought I was going to kill them.

"I was working for the government at a time when they were allowing women to apply for jobs that were up to then only open to men."

In 1985, with no job guaranteed, Cross and her husband moved with their two children to Fayetteville, where they had relatives. In 1986, Cross became a lead procurement clerk at Redstone Arsenal. During the next 10 years, she worked as a claims clerk in the Legal Department, and also worked jobs as a secretary and housing inspector.

After moving to the Tennessee Valley, Cross had a third child. But she soon resumed her career with DoD.

"Civil service is a wonderful place for a mother to work, especially a young mother, because the government benefits of sick time and leave time make it easier," she said.

About five years ago, Cross transferred to the PEO Aviation, where she has worked as an administrative assistant.

"I have loved working for PEO Aviation. The people are wonderful and they are the best at what they do," she said. "My most rewarding job was as an administrative assistant for Kiowa because of the people and the teamwork."

Cross is retiring with several awards and accolades she's earned in her years of working in non-traditional jobs. But it's the people that she will remember the most.

"The people are what I cherish the most from my career," she said. "I have made some outstanding friendships over the years that will stand the test of time."

Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

Ordnance honor

Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, the 35th chief of Ordnance and commander of the Army Ordnance Center and Schools, presents the Ordnance Order of Samuel Sharpe award to Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Moses during Moses' promotion ceremony Aug. 13. Moses, Munitions Training Department sergeant major, also received the Meritorious Service Medal.

Depot workers empower electrical systems

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — The Electrical Fabrication Support Branch's 45 employees support the war fighter by fabricating a multitude of electrical power assets.

The shop is in the final stages of a self-initiated Lean process renovation, which will improve efficiency and protect the team from injury. The branch is part of the Systems Integration and Support Directorate's Electronic Services Division.

Branch employees fabricate power assets for programs such as AN/TPQ-36 and 37 Firefinder, Satellite Communications, Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System, power distribution illumination system (electrical), and AN/ASM-146, 147, 189 and 190 shelters. Some of the products the team produces include power distribution boxes, generator control boxes, Rack 100s and power cables. The team also travels around the globe to support several missions. *(Tobyhanna release)*

Photo by Steve Grzezdzinski

CABLE HOOKUP— Mike Mariani, left, and Joe Gerrity perform electrical tests on 100 amp power distribution illumination system electrical cables. Mariani and Gerrity are electricians assigned to the Electrical Fabrication Support Branch at Tobyhanna Army Depot.

New weapon system boosts Soldiers' safety

By Staff Sgt. MARCOS ALICES
Special to American Forces Press Service

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – As U.S. forces fight insurgents in the southern and eastern regions of Afghanistan, officials are working to protect them with new technology, equipment and vehicles.

One of the newest tools in their arsenal is the common remotely operated weapon station II, known as CROWS II, which enables Soldiers to acquire and engage targets from the safety of their armored vehicle.

"It will save lives with the Soldier being able operate the weapon while staying in the vehicle," said Master Sgt. David Fyock, an electronic warfare officer and counter improvised explosive device noncommissioned officer for Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan.

The weapon system uses improved optics to help with the positive identification of targets, and offers another method for finding homemade bombs, he said. In addition, the CROWS' three-axis, stabilized mount contains a sensor suite and fire-control software, enabling Soldiers to engage targets while on the move. The sensor suite makes it possible to identify, engage and defeat targets under any condition with its daytime video camera, thermal camera and laser rangefinders.

"The controls of the CROWS II are a little bit easier for Soldiers to learn," said Samuel Cottrell, a CROWS II training specialist from Rosedale, Ind. "It has a few more bells and whistles that CROWS I didn't have."

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Marcos Alices serves in the Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan public affairs office.

Photo by Spc. Elisebet Freeburg

LOCKED AND LOADED— Soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division's 5th Brigade, Stryker Brigade Combat Team, equip their common remotely operated weapon station II with an M2 .50-caliber machine gun during training.

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Redstone 10K
FMWR Sports and Fitness, Fleet Feet and AUSA present the Redstone 10K Run on Sept. 26 at 7 a.m. at the Sparkman Center building 5302 parking lot. The $10 registration fee includes a T-shirt when registered by the Sept. 16 deadline. Late registration of $15 is available to those who have access to Redstone Arsenal. Each participant will receive a $5 gift certificate to Fleet Feet. Registration is available at Pagano Gym (phone 876-6701), Redstone Fitness Center or the Sparkman Fitness Center. Off-post registration is at Fleet Feet Sports, 2722 Carl T. Jones, Suite 2B (Bailey Cove Shopping Center), phone 650-7063. For information visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Fitness centers
The Wellness Center is closed until March for renovation/expansion. 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.

Benefit tournament
Booz Allen Hamilton announces the fifth annual Booz Allen/EarlyWorks charity golf tournament Aug. 28 with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. All proceeds from this four-person scramble tournament are used to better serve area students at the EarlyWorks Museum Complex. For information or to sign up, call Chris Parsons 426-9577 or visit www.earlyworksgolf.com.

AER fund-raiser tourney
A fall four-person golf scramble, to benefit Army Emergency Relief, will be held Sept. 10 at 8 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. Presented by PM Aviation Systems, the tournament cost is $50 for non-annual fee patrons and $35 for annual fee patrons. For more information, call Edye Smith 955-0761 or Colbert Gautreaux 876-4953.

Babe Ruth baseball
The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the fall season Aug. 22 and 29 from 9 a.m. to noon; and players ages 13 to 18 as of May 1, 2010 are invited. Players age 12 are eligible to sign up as well under the "local swing player" option. Registration forms will be accepted after Aug. 29 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of the players' birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Call one of the following park representatives for registration locations and the park where the player is zoned to play: Northern Division, Mastin Lake Park, Emile Jones 990-5902; Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison 544-3180; and Eastern Division, Optimist Park, T. Poe 527-8763.

Honor Flight classic
Honor Flight, Tennessee Valley announces its "Fall Benefit Golf Classic" on Sept. 4 at the Links at Redstone. All proceeds will go to funding future WWII veteran trips to visit their memorial in Washington, D.C. A registration and sponsor information form is available for download on the Honor Flight website www.honorflight.net. Additional sponsor opportunities (breakfast and lunch) are still available. For more information, call Nick Leone 883-9086 or 655-4352.

Photo by Spc. Ryan Stroud

Water aerobics

Soldiers from HHC 59th enjoy an early morning physical training session in water aerobics at the pool Aug. 11. These Soldiers will continue the water workout every Tuesday morning through the remainder of the summer.

Punt, pass and kick
The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter of Alabama A&M University Alumni Association is hosting the third annual NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick competition, sponsored by the Tennessee Titans, at 10 a.m. Sept. 19 at Louis Crews Stadium on the campus of Alabama A&M. This is open to all male and female youth age 8-15 in the Huntsville/Madison/Monrovia and Tennessee Valley area. For more information, call C. Lamar Sterns 722-8093 or 679-8961.

Roller derby
The Dixie Derby Girls will have their season finale Aug. 29 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m.; and the doubleheader games are at 7 and 8. The first 50 people with military ID cards will get in free. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 at the door; and children 12 and under are admitted free. Visit www.dixiederbygirls.com.

Bowling benefit
The 24th annual Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon is Aug. 22-23 at all five local bowling centers (Madison Bowling Center, AMF Parkway Lanes, AMF Pin Palace Lanes, Plamor Lanes and Redstone Lanes). This event is one of JA's largest fund-raisers and is expected to attract approximately 1,000 bowlers this year. Directv is this year's title sponsor. If your company wants to get involved in Bowl-A-Thon or for more information, call the JA office 533-4661 or e-mail at nharagan@janaonline.org.

Speedway nights
Military Appreciation Nights at the Huntsville Speedway include Sept. 12. Active duty, reserved and retired military will be admitted free. For more information, visit www.huntsvillespeedway.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

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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. and 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.

APBI conference

The Aviation and Missile Command 2009 Advance Planning Briefings for Industry is Aug. 26-27 at the Von Braun Center, East Halls 1 and 2. The theme for this year's conference is "Supporting the Warfighter — Collaborating to Achieve Enterprise Success." The conference will provide information on the Army's aviation and missile technology efforts, requirements and potential contract opportunities. To review conference information and register, visit the following website: www.apbi.redstone.army.mil/apbi. For more information, call event manager Cheryl Wise 842-9967 or e-mail redstone-apbi@conus.army.mil.

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.

Kansas club

The Kansas Club will have a breakfast buffet social at 8:30 a.m. Aug. 29 at Lofton's in the Holiday Inn Select at 401 Williams Ave. Newcomers are welcome. "The Kansas Club is a friendly, social group consisting of people with Kansas connections and those who like to socialize with those with a Kansas connection," a prepared release said. A short meeting will be held after breakfast to discuss the Kansas Day Dinner in January 2010.

Fleet Reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For information call Bill Marriott 974-3763 or Rae Smith 348-7025.

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.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter, Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting at 11 a.m. Aug. 26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Guest speaker is Mike Burden, Army Emergency Relief officer. The

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Photo by Pamela Muery

Raven demo

Army Aviation Captains Career Course students from Fort Rucker observe a demonstration of the Raven small unmanned aircraft system during a visit July 31 to Redstone Arsenal. The Army UAS Project Office is headquartered at Redstone; and Fort Rucker is home to the Army Aviation Center of Excellence.

chapter's monthly breakfast is Saturday at 8 a.m. at the Madison Square Holiday Inn. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited.

Suicide prevention

Maj. Gen. Mark Graham will bring his message of suicide prevention to Redstone Arsenal on Sept. 10 during Suicide Prevention Month. The general officer, who is commander of Division West and Fort Carson, Colo., lost a son to suicide and another son to a roadside bomb in Iraq. He will speak about his family's experience during two sessions – one at 11 a.m. in Heiser Hall and the other at 1 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Garrison's Employee Assistance Program. All Soldiers, DoD civilians, contractors and retirees, as well as family members are invited to either session.

Federal update

AFGE Local 1858 will hold a Washington Update for Federal Employees from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 2 at the Holiday Inn, Madison Square Mall. Attendees will hear the latest information on legislative actions affecting federal employment. U.S. Rep. Parker Griffith is the scheduled speaker. Heavy hors d'oeuvres/appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. Attendance is open to all federal employees.

Management association

The National Contract Management Association-Huntsville Chapter invites the members of the North Alabama Chapter, Federal Bar Association to its August meeting. Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle will address the NCMA-Huntsville Chapter on Aug. 26 at the Huntsville Marriott. The cost is $25 and registration will begin at 11 a.m. Full details and registration information are available at the NCMA-Huntsville website www.ncmahsv.org. The contact is Patricia Vail 313-4182.

Simulation conference

The Huntsville Simulation Conference, sponsored by the Society for Modeling and Simulation International and hosted by the Alabama Modeling and Simulation Council, is Oct. 28-29 at the Huntsville Marriott, Five Tranquility Base, with a classified segment Oct. 27 at the Advanced Research Center. For information visit the website www.scs.org/hsc.

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 313-9753. 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. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 8721 Madison Boulevard in Madison. For information call Margrit Carr 313-1952.

Engineer society

Huntsville Post Society of American Military Engineers meets Thursday for lunch at the Officers and Civilians Club. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and the cost is $11. For reservations call Dan Foran of Shearer and Associates 830-1031, ext. 130; e-mail dforan@shearerassociates.us and indicate if unfamiliar with Redstone Arsenal. The spotlight speaker is Robin Futch of Brown and Caldwell. The keynote speaker is Holly Ralston McClain, director of communications for HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology. Her topic is "Bio-Engineering and Biofuels."

Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will have its monthly outreach luncheon Aug. 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Jill McGahan of St. Simons Island, Ga., will share her humorous story of "Going Full Circle the Hard Way." Cost is $15. Call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339 by Thursday.

Civil War round table

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. southeast. Terry Winschel, an award winning author and the Vicksburg, Miss., National Military Park historian, will discuss the Vicksburg campaign. Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet will be available at 5:30 p.m. for $7.95. For more information, call 890-0890.

AFAP conference

The Team Redstone 21st Army Family Action Plan Conference is Oct. 27-28 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. "This is an opportunity to make suggestions or express concerns about programs, services or benefits affecting the total Army family, to include active duty Soldiers, retirees, National Guard, reservists, family members and civilians," a prepared release said. To register as a conference delegate or submit an issue or concern visit www.redstonemwr.com or call Army Community Service 876-5397.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer User Group will meet at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave., on Sept. 12 starting at 9:15 a.m. with the Windows/Internet Special Interest Group with Kevin Wangbickler, a past HPCUG president, presenting a topic of general interest. At 10:45 there will be a short business meeting followed by a program on "Learn the power of Facebook and why you should join in on the fun." Curtis Coghlan, the managing editor of *The Huntsville Times*, will introduce you to the social networking site and show you how easy it is to get connected with old and new friends. Coghlan will also discuss Twitter and its many uses and benefits.

Space society

HAL5 (the local National Space Society Chapter) presents "Fly to the Moon, Rocket to Space" as Seth Eden Hollingsworth gives a free public demonstration of his free simulator software Sept. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library auditorium, 915 Monroe St. A social will follow the meeting. More information is available at www.HAL5.org or HAL5.Help@gmail.com.

Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/or telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9435 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 Nicole Massey 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

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Courtesy photo

Congressman visits

U.S. Rep. Parker Griffith spoke to the Defense Acquisition University-South Senior Service College Fellows on Aug. 7. Griffith discussed leadership strategies, Defense Department budget cuts and public service. From left are Steve Stegman, Mary Ottman, Janet Fletcher, April Miller, Griffith, David Browning, Christina Ridgeway, Wayne Leonard, Edgar Dalrymple and Jeff Helms.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS
REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF 13 AUG 09	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING DATE	ORGANIZATION LOCATION	PAY PLAN & SERIES	GRADE LEVEL	POT GRD	PAY RANGE (FROM - TO)	WHO CAN APPLY? A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																			
SCBK09656979	IT Spec (APPSW)	19-Aug-09	LOGSA	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128		X										
SCBK09644894	IT Spec (APPSW)	19-Aug-09	AMCOM, TMDE	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X	X										
SCNAFBK0970	Physical Fitness Spec (Aerobics)	19-Aug-09	Community Rec Div	NF-0188	3	3	22,440 - 30,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09662773	IT Spec (INET)	20-Aug-09	LOGSA	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128		X										
SCBK09675473	Secretary (Steno/OA)	20-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DK-0318	4	4	47,280 - 67,685	X											
SCBK09525410	Logistics Mgmt Spec	20-Aug-09	Lead AMC Integration Spt Ofc	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993		X						X	X		X	
SCNAFBK0971	Laborer	20-Aug-09	Business Opers Div	NA-3502	3	3	8.65 - 8.65	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09644267	Supply Sys Analyst	21-Aug-09	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	68,564 - 89,128		X										
SCBK09611136	Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Aug-09	SAMD	GS-0346	12	13	68,564 - 105,993		X						X			X	
SCBK09554798	Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Aug-09	SAMD	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993		X						X			X	
SCBK09593574	Enterprise Architecture Analyst	21-Aug-09	Lead AMC Integration Spt Ofc	GS-0301	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X	X										
SCBK09619165	Project Mgmt Spec	21-Aug-09	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	GS-0301	14	14	96,346 - 125,254				X				X	X		X	
SCBK09676928	Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Aug-09	LOGSA	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09684456	General Engineer	21-Aug-09	USADTC	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913		X										
SCBK09681812	Budget Analyst	21-Aug-09	SMDC	GS-0560	13	13	81,532 - 105,993				X								
SCBK09638542	Training Instructor	21-Aug-09	MEDDAC	GS-1712	11	11	57,204 - 74,360				X				X	X		X	
SCBK09625353	Lead General Engr	24-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332		X						X	X		X	
SCBK09626053	Congressional Affairs Spec	24-Aug-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0301	11	12	57,204 - 89,128		X										
SCBK09644578	Mechanical Engr	24-Aug-09	AMCOM, TMDE	GS-0830	13	13	81,532 - 105,993					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09659401	Electronics Engr	24-Aug-09	USAASC	YD-0855	3	3	96,346 - 147,332				X				X				
SCBK09417727	Program Analyst	24-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DE-0343	4	4	81,532 - 125,254	X											
SCBK09463157R	Aerospace Engr	25-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	68,564 - 105,993					X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK09591097	Lead Quality Assurance Spec (Govt Flight Rep)	25-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DE-1910	4	4	81,532 - 125,254		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK09656803	Mgmt Asst	25-Aug-09	IMMC	GS-0344	7	7	38,653 - 50,249		X										
SCBK09662046	Logistics Mgmt Spec	25-Aug-09	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993		X										
SCBK09612055	Supv Info Sys Mgmt Spec	26-Aug-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	YC-0301	2	2	67,129 - 131,518		X										
SCBK09646466	Lead Data Mgmt Spec	26-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DE-0301	4	4	81,532 - 125,254		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	
SCBK09512739	Human Resources Asst (OA)	26-Aug-09	SMDC	GS-0203	6	7	34,782 - 50,249		X										
SCBK09672410	Computer Engr	26-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	3	3	68,564 - 105,993					X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK09689934	Program Analyst	26-Aug-09	PEO AVN	NH-0343	3	3	68,564 - 105,993		X						X				
SCBK09667990	Admin Supt Asst (OA)	26-Aug-09	AMCOM, CIO/G6 (Info Mgmt)	GS-0303	6	7	34,782 - 50,249					X			X	X			
SCBK09655051	Supv Prgm Mngr	26-Aug-09	USAASC	YA-0340	3	3	96,346 - 147,332	X											
SCBK09677198	Data Spec	26-Aug-09	LOGSA	GS-0301	13	13	81,532 - 105,993					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09650765	Computer Engr	27-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	3	3	68,564 - 105,993					X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK09611467	Housing Mgmt Spec	27-Aug-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-1173	7	9	38,653 - 61,464		X										
SCBK09490493R	Supv Firefighter (Deputy Chief)	27-Aug-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	YN-0081	2	2	58,141 - 113,908		X										
SCBK09600648	Architect	28-Aug-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0808	2	2	57,204 - 105,993			X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
SCBK09669181	Logistics Mgmt Spec	28-Aug-09	SAMD	GS-0346	11	12	57,204 - 89,128		X						X			X	
SCBK09644623	Supv Logistics Mgmt Spec	28-Aug-09	SAMD	YC-0346	2	2	58,141 - 113,908		X						X			X	
SCNAFBK0920	Lead Lifeguard	31-Aug-09	Swimming Pools, Outdoor Rec	NF-0189	2	2	7.99 - 14.59	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCNAFBK0919	Lifeguard	31-Aug-09	Rec Serv Div	NF-0189	1	1	6.55 - 11.41	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09CRP80002	Civil Engr, Environmental Engr, Landscape Architect, Chemical Engr, Elect Engr, Mech Engr	31-Aug-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0810,0819, 0807,0808, 0893,0850, 0830	2	2	46,291 - 105,993				X	X		X	X	X		X	
SCBK09635641	IT Spec (INFOSEC)	1-Sep-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09642652	Contract Spec (Proc Analyst)	3-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-1102	3	3	96,346 - 131,517		X										
SCBK09642643	Contract Spec (Proc Analyst)	3-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-1102	3	3	96,346 - 131,517		X										
SCBK09642662	Supv Contract Spec	3-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YC-1102	3	3	96,346 - 147,332					X			X			X	
SCBK09642670	Supv Contract Spec	3-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YC-1102	3	3	96,346 - 147,332					X			X			X	
SCBK09627813	Electrical Engr	4-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0850	3	3	90,473 - 154,699				X	X			X	X		X	
SCBK09625353	Lead General Engr	4-Sep-09	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332		X						X	X		X	
SCBK09579291	Computer Engr	4-Sep-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	96,346 - 147,332		X										
SCBK09587753	Computer Engr	4-Sep-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	96,346 - 147,332		X										
SCBK09582079	Engineering Tech	7-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YE-0802	3	3	48,509 - 77,194				X		X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK09640377	Lead General Engr	8-Sep-09	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332		X						X	X		X	
SCBK09611232	General Engr	14-Sep-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0801	13	13	81,532 - 105,993					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567					X			X			X	
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU/EHA ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL AND AT WWW.USAJOBS.OPM.GOV																			
SCBK09676928	Logistics Mgmt Spec	21-Aug-09	LOGSA	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128					X			X	X		X	
SCBK09457856OC	IT Spec (PlcyPln)	24-Aug-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128		X										
SCBK09YA110202OC	Contract Spec	24-Aug-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-1102	2	2	57,204 - 105,993				X	X			X	X		X	
SCBK09659401D	Electronics Engr	24-Aug-09	USAASC	YD-0855	3	3	96,346 - 147,332	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09463157D1	Aerospace Engr	25-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	68,564 - 105,993	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09591097D	Lead Quality Assurance Spec (Govt Flight Rep)	25-Aug-09	AMRDEC	DE-1910	4	4	81,532 - 125,254	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09669688E	Operations Research Analyst	26-Aug-09	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	GS-1515	13	13	81,532 - 105,993								X				X
SCBK09600648D	Architect	28-Aug-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0808	2	2	57,204 - 105,993	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09627813D	Electrical Engr	4-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0850	3	3	90,473 - 154,699	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK09582079D	Engineering Tech	7-Sep-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YE-0802	3	3	48,509 - 77,194	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08041001OC	Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-1102	13	13	78,390 - 101,913			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK08041011OC	Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-1102	12	12	65,921 - 85,701			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK08041018OC	Supv Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	YA-1102	3	3	87,998 - 148,740			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
SCBK09YA110202OC	Contract Spec	9-Oct-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-1102	2	2	57,204 - 105,993				X	X			X	X		X	
SCBK09408461OC	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567					X			X			X	
SCBK09416326OC	Firefighters (HazMat Tech/Basic Life Spt)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0081	7	7	38,653 - 50,249		X	X		X			X			X	
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567			X					X	X		X	
SCBK09419080OC	Police Ofcr	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215		X	X		X			X			X	
SCBK09457856OC	IT Spec (PlcyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128		X										

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

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

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

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at **www.redstonemwr.com** or you may telephone **876-7772**.

Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee,. Visit **www.amccareers.com** or **www.cpol.army.mil**, search for **Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647**, for more information.

Rocket Announcements

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

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 courses offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space-available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. To enroll in motorcycle training, e-mail MSF rider coach Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net. The Garrison Safety contact is Keith Coates at 876-3383 or keith.coates@us.army.mil.

Reserve unit
If you have several years invested in your military career, you do not want conflicts between Reserve duty and civilian life to keep you from earning 20 qualifying years. The 184th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment affords you the opportunity to drill for retirement points on Tuesday evenings. You still earn pay and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit the web site http://imad.redstone.army.mil/.

Officer candidates
The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an Army officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the active Army and the Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

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.

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.

Customer service survey
All Redstone personnel are encouraged to provide input and feedback on customer service issues to installation customer service officer Steve McFadden. Personnel may submit their issues via e-mail to rsacms@conus.army.mil,and include the following information: issue, date, who the issue affects (Soldiers, family members, civilians, retirees, veterans), recommendation, point of contact name and number (optional). For questions or more information, call McFadden 876-3294 or e-mail steven.ray.mcfadden@us.army.mil.

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 Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 15. For more information, call Jessica Merritt of Wireglass Hospice 519-8808.

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.

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 or visit the workshop website http://smapcenter.uah.edu/SMAPCENTER/Conferences/RENM09/.

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 Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom. The fourth Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is 1 p.m. Sept. 22 at Bob Jones Auditorium. 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.

IMMC picnic
The AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center will hold its Fall River Bash on Sept. 3 at 8:30 a.m. at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. The rain date is Sept. 16. All IMMC employees, including retirees and matrix personnel, are invited. Tickets are $8 for adults, $3 for children. This includes hamburger or hot dog, chips, drinks and ice cream. Attendees should bring lawn chairs, blankets, boom boxes, radios and mosquito repellent. There will be bingo, DJ with entertainment, softball, tug-of-war, horseshoes and other events. For more information, call chairpersons Jan Pickard 842-6625 or Michele Farris 842-2668.

Quarterly retirement ceremony
The next Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is Sept. 24 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are required to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. Call Sgt. 1st Class James Nicholson 842-3034 or 876-7969 to make arrangements for participation. Deadline for signing up to participate is Aug. 28. A retirement ceremony is also scheduled Dec. 10. "Please make special note of the following: While it may be appropriate to notify your chain of command that you plan to participate in this retirement ceremony, you must notify HHC Garrison (Sgt. 1st Class Nicholson) as indicated above (by the stated deadline) in order to participate in this event," a prepared release said.

Butler High reunion
Butler High School Class of '79 is planning its 30-year class reunion for Oct. 10 at the Westin Hotel at Bridge Street. The cost is $60 per person. For registration information, sign up on Classmates.com on the Butler Class of '79 Events page or Facebook — Butler Class of 1979 group page. The contact is Charlotte Dombrowski 564-9836.

Thrift shop
"Cleaning house? Moving? Don't forget, we take donations, too," the Thrift Shop said in a prepared release. "We are a 501(3C) not-for-profit organization and profits go directly to our community." Shop, consign and donate at building 3209 on Hercules Road. The Thrift Shop is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 9-5 Thursday and from 10-2 the first Saturday of each month.

Health fair
"Fall Family Healthfair" will be held Aug. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the campus of Mayfair Church of Christ. This free event is open to the public. "Come enjoy the best Huntsville has to offer in great health," a prepared release said. "Door prizes, discounts and other goodies will be provided by quality area healthcare providers." The health fair is sponsored by James C. Briggs. For more information, call 881-1575.

Labor Day closing
Fox Army Health Center will be closed Monday, Sept. 7 for Labor Day. On Tuesday, Sept. 8 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 noon. The Central Appointments 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 the first Thursday afternoon of every month, Saturday, Sunday 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.

Divisions on move
To better serve their customers, some divisions within the Garrison are moving from building 4488 on Martin Road to building 3215 on Hercules. The following divisions are included in the move: Supply, Maintenance and Transportation (Personal Property/Passports). This move is anticipated by the end of August, according to a Garrison release.

OCWC welcome
The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is hosting a Newcomers Welcome Coffee at the home of Alice Myles, 1 Cribbins Court, on Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. to noon. "Whether you are new to Redstone Arsenal and the surrounding community or simply interested in learning more about OCWC, please join us as we welcome you," a prepared release said. RSVP by Aug. 21 to Suzanne O'Donell 325-3363 or Linda Hannah 325-2662. Casual attire is appropriate. OCWC membership is open to all of the following: spouses of

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active duty, reserve, National Guard, and retired officers of the armed forces; officers of the armed forces; spouses living in the vicinity of Redstone Arsenal, whose husbands/wives are on active duty elsewhere as officers of the armed forces; retired officers of the armed forces; widows/widowers, and ex-spouses, who hold a valid ID card, of any armed forces officers who are living in the vicinity of Redstone Arsenal; spouses of officers of the armed forces of other nations when they are assigned to Redstone Arsenal; adult members of an active duty, retired, reserve or National Guard officers' family, other than the spouse; active or retired employees or spouses of active, retired or deceased federal government employees grade GS-9 and above and Non-Appropriated Fund equivalent. The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is a private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Post Office move

The U.S. Post Office, building 3648, is moving to newly-renovated building 3710 on Aug. 31. Directional signs will be posted to send customers from the old building on Elmwood Road to the new facility, building 3710 which is off Patton and Aerobee roads behind the Redstone Fitness Center. A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new site is Sept. 9 at 1:30 p.m. Hours at the new facility will remain 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anyone with questions about the move can call installation mail manager Donald Battise 842-8051 or Marcus Adams, contract supervisor of the mail and distribution center, 876-1382.

Older drivers

AARP Driver Safety Program, a driver improvement course designed for older motorists, will be held Sept. 22-23 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at Hospice Family Care Inc., 3304 Westmill Drive (near Milton Frank Stadium). This eight-hour course will be taught in two four-hour sessions. There are no tests. Tuition is $12 for AARP members and $14 for non-members. Graduates may be eligible to receive a multi-year discount on their auto insurance premiums. Class size is limited to 30 participants. For information and registration, call AARP certified instructor, Vince Guarin 880-6928.

Women's retreat

The Society of Professional Women will host a Women's Day Retreat on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Alabama Rehabilitation Services community room, 3000 Johnson Road southwest. Featured guest speaker Dr. Claudette Owens will address wholeness and life-balance for the professional woman. Guests will learn about the benefits of being a part of SOPW, preview business exhibits, and see a fashion show by Huntsville conceptual fashion designer LeJeune. The cost is $15, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For exhibit or ticket information, call Vivienne Talbert 852-5592.

Artsy open house

FMWR's Arts and Crafts Center will hold an open house Aug. 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be food, demonstrations, displays and give-a-ways. In addition, visitors will get to view the entries and winners in the local level of the annual Army Art Contest. Redstone Arsenal had the highest level of art contest entries in the Army.

Charity benefit

SAMD is holding a Charity Benefit in support of the Liz Hurley Breast Cancer Fund at Huntsville Hospital Foundation. Enjoy an evening of dinner and dancing Oct. 16 at the Holiday Inn downtown. For more information, call Liz Preston 313-6825 or 683-7574 or Gena Scofield 313-1162.

Theatre league tickets

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring discounted season tickets for the Broadway Theatre League's 2009-10 season. The shows this season include "Mamma Mia!" Nov. 20-22; "The Drowsy Chaperone," Jan. 8-10; "A Chorus Line," Feb. 12-14; "The Wizard of Oz," March 5-7; and "The Color Purple," April 30 through May 1-2. CWFC season ticket prices as follows reflect the 10 percent savings from standard Broadway Theatre League costs: orchestra, $247.50; orchestra 2, $243; orchestra 3 and loge, $189; and balcony, $112.50. CWFC also offers the 10 percent discount for tickets to three additional season specials: "Broadway Bash: Our 50th Anniversary Special with Patty Lupone and Mandy Patinkin," Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.; "Circo Comedia," March 9 at 6:30 p.m.; and Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center, March 25 at 7 p.m. Prices for these show vary according to seat location. The deadline to order CWFC discounted tickets is Aug. 27. Send your name and daytime phone number to charles.urban@conus.army.mil. For more information, visit the Broadway Theatre League website www.broadwaythreatreleague.org.

Fort Riley families

Family members of the Transition Team Mission from Fort Riley, Kan., are invited to meet and greet the 1 BCT Rear Detachment who will be here at Redstone Arsenal on Friday at 6:30 p.m. at ChildWise, building 1413 on Nike Street. Attendees will meet Capt. Craig W. Petrick, Rear D commander; Sara Mays, family readiness support assistant; and Sgt. William Streams, SFSD NCO-in-charge. "This will be an opportunity to learn more about the Transition Team mission, as well as communicate with other spouses or family members that are in our positions," a prepared release said. "It's also a good time to share stories or helpful hints that make enduring the deployment easier."

Logistics award nominees

Nominations for the 2009 Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award are now being accepted for deserving individuals (civilian or military) assigned to Team Redstone who have made significant contributions to the logistics community and whose leadership and expertise have made a major, positive impact on the Army's logistics program. The 2009 "Ernie" format will include two awards – the Management/Executive Award for GS/GM-13s and above (or military equivalents), and the Professional/Technical Award for GS/GM-13s and below (or military equivalents). Eligible candidates for the award include all Team Redstone personnel (government or military) who contribute to the logistics mission at Aviation and Missile Command. The award winners are selected by a voting panel comprised of management and non-management members from the Integrated Materiel Management Center directorates and other AMCOM/Team Redstone organizations depending on the nominations received. Nomination packages must have a cover memorandum signed by the nominee's director or deputy director to ensure that the nominee's management officials are aware of the nomination. The cover memorandum will also serve as an endorsement. Nominations should be submitted by Sept. 4 to Barbara A. Harris of the Integrated Materiel Management Center, call 876-3805 or e-mail barbara.a.harris@us.army.mil.

Garrison day

The Garrison will hold an Organization Day on Sept. 1 at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson recreation area. Lunch tickets are being sold through Aug. 20 for $10 each. Activities will include volleyball, a two-mile Volksmarch, Bingo, Texas Hold 'em tournament and a kickball match between the directors and the employees. For tickets call one of the following: Chaplain's Office, Staff Sgt. Simmons 842-2176; Command Group, Sarah Brazzel 313-0546; DES, Theodore Tyson 876-0796; DHR, Diane Corlew 313-1041; DOIM, Jack Padley 876-1747; DOL, Connie Elfrink 876-3067; DPTMS, Linda Cook 876-8588; DPW, Sal Riccardi 876-0307; EEO, Jackie Williams 876-9223; FMWR, Christal Howard 876-2073 and Tracy Helmick 876-2021; HHC, Sgt. 1st Class Nicholson 842-3034; PAI, Angela French 313-0626; PAO, Sofia Bledsoe 842-9828; RM, Gwenda Hall 876-2975; and Safety Office, Rusty Brands 876-3114.

Car wash benefit

The Professional Housing Management Agency Gulf Coast Chapter 18 will hold a Wounded Warrior Fund car wash Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Redstone Communities, 302 Hughes Drive on Redstone Arsenal. PHMA Gulf Coast Chapter 18 is accepting donations for all car washes, barbecue hot dogs and hamburgers plus a side dish. "Please come out and support our troops with a donation," a prepared release said.

Women engineers

In order to encourage young women to get involved in engineering and technology, the Society of Women Engineers has unveiled a new program called "Wow! That's Engineering!" A free event for girls ages 12-14 will be held Sept. 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. "Experience the creativity and innovation of engineering and technology with fun hands-on activities like CSI Huntsville, Need for Speed Rocket Car, and SWE's Next Top Cosmetic Designer," a prepared release said. "Come meet women engineers, scientists and technologists and hear firsthand about these exciting careers." Register by Sept. 11 at 5 p.m. at www.swe.org/nalwow. The contact is Shayla Bennett at swewow2009@hotmail.com.

Youth science

Teachers, parents and caregivers of preschool children will have two opportunities to participate in Sid the Science Kid workshops for free at Sci-Quest, Hands-on Science Center on Aug. 25 and 26. Sci-Quest will offer this hands-on workshop at two different times to accommodate the needs of educators and working families. The Sid the Science Kid workshops will be held Aug. 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to noon, both at Sci-Quest. Attendance to the workshops is free, but attendees must register in advance. To register, call Megan Wilson 837-0606, ext. 276 or e-mail mwilson@sci-quest.org.

A&M dinner theatre

The Huntsville Madison County Chapter of Alabama A&M University Alumni Association Inc. is sponsoring its third Dinner and Theatre fund-raiser Aug. 29 at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Research Park, Grand Ballroom, Madison Square Mall location. Honorees will be Dr. R. D. Morrison, president emeritus, and Dan Tibbs, retired Madison County educator, for their continuous dedication and support of Alabama A&M University. "We hope you will join us in keeping the legacy of our founder William Hooper Councill alive through this fundraising event," a prepared release said. Attire will be semiformal. For more information, call Pam Thompson 851-9572 or Ann Dickerson 859-1244.

Military family day

The American Red Cross will hold Military Family Day on Aug. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Max Luther Community Center, 207 Max Luther Drive. All military families are invited. "Carnival style games and food will be provided for the entire family," a prepared release said. "Throughout the day, families will be given the opportunity to honor their Soldier by creating postcards to send to their Soldier." For more information, call emergency services coordinator Tasma Ball 536-0084, ext. 310.

Record sale

WLRH Public Radio (89.3 FM) announces the return of the WLRH Great Record Sale on Sept. 18-20 at its studios on John Wright Drive on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. Times are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 18-19 and 1-5 p.m. Sept. 20. "Literally thousands of LPs and CDs of every variety will be available in the WLRH large studio," a prepared release said. "Classical, jazz, blues, pop, rock, gospel – you name it, and you'll likely find your vinyl treasures (heart's desire)." Record collections/donations are being accepted through Sept. 16. "Vinyl LPs and CDs only – please no cassettes, 78s or 8-track tapes," the release added.