

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 58 No. 58

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

November 18, 2009

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Sense of hope, sense of honor

Semper Fi dose of appreciation helps wounded warriors heal

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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First impressions can be lasting ones.

And, for a group of 36 wounded warriors, their impressions of Huntsville and North Alabama – its hospitality, the beautiful fall weather, the fun events, the people – will be among their happiest memories for a long time to come.

Thanks to the Semper Fi Community Task Force, the local community once again rolled out the red carpet for a group of Soldiers and Marines, and their spouses, who have made tremendous sacrifices for the nation. Heroes Week is in its third year of welcoming wounded warriors to North Alabama for events leading up to and including Huntsville's Veterans Day Parade.

"You can tell there's been a lot of effort put into planning this for us," said Army Sgt. 1st Class Landon Ranker during an interview in the lobby of the Westin Hotel, where the group stayed during their visit.

"There's a lot behind it. There are a lot of contributions and a lot of people who have made this an overwhelming force of appreciation and thank you. The fact that they are doing this for us is incredible."

Besides all the work that many volunteers put into Heroes Week, Marine Staff Sgt. Francisco "Frankie" Quintero said the setting – North Alabama's mountains and lakes, its fall foliage and the scenic attractions – combined with the hospitable people to make it a visit to remember.

"I love it here," he said. "It's beautiful. This is my first time in Alabama. The scenery and the people are just wonderful."

Both wounded warriors enjoyed the activities the SFCTF planned for their week-long stay.

"Every day has gotten better and better," Ranker said. "The fishing was awesome and I don't even fish. The boat ride in Guntersville was awesome."

The wounded warriors and their spouses – totaling 59 altogether – arrived on Nov. 6 and enjoyed North Alabama hospitality through Nov. 12. Activities included a public reception at the Heritage Club, a concert at Bridge Street Town Centre, boating and a boat parade hosted by the Lake Guntersville Yacht Club, fishing in Decatur, a visit to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, a career fair sponsored by Still Serving Veterans and Vet-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

HONORING HEROES— Wounded warriors Marine Staff Sgt. Francisco "Frankie" Quintero, center, and Army Sgt. 1st Class Landon Ranker, right, share stories of their deployments with retired Marine Gunnery Sgt. Roger Coe of the Semper Fi Community Task Force during their Heroes Week visit to North Alabama. SFCTF hosted a week of activities for 36 wounded warriors and their spouses that included boating and fishing, a concert, a career fair and Veterans Day activities.

erans Day activities.

"They have really enjoyed being here," said Mike Dahl, chairman of Heroes Week. "They don't want to go home. This is now like a second home to them. For some, it was the only honeymoon they've ever had. Many of them said they could never afford a hotel like this."

Dahl said the wounded warriors enjoyed events that gave them the opportunity to meet and socialize with local residents. They particularly appreciated the public reception at the Heritage Club, the Lake Guntersville boat parade and the appreciation they experienced as part of the Veterans Day parade. And they were grateful for the information and assistance they received through the Still Serving Veterans career fair.

"Many of them had never been to Alabama. They didn't realize Redstone Arsenal is here. They didn't know we are home to 25 top military aerospace contractors," Dahl said. "Several of them said that once they leave the military they want to come back here."

On Nov. 11, following the parade, the wounded warriors attended a three-hour career fair hosted by Still Serving Veterans at the Embassy Suites. The fair provided them with information on their transition benefits, how to write a resume and network, and the top 10 reasons they should live and work in Huntsville.

"When you are recovering and full of medications, you really can't take a course like this," Dahl said. "Instead you are handed your benefit package and are left to figure it out yourself. SSV helped them with their benefits and gave them a lifetime contact. If they ever need help, all they have to do is call Huntsville, Ala., and they'll get the help they need."

For a wounded warrior like Ranker, rehabilitation has been a long time coming. During his 18 years of service, the 39-year-old Soldier has deployed to Iraq twice and once to Afghanistan. During those deployments, he has suffered from multiple injuries, but has always returned to his unit. After his last

See Honor on page 7

An open lane random survey

What is your work ethic philosophy?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Kari Hawkins
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

"Every day I want to ask myself this question: Am I part of the problem or am I part of the solution? And I hope when I answer it, I am part of the solution. I want to

be a helper and a doer. I hope other people see me that way."

Ben Schwartz
D-Tel Inc.

"I try to provide prompt excellent service for my customers."



Pvt. Warren Nellor
Bravo Company

"I joined the Army so I knew I was going to work. I'm not going to complain about it too much. It is what you make it. You're not going to have the world's greatest work ethic right off the bat. I mean

you've got to work at it. Like anything else, you've got to practice."

Pfc. Bryce Kinsey
Bravo Company

"Motivated leaders create morale. And staying focused with work and motivating others allows people to utilize their full potential."



Letters to the Editor

Appalled by Fort Hood incident

The events of Nov. 5 at Fort Hood were shocking to everyone. As a former Infantry officer, the thought of one of our own taking this sort of unspeakable action is appalling to me!

I have heard all the talk of why and how this could have happened. Whether Maj. Hasan is finally determined to have been an Al-Qaida terrorist, or acting as a lone disgruntled employee, the real issue is this: He was defrauding the United States government. Somehow this man got a presidential appointment as a commissioned officer and promotion to the rank of major when he had on numerous occasions indicated that he had no intention of performing his duty as an officer, or living up to his oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States. This is disgraceful, and it has nothing to do with his religion!

Maj. Hasan, aside from the murders he committed, is no different than any other person (and there have been several publicized cases in recent years) who fraudulently put on the uniform, and swear the oath. The thought never occurred to him that he might be called to go do his job "for real" and that could mean he might be facing fellow Muslims? If he had a problem with it he should not have signed on the dotted line, or have resigned before he got orders to deploy. The military is not a social welfare program, but this man apparently treated it as such. Let's hope that there aren't too many more out there like him.

Are we so desperate for body retention these days that we are willing to tolerate such people and attitudes in our military? If so, I fear for our future!

Bruce L. O'Gorman
AMCOM IMMC Scout Directorate

Wounded warriors appreciated for service

On Nov. 6-7, I attended a Wounded Warriors event that was sponsored by the Semper Fi Community Task Force. I was so moved and touched by the warriors' patriotism and willing to give their life for our country. After hearing testimonies from the warriors, I would like to humbly say "Thank you for your sacrifices on behalf of my freedom."

In today's world many believe that freedom is ones' right to receive, but it is not, nor is it free. Freedom may be free for us, but it is because of those who are willing to pay and have paid the ultimate price. My hat is off to the members of Semper Fi Community Task Force for hosting the event. All those who attended the event were so proud and so grateful of your hospitality. I salute you, the "Warriors" everywhere for your valor service in defending our freedom. May God bless each of you and your family!

If anyone wishes to support the Wounded Warriors program in this area, here are local website addresses for contact: Semper Fi Task Force at semperfi.org, Still Serving Veterans at www.stillservingveterans.org or North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition at www.vetcoalition.org.

KC Bertling



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Wynn

Legion of Merit

Command Sgt. Maj. Angel Clark-Davis of the 59th Ordnance Brigade receives the Legion of Merit from Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal. She was recognized for outstanding service during her five and a half year tour in Germany where she served as command sergeant major of the 191st Ordnance Battalion, the 29th Support Group, and finally as command sergeant major of Joint Task Force East. Myles makes the presentation in front of the 59th Soldiers as they prepare to march Nov. 11 in the Veterans Day Parade downtown.

Letter policy

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



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>

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The *Redstone Rocket* is distributed free of cost to Army personnel at Redstone Arsenal, and

Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates off post for *The Rocket* are \$30 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual) We do not send subscription renewal notices.

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Dianne Richards

Job: Administrative associate for Computer Sciences Corporation, supporting Threat Systems Management Office

Where do you call home?
Albertville, Ala.

What do you like about your job?
That we do a lot to support the Soldiers.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I like to dance. And play with my grandbabies.

What are your goals?
To just live, enjoy life and contribute to my community, my family and my country.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?
To learn to play at least one song on the piano, because it's something I've always wanted to do and never taken the time to do.



Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

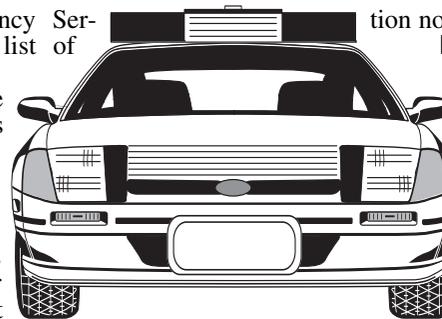
The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Nov. 5-11:

Nov. 5: A Soldier entered the Police Station and surrendered as AWOL. He was processed back to Fort Hood, Texas.

Nov. 5: A subject was stopped by police for a stop sign violation on Vincent Drive. It was revealed that a misdemeanor warrant existed for the subject issued by Huntsville Police. A search of the vehicle revealed a semiautomatic weapon under the rear passenger seat. The subject was issued violation notices and released to Huntsville Police. The weapon was confiscated by Redstone Police.

Nov. 6: During a random inspection at Gate 9, a driver was found to have a suspended license. A search of the vehicle revealed a pill bottle containing various pills identified as controlled substances. A warrant also existed for the subject issued by Huntsville Police. The pills were confiscated and the subject was released to Huntsville Police.

Nov. 6: At Gate 10, a driver had a suspended license. A search of the vehicle revealed a small quantity of marijuana. The subject was issued viola-



tion notices and released.

Nov. 6: When a subject requested a pass at Gate 9, it was revealed that he had a suspended license. He also had five outstanding warrants issued by Florence Police. He was issued violation notices and released to Florence Police.

Nov. 9: A subject stopped at Gate 1 to ask for directions when he was found to have a revoked license. He was issued a violation

notice and released.

Nov. 10: A Soldier's bank card was illegally used by another Soldier in the amount of \$700.

Nov. 11: During a random inspection at Gate 1, a subject was found to have a suspended license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Nov. 11: When police observed a Soldier walking toward Gate 10 while pulling a suit case, it was revealed that the Soldier was AWOL. The Soldier was processed back to his unit.

Traffic accidents reported: two with injury, five without injury – including two deer strikes.

Violation notices issued: 9 speeding, 7 suspended or revoked license, 4 stop sign violations, 1 illegal possession of weapon, 1 open container.

Teledyne Brown contributes to Military Night

*Nutcracker ballet
slated Dec. 10*

The Huntsville Ballet Company is still in need of financial support for its annual free performance of The Nutcracker for area military and their families.

After a private donor dropped out of the \$10,000 sponsorship cost, Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. made a donation of \$2,500 toward the event. SPARTA Inc., doing business as Cobham Analytic Solutions, made a donation of \$1,000; the Officer and Civilian Women's Club donated \$50; and individuals contributed a total of \$2,500.

Although at press time, \$6,050 had been raised, more is needed according to Phillip Otto, the Huntsville Ballet Company's artistic director.

"We have been doing this for our military families for the past four years," Otto said. "It's a way for us to give back to those in uniform who give so much on our behalf."

Otto said the ballet company has made a decision to go ahead with the Military Night even if the \$10,000 goal is not reached.

"The show had to go on," he added. "We couldn't disappoint our military. We may not have all the money by show time, but I'm confident our community will come forward with support and we will get the entire amount."

Rex D. Geveden, president of Teledyne Brown, echoed the same sentiment. "We were glad to have an opportunity to show our support for the area's military with this gift. As other defense contractors hear of the need, I know others will step forward as well. Military Night is just one way we send a message to our Soldiers that we recognize the sacrifice they make on our behalf."

Military Night is scheduled Dec. 10 at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. The ballet will be giving away 2,000 seats for this performance. Military IDs need to be shown at the door.

"Thank you to everyone who is working so hard to keep this night alive," Otto said. *(Teledyne Brown release)*

Quote of the week

'Success in business requires training and discipline and hard work. But if you're not frightened by these things, the opportunities are just as great today as they ever were.'

– David Rockefeller
U.S. banker (1915-)

Soldiers celebrated at Salute to the Military

Seventh annual event set Sunday at O' Club

By AMY GUCKEEN

Staff writer

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A pulled pork sandwich, pile of potato salad, and the comforting voice of mom. Come Sunday, approximately 900 young Soldiers unable to travel home for Thanksgiving will fill the Officers and Civilians Club for the next best thing – a good meal, a chance to call home and a great big “Thank you” at the seventh annual Salute to the Military.

“We want them to know how much we appreciate them,” said Amelia Flanigan, marketing and corporate partnerships director for Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, sponsor of the event. “A lot of these Soldiers are going directly to the Middle East after their training here on Redstone. We want to treat them real nice.”

This year’s event will be held from 4-8:30 p.m. at the club, a first for the event. In addition to a home cooked meal, Soldiers will be treated to a live band, games and door prizes, which include gift cards and a flat screen television. Soldiers will be given the opportunity to call home for free, thanks to a phone bank set up by Verizon. Free books by author Jack Honig will also be distributed.

As they kick back, relax and fuel up on tasty food, Soldiers will also experience endless thanks by those in attendance for the work they do for the country.

“To have all that praise heaped on them, these Soldiers volunteered at a time of war and to get that pat on the back, to have everyone want to shake their hand,



Courtesy photo

THANKS TO TROOPS— Soldiers gather for a good meal and good conversation at last year’s Salute to the Military.

they understand that it’s a good thing,” Maj. Travis Trainer said. “It’s good to see Team Redstone come together and show appreciation for the military.”

“It’s just a time for them to socialize, to have fun,” Flanigan said.

Pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw and potato salad donated by Holy Smoke Barbecue will be served, in addition to ham donated by Honey Baked Ham, and turkeys from Regal Nissan. Holy Smoke, out of Boaz, will cook and serve the meal to the Soldiers with the help of volunteers and the chef from the club, as part of their outreach feeding barbecue to troops across the country, Operation Barbecue.

“The Arsenal does a lot for our economy, even all the way out in this area,” said Lynn Entrekinn with Holy Smoke Barbecue. “It’s kind of like us saying ‘Thank you’ to Redstone for what they do for us.”

Donations of homemade casseroles and desserts will be accepted at the Officers and Civilians Club on Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. To arrange for a pickup, call Sabrina Forrest at 955-7398 or e-mail sabrina.forrest@us.army.mil.



Photos by Skip Vaughn

Free movie night

Rueben and Millie Barnes attend last week’s Free Movie Friday at 6 p.m. at Heiser Hall, featuring Adam Sandler’s “Funny People.” DeLisa Francis, recreation delivery system coordinator for Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, works the controls each week. Free movie Fridays are presented by FMWR and the Army & Air Force Exchange Service.

Operation BBQ comes to Redstone on Nov. 22

Barbecue on menu for salute event

By **AMY GUCKEEN**
Staff writer
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For Holy Smoke Barbecue, Thanksgiving doesn't come just once a year – it's a year-round operation.

Lynn Entrekin, husband Robert, father Jim Gorham, and friend Duke Spain know the way to a Soldier's heart is through their stomach, and, in particular, with some good barbecue. The team behind Holy Smoke Barbecue has been showing their appreciation and saying a great big "Thank you" to Soldiers by serving up free barbecue meals to troops across the country, through the grassroots movement Operation BBQ For Our Troops.

Operation BBQ comes to Redstone Arsenal Nov. 22 at the seventh annual Salute to the Military.

"God has blessed me and I feel like it's our duty to serve others," Entrekin said of their



Photo from Lynn Entrekin

GOOD EATING— Jim Gorham, left, and Duke Spain prepare to dish up some potato salad for the Soldiers at Fort Campbell, Ky. Operation BBQ will arrive at Redstone Arsenal Nov. 22 at the seventh annual Salute to the Military.

service to the troops. Operation BBQ began in the heart of a California Soldier who received an unpleasant welcome home from the Vietnam War. His experience turned into a mission that has taken hold in the hearts of barbecue cookoff teams across the country — to welcome troops home with a tasty meal and a great big "Thank you."

"He made a commitment to himself as a Soldier that whatever he could do from then on, he was going to welcome home as many of the troops as he possibly could," Gorham said.

Holy Smoke, out of Boaz and known as Spices Smokehouse in the competitive barbecue circle,

See **Menu** on page 11

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:

Salute to military

Help support the Salute to the Military by donating a casserole or dessert. Drop off the casserole or dessert Friday at the Officers and Civilians Club. Or, to arrange for pickup, call Sabrina Forrest at 955-7398 or e-mail sabrina.forrest@us.army.mil.

Golf course contest

The Links at Redstone invites you to "Name the 18s" and win a one-year membership to the golf course. The contest goes through Dec. 2. The Links will be opening its final nine holes and will be a 36-hole facility. The original three nine-hole courses — Hillside, Whispering Pines and Meadowview — will be losing their names and the 36-hole complex will have two 18-hole courses each with a separate name. The facility as a whole will still be called the Links at Redstone. "We are looking for customers to name the two 18-hole courses," a prepared release said. The 18 holes north of Goss Road and the 18 holes south of Goss Road will be the two courses. To enter the contest, visit the Golf Course Pro Shop.

Tales with Taka

Youngsters can read to Taka, a certified Reading Education Assistance Dog, on the first Saturday of the month (including Dec. 5) from 10 a.m. to noon at the Post Library. "Children will have the opportunity to read one of Taka's books or select one of the books from the library," a prepared release said. "This program is especially for those children over the age of 5." For more information call the Library, at building 3323 on Redeye Road, 876-4741.

Aviation conference

The Army Aviation Maintenance Conference is Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Register and make your payment today with Redstone MWR Online (www.redstonemwr.com). Cost is \$20. Spaces are limited. For more information, call 876-7830.

Army Community Service thanks its volunteers

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY

Staff writer

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November is known as a month to give thanks. Army Community Service staffers showed their thanks to some of the people they are most grateful for – their volunteers. They hosted a “Thanks For Giving” volunteer appreciation luncheon on Nov. 9.

“This is just a big thank you to our volunteers,” ACS director Sue Paddock said. “We do this twice a year. We do it formally in the spring, but this is a month about showing your gratitude.”

The two-hour event was held in the ACS conference room, which staff members had painstakingly decorated in fall finery. It was organized by ACS volunteer Amy Sears, and staff members Debra Jefferson and Natalie Taylor.

Beginning at 11 a.m., volunteers were greeted at the door and asked to add a leaf to the center’s “Giving Thanks” tree already established in the lobby.

“Our customers and guests are given a leaf to add to the tree, stating what they are thankful for,” Jefferson, deployment readiness program manager, said. “Everyone loves it!”

Sentiments written on the paper leaves of the tree included things such as the health of loved ones and the generosity of volunteers.

A traditional Thanksgiving feast was served, catered by the Officers and Civilians Club, featuring turkey, dressing, marshmallow covered yams and cranberry sauce. The dessert table offered an array of delights crafted by ACS staff members. “Everything looks so amazing,” Taylor, Exceptional Family Member Program



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

DESSERT TABLE— ACS staff member Natalie Taylor shows Anna Pastorelli, wife of Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, the spread at the Army Community Service “Thanks For Giving” volunteer appreciation luncheon.

manager, said. “The club and our staff out-did themselves.”

While the food was a scene-stealer, the volunteers were the stars of the day. Although the event did not have the formal recognition that the spring luncheon contains, the sentiment was just as powerful.

“This lunch is just a small token of our appreciation to our volunteers,” Jefferson said. “We’re glad for another opportunity to say thank you to them for all of their hard work and dedication.”

Civilian packet preparing for deployment needs

Family readiness group creates support tool

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY

Staff writer

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The Community Family Readiness Group is working to serve the unique needs of Team Redstone. A subcommittee has spent months creating a comprehensive civilian deployment packet for the installation’s work force.

“This is a fantastic thing,” Alice Myles, subcommittee senior adviser, said. “This is the kind of support people can really use.”



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

TEAM EFFORT— The Community Family Readiness Group subcommittee of Aimee Ghee, Carol Dennis, Angela Williams, Kathleen Riestler, Alice Myles, Kathy Biddlecombe and Audrey Osterdorf works to complete a deployment packet for civilians at Redstone.

See **Packet** on page 10

Honor

continued from page 1

injury in Afghanistan, he was assigned to the wounded warrior unit at Fort Campbell, Ky. Ranker is now recovering from head injuries and knee damage.

"I don't mind talking about it," he said. "But one of the symptoms of the head stuff is stuttering. In the early stages, I had headaches all the time. Now they only come when certain things trigger them. I have trouble with my balance. I've had to relearn how to carry my center. And I've had cognitive issues with reading, writing and speech, and my multi-tasking ability is sharply declined."

Ranker has also undergone knee surgery and is scheduled for additional surgery after his return from Heroes Week.

"I can't kneel anymore, and that's not a good thing when you are in the infantry," he said. "I'm not supposed to run anymore. But that's like telling a fish not to swim. I work out in the gym and I just don't run very much."

During his first deployment to Iraq in 2003, Ranker was on a night mission when he fell down a 60-foot cliff. The accident knocked him unconscious for six hours and damaged his knees.

"I was medevaced out and received treatment," he said. "Back then, they (Army hospital staff) didn't know much about treating head stuff. But they did fix

my knees and after many months of rehabilitation I felt good and I was sent back to my unit."

In 2005, on his second Iraq deployment, Ranker was traveling in a Humvee that was wrecked after just missing an improvised explosive device and then crashing at 45 mph into a crater caused by the IED explosion.

"Everyone in the truck got medevaced. There were broken bones and faces bashed in," Ranker recalled. "Everybody that's over there - it doesn't matter if they are Marines or Army - just about everybody has had a near miss with an IED. You always have to be prepared. After we crashed, we could have been ambushed. It was simply a matter that on that day our attackers were inept. They detonated the IED and then ran."

Ranker received head damage and a concussion in the accident. He again underwent rehabilitation and therapy, and returned to the infantry.

In 2008, while participating in an 18-day mission, a mortar round exploded about 6 feet away from Ranker as he slept.

"It was late at night and I had just checked on patrol. I was laying in a prone position behind a ruck sack," he said. "The ruck sack took a lot of the shrapnel and blast. We were used to the enemy launching one or two mortar rounds and then disappearing because they can't stand up and fight us head on."

With head and knee damage, Rucker

once again faced months of rehabilitation. Slowly, though, this time he has come to realize that he won't be able to lead other Soldiers on the battlefield anymore.

"After my second injury, my wife saw problems that no one else saw," he said. "She was upset that I went on another deployment. But she also knew how much it meant to me to be with the guys and do my job."

"And I would have kept going. But all these injuries combined made me realize that during a mission I would not only be putting myself at risk but also other Soldiers. My senior leadership told me my injuries could affect my leadership. That kind of put everything in perspective and I stopped resisting."

For Quintero, a rocket propelled grenade has yet to put an end to his Marine career.

During a deployment in 2003, he was serving as a gunner in the turret position in a Humvee that was following three tanks and leading some 300 other vehicles.

"We started getting hit with mortar fire. The Abrams (tank) in front of us stopped to orient itself to the mortar guns," Quintero recalled.

"We couldn't go forward or backward. We took small arms fire from the right. I turned and fired. Then, we took it from the left. I returned that fire. Then, back to the right the RPGs started raining in on us. One came in at the side and blew me out of the turret. I was laying in the back of the truck. Another hit my medic in the face, and blew him out of the truck and killed him instantly. He was the first Navy

corpsman to be killed in action in Iraq."

Although the grenade that hit Quintero didn't detonate, the force caused tremendous internal damage.

"I'm missing 2 feet of intestines and a rib because of that grenade," the 31-year-old staff sergeant said. "It lacerated my liver and collapsed my right lung. It caused severe enough damage that I have to keep going back to get scar tissue removed."

Since then, Quintero has deployed a second time to Iraq with a sniper platoon and is planning for a third deployment in 2010. He is stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif., with a Marine Expeditionary Force, and is planning on a Marine career that extends far beyond the nine years he has served.

"I've been put through three physical evaluation boards and I have passed," he said. "There is nothing else I want to do. I still have so much to offer the Marine Corps. I still have my heart and my desire and all my knowledge. My wife's grandfather was a World War II Marine and my father-in-law is a wounded Vietnam veteran. This is my way of honoring them. My wife bleeds scarlet and gold. She would go with me if she had the chance."

For Ranker, he won't be able to return to war duty, but he hopes to continue serving.

"I want to help other wounded warriors," he said. "I joined the Army in 1989 to be in the infantry and that's all I know and all I've done. It's hard to let go of that. It's my duty. It gives me a sense of honor, a sense of purpose."

"It's where everything makes sense," Quintero added.

Veteran Soldier preaches belief in mission

Retired chaplain shares philosophy at Garrison's spiritual fitness event

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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With four tours of duty in the combat zone, retired Col. Chaplain Alvin M. "Sonny" Moore III knows what he believes in.

His strong faith in God is a given. But, beyond that, he has a philosophy on life that influences his decisions and actions.

"The first thing I believe in is the mission," Moore said, speaking to a lunchtime audience at the Nov. 12 Spiritual Fitness Prayer Luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club.

"I bleed green. I love the Army. This is important work we are doing. I believe in this mission."

Moore, who lives in Ozark, retired from the Army in 2008 at age 62. He served as an active duty Army chaplain for 26 years. He now works for Army Fleet Support at Fort Rucker as the program manager for Workforce Development and Community Relations. He also serves as interim pastor of First Baptist Church in Enterprise.

Moore said he is convinced there are terrorists in the world who would blow up the U.S., Redstone Arsenal and the Officers and Civilians Club if they knew they could. That conviction was confirmed by the Nov. 5 Fort Hood, Texas, tragedy when 13 Soldiers and civilians were killed in a rampage by another Soldier with ties to Muslim extremists.

"We don't know how deep this thing is. But it's deep. People would kill us if they could just because of what we believe in and because of our freedom," he said.

Moore talked about the husbands of his two daughters – one an aviation pilot stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., and the other a West Point football player who is now a member of the Army's Special Forces. He talked about his own need to remain close to the military in his ministry and the importance of military installations like Redstone Arsenal.

"You have an important mission here," he said. "This is a great Army post and the work you do here is important to the nation."

Second, Moore believes in the value of hard work and, third, in the value of a smile.

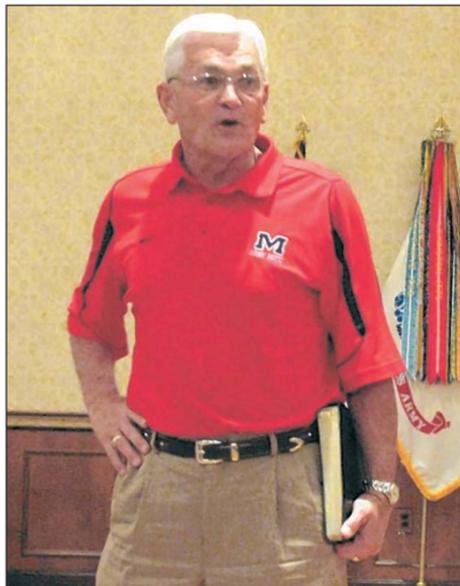


Photo by Kari Hawkins

FROM THE HEART— Retired Col. Chaplain Sonny Moore uses homegrown personal stories to share his faith in God. He speaks Nov. 12 at the Spiritual Fitness Prayer Luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club.

"A positive attitude will go a long way," he said.

And, fourth, he believes in the power of the team.

"It encourages me to see a bunch of great Soldiers, and great DA civilians and contractors. This is a great team to be part of," Moore said. "One team. One fight. One future."

He said all members of the team and their contributions are important to the mission in a time when freedom is threatened more than ever.

"These are critical days we live in, make no mistake about it," Moore said.

Moore's Army career included serving as the brigade chaplain for the 101st Airborne Division in 1990-91 during Operation Desert Storm. He has served in Iraq and Afghanistan, as the command chaplain at the Forces Command at Fort McPherson, Ga., and as division chaplain of the 82nd Paratrooper at Fort Bragg. He retired with several awards to his credit, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Army Achievement Medal. He has also received the Order of St. Michael Bronze Star (Army Aviation) and the St. Barbara Medal (Army Field Artillery).

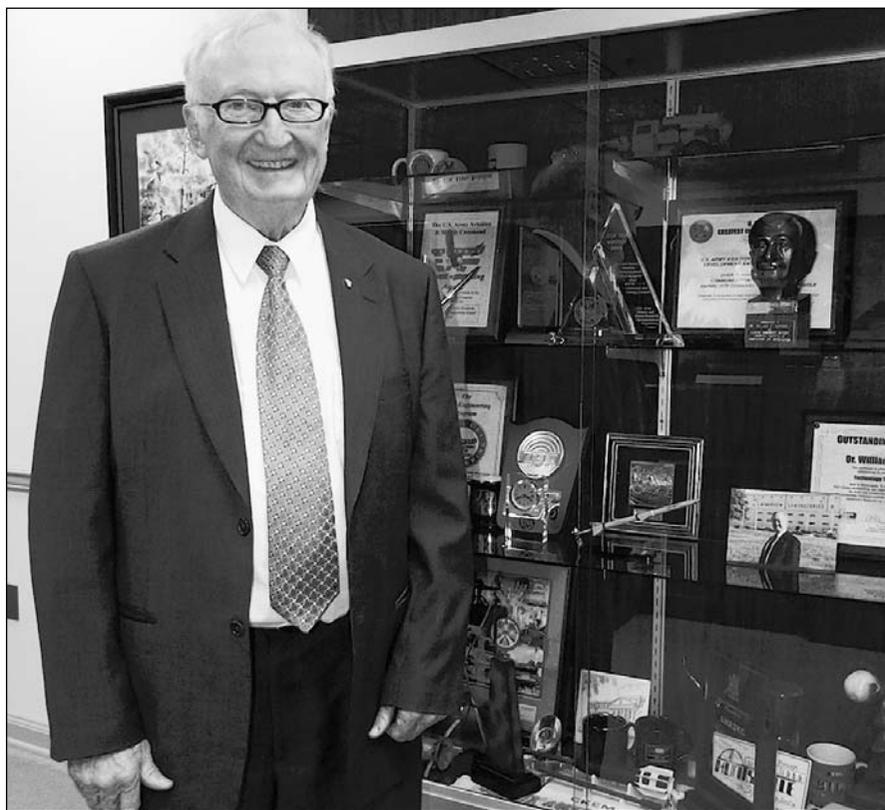


Photo by Kari Hawkins

Defense recognition

Dr. Bill McCorkle, the retiring director of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, will receive from the National Defense Industrial Association a certificate and NDIA Gold Medal in recognition of his 52 years of service. The presentation is to be made Dec. 1.

Shuttle service schedules announced

New transportation option reduces need for driving

By **ASHLEY KALIFEH**
For the Rocket

A new Redstone shuttle service will begin Nov. 30.

“The shuttle will frequent areas where major activities on Redstone typically

take place,” said Bert Rivera, the installation transportation officer and head of this pilot program. “This should decrease the need for people to use their personal vehicles or their government cars as much.”

The shuttles will travel three different routes, red, blue and green, that cover different areas of the Arsenal. The red and blue routes will heavily cover the Martin Road business district.

Here are the route schedules:

REDSTONE 1 (RED LINE)		RED LINE							
		A.M. - DEPARTURES				P.M. - DEPARTURES			
Building 4488	GARRISON	8:00 AM	8:50 AM	9:40 AM	10:30 AM	12:15 PM	1:05 PM	1:55 PM	2:45 PM
Building 5678	PEO-AVIATION	8:05 AM	8:55 AM	9:45 AM	10:35 AM	12:20 PM	1:10 PM	2:00 PM	2:50 PM
Building 5681	PEO-AVIATION	8:10 AM	9:00 AM	9:50 AM	10:40 AM	12:25 PM	1:15 PM	2:05 PM	2:55 PM
Building 5405	PIF	8:15 AM	9:05 AM	9:55 AM	10:45 AM	12:30 PM	1:20 PM	2:10 PM	3:00 PM
Building 5400	AMRDEC	8:20 AM	9:10 AM	10:00 AM	10:50 AM	12:35 PM	1:25 PM	2:15 PM	3:05 PM
Building 5308	AMCOM	8:25 AM	9:15 AM	10:05 AM	10:55 AM	12:40 PM	1:30 PM	2:20 PM	3:10 PM
Building 5300	AMCOM	8:30 AM	9:20 AM	10:10 AM	11:00 AM	12:45 PM	1:35 PM	2:25 PM	3:15 PM
Building 5250	PEO-M&S	8:35 AM	9:25 AM	10:15 AM	11:05 AM	12:50 PM	1:40 PM	2:30 PM	3:20 PM
Building 5220	MDA	8:40 AM	9:30 AM	10:20 AM	11:10 AM	12:55 PM	1:45 PM	2:35 PM	3:25 PM
Building 5222	MDA	8:45 AM	9:35 AM	10:25 AM	11:15 AM	1:00 PM	1:50 PM	2:40 PM	3:30 PM

REDSTONE 2 (BLUE LINE)		BLUE LINE							
		A.M. - DEPARTURES				P.M. - DEPARTURES			
Building 5308	AMCOM	8:10 AM	9:10 AM	10:10 AM		12:35 PM	1:35 PM	2:35 PM	
Building 5300	AMCOM	8:15 AM	9:15 AM	10:15 AM		12:40 PM	1:40 PM	2:40 PM	
Building 5250	PEO-M&S	8:20 AM	9:20 AM	10:20 AM		12:45 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	
Building 5400	AMRDEC	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM		12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM	
Building 5405	PIF	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM		12:55 PM	1:55 PM	2:55 PM	
Building 5681	PEO-AVIATION	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM		1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	
Building 5678	PEO-AVIATION	8:40 AM	9:40 AM	10:40 AM		1:05 PM	2:05 PM	3:05 PM	
Building 4488	GARRISON	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM		1:10 PM	2:10 PM	3:10 PM	
Building 5222	MDA	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM		1:15 PM	2:15 PM	3:15 PM	
Building 5220	MDA	8:55 AM	9:55 AM	10:55 AM		1:20 PM	2:20 PM	3:20 PM	
Building 5250	PEO-M&S	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM		1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM	
Building 5300	AMCOM	9:05 AM	10:05 AM	11:05 AM		1:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	

REDSTONE 3 (GREEN LINE)		GREEN LINE							
		A.M. - DEPARTURES				P.M. - DEPARTURES			
Building 7613	AMC - FWD	8:05 AM	9:05 AM	10:05 AM		12:55 PM	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	
Building 7611	AMC - FWD	8:10 AM	9:10 AM	10:10 AM		1:00 PM	1:35 PM	2:35 PM	
Building 5308	AMCOM	8:20 AM	9:20 AM	10:20 AM		1:10 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	
Building 3423	POV REG	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM		1:20 PM	1:55 PM	2:55 PM	
Building 3493	CAC CARD	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM		1:25 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	
Building 3423	POV REG	8:40 AM	9:40 AM	10:40 AM		1:30 PM	2:05 PM	3:05 PM	
Building 5308	AMCOM	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM		1:40 PM	2:15 PM	3:15 PM	
Building 7611	AMC - FWD	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM		1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM	

Community Family Readiness Group builds support

Packet

continued from page 6

Soldiers deploying with a unit have a unit FRG to assist their families in preparing for their absence. However, civilians deploying in support of the military have been, to an extent, left to their own devices. Many do not know what kinds of information their spouse or family may need while they are gone. It can range from who to contact about a pay issue to which veterinarian does the family pet see.

“The issue was raised in our September meeting,” Kathleen Riester, Army Community Service program manager, said. “We have been working to resolve this problem for our civilians.”

The answer has been a lot of hard work. The subcommittee working the issue has compiled a comprehensive packet that, when completed by the deploying civilian, will leave their family well-prepared to

deal with the management of living.

The packet is a combination of preprinted information and sections to be completed by the civilian. The prepared portion includes a quick list of phone numbers and offices the family may need. It also gives an explanation of resources available to them in the community.

The other part gives civilians an easy fill-in-the-blank format. It is broken into subsections such as information on household bills, insurance or children. While not every section will apply to every civilian, it covers every angle so that nothing is forgotten.

“We started with deployment checklists from other organizations for their people,” Audrey Osterndorf, ACS mobility and deployment volunteer, said. “But we are expanding that.”

The project is in the final stages. It will be reviewed once more for any corrections before the subcommittee presents it to the Community FRG as a whole in January. For more information, call Riester at 876-5397.

Menu

continued from page 5

began welcoming troops home nearly two years ago, after a barbecue group in Michigan put the call out for help at an operation at Fort Campbell, Ky., through a forum on National Barbecue News, a monthly publication dedicated to barbecue. Today the team has nine operations behind them, eight to Fort Campbell where they fed approximately 6,000 men and women returning from Iraq, and one to Fort Bragg, N.C. The team has no plans of stopping.

"Have RVs, will travel," Spain said with a laugh.

"We wait on the next call," Entrekin said.

Operations can't happen without the generosity of others. A typical operation costs anywhere from \$1,400-\$2,000, more if the travel is extensive. The team relies solely on the donations of others to bring their service to the troops.

"We believe that this is the kind of work that the Lord would have us do, and where he guides he provides," Gorham said. "So far we have not had to say no."

When the call comes, the team is quick to accept the challenge. Starting out with a supply list, the list goes out to barbecue teams across the country to see where they can help. On Holy Smoke's end, it's time to fund-raise, collect equipment and determine what teams will cook what. Once on site, the bases transform into barbecue central, as the pits get fired up and the competitive barbecue teams set aside their rivalries to cook for a common mission. With so much to be done and so many people involved, Entrekin sums the day of an operation up in one word: hectic.

"It's a lot of stress getting ready for it because you're trying to raise money, making sure the I's are dotted and T's are crossed," Entrekin said.

By the time Soldiers are piling their plates with pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, cobblers and cookies, Entrekin and her team can take a breather and enjoy the time they have to say, "Thank you."

"When it's finally over and you're seeing the crowd of Soldiers waiting it's just a relief, like taking a deep breath. It's a joy that fills the heart that we've showed these Soldiers our appreciation. We want them to know that we're behind them."

With their first operation in their home state, the team is excited to serve up a special meal of appreciation to the young active duty Soldiers that are unable to go home for the holidays. Barbecue teams from Huntsville and even Georgia will be on hand to help with the event, a first for the group as they will be serving at the Officers and Civilians Club rather than in a parking lot or hangar.

"It's a treat for us, and I know it's going to be a treat for the Soldiers," Entrekin said.

The gratitude for their work lines the walls of the Holy Smoke commissary in Boaz, through certificates of appreciation and Commander's certificates; but for Entrekin and her crew it's not about the recognition, it's about the lives they've touched.

"My dad really has a passion in his heart for this," Entrekin said. "It's just a passion he wants to share with these boys. You'll see him every once in a while in a corner with tears running down his face because he's just got so much joy from saying thank you."

"It just fills a hole in my heart," Spain added.

The team's barbecue outreach extends beyond the troops as well, to local charities such as House of Hope and Stepping Ahead. Marshall County may be known as "Meth Mountain," but for Entrekin and friends, they're working to change that name - one pulled pork sandwich at a time.

"Everybody knows this place is called Meth Mountain," Entrekin said. "We want it to be known as Miracle Mountain. This is a passion. It's giving back to people that don't have meals at the holidays, it's showing the troops our support. Whatever God sends our way, we're going to do what we can to help."

For more information on Operation BBQ or to get involved, visit www.holysmokecookoff.com.

Women in workplace benefit with help of mentor

Educator, Navy reservist shares her views on personal, professional development

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

Throughout her career, Kathy Hawk has had mentors.

Yet, many of the professionals she sought out for guidance and assistance didn't even know they were viewed in that way.

Looking back on a civilian and military career that has taken her to the Pentagon, the U.S. embassy in Cairo, Egypt and Iraq, Hawk said most of her mentors were established with professionals she respected and admired through her own informal workplace process.

"I had no formal mentor that helped carry me through my career because I worked here and I worked there," said Hawk, who is the chairwoman of the Political Science Department at the University of Alabama-Huntsville and a Navy Reserve commander and executive officer.

"Sometimes formal programs create artificial structures. Mentors are people who sincerely want to help others and that's how, in many ways, the bonding starts."

Hawk, who spoke at the Women in Defense Mentorship Luncheon on Nov. 6, urged the 85 women attending the event to be mentors in their everyday lives to younger professional women and men who need guidance in their careers.

"If you do things right, you are a mentor," she said. "Mentors are people you know and trust in the work environment. Everyone is capable of being a mentor. Just please step up and be a mentor when you have the opportunity."

Hawk also encouraged her WID audience to continue attending professional luncheons and meetings where "you can share experiences and learn from each other and laugh together and move forward together" in mentorship relationships.

Although the mobility of her early career years kept Hawk from establishing long-term formal mentor relationships, she said that mobility also provided opportunities and challenges in her career.

"Twenty years ago, I worked for a contractor at the Pentagon," she recalled. "The defense community was not a very hospitable place for women to work ... Things have changed since then and there's certainly a lot more women working today in the defense community. But there's a good ole boy network that is still hard to bring down."

In those early days of her career, Hawk was relegated to answering phones and was not allowed to travel. When she did receive opportunities, she was viewed by co-workers as receiving special treatment or as having privileged access.

Today, the work environment is different because "women who have been around longer can help navigate through some of this stuff for younger women," she said.

Hawk's determination to continue her career despite setbacks also led her into

situations where she could not refuse opportunities. One such situation was her deployment as a Navy reservist to work with the Army Special Forces in Balad, Iraq. In 2007-08, she not only left her job at UAH for a six-month deployment, but also her husband, Marshall County Circuit Judge Howard Hawk, and her then 10-year-old son.

"With a lot of the choices we make there are implications for those around us," Hawk said. "When you have opportunities or problems or obstacles, they affect others, too. In many ways, my deployment was very hard on them, probably more so than me."

The deployment became a learning and bonding experience for her husband and son, and a chance for her to contribute to the nation's military mission.

Yet, looking back on her career, she said "a lot of choices made in advocating my professional career have not always been well thought out. But opportunity opens doors. For a lot of bright people, there are numerous opportunities. Once you take the first step you have a lot more opportunities than you realize and multiple paths to choose from."

Hawk shared with the WID group five ideas about seizing challenges both professionally and personally.

First, she said, "being in the right place at the right time usually takes a lot of work. When an opportunity comes along,



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SPEAKING FOR WOMEN— Kathy Hawk, the chairwoman of the Political Science Department at the University of Alabama-Huntsville and a Navy Reserve commander, talks about mentorships with members of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense. She said all professionals have the ability to be both formal and informal workplace mentors when they are focused on doing the right thing.

you have to react, you have to have the skills and attitude to be able to take advantage of that."

Hawk said young people should talk to everyone they can to gain information and advice on career paths, and then they should know themselves well enough to know what advice best fits their own needs and wants.

Second, she suggested that the brightest professionals don't always make the best leaders. The best leaders are those who are driven, not by money and recognition but by their commitment to make a difference.

"It's not easy to teach people to care. It's easier to teach skills," Hawk said.

Third, she said, the best employees do what needs to be done, regardless of what that task may be. They are also flexible

See **Mentor** on page 20

Command pays tribute to legendary rocket scientist

Von Braun team member remembered at symposium

By **CLAUS MARTEL**
AMCOM History Office

The Aviation and Missile Command and the Huntsville community celebrated the opening of the Konrad Dannenberg papers collection Nov. 7 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville's M. Louis Salmon Library.

AMCOM command historian Mike Baker was among several presenters at the daylong symposium. Baker, representing AMCOM, premiered a short documentary of Dannenberg he produced on this former member of the Army team at Redstone Arsenal.

"What most people forget is that most of the German rocket team, headed by Dr. Wernher von Braun, worked for the U.S. Army longer than they did for NASA," Baker said. "They started working for the Army at Fort Bliss (Texas) in 1945 and were transferred to NASA in July 1960 when NASA became operational here at Redstone Arsenal."

Dannenberg was among the original German rocket scientists who came to the United States after World War II. This team created the nucleus of the early United States space program under the auspices of the Army. Among many techno-

logical firsts, they developed the Redstone guided missile (which was modified and in 1958 launched the Free World's first satellite, Explorer I), the Jupiter intermediate range ballistic missile (which scored numerous scientific and space firsts), and the Saturn (which later took man to the moon).

For more than 30 years, Dannenberg was among the public faces of the von Braun team. Baker said that he met and corresponded with Dannenberg many times over the years.

"Dannenberg worked tirelessly educating the public on the history of this nation's space program and the U.S. Army's pioneering efforts in space," Baker said.

Dannenberg died Feb. 16 in Huntsville at age 96. On Jan. 31, 2008, he attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the launch of Explorer I. At this black-tie event, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles presented Dannenberg a plaque given by Army chief of staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. to the few surviving members of the Army rocket team for their ground-breaking accomplishments and contributions to the Army and the U.S. space program.

Baker said he hopes to have the Dannenberg documentary on the History Office's website by the end of 2009. The web address for the History Office is www.redstone.army.mil/history.



Courtesy photo

LAST AWARD— On Jan. 31, 2008, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles presents the Chief of Staff Plaque to Konrad Dannenberg one year prior to the space pioneer's death.

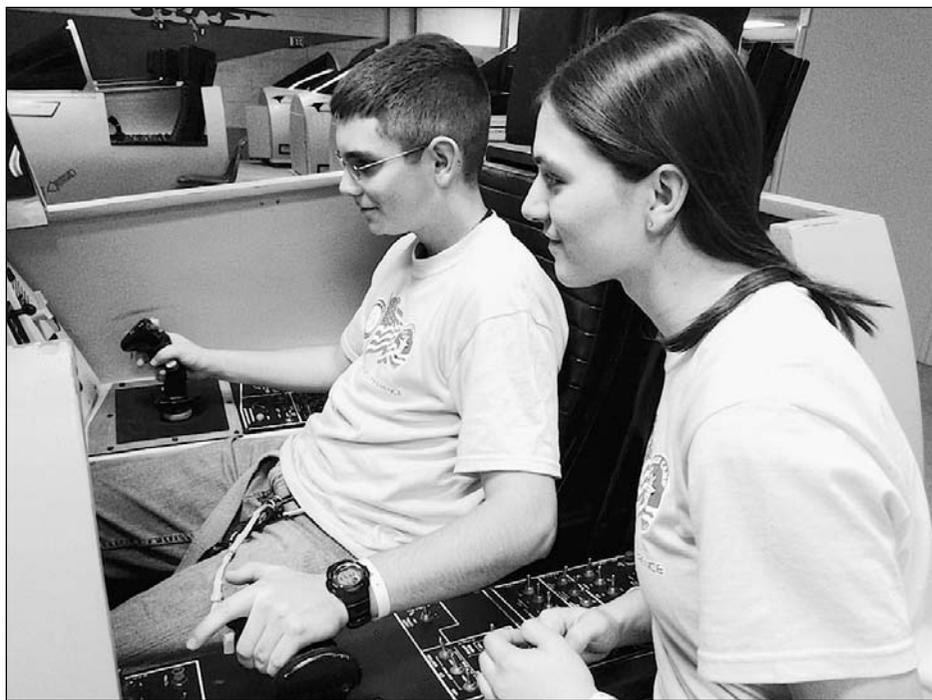


Photo by Kari Hawkins

Simulated flight

Bryan Buttry of Station Camp High School (Gallatin, Tenn.) tries his skill at flying an F-18 with the help of Caitlin Roberts of Beebe High School (Arkansas) during a simulation at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center's Aviation Challenge. They were among 80 high school students who attended the seventh annual Youth Leadership Conference hosted by the Huntsville Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars, Nov. 4-7. During the conference, the students learned about leadership, free enterprise, and American heritage and patriotism. The conference theme was "Build Leaders Now for the Future."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Museum exhibit

Bell H-13 Sioux MASH helicopter, visible above this crowd, is donated to the Veterans Memorial Museum by the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation on Nov. 11 in a brief ceremony attended by retired Lt. Gen. Anthony Jones, foundation chairman, and retired Marine Sgt. Maj. Shanda Elkins, foundation executive vice president. Several local volunteers were recognized for their work in reassembling the Sioux. They are, from left, Coleman Lloyd; Milt Aitken; Dennis Boyer, president of the local foundation chapter; Randy Withrow, museum representative; Scott Handlon; Tim Powell; Eli Geher; Bernie Parr and Jim Balanteno. Also recognized were Tom Sharp Jr. of the Madison County Executive Airport Authority, which provided hangar space for the reassembly project, and Darrell Harrison of Yulista, who provided maintenance support for the project. Future plans call for adding an OH-58 Kiowa helicopter to the museum's display.



Three-star appointment

Maj. Gen. Richard Formica has been nominated for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and assignment as commander of the Space and Missile Defense/Army Forces Strategic Command. Formica is serving as the commander, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, U.S. Central Command, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan.

Courtesy photo

Deploying Army reservists receive health screening

Soldiers are being deployed to areas where there is a threat of being injured as a result of exposure to blast events. Injuries resulting from a blast event are variable and range from mild to severe. Traumatic brain injury is one type of injury that results from a blast event. Moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries are easier to diagnose; whereas, mild traumatic brain injuries which are called concussive or post-concussive symptoms are much more difficult to diagnose, according to Fox Army Health Center.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs, published on May 28, 2008 a memorandum directing all services to begin implementing baseline pre-deployment neurocognitive assessments for all deploying servicemembers. The intent of this directive is to provide optimal care for servicemembers manifesting concussive or post-concussive symptoms. A baseline neurocognitive assessment is a tool to help medical providers diagnose and appropriately treat injured servicemembers.

Concussive and post-concussive symptoms include a slower reaction time, headaches, irritability, memory impairments and sleep difficulty. These symptoms may result in decreased performance, and performance is critical to mission effectiveness.

The Army is utilizing the Automated

Neurocognitive Metric assessment to establish baseline cognitive functioning. ANAM pre-deployment screening is not a diagnostic tool and is not used to determine if the servicemember is deployable or non-deployable.

All deploying Army Reserve Soldiers will complete ANAM screening prior to deployment in order to establish a baseline for cognitive functioning. Unit commanders will request an ANAM screening for all deploying Soldiers within 12 months prior to deployment through the Army Office of the Surgeon General ANAM operations cell: ANAM.Operations@amedd.army.mil. This assessment is a mandatory requirement. Compliance will be monitored by the Army Reserve surgeon on a monthly basis.

In the event OTSG ANAM Operations cannot fulfill the request, unit commanders must ensure ANAM screening is conducted while the deploying Soldier is at the mobilization station. Unit commanders will coordinate an ANAM screening with the SRP medical officer in charge.

The contact at Fox for this service is Timothy Elmore at 955-8888, ext. 1940 or timothy.elmore@amedd.army.mil. Elmore will be able to provide this service at the Fox Army Health Center or he can travel to your location. (Fox Army Health Center release)

Lakota aircraft join Navy test pilot school

The Navy's Test Pilot School on Nov. 2 flew its first two of five UH-72A Lakota aircraft from Columbus, Miss.

They arrived Nov. 4 at the school located at Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Md. The U.S. Navy utilized the Army's contract with EADS-North America to order five of the modern, twin engine aircraft to replace their aging OH-6 helicopters.

The Navy aircraft have been delivered and fielded ahead of schedule. Their delivery will enhance the ability of the Navy TPS to train rotary wing test pilots for all of the U.S. military as well as foreign nations.



Courtesy photo

UTILITY HELICOPTER—The Navy has received five UH-72A Lakota to be used in training.

Warrant officers chapter wins national honor

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association received four awards Nov. 2-6 during the 37th annual meeting of the Army Warrant Officers Association in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The local chapter is among 82 in the national association.

It received the following 2009 awards: Outstanding Chapter, Community Affairs for Sustaining Programs, runner-up for Community Affairs for Donations, and runner-up for Community Affairs for Service to the Community.

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter also received its 15 Year Service streamer. It was represented in Salt Lake City by chapter president Max Bennett, a retired chief warrant officer 4.

This was the third time Redstone was named the outstanding chapter, with previous honors in 2004 and 2007.

"We are thrilled and honored to be recognized as the Warrant Officer Association's Best Chapter for 2009," Bennett said. "The Tennessee Valley is lucky to have a dedicated group of warrant officers who first think of the needs of others. So many chapters are out there struggling every day with deployments, supporting families and communities, and raising money to do the things they need to do. To have the national organization recognize my guys and gals in the most patriotic community in the world, and then

reward this team's efforts to make this community a better place is truly an honor."

The chapter's 2,451 volunteer hours in the Tennessee Valley this year included the following:

- Building wheelchair ramps (in cooperation with CASA of Madison County).
- Volunteering for Honor Flight, Tennessee Valley.
- Burying indigent veterans who do not have family representation.
- Helping the Redstone Arsenal ball field cleanup.
- Laying of the Warrant Officer Wreath on Memorial Day.
- Presenting a \$1,000 scholarship to a local student.
- Working with Retiree Appreciation Day at Redstone Arsenal.
- Participating in the Salvation Army bell-ringing.
- Assisting with Operation Christmas Bear.

Chapter secretary Johnie Keeter was among Redstone Arsenal's 2009 "Helping Hands" award winners for volunteer service.

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter will serve as host for the association's 38th annual meeting in the fall of 2010 at the Embassy Suites in downtown Huntsville. (Army Warrant Officers Association release)



Photo by Judy Wilson

Goodies for Iraq engineers

Members of the Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers collected and donated care packages for members of the Engineer staff at Camp Victory, Iraq. SAME members (from left) Amber Martin of the Huntsville Center, Army Corps of Engineers, Tina Atkins of EOD Technology Inc., and post president Phil Loftis of Parsons helped pack up the goodies for shipping. Atkins headed up the project for Huntsville Post SAME.

Breezy day makes flags fly high

Veterans Day Parade reflects tradition of patriotism and support for military

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

Breezy but sunny conditions welcomed participants and spectators who came out in full force for this year's Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 11 in downtown Huntsville.

A total of 135 floats were part of the festivities, representing everything from local high school bands and church groups to JROTC programs and defense contractors. There were even some unusual entries, including a horse-drawn stagecoach and the Huntsville Havoc's Chaos and Ruckus, two wolf mascots. The crowd especially enjoyed the Vets with Vettes entry where wounded warriors drove and rode in Corvettes, the Patriot Guard Riders on motorcycles, and the children and families of the 375th Engineer Group, whose Soldiers are now deployed to Iraq.

Prior to the beginning of the parade, the Buckhorn High choir sang the Star Spangled Banner as the Johnson High color guard presented the flags. The parade began with the traditional canon firing courtesy of the 19th Alabama Regiment re-enactors followed by

the first float carrying the parade grand marshals, veterans of World War II and alumni of Honor Flight and the first band – the Alabama A&M University Band playing "God Bless America."

There was also one special moment at the beginning of the parade when wounded warrior Marine Lance Cpl. Brent Calendar convinced his wife, Kristine, to come out from the crowd to the Corvette he was riding in to give him a kiss.

But the big parade draw were the marching groups of Soldiers, Marines and JROTC units.

"This parade is typically wonderful and indicative of the entire Tennessee Valley and how much they love their Soldiers and veterans, and how much they appreciate their sacrifice," said Redstone Arsenal and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, who served as one of the parade's review commanders.

The record crowds of spectators were just what the parade needed.

"Over the last 10 to 12 years, we've seen the parade grow in importance to Huntsville and it's become one of the most significant events in Alabama," said Veterans Day Activities chairman retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet. "Hundreds of thousands of citizens in Madison County and North Alabama think it's kind of neat to be part of this. They know this is something really significant and they want to be part of it."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

LONG GRAY LINE— Soldier marching is always a crowd pleaser at the Veterans Day Parade. About 1,000 Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal's 59th Ordnance Brigade and 832nd Ordnance Battalion marched in the parade. This year they were reviewed at two reviewing stands – once at the beginning of the parade outside the Von Braun Center by Redstone and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles and second toward the end of the parade at Veterans Memorial Park by SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

CHEERING FOR HEROES— Kalleral Jones waves flags in both hands as Redstone Arsenal's Soldiers march by. Showing their patriotism along with Kalleral are, from left, Jordan Draper, D.J. Anderson and Genesis Reedus. Behind the group is Kendall Massey.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

GODLY BLESSINGS— A truck load of children and parents from Mt. Zion Baptist Church wave flags and cheer their appreciation for Soldiers and veterans at the Veterans Day Parade. Their float was one of the loudest in the parade.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FAST LANE FUN— Excitement is always the name of the game when the Cahaba Shriners arrive on the scene in their little yellow cars and jalopies. And this year was no exception. They once again wowed the Veterans Day Parade crowds with their antics and humor. Their audience was much larger than in years past as a record number of spectators gathered in the streets of downtown Huntsville to enjoy a parade on a sunny day.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

HIGH STEPPER— Lee High School drum major Jason Toney shows off some of his high steps as he leads the Lee High Band in the Veterans Day Parade. Seven local bands, including the Alabama A&M University, Grissom High, Huntsville High and Davis Hills Middle School bands, marched in this year's parade.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SPECIAL BANNER— Members of Boy Scout Troop 93 carry a banner in support of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Several Scouting troops participated in the Veterans Day Parade.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FORT HOOD SUPPORT— Spc. Michael Collins of the Indiana National Guard's Echo Battery, 139th Field Artillery, writes words of condolence on the sympathy banner that Team Redstone will send to Fort Hood, Texas. The banner includes the Team Redstone logo with the words "Our thoughts and prayers are with the Great Place." Redstone Arsenal Soldiers signed the banner as they waited to march in the Veterans Day Parade. Collins is attending a class at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School.

Veterans Day activities recognize heroes

Soldiers, families and veterans all honored during several events surrounding Nov. 11

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Staff writer
kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

Flag-waving appreciation greeted veterans, Soldiers and their families during three large-scale events that marked Huntsville's and North Alabama's recognition of Veterans Day. Besides the parade, military and community leaders participated in a dinner Nov. 10 and a breakfast Nov. 11.

A crowd of 600 military and community leaders attended the Veterans Day Dinner at the Von Braun Center, during which four veterans were inducted in the Madison County Military Heritage Commission's Hall of Heroes. They are: retired Marine Lt. Gen. Frank Libutti, retired Air Force Maj. Robert Karkowski, and the Army's retired Master Sgt. Arvil Burchfield and veteran D. Leonard Robinson.

In addition, 14 veterans received Purple Hearts from the Military Order of World Wars. They are: Raymond Virgil Ashburn (posthumously), Burchfield, Thomas Richard Crutcher Jr., Rob Glasier, Jeffrey A. Hall (posthumously), Ira P. Jones Jr., Johnnie B. Pruitt, Thomas C. Reed, Benny G.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

MILITARY FAMILY— Penny Nielsen receives a four-star Blue Star Service Banner and plenty of appreciation from the commanding officers, Soldiers, veterans and others who attended the annual Veterans Day Breakfast at the Von Braun Center prior to the parade Nov. 11. Nielsen has four children serving in the military – Staff Sgt. Sean Nielsen who is serving his second tour in Iraq, son Paul who is serving in the Army at Fort Eustis, Va., son Mathew who is an Army reservist in basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and daughter Grace who is an active Army reservist. Nielsen's husband, who is deceased, served as a major in the Army Reserves.

Seales, Ralph W. Snowden, Allan C. Stump, Matt Thome, Everett T. Tidwell and Danny R. Vinson.

But the biggest surprise of the night came with the announcement of the winners of the Veteran of the Year Award — retired Chief

Warrant Officer 4 Max Bennett – and the Lifetime Achievement Award – veteran retired Sgt. 1st Class David Carney.

Bennett has served as vice president of the Tennessee Valley Honor Flight and is president of the Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association. During 2009, he worked to make sure three deceased veteran paupers had the dignified burial they deserved.

Carney has organized numerous deployment and welcome home ceremonies since 9/11 and is an advocate for veterans' rights and military families. He is the past president of the North Alabama Veterans & Fraternal Organizations Coalition, past commander of the Cahaba Shrine Legion of Honor and past treasurer of the Madison County Military Heritage Commission. He serves on the board of the Spirit of America, in Decatur. He is vice president for National Guard programs for the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army and is a member of several other veterans' organizations. He serves as operations officer for the Veterans Day Parade coordinating the Veterans Day parade and dinner activities for the City of Huntsville and Madison County. He hosts a weekly radio and television show called "Those Who Serve."

Heroes

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About 350 people attended the Veterans Day Breakfast at the Von Braun Center on Nov. 11, where recognition went out to local dignitaries who support various military programs, the families of servicemembers and the 36 wounded warriors visiting Huntsville and North Alabama courtesy of the Semper Fi Community Task Force.

Madison Mayor Paul Finley and the Madison Cheer Brigade were recognized for their donations and generosity toward needy Reserve and National Guard families during the holidays. State representatives Howard Sanderfer and Mac McCutchen presented retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet with a state proclamation recognizing his work as the state president for Association of the U.S. Army and chairman for the Huntsville Veterans Day Parade.

Local military leaders then recognized several families with Blue Star Service Banners and Gold Star Banners.

"The Blue Star Banner signifies that that family has a loved one in uniform. One star represents one member in uniform, four stars represents four family members in uniform," explained John Perry, the emcee for the breakfast program. He said more than 1,000 banners have been presented by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organization since 9/11.

Blue Star Service Banners were presented to Hazel Kelly, whose grandson serves in the Army; the family of Pfc. Sean Kendrick, who is on duty at Camp Anaconda, Balad, Iraq; and to Penny Nielsen, who received a four-star Blue Star Service Banner for all four of her children who are serving in the military – son Sean, a staff sergeant serving his second tour in Iraq; son Paul serving in the Army at Fort Eustis, Va.; son Mathew, an Army reservist at basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C.; and daughter Grace who is an active Army reservist. Nielsen's husband, now deceased, served as a major in the Army Reserves.

Three families – the family of Pfc. Ricky L. Turner, the family of Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Alan Hall and the family of Staff Sgt. Joshua Rath – received Gold Star Banners. Turner was killed in action in Baghdad, Iraq, on Jan. 16. He was assigned to the 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. Hall was killed in Afghanistan on June 1. Rath was killed in Afghanistan on Jan. 16.

"We, as a nation, can never repay our Gold Star families for their immense sacrifice that they have made," Perry said. "We pray, that in our own small way, we are able to show these families how much our community cares for them."

Veterans Day activities in Huntsville are unique because of the community-wide support they receive, said retired Brig. Gen. Bob Drolet, who chairs the Veterans Day Committee.

"We have a committee of about 40 people who put all this together," he said. "Most of our committee has been working on this every year for 10 or 11 years. We have low turnover and a high expertise level."

Other communities have parades, but most don't have all the other activities that Huntsville features during the days preceding the parade, such as the dinner and breakfast, the YMCA military appreciation breakfast and the Marine Corps Ball.

"We are pretty unique in all that we plan for our veterans and the support we show," Drolet said. "I've never seen a week of activities honoring veterans and active duty men and women than what we have in Huntsville. It is an absolute unique experience to this community."

He attributes much of the local support to a community that includes 90,000 veterans in congressional district 5 and over a half million in Alabama.

"The density and public support feed each other very well," Drolet said. "It's an expression of support of the value system the military represents to a community. It's about duty, honor and sacrifice. Our Veterans Day activities have clearly grown beyond the city limits of Huntsville."

Installation Management Command leader shares his philosophy

Asking the right questions, and putting family first

By DENNIS BOHANNON

ACSIM/IMCOM Strategic Communications

WASHINGTON — “Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?” are questions resonating through the mind of the new assistant chief of staff for installation management and commanding general of the Installation Management Command.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, “Defender Six,” was appointed the Department of the Army’s ACSIM and assumed command of IMCOM on Nov. 2. However, he has already shared many of his views, priorities and a lot of personality with both staffs during non-stop meetings and briefs over the preceding two weeks.

At the IMCOM Garrison Commander’s Conference in Baltimore, on his first full day in command, Lynch dove deeper into what he calls, “Asking the right questions.” The first fundamental question is “Are we doing the right things?” He said if an action fits within the commander’s intent, the answer is likely “yes.” The second question is, “Are we doing things right?” He said we must increase efficiencies. “What are we missing?” He said, we need to periodically take a step back and think about what else we should be doing, that is not already being done.

Lynch said he is excited about joining ACSIM and IMCOM, “I’ve reaped the benefits of all the hard work ... both at Fort Stewart and at Fort Hood,” where he previously commanded. But, he noted, he is a warrior. He is honored to wear the title of the ACSIM and CG IMCOM, but, the



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

title he is most proud of is, “I am the husband of Sarah and the father of my children,” a proud title, he says, he will carry long after he retires from the Army.

He also titles himself “the family first general.”

A native of Ohio, his parents were blue-collar shift workers at his hometown paper mill. He went to work at the age of 13 and applied to West Point simply because he could not otherwise afford a college education.

After struggling through to a commission, he said, “All I wanted to do was command a battalion. I did that.” At first, he said, “...the Army was a job, then it became a profession, today it is a passion.”

“My passion is taking care of Soldiers and families,” Lynch said, adding Sarah, his wife of more than 27 years, shares that

same passion.

“Sarah will travel everywhere I go. She will focus on families,” Lynch said. “I’m the commanding general. When we visit installations Sarah will get information I could never get,” Lynch explained. “She will be another set of eyes and ears. We will focus on fulfilling the Family Covenant. We will focus on the family,” he said.

“We spend too much time fixing broken Soldiers and families and not enough time giving them a break.” Lynch says his mission, his priority is all about balance, finding the right balance between work, family, health and fun.

Lynch said, “The road to success is, one, surround yourself with confident people and delegate. Two, look down not up. Worry about those working for you, not catering to those above you. Three, never compete with sister units. Share best practices. Four, have fun.”

“Taking care of Soldiers and Family, that’s my passion.”

■ Women in Defense speaker gives advice on mentorship

Mentor

continued from page 12

and can easily adapt to changing circumstances, and they set a positive example in everything they do.

“People watch you and what you do,” she said. “(As a leader) if you whine and complain, then others will, too. When I looked up to someone as a leader, I watched the way they acted, talked and presented themselves, and I learned from them ... That’s why it is so important to maintain your integrity and do the right thing.”

Fourth, Hawk said professionals should always be learning and they should be team players.

“Most things in life are team sports,” she said. “We get ahead by helping others get ahead. If you help those around you then everyone is better off. If you take care of each other, everyone is better off. When a person is competitive and they do things to hold other people down, then it’s harmful to the development of both people.”

And, fifth, professionals should develop and keep priorities.

“Often, when you move up you have got to make sacrifices and choices,” she said. “But mentorship groups can help you with that. We’re each in the best position to make the decisions on what is right for us. There’s ways to get to different goals with different paths. The balance in life is something that nobody else can decide but yourself.”

Civilian Welfare Fund looks for postseason repeat

Defending tournament champion stays unbeaten in early rounds

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Last year the Marines were the only ones to beat the eventual champion Civilian Welfare Fund flag football team.

And the CWF hasn't forgotten that setback from the 2008 regular season. The civilians beat the Marines in this year's regular season; and the rivals squared off again Thursday night in the second round of the postseason tournament.

"We're definitely going to come ready to play," CWF player/coach Brad Harris said before Thursday's game. "We're not going to look past them. We're going to put all into this game because they're the only ones to beat us last year."

They almost did it again.

The civilians needed a game-winning drive in the final minutes to beat the Marines 22-18 at the field off Patton Road.

"It was an ugly game," Harris said. "It was a horrible game for us. We played horrible but we pulled it out. We came together at the end as a team. We were determined to win and we pulled out the victory."

The civilians trailed 18-14 with 2:31 left when they took possession at midfield after a defensive stop. CWF quarterback William Kelly led the winning drive with two long runs of 25 and 15 yards. He scampered the final 5 yards for a touchdown at 1:06 and then threw a two-point conversion pass to Harris to end the scoring.

"Things got moving as usual when Kelly got in (at quarterback) for us," CWF wide receiver/kick returner Warren Powell said. "He saved the game."

The civilians (9-0) had beaten the Marines (5-4) by 30-6 on Oct. 20 during the regular season. But this game was different.

"These (civilian) guys are tough, they're a good team," Marines coach Jerome Villarreal said. "We've worked hard. We'll see them again. Hopefully we'll see them again in the finals."

CWF hopes to defend its title in the tournament which began Nov. 9 and concludes with the final at 7 p.m. Nov. 19.

In Thursday's other games, Charlie Company beat



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FATEFUL MOMENT— Civilian Welfare Fund quarterback William Kelly awaits the snap from center before his game-winning, 5-yard touchdown run against the Marines.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PICK— Derrick Cook returns an interception for the Civilian Welfare Fund against HHC 59th.

Headquarters & Alpha 30-8 and 326th Chemical Company defeated Bravo Company 20-8.

On Nov. 9, the Civilian Welfare Fund beat HHC 59th 38-8 and the Marines defeated NCO Academy 20-15.

Here are the final standings for the regular season: Civilian Welfare Fund (7-0), Charlie (6-1), Marines (4-3), Bravo (4-3), NCO Academy (3-4), 326th Chemical Company (3-4), Headquarters & Alpha (1-6) and HHC 59th (0-7).

Tennessee should rock Vanderbilt's world

Improved Volunteers to sink Commodores

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Here are this week's college football predictions (356-128 after 11 weeks):



Vanderbilt at Tennessee — **UT**
Chattanooga at Alabama — **Bama**
Mississippi Valley State at Ala. A&M — **A&M**
Mississippi St. at Arkansas — **Arkansas**
LSU at Mississippi — **LSU**
FIU at Florida — **Florida**
Kentucky at Georgia — **Georgia**
Colorado at Oklahoma St. — **OSU**
Boise St. at Utah St. — **Boise**
Oregon at Arizona — **Oregon**
North Carolina at Boston College — **BC**
Virginia at Clemson — **Clemson**
Maryland at Florida St. — **FSU**
Iowa St. at Missouri — **Missouri**
Kansas at Texas — **Texas**
N. Carolina St. at Virginia Tech — **VT**
Oregon St. at Washington St. — **Oregon St.**
Ohio St. at Michigan — **Ohio State**
Duke at Miami (Fla.) — **Miami**
Louisville at South Florida — **SF**
Minnesota at Iowa — **Iowa**
Oklahoma at Texas Tech — **Oklahoma**
Memphis at Houston — **Houston**
Kent St. at Temple — **Temple**
Eastern Kentucky at Jacksonville State — **Jax**
Tulane at UCF — **Tulane**
TCU at Wyoming — **TCU**
The Citadel at Georgia Southern — **GS**
Connecticut at Notre Dame — **ND**
Wofford at Furman — **Wofford**
Purdue at Indiana — **Purdue**
Penn St. at Michigan St. — **Penn State**
Wisconsin at Northwestern — **Wisconsin**
Rutgers at Syracuse — **Rutgers**
Baylor at Texas A&M — **Baylor**
UTEP at Rice — **UTEP**
UAB at East Carolina — **East Carolina**
Air Force at BYU — **BYU**
Arizona St. at UCLA — **Arizona St.**
San Diego St. at Utah — **Utah**
Army at North Texas — **Army**
Fla. Atlantic at Troy — **Troy**
SMU at Marshall — **Marshall**
Louisiana Tech at Fresno St. — **Fresno**
Colorado St. at New Mexico — **CSU**
Tulsa at Southern Miss — **Tulsa**
California at Stanford — **Cal**
Kansas St. at Nebraska — **Nebraska**

*Native heritage month
celebrated in November*

By DEANE McKAY
Garrison EEO specialist

American Indian is the term used to describe the diverse group of indigenous people who have lived in North America for thousands of years, long before Europeans landed on its shores. As a whole, American Indians have long contributed to the formation, existence, diversity and continued vitality of the United States.

Part of their culture and tradition is so interwoven into the fiber of American culture that we are not even aware of its origin. For example, did you know that 24 of our 50 states have names derived from American Indian languages; the game of lacrosse originated among American Indian nations; or that American Indians taught New England settlers to chew gum?

The names Kansas, Dakota and Connecticut are all derived from American Indian words. Kansas is derived from a Sioux word "KaNze" meaning "south wind." Dakota is the name of a Sioux tribe meaning "friend." Connecticut was derived from the word Quinnehtukqut, which means "beside the long tidal river."

The game we now know as lacrosse was popular among many American Indian nations and existed in differ-

ent versions. The Iroquois called it "bag-gateway" and the Cherokee referred to it as "little brother of war" because they considered it excellent military training and often used it as a method to settle disputes. It was originally played by hundreds, sometimes thousands of natives at a time and was eventually adapted to smaller groups and formal rules were developed and written.

American Indians traditionally chewed the sap of various plants for dental hygiene, oral health or to relieve hunger and thirst. They soon taught colonists in New England how to chew spruce sap to freshen their breath. By the 1800s, colonists were selling lumps of Spruce gum!

In the United States today there are approximately 2.5 million American Indians and more than 500 tribes, who comprise a vast array of nations with distinct languages, cultures, traditions and forms of governments. American Indians have always been significant players in the history of our country and they continue to make significant contributions today.

Perhaps you have heard of Squanto, the English-speaking Patuxet Indian who assisted the Pilgrims; or Pocahontas, the Powhatan tribal chief's daughter credited with saving the life of Capt. John Smith and the Jamestown colony; and of course you've heard of the Wampanoag Indians, the tribe who helped the Pilgrims survive

their first winter and celebrate their first harvest in what is now our Thanksgiving tradition. But have you heard of Adjutant General Ely Samuel Parker; Olympic athlete Jim Thorpe; Vice President Charles Curtis; author N. Scott Momaday; Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell or ballerina Maria Tallchief? These are more contemporary contributors to our history and culture that you may not be aware of.

Parker was a member of the Seneca nation who became adjutant general to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Parker studied law, became an engineer, was commissioned in the Army as a captain and rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He is credited with writing the final draft of Confederate surrender document.

Thorpe, often referred to as the greatest athlete in American history, won gold medals in the pentathlon and decathlon of the 1912 Olympics. He went on to excel in professional baseball and football, eventually becoming the first president of the American Professional Association, which later became the NFL.

Curtis was born in Kansas Territory and raised on an Indian reservation. He studied law and went on to become a United States representative and senator, Senator minority whip and majority leader before becoming vice president under Herbert Hoover in 1929.

The writings of Momaday, of Kiowa and Cherokee descent, focus on the beliefs, customs and traditions of the Kiowa people. His very first novel, "House Made of Dawn," was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, making him the first American Indian to win the presti-

gious literary prize. Momaday later became a professor of English at the University of California at Berkeley and designed a graduate program for Indian studies.

Campbell was a U.S. representative, then senator from Colorado from 1987 to 2005. He is also a chief of the Northern Cheyenne tribe. Though he initially obtained office as a Democratic candidate, he became a Republican in 1995.

Tallchief, daughter of an Osage Indian tribe chief, enjoyed a storied career with the New York City ballet as America's first prima ballerina. After her retirement she founded, along with her sister Marjorie, the Chicago City Ballet. She received the Kennedy Center Honors and National Medal of Arts in 1996 and 1999, respectively.

There are many more aspects of American Indian history, culture and achievements to explore. The Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian on the National Mall, in Washington, D.C. serves as a place where native people throughout the Americas can share their varied histories, languages and culture with others. There are also many local and regional centers, festivals and organizations where you can experience American Indian traditions and culture. We encourage you to visit them!

Editor's note: Team Redstone is sponsoring the National American Indian Heritage Month Celebration at 10 a.m. Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.



Courtesy photo

Outreach volunteer

University Place Elementary School students pose with Laura King, chief of the Supply Management Branch, Counter-Rocket Artillery and Mortar Program Office after her speech Oct. 22. King was the guest speaker for the school's educational outreach assembly, where she encouraged the students to "never give up" and engaged them with an interactive speech. The program was among a series of community initiatives sponsored by the Aviation and Missile Command, Army Educational Outreach Program.

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Benefit 5K walk

Epsilon Sigma Alpha International, Beta Pi Chapter, Huntsville, is sponsoring the second annual Give Thanks Walk to raise money for the children of St. Jude and to help St. Jude fight childhood cancer. A 5K Walk will be held Saturday at Madison Square Mall. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m.; and the walk starts at 8:30. There is no charge to participate in the walk. Donations will be accepted. All participants that raise \$35 or more will receive a Give Thanks Walk T-Shirt on walk day. To pre-register or for more information, visit www.givethankswalk.org.



Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

The Contemporary Christian Worship Service is held each Sunday night at Bicentennial Chapel. Fellowship begins at 5 p.m. followed by Bible study at 5:30. The actual service starts at 6:15. Bicentennial Chapel is located on Goss Road, building 376. For more information, call the Garrison Unit Ministry Team 842-2176.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel has Bible studies each Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. PWOC Bible studies this fall are: 9:30 a.m., "Esther" by Beth Moore and "Putting on the Armor" by Chuck Lawless; and 6:30 p.m., "How Now Shall We Live?" by Charles Colson. The lunchtime Bible Study begins a study of Psalms at 11:30 a.m. And the Korean sisters begin their study at 10:30. For more information call Judy Strange 430-3110, Karyn Wilson 837-7421, Mattie Jones (lunchtime group) 828-9890 and Soran Thrasher (Korean group) 539-4862.

Sergeants major

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

retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain 842-7910.

Catholic women

"Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women," an eight-week study, is planned Jan. 20 through March 10 on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11 at Bicentennial Chapel. "This study focuses on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women written in 1995 for the UN's 4th World Conference on Women held in Beijing," a prepared release said. "ENDOW's mission is to help ordinary Catholic women of faith to stretch intellectually and come to know better the theological underpinnings of our faith." To sign up, call Diana Ruzicka 852-5519 or e-mail DianaRuzicka53@aol.com.

Men's ministries

Men's Ministries, "addressing the needs

of men and planting seeds for spiritual growth in Christ Jesus," meets every second or third Saturday — for exact monthly date, call Harry Hobbs at 682-4010 — at 8 a.m. at the Redstone Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for \$5. For more information, call Hobbs 682-4010.

Aviation maintenance conference

The Aviation and Missile Command is hosting the Army Aviation Maintenance Conference (formerly known as the Maintenance Test Pilot/Maintenance Examiner Conference) from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3 at Bob Jones Auditorium. This year's theme is "Supporting the Future Fight." The conference provides a forum for aviation maintainers to discuss tactical and strategic maintenance issues affecting aviation readiness and to determine solutions to best support current and future aviation operations. The conference is open to U.S. military, Army civilians and contractors. Personnel and companies representing foreign nations are excluded from attending and exhibiting at the confer-

ence. Attendees and potential exhibitors are welcome to register at www.redstonemwr.com/conferences/AAMC/welcome.html. For more information, e-mail redstone.aamc@conus.army.mil.

Security professionals

The Mid-South Chapter of the Society for Industrial Security Professionals will hold a luncheon Dec. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn (Madison Square Mall). The luncheon is free for all NCMS members (visitors pay \$15). For more information, call Paul J. Malone 428-1306. Register online at ncmsluncheon-dec162009.eventbrite.com.

Space society

HAL5 (local chapter of the National Space Society) will meet Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. Steve Noojin, manager of ISS projects for Boeing, will speak about the "International Space Station in the 21st Century."

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

Free Nutcracker delight

Nathaniel Otto, who will perform as the Nutcracker in the Community Ballet Association's production of *The Nutcracker*, enjoys the company of, at left, Clara, as portrayed by Emily Hayes, and Kathy Campbell of the Officer and Civilian Women's Club, and, at right, OCWC president Karen Stanish and a shepherdess, as portrayed by Emma Montaque. The characters danced to a few selections from *The Nutcracker* ballet at the OCWC luncheon on Nov. 10. Every year, the Community Ballet invites the military and their families to a free performance of *The Nutcracker*. This year, that performance is scheduled for Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m., and military are required to show their military ID for free admission. Public performances are set for Dec. 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 12 and 13 at 2 p.m. To give a corporate donation for the Military Night performance or to buy tickets to the public performances, call 539-0961.

The group will present Dr. Barbara Cohen, NASA planetary scientist, on Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. at the library. For more information, visit HAL5.org or hal5.help@gmail.com.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter, Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting today at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Guest speaker is Karlton Stephens, counselor with Veterans Upward Bound Program, North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence. The chapter's monthly breakfast is 8 a.m. Nov. 28 at Ryan's Family Steak House, South Memorial Parkway. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited.

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 on the second and fourth Wednesday 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.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. Local counselor Lonnie Jones will talk about Conflict Resolution. For ticket information, call Kim Ouattara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.



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.

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

Announcements

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

See **Announcements** on page 27

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

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ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?																														
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U																			
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																																						
SCBK09747617	Secretary (OA)	12-Nov-09	OMEMS	GS-0318	7	7	38,653 - 50,249			X	X					X	X																					
SCBK09835416	General Engineer	12-Nov-09	AMC/LOGSA	GS-0801	13	13	81,532 - 105,993									X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09788025	Logistics Mgmt Spec	12-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128									X																						
SCBK09847009	Police Officer	12-Nov-09	USAG	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215									X	X			X																		
SCBK09869228	Mechanical Engineer	13-Nov-09	AMCOM/TMDE	GS-0830	13	13	81,532 - 105,993									X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09869228D	Mechanical Engineer	13-Nov-09	AMCOM/TMDE	GS-0830	13	13	81,532 - 105,993													X																		
SCBK09871694	Training Instructor	13-Nov-09	MEDDAC	GS-1712	11	11	57,204 - 74,360									X			X	X																		
SCBK09827054R	Engineer Technician	13-Nov-09	AMCOM/TMDE	GS-0802	11	11	57,204 - 74,360									X			X	X																		
SCBK09841688	Engineering Series	16-Nov-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0800 Series	2	2	46,291 - 105,993			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09722068	Equipment Specialist (General)	16-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	57,709 - 85,701				X					X			X	X																		
SCBK09722064	Equipment Specialist (Aircraft)	16-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-17670	12	12	59,383 - 89,128					X				X			X	X																		
SCBK09722064	Equipment Specialist (Aircraft)	16-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	59,383 - 89,128					X				X			X	X																		
SCBK09839129	Construction Management Specialist	16-Nov-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0301	2	2	46,291 - 105,993			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09848213	Technical Writer-Editor	20-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-1083	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09874697	Technical Writer-Editor	20-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-1083	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09839719	Logistics Mgmt Spec	20-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128					X				X			X	X																		
SCBK09883644	Casualty & Mortuary Affairs Specialist	23-Nov-09	GARRISON	GS-0301	9	9	47,280 - 61,464			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09885578	General Supply Specialist	23-Nov-09	GARRISON	GS-2001	9	9	47,280 - 61,464			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK0861951	Logistics Mgmt Spec	23-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09890453D	Logistics Mgmt Spec	24-Nov-09	AQUIS SPT CTR	NH-0346	3	3	68,564 - 105,993													X																		
SCBK09890453	Logistics Mgmt Spec	24-Nov-09	AQUIS SPT CTR	NH-0346	3	3	68,564 - 105,993			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09876877	Visual Information Specialist	24-Nov-09	IMC	GS-1084	11	11	57,204 - 74,360			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09877049	Logistics Mgmt Spec	24-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09882080	Supv. IT Specialist (INFOSEC)	24-Nov-09	Information Management Div	YC-2210	2	2	68,564 - 111,292									X			X	X																		
SCBK09769548R	Mechanical Engineer	24-Nov-09	SMDC	GS-0830	13	13	81,532 - 105,993									X			X	X																		
SCBK09875892	Program Support Assiatat (OA)	25-Nov-09	RDECOM	DK-0303	3	3	38,653 - 55,651				X			X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09877840	Logistics Mgmt Spec	25-Nov-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X						X			X	X																		
SCBK09747322COE	Training Instructor (EOD)	25-Nov-09	OMEMS	GS-1712	11	11	57,204 - 74,360			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09877289	Program Analyst	25-Nov-09	PEO	NH-0343	3	3	68,564 - 105,993									X			X	X																		
SCBK09869198	International Program Management Specialist	25-Nov-09	USAASC	GS-0301	13	13	81,532 - 105,993									X			X	X																		
SCBK09876405	Supv Human Resources Specialist (Military)	25-Nov-09	OMEMS	YC-0201	2	2	58,141 - 113,908			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09875779	Human Resources Assistant (Military)	25-Nov-09	OMEMS	GS-0203	8	8	42,807 - 55,651			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09768167COE	Training Instructor (Munitions)	25-Nov-09	OMEMS	GS-1712	11	11	57,204 - 74,360			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09880884	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	26-Nov-09	GARRISON	GS-0303	6	6	34,782 - 45,215									X			X	X																		
SCBK09878972COE	Supv Training Instructor (Electronics)	27-Nov-09	GARRISON	YC-1712	2	2	58,141 - 113,908			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09840889	Aerospace Engineer	27-Nov-09	RDECOM	DB-0861	3	3	68,564 - 105,993			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09839023	Computer Engineer	27-Nov-09	RDECOM	DB-0854	3	3	68,564 - 105,993									X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09882041	Operation Research Analyst	27-Nov-09	SMDC	GS-1515	13	13	81,532 - 105,993									X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09855983	Electronics Engineer	27-Nov-09	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	96,346 - 147,332									X			X	X																		
SCBK09783541OC	Contract Spec	30-Nov-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	13	13	81,532 - 105,993			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09783534OC	Contract Spec	30-Nov-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09783545OC	Contract Spec	30-Nov-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	14	14	96,346 - 125,254			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09783545OC	Contract Spec	30-Nov-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	14	14	96,346 - 125,254			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09790314	General Engineer	4-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09863343	Lead General Engineer	9-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09807137	Community Planner	10-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0020	2	2	46,291 - 105,993			X	X					X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128									X			X	X																		
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly 23.06 - 26.87			X									X	X																		
SCBK09457856OC	IT Specialist (PlyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X									X	X																		
SCBK09419080OC	Police Officer	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215			X	X					X			X	X																		
SCBK09408461OC	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567									X			X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Resource Asst (Mil/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																		
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567									X			X	X																		
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567			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	X																		
SCBK09419080OC	Police Ofcr	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215			X	X					X			X	X																		
SCBK08151777OC1	Elec Integ sys Mech	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly 23.06 - 26.87			X									X	X																		
SCBK09457856OC	IT Spec (PlyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X									X	X																		
SCBK09783548OC	Supv. Contract Spec	18-Feb-10	AMCOM Contracting CMD	YA-1102	3	3	96,346 - 147,332			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X																		
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128									X			X	X																		
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly 23.06 - 26.87			X									X	X																		
SCBK09457856OC	IT Specialist (PlyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128			X									X	X																		
SCBK09419080OC	Police Officer	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215			X	X					X			X	X																		
SCBK09408461OC	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567									X			X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Resource Asst (Mil/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																		
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567									X			X	X																		
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567			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	X																		

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.

New civilian employees

The next New Employee Orientation for civilian employees is Nov. 24 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. NEO participants will receive training to orient them to federal employment and the installation, which will include: Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director remarks, Staffing/Classification Proce-

dures, Employee Benefits, Human Resources Development, Management and Employee Relations and Labor, American Federation of Government Employees, Equal Employment Opportunity, Legal, Communication Security, Defense Acquisition University, Employee Assistance Program, Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, and Safety. For more information, call LaToya Davis Ragan 313-0286 or Jessie McCray 876-4803. To obtain a space in this course, you must register in TIP by Nov. 24 at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil/>.

Thrift shop

It's holiday time at the Thrift Shop; and Thanksgiving and Christmas are being featured. New items are added daily. Shop, consign, donate or volunteer — all under one roof. Visit the shop at building 3209 on Hercules Road on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9-4, Thursdays 9-5 and the first Saturday each month from 10-2.

Blood drive

The management of Bridge Street Town Centre and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. will sponsor a blood drive in support of Life South on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bridge Street Town Centre. There will be a special gift for the first 20 donors.

Church bazaar

New Shiloh Church Ministries will have a Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 5101 Mastin Lake Road. For vendor booth rental and more information, call Vickie Owens 461-0045 or 656-7707.

Picture perfect pets

Redstone's "Picture Perfect Pet Contest," sponsored by the Systems Management Division as a Combined Federal Campaign fund-raiser, invites photos of pets. Photos must be no larger than 5-by-7. The nominated pet should be the only thing visible in the photo, if possible. Close-up shots are recommended. Entry fee is \$10, payable by cash or check (made payable to CFC). Each vote will cost \$1. Voting will be held in front of the Sparkman Center Cafeteria today and Nov. 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or through the following points of contact: Masheldia Green 955-6801, Alphonsia Ithediwa 876-0196, Samantha Smith 876-3693 or Jeni Moreno 876-9021. After Nov. 20, the votes will be tallied and the winners announced. There will be one grand prize winner and one runner-up.

Space documentary

The Honors College at the University of Alabama is making a documentary movie titled "The Town that Put the Man on the Moon." This documentary is about the everyday men and women who made it happen: from the kitchen staff, to the truck driver, to the man who filled the fuel tanks. "Do you have a story to tell? Do you know someone who would like to share their story?" a prepared release asks. "Your story matters, and we want to document it as part of history." If interested call 684-5631 or e-mail bmw548@hotmail.com.

Holiday gala

100 Black Men of America, Greater Huntsville Chapter will hold its 10th annual Holiday Gala fund-raiser Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Tickets are \$62.50 per person or \$500 for table of eight. For more information and tickets, call Charley Burrus 830-4332 or Freeda McDowell 536-8050.

Garrison ball

All Redstone Arsenal employees (government and contractors) are invited to the Garrison Holiday Ball at 6 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tickets are \$35 each. Reservations will be accepted until Nov. 20. To register, call Sarah Brazzel 313-0546 or e-mail sarah.brazzel@us.army.mil.

Evening on Bayou

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold one of its main fund-raisers of the year that will benefit military families and other non-profit organizations supporting the military. The Evening on the Bayou, a collaborative effort with OCWC members, will be held Feb. 19 from 6:30 p.m. to midnight at the Officers and Civilians Club. There will be food, silent auction, live music and dancing, beer and wine tasting, and various other activities. Proceeds will be used to further community assistance and merit award programs such as scholarships, donations to other supporting military events, and assistance to military families. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. The event is open to individuals with gate access. For tickets or more information, call 489-3009 or visit www.redstoneocwc.org.

Children's fund-raiser

The Child Development Center will have a Holiday Celebration Fund-raiser on Thursday from 3-9 p.m. at Chuck E. Cheese, 1220 Jordan Lane. This event is to raise funds for the upcoming Teacher Appreciation Holiday Lunch. "For your purchases to be counted toward the donation, please tell the cashier that you are with the CDC Fund-raiser," a prepared release said.

High school theater

Lee Lyric Theatre will present the classic musical "White Christmas" on Nov. 19-21 at 7:30 p.m. at Lee High School. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for students and seniors. Family discount night is Thursday with all tickets \$10. Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.showtix4u.com or by phone at 1-866-967-8167. For more information, call 428-8150, ext. 179.

Commissary hours

The Commissary will be closed for Thanksgiving, Nov. 26. It's open Nov. 22, 23, 24, 25, 27 and 28.

Benefit sale

The North Alabama and Southern Tennessee Humane Organization Coalition will hold a "Plea Market" fund-raiser sale



Photo by Jennifer Marchant

Graduating class

The Aviation and Missile Command recognized its graduating members of AMC Fellows Class 5 on Oct. 9. Certificates were presented by AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister and AMC Fellows program manager Joseph Coutcher. From left, in the front row, are Chronister, Monica Bingham, Angela Patterson, Earl Adams, Rachelle Lapperre and Coutcher. In the second row are Daniel Lindsey, Eric Lapperre, Carly Sinur and Jessica Blain. In the third row are Brian Albert, Earl Adams, Patrick Newbold and Vergus Davis Jr.

Rocket Announcements

of hundreds of household items, furniture, jewelry and designer clothing. The goal is to help raise the remaining funds needed to open the spay/neuter clinic which will begin in February. The Preview Sale and Silent Auction is Friday from 5-8 p.m. at the Jaycees Building at John Hunt Park. "For a \$10 donation, enjoy coffee and pastries while bidding and shopping," a prepared release said. The public shopping day is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 534-4566.

Skating show

The Huntsville Skating School and the Skating Club of Huntsville present "Nutcracker on Ice 2009" featuring more than 40 local skaters including Redstone Arsenal employees and their children. The shows are Dec. 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. at the Municipal Ice Complex on Leeman Ferry Road. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children/seniors. There will also be a school performance at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 11; all seats \$5. For more information, call artistic director Dita Bowser 883-3773 or e-mail dita@iceskate.org.

Luminary celebration

First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Green and Randolph Streets, will have a "Luminary Night Celebration" from 4-6 p.m. Dec. 12. For more information, call the church office 539-5738.

Operation Christmas Bear

The sixth annual Operation Christmas Bear is Dec. 12 from 1-4 p.m. at Cahaba Shrine Temple in Huntsville. Invited are all active duty, Guard and Reserve North Alabama families; and also families of DoD civilians currently deployed in a war zone. Register at Army Community Service by calling 876-5397 or e-mailing mary.breeden@us.army.mil.

Weather radios

In conjunction with the Ready Army Community Awareness Program, the DPTMS Plans and Operations Division will team up with WAFF Channel-48 News chief meteorologist Brad Travis and Post Exchange personnel on Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to program weather alert radios in support of National Winter Weather Preparedness Month. "Please plan on attending this personal safety awareness event and bring your weather radio or purchase one in the Post Exchange and have it programmed while you wait," a prepared release said. For more information, call the Installation Operations Center 842-2215 or Kim Sumpter 883-6100.

Instructor of Year luncheon

OMEMS and 59th Ordnance Brigade "Instructor of the Year" awards ceremony luncheon is Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tickets are \$10. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Rob Coppage 876-7417.

Community grants

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club, which distributes money to nonprofit groups each year, is now accepting applications for grants. To receive a copy of the application form, go to the OCWC website www.redstoneocwc.org (click on community assistance). The deadline for submission is Feb. 27. All requests must conform to the OCWC Community Assistance Request Form and must be postmarked or received by the deadline. Requests received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information call Demy Robley, OCWC community assistance chair, 882-6064 or e-mail her at communityassistance@redstoneocwc.org. OCWC is a private, non-profit organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.



Latin dance

Saborlatino invites everyone to the Pre-Thanksgiving Latin Dance on Saturday from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. at the American Legion, 2900 Drake Ave. Cover charge is \$10 per person. You must be at least 18 to party and 21 to drink. "Celebrate with DJ Mendez spinning to the hottest Latin music," a prepared release said. Call Yvonne, aka Saborlatino, 783-5756 to reserve your tables.

Santa train

The North Alabama Railroad Museum has announced its Santa Train will begin Nov. 28. The train is decorated in the Christmas theme; and Santa is onboard to meet the children and has gifts for all those under 10. The train will continue on Dec. 5, 6 and 12. Seating is limited. Call 851-6276 on Wednesday or Saturday mornings for information and reservations.

Handbell concert

The Heritage Ringers of Huntsville, a non-profit community concert handbell

choir, will present its annual Christmas concert Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Methodist Church in the sanctuary. "The program includes transcription and arrangements of classical Christmas favorites, and original works for handbells," a prepared release said. "This choir has been performing in our area since 1985." The concert is open to the public free of charge.

Tree lighting

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club and the Officers and Civilians Club invite you to the Redstone Arsenal Christmas Tree Lighting on Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. "Please come and join us for a fun family event with awesome entertainment and special activities for children of all ages," a prepared release said. For more information, visit www.redstoneocwc.org or contact Laurie Taylor at treelighting@redstoneocwc.org.