

Redstone Rocket

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December 9, 2009

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Education system learns hard lesson

Contract work stoppage has worldwide impact

By SKIP VAUGHN
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This has been a tough year for the Army education system.

The Army Continuing Education System lost its contractor employees worldwide in November after a contract dispute. Contractors represented about 60 percent of the system's work force. The only places unaffected were in Europe because their contract wasn't up for bids.

At Redstone's Education Center, five of seven workers were lost. The Garrison reduced the impact by providing two interns, bringing the center's staff to four.

"Had it not been for the Garrison Model Intern Program that we established, we would not have had these two high-performing employees on our staff," Garrison human resources director Joe Winston said.

Fortunately, the contract dispute was resolved Friday and the contractors returned to work Dec. 7.

The interns, Amelia Flournoy and Cassandra Patton, joined Army civilians Charles Williams and DeLesia Harris in November. Williams is the education services officer for Redstone, under the Directorate of Human Resources. Harris, an education services specialist, was hired Nov. 9 from Fort Monmouth, N.J., and started Nov. 12.

Army Personnel Testing — provided for Soldiers in such areas as language proficiency, the Armed Forces Classification Test and proctored college exams — was temporarily on hold because the test examiner was among the five employees lost Nov. 6. The others included a counselor, administrative support, multi-use learning facility coordinator and a basic skills instructor.

"All of our functions have resumed (effective Dec. 7)," Williams said.

Dr. Grey Edwards is chief of the Army Continuing Education System for the Fort Benning, Ga., hub which includes Fort McPherson, Ga., Fort Rucker, Redstone Arsenal, Camp Shelby, Miss., and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

"There have been at least 44 percent up to 60 percent in budget cuts (to ACES in fiscal 2009) that have impacted and been disruptive during this period we've had to deal with," Edwards said. "But DA civilians have jumped in. Everybody was working above and beyond. But it's been disruptive. This is the piece they're still trying to work through.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SCHEDULING— Staff Sgt. Ronald Clarke of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade signs up at the Education Center to talk to a counselor about the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

Then you throw in a work stoppage; that just exacerbates the situation."

The Installation Management Command attributed the ACES' imbalance in contractors to government ratio — about one-third government workers to two-thirds contract staff — as a legacy of manpower cuts in fiscal 2005-06. IMCOM's plan for correcting the imbalance is through a fiscal 2012 concept which will flip the ratio to two-thirds government.

The Education Center's mission is to provide education services primarily to military personnel. It also serves family members, retirees, Army civilians and contractors. Its clients include deployed Soldiers, too. The center served 585 customers in November. Its service area ranges from "Birmingham, Ala., north to the Tennessee border and from the Georgia state line west to the Mississippi River," said Williams, who was a product of the Army education system as a Soldier.

See **Lesson** on page 9



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FINAL EXAM— Redstone firefighters take Thursday's final exam for the Emergency Medical Technician-Basic course taught for five weeks at the Education Center by the Alabama Fire College out of Tuscaloosa. Twelve firefighters took the class which covered a three-month course. "They've all done extremely well," instructor Bailey Price said.

An open lane random survey

What does Pearl Harbor Day mean to you?

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Sgt. 1st Class Teresa Bozeman
SMDC/ARSTRAT

"It's a tragedy because a lot of people were senselessly killed. The attack on Pearl Harbor devastated a lot of people. And many lives were lost."

Greg Heath
SMDC/ARSTRAT G-8 (Resource Management)

"Remembering those that have fallen serving their country, really. I've been to Pearl Harbor. I visited the Arizona Memorial out there. It's inspiring. It's somewhat sad, of course."



Mark Hubbs
SMDC/ARSTRAT

"It was the start of America's greatest conflict, and it revealed our greatest generation. I've visited the site many times passing through Honolulu on the way to

Kwajalein. In fact every time I visit, I pass through the Arizona Memorial. I think every American should go through at least once."

Sharon Watkins
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

"It's a terrible tragedy which brought us into the international stage. Although Americans had been fighting for other countries – Canada or whomever – America as a nation becomes involved in World War II. It's no longer over there."



Letters to the Editor

Veterans appreciate community's support

The members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5162 would like to thank all the great people of the Redstone Arsenal community for their support of our Veterans Day Buddy Poppy distribution. Without the generosity of the good people that support the Buddy Poppy distribution, we would not be able to continue our full support of the programs sponsored by the VFW.

We will continue to provide our support of the Tut Fann Veterans Home, Teacher of the Year, Fireman of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, Patriot Pen, Voice of Democracy, and the other programs sponsored by the VFW such as our ongoing support of the ROTC units in the Huntsville and Madison County school systems.

It is impossible to thank each and every one of you individually for your contributions but we just want you to know that your support not only helps but is truly appreciated.

And we wish everyone happy and safe holidays.

Gary Helson

VFW Post 5162 commander

Building occupant on schedule

Reference the shuttle schedule which appears on page 7 of the Nov. 25 *Rocket*: Building 5220 is SMDC, not MDA. MDA is building 5222 (and soon to include building 5223 probably).

Phil Patterson

SMDC

Fellow Americans, please, show r-e-s-p-e-c-t

I am a member of the AMCOM community and a government employee. My issue is the derogatory comments I so often hear about our president in this public environment (cubicles). I am concerned that our work force is not showing the support we all raised our right hand and agreed to show when hired. I am equally disturbed because I served 22 years of active duty defending so many freedoms while ultimately supporting the president's orders. I believe that there should be more respect shown in the workplace.

Certain conversations are not suitable for the workplace. We all have our own personal opinions on politics and, I believe, they should remain personal in this environment. We are all government employees. We all are here in support of, in this case, the Soldiers and ultimately our president. In some respect, hostile working environments are being created by some of these conversations.

I can understand the other side of the argument introducing freedom of speech as an issue as well.

Name withheld by request

Quote of the week

'Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy. The United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. It is obvious that planning the attack began many weeks ago, during the intervening time the Japanese government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace. The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American military forces, I regret to tell you that over 3,000 American lives have been lost. No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory. Because of this unprovoked, dastardly attack by Japan, I ask that the Congress declare a state of war.'

— President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Redstone Rocket has holiday break

The *Redstone Rocket* will celebrate the holidays by taking a two-week break Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. After the Dec. 16 publication, our first issue next year is Jan. 6. We hope you enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Courtney Helmick

Job: Cashier, Post Restaurant Fund at the Sparkman Center

Where do you call home?
Morgantown, West Virginia

What do you like about your job?
I get to meet very nice people. Even though I'm a cashier, my job varies. I get to do tons of things. I constantly learn things all the time.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Read. And watch movies. Sleep – I love to sleep in my spare time (laugh).

What are your goals?
I plan on going to school – for what yet, I have no idea. I plan on getting a house sometime soon. Hopefully this year or next year. And basically having a family of my own; I really want one. Not right now, but in the future.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?
I want to go to Bora Bora. I want to spend a week on an island – away from anybody else. Just me and the sand and the sun. Not just Bora Bora, but some little island. Just a little island somewhere.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Nov. 26 through Dec. 2:

Nov. 28: When a driver was pulled over for failure to stop at a stop sign, she was found to have a suspended license. Also, a warrant had been issued for her arrest by Madison County. She was issued two violation notices and released to Madison County.

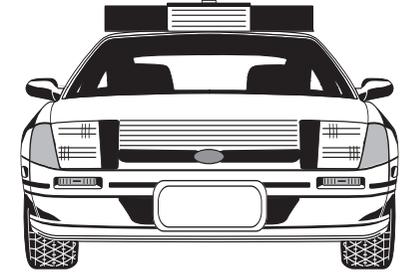
Dec. 1: A subject became disorderly and used profanity while inside the Regions Bank. Redstone law enforcement removed the subject from the bank and issued a violation notice for disorderly conduct.

Dec. 1: During a random inspection at Gate 10, a rifle and shotgun were found in the rear seat of a vehicle. The weapons were confiscated and the driver received a

violation notice.

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

Violation notices issued: 4 speeding, 1 disorderly conduct, 6 failure to observe traffic control device, 1 suspended driver's license, 1 possession of weapons, 1 improper backing.



Redstone worker succumbs to fatal heart attack

Retired lieutenant colonel remembered as veteran, civic leader, family man

Retired Lt. Col. Mike Murphy suffered a heart attack Dec. 2 while at his desk in the Program Directorate, Aircraft Survivability Equipment. He was resuscitated in the office by co-workers and Redstone firemen, but later died at the Crestwood Medical Center. He was 62.

His funeral was Saturday at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Huntsville. His family, co-workers and the Huntsville community will miss him.

Murphy's work in support of Soldiers most recently consisted of managing the integration of the Army's latest ASE on

fixed wing aircraft deployed in the War on Terror. He was knowledgeable and effective, serving as an engineer for Computer Sciences Corporation for the past seven years and in support of PD ASE for the last two years. Murphy retired from the Army Reserves in 2006 as a decorated veteran, having served more than 13 years on active duty, including combat service in Vietnam.

He was also a contributor to the Huntsville community as a member of the Optimist Club, Indian Guides Club, and the National Team



Mike Murphy

America Rocket Challenge where he worked with the Stone/Westlawn Middle School chapter.

This year, Murphy helped the Rocket Boys from Stone become the only team from Alabama to make the finals in the nationwide Team America Rocketry Challenge, the largest rocket contest in the world sponsored by the Aerospace Industries Association and the National Association of Rocketry in conjunction with NASA, the Defense Department, the American Association of Physics teachers and 34 AIA member companies. Out of 653 teams registered for the

competition, Stone Middle School's six-member team was one of the top 100 teams selected nationwide based on their qualifying score to travel to northern Virginia in May for the National Fly Off. He loved his family and was selected as a Father of the Year in Huntsville in 2006.

Murphy was a pilot who owned his own plane and was passionate about aviation in general and his Pontiac GTO sports car in particular. He was known for his broad smiles, generous and giving spirit, and willingness to lend a helping hand whenever needed.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Murphy; daughter, Meagan; son, Robert; mother, Mary Brockob; sisters, Katherine Judy-Murphy and Maryann Ballard Russell; and several nieces and nephews.

Afghan troop increase won't change plans to up dwell time

By C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A 30,000 boots-on-the-ground increase in Afghanistan will not change the Army's plans to cut Stop Loss, stabilize deployment lengths or increase dwell time for Soldiers.

In a message to Army leaders, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. said the impact from the increase "will not be as significant" as Soldiers might think.

The general said that due to the 70,000-Soldier increase the Army has experienced over the last five years, the addition of 30,000 servicemembers in Afghanistan would be able to happen without the Army needing to go to 15-month deployments, without decreasing dwell time at home station below 12 months, and

without halting the plan to come off stop loss.

The general also said that if the Iraq drawdown continues, the Army will move closer to its goals for dwell time — increasing the time troops spend at home between deployments — eventually reaching a 1:2 dwell time for active-duty Soldiers, and a 1:4 dwell time for reserve-component Soldiers.

"Even with the increase ordered by the president, we estimate that about 70 percent of the active component will reach these goals by 2011," he wrote. "The remainder of the force will continue to see their dwell rate increase and should meet these goals by 2012."

During a speech Dec. 1 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., President Barack Obama announced the increase of 30,000 servicemembers to support the 68,000 already in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"It is in our vital national interest to send an additional 30,000 U.S. troops to Afghanistan," Obama said. "After 18 months, our troops will begin to come home. These are the resources that we need to seize the initiative, while building the Afghan capacity that can allow for a responsible transition of our forces out of Afghanistan."

Criteria for a drawdown would include the ability of the Afghans to provide security for their own country, said David Sedney, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia.

"There's the criteria that we'll be looking for, and it'll be a district-by-district, province-by-province process," Sedney said in a Blogger's Roundtable on Dec. 1.

Equipping the Afghans to provide that security, said Brig. Gen. John Nicholson, director of the Pakistan-Afghanistan Coordination Cell, Joint Staff, would be the role of both American Soldiers and Coalition partners.

Visit the Thrift Shop for this year's Christmas list

Consignment store has bargains galore

By **AMY GUCKEEN**
Staff writer
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This Christmas don't let Santa's wish list break the bank – shop the Thrift Shop to get a great price, for an even better cause.

If it's jewelry for your wife, Candy Land for the kids or even a computer game for yourself, the Thrift Shop has it all. From CDs to books, luggage, furniture, collectibles, uniforms, and of course, Christmas decorations, the shelves hold plenty of treasures. And the appeal is undeniable – bargain prices where every dime goes to a great cause. The shop, a 501c hosted by Redstone Arsenal, identifies the needs in the community, and sends all proceeds to those areas.

"We're giving back to the community," said Karen Thompson, manager of the Thrift Shop. "We're not putting it in our pockets. If that mission stopped then there's no reason for us to be here. We're not here for convenience. We're here to make a difference."

The dedicated group behind the store is giving back even more this Christmas through a new outreach, Tips for Troops. The gentle smile and year-round Christmas cheer of cashier Christel Judd began bringing in tips to the shop, a dollar here, a few dimes there. While Judd placed the extra money in a jar to keep her register balanced, the money slowly began to add up. Before they knew it, the staff had \$100. Inspired by Judd's two sons deployed to Iraq and Kosovo, the staff decided to put the money toward sending care packages filled with goodies to deployed Soldiers.

"Everyone wants to do something," Thompson said. "We have the resources. We want to keep giving that back."

A poster of a Soldier, who resembles one of Judd's sons near the cash register, paired with a donation jar, often strikes up a conversation between Judd and her customers who often feel compelled to give even more back, sometimes as much as \$20.

"That's so sweet of them," Judd said. "I can tell how much they care. I love my customers. They are so beautiful."



Photo by Amy Guckeen

SERVICE MINDED— Thrift Shop cashier Christel Judd greets customers and accepts tips as part of Tips for Troops.

It is through the generosity of donors and around 40 volunteers willing to give of their time that the shop is as successful as it is. Clean and well-stocked, with everything on sale compared to average retail prices, the shop offers a great selection to the Arsenal community.

"I love giving back to the military community," said Michaelle Goforth, a Thrift Shop board member and volunteer. "You know that the younger military can come here and shop and come away with quality."

Inventory of the shop is constantly rotated to ensure the best deals, color coded tags indicate whether an item is full price, 50 or 75 percent off. Consult the wall near the 75 percent off room to determine what colors mean what for the week. With a stock room practically filled to the ceiling, there's always something new.

"We have a huge selection," Thompson said.

The Thrift Shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road; look for the candy canes. Shopping hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shop accepts cash and checks. Consignments are taken Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Donations – no hazardous materials, flammables or firearms – may be dropped off near the back door, in the large green donation bin. The shop is closed for the holidays Dec. 22 through Jan. 4.



Christmas season lights up Arsenal

Bicentennial Chapel begins season with tree lighting and family cheer

By KARI HAWKINS
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The holiday spirit came alive Dec. 3 with an evening at Bicentennial Chapel that focused on the seventh annual lighting of the Christmas tree, but included much more.

Children and their parents decorated holiday tiles compliments of Home Depot on South Parkway, oohed and awed over the holiday display outside the chapel, visited a nativity scene, were treated to cookies and hot chocolate, enjoyed holiday music performed by the Columbia High choir and petted live reindeer. The Christmas Extravaganza was hosted by Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation.

At just the right time, the crowd, including Soldiers of Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, gathered around the unlit Christmas tree for its annual lighting.

The Christmas tree is a live evergreen planted in 1987, and dedicated to servicemembers listed as prisoners of war or missing in action.

"It represents those deployed, those who have given their lives and the families that have made sacrifices," said Arsenal Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Marvin Luckie.

Comments were made by both Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, and Redstone and Aviation and Missile Command com-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

HIT THE LIGHTS— Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles invites waiting spouse Renata Simpson and her 9-month-old daughter Nicole, wounded warrior Sgt. Sophia Malone of SMDC/ARSTRAT and 832nd Ordnance Battalion's Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Johnson to flip the switch on the Christmas tree lights at Bicentennial Chapel during the Christmas Extravaganza on Dec. 3. The tree can be seen in all its glittery glory at night in front of the chapel.

mander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles.

"Tree lightings are a special occasion," Pastorelli told the waiting crowd.

Myles invited special guests to join him for flipping the "on" switch that lit the Christmas tree. Those guests were: Renata Simpson, whose husband, Maj. Jeffrey Simpson is deployed to Afghanistan, and her daughter Nicole, 9 months; wounded warrior Sgt. Sophia Malone of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and 832nd Ordnance Battal-

ion Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Johnson, whose wife, Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Johnson, is deployed to Iraq with the 3rd Infantry Division.

After the lighting, a special visitor was escorted to the chapel by an Arsenal Fire Department fire truck. Santa Claus arrived in a reindeer-drawn sleigh with two guests – Serena Simpson, 6, and Abrianna Johnson, 7. Santa then went inside the chapel, where children sat on his lap, told him their Christmas wishes, had their picture taken and received a toy reindeer.

With the festivities winding



Photo by Kari Hawkins

DECORATING FOR HOLIDAYS— Becky Skinner of the Home Depot on South Parkway helps Leila Brantley, 3, paint a tile at the Christmas Extravaganza at Bicentennial Chapel on Dec. 3. Leila is the daughter of Christina Brantley of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

down, thoughts began turning toward the big day on Dec. 25. For the Johnson family, it will be a day without their mom.

"We'll light the Christmas tree, get some presents and keep them occupied," Johnson said of spending the day with his two daughters, Abrianna and Aunyah. "They think about their mom every day. And, even though she won't be here, we want to make their Christmas a happy one."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REINDEER SMILE— Justin Krueger, 7, has fun at the Christmas Extravaganza dressed incognito as a reindeer. He attended the event with his dad, Sgt. 1st Class Rick Krueger of Fox Army Health Center, mom Michelle Krueger and 1-year-old sister Megan.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHARING WISHES— Maya Johnson, 4, is happy to sit on Santa's lap and talk to him about her special Christmas wishes. She is the daughter of Trudy Brown who works in the Utility Helicopter Project Office.

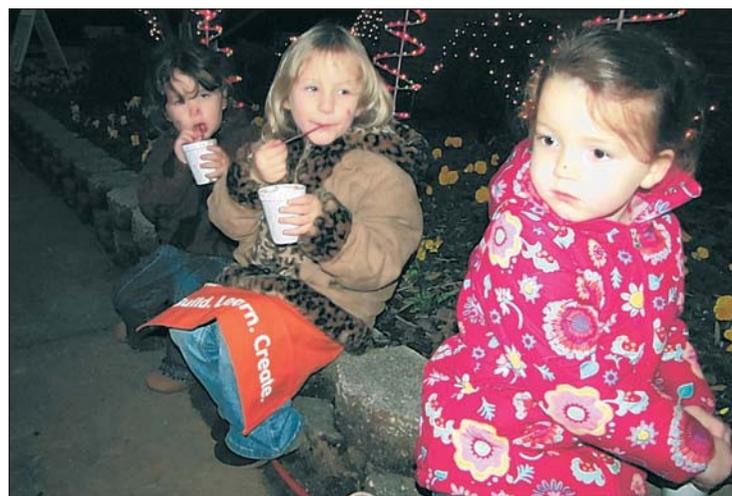


Photo by Kari Hawkins

THREE MERRY SISTERS— Hot chocolate and glittery lights were all the three Beech sisters needed to have a good time at the Dec. 3 Christmas Extravaganza. Sharing the special night are, from left, 3-year-old McKenzie, 6-year-old Kaitlynn and 4-year-old Natalie. They are the daughters of Jasmine Beech, who is an Arsenal gate guard, and Tennessee National Guard Sgt. Kory Beech, who recently returned from a deployment in Iraq.

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:

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.

Auto Skills

The Auto Skills Open House is Dec. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Auto Skills Center, building 3617 on Entac Circle. For more informa-

tion, call 955-7728 or 955-7727.

Teen focus

Teen Focus Group and Holiday Party is Dec. 9, 14 and 16 from 3:45-4:45 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148 on Youth Center Road. For more information, call 955-8401 or 876-3294.

Gift wrapping

Better Opportunities for Single Soldier will hold a free gift wrapping Dec. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Post Exchange. Donations are welcome.

Youth classes

SKIES Unlimited Beginners and Advance Sign Language Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30-4:15 p.m. for ages 5-6 and 4:30-5:30 p.m. for age 7 and older. For more information, call 876-3704, 876-6674 or 603-5009.

Auto center rolls doors up and welcome mat out

Open house event Dec. 16 to showcase new offerings

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
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Doing your own automotive maintenance is an easy way to save money. See the possibilities at the Auto Skills Center's open house Dec. 16.

The event from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. should accommodate most schedules, according to Auto Skills Center business manager Bill Woosley.

"We're putting the word out," he said. "We want to see everyone here to take advantage of what we offer them."

Visitors will receive a tour of the facility and hear about the services, which include some new things. Most noticeable are the shiny red toolboxes that grace the service bays. They are much more than decorative. The drawers of each are filled with snap-on tools, a favorite of professional mechanics.

"That's almost \$80,000 in brand new tools," Woosley said. "There are 13 of them here for our customers' use."

Instead of going to the service window in the shop, customers now have the option of signing for an entire toolbox for the duration of their visit. Having a complete, professional tool kit in their service bay prevents numerous trips to the tool window. Afterward, a staff member will check the box's inventory to ensure nothing has been misplaced. If it has, then the customer would simply pay for the replacement of the item in question.

Woosley is also proud of the new tire equipment in the shop. A laser balancer



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

FINISHED JOB— Auto Skills Center business manager Bill Woosley restored his 1967 Dodge Charger using the services and tools available at the center.

lets users calculate their tire balance and positioning with precision. This can reduce or eliminate the need for weights. A new tire machine will not only accommodate standard tires and rims, it will also handle all custom sizes.

"We can do any vehicle tire that comes in here now," Woosley said. "It will even do those 27-inch rims with about an inch of side wall on them."

The new brake lathe can refinish brake components on the car without the need to remove them. Besides being a time saver, it can be a money saver as well, according to Woosley.

"That's a life saver for the customer," he said. "When you have to disassemble the hub, you are more likely to need expensive bearing replacements."

They also have new exhaust tubing benders for working on custom exhaust systems. The paint booth offers 860,000 Btu's of heat for a truly baked-on finish.

However, the most valuable tool at the Auto Skills Center isn't new at all. The staff members are always ready to offer advice and instruction to would-be mechanics of any level. They will be at the open house to conduct the center's mandatory 30-minute safety class. Any-

one wishing to use the center must complete the safety class before they can use anything in the facility. Classes will be conducted hourly during the open house.

The shop will be getting a few upgrades over the coming months. The facility has just made the change from steam heat to natural gas. As the old steam equipment is removed, the additional space will allow for repositioning of some of the lift-bays and machinery to be reorganized in a more user-friendly configuration.

"Mid-February they're going to start on the exterior renovations – new doors, new siding, new gutters," Woosley said. "We've also got a work order in to redo our parking lot. We're hoping to fence our lot in and pave the front so no customers are parking in mud. It's really going to be nice."

While the high-tech look of many cars and their components scare some people away from doing their own maintenance and repairs, many jobs are cheap and easy for even the least experienced. For the more advanced, the center offers access to equipment that most front yard mechanics could not otherwise get their hands on.

"In this shop right now, we can do just about anything," Woosley said.

He should know. Woosley has spent two years rebuilding a 1967 Dodge Charger from rusted hulk to shiny showpiece. He has done the work himself, using the tools and equipment available to all of Redstone inside the center. Even its silver paint job was done in the center's booth.

Snacks and finger foods will be served during the open house. For more information, call the facility at 955-7727 or visit www.redstonemwr.com/html/auto.html.

Career Fair pairs employers with work force

Team Redstone qualities in demand by industry

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
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The Redstone Arsenal Defense Technology & Intelligence Career Fair on Dec. 1 was a chance for Team Redstone members to see what job opportunities are available on post and nationwide.

For four hours, potential job seekers mingled with those looking to put their skill sets and experience to use. Seventeen booths ringed the gym at the Redstone Fitness Center.

Some were government agencies, like the Defense Contract Management Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency, looking for qualified candidates. Civilian Personnel Advisory Center was also there to discuss vacancies and the government application and selection process.

Others represented contractors, from small businesses to large corporations. David Krecklow, senior resource manager for CIBER Federal, said that his company is looking for the unique

qualities that members of the Arsenal work force possess.

"We're looking to build relationships at Redstone," he said. "We're looking for people with an Army background who know how to do business here."

The talents of the post's team impressed many of the visiting companies, including Computer Sciences Corporation.

"This is an outstanding venue with highly qualified candidates," CSC's Michael Turok said. "We've taken a stack of resumes. I've already talked to four or five potential hires here."

Having so many qualified applicants in different fields all in one place was surprising for CSC's Steve Brahn.

"Most of the time at these fairs you see the same kind of people," Brahn said. "But there are a wide variety of skill sets here."

Civilians weren't the only ones making good use of the employer gathering. The event also let Soldiers approaching retirement or separation test the waters for a civilian career.

"I retire next year," Sgt. 1st Class Richard Stevens said. "I'm here taking advantage of what Redstone is offering."



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

NETWORKING— Forrest Cargile of Defense Intelligence Agency talks to James Yearta about the career opportunities offered at the Redstone Arsenal Defense Technology & Intelligence Career Fair.

Hundreds land for aviation maintenance conference



Photo by Amy Guckeen

CROWD— Attendees of the Army Aviation Maintenance Conference gathered at Bob Jones Auditorium Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 to share ideas and troubleshoot problems in the field. Approximately 450 people attended the event.

Second annual event explores future fight

By AMY GUCKEEN

Staff writer

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Men and women in the line of Army aviation maintenance gathered at Bob Jones Auditorium Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 to help support the future fight at the second annual Army Aviation Maintenance Conference.

More than 400 attendees and 23 vendors from across the country gathered to discuss tactical and strategic maintenance issues, more than doubling last year's attendance, according to Francine Stone with FMWR, who helped coordinate the exhibitors, registration and social events. Highlights of the conference included welcoming remarks by AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, a social and plenty of opportunities to learn about developments and address issues.

"People don't come here for briefings, they come here to address concerns," said aviation branch maintenance officer Chief Warrant Officer 5 Thomas Somers, host of the event with Aviation and Missile Command. "The answers are here. This is a total life cycle management system, from 'I need a widget' to 'I need to get rid of that widget.'"

"It's a way of keeping informed on current topics and networking with people out in the field that have been deployed," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Bob Wold, with the New York National Guard. "We're able to bring issues that we experience on a day-to-day basis. We're able to meet face-to-face."

The theme of the conference, "Supporting the Future Fight," became all too appropriate with President Obama's

announcement last week that 30,000 more troops will be deployed to Afghanistan.

"What are the program managers and all the readiness guys doing to support that future fight in the next two years?" Somers said. "The whole function of maintenance is to provide commanders with combat power. We're heavily focused on the fight that's going on in Afghanistan and Iraq. Whether troops are increasing or decreasing, our mission will stay the same."

The wide range of conference attendees, which included both new Soldiers and senior Soldiers, provided a large range of institutional knowledge.

"The intent is to share that knowledge," Somers said. "We help the next unit go in with all the lessons learned."

Vendors that attended were not only given the opportunity to share their products, but to also meet the men and women that utilize their products. For Huntsville-based Blue Force Tracking, which provides two-way beyond line of sight communication systems, the mileage to the conference wasn't much, but the rewards were many.

"It's not just a name and a telephone number," said Alan Aden of the company's presence at AAMC. "We're putting a face to the person that helps them."

"We're making sure that major, that colonel, that E-4 gets to shake hands and meet their field service reps," added Jordan Aldredge.

The conference, in its second year, will continue at Redstone, according to Somers, where it makes perfect sense given the wide array of organizations, such as PEO Aviation and AMCOM, that play a role in the aviation maintenance field.

"It's been a huge success," Somers said. "This has far exceeded my expectations."

Veteran of Year works to serve

Bennett relies on support of warrant officers group

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
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Max Bennett will be the first to point out that he isn't a one-man show.

Although he was recognized as the 2009 Veteran of the Year by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition during its annual Veterans Day Dinner, Bennett said the real credit goes to the members of the Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officers Association and other organizations who have worked alongside him in serving veterans and providing support for community initiatives.

"This is a very personal award, and I am honored and



Courtesy photo

HONORING VETERAN— Max Bennett, center, represents the difference veterans can make through volunteer work with both Soldiers and in the community. He was awarded for his volunteer work with the Veteran of the Year award presented to him by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition at the Veterans Day Dinner on Nov. 10. Among the dignitaries congratulating Bennett on his award were Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of SMDC/ARSTRAT, and Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle.

See **Serve** on page 18

Marshall center honors veterans and their families with banners

Marshall Space Flight Center held a meet-and-greet Nov. 19 to honor its veterans and present American Legion Blue Star Banners, commanding general coins and AUSA Blue Star Banner coins to 12 family members of deployed servicemembers.

Center director Robert Lightfoot said roughly 5 percent of the center civil servants are veterans and thanked them for their critical contribution to the success of the center.

Guest speaker and Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles applauded the many ties and close partnership between Marshall and the Redstone community and asked that everyone remember the deployed servicemembers and family members during the holiday season.

Organizer Allan Day, Vietnam era veteran and Disabled Veterans Program manager, Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity, Marshall Space Flight Center, noted that the blue star banner tradition goes back to the first world war when banners were displayed in windows of houses to show a family's pride in the service of their loved ones. He also noted that he was appreciative that senior leadership took the time to show their pride in servicemembers and their family members.



Courtesy photo

BANNER EVENT— From left are Robert Lightfoot, director of Marshall Space Flight Center; Rita Brock, mother of a deployed Soldier; Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal; and Bob Devlin, deputy director for center operations.

Security command sells relationships

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
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U.S. Army Security Assistance Command is not the largest organization to move to Redstone, but they do have some of the biggest clients and visitors. On Nov. 10, they welcomed Brig. Gen. Bhupesh Jain of India's army.

"Brig. Gen. Jain is the military attache at the Embassy of India in Washington," Dortha Shields, country program manager for India at USASAC, said. "He is new at the embassy and wanted to visit USASAC to strengthen the relationship we have with the Indian military."

Jain spent the day visiting with USASAC officials at Redstone. He was briefed on the organization, what they do and the process they undertake for all of their foreign military sales.

"We went through several of their (Indian) FMS programs," Shields explained. "He wanted to know their status and how we could help each other move those forward."

A face-to-face visit is a good way for both nations to strengthen their relationships, said Michelle Voeller, USASAC congressional and public affairs. The foreign military sales process is complicated for both sides. Simply sitting down together to discuss the process equipment and training items must go through helps everyone understand the time it takes.

"It's a great opportunity to discuss how we can make things better," Voeller said. "It's also a chance for the visiting nation to get a quick tutorial on the process we follow."

A visit also puts names and faces to that process, building bonds between the countries. Jain exchanged a small gift with USASAC commander Brig. Gen. Christopher Tucker. He was able to talk with the pro-



Photo by Michelle Voeller

TOP VISITOR— USASAC commander Brig. Gen. Christopher Tucker accepts a token of appreciation from Brig. Gen. Bhupesh Jain of India's army.

gram manager and the people who work the FMS for India.

"At USASAC we don't just sell the equipment," Voeller said. "It's a total package. There is a relationship there, not just a name on a package of a person that you don't know."

After completing his Redstone visit, Jain was headed to USASAC's New Cumberland, Pa., facility on Nov. 30 where he was scheduled to tour their services as well.

"He'll be briefed on the USASAC, New Cumberland functions and on the transportation process," Shields said. "They do requisition and execution there in New Cumberland. It's where they orchestrate all the big moves."

A follow-up visit between USASAC and the Indian Army is in the works for the beginning of 2010. The organization wants to continue the close working relationship with India that has already spanned more than a decade.

"He (Jain) seemed very pleased. It was very productive," Shields said. "We're working on our relationship and the relationship between our nations."

Education Center has resumed Army Personnel Testing

Lesson

continued from page 1

"We provide remedial through graduate-level work," Edwards said, "to meet the needs of Soldiers in order for them to reach their educational goals."

"We are able to provide services to all customers," Winston said.

The Education Center, building 3222 on Snoop-er Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Its phone number is 876-9761.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LEADERSHIP— From left are Joe Winston, the Garrison's director of human resources; Dr. Grey Edwards, chief of the Army Continuing Education System for the Fort Benning, Ga., hub which includes Redstone Arsenal; and Charles Williams, education services officer for Redstone, under the Directorate of Human Resources.

Around town

Honor Flight schedules last voyage

Program to fly vets to memorial ends with flights in spring 2010

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Since its inception in 2007, Honor Flight Tennessee Valley has flown 1,002 World War II veterans free of charge to Washington, D.C. to see their memorial.

The one-day trips, which started with the maiden voyage of 14 veterans flown on a commercial flight, grew into major community events both in Huntsville and D.C., involving hundreds of volunteers and flag-waving well wishers along with a show of patriotism that followed the veterans as they visited their memorial, Arlington Cemetery, the Korean War Memorial, the Marine Corps Memorial and other D.C. sites.

Those trips are destined to become part of history in the spring of 2010 as Honor Flight completes its final flight.

“This program has been about the recognition of the accomplishments of these veterans. They are the oldest living generation who paid for the freedom we



Photo by Eric Schultz

HISTORICAL VISIT— Honor Flight Tennessee Valley is known for flying World War II veterans to Washington, D.C. for free to see their memorial, which was built 60 years after the end of World War II. Joe Fitzgerald, center, spearheaded the local program and conducted ceremonies during the memorial visit. Honor Flight Tennessee Valley will come to an end in 2010 after two flights in the spring.

are enjoying. We owe them everything, and we are grateful we've been able to give them Honor Flight,” said Joe Fitzgerald, who has spearheaded the local Honor

Flight effort and who serves as president of the Honor Flight board of directors.

See **Flight** on page 11



Photo by Eric Schultz

LIFETIME MEMORIES— Some 1,002 World War II veterans from the Tennessee Valley have participated in Honor Flight Tennessee Valley. The organization has made Jan. 31 the deadline for all WW II applications for the program.

Fuel cell powered system successfully flight tested

By Lt. TENG OOI
For the Rocket

An Office of Naval Research Naval Science and Technology Reserve Program Science and Technology Unit 102 research liaison officer, in collaboration with Penn State University's Applied Research Laboratory, Kuchera Engineering and Jadoo Power has successfully flight tested a new fuel cell system which powered payload and avionics on a Mako Unmanned Aerial Vehicle at the Army's Yuma Proving Ground in Yuma, Ariz.

This project was sponsored by ONR Code 31 for the Naval Air Systems Command. The Mako UAV was manufactured by L3 Communications/Battlefield Air Interdiction Aerosystems for NAVMAR Applied Science Corporation. The Mako UAV weighs approximately 110 pounds with a wing span of 12-feet, 11-inches and has a proven history of reconnaissance and surveillance flight missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Mako UAV is low cost and highly respected by U.S. Special Operations Command field personnel. The UAV-100 fuel cell

was designed and built by Jadoo using commercially available hardware, a fuel cell stack, and packaging components. KE developed the plan for the fuel cell integration and integrated the UAV-100 into the Mako.

The Mako UAV flew for more than an hour and consumed 8 grams of compressed hydrogen gas. The UAV-100 system provided 63 watts of power to the avionics systems and to the nose camera and video transmitter payload during the entire flight.

The flight test Aug. 13 successfully demonstrated the airworthiness of the UAV-100 to withstand launch, trajectory accelerations, landing and the effects of the operational environment. The fuel cell is forward compatible with advanced hydrogen storage technologies that have the potential to increase payload endurance time by up to 300 percent. The potential of this payload duration improvement has profound implications for increasing the payload capability of Class 2 UAVs. Furthermore, this fuel cell technology is scaleable to any UAV platform.

Editor's note: Navy Reserve Lt. Teng Ooi, who has a doctorate, is the interceptor lead engineer at Missile Defense Agency.



Courtesy photo

POWER TEAM— Mako UAV fuel cell team members include, from left, Jim Cronauer, Lt. Teng Ooi, Eric Brown, Bob Cochran, Mike Baxter, Ken Robinson, Tiffany Frazier and Mack Knobbe.

Final flight planned in 2010 for veterans program

Flight

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Currently, Honor Flight has a database of almost 200 WW II veterans who will fly on the April 24 and May 29 Honor Flights. The organization will continue to take applications for those flights through Jan. 31.

"We're asking the community that if they know any World War II veterans who are able to go on the flight and who want to see their memorial, to get their applications into us right away. We're encouraging applications to come in," Fitzgerald said.

"Some of the 200 we have signed up right now will not be able to go in the spring. Time changes everything for these veterans."

The Jan. 31 deadline marks the beginning of the end of Honor Flight Tennessee Valley.

"We need the Jan. 31 cutoff date so that we can determine how we will fly all our WW II veterans to their memorial," Fitzgerald said. "We hope to fill up both flights. And we will schedule more flights if we have to so that all veterans who want to see their memorial and who are able to see their memorial can make the trip."

Since April 2007, Honor Flight has flown veterans on nine flights — one commercial flight for 14 and the other eight chartered flights that allowed the organization to fly up to 125 vet-

erans on each along with guardians, medical personnel and other key volunteers. About 40 guardians actually make the flight with the rest of the guardians recruited from organizations and companies located in the D.C. area.

With every flight, Fitzgerald and other volunteers have noticed a marked decline in the health of WW II veterans. Today, the youngest WW II veteran is 81, with most in their late 80s or early 90s.

"Because of the age, frailty and health of these veterans, we need to finish this program," he said. "They've gotten so frail, their medical conditions so severe, that now's the time. We've seen more and more health issues on our flights, more oxygen, more health requests, more use of permanent wheelchairs, more heart conditions, and more serious, serious health conditions.

"We need to consider the safety of veterans and bring this program to a very wonderful ending. This is the right time to end it. Going beyond this time would not be the best thing for WW II veterans."

Although earlier plans included continuing Honor Flights for Korean War and Vietnam War veterans upon completion of the WW II flights, Fitzgerald said that plan has changed and that he foresees another group of volunteers taking up that effort when the time is right.

"The discussion among the Honor Flight board and volunteers is that we need to bring this program to an end. We need to get it done. We need to accomplish this mission," Fitzgerald said. "We believe there will be an initiative to honor Korean War veterans and Vietnam War veterans in a similar manner. Some group will step forward to do that."

Honor Flight has been made possible due to the donations of hundreds of Tennessee Valley residents, organizations and corporations. Liberty's Legacy donated enough funds to pay for the most recent flight on Oct. 24. Several local organizations, including Redstone Arsenal employee groups, have made donations to the program.

The WW II program tugged at the heartstrings of donors for two reasons — one, the 60-year time span between the war and when the memorial was built made it more difficult for older veterans to visit it and, two, WW II veterans fought in a world war for freedom.

With the ramp down of the Honor Flight program, Fitzgerald said he will refocus his efforts to help raise funds for the much-needed new Veterans Memorial Museum, which will be more modern and spacious than its current warehouse-type facility that is owned by the city and located in John Hunt Park.

"We need to build a museum to honor all veterans for now and evermore," he said. "The museum is something that will go on forever and be a benefit for the

entire community. Libraries and museums define a community in terms of its character. We want to ensure we have one of the best military museums in the nation."

With the Army's growth on Redstone Arsenal, including the addition of a four-star general and the headquarters of the Army Materiel Command, Fitzgerald said the community needs a world-class veterans museum "to honor every veteran who has ever served."

Each Honor Flight costs about \$100,000. With 11 flights total, a substantial amount of funds have been raised for the Honor Flight program. Fitzgerald would like to see similar funds raised for the memorial museum.

"We are so thankful we were able to do this during the past four years," he said. "If we started to do it now, Honor Flight wouldn't have worked because the veterans are getting too old and frail. But we are so thankful we've been able to fly those who have been able to go."

About \$75,000 is needed to complete funding for the spring flights. Any funds raised above that amount will be donated to the veterans museum for a WW II and Honor Flight exhibit.

"Every penny we've raised has gone to execute the mission, including travel, meals, T-shirts, insurance, buses and other expenses," Fitzgerald said.

Although Honor Flight was not begun in the Tennessee Valley (it actually was begun by pilot Earl Morris in 2004 and local plans for the program start-

ed in 2006), the local organization does have the distinction of being one of the largest Honor Flight programs, for establishing the safety standard of having one guardian for each veteran, for starting the Honor Flags program and for supporting various other communities in starting their own Honor Flight programs.

"When Earl Morris started this, he used his own small private airplane to transport veterans. When we started planning this at the end of 2006, we realized we were going to have to do this and do it fast," Fitzgerald said.

Since the beginning of Honor Flight, 36,000 WW II veterans have been flown to see their memorial. When the Tennessee Valley organization began, there were only a few others. Now, there are close to 100 organizations scattered throughout the U.S. Of those, the Tennessee Valley organization has helped start efforts in Birmingham, Montgomery, Gadsden, Tupelo, Miss., Knoxville, Franklin, Tenn., and Atlanta.

In addition, the Tennessee Valley organization has flown more than 170 flags of deceased WW II veterans to the memorial through the Honor Flags program, which includes a ceremony at the memorial on the day of an Honor Flight.

To sign up for Honor Flight Tennessee Valley, visit its website at <http://www.honorflight.net>. Donations for Honor Flight can be sent to Honor Flight Tennessee Valley, c/o The Huntsville Times, P.O. Box 1487 WS, Huntsville, AL 35807.

Prototype Integration Facility celebrates milestone



Photo by Calan Helms

PIZZA PARTY— Carolyn Culver, left, the JVYS product lead for Blue Force Tracking, joins the rest of the program staff in celebrating the completion of their BFT goals with a group lunch of pizza and soda. The party was held at the JVYS (Joint Venture Yulista and SES PIF) facility.

Tracking kits produced and delivered on time

By **CALAN HELMS**

For the Rocket

Members of the Prototype Integration Facility took time to celebrate the completion of their work to design, fabricate and deliver 48 Blue Force Tracking-Aviation S-70A kits to the Australian Defense Force.

Hosting the party was Alvin Abejon, the director of Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below Blue Force Tracking-Aviation.

Abejon emphasized the employees' hard work and speed in which they were able to complete the BFT kits and he presented them with an Award of Excellence for their superb service and outstanding support to the Australian Defense Force on behalf of the Army's Blue Force Tracking Aviation program.

"Freedom and democracy don't have a timeline, but getting the tools Soldiers need, to them quickly, is important. And it's not just me that thinks so; the Soldiers appreciate the speed at which you all work, too," Abejon said.

As the lead for the design and prototyping effort for the BFT system, and the key role they played during the initial fielding and support of the system, everyone on the PIF team was aware of the importance of their mission. But it is also important to hear from the customers that they appreciate the work.

"I get letters of thanks all the time; they

(Soldiers) thank us and talk about how remarkable the BFT is, how it's made a difference and how it impacts their lives," Abejon said.

For one member of the Prototype Integration Facility team, this is especially gratifying.

"It's just so amazing," said Emily Herriott, project cost analyst with Joint Venture Yulista and SES PIF. "I really loved working on this. I got to see direct results of the work I was doing. It's such a wonderful thing to get to help others like that, and to know that you're supporting the Soldiers and that they really need you. We're saving lives, and that's a motivation like no other."

In 2002, the PIF integrated Blue Force Tracking on Army helicopters prior to the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Today, they continue to support the Army's BFT system by designing system upgrades, fabricating, installing and validating initial prototypes of new configurations, fabricating prototype hardware that can be fielded, and providing technical support to the installation and sustainment of the system.

"The BFT system uses satellite communications and global positioning system technologies to globally track ground vehicles and aircraft to provide near real-time dynamic situational awareness to air and ground platforms and command nodes," said Gina Best, government product lead for Blue Force Tracking. "The SA information that can be provided to a platform includes locations of friendly and enemy forces overlaid on a map as well as terrain and danger zone information."

Precision missile system hits target at long range

By Maj. JON SHEPARD

For the Rocket

NLOS-LS launched one Precision Attack Missile directed against a stationary target. The missile successfully engaged the stationary BM-21 target utilizing its semi-active laser designation engagement mode at a range of 38 kilometers (23.6 miles). This flight was a successful live warhead round and longest missile engagement distance to be tested in the program to date, demonstrating the precision and lethality that the NLOS-LS system brings to the war fighter.

"GTV-16 established how lethal and precise NLOS-LS truly is," NLOS-LS project manager Col. Doug Dever said. "Once fielded, NLOS-LS will give Soldiers in the Brigade Combat Teams and sailors on Littoral Combat Ships the ability to precisely engage and defeat both stationary and moving targets at extended ranges, a capability they've never had before."

The PAM missile, launched from the NLOS-LS Container Launch Unit used the onboard dual-mode, uncooled imaging infrared and semi-active laser seeker to acquire the laser designated BM-21 stationary target resulting in a direct hit at a range of 38 kilometers. While guiding to the designated target, the PAM missile joined the network with its onboard radio and operated as a node on the network throughout the flight. The missile also sent back terminal target images to the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System prior to impact.

NLOS-LS takes targeting information via AFATDS from the command and control center and sends the info to the NLOS-LS CLU's computer and communications system for initial missile targeting. The missile also receives real-time targeting information from the command and control center for in-flight target updates. This network capability will provide the Brigade Combat Team with unprecedented beyond line-of-sight target lethality.

The GTV-16 missile test is the latest in a series of 18 flight tests. The final series of Guided Test Flights will occur at the Cold Regions Test Center in Fort Greely, Alaska.

The emerging capabilities being tested by the NLOS-LS Project Office as part of the Army Brigade Combat Team Modernization Increment 1 will bring a much needed capability to the Army. The Non-Line of Sight-Launch System provides networked, responsive and rapidly deployable precision strike capability against moving and stationary targets, land and sea, for the Army's modular and future force and Navy's Littoral Combat Ship. It is platform-independent, self-contained and compatible with current and future command and control systems. NLOS-LS is planned for initial fielding to the Infantry Brigade Combat Teams and the Navy's Littoral Combat Ships.

Editor's note: Maj. Jon Shepard is assistant product manager for Precision Attack Missile in the NLOS-LS Project Office.



Photo by Judy Wilson

Engineering talk

The December joint meeting of several engineering professional societies heard a presentation by Joe McInnes, left, head of the Alabama Department of Transportation. George Hamilton, right, of Marshall Space Flight Center attended as a representative of the North Alabama Chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The event was hosted by the Society of American Military Engineers Huntsville Post.

Deploying with the heart of Huntsville



Photo by Kari Hawkins

ONE MORE KISS, PLEASE— Sgt. Alisha Rogers of Hartselle gives her niece, 16-month-old Adalyn Taylor one of many “good-bye” kisses following the deployment ceremony Dec. 2 for the National Guard’s 441st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion. Rogers, a supply sergeant, will travel with the 441st to Camp Shelby, Miss., for additional preparation and training prior to the unit’s deployment to Iraq.

Community sends Soldiers of 441st to Iraq with prayers for safe return

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Leah Shallbetter is bracing herself for another year of separation from her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Rob Shallbetter of the Alabama National Guard’s 441st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion.

The Toney resident can tell the story of her husband’s three deployments based on the ages of the couple’s children – 7-year-old Bette was three weeks old when her father deployed to Afghanistan, 5-year-old Josie was three months old when her father deployed to Iraq and, for his upcoming deployment, the family’s youngest member, John Robert, is 2 1/2 years old.

“I’m nervous about this deployment being a year,” Shallbetter said. “But I have a strong faith in the Lord

and that keeps me at peace. It’s really harder for him because he will be away from the kids for so long.”

The Shallbetters were among several families and a crowd of 500 who attended the deployment ceremony for the 45 Soldiers of the 441st on Dec. 2 at the Jaycees Building in John Hunt Park. The Soldiers left Dec. 3 for additional training and preparation at Camp Shelby, Miss., before deploying to Baghdad, where they will use their training and “the best equipment money can buy” to protect and defend U.S. troops against explosive ordnance and other enemy attacks, said their commander, Lt. Col. Roger Yearwood.

“I want to reassure you your Soldiers are in good hands,” Yearwood told his Soldiers’ families. “They are well-trained and well-equipped. My job is to bring them all home safe to you.”

Yearwood, who was born on the same 40 acres he now lives on in the Cullman area, has served in the active Army and the National Guard



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PLEDGE TO PROTECT— Lt. Col. Roger Yearwood, commander of the 441st, tells the unit’s family members that he will bring its 45 Soldiers safely back from their one-year mission in Iraq. With 36 years of service, this will be Yearwood’s third deployment.

for 36 years. He deployed to Iraq in 2003 and Afghanistan in 2006. He was scheduled to retire about six months ago, but asked for an extension so that he could lead the 441st in Iraq.

“I love being a battalion commander,” he said. “Soldiers need a qualified commander.”

See **Heart** on page 15

Heart

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The 441st will jointly deploy with the 1st Armored Division. It will support Task Force Troy, the counter improvised explosive device mission in Iraq, and will help train at the Iraqi Army Bomb Disposal School, established in 2004.

The deployment to Iraq is a move “back to the fight for many of you,” pointed out Maj. Gen. Abner Blaylock, adjutant general of the Alabama National Guard, referring to the unit’s deployment in 2006 to Afghanistan.

“You’re well-trained and you know your job and a tough job it is. Your job is to protect Soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines in a tough environment. We are at a critical point in Iraq with the transition to Iraqi leadership. There are still a lot of bad guys over there who don’t want that to happen,” Blaylock said.

“It’s a tough time. But you’re going to do a great job. You’re going to accomplish the mission and you are going to come back home in a year.”

The National Guard officers who spoke at the ceremony stressed to the Soldiers that the job of protecting U.S. troops against explosive ordnance is a dangerous one.

“It will frustrate you. It will challenge you,” said Col. Jose Atencio, who commanded the 441st during its deployment to Afghanistan. “You have to be fluid as we drawdown troops. But even with a drawdown, you’re mission doesn’t end in protecting the Soldiers, airmen, Marines and sailors.

“You’re the experts who are going to do the mission. I’m looking for great things from you. This is what we live to do – to serve our nation and our state.”

The leadership in attendance at the ceremony, including Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and several local volunteers, urged the families of the 441st to reach out for assistance when it is needed, and to participate in programs planned by the unit’s family readiness group coordinator, Renee Knight.

“We are a community of service,” said Battle, who proclaimed Dec. 2 as the 441st Ordnance Battalion Day. “We will take care of your families. Our hearts are with you. Our prayers are with you. Our pride is with you.”

Much of the assistance the families will need will be provided with the help of Knight, who is also working on family events to bring the group together.

“The first thing I want to do is bring the kids together at the Space & Rocket Center just to give them the chance to be around other kids who are going through what they are going through,” she said.

Knight is the wife of Sgt. 1st Class Clifton Knight of the 441st. She is the mother of National Guard Spc. Randle Smith, who is also deployed.

“I got into doing things for the families when my son deployed. Now, I really like to do things that bring the families together,” she said.

While Knight takes care of the unit’s families, Yearwood said he plans on relying on MWR activities at Camp Victory, Iraq, and on his barbecue smoker to help keep morale high within his unit.

“I love to cook and I love to cook for my Soldiers,” he said. “I am taking my smoker and some Johnny’s BBQ Sauce from Cullman so that we can have barbecue in Iraq.”

About a third of the Soldiers in the 441st have already served during at least one deployment. For many of the younger Soldiers, the deployment is a chance to test their training as a Soldier.

“I signed up and joined this unit knowing this would happen,” Pfc. James Nash said of the deployment. “This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I’m excited. I’m looking forward to it.”

The 23-year-old, who will be leaving his job in security at Bridge Street Town Center, will be charged with providing computer networking services while deployed. He is not worried about the dangers associated with the deployment.

“We’ve done a lot of good training and I trust everyone going with me. We will watch each other’s back,” he said.

“We’ve been preparing for a year, so I



Photo by Kari Hawkins

STANDING UP FOR U.S. – Alabama National Guard Lt. Lt. Eric Kramer, at left, stands with other Soldiers of the 441st as they are recognized during a Dec. 2 deployment ceremony at the Jaycees Building at John Hunt Park. Kramer, a Pelham police officer, will be in charge of a command security team in Iraq.

am anxious to get started,” added Sgt. Alisha Rogers of Hartselle.

For Lt. Eric Kramer, leaving family – including children ages 8, 6 and six months – is what makes the deployment difficult.

“This is my second deployment. It’s a little bit tougher this time because the children are older and we have the baby. I hope the time goes fast,” said Kramer, a Pelham police officer who will be in charge of a command security team in Iraq.

“As a Soldier, I see this as something I’ve got to do. If it’s not me, it would be someone else. It’s what I do and I am good at it.”

Capt. Chad Laqua, an assistant principal at Buckhorn High, will be leaving not only his wife, a National Guard major who returned last month from her own deployment to Afghanistan, and two children ages 2 and 6, but also an entire high school of students who recognized his sacrifice during a special Veterans Day program.

“We’re trained and we’re ready to go. But it’s still difficult to leave this community,” he said.

The deployment ceremony included the national anthem sung by the Hazel Green

High choir, a tearful rendition of the Battle Hymn of the Republic sung by Alabama National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Donna Johnson, the retiring of the 441st’s colors, and prayers for the Soldiers’ mission success and safe return. Huntsville’s mayor pointed out one Soldier with the 441st who holds an extra special place in the hearts of Huntsville city employees. National Guard Sgt. Michael Nelson is a Huntsville police officer.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW Post 2702 provided refreshments for the event. Other organizations, including the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army and the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, also provided support.

During the program, Guard adjutant general Blaylock presented the 441st’s commander with an Alabama flag.

“I expect you to fly it with pride,” he said. “Every time you fly it let it remind you that the citizens of Alabama are behind you, appreciate what you are doing on your mission and understand you are protecting their freedom.”

Redstone community sends 150 care packages

Soldiers in Afghanistan receive Christmas gifts

By **AMY GUCKEEN**

Staff writer

amy.guckeen@gmail.com

This holiday season a single Christmas tree will light the Afghanistan darkness – and the hearts of the Soldiers of ISAF Joint Command.

“The lighting of a tree has always reminded us that there is still hope, there is still light in the midst of darkness,” said Lt. Col. Mickey Jett, chaplain for the command in Kabul, Afghanistan. “We will light the tree right before dusk and remember God’s blessings upon our nation, remember what we are fighting for, the right to worship God according to the dictates of our heart, the right to sing and know we are blest.”

The tree lighting won’t just bring some Christmas spirit to the Soldiers, but also a special present from Redstone Arsenal and the Huntsville community.

It was less than two weeks ago that Laura Ayers, headquarters AMC program lead for Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages and the Government Industry Data Exchange Program, received an e-mail from Jett, who she had worked with at HQ AMC-forward, letting her know that they were hoping to have a special tree lighting ceremony and wanted to distribute care packages filled with basic necessities to their Soldiers. Ayers responded immediately that 150 special surprises, as well as a Christmas tree would be delivered in time for Christmas.

“The items he asked for were basic need,” Ayers said. “It just seemed this holiday we could help bring comfort to 150 Soldiers.”

Christmas carols will fill the air as each Soldier is invited to pick up a special present under the tree. Each package will not only be filled with Santa hats, deodorant, gum, soap, card games, fruit snacks and DVDs, but also with the most basic of all necessities, love.

“Many of you have been here, and know what it is like, and so the love that goes in those care packages can be seen and felt by all of us,” Jett said. “It renews our attitude



Courtesy photo

FIRST SHIPMENT— John Perry, president of North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, prepares to ship the first seven boxes of care packages to Afghanistan.

during this time of year to do the mission the way it should be done.”

Ayers reached out to the Redstone community and the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, who quickly sprung into action to get the care packages ready in time for Christmas. John Perry, president of the veterans coalition, got in touch with Army Community Service as well as the president of the company he works for, INTUITIVE. Thanks to the generosity of INTUITIVE and president Harold Brewer, the company purchased not just some, but all, the supplies for the care packages.

“We are honored to be able to help our Soldiers in Afghanistan and wish them a blessed, safe and merry Christmas,” Brewer stated. “Thanks to all for the brave work that you do for us at home.”

Once Santa’s long list for the troops had been checked not just once, but twice, the packages were ready to be assembled. Within days volunteers were packing up boxes at ACS and shipping them to a very grateful Jett.

“These gifts remind us that we are a unique nation,” Jett said. “Not every nation does what our nation does. I do not see many of the other nations getting care packages. It makes me proud to be an American. Not that they don’t receive, but because our nation does not forget us.”



Courtesy photo

Outreach speaker

AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister, second from the left, spoke to more than 200 students at Athens High on Nov. 19.

■ Bennett continues community service as veteran

Serve

continued from page 8

humbled to receive it," he said. "But this award really reflects the hard work that members of the Warrant Officers Association do in this community."

Bennett, a retired chief warrant officer 4, is the president of the Warrant Officers Association. As such, he leads his organization's efforts to build wheelchair ramps for the handicapped through the Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound, ring the bells for the Salvation Army, serve as parade marshals at the Veterans Day Parade for the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, conduct trash pickup at a Redstone Arsenal park and provide support for the coalition's Operation Christmas Bear. For the past three years, Bennett has also co-hosted WAFF-48's broadcast of the Veterans Day Parade.

"I do the things I do because we love doing them. Everything I do is with the warrant officers," said Bennett, switching back and forth between "I" and "we" as he referred interchangeably to himself and the Warrant Officers Association.

Yet, as much as he does within this organization, Bennett received a lot of direct attention during 2009 for a project that he took on without hesitation when he received a call for help.

"This award this year is recognizing someone who has done work within the community. The one thing that put me over the edge was my work with burials for indigent veterans who, for the most part, don't have family representation," he said.

In spring 2009, Bennett was contacted by television journalist Lee Marshall of WAFF-48 concerning a story about a deceased veteran who was buried in a pauper's grave. At Bennett's request, the Warrant Officers Association had the body exhumed and, with the help of the Patriot Guard Riders, the veteran was buried in the veterans section of Twickenham

Memory Gardens.

Following that situation, Bennett worked to make funeral homes more aware of veteran burial rights. He also made himself available to assume responsibility for ensuring proper burial for indigent veterans. He developed a program for these special veterans that includes a Patriot Guard Riders escort, a graveside eulogy and prayer, a headstone and a military representative.

"It is a very impressive show of military support when you have the Patriot Guard Riders involved," he said. "All of us involved in this realize how important it is to stand up and say goodbye to these veterans in the proper way."

After the first burial, Bennett received many calls from families of veterans who wanted his help in burying their deceased. But Bennett has focused his efforts on deceased veterans who died as paupers or who don't have family to arrange a funeral.

"I had another funeral home call me who had kept the body of an indigent veteran for six weeks. They were going to have to bury it in a pauper's grave, but they didn't want to," he said. "In four days, I had a donated van from Serra Toyota, a donated casket from the funeral home and enough donations to pick up the body, put an American flag on its casket and drive it to the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo for a proper burial."

For yet another funeral that Bennett arranged for an indigent veteran, he was able to locate members of the veteran's estranged family who attended the burial at the state's national cemetery.

"Doing something like this can get addictive because you know you are making a difference," he said. "The warrant officers and Patriot Guard Riders who have helped with this absolutely get it. We don't know these guys. But these funerals really touch us."

Bennett and the Warrant Officers Association have been recognized for their work in the Huntsville area. The chapter has won outstanding chapter of the year three times at its nation-

al conference, including the 2009 award.

"We set an example for 82 chapters," he said. "We have 110 members with about 20 that are very active. It's hard for us to say 'no' when we are asked to help or provide support. As long as we have the time in our schedules, we'll do it. Much of our success is because we team up with other organizations that are also successful. We like working with groups like the Association of the U.S. Army, the Patriot Guard Riders, the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition and CASA because they do things that are very worthwhile to us."

Bennett's life has been filled with plenty of success. A native of Indiana, he enlisted in the Army in 1985, serving 23 years in communications and electronics maintenance. He retired from Redstone Arsenal in 2005.

"I was the youngest of seven children. All four of my brothers were in the military and they were all Vietnam era veterans. My dad was a Marine. My mom got the key to our hometown for having four sons in the military," he said.

"I didn't join the Army right out of high school. Instead, I got my technical certificate and worked one cold job after another. Then, I decided I needed something more and the Army offered it. I went from a private first class to a staff sergeant in six years."

It wasn't long after that, while assigned to NATO in Turkey, that Bennett celebrated his acceptance into warrant officers school with his commanding officer and the NATO staff he worked with.

"That's the day that made my life," he said. "I rose to staff sergeant in six years. I made it to warrant officers school in six years."

"I really loved the discipline of the military. My dad was a Baptist preacher and we were raised in a Christian school. The Army's discipline was like a warm blanket to me because I understood authority. The Army gave me a structure that was just absolutely comfortable. I was in for 23 years and I had a ball."

In his current position as a training site manager for a local defense contractor, Bennett is still enjoying his work with Soldiers.

"I'm affecting Soldiers now more than ever before," he said.

His second career has also given him more time with his family – including wife, Nese, and three children, Shannon, 25, a paralegal and legal secretary; Kevin, 19, who attends the University of Alabama-Huntsville on an academic scholarship; and Alex, 15, who attends Bob Jones High.

Bennett is in his fourth year as the president of the Warrant Officers Association. Presidents are limited to two two-year terms, and Bennett's term ends in summer 2010. But he has been granted an extension of his second term due to a major event for the organization.

"Two years ago, at the Warrant Officers 2007 annual meeting in Aberdeen, Va., I pitched bringing the 2010 annual meeting to Huntsville, Ala.," he said. "I had a video to 'Sweet Home Alabama' and I showed them all our amenities. We got the bid and we will host the international annual meeting of the Warrant Officers Association in November. I wanted to extend my term because of this meeting."

Bennett hopes it will be one of the largest annual meetings for his organization. Besides Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville is located close to warrant officers stationed at Fort Rucker, Fort Campbell, Ky., and Fort McPherson, Fort Gordon and Fort Benning, all in Georgia. He described the location as "a perfect storm" to create a big event.

Bennett also has plans for what he will spearhead once his warrant officer presidency does end. He has been nominated to the board of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition as its assistant finance officer. His nomination will be voted on in December. As his warrant officer duties decline, he hopes to pick up more responsibilities within the coalition.

Bennett's volunteer work keeps him close to the military he loves.

"I don't miss being in the military. But I do miss what the military represents," he said. "Being in the military is the hardest, most dangerous work in the world. Now, I'm working to support Soldiers in my volunteer work and in my professional career."

Customer service officer values complaints as gifts

By STEVE McFADDEN
Installation's customer service officer

We often think of complaints as negative things. However, according to Janelle Barrow and Claus Moller, we need to reshape our thinking.

In their book "A Complaint is a Gift," Barrow and Moller suggest that those who serve customers should consider complaints as gifts because feedback is vital to the ability of organizations and individuals to improve and grow. Complaints allow managers to see things through the eyes of the customer.

Understanding why or how a customer was disappointed can result in improvements that make things right for that customer and all customers. Customer service is an attitude, not a department. Ensuring that customers receive outstanding customer service is a top priority for Redstone Arsenal leadership. The Redstone Garrison Vision clearly states that fact, "The Premier Garri-

son for Customer Support.. Now and into the Future!"

Service providers want to hear from you about how they are doing — compliment or complaint. In addition to talking to an employee or manager, there are several mechanisms which allow you to provide your input. All of these methods allow you to make suggestions and recommendations about how to make Redstone Arsenal a better place to live and work.

Interactive Customer Evaluation allows you to share your feedback with frontline managers who can resolve any issue you might have. ICE is a web-based comment card system that allows you to submit feedback to frontline managers from any Internet-connected computer. Feedback can be submitted anonymously, but if you want a response to your comment, you need to provide contact information and indicate "response requested" by checking the appropriate box. Your comments

are sent directly to the service provider and if you request a response, you will receive one within three working days. To submit feedback using ICE, visit <https://ice.disa.mil> and click on "Conus" under Army, then select "Redstone Arsenal." You can search for the service provider using the search box in the top right-hand corner of the screen, or by following the links for service categories. Some service providers also use paper comment cards at their facilities. If you have any questions or problems with ICE, you can contact the ICE site manager Wendy Norris at 842-9930 or rsacms@conus.army.mil.

If you are unsuccessful in resolving an issue via ICE, because the problem is bigger or more complex than that which can be resolved by a front-line manager, there are other forums for you to use.

These include the following:

- The Community FIRST (Feedback, Issues, Resolutions,

Solutions, Today) process is designed to identify and resolve issues that address the well-being of the Army family. Community FIRST will serve as the quarterly issue resolution process and may serve as the issue collection source for the Army Family Action Plan annual symposium. Community FIRST will also provide information to the Quarterly Garrison Commander's Steering Committee, and other councils or meetings to keep the community updated on issues affecting all personnel at Redstone Arsenal. Community FIRST garners the input from constituent focus groups and online issue submissions. Constituent focus groups (active duty, family members, retirees, veterans, teens, surviving spouses, WTU and civilians) present issues as a collective group. Online submission forms can be submitted by visiting the Redstone Garrison website (www.garrison.redstone.army.mil) and clicking on Feedback in the

upper right corner. This will also take you to the ICE site, Community FIRST site, the AFAP issue submission site and to the customer service officer.

- With the Army Family Action Plan, well-being issues that impact the Army community as a whole or are outside the purview of Redstone Arsenal leadership to resolve should be submitted via AFAP. AFAP is an Armywide initiative to identify issues of concern to improve the overall quality of life for Soldiers and their families. This process begins at the installation level and identified issues are forwarded to senior Army leadership for resolution. For more information or to submit an issue, e-mail rsacms@conus.army.mil.

If you have any questions about the most effective way to voice your concern or to get your issue resolved, feel free to contact the installation's customer service officer, Steve McFadden, at 876-3294 or rsacms@conus.army.mil.

Injury caused by drunk, drugged driving is preventable

By LISA YOUNG
Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

The circumstances of accidents caused by impaired driving may vary, but they share the characteristic that each injury and death caused by drunk or drugged driving is totally preventable.

During December, National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, these statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provide a valuable perspective on the pervasiveness of impaired driving:

Every day, 36 people in the United States die and approximately 700 are injured in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver.

- According to the NHTSA, about three in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives.
- In one year, more than 1.4 million driv-

ers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. Large as this number is, it accounts for less than 1 percent of the 159 million self-reported episodes of alcohol-impaired driving among U.S. adults each year.

- Drugs other than alcohol (for example, marijuana and cocaine) are involved in about 18 percent of motor vehicle driver deaths. However, it is common for drugs to be combined with alcohol.

- Male drivers involved in fatal motor vehicle crashes are almost twice as likely as female drivers to be intoxicated with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or greater. Driving with a 0.08 percent or higher BAC is illegal in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

- Soldiers are recognizing the dangers of drinking and driving, which is reflected in the accident numbers. During fiscal 2007, the number of Class A accidents involving alco-

hol-impaired Soldiers behind the wheel was cut in half from the previous year's 32, and there was only one alcohol-involved motorcycle crash. Reductions in alcohol-impaired driver accidents also occurred with sedans and trucks, with the figures dropping from 15 to 10 in sedans and five to none in trucks.

Everyone knows drinking and driving is illegal and dangerous for the person behind the wheel, but impaired drivers also pose a danger to passengers and others. In a number of off-duty accidents, Soldiers have lost their lives when riding in cars driven by drunk drivers.

Reducing the incidence of impaired driving requires a community approach. NHTSA's primary message during the holiday season is, "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk — Designate a Sober Driver."

What actions could a leader, battle buddy, friend or family member take to prevent 3D accidents? Steps can be taken year-

round to ensure that everyone avoids driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Prevent future needless losses by following these safety tips:

- Plan ahead by always designating a non-drinking driver before any party begins.
- If you see an impaired buddy about to cause himself or others harm, intervene by taking keys away. Watching out for your buddies even when you aren't on duty is part of the job description of "friend."
- If hosting a party this holiday season, remind guests to designate their sober driver, always offer alcohol-free beverages, and make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.

Taking these small steps can prevent the loss of a loved one to your family and to others.

For additional information, visit the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, http://www.cdc.gov/Motorvehiclesafety/Impaired_Driving/index.html.

Win
or lose

HHC 59th center of attention during preseason

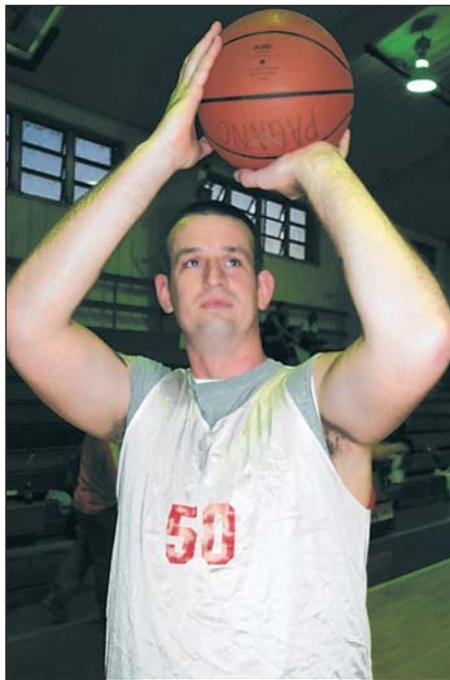


Photo by Skip Vaughn

BIG RETURNEE— HHC 59th center Jeff Reuter, 6-foot-8, is back to lead the “Raise Up bunch.”

Defending post champion has strong force at pivot

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

HHC 59th is poised for another run at the post basketball championship.

The “Raise Up bunch” won last year’s title, but has a new roster entering the Holiday Basketball Tournament. The annual preseason tournament is Dec. 7-15 at Pagano Gym; and the 326th Chemical Company is the tournament’s defending champion.

The 59th was runner-up in last year’s tournament but went on to win the post championship.

As usual the 59th will rely on its veteran Soldiers competing against younger student companies like Bravo and Charlie.

“We’re trying to get it assembled,” 59th forward Robert Kennedy said of this year’s team. “But it’s always wisdom and experience over youthfulness, right? We’re going to try to use that and make that be our edge.”

Kennedy played with Bravo Company last year. Other members of the 59th’s team include Jeff Reuter, the returning 6-foot-8 center; forwards Lamar Hizer and Demetrius

Lewis; and guards William Ewings, Aaron Skiles and Travis Roop. Ewings is the coach.

The team has mostly newcomers, according to Kennedy.

The 59th won last year’s post championship by beating the NCO Academy in the second of two games 68-54 on March 18 at Pagano Gym. The NCO Academy, which had advanced from the losers bracket, forced game two by handing the 59th its first loss of the postseason tournament 47-45.

Reuter had 16 points, 16 rebounds, two

blocks and a steal in the clincher as the 59th finished the year at 8-5.

Remaining games in the Holiday Basketball Tournament are today at 6 and 7 p.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Thursday; 6 and 7 p.m. Dec. 14; and 6 and 7 (if necessary) Dec. 15.

The teams include 326th Chemical Company, HHC 59th, Bravo team 2, Bravo team 1, Marines, Headquarters & Alpha, National Guard, and Charlie Company.

The regular season should start sometime in January.

Midshipmen favored to topple Army

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

Here are Saturday’s college football predictions (427-156 after 14 weeks):
Alabama A&M vs. Prairie View A&M – **Ala. A&M**
Army vs. Navy – **Navy**



Sports & Recreation

Football booster event

The Grissom High School Football Booster Club presents "Confections and Comedy" featuring "The Funniest Man in America" James Gregory. The event is Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Grissom High auditorium. Desserts and beverages will be served beginning at 6 and the show starts at 7. Tickets are \$25 and can be ordered in advance by calling 886-2643. Mention codeword "Crawdad" for a special discount for Arsenal personnel.

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.

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.

Federal employees

The Huntsville Madison County Chapter 443 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will have its Christmas Luncheon on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. The Columbia High School Choral Group will present a Christmas program of song. Also, chapter 443 officers for 2010 will be installed. For reservations call Eleanor Kay 881-8124. Cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call 519-3327 or 539-1333.

Engineer society

This month's SOLE program and luncheon is Dec. 15 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Tim Dix, SOLE executive board member, is the speaker. For reservations call Jane Campbell 544-1001 or Dave Welch 450-1620.

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. This will be a Christmas program by the Academy for Science and Foreign Language music department. For ticket information, call Kim Ouattara 876-6163 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

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.

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.

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.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter, Military Officers Association of America will sponsor an Old Time Christmas Party for members and guests Saturday from 6-11 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$25 per person. For more information, call Carrie Hightower 882-3992. The chapter's monthly breakfast is Dec. 26 at 8 a.m. at Ryan's Family Steak House, Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited.

Tricare briefings

Humana Military Healthcare Services, the Tricare managed care support contractor for the South Region, holds informational briefings on Tricare every Monday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Tricare Service Center, Fox Army Health Center, second floor.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer User Group will meet Saturday at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave., starting at 9:15 a.m. with the Windows/Internet Special Interest Group. Kevin Wangbickler, HPCUG president and co-leader of the SIG, will present a program on "Using Your PC to Watch TV." At 10:45, Ron Schmitz, former HPCUG president and leader of the Hardware SIG, will present his annual review of the latest Intel motherboard and chip developments. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 830-2232.

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.

See Announcements on page 22

Redstone Arsenal Environmental Program Request for Interest from the Community in Formation of a Redstone Arsenal Restoration Advisory Board

The U.S. Army Garrison-Redstone, located in Madison County, Alabama, and occupying approximately 38,300 acres, is the site of ongoing environmental restoration activities. Environmental restoration on U.S. Department of Defense installations requires local community input and exchange of information. To ensure that all community members and leaders have an opportunity to participate in the cleanup process, Redstone Arsenal (RSA) is interested in determining if there is sufficient interest from the community to form a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB).

The RAB would be a group consisting of representatives from the Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), local and tribal governments, and the affected community whose function would be to discuss, identify, and advise decision makers of the most efficient and productive means concerning environmental cleanup at RSA.

The RAB would:

- Consist of interested community members and leaders who would volunteer their time to review and comment on the Army's proposed actions at environmental sites.
- Meet on a regular basis with representatives from RSA, EPA, and ADEM to exchange information, concerns, and recommendations regarding environmental cleanup.

Technical assistance would be available to the RAB, whereby members would have access to independent technical consultants for help in understanding technical issues.

The Garrison Commander will establish a RAB at RSA if there is sufficient and sustained community interest and

- At least 50 citizens have expressed interest in formation of a RAB, or
- Federal, state, or local government representatives request formation of a RAB.

RSA solicits interest in establishing an RAB every two years. To date, there has not been sufficient community interest. There are other opportunities for involvement in the remedial actions at RSA. RSA has developed a fact sheet explaining the various opportunities for becoming involved in making decisions about remediation or cleanup at RSA.

The Army recently selected Shaw Environmental, Inc. as RSA's Environmental Program Manager contractor to establish strategies, implement characterization, and cleanup at a large number of sites under an aggressive performance-based schedule.

For a copy of the public involvement fact sheet, or to express interest in the formation of a RAB, please contact:

Public Affairs Office
U.S. Army Garrison - Redstone
Attention: AMSAM-PC (Ms. Kim Henry)
Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35898-5020
Telephone: (256) 842-0561; Fax: (256) 955-0133
E-mail: kimberly.henry2@us.army.mil



Rocket Announcements

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or 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 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 auto-

matic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

Officer candidates

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

Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Stacy Hopwood and 1st Sgt. Brian May 539-6511 or 539-6512.

Cadet program

Join the Army Reserves and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the active Army or the Reserves. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 518-3972.

Army training

Do you want to be on the cutting edge of Army training? The 1st Battle Command Training Group offers the opportunity for

promotion while 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.

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.

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 auc-

tion, 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.

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 Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday 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. Friday; 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. Saturday. For more information, call the church office 539-5738.

Operation Christmas Bear

The sixth annual Operation Christmas Bear is Saturday 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.

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

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

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																		
AS OF 3 DEC 09																																					
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																																					
SCBK09854131	Budget Analyst	4-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-8	GS-0560	13	13	81,532 - 105,993			X	X					X			X																		
SCBK09856036	Logistics Mgmt Spec	4-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09897757A	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	4-Dec-09	SMDC	GS-0303	8	8	41,157 - 53,504							X			X	X	X																		
SCBK09882059	Lead Budget Analyst	4-Dec-09	RDECOM	DE-0560	4	4	81,532 - 125,254	X																													
SCBK09866614	Logistics Mgmt Spec	4-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09880086	Materials Engineer	4-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	68,564 - 105,993			X	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																		
SCBK09873728	Budget Analyst	8-Dec-09	AMC/Logistics Support	GS-0560	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK0983299	Logistics Mgmt Spec	9-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993	X						X		X			X																		
SCBK09891975	Supply Systems Analyst	9-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09756677	Secretary (Office Automation)	9-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-3	GS-0318	8	8	42,807 - 55,651			X																											
SCBK09877846	Logistics Mgmt Spec	9-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	11	11	57,204 - 74,360	X																													
SCBK09863343	Lead General Engineer	9-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0901	4	4	96,346 - 147,332	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09871568	Human Resource Technician (HRD/OA)	10-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-1	YB-0203	2	2	37,845 - 67,684						X	X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09801110	Program Analyst	10-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-8	GS-0343	13	13	81,532 - 105,993	X																													
SCBK09886518	Program Support Assistant	10-Dec-09	RDECOM	DK-0303	3	3	38,653 - 55,651					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																		
SCBK09881729	SUPV Budget Analyst	11-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-8	YA-0560	3	3	90,473 - 153,200				X					X			X																		
SCBK09900887	Management Support Specialist	11-Dec-09	RDECOM	DE-0301	3	3	52,067 - 89,128							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09808143E	Enterprise Business Analyst	11-Dec-09	AMCOM/LAISO	YA-0301	2	2	46,291 - 105,993									X			X																		
SCBK09859985	Equal Employment Specialist	11-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0260	2	2	68,563 - 89,128							X																							
SCBK09890257	Supply Systems Analyst	14-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09870538	Lead General Engineer	14-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09915903	Budget Analyst	15-Dec-09	USA Accessions CMD	YA-0560	2	2	46,291 - 77,225							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09840872	Secretary (Office Automation)	16-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0318	6	7	34,782 - 50,249	X																													
SCBK09871535	Human Resources Specialist (HRD)	16-Dec-09	Human Resources/G-1	YA-0201	2	2	46,291 - 105,993						X	X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09871373	Human Resources Specialist (HRD)	16-Dec-09	Human Resources/G-1	YA-0201	2	2	46,291 - 105,993						X	X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09897737	Contract Spec	16-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09809076	General Engineer	16-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0800 Series	2	2	40,093 - 91,801									X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09915154	SUPV, Logistics Management Specialist	17-Dec-09	LOGSA	YC-0346	2	2	58,141 - 113,908							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09860674	SUPV, Integration Systems Analyst	17-Dec-09	AMC Intergration Support Office	YA-0301	3	3	96,346 - 147,322	X								X																					
SCBK09894095	Budget Analyst	17-Dec-09	Resources Management/G-8	GS-0560	12	12	68,564 - 89,128				X					X			X																		
SCBK09900326	Protocol Specialist	17-Dec-09	Headquarters, AMCOM	GS-0301	9	11	47,280 - 74,360	X																													
SCBK09914258	IT Specialist (SYSADMIN)	17-Dec-09	USA Accessions CMD	YA-2210	2	2	45,650 - 62,944							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09860527	Procurement Analyst	17-Dec-09	AMC Intergration Support Office	GS-1102	2	2	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09895059	SUPV General Engineer	18-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09895034	SUPV General Engineer	18-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09904339	SUPV International Program Mgmt Spec	21-Dec-09	Acq Sup Ctn	YA-0301	3	3	90,473 - 154,699	X	X																												
SCBK09908848	LEAD Aerospace Engineer	28-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	96,346 - 147,332			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09913797	Mechanical Engineer	29-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0830	4	4	96,346 - 147,332	X																													
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128									X			X																		
							23.06 - 26.87																														
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly	X								X			X																		
SCBK09900747	Lead General Engineer	31-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09457856OC	IT Specialist (PlyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09419080OC	Police Officer	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215	X	X					X	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X	X	X	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567			X						X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461OC	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X		X	X	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	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK08151777OC1	Elec Integ sys Mech	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	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																													
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	X																		
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128									X			X																		
							23.06 - 26.87																														
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly	X								X			X																		
SCBK09457856OC	IT Specialist (PlyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128	X																													
SCBK09419080OC	Police Officer	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215	X	X					X	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X	X	X	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X		X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567			X						X	X	X	X																		
SCBK09408461OC	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567							X		X	X	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	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	X	X	X																		
SCBK08151777OC1	Elec Integ sys Mech	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	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																													
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	X																		

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

- A** - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B**

Rocket Announcements

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.

Military blood drive

The Armed Services Blood Program will have a blood drive to benefit the troops Dec. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fox Den (basement classroom) at Fox Army Health Center.

Deployed work force

In appreciation and recognition of AMCOM Life Cycle Management Command's service and sacrifice, commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles would like to honor those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of AMCOM LCMC operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom. The fourth Aviation and Missile Command LCMC Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is 1 p.m. Jan. 21 at Bob Jones Auditorium. This ceremony will recognize honorees for their deployments since April. Additionally, those who were not able to participate in the last three ceremonies — held April 7, Sept. 18, 2008 and Jan. 22, 2008 —

are invited to participate in this ceremony. Nominees will be accepted through Dec. 31. For more information, call Jeanna Reitmeier 876-5302 or Bruce Cline 955-6925.

Benefit breakfast

The Knights of Columbus Council 4080 will hold its monthly charity "All You Can Eat" breakfast Saturday from 8-10:30 a.m. at the K of C Hall, at 3053 Leeman Ferry Road. The profits will be donated to the Huntsville Honor Flight supporting their first Washington, D.C. trip in 2010.

Living Christmas tree

First Baptist Church will present the 25th annual production of The Living Christmas Tree on Dec. 17-20 in the church's sanctuary, 600 Governors Drive. Evening performances will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30. Matinees will be Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. Tickets are free and are available at the church. Ticket reservations are also available by calling 428-9422 or visiting the church website www.fbchsv.org/lct.

Commissary holiday schedule

The Commissary will be open Dec. 20-24 and 26. It will close at 3 p.m. Dec. 24 and is closed on Christmas, Dec. 25. It is open Dec. 31 and closed on New Year's, Jan. 1.

Student competition

eCYBERMISSION is a web-based science, math and technology competition for sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grade teams. Savings bond awards will go to regional and national members of winning teams. The deadline to submit a team application is Dec. 18; and projects must be completed by Feb. 26. For more information go to www.ecybermission.com. Send an e-mail to gayla.turner.mcmichael@us.army.mil when your team application is complete, or to ask questions about the program.



Courtesy photo

Partnership director

M. Vance Sales, a retired colonel, has become the new director of the Oak Ridge-Huntsville Partnership Office. The office is a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the University of Alabama-Huntsville and five strategic partners including the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Savannah River National Laboratory.

Thrift Shop grants

The Thrift Shop Welfare Committee announces its annual grant program. This program is designed to assist local organizations with funds for 2010. This grant program is awarded only to organizations, not individuals. The deadline for applications is Feb. 28. Requests will be reviewed and awarded in April. For an application, call Jennifer Kennedy 682-6981 or e-mail jkhunter_1999@hotmail.com.

Thrift shop

New Christmas items arrive daily at the Thrift Shop. Visit building 3209 on Hercules Road on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday 9-5 and

the first Saturday of each month 10-2 (except January when it will open Jan. 9).

Health center party

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Friday afternoon, Dec. 18 starting at noon for its annual Christmas Party. All clinics and services to include the pharmacy, medical records window and the TriCare Service Center will be open until noon. The Central Appointments telephone line will be answered until 4:30 p.m. As a reminder, the health center is closed on the first Thursday afternoon of every month, Saturday, Sunday and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox is an ambulatory care clinic and does not have an emergency room. In an emergency, dial 911.

Toys for tots

RBC Bank is collecting new, unwrapped toys for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. Toys may be dropped off at any of the four RBC Bank locations in Morgan County, the four RBC Bank locations in Limestone County or the eight RBC Bank locations in Madison County, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Dec. 15. Call 1-800-236-8872 or visit rbcbankusa.com to find the RBC Bank locations nearest you.

Santa run

Redstone Arsenal's Santa Run is set for Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. Santa Claus and his elves will ride an Arsenal fire truck from the Vincent Street Fire Station, and then travel through Arsenal neighborhoods to visit children. His travels will also take him to the trailer park, temporary housing, Redstone Hotel and VIP quarters. Santa is making the visit at the invitation of the Sergeants Major Association, and with assistance from the Redstone Fire Department and the Redstone Police Department.

Design benefit

A fund-raiser for the Foster Children's Alliance of Huntsville-Madison County from 2-6 p.m. Thursday at the design showcase home at 2338 Whitesburg Drive south. Raffle tickets are \$5 each. For more information, call Durable Designs 325-8217.

Holiday eating

Fox Army Health Center will hold a seminar on healthy holiday eating Dec. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to noon at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for Merit Awards. These awards are available to graduating high school seniors, college students and spouses that are U.S. military and DoD civilian family members whose primary residence is within the Redstone Arsenal community and meet the eligibility criteria. The deadline for applying is Feb. 2 and the application is available online. For more information and to download the application, visit www.redstoneocwc.org or contact the Merit Awards chairs at meritawards@redstoneocwc.org.

