

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 58 No. 62

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

December 16, 2009

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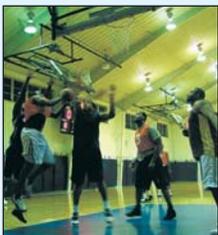
Hail and farewell



Col. Hatch closes career
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Win or lose

Unit teams jump into tournament
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Happy holidays

Staff Sgt. Lechelle Ford and Staff Sgt. Keisha Cook-McClary helped trim the Christmas tree at the Munitions Training Department in building 3305 where they are Standard Army Ammunition System instructors. Ford, from South Boston, Va., and Cook-McClary, from Smackover, Ark., both plan to spend the holidays in Huntsville with their families.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

An open lane random survey

What do you want for Christmas?

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



David Crouch
SMDC/ARSTRAT Business
Initiatives Office
"I would like for people to
learn to respect each
other's differences and be
happy."

Lashia Woods
AMCOM Aviation Field
Maintenance Directorate
"I want a pair of diamond
earrings and a pair of
black Coach boots. And I
want a matching Coach
bag."



Rick Manis
Sparkman Management
Office
"Continued good health
for my family, and safe-
ty for our troops."

Linda Payne
Unmanned Aircraft Sys-
tems Project Office
"I'd like for the economy
to turn around and sort
of get back on its feet.
And for unemployment
to decrease. I think that's the No. 1 pri-
ority with most folks."



Letters to the Editor

More reminders shared on giving respect

I am deeply touched by the letter "Fellow Americans, please show r-e-s-p-e-c-t" published on Dec. 9. As an ex-EEO military adviser, I will like to share some light to this issue, which I considered to be intolerable in the workplace. All workers and supervisors should not let this type of behavior take place in our work environment.

First, here is a reminder to all federal and military personnel of the oath they profoundly have taken: "I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

Federal civil servants and military personnel had taken this oath of office by which they swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. The Constitution not only establishes our system of government, it actually defines the work role for federal employees - "to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty."

Second, here is a reminder of

the harassment policy as defined by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: "Harassment is a form of employment discrimination that violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990."

Harassment is unwelcome conduct that is based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information. Harassment becomes unlawful where 1) enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment, or 2) the conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile or abusive. Anti-discrimination laws also prohibit harassment against individuals in retaliation for filing a discrimination charge, testifying, or participating in any way in an investigation, proceeding or lawsuit under these laws; or opposing employment practices that they reasonably believe discriminate against individuals, in violation of these laws.

Perhaps federal and military personnel should be briefed that political comments and judgments could cross the line of civility in the work environment and could become detrimental.

Name withheld by request

Seeking order in classified ads

I have noticed the automotive section of the classified ads has been growing over the last couple of years or so. In this week's section, there are over two pages of automobiles. Some weeks there are three or four pages of automobiles. There is no order to the type or make of automobile, so it

makes it very difficult to find a particular type of vehicle you may be interested in. Is it possible to list a heading, i.e. Ford, then list all those Ford vehicles under that heading? Most newspapers already do this. This would be very useful.

Name withheld by request

Another view of showing respect

In response to "Fellow Americans, please show r-e-s-p-e-c-t," published Dec. 9, I have also been a member of the AMCOM community and (a former Army officer) for going on 26 years now. I don't know how long you've been around, but the first thing I had to come to understand when I first started serving in the Army was: Despite the fact that many people held opinions about my government and my country that I considered treasonous and inexcusable in our society, I had to except and defend those people's right to their opinions as well! The idea that we can openly disagree with one another is a concept that makes America unique in the world, and one of the reasons foreigners have such a hard time understanding us as a people.

Concerning the oath you mention us all taking, you must be careful what you advocate here. I raised my hand and swore an oath to the Constitution, not to any single politician. That is what Hitler did and we all know how that turned out. What about these conversations creates a hostile work environment? The comments themselves, or your reaction to them? I would agree that if these comments contained racial overtones they should have immediately been reported and acted on. However, I suspect they were only relating to the president's implementation of "policies."

Take it from someone who has been around and seen our government (no matter whose administration it was) do lots of "dumb" things over the years. This applies to both sides of this argument. Let it go, and don't get so worked up over it. Ultimately we are all on the same team, and here to perform the same mission, which is to support the troops no matter what is going on around us politically.

Name withheld by request

Redstone Rocket has holiday break

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

Redstone Rocket

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

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

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

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

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Rocket articles are available online at the following:
<http://pao.redstone.army.mil>

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

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

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Anne Martin

Job: Human resources technician, Civilian Human Resources Agency

Where do you call home?
Courtland, Ala.

What do you like about your job?
Always challenging. Wonderful people to work with. Never a dull moment (laugh).

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Fox hunting. You know, the old English riding to the hounds. Horses and

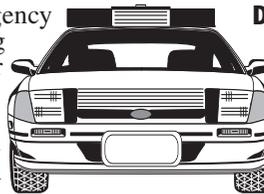
hounds. I love watching rugby. And theater and opera.

What are your goals?
To win the million dollar lottery (laugh). Long-term goal is to continue to wisely invest for an early retirement. Just careful spending. Redoing a house. Have just relocated from Fort Riley (Kan.). So just finish redecorating and remodeling. And pursue avenues for personal growth and educational opportunities to include a master's degree in human resources.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?
Travel to New Zealand and Australia. Just fabulous countries and just interesting cultures such as Aborigines in Australia. And just fabulous landscapes in New Zealand. And New Zealand is also home to fabulous rugby.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Dec. 3-9:



Dec. 3: A subject at the Visitor Center was found to be driving with a suspended license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Dec. 7: A Soldier reported that his assigned government laptop computer was stolen from his vehicle at his Harvest residence.

Dec. 7: A contractor reported that someone stole 450 feet of welding leads valued at \$1,125 from an on-post construction site.

Dec. 8: A Soldier used another Soldier's ATM card illegally making purchases in the amount of \$1,476.

Dec. 8: At Gate 9, a driver had a suspended license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Dec. 8: A Soldier was arrested by Huntsville Police for desertion. She was released to Redstone law enforcement and processed to Fort Knox, Ky.

Dec. 9: When a driver asked for directions at Gate 9, he was found to have a suspended license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Traffic accidents reported: Six without injury, including two that involved deer strikes.

Violation notices issued: 8 speeding, 4 driving while suspended, 2 violation of traffic control device.

Commentary: Installations must cope with budget

By Lt. Gen. RICK LYNCH
Installation Management Command commander

WASHINGTON — In recent years, the Army and its installations have enjoyed unprecedented levels of funding. In fiscal year 2008, the Army hit a high water mark in its fiscal history with a total annual budget exceeding \$250 billion — three times more than FY 2001 funding level.

Much of this growth is attributed to funding the war, rebalancing our Army through investments in Army's force structure, equipment, infrastructure, and key Soldier and family programs.

Funding levels of this magnitude are unsustainable year after year and as the country faces some stiff economic challenges, we are forced to reduce funding and exact a greater level of stewardship over our resources.

The Installation Management Command — like other commands throughout our Army — will operate at reduced funding levels. This means that starting in 2010, performance levels for some installation services will be notably less than what we have had

in recent years and will remain at that level for the foreseeable future.

Our challenge is to ensure those key, higher-priority programs across our installations do not suffer. We will maintain our full support to Life, Health and Safety programs, the Army Family Covenant and those services that prepare our Soldier and their families for deployment in support of the Army's Force Generation model.

These are non-negotiables that will remain fully funded. This is our commitment; we will not depart from it. However, there will be other installation services that will clearly be reduced.

We have grown accustomed to some very high levels of service across the board in recent years and we all need to be forthcoming

with the expectation that things will be different in some areas. Help manage this expectation across your garrisons. Educate everyone as to which changes they can expect to see. A simple explanation can go a long way to helping understand the changes some of our installation services will undergo.



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Formica to succeed Campbell as commanding general

The Space and Missile Defense/Army Forces Strategic Command will have a change of command ceremony Jan. 13 at 4:30 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Maj. Gen. Richard Formica was nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the Senate for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and assignment as commander of SMDC/ARSTRAT.

Formica will assume command from Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, who took over from then-Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen in 2006.

Formica is serving as commander of

the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan. His command is charged with training Afghan soldiers and national police, according to a Defense Department statement.

The change of command ceremony is open to the Redstone community.



Maj. Gen. Richard Formica

Quote of the week

'A good conscience is a continual Christmas.'
— Benjamin Franklin

A wish for joy throughout year



Photo by Kari Hawkins

RECEIVING LINE— From far left, Garrison Headquarters & Headquarters Company commander Capt. Ryan Godbee, Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli and his wife Anna, SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell and his wife Kathy, and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper and his wife Mary get ready to greet their guests at the Garrison Holiday Ball.

Redstone's three-star general shares message of hope at Garrison ball

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Staff writer

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Focusing on others throughout the year – that was the wish Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell expressed during his comments at the second annual Garrison Holiday Ball Dec. 4 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Speaking to a gathering of more than 300 merrymakers, Campbell told his audience that selfless service, a joyful spirit and the goodness that is exhibited this time of year should be a way of life.

“I always wish we could sprinkle that throughout the entire year,” he said. “My wish is that we could sprinkle this wonderful joy throughout the year.”

Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, was the guest speaker at an event that has quickly become one of the highlights of the holiday season on Redstone Arsenal. The Garrison Holiday Ball is hosted by Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli and his wife, Anna, and is coordinated by FMWR.

The evening included a receiving line, a welcome from Pastorelli, entertainment by the

Columbia High choir, a Garrison video and dancing.

Campbell mentioned the outstanding work of the Aviation and Missile Command and other Army organizations at Redstone as well as the Garrison in providing needed services in support of Soldiers. He also referred to the Army's efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“I am grateful for the 265,000 Soldiers and civilians deployed tonight around the globe to fight this war for us,” he said. “This Arsenal gives our troops the tools day in and day out to fight these wars.”

Separation from loved ones and memories of loved ones past can make the holidays especially difficult for families, particularly military families, he said.

See **Ball** on page 5



Photo by Kari Hawkins

HOLIDAY DINING— More than 300 merrymakers attended the second annual Garrison Holiday Ball at the Officers and Civilians Club, where they were treated to fine food, choral entertainment and holiday cheer.



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Tree lighting

Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles rounds up youngsters to help him light the Christmas tree at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting held by the Officer and Civilian Women's Club on Dec. 7 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The event, chaired by OCWC member Laurie Taylor, included a musical interlude in recognition of the armed forces by the Academy for Academics and Arts, and holiday music by Alaina Gribensk and Sarah Taylor.

Workers encouraged to work smarter with less resources

Budget

continued from page 3

Across the Army installations, we can do much to help ourselves by becoming better stewards of our resources. It starts with the individual; everybody has a role. Simple things like turning the lights off, powering down your computer at night, driving tactical vehicles instead of TMP vehicles or conducting a VTC instead of traveling to a distant site unnecessarily all save money — and no savings is too small to forego.

Commanders and leaders across the installation have a key role and are responsible for the efficient use of our resources. Costs should be an inherent consideration in your every decision. We too often marginalize this key factor in making good, resource-informed decisions but we can no

longer afford to do so.

As I travel throughout the Army community, I carry the message that we can do business smarter and more efficiently without sacrificing the quality of service that our Soldiers and their families so richly deserve.

I challenge everyone to do the same; to work together to ensure that those key installation programs that mean so much are well resourced and operated; that we do away with wasteful and unnecessary spending.

Every person — whether you are a Soldier, family member, one of our great DA civilians or a contractor serving our Army — is needed and can make a difference.

Ask yourself if you are doing the right things and then, are you doing them right. Doing things right means doing them in the most cost efficient way without sacrificing effectiveness.

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 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 today from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Auto Skills Center, building 3617 on Entac Circle. For more information, call 955-

7728 or 955-7727.

Gift wrapping

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

Youth classes

SKIESUnlimited 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.

Bowling league

Short Season Bowling League begins Jan. 12 and will be held each Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. For more information or to register, call Christal Howard at 876-2073.

■ Garrison ball helps kick off holiday season

Ball

continued from page 4

With President Barack Obama's recent announcement to send 30,000 additional troops to Afghanistan, Campbell said the Army and the nation will carry "heavier burdens in the near future" as Soldiers are "performing their noble work and exposed to the highest risk. We should give them everything we've got."

While 2009 has been the Year of the NCO for the Army, Campbell suggested that should be expanded to being "the first decade of the 21st century as the decade of the NCO."

He said the story of the Army and the Soldier has and always will remain a story of dedication, duty and value.

"Soldiers are the stiff backbone that makes the Army so good and that gives me an easy faith in the Army," Campbell said.

In the upcoming months, he hopes "national leaders will be able to see through the chaos and that military leaders will give the advice needed" to the benefit of the nation, veterans, wounded warriors and Soldiers.

In closing, Campbell wished his audience a wonderful holiday and a rewarding new year.



Photo by Amy Guckeen

Volunteer operation

Adelaide Cape of the GFWC du Midi Woman's Club dresses a teddy bear so his scarf will be just right. Volunteers worked diligently to create a winter wonderland for the sixth annual Operation Christmas Bear Dec. 12. Children of active, National Guard and Reserve families, as well as DoD civilians currently deployed in a war zone received teddy bears to remind them of their loved ones overseas.

Community readiness group seeks members

Civilian deployment support offered installation-wide

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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The Redstone Community Family Readiness Group has spent months preparing its comprehensive civilian deployment checklist. Now that it is ready to present to the group, they are looking for more members to share it with.

“We have 34 out of 64 tenant organizations on post participating as members of the Community FRG,” Kathleen Riester, Army Community Service program manager, said. “We want to reach out to all the organizations. We want them to be a part of this effort.”

The Community FRG will hold its quarterly meeting Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. at Army Community Service. During the meeting, the subcommittee will go over the civilian deployment package with the membership so that they can begin putting it to use. Because of the size of the packet, representatives will receive an advance electronic copy to review several days before the meeting.

“We will be unveiling the checklist for deploying civilians,” Riester said. “It is a sizeable packet. It consists of three parts:

the family info section for the civilian to fill out, an at-a-glance telephone resource and a community resource section for both Redstone and the surrounding Tennessee Valley area.”

The completion of the civilian packet is a milestone for the group. When the Community FRG was created a year ago, its purpose was to provide deploying civilians and contractors with the same level of resources and support that servicemembers have access to.

“The military does a great job of preparing servicemembers for deployments on their side of the house. We’re looking to support civilians in the same ways,” Riester said. “The civilians live here, so they have their families and emotional support networks already in place. But they don’t always have the preparation for deployment that the military has. We want to prepare them for what could be their first real separation.”

During its initial year, the group has worked to identify the issues that civilians face during a deployment. In addition to the creation of a civilian packet, they have also created a Family Deployment Readiness Workshop, the first of which was held in May. All of the issues identified have come from the organizations that are members of the group.

“Members identify issues from their own experience with civilian deployments

and then bring them forward to the Community FRG,” Riester said. “Our FRG is great at working issues with subcommittees.”

The group membership consists of organization representatives chosen by their own leadership. Riester likes to brief those leaders beforehand so they can make an informed choice about who the best person to represent them will be.

“Typically, when an organization contacts me about joining the group, I brief their command on what we do and how it works,” she said. “They then choose who they will send. That person then reports back to them on what we are doing and how they fit into that.”

Organizational participation is crucial for the group. Not only do the civilians they support deploy from those employers, they are also the best source of information about Team Redstone’s civilian deployments. Just getting an accurate count of the number of civilians deploying from the installation is a big help.

“We want to know exactly how many people from Redstone are deploying,” Riester said. “We want everyone who deploys from our post to feel like they are a part of the Redstone community regardless of who they are, who they work for and what they do. We want to support their sacrifice in support of our military.”

For more information on the Redstone

Community Family Readiness Group or to join as an organizational member, call Riester at 876-5397 or e-mail kathleen.riester@us.army.mil.



Photo by Jim Cox

International graduate

Lt. Col. Sean Cusker, 832nd Ordnance Battalion commander, congratulates Sgt. 1st Class Munir Ahmed of Pakistan on Dec. 3 for receiving Distinguished Graduate honors in the Ammunition Specialist Course offered through the International Military Student Office at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School.

Fox health center receives limited supply of vaccine

Flu shots provided to servicemembers

Fox Army Health Center has received a portion of its requested H1N1 vaccines provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Department of Defense.

H1N1 mist is a live vaccine and is available for people ages 2-49 and in good health. H1N1 injectable vaccine (“H1N1 shots”) is available to all age groups and those in high risk categories (e.g. asthma, diabetics, etc.).

Redstone and AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles and Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates last week received their H1N1 and Seasonal Influenza vaccinations from the Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine. All active duty Soldiers may report to Preventive Medicine during normal duty hours to receive their H1N1 vaccine. Family members of active duty, retirees and retiree family members may report to the Immunization Clinic during normal duty hours (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday) for their H1N1 vaccine.

Fox Army Health Center expects to continue receiving additional H1N1 vaccine from the state health department as supplies are available. Unfortunately Fox will not be able to provide any H1N1 or seasonal flu shot to Department of Defense civilians due to the increased demand for the vaccine and limited supply.

As the holidays get closer, people tend to focus on holiday related activities and put their health on the back burner until the New Year rolls around. However, the United States is still in the midst of active flu season and prevalence of H1N1, though declining, is still active throughout Huntsville and Madison County. Staying healthy and flu-free should be at the top of everyone’s seasonal activity list.

As with most communicable diseases, hand hygiene is key in preventing the spread of H1N1 virus. If the hands are soiled, wash with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds. Remember to scrub the back of the hands as well as the webs between the fingers and thumb and up to and around the wrists. If the hands are clean, you can use hand san-

itizer to kill germs, using the same technique as with soap and water.

Another measure to prevent the spread of H1N1 is using good cough discipline. Most of us learn as children to cover our mouths when coughing but were taught to cover our cough with our hands. A better method is to cover your mouth with your arm and cough into the inner elbow. You can’t open a door, pick up a phone, or shake hands with your elbow so germs that end up there are unlikely to be spread around. If available, cover your cough with a tissue and discard it after each use to avoid touching soiled areas with clean hands.

If you work in an office or business with a customer service counter where the public frequently convenes, ensure that the countertop or customer service desk is frequently cleaned with a sanitizer or other product to kill germs. Leaving a bottle of hand sanitizer at the counter will also encourage your customers to use it.

For more information about H1N1, call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888, ext. 1441 or 1026. (Fox Army Health Center release)



Courtesy photo

FLU SHOT— Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates receives a flu vaccine at Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine.

Woodworker brings Santa's toy shop to Redstone

Disabled veteran makes wooden toys with tools from Arts & Crafts Center

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Staff writer

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He may not look like an elf or know Santa personally, but Phil Nichols is very much into the holiday spirit these days.

And why wouldn't he be? All around him at the Arts & Crafts Center woodshop are the rocking horses, doll strollers, pull toys, trains, whistles and other wooden toys and gifts he has carefully handcrafted.

And with a name like Nichols – think St. Nick – his work area could very well pass for a corner of Santa's toy shop.

Nichols, a retired sergeant first class and disabled veteran, has made a name for himself for his woodworking finesse. Some of his creations are from woodworking patterns that he's tweaked here and there to make them his own. Others are his original designs. All carry a stamp that reads "Handcrafted by Nick's Toys."

"I can make pretty much anything. You name it, I can make it," he said. "I can put

my mind to it and I can do it. I like working with wood. It takes a lot of patience, creativity and ingenuity. It's fun to see how I can change a pattern to make it my own or to come up with a design that hasn't been made before. The end result is very rewarding."

Nichols, who has worked in Army woodshops at nearly every installation where he was assigned during his military career, became a regular at the Arts & Crafts Center about three years ago.

"After I retired (out of Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1993), my wife (Linda) and I started traveling. One year I took her on a trip to see every single Army base where I was stationed at," Nichols said. "Redstone Arsenal is where I started my Army career in 1973. I received schooling here as a continuous wave Hawk radar repairman. So we came here. We liked it and we stayed."

Even though he is retired, Nichols still carries with him a reminder of his service. During his deployment in Operation Desert Storm, Nichols was injured by a roadside bomb that detonated while he was traveling in a convoy. The injury has left him with 10 screws and five plates in his back, and has classified him as disabled.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

ST. NICK'S TOYS– Phil Nichols puts the finishing touches on the rocking toys he has made at the Arts & Crafts Center. Nichols can make anything out of wood, but he particularly enjoys making toys – such as his unique rocking horses, bulls and burros — that put a smile on children's faces.

See **Toys** on page 12

Sparkman Center classes to move off post soon

AMCOM training relocates in 2010

By KARA WALL
For the Rocket

Most classroom training previously held in building 5304 of the Sparkman Center will move Jan. 4 to an off-post facility on Orange Drive, to allow for additional office space in building 5304.

"Everyone is aware that space is an issue. With increased BRAC activities coming here, space is critical. The plus side is more BRAC activities are coming here early. Spreading out the arrivals is good for us and the community," said Tim Grey, director of human resources at the Aviation and Missile Command.

The new facility will provide more space for training. Increased space will allow for new and additional training programs.

"At one point, we were concerned we would have to shut down the training program altogether," Grey said.

Despite the challenge of finding space for training, AMCOM leadership found a resolution.

Earlier this year, the Logistics Management Program met for training at the Orange Drive facility and experienced success with the location. This success started the discussions about all training mov-

ing to Orange Drive.

"AMCOM has a real focus for training, no matter the logistics," said Nancy Hodges, director of education and training for Analytical Services. "They are going to focus on developing people."

The facility on Orange Drive is a half-mile north of Alabama A&M University on U.S. 231 North. The property is owned by J.F. Drake State Technical College. AMCOM will hold classes in the facility through an arrangement with Drake and the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

"Overall the facility is easy to access, although people will have to change their habits a little," Grey said.

Commuting to training will be an adjustment for some; however, ample parking will be available at the facility. Also, attendees will have access to a dining area with vending machines, a microwave and a refrigerator.

AMCOM Learning Resource Center short courses and Leader Investment for Tomorrow programs will remain in the Sparkman Center, along with the G-1 offices.

Any organization on post can schedule classes at the new facility. To schedule a class, visit the "room reservation wizard," at <https://www.cs.redstone.army.mil>. The wizard allows you to enter your needs and sets you up with a room.

For more information, call Raymond Neighbors at 876-6079 or e-mail raymond.nabors@us.army.mil.



Courtesy photo

Gift cards

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army donates \$500 to the Redstone Welcome Volunteers to provide PX gift cards for incoming permanent party Soldiers E-5 and below. These cards will be included in the "Welcome to Redstone Welcome Packets" assembled by the volunteer group, as AUSA's way of welcoming these Soldiers and their families to Redstone Arsenal. The Post Exchange donated additional gift cards for this project at no cost. From left are Loraine Arbo, Post Exchange general manager; Steve Taylor, AUSA chapter president; and Jim Rountree, AUSA vice president for Army family programs.

Logistics workers take local challenge head on



Photo by Melody Sandlin

CREAMED— Sgt. Maj. Alonda Smith gets a pie in her face during the fund-raiser at Logistics Support Activity. Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Valiente-Rodriguez, left, does the honors while Master Sgt. Donald Cummings holds Smith's bangs back.

Pie-in-the-face benefit helps violence shelter

By NATHAN FORBES

Logistics Support Activity

The Logistics Support Activity recently took one in the face for charity.

Members of LOGSA volunteered to take a pie in face to benefit The HOPE Place Battered Women's Shelter of Huntsville and Decatur. The event, organized by Lt. Col. Diane Richie and Heather Erickson, was a fun and exciting way to raise money for those less fortunate in the local community.

"This (HOPE Place) organization makes a real difference in the lives of people who are experiencing a difficult time," Richie said. "It is an honor to be able to help the people they serve."

The event collected more than \$2,400 for the local charity and brought the LOGSA family together in an afternoon of fun and laughter.

Vic Luna served as the auctioneer of

the event. He brought a jovial atmosphere in which helped people donate their money to a worthy cause.

"This auction was great because it helped some special members of our community," Luna said.

Logistics Support Activity employees who volunteered to take a pie in the face included commander Col. James Rentz, Sgt. Maj. Alonda Smith, Richard Manley, Jim Bryant, Brian Brown, Phala Patton-Reed, Al Fischer, Merry Cooper, Marcia Byrnes, Eddie Jimenez, Bud Daum, Dave Adkins and Jay Lasher.

"I took one for the team," said Adkins, who wore a Dallas Cowboys jacket when he was hit with a pie.

HOPE Place provides safe, confidential emergency shelter to adult and child victims of domestic violence. It also provides a 24-hour crisis line; court advocacy services; counseling for adult and child victims; case management services; information and education; and instruction on health and safety issues, legal rights and employment interviewing.

■ Nichols enjoys crafting wooden toys for youngsters

Toys

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So, he spends most of his free time at the Arts & Crafts woodshop enjoying his craft. He also volunteers for the center, teaching other woodworkers and filling special orders.

His toys include a pull frog that hops, toy cars, a John Deere tractor, a modified roadster and trains. Among the toy menagerie, Nichols' standouts include Buford the Bull, the Old Grey Mare and Beezer the Burro. He also makes useful items, such as napkin holders, decorative boxes, utensil holders, cabinets, spoon racks, tripod easels, shelving and business

card holders.

"At one time, I actually thought I could make a living doing this. I found out there's no way I could," he said. "But I've never lost my love of woodworking. So I give a majority of the things I make away. I like the feeling I get when I give away something I've made."

Like any good elf, Nichols knows his work isn't only about the end product. He also spends many hours a week helping to maintain the woodshop, including sweeping the dust from floors and cleaning the machinery. He also designed, built and installed a sawdust vacuum for the woodshop's radial arm saws.

"All the work I do here ... I get a lot of satisfaction from it," Nichols said.

National Guard celebrates 'unbroken lineage'

Birthday ceremony recognizes contributions of citizen-Soldiers

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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For Pfc. Barbara Stone, joining the Alabama Army National Guard was a lifelong aspiration.

Since January 2008, she has served her country. Now, as a 20-year-old, she is looking forward to climbing the ranks, refining her skills as an information technology specialist and taking advantage of the opportunities the Guard can offer her.

Her first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Johnny Whisenant, said he hopes Stone enjoys her National Guard career as much as he has enjoyed serving for 39 years.

"I want her to be all she can be," said Whisenant, referring to an Army slogan. "Now, the nation as a whole, is putting so much into the Guard. She will be well-trained and she will work with the best equipment available. She will have a sense of purpose."

Stone and Whisenant, both Soldiers in the Guard's 115th Expeditionary Signal Brigade, represented the youngest and most senior enlisted Soldiers in the traditional cake-cutting

ceremony for the National Guard's 373rd birthday. The ceremony was part of a National Guard birthday breakfast held Friday at the Heritage Club.

The two Soldiers represent what the Guard is all about – providing the best citizen-Soldiers to augment the active Army, and to provide support for state functions and emergencies.

"Our Guard has come a long way," Maj. Gen. Joe Harkey of Alabama National Guard's 167th Theater Sustainment Command, told the breakfast audience. "We've transformed from a strategic resource to operational forces ... It's a big challenge to be an operational force. The uptempo is high. But we've proven we can do the job."

He referred to the Guard's birthday as an "unbroken lineage" of service that began in 1636 when the Massachusetts Bay Colony organized a military force of citizen-Soldiers to protect a colony of about 5,000 that had made a two-month voyage to settle in the New World.

From that initial organization, four units, now all part of the Massachusetts Army National Guard, have been in continuous service and are the oldest units in the Army.

The National Guard has led many initiatives and programs within the

Army. Among its accomplishments in recent years, Harkey said the Guard has revitalized and redefined recruiting, established recruiting assistance and recruiting sustainment programs, and has supported Soldiers and families with the Yellow Ribbon program, Freedom Salute Program, Chaplains' Retreat Program and Employee Support to Guard and Reserve Program.

"We have the most robust, well-trained force that's ever been in the Guard," Harkey said of the 358,000 National Guard Soldiers.

"We've deployed over 52,000 in the last year to Afghanistan and Iraq, and over 11,000 Soldiers domestically to support operations. In Alabama, since 9/11, we've deployed over 15,000 Soldiers and airmen."

Alabama National Guard Maj. Ken Arnold, who recently returned from a deployment to Afghanistan with the 279th Army Field Support Brigade, said "many things have changed since the Guard had that first drill" in 1636. But one thing has stayed the same – "we really are citizen-Soldiers who represent not only our military but also our communities," Arnold said.

Arnold, who works for a defense contractor, was deployed for about



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SLICE OF TRADITION— 1st Sgt. Johnny Whisenant cleans the sword he and Pfc. Barbara Stone used to cut the birthday cake celebrating the 373rd birthday of the National Guard. The celebration was sponsored by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. Standing at attention behind the most senior and youngest Soldiers at the ceremony are, from left, Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Henshaw, Staff Sgt. Latoris Vance and Staff Sgt. Jeremy Thompson.

See **Celebration** on page 15

Standing up for performance

Garrison leaders send workers into holidays with encouraging words for job success

By KARI HAWKINS

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Before wishing Garrison employees a "Happy Holidays" filled with family time and joyous occasions, Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli double teamed with his deputy to recognize and encourage employee performance at 2009's last Garrison Town Hall meeting.

The Garrison Town Hall, held at two different times on Dec. 8 at Heiser Hall, included recognition of several employees for top performance, provided an up-close introduction to the new commander of the Installation Management Command and provided tips on how to succeed in the Garrison work environment.

Pastorelli began the meeting by recognizing several outstanding employees and by congratulating Lois McVay, Garrison resource management chief, on her retirement after 34 years of service.

"What a great job you are doing," he said to the employees. "It's a true testament to you ... A lot of people have taken the extra step and we've got to recognize them."

Of those employees, Pastorelli recognized his deputy, Curtis Clark, and Headquarters & Headquarters Company employees James Tyler and Derek Gibson with the Equal Employment Opportunity annual manager and employee award.

"You should be recognized ... It is an injustice to the individual not to be recognized," he said of the three employees.

Several employees representing the Garrison's Resource Management and Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security along with employees with 20 years of service were recognized. So, too, were Resource Management employees who manage the Interactive Customer Evaluations program.

"A lot of good things are going on every day. Our ICE submissions have increased three-fold since January 2009," Pastorelli said.

After drawing attention to employee performance, Pastorelli then familiarized employees with the new commander of the Installation Management Command, which oversees the operations of all Army garrisons. He said Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, who took over as commander of IMCOM on Nov. 2, is committed to the Army Fam-

ily Covenant and Army Community Covenant, and to preserving the institution of the Army.

Lynch encourages all Garrison employees to keep three questions in mind during their work day: Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?

The commander has also asked garrisons to focus on four areas: Soldier and family readiness, Soldier and family well-being, installation readiness, and leader and work force development.

"We've done great things already in these four areas," Pastorelli said. "We are going to continue to strive to do great things."

Pastorelli also shared some of Lynch's philosophies with employees. They include "I am the 80 percent solutions guy," "I focus on family. I am the family-first general," "Look down to help subordinates, not up to see if you are impressing supervisors," and "Without vision or direction, work is just random acts."

Pastorelli said he would like to see Redstone Arsenal excel in being named an Army Community of Excellence.

"We are different. We are not an Army troop-centered post," he said. "But what we do have here makes it a great place to work."

The Garrison's objectives for 2010 include: excelling at the ACOE competition, having the premier Garrison intern program, establishing a fully functional Installation Operations Center, implementing a restaurant plan for Martin Road, setting successful conditions for incoming BRAC organizations and employees, reducing energy consumption by 5 percent, re-signing the Army community covenant, quantifying Redstone capability for future BRAC moves and continuing world class support to sustain all Redstone tenant missions.

Challenges facing the Garrison include IMCOM restructuring, maintaining quality service with current funding, maximizing educational opportunities, managing BRAC construction to completion, setting conditions to receive new personnel, setting conditions to receive personnel from the Army Contracting Command/Expeditionary Contracting Command, fostering

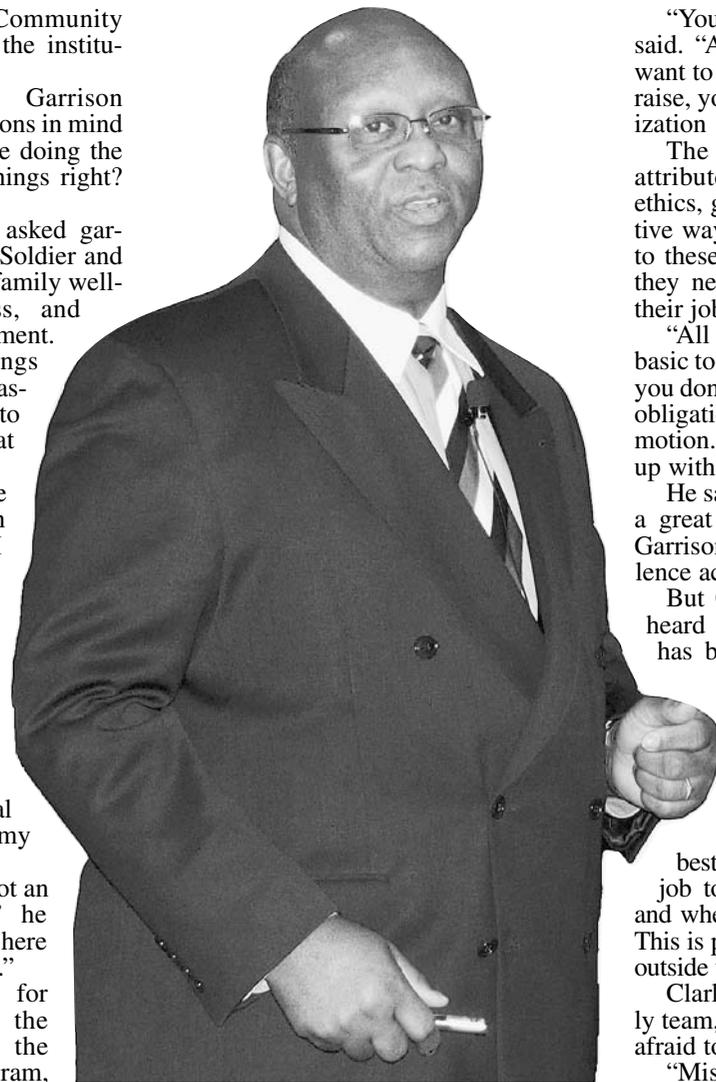


Photo by Kari Hawkins

RIGHT INGREDIENTS— Garrison deputy commander Curtis Clark encourages all Garrison employees to be the best they can be at their jobs through training, high performance standards, and personal ethics and integrity. He and Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli spoke about employee performance at the Dec. 8 Garrison Town Hall.

the Anniston Army Depot relationship, promoting zero safety incidents, and decreasing operational costs through innovation and technology.

Continuing the people-focused meeting, Pastorelli introduced his deputy, Clark, to the audience. Clark told employees that the Garrison is a training ground for promising Department of Army employees and shared his views on how to be a better DA civilian employee.

"You need to trust your leader," he said. "And, if you want to excel, if you want to get promoted, if you want to get a raise, you have to stand out in your organization ... You need to be involved."

The best employees share several attributes, including loyalty, integrity, ethics, good attitude, respect and a proactive way of thinking. Employees can add to these attributes by getting the training they need to perform at a high level in their jobs.

"All our work force needs to have the basic tools to do their jobs," Clark said. "If you don't, the management failed. It is our obligation to prepare you for the next promotion. All our employees need to come up with a plan to make the next step."

He said Garrison employees are "doing a great job. You are a fabulous-looking Garrison team," he said. "There is excellence across the board."

But Clark also mentioned that he has heard complaints that a lot of attention has been given to the Garrison intern program.

"It has been said we are investing a lot of money in our interns," he said. "That is true. Interns are our future. The Garrison is a breeding ground. It is our job to train you to make you the best person you can be. But it is your job to better yourself, prepare yourself and when the opportunity arises, go for it. This is probably the best place in the Army outside the capitol region to get promoted."

Clark said the Garrison team is a family team, and that employees should not be afraid to challenge themselves.

"Mistakes can be made. How do you grow? You've got to go out there and try new things," he said.

In the area of training, he said employees should have four elements – an Individual Development Plan, Civilian Education System plan, cross training and developmental assignments. In the areas of ethics, personal values and standards, he emphasized an employee's loyalty to their organization, customer service and quality performance.

"I thoroughly enjoy my job and I want you, too, to enjoy your job," Clark said. "Make your job fun. If you need to shift gears, prepare yourself and have the right mindset. Reach for the stars and others will help you. If you need career advice, I'm there for you."

Both Pastorelli and Clark urged employees to use the holidays to spend time with their families and refresh themselves.

Energy conservation is up to all workers

Work force urged to help reduce utility consumption

By KARI HAWKINS

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During the Dec. 8 Garrison Town Hall, Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli introduced Mark Smith of the Directorate of Public Works energy conservation program, who reviewed with employees the Garrison's utility costs for 2009, which amounted to \$62 million.

Based on the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Garrison is mandated to reduce utility consumption on Redstone Arsenal by 3 percent every year. But, in 2009, instead of saving the required \$1.5 million in utility costs required by the act, the Garrison actually increased from its baseline.

"We are working to improve efficiencies by installing more efficient heat pumps and other systems, and water system improvements. We will

be doing audits for all our customers, looking for energy improvements," Smith said. "We are trying to make our buildings smarter so we can monitor what is going on."

Improvements such as additional insulation and efficient lighting will be considered in the Garrison's efforts to reduce utility costs.

There are ways that Garrison employees can help in the effort, Smith said.

"You're our eyes and ears. You can help us reduce waste in your respective areas," he said.

Some measures that employees can take include keeping thermostats between 70 and 74 during heating months and between 72 and 76 during cooling months, banning space heaters from all work areas, dressing appropriately for weather conditions, keeping doors and windows closed, reporting steam and water leaks, utilizing shades and blinds, and turning off lights and computers when not in use.

"Conserve with common sense," Smith said.

AMCOM Safety Office has successful year

By AMY GUCKEEN

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For the AMCOM Safety Office, there is never a dull day when you're busy keeping staff and Soldiers safe; and in 2009, that was no exception.

"We try to prevent industrial accidents to rapidly field new firepower," said Patricia Vittitow, chief of the safety office, on the broad scope of the office's work.

One of the biggest challenges for the office in 2009, and moving forward, lies in the contractor-to-civilian work force conversion, required by the National Defense

Authorization Act of 2008, Vittitow said. Approximately 1,450 contractor positions at AMCOM will be converted to Army civilian over the next three years.

"We're used to hiring people one at a time," Vittitow said. "Now we're hiring en masse. It's all the logistics of hiring a bunch of people. We have to make space."

Other safety highlights from the year included sponsoring the Joint Weapons Safety Conference in August, working with Corpus Christi Army Depot (Texas) and Letterkenny Army Depot (Pa.) to ensure their names do not appear on the DoD's top 40 list, and the successful testing of the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missile.

■ Citizen-Soldiers represent 373 years of service to nation

Celebration

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seven months. He said the experience was "probably the most humbling I've ever had."

U.S. troops in Afghanistan "are motivated in what they are doing. They believe in the mission. We're winning now. We're making a difference," he said.

Others who spoke at the breakfast include Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and Steve Taylor, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

David Carney, a retired National Guard first sergeant and an active Guard supporter who emceed the birthday celebration, said the breakfast sponsor – the local AUSA chapter – has been named AUSA's best chapter for National Guard support six years in a row.

Hail and farewell

Longest serving colonel leaves aviation legacy

Highly decorated Soldier enjoyed career as enlisted, warrant officer and officer

By KARI HAWKINS

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The Army's longest serving colonel – and possibly its longest serving Soldier – said his “goodbyes” to a career of challenges and opportunities at a retirement ceremony Dec. 4 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Col. Richard Hatch, who completed 40 years, eight months and 22 days of service with nearly nine years as a colonel, said retirement was a fleeting thought during the latter years of a career that included stints as an enlisted Soldier, a chief warrant officer and an officer with five command assignments. Since July 2008, Hatch has served as the director of aviation maintenance transformation for the Aviation and Missile Command.

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed this career,” said the 57-year-old Soldier. “Every time an opportunity has come up it has been a challenge, it has been interesting. The leadership obviously had confidence that I could do the job. The Army had a way of giving me challenges and extremely self-fulfilling assignments. This is a very unique culture. It is

a profession of arms, a special group of people who serve in the U.S. military.”

It’s now family opportunities – including a wife who wants to spend time with – that are leading to Hatch’s retirement.

Hatch spoke at his retirement ceremony much like he speaks at various military events, including Officer Candidate School graduations and college ROTC graduations, where he is often asked to be the guest speaker, touching on the Army’s code of ethics, high set of standards, mission and Soldier’s creed. He is a highly decorated Soldier, with awards including the Defense Superior Service Medal, three Legion of Merit awards, a Bronze Star and 10 air medals. He is the only Soldier to receive two AAAA (Army Aviation Association of America) national awards – the Aviation Soldier of the Year in 1971 and the Army Aviator of the Year in 1982.

A Phoenix, Ariz., native, Hatch enlisted in the Army at age 16 with his mom’s help, although he had to wait until the day after his 17th birthday to actually begin his service.

“My uncle was stationed at Fort Huachuca (Ariz.) and I visited him a lot,” Hatch recalled. “Back then, everything was spit and polish. I was

See **Legacy** on page 23



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHARING OPPORTUNITY— Col. Richard Hatch, the Army’s longest serving colonel and the only Soldier to receive two awards from the Army Aviation Association of America, talks about his legacy of opportunity as an aviator and commander during his retirement ceremony Dec. 4 in Bob Jones Auditorium. He served for more than 40 years in an Army that provided him a challenging aviation career as an enlisted Soldier, then as a warrant officer and, lastly, as an officer.

Nine retiring Soldiers cited for making a difference

Ceremony honors troops and their family members

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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The Army recognized 214 years and seven months of service Thursday.

That represents the accumulative careers of the nine Soldiers honored during the quarterly retirement ceremony in Heiser Hall. The retirees were recognized along with their spouses.

“Your legacy continues to go on,” Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles told the Soldiers, referring to the young troops who they have trained and mentored.

“You’ve taught them what right looks like,” he said.

The retirees included Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael Mittlebeeler, Sgt. Maj. James Lowry, Maj. Darryl Gilliam, Maj. Lillian Richardson, Master Sgt. Jeff Lang, Sgt. 1st Class Coulter Green, Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Stroy, Master Sgt. Willie King and Sgt. 1st Class Mildred Morris.

“You made a difference to others,” Myles said.

Each retiree had an opportunity to make his or her remarks at the end of the ceremony.

“It’s a long road,” Lang said, “but it comes fast.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BITTERSWEET MOMENT— Sgt. Maj. James Lowry of 2nd Recruiting Brigade is recognized by Maj. Gen. Jim Myles as he retires with 34 years of service.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

END OF LINE— The retiring Soldiers include, from left in the front row, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael Mittlebeeler, Sgt. Maj. James Lowry, Maj. Darryl Gilliam, Maj. Lillian Richardson, Master Sgt. Jeff Lang, Sgt. 1st Class Coulter Green and Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Stroy. In the back row is Master Sgt. Willie King. Not pictured is Sgt. 1st Class Mildred Morris.

HIMARS shoots high for award

Performance-based logistics team earns kudos for system efficiency and reliability

By KARI HAWKINS

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The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System is a repeat award winner. This precision strike weapons system, assigned to fire brigades supporting brigade combat teams, is the only two-time recipient of the Secretary of Defense Performance-Based Logistics award. The award recognizes government and industry teams providing war fighters with exceptional operational capability through PBL agreements.

“This is the second time our team has been rewarded for a really good job of supplying fielded capabilities,” said Col. David Rice, project manager for the Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems office of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, which oversees management of the HIMARS program.

“From start to shoot, HIMARS is performing extremely well in a high-tempo environment and harsh conditions. Logistics is often an overlooked function. But this award shows that our HIMARS government-industry logistics team is a poster child for what performance-based logistics is supposed to look like.”

The HIMARS Product Office, managed by Lt. Col. Greg Paul and including a team of about 150 employees, works with industry partner Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fires Control Systems of Dallas to provide logistics support for fielded HIMARS units. Also part of that partnership is the Aviation and Missile Command’s Integrated Materiel Management Center and the Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

TWO-TIME WINNERS— Redstone Arsenal’s High Mobility Artillery Rocket System is receiving a lot of recognition these days for a performance-based logistics program that has maintained the system at more than 90 percent readiness in theater. The PBL program recently received its second Secretary of Defense Performance-Based Logistics Award, making it the only two-time recipient. Employees leading the PBL effort for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space are, from left, Floyd Lindsey, Patricia Rovira, John White, Renee Edmondson, Milissa Taylor, Tonya Smith, Sharon O’Connor and Mahona Carleton.

See **Award** on page 19

Award

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Currently, about 250 HIMARS units have been produced for the Army and Marine Corps with eight battalions fielded to the Army (four active and four National Guard) and two battalions to the Marine Corps (one active and one Reserve). The New Hampshire National Guard was the last unit to be fielded.

Since 2005, HIMARS has provided support in both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and is a key component in overseas contingency operations. Its six-pack system launches the Multiple Launch Rocket System family of rockets and missiles, and is designed to support Joint Early and Forced Entry Expeditionary Operations with high-volume destructive, suppressive and counter-battery fires.

"No launcher has ever refused a missile launch," Rice said. "The system is performing at above Army standards and Soldier expectations."

In-theater maintenance work is performed by Soldiers with the assistance of field service representatives. Lockheed Martin employees serve as the field reps,

providing technical assistance and training to Soldiers who are HIMARS maintenance technicians. These Soldiers receive their initial training in the system's maintenance at the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School.

In addition, Lockheed Martin's supply chain management system is fully integrated with the standard Army system so that repair parts and other supplies can be quickly ordered and replaced.

"Our government-industry team is made up of consummate professionals who are experts at diagnosing any problems and then passing their expertise to Soldiers in the field so that they optimize HIMARS performance," Rice said.

The HIMARS PBL team first won the PBL award in 2005 and repeated in 2009. In 2008, HIMARS and Guided MLRS was the first Army system to be recognized with the William J. Perry Award, an annual award presented by the Precision Strike Association in recognition of achievements that result in significant contributions to the development, introduction and support of precision strike systems.

"People are beginning to sit up and take notice," Rice said.

"Not only is this system performing well, but it's very highly dependable. It is an acquisition success story.

"Since its first fielding, the HIMARS system has provided our nation's war fighters with superior results. It's becoming increasingly important that our Army's systems remain engaged and viable to achieve our mission – and HIMARS is doing just that. This proven technology ensures that our Soldiers can stay in the fight, regardless of condition or circumstance. The accuracy, reliability and lethal technology that HIMARS provides in engaging long-range targets ultimately keep Soldiers from harm's way and saves their lives."

Once a system is fielded, it is the performance-based logistics team that assures ongoing performance. HIMARS has maintained more than 90 percent readiness.

"The key about PBL is it's all about partnering with private industry to improve weapon system readiness," said Mahona Carlton, who is the lead member of the PEO for Missiles and Space logistics team. "We are working to reduce costs by keeping the systems effective and efficient and reliable. We have been able to reduce ownership costs by 24 percent."

Because HIMARS is a PBL

model system, its team provides DoD agencies with data from audit studies to show how to develop and manage a program used for sustainment systems.

"In 2003, we showed that we could be more efficient and effective by using PBL," Carlton said. "As a new start weapon system, at the system level we created a whole entity and a core capability at the Letterkenny Army Depot in support of PBL. Today, we modify and change PBL as our weapon system changes."

When establishing the government-industry team, Carlton said there were several U.S. government rules that had to be adhered to.

"You have to have a division of labor," she said. "We were able to empower everyone on the team with a hierarchy of controls in place. Dividing roles and responsibilities is key to partnering."

The partnering contract had to be written so that it remained flexible to the demands of the theater, said Floyd Lindsey, director of the Logistics Directorate for Precision Fires.

"The field service representative and the support in theater are in constant adjustment due to launchers being relocated and the changing fighting strategy and deployment," he said. "The con-

tract had to be flexible to accommodate those adjustments."

As a responsive PBL program, the team remains vital and relevant to any challenges to the HIMARS readiness.

"Through metrics, the readiness is exceeded and reliability is more effective, and it's been that way on the battlefield from the first," Lindsey said. "Partnering – or teaming – has been important to this program from the beginning. We even developed the contract with our industry partner."

The HIMARS PBL team is one of the leanest within the Department of Army and the Department of Defense.

"Lockheed Martin is working in the visible areas with Soldiers," Carlton said. "They have done a wonderful job for us and really shine in what they do. They work really hard on this partnership and care for the Soldiers as much as we do."

The HIMARS PBL competed against more than 200 other systems within DoD for the PBL award.

"Our success has exceeded the DA goal," Lindsey said. "We've reduced costs, developed a strong partnership, increased reliability and developed core capabilities. Our common goal was to be a successful team that is innovative and flexible, and that has synergy."

Rice is in the unique position to have managed the MLRS Project Office earlier in his career, and then returned to PEO for Missiles and Space in his current position.

"We started working on the HIMARS concept in 1995-96 because we needed a fire support system that was deployable. MLRS had proven itself with Desert Storm. But we needed a multiple MLRS launch system that could be transported anywhere. HIMARS was it.

"It's nice to see this system come full circle. This is a system that delivers on rocket science. The innovative ideas of scientists and engineers at Redstone Arsenal started this system and have kept this project office viable."

Now, with a system that has shown its effectiveness in the field, attention has been shifted to logistics support that keeps the systems in top operating condition.

"HIMARS performance-based logistics is a collective effort between government and industry," Rice said. "This is a great example of how a life cycle management command construct should work. I am glad to see the spotlight shine on the logistics contribution to this system."



File photo

IN THE FIELD—The High Mobility Artillery Rocket System is the first ever two-time winner of the Secretary of Defense Performance-Based Logistics Award, which recognizes government and industry teams providing war fighters with exceptional operational capability through PBL agreements. HIMARS and Guided MLRS also was the first Army system to be recognized with the William J. Perry Award, an annual award presented by the Precision Strike Association in recognition of achievements that result in significant contributions to the development, introduction and support of precision strike systems.

Memorial ceremony honors bomb technicians

Sense of duty, camaraderie shared with inherent risk

By **AMY GUCKEEN**

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Page Hakim, 19, did not just lose a father Dec. 12, 2008. She lost a hero.

"I was so proud of my dad," Hakim said, recalling the tales she got to tell classmates and teachers growing up, of her father, Oregon State Police senior trooper William Hakim, the bomb technician that saved lives on a daily basis, and came to speak to her classes, bomb truck in tow. "How many people can say that?"

Families, friends, law enforcement and bomb technicians from across the country joined the Redstone Arsenal community Dec. 7 for the 2009 Bomb Technician Memorial Ceremony, to honor and remember Hakim and Lt. Michael Avilucea who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2008.

"You should be so proud," said guest speaker Von "Zack" Vaughn, a Navy retired former commander of the combined explosives exploitation cell in Afghanistan to the families of Avilucea and Hakim. "He represents all that is good in this country and humanity."

Avilucea, a member of the New Mexico State Police, was killed May 30, 2008 in an automobile accident, returning from an operation where he assisted in the recovering of explosives. Hakim was killed when a bomb detonated as he examined the device. Both were 51.

"The officers whose names are on this wall and the wall of Eglin Air Force Base (Fla.) know the risk they took. Their sense of honor would allow them to do nothing different," Vaughn said.

That statement rings particularly true for Hakim's family, widow Terri, Page and son Victor, 17, who recall Hakim's passion for the work he did, and his tendency to exclaim, "I saved the world for democracy again today!" after a successful mission.

"I always trusted his talent," Terri said. "I never worried about it. You can't live your life in fear of what he did. He loved



Photo by Amy Guckeen

NOT FORGOTTEN— The family of William Hakim, a senior trooper with the Oregon State Police, enter the ceremony as they prepare for the one year anniversary of his death, Dec. 12.

it. How many people are able to say they're married to someone who loves their job?"

"The risk is inherent," said David Woosley, a bomb technician with the Chattanooga Police Department, and chairman of the Bomb Technician Memorial Foundation. "Everybody knows it's there. You get one opportunity to make a really bad mistake. That's just what we do. You couldn't pay us not to. You don't avoid it, you go toward it."

While the past year has brought heartache to the Hakim family, amidst their grief and tears they have taken away an even greater memory of their husband and father – what a truly special man he was.

"How many people his life affected – that's what we take more from it than the loss," Terri said.

It is a loss that hasn't just been felt by his family, but by his fellow bomb technicians and colleagues with the Oregon

State Police as well.

"He was a real jokester," said Oregon State Police senior trooper Peggy Bishop. "I still can hear his laugh."

"He was a great mentor, a great teacher," said Oregon State Police senior trooper Mike Blank, Hakim's partner. "Every time I do it I think about him. It was always a race to see who would get in the bomb suit first."

The memorial ceremony included Vaughn's speech, which spoke to the sense of duty and camaraderie of the bomb technician community, pieces performed by the St. Louis County Police Pipes and Drums, from St. Louis, Mo., and the unveiling of the memorial plaques by the family members and partners of Avilucea and Hakim.

"If this never happens again, it'll be too soon," Woosley said.



Photo by Amy Guckeen

SPEAKER— Von "Zack" Vaughn, Navy retired former commander of the combined explosives exploitation cell in Afghanistan, speaks of the bravery and sense of duty Michael Avilucea and William Hakim had in their line of work.

See **Ceremony** on page 21

Nation's military stars set to visit Huntsville

'In the Company of Heroes' gala will leave lasting outreach legacy

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Military stars will fall on Huntsville in August.

Huntsville could very well adopt its own version of the state's famous slogan – "Stars Fell on Alabama" – when some of the nation's most highly decorated military heroes travel to the city to participate in the first-ever Medal of Honor event hosted in their honor in Alabama.

The "Medal of Honor Gala: In the Company of Heroes" is set for Aug. 28 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center's Davidson Center for Space Exploration. The gala, hosted by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, will be the main event in a weekend of activities planned for about 35 Medal of Honor recipients and foundation board members who are expected to attend.

"This will be the largest gathering of Medal of Honor recipients in the state of Alabama and one of the largest ever in the Southeast," said Jay Town, a former Marine major who is serving as the weekend's event chairman.

"The event has a dual purpose – first, to celebrate and perpetuate the legacy of the Medal of Honor and to celebrate its recipients, and, second, to raise funds for



Photo by Kari Hawkins

LEGACY OF PATRIOTISM— Jay Town, a former Marine major, is leading efforts to bring the Medal of Honor Gala to Huntsville on Aug. 28. The event will bring about 35 Congressional Medal of Honor recipients to North Alabama to share their stories of patriotism and sacrifice with local school students, and to raise funds for a national educational initiative known as the Medal of Honor Curriculum Program.

the foundation projects."

The foundation project that will benefit specifically from the gala will be the Medal of Honor Curriculum Program,

which will be introduced in local schools during the 2010 school year.

"The program will teach students about the Medal of Honor and its value system and the six character traits of Medal of Honor recipients – courage, sacrifice, patriotism, citizenship, integrity and commitment. The lessons are taught across all curriculums," Town said. "By Aug. 28th of next year, the curriculum will already be in some schools in Huntsville, Madison and Madison County. Our goal is to permeate the curriculum in Alabama, the Southeast and the nation."

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force. It is awarded for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of one's life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against the enemy of the United States."

Of the 3,500 servicemembers who have received the Medal of Honor, there are only 92 living recipients who are members of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation was established by the society to educate and raise awareness in the American public about the Medal of Honor and what it represents, and to raise funds to support its public outreach activities.

Those Medal of Honor recipients who travel to Huntsville will participate in activities that take them into local schools to talk to students about the American values of courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism.

"Huntsville is a natural place to bring this gala because of the military and aerospace footprint here," Town said. "The citizens here are a patriotic bunch and this is a good place to get the curriculum program off the ground."

About 650 people are expected to attend the gala, mostly through corporate sponsorships that are now being sought. The event will include the presentation of foundation awards, such as the Circle of Honor Award.

While the foundation's most well-known member is Medal of Honor recipient Leo Thorsness, who lives in Madison and who is the foundation's president, the gala is expected to bring some international stars to Huntsville. It is hoped that the gala's emcee will be foundation member Brian Williams, anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News.

Corporate sponsors are essential to the gala's success. They will help support the entire weekend of activities as well as provide funds for the curriculum program, which will be a lasting legacy to Alabama, the Southeast and the nation, Town said.

"We started pitching Huntsville for the gala in February 2009. This is a growing,

See Stars on page 22

■ Bomb technician community honors fallen members

Ceremony

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The Bomb Technician Memorial, located at the Hazardous Devices School, is funded completely by donors, such as the Jacksonville, Fla., Police Department, who traveled to the memorial ceremony

and made the decision to forego all Christmas parties this year and give that money to the memorial. All bomb technicians in the United States are trained at HDS, and return every three years for re-certification. Maintenance of the memorial is class duty for the basic class at the Hazardous Devices School.

"For us this is home," Woosley said.



Photo by Amy Guckeen

PIPE AND DRUMS— The St. Louis County Police Pipe and Drums from St. Louis, Mo., escorts the families of Michael Avilucea and William Hakim into the ceremony.

Soldier evaluation process updated

By Capt. DEREK EICHHOLZ

Legal Assistance chief

The Army has re-imposed the Qualitative Management Program, a Department of the Army level bar to re-enlistment affecting non-commissioned officers who fail “to meet the Army standards for performance, conduct, attitude and potential for advancement.”

The basic premise of the QMP program is that re-enlistment is a privilege and a board at the DA level will decide whether such a privilege can be extended. NCOs should know how Soldiers are selected for review by the QMP board, what factors are used in determining

whether a Soldier will be barred from service, and what they can do in response to this determination. Additionally, commanders should know their role in this process.

While the QMP maintains no established quota with regard to the number of Soldiers the board will review, there are indicators which may increase the chance of selection by the board. Indicators increasing the chance of selection include continued poor performance as shown on NCOERs, failure of a NCO Education System course for other than academic reasons, receipt of a general officer letter of reprimand, UCMJ action occurring later in a Soldier’s

career, failing to maintain appropriate weight standards or not making satisfactory progress in the weight-control program, unless medically justified; or failing two or more current APFTs, without medical justification.

If a Soldier’s file is selected for review, the board will evaluate the Soldier’s past performance and estimate the Soldier’s potential to determine whether continued service is warranted. In making this evaluation, the board reviews the performance portion of the NCO’s OMPF, DA Forms 2A and 2-1, and other authorized documents. The board will examine these documents to determine the individual’s personal ethics, morals, competence, duty performance, physical fitness, military bearing, leadership, training, responsibility and accountability. The board will then determine whether continued service is warranted.

Upon notification of selection for QMP, Soldiers must complete a statement of options within seven days. Soldiers will have the following options: submitting an appeal, voluntary discharge, involuntary discharge, or apply for retirement. The Legal Assistance office will assist Soldiers in weighing these options. If the Soldier wishes to appeal this decision, the Legal Assis-

tance office will assist in submitting this appeal. A Soldier selected for QMP will have 60 days from notification of selection to submit an appeal to the chain of command. This appeal must be based on improved performance and/or presence of material error in the Soldier’s record when reviewed by the selection board.

Commanders have two opportunities to submit matters on behalf of a selected Soldier who appeals the decision of the QMP board. First, every commander in the chain of command, through the first general officer will add substantive comments regarding the Soldier’s performance and potential and recommend approval or disapproval of the Soldier’s appeal. These comments will be forwarded within 30 days of receipt of the Soldier’s appeal. Second, a commander in the grade of lieutenant colonel or higher may submit an appeal based upon the Soldier’s current performance and potential. Such an appeal, however, must be based on the commander’s judgment that the Soldier merits retention after comparing the Soldier’s current performance with the documents cited as grounds for the denial of continued service. If selected for QMP, Soldiers should seek assistance from the Legal Assistance office immediately.

■ Medal of Honor Gala coming to Huntsville in August

Stars

continued from page 21

burgeoning place known for its patriotism,” Town said.

“What better city than Huntsville to celebrate the Medal of Honor? I’m honored to be a part of this and to have such a great team to work with.”

Volunteers working on the Medal of Honor gala and weekend activities include

Tommy and Middie Thompson, David Carney, Loretta Spencer, Judy Link, Melanie Kettle, Kelly Schrimsher, Joe Fitzgerald, Joyce Griffin and Dana Town. Eula Battle is serving as the local foundation liaison for the Medal of Honor curriculum.

For more information, email MedalofHonorGala@yahoo.com or call 651-0414. To learn more about the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and its foundation, visit <http://www.cmohfoundation.com>.

U.S. military docs treat nearly 3,000 people in El Salvador

Mudslides hit several cities

By Air Force Staff Sgt. CHAD THOMPSON
Army News Service

ILOPANGO, El Salvador — The Joint Task Force-Bravo Medical Element performed a Medical Civil Action Program, or MEDCAP, from Nov. 19-23 treating 2,987 people in several different cities affected by the El Salvador mudslides.

A team of 10 personnel along with the El Salvador's Ministry of Health personnel and local physicians conducted the MEDCAP for the benefit of Salvadorans in the cities of Guadalupe, San Diego, San Emigdio and Las Isletas — the cities that were most affected by the flooding that began Nov. 8.

"This MEDCAP was a total success," said Dr. Guillermo Saenz, JTF-Bravo medical element liaison officer. "I think we exceeded everyone's expectations on such a short-notice medical assistance of this size."

On the final day of the program, the team saw an astounding 1,118 patients, and they couldn't have done something like that without a good team effort, Saenz said.

"Our interagency cooperation between host nation, Ministry of Health and the U.S. agencies has been simply amazing," said

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Richard Coombs, a pharmacy technician.

The first stage of medical care provided during the MEDCAP was health and hygiene education where all 2,987 people learned proper hand-washing techniques and received multi-vitamins.

Each of the locations had areas where people with flu-like symptoms could be separated and screened for H1N1 and given information on preventing the spread of viruses and disease.

The Ministry of Health also provided vaccinations for about 60 children at the different locations.

The personnel also distributed more than \$23,000 in medical supplies during the event. The medicines ranged from prescription medicine to common pain-killers.

"Providing antibiotics is probably some of the most important prescriptions we have done during this MEDCAP," said Capt. Manuel Silveira, a pharmacist on the team. "Due to the remoteness of some of the villages, the medications' cost and the conditions some of these people have been living in after the flooding fighting off infection becomes a difficult task, but bringing in the medicines we have and catching some of these conditions early will give them a chance at getting better."

The dental hygienists provided 416 den-

tal screenings and performed some minor procedures. Children were also given a preventative dentistry instruction to teach them proper brushing techniques and how to care for their teeth.

Another important aspect of the MEDCAP was the psychologists provided by the Ministry of Health who performed 161 post-traumatic stress disorder screenings.

"Post-traumatic stress disorder after a disaster such as this can cause sleep and depression problems," said Dr. Miguel Coello, a liaison officer. "And the Ministry of Health saw this as a golden opportunity to treat people for PTSD and help them start coping early with what they experienced."

The preventative medicine personnel providing initial screening tried very hard to stress the importance of talking about PTSD because if people can't learn how to cope with these problems it could become worse, Coello said.

The psychologists had the children draw pictures of what they remembered about the flooding and mudslides, he said. From the pictures they would determine whether they felt the children would need treatment in order to help them cope with what they experienced.

JTF-Bravo was scheduled to return to El Salvador to conduct another MEDCAP Dec. 14-15.

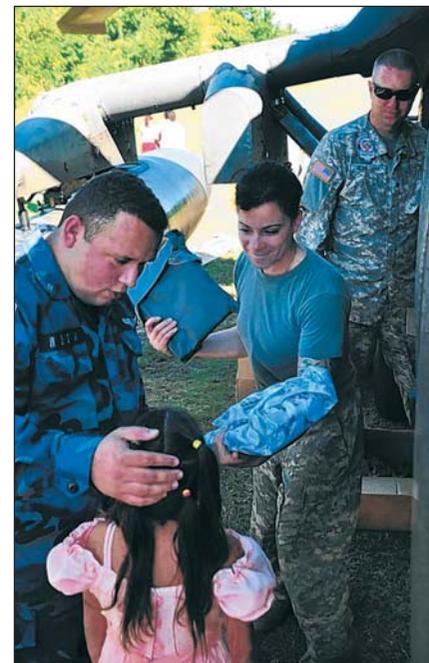


Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Chad Thompson
SCHOOL SUPPLIES— Sgt. Elena Clark, a flight medic assigned to Joint Task Force-Bravo, hands a bag full of school supplies to a little girl Nov. 22 near Las Isletas, El Salvador.

Hatch reflects on his rewarding Army career

Legacy

continued from page 16

fascinated with the military lifestyle, the discipline, the drill and ceremony. It was just kind of a natural thing for me."

In April 1969, Hatch officially entered service, one of only a handful on that day to report to the military entry processing station. The other 100 or so future servicemembers at the station were drafted.

"We were clearly in the minority. The others thought we were nuts," Hatch recalled. "But we had a choice of what we were going to do in the Army. The draftees did not."

It was that choice, that opportunity that defined Hatch's entire career.

"The Army gave me opportunities to serve and advance based on my own desire, my own potential and my own capability," he said.

As an enlisted Soldier, he served as a flight engineer, mechanic, technical inspector and flight platoon sergeant. Opportunity came to Hatch when he received his Aviation Soldier of the Year award, an occasion that took the notice of then chief of staff of the Army Gen. Creighton Abrams, who asked the young Soldier what his aspirations were.

"I told him I wanted to go to warrant officers school and fly," Hatch said. "Ten days later, my battalion commander at Fort Hood (Texas) called me while I was on the flight line. I thought it was a joke. But he said the word from the Pentagon was that my request for officers school was approved."

Hatch actually was given the choice of a direct commission or going to warrant officers school. But he wasn't fully informed of his choices and, with a desire to fly, chose the warrant officer path.

After warrant officers school, Hatch served as a pilot for nine years, flying in combat in Vietnam during the all-out offensive of 1971 and again in 1972 during the evacuation process. He has flight time in 12 different rotary

wing aircraft, including the OH-6, OH-13, UH-1, Cobras and — his favorite — CH-47s.

"I've had every aviation job in a Chinook unit," he said. "I've been a mechanic, flight engineer, crew chief, technical inspector, maintenance NCO, maintenance officer, flight platoon sergeant, company executive officer. I've even commanded a Chinook unit. The only job I haven't had is the first sergeant job."

"I enjoyed the Chinook because of the mission, versatility and capability of that platform. You can sit it down in places that a single aircraft can't go. It's a very stable platform."

But, while serving as an instructor pilot at Fort Rucker, Hatch became convinced that he wanted to command. He completed his college education at age 29 and applied for a direct commission. He was one of 14 Soldiers selected for the honor in 1982. He served two commands as a captain and then went on to three commands as a field grade officer, commanding a Chinook unit as a major, a battalion as a lieutenant colonel and a brigade with the 25th Infantry Division as a colonel.

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to make a difference, to lead, to provide resources and to set conditions for a unit to be successful," he said.

He has been deployed five times, with assignments in Vietnam, Central America, South America, Thailand and Afghanistan. He has also traveled throughout the Middle East and in Korea on various assignments.

His deployment as a brigade commander with the 25th Infantry Division out of Hawaii to Afghanistan remains one of Hatch's career highlights. He led his brigade through 18 months of training prior to the deployment, and all three of his sons deployed with the unit. In addition, his son-in-law was deployed at the time to Iraq.

"I wanted to go to war with Soldiers we had trained," he said.

In his current position with AMCOM, Hatch has used his experience to serve in the field of aviation maintenance transformation.

"This job is not about the promotion. It's about the mission," he said. "I've been here to bring field experience into the AMCOM staff."

During his retirement ceremony, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles referred to Hatch as "Mr. Chinook."

Although Hatch is retiring, Myles said "the Hatch era continues because of those he taught and mentored. He taught what right looks like. There is a trail behind him that's going to continue to go on. Thank you for all that you've done for Army aviation."

Hatch is proud of the legacy he leaves within the Army aviation community.

"I hope I am remembered as a leader, as a Soldier who helped transition the Army through five decades of challenges," Hatch said. "And as someone who provided opportunities to others as I have been provided opportunities to do my best and to achieve my desires. I hope I am remembered as setting conditions for success for Soldiers."

Besides his own honors, Hatch and his wife Victoria have three sons who continue to serve the Army. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert Hatch is a Black Hawk pilot stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., with the 101st Airborne; Christopher Hatch, who served in the Army as a lieutenant, is now a DA civilian with the Army Materiel Command in Korea; and Sgt. Russell Hatch is in the Army Reserves in Alabama. Hatch's daughter, Teresa, is married to Maj. Brady Traum, who recently returned from his second deployment in Iraq and is now assigned to the Space and Missile Defense Command.

"I've been very blessed with a wife who was a partner in this. It's a real team effort," he said of Victoria, who grew up in a military family. "In our 38 years of marriage, we have moved 32 times. One of our children attended four different high schools while the other three attended three different high schools. They've lived all around the world."

Hatch leaves behind a job that was both fulfilling and difficult.

"Anyone who wants to serve in the military should go in with their eyes wide open," he said. "They should make sure they understand this is a significantly different culture than the one they were raised in. There are standards and expectations and professionalism. Nothing is easy about this job. But it is the most rewarding thing you can ever do."

Soldiers train to use forensic science to catch insurgents

By DREW HAMILTON
Army News Service

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. — Soldiers with the 2nd Engineer Battalion will use modern investigative techniques to locate and capture insurgents when they deploy next year.

Like something out of the popular crime scene investigation television programs, members of the 2nd Engineer Battalion are analyzing evidence from enemy activities to determine their locations, motives and activities.

Using the battalion's time at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., intelligence officers like 2nd Lt. Mathew Peterson had a chance to practice their skills at identifying and evaluating enemy activities by analyzing evidence found on the battlefield.

"What I'm looking for are things that can put me in the enemies shoes, so that I can figure out that they're eating this kind of food, or using this kind of stuff that comes from a store in (one specific town) rather than (another). That way we can know what routes they're using,



Photo by Drew Hamilton

AREA SCAN— 2nd Lt. Matthew Peterson, an intelligence and security officer with the 2nd Engineer Battalion, scans for enemy activity while taking part in full spectrum operations exercises at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. Peterson plans to collect and analyze physical evidence of enemy activity to help him locate and identify individual insurgents when he deploys.

what kinds of cars to look for, which people, and what kind of IEDs they make," Peterson said

as he examined a discarded battery he found near a road with IED activity.

Analyzing evidence like this can go a long way toward helping keep routes clear, as well as help U.S. and allied forces as a whole identify who the enemy is and how to best combat them. "If (our Soldiers) bring in something like wires, that are a specialty to shops in (a certain town), then I can answer the question – 'Where are the enemy coming from?'" Peterson said. Answering two or three questions like that helps him identify the enemy.

Part of what makes Peterson's investigations so effective is coordination with other units. This allows him to gather intelligence and forensic data about the larger operating environment. "We have all kinds of different information not just from our battalion, but from other battalions in the area," he said.

One of Peterson's goals is to expand the Soldiers' definition of what is considered valuable evidence. Currently Soldiers tend to focus on the actual explosives found in the IEDs, Peterson wants them to learn to include other materials that could be useful to insurgents.

"I'm trying to expand the mindset to realize that even something as small as a nine volt battery could have been in a detonator and for all we know there's a fingerprint on there that I can trace back to somebody," Peterson said.

Once he has access to evidence, Peterson and his team can start analyzing it or leveraging other resources outside of his unit to help determine its value as a source of information. "One of my guys is battlefield forensics trained and he knows how to handle these things. He makes sure they get to the teams that can do the right laboratory analysis," Peterson said.

Taking part in the deployment readiness exercise at NTC has given Peterson a chance to make use of the wide range of materials that might not be available when conducting training exercises on White Sands Missile Range. "At White Sands I can do things in theory, but I don't actually have someone calling (me) up with real enemy network set up with connected personalities and things where they're actually setting up IEDs," Peterson said.

Unmanned aircraft system operators meet builders

Soldiers who will operate the newest most technologically advanced unmanned aircraft system when it deploys in 2010 have received a sneak preview of the vehicles they will fly in combat.

The UAS operators Dec. 2 toured the General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. production facility in California where the new Extended-Range/Multi-Purpose UAS is being manufactured, and also had the opportunity to meet the men and women building their vehicles and thank them for their support to Soldiers.

"All combat tools have human faces behind them — from the designers to the builders to the users — and it is important for our Soldiers to thank the great people who provide the tools they need to fight the unfortunate conflicts we face," said Col. Gregory Gonzalez, project manager for unmanned aircraft systems. His office is responsible for the acquisition and fielding of all Army unmanned aircraft systems.

This class of UAS operators has extensive experience operating UAS in theater, including Warrior-class sys-

tems also built by General Atomics, and the Shadow and Hunter tactical UAS. They are deploying two years ahead of schedule to quickly bring this newest technology to areas of conflict.

The rapid deployment is in response to the April 2008 challenge by defense secretary Robert Gates to field tools to Soldiers faster. The Army developed the Quick Reaction Capability initiative to speed the ER/MP delivery from 2011 to 2009, deploying the QRC-1 unweaponized system — also known as Sky Warrior Block 0 — in July 2009 in support of Overseas Contingency Operations in Iraq. This new class of operators will deploy with QRC-2, weaponized with four Helicopter Launcher Laser Guided Fire and Forget (Hellfire) missiles, in late FY '10. The missile, originally designed for use on Apache helicopters, is modified with a new inertial navigation system and the autopilot modified to accept target location information, allowing for improved high altitude engagements.

"The Army developed the ER/MP UAS program to meet

the growing demand from combatant commanders who need real-time information and the capability to conduct long-dwell, wide-area reconnaissance and surveillance, as well as precision strike missions," said Lt. Col. Kevin Messer, ER/MP product manager. "Time and time again, unmanned systems save Soldiers' lives by providing the right information at the right time."

The latest technologies available in the ER/MP unmanned aircraft system include a heavy fuel engine, triple redundant avionics, and redundant flight controls/surfaces, and network connectivity that reduces information cycle time and enhances overall battlespace awareness. It is capable of flying for more than 30 hours, can operate with or without satellite communications data links and, in addition to four Hellfire missiles, it will carry a Lynx Block 30 Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indicator for immediate situational awareness and target detection. The SAR/GMTI is manufactured by GA-ASI. (Program Executive Office for Aviation release)

Aviation brigade receives aircraft towing system

By Spc. JEANITA PISACHUBBE

Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th ID public affairs

The Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Hood, Texas, became the first unit to receive the Army's new Standard Aircraft Towing System on Dec. 2.

SATS is an aircraft tug system aimed at providing Army aviation with a standardized vehicle capable of operating in all conditions. Production began two years ago by NMC-Wollard. Due to its geographical location and stateside dwell time, the CAB, 4th ID received the 16 new SATS after recent changes in the operational timeline for units currently stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Led by Lt. Col. William Wygal, the Army's Product Manager-Aviation Ground Support Equipment coordinated the fielding at Fort Hood which included operators and maintenance classes resulting in eight qualified master drivers and mechanics who will in turn train the remainder of CAB, 4th ID.

AGSE and NMC-Wollard developed the new SATS to operate in all extremes including blowing wind and sand, cold-chamber, drop test and rail impact. In order for SATS to be proven in all extremes, it is important it be used

in an environment that is varied in climate and terrain. Fort Hood offers this challenge. AGSE wants the system to be used in the United States long enough before deployment so that they can rapidly respond to any conflicts or concerns. This will also give CAB, 4th ID enough time to become comfortable and proficient in using SATS.

Uniformity and availability of parts for towing systems is the number one concern of the maintainers of CAB, 4th ID. Every battalion utilizes commercial vehicles, such as tractors, for towing their aircraft, which made finding and acquiring replacement parts difficult to impossible. NMC-Wollard backs the SATS with a two-year, bumper-to-bumper warranty. Beyond the two years, parts may be obtained through AGSE. It is the goal of AGSE to have the robust theater support package of parts down-range before the unit arrives. Both offices gave their contact numbers to ensure continued assistance and troubleshooting 24 hours every day.

When the unit is deployed, CAB, 4th ID will be the first to go with SATS. Undoubtedly, this system will help streamline aviation operations at every level. By 2012, the SATs will be utilized throughout the active Army as well as Reserves and National Guard.

Prostate cancer strikes 1 in 6 men

Health experts advise checkups, proper diet

By RICK STOCK

Fox Army Health Center

The Men's Health Network has generated some statistics that men and their loved ones should take note of regarding prostate cancer:

- A new prostate cancer case occurs every 2.7 minutes and a man dies from prostate cancer every 19 minutes.
- Prostate cancer strikes 1 in 6 men, is the most common cancer in men, and the second leading cancer killer of men behind lung cancer.
- Some 75 men a day will lose their life to prostate cancer.
- It is estimated that there are more than 2 million American men currently living with prostate cancer.
- African-American men have the highest rate of prostate cancer.
- The American Urological Association recommends that men age 40 and over speak to their physician about a baseline prostate cancer exam.
- After age 40, men should consult with the doctor about the need for a yearly prostate cancer test which includes a Prostate Specific Antigen test and a digital rectal exam.
- Know your number. Keep a record. When you receive your PSA test results, write them down and compare them with the results you receive in the future.
- Prostate cancer can almost always be successfully treated if detected early.
- Prostate cancer does not affect men in isolation: it also impacts the emotional, mental, physical and financial well-being of the entire family, especially spouses.

Prostate cancer is the abnormal growth of cells in a man's prostate gland. The prostate sits just below the bladder. It makes part of the fluid for semen. In young men the prostate is about the size of a walnut. As a man ages, it usually grows larger.

Prostate cancer is common in men older than 65. It usually grows slowly and can take years to grow large enough to cause any problems. Most cases are treatable because they are found with screening tests before the cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

Experts don't know what causes prostate cancer, but they believe that your family history (genetics), age and race may affect your chances of getting it. What you eat, such as foods high in saturated fats, may also play a part.

Nutritionally optimal eating choices are one of the most important components of a person's health. If you give yourself the right ingredients, you will essentially take care of yourself, producing the materials that you need to survive and thrive. However when you are deprived of proper nutrients, or if you take in detrimental substances, your body weakens, thus opening the door to all sorts of disease — prostate cancer included.

The humble tomato contains a substance known as lycopene. Almost all of the recent studies in cancer prevention show that lycopene is a veritable godsend. Lycopene apparently does not only help prevent prostate cancer, it helps prevent all types of cancer. Certain foods are considered by researchers as being cancer protective. Lycopene is a bright red carotenoid, a class of highly unsaturated yellow or red pigments that is naturally occurring in tomatoes, papaya, guava and watermelons. It can also be found in tomato products such as ketchup or spaghetti sauce. Lycopene is the most important carotenoid in the human body. Studies have shown that processed tomatoes contain up to four times more lycopene than natural ones — one of the rare instances when cooking actually increases nutrition content.

Lycopene is also a powerful antioxidant, a chemical compound that prevents oxidation. During the course of normal cellular processes, the body produces extra oxygen atoms called free radicals. However if the free radicals are not used up, they will roam the body and eventually cause cellular DNA to break down, precipitating a mutation of healthy cells into cancerous ones. Antioxidants like lycopene prevent this mutation by cleaning up excess free radicals, thus protecting the body from cancer cell growth and helping to prevent prostate cancer.

Men, be sure to follow the recommendations of the Men's Health Network and consult with your doctor, health care practitioner and dietitian on a frequent basis.

Editor's note: Rick Stock, a certified health promotion educator, can be reached at Fox Army Health Center Preventive Medicine at richard.stock@us.army.mil or 955.8888, ext. 1443. For more information, visit www.menshealthnetwork.org or e-mail info@menshealthnetwork.org.

Army, Marines adjust 'reset' for Afghan buildup

By Sgt. 1st Class MICHAEL J. CARDEN
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – As the U.S. military answers President Barack Obama's order to reinforce efforts in Afghanistan, the Army and Marine Corps are adjusting their plans to redeploy working and serviceable equipment, top military officers told Congress Dec. 10.

Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, and Gen. James F. Amos, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, testified on their services' "reset" requirements before subcommittees of the House Armed Services Committee.

The proceedings were a continuation of a July hearing that was interrupted because of a prolonged series of House votes. The initial hearing focused on Iraq drawdown plans and attempted to outline the method in which the services determined what equipment would redeploy and what would be left for Iraqi security forces.

However, much has changed in the past five months. On Dec. 1, Obama ordered a surge of 30,000 additional U.S. troops to Afghanistan, so some of the equipment in Iraq that was scheduled to return to the United States has been re-directed to outfit

units headed to Afghanistan.

Roughly 22,000 Soldiers are part of the plus-up in Afghanistan, "and quite a bit of the equipment coming out of Iraq (will) be used to support those Soldiers," Chiarelli said.

"That will mean as we begin the Iraq drawdown in earnest, that there will be less equipment coming back to the states for reset," the general said.

Amos described the Marine Corps adjustment since July, noting 15,000 Marines were on the ground in Iraq then. Only about one-third of those Marines remain, and about 97 percent of their combat equipment was returned home or is being refurbished in Kuwait, Amos said.

When Marine Corps leaders heard of the possibility of an Afghan buildup, a "big chunk" of their equipment in Kuwait was made ready for Afghanistan, he added.

"When we first heard an inkling of a plus-up in Afghanistan, we took the equipment that we knew was refurbishable and in good condition and set it aside in anticipation of the president's directive," Amos explained.

The Marine Corps buildup is roughly 9,000 Marines, and is the service's No. 1

priority, he said. Amos added that those Marines will be equipped either in Kuwait or at their home stations.

"Our greatest focus right now is getting equipment to our forces in Afghanistan," he continued. "We will have 100 percent of every piece of equipment they need, with all the capabilities."

Another change Amos noted since the July hearing was the Marine Corps' reset bill. When he last testified, he estimated that the Marine Corps would need about \$20 billion to completely replace war-torn and unusable equipment. The estimate has increased an additional \$15 billion to accommodate the Afghanistan mission and lessons learned in the past five months, he said.

Chiarelli didn't have an opportunity to elaborate on the Army's reset costs, but considering the Army is a much larger force, the costs are likely higher. He did note that the Army is set to establish Red River Army Depot in Texas as its maintenance hub for mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicles, better known as MRAPs. The initiative is now a pilot program, but should be fully up and running in fiscal 2011, he said.

The Army has integrated about 37,000 MRAP vehicles into its force, because of the added protection its V-shaped hull provides troops.

"I think we're embracing the MRAP, and doing everything we can to ensure when those vehicles start flowing back out of theater, we're ready to accept them, sustain them and reset them," Chiarelli said.

The Marine Corps also has determined that the MRAP is going to be part of its total ground tactical vehicle strategy after success in Iraq and Afghanistan, Amos said. He anticipates more than 2,300 MRAP vehicles to soon become part of the regular Marine inventory.

In July, both generals expressed concern over the degrading readiness of their forces after nearly eight years of high tempo counterinsurgency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The generals conceded that the ground forces must maintain capabilities to respond to future contingencies around the world.

Amos said the current security environments in Iraq and Afghanistan justify the readiness tradeoff, but the military must remain balanced and have the support of the American people and Congress to seek modernization.

HHC 59th on the rise again in unit basketball

'Raise Up bunch' opens preseason with victory

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

The defending post champion HHC 59th made a resounding statement on opening night of the Holiday Basketball Tournament.

The "Raise Up bunch" proclaimed they're still on top by beating 326th Chemical Company 59-39 on Dec. 7 at Pagano Gym. This was a rematch of last year's preseason tournament final which the 326th won.

"That's a statement score. We're making a statement," 59th coach Kevin Thomas said. "We're the post champs. We're just letting everybody know we're still here."

Shooting guard Travis Roop scored a game-high 17 points. Robert Kennedy and Jeff Reuter added nine apiece. Reuter, the 6-foot-8 center, pulled down five rebounds and made three steals.

"It was teamwork and hustle," Roop said. "Working together as a team. Everybody cutting to the basket."

Point guard David Harden made a statement about the 59th's chances of a second straight championship.

"We're going to repeat," Harden said. "That's a promise."

The 59th led 33-23 at half-time and pulled away after intermission. Roop scored 15 of his 17 points in the first half, but he got more help in the second. Kennedy hit two of his three 3-pointers after the break.

For the 326th, forward Darrin Johnson had 11 points, 12 rebounds and three steals. Joe Cook led the Dragons with 12 points.

"We didn't play defense," Johnson said. "They're a very good shooting team but we didn't play defense. We rushed some shots, too; got out of our rhythm. And it hurt us, too. It cost us."

Bravo-2 35, Marines 14: Brandon Jackson scored 10 points to pace Bravo-2, who led 18-7 at halftime.

"I thought we played pretty well," Bravo-2 coach Roosevelt Jackson said. "We need to work on our defense a little bit more and rotating to the ball a little bit more. I thought our hustle was there and we'll get better with more practice."

KiJuan Sullivan led the Marines with four points.

Headquarters & Alpha 50, National Guard 44:



Photo by Skip Vaughn

IN ACT OF SHOOTING— The 59th's Rasheen McCullers is fouled while going up for a shot against 326th Chemical Company on Dec. 7.

David Howard scored 17 points, Bobby Reeves had 11 and Jared Little 10 for the Gators.

"We were staying motivated and keeping a lot of energy on the court," Headquarters & Alpha coach Reggie LeDay said. "We don't have a lot of people so we just subbed what we had to keep fresh legs on the court and win this ballgame."

The National Guard, who trailed 22-16 at half-time, was led by Wendell Williams with 16 points and Bryan Christa with 12.

On Dec. 8, HHC 59th beat Bravo-2 57-34; Charlie Company won by forfeit over Bravo-1; and 326th Chemical edged the Marines 52-51.

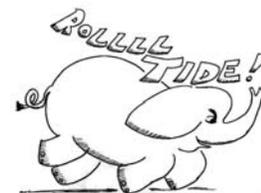
On Dec. 9, Headquarters & Alpha defeated Charlie 59-49; and National Guard beat Bravo-1 37-35.

On Dec. 10, HHC 59th outscored Headquarters & Alpha 49-39 to advance to the Dec. 15 final; Charlie beat 326th Chemical 52-47; and Bravo-2 defeated National Guard 46-41.

Alabama picked to win national championship

Crimson Tide de-horns the Texas Longhorns

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



Here are Skip's Picks for the upcoming bowl games (428-157 after 15 weeks):

- New Mexico Bowl** – Fresno State over Wyoming
- St. Petersburg Bowl** – Rutgers over UCF
- R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl** – Southern Miss over MTSU
- MAACO Las Vegas Bowl** – Oregon State over BYU
- San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia** – Utah over California
- Sheraton Hawaii Bowl** – SMU over Nevada
- Emerald Bowl** – USC over Boston College
- Meineke Car Care Bowl** – Pittsburgh over North Carolina
- Little Caesars Bowl** – Ohio over Marshall
- Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl** – Kentucky over Clemson
- Independence Bowl** – Georgia over Texas A&M
- Champs Sports Bowl** – Miami (Fla.) over Wisconsin
- EagleBank Bowl** – UCLA over Temple
- Pacific Life Holiday** – Nebraska over Arizona
- Roady's Humanitarian Bowl** – Idaho over Bowling Green
- Texas Bowl** – Missouri over Navy
- Bell Helicopter Armed Forces** – Houston over Air Force
- Brut Sun Bowl** – Oklahoma over Stanford
- Insight Bowl** – Minnesota over Iowa State
- Chick-fil-A Bowl** – Tennessee over Virginia Tech
- Outback Bowl** – Auburn over Northwestern
- Capital One Bowl** – LSU over Penn State
- Konica Minolta Gator** – Florida State over West Virginia
- Rose presented by Citi** – Oregon over Ohio State
- Allstate Sugar Bowl** – Florida over Cincinnati
- AT&T Cotton Bowl** – Mississippi over Oklahoma State
- AutoZone Liberty Bowl** – Arkansas over East Carolina
- International Bowl** – South Florida over Northern Illinois
- Papajohns.com Bowl** – South Carolina over Connecticut
- Valero Alamo Bowl** – Michigan State over Texas Tech
- Tostitos Fiesta Bowl** – Boise State over TCU
- FedEx Orange Bowl** – Iowa over Georgia Tech
- GMAC Bowl** – Troy over Central Michigan
- Citi National Championship** – Alabama over Texas

Contest winner named at golf course

The two 18-hole courses at the Links have a new name.

Patriot and Warrior was selected as the winning name from the "Name the 18s" contest at the golf course. Carol Darden submitted the winning entry; and Jeff Wishik was the runner-up.

"Because of the tie, we picked by lot the winner of Carol Darden," golf course manager Jon Samuelson said. "The winner was chosen by the committee of Jon Samuelson, Larry Underwood, Mark Germonprez, Derrick Gould, Col. (Bob) Pastorelli and Maj. Gen. (Jim) Myles."

Patriot will be the name of the 18-hole course north of Goss Road; and Warrior is the 18 holes on the south side of Goss.

"The committee felt that these names fit with the Redstone community now and for years to come," Samuelson said.



Photo by Stephanie Stone

TOP ENTRIES— From left are Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli, Links manager Jon Samuelson, contest runner-up Jeff Wishik, winner Carol Darden and Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles.

Rocket Announcements



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 today 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.

Basketball appreciation

Alabama A&M University ROTC will hold military appreciation night at the Jan. 9 basketball game between A&M and Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Elmore Gym. The women's game begins at 4 p.m. and the men's game at 6. Those with a military ID will get into the games for free. The Huntsville Recruiting Company will give away an iPod and other prizes during the game. Radio station 103.5 will also have a promotion at the game.



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.

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 today 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.

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 hold its 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.

Small business forum

The Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, is conducting its 10th annual Small Business Forum on Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. to noon at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, University Center. This is an opportunity for small businesses to talk with contracting professionals and subject matter experts from Huntsville Center about their programs and upcoming opportunities. Some of

Huntsville Center's mission areas include installation support, ordnance and explosives, and chemical demilitarization. For more information about Huntsville Center programs or the Small Business Forum, visit <http://www.hnd.usace.army.mil>. Pre-registration for the forum is also available on the website. If you have questions or comments, e-mail sbo-hnc@usace.army.mil.

Tricare briefings

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



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/or telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9435 or Chief Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

DA civilian volunteers are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, operations, logistics and automation, among others. The new personnel deployment website is at the AMCOM homepage or <https://apdw.redstone.army.mil> for your use. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM or AMC. Contractors cannot be considered. Department of Army civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and visit the deployment website or call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Nicole Massey 876-2082. Contractors and others interested 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



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Toys for Tots

Members of the Sparkman Management Office and their support staff provided gifts Thursday for the Marines' annual Toys for Tots campaign. From left are Matt Taylor of Phoenix Service; Rick Manis, chief of Sparkman Management Office; Sgt. Michael Autry and Lance Cpl. John Gray, both of Kilo Battery, 2/14 4th Marine Division.

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				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																							
SCBK09859985	Equal Employment Specialist	11-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0260	2	2	68,563 - 89,128																
SCBK09881729	SUPV Budget Analyst	11-Dec-09	AMCOM/G-8	YA-0560	3	3	90,473 - 153,200																
SCBK09900887	Management Support Specialist	11-Dec-09	RDECOM	DE-0301	3	3	52,067 - 89,128																
SCBK09808143E	Enterprise Business Analyst	11-Dec-09	AMCOM/LAISO	YA-0301	2	2	46,625 - 104,625																
SCBK09859985	Equal Employment Specialist	11-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0260	2	2	68,563 - 89,128																
SCBK09890257	Supply Systems Analyst	14-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09870538	Lead General Engineer	14-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09915903	Budget Analyst	15-Dec-09	USA Accessions CMD	YA-0560	2	2	46,291 - 77,225																
SCBK09840872	Secretary (Office Automation)	16-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0318	6	7	34,782 - 50,249																
SCBK09871535	Human Resources Specialist (HRD)	16-Dec-09	Human Resources/G-1	YA-0201	2	2	46,291 - 105,993																
SCBK09871373	Human Resources Specialist (HRD)	16-Dec-09	Human Resources/G-1	YA-0201	2	2	46,291 - 105,993																
SCBK09897737	Contract Spec	16-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
				YD-0800																			
SCBK09809076	General Engineer	16-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	Series	2	2	40,093 - 91,801																
SCBK09824182E	Safety Engineer	17-Dec-09	AMCOM/Safety Office	GS-0803	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09915154	SUPV, Logistics Management Specialist	17-Dec-09	LOGSA	YC-0346	2	2	58,141 - 113,908																
SCBK09860674	SUPV, Integration Systems Analyst	17-Dec-09	AMC Intergration Support Office	YA-0301	3	3	96,346 - 147,322																
SCBK09894095	Budget Analyst	17-Dec-09	Resources Management/G-8	GS-0560	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09900326	Protocol Specialist	17-Dec-09	Headquarters, AMCOM	GS-0301	9	11	47,280 - 74,360																
SCBK09914258	IT Specialist (SYSADMIN)	17-Dec-09	USA Accessions CMD	YA-2210	2	2	45,650 - 62,944																
SCBK09860527	Procurement Analyst	17-Dec-09	AMC Intergration Support Office	GS-1102	2	2	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09895501	Management Analyst	18-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0343	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09913258	Logistics Management Specialist	18-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993																
SCBK09803095	Secretary (Office Automation)	18-Dec-09	USASC	GS-0318	8	8	42,807 - 55,651																
SCBK09911959	Lead Traffic Management Specialist	18-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2130	13	13	81,532 - 105,993																
SCBK09901849	Organizational Resources Specialist	18-Dec-09	AMCOM/G1	GS-0301	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09885491	Logistics Management Specialist	18-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09803083	Logistics Management Specialist	18-Dec-09	SAMD	GS-0346	9	11	47,280 - 74,360																
SCBK09895059	SUPV General Engineer	18-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09895034	SUPV General Engineer	18-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09846129	Training Technician	19-Dec-09	Corp of Engrs, Huntsville	GS-1702	7	7	38,653 - 50,249																
SCBK09756679	Supv Program Analyst	21-Dec-09	AMCOM/G3	YC-0343	3	3	81,700 - 133,985																
SCBK09894124	Budget Analyst	21-Dec-09	AMCOM/G8	GS-0560	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09904339	SUPV International Program Mgmt Spec	21-Dec-09	Acq Sup Ctn	YA-0301	3	3	90,473 - 154,699																
SCBK09900701	Supply Systems Analyst	22-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09906646	Quality Assurance Specialist	22-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-1910	11	11	57,204 - 74,360																
SCBK09803067	Logistics Management Specialist	22-Dec-09	SAMD	GS-0346	11	11	57,204 - 74,360																
SCBK09917365	Budget Analyst	22-Dec-09	Acq Sup Ctn	NH-0560	3	3	68,564 - 105,993																
SCBK09803063	Logistics Management Specialist	22-Dec-09	SAMD	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993																
SCBK09918540	Logistics Management Specialist	22-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK0909117	General Engineer	22-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-2001	11	11	57,204 - 74,360																
SCBK09923972	Logistics Management Specialist	22-Dec-09	LOGSA	GS-0346	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09910419	General Engineer	23-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	68,564 - 105,993																
SCBK09891980	Logistics Management Specialist	23-Dec-09	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	81,532 - 105,993																
SCBK09835017	Lead Logistics Management Specialist	23-Dec-09	LOGSA	GS-0346	13	13	90,359 - 117,469																
SCBK09876642	Security Specialist	24-Dec-09	OMEMS/S2 - S3	YA-0080	2	2	40,093 - 91,801																
SCBK09873175	Management Analyst	24-Dec-09	SAMD	GS-0343	9	11	47,280 - 74,360																
SCBK09874566	Asst Prod Mgr for Joint Attack Munition Sys	24-Dec-09	Acq Sup Ctn	GS-0301	14	14	96,346 - 125,254																
SCBK09894094	General Engineer	28-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	3	3	68,564 - 105,993																
SCBK09908848	LEAD Aerospace Engineer	28-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09913797	Mechanical Engineer	29-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0830	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
							23.06 - 26.87																
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly																
SCBK09900747	Lead General Engineer	31-Dec-09	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09457856OC	IT Specialist (PclcyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09419080OC	Police Officer	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215																
SCBK09408461OC	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09408461	Human Resource Asst (Mil/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09416326OC	Firefighters (HazMat Tech/Basic Life Spt)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0081	7	7	38,653 - 50,249																
SCBK09408461	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09408461OC	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09416326OC	Firefighters (HazMat Tech/Basic Life Spt)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0081	7	7	38,653 - 50,249																
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09408461OC	Human Res Asst (Military/OA)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0203	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09416326OC	Firefighters (HazMat Tech/Basic Life Spt)	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0081	7	7	38,653 - 50,249																
SCBK09417590OC	Security Guard	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	GS-0085	5	5	31,204 - 40,567																
SCBK09419080OC	Police Ofcr	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-0083	6	6	34,782 - 45,215																
SCBK08151777OC1	Elec Integ sys Mech	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	23.06-26.87																
SCBK09457856OC	IT Spec (PclcyPln)	31-Dec-09	Installation Mgmt Cmd	GS-2210	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
SCBK09783548OC	Supv, Contract Spec	18-Feb-10	AMCOM Contracting CMD	YA-1102	3	3	96,346 - 147,332																
SCBK09833574OCE	Contract Spec	30-Dec-09	AMCOM Contracting CMD	GS-1102	12	12	68,564 - 89,128																
							23.06 - 26.87																
SCBK08151777OC1	Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic	31-Dec-09	GARRISON	WG-2610	13	13	Hourly		</														

Rocket Announcements

will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on Redstone Arsenal, the DoD requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. There are two courses offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space-available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. To enroll in motorcycle training, e-mail MSF rider coach Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net. The Garrison Safety contact is Keith Coates at 876-3383 or keith.coates@us.army.mil.

Reserve unit

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

Officer candidates

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

Pilots wanted

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

Cadet program

Join the Army Reserves and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree

of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the active Army or the Reserves. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 518-3972.

Army training

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

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 Thursday 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 auction, live music and dancing, beer and wine tasting, and various other activities. Proceeds will be used to further community assistance and merit award programs such as scholarships, donations to other supporting military events, and assistance to military families. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. The event is open to individuals with gate access. For tickets or more information, call 489-3009 or visit www.redstoneocwc.org.

Community grants

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club,



Courtesy photo

Benefit support

Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and his wife Kathy purchase tickets for the Officer and Civilian Women's Club fund-raiser "Evening on the Bayou." The event is Feb. 19 from 6:30 p.m. to midnight at the Officers and Civilians Club. At left is OCWC's Tonya Daniels and at right is Karen Stanish. Tickets, \$20 per person or \$35 per couple, are available from OCWC board members and at the cashier's window at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call 489-3009 or visit www.redstoneocwc.org

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

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.

Living Christmas tree

First Baptist Church will present the 25th annual production of The Living Christmas Tree on Thursday through Sunday 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.

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.

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

Do you know any sixth- through ninth-graders who would like the opportunity to compete for monetary prizes, while learning? They can sign up for eCYBERMISSION, a web-based science, math and technology competition for sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grade teams. Teams consist

of four students in the same grade and one team adviser. Savings bond awards will go to regional and national members of winning teams. Friday is the deadline to submit a team application; and projects must be completed by Feb. 26. For more information about eCYBERMISSION, 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.

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.

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.

PX holiday schedule

The Post Exchange will be open the following hours during the holidays. Dec. 24 – Main Store 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Concessions 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Barber Shop 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Barber in building 3479 closed, GNC 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Furniture 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., One Stop 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Firestone 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Military Clothing Sales Store 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Food Court, Cinnabon 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Anthony's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Charley's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Church's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., AM Eatery 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Burger King 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25 – All

facilities will be closed except for the One Stop which will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 31 – Main Store 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Concessions 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Barber Shop 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Barber in building 3479 closed, GNC 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Furniture 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., One Stop 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Firestone 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., MCSS 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Food Court, Cinnabon 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Anthony's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Charley's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., AM Eatery 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Church's 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Burger King 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1 – Main Store 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Concessions closed, Furniture closed, One Stop 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Firestone 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., MCSS closed; Food Court, Charley's 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Baskin Robbins 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Burger King closed.

New Year's celebration

Celebrate the New Year on Dec. 31 at J's Special Occasions Event Center, 5080 Meridian St. The entertainment presents George West & the Uptown Jazz Band (featuring Shelly Williams) and jazz guitarist Roland Gresham. Doors open at 6:45 p.m., and dinner starts at 7. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door. Military and DoD civilian discounts are available. Call 859-5935.

Health center party

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Friday afternoon 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.

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).

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. The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is a non-profit, private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Cervical cancer awareness

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. Fox Army Health Center's Wellness Center will present a beneficiary educational opportunity. Mary Bouldin, nurse educator from the Wellness Center at Fox Army Health Center, will provide a presentation about cervical cancer risk factors, prevention and treatment on Jan. 27 from noon-1 p.m. in the Wellness Center Classroom. Feel free to bring your lunch to the event. RSVP for the class by

calling 955-8888, ext. 1026 or 1440.

Glaucoma awareness

January is Glaucoma Awareness Month. Fox Army Health Center's Wellness Center will present a beneficiary educational opportunity. Dr Matthew Habel, chief of optometry at Fox Army Health Center, will provide a presentation about glaucoma risk factors, prevention and treatment on Jan. 13 from noon-1 p.m. in the Wellness Center Classroom. Feel free to bring your lunch to the event. RSVP for the class by calling 955-8888, ext. 1026 or 1440.

Blood drives

Red Cross remaining blood drives for December include the following: Dec. 17 from 7 a.m. to noon at MDA building 5222; Dec. 18 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4487; Dec. 21 from 7:30-11:30 a.m. at Missile Defense Agency; Dec. 24 from 7-11 a.m. at building 5400; Dec. 29 from 8 a.m. to noon at Corps of Engineers; and Dec. 31 from 7-11 a.m. at the Sparkman Center.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter is accepting applications for its 2010 Scholarship Program. Scholarship applications are due by Feb. 28. The ASMC Scholarship Program's purpose is to provide financial assistance to ASMC members and their immediate family in continuing their educational endeavors. Applicants must be either a current ASMC member or high school senior/college student who is directly related to a current ASMC member. Applicants must also have at least a 3.0 gpa. For more information, call Cody Swinford 842-9492, Lisa Lowry at 876-7086 or Jessica Dunaway 313-0533.

