

Redstone Rocket

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Rogers clan finds home at Redstone

Commander has best of both worlds in assignment full of opportunities

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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On both personal and professional levels, Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers' assignment as the commander of the Aviation and Missile Command is much like coming home.

On the home front, he is stationed with his wife and four children, far from the battlefield, and living close to his wife Reba's relatives in both Madison and Jacksonville. Just up the interstate, in Michigan, is where Rogers' relatives live.

In the office, Rogers leads a family of about 16,800 AMCOM employees worldwide who have set a high standard for support of the Army's aviation and missile systems. As the Arsenal's senior commander, he also leads an even larger employee family known as Team Redstone. It is a job he has quickly come to appreciate in the four months he has been in command.

"AMCOM and all of Redstone Arsenal have a reputation of just being a great place to work, of taking care of its people and being an integral part of the community. And I've seen that all to be true," Rogers said.

"This Arsenal has always been a place where there is an integration of program executive offices, the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, acquisition and AMCOM to sustain aviation and missile systems. Everyone is doing their fair share. Everyone is taking care of business and doing a good job."

Rogers knows an organization's effectiveness and contribution relies solely on motivated, skilled and educated employees.

"You can't have a good organization without people that care and we have that in spades everywhere at Redstone," he said. "The challenge is how do you take care of those people while getting the mission done and how do you stay effective while being efficient."

Every day, Rogers comes into the office with one question on his mind –



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Family moments are more frequent these days for Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, who is enjoying more family time along with an assignment as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and senior commander of Redstone Arsenal. This is the first time in two years he has celebrated a full holiday season with his family. With Rogers at their Arsenal home are his wife Reba and daughter Jessi, and sons, Tom, background left, and Matt. Not pictured is oldest son Jeff.

What can I improve today to support the war fighter and AMCOM?

He hopes it's a question that AMCOM employees also ask themselves.

In his most recent assignment as commander of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command, Rogers led a Soldier force of about 11,000. Prior to that, as commander of the Joint Munitions Command at Rock Island, Ill., he led an organization of 8,000 civilians.

"With those two commands, what I found is the civilian work force works just as hard as Soldiers to make sure the war fighter is taken care of," Rogers said. "They work long hours and they don't complain."

"Just like good Soldiers, good employees follow the Army values. What I look for in employees, first, is curiosity. Asking questions, asking 'Why?' leads to

trying new things and improving things. I also look for competence in what they are doing, and integrity and leadership, which are part of the Army values. We as a community of employees have got to stand up and make a difference where we are at."

The biggest challenge for 2011 for AMCOM employees and for employees throughout the Army, Rogers said, is working better with tighter resources.

"We need to take the leap and look at ourselves and try to improve on ourselves as far as efficiencies while also staying effective," he said. "People know we're effective. We are unbelievably effective. But we need to improve. Continuous improvement isn't a bumper sticker. It's something we really need to go after. I'm a big believer in that."

See Rogers on page 14

AROUND TOWN

Seventh annual Operation Christmas Bear entertains military children whose parents are deployed in a war zone.

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AT EASE

The Huntsville Ski Club boasts more than 350 members, many employed on the Arsenal.

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HAIL AND FAREWELL

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica takes reins of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command and the Joint Functional Component Command-Integrated Missile Defense.

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WIN OR LOSE

The National Guard enters the year with momentum after capturing the championship of the Holiday Basketball Tournament.

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RocketViews

Who was your favorite Beatle?

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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Sedric Pennington

AMCOM/Garrison Public Affairs Office

“Ringo. I was in band and tried the drums when I first started, and I wasn’t very good at it. So I’ve always admired people who can play drums.”



Jane Hardebeck

Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space

“Paul McCartney, because he was the cutest. As a child when I was 5 years old, my sister and two of her friends, we put on a show as the Beatles. And

I portrayed Ringo in our neighborhood show – an all-girl cast.”



Sharry Gilliam

SMDC/ARSTRAT G-8

(Resource Management)

“I don’t even like the Beatles. It’s just not my kind of music really. But I guess the most popular one would be John Lennon.”



Master Sgt. Rick Bauer

SMDC/ARSTRAT

“I’d have to say the drummer, Ringo Starr. His name, I just remember it more from when I was young. I remember hearing it more around the house.”

Explanation behind ice crystal formation

All over the Arsenal (on Dec. 8), there were bits of white stuff that looked like Styrofoam littering the place. But upon further inspection, it was very thin layers of ice crystal like substance. Very fragile when touched.

Is there a way to find out what it is?

Jean Grotophorst

Editor’s note: The Garrison provided the following response. “The Environmental Division of the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works thanks this reader for submitting such

an interesting question and for the opportunity to respond. What the reader found was indeed an ice crystal formation. These formations have been seen around post and in fact throughout the general area for the past few weeks. This phenomenon occurs when stems of decaying plants become conduits to transmit water from the soil which is above freezing to a surface which is below freezing. In order for this process to begin, the dew point temperature of the air must be below freezing and the temperature must fall to the dew point. When the temperature falls to the

*frost (dew) point, ice will start to form on the surface. When the super-cooled water pushing up through the stem encounters the first crystals of frost, this water turns to ice. That process continues and new ice is added at the stem-ice boundary. This pushes the old ice out and away from the stem. The process can go on continuously until the air temperature climbs above freezing or the supply of water in the soil runs out. For more information and photos concerning this occurrence, you can visit the following website: [## Focus placed on Army family year-round](http://lmy.ilstu.edu/~jrcarter/licel.”</i></p>
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We often recognize and honor the commitment and sacrifice of our military families. The strength of our Army is the Army family, and we are asking more of families than at any time in the past. As such, the Army is aggressively working to support those who are the strength of our Soldiers.

The strength also comes from more than 30,000 participants who attended the 2010 Association of the U.S. Army Annual (AUSA) Conference in October, held in Washington, D.C. AUSA supports Soldiers, civilians, family members and retirees of all branches of the Army by providing a platform to address their concerns. Every year, AUSA draws thousands of Soldiers and Army civilians worldwide to view exhibits on the latest technology and attend special presentations on various issues affecting the

Army.

The AUSA conference hosts several forums for those who work on behalf of the Army family — senior Army leaders, subject matter experts and family members — to discuss critical issues families are facing. Family forums have been a favorite for over 10 years, with this year’s being the most widely attended of the sessions. Thousands of Soldiers, family members and command teams attended this year’s forums that were broken into four themes: Army Families, Our Leaders; Army Families, Our Children; Army Families, Caring for Ourselves; and Army Families, Caring for Our Survivors. Soldiers and family members got



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

a chance to voice their concerns to senior Army leaders, who, in turn, addressed their concerns.

Central to some of the concerns are the promises the Army has made to families in the Army Family Covenant: promises to enhance family strength, resilience and readiness and to provide an environment in which family members can thrive. These promises are non-negotiable, and the Installation Management community is charged with delivering on

many of them, by providing families with the right programs and services in the right place at the right time.

A common theme addressed across the

See Letter on page 3

Quote of the Week

‘**L**ife is very short and there’s no time, for fussing and fighting my friend. I have always thought that it’s a crime, so I will ask you once again: try to see it my way, only time will tell if I am right or I am wrong. While you see it your way, there’s a chance that we might fall apart before too long. We can work it out.’

The Beatles

Cyclist likes paved shoulders on Neal Road

I’d like to voice my appreciation the Garrison Directorate of Public Works, and Traffic Engineering, for the smooth paved shoulders that have appeared on Neal Road. Although only a couple of feet wide, the pavement added on sides of Neal Road, just north of Burose, could make a huge difference for cyclists and motorists who drive over the “hill.” This blind hill has been a persistent problem for cyclists and drivers, due to the narrow lanes and zero line of sight at the top.

Thanks to gravity, cyclists are lucky to go 10 mph on the uphill side, while often doing the posted speed limit (or close to it) on the way down.

This doesn’t relieve motorists of their responsibility to share the road with cyclists, but this extra strip of pavement may offer some refuge for cyclists, as well as motorists, during the occasional meeting of vehicles while passing over the Neal Road hill.

Jamie Miernik
Marshall Space Flight Center

RedstoneRocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Name: Grant Thompson

Job: Social media coordinator for AMCOM and Team Redstone, AMCOM/Garrison Public Affairs Office

Where do you call home?
Raleigh, N.C.

What do you like about your job?

I work with and am inspired by people who want to serve our country in creative ways. I'm excited about using new communication methods, like social media, to tell Team Redstone's and AMCOM's stories. For example, you can go to Facebook, Twitter or YouTube and search for AMCOM and Team Redstone to find news, pictures, video and updates. Visit www.facebook.com/usarmyamcom and www.facebook.com/teamredstone.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love being outside working in the yard. Being involved with the youth group at my church (St. John's Episcopal Church in Decatur). And spending time with my wife (Suzanne).

What are your goals?

To continue to use social media and



new communication methods to tell the AMCOM and Team Redstone story in support of our men and women in service.

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

Probably travel the world with my wife. I mean if it's the last thing you're ever going to do, see as much of God's creation before you die – whether it's meeting different people or seeing Mother Nature. And doing all that with somebody you want to spend your life with.

Letter

continued from page 2

family forums was the challenge of providing programs and services for all of our Soldiers and family members. As leaders, service providers and family members noted during the AUSA family forums, access can be an issue, particularly for those who do not live near an installation. That is why the Army is creating Army Strong Community Centers: to provide information, resources and assistance to active, Reserve and National Guard servicemembers, retirees, veterans and family members who cannot easily get to an installation. Currently, three ASCCs are open, in Rochester, N.Y., Brevard, N.C., and Coraopolis, Pa. Another one opens in Oregon City, Oregon, in early 2011.

Another important topic of discussion was the role technology plays as an invaluable tool in helping Soldiers and families access programs and services anytime and anywhere, as websites such as MyArmyOneSource.com are demonstrating. The Army is continuing to look at different ways to use technology, such as virtual installa-

tions. While we cannot put a bricks-and-mortar installation in every community, we can build a virtual installation that provides localized support to all members of the Army family.

The Army Families, Our Children forum focused on programs and opportunities that lessen the impact of effects of deployments on children. Currently more than 142,000 Army children are dealing with the absence of a deployed parent. Just like the adults around them, Army children are also dealing with separations, reunions, injuries and death. We want to help our children cope with these issues, and more than that, to help them grow into strong, resilient young adults. To that end, we are working with a number of partners, including universities, to provide programs that support the healthy development of our children. There are programs for our youngest, such as Talk, Listen, Connect, and others through the elementary and high school years, such as 4-H, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Backpack Journalism.

The Army Families, Caring for Ourselves forum focused on caregivers and family readiness group leaders. With this in mind, several initiatives, like "Coming Together Around Military Families," are in

Platoon sergeant convicted for trainee abuse

Staff Sgt. David Levine, a Redstone Arsenal Advanced Individual Training platoon sergeant, appeared before a special court-martial Dec. 15. He was found guilty of two specifications of violating a lawful order prohibiting physical contact with trainees, two specifications of cruelty toward trainees, and assault consummated by a battery of a trainee.

A military judge sentenced Levine, a Soldier with 18 and a half years of active duty service, to confinement for three months and reduction from staff sergeant to specialist.

The convictions came as a result of

the Soldier's actions from June 1-24, when he poked a trainee in the mouth several days after she had an oral extraction, stepped on a trainee's foot when she had a soft shoe profile, poked a trainee in the abdomen when he had a bladder infection, pushed a trainee onto a sofa, and grabbed and jostled a trainee's arm when he had a broken collarbone.

Levine is awaiting the Department of the Army's determination regarding the confinement facility at which he will serve his sentence. (*Office of the Staff Judge Advocate release*)

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Dec. 23-31:

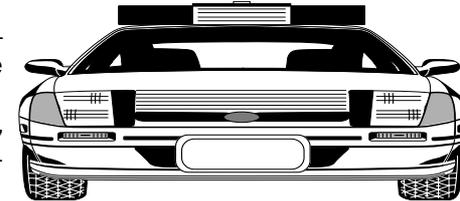
Dec. 23: A Soldier surrendered to Redstone Police as a deserter. He was processed back to his Fort Sill, Okla., unit.

Dec. 27: When a contractor presented an altered driver's license at Gate 10, it was revealed that several warrants for the subject were issued by Etowah County. The subject was issued a violation notice and released to Etowah County deputies.

Dec. 28: Someone stole a privately owned 10-foot utility trailer while it was parked at building 3442.

Traffic accidents reported: three without injury, two with injury – of which one involved a deer strike.

Violation notices issued: 1 speeding, 1 no driver's license, 1 no insurance, 1 handicap parking.



progress to better prepare the professionals who work with our children and help them understand the challenges and opportunities of military life.

Army marriages face challenges every day. The divorce rate has increased during the last nine years of conflict, but efforts are under way to strengthen Army marriages through a study called "Supporting Those Who Serve." The study is one of the largest ever conducted, which includes data on the effects of combat exposure on Soldiers and their families, and highlights of services available for couples. Programs that support relationships include Oxygen for Your Relationship and Strong Bonds.

This is the first year a special forum — Army Families, Caring for Our Survivors — was held to focus on the needs of Army survivors. We owe a special debt to the survivors of Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The Survivor Outreach Services Program, launched two years ago in recognition of the needs of survivors, continues to grow and evolve in response to feedback from survivors. The program is increasing counseling services, improving notification procedures and looking for ways to expand financial support services. The importance

of the Survivor Outreach Services Program cannot be overstated. We want survivors to know that they are a part of the Army family for as long as they desire.

Results from the forums are available at http://www.imcom.army.mil/hq/officecom/pao_stratcom/family_q_and_a/. I encourage you to visit the site to view the feedback.

In the Installation Management community, we take our responsibility to provide quality services and programs for all Soldiers and families very seriously. We are always looking for ways to enhance our programs and services, based on research, program results and feedback from Soldiers and families. We are also looking for ways to communicate about what is happening with family programs. We want families to know what services and programs exist for them and to let us know how they are working. We are proud of the work we do to deliver on the Army's promises: It is part of our ongoing commitment to families, for the sacrifices they make, and to Soldiers, whose strength and readiness is rooted in the strength of their families.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch
Installation Management
Command commander

Contract competition represents 'win-win-win'

Awards presented for fiscal 2010

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Tom Rogers thought of the teamwork that goes into competition in contracting.

That gave him the idea for his winning entry in the fiscal 2010 poster contest sponsored by the AMCOM Competition Management Office. His poster depicts national symbols, including fireworks and the Statue of Liberty, with multitudes of hands supporting them from below.

"I was just thinking about the large companies and how much risk that is to put that much responsibility on a group," said Rogers, a contracting specialist in the AMCOM Contracting Center, PIF/ED Division. "The idea is this is all the small companies (supportively) holding up the country. And if you try to leave it to one company, then it's too much risk – all your eggs in one basket kind of thing."

Asked about his art training, he said, "I used to work for a computer company and did a lot of graphic arts, so I got exposed to it."

Rogers received a \$250 cash award as the winner in the annual poster cam-

paign.

He was among the honorees at the fiscal 2010 Competition Award Ceremony held Dec. 15 in the command suite at the Aviation and Missile Command. Organizations were recognized for their efforts in awarding contracts through competition.

Team Redstone achieved a competition rate of 24.4 percent, falling short of its 25.1 percent goal. Of the commercial items actions, 55.4 percent were competitive.

"Competition is a win-win-win because it supports the government, contractors and the taxpayer," AMCOM competition advocate Shelley Muhammad said.

Said AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister, "It is one of those things behind the scenes that is very important to the command and to our Army."

Redstone missed its competition goal by just "a couple of thousand dollars" despite the challenges posed by aviation and missile commodities, according to Chronister. He said, "\$4.8 billion of competition this year is phenomenal given the challenges that we have."

The fiscal 2010 competition awardees included the Integrated Air and Missile Defense Project Office, with a 76.1 percent competitive rate; Tactical Opera-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister congratulates poster contest winner Tom Rogers.

tions Centers Product Office, now called the Command Post Systems and Integration Product Office, 100 percent competitive rate; Command Group, 100 percent competitive rate; and Aviation Systems, 69.2 percent competitive rate.

The commercial awardees included Letterkenny Army Depot, 85.3 percent; Redstone Test Center, 77.4 percent; Armed Scout Helicopter, 75.7 percent; and Cruise Missile Defense Systems, 72.9 percent.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

Automotive briefing

Jonathan Luker gives a safety briefing during the Automotive Skills Center open house Dec. 16. The event was rescheduled from Dec. 15 because of weather.



Courtesy photo

Door prize winners

The Huntsville/Redstone Chapter of American Society of Military Comptrollers held its December luncheon Dec. 9 at Trinity Methodist Church. Some of the door prize winners include, from left, Rob Gurner, Chris Harper, Lupe Rico, Rob Archer, Michelle Olney, Tisha Wellington, Theresa Salmon, Monica Powers, Alana Barshinger, Amanda Bertus, Jodi Swistek, Paula Wright Teresa Evans and Judy Schaefer.

Redstone worker earns statewide 4-H honor

Carolyn Taylor, a training and programming specialist with Child Youth and School Services, has been inducted into the Alabama 4-H Wall of Fame.

Taylor was among 20 new inductees Dec. 7 at the 4-H Youth Development Center in Columbiana.

She was nominated by Wanda Pharris from the Madison County Extension System.

Taylor worked with the extension staff in establishing 4-H clubs at Redstone Arsenal. The 4-H clubs began as a result of a written agreement between the Child Youth and School Services and the national 4-H program. CYSS maintains a partnership with the 4-H program.

These clubs are now flourishing, and meetings are held during after school hours. The clubs focus on cooking, the arts, technology, gardening, citizenship and photography. There is even a 4-H Cloverbuds Club for the younger children at the School Age Center.

Taylor has attended many trainings and workshops at the 4-H Center over the years. After attending the Science, Engineering and Technology training, she worked with the functional technology specialist from CYSS in writing a grant. From this grant, Redstone Arsenal 4-H clubs received robotics, rocketry and conceptual design kits to be used in the programs.

In March 2010, Taylor attended the Army 4-H 101 Reset training in Maryland. Upon returning to Redstone Ar-



Courtesy photo

Carolyn Taylor receives the 4-H Wall of Fame award from Dr. Lamar Nichols, left, and Dr. William Gaines Smith, both from Auburn University. Smith is director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System; and Nichols is assistant director.

senal, she trained staff members on the new initiatives in 4-H.

Taylor has served as a judge for 4-H public speaking contests; and she has worked with the 4-H Urban Farm Day program. In the past year, she has partnered with extension agents in holding a 4-H Energy Day and a Family Fun Day at the Youth Center. The staff of the Youth Center also worked with these events.

In past years, Taylor also received an honorary coin for her work with 4-H from an Army youth development specialist.



Courtesy photo

Soldier's perspective

Program Executive Office for Aviation's Russell Dunford, assistant product manager for Aviation Ground Support Equipment, talks careers with a Hampton Cove Middle School student. Dunford was a part of AMCOM's appearance at the Career Day. His insights into everything from life as an Army Ranger to writing code for videogames introduced kids to life at Redstone Arsenal.

Honor Flight extends to Korean War veterans

By PAMELA RAMEY

Staff writer

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Several board members and volunteers from Honor Flight Tennessee Valley are joining forces to create a similar opportunity for Korean War veterans.

“Valor One: The Flight of the Not Forgotten” will transport area Korean War veterans to see their memorial and other historic landmarks in Washington, D.C., sometime in the fall. At this time, only one flight is scheduled.

NASA contractor Steve Celuch will serve as director of the program. Other board members are as follows: John Ofenloch, treasurer; Roger McWhorter, logistics; Herbert Wagenheim, secretary, and AMC G-2 executive officer Nicole Lee, volunteers. Celuch, Ofenloch, McWhorter and Wagenheim worked together on the Honor Flight program for World War II veterans.

Board members will hold their first meeting in January, and will be taking applications from veterans and volunteers shortly thereafter. As with Honor Flight, the project will be funded by donations from industry and individuals. Celuch said he hopes to raise enough money to make the project “all-encompassing,” including the creation of a curriculum about the Korean War to be used in local schools.

The project was the idea of Redstone employee K.C. Bertling, a Korea native. Bertling sponsored five annual luncheons for area Korean War veterans before ending the event in 2010, due to the age of the veterans and difficulty in transporting them to and from the sites. She will work on the Valor One program in an advisory capacity.



Korean War Veterans Memorial

Operation Christmas Bear captures holiday cheer

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Staff Sgt. Troy Davis wasn't able to spend Christmas in the U.S. this year, but for three hours on Dec. 11, he was able to see the joy of the holidays light up his twin boys' faces.

On leave from Korea, the father of five, including a newborn, took the chance to bring Troy Jr. and Tre, 4, to the seventh annual Operation Christmas Bear, a special holiday party for military children whose parents, active military, National Guard, Reserve, and Department of Defense civilians, are deployed in a war zone.

"It means a lot," Davis said, as his young twins oohed and aahed at the train area. "I get to see them just be themselves, run around and be happy."

For the children that attended the event, it was all about the smiles and their cherished moment with Santa, when they were able to tell him what they wanted for Christmas, get their picture taken and receive the teddy bear for which the event is named. In addition to Santa and Mrs. Claus, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Rudolph, Frosty the Snowman, clowns and even the Grinch turned out to spend an afternoon with the children at the Cahaba Shrine Temple. From inflatables to robotics, trains, a magician and crafts, there was plenty to see and do at the event sponsored by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

"It's the military family atmosphere," said Tammy Benjamin, who brought her girls Payton, 6, and Joanna, 3, to the event. "It's just great to see people who care and

See Bears on page 9



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Payton Benjamin, 6, and her little sister Joanna, 3, take a look inside a snowman's garden with Mrs. Claus.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Once Troy Davis Jr. and his twin brother Tre discovered the train area, they didn't stray too far from the choo choos. But one of the twins took a quick break to sneak a song on the mic when the Charlie Lyle Combo wasn't looking.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Jackson Coffey, 8, climbs the rock wall.

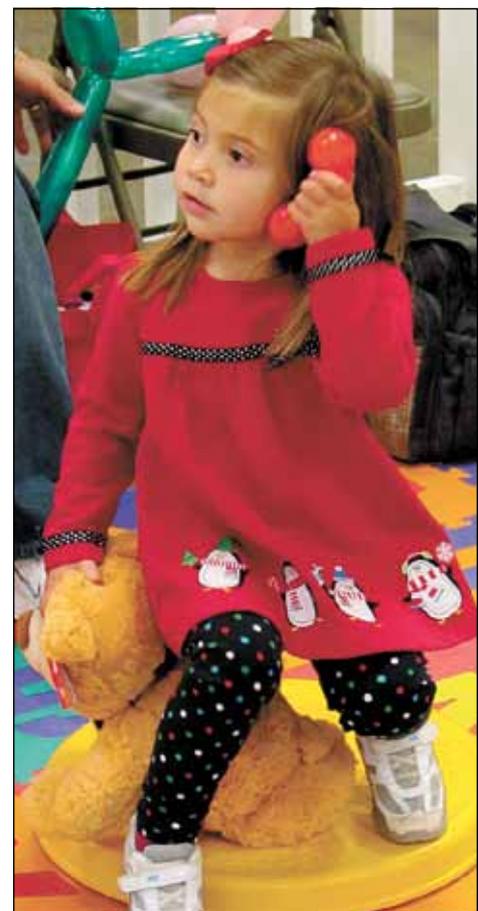


Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Emma Dickinson, 3, spreads the word about her special date with daddy, Maj. Stacy Dickinson, who returned home from Baghdad Nov. 24.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Andrew Creech, 5, and his sister Ashleigh take a break with Santa after receiving their special teddy bears.

Bears

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to say thank you. We want to show them we are grateful for their kind words and thoughts. We appreciate the appreciation. It's overwhelming."

Having the opportunity to just spend time with his daughter, Emma, 3, was the perfect reason for Maj. Stacy Dickinson, who returned from Iraq Nov. 24, to come out. As a father of three, little Emma was the one who changed the most during his yearlong deployment, and the afternoon gave the two the chance to reconnect.

"It's awesome," Dickinson said of the event as Emma played with her new teddy bear.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Bella Bailey, 15 months, investigates a balloon animal made for her by a Cahaba Shrine Clown.

Commander in chief visits Soldiers at Bagram Airfield

By Staff Sgt. TODD POULIOT

10th Combat Aviation Brigade

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — President Barack Obama surprised nearly 3,500 servicemembers gathered in a large aircraft hangar at Bagram Airfield late night Dec. 10. The commander in chief, casually dressed, made his entrance around 10:30 p.m., and walked across the stage to the podium to a loud greeting from servicemembers, after being introduced by International Security Assistance Force commander Gen. David Petraeus.

“It’s great to be back,” Obama said. “And I apologize for keeping you guys up late, coming on such short notice. But I wanted to make sure that I could spend a little time this holiday with the men and women of the finest fighting force that the world has ever known, and that’s all of you.”

The president traveled nearly 13 hours to personally thank military personnel and civilians for their sacrifices and service.

“I know it’s not easy for all of you to be away from home, especially during the holidays,” he said. “And I know it’s hard on your families. They’ve got an empty seat at the dinner table.

“As president of the United States, I



Photo by Staff Sgt. Todd Pouliot

President Barack Obama visits nearly 3,500 servicemembers at Bagram Airfield to thank them for their service and asks them to pass on his gratitude to their families as well.

have no greater responsibility than keeping the American people secure,” Obama continued. “I could not meet that responsibility, we could not protect the American people, we could not enjoy the blessings of our liberty without the extraordinary service that each and every one of you performs each and every day.”

The president thanked the servicemembers on behalf of, not only himself,

but on behalf of his family and more than 300 million Americans. He made a special point to express his gratitude for military families for all their support and sacrifices.

“We’re going to spare no effort to make sure that your families have the support that they deserve as well,” he pledged.

President Obama shared some good news when he announced his plans to spare servicemembers from future pay freezes.

“You may have noticed that during these tough budget times, I took the step of freezing pay for our federal work force. But because of the service that you rendered, all who wear the uniform of the United States of America are exempt from that action.”

A year ago, Obama authorized a surge of an additional 30,000 troops in Afghanistan. Those troops are now in place and are making progress, he said.

“And because of the service of the men and women of the United States military, because of the progress you’re making, we look forward to a new phase next year, the beginning of a transition to Afghan responsibility,” he said.

“As we do, we continue to forge a partnership with the Afghan people for the long term. And we will never let this

country serve as a safe haven for terrorists who would attack the United States of America again. We said we were going to break the Taliban’s momentum, and that’s what you’re doing.

“You’re going on the offense, tired of playing defense, targeting their leaders, pushing them out of their strongholds,” he said. “Today we can be proud that there are fewer areas under Taliban control and more Afghans have a chance to build a more hopeful future.”

Before his visit with the large gathering of Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and even Coast Guardsmen, Obama visited with injured personnel at a hospital here, and awarded five Purple Hearts. He also spent time with a platoon that lost six members when an Afghan police officer opened fire at a firing range in Nangarhar Province. That incident is under investigation.

A face-to-face visit between Obama and Afghan President Hamid Karzai was originally planned, but travel to the presidential palace in Kabul which is about 30 miles south of BAF had to be canceled due to strong winds. The two heads-of-state spoke by telephone for about 15 minutes, reaffirming shared support for the gradual handing over of security to Afghan forces beginning in 2011.

Leader development programs accepting applicants

The AMCOM G-1 is accepting applications for the FY11 leader development programs — UPLIFT, LIFT and Advanced LIFT. Applications are open to all AMCOM Materiel Enterprise employees located at Redstone Arsenal. The deadline for all LIFT applications is Jan. 14.

The AMCOM Leader Development Life Cycle offers three programs that provide leader development opportunities for employees at all grade levels. UPLIFT was developed for non-supervisory employees (GS-11 and below or equivalent). It focuses on developing proactive leaders at any organizational level through self-discovery, personal development and application of the seven Army values.

LIFT focuses on building leadership skills that will transfer to leadership situations in the workplace. Through the use of the seven Army values, it examines the tools necessary to become an efficient and effective leader. Priority consideration will be given to first-level supervisors and team leaders. However, the program is open to all GS-12 and GS-13 employees.

Advanced LIFT (formerly LIFT II) was developed for second-level supervisors, division chiefs and program managers (GS-14 and GS-15). It focuses on building leadership skills for leading at higher levels and building bench strength through creating a legacy in organizations.

These programs are cornerstones of the AMCOM Leader Development Life Cycle, which recently received the Army Management Staff College Excellence in Education Award. Since 2005, there have been 445 graduates from AMCOM leader development programs.

Since 2005, these programs have

evolved and grown into a key component to employee leadership growth within AMCOM. Feedback has been very positive throughout the past five years. However, with any great program, the key to success is being able to adapt and grow with the ever-changing environments. After a thorough review of other DoD and private industry leadership programs, focus groups, instructor input, and outside research, the AMCOM G-1 has made significant changes to the program to include a complete redesign to better serve the needs of the command. The main goal of the review was to provide a comprehensive, sequential and succinct leader development program that meets the needs of all employees.

Don't miss out on the invaluable opportunity to develop your leadership skills. Leadership is vital to the work of Army civilians. The Soldier depends on them and expects only the very best they have to offer.

All programs last nine months and meet for one day per month. Programs consist of formal session with guest speakers, practical applications, leadership assessment, selected leadership readings, group project and a staff ride.

The AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) will be accepting applications through Jan. 14; and the programs will run from January through November. For applications or additional information on the LIFT programs, go to the AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources) website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/602251>; log into AKO and look under "Training" or contact Jamie Candelaria at jamie.candelaria1@us.army.mil or 876-5080. (AMCOM G-1 release)



Courtesy photo

Career Day

Sisters Tynesha (left) and Keyana Malone, both of the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center, talk with students at Hampton Cove Middle School Career Day. This was part of the Aviation and Missile Command's Army Educational Outreach Program.

Huntsville Ski Club reaches out to new members

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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It's more than just skiing – but if the white Christmas left you craving more of the white stuff, there's plenty of that too.

Since the early 1960s, the Huntsville Ski Club has been meeting the needs of Redstone Arsenal employees transplanted from the snowy mountains of the northern and western states to the not so snowy hills of the Tennessee Valley, providing them with opportunities to not only meet new faces but continue with their love for skiing. Today, more than 350 members, many employed on the Arsenal, come to the club for all their adventures.

"I love mountains," said Bob Breeden, vice president of the club, who finds many of his work days spent on the Arsenal in his employment with Tecolote Research Inc. in utility helicopter cost analysis support. "It doesn't matter whether it's summertime or winter. I love snow. I love the outdoors. It's the combination

of those things together, the thrill of going down the hill at 40 to 50 miles per hour. There's a lot of things that you'll get when you're skiing that you won't get any other way."

If you're wondering where the club skis around here, the answer is simple – they don't. Instead, members grab their skis and board a plane to slopes located across the country in places like Colorado, Wyoming and Oregon, where the powder is real and the mountains are high. While non-members could technically plan their own ski trips, the club grants members access to not only knowledge about what slopes to avoid, but also discounts to the must-ski places across the country, while virtually planning their ski trips for them.

"We have a lot of knowledge about where to ski and where not to ski," club president Roger Chassay said.

Four ski trips are planned for 2011 to Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and Oregon, where members both young and old, some even in their 80s, can hit the slopes. You don't have to be a skier to join or



Courtesy photo

Joel Clifton, Gary Peterson and John Ward, members of the Huntsville Ski Club, take a break from the powder for a picture at the Club's December trip to Steamboat Springs, Colo.

even become one as a member, although first time skiers receive a free lesson valued at \$50, and also receive the opportunity to travel to Steamboat Springs, Colo., where a week's worth of lessons at Steamboat's Ski School will get them beyond the bunny slopes.

"Some of our better skiers are still taking lessons," Chassay said.

"It's somewhat of a unique sport," Breeden added. "Virtually anybody with a little coordination can learn to ski. The weather in the Tennessee Valley is great with the exception of December, January and February. You can break that miserable monotony by going on a ski trip."

But the fun doesn't stop with the snow, and members aren't required to make a yearly trip to the slopes. Socials are held year-round right here in Huntsville and the surrounding communities, including Friday night cookouts and holiday parties, along with hiking, biking, canoeing,

bowling and kayaking events to keep members fit when they're not hitting the slopes. Many Sunday afternoons in January you'll find members gathering at Monte Sano to explore the state park's trails.

"It brings the club together," Breeden said of the events. "Skiing is a very demanding sport. We try to keep people active year-round."

"We're big into fitness because the more fit you are, the more confident you are and the better skier you are," Chassay said.

But of course, there is time for relaxation too. The club has also added cruises to its travel plans, with a nine-day Mediterranean cruise scheduled for Sept. 16-25.

"I think what keeps us fairly vigorous is we're more than just a ski club, we're a social club," Chassay said.

"When you work for the government, it's almost like being part of a big club," Breeden said of the club's unique bond. "We all know about civil service and the military."

Cost of membership is \$30 for one year, \$40 for a family, or \$60 for two years, \$80 for a two-year family. Families include one or two adults in the same household and any dependent children under 18, or full-time dependent students under 21. To join or to learn more about the club, visit www.huntsvilleski-club.org or e-mail membership@huntsvilleski-club.org.

Huntsville Ski Club's trips scheduled

Here are the Huntsville Ski Club's Trips for 2011:

- Jan. 29 through Feb. 5, Park City, Utah
- Feb. 5-12, Jackson Hole, Wyo.
- March 5-12, Mt. Bachelor, Oregon
- March 12-19, Ogden, Utah
- Dec. 3-10, Steamboat Springs, Colo.

For more information on the trips, visit www.huntsvilleski-club.org.

Drivers warned to watch out for deer

Deer have long enjoyed the comforts of the wooded areas of Redstone Arsenal but frequently they cross onto the main roads during peak traffic hours.

In the past numerous traffic accidents involving deer have occurred, particularly on Goss, Martin, Burose and Vincent roads. Often drivers and employees on the Arsenal with vehicle damages caused by deer have raised the question whether the government has a duty to warn drivers about deer crossing the main roads. In addition, deer accidents have resulted in an increase of the number of claims filed and inquiries regarding payments for the damages caused by deer. Unfortunately, the government is unable to pay claimants for damage caused by deer.

Claims related to vehicle damages are usually filed under the Personnel Claims Act or under the Federal Tort Claims Act. The PCA allows compensation for damages to vehicles caused by theft, vandalism and "unusual occurrences," such as a lightning bolt striking or a baseball-sized hailstone denting a vehicle. Deer striking a vehicle do not qualify as an unusual occurrence

and therefore a claimant would not be compensated under this act. Deer strikes are also not paid under the Federal Tort Claims Act, which protects individuals from the negligence of government employees.

The Arsenal has some deer warning signs posted on various roads. However, while potentially dangerous and often resulting in costly repairs, deer unexpectedly crossing the road do not qualify as a hidden danger that the government must warn about. Drivers are cautioned to slow down and be aware of their surroundings. In the event a driver gets into an accident with a deer, the driver should consult his or her insurance carrier to pay for any vehicle repairs.

For claims other than those arising from deer strikes, you may download the appropriate forms and get other valuable claims information at the claims website www.redstone.army.mil/legal/claims.html or visit the claims office located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 111 on Goss Road. For more information, call claims examiner James Friday at 876-9006. *(Office of the Staff Judge Advocate release)*

AER program offers money for college

Army Emergency Relief offers college aid for dependent children and spouses.

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program is for dependent children of Soldiers (active duty, retired and deceased). This program is for full-time students at an undergraduate, technical or vocational institution accredited

by the Department of Education and is awarded annually up to four academic years. Funds may be used for tuition, books, fees, supplies or school room and board. Students may reapply each year but must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale.

A student applying for 2011-12 academic year must be under the age of 23 for the entire AY. The applicant must be an unmarried dependent child of an active duty or retired Soldier or a Soldier who died in either status. All Soldiers and students must be registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System. Verify DEERS status at 800-538-9552.

Applications for the 2011-12 scholarships are available online at www.aerhq.org

through April 1. Online applications must be submitted by April 1. Additional deadlines are in the instructions. AER will notify applicants concerning their scholarship in June.

The AER Stateside Spouse Education Assistance Program is for spouses of active duty and retired Soldiers, and widows of Soldiers who died either on active duty or in a retired status, and are residing in the United States. All spouses must be registered in DEERS. Verify DEERS status at 800-538-9552. This program does not apply to second undergraduate or graduate degrees.

Scholarship awards are based on financial need and are awarded annually for up to four academic years to attend post-secondary school full time as undergraduate level students. Funds are to assist with academic expenses at the attending university/school and are disbursed equally between the fall and spring semesters/quarters to assist with tuition, books, fees and supplies. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale. *(AER release)*



Rogers

continued from page 1

As the new year begins, Rogers is still becoming familiar with all of AMCOM's programs. He is also taking on responsibilities as the senior commander of Team Redstone, both on post and within the community. But, with AMCOM as his main mission focus, Rogers relies heavily on Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton to lead Garrison employees in continuing to provide vital services in support of the Arsenal's growth, which will include bringing on board the full headquarters staffs of the Army Materiel Command, Security Assistance Command and Contracting Command in 2011.

"The synergy that we will have here will be incredible. We will all benefit from the teaming relationships with these organizations. It is a win-win for all of us," Rogers said.

In 2011, Rogers hopes to see the reputation of AMCOM grow with its people, products, services and mission.

"The only way we can continue to stay viable and an integral part of the aviation, missile and the TMDE (test, measurement and diagnostic equipment) communities is if we prove to everyone

we're the best and most efficient organization in industry and in government," Rogers said. "We want AMCOM to be a place where industry and government want to come to get our support and our expertise."

At work, Rogers is himself striving to be a better leader. On the home front, he wants to be a better family man. He and his family are enjoying spending time together, and learning about Huntsville and the surrounding community. This time last year, Rogers was away from his family, deployed to Kuwait as commander of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command at Camp Arifjan.

The holiday season of 2010 – including Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's – was the first full season he has spent with his family in two years. It's been filled with such Huntsville favorites as the Botanical Garden's Galaxy of Lights and the Living Christmas Tree at First Baptist Church. Rogers especially enjoyed attending a middle school band concert where his eighth-grade twins performed. The holidays also included a 10-hour trip to Michigan with all six family members in the Rogers mini-van.

"This has been a busy time for us," said Reba Rogers. "It's been a good

time for our family. The kids are happy. They've made good grades and they've made friends. Everyone has been so welcoming. I wrote in our Christmas card that this transition for the kids went better than we could have hoped for ... We had heard great things about the community so we had high expectations when we came to Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal. And we haven't been disappointed."

The Rogers children make the household busy. Jeff, 20, is a junior at Auburn University, where he is studying mechanical engineering. Tom, 16, is a junior at New Century Technology High School. Twins Matt and Jessi, 13, are eighth-graders at Mountain Gap Middle School.

The adjustment to the local community has brought one surprise – a higher profile for the entire family.

"We moved here from Fort Bragg, where there are 23 general officers," Reba Rogers said. "We've tried to teach our kids that it doesn't matter what your dad does. When you are asked, you're dad works for the Army, your dad's in the Army. But it's a little harder here because people know who Jim Rogers is."

As with other military families, Reba Rogers, who grew up as the daughter of an Army colonel, and the Rogers children have lived with the sacrifices and the "adventures" of Army life.

"The bad part is Jim misses a lot of events and you don't get that time back. That makes us sad," Reba Rogers said. "But we know what he does is important."

"It's all in your attitude. And the kids' dad always likes to tell them 'It's an adventure.' It's gotten to the point where they will say 'Really, dad, another adventure?' But it is all good for us. You have to go into it with a positive attitude and knowing home is wherever your family is."

The children have benefitted from living in different places, including Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Campbell, Ky.; MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Fla.; Rock Island, Ill.; Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; and Alexandria, Va. The family has moved 14 times in 24 years, with Jeff attending seven different schools, Tom attending six different schools, and the twins attending five different schools each.

"It teaches them to be adaptable and flexible," Reba Rogers said. "They've learned how to make friends easily and faster because they have to. They see us do it, too, and they understand. They might be leaving their friends. But their mommy and daddy are leaving their friends, too."

With today's technology, friends can stay in touch much easier than when Reba Rogers was moving around the country with her military family. The family has also benefitted from Army programs, such as Army Community Service, Department of Defense schools,

youth services and chapel services. But the best support for military families, Reba Rogers said, are other military families.

"The neighbors and friends you make in the Army while living on a post become the best support network you can have," she said. "Everyone is going through the same thing and they can help each other. There is a lot of established support through Army Community Service and family readiness groups. But, for me personally, I would have to say the bond I've made with other military spouses and families is where I get my support."

A West Point graduate, Rogers was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps in 1979. He and Reba Rogers met when Rogers and Reba Rogers' father were stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground. They married nearly 25 years ago at Fort Bragg.

"Being a part of a military family is the only thing I knew," Reba Rogers said. "I have cousins who have lived in the same place all their lives. That is foreign to me."

As the wife of a two-star general charged as the Arsenal's senior commander, Reba Rogers knows she is also charged with providing senior leadership among the military and civilian families associated with Redstone.

"I definitely think there are responsibilities for me that go with this position," she said. "I like to look at them as opportunities to meet new people and to make new friends. I am in a position to make a difference for other families here ..."

"Everyone has been so nice and welcoming that it makes me want to get out and do the right thing for our families. It's a balancing act for me. We are the first ones to have children living at home while we are in this position. Personally, that adds another dynamic to being out in the community. It's a juggling act with the kids coming first."

With children in the Huntsville City Schools system, the Rogers couple will be more active in the local community outside the Arsenal gates than probably any other previous Arsenal commanding general and spouse. For Reba Rogers, that presents an opportunity to be involved and affect positive change for families both on and off post. And she hopes other military spouses and families will follow her lead.

"My wish especially for the military families here is that I would really like them to have a good experience while they are here," she said.

"I would hope they would take advantage of what Redstone and the community has to offer. This post benefits from the highest level of community involvement that I've ever seen. I hope our families will get out and partnership with the community. Being involved is an opportunity for all of us to make a difference in the community and to meet new friends."



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

And the winner is...

Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton reads off a winning name in the Army Family Appreciation Month's Passport to Prizes drawing. Military families took their passports to various FMWR facilities during November to get their passports stamped, and the passports with the most stamps were entered into a drawing for a 42-inch LG flat screen HD television, iPad, Wii gaming system, and \$100 MWR bucks. Winners were: Wii gaming system, Creech family; iPad, Wayne Smith; television, Rita Tanner; and \$100 MWR bucks, Rebecca Hayes. Everyone that attended the drawing received \$25 MWR bucks just for attending.

Logistics assistance division loses five technical reps



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The retirees include, from left, Dale Dawson, George Matthews, Bert Stonich, Cleveland “Julio” Rogers and Max Marble.

*They retire at same time
in December ceremony*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Logistics assistance representatives provide technical expertise in the field on aviation and missile systems, often deploying to serve the troops in harm’s way. Usually these civilians have past military experience.

The Logistics Assistance Division, under the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center’s Readiness Directorate, honored five retiring members Dec. 16.

“We are going to miss them all great-

ly,” division chief Jeff Winters said.

Together they represented 89 years of civilian service, 109 years of military service and many deployments.

They included logistics assistance representative Dale Dawson and senior systems technical representatives George Matthews, Bert Stonich, Cleveland “Julio” Rogers and Max Marble.

Dawson had 34 years of government service (24 military), Matthews 36 years (27 military), Stonich 44 years (four active military, 14 active Reserve), Rogers 41 years (20 military) and Marble 43 years (20 military). That amounts to 198 years of government service.

“I’m gone,” Marble said. “Not much else to say. I’m looking forward to this, and y’all have a good time. I’ve had mine.”



Courtesy photo

50th milestone

Employees from Redstone Test Center TA-5 spell out “50” to celebrate 50 years of propulsion testing.

Hail and Farewell

Redstone welcome leaves positive impression

SMDC's new three-star looks forward to leading command

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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First impressions are usually lasting ones.

So, when a three-star general speaks highly of the community a new assignment has taken him to, it's well worth being noted.

Such is the case with Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, who took time on Dec. 20 – only five days after assuming command of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command and the Joint Functional Component Command-Integrated Missile Defense – to speak with the local media about his impressions of the Redstone Arsenal/Huntsville community and SMDC/ARSTRAT.

“My first impressions have been very positive,” Formica said. “Redstone Arsenal has a great reputation as an Army installation and in its relationship with the local community.

“We’ve (wife Diane and I) been out and about a little bit. We’ve wandered into Huntsville. I’m looking forward to learning more about the Arsenal, the

surrounding community and the relationship they share ... And I want to continue SMDC/ARSTRAT’s role as a good tenant and a contributing, positive member of the Redstone Arsenal and Tennessee Valley community.”

Formica and his wife are “encouraged by the relationship that Redstone Arsenal has with the community ... We’re looking forward to doing our part to cultivate that relationship and be a part of it.”

Though it appears he is quick to step out into his new leadership role, Formica has actually been waiting about a year for the SMDC/ARSTRAT command assignment to come to fruition. During that time, this Iraq and Afghanistan war veteran served as special assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Army, working on the Air and Missile Defense Task Force and other missile defense related issues at Department of the Army headquarters in Washington, D.C. The assignment gave Formica the opportunity to familiarize himself with the growing role of SMDC/ARSTRAT in the planning and integrating of space and missile defense capabilities in support of the Army’s Strategic Command and the missions of the geographic combatant commanders.

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

During recent meetings with local media, Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, the new commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, talks about the three core tasks of the organization – provide trained and ready space and missile defense forces, build the future of space and missile defense capabilities, and research, develop, test, acquire and integrate space and missile technologies.

War fighter connects with space defense Soldiers



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner is the first of the new command to arrive as a member of Lt. Gen. Richard Formica's command staff at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Turner will represent the commander's intent to the 900 military personnel who serve with SMDC/ARSTRAT around the world.

SMDC/ARSTRAT top enlisted Soldier takes commander's intent to field

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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Every so often, Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner receives a phone call or a visit from a good friend.

That friend? The 12th Sergeant Major of the Army, now retired, Jack Tilley.

Such was the case on a recent Tuesday morning, when Turner slightly delayed an interview to take a phone call from Tilley.

“Every so often, he’ll call me,” Turner said. “He likes to monitor things and make sure everything is on track. If I’ve got a problem, I can call him.”

During this particular phone call, Turner was able to report that everything was, indeed, on track in the assumption of new responsibilities as the command sergeant major for the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The only surprise, so far,

for this battle-tested, world-traveled war fighter has been the depth and reach of SMDC/ARSTRAT.

“I came in with a change of responsibility ceremony in July,” Turner said. “But I started working in April (with then Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja, who has retired). It was a really good transition. I worked with Command Sgt. Maj. Borja and traveled some, and received briefings to help me understand this command.”

As the SMDC/ARSTRAT command sergeant major, Turner is the command’s senior enlisted leader.

“My marching orders are to make sure the enlisted side of the command is trained and developed,” Turner said. “I work with Soldiers and Soldier families.”

There are about 900 military personnel worldwide assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT, representing nearly half of the SMDC/ARSTRAT work force. But despite the command’s worldwide mission and reputation for providing capabilities to the war fighter, Turner admits he was not familiar with the organization when

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Army's tradition of excellence remains strong

*Spacemissile defense
community gains
new commander as
mission continues*

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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In the Army, one strong leader leads to another.

And so it is at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, where Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell's visionary leadership is making way for Lt. Gen. Richard Formica – “the right person at the right time to lead this challenging organization,” said Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the vice chief of staff of the Army.

Chiarelli's comments came during a change of command and retirement ceremony Dec. 15 in Bob Jones Auditorium, during which Campbell expressed his gratitude for a 37-year career with the Army and welcomed the organization's recently promoted lieutenant general. Formica assumed from Campbell command of SMDC/ARSTRAT as well as the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, all of which are subordinate commands of the Army's Strategic Command.

To Formica, Chiarelli said “I look forward to working with you on issues of great importance to the nation and to the

Army.” To Campbell, he said, “you are one of the best I've worked with. You are a strategic thinker, visionary and jack of all trades ... This very abbreviated list doesn't skim all that Kevin has accomplished on behalf of our nation and our Army.”

During his four years as commander of SMDC/ARSTRAT, Campbell's accomplishments have included managing the Army's cyber functions prior to the Army's Cyber Command being activated in May 2010, overseeing the command's headquarters move to Redstone, assuming operational responsibility for new communications satellites, getting the Army's pilot satellite – the SMDC-ONE – into orbit, and overseeing the command's immense contributions to the ongoing campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SMDC/ARSTRAT conducts space and missile defense operations and provides planning, integration, control and coordination of Army forces and capabilities in support of the Strategic Command; serves as the Army specified proponent for space, high altitude, and ground-based midcourse defense; serves as the Army operational integrator for global missile defense; and conducts mission-related research and development.

Speaking to an audience of family, friends and co-workers, and Army and community leadership, Campbell asked them to excuse any oversights he might make during his comments, joking “this



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Leading the way during the Dec. 15 retirement and change of command ceremony for the Space and Missile Command/Army Forces Strategic Command are, from left, incoming commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, vice chief of staff for the Army Gen. Peter Chiarelli and outgoing commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell.

is the first time in my life I've ever spoken in a retired status.”

Campbell expressed his gratitude, saying that throughout his Army career he has focused his work “on the mission, the people and our country above all else.”

He and his wife, Kathy, along with their two grown children, enjoyed their years as part of the Army family. Daughter Erin, a physical therapist, is married

to Air Force Capt. Jonathan Bott while son Scott is a U.S. Coast Guard certified ship captain.

“What wonderful company to keep for so many years. We are blessed Americans ... The Campbells have much to be thankful for, primarily to serve with men and women who are in the Army for a larger purpose,” he said.

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica accepts the flag of command from vice chief of staff of the Army Gen. Peter Chiarelli during the Space and Missile Command/Army Forces Strategic Command change of command ceremony. The traditional ceremony involved the passing of the flag from SMDC/ARSTRAT Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner and then to retiring commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, right, before being passed on to Chiarelli and then to Formica.



400th Longbow fire control radar delivered

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**
For the Rocket

The Army celebrated the 400th delivery of the Apache Longbow Fire Control Radar during a ceremony Dec. 16 at the Lockheed Martin facility in Orlando, Fla.

Apache Helicopters project manager Col. Shane Openshaw, keynote speaker at the ceremony, called the event an important milestone for the Army and for America's foreign Apache partners.

"To say that I am proud to be here today would be a huge understatement," Openshaw said. "We have come a long way since the technology program that later became Fire Control Radar was envisioned. The Longbow Apache is the world's premier attack helicopter and the Fire Control Radar is a key element that makes it way."

The FCR is the Apache's key component and was originally designed to meet three needs: performance in bad weather and battlefield obscurants, rapid wide-area search, and increased survivability against specific air defense system threats in low-level flight environments. The FCR's lineage traces back to the mid-1980s when the Army initiated a classified program to build a new radar to counter the growing Soviet threat.

In 1991, the Engineering Manufacturing Development effort began and has evolved to counter the evolving threats in the battlefield and became the FCR. The contract was awarded to Longbow L-L-C, a joint venture between Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin in 1995, and production of the first Longbow FCR was completed in 1998. Since the Army fielded the first Longbow Apaches, the project office has been working steadily to modernize the entire Apache fleet to the Longbow configuration capable of carrying the FCR. Twenty-five additional systems are on contract and will be complete in 2012.

Openshaw said the FCR was put to first, real operational test during the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Enemy armored formations in flat, open desert terrain presented a nearly perfect scenario for the FCR – virtually the ideal threat – the threat for which this incredible system was designed," he said.

Longbow Apache formations employed the FCR and Longbow missiles against the most significant Iraqi threats with tremendous success.

Because armored threats still exist and are steadily modernizing and growing around the world, the FCR will remain relevant into the future, Open-



Lockheed Martin photo

The Apache Helicopters Project Office unveils the delivery of the 400th Apache Longbow FCR during a ceremony Dec. 16 in Orlando, Fla. From left are Steve Considine, Northrop Grumman director of Longbow programs; Pat Newby, Northrop Grumman vice president of weapons and sensors; Col. Shane Openshaw, project manager for Apache Helicopters; Lt. Col. John Vannoy, product manager for Apache Sensors; Jerry Garman, Lockheed Martin director of Longbow programs; and Bob Gunning, Lockheed Martin vice president of fire control. Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman are part of the Longbow Limited Liability Company, a joint venture for the FCR.

shaw said. In addition, the Apache recently participated in a joint exercise in which all military services and other government agencies evaluated how to

counter the threat of enemy unmanned aircraft systems. "That joint evaluation determined that the Apache with

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Kiowa Warrior helicopter attains milestone

The OH-58F Kiowa Warrior, an Army Acquisition II program, successfully passed its Milestone B review Dec. 21, which officially moves the program into the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase.

"Today we had a great opportunity to achieve a significant milestone with the OH-58F Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade Program," Col. Robert Grigsby, project manager for Armed Scout Helicopters, said. "We were able to meet all of the requirements for a Milestone B decision."

Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for Army aviation, met with the Kiowa Warrior Product Office personnel led by Lt. Col. Scott Rauer, product manager, and was presented all of the required information to include an approved Capabilities Design Document, which will allow the program to move forward in the development phase and end up with a Milestone C decision and Low Rate Initial Production.

The Kiowa Warriors have an average age of 39 with the highest readiness and operational tempo rates supporting overseas contingency operations and continually exceeds expectations in performance in theater. With the cancellation of the



OH-58F Kiowa Warrior

ARH-70A Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter in October 2008, it became clear that the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior would have to remain on the front line for the foreseeable future. The KW is a proven work horse for the war fighter and today remains the go-to asset for theater ground commanders.

"What it really means to the war fighter is that those lessons learned from the global war on terror (Overseas Contingency Operations) will finally be incorporated into the aircraft through a fairly significant investment of dollars,"

Rauer said. "It provides long-term sustainment and viability for the aircraft to continue its mission because the aircraft has evolved in the battlefield. It will now have a full mission equipment suite that will accomplish all those jobs quite well."

The OH-58F will provide leap-ahead technology and increased capability through the implementation of a Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade Program. PM Kiowa Warrior launched the program in accordance with the Defense Department guidance to spend near-term Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter funds to sustain the existing Kiowa Warrior fleet. The F Model Kiowa Warrior capitalizes on non-developmental items and systems fielded on other aviation platforms to rapidly install, modify or provide the following: advanced Nose Mounted Sensor, improved cockpit control hardware and software for enhanced situational awareness, three full color Multi-function Displays, dual-redundant digital engine controller for enhanced engine safety, digital inter-cockpit communications, digital Hellfire future upgrades, Aircraft Survivability Equipment upgrades, and a redesigned aircraft wiring harness.

Additionally, the OH-58F model will

integrate the following capabilities: Level 2 Manned Unmanned Teaming, Common Missile Warning System, Health and Usage Monitoring, and enhanced weapons functionality via 1760 digital interface.

"What this does is it will allow us to move this aircraft and program along as a program of record and allows us to get to a point where we can allow the aircraft to meet its requirements until 2025 as it sits right now," Grigsby said.

"KW CASUP really challenges the methods that we use in this business to get the aircraft modified," Rauer said. "With the Army taking the role as lead systems integrator, it challenges the traditional paradigm where the mission equipment manufacturer takes the lead and develops the aircraft from start to finish. In this case the government is coordinating the efforts of four major developers and is doing this as fast as possible at a very low dollar value to be as flexible and responsive and fiscally responsible as we can possibly be."

The Army's request for an OH-58F Mission, Design, and Series designation was officially approved Sept. 8. (Program Executive Office for Aviation release)

The Citadel grad concludes Army career

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**

For the Rocket

It isn't often for Soldiers to retire where their careers begin. For Col. Scott Pacello, a retirement ceremony at The Citadel's Summerall Chapel could not have had added more meaning to a proud and successful career.

"Upon my graduation from The Citadel, my dad recommended I go into the Infantry branch to start my career, and this is what I did," Pacello said. "I didn't realize it at the moment; however, looking back, this gave me an excellent foundation to start my career."

Starting a life and career with the Army was not new for Pacello. His father, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel who served three tours in Vietnam, instilled in him the discipline, military bearing, and the desire to serve ever since Pacello could remember.

"I grew up in a military family and a few of my relatives have served so I pretty much always knew I wanted to serve for at least a few years," Pacello said. "Serving the country is very important to me and I believe that all Americans should serve some calling other than themselves at some point in their lives for two to three years."

After enlisting in the Army in 1982 in the Virginia National Guard and later serving in the South Carolina Army National Guard, Pacello received a commission as an Infantry officer through Army ROTC from The Citadel in 1985. Throughout his career, Pacello served in a variety of command and staff assignments including the 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment; 82nd Airborne Division and the 2nd Battalion 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment.

"For me, there is no higher calling," Pacello said. "I just enjoyed what I was doing. We all go through good and bad/challenging moments in life and careers and my life was no different. Overall my Army experience has been very positive and I have been fortunate to have been able to serve for over 25 years. It really has been quite an honor."

Pacello served the last 15 years as an Army acquisition officer and was first assigned to Yuma Proving Ground as an Apache helicopter and airborne operations test officer in 1995. His follow-on assignments were as the Technology Applications Program Office assistant program manager for MH-60 Special Operations Aircraft where he managed the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) MH-60 fleet, Black Hawk Helicopter Department of the Army systems coordinator and ex-

ecutive officer for the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology and Chief Scientist. Following his Pentagon assignment in 2004, Pacello went on to an assignment as the commander, Army International Technology Center-Southern Hemisphere and ABCA standardization representative, Canberra, Australia. He was then reassigned to the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office in October 2008 as the product director of tactical concepts where he managed the Warrior and Hunter unmanned aircraft systems.

Pacello's final assignment was as the director, Joint Friendly Identification and Networked Distribution Joint Test and Evaluation Feasibility Study within the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Among his proudest moments was being able to visit his oldest son Matthew in Iraq who was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Matthew is a specialist serving in C Troop, 1-89 Cavalry Regiment, 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Division. "This was a very special moment and equally special given the fact that 2nd BCT is commanded by a good buddy of mine, Col. Dave Miller," Pacello said.

Duty, honor and service to country by being in the military are characteristics that run in the Pacello family.

"With this, my career highlights were being able to start my career in the 82nd Airborne Division under another Citadel grad, retired Col. Bob Killebrew (Citadel class of '65), later deploying to the Persian Gulf War as an aviation officer with 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment, then as an Aviation Acquisition officer managing the 160th SOAR's MH-60 fleet — a very demanding yet very rewarding experience," Pacello said. "The icing on the cake was being able to have my current boss, Brig. Gen. (Tim) Crosby (Citadel class of '79) officiate my retirement ceremony where it all began for me, at The Citadel's Summerall Chapel. I couldn't think of a better way to go out."

His immediate plans are to relax and enjoy time with his family, reconnecting with his wife Carolyn and his two youngest sons, Scotty and William. "For years I've given my life to the Army, it's time that I give it back to my family," he said. "They've always been there supporting me throughout my career."

"Looking back, I would not have changed much. Whether it's in the armed forces or some other organization like the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, etc., we all need to give back to make the country strong."



Courtesy photo

Col. Scott Pacello, left, stands with Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, in The Citadel's Summerall Chapel during Pacello's retirement ceremony.

Training helicopters sold to Iraqi government

By Spc. AMIE McMILLAN and BETH CLEMONS

For the Rocket

The Army Security Assistance Command recently facilitated the foreign military sale of three Bell 407 training helicopters to the government of Iraq. The helicopters were loaded onto a cargo plane at Huntsville International Airport Dec. 5 and delivered to Camp Taji Dec. 11.

The new training helicopters will help to train qualified Iraqi Army pilots to operate and maintain the helicopters, as well as, rapidly accelerate the fielding and utilization of Iraqi Armed 407 Armed Scout Helicopters which are scheduled to be fielded by the end of 2011.

"To receive the aircraft is something like a dream that became a reality," said Lt. Col. Abbas, a commander and instructor pilot with 21st Squadron, Iraqi Army Aviation Command.

The aircraft were a large part of the package, which included initial spares, ground support equipment and tools, and aircraft maintenance through contractor logistics support.

"I'd love to see their military have a great capability with these Armed Scout Helicopters so they can establish and

maintain stability in their country, which is the overall intent," Chief Warrant Officer Jason Glenn, a Redstone Test Center experimental test pilot, said.

The United States remains committed to working with Iraq as a strategic partner in an effort to ensure peace and security for their country.

"I want to thank all of our friends from the United States because they are always committed to supporting Iraq's journey in democracy and helping us keep security and fight terrorism," said Iraqi Army Gen. Babakir, commander of Iraq's armed forces and Ministry of Defense chief of staff.

USASAC implements approved Army security assistance programs, including foreign military sales of defense articles and services to eligible foreign governments. The command manages approximately 4,400 FMS cases valued at more than \$103 billion. USASAC also manages the Army's co-production program. For more information about USASAC, visit www.usasac.army.mil.

Editor's note: Spc. Amie McMillan is with the 10th Public Affairs Operations Center. Beth Clemons works at USASAC public affairs.



Courtesy photo

A cargo plane at Huntsville International Airport is loaded Dec. 5 with one of the three Bell 407 training helicopters en route to Iraq.

Longbow

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the Longbow radar is highly effective in defeating the UAS threat," he said. "Longbow Apaches with FCRs will be called upon, and Long Apaches with FCRs will accomplish these important missions."

Pat Newby, Northrop Grumman vice president for weapons and sensors, who also provided remarks during the ceremony, shared a recent experience in which the Longbow L-L-C team and the Apache Helicopters Project Office received feedback about the radar's performance with U.K. Longbow Apache pilots returning from theater.

"They reported that the Longbow FCR provides them with superior situational awareness and other safety features not originally anticipated," Newby said, adding that the crew identified several advantages which helped them avoid mid-air collisions. "In addition, the system proved extremely useful in detecting moving targets of interest like cars, trucks, individuals on motorcycles and even camels and horses carrying contraband."

Adapting to the ever-changing needs in the battlefield is paramount, said Openshaw, and the next

generation of Apache, the AH-64D Block III, is the answer providing new capabilities that include improved aircraft performance, joint interoperability, improved ability to team with unmanned aircraft systems, and a series of enhancements to include significant improvements to FCR.

"The Army's investment in the FCR enhancements for the Apache Block III program illustrates our commitment to face these new challenges – new challenges presented by warfare in complex terrain against non-traditional targets," Openshaw said. "This investment in modernization will include an extended range capability that will complement the longer ranges of today's electro-optical sensors and tomorrow's munitions. Block III FCR improvements will also include a maritime capability to address waterborne threats that have emerged throughout the world – waterborne threats that will be targets for Apache Block III."

The Army has begun Low Rate Initial Production of the Apache Block III to produce 51 aircraft. Delivery of the first helicopter is scheduled for October with fielding the first unit equipped scheduled for fiscal 2012.

"The future of Apache is here today," Openshaw said.



Courtesy photo

Fast company

Attending a test flight of the Sikorsky X-2 technology demonstrator are, from left, Sandra Hoff, Marty Eaton, Dr. Bill Lewis, Shelby Johnson and Bill Crawford, all of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center. "This test flight was conducted at their facility at West Palm Beach, Fla.," Crawford said. "We are pictured in front of the X-2 which has flown faster than any helicopter in the world."

ANSF partners with TF Bastogne to rid area of insurgents

By Task Force Bastogne Public Affairs

KUNAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan — Afghan National Security Forces partnered with Soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, to conduct operations in the greater Sarkani District of Kunar Province beginning Dec. 10, to rid the area of insurgents.

The early morning operation, Operation Eagle Claw II, began with an insertion of the combined security force into the mountains near the villages of Ganjgal, Dam Darye, Tsaporay and Bargay.

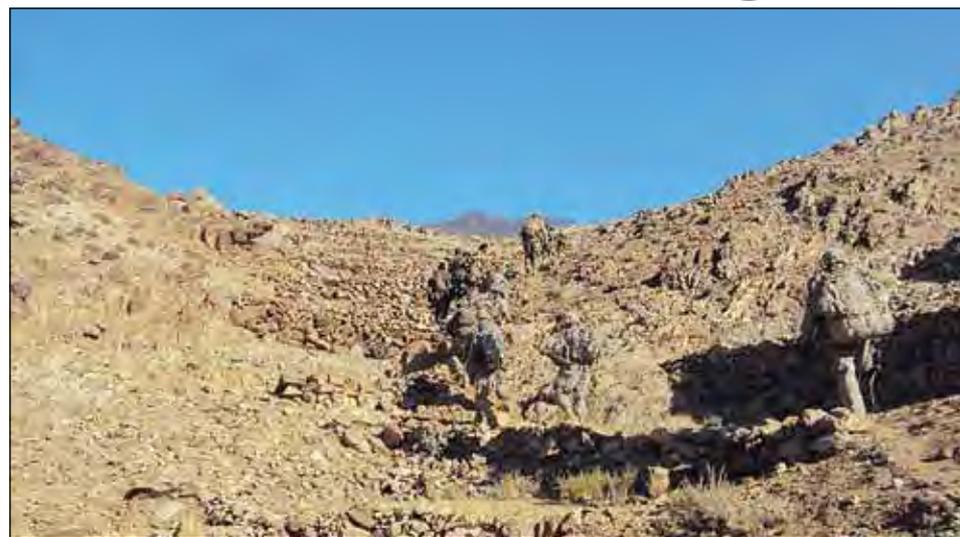
The region, located along the Pakistan border, is a known transit route for foreign fighters coming into Kunar from Pakistan.

“We, together with our ANSF and Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan partners, have helped to thwart the further influence of the

insurgency and have helped to secure the people from the continued threat of terror from the insurgents in the Ganjgal Valley and Sarkani district,” Lt. Col. J.B. Vowell, commander of 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st BCT, said. “Operations like this help make the region a safer place for those who live here.”

Eleven insurgents were killed during the operation.

“We are proactively clearing this area which, in the future, will enhance coalition and Afghan National Security Forces’ ability to operate freely within the undeveloped region so we can focus on a more independent governance,” said Afghan Maj. Shirinagha, public affairs officer for 2nd Afghan Infantry Brigade, 201st Corps, Afghan National Army. “Clearing this terrain also helps to establish essential conditions for more enduring security in the immediate area and beyond.”



Army photo

Soldiers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, Task Force Bastogne, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, hike the hilly terrain in eastern Afghanistan's Kunar Province Dec. 10, during Operation Eagle Claw II.

Command

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“This is a unique group of people who pass up some of the American dream to protect freedom for Americans. While most Americans are focused on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and other high ideas, Soldiers are focused on duty, honor, country. We’ve been in distinguished company for 37 1/2 years. As we say in the South, we’ve been in tall cotton.”

Campbell said the past nine years of combat operations has put the non-commissioned officer in the forefront of the Army. Because of that, Campbell said the first decade of the 21st century should be named the Decade of the NCO.

Mentioning SMDC/ARSTRAT Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner, Campbell said Turner wears eight overseas service bars on this uniform, representing four years in combat operations around the world.

“He is the poster NCO,” Campbell said. “We owe much to our non-commissioned officers.”

Also during that decade, the Army has faced its most stressing challenges, including fighting an adaptive adversary, sending Soldiers on multiple deployments, transitioning the organization to meet today’s threats, and managing changes caused by the Base Realignment and Closure Act.

“These things are all impacting a force nearly simultaneously. But there is no implosion in the Army,” Campbell said. “We have a trained and ready, well-cared for force that knows how to stay on course, and remains grounded in the Army values and warrior ethos.”



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Retiring Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell reflects on his more than 37 years as an Army officer during a change of command and retirement ceremony that drew a large crowd of Army and community leaders as well as SMDC/ARSTRAT employees despite icy weather conditions and an early installation closing.

The civilian work force of SMDC/ARSTRAT, working in the areas of both operational, and research and development missions, have provided the Army and its Soldiers with “one more capability to take on a tough and determined enemy,” Campbell said. “You’re making a difference in the Army and specifically on the battlefield of Iraq and Afghanistan.”

Campbell went on to say that the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense has worked hard to “knit seams between combatant commands.”

Expressing his family’s pride to have served with the Army, Campbell said

“we leave much better people because we’ve served with such good people for 37 years. Army strong!”

Campbell’s farewell comments touched on a sentimental chord, and were echoed in Formica’s expressed appreciation for his new assignment.

“(Formica’s wife), Diane, and I are thrilled to join this community and get on your team,” said Formica, who was promoted to lieutenant general in a ceremony prior to the change of command.

“I accept today, without reservation, the responsibilities inherent in command of SMDC/ARSTRAT and JFCC-IMD. I recognize the unique and substantial role these commands have in our Army. This is a great command with a terrific reputation across the Army.”

During the past year, Formica has served as a special assistant to the Army’s chief of staff. He served as commander of the Combined Security Transition Command, Afghanistan, in Operation Enduring Freedom from December 2008 to November 2009.

Formica will focus his command leadership on “providing trained and ready space and missile defense forces, building future space and missile defense forces, and integrating space and other relative technology” to provide the best in integrated air and missile defense capability to the war fighter. That integration role is part of the JFCC-IMD mission.

“We are all integrated members of a team committed to and focused on those who are deployed in harm’s way,” he said. “With units, Soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and civilians forward-stationed ... the sun never sets on SMDC, ARSTRAT or JFCC-IMD.”

Mentioning SMDC/ARSTRAT partners based at Redstone Arsenal – including the Missile Defense Agency, Army Materiel Command, Aviation and Missile Command and Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space – along with other organizations and industry partners, Formica said he appreciates the value of these relationships toward the SMDC/ARSTRAT mission.

He also talked about the dedication of the 1,000 civilians and 900 military employees of SMDC/ARSTRAT, and said, “Diane and I are proud to join your team and look forward to serving alongside you.”

SMDC/ARTSTRAT can trace its beginnings to December 1962, when the command achieved the first successful intercept of an intercontinental ballistic missile re-entering the atmosphere, Chiarelli said. That interception was made with a Nike Zeus missile.

“All that’s been accomplished since then in hit-to-kill technologies, sensor and radar development and short-, medium- and long-range intercept capabilities, it’s absolutely remarkable,” the four-star general said.

Speaking to SMDC/ARSTRAT leadership as well as to all its employees, Chiarelli said, “Your work enhances war fighters’ situational awareness. You have been extremely busy conducting an incredible mission in support of our nation and our Army.”

Chiarelli mentioned President Ronald Reagan’s 1983 remarks about the importance of nations working together, saying, “Reagan sought to achieve peace through strength. This is your legacy as well.”

Turner

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he was tapped for the command sergeant major position by incoming commander, then Maj. Gen. Richard Formica.

"I'm a war fighter," Turner said, referring to his multiple deployments to war zones. "I had no idea what SMDC was coming in here. But I've learned a lot since in this environment, and I can see the capabilities and what SMDC does for the war fighter. As an enlisted Soldier, I can take that back to the war fighter, and show them how SMDC makes a difference for them."

Even though he is out of the war theater, Turner is still spending a lot of time away from home. To connect with SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers and its mission, Turner does a lot of traveling.

"If I'm in this office for more than a week, then I'm probably not doing my job," he said. "I have to travel, to understand the mission and to communicate with Soldiers. Right now, those Soldiers are telling me about this organization. They are getting me up to speed on updates and changes in their unique combat capability."

"As I become more familiar with

this organization, my role is to grow the personnel, to oversee their training and development, to make sure families are taken care of, to address their health and well-being, and to work on issues and concerns as they relate to SMDC/ARSTAT Soldiers."

During his first six months, Turner has followed the commander's intent of Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell. That commander changed on Dec. 15, when Campbell retired and the newly promoted Lt. Gen. Formica took over the helm of SMDC/ARSTRAT and the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense.

"This is a unique command that involves many different time zones," Turner said. "Two weeks ago, I was in Japan. This is a global command, so we have units all over the world or units we support all over the world. We have a lot of air defense Soldiers who support the Air Defense Command or the Signal Command."

This isn't Turner's first assignment as a command sergeant major. He has served in the role during three deployments to Afghanistan. In 2005-06, he was the operations command sergeant major for Task Force Cincinnatus at Bagram Airfield. In 2007-08, he was the command sergeant major for Task Force Gladius

at Bagram Airfield. In 2009-10, he was the command sergeant major for the Combined Security Transition Command Afghanistan and NATO Training Mission Afghanistan.

"Each time, I went, I could see the growth and development of the country," he said. "I grew to really know Afghanistan and the Soldiers serving there."

He shrugs off any suggestions that three Bronze Stars make him a certified Army hero.

"If you perform your given duty in a combat environment, then you will be awarded for your performance," Turner said. "No matter what environment you are working in, you have to be a professional. Your Soldiers still have to have confidence in your leadership. They have to know you can lead and know that they have your support."

"Your Soldiers have to know you are taking care of them and that you are making sure they are doing the right thing. In a combat environment, you may not have a chance to stop and check on them to make sure they are doing the right thing. But you can make sure they have the training they need so that in a combat situation they do know what the right thing is."

Turner has led long enough to know that at the heart of every command sergeant major's job is the commander's intent.

"Training, experience and the positions he's been placed in make a good command sergeant major," he said. "He needs good non-commissioned officers working with him and for him. What I stand on daily is the commander's intent. If a command sergeant major knows how to carry out the commander's intent, with the training and development he or she has had, they can do the job."

When working with Soldiers under his command, Turner said a command sergeant major must be accessible but also in charge.

"You must present yourself in a way to let them know you are the senior leader," he said. "You want to lead by example. You want to be someone they can look up to. You have to be proactive for your Soldiers, and take care that they have the training and development they need to do the mission. You have to work to make sure their families are taken care of."

Turner has 32 years in the Army. He enlisted after high school, thinking he wanted to "be like John Wayne in the Green Beret. And the recruiter said 'We can do that.'"

Though the John Wayne image never actually materialized, the Army was the answer for Turner. He attended airborne school, and went on

to serve with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C.

"It gave me an opportunity in life," Turner said. "Now, I look back and it was one of the best choices that I made. For a young person, it is one of the best platforms to start life on that you are ever going to get."

"When I got out of high school, I didn't have a whole lot of direction and I wasn't ready yet for college. I told my dad I was thinking about joining the Army, he said 'You got to do something because you are destroying yourself.' That turned the light on for me."

With the 82nd, Turner was always in a state of being deployed. He served in Operation Just Cause and Desert Storm. Although he had other assignments in his career, Turner has spent 20 years of his 32 in various positions with the 82nd, where deployment is a way of life.

Besides education and leadership opportunities, the Army also gave Turner a chance to meet his wife, Barbara, who was a Soldier with a support command to the 82nd. The couple were married in a civil ceremony in 1990 prior to his deployment to Desert Storm, and then again in 1991 in a family affair after the deployment, giving the couple two anniversaries. Barbara Turner took an early retirement after 17 years of service in uniform to raise the couple's two daughters.

"Because she was in the military, she understood about the 82nd. She knew I grew up in the military and that I've always deployed. She understands, and that's made a big difference for us," he said.

One daughter, LaKisha, is serving in the Army. The other is in high school.

"I will tell any young person interested in military service to listen to their leaders and to try to get all the education they can. They should stay professional and focused on the mission, and the military will do the rest," he said.

"The military is an exciting profession. It's not every day, nine to five. I know when I come to work I will be doing something different, seeing something different and talking to different people. New experiences are what I really like."

He is getting those new experiences at SMDC/ARSTRAT, where he is traveling to connect with Soldiers, learning about a global mission and working with a new command team. And, while he enjoys the challenges of his current assignment, Turner is hoping there will be more to come after SMDC/ARSTRAT.

"As long as I feel I have something to give, I'm going to serve," he said.



Courtesy photo

NASA tour

Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton on Dec. 17 visits the Payload Ops Integration Center and the FastSat control room at Marshall Space Flight Center. The POIC supports the science mission on the International Space Station, which has been manned for more than 10 years. The FastSat control room manages the NASA component of a joint DoD/NASA project. Several weeks ago, DoD launched a satellite from Kodiak, Alaska. Among other things, that satellite then launched a nanosatellite. This is the first time that a satellite has launched a satellite, and exemplifies DoD/NASA cooperation.

Formica

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“The extended transition allowed me to get a feel of the organization from the outside. I interacted with major stakeholders of SMDC/ARSTRAT,” Formica said. “In addition, Lt. Gen. (Kevin) Campbell (the outgoing SMDC/ARSTRAT commander) gave me the opportunity to see some of the inside aspects of the command.”

During the year, Formica visited places like Fort Greely, Alaska, where Soldiers assigned to SMDC’s 1st Space Brigade work with Soldiers of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade, Colorado Army National Guard, to operate the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense capability, and Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., one of the Strategic Command’s sites. In his first couple days at SMDC/ARSTRAT, Formica visited with the work force on a social basis during a holiday celebration, and attended several transitional sessions to get oriented on the command and its leadership.

Formica said that the “battle rhythm” of today’s Army is unforgiving, and can make it difficult for new leadership to get up to speed on an organization’s contributions to the war fighter. The best way to learn an organization, especially when in an up-tempo environment, is by doing, he said.

His commitment to learning SMDC/ARSTRAT has put Formica in a good position to know the organization before he actually knows its employees. And what he has come to know has convinced him SMDC/ARSTRAT has a lot to offer the nation, the Army and the war fighter in terms of three core tasks.

“This is an important command in our Army,” Formica said. “In my view, we will continue to do what we do to, one, be a force provider of trained and ready space and missile defense forces; two, to be a combat developer of future space and missile defense capabilities; and, three, to be a technology center where we research, develop, test, acquire and integrate space and missile defense and other technologies.”

In his commander’s capacity, Formica views his role as serving, leading and setting the standards for the organization’s 1,000 civilian and 900 Soldier employees worldwide. When speaking about his responsibility, Formica also talks about “caring for the Soldiers and civilians of the command” and “guiding the organization” to fulfill its three core tasks “in a way that best supports Soldiers deployed in harm’s way.”

Formica is well aware of what today’s Soldiers face during deployments to war zones. In 2009, he served as

commanding general of the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan. In 2004-05, he served as the commanding general of the Force Field Artillery Headquarters and as the Joint Fires and Effects coordinator for Multi-National Corps-Iraq.

Formica’s military career began with ROTC at Providence College, Providence, R.I., and graduation from Bryant College in Smithfield, R.I., where, in 1977, he was commissioned as a field artillery officer.

“I do not have a missile defense background,” Formica said. “But one of things the Army is doing as it continues to transform its fighting force is to bring together air defense and field artillery. You are seeing that at the Fires Center of Excellence, where they have both the field artillery school and the air defense artillery school.

“My field artillery experience and fire support experience and my other assignments have prepared me for this assignment in many ways.”

Besides his deployments and most recent previous assignment, Formica’s career has included serving as director of Force Management in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, commander general of the III Corps Artillery, Fort Hood, Texas; as assistant and acting deputy director for Politico-Military Affairs (Europe) on the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.; and in numerous other command, fire support and staff assignments in Germany, and at Fort Hood, Fort Stewart, Ga., the U.S. Military Academy and Department of the Army headquarters. His medals include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with oak leaf cluster) and Bronze Star (with oak leaf cluster).

“All these experiences provide some perspective of this command,” Formica said. “During my deployment as a brigadier general with the Multi-National Corps-Iraq, I had the opportunity operationally to see the capabilities and developed technologies provided by SMDC/ARSTRAT. In Afghanistan ... I had a close view of what combat operations are doing every day and how they can benefit from space-based capabilities. These experiences will serve me well as I look at this organization.”

As with any successful Army organization, SMDC/ARSTRAT consists of “great Soldiers and civilians supported by family members,” Formica said.

To that mix, Formica hopes to emphasize public service.

“I expect all of us in uniform and in civilian clothes to be public servants, and to serve the needs of the organization and the Army first and

foremost,” he said. “We should not be self-promoters. But we should expect to serve as part of a larger team. We are not an entity onto ourselves. We exist so we can provide capabilities in our three core areas. We need to remain part of the larger team.”

For Formica, being part of the Army team has become a lifelong commitment.

“From day one, I came in for the opportunity to serve,” he said. “I had a recognition that I was in to an organization that was bigger than self ... and where the mission is paramount. I have loved being part of the team. One of the great things about the Army is that the Soldiers, civilians and family members you get to serve with are quality people who all have the sense of service, and a sense of community that can’t equate to any other walk in life.”

From the beginning of his career, Formica’s wife Diane and then his four children, now all grown, have been part of the Army team.

“Diane is the most important part of me ... I would not be here today if not for Diane and four kids, and the contributions and sacrifices they were willing to make. I know and appreciate the sacrifices we made together as a family,” he said.

Along the way, Diane Formica, a school teacher by profession, has taught in every community where her family has lived. She has been active in family readiness groups, Army Community Service, Army Emergency Relief, Armed Services YMCA and the Military Child Education Coalition.

“Diane has served Soldiers and families wherever we have lived. She always found those niche areas where she felt she could best support me and Soldiers and families,” Formica said.

“(Being a school teacher) enabled her to develop herself professionally. It was also a great way for her to plug into the community. Her work, mostly in public education, enabled her to become part of the community in her own right.”

As the commander at SMDC/ARSTRAT, Formica expects employees – both civilian and military – to be precise in their work, confident, physically fit, disciplined and courageous. He expects his leadership to be “tough, competent and caring.”

And he expects the same from himself. Formica is actually “dual-hatted,” commanding two separate and distinct commands. While SMDC/ARSTRAT has a high profile at Redstone, Formica is also charged with leading the lesser locally known Joint Functional Component Command for integrated missile defense.

“SMDC/ARSTRAT is an Army

command that is a force provider to the Strategic Command, and a provider of space and missile defense capability,” he said. “When the Strategic Command created the joint commands a few years ago (in 2005 when Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen was in command at SMDC/ARSTRAT and continuing through Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell’s command) to focus on critical areas of its mission set, the joint command for space went to the 14th Air Force and ARSTRAT became dual-hatted as the integrator for missile defense. I am honored to be serving in both capacities.”

Logistically, the command works because while SMDC/ARSTRAT operations are split between Huntsville and Colorado Springs, Colo., JFCC-IMD is located in Colorado Springs, which is also the headquarters for U.S. Northern Command, the Pentagon’s Homeland Security Command. While Formica plans to spend a good part of his time both in Huntsville and Colorado Springs, his commander’s role also requires him to visit units and Soldiers around the world and embedded with geographic combatant commands.

“SMDC/ARSTRAT is a growth command,” Formica said. “It is meeting the needs of the Army already in all three core task areas (force provider, combat developer and technology center). I am very appreciative of the leadership Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen and Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell have provided to get SMDC/ARSTRAT where it is today.

“I want to focus on those three core tasks. I want to sustain the emphasis and focus on providing the kinds of capabilities needed for Soldiers deployed in harm’s way. SMDC/ARSTRAT is already relevant to the Soldier and it needs to remain relevant to the Soldier ... SMDC/ARSTRAT provides critical capabilities to the Army, capabilities we can only provide.”

While SMDC-ARSTRAT provides technological capabilities, JFCC-IMD steps into the picture with the integration of missile defense, he said.

Space and missile defense capabilities must continue to be “fully integrated with the Army’s war fight operations,” Formica said. “Those capabilities must be fully integrated with the Strategic Command, the Secretary of Defense, government structures and the Army campaign. This is an enterprise franchise and we want to be plugged into that.”

With the worldwide mission of SMDC/ARSTRAT, Formica said he is fortunate to be allowed to lead a “great command with a great reputation within the Army and throughout the world. SMDC has a well-earned reputation. I want to work to sustain that reputation and provide capabilities.”

Win or Lose

National Guard enters year with momentum

*Patriots on top
after preseason*

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

The National Guard appeared to have a comfortable lead against Bravo Company in the second half of the Holiday Basketball Tournament final. But the Patriots didn't score for seven minutes and their cushion vanished.

They led 49-38 with 13:29 left but the score was 49-all at 6:23. So, the Patriots called a full timeout to try to regroup.

After the breather, Bryan Christa's basket sparked a 9-2 run and the Patriots led 58-51 with 1:47 left.

The National Guard went on to beat Bravo 62-55 on Dec. 13 at the Redstone Fitness Center to win the preseason championship.

Christa scored a game-high 22 points as the Patriots finished 3-0 in the tournament.

"It was a good team effort," the 6-foot shooting guard/power forward said. "We just kept scoring, kept finding a way to score."

Kenny Lee added 15 points and Zachary Folk had 10. Kenneth Moore

made four steals.

Courtnee Robinson had played point guard/shooting guard in the Patriots' first two games, but was forced to sit out the final because of an injured right knee. He served as the coach rather than his usual captain's role.

"We had to call a timeout and get everybody's head together," he said of the pivotal break when the score was tied at 49. "We had to make sure we continued to box out and make good passes. They were in foul trouble so we wanted to make sure they stopped us down low if they stopped us. We were successful."

Indeed, the Patriots started pushing the ball inside and driving to the basket rather than settling for outside shots, which weren't falling. That proved to be the key in the closing minutes against the young, athletic Bulldogs.

"We fell cold," Bravo coach Andrew Hildreth said. "We came back (from the 49-38 deficit), and just fell apart again at the end. They started making baskets and we weren't making what we needed to make. Overall my guys played really well. I was real proud of them."

Demetrius Gaines scored 14 points and Guillermo Ramos had 13 for the Bulldogs, who trailed 37-36 at halftime.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The preseason champion National Guard includes, kneeling from left, Kenneth Moore, Fred Allen, Jeremy Hamilton, Bryan Christa, Rodney Henshaw; and standing, Christopher Mack, Wendell Williams, Zachary Folk, Kenny Lee and coach Courtnee Robinson.

Bravo had advanced to the final from the losers bracket by beating the defending champion HHC 59th 69-68 in double overtime Dec. 9. The Bull-

dogs went 2-2 in the tournament.

The season will probably begin around Jan. 17, according to sports director Gaylene Wilson.

Military pioneer Dunwoody to receive NCAA award

Gen. Ann Dunwoody has been selected to receive the 2011 Theodore Roosevelt award, the NCAA's highest honor.

Dunwoody is the first woman in U.S. military history to be promoted to four-star general and is commander of the Army Materiel Command. She will accept her award during a ceremony at the NCAA Convention in January.

Dunwoody graduated with a degree in physical education from SUNY Cortland in 1975 and was directly commissioned into the Women's Army Corps. She received a master's of science in logistics management from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1988 and a master's of science degree in national resource strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 1995.

She was a starter on both the tennis and gymnastics squads at SUNY Cortland, participating on both teams for four years. Her former coaches praised her hard work and said she never missed practice or competition and was usually the first to arrive and the last to leave.

When Dunwoody began her military career, women had yet to be admitted to West Point. Her brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather all attended the U.S. Military Academy, a family history that stretches to 1866. Dunwoody's father was a career Army officer and a veteran of World War II and Korea, who also served in Vietnam during her college career.

In 1992 Dunwoody became the first woman to command a battalion in the 82nd Airborne Division. She was the first female general at Fort Bragg, N.C.,



Gen. Ann Dunwoody

and was the first woman to command the Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Va.

Dunwoody was deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Storm as a division parachute officer for the 407th Supply and Transportation Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division. She served as the 1st Corps Support Command commander in the deployment of the Logistics Task Force in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Dunwoody was promoted to four-star general in a ceremony at the Pentagon in 2008. Marking the occasion, U.S. secretary of defense Robert Gates said, "History will no doubt take note of her achievement in breaking through this final brass ceiling to pin on a fourth star, but she would rather be known and remembered, first and foremost, as a U.S. Army Soldier."

In a briefing to the press after the ceremony Dunwoody remarked, "I never grew up in an environment where I even heard of the words 'glass ceiling.' You could always be anything you wanted to be if you worked hard, and so I never felt constrained. I never felt like there were limitations on what I could do."

Dunwoody remains a proponent of an active lifestyle and enjoys running with her husband, retired Air Force Col. Craig Brotchie, and their springer spaniel, Barney.

Named after President Theodore Roosevelt, whose concern for the conduct of intercollegiate athletics led to the formation of the NCAA in 1906, this annual award is given to an individual "for whom competitive athletics in college and attention to physical well-being thereafter have been important factors in a distinguished career of national significance and achievement." (NCAA release)

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS OF DEC 30 2010	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																			
SCBK10742050	SUPV Program Manager	5-Jan-11	USA Engr & SPT Ctr	GS-0340	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10713562	Human Resource Specialist	5-Jan-11	AMCOM	YA-0201	2	2	47,214 - 108,101							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10279362	Supervisory IT Specialist	5-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-2210	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10713581	Human Resource Spec (HRD)	5-Jan-11	AMCOM	YA-0201	2	2	47,214 - 108,101							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10744107	Engineering Technician	5-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-0802	9	11	48,221 - 75,843	X	X										
SCBK10695241	Environmental Protection Specialist	5-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-0028	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10722251	Equal Opportunity Support Assistant (OA)	6-Jan-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0361	8	8	43,659 - 56,754									X	X	X	
SCBK10750313	Accountant	6-Jan-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0510	11	12	58,343 - 90,907				X								
SCBK10619857	Logistics Management Specialist	6-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10495243	Administrative Support Specialist	6-Jan-11	AMC	GS-0301	11	11	58,343 - 75,843				X	X		X	X	X	X		
SCBK1074628	Operations Research Analyst	6-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-1515	14	14	98,265 - 127,743	X							X	X			
SCBK10482845OC	Contract Specialist	7-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	7	12	39,422 - 90,907			X	X				X	X	X		
SCBK10691074	Career Management Specialist	7-Jan-11	PEO	YA-0301	2	2	47,214 - 108,102	X											
SCBK10655265	Protocol Specilaist	7-Jan-11	US Army Contracting Cmd	YA-0301	2	2	42,209 - 85,000							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10545491	Senior Information Mgt Program Manager	7-Jan-11	HQ AMC	GS-0301	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10721309	Workforce Dev/Career Mgt Specialist	10-Jan-11	ACC	YA-0301	3	3	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10731389	Supervisory Information Management Specialist	10-Jan-11	HQ AMC	GS-0301	15	15	115,588 - 150,266							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10754785	Contract Specialist	10-Jan-11	PEO	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X											
SCBK10748343	Public Affairs Specialist	10-Jan-11	ACC	YA-1035	2	2	47,214 - 408,102			X									
SCBK10708202	Management Analyst	11-Jan-11	Expeditionary Contracting Cmd	YA-0343	2	2	48,221 - 108,102	X											
SCBK10728786	Operations Specialist	11-Jan-11	Expeditionary Contracting Cmd	YA-0301	2	2	47,214 - 108,102							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10624741	Logistics Management Specialist	11-Jan-11	HQ AMC	GS-0346	14	14	98,265 - 127,743							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10543634	Video Teleconference Production Specialist	11-Jan-11	HQ AMC	GS-1001	12	12	69,930 - 90,907							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10653223	Supervisory Logistics Mgt Specialist	11-Jan-11	USACE	GS-0346	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X					
SCBK10749691	Operations Research Analyst	12-Jan-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-1515	14	14	98,265 - 127,743		X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
SCBK10745871	Aerospace Engineer	12-Jan-11	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	98,265 - 150,266	X											
SCBK10703427	Administrative Support Specialist	13-Jan-11	US Army Acquisition Spt Ctr	GS-0301	12	12	69,930 - 90,907	X											
SCBK10747438	Human Resource Analyst	13-Jan-11	AMCOM	GS-0301	13	13	83,156 - 108,102	X											
SCBK10749957	Secretary (Office Automation)	14-Jan-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0318	7	8	39,422 - 56,754	X							X		X		
SCBK10686359	Secretary (Office Automation)	14-Jan-11	US Army Space & Mis Def Cmd	GS-0318	9	9	48,221 - 62,683							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10760499	Patent Attorney	4-Mar-11	AMCOM	GS-1222	14	14	98,265 - 127,743											X	
SCBK10631319OCE	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102									X		X	
SCBK10631270OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102			X				X	X	X	X		
SCBK10482838OC	Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	13	13	83,156 - 108,102							X		X	X		
SCBK10482850OC	Supv Contract Specialist	1-Apr-11	AMCOM	YA-1102	3	3	98,265 - 127,743				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
SCBK10631324OC	Contract Price/Cost Analyst	27-Apr-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907			X				X	X	X	X		
SCBK10674714OC	Contract Specialist (Price/Cost Analysis)	9-Jun-11	ACC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779							X	X	X	X		
SCBK10724481OCE	Contract Specialist	29-Jun-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907								X			X	
SCBK10444988OC	Contract Specialist	17-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	3	3	92,277 - 157,779	X	X						X	X	X		
SCBK10444888OC	Contract Specialist	18-Aug-11	AMC	YA-1102	2	2	47,215 - 108,102	X	X						X	X	X		
SCBK104828500C	Supv Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	YA-1102	3	3	98,265 - 127,743				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
SCBK10482841OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	14	14	98,265 - 127,743		X	X				X	X	X	X		
SCBK10482823OC	Contract Specialist	30-Sep-11	AMCOM	GS-1102	12	12	69,930 - 90,907			X				X	X	X	X		

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

- A** - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B** - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
- C** - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
- D** - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
- E** - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements) (Copy of Orders from Spouse)
- F** - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)
- H** - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
- I** - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- R** - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- T** - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (Form 75 documenting service)
- V** - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
- U** - All U.S. citizens (Birth Certificate and other Documentation required)

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

These announcements can be viewed daily by visiting
<https://cpac.redstone.army.mil>

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Family indoor flying

Fly remote-controlled planes indoors this Sunday and Jan. 30 from 1-4 p.m. at the Grace United Methodist Church gym, 2113 Old Monrovia Road. These family events are free and open to all ages. "Bring your small or medium-sized electric remote-controlled planes and helicopters and fly," a prepared release said. For more information, call Jim Marconnet 772-3946 or e-mail jmarconnet@gmail.com.

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.

Catholic women

Catholic Women's Study at Redstone Arsenal is scheduled Jan. 12 through March 2 for eight weeks, on Wednesdays. The morning session, from 9:30-11, is titled "Discover Your Dignity, A Woman's Journey through Life." The evening session, from 6-7:30, brings "Lumen Gentium: Light of the Nation." RSVP at Di-anaRuzicka53@aol.com or call 852-5519.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel has Bible Studies each Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. The lunchtime Bible study meets at 11:30 a.m.; and the Korean sisters begin their study at 10:30 a.m. For more information call Judy Strange 430-3110, Karyn Wilson 837-7421, Mattie Jones (lunchtime group) 828-9890 or 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 information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 859-3784.

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.

Civil War roundtable

Tennessee Valley Civil War Roundtable will meet Jan. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Nancy Rohr will speak on "Huntsville Heroes of the Civil War: Heroines All." Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$7.95. Call 890-0890 for more information.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 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.

Tricare briefings

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

Weight watchers

Weight Watchers at Work will have an open house Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sparkman Center building

5300, room 5140. "Please come and hear about this exciting new 'PointsPlus' program using advancements in nutritional science that takes into account a food's protein, carbs, fat and fiber," a prepared release said. "You'll learn to eat smarter so you stay fuller longer, and you'll get advice on developing healthy habits, building a supportive environment and getting exercise. For more information, call Pat Sandy 313-5470 or e-mail sandy@us.army.mil.

Space development

The National Space Society and its host chapter, the Huntsville Alabama L5 Society, are bringing the 30th International Space Development Conference to Huntsville May 18-22 at the Von Braun Center and Embassy Suites. The annual event invites entrepreneurs, engineers, scientists, politicians and private citizens who are interested in creating a space-faring civilization "From the Ground Up," which is the theme of the conference. For more information on calls for papers or sponsorship, volunteer, or trade show opportunities, contact ISDC2011@gmail.com. The conference website is www.isdc2011.org.

Deployed work force ceremony

In appreciation and recognition of Team Redstone's service and sacrifice, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers would like to honor those who are serving or who have served in deployments in support of Team Redstone operations for OIF/OEF. The Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is March 3 at 8:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The ceremony will recognize honorees for their deployments

See Announcements on page 27



Photos by Kari Hawkins

Snow Avenger

Snowy scenes are part of the landscape even a few days after the 2-4 inches of snow that fell throughout North Alabama on Christmas Day. Employees coming to work at the Sparkman Center after the holiday weekend discovered snow on an Avenger air defense system outside building 5308, ice on the blade of a Kiowa helicopter near Bob Jones Auditorium and frigid waters at the fountain located near the entrance on Patton Road.



Rocket Announcements

during June to December. Additionally, those who were not able to participate in the last five ceremonies are invited to participate in this ceremony. Rogers will present letters of recognition to Soldiers, civilians and contractors of the Team Redstone work force who have deployed in support of Redstone Arsenal operations. The nomination deadline is Feb. 10. For more information, call Carla Landers 876-2612 or Bruce Cline 955-6925.

Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will hold a luncheon Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Cost is \$15. The feature is "How to Prepare for a Super Bowl Party" by Merle Phillip, owner/executive chef. Music will be performed by Mollianne Massey, soloist and community vocalist. Pennie Jordan, owner of a bed-and-breakfast in Enterprise, will speak on "How She Overcame Fear and Rejection." For more information, call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339. HCWC is an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, a support ministry for military wives and other women.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter will not be holding a January luncheon meeting on Jan. 13 due to the retirement of longtime ASMC member and past president Charlie Barnes. His retirement luncheon is that day at the Officers and Civilians Club. If members are interested in attending the retirement luncheon, they may call Kathy Buford 842-6289 or Michelle Cobb 842-0228. The next ASMC luncheon will be held Feb. 11.

Combined luncheon

The International Society of Logistics and Army Aviation Association of America have teamed up to provide their first joint luncheon Jan. 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Featured speaker is Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, the program executive officer for aviation. Cost is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for members. RSVP by Jan. 17 to Jon Liddie 642-9145 or jon.s.liddie@saic.com.

Miscellaneous Items

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 New Dawn. 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.

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 Spc. Liddle at jennifer.liddle@us.army.mil or visit the website <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

Flight training

If you're interested in becoming an Army aviator, you can apply for the Warrant Officer Flight Training Program by calling 539-6511.

Reading with Taka

The Post Library presents the "Tales with Taka" reading program on the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. But because of the New Year's holiday, January's program will be held this Saturday from 10-noon. Children age 5 and older are encouraged to read to Taka, a registered therapy and Reading Education Assistance Dog. The program is available to anyone who has access to the Post Library. All children who participate in the program will receive a gift bag from Taka. Under "Taka's Frequent Reader Program," children who read to Taka five times will receive their own "pawtographed" copy of one of Taka's favorite books. Sign up to read to Taka at the library's front desk. For more information call the Post Library 876-4741 or Jamie Ward, Taka's owner and handler, 233-3962.

Surplus sale

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration website. Go to www.gsauctions.gov, search by

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

Officer recruitment

Interested in being an Army officer? If you have completed a four-year college degree and are interested in the opportunities being an Army officer can provide, call 539-6511.

Fraud hotline

The Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency (USACIDC) has implemented a fraud hotline. It is designed to help you, the taxpayer, to report incidents of suspected fraud involving government contract companies, government employees or government agencies. If you suspect or know someone who either is committing, or has committed any type of fraud against the government on Redstone Arsenal, or surrounding area, report it by calling 876-9457. You do not have to leave your name — all information will remain confidential and anonymous. Please leave enough information so any followup investigation can be completed.

Education test center

Taking online college courses? Need a proctor for your exams? If so, call the Redstone Arsenal Testing Center 876-9764 for more information. They can proctor exams for most colleges. Proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community.

Thrift Shop grants

Does your organization or group directly affect the Redstone community? Last year the Thrift Shop gave out \$15,000 in grants to organizations like yours. It is that time again; and they are now accepting applications for 2011. The committee will meet in March and funds will be distributed by June 1. All applications will be considered and reviewed. If your company or group (no individuals please) is interested in applying, call the community assistance chairperson Jennifer Kennedy 682-6981 or e-mail jkhunter_1999@hotmail.com.

Prior service military

If you are prior service military without any military service obligation and are interested in joining the Army Reserve, call 1st Sgt. Brian May or Capt. Stacy Hopwood 539-6511.

Ride wanted

Julie Jordan, a badge checker in Sparkman Center building 5303, needs a ride to and from work. Her hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and she resides on Airport Road. She is willing to arrive earlier and pay. Call 604-8433.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is a free service helping servicemembers on active duty, military retirees and their dependents prepare and file federal and state tax returns each year. Last year's center was a major success, with over 4,000 returns prepared which resulted in more than \$3 million in refunds. The center is accepting volunteers for the upcoming 2010 tax season. Scheduling will be flexible and volunteers are needed to assist with tax preparation. No prior experience is necessary as comprehensive training will be provided. This is an opportunity for the community to give back to servicemembers, retirees and their families. To volunteer or for more information, call Rachael Yeoman 876-9007 or e-mail rachael.yeoman@conus.army.mil.

Veterinary clinic

The Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Clinic will have evening clinics every Tuesday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Call for appointments 876-2441. Services that will be offered include Heartworm Test, microchip, vaccines, Feline Leukemia Test and wellness exams. It will also be open for over the counter sales.

Scholarship resource

The American Society of Military Comptrollers Scholarship Program is to provide financial assistance to aid ASMC members and/or their immediate family in continuing their educational endeavors. Applications should be received by Feb. 28. Applications may be submitted to scholarship committee chairperson Lindsey Harper 876-8361, Michelle Cobb 842-0228, Jessica Dunaway 313-0533, Cheryl Richmond 955-0066, Judy Smith 876-6163, Kathy Buford 842-6289, Dr. Beth Hodges 313-7013, Ann Bransford 876-3599, Rob Archer 313-8137, Michele Olney 876-7971 and Debbie O'Neal 723-2314.

Professional development

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will sponsor its annual Mini-Professional Development Institute Training Session on March 3 at the Jackson Center at Hudson-Alpha Institute, 600 Genome Way. Lunch is included. Deadline to register is Feb. 11. Registration/doors open at 7 a.m., and the Mini-PDI begins at 8. Cost is \$125 for all attendees. Presenters include Mark Easton, Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, Col. Chip Fulghum, Suzie Humpreys and Col. Barbara Gilchrist. You can earn up to 7 Continuous Learning Points. Enter into TIP System, catalog F112MPDI, course title ASMC MINI-PDI 2011. Call in reservation with IMPAC credit card information to Dana Wilbanks 876-4283, Amanda Bertis 842-2444 and Theresa McBride 842-9272.

See Announcements on page 28

Rocket Announcements

Art auction benefit

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club invites you to its annual "Evening on the Bayou" Art Auction event Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Forest Club House (on Martin Road outside of Gate 7). This event is the club's main fund-raiser for the year. Proceeds will go toward the club's various Community Assistance requests and its Merit Awards/Scholarship program. There will be a silent auction, giveaway gift tables, food and beverages, and a special appearance by Perry Berns Gallery. For tickets and more information, visit their website at www.rsacwc.org. RSA CWC is a private, nonprofit organization.

Community assistance grants

Each year RSA Community Women's Club distributes funds to a variety of requesting nonprofit organizations. "Thanks to all of our enthusiastic and supportive members who contribute their time and talent to make each fund-raising event a huge success," a prepared release said. "Several fund-raising events are being planned this year and with your help, we'll be able to continue our humanitarian efforts to benefit the military and civilian communities." Applications for the RSA CWC community assistance grants are now being accepted. Forms are available at the CWC website www.rsacwc.org (click on community assistance) and will be used to collect the same information from each requesting organization. All requests must conform to the CWC Community Assistance Re-

quest Form. The deadline for submission of the grant request is Jan. 29. For more information, call Demy Robley 882-6064.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop reopened Jan. 4 after the holidays. It will be open this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Thrift Shop is located in building 3209 on Hercules Road. Store hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9-4, Thursdays 9-5 and the first Saturday of each month from 10-2.

Housing website

"Army Housing OneStop," formerly known as AHOS, has been replaced by the "Army Housing Online User Services" website. This new site is the official access point for Army Family Housing, Single Soldier Housing and off-post housing inquiries. The "Army Housing Online User Services" website can be accessed at <https://www.housing.army.mil/ah>.

Dancing class

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center and FMWR are offering a free class, "Introduction to Ballroom Dancing," Jan. 18 from 7:30-9 p.m. at building 3155. This class is intended for those with very little or no experience in ballroom dancing and provides information about the "Dancing Like the Stars" program which has been ongoing at Redstone for five years. This special annual class is offered without obligation and consists of an overview with a handout, dance demonstrations, questions-and-answers and some basic instruction. Light refreshments will be provided. For information or to register, call

the Campbell Recreation Center 876-4531. Class size is limited to 25 couples.

Grief seminar

Lifestyle Therapy Coach presents a free seminar on "Extraordinary Grief: Accepting Your Child's Death or Disability," Jan. 10 from 6:30-8 p.m. at 4920 University Square. "An in-depth approach to dealing with the grief, change and intricacies of losing a child or having a child with a disability," a prepared release said. "We take you through the stages of transition and offer helpful, research supported ideas for managing the difficult times." To register, visit <http://seminar.lifestyletherapycoach.com/>.

Young heroes

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2011 Military Child of the Year. The contest, sponsored by Operation Homefront, recognizes the strength, courage and achievements of military children from all service branches. This year, for the first time, the contest is open to all branches of the military, including the Coast Guard. One child from each branch of service will be chosen as a contest winner. To nominate a military child, visit www.operationhomefront.net/mcoy and complete a nomination form. The winners will receive \$5,000, a laptop computer and a paid trip to Washington, D.C., for an April 7 awards ceremony. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31.

Award nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the John W. Macy Jr. Award, William H. Kushnick Award and the Nick Hoge Award. The William H. Kushnick Award is open to all civilian citizens and local nationals engaged

in civilian human resource administration in the Department of the Army. The John W. Macy Jr. Award is open to any DA supervisor, civilian or military (GS-15 equivalent or colonel and below), U.S. citizen or local national, appropriated or non-appropriated fund employee. The Nick Hoge Award is open to all civilian and military employees, appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund, U.S. citizens and local nationals in DA. Nomination packages must be submitted to Michael Sherrill, IMCOM-SE, at 404-464-2873, e-mail michael.sherrill@us.army.mil. The deadline is Jan. 11.

Arts update

It's time to chase away the winter blahs with a live show. The Broadway Theatre League presents the national touring production of "Legally Blonde," Saturday from 8-10 p.m. at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Tickets cost \$37 to \$65. For more information on this and other art events, visit www.ourvall-eyeevents.com or www.artshuntsville.org.

Blood drives

Red Cross blood drives this month include the following: Jan. 6 from 7 a.m. to noon at MDA building 5222 in the Von Braun II Complex. ... Jan. 7 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency, and from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for NASA-NEACC at Intergraph building 700. ... Jan. 13 from 7-noon at building 4488. ... Jan. 14 from 6:30-noon at Corps of Engineers, and from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency. ... Jan. 20 from 7-noon at building 5400. ... Jan. 21 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316. ... Jan. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 24 (Reserve unit). ... Jan. 27 from 7-noon at the Sparkman Center.



Photo by Sedric Pennington

Sounds of season

The AMC Band has started a new tradition of holiday caroling on post. From left, Spc. Lanonda Hewlett, Sgt. 1st Class Deborah Levine, Spc. Aaron Gutierrez, Spc. Sean Kelly, Spc. Peter Allison listen while Sgt. Corey Walton, 1st Sgt. James Cardo, Sgt. Edgar Howze, Staff Sgt. Russell Bundy perform for Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers and other members of the command group, during a friendly "battle of the bands."



Courtesy photo

Holiday cheers

Thirty-five students from local schools and community volunteers take a few moments to celebrate the Christmas spirit together after preparing 33 holiday boxes to be shipped to the Soldiers of the TF 1-32 CAV, 1st BCT, 101st ABN DIV (AASLT), Forward Operating Base-Bostick in Afghanistan. The group of volunteers who gathered together at Eagles' Nest Ministries on Dec. 11 represented a cross-section of the Huntsville community. The holiday boxes were filled with personal hygiene items, snacks, water canisters, and summer sausage and cheese gift packs. The activity was one of six monthly efforts to support war fighters in Afghanistan. Among the students were Jada Rice, Huntsville Middle; Rhonda Riggs, Butler High; Tez Sledge, Bob Jones High; Travis Ware, Madison Elementary; and Jayden Gonzalez, Rolling Hills.