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O'Club reopens during ongoing renovation

By Skip Vaughn
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

The Officers and Civilians Club is back in business – at least partially.

Closed since February for renovations, the club reopened last week for lunch Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. It is also open Friday and Saturday nights from 5-8 for dinner in the Soldatenstube German Restaurant and the dining room.

"We're only doing light off-site catering and what we can do as far as the construction going on in our club," executive chef Ben Howard said. "Right now we're looking at the September time frame as far as the actual ballroom being completed for reopening the club for banquets and events.

"They are currently working on our foyer so the front entrance of the Officers Club is currently closed. So we're asking patrons to use the side entrance of the club to enter for lunch or for dinner on Friday or Saturday night."

With the club's reopening, the Overlook is no longer serving lunch. The lunch operations had been temporarily moved to the Overlook, building 150 on Golf Course Road, during the construction.

The ongoing renovation project is "to upgrade the overall appearance of the Officers Club," Howard said. "We do expect to be back in full operation before the holiday season."

Ruby Kent, assistant to the chef, said the Overlook had averaged about 150 patrons daily for lunch during the past several months. "Our biggest day was on Wednesday, we did about 175," she said.

Kent, who has worked with the club nearly 19 years, said she's glad to see the operations return to the club, which is larger than the Overlook.

"It's a joy to be back," she said. "We can serve the customers better, more seating facilities. And plus we can put out more food items."

Patrons are asked to use the doors to the left of the club for entrance to the dining room because of the foyer construction. For information about the club or to make reservations for Friday or Saturday dinner, call 830-2582.

Photo by Skip Vaughn
Ruby Kent, assistant to the chef, prepares for the 11 a.m. rush hour for lunch at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Hours changing at Gates 8 and 10

Changes are arriving at two of Redstone's perimeter gates.

Effective Aug. 1, Gate 8 on Goss Road will be open from 5:30 a.m. to midnight weekdays and weekends. This is a change from the current 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gate 10 on Patton Road will be open from 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and closed weekends. This is a change from the current 4:30 a.m. to midnight every day.

"It was for consideration by the Garrison commander and the senior commander on the most operationally effective and cost efficient allocation of resources on our gates," Mike Sheehy, director of emergency services, said of the changes.

The moves provide cost savings, correspond with the departure of the Ordnance school and transfer some of the hours to Gate 8 to be consistent with customer requirements, he said. The changes also expand the accessibility of Huntsville Emergency Medical Services to the housing area after hours.

Hours at the other gates will remain as follows:

- Gate 1, Martin Road east, 5:30 a.m. to midnight weekdays and weekends
- Gate 3, Redstone Road, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and closed weekends
- Gate 7, Martin Road west, 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays and closed weekends
- Gate 9, Rideout Road, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week

Inside this edition:

Logistics specialist deals with blindness

Antiterrorism awareness focus for August

Farmer's Market produces fresh choices

Army Chevy wins NASCAR race

Rocket Views

What are your plans for August?

By Skip Vaughn

Ashley Gajkowski
Utility Helicopters Project Office

"I will head back to Auburn and start school for my fourth year. My major is finance. I can't wait for football season, and War Eagle."

Pfc. Zach Bogart
Headquarters & Alpha Company
"Going to Korea. It'll be a little over a year (tour). I'll be up at Camp Casey on the DMZ playing with tanks."

Spc. Alisha Cooper
HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade

"Starting back in my classes at college and finishing off my last two classes (for an associate degree in general studies at Columbia College on post)."

Getting to know you

By Skip Vaughn
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

Name: Frank Williams

Job: Traffic manager, Directorate of Logistics, transportation division

Where do you call home?
Clarksville, Tenn.

What do you like about your job?
I just came here from Kuwait (after serving as a transportation planning specialist for the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command). So, the travel and interaction with customers.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Go to the gym, which I'm about to do as soon as we finish (with this afternoon's interview).

What are your goals?
My goal is to make my next grade in the near future. And just financial independence.

What's at the top of your "bucket list" of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?
Leisure travel to Africa. That's the top of my bucket list. I've been to Africa but it wasn't leisure (as a Soldier). I want real African culture, not the city life. I want to be in the bush – safari type.

Letter to the Editor

Distances on the running trail

I've seen the distances for the route around the Sparkman Complex (and laps inside it) printed in the *Rocket.* Does a map exist showing distances for the other running trails on post, e.g. the one that starts by Vincent Park and goes south, or the route around the Sparkman that can veer off and head toward the new AMC building?

Amanda Medley

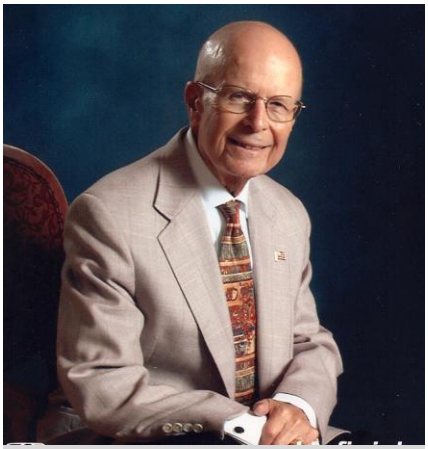
Editor's note: The running trail that circles the Sparkman Complex is about 1.2 miles. The trail that extends from the Col. Stephen K. Scott Fitness Center to the Redstone Links golf course is 6.2 miles (10 kilometers). And the loop behind the Col. Stephen K. Scott Fitness Center is one-half mile, according to Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation.

Retired Redstone senior commander dies in Florida

Retired Maj. Gen. Louis Rachmeler, a former commander of Redstone Arsenal, died July 21. The Naples, Fla., resident was 88.

Rachmeler commanded the then Missile Command from 1979-80, after MICOM was created by merging the Missile Materiel Readiness Command and the Missile Research and Development Command. He had commanded the Missile Materiel Readiness Command since September 1977.

Rachmeler was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Feb. 16, 1923. Beginning his military career as an enlisted man, he then entered West Point and graduated in 1947. During 34 years in the Army, he served this country in peace and in war, including an 18-month tour in Vietnam.



Retired Maj. Gen. Louis Rachmeler

His many military decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal and multiple awards of the Legion of Merit, the Air Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.

After leaving the Army and settling in Huntsville, he began a second career as a vice president at Nichols Research. His service to his community continued through positions as chairman of the board for Volunteers of America North Alabama, chairman of Huntsville's United Way campaign, chairman of the board of trustees for Randolph School, advisory board member of the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America, and as an elder and member of the Session of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

A lifelong advocate of education, Rachmeler's degrees include a bachelor's in engineering from West Point and a master's in electrical engineering from Stanford. He was also a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Lou; two sons, Dale and Richard Rachmeler; two daughters, Cathy Vasile and Kim Rachmeler; his brother, Dr. Martin Rachmeler of La Jolla, Calif.; and six grandchildren.

His cremains will be interred Aug. 1 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for July 14-20:

July 14: When a family member was stopped for running a traffic light on Martin Road, she was found to be driving while suspended. She received a violation notice.

July 15: When a family member was observed failing to stop at a stop sign on Redeye Road, she also was driving while suspended. She received two violation notices.

July 15: A rear door was found damaged at the Navy Reserve Center. An inventory of the building revealed no missing property.

July 15: When a civilian approached Gate 8 lost, he was driving under the influence. He was transported to the Redstone Police Station where he submitted to a Dreager Test resulting in a reading of .11 percent blood alcohol content. He was detained until his BAC reached an acceptable level.

July 16: A Soldier was arrested by Trafford Police for desertion. He was later released to Redstone Police who processed him back to his Fort Bliss, Texas, unit.

July 18: A government worker reported that a government voice recorder was removed from his workplace.

July 18: When a government worker was cited for a traffic violation on Rideout Road, he became disorderly and received a violation notice for disorderly conduct.

July 20: Someone broke a window of a family housing unit on Simpson Drive and entered the quarters. Numerous items were reported stolen. The incident occurred between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. while no one was home. This incident is being investigated by DES investigators.

July 20: When a contractor was stopped for a traffic violation, he was found to be driving while suspended. He received two violation notices.

July 20: When a contractor entered the Post Exchange Tag Office to renew his driver's license, he was found to have active warrants from Limestone County. He was detained by Redstone Police and released to Limestone County.

July 20: At the Post Exchange, a juvenile concealed items valued at $35.98 and left the store without paying. The juvenile was processed and released to a parent.

Traffic accidents reported: three without injury.

Violation notices issued: 35 speeding, 3 suspended driver's license, 1 driving under the influence, 3 parking violations, 3 no proof of insurance, 2 no driver's license, 6 stop sign violations, 1 improper backing, 1 failure to use turn signal.

Soldier convicted for statutory rape

A Redstone Soldier was court-martialed July 15 for statutory rape and sentenced to jail and a bad conduct discharge.

Pvt. William Mathesius, 19, an advanced individual training Soldier, appeared before a general court-martial and was found guilty of aggravated sexual assault of a child between the ages of 12 and 16.

A military judge sentenced Mathesius to confinement for four months and discharged him from the Army with a bad-conduct discharge. The convictions resulted from the Soldier's actions from Dec. 18-31 in Princeton, Ill., where he engaged in sexual intercourse with a 14-year-old girl.

Mathesius will serve his confinement at the Joint Regional Correctional Facility, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Following his release, Mathesius will return to his home in Illinois where he must register as a sex offender. *(Office of the Staff Judge Advocate release)*

Memorial raising

The new Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial in downtown Huntsville's Veterans Park is on the rise as construction workers tackle completing the project in time for a ribbon cutting on Veterans Day. The memorial will include the names of Madison County's fallen veterans from the nation's wars. It is designed to inspire visitors and instill a sense of pride and respect for all veterans who have served in the U.S. military, provide an incentive to visitors to serve their country, be sufficiently interesting so as to educate visitors, especially the young, of the sacrifices those before them have made to guarantee a free America, recognize those veterans of Madison County who gave their lives in military service and recognize the Madison County recipients of the Medal of Honor. Funds for the $3 million memorial are still being collected through private and corporate donations. Local residents can also purchase brick pavers for $100 and have them permanently engraved with a tribute to a veteran. For more information about the brick paver program and the memorial, visit www.huntsvilleveteransmemorial.org.

Photo by Kari Hawkins

Soldiers, sailors join forces for best work force

Largest commands in Army, Navy
share employment opportunities

By Kari Hawkins
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

Sean Locker will someday be able to look back on a long career and know he contributed to the nation's defense both in and out of uniform.

The wounded warrior, a former Marine sergeant, now works as a Department of Defense civilian at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Dahlgren, Va., in the field of systems integration and engineering for communication systems and electronic warfare systems. He is also working toward a degree in electrical engineering.

Now five years into his new career, Locker said managers from the Navy's Dahgren center took the initiative to visit Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where they interviewed him and other wounded warriors for possible job opportunities through the Naval Sea Systems Command's wounded warrior program.

"They started discussing opportunities with us and the rest is history," said Locker, who suffered from a punctured lung and lost his left arm and right eye during a suicide bomber attack in Iraq.

Locker was among eight wounded warriors recognized Friday during a partnership agreement signing between the Department of Defense's two largest commands – the Army Materiel Command and the Naval Sea Systems Command – that established the foundation for the two commands to work together in providing career opportunities for wounded warriors and veterans. Army Soldiers will now have access to Naval Seas Systems Command positions and sailors will now have access to Army Materiel Command positions.

Photo by Kari Hawkins

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of the Army Materiel Command, and Vice Adm. Kevin McCoy, commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command, are flanked by wounded warriors during the signing of an agreement that will make it easier for the two commands – the largest in their respective service branches – to share employment opportunities for wounded warriors and veterans.

The agreement signing was held at the Army Materiel Command's headquarters. Leadership within the two major commands – which represent nearly 140,000 jobs within the Department of Defense – hope the agreement will help them exceed DoD's wounded warrior and veteran employment goals.

In comments during the agreement signing ceremony, Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of the Army Materiel Command, thanked Naval Sea Systems Command commander Vice Adm. Kevin McCoy for "reaching out to AMC. I'm proud and honored to be joining forces with you today."

Seven years ago, the Army Materiel Command established the "Always A Soldier" employment program for wounded warriors and veterans "who could no longer serve in uniform, but were patriots at heart," Dunwoody said.

Since 2004, the Army Materiel Command has hired 128 wounded warriors and veterans. In 2008, the command established a working relationship with the Army Wounded Warrior Program.

"This has been about transitioning veterans into successful military civilian careers," Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Mellinger of the Army Materiel Command said.

Likewise, three years ago the Naval Sea Systems Command established its wounded warrior program. In 2010, the command hired 282 wounded warriors and has a goal of reaching 365 – or "one a day every day all year long" – in 2011.

"We are on track to meet the 365 goal this year," McCoy said. "We have hired over 300 in this fiscal year alone. That brings our three-year total to over 700 (wounded warriors and veterans) placed in NAVSEA."

Wounded warriors and veterans bring a valuable set of skills to both the Army and Navy civilian work force.

"Part of this equation that people don't understand is that it's not about charity. It's about tapping into national defense to get these critical skills and to get veterans who can work on some of the most sensitive programs," McCoy said. "They are back in the fight every step of the way … and this is all about keeping critical skills and leadership."

The Army Materiel Command and the Naval Sea Systems Command and their subordinate commands need engineers, scientists, technicians and managers to continue their work in equipping Soldiers and sailors with the best military systems. While the majority of jobs within the 70,000-plus-employee Army Materiel Command are considered "white collar" many of the jobs offered within the 60,000-employee Naval Sea Systems Command are more "blue collar" in nature.

"Both of our commands offer outstanding employment opportunities," Dunwoody said. "This agreement will ensure those opportunities are open to those who have served so greatly and sacrificed so much. They bring with them a tremendous amount of strength, talent and experience."

As of January, 41,983 of the nation's servicemembers were wounded. Of those, 19,304 were wounded in Iraq during 2004-07 when Mellinger was deployed. In addition, more than 320,000 of the nation's 1.6 million servicemembers deployed have suffered from the often unseen wounds

Online resource launched for families of wounded Soldiers

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The Army Warrior Transition Command has released an online learning resource for family members and caregivers who support the Army's wounded, ill and injured Soldiers.

The tool focuses on informing families about the Comprehensive Transition Plan that supports the Army's 8,500 wounded, ill and injured Soldiers at Warrior Transition Units. The "Comprehensive Transition Plan Learning Module for Families" educates caregivers on the seven-part CTP process for Soldiers, elements of the Soldiers' individual recovery plan and the role loved ones play throughout the entire process. The learning module can be found on the WTC website at http://wtc.army.mil/ctpfamilylearningmodule.

"Family members and caregivers are instrumental to our Soldiers' successful transition to life post injury, both in and out of the Army. Our new 'CTP Learning Module for Families' sheds light on the seven-step process that every wounded, ill and injured Soldier goes through at a Warrior Transition Unit," Brig. Gen. Darryl Williams, commander of the WTC, said. "We intend to supply families with information so they can be more educated and effective throughout their Soldier's recovery."

In addition to the case-based scenarios on how the CTP's goal settings could apply to individual, real-life situations, the "CTP Learning Module for Families" includes:

- Explanations of each of the CTP's seven stages
- Details on how loved ones can best support their Soldier during each step
- Identification and explanation of the medical and non-medical staff involved
- List of resources and informational videos
- Definitions of regularly used acronyms and terms

The Army developed a holistic approach to caring for wounded warriors that extends beyond medical care. The Army built 29 WTUs throughout the United States and Europe for Soldiers who require at least six months of complex medical management. At WTUs, Soldiers have one mission -- to heal and transition. This mission is accomplished through the seven stages of the CTP: intake, assessment, goal setting, rehabilitation, review, pre-transition and post-transition. In the goal setting stage, each Soldier in a WTU develops a personalized transition plan that includes specific long- and short-term goals on six areas of life: career, emotional, family, physical, social and spiritual. The Army strives to equip all wounded Soldiers with the tools they need for the next stage of their lives, whether they return to the force or transition to civilian life. *(Warrior Transition Command release)*

of traumatic brain injury and more than 300,000 suffer from the equally unseen wounds of post traumatic stress disorder and depression. Because of those injuries, the unemployment rate for wounded warriors is 50 percent higher than the average citizen.

Mellinger urged civilian personnel officials throughout the two commands and their subordinate commands to "each and every time there's an opportunity come open consider a veteran every time. They bring with them a work ethic, values, loyalty, trust and confidence. You can't buy that anywhere."

Enhancing veteran programs within the Department of Defense to train and educate wounded warriors and veterans, and then to assist them with their transition into the civilian work force "is right and a moral imperative. To combine efforts through today's memorandum opens up even more opportunities," McCoy said.

Among the audience during the agreement signing were representatives from the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, the national organization Still Serving Veterans headquartered in Huntsville and the Army's Community Based Warrior Transition Unit based at Redstone Arsenal.

"You provide the wounded warriors, we'll provide the jobs … We want to pull them in rather than wait for them to show up," McCoy said.

Many wounded warriors and veterans return to their home states to find employment after leaving the service. The Army Materiel Command has a presence in all 50 states and 155 countries while the Naval Seas Systems Command maintain 38 different activities throughout the nation and overseas.

Even so, some wounded warriors and veterans may have to move to get the right civilian job within these commands. LaTisha Session, who is a wounded Army veteran now working for the Army Materiel Command as an executive administrative assistant, left her home state of Florida to seek opportunities with the command at its previous headquarters at Fort Belvoir, Va., and now at Redstone.

"This job allows me to care for my family and still have that sense of service that I loved so much in the Army," said Session, who was deployed multiple times during a 15-year Army career and who joined the command's civilian work force just over a year ago.

"I did work for a company in Florida for four years. But I missed the military. I loved to serve. This allows me to still add value. It just feels great to be serving again."

Session particularly likes that the agreement between the Army and Navy commands will create similar opportunities for wounded warriors and veterans throughout the nation, making it easier for them to live out their civilian careers in their home states.

Maj. Jim Clark, commander of the Community Based Warrior Transition Unit, said the availability of blue collar Navy jobs for Army wounded warriors and veterans will make it easier for his unit to place the more than 200 transitioning wounded warrior servicemembers they are now working with in Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana.

"These are not just jobs, these are careers that help wounded warriors raise their families and that give them benefits," he said. "A lot of the young kids we work with need blue collar skill type jobs. Most have 40 years of work ahead of them. This is a great opportunity for them."

And the opportunity is a two-way street.

"A lot of wounded warriors bring a lot to the work force," wounded warrior Locker said. "If they have the right skills for the job, then they bring with them the right character and traits and motivation. That's a great asset."

Those attributes were evident in the struggles the eight wounded warriors at the agreement signing ceremony have had to go through to be healthy contributors to the work force.

"Thank you for never giving up, for never quitting and for being such good role models," Dunwoody told them.

2nd Recruiting Brigade lands new commander

By Skip Vaughn
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

The 2nd Recruiting Brigade's tradition of excellence entered a new era Friday.

Col. Michael Faruqui succeeded Col. Glenn Richie as commander of the Eagle Brigade in a change of command ceremony at the Activity Field. Richie, commander since July 2009, will deploy as the deputy J-3 chief of staff for United Security Forces, Iraq. Faruqui last served as the director of intelligence, J-2 for the Special Operations Command-Europe.

"For the past two years, our time here in the great Southeast was wonderful," Richie said.

Under Richie's leadership, the 2nd Recruiting Brigade recruited more than 36,500 new Soldiers for the active Army and more than 7,000 new Soldiers for the Army Reserves, and was recognized as the top brigade in Recruiting Command for fiscal 2010.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

From left are Eagle Brigade outgoing commander Col. Glenn Richie, Recruiting Command commander Maj. Gen. David Mann and the brigade's incoming commander Col. Michael Faruqui.

"This great commander has accomplished quite a bit over the last couple of years here," said Recruiting Command commander Maj. Gen. David Mann, who presided over the ceremony.

"This brigade under Col. Richie's leadership has enlisted over 50,000 men and women to join the Army team," Mann said.

In fiscal 2010, the brigade recruited more than 19,000 new Soldiers for the active Army (106 percent mission accomplishment) and about 3,500 new Soldiers for the Army Reserves (103 percent mission accomplishment). "Their percentages lead the whole command," Mann said.

The Eagle Brigade manages active Army and Army Reserve recruiting operations throughout all or parts of eight Southeastern states (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee), Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"It's all about the Soldiers," Richie said. "They are the mere reason for our existence as leaders."

The Kokomo, Ind., native and his wife, Lt. Col. Diane Richie, have two children and two grandchildren: Jessica, Brandon, Jayden and Joshua.

A native of San Jose, Calif., Faruqui and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Hayley and Tiffany.

"You have done very well," Faruqui told the brigade members. "You will continue to do well, and God bless you all."

More than 200 workers apply for separation bonus

AMCOM doing analysis
on case-by-case basis

By Skip Vaughn
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

Some 218 AMCOM workers applied for Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay by the July 15 deadline.

"All the managers received their list of VERA/VSIP applicants 15 July," Karen Bandera, director of human resources for the Aviation and Missile Command, said. "From there they'll have to make their recommendations whether or not to recommend approval based on the cuts they received."

The Aviation and Missile Command faces a loss of 272 job positions in fiscal 2012 but no reduction in force is anticipated.

For each applicant for a separation bonus, managers were asked to base their recommendations for approval or disapproval on whether the position is associated with a potential cut within that organization. The recommendations were due back last week to AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources). G-1 in turn would ensure the applicant's eligibility by working with G-8 (Resource Management). They also get input from the Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

"Once all that analysis is done, we sit down with (AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister), go through what the recommendations are and then he will decide yes or no," Bandera said.

Applicants should learn Aug. 8 whether they are approved to receive up to $25,000 for leaving the government and they must be off the employment rolls by Sept. 30. But a given applicant may not learn until after Aug. 8 because a waiver may be needed from headquarters Army Materiel Command for his or her mission critical occupation.

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers discussed the job cuts during the command's town hall June 20 which filled the 650-seat Bob Jones Auditorium. The planned reductions come from headquarters Army Materiel Command, which faces cuts throughout AMC.

"It's all about the money," Bandera said.

Future program managers hear leadership advice

By Sarah Preston

Defense Acquisition University

The Defense Acquisition University hosted Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips as its guest speaker at the graduation ceremony for the Program Manager's Course, PMT401.

Phillips flew in from the Pentagon on July 1 to speak at the commencement regarding the importance of superlative leadership of weapons systems programs. He is the principal military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology.

Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips

This PMT401 group is the second to graduate from the rigorous 10-week course offered in DAU's Southern region. The students, with a cross section of experience from the Army, Air Force, and industry, are among the best in their field and were chosen by their agencies to participate in the program based on their potential to lead major acquisition programs, integrated product teams and major command elements. For example, one of the students, Lt. Col. Matt Hannah, took control of the Army's Kiowa Warrior helicopter program in Huntsville shortly after graduation.

Phillips shaped the challenging environment the graduates would face, particularly with respect to available funding in the future and the great stakes at play with the outcome of DoD programs. In that context, he greatly emphasized the increased importance of optimizing team efforts and squeezing the best value out of each dollar with superlative leadership. He gave pointers on how to maintain and improve their leadership skills.

"True leaders face challenges, identify them, and execute solutions relentlessly," Phillips said. "That's what we expect of you as our future leaders.

"As senior leaders it's important for you to balance your time. Make sure you focus downwards and work upwards. Remember to show respect because respect is earned. Always have integrity and honor in all that you do."

AMC Fellows graduate from five-year program

The Army Materiel Command Fellows Program is a five-year developmental regimen designed to build a multi-functional, mobile team of future civilian leaders.

AMC Fellows Class 7 graduated July 12 in a ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium. Aviation and Missile Command deputy commander Ronnie Chronister, the keynote speaker, offered congratulations, advice and encouragement while challenging the Fellows to take control of their careers, adapt to the current environment of change, while focusing on the war fighter.

The first 13 months of the program include course work conducted at AMC's Logistics Leadership Center in Texarkana, Texas, and Texas A&M University-Texarkana, resulting in a master's degree in business administration. Once Fellows complete their graduate degree, they begin a series of rotational, on-the-job training assignments over the next 47 months. Over the five years of the program, Fellows gain experience in at least two career fields.

The Redstone Arsenal graduates included Raymond Berry, Lakeisha Buckner, Sheena Collier, Curtis Dance, Lenard Dotson, Bradley Fulton, Daniel Gadomski, Demetra Gilmore, Keiana Harris, Veronica Lopez-Jewell, Samuel Johnson, Brett Lassus, Joseph Levasseur, Sarah Marcial, Andrea McAnally, Cecily Palmer, Sabrina Pope, Brad Schroeder, Randy Shirts, Brian Steinberg, Erika Thompson, Jason Valcourt and Jessica Wilkerson.

Redstone organizations share plans for resources

Simulation Center sponsors gathering

By Jason Cutshaw

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

When various organizations on Redstone Arsenal come together, it is usually a learning experience.

Members from the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Simulation Center, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center and Redstone Test Center came together during a High Performance Computing site visit July 12-14 to see how they can learn from one another as well as other organizations on Redstone Arsenal.

"One of the purposes of the site visit is for each organization to establish what they need for resources during the upcoming year and a chance to merge thoughts and ideas," Charles Wilcox, SMDC/ARSTRAT Future Warfare Center contractor program manager, said. "The Simulation Center is in its 29th year supporting missile defense projects and the high performance computing has been a big part of our continued success.

"We have been supporting the war fighter with systems like the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense System, the Navy's Standard missile, munitions, vehicles and rotor craft, among others."

Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Members from the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Simulation Center, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center and Redstone Test Center came together during a High Performance Computing site visit July 12-14.

Hosting the event, the SimCenter was established in 1982 to provide support in supercomputer computation, data storage, workstations and networking for research and development of defensive missile systems.

During the site visit, organizations gave an overview of what they do and how they are working to advance different

technologies. There were also center overviews, lab visits, simulations and open panel discussions for those attending to discuss future projects.

"From each of the commands represented, we had high-performance computers program managers who came to brief those present on what the centers are doing with their resources," Lisa Vann, high performance computing service agency approval authority, said. "Those present during the week will use computers to model rocket boosters, sensors, structures, impact assessments and a variety of things they model using computer systems.

"From the briefings, it is determined if we are utilizing allocations and resources that are provided correctly or if we are underutilizing, over utilizing or right on target with our allocations. From that it is determined if we can be allocated more hardware or software and whatever else may be needed."

One of the main objectives is to promote research by integrating state-of-the-art computer technology, facilitating research and aid in providing information on high-performance computing issues.

"We are doing great things supporting our community in the high-performance computing area," Vann said. "Everyone came together and worked to learn where we go in the future and how we can grow as a team and help lead America into the future."

Those participating in the site visit are working together to help provide computer expertise that will enable those working in America's defense to conduct a wide range of research, development and testing. They are working to put advanced capabilities in the hands of war fighters quicker.

"Our number one goal is to provide better materials, better decision making and better defensive tactics so our forces remain the best in the world." Wilcox said.

As the site visit came to a close, there was a final panel discussion where those participating got a chance give their thoughts on what issues can be improved upon until the next meeting.

"Ultimately we are here to help the war fighters in the field," Vann said. "The resources provided actually model and simulate things that actually happen in the field, and they eventually come to fruition and are fielded in time.

"What happens here helps the Soldiers be better prepared in the field to do their job and to fight for our freedom."

NASA, Army collaborate on robotic prototype

Over the last several months, engineers at the Marshall Space Flight Center and the Army Test and Evaluation Command's Redstone Test Center have been conducting strapdown testing on the integrated lander prototype at the historic propulsion test facility.

The first indoor test consisted of a six-second 1 meter hover and was completed successfully June 13, which marked the first free flight of this prototype for the Robotic Lander Development Project.

The second test was equally successful, consisting of a nine-second 6 meter hover July 12. The robotic lander is now ready to move to the center's Test Area 6 range where more free flight tests are planned that could potentially take the robotic lander up to 100 feet and last up to 60 seconds.

Photo by Ed Harris/RTC Propulsion Test Division

Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, commander of the Army Test and Evaluation Command, receives a briefing on the robotic lander. He visited Redstone from Aberdeen, Md.

These tests will aid in the design and development of a new generation of small, smart and versatile robotic landers capable of performing science and exploration research on the surface of the moon or other airless bodies. The partnership shared between RTC and MSFC is a good example of intergovernmental agencies cooperating to bring success to the robotic lander program, saving NASA time and money. *(Redstone Test Center release)*

Be on the lookout for suspicious activity

Antiterrorism month observed in August

By Dan Huber

Installation Emergency Operations Center

iWATCH is a nationwide modern version of Neighborhood Watch developed by the Los Angeles Police Department to encourage and enable members of the community in identifying and reporting suspicious behavior that may be associated with terrorist activities.

The purpose of iWATCH is to promote antiterrorism awareness and leverage every member of the Army community to act as a sensor to help identify and prevent potential terrorist acts. There are two elements to the initiative: Passive and Active. The Passive element of iWATCH is individual situational awareness of your surroundings. The Active element requires individuals to take action and report suspicious behavior or activities to law enforcement for further investigation.

Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Franshavia Coleman has assisted the Garrison Antiterrorism Office in preparing for this year's AT Awareness Month in August. She put together an example display with items furnished by the Army. Booths like this are designed to heighten awareness and protect the Army community and critical resources from terrorism. The display was set up in the Garrison headquarters outside the DPTMS Plans and Operations Division.

An essential component of iWATCH is reporting suspicious activity. iWATCH aspires to ensure everyone knows how to report suspicious activity. If you see something, say something; report suspicious activity to the Redstone Police at 876-2222, or in an emergency call 911.

Examples of suspicious activity include:

- People drawing or measuring important buildings (religious, government, etc.)
- Strangers asking questions about security procedures
- Briefcase, suitcase, backpack or package left unattended
- Vehicles left in no parking zones in front of important buildings
- Unfamiliar people in secure areas
- Persons wearing clothes that are noticeably too big or too hot for the weather (coats or jackets in summertime)
- Chemical smells or fumes that seem out of the ordinary for the specific location
- People asking questions about sensitive information such as building blueprints, security plans or VIP travel schedules that do not have a need to know
- People purchasing supplies or equipment that can be used to make bombs or weapons, or purchasing uniforms without having the proper credentials

Be alert at all times for suspicious activity. Maintain individual situational awareness of your surroundings. Everyone can all make a difference by recognizing what to report and reporting it to security forces or law enforcement. Law enforcement officials cannot be everywhere; and they need the eyes and ears of the entire installation community to assist in quelling terrorism.

Familiarize yourself with the iWATCH awareness tools. Take a minute to review the iWATCH Army posters on bulletin boards, banners and iWATCH Army public service announcements aired on Channel 42. Additionally, disseminate and promote iWATCH Army awareness products throughout the community.

Antiterrorism iWATCH products are available through the OPMG-Army ATEP on AKO page at www.army.mil/suite/page/605757.

Remember: If you see something, say something. Report suspicious activity to the Redstone Police at 876-2222, or call 911. Once you have made the call, inform your supervisor or organizational antiterrorism officer.

Editor's note: Dan Huber is the antiterrorism awareness officer for the Installation Emergency Operations Center. August is Antiterrorism Awareness Month.

Faith grows with worship of music and praise

Contemporary service schedule changes time, location Aug. 7

By Kari Hawkins

AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

For believers, faith is often a moving target.

No matter what stage of life a believer is in, faith can change, grow and transform, providing a sense of joy in the good times and a source of strength in the bad.

And for Chaplain (Col.) Robert Coffey, helping believers grow their faith is what his mission is all about.

"Faith grows in all stages of life and especially when people are going through challenging times or while they are facing difficulties that feel overwhelming," Coffey said. "At those times, the relevancy of the scriptures, the fellowship or association with people of faith, and the emotional vibrancy of the worship experience helps a person to grow in faith."

Beginning Aug. 7, Coffey will be leading a new worship experience at Redstone Arsenal that he hopes will provide believers with a contemporary way to grow their faith. The Bicentennial Chapel's contemporary service – known as The Bridge – is moving from Sunday evenings to Sunday mornings at 11. It will be offered at the Youth Center at the same time as the Protestant service at the chapel.

"Our Protestant service here is traditional with great organ music, hymns, liturgy and a message from the pulpit," said Coffey, who serves as the command chaplain for the Army Materiel Command and as the senior chaplain on post.

Photo by Kari Hawkins

Chaplain (Col.) Robert Coffey will be the new leader of The Bridge contemporary service offered by Bicentennial Chapel as it changes its worship time and location. Beginning Aug. 7, The Bridge service will be at 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Youth Center.

"With our contemporary service, we want to provide more of an electric guitar, praise music atmosphere with less formal readings and a much more relaxed message. Instead of 'What would Jesus say to the woman at the well?' it's more about 'What would Jesus say to Lady Gaga?' It's a more edgy message that appeals to a different group of people."

Life includes many normal, day-to-day happenings that can become challenges – or opportunities – to grow a believer's faith, including events such as the birth of a family's first child, starting a new job and the death of a parent, and situations such as coping with a difficult boss, parenting teenagers and managing financial difficulties.

"Sometimes simply all of those kinds of things collectively can provide you with an up close and personal experience with your faith," Coffey said. "If a vibrant chapel experience is offered to folks, especially one that teaches how to apply the Scriptures in a practical way to people's everyday life, then it can yield exciting spiritual growth.

Throughout his 25-year military career as a chaplain, Coffey has had the opportunity to lead several contemporary services. As a young chaplain at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1995, he helped start the prototype for the Army's contemporary services.

"It was called Chapel Next, but it came to be known as 'The Unchappeled,'" he said. "Contemporary music really set the stage for the service, even going as far as taking secular music and changing the words slightly for a Christian message. The church has a long history of taking bar songs and converting them with Christian lyrics, and this was just an extension of that. Today's

contemporary services tend to have a little more energetic music and singing that leads the service and defines it."

Besides music, the contemporary service is defined as being more streamlined than a traditional service. Gone are the traditional invocation as well as the hymns and formal prayers. Power point and other audiovisual features, and a "out from behind the pulpit" casualness prevail.

"The message is even different, with a much more relevant application to the scripture teaching. There are contemporary points made rather than just references to biblical passages. We're teaching something very practical from the scriptures. The message is a little more intriguing and applicable, and is more interesting to the younger crowd, the unchurched and those who have not been to church for a long time," Coffey said.

Contemporary services that thrive do so because "they create a kind of dynamic worship experience between the music and the word," he said.

There are a couple of drawbacks concerning contemporary worship, Coffey added. One, is that contemporary congregations are often not a mix of older and younger Christians, but rather are more attractive to a younger crowd. And, two, it is more difficult for contemporary programs to develop small group experiences that build a sense of community within the congregation.

"It is more difficult with contemporary services to develop ways for Christians to connect," Coffey said. "At Fort Hood, we started small group Bible studies during the week, and we had events like country and western dances, and adult game nights. We will work here to do the same kinds of things."

Offering a contemporary service and other programs are vital to the chapel's mission to help all Christians both young and old in their spiritual and physical lives build a strong faith and connect with a Christian family.

"The chapel is for many people a place to connect with God and a power outside of themselves. It can be a place of comfort through the readings, liturgy, songs and music, prayers, sermons and fellowship," Coffey said.

"It is a place to meet God and others who have faced the same fears and struggles. It is a place to rediscover that we are not self-sufficient nor eternal, a place to grow in faith with the Lord who is all sufficient and eternal. There is a comfort in such knowledge, and such knowledge and spiritual experiences can help people grow in their faith and find comfort in their faith."

Coffey's own experience with his faith – 34 years in the ministry with 25 of those years as a chaplain in the Army – will be his guide as he leads a new congregation through the contemporary worship service.

"God, while a supreme being, is also a personal God who has offered to walk through this life with me in both good times and especially during the difficult times," he said.

"Along that journey, God has stretched me and helped me to trust Him and believe the truthfulness of the scriptures. I try to read the entire Bible every couple of years, and the stories of people who have walked a similar life journey with God encourage me and help me to grown in my faith. Over the years, I've been arrested in a foreign land while serving as a missionary, I've talked to hundreds of college students about spiritual things, I've marched and lived with Soldiers and taught Soldiers' families. It still feels fresh and exciting to me. Sometimes a young Soldier will ask me if I need my faith as a crutch. I tell them 'No, I need it as life-saving respirator.'"

State visitor

Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Petry, 75th Ranger Regiment Medal of Honor recipient, describes the functions of his new prosthetic arm July 20 to Christine Gregoire, Washington State governor.
Photo by Sgt. David N. Russell

Kayla Beasley of Isoms Orchard from Athens sets up vegetables for display at the Farmers Market near NASA headquarters building 4200. The Farmers Market, sponsored by the NASA Exchange, is open to the Redstone Arsenal community each Wednesday.
Photo by Kari Hawkins

Photo by Kari Hawkins
Valerie Johnson bites into a nectarine while shopping with her co-worker Diane Smalley at the Farmer's Market. They both work for the Security Assistance Management Directorate.

Early shoppers find best pickings of crop

Farmer's Market spouts up every Wednesday on post

By Kari Hawkins
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

The grocery bags hanging from the hands of Wanda Towry and Cecelia Culver were overflowing with abundance as they left Redstone Arsenal's Farmer's Market July 20.

The NASA co-workers were happy with their purchases, making plans for the peppers, onions, peaches and nectarines they had bought at the market just outside their offices at NASA headquarters building 4200.

"We have been told to get here early to get the pick of the best," Towry said.

Photo by Kari Hawkins
Chris Calfee of NASA weighs a pound of squash as farmer Steve Chapman gets ready to bag his purchase.

"They've had very good produce every week," Culver added.

The Farmer's Market is making a repeat performance this summer at the request of the NASA Exchange. Employees from throughout the Arsenal are welcome to shop for homegrown fruits and vegetables, canned jams and salsas, and sour dough bread under the shade trees just south of building 4200 from 11 a.m. to mid-afternoon every Wednesday.

"I found out about this from my co-workers. They said in an email that we should come and see what they've got," Valerie Johnson of the Security Assistance Management Directorate said as she bit into a juicy nectarine purchased at Isoms Orchard from Athens.

"Oh, this is so good. I was telling my girlfriend this past week that I would love a nectarine. And these are not hard. They are just right."

Nearby, Don Miller of NASA was weighing 2.2 pounds of yellow squash and zuchinni at a booth set up by Steve Chapman of Anniston.

"These were good last week," Miller said.

"Glad you enjoyed them," Chapman replied.

Alberta Cooley of NASA was next up at the scale.

"I need whatever looks good for a skillet full," she said, referring to the squash.

Vendors were doing good business selling tomatoes, snap beans, purple hull peas, okra, peppers, onions, squash, zucchini and eggplant. Sprandlin Farm of Vinemont laid out several baskets of peaches near their booth while Martling Mountain Farm of Guntersville put together a colorful display of jams and salsas. Mixed in with

the vegetable-and-fruit displays were jars of squash relish, chow chow, pickled okra and honey as well as bags of oatmeal cookies, blueberry bread and banana nut bread. There was even homemade ice cream for sale.

The London Bread Company of Madison packed up their vendor booth early, having sold all 35 of its fresh-made loaves in the first hour or so of the Farmer's Market.

"We haven't figured out what our max number is. We sell out every time. We started with 13 loaves and have added a little bit more every time. But we are still selling out," Joyce London said.

This is the first market for London's family-owned business. She often recruits among her nine children for help baking the bread and selling it.

"This is our first experience with a Farmer's Market and we love it," she said.

This is the time of year when peaches are in full abundance. They are among many fruits and vegetables sold at the Farmer's Market every Wednesday.
Photo by Kari Hawkins

'Life is what you make it, with or without sight'

Logistics specialist conquers blindness

By Michelle Harlan
USASAC Public Affairs

NEW CUMBERLAND, Pa. – Diagnosis with an incurable eye disease 27 years ago hasn't stopped one employee from doing his job for 24 years. Enthusiasm to support his customers, along with the help of technology, co-workers and a devoted dog have contributed to a successful career.

In 1984 Kevin Turnbaugh was diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa, an eye disease in which there is damage to the retina. He was completely blind in 14 years.

Turnbaugh, a logistics management specialist for the Army Security Assistance Command's New Cumberland, Pa., office, said the satisfaction that comes from serving his country and the foreign military sales customer is what he likes about working at USASAC. Turnbaugh has been with USASAC for his entire government career. His job includes tracking the financial status and closure of CENTCOM region FMS cases, repair and return of items and non-standard item requirements.

"I truly feel that I am contributing to the mission of USASAC in what I do," he said.

Turnbaugh works on a computer equipped with Job Access with Speech, a software package designed to aid the visually impaired via text-to-speech capability. He also uses a scanner which transcribes documents that can be read to him through the computer.

"I also use email more than any other form of communication, so I can hear the information more than once if necessary and store the messages for future reference," he said.

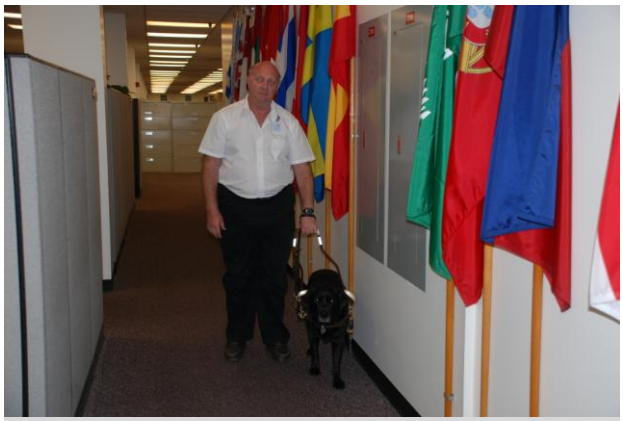


Photo by Joyce O'Donnell
Kevin Turnbaugh, at USASAC's New Cumberland office, and his guide dog, Jodi, take a walk during his lunch break from one end of the building to the other.

One of the challenges Turnbaugh faces at work is when a program cannot be used through JAWS. Since 2000, all federal computer systems, websites and other automated systems must be compliant for access by the handicap as part of the Rehabilitation Act, section 508.

“Many of the systems are either older than 2000 or have been developed without the 508 requirement being considered,” he said.

This creates a challenge for Turnbaugh when trying to complete tasks, but his co-workers are always willing to help out.

“I have a wonderful group of co-workers who never think it is a pain or bother if I ask for some kind of assistance in the daily duties,” he said.

Co-workers describe Turnbaugh as enthusiastic and dedicated to his work.

“Kevin has an untiring energy and is a productive and effective member of the USASAC team,” Deb Lebo, technical program specialist at New Cumberland, said.

“He never gives up,” added Lori McCarthy, a central case manager at New Cumberland. “Several of the systems we use for everyday work don’t ‘talk’ to his computer, so the other members of the team have to pitch in and get the info for him.”

In addition to adapted computer software, scanners and help from co-workers, Turnbaugh has one more special tool to assist him at work: an 8-year-old English black Labrador retriever. Turnbaugh and his guide dog, Jodi, have been a team for close to seven years. Jodi, a trained seeing-eye dog, takes Turnbaugh anywhere he needs to go within the USASAC office and adjoining spaces such as the local credit union office or conference center. She patiently lies under his desk until Turnbaugh needs to leave.

“She is my sight, my mobility and my security for being able to perform various tasks, simple or difficult,” he said.

Having a dog in the office might be considered a distraction to some, but Jodi is trained to seamlessly fit into the office environment and is strictly disciplined. This type of working dog is taught to ignore typical interruptions and only follow the commands of their handler.

“Interaction with Jodi is kept at a minimum so that she doesn’t become distracted,” Terrance Brightbill, CENTCOM branch chief at New Cumberland, said.

“Like Kevin, Jodi is dedicated and committed to her job of supporting Kevin. Unless they are maneuvering the halls of USASAC, no one would even know Jodi was in the office,” Lebo said.

Despite Jodi’s strict work ethic, Turnbaugh does give her breaks throughout the day. In particular during his lunch break, Turnbaugh and Jodi go for a walk from one end of the building to the other.

“It gives her the chance to do something other than just stay under my desk for most of the day, and gives me a break from the stresses and strains of the desk as well,” Turnbaugh said. “Someone is always saying ‘Hi’ to Jodi on our walks, and then they remember to say ‘Hi’ to me too.”

“Everybody likes Jodi. And they would probably like to make her the USASAC mascot.”

In Turnbaugh’s spare time he enjoys writing about historical events, biblical issues and current events. He has had two books published this year called “Time Witnessing” and “Critical Condition.” He is working on a third book.

“Life is what you make it, with or without sight,” Turnbaugh said. “I am not the only person who is, or has gone blind, and I look at it as a problem that one must deal with in life.”

Pentagon strategy addresses energy challenges

By Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Reducing demand, finding alternative energy sources and improving the energy security of military operations are among the goals of the Defense Department’s operational energy strategy, a senior Pentagon official said here July 19.

Sharon E. Burke, assistant secretary of defense for operational energy plans and programs, described the strategy during an Army and Air Force energy forum.

“(The strategy is) going to guide the entire department in how we use energy for military operations,” Burke said. “It’s the framework for moving forward with our energy challenges.”

Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta has warned of a changing security environment and its effects on operational energy demand, she noted.

"Improving our energies could not only improve our military effectiveness and our ability to operate in the world, but it is also important to our readiness," Burke said. "Secretary Panetta, in his short time in office, has already cautioned us all that we need to have humility in predicting the shape or direction of future conflicts. … So energy is a part of that changing security environment, but it's also part of that adaptation, and how we better prepare for this changing world and the possibility of strategic surprise."

Burke told the audience that changing the way the Defense Department uses energy at home and abroad is strategically significant.

Army photo

Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, opens the discussion July 19 on the second day of the first Army-Air Force Energy Forum in Arlington, Va. "Without energy, the Army stands still and silent," he said, adding that the Army accounts for 21 percent of DoD's fuel and power consumption.

"In today's operations, we haul fuel and other supplies across very challenging circumstances in Afghanistan, across difficult terrain and dangerous roads," she said. "At home, our critical infrastructure, which sustains military operations abroad, depends on the civilian electric grid. … The more that we can lighten that dependence – whether on the grid, or (by) our Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines overseas – the more resilient we are to that changing strategic landscape."

Burke also emphasized the need for a responsible reduction in government spending, and the role the Defense Department's operational energy strategy plays in that effort.

"Managing our military under these circumstances will be a challenge for all defense policy makers," she continued, "and our challenge is to adjust to our fiscal circumstances and sustain our military effectiveness today and far into the future."

Budget considerations should not dictate strategic priorities, Burke said. "But we will need to be realistic with how we execute that strategy with fewer resources," she added.

That's where the operational energy strategy unveiled last month by deputy defense secretary William J. Lynn III has an especially important role, Burke said. For example, she said, an experimental site on Fort Devens, Mass., is testing a camp kit that incorporates advances in power generation and distribution, insolated shelters, water re-use systems and waste management.

In addition, Burke said, the Air Force's Air Mobility Command is making innovative process changes ranging from reducing aircraft weight to more efficient routing, to better cargo loading. "That's expected to save over a half-billion dollars over the next five years," she added.

"These programs are tests, (but) we have more to do," Burke said. "We need operational energy incorporated into our readiness training, but this is really important to be able to take this out to the field and show that it can work. And that it can give us better military effectiveness on the ground with our Soldiers.

"And the services aren't waiting to do this – they're doing (it)," she added. The strategy will not end or fade away with the return of U.S. troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, Burke said.

"This is, fundamentally, a readiness challenge," she said. "We always need to be ready to conduct missions wherever we are, and that means we have to be ready whether we have forces in the field or not. If we're successful at looking at it that way, … we'll have a military that's better able to respond to any challenge or any threat anywhere in the world."

Ultimately, Burke said, she hopes the changes brought forth by the new operational energy strategy will improve the nation's overall energy readiness.

"I sincerely hope that in improving the energy security and energy readiness of our armed forces, that the department will have made a larger contribution to the energy security of the whole nation," she said. "I think (this new strategy is) the way we're going to do it."

Battalion exercise helps beat complacency in Iraq

By Spc. Daniel Stoutamire
2nd BCT, 1st ID Public Affairs

BAGHDAD – Soldiers with 1st "Dragon" Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, United States Division-Center, went through a demanding circuit of training July 15-16 at Camp Liberty, Iraq, designed to test their ability to respond in the event of an attack on their convoy or patrol.

Soldiers were expected to quickly set up a security perimeter, determine the number and extent of casualties, and prepare for their extraction via helicopter or ground medical evacuation. To make things even more interesting, key leaders who have been schooled and have experience in dealing with these kinds of situations were instructed to take a back seat, allowing more junior Soldiers to showcase their abilities and also to see how they performed under pressure.

Army Photo

Staff Sgt. Brandon Robinson, left, an infantryman with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, United States Division-Center, examines a simulated casualty.

"We did that because not always is it going to be the ideal situation, where no leaders get hit," Sgt. 1st Class Sean Bach, senior medic with 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, said. "We wanted to test (junior leaders) in a controlled environment to let them see that they can handle the situation, in comparison to an uncontrolled environment outside the wire."

Bach referenced the May 22 improvised explosive device attack which killed two members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, including a platoon sergeant, where events impelled junior leaders had take charge.

"(Removing senior leaders) was so the sergeants and corporals could get a better understanding of what we need to do if something happens and senior leaders aren't there," Sgt. James George, a team leader with HHC, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, said. "So we can step up and take over."

Dragon Battalion Soldiers also were forced to deal with a major aspect of the modern battlefield -- a civilian presence nearby.

Soldiers from the battalion's forward support company, Company E, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd AAB, 1st Infantry Division, USD-C acted as Iraqi civilians, something they are uniquely equipped to do.

"A lot of these guys (acting as civilians) are on combat logistics patrols," Bach said. "I told them to act like they see locals act every day on the streets."

Therefore, on top of ensuring that their buddies were being looked after by medics at the scene, Soldiers had to interact with those role-playing as local residents and keep them from getting too close or causing unnecessary confusion.

"You also have to make sure that they are kept out of the area, that you control that area, otherwise they will keep coming in and out, and you don't know what's going on," George said.

With their deployment entering its final few months and some Soldiers beginning to think more and more of home, one of the things that needs to be defeated, Bach said, is the specter of complacency.

"I would say that (1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment) as a whole has worked really hard to beat the complacency monster, and that's part of this (training), is beating that complacency monster," he said.

Since only a small percentage of patrols and convoys face attacks, it is possible to lose focus, he added.

"They know they're going to get hit (here in training), and that's how every patrol should be," Bach said. "They should always be thinking, 'How am I going to react? How am I going to save my buddy's life?'"

Ex-Crimson Tide football standout visits post

2009 Heisman Trophy recipient
Mark Ingram signs autographs

By Megan Cotton
AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs

The children at Youth Services had a prominent visitor Thursday from the world of sports.

The 2009 Heisman Trophy winner, Mark Ingram, signed autographs and spoke with them about achieving their goals.

"Set your goals high and don't ever let anyone tell you what you can't do," said Ingram, who completed his college career at Alabama and will play for the New Orleans Saints in the NFL.

After the autograph signing, Ingram sat down for separate interviews with Jaden Smith and Zachary Wood, both 11. The boys each hit Ingram with hard-hitting questions from how he was staying motivated during the NFL lockout to the importance of making good grades while playing a sport.

"Education is really important and essential to having a good life," Ingram said.

As for the rest of his visit to the Arsenal, Ingram spent time at the Exchange signing autographs and then toured the Software Engineering Directorate. He said he was excited to visit a military base.

"To be around the Soldiers, the people who fight for us every day, is a tremendous blessing," Ingram said.

Photo by Sedric Pennington
Football star Mark Ingram signs a young Alabama fan's T-shirt at Youth Services.

Newman drives Army Chevy to first win

By U.S. Army Racing

LOUDON, N.H. – As the July 17 NASCAR Sprint Cup race was winding down at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Ryan Newman performed a delicate balancing act in his No. 39 U.S. Army Chevrolet.

He was forced to conserve fuel, but still drive aggressively. The end result was Newman claiming his first victory of the season, the 15th of his career and third at the 1.058-mile New England track.

It was also the first win for Newman driving the U.S. Army-sponsored Chevrolet.

Newman was on the edge of not having enough fuel to finish the 301-lap race, but managed to hold off his teammate and team owner Tony Stewart. Stewart charged late in the race to finish runner-up in his No. 14 Office Depot/Mobile 1 Chevrolet.

The 1-2 finish by the Stewart-Haas Racing drivers mirrored the start of the race with Newman and Stewart starting on the front row – Newman on the pole and Stewart on the outside pole.

It was the first 1-2 start for Stewart-Haas Racing and also the first 1-2 finish for the team, which is in its third year of competition.

"Man, this is one perfect weekend," Stewart said. "It was a sweet 1-2 qualifying and 1-2 in the race. I am so proud of my buddy (Newman) there standing on top of his car, He deserved it."

Driving the Soldiers' car to Victory Lane was something Newman talked about all week. And in his many post-race interviews he made a point in each to thank the Army Strong Soldiers, who he has represented on the NASCAR circuit since the 2009 season.

"This win is for the Soldiers!" Newman exclaimed. "We appreciate all the things they have done and do. They make all the difference, and wearing their uniform gives us so much inspiration and fight."

Despite fuel concerns, Newman's Army race car was dominant throughout the Lenox Industrial Tools 301. Newman led six different times for a race high 119 laps, including the final 72 laps. The next closest in laps led was Kurt Busch with 66, whom Newman fought off for the lead in the late stages of the race.

While he did not relinquish the lead to Busch, those last 72 laps were nail-biters as Newman was constantly being told by crew chief Tony Gibson to save fuel. At one point he was informed he could be as much as eight laps short.

Army photo

Ryan Newman's pit crew tunes his No. 39 U.S. Army Chevrolet during the July 17 NASCAR Sprint Cup race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. They changed only two of four tires for most stops to stay competitive.

"I never believed we were going to make it," Gibson said. "We were definitely a solid two to three laps short from making it. I was hounding Ryan on the radio to save fuel. I am sure he got tired of hearing it. It was time to showcase what he can do as far as driving and saving fuel. He did an awesome job."

Newman's weekend at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway started off as well as it ended. The 33-year-old not only won the Cup race from the pole, he also won the Whelen Modified Series race July 16 from the pole.

Newman was candid explaining his success at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway, where he won his first career Cup race in September 2002.

"I've always said about this track that you have to only take what it will give you. Track position is important because it's so hard to pass here," he said.

To make sure that Newman and his U.S. Army Chevrolet maintained the all-important track position, Gibson's master plan for how many tires to take during the team's five pit stops was perfectly calculated.

Only once did Gibson call for four fresh tires. The other four times he called for two right-side tires only. The short two-tire pit stops kept Newman in striking distance.

"Our strategy was to stay up front, keep Ryan in clean air," Gibson explained. "We knew if we could do that we had a shot to win."

Newman was quick to credit Gibson and the pit crew.

"Tony made one great call after another," he noted. "It was truly a team effort, just like our Soldiers do every day."

The victory lifted Newman from ninth to eighth-place in the driver standings. He was one point shy of Jeff Gordon in seventh-place.

Stewart remained 11th in points.

Following Newman and Stewart past the checkered flag were Denny Hamlin (third), Joey Logano (fourth) and Jimmie Johnson (fifth).

The Sprint Cup Series had last weekend off. The next race is July 31, the Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Army wrestling team adds depth with new recruits

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Army wrestling head coach Joe Heskett has announced the program's incoming recruiting class. The 14-member class, which includes multiple state champions and high school All-Americans, will add quality depth to the Black Knights' talented roster.

The capable group features three wrestlers from the talent-rich state of Pennsylvania and two from New York. The class also includes grapplers from Arizona, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Oklahoma, Ohio and West Virginia.

"This is a solid class that will be tasked with helping to lead the resurgence of Army wrestling in the years ahead," Heskett said. "I look forward to this class embracing the 'Build and Believe' philosophy, absorbing the mental and physical grind affiliated with being an Army wrestler and salivating at the opportunity to beat Navy."

Zachary Cottle arrives at West Point from Ft. Calhoun, Neb., where he was a three-time Nebraska state champion. Cottle, who was a four-time placewinner at the state championships, was named a National High School All-American.

A two-time state champion from Oklahoma, Cole Gracey enters the Academy with an impressive list of credentials. The Tuttle, Okla., native was a four-time state placewinner and finished third at the NCWA nationals.

Wrestling coach Joe Heskett

Stephen Snyder (Woodbine, Md.) and Scott Filbert (Tucson, Ariz.) are both two-time state champions as well. Snyder also turned in a third-place showing at the national preps, while Filbert was tabbed a National High School All-American and went on to place fourth at the NCWA nationals.

Rodney Sharp (Sterling, N.Y.), Christopher Figari (Brandon, Fla.) and Hunter Wood (Fairmont, W.Va.) were each crowned state champions in high school as well. Figari was a three-time state placewinner, and Wood was selected as a National High School All-American.

Phil Steinberg (Colver, Pa.), Craemer Hedash (Slatington, Pa.), Chandler Smith (Kansas City, Mo.), Brian Walsh (Clifton Park, N.Y.), Shawn Miracle (Bloomington, Ind.), Ethan Snyder (Powell, Ohio) and Jared Ross (Dillsburg, Pa.) round out the class.

Steinberg was a state runner-up in Pennsylvania and a NCWA qualifier. Hedash, the younger brother of current Army wrestler Casey Hedash, was a National High School All-American and an NCWA qualifier. Smith was a two-time placewinner in Missouri, finishing sixth and second. Walsh and Miracle were both placewinners in high school, while Snyder and Ross were state qualifiers. *(Army athletics website)*

WestWind wins $4.6M Navy contract

WestWind Technologies Inc. has been awarded a $4.6 million contract by the Army Contracting Command at Fort Eustis, Va., to modify the Navy HH-60H Seahawk aircraft.

The effort is in support of NAVAIR PMA-299 at Patuxent River, Md. The HH-60H Seahawk is the Navy's primary combat search and rescue helicopter. The aircraft modification will be designed to alleviate equipment obsolescence, improve system performance and enhance crew capabilities and will incorporate dual Embedded Global Positioning Systems/Inertial Navigation Systems.

The contract provides for engineering development, integration, qualification verification and validation of the HH-60H upgrade kit to include publications and provisioning data. WestWind will manufacture, provide kitting and deliver 35 HH-60H Cockpit Upgrade kits to the Navy as well as perform installations on 35 aircraft. An additional two EGIs will be used to support qualification testing and a training system.

"WestWind is extremely pleased to support this aircraft modification program, and we look forward to providing across-the-board support utilizing so many of WestWind's on-site capabilities," WestWind Technologies chief operating officer Roger Messick said.

Work will be performed over the next 36 months in Huntsville at WestWind's hangar facilities located at Huntsville International Airport. *(WestWind release)*

Tec-Masters awarded support contract

Tec-Masters Inc. has announced that it is part of the Zimmerman Consulting Group, LLC Team that has been awarded a five-year contract to provide analysis support to the TRADOC Analysis Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

This contract will provide support services in operations research, analyses and studies to generate necessary information to senior decision-makers regarding proposed concepts, requirements and programs. In providing this support, the center develops, manages, operates and maintains the analytic support infrastructure (tools, scenarios, data and simulations) to enable analysis of Army combined arms operations in a joint and coalition context.

Tec-Masters' Fires Division, located in Lawton, Okla., will execute and manage the contract.

"This is a significant award for Zimmerman Group and TMI," Doug Harrison, Tec-Masters' director of corporate development, said. "It represents a major step forward in our continued analytical support to the war fighter." *(Tec-Masters Inc. release)*

Announcements

Sports/recreation

Football officials

The North Alabama Football Officials Association is in search of new officials. If you are interested, visit the website http://nafoa.biz/dnn/ or call Bob Arnone 763-1796. New officials can be accepted until the last two weeks of the regular season.

Babe Ruth baseball

The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the fall season Aug. 20 and 27 from 9 a.m. to noon. Players ages 13 to 18 as of May 1, 2012 are invited; and 12-year-olds are eligible to sign up as well under the local swing player option. Registration forms will be accepted after Aug. 29 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of the player's birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Contact one of these park representatives for registration locations and the park where the player is zoned to play: Northern Division, Mastin Lake Park, Emile Jones 990-5902, ejones@wilsonlumber.net; Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison, 544-3180, tth3180@bellsouth.net; and Eastern Division, Optimist Park, T. Poe 527-8763, wyatt.poe@gmail.com.

Boating safety class

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary boating safety class, Boating Skills and Seamanship, will begin Aug. 11 and run Thursdays from 6:30-9 p.m. at building 3687 on Neal Road. Cost is $25 for the textbook. The course is to provide the boater with comprehensive understanding of safe boating operation and handling. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 830-6621 (home), 527-4475 (cell) or email tkunhart@knology.net.

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.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Community Activity Center. Breakfast is available at the Java Cafe. 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.

Photo by Judy Wilson

Engineer society

Greg Hall, left, of Corporate Office Properties Trust, spoke Thursday to the Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers. The project executive gave an update on the new Gateway project at Gate 9. SAME Post president Phil Loftis, right, thanks him for his presentation.

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 Dan Cutshall 684-2359.

Women’s connection

Huntsville Christian Women’s Connection will meet Aug. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. Cost is $15. The feature is “Eliminating Clutter in Your Home” by Carolyn Morningstar. Music will be provided by Kelsey Feltman, community vocalist. Frances Lynch will speak on “The Importance of the Right Role Model.” Free child care is provided for age 6 and younger off-site. Reservations for lunch or child care are due by Aug. 1. Call Betty 837-8286 or Nancy 883-1339. HCWC is an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, a support ministry for military wives and other women.

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 425-5307 -- at 9 a.m. at the Redstone Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for $5. For more information, call Hobbs 425-5307.

Leadership summit

Cove Church is a host satellite location for Willowcreek’s Global Leadership Summit on Aug. 11-12. “Through the Global Leadership Summit, you have access to a faculty lineup that brings incredible depth and breadth of leadership talent, perspective and insight,” a prepared release said. “Gain practical, hands-on wisdom as some of the world’s brightest leaders download their experiences and expertise.” For more information and to register, visit willowcreek.com/summit.

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.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will have its monthly meeting Thursday at 11:15 a.m. at Redstone Lanes, Meeting Room One. All are invited. The guest speaker is Madison County District Judge Lynn Sherrod. Lunch will not be provided; guests are welcome to bring their own or purchase from the snack bar.

Resource managers
The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, will hold its monthly luncheon Aug. 11 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. Dan Satterfield, WHNT News 19 chief meteorologist, will speak on "One Crazy Year of Weather." For ticket information, call Audra Edwards 313-2382 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Courtesy photo

Fashion show

The Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers held its monthly luncheon at the Huntsville Botanical Garden, featuring a Back to School Fashion Show sponsored by Dillard's. Models were children and grandchildren of ASMC members and ranged from age 5 to 13.

Defense women
Women in Defense, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present "Leadership Challenges in National Defense," a half day workshop on the afternoon of Oct. 27 at the Marriott in Huntsville. The event will include a luncheon (with keynote speaker), afternoon focus panels and an evening reception. Speaking invitations to high-level government leadership have been extended. Additional workshop details to include agenda, registration information and sponsorship opportunities will be announced soon.

Miscellaneous

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 Lisa Glenn 876-2082. Contractors and others interested can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

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 courses? Need a proctor for your exams? If so, call the Army Education Center Testing Office 876-9764 for an appointment. They can proctor exams for most colleges. Proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community (military/government ID card holders).

Ride needed
Julie Jordan, a badge checker in building 5303, works 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and does not drive because of her disability. She lives off Airport Road and is willing to pay. No handicap accessible equipment will be required. If interested call 604-8433.

Women's fellowship
The Women's Ministry at Cove United Methodist Church will hold its annual Girl's Night Out on Aug. 24. "This event is fun, food and fellowship to bring women together," a prepared release said. "Our special guest speaker this year is Pam Tebow. Yes, Tim's mom, mother of five, former missionary Pam is going to share with us some of her experiences and tips for raising godly children." Tickets are $15 each. A limited number of tickets is available for a special meet and greet with Pam prior to the event. Those tickets are $100 each. If interested call Amanda Medley 457-4703.

CFC 50th year
The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting nominations for participation in the 2011 Campaign Associates Program. This year marks the 50th anniversary for CFC. Volunteers are needed to help ensure the overall success of the campaign. "This will be an opportunity for you to set an example of caring and concern, not only for your fellow employee, but for our community as well," a prepared release said. Volunteers must attend a four-day orientation in August and be available for up to 20 hours per week during the campaign period (Sept. 1 through Dec. 16). For more information or if interested in volunteering, call the CFC Office 876-9143. Supervisory concurrence is required.

Motorcycle poker run
Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will have a Poker Run, Aug. 20 at Rocket Harley-Davidson in Madison to help raise funds for "Operation Stand Down." Registration is from 8:30-10:30 a.m. with the first bike out at 10:30 and the last bike in at 3 p.m. The route starts at Rocket Harley-Davidson goes to Black Water Hattie's, Chips and Salsa, North Alabama Biker Supply, Big D's Cycle and ends at Rocket Harley-Davidson. There will be live music, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and food and drinks. Entry fee is $10 per rider, $5 extra hand, $5 passenger and $3 extra hand. Winnings include $150 for best hand, $75 for worst hand. For more information, call Tom Gerrish 313-0728 or 348-5898.

Chaplain anniversary
The Aviation and Missile Command will celebrate the Army Chaplaincy's 236th anniversary Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Cafeteria. All AMCOM military and civilians are invited. There will be displays about the Army chaplaincy, a cake cutting and the AMC Jazz Band will perform.

Polka dance classes
Get ready for Oktoberfest by learning to dance the polka. FMWR will present Basic (Beginner) Polka for adult couples for five Thursdays, Aug. 4 through Sept. 1, at building 3155. Tuition is $55 per couple. No experience necessary. This course is also available as a four-week review course at $44 per couple (by eliminating the first class only) for those who have taken this course earlier at Redstone. Registration is at the Community Activity Center, building 3711, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Deadline for registration is Aug. 3. For information on this or other adult dance courses offered this year, call 876-4531.

Ardmore car show
The AQBC Car Show is Aug. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at John Barnes Park in Ardmore, Tenn. Cost is $5 per person, $15 per family. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Car pre-entry is $20, day of show $25. Proceeds go to support Ardmore High School Athletic Programs. There were more than 1,000 cars last year. For more information call Sandy 656-3413, Rodney (205) 908-2677 or visit www.AQBC.net.

Stepfamily seminar
"Stepfamily 911," a free seminar open to all government, military and contractor personnel, will be held at Bicentennial Chapel on Aug. 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Aug. 13 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Child care and lunch will be provided. "Learn to laugh, love and live in harmony on your journey through the stepfamily blender," a

prepared release said. “This seminar will give you the tools you need to overcome the four critical issues faced by all stepfamilies.” To reserve your place, call 876-5397 or email wanda.english@us.army.mil.

Budget training
The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center announces a training opportunity for “Budget Execution,” Aug. 15-18. Cost is $607. Apply in CHRTAS with code number JB7ABE. For more information, call human resources specialist Latoya Ragan 313-0667.

Blues festival
The “Blues, Brew and Barbecue Festival” is Aug. 20 at 3 p.m. at the Redstone Activity Field. Gate 10 at Patton Road will open at noon; and the activity field gates open at 2. The entertainers include headliner Leela James; the Delta Guitar Slingers, featuring Michael Burks, Lurrie Bell and Sherman Robertson; opening act Rick Ward & Company, from Huntsville; and Tinsley Ellis. Advance tickets are $15; and the cost is $20 on the day of show. Premium tickets cost $60, which includes seating, separate restrooms, catered barbecue dinner, free domestic premium draft beer and wine. There will be a cash bar. Handicap seating will be available at the event. Tickets are on sale at the Redstone FMWR ticket offices, including building 3711, the Post Restaurant Fund at the Sparkman Center, the Post Exchange and the bowling center; and also through ticketmaster.com. Premium tickets can only be purchased at the Community Activity Center, building 3711.
For more information, call 313-5224 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Soldier supply drive
Pepsi and WAAY-31 are collecting supplies for care packages to send to Soldiers oversees. If you would like to participate, check out the list of suggested supplies, purchase the supplies you would like to donate, and then take them to the WAAY-31 Studios at 1000 Monte Sano Boulevard, Huntsville. You can also join WAAY-31 at Monaco Pictures at Bridgestreet every Friday in July from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to drop off your Soldier supplies. All the details, including the supply list, are at www.waaytv.com. Just click on the Soldier Supply Drive link.

Keep Redstone Arsenal water streams free of pollutants. For more information call the Garrison Environmental Office, Storm Water Program Manager, at 955-8501.

Soldier’s estate
Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Staff Sgt. Clevon Charles Charlton should contact Lt. Col. Michael W. Harris, the summary court officer for the Soldier. Charlton died June 30 at Huntsville Hospital. Call Harris at 955-7736 or email michael.harris1@conus.army.mil.

Logistics award nominations
Nominations for the Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award are being accepted for deserving individuals (civilian or military) assigned to Team Redstone who have made significant contributions to the logistics community and whose leadership and expertise have made a major, positive impact on the Army’s logistics program. The 2011 “Ernie” format will include two awards: the Management/Executive Award for GS/GM-13s and above (or military equivalents), and the Professional/Technical Award for GS/GM-13s and below (or military equivalents). Nomination packages must have a cover memorandum signed by the nominee’s director or deputy director. Nominations should be submitted by Aug. 31 to Barbara A. Harris, logistics management specialist, IMMC Business Management Directorate, at 876-3805.

Directory available
The 2011 Installation Guide and Telephone Directory is now available. The guide provides information about Redstone Arsenal and its missile, aviation and space programs as well as community information, phone number listings for on-post organizations and a yellow page directory for local businesses. Everyone on Redstone Arsenal is welcome to a copy of the new Installation Guide. If your command does not have copies of

the Installation Guide, your organization should send a representative to the Sparkman Center mail room loading dock to obtain copies for their employees. In addition, new maps of the Arsenal are available for pickup at the reception areas near each Sparkman Center entrance door and from the AMCOM/Garrison Public and Congressional Affairs Office, room 5143, building 5300, Sparkman Center. If you have any questions about the Installation Guide, Kari Hawkins 876-4213 or email kari.hawkins@us.army.mil.

Thrift shop

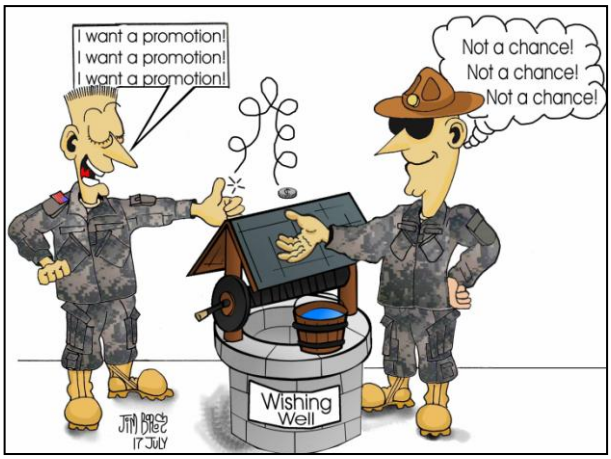
The Thrift Shop is accepting items for consignment. Call the NO-LIST number 881-6915 before bringing your consignments. The list changes each week. Consignments are taken from 9-11:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The shop's hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays from 9 to 5 and the first Saturday of each month from 10-2. Through this Thursday, everything in the 50 percent off room will be an additional 50 percent off. The shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road. Donations are always welcome and tax deductible. If you are interested in volunteering, stop by or call 881-6992.

Lunch offer

To say thank you to servicemembers, Hormel Foods is offering a free lunch of Hormel Compleats on Aug. 4-5 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Commissary. Servicemembers and their families can redeem a coupon for a free Hormel Compleats meal. For more information, visit http://www.hormelfoods.com/brands/hormel/HormelCompleats.aspx.

Huntsville youth event

The Huntsville Police Department will hold a citywide event for youth, ages 12-18, on Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jaycees building, parking lot at 2180 Airport Road. "The City of Huntsville cares about you!" a prepared release said. There will be free admission, free food, fun activities for all to enjoy and free giveaways. The goal of Community Awareness For Youth is "to build relationships with our youth and foster a positive environment for their success"; and "to make our youth aware of their four pillars of success: health, physical fitness, education and careers." For more information, call Huntsville Police communications relations officer Harry Hobbs 427-7043 or 425-5307 or email harry.hobbs@huntsvilleal.gov.



Veterans job expo

The Birmingham RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expo will be held Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Birmingham Marriott, 3590 Grandview Parkway in Birmingham. For more information about this event, sponsored by Education Corporation of America, visit https://recruitmilitary.com/expos/376-Birmingham/candidates/information.

AUSA family forums

The Association of the U.S. Army's Annual Meeting will be held Oct. 10-12 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. AUSA's Family Programs will again be hosting four Military Family Forums. Registration is now available on the web at http://www.udreg.com/ausa/family/. To see the agenda for each of the forums, visit http://www.ausa.org/family. "We will have senior Army leaders and many subject matter experts to provide you with the latest information on matters pertaining to the well-being of Army families," a prepared release said. "Now, with repeated call to cut defense spending it is especially important to interact with the Army leadership to remind them of the contributions and value Army families bring to thestrength and readiness of our Army." For more information, call 800-336-4570, ext. 151 or 321, or email familyprograms@ausa.org.