

Redstone Rocket

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Redstone retains Ten-Miler titles



Photo by Amanda Wilks

Kneeling, from left, are Tim Pitt, Joseph Robenson, Sgt. Maj. Corey Smallwood, coach Harry Hobbs and Randy McFarland. Standing are assistant coach Skip Vaughn, Brandon York, Rob Youngren, George Heesch, team captain Brad Schroeder, Brett Wilks and Erik DeBolt. Not pictured are Col. John Hamilton and retiring Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper.

Government agency 5-peat, all-comers 3-peat champs

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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WASHINGTON – A sunny fall morning greeted the runners who converged Oct. 9 near the Pentagon for the 27th annual Army Ten-Miler.

Among the competitors was Team Redstone, four-time defending champion in the government agency division and two-time defending champion in the all-comers division.

“It’s probably the best Ten-Miler weather that I’ve seen in the 12 years that I’ve been doing this,” coach Harry Hobbs said.

Redstone took advantage of the good conditions by winning its fifth straight crown in government agency and third straight in all comers.

“The eagle (trophy) has landed in Red-

stone Arsenal Hooah Tent – times two,” Hobbs said. “We want to thank AUSA, the Garrison, FMWR and AMC for supporting our team. We’ve got to give a special thank you to AUSA for the Hooah Tent.

“We had five new members on our team this year. We had several injuries and we fought through adversity.”

The team dedicated this year’s race to Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts, who drowned March 21 while vacationing in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A member of the team in 2008 and 2009, she was 28.

In the Hooah Tent, sponsored by the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, a framed photograph of Eberts was prominently displayed with an empty storage container and a pair of running shoes. The photograph included the words, “In memory of Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts.”

Three of Redstone’s team members were unable to run because of injuries or health reasons.

“One of our guys had a cardiovascu-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Team Redstone dedicated this year’s race to Capt. Laura Matejik Eberts, who drowned March 21 while vacationing in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A member of the team in 2008 and 2009, she was 28.

lar emergency. We had two that had major leg injuries,” Hobbs said. “A major health issue and two leg injuries. We still stuck together as a team and supported each other. We took everybody with us and cheered for each other, and we made history. We’re very thankful for the support.”

Redstone team one won the all-comers division with a total time of four hours and 44 seconds for its top four runners. Fort Lee, Va., was second with 4:18:13 and The A-Team took third with 4:31:27. Forty-two teams competed in all comers.

In the government agency division, Redstone team two finished first with 4:00:33, followed by PM Soldier Warrior (4:20:44) and Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., with 4:23:56. Twenty-two teams competed in government agency.

Brandon York led Redstone team one by finishing in 51:24. Brad Schroeder led team two in 54:57.

“It was a blast,” York said after his first 10-mile race. “It went by a lot faster

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AROUND TOWN

Veterans Memorial will open Nov. 11.

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HAIL AND FAREWELL

Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green retiring as equal opportunity adviser for Redstone Arsenal.

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TO YOUR HEALTH

Early detection best remedy for breast cancer.

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WIN OR LOSE

Army football team prepares to invade Vanderbilt.

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RocketViews

Who has been the most inspirational person in your life and why?

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Dr. Harry Hobbs

Huntsville Police Department communications relations officer

“The most inspirational person in my life I would say was my maternal grandfather (George Bishop, who grew up in Bardstown, Ky.). He instilled in me a work ethic and showed me how to take care of a family. And he was a kind, hard worker and led by example. He wasn’t afraid of any hard work and he didn’t shirk responsibility. He stepped up and was a Christian man. He lived a Christian life and he took time to mentor me. He invested in me.”



Brandon York

Northrop Grumman

“Jeff Sparks, high school track and cross country coach (at Central High in Tuscaloosa). He always reminded us that ‘our sport does not lie,’ meaning that someone would be able to tell if you had been training or not based on how you raced. If you don’t put in the work, you’ll race poorly. Same thing goes for life – if you work hard. Talent will only take you

so far. Hard work takes you farther. He always said ‘they may beat us because they are more talented, but they will never beat us because they outworked us.’ He also told us to ‘be a scholar of your event,’ meaning that whatever we did, whether it be sprinting 100 meters or pole vaulting, to know everything about that event to do it properly and efficiently. It’s not enough to do it mindlessly. You have to know proper technique, form and strategy. When you truly know your event, that’s when you’ll succeed. And the same thing can be applied in life.”



Lira Frye

Army Materiel Command public affairs

“My father (Jack Hoffman). He’s a great mentor, an exceptional man and a loving father.”



Maj. Juanita Chang

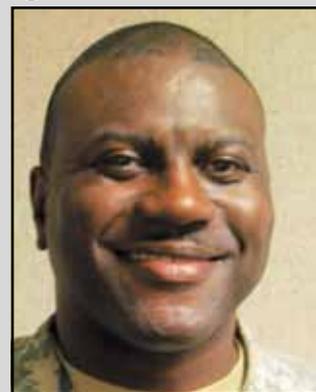
Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army

“It would be a tie between Eleanor Roosevelt and Madeleine Albright. They were both strong, powerful women on a global scale who overcame a lot to reach their positions and then served those positions well.”

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Name: Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Kimbrough

Job: Logistics management NCO, AMCOM’s Integrated Materiel Management Center, Readiness Directorate

Where do you call home? Geneva, Ga.

What do you like about your job?

The people I’m around every day. I’ve got a good relationship with the civilians I’m working with.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I coach recreational league football and basketball (for 11-year-olds in Monrovia). And just

be with my family, spend family time. (Family includes wife Christina and their 16-year-old daughter Kianna and 11-year-old son Devin.)

What are your goals?

To retire soon (Aug. 31, 2012 with 22 years service). To get a job with IMMC doing what I’m doing right now. To graduate with a bachelor’s degree Nov. 5 (in general studies with a minor in criminal justice from Columbia College on post).

What’s at the top of your “bucket list” of things you want to do before you kick the bucket?

Just to be able to travel and see more of the world – just me and my wife once the kids leave. There’s still some places I haven’t seen in the world.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents for Oct. 6-12:

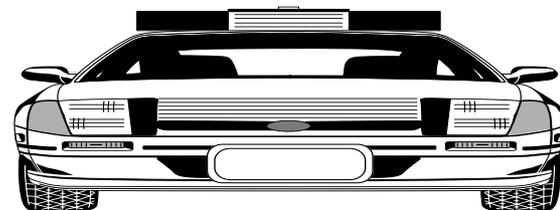
Oct. 6: A government employee reported that someone removed his credit card from his desk at building 5224.

Oct. 6: A contractor reported that his private vehicle was damaged while parked near building 5687.

Oct. 8: A civilian received a violation notice for driving with a suspended license at Gate 9.

Traffic accidents reported: Two without injury.

Violation notices issued: 11 speeding, 2 expired driver’s license, 1 expired registration, 1 driving while suspended, 2 stop sign violations, 1 no insurance, 4 failure to obey traffic control device.



Quote of the Week

‘But the fact that some geniuses were laughed at does not imply that all who are laughed at are geniuses. They laughed at Columbus, they laughed at Fulton, they laughed at the Wright brothers. But they also laughed at Bozo the Clown.’

— Carl Sagan
U.S. astronomer (1934-96)

Correction to letter

In a letter to the editor with the heading “Union election at critical time for federal employees,” published Sept. 14, the writer referred to Abner Merriweather as “acting Local president.” The accurate reference would have been “Local president.”

Merriweather subsequently won the rerun election.

RedstoneRocket

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CFC spotlight

Name: Wayne Leonard Jr.

Job: Ground Systems product manager, Fire Control and Communications, Ground-Based Midcourse Defense, Missile Defense Agency

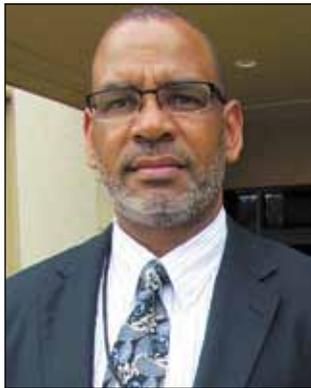
How long have you contributed to the Combined Federal Campaign?

Since 1985, when I became a government employee. I first worked at Redstone with the Logistics Support Analysis Group for an organization that is now known as the Integrated Materiel Management Center. I had never heard about CFC until the campaign drive kicked off that year. We had an office group huddle meeting that was our CFC kickoff meeting. We had a very articulate organizer who stressed that CFC would allow us to give to a lot of agencies that we were probably already contributing to outside of work.

Why did you decide to be a CFC contributor?

I found several agencies in the CFC brochure that I had already been sponsoring on my own. CFC allowed an easier mechanism through which I could contribute on a yearly basis without any effort.

What charities do you like to contribute



to through CFC?

I like to give to the personal growth center (child services, outreach, counseling services and senior adult services) at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church in Huntsville. I also give to the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association because I am a retired civil engineer and corps officer from the Navy Reserves. As an African American, I like to give

to the United Negro College Fund to help those trying to go to college. And I give to the North Alabama Sickle Cell Foundation because a friend of mine has a child who carries the trait.

Why do you continue to be a CFC contributor?

It is so convenient and easy to make a contribution to these organizations through payroll deduction. I also like to be able to see the overhead rates of the agencies I give to and CFC provides that information.

Editor's note: The CFC spotlight is a special feature in honor of "50 Years of Caring." Each week during the annual charity drive, the Rocket will feature a contributor to the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Meet the press

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, far right, answers a question at an aviation media panel Oct. 10 during the Annual Meeting of the Association of the U.S. Army in Washington, D.C. The panelists include, from left, the program executive officer for aviation Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby; Col. Pat Tierney, director of Army Aviation G-3; Maj. Gen. Tony Crutchfield, commander of the Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker; and Rogers.

Fox health center families have day for themselves

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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They devote their lives to taking care of others, but for one afternoon Fox Army Health Center employees took a little time for themselves.

"Every day you are taking great care of our beneficiaries," Fox commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson said. "Organization Day is an opportunity for us to relax, have fun and take care of ourselves."

More than 150 employees and their families from Fox celebrated the annual Army tradition of setting aside one day



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Jeremiah Hightower, 5, takes a ride on Julie Adams' quarter horse Chili. Adams, facilities manager of Outdoor Recreation's stables of the Saddle Club and wife of the chief IMD at Fox, brought Chili to Fox's organization day for children to ride.

to enjoy food, fun and family Oct. 6 at Vincent Park. Staff members were given the opportunity to show their team spirit for their favorite college or professional football teams by sporting their favorite jerseys or T-shirts, and all were able to enjoy the beautiful weather, which accented this year's theme of "Fall Festival."

A variety of activities, including horse rides, kickball, volleyball, a piñata, face painting, bingo, Put the Hat on the Scarecrow and more were available throughout the afternoon, in addition to the competition for the Commander's Cup. Employees were broken down into three groups – Deputy Commander for Administration, Deputy Commander for Clinical Services and Deputy Commander for Nursing – in which they competed for the honor. For the second year in a row, the Deputy Commander for Administration staff came out victorious.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Karen Kolankiewicz gets defeated, and a little wet, in the water balloon toss at Fox Army Health Center's Organization Day at Vincent Park.

Exchange rewards students for making grade

In a recent editorial, deputy assistant secretary of Defense Robert L. Gordon III wrote "a high-quality education is consistently ranked as one of the top priorities for military families with school-aged children."

Understanding the value families at Redstone Arsenal place on education, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service offers a rewards program that continues to receive high marks from students and parents alike.

Now in its 11th consecutive year, "You Made the Grade" recognizes students who achieve a "B" average or better with a benefits-filled booklet. Exclusive offers include a free Burger King kids meal, video rental and \$2 off any new release DVD at the PowerZone, to name a few.

Students who made the grade can also register for a drawing to win a savings bond worth up to \$5,000 by filling out

and mailing an included entry form.

"It is important to recognize Redstone Arsenal's superior students," Exchange general manager Loraine Arbo said. "To be able to maintain academic excellence despite adversities such as moving regularly or having a parent deployed shows the resolve of these students as well as the quality of their teachers."

To receive a "You Made the Grade" booklet, students simply present a valid military ID card and proof of an overall "B" or better average at the Exchange. Students may receive one coupon package for every qualifying report card, but may enter the savings bond drawing only once per calendar year.

Redstone Arsenal families can call the Exchange at 883-6100 for more information about "You Made the Grade." (Exchange release)

AroundTown

'Sacrifice' brings memorial closer to reality

Another element is in place for Veterans Day opening

By KARI HAWKINS

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A local symbol for "Sacrifice" was on display briefly last week at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Huntsville.

A 1,500-pound statue of three Soldiers – each embodying the physical attributes of three combat veterans from North Alabama – was moved by crane into place at the site of the new Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial on Oct. 13, signifying another milestone toward the memorial's official dedication and opening on Veterans Day, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.

"It was awesome," Bob Drolet, a member of the Veterans Memorial Foundation, said of seeing the bronze-cast statue for the first time.

As soon as the statue was put in place on the eastern side of the Veterans Memorial, it was covered from public view

with plastic. It will remain under cover while workers with Fite Construction complete the memorial in time for the official opening.

But the short time it was uncovered confirmed for Drolet his belief in what the statue symbolizes – the sacrifice that local servicemembers have made to protect and defend the nation.

"We made a decision six or seven years ago to use real local heroes for the models of the statues, and it is proving out to be a great idea," he said.

"Two of those heroes – Everett Carter and Hubble Hainline – were there when we moved the statue and to see the expressions on their faces when we all saw the statue was wonderful. It is so emotional for them and for all of us to have these heroes immortalized in stone.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

The statue "Sacrifice" is one of two sculptures that local artisan Dan Burch is designing and creating for the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial. Burch was onsite at the memorial last week as workers for Fite Construction put the "Sacrifice" statue in place at the eastern end of the memorial.

It connects with the community because these heroes are from here."

The chosen heroes who modeled for

the statue were Carter, a Vietnam Army veteran who lives in Hazel Green; Hainline, an Operation Iraqi Freedom wounded warrior who lives in Athens and recently had to retire from the Alabama Army National Guard; and Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan wounded warrior Jessica Newey of Huntsville, who is also from Alabama's Army National Guard.

During the statue's installation process, local artisan Dan Burch hovered over the construction site like a concerned parent. It was his skill, energy and dedication that turned photos and settings of the models into the 80-inch-tall statue of steel rod, clay and bronze.

"It's truly an honor to be part of this," he said as the statue was set with concrete in a display

See Memorial on page 8

Soldier plants seeds of patriotism during school visit

MADISON – When Lt. Col. Daniel Arzonico stepped into a second-grade classroom at Mill Creek Elementary he asked, “Why do you think I am here?”

The surprising answer he got from one student was, “You knew Johnny Appleseed?”

The kids were not calling him old. That was the lesson they were learning just before Arzonico stepped into the room. His main goal was to sow the seeds of character so Johnny Appleseed was not that far off.

The executive officer from IMMC Readiness Directorate took part in Mill Creek’s “Character Counts” Week and definitely took those words to heart.

“Be respectful of others’ view of the world and work together as a team. Being not afraid to try for the next level of success,” was a big part of Arzonico’s message.

“You can be afraid or nervous but still do your job by practicing what you have learned from parents, teachers, coaches and mentors,” he said. “Finally, make education a lifelong venture.”

The students were surprised that he will be going to school soon. He will en-



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Daniel Arzonico, of the Aviation and Missile Command, poses with members of a second-grade class at Mill Creek Elementary in Madison.

ter training in the coming month.

As strong as his message regarding character, he saw the pride that many of the kids have in relatives and friends serving in the military.

“I got a number of questions about be-

ing engaged by the enemy or weapons systems and such but most noteworthy was their enjoyment in talking about relatives who served in the military,” Arzonico said. “You could see the pride of military lineage in a number of the students. They got it that the profession of arms is a very honorable way to serve the nation.”

Seeing the faces of the future also reminded him of why he entered the military in the first place.

“Just as the sun is slowly setting on my career and the sun is beginning to slowly rise on their careers as they make lifelong decisions about education, jobs and family I see that they are the future stability of this nation,” he said. “It is imperative that they be mentored to understand the tasks that lay before them.”

As for the youngsters thinking he could have known Johnny Appleseed, “I think it put them totally at ease in talking with me. It put the human factor into the event. You could see the look of relief, ‘I can talk to this guy.’ It is amazing how these stories are still of interest to students today even with the prevalence of the technology available.”

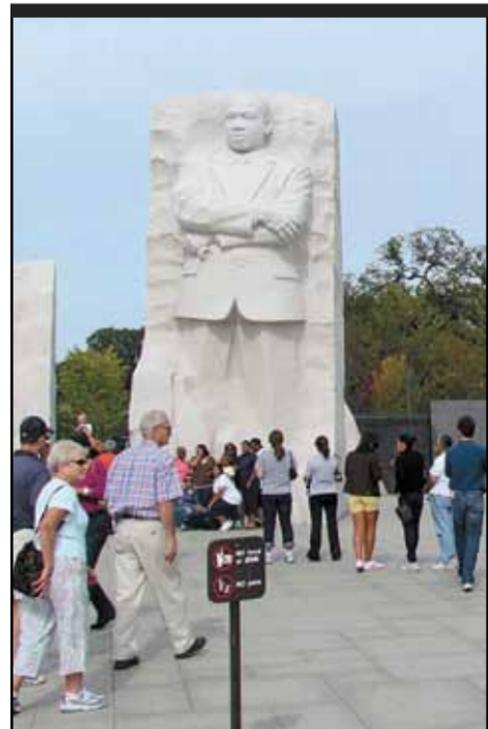


Photo by Skip Vaughn

King memorial

Visitors gather Oct. 10 at the new Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Memorial

continued from page 4

area of the memorial. "I'm really proud to be able to do this."

Burch, who has also sculpted a statue that now graces Bicentennial Park in downtown Huntsville and the fallen officer's memorial that will soon be placed in front of the Huntsville Police Department, enjoyed more than 20 years as a portrait painter in his studio in Gurley before sculpting became his passion.

"I took a bronze casting class at the University of Alabama-Huntsville in 2001, and that set the hook," he said. "The casting process was very intriguing to me."

A few years later, he was suggested as the sculptor for the statues that were to be part of the Veterans Memorial. At the time, the plan was to include a sculpture for each of the five military branches.

"I started mulling over the ideas about what they wanted to convey," he said. "That evolved into three themes – Courage, Sacrifice and Duty – and trying to encapsulate those within 20th century conflicts."

"Sacrifice" shows two Soldiers dragging a wounded Soldier from battle. It is one of two sculptures Burch is creat-

ing for the memorial. The second one – "Courage" – will show two Soldiers standing with rifles in their hands as another climbs from a foxhole, and will be unveiled on Memorial Day 2012.

"The statues take quite a lot of time to design and create," Burch said. "The first one took a particularly long time – 1 1/2 years – because I was working on the symmetry between the three pieces and within the limited amount of space that I had. I also had to make many different tools and pieces of equipment that helped me with the process and that will make the second sculpture easier."

Working with real heroes may make the sculptures sentimental, but for Burch the realism of those models made it easier for him to sculpt realistic statues.

"I had them pose for conceptual drawings. I used the models to get realistic measurements," he said.

"There were more things to work out with this one because all three statues of the Soldiers are connected into one statue. And I had to make sure I had the angles of the bodies realistic. Their bodies, uniforms and equipment had to move in the right places to convey the physical burden of the wounded Soldier the two Soldiers are dragging. There is a lot of animation to the piece that had to be figured out."

Steel rods were used to create the frame

– or the bones – for each statue. Then Burch used three 1,000-pound blocks of clay from which he built and carved the statues on the steel frames. Once the statues were sculpted, they were permanently joined together and then shipped to Art Castings in Colorado to be cast in bronze. That process took five months.

On the way to Huntsville, the trucker who carried the statute in full view in his truck bed got several inquiries from people along the route.

"He said he felt like a rock star," Burch said. "People were honking at him on the interstate. They wanted to take pictures of the statute."

The "Sacrifice" and "Courage" statues are part of a \$3 million Veterans Memorial that will include granite markers listing the names of local veterans who died for their country, a memorial fountain and waterways, and circular paths that travel through the memorial and the park located in downtown Huntsville between Jefferson and Washington streets. Memorial foundation volunteers are also working on the addition of an eternal flame, a military time capsule and an educational element that they hope to unveil on Memorial Day with the "Courage" statue.

All but \$50,000 of the funds needed for the memorial have been raised.

"I am confident we will raise this

through spontaneous contributions from the community," Drolet said.

Funds have been donated by several local corporations and a memorial brick paver campaign has sold 4,000 bricks to local donors at a cost of \$100 per brick. The brick pavers, which can be inscribed with the names of veterans or others that a donor wants to honor, can still be purchased by visiting www.huntsvilleveteransmemorial.org or calling 799-2520.

"This is truly a memorial to honor our veterans and those who are serving today," Drolet said. "We want to use this memorial as an educational experience, and we want it to be something the whole community can look at and know we support our military."

Once it's complete, Drolet hopes visitors of all ages will feel an emotional connection to the memorial.

"I hope they are inspired by knowing we have built something that truly fits Huntsville, Ala., and shows our support for our military," he said.

"I hope it will inspire those that will serve, and that it sends a message that this community remembers and does not forget service and sacrifice. I hope it shows our devotion and appreciation to those who have served and are serving. And I hope people enjoy the beauty of it and what it brings to our community."

Police officers defend schools against gangs

Huntsville patrolmen spreading awareness

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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Huntsville police officer Carl McDuffie spends his workdays in high school, telling wandering students to get to class, helping teachers and administrators keep order in the hallways, and bringing a quick stop to disruptions in the learning environment.

While in the course of his work, McDuffie comes decidedly close to the dangers that gangs can bring into schools.

As school resource officers at Butler High School, McDuffie and his partner, officer Dwight Atkinson, know all too well what can happen to teenagers who join gangs. The pair – along with Huntsville police investigator Julian Johnson – are on a mission to stop criminal activity associated with gangs by making parents and the community's residents aware of ways they can be watchdogs for the subtle signs of gang activity. They will share their concerns about gang activity in local schools



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Huntsville police officer Carl McDuffie works to keep schools free from gang activity by increasing awareness among students, parents and the community. He will be among a team of officers from the Huntsville Police Department who will bring their Gang Awareness Workshop to Redstone Arsenal on Oct. 27.

with the Redstone community during a Gang Awareness Workshop on Oct. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148 on Youth Center Road near Gate 8.

The workshop is sponsored by Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation's Child Youth and School Services.

"Throughout the city and the North Alabama community, parents need to be aware of gang activities and the signs of gang activity," the Garrison's school liaison Barbara Williams said. "We want our parents to have the knowledge and tools to help their children avoid the pitfalls of gangs."

While McDuffie and Atkinson are focused on keeping gang activity out of Butler High School, their school isn't the only one in the area with gang activity issues. The officers say gangs are prevalent throughout North Alabama schools.

"I've gone to so many schools and I've seen so many different gangs in those schools," McDuffie said. "I've been a member of the Huntsville Police Department since 1991, and I have seen a proliferation of gangs during that time."

In the early '90s, the signs of gangs – namely graffiti – could be found near schools and in neighborhoods throughout Huntsville. Although the city today keeps graffiti to a minimum, it is still a problem simmering under the awareness level of most residents, McDuffie said.

See Gangs on page 23

Hail and Farewell

Soldier walks journey of self-worth

Army teaches values of good life reflected in 20-year career

By KARI HAWKINS
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Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green has walked far in his Soldier's boots.

From the poverty-stricken, inner city streets of Gary, Ind., those boots have taken Green through a 20-year Army career that has included service with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., tours in Germany and Korea, and a 15-month deployment to Afghanistan.

Those boots are also symbolic of the journey Green has taken in his transformation from a troubled teen to a man dedicated to God, his family and service.

"I never understood the change I was going through," Green said. "Even after 14 or 15 years in the Army, I still didn't know where my value was as a person. Now I do know that I actually have something to say, something to give back. Even in the leadership positions I've held, I didn't really see how I influenced others until just the past few years."

Green serves as the equal opportunity adviser for Redstone Arsenal. As such, he has led Team Redstone efforts in the monthly ethnic observances, and has worked with many Arsenal organizations on issues pertaining to equal opportunity. He will retire at Redstone during an official ceremony Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium with Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, the commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone's senior commander, presiding. His position will be reassigned to Sgt. 1st Class Jason Cundiff.

Even while Green's journey as an influ-

ential leader within the Army has taken a course not always evident to this charismatic Soldier, he has recognized the leaders who have had their own influence on his life and his Army career.

"The non-commissioned officers in my organization, the first-line supervisors, the platoon sergeant and drill sergeant – all have certainly influenced my life," he said. "I entered the Army as admin and then went on to jump school and the 82nd Airborne Division. Ever since I answered the call to serve during Hurricane Andrew, the Army has set the tone for a life full of experience and leadership opportunities."

The journey Green took in his Army boots carried him far from Gary, where his father, a steel mill worker, and his mother worked hard to raise six children amid the drugs and gangs that the inner city was known for and that came dangerously close to claiming Green's life.

"Somehow, I was destined to do something different. All of the right influences came together at the right time for me," he said.

One of those first influences was his older sister, who went off to Army boot camp when Green was 7 years old. When she was home on leave, the two of them would march through the house singing cadences.

"Those words – 'Momma, momma, can you see what the Army's done for me?' really influenced me," Green recalled.

And so did his parents. His father served in the Army in the 1960s. Both of his parents were patient and committed to raising their children to be successful despite the neighborhood's odds.

"My parents stood by my side. I was in a gang and it certainly took some level of intervention to get me out of that gang.

My parents were worried about me, but they always had high expectations," Green said.

"There were a lot of things that were not so right. However, I always had a want to change. I had a very supportive family that always knew I could change. But I needed to know I could change myself to make that happen. There was a strong family concept. Excessive patience was shown to me as I began to set my path for a successful military career."

Before he marched down that military path, intervention came in the form of an attack and robbery that left Green with a jaw shattered by a car jack.

"That was kind of my awakening moment. I needed to do something differently in my life," Green said. "I woke up from that attack with my mouth wired shut. I went to talk to an Army recruiter with my mouth still wired shut.

"At that time, the Army was all about numbers. They had no issues with me enlisting as long as I could pass the standards of physical fitness."

With his parents' blessing and a hope for a better life, Green flew by airplane to basic training at Fort Knox, Ky.

"It was the first time I had ever flown and it was one of the most frightening experiences. Who would have thought that soon I would be jumping out of airplanes?" he said.

But the Army life didn't come easy for Green, even at age 18.

"I was always a hot head. I had a background of bad experiences," he said. "I didn't accept authority or discipline very



Photo by Kari Hawkins
Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green, the installation equal opportunity adviser, is hanging up his Army cap after a 20-year journey that has shown him his value as a person.

well. I wasn't respectful. I really had a difficult time.

"If you could take a look at me before and after, you could see the difference in my manners, my walk and talk, and mostly in my outlook on life. Before, I didn't care. Now, I get in trouble because I care too much."

Visiting home in those early years of service was a challenge for Green.

"It was still difficult to maintain my

See Green on page 24

Deputy project manager joining defense industry

Departure bittersweet after 22-year career

By **SOPIA BLEDSOE**
PEO Aviation Public Affairs

President John F. Kennedy once said that leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

This was the difficult conclusion to which Tim Owings arrived when he made the decision to leave the Army and join the defense industry to be the new vice president of operations for Sierra Nevada Corporation.

"This has been one of the hardest decisions I've ever had to make in my life," Owings, an Army civilian for the past 22 years, said. Torn between his love for the Army and thirst for personal and professional growth, he decided it was time for a complete change and venture into a world unfamiliar.

"I was looking for something that was a new challenge, for me to develop further, and to learn the other side of the



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Tim Owings shares a high-five with Michele Vigo after a successful MUSIC (Manned-Unmanned Systems Integration Capabilities) exercise at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, in September. Owings has seen young engineers and Army civilians such as Vigo, lead systems engineer in the Common Systems Integration Product Office, succeed and excel in their professional capabilities through leadership and mentorship.

business from what we do here in the government," he said.

The decision was an especially tough one. Owings has poured his heart and soul into Army UAS over the past eight

years and believed that he had found the perfect job in the Army where, as he stated once, "I would work for free if my bills were paid."

"I don't think I would ever close the door of service to the government completely at any point. For the near term, I'm going to be focused on a new career and hopefully developing a new set of skills that will serve me in whatever future endeavor that I'll be doing," he said.

His contributions to the Army and especially to the world of unmanned aircraft systems are unparalleled. Having managed the growth, applications, acceptance and the explosion of UAS as an indispensable asset to Army aviation over the past eight years has seen it reap its dividends.

Some of the notable and recent historical UAS milestones in which Owings perpetuated include: conducted the large scale exercise called MUSIC (Manned-Unmanned Systems Integration Capabilities) in September in collaboration with the project offices for Apache and Armed Scout Helicopters. The event established for the

first time proof of UAS and manned aircraft's ability to interoperate and provide the flexibility, efficiencies and effectiveness in combat operations to the Soldiers both on the ground and in the air. All of the Army's UAS were showcased as well as the improved One System Remote Video Terminal which for the first time demonstrated its new bi-directional capability at MUSIC, and the Universal Ground Control Station which supports interoperability by providing common hardware and software functionality across all UAS platforms. Two Apache Longbows and one Kiowa Warrior also participated in the exercise and proved the efficiencies gained in manned-unmanned teaming operations, leveraging UAS platforms and their capabilities and being "the hunting dog in front of the hunter."

Owings mentored the group in the Airspace Integration Product Office who, in April, saw the Army become the first service to fly into national airspace at night using the Ground Based Sense and Avoid under an approved Certificate of Authorization with the FAA, helping to pave the way into acceptance of UAS into national airspace.

"I believe we've had a profound impact

See Owings on page 24

IMCOM leader advises University of Texas cadets

By KEITH E. SMITH
Installation Management Command

AUSTIN, Texas — Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch visited with cadets from the University of Texas' Army ROTC Battalion during a visit to the campus Oct. 6.

Lynch, commander of the Installation Management Command and assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, answered questions from the ca-

dets and offered up advice to the young students and future Army officers.

"You're being given a wonderful opportunity to serve as a leader," Lynch said. "We expect you to adapt and innovate."

After sharing experiences from his 35-year military career, Lynch stressed the importance of finding a work-life balance. "What lasts is your family," he said. "At the end of the day you're going to

take off your uniform, but you'll always be the husband of your wife or the wife of your husband and the parent of your children."

Lynch outlined expectations for the cadets and encouraged them to be morally upright and to have unimpeachable integrity. "You're going to embark on a career much like your current peers, where you're going from a university setting probably straight into combat," he said. "From day one you have to be the moral compass."

The visit gave the college students a chance to hear directly from one of the Army's senior leaders.

"Focus on the family and prepare for combat operations," he said. "I'm convinced that you can do both."

The general encouraged the cadets to surround themselves with competent subordinates and to learn how to delegate while taking care of their units. "The only way you take care of them is be down there with them and to look down not up," Lynch said. "If you take care of them, they'll take care of you."

"Make sure they're properly trained, equipped and well-led," he said. "You as a tactical leader have to know how to take the risk, how to assess the risk and



Photo by Keith E. Smith

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the Installation Management Command, meets with cadets from the University of Texas' Army ROTC Battalion Oct. 6 during a visit to the campus in Austin.

how to mitigate the risk."

"You learn from people that have been there," said cadet Margarita Fox, after hearing tips on how to become a better leader. "Don't lose yourself in the Army, but make the Army part of yourself."

Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Retirement sendoff

Lt. Col. Dan McCarthy, left, accepts his retirement certificate from Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, Oct. 6 at the Sparkman Center. McCarthy last served as the deputy product manager for foreign military sales in the Utility Helicopters Project Office and retires after 30 years. He received the Legion of Merit and numerous other awards along with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Soaring Hawk Award for his wife, Rebecca. McCarthy and his family plan to remain in Huntsville.



Product manager of year represents aviation team

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**

PEO Aviation Public Affairs

The Product Manager for Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters was recognized as the Army's top Product Manager in 2011 during the Army Acquisition Corps awards ceremony Oct. 9 at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, Va.

Lt. Col. Courtney Cote, among 13 nominees in this category, was ultimately chosen as the best of the best and was lauded for his efforts and successful management of the Iraqi Armed 407 Program. The program has been a key element in paving the way to a self-sufficient Iraq Army Aviation which helps to bring U.S. Soldiers back home.

"This is really a culmination and recognition of that teamwork that reached the objective, which is to design, qualify and deliver a product to the Foreign Military Sales customer on their schedule," Cote said.

The 407 Program is an extra set of responsibilities within his charter. "What it has taught me and the Redstone Enterprise is that you have an acquisition process and you have unique situations that



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Lt. Col. Courtney Cote, center, accepts the award for Product Manager of the Year from Heidi Shyu, acting assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, and Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, ASALT deputy, during the Army Acquisition Corps Awards Ceremony Oct. 9 in Alexandria, Va.

are presented," Cote said.

He applauded the work of his predecessor, Lt. Col. Jong Lee, who started the program and is currently the product manager for Fixed Wing Aircraft.

"Had it not been for Jong Lee and very tight group of people in the initial stages that set the conditions for success early on, we wouldn't be where we are today," Cote said. "They put the strategy together, and they figured it out."

Based on the initial construct, Cote expanded the knowledge base which set the stage for success.

"These awards recognize the very best in our business," Heidi Shyu, acting assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, said. The competition was very stiff, she said, adding that it only demonstrates the talent and dedication of the acquisition community.

"You walk away and realize that in everything that we do, there is a mission and a cost, and we do it all for the Soldiers," Shyu said.

Three training 407 helicopters were delivered to the Iraqis in December 2010. The new T407s are now being used to train Iraqi

Army pilots how to fly and maintain the aircraft and will create a smoother transition to the Iraqi Armed 407 Armed Scout Helicopters, which are antici-

ated to be delivered in spring 2012. The delivery schedule of the armed versions of the helicopter is contingent on the next Contractor Logistics Support that the Iraqi government will soon sign and implement. "The initial delivery anticipated to be another three aircraft. That is how many will fit in a C-17 and will be our mode of transporting these aircraft to Iraq," Cote said.

The Iraqi 407 team has completed its prototyping activities, airworthiness evaluation testing, the component testing and is working toward completion of the technical data package, which will reflect the final configuration of the aircraft through the prototyping activity. Modifications on the Armed 407 have begun, and the team recently inducted the 12th program aircraft onto the production line. Training on the armed version began Oct. 11 on Redstone Arsenal and is the second phase of the Instructor and Key Personnel Training. Here, key personnel and instructors will receive Iraqi Armed 407 configuration specific training. "These are U.S. Army pilots that get trained here and will go to Iraq to train the Iraqis," Cote said.

Cote first learned of his nomination

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Youngsters' pumpkin patch visit grows smiles



Photo by Ellen Hudson

From left, Markeean Lutz, Julia Schwartz and Dallas LaGrand get to know a furry baby bunny.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Crossing from one fun place to another are, from left, Markeean Lutz, Anna Mae Metcalf, Shelby Bryant, Kenyan Hollier and Sydney Ratcliff.

By ELLEN HUDSON
Staff photographer

It is that time of year when Tate Farms Cotton Pickin' Pumpkins in Meridianville is swarming with classrooms of kids and families from throughout the Tennessee Valley.

Thursday's visitors included the Pre-K (4-year-olds) class members of teacher Cynthia Moring-Jones from the Mills Road Child Development

Center. Other teachers present included Michelle Vincent and Josephine Curry, plus several parents.

The smiling children first went to the petting zoo, where they visited with rabbits, sheep, goats, pigs and saw a newborn calf. In the pig stall were four baby pigs hiding in their small shelter, when the kids gathered around a teacher who eased a piglet out. Suddenly the piglet squealed, and

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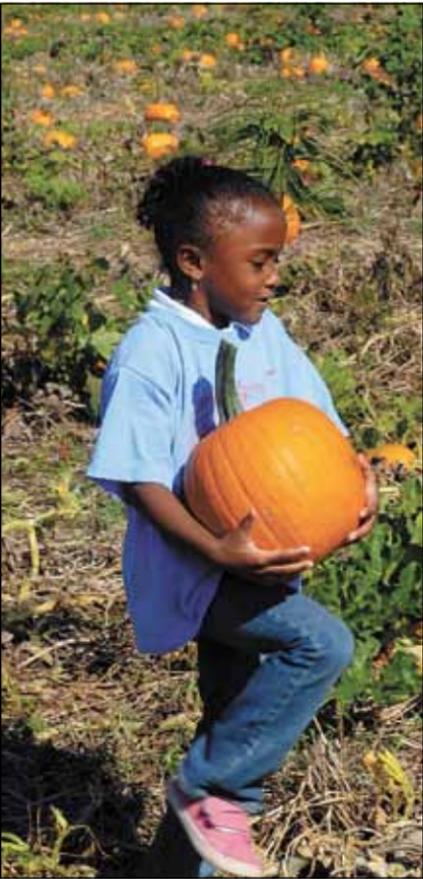


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Sydney Ratcliff carries her pumpkin back to the hay wagon.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

From left, Caleb Marion, Shelby Bryant, Julia Schwartz and Lylah Worsley ease up to pet a baby pig after it had squealed and scared all of the children off.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Members of the Pre-K class, of teacher Cynthia Moring-Jones, pile into a fun corn crib.

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the children screamed and ran. Parents and teachers laughed.

Next there was the bouncer, the hay maze and a unique playground, followed

by playing in a bin full of corn. Then they went on a hay ride in a wagon pulled by a tractor. The hayride went through a cotton field and ended up in a pumpkin patch, where the pumpkins were still growing on their vines. The tractor driver cut the pumpkins from the vines one by one as each youngster picked out the one she or he wanted to take home.

Organization helps clear path for youth education

Like many schools across the United States, Athens Middle School incorporates early robotic programs to enrich youth education. Some 179 students in the seventh- and eighth-grade begin a semester chocked full of fun and rigor that includes instruction in basic robotics, programming, mobility, sensors and design.

"In the first nine weeks, we work on moving forward and turning," Jennifer Kennedy, gifted specialist at this north Alabama public school, said. "In the second nine weeks, we explore different sensors and how they work. The second nine-week exam requires students to design their own robot that uses one or more sensors to complete a task."

But unlike many schools across the United States, Athens Middle School has a "sugar daddy" — the Pathfinder Chapter of the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International. A 501 (c) (6) non-profit organization, the chapter recently awarded \$97,100 to 52 K-12 schools and three other robotic organizations.

"These grants are making a difference," Don Jones, Pathfinder's treasurer and long-standing supporter of the chapter's benevolent fund-raising activities, said. "Fifty-five area schools and organizations will have introduced robotics technology to some 3,475 students in this academic year alone."

Pathfinder support contributed to 355 students entering science and engineering programs at the college level since the chapter began tracking recent results.

One week prior to receiving checks, schools and organizations were required to present a short marketing pitch. Pathfinder's Education Committee used results to

help determine the size of each award.

Two annual Pathfinder fund-raising activities generate revenue. An Unmanned Systems Roadmap to the Future symposium occurs at the Von Braun Center in March of each year. Open to the public and featuring more than 50 exhibits, the first day of the Roadmap symposium provides strategic and operational insight from the Army Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office. On the second day, a variety of cross-domain (ground, space, and/or maritime) presentations round out the Roadmap event.

Pathfinder also sponsors a UAS Warfighter Round Table — a by-invitation-only event for UAS users and operators. In this forum, operators enjoy freedom to share knowledge and experience that cultivate improvements in unmanned aircraft systems and associated tactics, techniques, procedures and training — all without retribution. The Round Table event is held in late spring or early summer at a location which changes each year. In 2011, it was held in Tucson, Ariz.

"Nothing is free," Terry Griffin, chairman of the past two Roadmap symposiums and current Pathfinder Chapter president, said. "We work hard, and our wonderful recipients know it. We do what we do pro bono — and mostly outside normal working hours since we all have 'real jobs.'"

"We are very proud of our program, and we truly have AUVSI to thank for it," Kennedy said in a letter to the Pathfinder Chapter. "Your grants over the past four years have fully funded our Lego purchases and the development of our curriculum. I am excited that so many of our students are excited to learn about robotics." (*Pathfinder Chapter release*)

Retired lieutenant colonel dies

Retired Lt. Col. Robert Preston Loshbough died Oct. 10 in Huntsville. He was 81.

He was born Dec. 13, 1929 in Toledo, Ohio, to Thelma Ruth Loshbough and Russell Lincoln Loshbough.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Geraldine Shipman Loshbough; two daughters, Debra A. Loshbough of Roswell, Ga., and

Denise M. Speta of Chicago; two grandchildren, Mason Speta, 16, and Cameron Speta, 13; a brother, Charles Loshbough of Westerville, Ohio; three nephews and two nieces.

Services were held Friday at Berryhill Funeral Home Chapel, and interment at Huntsville Memory Gardens with full military honors.

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through an email generated invitation to the awards dinner as a nominee. He said he verified its authenticity with his boss, Col. Robert Grigsby, project manager for Armed Scout Helicopters, because it was hard for him to believe he was even nominated. "It's a humbling thing," Cote said. "From a military perspective, you just stay focused on what you've been asked to do. What it really represents is not me, but a huge team here on Redstone Arsenal that back in 2008 looked at this endeavor and said, 'Hey we can do that.' We've learned and formed some teams that probably would have never met to bring the whole effort to fruition."

Organizations such as the Security Assistance Command, Aviation and Mis-

sile Command, Redstone Test Center, and the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center formed a cohesive, efficient and effective team that is helping America's Iraqi allies bring security to their country.

"You name it, somebody has some skin in this game, coordinating it all the way from the Ministry of Defense in Iraq aviation command, to USASAC and the PM," Cote said.

Some 132 individuals were nominated in 13 different categories. Among them were PEO Aviation nominees including Col. Bert Vergez for Project Manager of the Year, Ed Gozdur for Acquisition Career Management, Andrew Ksepka for Army Acquisition Excellence Awards, the Shadow Reliability Team for Equipping and Sustaining Our Soldier's Systems, and the Aviation Data Exploitation Capability Team for Transforming the Way We Do Business.



Courtesy photo

Anti-abuse month

From left are Army Community Service victim advocate coordinator Colleen Nicholson, ACS family advocacy program manager Virginia Dempsey and Redstone police officer James Deen. For October's Domestic Abuse Prevention Month, the police have put on their vehicles purple ribbon car magnets, which say "End Domestic Abuse."

Survivor families spend day of fall festival fellowship

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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With determination and a smile on his face, KayCee Chaney, 4, put paintbrush to pumpkin, crafting his own work of art and proudly displaying it for all to see. But it wasn't just his pretty pumpkin he was smiling about – it was the chance to be with kids just like him. Gold Star kids.

“It's good for him to know he's not the only one in the world that's a Gold Star Kid,” mom Krystal Chaney said. “It's healthy for him to realize we can all move forward.”

It was laughter and tears, sunshine and burgers, pumpkin painting and flag football Saturday at the Survivor Outreach Services Fall Festival, sponsored by Space and Missile Defense Command, held at commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica's home. More than 40 mothers, fathers, wives, children, siblings, grandparents and other relatives of fallen Soldiers gathered to spend time with each other, share stories and remember, and simply have fun.

“We're a military family,” said Jim Hall, whose son Staff Sgt. James Le Hall lost his battle with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma a year ago last week. “This gives us an opportunity to meet some of the

people here in the community that are going through the same thing – they've lost a loved one. You're trying to fill that void for someone that's not here.”

For Chaney, whose husband Spc. Cole Chaney was killed in the line of duty in 2008, the festival was also an opportunity to celebrate her fallen Soldier's life, and the life she and her son lead today.

“I think an event like this honors the sacrifice that our Soldiers lived before they died and helps keep us connected with the Army community that became a lot of our identity when we were married to the Army,” Chaney said. “A lot of people say the sacrifice is when they died, which it definitely is, but I think the sacrifice is also what they lived. This helps us concentrate on the life, versus the death part.”

Formica, Redstone power commander Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers and Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton and their families were all on hand to spend time with the SOS families as they played, relaxed and enjoyed a cookout donated by the Officers and Civilians Club. As Formica welcomed each visitor in his driveway, there was no mistaking the commitment to these Gold Star families that exists not only within Redstone Arsenal's leadership, but Team Redstone in its entirety.

“This is about families,” Formica said.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Emily McFall, center, bids farewell to the Survivor Outreach Services community that she has grown to love and care for as the first coordinator of the program at Army Community Service. Kerrie Branson, left, took over the position as McFall departed Monday. Lt. Gen. Richard Formica honored McFall, and the SOS families, in a Fall Festival, sponsored by SMDC, Saturday at his home.

“Whatever caused you to be here, and whatever your connection, we want to welcome you and we want you to feel like the Redstone family... Thanks for

this opportunity to come together and be a family. We're proud to be part of this family. As you continue your progress,

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Picnic

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and life continues for you, we want to be part of that.”

While Chaney still grieves for her husband every day, through the help of SOS, Team Redstone, and events such as the Fall Festival, she is able to continue living and enjoying life.

“Grief is very personal and each person’s different,” Chaney said. “I’m just really trying to focus on moving forward and what I still have.”

As at all Survivor Outreach events, children were paired with an adult mentor, to help ensure they had a safe, but enjoyable time, and had the opportunity to talk about and remember their Soldier, giving the adults a chance to relax, knowing their children were taken care of. In addition to spending time with each other, the event also gave an opportunity for SOS families to bid farewell to Emily McFall – the program’s coordinator since its inception in 2010, who is choosing to move on to a new chapter in her life – and welcome new coordinator, Kerrie Branson.

“Emily McFall has done an exceptional job implementing this program and I am very excited to continue growing and expanding the support services to our survivors in honor of their Soldiers,” Branson said. “I know their Soldiers would be proud of what we are doing to support their families. I’m extremely honored to be a part of serving and caring for our surviving families. They are truly amazing families and an inspiration to me.

“As Lt. Gen. Formica said to the mentors in preparation for the day’s events, we want to become a small army to the survivors surrounding Redstone Arsenal. We want to make it easier for them to get support and services and develop relationships with our staff and family members, so they feel a part of the Redstone family. During the fall festival, I looked



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Kohl Kraus runs the ball during a game of flag football at the Survivor Outreach Services Fall Festival.

around at all the children whose fathers have died while serving our military, and realized just how important these events are. Not only does it give them an opportunity to develop friendships with other children who have experienced the loss of a Soldier, it’s a time for them to be proud of their Soldier’s service to our country, to our military, and to continue to be part of a patriotic community. They never forget their loved ones and we never want to forget them either.”



Photo by Ellen Hudson

KayCee Chaney, 4, paints his pumpkin at the Survivor Outreach Services Fall Festival.

'I can beat this, I can live'

Breast cancer detection, treatment saving lives

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

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There are many ways to describe Bennie Jacks – a Gurley girl, born and raised in North Alabama, devoted wife of Paul, who was the light of her life and love of her heart for 42 years, proud mother and grandmother, NASA employee for 45 years – but perhaps the greatest title she is able to list on her resume of life experience is breast cancer survivor. And it is a badge of honor that never would have been hers, had it not been for early detection.

“A lot of people think that this is not going to happen to me,” Jacks said. “If there’s breast cancer in your family or cancer in your family, you carry that gene, you just don’t know where it’s going to appear. We know our bodies and we know when something’s really wrong with us, and we should pay attention to those flags when we get them. But sometimes we don’t. We ignore them, we get too busy, we get too wrapped up in other things we’re involved in, and time just passes on – it’s gone before you know it – and then it’s too late to correct something



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Kimberly Montgomery, a Strong Beginnings pre-K teacher at the Mills Road Child Development Center, provided a table full of food and awareness materials for fellow teachers at the Mills CDC teacher's lounge in memory of her mother, who died from the disease. "I want people to be aware of the dangers out there with breast cancer," Montgomery said.

that needs attention right away.”

An estimated 232,620 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed this year, according to the American Cancer Society, and approximately 39,970 will die from this disease. In Alabama alone, the society estimates 3,700 new cases of female breast cancer will be diagnosed sometime in 2011, and 700 will lose their battle.

“These are two words that strike a lot of fear in people’s hearts,” said Mary Bouldin, RN and nurse educator for the Wellness Clinic at Fox Army Health Center, who spoke to the Redstone Arsenal Community Women’s Club Oct. 11 about breast cancer awareness. “No woman wants to receive a breast cancer diagnosis, but it doesn’t necessarily mean an end now.”

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time set aside each year nationally to educate the public about the disease and promote screening opportunities available in communities. As awareness has increased each year, and the efforts to provide funding for research and treatment with it, the diagnosis of breast cancer has changed from a death sentence to an opportunity for hope and survival.

“Awareness has made a huge difference in the survival of breast cancer, and not only the survival, but being able to take care of it quickly and easily,” said Julie McCain, Breast Care manager for Crestwood’s Women’s Center. “We’re finding cancers at their very, very early and curable stages, and that’s the goal.”

“It’s important that not just in the month of October, but all year-round, we bring to the forefront the importance of women’s imaging and getting your annual screening mammograms,” women’s imaging specialist Dr. Robin Gwaltney said. “It saves lives. It’s the best modality we have to screen for breast cancer.”

Early detection is vital in ensuring that cancers are found at early and curable stages. The American Cancer Society recommends that all women 40 and over have annual screening mammograms and clinical breast exams. Women in their 20s and 30s should have a clinical breast exam by a health care professional at least once every three years. Beginning in their 20s, women may also choose to perform self-exams at home and should report any changes to their healthcare provider immediately. The key is to not just be aware of the steps women can take for their breast health, but to actually take them.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Bennie Jacks, a NASA employee, constantly strives to pay it forward as a nine-year breast cancer survivor.

“One of the biggest issues we all face these days is a serious time crunch,” said women’s imaging specialist and medical director of the Breast Center at Huntsville Hospital Dr. Libby Shadinger. “When we are so busy, we tend to forget about ourselves and certainly about our health maintenance. Time passes so quickly that we could assume that we just had a mammogram six months ago when in fact it has been three years. Having a yearly reminder, in my opinion, is a good way to keep us on track. Since mammography has been shown in studies to decrease the breast cancer mortality rate by up to 30 percent, this reminder is clearly important.”

It is thanks to early detection that Jacks is still here today. It was during a routine mammogram in February 2002 that the technician spotted a suspicious spot outside of Jacks’ breast, and wanted to retake the X-ray. While she had been noticeably fatigued and not feeling quite like herself, nothing out of the ordinary had caused Jacks concern during recent self-exams.

“I thought nothing of it because I did my normal monthly exams just like everybody is supposed to do,” Jacks said. “I did not detect any alarms or flags to think



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Mary Bouldin, a registered nurse for Fox Army Health Center's Wellness Clinic, speaks about breast cancer awareness to the Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club Oct. 11 at the Officers and Civilians Club.

that I had breast cancer. If I had not gone for my exam, I may not be here today.”

Despite a history of cancer in her family, she was not prepared for the diagnosis – a soft tumor in her breast, 0 to stage 1 breast cancer – that would’ve gone undetected had it not been for her annual mammogram.

“You could’ve knocked me off the table with a feather,” Jacks said when she heard the words breast cancer. “I was attune to

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“You don’t see it anymore, but that doesn’t mean it’s not there,” he said. “It may have gone dormant. But I know it will raise its ugly head if given the chance. Gangs are here and they are not going away. They are here to stay.”

Gangs are defined by their numbers and their activities. If three or more people are involved in criminal activity that benefits a group or themselves, they are considered a gang. They are particularly attractive to teenagers because they can provide a sense of belonging, can offer easy access to drugs and alcohol, and can seem like an attractive fast-paced and flashy lifestyle, among other things. To a lost and confused teenager, gangs may represent power, protection, love, money, girls, drugs and fear.

“We don’t tolerate what they do. There is zero tolerance in schools with gangs,”

McDuffie said. “We try to educate about the dangers of being in a gang. You can get in a gang, but it can be hard to get out.”

Besides talking to community and civic groups about gang activity, McDuffie and Atkinson are involved in a Huntsville summer camp each year that works to educate middle school children about gangs and uses positive experiences — such as swimming, karate classes and putt-putt golf — to share the anti-gang message.

But young teens aren’t the only ones who need to hear that message.

“Because gangs are so prevalent, we have to have an educational program in place that educates our faculty and school staff, our students and our community. We’ve shared our message with the mayor, county commissioners and other leaders,” McDuffie said.

“We have to take the time to do something positive and proactive to raise community awareness of gangs or they will rise up. We do this for the simple reason of trying to make a difference in kids’ lives.”

McDuffie and Atkinson, who are both retired military police officers and certified gang specialists, recently attended the National Gang Crime Research Center in Chicago. During the week they were there, 14 gang killings were reported in the city. One involved a teenager who was shot while playing basketball. Another involved a 6-year-old who was shot while sleeping on a couch at home.

“We have to be aware so that these types of things won’t happen here,” McDuffie said. “We take the message about gangs to any group who wants to hear it. We’ve been on the Arsenal before with our program. We will go to Scottsboro, Decatur, anywhere we are asked. That’s our passion. We want to get out to as many as we can so they are educated and informed about gangs.”

Positive groups and positive friends, and families that spend time together and care for each other are some of the best weapons in fighting gangs. In the schools, McDuffie said it is important for teenagers to be active in traditional groups,

such as band, sports, hobby and interest groups, JROTC programs, religious organizations and civic leadership clubs.

“But even with these groups, gangs can get a hold if we aren’t careful and watchful. They cross all spectrums,” McDuffie said.

“Students and parents see it all the time, but it doesn’t register. Gangs aren’t at the alarm state here, but you see signs of them and we’ve even had some shootings that have been gang related. Whatever city or county you go to, you’re going to see it. People just don’t want to be aware of it, and that’s the scary thing.”

Gangs like Bloods, Crips, MS13, 18th Street Gangsters, L.A. Kings and Disciples are known to have a presence in Huntsville and North Alabama. The officers will share information about these gangs and their activities at the workshop Oct. 27.

“We want to give parents and the community a basic knowledge and awareness of gangs,” McDuffie said. “They need to be aware.”

Cancer

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what cancer means and how it affects your loved ones and your family, but for me personally it was very, very difficult. You’re in a state of denial at first, and then your next thought is, ‘I can beat this. I can live.’ With the proper treatment plans and research we have today, lives are really saved.”

A full mastectomy, followed by five years on Arimidex, a drug used to treat early breast cancer in women, was the price Jacks had to pay for her survival, now at nine years and counting.

“I am very, very blessed and thankful,” Jacks said. “I’m a Christian and I believe that God was in my life and for that I am very thankful. If you have family, friends and a network of support people providing you with the energy and the courage, you can beat it.”

In the years following her diagnosis, Jacks has worked to give back, becoming involved with the American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer

Foundation, Liz Hurley Ribbon Run and the Sandra J. Byrant Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support Group.

“Something good always comes out of something bad,” Jacks said. “We don’t know what our life is going to have to undertake, but we know there’s some great people out there helping us go through it. I like to pay it forward because people were there for me.”

Across the Tennessee Valley, healthcare professionals are ready and waiting to help women take control of their breast health.

The Breast Center at Huntsville Hospital, located in the Women’s Pavilion, 910 Adams St., Suite 110, is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Services provided include all-digital mammography, breast MRI and breast specific gamma imaging. To schedule a mammogram, call 265-9999.

Breast Care at Crestwood Women’s Center, located at 185 Chateau Drive, is open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Services provided include digital screening mammogram, digital diagnostic mammograms, computer aided detection, breast ultrasound, ductogram,

biopsy and bone densitometry. Breast MRI services are provided at the Crestwood Outpatient Diagnostic & Imaging Center. Therapeutic services include vacuum-assisted stereotactic-guided biopsy, vacuum-assisted ultrasound-guided biopsy, cyst aspiration, fine needle aspiration and needle core biopsy. To schedule a mammogram call 429-4888.

Patients are encouraged to bring any information about prior mammograms with them to their appointment, including previous films if they have them. A physician’s order is not required to schedule a mammogram.

“Our job and our role is to be an advocate for the patient and to try to make sure their breast health is taken care of, because we’re the only people that see these films from year to year,” Gwaltney said. “When you come in and we read your mammogram, if we say it’s negative, you’re gone for a year. We spend a lot of time on every mammogram. We study things and review all of your films from before and compare them to make sure there haven’t been any changes, because our goal is to detect cancers as early as we can possibly find them. We really do our best to serve the community in that role.”

Gwaltney and Shadinger are the only two radiologists in Huntsville that are fellowship trained in breast imaging. Both with Radiology of Huntsville, they interpret exams at Huntsville Hospital and Crestwood Medical Center, as well as other outpatient facilities in the area that offer mammograms and breast imaging. In addition to reading images, they provide education throughout the community, and are readily available to answer patients’ questions, calm fears or



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Julie McCain, left, breast cancer manager for Crestwood Women’s Center, and Dr. Robin Gwaltney, a fellowship trained breast imager with Radiology of Huntsville who interprets exams at both Huntsville Hospital and Crestwood Medical Center, look at a film at Crestwood Women’s Center.

explain what the next step in care will be. It is their expertise, paired with the latest technology, according to McCain, which gives women in the Tennessee Valley all the best in breast care.

“They’re here every day of the year to answer questions and to give that education back to our community — and they really want to, which is something special,” McCain said. “They don’t want to sit in a dark room and look at images all day, they want to be out talking to people, meeting people. It’s just a continual process of getting that education out there to patients because every day there’s a new generation of patients that’s ready to start annual breast care.”

Breast cancer resources available in community

Fox Army Health Center will host a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, Oct. 28 at noon, beginning at Fox’s flag pole. A lunch and learn, “A Touch of Breast Cancer Awareness,” presented by Sandy Cross with Huntsville Hospital will be held in the Fox Den on Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lunch and to come and learn more about breast cancer awareness.

The Breast Center at Huntsville Hospital, located in the Women’s Pavilion, 910 Adams St., Suite 110, is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To schedule a mammogram, call 265-9999.

Breast Care at Crestwood Women’s Center, 185 Chateau Drive, is open 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. To schedule a mammogram, call 429-4888.

Green

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Army values because you see the same people you left when you went in the Army and they are still on the same block," he said. "But living the Army values really changed me as a person. I credit those Soldiers who led me and my family support for all of that."

Besides giving him values, the Army also led Green to his wife, Carrie, who now works for Army Community Service and who is the mother of his three children – 9-year-old Savaughn, 6-year-old Shaun and 4-year-old Sydney. The two were both serving in the Army in Germany when they met.

"We were just flat-out friends hanging out together," Green said. "We started teasing each other by saying we were boyfriend/girlfriend. Then we started living it. When she broke up with me, I had to go back and get her."

His Army career also included assignments at Fort Bragg, Fort Campbell, Ky., and in Korea. Along the way, his military occupational specialty changed from administration to air traffic control. He deployed in 2008 to Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan for 15 months serving with the Combined Joint Task Force.

"That was another enlightening mo-

ment," Green said. "We had just found out Carrie was pregnant with our youngest. She was also in school taking classes to get her bachelor's degree. It was really tough on her."

In Afghanistan, Green worked to manage the airspace coordination and control system at the Bagram airfield, ensuring that rotary wing aircraft stayed at or below a certain altitude, fixed winged aircraft stayed above a certain altitude, and parts of airspace were allocated for operational missions and unmanned aircraft.

As the aviation operations sergeant for the Regional Command East, Green worked to coordinate 857 Medevac missions, and numerous aviation personnel movements and requests for combat aviation support. At forward operating bases, Green helped to streamline aviation processes and identify areas for improvement. He also drafted fixed wing standard operating procedures for the task force.

"It really took a team effort," he said.

In October 2008, Green learned his next assignment would be as a student in the Army's Equal Opportunity Advisory Course at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, Fort Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.

"That schooling has made me what I am now," Green said. "It took all my experiences and background, and was the true beginning of who I am now."

Owings

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on how the Army's going to operate, not just now but also for the foreseeable future," Owings said.

Crediting his team who "always believed" in him, Owings saw the change in the acceptance of UAS into the Army aviation culture and how UAS has fundamentally changed the way the Army fights. "I'm very proud of what we're accomplishing in terms of influencing that," he said.

Owings' efforts have not gone unnoticed over the years. He has received several prestigious awards throughout his career, including the most notable Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award in 2010, the highest civilian award given by DoD. He was the only Army civilian to receive the award that year and stands among greatness with few others recognized at this level in the Army, including Dr. Wernher Von Braun, Dr. Joseph Cribbins and Walter Hollis.

Owings was also named top Civilian of the Year in 2008 by the Association of the U.S. Army, earned the Superior and Meritorious Civilian Service Medals, named Operations Manager of the

Year by the Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International in 2001, and has received countless accolades and earned the respect of his peers, superiors and subordinates.

Great leaders are usually formed by the greatest influencers in their lives, and in Owings' case, it was his mother. As one of two boys in the family and raised by his single mother, Owings attributes all his success to her, who made certain his priorities were set straight. "I learned that the way to get out of the environment is through education," he said.

He pushed himself to learning more both from school and from people, some of whom have been incredibly influential mentors throughout his career. "Mentors and leaders like David Washington who first hired me, Paul Bogosian, Maj. Gen. Crosby, Gen. Dick Cody. ... They have been such phenomenal supporters of mine and great leaders in their own right," he said.

The biggest contributors to his success outside of his family have been the employees. "The greatest thing is every time we'd walk into a meeting, everyone would have everyone's back. We're on the same page. We may have some battles within the family, but once we walk into the outer arena

Green has become well-known for his work for Team Redstone in providing equal opportunity and fair treatment instruction and counseling, and ethnic observance programs; working toward ensuring a work environment free of unlawful discrimination and offensive behavior; processing employee complaints; and monitoring the execution of equal opportunity programs throughout the installation.

"Like any program, everything has its challenges," he said. "But knowing the power of people and using the power of people you can accomplish anything. There are so many here at Redstone who have really helped me make the program what it is today."

He has enjoyed working in teams with Redstone employees, providing them with awareness training and counseling.

"There are ah-ha moments popping up all over the place at Redstone," he said. "There are a lot of challenges in this job, a lot of sticky subjects that you have to confront. We all come from so many different walks of life and so many different perspectives, that the work is very interesting. Most of the time, my work involves correcting inaccurate perceptions."

Green and his family have enjoyed the Redstone community so much, that it became a major factor in his decision to retire.

"This is a good time for me to retire.

that we were together in one team," he said.

"Not until you've sat in these deputy roles, you don't completely realize it," Owings said referring to the dynamics in leadership and realizing that mentoring is a two-way street. "I talk several times a day with my new boss, Col. Tim Baxter, and we bring different insights to different problems. There's a bit of beauty to the way we do that in the fact that the military being here three years and then changing out – what that does is it refreshes the idea set and energy level of the organization."

Asked what he would impart to his work force, Owings said: "I want them to maintain that innovative spirit, I want them to develop as people and leaders. I want them to believe that as a government engineer, as a government logistician, you can make a difference in the world. You can make a difference in the Army one person at a time. But in order to do that, you cannot accept the first answer you get because it's always no."

To his successor, Owings' advice is to value the role of the civilian deputy position. "I've always believed that the deputy should be visible, the deputy should be out front to the degree that they can and certainly the principal element of civilian management and

Redstone has been a change of pace for me that I really needed," he said. "Team Redstone and the surrounding community have really helped me and my family make up our mind to make this our home."

"It's the whole community, the people, the schools. It's been an overwhelming sense of community for us. We've found our comfort zone here. We want to stay here and be part of this community."

Green hopes to continue working on the Arsenal, only in a civilian capacity.

"First and foremost, I want to continue to serve, even though I'm not in uniform. I don't want to lose any of the relationships that I have on Redstone Arsenal," he said.

He also hopes to continue to be an example to young people who are struggling to find their place in society. He has often spoken about his own journey at local schools, the Boys and Girls Club, and at community events.

"I stay involved in the community because I, too, have walked in those kids' paths. They can do it. They can make something of themselves. But they have to have the want and the drive," Green said.

"I give them the real deal. I tell them who I am and where I came from. They've done nothing in comparison with my past. I tell them it can be different for them. They don't have to be a self-fulfilling prophesy. They can be anything they want to be. However, it starts with self."

professional development. The second piece is empowerment of people. What we've done effectively is identify leaders early and give them opportunities. I think keeping that attitude is what keeps young people motivated. You've got to make them believe that they matter here," he said.

For Owings, the farewell is bitter-sweet. As he made his last speeches, conducted his last interviews with news reporters, and walked through the halls at the annual AUSA convention Oct. 10-12, he knew in his heart the void he will feel. "I will miss the people the most," he said. "I will miss the camaraderie the most."

"The one thing that makes me feel comfortable with the timing of my departure is that I feel we have a fantastic new project manager with Col. Tim Baxter. We also have built a fantastic leadership team both in the military and civilian side. They know what right looks like, and they will lead the work force in newer, bigger and better things.

"My career in the Army has been incredibly fulfilling with some of the most amazing people I've ever worked with anywhere. It's been a wonderful place to learn, and we've been able to accomplish tremendous things on behalf of our war fighters."

Win or Lose

Army football team gears up to visit Vanderbilt



The Southeastern Conference has announced that Army's game at Vanderbilt on Saturday will kickoff at 6 p.m. at Vanderbilt Stadium in Nashville. ESPNU will carry the game live to a national audience.

The Black Knights (2-4) will play their final game of the season at Michie Stadium at West Point, N.Y., against Fordham Oct. 29 and will be the home team against Rutgers Nov. 11 at Yankee Stadium. The Fordham game has been announced as a sellout but tickets remain for the contest at Yankee Stadium.

Season ticket holders, donors and alumni can take advantage of a discounted price and ensure their location in the Army cheering section by purchasing their seats through the Army Athletics Ticket Office.

Fans can secure their seats on-line at www.goARMYsports.com, by calling the Army Athletics Ticket Office

Photo from goARMYsports.com

Army team captains take the field for a game.

at 1-877-TIX-ARMY or by visiting the Army Box Office located in the lobby of the Holleder Center.

Army has partnered with the New York Yankees to secure a variety of quality seating locations at various price points, including premium seating areas.

The Turkey Hill Party Area, located near the Gate 2 entrance of Yankee Stadium, includes a \$150 ticket, a seat in section 134, which is located on the field level with a sideline view, as well as a pregame tailgate party with ballpark fare and non-alcoholic beverages included.

The Delta Sky360o Suite is also available for fans looking for a premium experience. Located in the end zone (directly behind home plate during baseball games), the \$85 per-ticket suite includes outdoor seats, a climate-controlled lounge and an outdoor patio area. The Delta Sky360o Suite features a variety of pay-as-you-go food options.

In addition to the premium sections,

Army fans have the option of purchasing seats in a variety of locations at several different prices. Field level seating in sections 127B through 130 and sections 132 through 134, which offer a sideline view of the field are available at a cost of \$95 per ticket. Field level seats in sections 125 through 127A which are located in the corner of the end zone, are priced at \$60 per ticket.

Tickets not purchased through Army Athletics are not included in the discounted pricing structure. Legends seats will be priced at \$190, while Delta Sky360o Suite tickets will cost \$100. Field level seats will be priced at \$110 for sideline seats and \$80 for end zone view tickets. Main level tickets will move to \$100 for sideline seating and \$70 for end zone seats, while tickets on the terrace level jump to \$80 for sideline views and \$50 for the end zone views. Grandstand sideline tickets will cost \$50 and grandstand end zone seats will be priced at \$35. Bleacher seats cost \$35. (goARMYsports.com website)

Louisiana State keeps rolling past Auburn

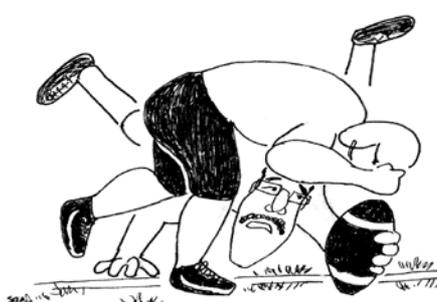
By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Skip's Picks were 255-70 for 78 percent after six weeks of college football. Here are my predictions on this week's games:

Auburn at LSU – **LSU**
 Tennessee at Alabama – **Bama**
 UCLA at Arizona – **UCLA**
 West Virginia at Syracuse – **WV**
 North Carolina at Clemson – **Clemson**
 N. Carolina St. at Virginia – **Virginia**
 Maryland at Florida St. – **FSU**
 Wake Forest at Duke – **Wake Forest**
 Georgia Tech at Miami (Fla.) – **Ga. Tech**



Jacksonville State at Kentucky – **UK**
 Illinois at Purdue – **Illinois**
 Oklahoma St. at Missouri – **Okla. St.**
 Cincinnati at South Florida – **Cincy**
 Indiana at Iowa – **Iowa**
 Kansas St. at Kansas – **KSU**
 Arkansas at Mississippi – **Arkansas**
 New Mexico at TCU – **TCU**
 Wofford at Furman – **Wofford**
 Boston College at Virginia Tech – **VT**

Chattanooga at Elon – **Chattanooga**
 Idaho State at BYU – **BYU**
 Air Force at Boise St. – **Boise**
 East Carolina at Navy – **Navy**
 Texas A&M at Iowa St. – **Texas A&M**

Nebraska at Minnesota – **Nebraska**
 Memphis at Tulane – **Tulane**
 Oregon at Colorado – **Oregon**
 Fresno St. at Nevada – **Fresno St.**
 Marshall at Houston – **Houston**
 Montana at Northern Arizona – **Montana**
 Utah at California – **Utah**
 Army at Vanderbilt – **Vandy**
 Tulsa at Rice – **Tulsa**
 Penn St. at Northwestern – **Penn St.**
 USC at Notre Dame – **Notre Dame**
 Texas Tech at Oklahoma – **Oklahoma**
 Wisconsin at Michigan St. – **Wisconsin**
 SMU at Southern Miss – **So. Miss**
 Colorado St. at UTEP – **Colo. St.**
 Washington at Stanford – **Stanford**
 Oregon St. at Washington St. – **Wash. St.**
 New Mexico St. at Hawaii – **Hawaii**

Titles

continued from page 1

than I thought it would. Just a great competition just kind of carried me through.

"I really didn't expect to run that fast. But it all worked out though. I'd like to come back next year if I can."

Schroeder, the team captain, was a re-

peat top performer for Redstone.

"I think it was a great day to go running," Schroeder said. "The team was prepared and ready and everything turned out well."

The Redstone team one runners included York, Brett Wilks (1:02:25), Randy McFarland (1:03:19), Tim Pitt (1:03:37), retiring Command Sgt. Maj. Rick Cooper (1:30:27) and assistant coach Skip Vaughn (1:49:45).

Redstone two runners included Schroeder, George Heeschen (56:44), Erik DeBolt (58:37), Joseph Robenson (1:10:16), Command Sgt. Maj. Corey Smallwood (1:12:46), coach Harry Hobbs (1:25:53) and Col. John Hamilton (1:34:16).

Lt. Col. Morris Bodrick (heart surgery), Rob Youngren (stress fracture) and Derrick Gould (knee surgery) were unable to run.

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of

the Army Materiel Command, congratulated Redstone's team members after the race. "You're all winners in my book," she said.

Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and senior commander for Redstone Arsenal, visited the Hooah Tent before the race. "There's no pressure. Just repeat," he jokingly told the runners.

Team Redstone did just that – twice.

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

UAH hockey night

The Association of the U.S. Army is sponsoring Military Appreciation Night for the University of Alabama-Huntsville hockey game against the Air Force Academy. The game is Friday at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center.

Slot car racing

Marshall Space Flight Center has begun a 1/32 slot car club for enthusiasts and is looking for new members. Membership is open to all those who work on the Arsenal (NASA employees, active/retired military, DoD civilians and contractors). The track is assembled in building 4666, and the club races most Friday evenings from 5-7. If interested, call Dave Cockrell 544-1279 or David Wilkie 544-3140.

Bass tournament

National Bass Fishing Trail, Alabama North District, serving the Redstone Arsenal and the Tennessee Valley area, is a tournament trail for the weekend angler. NBT offers a low cost entry fee and membership with a high percentage payout. No partner needed, this is a solo trail. However, junior division is also included for anglers 17 and under. Juniors fish with the adult that brings them, but against the other junior anglers. New members, non-boaters, large and small boats and juniors

are always welcome. Alabama North will hold its next tournament Oct. 29 at Pickwick Lake, at the McFarland ramp. For more information, visit nbtbass.com or contact Donnie Story 777-3428 or donnie@nbtbass.com.

Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

The Contemporary Christian Worship Service is held each Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. For more information, call 842-2964.

Protestant women

Beginning Thursday, you are invited to join the Protestant Women of the Chapel on Thursdays at Bicentennial Chapel as they meet for friendship, fellowship and Bible study. Choose from three sessions: morning from 9:30-11:30, lunch time from 11:30-12:30 and evening at 6. Some child care is available at the morning session, upon registration with Youth Services.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Breakfast is available at the club. 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 955-0727.

Small business workshop

The U.S. Army Contracting Command’s Office of Small Business Programs is conducting a “Small Business 101” workshop Oct. 26 for local small business owners interested in learning how to contract with the Army. Registration and more information are available at www.facebook.com/USArmyContractingCommand.

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 4488, room B-306. For information call Claudinette Purifoy 955-9422. 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.

Air defenders

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association will have its annual dinner dance Nov. 5 at 6 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Featured speaker is Brig. Gen. Heidi Brown, deputy for test at Missile Defense Agency. For more information and reservations, call Anna Gamble 922-9300, ext. 100, or email anna.gamble@irtc-hq.com.

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.

Engineering workshop

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers will conduct a workshop series Nov. 4-5 at the Von Braun Center. The IEEE workshop will cover topics on the cutting-edge of technical innovation today. It will offer two full day courses in Smart Grid, Software Engineering Essentials, Wireless Communications Engineering, and a career assistance track designed to help engineering and technology professionals. Attendees

can earn CEU credits for the courses they attend. The workshop will include a reception and plenary speaker address Nov. 4. Former NASA administrator Michael Griffin will address attendees during the evening’s reception. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.ieee.org/metroevents>.

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.

Losing weight

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter AL 0047, Huntsville, invites all who are interested in losing weight the safe way to its weekly meetings at the First Christian Church, 3209 Whitesburg Drive, at 10 a.m. Wednesday. The purpose of TOPS is to help you follow your doctors’ recommendations on losing weight through mutual help. For more information, visit <http://www.tops.org/default.aspx> and http://www.ehow.com/about_5415201_weight-loss-tops.html.

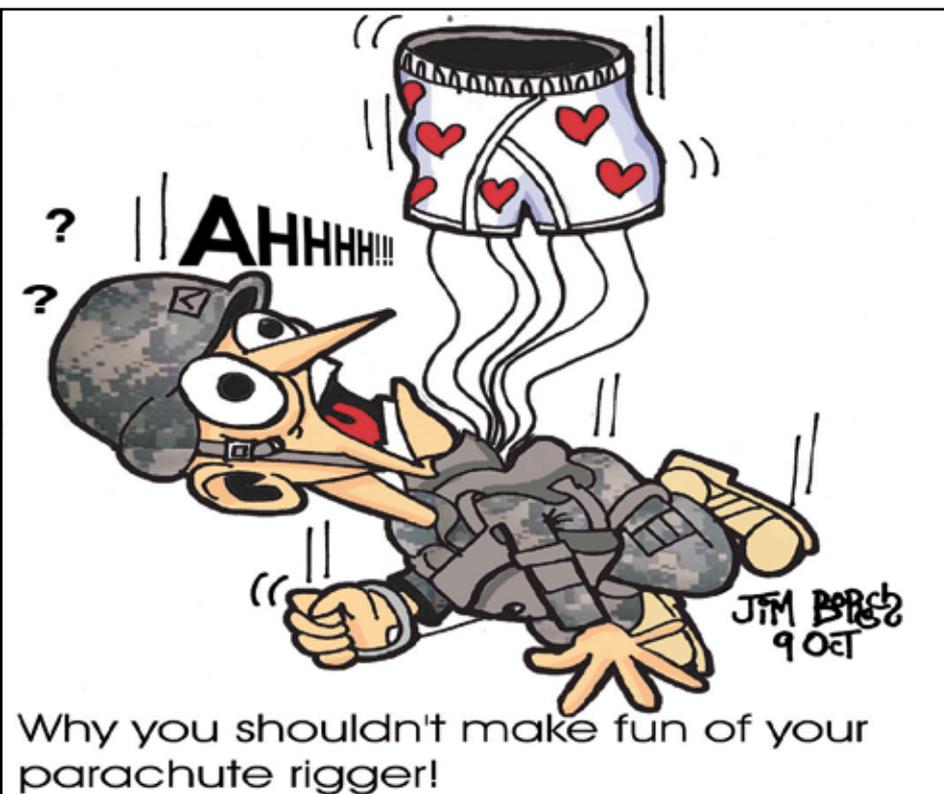
Southern Miss alumni

Retired Maj. Gen. Jeff Hammond will speak to the University of Southern Mississippi alumni associations and friends Nov. 16 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The luncheon is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in ballrooms 1 and 2. Cost will be \$16 per adult and checks payable to USM North Alabama Alumni Association. Send by Nov. 12 to Stacy A. Busby at 106 Rockingham Circle, Madison, AL 35756. For more information, email usmnov2011@busby-family.org. Hammond served as chief of staff for Forces Command. He also served as commander of the 4th Infantry Division and of the Multi-National Division in Baghdad, Iraq. He was a quarterback for the Golden Eagles from 1976-78. He joined in the Southern Miss athletic department in October 2010, and serves as the chief fund-raiser for the department.

Small business forum

The Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville is conducting its 12th annual Small Business Forum from 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 18 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, University Center. This is an opportunity for small businesses to talk with contracting professionals, program managers and subject matter experts from Huntsville Center about their programs and upcoming opportunities. The Huntsville Center supports very specialized missions that require unique technical expertise in programs that are

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Why you shouldn't make fun of your parachute rigger!

Rocket Announcements

generally regional or global and are very broad in scope. For more information about Huntsville Center programs visit <http://www.hnd.usace.army.mil> and review our "Fact Sheets." Pre-registration for the Small Business Forum is encouraged to help ensure appropriate representation of subject matter experts. Registration is free with information available on the web at <http://www.hnd.usace.army.mil>. If you have questions or comments, email sbo-hnc@usace.army.mil.

Small business conference

NDIA 15th annual Small Business Conference is Nov. 16-17 at the Westin Huntsville. This features the Army Materiel Command small business enterprise. For more information, visit <http://www.ndia-tvc.org/wpfallconf/>.

Reliability engineers

The Society of Reliability Engineers, Huntsville Chapter, invites you to its fourth annual RAM Workshop, Nov. 1-2 at the Holiday Inn Hotel Downtown, 401 Williams Ave. For more information and to register, call Anna Gamble 922-9300, ext. 100, email anna.gamble@irtc-hq.com or visit the website <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=46uhokgab&oeidk=a07e4acce3be6cc3c0d>.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, will hold its monthly luncheon Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. Stephen Cash, director of safety and mission assurance for Marshall Space Flight Center, is the guest speaker. For ticket information, call Audra Edwards 313-2382 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Women business owners

Earlier this year, the Small Business Administration gave women-owned businesses a leg up in securing government contracts. Through the Small Business Administration's Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program, 684,000 women business owners can potentially benefit from \$27 billion in contracting opportunities. To help business owners get the most out of the WOSB Federal Contract Program, "Give Me 5," an educational program created by American Express OPEN and Women Impacting Public Policy, will visit Huntsville on Oct. 26. The event, "Women Owned Small Business Procurement Program: Moving Forward and Winning Contracts," is free to all business owners and will take place from 1:30 to 5 p.m. at the Von Braun Center. For information call 535-2038.

Chapter appreciation

The Pathfinder Chapter AUVSI will hold a Member Appreciation Social on Thursday from 5-8 p.m. at the Embassy Suites, downtown Huntsville, to celebrate its selection as Association of Unmanned

Vehicle Systems International Chapter of the Year. Tim Owings, deputy PM UAS, is the guest speaker. For information call Mike Howell 722-5576, ext. 23.

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold its monthly meeting Oct. 27 at the Officers and Civilians Club at 11:15 a.m. in the Loft Room. The discussion topic will be Legislative Issues that Impact Women. All are invited.

Reserve officers

The Reserve Officers Association, Department of Alabama Local Chapter 20, will meet Nov. 16 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The goal of the meeting is to reactivate Chapter 20. For more information, call Lt. Col. Ruby Lardent 799-1246 or email ruby.lardent@us.army.mil.

Logistics summit

The Directorate of Logistics will hold a Logistics Summit on Oct. 25 from 8 a.m. to noon at building 1500, Challenger Activity Center, on Weeden Mountain Road. The purpose of this summit is to meet with supported tenant unit logisticians and leadership representatives to update them on DOL logistics services with emphasis on the Fiscal 2012 Garrison Support Catalog. Agenda items include ammunition receipt, storage and transport, ammunition safety and surveillance services, supply receipt/management/and issue, turn-in of property, vehicle and equipment maintenance support, CIF support, household goods movements, freight shipments, ordering of passports, commercial travel, non-tactical and GSA vehicle support, and the Hazardous Materials Management Program. Please submit any questions or issues by today that you would like answered at this summit to michael.durham1@us.army.mil.

Miscellaneous Items

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.

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).

Senior volunteers

Madison County Retired & Senior Volunteer program is partnered with various nonprofit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. R.S.V.P. recruits, places and trains individuals who are 55 or older to fill our community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or its volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Pamela Donald 513-8290 or email pdonald@seniorview.com.

Family fun event

Club H2O, at Bicentennial Chapel, will have its third annual October Slam on Oct. 28 from 6-9:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. There will be free food, games, blowups, train ride, hay ride, Andy and the Praise Band, horseshoe competition, door prize and the Garbage Can Band. For more information, call 842-3318, visit www.redstoneclubh2o.org or email darrell@redstoneclubh2o.org.

Contracting seminar

Local contracting and business professionals learn "100 Worst Mistakes in Government Contracting," in a joint presentation by Byron Butler, retired as director

of the Office of Procurement at Marshall Space Flight Center, and John Callahan Jr., government contracts attorney. This one-day National Education Seminar, hosted by the Huntsville chapter of the National Contract Management Association, applies principles from the new book of the same title by illustrating with local examples of common mistakes made when doing business with the government. The event is Thursday at Cobham Analytic Solutions, 401 Diamond Drive, Huntsville. Registration costs \$300 for members and \$325 for non-members. The program runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., includes lunch, a copy of the book by Richard D. Lieberman and Jason D. Morgan, and seven continuing education credits. For registration, visit www.ncmahsv.org.

Logistics achievement awards

The Ernest A. Young Logistics Achievement Award Luncheon/Ceremony is Nov. 10 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. This will present two awards: the Management/Executive Award to GS-13s and above (or military equivalents) and the Professional/Technical Award to GS-13s and below (or military equivalents). These awards are presented annually to recognize Team Redstone individuals who have provided outstanding service in logistics support, made notable contribution to the efficiency and quality of logistical support, and demonstrated excellent and professionalism in his or her assigned duties. Tickets are on sale through Nov. 4 for \$18. For tickets call Barbara Harris 876-3805, Jennifer Marchant 842-6768, Desiree Galloway 842-0848, Kelly McDaniel 313-1641, Darlene Readus 876-2392 and Kim Lund 842-2468.

Young Marines to D.C.

Members of the Madison Alabama Young Marines – a non-profit organization for boys and girls (8-18), whose mission is to promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle while focusing on character-building and leadership skills – have been invited to Washington, D.C. in November by their organization's national headquarters to help celebrate Veterans Day activities. They will meet, talk to and hear personal stories from the five remaining Doolittle Raiders, lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, tour Arlington Cemetery and much more. The group is working to raise funds for this opportunity. Tax deductible contributions to help these Young Marines can be made by calling Judy Pettus 316-2902 or Amy De La Rosa (732) 713-9664 or by emailing madisonyoungmarines@yahoo.com. For more information on the Young Marine Program, visit this website <http://www.orgsites.com/al/ymariness/>.

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Rocket Announcements

Driver safety course

In honor of all veterans, AARP is waiving the tuition for veterans and their spouses and spouses of deceased veterans for their Driver Safety Courses offered during November. A course on Redstone is being offered Nov. 8-9 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, building 3711 at the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. Completion of this eight-hour classroom refresher, designed for the older driver, may qualify participants 55 and older for an auto insurance discount. (Check with your insurance agent.) To register for the course at Redstone, call instructor Vince Guarin 880-6928. Class size is limited to 25. For other course locations, call AARP at 888-227-7669.

Resumes for college students

LogiCore will hold a free resume building workshop for college students or recent grads Nov. 17 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at 920 Explorer Boulevard, Suite B. The workshop will educate students on how to write a powerful resume, perform effective job searches and master the interview process. To register, attach your resume and email resumeworkshop@logicorehsv.com. Space is limited, so reserve early. This is not a job fair.

Jazz concert

"Smooth Vibrations: A Benefit Concert for Education," featuring jazz keyboardist and composer Brian Simpson, will be held Nov. 5 from 8-11 p.m. at Calhoun Community College-Research Park, 102 Wynn Drive. All proceeds will support the Jack & Annie Anderson 2nd

Chance Endowed Scholarship at Calhoun Community College. Tickets are \$50 for VIP and \$35 general admission. They can be purchased through PayPal at www.maximumlifeenhancement.com, by credit card at http://www.eventbrite.com/myevents?org_id=1242635, or by check by calling 679-4241. All donations made on behalf of the scholarship are tax deductible. And the Calhoun Foundation will provide a letter verifying donations for tax records. For more information about the Brian Simpson concert or the Jack & Annie Anderson 2nd Chance Scholarship, call Kenneth Anderson 679-4241, email mxlife@aol.com or call the Calhoun College Foundation 306-2583.

Fraternity's gala

The Xi Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. announces its Centennial Achievement Week/Founders' Gala will be held Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. The speaker is NASA administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. was founded Nov. 17, 1911 on the campus of Howard University by three undergraduate students and their adviser. Proceeds from this event will benefit the chapter's community programs. "We invite you to be a part of this Black Tie Centennial Gala," a prepared release said. For more information, call 852-4417 or 656-2741.

Fall festival

The Children's Ministry of Southeast Church of the Nazarene, 2275 Cecil Ashburn Drive, will hold a fall festival Sunday from 4-6 p.m. "We invite you to be

a part of Kids 'ROCK' (Kids Reaching Out 4 Christ's Kingdom)," a prepared release said. For information call 881-3399.

Children's center

The MSFC Child Development Center on Redstone Arsenal accepts anyone with Arsenal access and currently has openings for children in the Preschool area and mobile/older infants. "If you have RSA access, we welcome you," a prepared release said. For more information or a tour, call Kelli Wright 544-8609 or see the website at <http://mcdc.msfc.nasa.gov/>.

Diabetes benefit walk

More than 400 area residents will come together to be part of the Stop Diabetes movement at the Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes on Saturday at the Bridge Street Town Centre, the one-day signature fundraising walk benefitting the American Diabetes Association. To register, volunteer or for more information, visit diabetes.org/stepout or call 1-888-DIABETES.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop still has many Halloween costumes at 50 percent off. Come in and peruse its seasonal room. Besides fall and Thanksgiving items, staffers are starting to put out Christmas buys. They have a large selection of books in stock, some of which are six for \$1. There is a section of baby clothes costing 25 cents each or five items for a dollar. Fall items are still being taken for consignment. Consignments are taken from 9-11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call the NO-LIST number 881-6915 before bringing your consignments. The list changes each week. 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

the month from 10-2. The shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road. Donations are always welcome and tax deductible.

Personnel office

The MILPO, which includes the ID Card Section, located in building 3494A (trailer behind the old MILPO building), will close on Thursday at 10 a.m. so the employees can participate in the Garrison Organization Day. If you have questions or need assistance, call 842-2413 or 755-6963.

Contracting workshop

"Government Contracting 101 - Are You Ready?" will be presented by University of Alabama-Huntsville procurement specialist Mary Jane Fleming from 9-11 a.m. Nov. 29 at the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County auditorium, 225 Church St. This is sponsored by the UAH Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center. The fee is \$20 per person (pay day of event with check or credit card). To register call 824-6422 or email SBDC@uah.edu.

Understanding solicitations

UAH procurement specialist Mary Jane Fleming will present "Understanding Government Solicitations" Dec. 13 from 9-11 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County auditorium, 225 Church St. This is sponsored by the UAH Small Business Development Center and Procurement Technical Assistance Center. The fee is \$20 per person (pay day of event with check or credit card). To register call 824-6422 or email SBDC@uah.edu.

Community assistance

Each year the Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club distributes money to a variety of requesting nonprofit organizations. "Thanks to all of our enthusiastic and supportive members who contribute their time and talent to make each fundraising event a huge success," a prepared release said. Several fund-raising events are being planned this year to continue the club's humanitarian efforts to benefit the military and civilian communities. Applications for the RSACWC community assistance grants are now being accepted. Forms are available at the RSACWC website at www.rsacwc.org (click on community assistance) and will be used to collect the same information from each requesting organization. By doing this, it will reduce the influence of such things as professionally prepared advertising, writing styles, supporters and the amount of information the club receives. All requests must conform to the RSACWC Community Assistance Request Form. Send to rsacwccommunityassistance@gmail.com. Deadline for submission of the grant request is Jan. 28. All requests must be postmarked no later than the deadline. Requests received after the deadline will not be considered.

Fire Prevention Week visit



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Wyatt Wright, 2, is the son of Kelli and Alan Wright.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Firefighters from Fire Station 1 on Rideout Road visit the NASA Child Development Center on Oct. 12. CDC teacher Judy Burkett takes her 1-year-old to see the fire truck and firefighter Brian Crampton. The youngsters, from left, in front, are Savannah St. Peters and Chase Harris. In back are Colin Decker and Caroline Mulac.