

Redstone Rocket

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AMC begins new leadership era



Photo by Cherish Washington

Army Materiel Command changes leaders with Tuesday's ceremonial passing of the flag. From left are outgoing commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody, incoming commander Gen. Dennis Via and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling.

Via succeeds Dunwoody as commanding general

By ADORATIA PURDY
AMC Public Affairs

Gen. Ann Dunwoody on Tuesday relinquished command of the Army Materiel Command to Gen. Dennis Via. Army chief of staff Gen. Raymond Odierno hosted the time-honored change of command ceremony at AMC's parade field.

"It's great to be here on a day of celebration, a celebration honoring the accomplishments of Army Materiel Command. A unit that has frankly changed the dynamics of logistics for the United States Army," Odierno said.

The Army Materiel Command has a complex mission ranging from development of sophisticated weapon systems and cutting-edge research, to maintenance and distribution of spare parts. If a Soldier shoots it, drives it, flies it, wears

See Era on page 4



COMMUNITY NEWS
Future civilian leaders receive career advice.
PAGE 5

AROUND TOWN
Soldier students visit Huntsville police.
PAGE 13



PEOPLE PROFILE
AMCOM senior civilian accepts new challenge.
PAGE 23

MILITARY SCENE
Lakota charter changes hands.
PAGE 29

Via represents first signal officer promoted to 4-star

By ADORATIA PURDY
AMC Public Affairs

Army chief of staff Gen. Raymond Odierno and vice chief of staff Gen. Lloyd Austin were in attendance at Tuesday's promotion ceremony for Lt. Gen. Dennis Via, Army Materiel Command's deputy commander at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Presiding over the ceremony, AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody thanked all in attendance and described the event as a momentous occasion for the Army.

In addition, Dunwoody received thunderous applause from the crowd upon acknowledging what this promotion means to the Signal Corps.

"For those of you who may not know, one of the reasons this is such a historic day for our Army, is that Lt. Gen. Via is the first ever signal officer in the history of the Army to ever be promoted to four-star," Dunwoody said.

She went on to recount the numerous challenging assignments Via held throughout his career, from the commander of the 82nd Airborne Signal Battalion, to the commander of the 3rd Signal Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas, where he was also dual-hatted as the III Corps G6.

"I have learned when you have a guy as talented as Dennis

See Via on page 4



Photo by Cherish Washington

Lt. Gen. Dennis Via is promoted to the rank of general during an intimate ceremony with friends, family, colleagues and mentors. Pinning on his fourth star are AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody, left, and his wife, Linda. Via would assume command from Dunwoody.



WIN OR LOSE
Softball tourney in full swing.
PAGE 37

RocketViews

What's your favorite Summer Olympics sport?

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



Keisha Nelson
 FMWR Sports and Fitness
 "Track and field. I enjoy watching the athleticism and mental preparation before the race begins."



Ellis Atkinson
 Logistics Support Activity
 "Gymnastics, I guess. I don't know any of the players. Just incredible athletic ability of those people to do what they do on the rings and bars and whatnot. Strength and control, stuff I could never do."



Matt Peloquin
 AMCOM G-6 (Chief Information Office)
 "Probably the swimming. Maybe just because I was never good at swimming."



Karen Potter
 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office
 "Gymnastics: because of the tremendous physical strength that is required to not only compete but to perform gracefully and with the appearance of ease. It's nice to watch these young men and women realize their dreams after dedicating their lives to the sport."

Letter to the editor

Thrift Shop collects items to send to war fighters

The Redstone Thrift Shop sends boxes to deployed Soldiers from "Tips for Troops." We have been given some requests to send items to deployed Soldiers and we cannot keep up with the demand. We are asking for the following donations; there is a box in the front of the store to drop the donations in. Anyone who has a family member deployed can give us their information and we will send them boxes.

- We are asking for the following items:
- Individually packed goodies
 - Yarn (a volunteer makes hats for the Soldiers)
 - Paperback books
 - Hand sanitizer
 - Wet ones
 - Used DVDs

- Gum
- Floss
- Combs/brushes
- Personal toiletries for men and women
- Lotion
- Cards for them to send home
- Cards from you or your group to send to the Soldiers

We welcome any donation. Monetary donations are accepted at the register.

We at the Redstone Thrift Shop, and the Soldiers, thank you.

Sheila Torongeau
 Thrift Shop manager

Editor's note: The Thrift Shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road. Its phone number is 881-6992.

Bicyclists should wear reflective vest/belt

To clarify a headline in last week's *Rocket*, safety rules for bicycles on post include a requirement for a reflective vest or belt. Note that a reflective belt is equally acceptable.

Redstone Arsenal Regulation 190-5 addresses Bicycle Traffic/Safety Supervision. The Garrison's Directorate of Emergency Services assimilates state law when enforcing traffic.

At all times, all riders and passengers of bicycles riding on Redstone Arsenal roadways should wear as an outer garment a reflective and brightly colored safety vest or belt, the rule states. If a reflective belt is worn, it should be worn diagonally, over the shoulder (bandolier style) to provide front and rear visibility. If a back pack, bicycle seat or fairing obstructs visibility of the safety garment, the bicycle rider should strap a reflective and brightly colored safety vest or reflective belt around the pack, seat or fairing to provide front and rear visibility.



Photo by Carrie E. David, SMDC/ARSTRAT

Three-star note

Johnie Morgan, SMDC/ARSTRAT information and computational engineering employee, retires with 25 years of service in a ceremony July 31 at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Supervisory engineer Dr. Claudette Owens presents Morgan and his wife, Monica, a three-star note from SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica. Morgan also received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service.

Quote of the week

"Don't put a limit on anything. The more you dream, the further you get."

— *Michael Phelps*
Olympic men's swimming

RedstoneRocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
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Name: John Dragash

Job: Task lead for Jacobs Inc., contractor for Army Materiel Command G6 (Chief Information Office), Systems Engineering and Architecture Division

Where do you call home?
Orlando, Fla.

What do you like about your job?
Getting exposure to a wide variety of personnel and programs.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Spend time with my family.

What are your goals?
To continue to support our nation's defense and aerospace programs.



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

The top of my bucket list would be to see my children grow in their faith in the Lord. That would be the top of my bucket list. That's the bottom line.



Photo by Thomas Voigt, Aviation Systems Project Office

Silver Award

Gary Nenner, Tennessee Valley Chapter president for the Army Aviation Association of America, presents Col. Anthony Potts with the Order of Saint Michael, Silver Award, during a change of charter ceremony July 31 in Bob Jones Auditorium. Potts relinquished his responsibility as project manager for Aviation Systems to Col. Gerald Davis. Potts headed the project office for nearly four and a half years.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents for July 22-28:

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident in the parking lot of the Redstone Exchange.
- Police recovered a deserter from the Lauderdale County Detention Center and transported him to PCF in Fort Knox, Ky.
- A contractor reported his Redstone Arsenal security badge had been stolen in Trinity.
- Police arrested a driver for DUI after he was involved in a single-vehicle, with injury, traffic accident at Gate 7 while it was closed.
- A driver was cited for a suspended license at Gate 9 when he arrived at the gate lost and could not produce a license. He was also cited for giving a false name to a law enforcement officer.
- A driver was cited for a suspended

license at Gate 8 when he could not produce a license while attempting to gain access to the installation.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident in the parking lot of building 5477.
- A family member reported her military dependent identification card had been stolen in Madison.
- A retired servicemember reported his retired identification card had been stolen from his unlocked vehicle at the Redstone Exchange.
- A contractor reported damaging his truck with a forklift while it was being loaded.
- A contractor reported her driver's license and money were taken from her wallet while it was left on her desk unsecured.
- A driver was cited for a suspended license on Rideout Road after being stopped for speeding.
- Police investigated a single-vehicle, leaving the scene, with unknown injury, traffic accident at Gate 2 when the driver left the area on foot.
- Police received a report that a Marine had been arrested for DUI by the Madison City Police.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident at the Commissary parking lot.
- Thirteen U.S. District Court violation notices were issued.

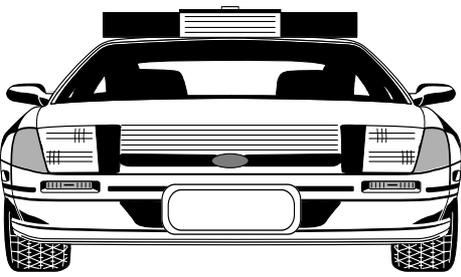


Photo by Merv Brokke

Madison's appreciation

Madison police chief Larry Muncey, third from right, joined by City Council president Ronica Ondocsin, second from right, and mayor Paul Finley, right, present a certificate of appreciation to the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center during the July 23rd City Council meeting. Representing AMRDEC are, from left, Forrest Ruble, Strategic Planning and Development branch chief; Bill Colson, acting AMRDEC deputy director; Jenny Hess, program analyst; and Charles Jay, support contractor to the Software Engineering Directorate. The ceremony marked the official transfer of technology from AMRDEC to the Madison Police Department under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement that was signed in April 2011. The Madison Police Department will begin fielding and testing Persistent Observation and Detection Systems developed by SED within the next few weeks, with other technology transfers planned for the future.

McQuiston attains third star, becomes new AMC deputy

By ADORATIA PURDY
AMC Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, the Army Materiel Command's incoming deputy commander, was promoted to lieutenant general during a ceremony Thursday.

AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody presided over the ceremony reflecting on McQuiston's talents.

"What is so impressive about Pat are the things you can't read on her bio... she is able to inspire people and has passion and compassion," Dunwoody said. "She knows how to take care of Soldiers, civilians and their families."

Dunwoody said McQuiston's experience and abilities will be a perfect fit for her new role as the AMC deputy commander.

McQuiston told colleagues, friends and family, including her husband, retired Col. Leif Johnson, that she was honored to have been promoted and thanked Dunwoody for her faith and confidence in selecting her as the new AMC deputy.

"I am excited about the way ahead," McQuiston said.

McQuiston has served in numerous assignments, starting as a maintenance platoon leader and S-1 for the 25th Infantry Division (Light) at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and then as a protocol officer for the Army Western Command at Fort Shafer, Hawaii. She then moved to Germany, where she served as a company commander in the 56th Field Artillery Command (Pershing) and as maintenance officer for V Corps, Seventh Army.

She was next assigned to the U.S. Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, Va., as ordnance systems manager, and then moved to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., as a speechwriter for the U.S. Army chief of staff. Later assignments took her to the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan.; then to Fort Hood, Texas, where she commanded the Special Troops Battalion in the 13th Corps Support Command. She returned to the Pentagon as a special assistant for personnel and logistics to the U.S. Army chief of staff.

From June 2000 to June 2001, McQuiston served in Sinai, Egypt. She returned to the U.S. to command Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa. McQuiston was then assigned to the headquarters of the U.S. Army Materiel Command



AMC photo

Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody recognizes newly promoted Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, AMC's incoming deputy commander.

at Fort Belvoir, Va., as executive officer to the deputy commanding general, followed by a third Pentagon assignment as director for strategy and integration within the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army.

In September 2006, McQuiston went to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, as Army Sustainment Command deputy commander with duty as commander of Army Materiel Command-Forward (Southwest Asia), director of operational sustainment and G-4 for U.S. Army Central Command. She next commanded the Defense Supply Center Columbus, Ohio (now Defense Logistics Agency-Land and Maritime). In August 2009, she was named as commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command.

She most recently served as commander of the Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island, Ill.

While at the podium McQuiston humbly credited her success and development as a leader to the guidance and support of her mentors, peers, family and friends, many of whom were present for the ceremony.

She received Senate confirmation April 26 and assumed duties as the AMC deputy commander Aug. 7.

Era

continued from page 1

it, communicates with it or eats it, AMC provides it.

Odierno credits Dunwoody's vision and determination as the key factors in transforming AMC into the Army's Lead Materiel Integrator and joint logistics supplier, all while streamlining efficiencies and caring for the Soldiers, civilians and their families.

"Ann has been and is today a Soldier first... always leading by example," Odierno said.

Considered throughout her career as a trailblazer for women in the Army, Dunwoody was the first female four-star, assuming command of AMC in November 2008. She was the 17th commander in AMC's 50-year history.

During her tenure Dunwoody oversaw the transition of AMC through its move in 2011 from Fort Belvoir, Va., the Armywide synchronization and integration of the Directorate of Logistics and the drawdown of equipment in Iraq, all while providing uninterrupted support to the war fighter.

After affectionately thanking her husband for his many years of support, Dunwoody took a moment to acknowledge the AMC work force.

"To the 69,000 Soldiers and civilians

of Army Materiel Command you have made today and every single day of the last four years very special to me. I have watched you bear so much of our nation's burden over the last four years," Dunwoody said.

In 37 years she has commanded at every level. As a senior leader, she commanded the 10th Division Support Command at Fort Drum, N.Y.; the 1st Corps Support Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.; the Military Traffic Management Command/Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command in Alexandria, Va.; and the Combined Arms Support Command at Fort Lee, Va..

She reflected on her time at AMC and the organization's impact on the Army.

"I've had the privilege to go to Iraq and Afghanistan many times and I got to meet with leaders one on one... and they all told me the same thing... they told me they never worried about logistics and I can't imagine a better compliment," she said.

The change of command ceremony also initiated Via's leadership era. He is no stranger to AMC's daunting task of equipping the force, as he has served as the AMC deputy commander since May 2011. Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston will serve as the new deputy. Dunwoody's retirement ceremony is scheduled Aug. 15 in Washington, D.C.

Via

continued from page 1

you just don't want to waste him on one job," Dunwoody quipped.

Dunwoody shared her thoughts on what Via will bring to AMC and the Army.

"He has a caring personal leadership style that brings out the best in everyone. From the youngest private to the most senior officers, he has an absolute commitment to the highest standards of this Army's profession, and has the wisdom and the vision to see how the future can be different and better," she said.

With his wife Linda and sons Brian and Bradley by his side, Via took to the podium to thank his predecessor.

"Thank you for presiding at our promotion ceremony and I say our promotion ceremony because I clearly realize today is a shared celebration of personal investments made by many people in Dennis Via throughout my life and career of service in the United States Army," Via said.

A Martinsville, Va., native, Via

was commissioned on May 18, 1980 in the Signal Corps after graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Virginia State University. He later earned a master's from Boston University, and is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

With heartfelt gratitude, Via took a moment to thank mentors, peers, family and friends, many of whom traveled extensively to be a part of the celebration.

A strong advocate of education, Via closed the ceremony by thanking his high school teacher and Army veteran Edward L. Fontaine for his support over the years. Via credits Fontaine with starting him on his Army career and working with Virginia State University guidance counselors to get Via enrolled as a freshman.

"Mr. Fontaine epitomizes that one person can make a difference in your life. I tell that story because it's not about me today, it is about the impact all of us can make on someone in our lives," Via said.

He will serve as the 18th commanding general of AMC.

Retreat shares lessons for future civilian leaders

By MEGAN COTTON
For the Rocket

The professional group Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders headed to Monte Sano Lodge on July 25 for its annual leadership retreat.

These interns, Fellows and co-op students listened to several guest speakers on the day's theme, "Identifying the Role We are Destined to Play."

The guest speakers included Huntsville Police Chief Lewis Morris, who started the day with a discussion on the importance of routing your path to leadership. Morris said it was important for everyone to know and understand their organizational charts. He asked everyone to develop a detailed plan for their career by looking at the organization's structure and mission and vision.

"You need to know the paths you can take to excel," Morris said.

After Morris was Dr. Thomas Pieplow, a department chair and professor at Athens State University and the former director for security assistance management for AMCOM. Pieplow gave advice about the importance of leading with integrity and serving.

"Everyone here has an opportunity to be a great leader because you have an op-

portunity to serve and that's what leadership is really about, serving others," Pieplow said.

He stressed the importance of hiring people with the integrity to stand up to you and that in order to be truly great you need to listen to them.

After Pieplow and a lunch break, TACL members sat down with a panel of leaders from across Redstone Arsenal. The panel included William Marriott, deputy chief of staff for personnel, AMC; Cathy Dickens, executive director of ACC-Redstone; Col. John Hamilton, Garrison commander; Col. Bob Pastorelli, chief of staff at USASAC; Dr. Charles Lind, chief of staff at PEO Missiles and Space; and Mark Moe of AMCOM's IMMC. The members of the panel introduced themselves and spoke on their path to leadership, lessons they had learned along the way and any advice they felt the group should hear.

Marriott stressed the importance of doing what is right. He said that when he faced a tough decision he would ask himself "how would this look on the front page of the *Washington Post*?" His other main point was that leadership is through experience and in order to succeed and move up you need to volunteer for new opportunities and take a chance.



Photo by Megan Cotton

Members of the leadership panel include, from left, Mark Moe, Dr. Charles Lind, Col. Bob Pastorelli, Col. John Hamilton, Cathy Dickens and William Marriott. They gave advice to Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders.

"Leadership is about 10 percent training and education but 90 percent experience," Marriott said. "If you want to move up you need to take a chance, stand up and volunteer for something."

Andrews said it was important to know your "blind spots" so you could fix them. He defined a blind spot as what others know about you but you don't know about yourself. These he said were typically small things but also the very thing that could hold you back from progressing in an organization.

"Don't be defensive as people try and give you feedback, that will only hold you back," Andrews said. "Instead you should work to extract feedback and use it to help yourself."

His final note was to ask the group to help change the government. He expressed the importance of not accepting

something because that's how it's been done for 20 years and instead working actively to help make the government better.

The importance of being passionate about your career was the lesson from Pastorelli. He said nothing will help you progress more into leadership roles than when people can see that you genuinely love what you do.

"You have to be passionate about what you do," Pastorelli said. "When you enjoy what you do and take care of your people everything will work out."

After the panel the final guest speaker was Sarah Savage, president and CEO of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County. She performed a team building activity with the group and then gave a presentation on servant leadership and how to make sure you are mobilizing others.

Free Movie Friday
This week's feature:
"The Lucky One" (rated PG-13)
Heiser Hall
Doors open at 5 p.m. for refreshments
Movie starts at 5:30.

In this section...

LIFELONG CALLING BRINGS FOX'S NEW COMMANDER	PAGE 6
FOX ARMY HEALTH CENTER BY THE NUMBERS	PAGE 6
SHOPPING UNDER WAY FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES	PAGE 8
READ ABOUT WHAT'S NEW AT POST LIBRARY	PAGE 9
NEW SCHOOL YEAR BRINGS CHALLENGES FOR MILITARY KIDS	PAGE 10
EXCHANGE EARNS HIGH MARKS ON BACK TO SCHOOL SAVINGS	PAGE 12
INVEST IN COMMUNITY BY SHOPPING AT EXCHANGE	PAGE 12

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

The Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation provided the following list of upcoming events:

Army concert tour

The 2012 Army Concert Tour, featuring "Brantley Gilbert and New Faces of Country," is Aug. 26 at 2 p.m. at the Activity Field. General admission is \$20, \$25 on show day. For more information, call 313-5224.

Dancing classes

Learn how to dance the Rumba by registering through Aug. 15. Classes will be held at Pagano Gym from Aug.

16 until Sept. 20 from 8-9 p.m. Cost is \$66 per couple for six Thursday classes and \$55 for reviewers. For more information or to register, call the ITR office at 876-5431 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rhythms/Brew/Barbecue

"Rhythms, Brew and Barbecue" will be held Sept. 29 at the Activity Field. Doors open at 2 p.m. with the show at 3. Performing in concert are Eric Benet, Mint Condition, Frank McComb and Rick Ward. Tickets are \$25 advance, \$30 day of show and \$65 premium. For more information, call 313-5224 or visit redstonemwr.com.

Lifelong calling brings Fox's new commander

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

Col. William Darby never meant to be a Soldier, but staff and beneficiaries of Fox Army Health Center can count their blessings that 28 years after putting on the uniform for the first time, he has yet to take it off.

Darby became commander of Fox Army Health Center July 13.

Early mornings and long days helping out with the cows, sheep, pigs and crops



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Col. William Darby, Fox Army Health Center's new commander, looks forward to serving the medical treatment facility's beneficiaries.

growing up on the family farm in Fosston, Minn., prepared Darby for life as a Soldier, but it was never a career he thought would span nearly three decades. What began as a way to gain experience until more jobs opened up in his field, environmental sciences, after college became a lifelong calling.

"I never quite found my way out. You think you're coming in for three years and despite myself, it ended up being a really good decision," said Darby, who enlisted in 1984 as a biological research assistant. "Personality-wise it fits. The culture, the job, fits very well with my personality. Every place you go gives you an opportunity to learn, not just the technical piece but also the tactical and professional side of the military. It's been a great opportunity to not just grow and learn as a Soldier, but really as a citizen, as a person and leader, whereas a lot of other jobs wouldn't give you that opportunity."

Redstone Arsenal marks Darby's 15th assignment in 28 years, his last as chief, Concepts and Requirements Division, Directorate of Combat and Doctrine Development for the Army Medical Department's Center and School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He has also served in Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Oman, Bahrain and the Horn of Africa, where he worked within Force Health Protection and medical planning for deployed forces, where he learned not only about Army medicine, but life itself.

See Fox on page 8

Fox Army Health Center by the numbers

Fox Army Health Center's vision is to become the premier model of organizational and beneficiary wellness. The health center provided the following statistics:

29,986 eligible beneficiaries (within 20 miles)

11,295 enrolled population (12 percent active duty)

7,450 healthcare network enrollment

210 clinic visits daily

30 radiological studies daily

1,230 prescriptions filled daily

100 network referrals daily

150 referral results processed daily

Shopping under way for school supplies



The Redstone Exchange has a large area with school supplies.

Photos by Ellen Hudson

The Redstone Exchange is a hotbed for shoppers these days in preparation for the school year. Huntsville, Madison and Madison County schools open Aug. 20.

Jennifer Kaji visits the store with her 2-year-old Kiran and her second-grader Aiden, who attends Goldsmith-Schiffman Elementary.



Fox

continued from page 6

“It shows you that life is short. You really do have to have balance in your life,” Darby said. “It shows you just how great this country is – the people that serve, the families that they come from. And it really shows you how important the Army medical department mission is, not just in the deployed environment, but back here in the United States. We really are here to serve all of the heroes that put a uniform on.”

Fox Army Health Center is his first assignment at a medical treatment facility in a garrison environment. While it will be a change for the commander who is used to assignments with deployable units, his previous experiences have given him a good understanding of the Army mission and how it is performed. Since arriving on the Arsenal, he has spent his time meeting with Fox staff to learn all the things they are doing to support the community.

“The exciting part is that unlike any other Army assignment that you could have, we get to see the impact on our customers every single day,” Darby said. “Every encounter we have, by someone who either walks in, calls in or is seen through somewhere in the referral network through Tricare, we get to actually see how that customer service relationship went, good or bad, by the look on their face.”

Darby’s top priorities as Fox commander start and end with the beneficiaries, and include fully implementing the integrated disability evaluation system, championing the desire for all beneficiaries to live a life-

time of wellness, ensuring everything the medical treatment facility does has a patient centered focus, and optimizing that patient’s ability to access Fox.

“Everyone who walks through that door should be treated as a VIP first and foremost,” Darby said. “Our mission is to provide everyone that comes through the door the highest quality care we can, because it really goes back to every single one of those beneficiaries, they’re heroes, whether they served past or present, or whether they’re family members.”

As a medical service corps officer, preventive medicine and public health is paramount to Darby, a philosophy that blends well with the facility’s commitment to wellness.

“I never want to see you sick. I want to teach you things,” Darby said. “I want to teach you to take care of yourself and recognize when you need care and when you have opportunities to make good decisions to keep yourself healthy.”

Together with his wife and English mastiff, Darby is enjoying the move to the Tennessee Valley, where he hopes to enjoy some golf – it’s hard not to with the Links next door – and dabble in stained glass, which allows him to indulge in his love for puzzles. In the short time he has been in the Tennessee Valley, he has liked what he’s seen on Redstone Arsenal.

“I’m very impressed by the culture of this base and all the tenant organizations that are here,” Darby said. “It is one of the most family-like organizations that I’ve seen on any post I’ve been on. I look forward to working with the team here and serving the patient population that uses Fox services.”

Read about what's new at Post Library this week

The Post Library, building 3323 on Re-deye Road, is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10-4. Its phone number is 876-4741.

To see the library's catalog, visit www.redstonemwr.com, click on Recreation, click on Library and then click on online catalog.

The library has the following new items:

Adult fiction: "Coming Home: the Baxter Family: a Story of Undying Hope" by Karen Kingsbury – As the Baxters make plans for a summer lakeside reunion, the unthinkable happens, the family rallies together, and memories come to light that bring healing and hope during a time of darkness. ... "I, Michael Bennett" by James Patterson and Michael Ledwidge – Detective Michael Bennett takes his family to upstate New York in an effort to escape a crime wave erupting in Manhattan only to find themselves immersed in another nightmare, one that endangers his relationship with his wife. ... "Night Watch" by Linda Fairstein – While assisting in the case of a high-profile politician who has been arrested for allegedly attacking a maid in his hotel, Alexandra Cooper begins to suspect a connection to a case with ties to her boyfriend, restaurateur Luc Rouget.

Adult nonfiction: "Are Your Prescriptions Killing You?: How To Prevent Dangerous Interactions, Avoid Deadly Side Effects, and Be Healthier With Fewer Drugs" by Armon B. Neel Jr. and Bill Hogan – A board-certified pharmacist cites the high number of annual deaths associated with prescription drug side effects, calling for changes in prescription practices that account for the needs of aging bodies. ... "Dream Team: How Michael, Magic, Larry, Charles and The Greatest Team of All Time Conquered the World and Changed the Game of Basketball Forever" by Jack McCallum – Docu-

ments the story of the 1992 U.S. Olympic men's basketball squad that won the gold in Barcelona. ... "How Do You Kill 11 Million People?: Why the Truth Matters More Than You Think" by Andy Andrews – From the perspective of the Holocaust, the author emphasizes the critical need for truth in relationships, communities and government in order to prevent any recurrence of such tragic events.

Children fiction: "Even Monsters Need Haircuts" by Matthew McElligott – At night under a full moon, a child operates a barber shop with a monstrous clientele. ... "Goosebumps Wanted: the Haunted Mask" by R.L. Stine – When LuAnn discovers an evil mask at the bottom of a trunk and puts it on, her Halloween turns into a nightmare and only an act of unbelievable kindness can remove it. ... "Hot Rod Hamster" by Cynthia Lord – A hamster, with the help of a canine junkyard dealer and his mouse assistants, builds and drives a hot rod in a race against some very large dogs. ... "Little Pink Pup" by Johanna Kerby – Pink, a piglet who is the runt of the litter, is adopted by Tink, a dachshund who is nursing a litter of her own, and Pink is raised in the house along with the puppies. This is based on a true story.

Children nonfiction: "So, You Want To Be A Writer?: How to Write, Get Published, and Maybe Even Make It Big!" by Vicki Hambleton and Cathleen Greenwood – This guide to becoming a published author outlines everything from generating ideas and improving technique to getting published and promoting one's work.

DVDs: "John Carter" ... "Sherlock Holmes" ... "The Vow" ... "Wanderlust" ... "Women in Black."

Audio books on CDs: "Hey Good Looking" by Fern Michaels (reader Laural Merlington) ... "Bloodhound" by Tamora Pierce (reader – Susan Denaker).

New school year brings challenges for military kids

Back to classroom tips aimed to ease transition

By **HEATHER SWEENEY**
Military Life

Back to school is crazy for most families. When a military family throws in a deployment or a PCS, we face even bigger craziness. As a former teacher of military children and a parent of my own mil kids, I've picked up a few tricks of the trade. Here are some things to keep in mind as you prepare your mil kid to head back to school.

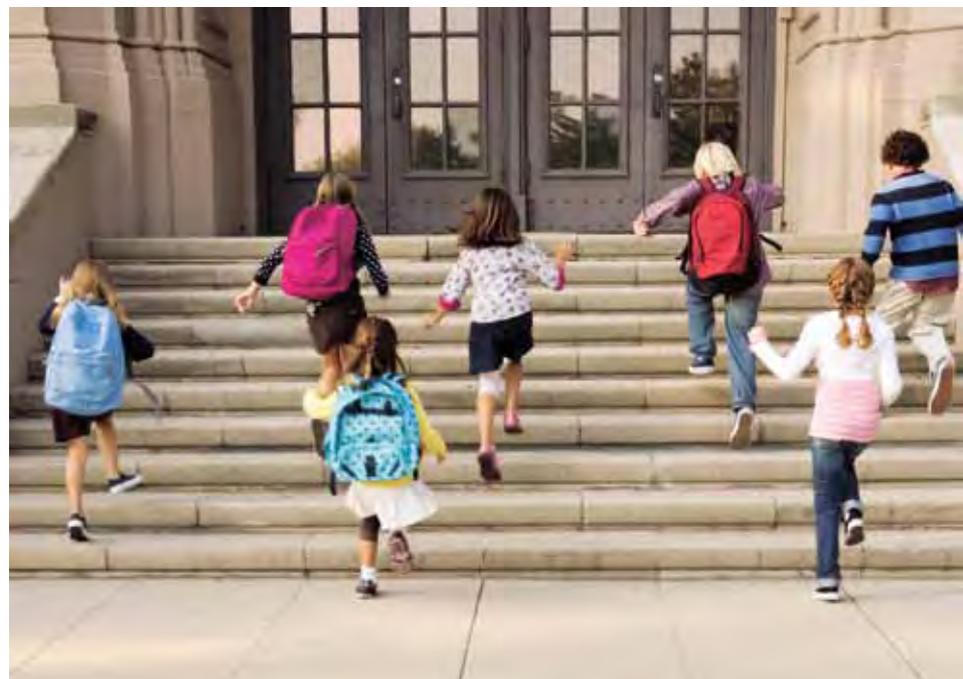
Gather all necessary documents. If your child is attending a new school, call or check the school's website to find out what paperwork is required for registration. This might include the child's birth certificate, Social Security number, current immunizations, physical exam report, proof of residence, and report cards from previous schools. Create separate folders of documents for each child. And make sure the movers don't pack these folders if you're PCS'ing!

Have at least two emergency contacts. If they're the same as the previous year, make sure all contact information is current. If one of them is moving, find a fill-in. If you just moved and you don't know anyone in your new location, this is the time to knock on your neighbors' doors and introduce yourself, especially to those who also have children. Ask if they would be willing to stand in as one of your emergency contacts, and offer to be theirs in return. You can always replace these contacts down the road as you make other friends.

Start new routines at home early. Don't wait until the first day of school to set the alarm and expect your children to jump out of bed with cheerful first-day-of-school attitudes. As the summer winds down, start inching bedtimes a little closer to what they should be during the school year and start practicing those morning routines so you don't figure out on the first day that it takes you longer to get out the door than you expected.

Start new routines at school early. Visit your child's school and take a tour during the summer so the first day isn't so intimidating. Attend the open house before school starts. If your child is riding the school bus, fight the temptation to drive him yourself and have him at the bus stop the first day. If you walk a younger child to her classroom, don't linger. Trust me, teachers expect crying children on the first day.

Inform teachers about special circumstances and encourage communication. Teachers need to know about any family situations that may affect students aca-



demically, emotionally or behaviorally. Let the teacher know (in advance, if possible) about things like deployments, homecomings, divorces, and PCS moves, as well as behavioral patterns you may have noticed in the past that she should look for. Just as you intend to communicate changes at home, encourage teachers to communicate any changes they notice in your child in the classroom.

Educate the educators about military life. Last year, I had a student who has leukemia. I knew nothing about the disease until the parents requested a meeting with me and gave me a packet of information detailing everything from her treatment to her prognosis. They even wrote a book that I read to the other students to help them understand as well. The parents' efforts helped me to better understand their child, and I was able to be a better teacher to her.

Just as I knew nothing about leukemia, most teachers know nothing about military families, especially if you don't live in a military town. If military life is affecting your child in a way you think might carry over into the classroom, offer teachers insight into our lifestyle. Print out articles or blog posts you've read that describe military life (or write your own) and refer them to resources like Sesame Street for Military Families and Military Kids Connect.

Smile! Back to school may be a stressful time, but it's also a special time. Every new school year is a milestone. There's a reason we all take those first day of school photos of our children on the front porch with their backpacks and fresh haircuts. And if you're smiling, maybe you'll get your kids to smile for those pictures, too.

Exchange earns high marks on Back to School savings

With a new school year right around the corner, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is stocking the shelves to help students with all their school needs. From supplies to clothing, the Redstone Exchange has it in store for students and parents.

“Every product is, of course, tax free every day at the Redstone Arsenal Exchange,” general manager Loraine Arbo said. “As a result, shoppers with Exchange privileges aren’t subject to the restrictions and limited savings opportunities available through the upcoming ‘tax holiday.’ In fact, military shoppers who shop the Redstone Arsenal Exchange during this year’s ‘tax holiday’ will see an added benefit as local sales tax percentage discounts will be matched, by category.”

The Exchange effectively doubled the tax-free benefit from Aug. 3-5 (Ala-

bama’s designated “tax holiday”), offering an additional percentage off (equivalent to the local sales tax rate) to the already low Exchange prices.

Regardless of when they shop, parents can expect more while paying less with the Exchange’s “Back to School” savings. On average customers save 24 percent and the “Price Match Policy” can save shoppers even more.

“The Exchange’s buying staff has done its homework over the past year and we’re ready to pass the savings lessons on to military families,” Arbo said. “Even though we’ve crammed to deliver the best ‘back to school’ shopping experience possible, we’re always prepared to match the lowest local price to ensure authorized shoppers are getting the best value for their ‘back to school’ dollars.”
(Exchange release)

Improve community life by shopping at Exchange

The Redstone Exchange is paying dividends in more ways than one as Soldiers exercising their benefit by dining and shopping on post last year generated a dividend of \$1,827,071.97.

These funds are critical to Army IMCOM G-9’s ability to enhance local programs and facilities including the Challenger Activity Center, Redstone Lanes and at the Youth Center.

“Historically, roughly two-thirds of Exchange earnings are paid to morale, welfare and recreation programs with the other third used to build new stores or renovate existing facilities,” Exchange general manager Loraine Arbo said. “As a result, authorized shoppers are essentially investing in a benefit that generates

a healthy return by directly improving Army quality of life efforts.”

With a mission to provide quality goods and services at competitively low prices and generate earnings to support quality of life efforts, the dual benefit the Exchange provides goes far beyond the clothes, electronics and snacks on shelves.

Shoppers who visit the Exchange, either online at www.shopmyexchange.com or in person at Redstone Arsenal, actually help make the military community a better place to live and work. In fact, purchases made at Exchange operations in the past 10 years have provided more than \$2.4 billion to military programs such as Youth Services, post functions, gyms and aquatic centers. (Exchange release)

Soldier students train at Huntsville Police Department

Defense and civil support focus of instruction

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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Huntsville's Public Safety Building was the site of Thursday morning's training for 16 Soldiers.

They're students in the Intermediate Level Education class of the Command and General Staff School. They represent one of four 16-student groups in the 64-member class that lasts 15 weeks.

Defense Support to Civil Authorities was the block of instruction that led to Thursday's training downtown at 815 Wheeler Ave. The students received an overview of the Huntsville Police Department from its communications relations officer, Dr. Harry Hobbs, a retired chief warrant officer 5. For the remainder of their morning at the building, the students shared their experiences in the field.

"These guys are going to learn from their peers' experiences," the instructor, retired Lt. Col. Dave Palmer, an assistant professor at CGSS, said. "Every single one of these guys has a combat badge on so every single one of them has been in combat

(in Afghanistan, Iraq or both)."

The students are field grade officers, majors, from throughout the world representing a full range of military occupational specialties. Some of these included nurses, chaplains, combat arms, acquisition corps, armor, explosive ordnance disposal, and one military policeman. One of the 16 students was female; and normally there are about three females per 16, according to Palmer. "We have 64 students every 15 weeks," he said.

Intermediate Level Education represents master's level foundation courses that are required for every field grade officer in the Army.

"We're brought together for a common core of training," Maj. Bryan Ash, a student in this class which graduates Aug. 17, said. "Our class is now the largest group of Soldiers in a training environment on Redstone."

Hobbs told the students about the organization of the police department and his role with the community and news media.

"We work very closely with our community here, we're really excited about that," Hobbs said. "Nine times out of 10 it's the community that helps us solve crimes along with our great investigators."

Huntsville police Capt. Vince Dauro,



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Dr. Harry Hobbs, Huntsville Police Department's communications relations officer and a retired chief warrant officer 5, gives an overview of HPD to students from the Command and General Staff School.

technical services division commander and accreditation manager, described how the department interacts with other agen-

cies. "We have a lot of leeway with military because we've been a military town for so long," Dauro said.

Run marks 11th anniversary of Sept. 11 attacks

Second annual 9.11K opens registration

Last year Redstone Fire Department's Capt. Robert Simmons ran Redstone's 9.11K run in full firefighting gear in honor of the 343 firefighters who died in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

"It's not about me," he said. "It's about the 343. They did a lot more than I did that day."

The second annual 9.11K (5.66 mile) race is Sept. 8 at 7:30 a.m., starting and ending at the Sparkman Center parking lot at building 5302.

Check-in time is from 6:30-7:15. Last year's race drew 165 runners, more than doubling previous running events, according to FMWR sports and fitness director Gaylene Wilson.

Preregistration costs \$15, which includes a T-shirt when registered by the Aug. 21 deadline. Registration on race day is \$20, with T-shirts available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Register at any Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation fitness center. You can also sign up until Aug. 21 at Fleet Feet Sports in Jones Valley.

For more information, call 876-6701 or 876-2943.



In this section...

SOLDIER STUDENTS RUN FOR DOWNTOWN RESCUE MISSION	PAGE 15
LOCAL AUSA REPEATS AS WORLD'S BEST CHAPTER	PAGE 16
FUN TIME FOR SURVIVOR FAMILY MEMBERS	PAGE 19
SMDC/ARSTRAT WORKERS ENJOY ORGANIZATIONAL DAY	PAGE 20
ENGINEER FINDS BEST WAY TO SUPPORT STUDENTS	PAGE 22

Soldier students run for Downtown Rescue Mission

Volunteering time for community

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Their time at Redstone Arsenal may be limited, but the surrounding community will feel the impact of Command and General Staff School's Small Group Bravo long after they're gone.

They came to the Redstone Arsenal satellite campus for an education, but wound up with so much more. When the officers weren't in the classroom or studying, they were giving back to the community they've called home since May, through the Downtown Rescue Mission, a non-profit organization serving the homeless and needy in northern Alabama and southern Tennessee, an outreach they heard about through one of their instructors, who volunteers there.

"This group is unique in that we typically have officers that focus on military related topics, be it something that has to do with their own experience, or something that has to do with the school, but

in this case they're focusing on the community and those who are less fortunate in the community," said Clayton Newton, assistant professor and staff group adviser.

"It's really important that as military we show that we're a part of the community and uplifting the community," Maj. Angela Smoot said.

Over the past few months, officers have spent their time serving meals and together with the mission, conducted a workshop to identify homeless veterans in the community and their needs, as well as providing them with information on the benefits they're entitled to and where they can go for help. It's an outreach for homeless vets that will continue to evolve after the students graduate Aug. 17.

"Always trying to give back is something everyone should try to do," Maj. Stephen Duryea said.

As a culmination of their volunteer work, and just in time for graduation, the 16 members of their Intermediate Level



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Sixteen students of the Command and General Staff School will participate in the Downtown Rescue Mission's Run to Rescue 5K Saturday, which benefits homeless and needy individuals in the Tennessee Valley. They include, from left, Maj. David Weising, Maj. Sean Reese, Maj. Kurt Krauss, Maj. Ken Powell, Maj. Stephen Duryea, Maj. Andy Anderson and Maj. Angela Smoot.

Education small group will participate in the Downtown Rescue Mission's second annual Run to Rescue Saturday at Bob Jones High School in Madison.

"It's not much time, but what we can do in a little bit of time we have done," Maj. Kurt Krauss said.

While the small group's service to

the Downtown Rescue Mission may be something that sets it apart from past groups, for the men and women that make up this group, giving of themselves is nothing new, but something they've done their whole lives, whether it be with the Boy Scouts or other volunteer organizations across the country.

"We all have something to give," Smoot said. "You may not be able to give money, but time is a valuable resource that you can give to people. Just an hour or two of serving down there, it means a lot to people that are receiving the service, and that's something anybody can do."

"Get out of your comfort zone," encouraged Maj. Ken Powell.

The Downtown Rescue Mission's Run to Rescue 5K starts at 8 a.m. Saturday at Bob Jones High. Late registration closes at midnight today. Participants may register the day of the race from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. For more information, visit downtownrescuemission.org/events/run-to-rescue-5k/.

Local AUSA repeats as world's best chapter

Volunteer, corporate support breed winning programs

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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A combination of supportive corporate members, loads of dedicated member volunteers, outstanding events and a patriotic community have, once again, put the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army on top.

On top, that is, as the 2012 best AUSA chapter in the world.

Success has been part of the chapter's day-to-day operations for several years as its members have provided a plethora of events, activities and programs in support of active duty and Reserve Soldiers, Army civilians, retirees and their families. The chapter is also involved in community events that gain public awareness of the Army and its mission. It has won the best chapter every year from 2004 through 2008, and then again in 2010, 2011 and this year.

"The more activities you do and the more reports you submit to national help your chapter earn points towards this honor," chapter president Paul Elliott said.

"But we don't do these things to win an award. We do things to take care of the Army and Soldiers, DA civilians, retirees and their families. It mounts up to us doing all these activities that we get credit for at national. At the beginning of the year, it was not our goal to be chapter of the year. Our goal is always to support the Army."

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter will receive the best chapter of the year award at AUSA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., Oct. 22-24. It will also receive top honors in several categories, with each represented by an activity streamer added to the local chapter's flag.

"We will be receiving activity streamers for everything from the support we give our veterans to our Army history events to our interaction with elected officials," Elliott said. "We are very active in the resolutions process."

Every year, AUSA presents resolutions to Congress and lobbies for those resolutions on behalf of the Army. For the past 10 years, the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter has had a representative on the AUSA National Resolutions Committee and, as a consequence, many of the resolutions presented and passed at the national level originate with the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter.

"We try to represent the needs of the commands in our chapter," Elliott said. "Our chapter is influential on a national basis."

But that is only one example of the depth of experience and commitment that the chapter's volunteers bring to its activities, and how they make a difference in the local chapter's track record at the national level.

"As a chapter, it's all a team effort. It takes a team effort to do all that we do," he said. "Many of our volunteers have been with this chapter for years and their experience benefits us and our programs. We have great, dedicated volunteers, board members and general membership, a supportive corporate membership and a supportive community."

"Our volunteers do everything from planning events, to working on the water brigade at the Concert in the Park (during Armed Forces Celebration Week) to passing out flags at the Veterans Day Parade."

Besides such annual events as the Army birthday celebration, the Huntsville Stars and Huntsville Havoc military appreciation nights, DA Civilian of the Year Award, Tactical Missile Symposium, high school and college ROTC awards, the Soldier/NCO of the Year and the 1st Sgt. John Ordway Award,



Photo by Kari Hawkins

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army is made up of hundreds of volunteer members who work in support of the Army, its active duty and Reserve Soldiers, civilians, retirees and their families. At the helm of this award winning organization are, from left, chapter executive vice president Kris McBride, president Paul Elliott and vice president of special events John Wright.

Elliott said there were two new chapter-sponsored activities that really stood out in the 2012 chapter year.

The first – the Department of the Army Civilian Summit – addressed the needs of the growing DA civilian population at Redstone Arsenal. The first ever event featured presentations from the Arsenal's civilian leadership and offered continuing education credit to those who attended. The event will be offered again

next year in conjunction with the Defense Acquisition University.

"We value our Department of the Army civilian membership and the summit was part of our outreach to them," Elliott said.

The second event was the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Tournament that was part of this year's annual Armed Forces Celebration Week. The tournament brought the national wounded warrior softball team to Huntsville for three patriotic games that filled the Sportsplex with cheering fans.

The local chapter also provides support for military-focused events sponsored by other local organizations, such as Operation Christmas Bear, the week-long Veterans Day activities and Armed Forces Celebration Week. This past year, several of the chapter's members were involved in planning the opening ceremony for the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial.

"We try to fit in with community events and provide support where it's needed," Elliott said.

In 2012, the chapter also established its second satellite chapter in Russellville. The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, which includes all of North Alabama, has 2,600 members and 300 corporate members.

"We want to continue to build our satellite chapters to make it easier for us to reach out to retirees, civilians and the Reserve component," Elliott said.

Likewise, the chapter wants to continue to build and diversify its individual and corporate memberships.

"Not all of our corporate members are defense contractors," said Kris McBride, the chapter's executive vice president. "We have all kinds of business members who want to support our Army and Redstone Arsenal."

That support grows as AUSA works to tell the Army story.

See Chapter on page 21

Fun time for survivor family members

Photos by Ellen Hudson

There were plenty of smiles at Saturday's pool party sponsored by Survivor Outreach Services.



Survivor Tiffany Little helps her 4-year-old daughter, Kylee, finish a snow cone.



Playing volleyball, from left, are volunteers Katelyn Jenkins, 15, and Mike Branson, 17, and survivors Kaitlyn Branson, 20, and Jayden Branson, 6.



Participants listen to speaker Wes Young just before serving lunch.



Volunteer Ricky Judy helps survivor Kaycee Chaney, 4.

SMDC/ARSTRAT workers enjoy organizational day

By **CARRIE E. DAVID**

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command celebrated organizational day July 27 on Redstone Arsenal.

Activities included volleyball, horseshoes, golf chipping, beanbag toss, treasure hunt, bingo, dunking booth, DJ and dancing, SMDC's Got Talent, a command his-

tory walk through and children's activities.

A number of prizes were given out during bingo, and the winners were: Lorinda Horton, \$10 Applebees; Barbara Kenamer, \$25 PF Chang; Glenn Snellgrove, \$25 Applebees; Annalisa Fowler, \$25 Starbucks; Jacenda Booth, \$50; Tarassa Walton, \$10; Michelle Smith, \$25 Red Lobster; Dasia Smartt, \$25 Outback; Bailey Crespin, \$50 Visa; Tisha Crespin, \$15; Carol Garth, \$25 Red Lobster; Nancy

Lilley, \$25 O'Charley's; Julia Parks, \$25 Walmart; Mike Leech \$15 Quiznos; Dan-

iel Marchand, \$25 Olive Garden; and Elijah Johnson, \$10 Applebees.



Photo by Carrie E. David

Management analyst Clara Pride Moore serves at the hot dog stand during the SMDC/ARSTRAT organizational day.



Photo by Carrie E. David

Elaine Edwards, communication security manager, helps a child at the fishing booth during the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's organizational day July 27.

Chapter

continued from page 16

“The purpose and mission of AUSA is to support Soldiers and family members,” vice president of special events John Wright said. “But one of the tasks of AUSA is to keep in the community the message that our Soldiers, families and DA civilians need our support.”

The chapter is glad to receive the top chapter award in what it considers a tran-

sition year.

“With the move of the Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School from Redstone, we have lost our large Soldier base,” Wright said. “But we have shifted our outreach to concentrate more on the Reserve component and the DA civilians who are such a big part of this community. That’s where we really see our base membership growing.”

And that’s where they see the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA continuing to make a winning difference.

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Engineer finds BEST way to support students

By DENNIS NEAL
ARDECOM Public Affairs

PVC pipe, screws, an irrigation valve cover, an aluminum paint grid and a bicycle inner tube. What do they have in common? They're all part of a kit to build a robot, according to Lucas Hunter, a mechanical engineer with the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"This is my third year volunteering to work for the BEST competition," Hunter said. "BEST means Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology. It's a competition for middle and high school students that centers around robotics."

Hunter serves as AMRDEC's science and technology representative to the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Ga. He provides guidance, advice and support in the areas of missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles.

BEST develops a new game each year with different themes such as chemistry or insects, Hunter said. Schools that field a team receive the kit free of charge. The student teams then complete the two elements of the competition.

"The first is the design, production and competition of a purpose-built robot," he said. "The second element involves research of the theme of the game, developing a trade show style display to convey what the team has learned about the theme, marketing, presentations, website design, T-shirt design and documentation of the team's overall engineering process.

"Students earn points for all elements and compete not only for the best robot, but the best overall package."

During his three years of volunteering Hunter says he has spent 40 to 60 hours per year, mostly on weekends, supporting the local and regional competition. As a volunteer, he provides technical support but has been surprised and even learned from the students.

"I didn't realize you could reshape PVC by heating it up with a teakettle," he said. "In one game, the teams had to collect plastic balls and sort them by color. Most teams made a scoop to gather the balls from a bin. One team took the one-quarter inch PVC pipe, heated it with steam from a teakettle, which made the PVC pliable.

"(They) formed an auger, which they could drop into the bin, spin and pull the balls to themselves," he said. "They were able to save a lot of time not having to traverse the field with loads of balls."

Hunter has enjoyed volunteering to work with the students and feels it is extremely important.

"Our nation is losing its competitive edge on the world market because we have lost our technological edge," he said. "We have a lot of brain power that is not being developed in our educational system, and a lot of wasted potential.

"As a business-minded engineer, I see a growth market emerging where the most technically minded elements of our society can flourish, as long as they are exposed at an early age to the possibilities."

Hunter feels the BEST competition



Courtesy photo

Lucas Hunter, a mechanical engineer with the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, is in his third year volunteering with the BEST student robotics competition.

helps provide that insight and the opportunity for those well-established in their career fields to work with the students, helping them see and reach their potential.

"If you don't till the soil, you can't grow good crops," he said. "It is incumbent upon all professionals to give back, just as those before us have given to help

us get where we are. If I can help one student see his or her potential each year through spending a fraction of my time with BEST, it is worth it."

The South's BEST Championship is hosted by Auburn University and serves 18 hubs in the Southern and Eastern United States. For more information, visit www.bestinc.org.

AMCOM deputy moves on to new challenge

*Follows own advice
in continuing career*

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Assistant editor
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A few months ago, as Ronnie Chronister reviewed his future career possibilities and considered a move into a new leadership position, he decided to take his own advice.

Chronister, the deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, is known for spearheading mentoring and leadership development programs for the command's employees. As a mentor himself, he has always stressed preparation, opportunity and experience.

So, when the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command came calling to ask about adding his name to a list of potential candidates to replace the now retired Dr. Steve Messervy as the deputy to SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, Chronister remembered the words he has shared with AMCOM employees.

"I tell people I mentor 'If you have an opportunity, you need to consider it,'" he said.

"In this case, I did some research into the organization, and talked to some people who work there about the organization's mission and challenges. After I laid out all the information I had gathered, I felt like my skill set would fit with what they needed."

And, with Chronister's name up for consideration for a Tier 3 senior executive service position that makes him the civilian equivalent of a three-star general, the course was set. The opportunity was offered, and his experience was a good fit. There was only one thing left to do — prepare.

"When people don't interview well, I think it's because they don't come prepared," he said. "I did my homework for this interview. I had a sense of the challenges and opportunities of the job. I wanted them to feel like I could start tomorrow.

"When you are interviewing for a



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Ronnie Chronister, a member of the Senior Executive Service who serves as the deputy to commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar of the Aviation and Missile Command, is moving on to assume a similar leadership position with the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. He will be officially introduced as the deputy to commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica of SMDC/ARSTRAT at the Space and Missile Defense Conference next week.

job, you need to immerse yourself with what's going on in the organization, you need to have an understanding of the organization and some of its challenges, and what you would do to help solve those challenges. At all levels, it's just basic blocking and tackling. When you interview, you have to have a plan. When I interview, I want them to get where Ronnie Chronister's heart is, who I am and what I'm about. If that doesn't resonate with them, that's OK. But they have to know I've given the opportunity my 100 percent attention."

Chronister did resonate with the SMDC/ARSTRAT leadership. He will leave AMCOM this week to assume the SMDC/ARSTRAT deputy posi-

tion, charged with overseeing research, development and acquisition along with the command's operational element, Future Warfighter Center and Technical Center. He will be officially introduced at the Space and Missile Defense Conference in Huntsville next week.

"I want to hit the ground running," he said, adding that he is excited about the opportunity the conference will provide him to meet space and missile defense industry leaders.

"Every employee should be in a job that maximizes their value to the Army. You could be doing a great job, but your skill can be wasted if you are able to do more. I love what I'm doing here (at AMCOM). It's very intense and a wonderful position to be in. But I felt I could offer more value to the Army in this new position."

That's been Chronister's *modus operandi* since he began his engineering career with the Army 30 years ago. His accomplishments include establishing and managing the Prototype Integration Facility, a unique government owned/government operated enterprise that has garnered more than \$500 million in defense business since 2002; serving as the acting director of the Engineering Directorate in the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, where he was responsible for the strategic and day-to-day management of a 700-person organization comprised of functional expertise in the areas of quality, manufacturing, industrial base support, prototyping, configuration management, reliability and automatic test equipment; and serving as executive director of AMCOM's Integrated Materiel Management Center, a 1,650-employee organization that partners with program executive of-

ficers and program managers, war fighters, and industry to develop, acquire, field and sustain worldwide logistics support, and ensure the Army's weapon systems readiness in any operation.

Chronister was appointed to the senior executive service in 2005. He assumed his current position with AMCOM in February 2008, where he manages a multifaceted and diverse organization with an annual budget of more than \$6 billion, and a global work force of more than 9,500 military and civilian employees that includes depots at Letterkenny, Pa., and Corpus Christi, Texas.

"I have worked with four generals while I've been here," Chronister said. "(Then) Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury promoted me. He took a chance on me. He saw something in me that I don't think I saw in myself."

Chronister came into leadership at AMCOM at a time when the organization was focused on providing aviation and missile systems in support of two wars. He helped to oversee AMCOM as Pillsbury began to shape it into a more responsive, agile and operational organization. Chronister continued in that role under the command of Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, who also addressed several aviation and missile systems challenges related to in-theater support, and Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, who continued AMCOM's role in supporting the war fighter while also working to create more efficiencies within the organization in response to federal budget cuts. He leaves AMCOM after a few months as deputy to commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar.

"My development as a leader was accelerated because of having those opportunities," he said. "They are four wonderful leaders with their own unique style and differences. I learned so much from them that will help me in my new job. All four are good mentors and exceptional leaders."

When Chronister came to AMCOM there was a lack of leader and work force development programs. Since then, AMCOM has established an aggressive

See Challenge on page 27

In this section...

USASAC EMPLOYEE MEETS REQUISITION CHALLENGE

PAGE 24

HISTORIAN REWRITES HISTORY IN FIRST NOVEL

PAGE 25

MARRIAGE TO SOLDIER BROUGHT CHANGE OF LIFESTYLE

PAGE 26

USASAC employee meets requisition challenge

By **MICHELLE HARLAN**
USASAC Public Affairs

NEW CUMBERLAND, Pa. — Faced with the daunting task of manually entering over 20,000 requisition items for a foreign military sales case for the Afghan National Army, one Security Assistance Command logistics management specialist knew there had to be a more efficient way to complete the job.

“I had to figure out a way to streamline the process,” Ryan Gonder, who works for USASAC’s CENTCOM Case Management Division at New Cumberland, Pa., said.

The FMS request for the ANA included over 3,000 different items that needed to be delivered to six depots across Afghanistan. According to Gonder, none of the items had a NSN, or National Stock Number, associated with them. Therefore, he relied on the Specialized Non-standard Acquisition Process, or SNAP, which is used to procure items that are no longer in the U.S. Army’s inventory.

“By talking to the right people, I found someone who remembered doing this in the past,” Gonder said. “The main reason for entering the items into the system, creating the requisitions, is that it creates an order that must be filled.”

“Ryan was proactive and worked with the (USASAC) Process Management Office to find a way to process the requisitions as a batch versus doing them manually,” Keith Schaffner, Gonder’s supervisor and chief of the Central Case Management branch C for CENTCOM, said.

SNAP items are identified with information such as a CAGE (Commercial and Government Entity) Code, a part number, end item application and a description.

“This is unique to the SNAP process and it normally requires a manual input effort one requisition at a time,” Gonder said. For items that already have a NSN associated to them, requisitions can be processed without the extra data input. “SNAP is usually the last option to requisition items.”

“If Ryan hadn’t figured out the automated process, he would have had to process the requisitions manually which would have required a significant amount of time, with the real possibility of errors,” Schaffner said. “We could not afford the time or risk the er-



Ryan Gonder

rors because the parts were needed for an important Afghan program.”

Gonder was hired in 2009 in a developmental position with USASAC, which is his first federal job. He said dealing with a country eight and half hours ahead, with rotating leadership and changing demands, presents a challenge. But he likes the diversity of his job.

“Normal things are easy to order and deliver,” he said. “Sending things to Afghanistan... there’s a little more to it.” For example, if a particular route is closed the items being shipped must be stored securely until a resolution for delivery is found. In addition to dealing with the challenges that come with overseas deliveries, there’s the added pressure of meeting the customer’s expectations.

In the end, Gonder was able to coordinate a simplified effort to ensure a fleet of the vehicle’s replacement and spare parts were shipped to Afghanistan within the case’s delivery terms and on time. The effort did not go unnoticed: In March he was recognized during an employee recognition ceremony by USASAC commander Maj. Gen. Del Turner for his efforts and support in standing up the ANA.

“He’s smart, enthusiastic and dedicated to supporting the Afghan program,” Schaffner said. “I expect to see him rise quickly in the organization to a Central Case Management position and beyond.”

Historian rewrites history in first novel

By **BETH SKARUPA**

Staff writer

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As the Missile Defense Agency historian, John Dabrowski's job is to get things right when it comes to writing about historical events. Writing his first novel, "To Sup with the Devil," allowed him to get it wrong for once.

Like many of us, Dabrowski enjoys asking "What if?" That simple question inspired him to write "To Sup with the Devil," an alternate history of World War II where the United States joins forces with Germany to defeat Stalin. The novel opens with the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1945. But Harry S. Truman is not the vice president at this time. It is a man by the name of Kazmaryk, a first generation Polish American who is vehemently anti-Soviet and anti-Russia. He leads the U.S. in its alliance with Germany.

"But don't worry, it's a double-cross and justice will be given to both Hitler and Stalin – a justice that some people would say that in real life they eluded," Dabrowski said, referring to the fact that Hitler took his own life and Stalin died

of natural causes after 24 years of ruling Russia with an iron fist.

Dabrowski's novel not only has a different ending for Hitler and Stalin, it also has footnotes, something that most novels fail to provide. The footnotes, usually at points where his alternate history veers from historical events, explain what happened in real life.

Readers appreciate Dabrowski's grasp of WWII history, as evidenced by all the good reviews for his book on Amazon.com. One of the most notable is from "Kabul Bob." He wrote: "Friend of mine recommended this book and I purchased it thinking I'll get to it when I can. Being in a combat zone in Afghanistan and despite working 15-18 hours working days, I couldn't put it down. Excellent book."

Dabrowski obviously has a passion for history. His enthusiasm turned into a lifelong career long before he wrote this novel. He has been a historian for many years. Originally from Florida, he grew up in New York and Pennsylvania. Both his undergraduate and his master's degrees are from East Stroudsburg University

See Novel on page 28

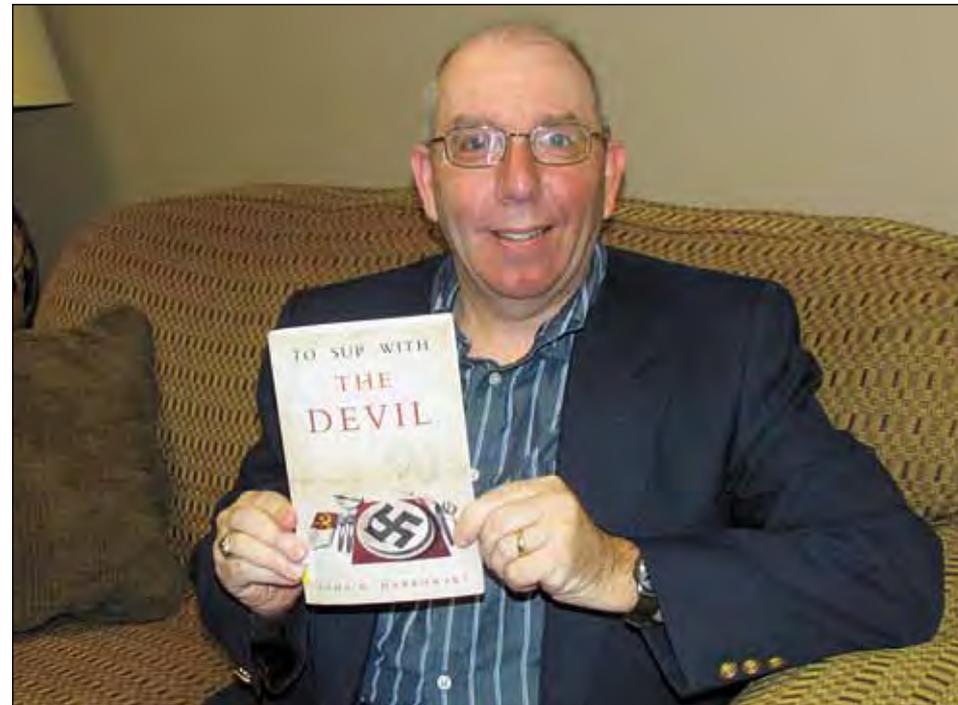


Photo by Beth Skarupa

MDA historian John Dabrowski's novel "To Sup with the Devil" is an alternate history of World War II.

Marriage to Soldier brought change of lifestyle



Photo by Kari Hawkins

She hasn't lived through the separation caused by a deployment, but Corby Dellarocco is in the role of a waiting military spouse as she continues her professional and personal life in Huntsville while her husband serves elsewhere as one of the Army's two-star generals.

Longtime professional adjusts to being general officer's wife

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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When Corby Dellarocco said “yes” to her future husband, she thought she was marrying a soon-to-be retired colonel.

Instead, she ended up becoming the wife of a brigadier general.

Such has been the relationship of two working professionals who have been very much committed to their Army careers. Today, Dellarocco works as a defense contractor for Millineum Engineering and Integration Co. while her husband, now Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, serves as commander of the Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

The couple met at the Association of the U.S. Army national conference in Washington, D.C., in 2003. At the time, Dellarocco, who was chief of external affairs for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, was working her organization's exhibit booth at the conference.

“He came and introduced himself to me,” Dellarocco said. “His work at that time had him connected to the program executive offices. We dated long distance. He was nice, smart, cute, and very caring and thoughtful.”

In April 2006, Dellarocco was surprised with a proposal from her Soldier that concluded an evening of fun at the Princess Theater in Decatur.

“He rented the Princess Theater and got the movie ‘She Couldn't Say No!’ from 1954 with actress Jean Simmons as Corby Lane. My daughter Lauren helped him with the plans. We had 1950s candy and they had hung posters from other 1950s movies in the theater,” she said. “I thought I was going to somebody's birthday party.”

Following the movie, in front of about 40 family members and friends, Dellarocco's Soldier proposed. Thus started the “shortest engagement in history,” she said, of their monthlong engagement and marriage on May 30.

At the time, Dellarocco's Soldier was planning on retiring as a colonel. But the Army had other plans. With one phone call, a promotion to brigadier general put the wedding plans on the fast track.

“Geno wanted to get married right

Military Spouses at Work Part 5 in a series

away because he had just found out he was getting promoted to one-star and in July he would have to go to brigadier general training, which is like a charm school for general officers. He said ‘I want to go with my wife, not my girlfriend.’

“So, we got married at the courthouse here and then he left me in the parking garage to go back to Washington, D.C., to do his Soldier duties.”

In June, Dellarocco and her then 17-year-old daughter Lauren were on stage with their Soldier at Fort Belvoir, Va., for his one-star promotion ceremony.

“There were people there who knew Geno a whole lot longer than I did,” Dellarocco said. “I had always helped others who had to be on that stage. Now, I was there and it was very different.”

In July, Dellarocco's Soldier attended the general's course while she went to

See Spouse on page 28

Challenge

continued from page 23

professional development program as well as an educational outreach program. “We are much better, but we started from a pretty low point in my view,” he said. “What encourages me is that our senior leaders all now share the same philosophy and hopefully that permeates through the organization. We are on the right track with leadership development and work force development, but we still have a long way to go. It’s something you have to deal with on a daily basis or you atrophy.”

Chronister views his departure from AMCOM not as causing a leadership void, but rather as creating a leadership opportunity for someone else. “There are many who could come in and take this job to the next level. There’s several whom I know who could do this job very easily,” he said.

“There is a great staff here. I’m confident that we’ve developed a great bench of the next generation of leaders. This command has been going well. This transition (to the new command leadership) is going well. It’s a testament to the work force.”

Chronister is looking forward to acclimating with the battle rhythm at SMDC/ARSTRAT. He expects the new job will come with some additional traveling at first as he becomes familiar with the command’s operations at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; Fort Greely, Alaska; Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands and other locations.

“The deputy commander works in tandem with the commander. Being an operational commander requires Lt. Gen. Formica to be gone a lot. And there are challenges that must be worked through to ensure we

are committed to missile defense 24/7. We will work out a battle rhythm that’s best for us and the command,” he said.

Under his leadership, Chronister hopes to integrate capabilities throughout SMDC/ARSTRAT’s operational element, Future Warfighter Center and Technical Center.

“This is an opportunity to make an already great organization even better,” Chronister said. “We need to look at how to optimize the integration of capabilities across these three main areas.

“Developing and mentoring the work force is one of my goals. This is an opportunity to take what I enjoy doing to a new organization. I want to help build trust and credibility between the war fighter and SMDC, with other commands like the Missile Defense Agency and the Strategic Command, and with various agencies we work with.”

Chronister is also looking forward to further solidifying the SMDC/ARSTRAT organization as a leading participant in the Team Redstone community.

“Redstone Arsenal is by far a civilian-centric installation,” he said. “It is the shining beacon for civilians working in support of our military. I am excited about the opportunity to work across commands – specifically with AMCOM and the Army Materiel Command – on developmental assignments for employees and to be a major participant in Team Redstone.”

Throughout his career, Chronister has developed a reputation for knowing how to build relationships. He has done that at AMCOM and hopes to use that capability at SMDC/ARSTRAT as he gets to know the engineers and scientists behind the organization’s programs.

“I believe we have built the right kinds of relationships at AMCOM that we

need to do the mission,” he said. “Between IMMC and AMCOM, I’ve had seven years here. I’ve enjoyed the relationships I’ve built here and the wonderful people who I’ve been blessed with in my path. There’s been a multitude of those blessings here.”

Chronister said he is proud of the hard work that AMCOM employees have put in during the past 10 years of war.

“When I’ve been out talking with aviators and air defenders and I tell them where I’m from, they will without fail tell me this organization is filled with great civilians who give them the support they need,” he said. “They may not know Redstone Arsenal or AMCOM, but they know our employees because we get them what they need to be successful. Through the years, AMCOM employees have adapted to the war fight, and they learned how to provide support in better and better ways.”

AMCOM was the first command to fully deploy the logistics modernization program, which represented a fundamental change in logistics support. In recent years, the command has worked with Letterkenny and Corpus Christi depots in their transformation to become “best value options” that operate more like business enterprises, with its Integrated Materiel Management Center to reduce inventories across the command

and with its Security Assistance Management Directorate to better support foreign military sales.

“We’ve integrated the foreign military sales function. It’s a dynamic that has changed significantly,” Chronister said. “Our partner countries are buying parts and helicopters more than ever before. SAMD is taking that dynamic and putting the workload into the depots. Our foreign military sales work will help keep our depots viable.”

Chronister, who credits his success to his faith and the support of his family, said he will cherish his AMCOM experience and friendships no matter where his career takes him in the future. His parting message for AMCOM employees: job well done, mission continues.

“I am truly proud of the AMCOM employees and honored to have worked with them, and I mean that in the most genuine sense,” Chronister said. “It’s overwhelming for me to consider what they have done for this country.

“The challenge to them is this is a different time and we have to get better and more efficient at what we do. If we don’t become more efficient, then we won’t be able to give war fighters the equipment that they need; we won’t have the resources to do this job. We’ve got to take advantage of technology so that we can operate in a more austere environment and not lose our effectiveness.”

Novel

continued from page 25

in Pennsylvania. His Ph.D. in history is from Kent State in Ohio.

He served in the military for 34 years. He was commissioned in 1977, just out of college, originally through the ROTC program in infantry. He served two years active duty, then spent most of the remainder of his service in a Reserve component interspersed with active duty.

Three years, while he was a captain, were spent as an assistant professor of military science with an Army ROTC group at Dickensen College in Carlisle, Pa. He was mobilized in 2004-05 to Germany in Headquarters of the European Command. After retiring from the Army

as a colonel in 2007, he was recalled to active duty voluntarily and was in Carlisle once again. His last tour, in 2011-12, was in with the Army Center of Military History in Washington, D.C., at Fort McNair. During that tour he was deployed to Afghanistan to briefly serve as senior Army historian in theater.

"I was actually at General Petraeus' morning staff call when it was announced that Bin Laden had been killed," Dabrowski said. "It was very, very exciting. I was proud to be an American Soldier over there at that important time in history."

He has worked as a government employee since 1989, in between active duty, getting his start as a logistician with the Air Force. Eventually he was able to work as a historian for the Army and then for the Department of Defense.

Dabrowski credits author Harry Turtledove, a prolific writer of alternate history, with inspiring him to write his novel. He started writing it in bits and spurts in 2006. His father died in early 2007 and he said turning his thoughts to writing fiction was therapeutic. When he was recalled to active duty in late 2007, he ended up being a "geographic bachelor" while his family stayed behind. Writing was a good way to keep him occupied and out of trouble during that time, he said.

His family has been very supportive of his desire to become an author. His wife Mary and children Keith, 23, and Christina, 19, bought him a laptop for Father's Day in 2008 so he could make more time to write. Christina also designed the cover of the novel. His family currently lives in Florida while he works at the Arsenal,

so once again he is a geographic bachelor. He drives the six hours home for the weekend every few weeks.

Dabrowski is hard at work on his second novel, tentatively titled "My Brother's Keeper." It follows two brothers in Germany, one who is a Roman Catholic Monsignor at the Vatican and the other who is a high-ranking S.S. officer implementing Hitler's "final solution of the Jewish question." In this alternate history, the Pope sends the cleric to dissuade his brother from implementing Hitler's plan and rescue the Jews.

"To Sup with the Devil" is available online from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and www.wordassociation.com. It also is available as an e-book for Kindle or Nook. The Coffee Tree, a bookstore in southeast Huntsville, also carries copies of the book.

Spouse

continued from page 26

general officer's spouses training. There she learned about what it takes to be a general officer's wife from people like Vicki Cody, the wife of Gen. Richard Cody, the 31st vice chief of staff of the Army.

"Being in this position does require a lot of patience, understanding and flexibility," she said. "I had to learn to share Geno with the Army. And, being a single mom for so many years, that was a hard sell for me. But at least for now I do have to share."

Ever since they took their vows, their marriage has been one of compromise and long-distance challenges. In June 2007, Dellarocco's Soldier was assigned to Redstone Arsenal as the program executive officer for Missiles and Space. Dellarocco and her daughter moved from their home in southeast Huntsville and into Redstone's general officer's quarters.

"I decided to keep my house because of the uncertainty of Geno's career," she said. "It gave us an opportunity to update it. We took on projects together. It was a nice way to spend time together."

Although his assignment to Redstone was good for their marriage, it also meant that Dellarocco would have to leave a job that she loved at PEO Missiles and Space. Fortunately, she went on to another enjoyable and challenging job in congressional affairs at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

Dellarocco also had to learn about her role as a military wife, a role that can seem limiting to a woman used to an independent lifestyle and who knew little

about the challenges of being a military spouse.

"I had a hard time adjusting, not to the sheer fact of being married, but to being married to a Soldier," Dellarocco said. "I knew all about protocol, but I hadn't been in the forefront. He thought I pretty much knew it all, that I was already trained. But now I was on the other side of the fence and part of a command team. Being a general officer's wife isn't easy."

"I went from behind the scenes to being in the front. I went from working for general officers to going home from work and cooking for a general officer. I came in at 38,000 feet, from a general officer's level. I'm not the spouse who moved 19 times."

But true to the Army's reputation for being an organization of supportive military families, other military wives – namely Mary Ann Tucker (the wife of retired Brig. Gen. Chris Tucker who served as the commander of the Security Assistance Command at Redstone) and Tina Kihara (wife of Col. Steve Kihara who leads the Redstone Test Center) – hovered around Dellarocco and helped her through the adjustments of those early days as a general officer's wife.

"Mary Ann had all the breadth of experience of military life that she could share with me," Dellarocco said. "Col. Kihara's wife helped me a lot in a different way because they had only been married 10 years. She came into the military life at 14,000 feet."

Even so, Dellarocco's working status at Redstone made her feel a separateness from other military spouses that was hard to bridge.

"I did find it difficult at times interacting with some of the military spouses who weren't working outside the home," Dellarocco said. "I didn't get as involved

in things because I already had commitments and competing priorities. But I did get involved in spouse's socials and other things we did through PEO Missiles and Space.

"Everything just felt different. This whole thing wasn't the normal, traditional military family scenario. It's difficult making the transition from a regular person to a military spouse after being in the work force for 30 some years."

Just because they had set up house together at Redstone didn't mean the newlyweds would have a lot of time together. As a one-star general and then later as a two-star general, Dellarocco's Soldier spent a lot of time away from home to attend to issues related to an Army at war.

"He traveled a lot, and I still had a daughter at home and two houses to take care of," she said. "The separation was tough for a newlywed couple. We've been married six years and only have had three where we've lived together."

Dellarocco's decision to keep her home while her husband was stationed at Redstone turned out to be a wise one. Soon after being promoted to major general, Dellarocco's Soldier was assigned in 2010 to lead the Test and Evaluation Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground. With her daughter in college at the University of Alabama, an established career at Redstone, and lots of family, friends and professional connections in Huntsville, Dellarocco decided that instead of going to Maryland she would move back to her home in southeast Huntsville and wait for her husband to retire.

"If I had gone with him, I would have had no job and he would have been traveling a lot of the time," she said. "It was just as well that I stayed here and continued to do things with friends and family. I'm a long range planner,

and the uncertainty of the career of an Army general officer is a little unsettling for me."

Dellarocco's ties to Huntsville run deep. Besides having her family, friends and career here, she is also active in several local professional groups – Leadership Huntsville/Madison County, Women in Defense and the Air Defense Artillery Association, to name a few. All help to keep her patient as she waits for her husband to retire.

"Geno's got green blood," she said. "That's all he knows. He's wanted to be a Soldier since he was 4 years old and I found that Soldier in his 50s. We see each other once or twice a month. He has to come home and do his honey-do list."

Dellarocco recently retired after a 37-year career with the federal government that she began as a pay clerk at Fort Monmouth, N.J. Yet, in April, she came back to the Arsenal workforce as a contractor.

"I was heavily recruited. I had a skill set that the company was looking for," she said. "I had to think long and hard, and talk to my family before I decided to take the job."

"I firmly believe there's a reason for everything. When you get to this point in life, it's nice to have options. My job allows me those options."

Working again suits her.

"I need a mission. I need to feel value added. My new employer makes me feel that I do add value," she said.

Until her Soldier retires, the Dellarocco couple will continue their long distance relationship, looking forward to those rare weekends and odd week days when they are together in the same town.

"I think God put me here because I need to show Geno how to enjoy life," Dellarocco said. "I fire him up. We have fun together."

Lakota Product Office changes leadership

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The Lakota helicopter team has entered a new era of leadership. Lt. Col. Dave Cheney succeeded Lt. Col. Dave Bristol as the UH-72A Lakota product manager in a change of charter ceremony July 31 in Bob Jones Auditorium. Bristol had served at the helm since July 2009.

"It's a great honor to be selected for command," said Cheney, previously a government acceptance pilot on the UH-60M Black Hawk with the Defense Contract Management Agency at Sikorsky's production facility in Stratford, Conn. "Lakota's doing a great job supporting our homeland security mission."

Cheney, 41, from Columbia, Mo., was commissioned into the aviation branch in 1993 following graduation from the University of Missouri. He earned a master's in business management from the National Graduate School in Falmouth, Mass.

"I'm humbled and proud to be a part of such an amazing team," Cheney said of Lakota's professionals.

Bristol thanked the entire team for its hard work in making the UH-72A Lakota program so successful. Some 223 aircraft have been delivered to the field on time and on schedule.

"I can't believe three years has zipped by as fast as it has," said Bristol, who will become the Future Vertical Lift-Medium acquisition lead in the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Col. Thomas Todd, the Utility Helicopters project manager, conducted the change of charter. "Your (Lakota) program has done things that no other program in the Army has done," Todd said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

From left are Utility Helicopters project manager Col. Thomas Todd, Lakota's outgoing product manager Lt. Col. Dave Bristol and incoming product manager Lt. Col. Dave Cheney.



Photo by Sgt. Gregory Williams

Directing traffic

Sgt. Anthony Hall, a truck driver, 781st Transportation Company, ground guides a MaxxPro Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle into a holding yard July 24 at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The National Guard unit out of Fort Deposit, Ala., transports cargo to various forward operating bases in southern Afghanistan.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Utility Helicopters project manager Col. Thomas Todd presents the Lakota charter to incoming product manager Lt. Col. Dave Cheney.

In this section...

ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND HISTORY: 1960S	PAGE 30
TOUR GUIDE TO AMC TRANSITION, SOCIAL MEDIA	PAGE 31
AMC NOTES 50TH YEAR BY INDUCTING 5 INTO HALL OF FAME	PAGE 31
SPECIALTY ENGINEERING PROGRAM DEVELOPS LEADERS	PAGE 32
FORMER PRODUCT MANAGER PLANS TO CONTINUE SERVING	PAGE 33
2ND RECRUITING BRIGADE BY THE NUMBERS	PAGE 33
CHANDLER MEETS TROOPS, FAMILIES AT LEONARD WOOD	PAGE 34

Army Materiel Command history: 1960s era

By **RUSSELL PETCOFF**
AMC Public Affairs

After being around for 185 years, the Army decided in the early 1960s to change its logistics system. Times had changed.

The previous system dated to the Revolutionary War. It saw the Army through America's wars up through the Korean conflict. Modern warfare, however, required a change.

"Arsenal for the Brave," a historical report on the establishment of Army Materiel Command, stated the evolving nature of technology and logistics necessitated the change. There was a "growing uneasiness in both the executive and legislative branches of the government over the government's ability to manage and control its massive defense effort, particularly in the spectacular area of research and development."

Eisenhower called for this change toward the end of his presidency, explaining that the United States had no armaments industry and could no longer "risk its safety on emergency improvisation."

The new secretary of defense in the Kennedy Administration was Robert McNamara. He was no stranger to management, restructuring and organization. Prior to heading the Pentagon, McNamara had been president of Ford Motor Company. He was one of the "Whiz Kids," a group of 10 former Army Air Corps members who helped reform a faltering Ford.

Soon after taking office, McNamara established Project 80 (Army) "to study the functions, organization and procedures of the Department of the Army." Deputy comptroller of the Army Leonard Hoelscher led it. The Hoelscher Committee began in April 1961. Its recommendations would become "the basis for one of the most sweeping reorganizations in the history of the Department of the Army."

The committee's guidance was not to reorganize the Army. It was "to analyze the existing organization and make whatever recommendations deemed appropriate." The committee finished in October 1961. It proposed the Army Materiel Development and Logistics Command with three elements:

- Research, development, procurement and production of Army materiel
- Test and evaluation
- Supply system management



Army photo

A Soldier displays a seismic intrusion detector from the late 1960s.



Army photo

An air crew man wears small arms protective body armor in 1967.

The Hoelscher Committee reported to the Traub Committee, headed by comptroller of the Army Lt. Gen. David Traub. It recommended an 18-month implementation period for the Hoelscher Report's recommendations. President Kennedy approved the plan in February 1962.

The Army selected Maj. Gen. Frank Besson to lead the MDLC planning group. In March 1962, McNamara requested an accelerated implementation date less than 18 months. Besson, now a lieutenant general, in April proposed Aug. 1. McNamara approved on May 8.

In May the MDLC activated under a new name: Army Materiel Command.

AMC stood up Aug. 1, but some of the technical services offices remained to ease the command's establishment. By December, all missions and people were in AMC.

AMC: Then and Now
Fifty years of history
Part 2 of series

Tour guide to AMC transition, social media

By AMC staff report

As the Army Materiel Command celebrates its 50th anniversary, many leadership changes are taking place.

Newly promoted Gen. Dennis Via has succeeded Gen. Ann Dunwoody as AMC commander at Redstone Arsenal's first four-star change of command ceremony Aug. 7.

Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston has joined AMC headquarters as deputy commander Aug. 7. Her promotion to lieutenant general was Aug. 2.

Brig. Gen. (promotable) Darrell Williams became AMC's chief of staff Aug. 7, succeeding Maj. Gen. Gustave Perna who was appointed to deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations.

Approximately 15 leadership changes will take place at AMC by the end of the year, with many already complete. These leadership transitions are conducted simultaneously as the command provides seamless support to the war fighter.

AMC kicked off its 50th anniversary celebration Aug. 1, but the celebration will continue throughout the coming

months.

To highlight AMC's history, the command will feature historical articles about each decade and photos from the 1960s to the present on all of its online and social media outlets. Interactive questions and spotlights on personnel throughout the command will also be shared.

AMC's Facebook and Twitter pages will follow this schedule: Mondays will highlight an AMC fact, Tuesdays will bring facts from our major subordinate commands, Wednesdays will reflect on AMC history facts, Thursdays will share a general fact about military operations, and Fridays will wrap up the week with facts about AMC commanding generals.

In the Eye on AMC, AMC's weekly online newsletter, followers can read the articles from each decade and spotlight articles on professionals who worked during that decade. It will also include did-you-know facts and an additional highlight of personnel chosen at random.

Stay up to date with all of these changes by visiting and interacting with AMC's online and social media commu-



Courtesy photo

This is an aerial view of the Army Materiel Command headquarters off Martin Road.

nications as follows:

- Website: <http://www.amc.army.mil>
- Eye on AMC: <http://go.usa.gov/RAS>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/hqamc>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/armymaterielcommand>

www.flickr.com/photos/armymaterielcommand

- Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/armymaterielcommand>
- YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/HQAMC>

AMC notes 50th year by inducting 5 into Hall of Fame

By ADORATIA PURDY

AMC Public Affairs

Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody marked AMC's 50th anniversary by inducting five former employees into the inaugural AMC Hall of Fame Aug. 1 at AMC headquarters.

The ceremony was established to honor and memorialize former civilian and military personnel who have made significant and lasting contributions to the Army Materiel Command and the Army, giving employees a sense of heritage, honor, pride and belonging.

"It is vital that we honor the contributions of those who paved the way for AMC," Col. Dan Williams, director of Public and Congressional Affairs, said. "Our history is marked by the selfless actions of the men and women whose efforts created an enduring commitment to supporting the war fighter."

Family members and an AMC representative were on hand to accept the award on behalf of the individuals who were inducted posthumously:

- Gen. Frank Besson, AMC founder and commander 1962-69
- Lt. Gen. William Bunker, AMC deputy commander 1962-69
- Lt. Gen. George Sammet, deputy commander 1973-77, commander February 1977 through May 1977

- Maj. Gen. John Zierdt, project manager/commander Army Missile Command 1960-67

- Sarah Clements, AMC assistant chief of the Office of Project Management 1964-75

A special selection board chose the five inductees, who contributed significantly to the evolution and definition of AMC doctrine, mission and/or training.

Dunwoody extended her thanks to the Soldiers, civilians and family members for their sacrifice and support.

"I wish I could personally shake the hands of everyone who made this day possible," Dunwoody said.

She went on to acknowledge how the work force's commitment to excellence is a vital component in making AMC the global logistics command, while providing real-time readiness for Department of the Army.

Following the induction, members of the AMC staff presented items for inclusion in a 50th anniversary time capsule. Contributed items included a roster of current AMC Soldiers and civilians, as well as a list of prices of popular consumer items. The time capsule will remain closed for another 50 years.

The 50th celebration continued with AMC hosting a family day and open house. AMC staff and family members



Photo by Cherish Washington, AMC Public Affairs

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, AMC's commander, celebrated the 50th anniversary by inducting five former employees into the inaugural AMC Hall of Fame during a formal ceremony at the headquarters Aug 1. Shown are medals and plaques honoring those individuals that impacted AMC.

enjoyed a barbecue and toured the facility. AMC was activated Aug. 1, 1962.

At the time, the command consisted of 190,000 people; more than 250 installations, activities, arsenals and laboratories;

an inventory of weapons and equipment worth \$23.5 billion, with an annual budget of \$7.5 billion and was housed at what is now Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

Specialty engineering program develops future leaders

By RYAN KEITH

AMRDEC Public Affairs

One of the most important tasks within the Department of Defense is the need to grow future engineering leaders.

That was the message of Stephen Welby, deputy assistant secretary of defense for systems engineering, as he provided the keynote address at the 2011-12 Specialty Engineering Education and Training Program graduation ceremony held last week at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"I think what our nation needs is folks with experience in specialty engineering, who understand a system's context and can address issues from a systems engineering perspective," Welby said.

Specialty engineering is the focus of the SE2T pilot program led by AMRDEC and the Huntsville campus of the Defense Acquisition University. The program consists of one year of government-led training at a local training facility followed by a year of graduate school courses at a participating university.

Six students successfully completed the first year of study and will attend courses at Auburn University. Receiving SE2T diplomas were Ronnie Buckner, Samuel Green, Wesley McDonald, Christopher Shaw, Bradley Townson and Justin Willette.

"It was a great opportunity," Buckner said. "I gained so much technical experience from all the subject matter experts from Red River. They were very hands-on. There's a lot of statistical processes we will be able to apply in the real world."

The program is also designed to accommodate students interested in just the first year of training. Working with supervisors and faculty, students identify which courses will best enable them to support their customers. Four students received certificates of attendance for courses completed in 2012: Alan Cobb, Chase Dervan, Jay Long and Julian Olander.

Olander, an industrial operations engineer at AMRDEC, described the coursework as "intense."

The SE2T focus includes reliability, availability, maintainability engineering; quality engineering; production manufacturing engineering; human factors engineering; operations research; test and evaluation engineering; and logistics engineering.

AMRDEC director Eric Edwards credited the vision of Patti Martin, director of AMRDEC's Engineering Directorate, and Jim McCullough, dean of DAU's South Region, as instrumental to initiating the SE2T program. He also lauded the efforts of Mike Whitt, associate director for mission assurance at the Engineering Directorate, and John Adams, SE2T program director at DAU-South, in the execution of the pilot.

"We needed a mechanism to teach young (engineers) the skills necessary in these very critical specialty engineering disciplines to be able to be the future, to take that forward in support of the customer," Edwards said. "We are at a unique time in the government with budgets coming down, the graying of the work force, and you all are setting a tone and a direction for the next generation of engineers studying the specialty fields."

Most of the courses in the pilot offering are being taught by professors at the Army Materiel Command's Logistics Leadership Center. Located at the Red River Army Depot in Texarkana, Texas, the ALLC was formerly known as School of Engineering and Logistics. For the Huntsville pilot, some classes are taught face-to-face and some



Photo by Frank Simon

Stephen Welby, far left, deputy assistant secretary of defense for systems engineering and Jim McCullough, second from left, DAU-South Region dean, join AMRDEC director Eric Edwards, far right, in recognizing the students of the SE2T pilot program during a graduation ceremony July 31. Holding their certificates and diplomas, the students are, from left, Justin Willette, Alan Cobb, Jason Buckner, Julian Olander, Chris Shaw, Chase Dervan, Wes McDonald, Sam Green, Brad Townson and Jay Long.

via video teleconference.

Speaking on behalf of the faculty, Robert Lewis said, "This really is a dream come true for us – to teach specialty engineering before our careers come to an end."

Lewis provided perhaps the most impassioned presentation of the day in which he described a statistics project posed to the team by a "lead reliability engineer at a lead contractor." In 75 minutes the students and faculty collaboratively produced a complete analysis, including the confidence interval and prediction interval. "Most engineers can't even do this," he said.

A seasoned engineer, Lewis choked up at that point.

"That is something remarkable. I am very proud, I am passionate about this. I did not know how to do this until I got this job and went through this school (myself). And if the Army can't keep this going I will forever regret that I didn't do as much as I could," he said.

Each speaker was quick to address the challenges facing specialty engineers. Practitioners must understand how complex products are designed, managed, produced, tested and fielded.

"That type of product-centered thinking is remarkably rare, and is incredibly valuable to organizations and teams," Welby said.

Edwards summed up the desire of many in the room when he concluded: "I hope this is the first of many of these that we have across (the Research Development and Engineering Command)."

Former product manager plans to continue serving

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Lt. Col. Brad Killen doesn't plan to stop his life's work just because he's retiring from the Army.

"I'm going to take a couple of weeks and go to work out for probably one of the contractors. I just haven't decided yet," said Killen, who retired Friday after more than 25 years service. "I just want to continue my service to Soldiers and everything else. That's what I've been doing since I was 17. Continue to serve Soldiers."

Killen relinquished command of the CH-47F Improved Cargo Helicopter Product Office in a change of charter ceremony at NASA's Morris Auditorium. His successor is Lt. Col. Reese Hauenstein.

Killen, 43, from Killen, Ala., looked out over the audience of civilians, Soldiers, friends, relatives (including his 90-year-old grandmother) and mentors. "It's all those folks that got me to this



Photo by Skip Vaughn

From left are outgoing CH-47F product manager Lt. Col. Brad Killen, incoming product manager Lt. Col. Reese Hauenstein and Cargo Helicopters project manager Col. Bob Marion.

point. It's not about me," Killen said. "It's about all of you out there."

He and his wife, Keri, have three children. Their son, Raleigh, 17, is a senior

and star football player at Rogers High School, which is in Lauderdale County. Raleigh was selected this year to the Military.com All-DoD Team. He plays middle linebacker for Rogers High, where he made honorable mention All-State and was All-Area and All-County. He has started for the Pirates since his freshman year and made 180 tackles last season. His sisters are Morgan, 15, and Lindsey, 13.

"Brad and his (CH-47F) team have done a fantastic job," Col. Bob Marion, the Cargo Helicopters project manager, said.

The team has delivered 127 aircraft during the last three years. The CH-47F is in the fifth year of the first five-year multiyear contract with the Boeing Company in Ridley Park, Pa.

Hauenstein, a native of Bracey, Va., graduated in 1994 from the University of Alabama and was commissioned a second lieutenant into the aviation branch. He and his wife, Kellie, reside in Huntsville with their sons Seth, 14, and Reid, 11.

2nd Recruiting Brigade by the numbers

The 2nd Recruiting Brigade provided the following statistics on its accomplishments:

1,500 noncommissioned officers are on recruiting duty in 275 Recruiting Stations across the Southeastern United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

16,500 new Soldiers have been recruited for the active Army and Army Reserves so far in fiscal 2012.

8,000 future Soldiers have enlisted but are awaiting shipment to Basic Combat Training.

Photo by Kim Hanson

Brig. Gen. Ted Harrison, commander of the Expeditionary Contracting Command, administers the oath of enlistment to about 25 Huntsville area future Soldiers before the Soldier Show during 2012 Armed Forces Week, June 12.



Chandler meets troops, families at Leonard Wood



Photo by Melissa Buckley

Michael Reed, Dismounted Reconnaissance Course instructor, tells Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler about explosive component identification at the Lt. Joseph Terry Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Responder Facility on Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

By **MELISSA BUCKLEY**

Fort Leonard Wood

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – The Army's top noncommissioned officer, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler, was on Fort Leonard Wood to learn more about post and, more importantly, spend time with Soldiers and their families.

"Seeing Soldiers and their families is without a doubt the most rewarding thing I get to do. Unlike the chief or the secretary who really have to work the programs and policy, I get the luxury of seeing these men and women and their families," Chandler said. "This is my first trip to Fort Leonard Wood. I am looking forward to spending time with each of the three schools and spending some time with the Soldiers."

While on post Chandler and his wife, Jeanne Chandler, held a town hall meeting with hundreds of Soldiers and family members.

"I loved the questions, the energy and the enthusiasm. I am very impressed," Chandler said.

During the meeting Chandler said the major challenge facing the Army today is the drawdown, stating 15,000 Soldiers will need to be cut from the current force every year for the next five years.

"The drawdown is going to be a challenge because we are going to have some people leave the service that we really want to keep," Chandler said.

For Soldiers that want to continue their Army careers Chandler had some advice.

"They have to ask themselves, 'Do you still want to be a part of the Army?' and 'Are you willing to do what the Army wants you to?'" Chandler said. "When you are a Soldier, you have chosen to be a part of something larger than yourself. We expect you to grow while you are in the service both personally and professionally. So, do what's right, and if you are unsure ask questions. Be what you say you are – a professional."

He stressed trying hard to excel in physical fitness, weapons qualification and school. Continuing education being something he has seen take a front seat in the last 31 years.

"I came into the Army in 1981. The average education of a noncommissioned officer was an eighth-grade education. More than 50 percent of the NCOs who were serving in the Army had no high school. The biggest change that I have personally seen is that our Soldiers are much more

educated than they were when I first came in. That shows you the incredible things that they can do. They have stepped up repeatedly and continue to push the envelope," Chandler said.

Chandler also talked to the Soldiers about health. He put emphasis on suicide, sexual harassment, hazing and behavioral health.

Chandler said there is a stigma surrounding Soldiers asking for mental health counseling, but there shouldn't be because, "it won't affect your career."

A few of the things Chandler did while on post were toured the Lt. Joseph Terry Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Responder Facility; viewed hydraulic excavator, grader, back hoe loader and assault breacher training at Training Area 244, and spoke with Military Police Soldiers at Maglin Hall.

Jeanne Chandler toured a junior-enlisted home; had a roundtable discussion with family readiness group leaders, and met with Survivor Outreach Services family members.

She said she was impressed with the programs and services available to families on post.

"It's very positive. They seem to have a creative approach to delivering Army family programs here," Jeanne said. "I encourage all of our spouses to take advantage of Army Community Service programs and Army Family Team Building, especially our new spouses. Being involved in the Army as a spouse and volunteer is very rewarding."

Overall the sergeant major of the Army wanted Soldiers and families of Fort Leonard Wood to know he cares about them.

"I am proud of everyone's service, Soldiers and families. Jeanne and I are really appreciative of the sacrifice that our families have made. They are the ones who I think have really suffered the most. When their young man or woman deploys, they are at home trying to keep it all together. The Soldier is doing what they volunteered to do, and gets recognized. We don't tell them 'thank you' enough," Chandler said. "So, thank you families. We appreciate what you have helped us to be able to do."

Jeanne agreed.

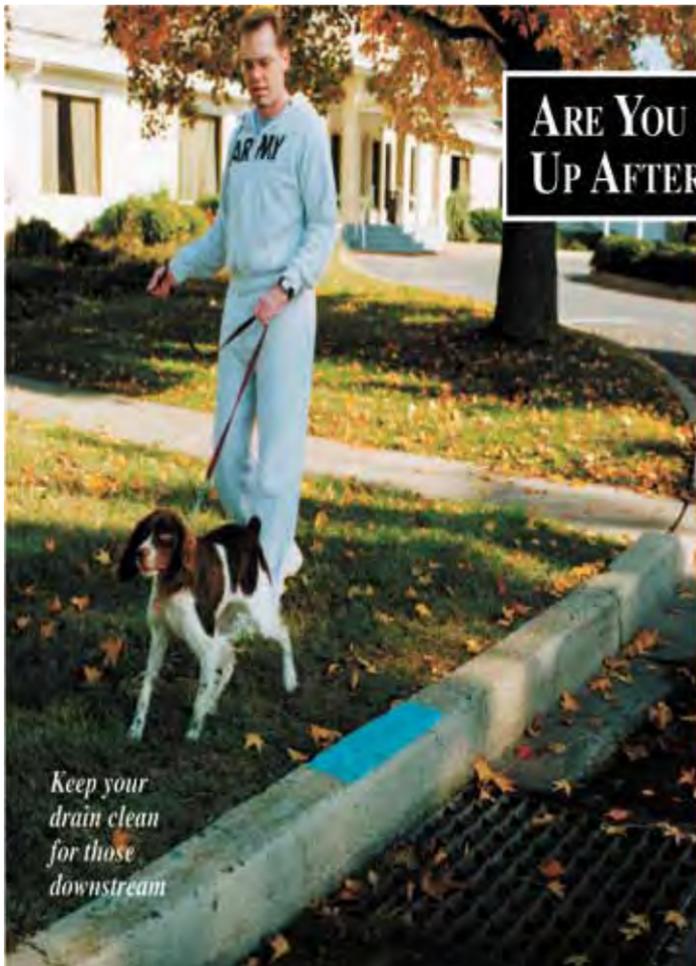
"Our families have endured so much and have been so courageous. It's wonderful to come and meet them and hear their stories. I will bring these stories back and share them with others at the Department of the Army," Jeanne said.



Photo by Vickie Evans

Promotion day

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Calhoun is congratulated by Col. Mike Faruqi, commander of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, during his promotion ceremony Aug. 1 to master sergeant. Calhoun serves as the senior career counselor for the 2nd Recruiting Brigade. In the background is Calhoun's wife, Misty, and their 4-year-old daughter Sophia. Misty Calhoun is a test examiner at the Education Center. The couple have four children.



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- Enter streams and rivers during storms.
 - Harm fish and degrade water quality.
 - Transmit diseases to children.
 - Make recreational water unsafe.

- Tips for proper disposal:
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 - Bury it.
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Contact the U.S. Army Garrison - Redstone at (256) 876-6122.

Keep your drain clean for those downstream



Win or Lose

Army/NASA softball league tournament up to plate

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The Fireballs and WYLE Coyotes were among the teams playing on the final night of the regular season July 30 in the Army/NASA softball league.

They belong to Division B in the league which is playing its postseason tournament to decide the three division championships. The Fireballs beat the WYLE Coyotes 10-7 at the NASA field.

The Fireballs (6-5-1) are their division's fourth seed behind the third-seeded WYLE Coyotes (8-4).

"Just play," Fireballs player/coach Corey Harrell said of his thoughts entering the tournament. "We're in the middle so we're in a decent spot. We just need to play our game. See how everything shakes out. We feel good about our chances."

"We're looking forward to it," WYLE Coyotes player/coach Todd Springer said. "We're probably the best we've been since we started three years ago."

Also on July 30, Got the Runs stayed unbeaten by edging the Expendables 10-9 at the NASA field. Got the Runs improved to 10-0 while the Expendables

Photo by Ellen Hudson

Got the Runs second baseman Reagan Hollenbeck catches the relay as the Expendables' Mike Behr reaches safely.

fell to 5-5 in Division A.

"I'd like to just win the first round (of the tournament) so we can be in the winners bracket," Expendables player/coach Mike Behr said. "But if we play like we did last night we should be good."

The other top seeds include TBE Integrators (9-2-1) in Division B and Hard Noc Hitters (10-1) in Division C.

In Division C, Redstone's Step-Children beat the Space Cowboys 6-4 on July 30 on the Army's Linton Field. Redstone's Step-Children improved to 3-9 while the Space Cowboys fell to 0-12.

"I think fundamentally if we can reduce our errors that we make as far as catching the ball in the outfield - I think our infield has come around - I think we'll have a good shot," Redstone's Step-Children co-captain Joseph Osborn said. "If we start to get more consistent with our hits there's no reason we can't do well in the tournament."



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Expendables third baseman Jason Bradshaw makes a throw on the run.

NASA/Army softball league standings

Here are the final standings of the regular season:

Division A	Wins	Losses	Ties	Division C	Wins	Losses	Ties
Got the Runs	10	0	0	Hard Noc			
Hit Circus	7	3	0	Hitters	10	1	0
Expendables	5	5	0	Screw Balls	9	2	0
Kitchen Sinks	4	6	0	Bit Players	7	3	1
RTC	3	7	0	Renegades	7	4	0
Rotorheads Too	1	9	0	Misfits	6	5	0
				Rotorheads	6	5	0
				ESTS Jacobite			
Division B	Wins	Losses	Ties	Rising	5	6	0
TBE Integrators	9	2	1	ET Throw			
A-Team	9	2	1	Home	5	6	0
WYLE Coyotes	8	4	0	Guns 'N Hoses	4	6	1
Fireballs	6	5	1	EVengers	4	7	0
Spaceballs	5	6	1	Put em			
Redstone's				in Boots	3	8	0
Step-Children	3	9	0	Starz	0	11	0
Space Cowboys	0	12	0				

In this section...

ACC COMMANDER RECALLS HER OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE

PAGE 39

ACC commander recalls her Olympic experience

U.S. women's handball team manager, assistant in 1984

By **LARRY McCASKILL**

Army Contracting Command Public and Congressional Affairs

Every four years, denizens spanning the globe focus their attention on the Olympic Games. For many, it's watching their national athletes compete to bring home medals for their native countries; for others it's a dream of one day making the team. For Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols, commander of the Army Contracting Command, the games are memories of past accomplishments and friendships.

A member of the 1984 Olympic team, Nichols remembers that time fondly.

"It was one of the most memorable times of my life," said Nichols, who served as a manager and assistant coach for the 1984 U.S. Olympic Women's Handball Team. "To work with elite athletes and travel the world competing allowed me to see other countries and cultures. It also allowed me to see the immense similarities all of us humans have – pursuit of excellence and dreams. The spirit of the games is strong, healthy and very healing."

Many are unaware of her athletic background even though it's normally in plain sight.

"I had been to many different ceremonies and seen bios, so I thought I would put that tagline on my bio to see if people actually read it. I was surprised because it does catch their interest," Nichols said. "As I was moving around a lot, I was taking plaques out of boxes and I found my 1984 Olympic Certificate, and I realized I was really proud of it and it is a part of who I am today and that I should show that off."

"My time with the U.S. National Team taught me a lot about the sacrifices that other Americans make each and every day," said Nichols, who became involved in women's handball when she was a cadet at West Point. "The dedication and commitment and tireless pursuit of excellence helped me focus even more on my professionalism as I continued in the Army after my Olympic experience. Honing your craft, being an expert, giving it your all: these things ring true in our Army. These things can be seen on the fields of strife and the fields of glory."

Nichols believes it takes great teams to accomplish tough and incredible things on and off the battlefield.

"This is true in athletics as well as the military. Even the individual competitive sports take a team of coaches, managers, trainers, family and friends to be successful," she said.

Not the most popular sport of the Olympics, the handball competition tends to receive little if any television time.

"Every event should be televised," Nichols said with a smile. "It is a culmination of years of sweat and tears that these athletes went through for their five minutes of fame. The problem is no one person could actually sit through it all, it would take months. Seriously, the gold medal round for each sport should get some TV time for those thousands of supporters at home. This sport is very exciting



USOC archives

Camille Nichols was a manager and assistant coach on the U.S. Olympic Women's Handball Team.

and could really use the exposure."

A few years ago, Nichols' Olympic teammates held their 25th reunion but she was unable to attend. She hopes that doesn't happen again.

"I have a couple of teammates I connect with via email. I believe they are working on the 30th reunion. I hope to be able to get there. I know they all will be watching the Olympics over the next two weeks and I will be with them in spirit," she said.

Editor's note: Yugoslavia won the gold medal in women's handball at the 1984 Summer Olympics

in Los Angeles. South Korea took silver and China bronze. The U.S. finished fifth of six teams.



Courtesy photo

Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols is commander of the Army Contracting Command.

Photo by Tim Hipps, IMCOM Public Affairs

Gold medal marksman

Sgt. Vincent Hancock, with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, became the first shotgun shooter to win consecutive Olympic gold medals in men's skeet July 31 at the Royal Artillery Barracks in London. Hancock, 23, of Eatonton, Ga., eclipsed his own records set at the 2008 Beijing Games for both qualification (123) and total (148) scores. He struck gold in China with a qualification score of 121 and total of 145. Hancock prevailed by two shots over silver medalist Anders Golding (146) of Denmark and by four shots over Qatar's Nasser Al-Attiya (144), who secured the bronze medal by winning a shoot-off against Russia's Valeriy Shomin.



Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Run to remember

A Redstone Arsenal chapter of Run to Remember is meeting Saturday mornings to jog together as a living memorial to fallen Soldiers. For meeting locations and times, call Charity Watral 542-1208. Members are encouraged to wear royal blue T-shirts or the Run to Remember T-shirt that can be ordered from <http://www.wearblueruntoremember.org>.

Golf tournament

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its inaugural Retiree Day Golf Tournament on Sept. 27 at the Links. This is a shotgun scramble. The \$50 entry fee includes golf cart, golf, lunch and door prizes. For information and registration, call Arno Hoerle 837-6253. All profits will go toward scholarships for military dependents.

Rocketman triathlon

The 19th annual Rocketman Triathlon will be held Sunday, Aug. 26 at the Col. Carroll Hudson recreation area. This Olympic distance triathlon will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a 1,500 meter swim in the Tennessee River, followed by a 40 kilometer bike and 10K run. More than 500 participants are expected. For more information, visit the website <http://team-rockettri.org/content/races/rocketman-triathlon>.

Benefit at Colonial

The Limestone County Chapter of NAACP will hold its inaugural Golf Tournament fund-raiser Sept. 29 at the Colonial Golf Course. Onsite registration starts at 6:30 a.m. The tournament will be a four-man scramble and cost is \$60 per player. Prizes will consist of first, second and third place, longest drive and closest to the pin. For more information, call Robert C. Bess Sr. 278-8347, email bess_robert@hotmail.com or Douglas Smith 808-561-8526, email dshank4@yahoo.com.

Boating safety class

Boating Skills and Seamanship will begin Thursday at building 3704. It will cover a broad scope on boating safety including trailering a vessel, proper and safe launching, lines and knots, weather, marine communications and more. Successful completion may qualify you for reduced premiums on your vessel insurance policy; and it meets Alabama's requirement for a written boat operators examination. The course is offered by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary free of

charge with the student required to purchase the course textbook for \$25. For more information, call Thomas Kunhart 527-4475, 830-6621 or email tkunhart@knology.net.

Babe Ruth baseball

The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the fall season Aug. 18 and 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. Players ages 13 to 18 as of May 1, 2013 are invited; and 12-year-olds are eligible to sign up as well under the "Local Swing Player" option. Registration forms will be accepted after Aug. 25 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of the player's birth certificate is required for all new players. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Contact one of the following park representatives for registration information: Northern Division, Mastin Lake Park, Emile Jones, phone 990-5902 or email ejones@wilsonlumber.net; Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison 544-3180 or tth3180@bellsouth.net; Eastern Division, Optimist Park, Jeff Abbott 653-5752 or jeff.abbott@adtran.com.

Football officials

The North Alabama Football Officials Association is accepting new officials. The group has more than 90 officials who work games under contract to high schools in Huntsville, Madison, Madison County, Limestone County and Lawrence County. Members will meet each Sunday at 7 p.m. starting July 8 in the Red Cross building at 1101 Washington St. To apply call Bob Arnone 763-1796 or visit the website <http://www.nafoa.biz>.

Sergeants major tourney

Redstone Arsenal's Sergeants Major Association third annual Golf Tournament will be held Sept. 14 at 8:30 a.m. at the Links. Open to the public, the cost is \$60 per person which includes lunch, team and hole prizes. For information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 509-2473 or email reginald.c.battle.ctr@mail.mil.

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.

Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the

Redstone community to its mass services noon Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. For baptisms, weddings or any questions, call 842-2175.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at The Summit. 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.

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 Marva Morse 430-0860. 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.

Men's ministry

Men's Ministry, "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.

Meeting professionals

The 2012 Society of Government Meeting Professionals Southeast Regional Conference, "Navigating through Government Meetings," will be held Sept. 16-19 in Mobile. Information regarding the educational workshops can be found at <http://sgmpcentralflorida.com/srec>. The conference is geared for administrative/technical professionals who plan/execute meetings, seminars, tutorials, etc. TIP information is: course title, SGMP Southeast Conference; vendor, Society of Government Meeting Professionals; catalog number, F124SGMP. For more information, call Barbie Baugh 876-7135 or Sherry Hilley 479-0198.

Community women's club

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club invites you to its "Sweet Home Alabama" August Super Signup on Aug. 14 at 10:30 a.m. in The Summit. "Whether you are new to the area, have been here for several years, or just want to come see what we are about, the RSACWC is here to show you the exciting events we have planned for the upcoming year," a prepared release said. All new members will receive a gift from the membership chair. RSACWC along with many on-post agencies and services as well as Alabama artisans and local businesses will be present. This event is stroller friendly, and refreshments will be served. For more information, visit www.rsacwc.org and "Like" them on Facebook: Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club.

Union meeting

AFGE Local 1858 will meet Monday at 5 p.m. at the Union Office building 3202 on Mauler Road.

Federal employees

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter 443 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Refreshment and social time will start at 9:30 a.m. with the meeting at 10. The program will be a presentation of the Huntsville mayoral candidates in a candidate forum. If you cannot attend the meeting, but have a question for the candidates, call Cheryl Patterson 828-0773 or email drpatter@hiwaay.net. Active federal employees and retired non-members are invited to visit at any time. For more information, call 508-8250 or 539-1333.

Parkinson's support group

Parkinson's Disease Support Group will meet Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at the Willowbrook Baptist Church Youth Building, 7625 Bailey Cove Road (parking available in the back lots). Shelia Collins, geriatric care manager, will speak on "Planning Ahead." For information call 837-6577.

Technology fair

Booz Allen Hamilton will hold a technology fair Aug. 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at The Summit. This will be a technical exchange on the latest engineering and technology solutions for full spectrum lifecycle management and mission delivery. You're invited to attend. Booz Allen Hamilton subject matter experts and senior leadership will include senior vice presidents Angie Messer and Bob Smith. To RSVP and for more information, call Ted Henrich or Matt Meko 922-2760, email boozallen-huntsville@bah.com or visit <http://events.SignUp4net/RPPIHuntsville>.

See Announcements on page 41

Rocket Announcements

Parent council

The Parent Advisory Council supports the Child Youth and School Services "Parents as Partners" program at Redstone Arsenal. The PAC helps with activities such as classroom parties, field trips, Teacher Appreciation Day, Month of the Military Child activities, school pictures, book fairs, fund-raisers, and other activities that encourage parents to stay involved in their child's education. PAC encourages all parents who have children enrolled in CYSS child-care facilities – Mills Road Child Development Center, Goss Road CDC and School Age Services to enroll annually as a member of the PAC and to attend its next meeting which will be held Aug. 28 at 11:15 a.m. in building 4488, room D103. If you plan to attend the meeting, call Caneeka Miller 346-8244. The PAC is a private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Security assistance enterprise

The Security Assistance Command will hold a Security Assistance Enterprise Roadshow on Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Heiser Hall. This event is to provide information regarding the Army Security Assistance Enterprise, its members, missions and processes, and will feature presentations from DASA-DEC, USASAC, USACE, TRADOC (SATFA), AMCOM SAMD and PEO STRI. It is open to all members of the Army security assistance enterprise work force, supporting organizations and anyone interested in the security assistance enterprise mission. For more information, call 450-5637.

Civil War round table

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will hold its 2012 Sesquicentennial Dinner on Sept. 13 at 5 p.m. at the Roundhouse, Historic Huntsville Depot, 398 Monroe St. Keynote speaker Edwin C. Bearss, a Civil War historian, will discuss the "First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas – A New Face on the War." A reception and social begin at 5, followed by a catered sit-down dinner at 6:30, period music and keynote speaker. Cost is \$30 per person. Business casual attire, but period dress, is encouraged. Visitors are invited but tickets are limited. For more information, call 539-5287 or email jha@knology.net.

Leadership conference

The Global Leadership Summit, organized by Chicago's Willow Creek Church, will be simulcast Thursday and Friday at Cove Church, 366 Old U.S. 431 in Hampton Cove. The conference features author and Willow Creek Se-

nior Pastor Billy Hybels, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, "Good to Great" author Jim Collins, Geoffrey Canada, Patrick Lencioni, John Ortberg and other business, service and religious leaders. Special military rate pricing at \$99. For more information or to register, go to www.covechurch.com.

Miscellaneous Items

Civilian deployment

Army 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>. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM or AMC. Contractors or military personnel cannot be considered. Army civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and visit the deployment website or call Cindy Gordon 313-0369 or Nicole Massey 313-0365. 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

Thinking of changing your military occupational specialty or entering a commissioning program and need to take an Army Personnel Testing examination? If so, call the Army Education Center Testing Office 876-9764. Tests offered include the Armed Forces Classification Test, Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and the Defense Language Aptitude Battery test. If you speak a language and want it annotated on your records, call

See Announcements on page 42

Rocket Announcements

and make an appointment to take the Defense Language Proficiency Test. All Soldiers and qualified DA civilians are eligible to take the DLPT. In addition to APT exams, the Education Center offers the ACT, SAT, Test of Adult Basic Education and GT Improvement exams. If you are taking college classes and need a proctor, proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community (military/government ID card holders). Call 876-9764 to see if you are eligible to test and to schedule an appointment.

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 community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Jennifer Anderson 513-8290 or email rsvp.dir@seniorview.com.

NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by state of Alabama, and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-1774.

Re-entry information

Just back from an overseas assignment and new to the Redstone Arsenal community? Feeling like a stranger in your own homeland? Contact the Relocation Readiness Program, Army Community Service, for a re-entry briefing to learn about community programs and services. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden, relocation readiness program manager, 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil.

Lending closet

The lending closet is stocked with basic household items to use before your household goods arrive or after you have been packed for your new assignment. Items may be borrowed for 30 days. ID cards and a copy of your PCS orders are required. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil.

breeden@conus.army.mil. Stop by Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Computer classes

Free self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, QuickBooks and SharePoint. Each class has about three levels and will take about three hours to complete each, but you can work at your own pace. Certificates of completion are issued after you successfully complete each course. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Community youth event

The second annual Community Awareness For Youth event is Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jaycees Building and Fairgrounds, 2180 Airport Road. CAFY is sponsored by the Huntsville Police Department in partnership with Mayor Tommy Battle. Its goal is to inform youth in Huntsville, Madison and Madison County about various career opportunities and four "Pillars of Success," which include health, physical fitness, careers and education. There will be free food and entertainment, with inflatables for the youngsters. The first 500 kids will receive a free backpack with school supplies. For more information, call Dr. Harry Hobbs 425-5307 or visit www.hsvpolice.com.

Space Camp for special kids

A "Special Needs" Space Camp will be held Aug. 24-29 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. It is for individuals or groups. The camp will be similar in nature to the regular Space Camp, but some activities may be modified, depending on the specific needs of the individual child. Since every child has different needs, organizers encourage parents to call and speak with them directly. The camp is \$749, which includes meals and lodging. Lodging is on-site in the Space Camp habitat. If a child normally has a full-time aide, he or she may attend as an aide at no additional cost. For more information, call 1-800-637-7223.

A&M logistics registration

Alabama A&M University is now on Redstone Arsenal. Office hours are every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army Education Center, building 3222 in room 13 on Snooper Road. Available is program information leading to the undergraduate Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree, advising, evaluations (prior academic and military),

registration and information for other degree programs offered at Alabama A&M University. The Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree is available to active duty servicemembers, their spouses and adult children, retirees, civilians employed on Redstone Arsenal, and on a space-available basis for all others. Classes are taught in the evenings to allow working professionals the opportunity to earn their degree without career interruption. For more information, contact retired Lt. Col. Samuel Scruggs at samuel.scruggs@aamu.edu or 372-8216 or 479-2730 and Kris Reed at kris.reed@aamu.edu or 372-5753. Interested persons may also visit <http://www.aamu.edu/business>.

Reserve openings

The 375th Engineer Company (Army Reserve) in Huntsville offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing project management, construction and leadership skills. The unit has immediate openings for sergeant through chief warrant officer 2 and first lieutenant (Engineer specialties preferred) who want to make a significant contribution to the readiness of the Army. The 375th conducts vertical construction operations in CONUS and OCONUS during Extended Combat Training Exercises. All prior servicemembers are welcome to contact the unit. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Walker at miranda.walker@usar.army.mil, phone 535-6232 or Sgt. 1st Class Stumpe at roy.marcus.stumpe@usar.army.mil, phone 535-6229 or Capt. South at william.south@us.army.mil.

Summer reading

Although the official Summer Reading Program ended July 14, the Post Library encourages children to keep reading. The library will continue giving out incentive prizes to kids ages 18 and under who check out books. This program will continue until school starts and while supplies last. You may call the library at 876-4741 for details or just come in.

Photo contest

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table is holding its first photo contest through Nov. 1 with categories for middle and high school students, and for adults age 19 and above. Winners will be announced in January. Individuals may enter two of their photos in each category – print and digital – with potential subjects pertaining to the Civil War. For more information, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/tvcwrt/>.

College evaluation

Columbia College is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will host a visit Oct. 1-3 with a

team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. Columbia College is accredited by the commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the commission's criteria for accreditation. The public is invited to submit comments regarding Columbia College to: Public Comment on Columbia College, The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411.

Las Vegas night

Xi Omicron Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity invites you to its annual "Las Vegas Night" and the Silent Auction, Aug. 17 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Omega Center, 181 Import Circle. Proceeds will support the scholarship foundation and the Harris Home for Children. There will be music by DJs Ghon Bomb and Chief Rocka of 103.1 WEUP, and photography by Radar Magazine. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. Purchase tickets online at www.xi-omicron.com. For more information, call Richard Suttle 655-6769 or email richard.suttle@dps.alabama.gov.

Community day

Northwest Church of Christ, 5008 Pulaski Pike, is sponsoring a Community Day on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This free community event includes a clothing giveaway for all ages and expert-led workshops on money and property management, healthy eating and more. Representatives from health-care agencies, the legal profession, financial planning and TARCOG will be on hand. Health South Blood Mobile will also be there to take blood donations. Continental breakfast and a light lunch will be provided. For more information on this free event, call John or Gladys Branch 837-9217.

Rumba dance classes

Rumba, a slow, Latin dance, will be taught for adult couples on six Thursdays from Aug. 16 through Sept. 20 from 8-9 p.m. at Pagano Gym. Tuition is \$66 per couple. No experience necessary. This course is also available as a five-week, \$55 review course (by eliminating the first class only) for those who have taken this course previously at Redstone. You may call the ITR Ticket Office 876-4531 and register using your credit card or stop by building 3711 at the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. Class size is limited to 25 couples. Instructors are Mary Jo Blount and Vince Guarin.

Veterans job fair

"Hiring Our Heroes Career Fair" – a job fair for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses –

Rocket Announcements

will be held Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville Marriott, 5 Tranquility Base. For more information on this free event, call Sheila McFerran of Still Serving Veterans 883-7035 or email sheilamcferran@still-servingveterans.org.

Car show

The Ardmore Quarterback Club presents the Ardmore Car Show, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at John Barnes Park in Ardmore, Tenn. All proceeds go to support Ardmore High School athletic programs. Spectator admission is \$5 per person, \$15 per family; and children 12 and under are admitted free. For more information, call Rodney Willoughby (205) 908-2677, Sandy Hardiman (256) 656-3413 or visit ArdmoreCarShow@gmail.com.

Memorial open house

Open House at the Memorial will be presented the last three Thursdays in August – Aug. 16, 23 and 30 – from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial located in Veterans Park in downtown Huntsville. The open house will involve volunteers who will answer questions about the memorial's design, the symbolism of some of the memorial elements and other facts about the memorial. Information about the time capsule and the brick pavers will also be provided. Re-enactors dressed in period military uniforms will participate in the events.

Breast cancer awareness

As part of its vision to realize a world without breast cancer, the North Central Alabama Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is encouraging people to show their true colors by participating

in Worship in Pink, a simple education program that inspires breast cancer advocacy and honors those affected by the disease. Worship in Pink Weekend will be held Aug. 25-26 throughout north central Alabama. The Worship in Pink program encourages and empowers places of worship to spread the life-saving message of early detection and honor survivors in their communities. Participants are encouraged to wear pink and get creative to make the day fun and educational. After registering at komennalabama.org, groups will receive a free participation kit that includes ideas and promotional materials for Worship in Pink Weekend. Groups host their own events and incorporate breast cancer education into their weekly service. For more information, visit komennalabama.org.

Disabled/veterans recruitment

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs will hold a free Disability and Veteran Linkage Fair for Huntsville area federal contractors Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, 3000 Johnson Road. The purpose is to assist federal contractors and subcontractors in their mission to develop meaningful relationships with community based organizations, educational institutions, state and federal government agencies and other sources in their efforts to identify and recruit qualified individuals with disabilities and covered veterans. The event will begin with speakers from OFCCP, Veterans Affairs and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. Registration is required for this free event. Submit registration requests to John Ambrose via email at Ambrose.John@DOL.gov.

Comedy show

McCloud Entertainment and eventblack.com will present a comedy show Aug. 18 at the Holiday Inn Research Park. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the show at 8. It features from "P'Diddy Bad Boyz of Comedy" Marcus Combs and comedian Ron Ron; and the host is BET Comickview's Bo P. Tickets are on sale online at eventblack.com and at James Records & Tapes. For VIP tickets or more information, call 693-2004.

Meet new principals

Huntsville City Schools is holding a "Meet and Greet" for the three new principals of Williams Elementary, Williams Middle and Columbia High School on Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. The event will be held at Williams Elementary, 155 Barren Fork Boulevard. In addition to meeting the new principals, the Redstone Arsenal community will have the opportunity to do onsite school registration, transportation signup, and learn more about course requirements, extracurricular activities and the extended day program.

Contract managers support

The Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will participate in the 2012 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease is the nation's sixth-leading cause of death and this annual walk is held in more than 600 communities nationwide to raise awareness, funds for care, support and research. The Huntsville Walk will take place Sept. 15 at the Botanical Garden

and NCMA is seeking participants of all ages and abilities to join it on this walk. If you wish to walk or volunteer with NCMA in support of this cause, call Amy Donlin 876-0500 and Kevin Powell 450-4675.

Artifact collection

The Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial Foundation is collecting historical and military artifacts for a time capsule that will be buried at the veterans memorial on or near Veterans Day. Artifacts are being collected at the SmithStoreIt at Church Street and Cook Avenue on the following dates: Aug. 25 for member organizations of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, and Sept. 15 and 22 for all Madison County residents. In addition, the foundation will collect artifacts from members to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home on Aug. 11. Artifacts can include items such as military medals and ribbons, personal letters, hats and clothing, photos and books. Items not chosen to be placed in the 2-foot-square capsule will be returned to their owners.

Island-theme benefit

The Rotary Club of Madison will hold the 10th annual Parrots of the Caribbean, an outdoor evening of live music, food and libations, Aug. 25 from 6-11 p.m. at 58 Martin St. in downtown Madison. All guests must be 21 or older and are encouraged to bring their IDs, blankets and lawn chairs. This event is held

See Announcements on page 44

Photo by Ellen Hudson

Smooth jazz

Brother Jay plays jazz and sells CDs at the entrance to the Redstone Exchange on Aug. 1.

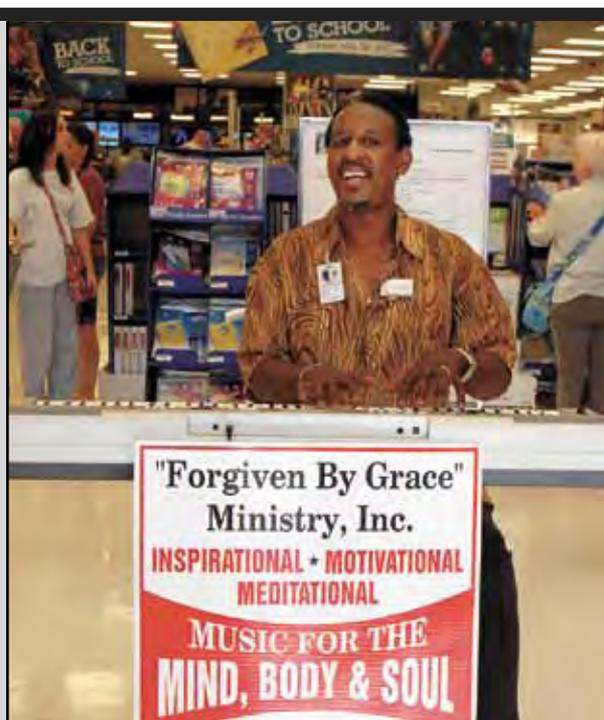


Photo by Randy Waldron

Trolley ride

A group from the Bicentennial Chapel Catholic Community participates in a trolley tour of Huntsville's historic district. The tour was arranged by Demy Robley and Susan Carr.

Rocket Announcements

rain or shine. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 the night of the event and can be purchased from Madison Rotarians or online (<http://madisonrotary.org/parrrots>) with an additional online ticketing service charge of \$2.09 per ticket. Tickets can also be purchased over the phone using a credit card; call 564-2075 and leave your call back number. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Madison Rotary Club's local and international projects. For more information, call the Rotary Club of Madison 564-2075 or email madisonrotary@gmail.com.

Eighth Army opportunities

The Eighth Army is looking for the Army's best and brightest. Expand your horizons by joining its team in the Republic of Korea. The Eighth Army offers you the opportunity to: grow professionally, play a critical part in the U.S. Pacific strategy, experience the most dynamic area in the world today, make lifelong relationships with America's Korean allies and experience a new and vibrant Korea with your family. Contact your assignment manager today, a prepared release said. Visit <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil> or Facebook: 8th-Army-Korea.

Lifelong learning institute

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Alabama-Huntsville offers classes, seminars and other forums for retirees and seniors age 50 and older. Course subjects include the arts, sciences, health, languages, history, hiking and a variety of other educational interests. All courses are taught by volunteers, including OLLI members, active teachers, and community leaders. There are also numerous social events, cultural activities and other special events provided for members. OLLI is a nonprofit membership governed organization, with oversight and support through the Division of Professional and Continuing Studies at UAH. Fall term registration begins Aug. 20. Classes are held mainly on the UAH campus, and run approximately 90 minutes each week for 6 to 8 weeks. The fall term will be from Sept. 10 through Nov. 2. Annual membership is \$15 (\$1 extra using PayPal), and \$85 per term fee that allows you to enroll in as many courses as you choose to schedule – normally around 50 per term. For more information, on membership and registration or to get a catalog, call 824-6183 or visit www.oshers.uah.edu. The latest catalog will be available in mid-August.

Ordway awards breakfast

The Association of the United States Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, will hold the annual 1st Sgt. John Ordway Leadership Awards Breakfast on Aug. 24 from 7-8 a.m. at The Summit. Cost is \$10 for this buffet breakfast. For reservations call Bill Tillman 783-8838 or email bill_tillman@man.com.

Red Cross blood drives

American Red Cross blood drives this month include the following: Aug. 9 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5400 and from 7-noon at the Sparkman Center. ... Aug. 10 from 6:30-noon at the Corps of Engineers and from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5400. ... Aug. 17 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316 and from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at building 4545. ... Aug. 23 from 7-noon at building 6263. ... Aug. 24 from 7-noon at building 5681.

Back-to-school party

Jump start the school year at the Pinnacle Affairs Youth Day, Back to School Block Party on Aug. 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Roundhouse, 398 Monroe St. Food, fun and giveaways will be provided. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, visit

www.backtoschoolblockparty.com or call 656-8651. Pinnacle Affairs is accepting school supply donations at Knology, 2401 10th St. southwest, and Playball Sports, 596 Plummer Road.

BBB online auction

Dress is casual for the BBB/WHNT New 19's "Start With Trust" Online Auction, Aug. 21-30, online at www.bbb.org/northern-alabama/auction. Bidders can page click and bid from home, work or on the go around the clock on a complete storm shelter, signed Auburn and Alabama footballs and memorabilia, jewelry and goods and services contributed by BBB accredited businesses. The Better Business Bureau's biggest fund-raiser enables the BBB to focus on helping to provide a marketplace where buyers and sellers trust each other. For more information, email mbidwell@northalabama.bbb.org.

Doll show

The Twickenham Doll Club is sponsoring its 36th annual Doll Show and Sale on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Huntsville Jaycees Building, 2180 Airport Road. The show will feature antique, collectible and play dolls and doll related merchandise from all eras. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children, under 5 free. For more information, visit www.twickenhamdollclub.webs.com.

TOXINS...
...TICK OFF
TURTLES

**Keep storm drains clean
for those downstream!**

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

Hazard, what in the world are you doing?

Check it out! It must be hump day!

Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Jim Boroch 29 JUL