

Redstone Rocket

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December 19, 2012

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Rocket around Christmas tree

*Seasons greetings,
Team Redstone*

Atty Allred, far right, leads a team of Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club members to decorate The Summit and The Overlook for the holidays. From left are member Sharon Samuelson, hospitality chair Edna Cole, activities chair Deedra Mack and Allred. This is the last *Redstone Rocket* before our two-week holiday break. Our first issue of 2013 is Jan. 9. Happy holidays!

Photo by Ellen Hudson



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Looking back on sports year here.
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RocketViews

What was your highlight from 2012?

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**
Staff writer
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Robert Wyche
School Age Services
“Working with my kids at the center. I teach them a lot of different things and this year we’ve been doing a lot of video production and graphic design. That’s been the funnest part of it for me personally and professionally.”



Barbara Williams
Child Youth and School Services
“Working with families from all over the world and being the listening ear to their concerns and some of their challenges; being the advocate for them.”



Rosalinda Scarborough
Child Youth and School Services
“Working with a great group of people – kids and child/youth care providers. We all have to work great as a team and I think we’ve accomplished that.”



Natalie Taylor
Army Community Service
“Going to Florida to celebrate my niece’s 6th birthday.”

Letters to the editor

The Year in Review: The Garrison Commander’s Perspective

I want to take a moment to reflect back on a very successful 2012, a year which can best be described as “a year of transition.” As dawn broke on 2012, the Arsenal transitioned from a focus of receiving major commands to a post-BRAC stance of adapting to significant increases in mission sets and changes in work force demographics. The year was made even more challenging with a clear requirement to ready the Arsenal for future opportunities in the midst of a much more fiscally constrained environment. As I look back, I am singularly impressed at the immense amount of planning and quality work accomplished by all on the installation over the last 12 months. I am confident the Arsenal is correctly postured to grow in its strategic impact and looking to seize on greater opportunities for the future.

I want to highlight a few of our major efforts and accomplishments this year. These are classic examples of well designed, well executed programs, taking advantage of existing opportunities and limited resources, yet still allowing us to maximize our return.

Organizational and Facility Consolidation: Reusing office space vacated by the departing Ordnance and Munitions Electronics Maintenance School (OMEMS) is now a multi-year revitalization effort. Consolidating organizations across the installation into single buildings or campuses improves communication and increases synchronization. This project will ultimately involve moving 24 percent of the RSA work force, \$50 million in facility renovations, while saving \$3.8 million annually in off-post leases.

Major Facility Renovation: The



Col. John Hamilton

Arsenal work force now enjoys a “city center” through very detailed and effective master planning. While military

See Hamilton on page 3

IMCOM leadership wishes happy holidays to all

It’s been immortalized in carols as “the most wonderful time of the year,” and it is for the Army’s home. It’s a wonderful time to be part of U.S. Army Installation Management Command. We have an incredible work force and mission. Ours is a diverse team made up of Soldiers, civilians

and family members.

The IMCOM team hails from every corner of the globe, with differing cultures and beliefs – all united in the service of others. It’s just the right mix to support troops, provide programs and offer world-class customer service to the best trained Army in the world.

Whether anticipating Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah or time among family and friends during this holiday season, know that you are a valued member of the team. Command Sgt. Maj. Rice and I can never thank you

See Holidays on page 3

Benefit gift-wrapping opportunity at Exchange

I am the vice president, fund development, for the National Coalition of 100 Black Women-Greater Huntsville Area Chapter. We would love to see our efforts for working in the Redstone Exchange “Wrapping Christmas Gifts Fund-Raiser” in

your newspaper. We have been working with retired Sgt. Maj. Michael McCain (of the Sergeants Major Association). It has been a new and wonderful experience for our 501C3 organization. All funds raised will be for college scholarships. We are happy to say we started working this fund-raiser Nov. 26 and will end Dec. 19. We are at the Exchange starting 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Please let everyone know they can get their gifts beautifully wrapped. We are located in the Exchange next to Church’s Chicken. There is no charge. It is all “for a small donation.” Merry Christmas. We are here and happy to serve you.

Pam Henderson

Quote of the week

“At Christmas, play and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year.”
— Thomas Tusser

RedstoneRocket

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Hamilton

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construction dollars are limited, renovation funding has increased and over the past three years, we've executed over \$300 million in renovations. Revitalization of existing structures allowed for the One-Stop and the new Welcome Center. Once completed, the city center will boast a new Learning Center,

Temporary Lodging, the new Aquatic Center and the Civilian Personnel Center, among others.

Infrastructure Upgrades and Expansions: We have been able to execute numerous projects to improve the infrastructure of the Arsenal, totaling \$147.7 million since 2008. We are also working closely with local city governments and the Solid Waste disposal plant to develop a secure energy supply for the Arsenal.

Services Transformation: Just as im-

portant is the ongoing investment we've made in Morale, Welfare, and Recreation projects, putting approximately \$38 million into improvements since 2008, with future concepts already on the drawing board. Our installation partners are constructing a new bank, gas station and restaurant along Martin Road to support the work force in the area.

We have accomplished a great deal this past year, and the articles in this *Rocket* edition's special section, beginning on page 25, will provide greater

detail on many of these projects. There were a great many challenges we all had to overcome to arrive at this point. Each member of the Garrison works to identify what the organizations on Redstone need and then do everything in their power to deliver those services in an efficient and effective way – to make Redstone best.

Col. John Hamilton
Garrison Commander
Redstone Arsenal

Holidays

continued from page 2

enough for the life of service and sacrifice you've chosen and for the opportunity to share that with you here at IMCOM, the Army's home.

We hope that this holiday season provides opportunities for reflection, recreation and renewed commitment to improvement. Team, we've ac-

complished a lot in the last 10 years – developing our work force, being good stewards of financial and environmental resources, improving the quality of life in Army communities worldwide. IMCOM is a world-class operation because of you.

Our mission is complex – a job that is 24 hours a day, seven days a week. While some can rest briefly, others may not. Remember your teammates who will be manning facilities, serving chow to deployed troops or helping

newly arrived families find lodging. This is the essence of what we do every day – provide a quality of life commensurate with their quality of service.

Now more than ever is the time to remember your family and extended Army family as well – battle buddies, co-workers and the person next to you now. As you travel or attend celebrations, be mindful of your actions and surroundings, keeping safety and responsibility to your teammates and

families in mind.

We wish you and your families a happy holiday season, prosperous New Year and look forward to starting 2013 with each member of this team, ready, resilient and committed to the next step in enhancing the lives of our Soldiers. Army strong!

**Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter and
Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice**
Installation Management
Command

Getting to **know you**

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer
amy.tolson@theredstonerocket.com

Name: Beverly Richey

Position: Physical scientist/GIS analyst, Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center

Where do you call home?

I've been in Huntsville since early '96, so I would consider Huntsville my home, but I'm originally from Detroit, Mich., and Fort Wayne, Ind.

What do you like about your job?

The variety. We are starting to really embrace the GIS technology, being able to apply it not just to maps, but business flows, decision making, and anything with a geographical location. The "where factor" can be applied to GIS. You can model various programs and be able to make decisions faster, quicker and easier.

What are your goals?

Professional, just to grow our technology within the center. Get people to realize how intuitive this technology is and it's not rocket science. Anybody and everybody can use it. It's a really



great tool for planning. On a personal level, just continuing my career, doing some more volunteer work and focus on my family.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love to read, movies and traveling.

What's on your bucket list?

I'd like to go to Europe, the Far East, back to Australia, back to New Zealand, back to Hawaii – more traveling basically – and I'd love to go to Haiti and help hands-on with people of lesser means.

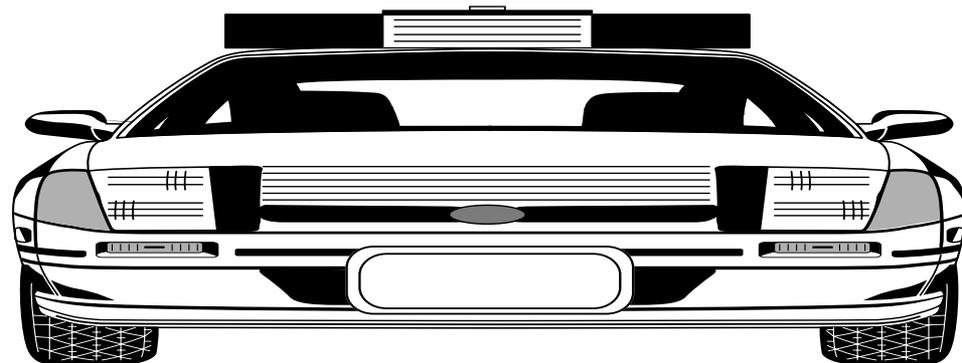
Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents for Dec. 2-8:

- Police and CID agents arrested two subjects for possession of marijuana when they were selected for a random inspection at Gate 8.
- Police investigated a single-vehicle, without injury, accident on Patriot Road when a vehicle struck a deer.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, accident in the parking lot of the Redstone Exchange.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, accident at building 5302. As a result of the investigation, the driver of one of the vehicles was arrested on a Madison County warrant

and cited for driving with a suspended license.

- Police are investigating a two-vehicle, leaving the scene accident in the parking lot of building 5304.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, accident in the Goss Road channelized right-hand turn lane onto Rideout Road.
- The Redstone game warden cited three subjects for taking deer by bait.
- Police cited a man for driving with a suspended license after he was stopped on Patton Road for speeding.
- Police investigated a report of shoplifting when a subject took merchandise from the Redstone Exchange.
- Thirty-six U.S. District Court violation notices were issued.



Industry reps hear about Redstone opportunities

By **DAN O'BOYLE**
AMCOM Public Affairs

Under the theme "Partnering for Efficient Warfighting Capabilities," the 2012 Advance Planning Briefings for Industry unfolded Dec. 11 in the near-capacity Bob Jones Auditorium.

Army Materiel Command, Security Assistance Command, Army Contracting Command, Program Executive Offices and Redstone Test Center were among the many on the agenda.

Team Redstone's senior leaders shared organizational long-range technology and capability development objectives during the event.

"The objective of the 2012 APBI is to provide information on the Army aviation and missile technology efforts and requirements as well as information on potential contract opportunities," Col. David Luders said. "This forum will assist our industry, research and academia partners in the private sector in planning and preparing for those future requirements."

Retired Lt. Col. Bob Vlasics, of Aerospace Dynamics Inc., was among the more than 400 attendees.

"I was impressed with the dialogue, and especially liked the close-out, question-and-answer session," Vlasics said. "This was my first time hearing Maj. Gen. (Lynn) Collyar, and I was struck by the fact that he appealed to industry and the need to do things to help veterans. He sent the right message, and is very passionate about Soldiers."

Indeed, the senior commander set the tone for the briefings in his opening remarks, highlighting the need for transparency between the Army Logistics Modernization Program and Defense Logistics Agency's Enterprise Business System as measured in terms of inventory management – accurate requirements forecasting, accurate procurement and repair bills of materiel, right sizing total inventory, and changes in op-tempo.

Collyar also appealed to attendees to focus on supply chain management, collaborative planning and forecasting, and strengthening partnerships.

Photo by Lauren Smith

Senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar speaks during the 2012 Advance Planning Briefings for Industry.



AMRDEC workers share meritorious service award

By **RYAN KEITH**
AMRDEC Public Affairs

Senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar has presented the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award to six individuals for their leadership in support of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Materiel Release.

Award recipients included Milton Henderson, Stuart O'Kraski, Robert R. Holaway, Abdul Kudiya and Donna Grider from the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center and Dan Rusin from the Army Test and Evaluation Command.

Granted by the secretary of the Army, the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award is the second highest award presented to civilian employees.

THAAD was the first major MDA program selected for transition in accordance with DoD policy. The department established an enterprise approach to execute the life cycle acquisition, fielding, and sustain-

ment of missile defense-related systems. This approach required the transition of MDA-developed items to their aligned Service component for fielding and sustainment.

THAAD was required to achieve an Army Materiel Release approval, a process that took over three years to complete. The materiel release leaders were responsible for identifying gaps and ensuring proper execution of technical requirements to minimize risk. Under scrutiny, the team stopped the process until the THAAD program achieved sufficient results to prove its technical maturity. They also ensured that Soldiers received the training devices, aids, tools and technical manuals required to allow them to achieve their missions successfully. They developed disciplined plans, requirements and processes for THAAD's success and for the success of all future MDA programs transitioning to the Army.

In February the THAAD Conditional Materiel Release represented the first time an MDA product successfully achieved approval to field to Soldiers.



Photo by Merv Brokke

Senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar presents the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award to, from left, Milton Henderson, Stuart O'Kraski and Robert R. Holaway on the back row and Dan Rusin, Abdul Kudiya and Donna Grider on the front row. The ceremony was held at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center by director Eric Edwards, far right, and engineering director Patti Martin, front row left.

On this date in history: Dec. 19

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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In 1732: Benjamin Franklin begins publishing Poor Richard's Almanac.

In 1776: Thomas Paine publishes his first American Crisis essay, in which he writes,

"These are the times that try men's souls."

In 1843: Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" goes on sale.

In 1907: Some 239 coal miners die during a mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pa.

In 1916: During World War I, the Battle of Verdun, on the Western Front, the French Army successfully holds off the German Army and drives it back to its starting position.

In 1941: During World War II, Adolf Hitler becomes supreme commander-in-chief of the German Army.

In 1972: Apollo 17 splashes down in the Pacific, ending the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

In 1988: NASA unveils plans for a lunar colony and manned missions to Mars.

Team promotes awareness for recycling on post

Survey of leadership classes found need to spread word

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Yes, Virginia, there is a recycling program at Redstone.

A survey of nearly 50 people from throughout the installation found most didn't know about the blue bins used for collecting white paper for recycling. And most didn't know the difference between blue bins and the gray bins which are used for sensitive documents destined for shredding.

The survey was conducted in April by a seven-member team within a Leadership Investment for Tomorrow class at the Aviation and Missile Command. Team 5 of Lift class 13 surveyed their classmates in Lift classes 12 and 13. Both classes graduated Dec. 6 in a ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium.

"We chose to survey our Lift classes because they represented personnel from the entire Team Redstone," LaDonna McCann, a physical scientist (environmental) in AMCOM G-4, said.

Forty-eight people responded to the one-page questionnaire. Eighty-three percent of them were unaware of Redstone's recycling program and 17 percent knew about it. Sixty-three percent did not know the difference between usage of the gray bins and blue blues.

Eighty-five percent did not know what happened to the remaining non-recyclable material at Redstone, such as newspapers and plastic.

"The waste stream is very small because we do recycle cardboard, ink cartridges, metals, used motor oil and white paper," McCann said. "A lot of offices recycle cans and bottles themselves, so

even that's minimized."

Much of the non-recyclable waste goes to the Covanta plant in Huntsville where it is incinerated to generate steam to supply Redstone Arsenal. That site is also called the waste-to-energy plant.

"Our team wanted to increase recycling awareness throughout Redstone Arsenal," Theresa Falcetano, a supervisory program analyst at the Garrison, said. "We just started small – just surveying these Lift classes. We're hoping the Lift classes will go back and share that information with their organizations. So, we started out small and we're hoping it will go big."

The team first got approval for the project from Terry Hazle, chief of the Garrison's Environmental Division. Marc Subido, qualified recycling and solid waste program manager for Redstone Arsenal, served as their sponsor.

"Qualified recycling is mandated by the Department of Defense," Subido said. Regarding the survey results, he said, "We should have more awareness of the program."

For offices on Redstone Arsenal, the blue bins are used to collect white paper and are emptied by schedule usually on Tuesday mornings. Depending on the volume, some are emptied twice a week.

The gray bins collect sensitive information. Each gray bin should be kept in a secure environment where it can be monitored, such as a room that can be locked, or the bin itself has a lock. The contents are shredded at the recycling center at building 5669, located on Mills Road off Woods or Stewart streets. The recycling center's contacts are Lee Baragona, of contractor Chugach, who can be reached at 876-1088 and Larry Malone at 783-2132.

Subido provided the following statistics on white paper collection for fiscal



Photo by Skip Vaughn

From left are LaDonna McCann, Tonia Rasberry, Marc Subido, Theresa Falcetano and Dianna Westbrook.

2012: shredded white paper, from the gray bins, 67.53 tons for \$15,234.99; and white paper from the blue bins, 74.29 tons for \$9,041.56. The dollar figures represent the proceeds from the sales of the paper products to the recyclers.

"Each ton that's recycled saves \$39.90 a ton," Falcetano said. "And that's the current disposal fee at the Huntsville Waste Disposal Authority."

Other members of the survey team included Dianna Westbrook, a logistics management specialist in the Apache airframe division at the AMCOM Logistics Center; Tonia Rasberry, a qual-

ity engineer in the Fixed Wing Project Office of the Program Executive Office for Aviation; Melanie Bone, AMCOM EEO; Tanya Purcell, CIO/G-6; and LeLorna Bennett-Chunn, Security Assistance Management Directorate.

"I think it was a great project," Rasberry said. "I do think the more you make people aware the more I believe they'll utilize the program and recycle."

For Redstone, it is more economical to burn non-recyclables and generate steam in return than to pay someone to collect plastics and cans, according to Subido. For a blue bin and more information about recycling, call him at 876-9675.

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:

Comedy night

New Year's Eve Comedy Night Celebration is 5:30-10 p.m. Dec. 31 at The Summit. The bar opens at 5:30, dinner is at 6 and the show starts at 7. Tickets are \$25 for the dinner and show. There will be a complimentary champagne toast at the end of the show. Performers include headliner Ken Evans, headliner Brad Tassell and featuring Roger Keiss. For information or tickets, call 313-3255.

Ticket giveaway

The Redstone Arsenal ITR Ticketing office is offering a chance to win two free one-day passes to Disney World in Orlando. Simply stop by the Community Activity Center, building 3711 on the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads, and drop off a business card in the office's drop box for a chance to win. Drop your card off by Dec. 27. The winner will be picked on Dec. 28. You do not have to be present to win. For more information, call the ticketing office at 876-4531. ITR is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Educators gather for quarterly meeting

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Military children move from six to nine times during their K-12 years. To make those transitions a little easier, parents and students can rely on the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission for assistance.

Mike Reed, the Military Interstate Children's Compact commissioner for Alabama and Hartselle city schools superintendent, spoke to area educators about the compact and what it means for both schools and students at the Garrison Quarterly Education Luncheon held Thursday. Formed with military children in mind, the compact aims to streamline the differing policies of school districts across the country, specifically when it comes to enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility and graduation, making it easier for students to get an education and graduate on time.

"Some kids have problems with not only adjusting, but with the transition from one state to another – one state's rules versus another state's rules," Reed said. "This is how we can get it all together without the child suffering because mom or dad was transferred. If we think about that in those terms, and remember why we're in the business, and that's to do the best for the child, we can usually work out whatever problems come forth."

Children of active duty, National Guard or Reserve on active duty orders, and members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year are eligible for assistance through the compact. The compact only applies to public schools in which states are part of the compact. Currently Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Minnesota, Arkansas, New York and New Hampshire are non-member states.

Under the compact, military children are afforded several rights, which include:

- The receiving school must accept un-



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Mike Reed, Military Interstate Children's Compact commissioner for Alabama and Hartselle city schools superintendent, speaks to local educators at the Garrison Quarterly Education Luncheon on Thursday about the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission.

official copies of a student's transcripts for enrollment. The sending school must also send the official transcript within 10 business days of a request.

- A child has 30 days to obtain the immunizations needed to enroll in school. During those 30 days the student is allowed to enroll and attend class.

- Regardless of age, if a student was enrolled at their previous school and attended class for kindergarten or first-grade, the receiving school must enroll them in that grade.

- If a student was enrolled in an honor course or program at their sending school, the receiving school must allow them enrollment in that course or program, regardless of class limits. The receiving school may perform an evaluation to ensure appropriate placement.

- If a student is enrolled in special education at their sending school, the receiving school must provide the same services. The receiving school may perform an evaluation to ensure appropriate placement.



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Col. Michael Faruqi, commander of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, enlists the help of local educators in his recruiting efforts at the Garrison Quarterly Education Luncheon.

- The receiving school must afford flexibility in waiving course pre-requisites, if similar coursework has been completed previously. Example: If a student completed algebra I and entered their receiving school as a freshman, they must be allowed to enroll in algebra II, even if school policy is to not allow freshman to enroll in algebra II.

- Schools must allow for flexibility for additional absences related to deployment activities.

- Schools must allow the opportunity for military children to participate in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines. The compact does not apply to the Alabama High School Athletic Association, which is not a state-governed body.

- Schools must waive pre-requisite courses for graduation, if similar work has been done in another state. They must also accept exit or end of course exams required for graduation from the sending state.

- If a military child transfers during their senior year and is ineligible to graduate from the receiving school, if they are eligible to graduate from the sending school, the school must ensure the student receives their high school diploma from the sending

school.

"The bottom line is this: we've got to find a way for the student to graduate on time," Reed said. "The receiving school can get with the sending school, and between the two of them they can work out a deal. People in the armed services have a mission to complete and they don't need to worry about whether or not Johnny or Suzy is going to graduate."

If a school does not honor the rights under the compact, Reed will work with schools, and the commission on the national level if need be, to advocate for the rights of the child. To view the entire compact, email Reed at mike.reed@hcs.k12.al.us.

In addition to the briefing on the MIC3, Col. Michael Faruqi, commander for the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, spoke with educators, asking them for help in identifying young men and women in their own schools that might make a good fit for the Army. Today's recruiting standards are much higher than in years past, Faruqi said, creating a need for the brigade to know exactly where those talented students are in the community. Only three out of 10 now qualify to enter the Army.

"The quality of our military, the quality of our Army has stepped up quite a bit," Faruqi said. "We need that common understanding. It is no longer the place for somebody who can't do well in school. It is no longer the place for someone who has a misconduct history. This is no longer the place for someone who is significantly overweight and can't be in our Army physically. It is very challenging for us to recruit, but the people who know who those kids are, those young men and women, are us in this room. We need the best quality Army we can get."

Claudia Styles, principal of Legacy Elementary School, also presented to the group about the school's Project Pond, and representatives from Sparkman High School shared news about their outreach through the Student 2 Student Program.

Jazzy celebration serenades cafeteria

Photos by Ellen Hudson

AMCOM Chaplain Lt. Col. Leon Kircher brought the AMC Band, as well as Santa and Mrs. Claus, to give Christmas cheer and entertainment at the Sparkman Cafeteria during lunch Thursday. The band's jazz-focused breakout group, "Raw Material," performed.



Read all about the holiday books at Post Library

The Post Library, building 3323 on Redeye Road, is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 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.

Some of the library's holiday items include the following:

Adult fiction: "Gingerbread Cookie Murder" by Joanne Fluke, Laura Levine and Leslie Meier – This collection of gingerbread mysteries includes "Gingerbread Cookie Murder," "The Dangers of Gingerbread Cookies" and "Gingerbread Cookies and Gunshots." ... "A Christmas Visitor" by Thomas Kinkade and Katherine Spencer – Molly Willoughby Harding's perfect life is threatened by an unexpected pregnancy, while Miranda Potter finds herself attracted to an amnesiac stranger, and Reverend Ben discovers a wooden angel rumored to possess miraculous powers. ... "The Spy Who Came for Christmas" by David Morrell – As holiday celebrations take place in Santa Fe, Agent Paul Kagan is on the run with a baby the Russian mafia want to destroy and turns to a mother and her young son for help during a violent night where they all must work together to keep the child safe from harm.

Adult nonfiction: "Stories Behind the Great Traditions of Christmas" by Ace Collins – Examines the people, places, events, stories and legends that have shaped Christmas traditions in celebra-

tion of the birth of Christ.

Children fiction: "Christmas Parade" by Sandra Boynton – A lively marching band of animal musicians leads the Christmas Parade. ... "How Do Dinosaurs Say Merry Christmas?" by Jane Yolen – Illustrations and rhyming text present some of the different ways a well-behaved dinosaur can celebrate Christmas. ... "Together at Christmas" by Eileen Spinelli – Ten little mice, huddled together in Christmas snow, go off one by one to find warm places to sleep, but soon decide they would rather be together celebrating the special night.

Children nonfiction: "Kwanzaa: A Family Affair" by Mildred Pitts Walter – Discusses the origins and symbols of Kwanzaa, and offers suggestions for ways to celebrate this holiday. ... "A Joyful Christmas: a Treasury of New and Classic Songs, Poems and Stories for the Holiday" compiled and illustrated by James E. Ransome – Filled with new and beloved poems, stories, songs, that celebrate the Christmas season.

DVDs: "A Christmas Carol" with Reginald Owen, Kathleen Owen, Gene Lockhart ... "A Christmas Story" with Melinda Dillon, Darren McGavin, Peter Billingsley ... "Hanukkah: Tales & Tunes, Miracles & Wonders" executive producers Amy Weintraub and Brooks McEwen ... "The Perfect Christmas" with Morris Chestnut, Gabrielle Union, Faizon Love

Audio books on CDs: "The Dickens Collection" by Charles Dickens (reader Martin Jarvis) ... "NPR Holiday Favorites" with host, Susan Stamberg.

Photo by Rhea Paseur

Cookbook for sale

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, is raising funds to benefit three local charities by selling copies of its newly published cookbook, "Cooking that Counts," which features recipes provided by its area members.



Becky Lake and Lindsey Harper show the finished product. Proceeds will be donated to CASA of North Alabama, AGAPE, and A New Leash on Life Animal Rescue. Purchase your copy today for \$15 from one of the following: Lake at 313-1604, Judy Smith at 876-6163, Michelle Cobb at 842-0228, Harper at 842-6655 or Audrea Edwards at 313-2382.

Korean War vets share reunion, volunteer appreciation

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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For the veterans of the Forgotten War, it was an unforgettable trip.

Nine Tennessee Valley Korean veterans who made the trip back to Korea in November for the Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation's project Revisit Korea 2012 gathered at The Summit Dec. 11 for a reunion, and to show appreciation for the volunteers who made the trip happen. Each veteran had the opportunity to share their memories of the trip at the luncheon, and show off their medals and other tokens of appreciation they received from the Korean people.

"I thought I was just going to go tour and look around – I never appreciated being appreciated as much in all my life," Harvey Stewart said.

When they left the country some 60 years ago, they left a country much different than what they found in November – families living in cardboard boxes, cities leveled and bridges bombed out. Today, South Korea is one of the major economies in the world and factories are hard at work, with shipbuilding and the automobile industries major contributors to the country's GDP. More than 10 skyscrapers stand more than 50 floors high in Seoul, with even more under construction.

"I had this vision anytime I thought of Korea, this vision of all the destruction and the human suffering

and seeing families with nothing, trying to find means to feed their children," Robert McCall said. "Now that hasn't gone away, but it's kind of overlaid with what I saw this trip. They seem to be healthy, happy people, energetic. It's kind of taken away that old vision and replaced it with a new Korea."

For Billy Neal, seeing how far the country has come made his service worth it.

"I was there when I was 17," Neal said. "I spent my 18th birthday on the Manchurian border. I had misgivings about being there, but since I've gone back, I'm glad I was there in 1950 and '51, and I'm glad I got to go back to see the progress the country has made, the economic status that they have today. It proves to me that you don't kick good people down and they stay down, they come back, and they made a name for themselves."

But it wasn't the economy that touched his heart while in Korea; it was the people he fought for all those years ago.

"The children – I'll never, never get over it, but to see the children today live happy, it does my heart good," Neal said.

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica and Brig. Gen. Ole Knudson presented star notes to the volunteers who made the journey happen, which included Delta Airlines, Elite Travel, Dave Carney, and Dr. Deborah Barnhart with the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. In the eyes of the men that made the journey, their efforts were well-worth the time and treasure spent.

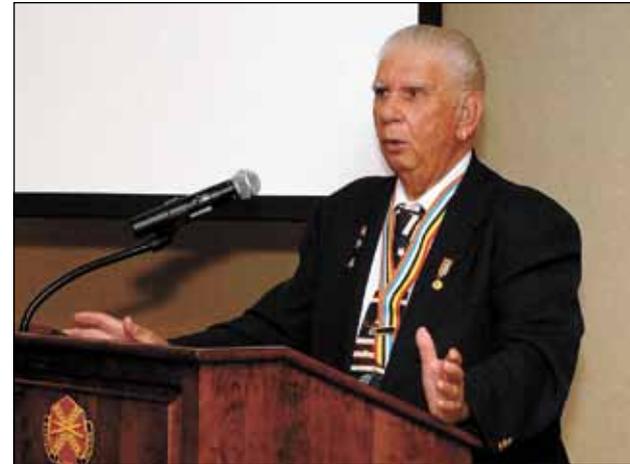


Photo by Ellen Hudson

Larry Sepanski, a Korean War veteran, talks about his experience revisiting Korea as part of the Legacy 4 Korean War Foundation's Revisit Korea 2012 trip at an appreciation luncheon for the volunteers who made it happen and reunion for the men who made the trip.

"I don't have the words to tell you what it meant, but I'm glad I got to go," said Neal, choking back tears. "I am so proud that I was chosen to be one of the nine to go."

Research center partnership trail leads to Puerto Rico

By HEATHER R. SMITH

AMRDEC Public Affairs

Doug Felker knows excellence when he sees it, and he sees it in the engineering students at the University of Puerto Rico.

“We go to UPR because they have a lot of good students,” said Felker, aviation branch chief in the Reliability, Affordability and Maintainability Engineering and System Assessment Division of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center’s Engineering Directorate. “They just have a good engineering school. We know the professors. We respect their work and we respect their training. We get good people and they get a good reputation, and it just snowballs like that.”

Felker and RAM division chief Tom Erickson have worked with the university in the development of the Aviation System Assessment Program tool to assist with meeting Failure Mode Effects and Criticality Analysis requirements.

The university has helped AMRDEC build software that allows the ASAP database and the FMECA analyst to talk to each other. “FMECA is a prediction. ASAP is a field assessment,” Felker explained. “If we need to build a FMECA, we can quickly



Photo by Ryan Keith

Dainys Carrasquillo, left, is joined by fellow University of Puerto Rico alumni working at the Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center’s Engineering Directorate: from left, Pedro Mangual, Giselle Castro and Edgardo Luna.

build a skeletal FMECA from past data and how it’s failed, and if we need to look at design and how it’s meeting the design predictions, we can quickly pull it back and forth.”

Erickson said his division sought to partner with UPR because of their expertise in several areas, such as condition-based maintenance and RAM. “We looked at where their expertise lies and what activities we had ongoing, and we were looking for a

way to partner with them,” Erickson said. “We looked at some of our condition-based maintenance effort, and then Doug came up with some ideas where they could help us more efficiently accomplish that mission.”

Felker added that the university is in the process of developing a strong RAM engineering program. “Huntsville is the Silicon Valley of RAM engineering,” Felker said. “We’re interested because we’re both becoming experts in RAM. It really is a pool of excellence, and we feel like we’ve tapped into a good source for RAM engineers.”

The desire to work together is mutual, with many students from UPR seeking out opportunities with AMRDEC and Huntsville contractors.

AMRDEC mechanical engineer Dainys Carrasquillo, a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, worked under Felker, earlier this year, as a liaison for the RAM work the university was doing. Carrasquillo came to AMRDEC in 2010 through an opportunity with Intuitive Research and Technology’s co-founder A.R. “Rey” Almodovar.

At the time, Carrasquillo was designing engine parts for commercial and military aircraft with Infotech Aerospace Services in Puerto Rico. Her friend and AMRDEC analyst Giselle Castro, who had joined

AMRDEC in 2006, recommended Carrasquillo look at opportunities with Intuitive and AMRDEC; and the rest is history.

Carrasquillo moved to Huntsville in the summer of 2010; living for the first time off of her native island. “Huntsville is a great place for professional growth,” Carrasquillo said.

“Being a Caribbean, I was used to summer all year, so now I’m enjoying the changes and different colors of fall and winter. I saw snow for the first time two years ago, and I really enjoyed that. The transition was hard, but not as hard as I thought it would be since I have friends here and co-workers and people from Huntsville are pretty nice and they helped me a lot.

“Having my friends here makes me feel at home, but it’s pretty different. I was used to having the beach about 15 minutes from home and here you need to drive six hours. Still, it feels good to be here,” said Carrasquillo.

Erickson said there is a significant amount of competition for students in Puerto Rico. “When you go down there and interview students you’ll have all the big industries there recruiting those same students, not just DoD contractors, but industry as a whole because they do have such a solid engineering program.”

Photo by Ellen Hudson

Airborne chorus

The 82nd Airborne Division's All-American Chorus from Fort Bragg performs last Friday at Bob Jones Auditorium.



Photo by John Pearson

Educational outreach

Oakwood University's Sable Grant thanks AMCOM attorney Linda Mendenhall for appearing at the university's forum on "The Effects of Hurricane Sandy." Mendenhall appeared with Robert Federico, deputy chief counsel at Expeditionary Contracting Command, in conjunction with the AMCOM Army Educational Outreach Program.



Photo by Heather R. Smith

Beau on the go

Retiring engineer Louis "Beau" Beaufait, left, is congratulated by AMRDEC director Eric Edwards during Thursday's lunch and roast honoring his 27 years of service. In his most recent role, Beaufait was the lead for the Flexible Engine Diagnostic System team.



Space support teams from Reserve, Guard welcomed home

By DJ MONTOYA
SMDC/ARSTRAT

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. – The 1st Space Brigade welcomed home two six-member Army space support teams – one from the 1st Space Battalion and the other from the 117th Space Battalion (Colorado Army National Guard) – during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 6 at the Peterson Club.

“One thing that is unique about this ceremony is that these teams are made up of citizen Soldiers,” Col. James Meisinger, commander of 1st Space Brigade, said. “ARSST 11 from the 1st Space Battalion is made up of Army Reserve (Soldiers), and ARSST 21 is Army National Guard. It doesn’t take a study of history to realize this nation has never won a war without full participation of the Guard and Reserve. That is the great thing about these two teams.”

Lt. Col. Patrick Mullin, commander of the 1st Space Battalion, pointed out that this ceremony was not only about the teams and their accomplishments but that of the family members in atten-



Photo by DJ Montoya

Soldiers of Army Space Support Team 11 with the 1st Space Battalion stand at parade rest during a welcome home ceremony at The Club, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., on Dec. 6. They were one of two teams returning from duty in Afghanistan.

dance.

“Here, today, we have mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, and sons and daughters of these Soldiers,” Mullin said. “I think it

is extremely important that we recognize your sacrifice, because without your support these Soldiers could not have accomplished the great things that they have done.

“A few weeks ago Command Sgt. Maj. Marcus Jones and I had the distinct opportunity to travel to Afghanistan and listen firsthand to the Army space support teams currently in theater. The accomplishments these teams have made are evident. The teams that have taken over for them gave us a full rundown on the things they have been doing. And I can assure you they have made a big impact.”

Maj. Joseph Paladino, executive officer, 117th Space Battalion (COARNG), praised the Soldiers for the excellent job they did.

“They learned every job and never ceased to amaze us in how well they integrated space-based capabilities across the entire spectrum,” Paladino said.

Afterward both Mullin and Paladino received their battalion’s mission coin from their respective team leaders – Maj. Zachary Conly, team leader for ARSST 11, and Maj. Jason Griffith, team leader for ARSST 21.

ARSSTs support the war fighter on the ground by delivering space-based capabilities such as satellite communications, position, navigation and timing, space weather and satellite imagery.

Redstone Arsenal then and now

Calibrators based in Cone building

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The John M. Cone Metrology Laboratories, building 5435, is the headquarters for the Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity.

It was dedicated Sept. 15, 1966 in honor of the late Maj. Gen. John M. Cone, who commanded White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

Cone died from a heart attack March 30, 1966 while trying to help an injured motorist near White Sands. His official staff car was flagged down at the scene of the accident on a deserted stretch of road. Cone discovered an overturned automobile with one of the three injured occupants pinned under the vehicle.

Using great physical exertion, Cone repeatedly tried to extricate the man from beneath the vehicle until it became evident that the victim could not be removed from the wreckage without further assistance. He then returned to his staff car to call for aid on the car radio. While reaching for the radio, he suffered the fatal heart attack as a result of the extreme effort expended while trying to assist the victim.

Cone was posthumously awarded the Soldier's Medal for his heroism.

The 39,000-square-foot laboratory, dedicated in his honor, was constructed for \$1,456,000 after a ground-breaking



Photo by Skip Vaughn

AMCOM's Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity has its headquarters in the John M. Cone Metrology Laboratories building 5435.

April 19, 1965.

TMDE Activity is part of the Aviation and Missile Command. About 150 people work in the building; and it houses the only laboratory of its kind in the Army – the Army Primary Standards Laboratory. The activity has about 650 people worldwide at 61 sites in 26 states, 10 countries, including Southwest Asia, Germany and Korea, according to Larry Tarr, director of the activity's Army Primary Standards Lab.

The building's four main occupants include the Army Primary Standards Lab, TMDE Activity headquarters, Engineering Acquisition and Logistics Directorate, and the Business Management Directorate. James Johnson is the executive director of TMDE Activity.

The activity's mission is to provide metrology and calibration support for about



750,000 items of test, measurement and diagnostic equipment used throughout the Army.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The building was dedicated in honor of the late Maj. Gen. John M. Cone, who commanded White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

AMCOM History Office photo

During the dedication ceremony Sept. 15, 1966 are, from left, Lt. Gen. William Bunker, deputy commander of the Army Materiel Command; Cynthia Cone, wife of the late Maj. Gen. John M. Cone; and their son, Lt. John M. Cone Jr.

Editor's note: Dr. Kaylene Hughes of the AMCOM History Office provided information for this article.

Photo by Jason Cutshaw

SMDC toys

Phillis Reid, right, a member of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Inspector General Office, gives a check for more than

\$800 to Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Michael Lamar, Kilo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, on behalf of the 2012 SMDC/ARSTRAT Toys for Tots drive. Also present during the delivery of the check and more than 200 toys were, from left, Alisha McRoberts, member of SMDC G-3, Clara Pride, member of SMDC G-8 and Marine Sgt. Christopher Riley, also of Kilo Battery.



Photo by Tracey Ayres

Leadership diploma

Tonia Rasberry, a quality engineer with the Fixed Wing Project Office, receives her diploma from senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar upon completion of the Leader Investment for Tomorrow program. The leadership development program, offered to government civilians, consists of one training day per month for nine months. Rasberry completed LIFT Class 13.



Women's club gives grants to community organizations

By TERRI STOVER
For the Rocket

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club has always been generous with time and money in and around the post and greater community. This year the club is doubling its efforts.

During the 2012-13 club year, the organization will award grant money in two different funding cycles, a first for the club. Also, more funds were raised with the Pineapple Open golf tournament in October, providing more funds to distribute.

This volunteer organization has an established community assistance program, which has given out thousands of dollars to non-profit organizations in the Huntsville/Madison County area over the years. However, this year the two grant blocks will have more focused criteria for awarding funds.

The grant program is called the "Salute" grant, and will award money to organizations and projects that support the military, veterans and their families. The club salutes those who have served this country, and they want the grants to reflect this value as well, according to its website.

"Giving specifically to projects and events that support the military, veterans and their families is in alignment with our club's core values," Lana Barshinger, co-chair of the club's Community Assistance Committee, said. "Our military has shouldered a great burden for our country and we do not want to forget them. Our goal with the 'Salute' grants is to make the most impact in our local community with the funds we have available."

Part of the grant money came from the golf tournament. The club partnered with the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army

to hold a successful event. The AUSA chapter agreed to split the proceeds from the fund-raiser, but the local AUSA board of directors decided to donate its half back to the club. A portion of the proceeds will also be used to fund the club's college merit scholarships issued each year.

An organization requesting grant money does not have to specifically focus on the military or veterans as their single mission. However, the project for which they are requesting funds must support the military, veterans and their families.

Other criteria for the grant requests include having proximity to Redstone Arsenal, meet a practical, tangible need, impact more than one individual, and reflect excellence, innovation and effectiveness.

There were four grant submissions for the first block grant. Funds in this cycle must be used between Dec. 15 and March 15. Their grant packages included background information about their organizations, the amount they were requesting and details about how that money will be spent to support military, veterans and their families.

Volunteer members of the club who serve on the Community Assistance Committee met in November to discuss each application and recommend funding amounts to support the submitted projects. The final decisions and amounts were voted on by all present members of the committee and then forwarded to the monthly board of directors.

In early December the board voted unanimously to award the agreed on amounts to all four grant applicants, totaling \$2,025. At the club's Dec. 11 monthly meeting, checks were given to the four recipient organizations.

The recipients of the block 1 "Salute" grant included the following:

- Inside-Out Ministries Inc. was awarded



Photo by Kari Hawkins

The co-chairs of the Community Assistance Committee and "Salute" grant representatives from the receiving organizations include, from left, Lana Barshinger, committee co-chair; retired Col. Courtney Taylor, director of James Clemens High School JROTC; Sam Bertling, with Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation; Deborah Ward, Trish Carpenter and Sharon Van, from Inside-Out Ministries Inc.; Suzanne Sullivan, committee co-chair; and Richard Reyes from North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition.

money to assist veterans and their families with utility bills during the winter months. Inside-Out Ministries, in Madison, provides services based solely on need, including a food pantry, and assisting senior adults with small home repairs and lawn upkeep.

- The Army JROTC at James Clemens High School in Madison was awarded funds to assist with this program at the new high school. The funds will go to purchase rappel ropes, metal lensatic compasses and military square protractors, which will help the cadets during spring classes and JROTC summer camp.

- The Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation received an amount to assist with the Inspire Tomorrow's Military Leaders event Jan. 18. At the event current and retired military leaders will share with high school youth who volunteer with foundation leader-

ship lessons, as well as personal experiences while serving in the military. The foundation was established in 2011 by citizens in the Tennessee Valley to support Korean War veterans, wounded warriors, veterans organizations and veterans families.

- Operation Christmas Bear, which is sponsored by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition, was granted money to assist with purchasing 100 stuffed bears given out at their annual event. Operation Christmas Bear is a holiday party for the families of servicemembers and civilians who are deployed to a combat zone. Each child in attendance is presented with a bear wearing a scarf that reads "My Dad/Mom is my hero."

For more information about the club's grant program, visit www.rsacwc.org/community-assistance/.

Photo by Ellen Hudson

Gift wrapping

The Sparkman High School JROTC sponsored gift wrapping Thursday at the Redstone Exchange. From left are customer Maj. Barry Walsh and workers Cammie Flowers and Margaretha Little, both mothers of JROTC students.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Christmas cubicle

Budget analyst Jennifer Robinson decorated her cubicle after work and on weekends for a decoration contest at Garrison Resource Management. "I had engineering help for the roof but the rest of it I did," she said.



Retiring Soldier becomes Huntsville police cadet

At 44, he's the senior member of his class at the academy

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

His classmates call him "Old Man" but Jeff Sandoval doesn't mind being the oldest cadet in the 52nd session of the Huntsville Police Academy.

After all, the 44-year-old has the advantage of military experience.

He's on terminal leave from the Army and will officially retire Jan. 1 as a sergeant first class after 21 years. Before entering active duty in May 1991, he served four years in the Colorado Army National Guard.

"It's similar in a lot of ways to basic training so I think I'm probably better prepared than most to the mindset of the yelling and moving from point A to point B as quickly as possible. That and the PT, the physical side of things," Sandoval said of the academy regimen. "But it has been a challenge – I'll be honest with that."

The Pueblo, Colo., native served with the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, out of Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii, from 2005-10. He deployed to Iraq twice, first from 2006-08 during the surge, and then from 2009-10. His specialty was supervising the mechanics who work on the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter's armament avionics and electronics.

He and his family arrived at Redstone in December 2010 just in time for the snow

– which their realtor joked they must have brought with them. He was assigned to the Aviation and Missile Command but attached to the Program Executive Office for Aviation his first year here. After putting in for retirement, he spent a year with the Military Personnel Office doing casualty assistance cases until he went on transition leave.

Sandoval started the academy's application process in February when he received an email to see if he wanted to take the physical assessment. He had previously submitted an interest card.

"Basically I had gone to Calhoun Community College to sign up for classes and they had a job fair for law enforcement, and I talked to a recruiter from Madison," he said of his initial interest. "He had been in the Army and retired so he and I had a lot in common. I have a degree in criminal justice (from Colorado Technical University in 2006) and originally my intentions when I got out of the Army were to go home and join the police force there, but I never made it home."

His sister-in-law Rebecca Jager, a police officer in Pueblo, had also mentioned the idea of him joining his hometown police department, but he never went back.

The Huntsville Police Academy's application process lasted about nine months, including multiple tests, background checks and interview. The 18-week session began Nov. 5 with 34 cadets – including 26 men and eight women. That was down to 33 cadets by last Thursday – 25 men and eight women – with graduation

scheduled March 8, according to training advisers Joseph DeBoer and Jeff Poe. The director of training is Lt. Darryl Lawson.

Most of the cadets are in their mid-20s. Four have some type of military background, including three who were active duty and one who is a reservist. So, most have little or no military or police experience. The goal is to prepare them to become police officers on the streets of Huntsville.

"Academies are approved as spaces need to be filled and money is available," Poe said. "We've probably been averaging about one (academy) every year and a half the last seven or eight years."

Thirty-eight cadets graduated from the 51st session, which began July 11, 2011 and ended with a ceremony Nov. 10, 2011 at the Huntsville High School auditorium.

Sandoval hopes to be among the newest Huntsville police officers in March.

"My goal is to graduate and be an effective and reliable police officer, continue to serve the community as long as possible," he said.

Sandoval and his wife, Roberta, bought a house in Madison County in January 2011. They have a daughter, Megan, 15, and son, Winter, 13, who will turn 14 on Dec. 23. Sandoval said he enjoyed the Army but after deploying a few times he decided to settle down and retire so he could watch his children grow and enjoy activities with them.

"We kind of enjoy this city. I've never been in a place where the people are so



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Jeff Sandoval, on terminal leave as a sergeant first class, is among 33 cadets in the 52nd session of the Huntsville Police Academy. The 18-week session began Nov. 5 and will have graduation March 8.

welcome of the military," he said. "I just really enjoy it here. One of the reasons I want to be a police officer is so I can continue to serve, maybe not the nation, but the city."

Redstone Test Center gets new building at test area

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

The Redstone Test Center was already providing world-class support at the test ranges before Dec. 11.

But that day's dedication for a new building will help RTC better serve its customers. The center held a grand opening for the Zero Mound Test Operations Facility and Range Operations Control Structure, building 6220 at Test Area 3.

"It's a huge asset," RTC commander Col. Steve Kihara said of the \$2 million facility.

Richard Brown, chief of the Field and Lab Sensors Test Division, and Chuck Gibbs, chief of the Missile and Sensors Test Directorate, also spoke during the dedication for the new facility. "We're just thrilled with it," Gibbs said.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Redstone Test Center commander Col. Steve Kihara speaks during the grand opening for the Zero Mound Test Operations Facility and Range Operations Control Structure.

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Command ensures help for Soldiers seeking jobs

IMCOM release

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO – The Installation Management Command is committed to assisting Soldiers and families transition smoothly into civilian employment and America's communities. In response to the president's and Army's emphasis on a career-ready military, IMCOM is highlighting job fairs, expanding its transition services and keenly focused on identifying employment opportunities within the command as well as business and industry.

"Our Soldiers deserve the best we can offer them, including the best opportunities for the future," Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter, commander of the Installation Management Command, said. "We're making sure Soldiers can't slip through the cracks. We will do everything we can to help prepare them for civilian life as thoroughly as we equip them for battle. We owe that to our veterans in exchange for their life of service and sacrifice to this nation."

All transitioning Soldiers, from those retiring to first term enlistees, have a wealth of opportunity at their fingertips thanks in large part to the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act, which Congress approved in October 2011. The VOW Act is the driving force behind the completely revamped transition program, according to Kenric Echols, chief of Military Personnel, IMCOM G1.

"Changes went into effect on Nov. 21," Echols said, "but we're already getting lots of phone calls and inquiries about the new



Photo by Fort Sill Cannoneer staff

A spouse peruses literature at the Military Spouse Business Alliance Hiring Fair and Career Forum Nov. 1 at the Graham Resiliency Training Campus at Fort Sill, Okla. About 30 employers ranging from Northrop Grumman to Walmart to Great Plains Technology Center to Comanche County Memorial Hospital had recruiting booths at the job fair.

transition program. The intent is to better prepare transitioning Soldiers and their families and get them in touch with potential employers – hopefully resulting in job offers."

That's good news for Soldiers, the Army and the nation, according to Ferriter.

What does the new program look like? Soldiers transitioning this fiscal year will

See IMCOM on page 22

Transition assistance set for retiring servicemembers

By **TERRI STOVER**
For the Rocket

The Garrison's Military Personnel Division, along with the U.S. Department of Labor and Veterans Affairs in Alabama, conducts a Transition Assistance Program.

The TAP is a five-day briefing conducted on post monthly, and provides useful information from various agencies to transitioning military members and their spouses in the area.

Redstone has not been authorized an Army Career and Alumni Program and can only provide the mandatory briefing portion. However, providers at Army Community Service can assist transitioning service members and their spouses with resume writing.

Topics covered in the TAP include transportation, managing finances, legal issues, using ACS, signing up for Tricare

insurance, Fox Army Health Center's wellness programs, continuing education, updating medical records, retirement benefits, and accessing the Transition Center at the One Stop.

Other topics presented include veterans benefits and entitlements conducted by the VA. The Department of Labor covers topics such as resume writing, the Troops to Teachers program, social networking, starting a small business, job hunting, interview skills, and dressing for success.

The next TAP classes are scheduled for Jan. 14-18, Feb. 11-15 and March 18-22. If you plan on transitioning or retiring within the next 12-24 months, you must attend a TAP class. For more information or to sign up for a class, call Barbara Moudy, chief of Transition Center, at 313-6481 or email barbara.e.moudy.civ@mail.mil.

IMCOM

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receive mandatory pre-separation counseling that includes in-depth discussion of veterans benefits, financial planning, civilian employment readiness training, and a heavy emphasis on individualized transition plans over a longer time period. Transitioning Soldiers can also expect more individual attention and counseling on resume writing and practice interviews. And depending on a Soldier's preference, the program will include a detailed workshop focusing on one of three areas – education, technical skills or small business ownership. Spouses are highly encouraged to participate in the five-day transition program as well, according to Echols.

“We highly encourage spouses to attend the entire session alongside their Soldier,” Echols said. “They can attend all sessions or some and we have resources to help them in their search for employment as well.” IMCOM has already found that engaged and educated spouses are a key enabler to a successful transition from military service.

Job fairs are a critical part of the process. Echols emphasized that they pro-

vide a meeting place for military members and employers to connect, provide valuable networking opportunities, and give Soldiers better insight into the pay available within the private and public sectors. Garrisons around the globe are now required to host a minimum of two employment events, such as community job fairs, each fiscal year. Many garrisons are exceeding that goal by partnering with other agencies such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce which has a proven track record for connecting business to our talented Soldiers.

“We are also expanding the use of job fairs, allowing Soldiers to engage potential employers remotely, even from overseas,” he said. Soldiers can sign up for a virtual career fair program at <https://www.acap.army.mil/>. A listing and details on all the IMCOM job fairs is available at <http://www.imcom.army.mil/Organization/G1Personnel/ACAP/JobFairMap.aspx>.

Federal employment is another great avenue available to Soldiers. It's estimated that as much as 60 percent of the federal civilian work force will be retiring in the next decade. This opens a wide variety of federal jobs, and few people will be more qualified to fill those positions than today's Soldiers. Those who have served in combat, have been decorated

“Our Soldiers deserve the best we can offer them, including the best opportunities for the future.”

Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter,
commander of the Installation
Management Command

for valor, or have combat related injuries or disabilities, may find entry into federal service easier due to veterans' preferences and streamlined hiring practices.

The Army relies heavily on Army civilians every day. Army civilians write contracts, deliver goods, manage networks, and provide support functions that would otherwise present distractions to training and wartime operations. Civilians man the training ranges, run the finance offices, and in some cases cook the meals and manage the personnel actions. From the sound of reveille to when a Soldier turns out the lights in the barracks at the end of the day, Soldiers are supported by their civilian counterparts.

“There's not much difference in how you feel about your job and how you conduct business in and out of uniform,”

retired Command Sgt. Maj. Willie Wil-son, who today runs the Army's World Class Athlete Program for the Installation Management Command, said. “And in most Army civilian positions, you're still taking care of Soldiers and their families. I'm glad that's still part of my job description.”

The skills sets and training Soldiers receive during active duty, whether they serve for four years or 20, directly translate to the Army civilian work force. Making the switch from uniformed to civilian service is easier than ever before and IMCOM's Transition Services Programs are working to ensure Soldiers and their families are educated on how to cross-walk the Military Occupational Specialties to requirements of civilian positions. IMCOM is keenly focused on providing Soldiers and families relevant training, programs and services for seamless transition.

“I'm certain that in the coming decades our Soldiers will give this country as much as they have in the past 10 years of war,” Ferriter said. “While it's important to do all we can to support them no matter what path they choose after separating or retiring, we're also positioning the Army of 2020 to retain their knowledge, skills, enthusiasm, patriotism and willingness to serve.”

Huntsville's own Santa Claus is already in town

Jolly elf specializes in delivering smiles

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer
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It's hard to tell where Santa Claus ends and Gordon Mahathey begins.

You may not know them by their real names – Gordon and Ellen Mahathey – but you'll know them by their aliases – Santa and Mrs. Claus – and if you've spent any time around the Tennessee Valley at Christmas, chances are likely you may have come across the jolly old elf and his wife.

What started on a whim has become a lifetime calling for Gordon and his wife Ellen, who now seem to spend just as much time in costume throughout the Christmas season as they do out. It was more than 15 years ago that Gordon's brother asked him if he would be willing to dress up as Santa for an event, and giving in to his baby brother's request, Gordon made the trip to Walmart for a cheap suit and fake beard. Since he put the suit on for the first time, he's found it hard to take it off.

"It's all for the kids, even the big kids," said Gordon, a senior pricing analyst at SCI.

Ellen, management assistant to AMCOM's deputy commander, agreed.

"Everyone should believe in Santa, regardless of their age," Ellen said. "Because if you don't believe in Santa – you'll get underwear."

While the suit has been upgraded over the years, and the beard is no longer fake, but instead bleached to turn it the color of North Pole snow, one thing has remained constant for the couple, who take vacation time to make appearances at places such as United Cerebral Palsy of Huntsville and Tennessee Valley Inc. and the pediatric unit at Huntsville Hospital for Women and Children – their love for Mr. and Mrs. Claus and the spirit of Christmas they bring with them each time they visit a child.

"We do it because of the kids, to see how they transform," Ellen said.

"They never ask the kids how they're doing or when they'll get out of the hospital, but rather, spend time with them at events, eating cookies and drinking hot cocoa or doing arts and crafts activities. When it comes time for them to take a turn on Gordon's lap, he listens to their requests, which are sometimes heartbreaking.

"I never promise a child anything, never have," Gordon said. "I can't bring magic. I can bring smiles."

The couple is also very devoted to military children, making room on their calendars every year for Operation Christmas Bear and the Madison Cheer Brigade.

"Without the military we wouldn't be able to do this, the way I look at it," Gordon said.

To many organizations in Huntsville, including organizers of the Madison Cheer Brigade, when it comes to Santa and Mrs. Claus, the Mahatheys are the cream of the crop in the jolly red suits, but it's a title the couple shies away from.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Gordon and Ellen Mahathey, better known as Santa and Mrs. Claus, volunteer throughout the community at Christmastime to bring a little magic to children in need of holiday cheer. To many local organizations across the Tennessee Valley, they are known as the best when it comes to the jolly old elf and his wife.

"I don't claim to be the best," Gordon said. "I just do the best I can. It's for the kids. I do have a spot in my heart for the children."

Instead, Ellen credits her husband's ability to get the kids to warm up to him, even if they start out their visit with Santa screaming.

"There's so many times that they will not

have anything to do with Santa, but before they've left, they've come and sit on his lap," Ellen said. "Parents are amazed."

Perhaps it's because if given his choice, Gordon would never take the suit off.

"He would be Santa 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," Ellen said.

"I'm just a kid at heart," Gordon added.

Quiet professional earns achievement medal for service

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor
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Theodore Tyson epitomizes the quiet professionals of the Directorate of Emergency Services. He just does his job behind the scenes to keep things moving forward.

But his work doesn't go unnoticed.

Tyson, a program analyst in DES headquarters, received the Achievement



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Emergency services director Mike Sheehy presents the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service to program analyst Theodore Tyson.

Medal for Civilian Service from director Mike Sheehy in a ceremony Dec. 12.

"He just does a superb job every single day," Sheehy said.

Tyson retired from the Army in November 1998 as a sergeant major after 26 years. He began his civil service career in December 2000, starting at the Military Personnel Office. He arrived at DES in 2007 and has been a program analyst three years.

"I just want all of us to do well," Ty-

son told his co-workers at the ceremony. "I enjoy working. I enjoy working here. Thank you."

He and his wife, Omega, a program analyst at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, have two daughters. Keshya Becker, 37, has 17 years in the Reserves, is married and lives in Indiana; and Theodora Tyson, 35, is an entrepreneur in Atlanta who owns and operates Trinity Productions.

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ARMY DIVERSITY LEADER RETIRING

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Army diversity leader retiring for other opportunities

Human resources director helped expand minority employment

By KARI HAWKINS

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It's not unusual these days to hear from the government's long-time minority employees — many who are now getting on to retirement age — about the challenges and opportunities they faced as the Department of Defense and the Army focused on diversifying their civilian work force in the 1970s and '80s.

But there are only a few of those senior minority employees who can say they actually had a hand in making that diversity a reality.

The Garrison's Joe Winston, who is the director of human resources, knows what it's like to face prejudice in Alabama on both sides of the fence — from Army managers and employees who didn't agree with the government's diversity goals, and from minorities who were reluctant to take a government job in a state that was still trying to shake a reputation for racism and violence that arose from the nation's civil rights movement of the 1960s.

After four decades working for the government, Winston will be retiring on Jan. 2. His retirement lunch is scheduled for tomorrow at The Overlook.

"I've really enjoyed the opportunity to work with some of the best folks in human resources and in the Garrison and throughout the installation," Winston said. "I've worked to be an innovative and forward thinking HR director. I'm proud of what I've been able to achieve with a staff of folks who are engaged in good customer service."

His "people" philosophy has influenced the way he has managed the Garrison's Human Resources organization.

"Always remember to treat people with dignity and respect, and seek avenues to assist them rather than avenues to deny them," he said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Joe Winston, director of human resources for the Garrison, will retire after 40 years of government service. His retirement luncheon will be Thursday at The Overlook.

Back in the 1970s, Winston himself was one of those minorities who found opportunity with the government's need for diversity. A graduate of the historically black Texas College, he was counseled by the college's leadership to leave behind dreams of being a dentist to pursue a civilian career with the Army.

"One of my professors had a strong hand in encouraging me to accept the opportunity," Winston said.

"At the time, I didn't know what it involved. But he strongly encouraged me to take the opportunity to work for the government. He explained to me about career advancement, travel opportunities and becoming a public servant. I was one of the top graduates in my class, and he kept telling

me that the government was diversifying its work force and there were a lot of opportunities for college graduates like me."

Winston became an Army Materiel Command intern in 1970, rotating through a variety of civil service career training modules at both Red River Army Depot in Tyler, Texas, and Redstone Arsenal during the two-year intern program.

"If I succeeded and my progress reports were good, then I would be promoted to a GS-11 and I could become a permanent employee," Winston recalled. "It was a great opportunity for me."

At Redstone, he worked as a staffing specialist for what was then the Personnel Administration. That job set his course as a human resources professional. He then went to work on the Department of the Army staff at headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he served as a career program manager for five years.

"I was then selected to implement a court decree at Fort Rucker. The percentage of minorities in the work force — which was three percent at that time — was so bad at Fort Rucker that a court decree was issued that required an increase in minorities in the work force to 16 percent," Winston said.

"The increase of minorities in the work force had the backing of personnel management, the Department of the Army and the federal court. So, I had a lot of authority to go out and do special recruiting of minorities."

Yet, his five years at Fort Rucker — from 1980 to 1985 — were challenging as Winston worked to overcome prejudices both with employees at the installation who didn't want to grow the minority employment at the detriment of other potential employees, and with recruits who feared reprisals if they accepted a job in the deep South. For Winston, who was a native of south Alabama, the prejudices were difficult to overcome even though he was chief of recruiting and staffing.

"I had a lot of interaction with commanders and officers at Fort Rucker. I had a lot of push back from the Fort Rucker community and from the employees we tried to recruit from other states," he said. "We recruited from everywhere. I had a staff of recruiters and we worked to achieve 16 percent minority employment at Fort Rucker. It was the right thing to do because it was about providing a balance that reflected the minority population in the area."

Once the job was done at Fort Rucker, Winston was selected to work in human resources at Redstone Arsenal as the chief of recruitment and placement. That was 16 years ago.

"I was able to stand up the human resources element at Redstone," he said. "We successfully set up the National Personnel Security System."

His recruiting expertise, particularly with minorities, was an asset in 1995 when Redstone officials worked to convince Army

civilian employees in St. Louis to move to Redstone with the Aviation Command; and again in 2005 when Redstone officials worked to recruit employees from Washington, D.C., to rejoin the relocating Army Materiel Command organization and other new military organizations at Redstone.

Sixteen years later, as the Garrison's human resources director, Winston oversees 43 employees, many of which work at the One Stop for human resources near Gate 10. Human resources includes the Military Personnel Office, Army Substance Abuse, Security, Army Community Service, Education Office, FOIA Act, Installation Mail Service and Administrative Services.

"Our primary goal is providing quality customer service and being responsive to customer needs," Winston said.

"The human resources task started under (former Garrison deputy commander) Darrell Brewer in terms of enhancing the representation of minorities to mirror the community's population. The goal was a more balanced representation of the Garrison work force, and that goal continued with the intern program that was implemented in 2008. We don't have enough Hispanics, handicapped employees and minorities. That initiative has continued even today."

Winston is proud of his work in helping to establish today's One Stop for human resource services.

"This One Stop is a customer service oriented facility that is second to none," he said.

Although retirement means some extra time for family (including wife Veronica, his four grown children and four grandchildren), fishing and traveling, Winston doesn't plan on leaving the work force. Winston, who is a 2005 graduate of the Army Management Staff College at Fort Belvoir, Va., hopes to pursue other human resources opportunities in private industry.

"I want to do something a little different," he said. "I'm in fairly good health, and I don't want to make this job my last job. I want to use what I've learned in this job in the private sector."

No matter where his career takes him next, Winston hopes to continue enjoying the opportunities the human resources career field offers to serve others.

"In human resources, you touch every aspect of employment because you deal with people. The best part of the job is being able to hire folks and to assist people who need help addressing employment issues or problems by providing them viable options," he said.

"Many times, the folks I've hired will come back later and express thanks and appreciation. Some write notes of thanks. That makes the heart feel good in terms of what you've done for somebody else. It's gratifying to be able to help others."

Army photo by Sgt. Katryn Tuton

Inauguration planning

Maj. Gen. Michael Linnington, commander of Joint Task Force-National Capitol Region, gives opening remarks during a map exercise at the D.C. Armory in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 12. The map exercise was used by JTF-NCR to discuss plans for military support of the 57th presidential inauguration scheduled for Jan. 21. JTF-NCR consists of members of all five uniformed services and is the DoD agency tasked with coordinating military ceremonial support to the inauguration.



SpecialSection

Year in rewind

Rocket looks back on 2012 highlights

AMC Band members catching up on the news include, from left, Spc. Jordan Roberts, Staff Sgt. Andrew Dykes Jr., Spc. Anthony Striano and Spc. Justin Mabrey.

Photo by Ellen Hudson



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Garrison pushes projects toward future

*Foundation built in 2012
launches 2013 changes*

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Assistant editor

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In some respects, 2012 can be viewed as a “settling year” for Redstone Arsenal’s construction activity.

After welcoming the opening of new facilities for such organizations as the Army Materiel Command and its band, the Security Assistance Command, the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, the Redstone Test Center and the Missile Defense Agency in 2010 and 2011, this past year has been a time to lay the foundation for organizational transformation and future growth.

“The end of fiscal year 2011 was the completion of the movement of organizations to Redstone,” said Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton.

“We really started 2012 with the new organizations that had arrived with BRAC (the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure recommendations) really beginning their first full year in all their new facilities.”

While Redstone gained much with the 2005 BRAC that led to substantial new facility construction, the loss of one of its long-time organizations – the Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School – turned out to be a dark cloud with a silver lining. The facilities vacated by OMEMS created a bonanza of empty buildings that could be used to consolidate and transform the Arsenal’s organizations.

“The loss of OMEMS set conditions to allow us to begin major renovations,” Hamilton said. “So where FY11 was the completion of a lot of major military construction projects, FY12 was a time when we were able to focus on many of the internal movements and the renovation of facilities.

“The projects that we’ve undertaken really started as we transitioned from FY11 to FY12.”

While the physical manifestations of that work has been obvious all year with the renovations that are ongoing in the Gate 10 area, the first major change to come to fruition was the July opening of the One Stop for human resource services on Honest John Road. In addition, other changes in the area – the positioning of a Pershing missile as the centerpiece of a historical missile park, the relocation of such organizations as the Garrison’s

Equal Employment Office and the Arsenal’s Judge Advocate General office, the move of the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion into extra space in the 2nd Recruiting Brigade headquarters, the reopening of the Redstone Gym as an aquatic center, and the demolition of dilapidated barracks buildings – are all part of the reshaping of the Gate 10 area.

“Little by little, the entire area around One Stop is becoming like the Arsenal’s downtown where employees, residents, servicemembers and visitors can receive services from the Garrison,” Hamilton said.

In 2013, the Arsenal’s new Welcome Center – including Army Community Service, Child and Youth Services and the Java Café – will open on Honest John Road across from the One Stop in building 3443 (once the Dining Facility), the Pershing missile historical park will be complete, the JAG office will move into building 3439 vacated by the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion, the Army Education Center will move to the newly renovated Toftoy Hall (building 3495) and the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Human Resources Agency will move into their newly renovated buildings 3458 and 3459 (once belonging to the 832nd Ordnance Brigade).

These new residents will be welcomed by neighbors who also enjoy recently upgraded facilities, including the Community Activity Center, Heiser Hall and the Bowling Center.

Even though facilities and infrastructure improvements are often the most visible sign of healthy growth, Hamilton stressed that such improvements go beyond the cosmetic level to address the need to provide efficient facilities and quality of life amenities for the Arsenal community.

“One of the most important roles that we have is how we take care of our people,” the Garrison commander said. “Though in this particular context we are talking more about facilities, it’s not really about the buildings. The buildings are designed the way they are and located where they are to facilitate taking care of people.

“So it’s very rewarding to see the amount of effort going into planning and analyzing requirements, and the effort that goes into preparing those



Photo by Ellen Hudson

The Garrison’s Pershing missile now stands at the entryway to the new One Stop for human resources services near Gate 10 on Honest John Road. The One Stop was opened in 2012 and is part of a customer service area that will include a Welcome Center in 2013.

facilities. But what’s really the great benefit, the great outcome, and what’s rewarding about it is the fact that we will end up with facilities that have a real significant impact on the quality of life and the quality of the work environment for all of the people that live and work in this community.”

The Garrison staff, much like organizations throughout the Arsenal, has faced its own challenges during 2012 as it relates to downsizing and reorganization.

“It’s been an extremely busy year as employees have been accomplishing the mission while also having to go through some transformation within the organization,” Hamilton said.

“I am just incredibly proud of how every member of the Garrison has stepped up and took on the challenges of continuing to press this installation forward in terms of community development, in terms of the analysis required to set these plans in motion and do it in an environment where sometimes they were moving themselves.”

The Garrison’s current workload will continue into 2013, as its staff

supports the physical moves of organizations into renovated facilities. The first phase of Arsenal space realignment efforts will come to fruition with employees of the Logistics Support Activity moving from the Sparkman Center into the renovated Building 3303 near Gate 10.

“As they prepare to move during the first half of 2013 there will be a lot of work the Garrison has to do to support them in being successful in the move,” Hamilton said. “And that’s just the first of many organizations that will be moving in 2013 and 2014.

“We have to make sure that we have identified all the things required to really push these projects across the finish line. Supporting the organizations that are going into these facilities will be a real fun challenge that will come to an end with dedication ceremonies and ribbon cuttings officially opening these new facilities.”

In the end, the movement of these organizations will have a positive impact on the Arsenal’s and the Army’s bottom line.

“The work that we’re doing is to achieve what are really the goals that are laid out for every installation and that is to ensure we are utilizing our facilities in an efficient way, that we are not wasting space, that we are shooting to have facilities that are energy efficient, and that we are minimizing shortfalls that require off-post leases, and getting more and more organizations to consolidate on post to reduce the amount of space we have to lease off post,” Hamilton said.

“I think, ultimately, every installation is judged on how well it maintains and utilizes facilities. The work we are doing is exactly to meet the Army standards.”

As he goes into his last seven months as Garrison commander, Hamilton is confident that the Arsenal is well positioned for the future.

“I think the future is extremely bright for Redstone Arsenal,” he said.

“We have an incredible work force. We have great facilities. The mission sets that are accomplished here at Redstone are incredibly crucial to national defense. And, I think, all of the organizations that are here continue to work together for a common purpose. Our tenants will keep Redstone Arsenal a vibrant and important place in our nation’s defense.”

Security assistance enterprise has productive year

By PAUL STEVENSON
USASAC Public Affairs

By all accounts 2012 was a banner year for the Security Assistance Command in terms of carrying out its mission of overseeing the Army's Security Assistance Enterprise and managing its foreign military sales program. In reviewing the year's accomplishments by USASAC and the entire Security Assistance Enterprise, start by looking at the numbers.

In fiscal 2012, USASAC managed and oversaw active FMS cases in 144 countries. During that time they added 620 new FMS cases with almost 6,000 lines to the workload, totaling \$19.7 billion worth of new business, the second highest year ever in terms of FMS sales. At the same time, case workers closed out almost 700 cases.

Title 10 (1206/1207) program efforts, which equip and train coalition partners for theater operations, more than doubled this year, going from \$100 million in fiscal '11, to adding almost \$209 million worth of capabilities to our foreign partners this fiscal year to support the Global Train and Equip mission.

All told, at the end of fiscal '12 USASAC was overseeing more than 4,500 FMS cases valued at \$135 billion, including more than \$58.6 billion worth of products and services yet to be delivered to foreign customers. There were an additional 136 cases worth \$9.4 billion cases "on offer" to countries, awaiting the final agreement of terms in order to begin implementation.

But the success of the past year runs much deeper than dollar figures and case numbers.

"We all know in USASAC, and we all know in the broader Security Assistance Enterprise, that all this work is toward the end of building and maintaining strong relationships with our foreign partners and our future allies," USASAC commander Maj. Gen. Del Turner explained during a recent gathering of the work force. "The dollar amounts of these programs are not nearly as important as the strong association the United States of America enjoys with countries around the world and those countries that you work with day-in and day-out."

USASAC is known as "The Army's Face to the World" because its engagements with 144 countries throughout the world are many times the first or most consistent relationships they will have with the Army. During 2012, the USASAC and Security Assistance En-

terprise work force at all levels actively engaged with foreign partners and customers using the consistent themes of building partner capacity, supporting combatant commander engagement strategies and strengthening U.S. global partnerships.

While USASAC key leaders significantly increased the amount of strategic engagements with senior U.S. and foreign military officials within the separate combatant command areas of responsibility, country program managers and case managers conducted approximately 20 program reviews with FMS customers each month to ensure implemented sales were keeping on track with requirements, and in the process, developing and cultivating strong relationships with those customers.

"These program management reviews are critical to our CH-47 acquisition in that it allows us to go over our case line by line to verify requirements and sync our efforts," Lt. Col. Tyron de Boer, Australian Defense Force CH-47 project manager, said during a July program management review in Dallas, Texas. "Because we have an established working relationship with the people at AMCOM SAMD (Security Assistance Management Directorate) and USA-SAC, I have no problem picking up the phone and calling whoever I need to speak with in order to get answers when there are questions about the case."

If USASAC is "The Army's Face to the World," then the face of USASAC is the Soldier of its Security Assistance Training Management Organization, USASAC's subordinate organization located at Fort Bragg, N.C.

During the past year SATMO deployed 45 teams to 29 different countries providing tailored training to FMS customers. The instruction provided to foreign customers ranged from small unit tactics, to major systems fielding, operation and maintenance. During fiscal '12, SATMO Soldiers and civilians trained more than 11,000 students.

Some of the SATMO's engagement and training highlights were:



Photo by Melody Sandlin

Command Sgt. Maj. Rodger Mansker, right, accepts the Security Assistance Command colors from Maj. Gen. Del Turner as he becomes the first ever command sergeant major in the 47-year history of the organization. The Aug. 24 ceremony was attended by Soldiers, Army civilians, military and guests.



Courtesy photo

Instructors Chief Warrant Officer 3 Randall Jaynes, left, and Lt. Col. Jeffery Bouma, right, from the Army Security Assistance Training Management Organization, stand beside the first Afghan air force pilot candidates training on the MD-530 helicopter at the Rotary Wing Flight Training Program in Shindand, Afghanistan. In 2012 SATMO established and conducted the first rotary wing flight and logistics training for Afghan pilots and support staff held in that country in more for than 30 years.

- Established and conducted the first rotary wing flight and logistics training for Afghan pilots and support staff held in that country in more than 30 years.

- Provided technical assistance to the Swedish military during its procurement of 15 UH-60M helicopters in preparation for the Swedish Air Force

deployment of the aircraft to Afghanistan in 2013.

- Oversaw the training and mentoring of a select group of non-commissioned officers of the Armed Forces of Liberia as they set up and conducted the first ever AFL warrior leadership course run solely by AFL NCOs.

- Conducted training in Kosovo to prepare Kosovo Security Force Soldiers to attend the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

Additionally, SATMO reached a significant "building partner capacity" milestone July 29, when the M1A1 Technical Assistance Field Team concluded its mission in Egypt. One of the longest continuous SATMO missions, the M1A1 TAFT had served continuously in Cairo since October 1989, when the Egyptian government took delivery of its first M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank. Throughout the 23-year history of the TAFT, the team trained thousands of Egyptian military personnel in the operation, implementation and maintenance of the M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank and the M88A2 Hercules Recovery Vehicle.

In addition to all of the successes executing the security assistance mission around the world in 2012, there were also a number of significant events which took place within the organization.

On March 2, Col. Joseph Bovy assumed command of SATMO from Col. Pete Aubrey, who retired after 34 years of military service.

In August, USASAC initiated a Security Assistance Enterprise developmental assignment program. The program, which allows employees to travel to other organizations within the enterprise, provides opportunities to broaden the participant's knowledge and understanding of the roles and functions of other organizations throughout enterprise.

On Aug. 24, USASAC welcomed Command Sgt. Maj. Roger Mansker as the first ever command sergeant major to serve as the senior enlisted adviser to the commander.

This was truly a tremendous year for USASAC and the entire Security Assistance Enterprise. Heading into 2013, USASAC is dedicated to building on the accomplishments achieved over the past year, and focused on continuing its strategic mission in support of the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense and the National Security Strategy.

Army Materiel Command has milestone 50th year

AMC Public Affairs

Ending a year is an opportunity to reflect on the significant milestones of the Army Materiel Command and its organizations that support the joint war fighter worldwide:

- Jan. 9-11: Army's top NCO visits the Army Materiel Command. The Sergeant Major of the Army and command sergeants major from across the world gathered at AMC from Jan. 9-11 for a Board of Directors conference and an opportunity to learn about AMC and its contribution to the Army.

- Feb. 15: Army uses dynamic equipping solutions. The Lead Materiel Integrator, or LMI, under the Army Materiel Command became fully operational Feb. 15. LMI is better known by the solutions it provides to the war fighter: getting the right equipment, to the right people, at the right time.

- March 29: Public-Private Partnership Workshop and 10 years of Stryker. In 2002, Anniston Army Depot and General Dynamics Land Systems formed a partnership centered on a new military vehicle, the Stryker. "The Public Private Partnership of General Dynamics Land Systems and Anniston Army Depot has proven to be a win-win situation for both partners. The P3 evolved from the depot's small support operation for General Dynamics on new production into a 50/50 work share on the Stryker Centralized Reset program where we have restored four brigades of Strykers, for a total of 1,063 war-torn vehicles," Lee Waldron, plant manager for GDLS at Anniston, said.

- March 30: Radar capabilities earn technology award. Wide-ranging and expanding radar missions for the armed forces earned Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., first place in



Courtesy photo

A MRAP vehicle is transported from Kuwait March 24 on the freighter Ocean Crescent, shipped by the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, one of AMC's major subordinate commands.

the 2012 Pennsylvania Technology Awards "Best Application of Technology" category. The awards, which recognize Pennsylvania's technology leaders and innovators, were presented at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg March 30 by TechQuest, a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing technology for humanity. Tobyhanna topped 56 other competitors to win its award.

- April 11: Army leaders open new lab complex for business. More than 300 government, industry and academic leaders converged on the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich., for the grand opening of the Army's one-of-a-kind Ground Vehicle Power and Energy Laboratory complex April 11. A panel of Army leaders, accompanied by the nation's top energy officials and Michigan's U.S. Senate delegation, were on hand to open the doors of the 30,000-square-foot

facility, which houses eight state-of-the-art laboratories and will provide unprecedented ground vehicle testing and evaluation capabilities for the Army and its partners.

- May 7: Army Materiel Command brings "last MRAP" to port. Once the vehicle crossed into Kuwait, it fell under the control of AMC's Responsible Reset Task Force, charged with the retrograde of 3.9 million pieces of equipment, including 30,000 wheeled vehicles. AMC provides a forward presence in Kuwait to move equipment either stateside or to Afghanistan. The MRAP left Kuwait March 24, on the freighter Ocean Crescent, shipped by the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, one of AMC's major subordinate commands. The arrival of the last MRAP marks the conclusion of one of the largest and quickest withdrawal efforts in Army history.

- June 28: Presidential Rank Awards. Undersecretary of the Army Joseph Westphal presented Presidential Rank Awards to Teresa Gerton, Stephen Lee, Vincent Faggioli and Jeffery Parsons for their work done while at Army Materiel Command during an official ceremony at the Pentagon. Parsons served as the principal adviser to the AMC commanding general on all contracting matters and as the AMC career program manager for the Contracting and Acquisition Career Program during his tenure. Faggioli provided legal guidance regarding the Army Industrial Base and the Army acquisition infrastructure. Gerton was honored for her contributions to AMC and awarded the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award. She ensured AMC's fiscal year 2012-2016 Program Objective Memorandum was built based on command capabilities instead of programs. Recipients of the award are strong leaders,

professionals and scientists who achieve results and consistently demonstrate strength, integrity, industry and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service.

- July 20: Soldier's Medal. An AMC officer received the Soldier's Medal at an official ceremony for saving the life of a civilian employee during a flood. Lt. Col. Jimmy Bowie, assigned to the chief of staff office at AMC, received the award for his actions following the April 27, 2011 tornadoes. The Soldier's Medal is the highest honor a Soldier can receive for an act of valor in a non-combat situation.

- Aug. 1: The 50th anniversary of AMC. The Army Materiel Command marked its 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 Army Materiel Command and the Army, giving employees a sense of heritage, honor, pride and belonging.

- Aug. 7: Army Materiel Command change of command. Gen. Ann Dunwoody relinquished command of the Army Materiel Command to Gen. Dennis Via during a ceremony at AMC's headquarters Aug. 7. Chief of staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno hosted the time-honored change-of-command ceremony. "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.

- Sept. 20: Superior Unit Award. The Army Materiel Command Band received the Army Superior Unit Award in an official streamer ceremony for their exemplary

See AMC on page 30

AMCOM looks back on year of milestones

By TOM NEWMAN

Command Initiatives Group

As AMCOM prepares to put 2012 in the history book, a number of command highlights have been recorded. Among them are the following:

- Supply Chain Transformation has netted \$2.69 billion in inventory reduction.

- The Aviation and Missile Resource Assessment and Analysis team made multiple visits to theater, advising and assisting customer units.

- Keith Roberson, executive director of AMCOM Logistics Center, was named the Association of the U.S. Army's national Department of the Army Civilian of the Year.

- Heidi Shyu, Army acquisition executive, visited Letterkenny (Pa.) and Corpus

Christi (Texas) Army Depots, seeing firsthand how partnerships and project management offices work to return needed equipment to war fighters.

- Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, missile system materiel release achieved.

- The 12th and 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade commanders Logistics Center Town Hall, briefing employees on the support provided to Soldiers.

- AMCOM assumed command of the Redstone Headquarters & Headquarters Company (Provisional) from the Garrison.

- AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar visited Missile Defense Agency sites in Alaska as well as Army aviation units in Alaska and Washington.

- The command executed more than

\$13 billion in foreign military sales in 2012, which is 66 percent of the entire Army's FMS program.

- Corpus Christi Army Depot celebrated its 10th year of UH-60 A to L recapitalization efforts. In 10 years, the depot has provided the Army with 289 recapped Black Hawks – almost 10 battalions of aircraft.

- The Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity's Primary Standards Lab successfully renewed its registration to the ISO 9001:2008 quality standard. The APSL is the only Department of Defense metrology lab certified to this demanding standard.

- Letterkenny Army Depot changed leadership, with Col. Cheri Provanca handing over command to Col. Victor Hagan.

- Ronnie Chronister, AMCOM's former

deputy commander, received a promotion and moved to the Space and Missile Defense Command in August, after serving as AMCOM's deputy for more than three years.

- The Aviation Center Logistics Command changed leadership, with Col. Mike Aid taking over from Col. Rick Crogan.

- Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar assumed command of AMCOM on June 1.

- The Aviation Center Logistics Command and Corpus Christi Army Depot established a partnership resulting in a permanent residence of Corpus Christi depot maintenance capabilities at Fort Rucker. This positioning of depot capabilities within ACLC will result in faster repairs to Fort Rucker aircraft, at less cost, and with greater ability to execute mission requirements.

Education efforts in 2012 focus on partnerships

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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The future of Team Redstone is in the hands of those that are students in elementary, middle and high schools across the Tennessee Valley today. To make sure they are well-equipped to handle the challenges of the future, Team Redstone has made it its mission to foster those future leaders.

This was a year of great strides in that aim, as the installation worked to forge better and new partnerships within local school systems to assist educators in shaping tomorrow's scientists, engineers and leaders.

"One of our goals, as Team Redstone, is to expand educational partnerships in schools," Barbara Williams, school liaison officer, said. "Team Redstone is serious about this partnership. It's not in name only."

Proof of that commitment, and a launching point to expand those partnerships came in 2012, when the Team Redstone Education Outreach Catalog was released to educators in October. The catalog provides a complete listing to area schools of all the education outreach opportunities available through Team Redstone, such as job shadow days, summer internships, speakers and Adopt-A-School programs. Since it was released in October, the catalog has been a hit, with so many speaker requests for Veterans Week Williams could not attend them all. The outreach opportunities available provide students with an inside look at what happens inside the gates every day, and the possibility that one day they too could be a member of Team Redstone.

"This is going to help students become more career and college ready," Williams said. "How do you know what you want to be if you're never exposed to the many opportunities that are out there? You may have your eyes set on something, and while it might be great, there might be something out there that's greater for you. That's the benefit for kids. It can open the door to many, many opportunities, including internships and exposure to different careers. Most kids probably don't even know much of this stuff exists because if you don't work on the installation you really would not know. You've got to be engaged with these organizations and see hands-on what they do."

It is because someone took the time to show Russ Dunford a potential career path, that of a Soldier, that today he volunteers with the AMCOM Education Outreach Program, addressing local students from elementary to high school on a variety of topics, including the importance of education, the fun of math and science, and the problems in the world that exist that students could one day help solve.

"Those on the 'outside' only know Redstone as 'Army' – a place behind the fence, engineers that do a bunch of 'stuff,' we're told the pay is good," said Dunford, who retired

from the military and now works as an IDM program analyst for Aviation Systems, Aviation Networks Mission Planning, Integrated Data Modem. "Seldom do they connect the dots and realize the importance of education and the secondary benefits of our research and development efforts, from medicine to lasers that we now use to cut metals or conduct eye surgery. I stress the incredible challenges we are given to solve, from food preservation to getting food and water to Soldiers halfway around the world, to vaccinating farm animals in Africa. It is important for the students to know it is their military and Redstone has a key role in making our Army function."

To take advantage of these many opportunities, students don't even have to leave their own hometown, said Linda Fowlkes, with the Expeditionary Contracting Command, who also speaks to area students about the opportunities available within the federal government.

"The opportunities are right here in Huntsville," Fowlkes said. "We all want our students to be successful, but we have to steer them in the right direction and ensure that they are exposed to the opportunities available to them."

Through Fowlkes' example, and the example of many others, Team Redstone isn't just providing students with information through the educational outreach programs, but is fostering the area's future leaders, some of whom may even become Garrison commanders, like Col. John Hamilton.

"We cannot accomplish our mission without a highly educated work force," Hamilton said. "We think a larger percentage of our work force will always come out of the local community, and so it is important to look at, 'Where is Redstone 10 years from now? 20 years from now, 30 years from now?' We are going to be relying on a highly educated work force. We need them to be prepared to take on the tough science and engineering challenges of our future, and some of that will start right here in the local elementary, middle and high schools of Huntsville/Madison County."

At the Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville, professionals often go out into area schools to garner interest in science, technology, engineering and math, subjects the Tennessee Valley depends on.

"We, the Corps, are the nation's engineers," said Jo Anita Miley, public affairs specialist with the Army Engineering and Support Center-Huntsville. "We provide vital public engineering services in peace and war to strengthen our nation's security, energize the economy and reduce risk from disasters. To remain relevant and continue providing quality support to the warfighter and the nation, we need to hire the best and the brightest. Our educational outreach program lets us have a hand in growing some of the best and the brightest. It's an investment, not only in their future, but in our future, and that of



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Dr. Jeanne Payne, left, of Decatur City Schools, talks with Saronda Conley, Missile Defense Agency, about the education outreach opportunities available through MDA.

the Corps of Engineers and our country."

The year 2013 will see an expansion of the catalog to not only include education outreach from organizations and commands, but other on post programs, including Army Community Service and the Army Substance Abuse Program. The updated catalog will be provided to area educators at the Garrison Quarterly Education meeting in February. Through the inclusion of these programs, Team Redstone will be able to reach all aspects of a student's life, not just academics. Williams anticipates other opportunities will arise throughout the year, such as for suicide prevention month or Red Ribbon Week.

"If you're whole as a person, then you're going to be a better student," Williams said. "If you don't have to deal with issues of substance abuse, you're going to be able to focus more on your studies and your career. This expansion of the catalog addresses emotional and social needs as well. Kids and teens are dealing with a lot of issues. When they have a resource or a professional that can share information on issues they may be dealing with, or someone in their family or friends may be dealing with, they can use that information to help them be better emotionally, socially and physically."

Another accomplishment in 2012 for Williams, which will continue into 2013, is the growth of the Youth Sponsorship Club on post, and the continued success of its mirror image in the community, the Student 2 Student program. Both efforts provide relocation support for incoming students in the Tennessee Valley to help them acclimate to their new environment quickly and effectively, providing them with the resources and friendly peers needed to settle into their new school and life in Alabama and on Redstone Arsenal. The adult supervised, student led Youth Council Club on post is comprised of 8 to 15 students, who plan monthly events for incoming families, and team up with new students to show them around, share information about their schedule and what they're involved in, and serve as their men-

tor through the transition. The same concept exists at five high schools off post – Huntsville, Grissom, Bob Jones, Columbia, and new this year, Sparkman. Thirteen middle schools also have a Junior Student 2 Student program in place. For many new students, the Student 2 Student program and Youth Sponsorship Club serve as their lifeline.

"It's essential for not only a smoother transition, but an easier method to getting acclimated to the curriculum, extracurricular activities, the culture of the school, all of that," Williams said. "If you as a newcomer have to find your way by yourself it takes a lot longer, but when you have a child or a teen who you're paired with, a positive peer, then you can get acclimated much sooner, to not only the culture of the school, but what it has to offer, the activities, just 'fitting in' so to speak. It could be the difference between walking around not knowing and being lost, versus coming in the first day and feeling like, 'I know something about the school. I know how to get to my first class. I have a peer group I can eat lunch with. For the Friday night ballgame I know somebody.' Sometimes kids are reluctant to get involved when they go to a new place because they don't know anybody, they don't know anything about the school and they're afraid to ask. They don't want to stick out or people to think that they don't know. You remove all those barriers by having someone there for them when you get there."

Student 2 Student is not just for military children, but any new student at the school. At Sparkman High School, about 100 new students have come into the school since the start of the 2012-13 school year. The program has helped those newcomers transition to what many consider to be a city unto itself, with nearly 1800 students enrolled.

"We want to get them to a place where this is a positive experience for them, to take the focus off what they feel they might have lost, they've lost their friends, they've lost the familiarity," said Katherine Neis, who advises the program at Sparkman. "We want to put the focus on what they can gain from this experience – new friends, new relationships, new opportunities. The motto of Student 2 Student is '100 percent acceptance, 100 percent of the time.' That is our goal, to make the students feel that they are accepted from day one."

Williams plans to have a Student 2 Student summit on post in 2013, bringing together all participants from the Student 2 Student and Junior Student 2 Student programs in the community, as well as members of the Youth Sponsorship Club on post. Together, they will review their mission and share their ideas and concepts, to see what other schools may be doing.

"It's important for the students to come together, because I think they can walk away with a wealth of information that would help their program to grow," Williams said.

FMWR appreciates support from community

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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A music series and construction projects were among the year's highlights at the Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation.

"Overall (2012 was) successful even considering our fiscal constraints and the economy," FMWR director Derrick Gould said. "We were able to continue our big programs, put on the two concerts again and Oktoberfest.

"We've gotten a lot of support from the Garrison and community. A lot of construction projects are going on in our world."

Four construction projects are slated to finish within the next few months. These include the following:

- The Redstone Lanes bowling center's four-lane party room expansion, an addition to the existing facility, will open sometime in January and represents a \$750,000 project.

- The former Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705, is being converted into an indoor swimming pool called the Redstone Aquatics Center. This is expected to open in early February. "The primary

purpose of the facility is for lap swimming, water aerobics, swim team and any kind of military training, i.e., drown proofing," Gould said.

- The former Rustic Lodge, renamed The Cliffs as part of The Summit club system, is being completely redone and expanded with a new interior and exterior. It will reopen in the February/March time frame.

- Under the Garrison's vision of a walking campus for quality of life services, many FMWR organizations will move into the former troop Dining Facility on Honest John Road in the One Stop customer service area. These include the Java Café, Army Community Service, FMWR memberships, Child Youth and School Services registration, the school liaison officer, ITR (Information, Ticketing and Registration) and the Leisure Travel Office.

A music series, called the Sights and Sounds of Redstone, was a new feature during 2012. This series featured different genres of music in various facilities. The nine programs were held from Janu-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Seated, from left, are Stephanie Stone, corporate partnerships coordinator; Sabrina Forrest, marketing administrative assistant/private organization coordinator; Whitney Myers, marketing assistant; and Jerome Walker, operations assistant at The Summit. Standing are Mark Germonprez, business operations officer; Derrick Gould, FMWR director; Mike Chemsak, recreation division chief; and Robert Schumann, general manager of The Summit.

ary through November, mostly at the Firehouse Pub and the Community Activity Center.

"We've had bands in different places before but this series is something new we started last year," Gould said.

The directorate started a vibrant conferencing program which is beginning to gain momentum. Most of the business represented internal Army customers but some off-post businesses have also held conferences here at various locations.

The Free Movie Fridays returned in October, after about a year's hiatus for theater renovations, and are being held each Friday at Heiser Hall. "It goes pretty well actually. We have the youth program assisting with concessions but

the BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers) program is going to probably be running the majority of the movies," Gould said.

The country music concert, held in August, drew nearly 10,000 people. The Rhythms Brew and Barbecue Festival on Sept. 29 had about 2,500. And Oktoberfest, from Sept. 13-16, drew around 16,000 "which is a good number for us," Gould said.

The directorate has more than 500 workers. Starting May 1, its lodging operation will be taken over by Intercontinental Hotel Groups as part of the Army's Privatization of Army Lodging program. This includes all the Army's lodging operations on Redstone – building 244, the three 130s buildings and the 1400s across from the Exchange.

"The current plan is to take over those operations May 1 and begin renovations on the Y (shaped) barracks (at the corner of Aerobee and Patton roads) which will be renovated into a hotel," Gould said.

"It will absolutely mean improved facilities because this private entity has the capital to invest in the facilities," he said.

Looking ahead to next year, Gould gave his outlook for 2013 at FMWR.

"Like everybody else we'll be fighting the budget battle, and probably giving a little more scrutiny to our programs with the possibility of some reduced services at some point," he said.

But Gould is also "looking forward to the opening of all of our new facilities, continuing to improve and grow. I just appreciate the support from the community and from the entire FMWR workforce."

AMC

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record for the 2011 calendar year. Via presided over the ceremony and fastened the ceremonial Army Superior Unit Streamer to the unit flag before an audience of band members, friends and family.

- Oct. 1: Army Materiel Command welcomes Directorates of Logistics. After 24 months of detailed planning and coordination with the Department of the Army, and in strong partnership with Installation Management Command, Army Materiel Command assumed management of Directorates of Logistics Armywide Oct. 1. "I want to take this opportunity to personally welcome every member of the 73 DOL locations – 49 in the United States and 24 overseas – to the AMC team," Via said.
- Nov. 6: Female body armor named

among best inventions by *Time Magazine*. An innovation that will leave female Soldiers safer and more comfortable on the battlefield was named one of *Time Magazine's* "Best Inventions of the Year 2012. A collaborative effort between the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center and Program Executive Office Soldier resulted in an improved outer tactical vest, or IOTV, designed specifically for women. The 101st Airborne Division's 1st Brigade will be the first unit to test the new female body armor in Afghanistan.

- Dec. 6: ARL technology named 2012 Project of the Year for environmental technology, science. A project involving the Army Research Laboratory's cold spray technology was named one of six environment technology Projects of the Year, recognized for research and technology developments with significant benefits to the Department of Defense.

Research center engineers reach out to local school children

By DEANNE McKAY

AMRDEC Educational Outreach

The Education and Outreach Program of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center had a tremendous year. More than 500 students from the North Alabama area attended one or more outreach events, which not only ignited curiosity but provoked hidden potential.

Through participating in these events, many students discovered reservoirs of possibilities within themselves. Not only did these events have the potential to change the trajectory of students' lives, they transformed the lives of the volunteers who contributed their time and energy to ensure event success.

AMRDEC's leadership, ambassadors, managers and work force injected meaning coupled with excitement that gained students' interest and resulted in several awards and recognition for the center. The Huntsville City Council and the Union Chapel Christian Academy presented to AMRDEC their 2012 Government STEM award in recognition of the center's educational efforts in the community.

Encouraging students to consider careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, is the driving point for all outreach activities supported by AMRDEC. AMRDEC Strategic Planning and Communication Division chief Steve Parker wants to move outreach beyond the traditional STEM disciplines to promote technical excellence not only in engineering and the sciences but also in other enabling disciplines such as human resources, resources management and facilities engineering.

Technical excellence, Parker said, is when professionals demonstrate advanced competencies and work collaboratively in generating innovative capabilities to the war fighter. A total AMRDEC team is engaged in producing unparalleled practical solutions through cost-effective research and delivering valuable end-to-end capabilities to internal and external customers.

"AMRDEC is a \$3 billion a year enterprise directly employing more than 3,200 government and 6,000 support contractors, with significant capabilities, not just in Alabama, but also in Virginia, Texas, California and Colorado," Parker said. "Our outreach program needs to help assure the long term viability and success of our operations in all locations where the AMRDEC is providing support."

In addition to scientists and engineers, human resources professionals, financial analysts, public affairs specialists, logisticians and other professionals contribute greatly to the success of AMRDEC, and without them scientists and engineers would not be able to successfully innovate,



Photo by Merv Brokke, AMRDEC Public Affairs

AMRDEC engineer Melissa Jackson assists a student in the Math Bowl competition during the 2012 Girls Science and Engineering Day, one of many educational outreach events supported by the center.

Parker added.

Reaching out to students in other branches of learning and not just those in STEM fields meets the outreach office's mission to inspire, develop and attract a future talent pool to meet future national defense needs.

"This is an important undertaking," said Parker, "and our lead, Gayla McMichael, has demonstrated tremendous success in outreach, and will do a great job taking our program to even higher levels."

McMichael, an electronics engineer and AMRDEC's STEM Education and Outreach Program manager, provides program management support to Army Educational Outreach Program activities, National Defense Education Program activities, and AMRDEC Strategic Diversity Advisory Initiatives. McMichael believes STEM proficiency and innovation drive the nation's economy, and she works diligently to develop and implement quality STEM learning experiences for AMRDEC and the Department of the Army.

McMichael transitioned from active duty military service to civilian service where she continues exceptional accomplishments that span 30 years. Her passion is "Inspiring the Minds of Tomorrow through STEM!"

AMRDEC director Eric Edwards believes in the work of outreach volunteers to promote STEM in the Redstone community.

"While our organization's primary mission focus is to provide war fighters with state-of-the-art equipment and technology, we are very aware that we need to nurture our young and aspiring STEM professionals today to insure a vibrant, capable STEM literate citizenry for the national work force needs of the future," Edwards said.

Student Carla Becker participated in

the Science Engineering Apprentice Program and was mentored by McMichael in 2011 and by Dr. Paul Ruffin in 2012. Becker, who won the 2012 project presentation contest, said one of the most valuable parts of her SEAP experience was interaction with mentors. "I performed several different experiments which tested different facets of my mentor's design, while learning how to use an optical spectrometer and strip and cleave optical fiber. On a daily basis I would research topics relating to my project. Guidance from my mentor was also one of the most valuable parts of my SEAP experience," she said.

Becker's statement corroborates with a statement by Sen. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania in an April report by the Joint Economic Committee Chairman's Staff: "The existing STEM pipeline leaves too many students without access to quality STEM education. Younger students may lack appropriate mentors, or there may be inadequate hands-on activities in the classroom to pique their interest. Having a mentor significantly influences students' decisions to pursue STEM degrees and occupations, especially for women and minorities."

Mark Carmack, one of many AMRDEC engineers and volunteer outreach ambassadors, works with students at Mountain Gap Elementary School in

the robotics after school program. When asked who inspires him in the outreach program, Carmack said he is inspired by the actions of Edwards in initiating and supporting the AMRDEC outreach program and by teachers like Jerilyn Pang and Beckie Roth who volunteer to lead extracurricular activities such as robotic, math and science teams.

"I am also inspired by other outreach volunteers and the opportunity to make a positive impact in the life of students in our community," Carmack, a 25-year AMRDEC employee, said.

Mountain Gap Middle school also participates in an NDEP-sponsored math gaming program hosted and managed by AMRDEC Outreach. Mountain Gap Middle placed second in this year's National Math Bowl competition held in New York. When asked about the experience of traveling to the Big Apple, Mountain Gap teacher Melissa Debacker said that she was thrilled and hopes one day that Dimension-U will come to the Rocket City to host the national math tournament finals and music fest.

Editor's note: For more information about Education Outreach, visit <https://www.educationoutreachherald.com> or email Gayla McMichael at gayla.turner.mc michael@us.army.mil.

Photos by Ellen Hudson

Sweden bound

During a steady rain Dec. 10, workers from Science and Engineering Services Inc. load two Black Hawk helicopters into a cargo plane destined for Sweden at the Huntsville International Airport. This represents part of the first European buy of the UH-60Ms which will replace Sweden's fleet of Super Puma helicopters, currently deployed in support of the U.S. international security assistance force in Afghanistan. AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate managed the foreign military sale of 15 aircraft. Twelve have already been delivered and the remaining three will be delivered by April.



Emergency service workers call 2012 a success

*Continued progress
next year's outlook*

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

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The people who keep Team Redstone safe daily had a challenging but fulfilling year in 2012.

They are the approximately 230 members of the Garrison's Directorate of Emergency Services. Their three primary functions include law enforcement, fire and emergency service operations, and security operations. Other components include the two visitor centers, at Gate 1 and Gate 9, and the joint 911 dispatch center with NASA.

"It (2012) was a compelling success in spite of substantial resource challenges," Mike Sheehy, the director of emergency services, said. "As with others throughout federal government and here at Redstone, we were required to relook our structure and in particular our manpower to contain our work force numbers within defined strength levels. Unfortunately as IMCOM (Installation Management Command) was substantially over-strength relative its authorizations, in order to get to those numbers the DES had to operate well below its authorized and required strengths.

"So as our mission continued to evolve and requirements grew as a result of BRAC and other initiatives, our resources actually declined substantially. So in the past year, the DES authorizations declined about 20 percent. And we



Photo by Nanette Clarkson, DES

Security guard James Ryan checks a driver's identification at Gate 9.

resultantly had to sustain and grow our support for the mission with a shortfall of approximately 95,000 man-hours relative to our baseline mission requirements. So if there is any single highlight, any single banner accomplishment, for the DES work force in the past year it's been the phenomenal way in which they seamlessly supported first responder and every facet of mission support to the community despite those shortfalls.

"It hasn't been without disproportionate and substantial impact on that work force. They've been compelled to work back-to-back shifts seven days a week; they've been denied leave, holidays and even normal days off in order to ensure that our community is protected

24-seven. So while it's been transparent to the rest of the community, it's been very measurable to the professionals of the DES work force who continue to perform in an exceptional manner despite the conditions."

Sheehy said his workers not only met baseline mission requirements but also continued to find innovative ways to improve on the effectiveness of their service.

An example last January was the merger of the Redstone and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center's emergency dispatch centers.

DES also conducted five directorate exercises in addition to participating in the Garrison's full-scale exercise and a Marshall Space Flight Center exercise.



Photo by Nanette Clarkson, DES

Firefighters Capt. Robert Simmons and Cory Pryor remove the ladder from their truck at Station 2.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Mike Sheehy is the Garrison's director of emergency services.

"It was a multifunctional event to access and refine our procedures to mitigate the effects of our priority threats, in particular this year we focused on violence in the

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Unwrapping choice photographs of the year

Photos by Ellen Hudson

Staff photographer

Here are *Rocket* photographer Ellen Hudson's personal favorites from her pictures during 2012.



Cassidy Hinkle poses Oct. 20 at the Mills Road Child Development Center. "I take many pictures at the CDC Center on Goss Road and Mills Road, and I have always loved taking pictures of preschoolers," Ellen Hudson says. "Just to capture one of their cute, sweet little faces is a favorite quest for me."



An unidentified woman waits during the return of the Alabama National Guard 115th Expeditionary Signal Battalion on Oct. 31 from Kandahar, Afghanistan. "Even though I did not get her name, I like the way this patient woman is waiting with her quiet but glowing demeanor for her turn at a hug; while those around her show the enthusiastic emotions of their moment," the photographer says.



Sir Finley, a Scottish terrier, is held by his owner, Michelle Nash, during the Blessing of the Animals on Sept. 29 outside Bicentennial Chapel. Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jose Herrera is in the background. "This picture catches my eye because a pet looks out of place at a church service, although this is a service conducted just for his kind," the photographer says.



Capt. Alyssa Wood prays at the 9/11 Observance at Bicentennial Chapel. "This picture speaks to me about all of those in the U.S. armed forces being greatly affected by 9/11, and their huge role of fighting to prevent it from happening again," Ellen Hudson says. "It also gives me a good feeling to see officers in the United States Army humbly go to God in prayer for support in this immense task; and to go to God in prayer to ask for blessings upon those lost in 9/11 and those lost fighting the terrorists of this event."

Safety everyone's responsibility all year

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

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It is not just the safety of the war fighter serving overseas in harm's way members of Team Redstone need to support, but rather, the safety of themselves and their co-workers as well.

"Redstone Arsenal's mission is supporting the war fighter," Garrison safety manager Mike Moore said. "When safety is not adhered to, the mission can be jeopardized. Our customers expect the very best effort from us. If we are injured or have equipment that is damaged, we are letting them and ourselves down."

As far as safety goes, 2012 was a relatively uneventful year on post, with the exception of one contractor injury in October, allowing the mission of Redstone Arsenal to continue without interruption. For the Garrison Safety Office, the number of incidents, or rather, lack thereof, is sign of a successful year, a trend to be continued in 2013, with the help of the work force. Safety is a daily part of every member of Team Redstone's life, whether they realize it or not, according to Moore.

"Safety is often viewed as a separate portion of a Soldier's or employee's work. The realistic view is they are both interwoven," he said. "Military units or corporate companies that welcome, acknowledge and demonstrate safety are the ones who, across the board, are your better and more productive places to work. When safety is ingrained as a culture, then leadership and their personnel are in sync to not only prevent accidents, but in the process are more efficient and can take calculated risks without getting into trouble."

One challenge for the Garrison Safety Office throughout 2012 that will continue as the installation heads into 2013 is traffic. With increasing construction activity, which often involves heavy equipment and dump trucks entering and exiting roadways that normally would not have traffic, motorists must use situational awareness, and be prepared to adjust to changing traffic and roadway routing conditions. One example of the need to remain aware of changing traffic patterns is a stop sign that was placed at the intersection of Goss and Rideout roads, exiting off Redstone, which caused consternation with drivers. It has since been removed and replaced with yield signs.

"Our Directorate of Public Works traffic engineer has a herculean job of keeping Arsenal traffic flowing smoothly and safely as new buildings are being built or modified," Moore said. "It takes our whole Team Redstone community to be watchful and safe. Motorists must adjust to conditions and remain vigilant."

Another area in which members of Team Redstone must remain vigilant is the discovery of unexploded ordnance, or UXOs, throughout the year. Personnel must use the three R's – recognize, report and retreat – when dealing with an object they suspect to be a UXO. Do not touch, handle or transport the item, but rather, call 911 and move a safe distance away until Explosive Ordnance Disposal arrives on scene to safely take care of the UXO. The Garrison Safety Office provides UXO Awareness training. To schedule training, call 876-6027.

Even if your line of work doesn't involve working in areas where UXO may be discovered, or with equipment that could cause harm, every Arsenal employee must still remain safety aware. In 2013, make a resolution to find out who your organization's safety professionals are, and use them to resolve any safety or occupational health issues or concerns. Safety specialists are available to provide training on the real or



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Traffic remains a challenge for the Garrison Safety Office and all drivers on post as the installation heads into 2013. The safety office encourages all motorists to remain vigilant when behind the wheel.

potential hazards that may exist in your working environment, and also to assist supervisors in inspecting work areas and analyzing employee tasks to make sure safety plans and regulations are in place and adhered to, and protective equipment is used by workers when it is appropriate.

"When personnel become complacent, choose not to adhere to safety guidance or get in a hurry, then the risk of being hurt greatly increases," Moore said. "When unintended events, accidents, occur, the implications go far beyond, 'Well there was \$3,000 damage in the vehicle accident.' Accidents cost a lot of money beyond property damage. When employees are injured there are medical costs and often rehabilitation treatment. When a team member is not working at his/her job, then someone else must step in to do so. If the alternate is not properly trained, then more costs are added for training. Additionally, efficiency goes down and if the organization is not meeting customer demands, then more cost is involved with missed deadlines and tasks that require further review and reworking."

If an accident does occur, it must be reported. For any accident or injury involving a Department of the Army civilian, supervisors must ensure that a CA-1 Form is submitted. Report of the injury may be submitted through the EDI system, accessible at http://www.cpms.osd.mil/ICUC/ICUC_index.aspx. For any questions, call Roosevelt Thurmond, the Redstone Arsenal compensation coordinator, at 876-7754.

Future looks bright for Redstone Test Center

By ASHLEY CRICK

Redstone Test Center Public Affairs

The Redstone Test Center celebrated a successful 2012 with new capabilities, facilities, and a committed work force.

In 2012, the center improved its test capabilities by adding more than \$13 million in new and modified facilities. These include a new Climatic Multi-Chamber Test Facility, an aviation parts storage facility, an aircraft parking area, a reconstruction of the Tactical Test Facility, entry control point facility, a transient test facility and an aircraft towpath just to name a few.

Additionally, the center worked with the Garrison Department of Public Works by inspecting more than 300 RTC-managed facilities and participated in two Garrison Area Development Plans and three Military Construction Projects. The center also worked with the Naval Construction Battalion Two-Four to provide valuable training opportunities on more than a dozen projects which in return provided \$150,000 of services to sustain RTC facilities.

The five subordinate directorates of RTC continued to provide outstanding support to the war fighter in 2012.

The Aviation Flight Test Directorate continued to ensure safety and reliability for the Army's aircraft inventory. AFTD provided more than 350,000 maintenance man-hours in support of approximately 2,000 test events that included in excess of 5,500 aircraft flight hours with 200 highly trained and experienced personnel.

The Flight Test Control Center, which supports the tracking of two separate and simultaneous flight tests, was completed in April 2012 and represents the final major project to be completed as part of the BRAC relocation from Fort Rucker. AFTD also designed and developed a highly automated and mobile Field Equivalent Bar Target and successfully tested the most recent version of the Common Missile Warning System aircraft survivability equipment.



Photo by John Deemer, RTC

RTC's Zero-Mount Test Facility, completed in 2012, will function as the control facility for field sensors and seeker testing.

The Systems Engineering Directorate continued to establish their role as "force multipliers" for the RTC test mission. A number of highly qualified systems engineers provided horizontal coordination and integration for more than 473 test projects including leading Integrated Project Teams for critical programs such as Aviation Survivability Equipment and Force Protection Systems. SED also provided program support and technical expertise for more than 50 test customers.

The Environmental & Component Test Directorate, responsible for developing and conducting environmental testing on weapon systems, completed two new facilities – the Tactical Test Facility and the new Multi-Chamber Facility. ECTD supported multiple tests which included the Orbus 1A motor qualification test, Shadow Unmanned Aerial System E3 Qualification Test and participated in the Coalition Attack Guidance Experiment II Coalition-Level Test Experiment.

The Missiles & Sensors Test Directorate continued to be the source of the many "booms" on Redstone Arsenal. The Propulsion Test Division coordinated with the Air Force Research Lab to conduct static firing tests of four ATACMS rocket motors. This



Courtesy photo

Center workers participate in the first 5K run which kicked off Wellness Day 2012.

test required coordination between several teams, including the RTC Propulsion Division static firing crew, RTC Missions Operations and Control Center, the AFRL sensor engineers, the AFRL satellite engineers, and AFRL headquarters. According to AFRL, this test series was "a rare confluence of events (i.e. weather, rocket, satellite) unique observations that have never been done before in military history, and potentially ground breaking for national defense and missile warning."

Although the center's mission is testing, 2012 was a great year for community support

and employee wellness. In August, employees across the center enjoyed RTC's third annual Safety & Wellness Day. Employees participated in a wide range of sports activities while visiting exhibitor booths emphasizing healthy eating, exercise and safety. As the holidays approached, staff members showed support for RTC's first Alabama/Auburn Can-a-thon by donating about 1,524 pounds of canned goods to the Food Bank of North Alabama and pet food and supplies to the Ark Inc. The center also supported the Salvation Army Angel Tree by selling T-shirts with proceeds going to support a local child.

Even in this tough economic climate, the future continues to look bright for Redstone Test Center but changes are imminent. The center, along with the Army Test and Evaluation Command, will both undergo changes in leadership in the coming year. Col. Steve Kihara, the first commander of Redstone Test Center, will retire after 29 years of service. His successor will undoubtedly take this world-class test center to the next level.

The Redstone Test Center is a subordinate unit of the Test and Evaluation Command headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. RTC is the premier Army agency for testing military aircraft throughout the acquisition, modernization and sustainment life cycle in support of America's war fighters.

Major projects diversify Arsenal mission

Gateway, MDA, TEDAC among buildings growing Redstone

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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One of the most high profile commercial construction projects ongoing in relation to Redstone Arsenal resides next door to Gate 9, its most popular access point.

So, it's not surprising that the name for the Arsenal's enhanced use lease project is now officially Redstone Gateway.

In 2012, the development was relatively low key, with one building available for lease; road work and infrastructure continuing to be built at a quick pace; a new railhead established at its north end; and a one-story industrial building under construction.

But, with the November announcement that Boeing has leased the park's first building – 1000 Redstone Gateway – and will lease two more buildings now under construction, Redstone Gateway is once again making headlines.

Those headlines should continue throughout the next few years as Redstone Gateway grows into its own.

"The private developer has been working pretty aggressively this year continuing to get the infrastructure in place," said Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton.

"And, the great news is that they've leased the first multi-story office building that will be part of a three-building complex for Boeing."

Redstone Gateway is an enhanced use lease project launched in 2010 that partners the Arsenal with Corporate Office Properties Trust and Jim Wilson & Associates, the City of Huntsville and Madison County to develop 468 acres of Arsenal land. The office and mixed-use park, which is planned to include 4.6 million square feet of office, retail and hospitality space, is being built in three phases over the next 15 to 20 years. Of its 4.6 million square feet, 1.2 million square feet will be secured office space behind the Arsenal fence.

The infrastructure work of 2012 – most visibly seen in the road network being built on the western side of Rideout Road – will enable the construction of new buildings upon tenant demand and the construction of some retail facilities.

"There is a small retail piece to the EUL. I think this next year the developer will be able to look real hard at building



Photo by Skip Vaughn

A Sept. 5 groundbreaking ceremony for the Missile Defense Agency's Von Braun IV is one of several major construction projects that continue to grow Redstone Arsenal. Picture at the groundbreaking are, from left, MDA director Lt. Gen. Patrick O'Reilly, Sen. Richard Shelby, Sen. Jeff Sessions, Rep. Mo Brooks, Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton, Corps of Engineers' Mobile District north regional area engineer Wade Wooley and Turner Universal Construction Company president John Gromos.

out some of the retail facilities going into the EUL," Hamilton said. "They're going to have a combination of things like restaurants and service-related retail like a dry cleaners or a drug store. The focus of the retail complex will be the kinds of things needed to support the work force in the area."

Redstone Gateway's retail area is adjacent to and behind the current Visitor Center on Rideout Road. When construction on the retail area begins, the Visitor Center facility will be removed and the Visitor Center will be relocated temporarily in retail space. In two or three years, the Visitor Center will be moved south on Rideout Road along with the Gate 9 relocation.

Since the Redstone Gateway groundbreaking in 2010, the developer has focused on a construction plan primarily supporting business and industrial development, and did not focus exclusively on federal contractors.

"What the EUL provides is an opportunity – through the partnership with the city and the private developer – to open up another part of this community that is available for businesses to locate," Hamilton said.

"Our assumption is it will be tenants and companies doing business on the Arsenal, but not just for the defense industry. We will predominantly see com-

panies that are partnered with federal agencies, but it isn't open to companies with federal contracts. The EUL is another opportunity for those businesses who gain value in being near the Arsenal or adjacent to the Arsenal. This is another complex of Class A space available to the community."

Even as Redstone Gateway develops into a diverse business complex, diversity in terms of the types of government agencies is also growing inside the Arsenal gates.

Government facilities that began construction in 2012 and will continue to take shape on Redstone Arsenal in 2013 will further enhance the installation's image as a location for joint military organizations. The Missile Defense Agency's Von Braun IV at the Von Braun Complex, the FBI's Terrorist Explosive Devices Analytical Center Laboratory on Fowler Road, and the Missile and Space Intelligence Center's Explosive Ordnance Exploitation Operations Complex near Gate 3 are either joint military or non-military specific facilities. In addition a private enterprise facility – the Redstone Raytheon Missile Integration Facility – was completed in 2012 and will go into full operation during the first quarter of 2013.

"These facilities are a reflection of the diversity of the team that's already here. We've got not only Army, but also joint Department of Defense agencies. We've got non-Department of Defense federal agencies here as well as private partners like Raytheon," Hamilton said.

The following is information on these four major construction projects:

- The Missile Defense Agency broke ground in September 2012 for the five-floor, 225,000-square-foot fourth and final wing of the Von Braun Complex. When it opens in 2014, Von Braun IV will provide offices for about 850 MDA employees who now work elsewhere on the Arsenal or in Huntsville. They will then be alongside thousands of MDA and Army Space and Missile Defense Command workers in the other three wings of the complex.

Turner Universal Construction of Huntsville is now building the estimated \$58 million facility. It will take about 20 months to complete.

- In June 2012, the FBI, along with its law enforcement and military partners, participated in a groundbreaking for a new Terrorist Explosive Devices Analytical Center Laboratory.

The new building will provide dedi-

cated forensic and technical exploitation workspace for TEDAC. Currently, TEDAC shares laboratory facilities with the FBI Laboratory at Quantico. The Huntsville laboratory will provide processing and examination capabilities in various forensic disciplines. The facility also will support technical exploitation of IEDs and related devices and will facilitate the exchange of personnel among TEDAC partner agencies, further strengthening TEDAC's interagency role and mission.

For the past nine years, TEDAC has proven to be one of the nation's most valuable tools in the war on terror. Since its creation, TEDAC has processed more than 80,000 submissions of IEDs and related forensic materials from Iraq, Afghanistan and other foreign countries. Scientists and engineers have made dozens of forensic matches and connections between seemingly unrelated IEDs.

Interagency partners participating in TEDAC include the FBI; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; the Department of Defense Combined Explosives Exploitation Cells; Biometrics Task Force; Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization; National Ground Intelligence Center; the U.S. Army Intelligence and Information Warfare Directorate; the Defense Intelligence Agency; the U.S. Army Asymmetric Warfare Office; the National Security Agency; the Central Intelligence Agency; and the Counter Terrorism Command, London Metropolitan Police Service.

The FBI and its partners at Redstone Arsenal – including the FBI's Hazardous Devices School and the ATF's National Center for Explosives Training and Research – will advance TEDAC's mission by enhancing collaboration and further strengthening a government-wide approach to countering IEDs and other explosives threats.

- MSIC held a groundbreaking for its Explosive Ordnance Exploitation Operations Complex in November 2012 near Gate 3 in the 7500 area of Redstone. The \$10.5 million, 25,000-square foot facility will replace facilities that were not originally designed for explosive ordnance operations.

The new complex will be used by the Defense Intelligence Agency, which oversees MSIC, to improve strategic warnings, determine where new threats are emerging, provide current intelligence and strengthen its relationship with the combatant commands to ensure it understands their requirements. It will include an operations support facility, EOE operations facility, shipping and transportation facility, remote operations facility, multi-service explosive storage magazine,

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PEO Aviation looks back on eventful year

PEO Aviation Public Affairs

The world of PEO Aviation saw several changes in 2012. Some were milestones. Some were less incremental. But change, like the Detroit Lions losing on Thanksgiving Day, or North Korea threatening a show of force in a world-wide shakedown for trade concessions and food, is a constant safe enough to bet on.

The Fixed Wing Project Office saw its one year anniversary as a stand-alone office, having spun off from PM Aviation Systems in October 2011. PM Fixed Wing, under the leadership of Col. Brian Tachias, spent the year methodically working on plans for consolidation of the FW fleet while absorbing more fixed wing assets from around the Army.

Some of the FW significant events for the year included the first flight of the Enhanced Medium Altitude Reconnaissance and Surveillance System prototype aircraft in October. The project office also accepted delivery of the first of three replacement UV-18C airplanes destined for the Army Golden Knights parachute team and all three aircraft are, or soon will be, modified to specifically support parachute operations.

And, effective Sept. 30, the FW project office assumed centralized management responsibility for an additional 129 MAJ-COM operated, fixed wing aircraft, bringing the total number of aircraft under FW management to more than 380.

Aviation systems

Aviation Systems Project Office, former parent PM of the FW project office, was busier than ever in 2012. During a change of charter ceremony in July, Col. Anthony Potts relinquished command to Col. Jerry Davis. Elsewhere in PM AS, the Mobile Air Traffic Tower System was unveiled during a ceremony held at Hunter Army Air Field in Savannah, Ga. The system replaced an air traffic control tower system that had originally been fielded when Kennedy was president.

Also notably, PM AS became the new home of Blue Force Tracker, Aviation. BFT-A had been under the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical but was realigned to the product office for Aviation Mission Equipment, a move that was officially effective Oct. 1. The realignment to an office with similar avionic activities is expected to be not just more efficient, but allow for greater synergies within PM Aviation Systems.

Other items of note in PM AS include further ground work and development efforts to combat degraded visual environment, or brown-out, situations faced by Army aviators. DVE development efforts

are essentially focused on creating a synthetic vision system that allows pilots to “see” what can’t be seen due to environmental obscurants like dust or other atmospheric pollutants.

Utility helicopter

Nearby, also in the Sparkman Center, the Utility Helicopters Project Office saw the 500th UH-60M model Black Hawk delivery over the summer. Black Hawk number 500, went to a National Guard unit. There was a brief ceremony marking the occasion at the Black Hawk assembly plant in Stratford, Conn.

Just two months previously, Col. Thomas Todd, project manager for Utility Helicopters, in coordination with representatives from Sikorsky and the Navy, Army Contracting Command, and PEO Aviation headquarters, signed Multi-Year Contract number eight. The five-year, \$8.5 Billion contract calls for the eventual delivery of more than 650 H-60 Black Hawk variants destined for Army and Navy use.

In March, leadership from PM UH participated in another milestone event for the year; the 200th delivery of the UH-72A Lakota, which was marked by a ceremony at the EADS North America assembly plant in Columbus, Miss. Lakota helicopters are being used by National Guard units throughout the United States, on Kwajalein Island, and in other Army training and MEDEVAC units.

The Improved Turbine Engine Program Material Development Decision was approved in October. An Analysis of Alternatives is under way. The ITEP will provide significantly increased operational capability, fuel efficiency, range and payload.

Cargo helicopter

The Cargo Helicopter Project Office had a year full of F model Chinook deliveries. As of this writing, 56 of the newest CH-47s have been delivered to units both new and old. Two active units and one National Guard unit were equipped with the aircraft and all units receiving the F model received training on the new aircraft’s feature and capabilities.

In April, members of the project office took it upon themselves to personally deliver a dozen new F models to the 1-52nd Aviation Battalion, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade, at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska. The monumental trip began in Savannah, Ga., where the helicopters had undergone final test and evaluation prior to delivery. The journey to Alaska traversed half of the United States and crossed two Canadian provinces before reaching America’s last frontier and the home of the 1-52nd. The trip took about 10 days to complete and was broken into three sorties of four aircraft each.

Just a few months later, the Chinook

team would celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first CH-47 to be delivered to the Army from Boeing. A lot has happened in the years since that first A-model Chinook was delivered, and Team Chinook has been very busy keeping the “workhorse of the Army” up to the need for present day speed.

Non-standard rotary wing

Meanwhile the Project Office for Non-Standard Rotary Wing Aircraft continues to grow in scope and number of non-standard rotary wing aircraft platforms it manages since its inception in January 2010. The office is responsible for the successful procurement, fielding and sustainment of non-standard rotorcraft for DoD, allied countries, or as directed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense in support of Security Force Assistance missions. A more specific requirement mission is to ensure that the U.S. has put its programmatic and acquisition rigor to the process to ensure that any of the country customers are getting the best bang for the buck, the best value, and getting safe, flyable, airworthy platforms to use.

Today, the office is responsible for almost \$1 billion in foreign military sales. Working in partnership with the Security Assistance Management Directorate under the Aviation and Missile Command and various other organizations, the NSRWA team is currently working with partner nations such as El Salvador, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Egypt, Costa Rica, Colombia, Indonesia, South Korea, Tunisia, and many others.

In November, Col. Bert Vergez, the Army’s first Non-Standard Rotary Wing Aircraft project manager, retired after 25 years of service. He is succeeded by Kelvin Nunn, Vergez’ former deputy project manager.

Apache helicopter

The Apache Project Office achieved several major milestones this year with the fielding of the long-awaited Apache Block III, now called the AH-64E, after a successful Initial Operational Test & Evaluation in May. Following the Defense Acquisition Board’s decision to approve full rate production in August, the project office made another big announcement with the re-designation of the aircraft from the AH-64D to the AH-64E. New Equipment Training and fielding of the AH-64E to the first units is well underway with the 1-229th as the first unit scheduled to field the AH-64E. Currently the AH-64E program is scheduled to produce 634 remanufactured airframes and 56 new airframes.

The project office made history yet again when it inducted the last A model Apache from the Army in July. Aircraft 451 was “retired” from the Army and handed over to PM Apache during a ceremony in Houston. The event was hosted by the Texas Army National Guard’s 1-149th ARB, 36th

Infantry Division, the unit that had the last A model Apache in its fleet.

In February, the project office unveiled a new effort with the AH-64E National Airspace Trainer, a flexible system that is capable of being a UAS surrogate and emulates the capabilities of manned-to-unmanned teaming without the restrictions associated with a UAS that currently have to operate in restricted airspace. The system was engineered, developed and tested in Huntsville, under a partnership with UAH Rotorcraft Systems and Engineering and Simulation Center. The NAT ultimately addresses the need for collective MUM-T training when multiple assets are not organic to one unit.

In September, Col. Shane Openshaw relinquished his charter as Apache project manager to Col. Jeffrey Hager.

Armed scout helicopter

Perhaps one of the most headline grabbing stories in 2012 for Army aviation is the ongoing effort and plan to replace the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior with an Armed Aerial Scout. The Project Office for Armed Scout Helicopters has been leading this effort while simultaneously ensuring that the venerable OH-58 KW remains viable in the field.

The AAS voluntary flight demonstrations were held from June to October at each of the respective industry facilities. Five flyable aircraft were flown. The Army is currently assessing the results from the voluntary flight demos, which will help to inform a recommendation to the Defense Acquisition Board and define the acquisition path ahead regarding the Kiowa Warrior and AAS.

Meanwhile, the Army is ensuring that the KW continues to fly with performance upgrades to the current aircraft. PM ASH, together with the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center’s Prototype Integration Facility, officially unveiled the completion of the first OH-58F Kiowa Warrior in October and has begun the test and evaluation phase. Also known as the Cockpit and Sensor Upgrade Program, the OH-58F has been in development since May 2009. First flight is scheduled in spring 2013. All of the Army’s OH-58Ds will eventually be converted to F models. The OH-58F development efforts have been executed with the Prototype Integration Facility in Meridianville, and have infused approximately \$32 million into the local economy, with an additional \$7 million planned for fiscal ‘13.

The ASH Project Office is also charged with the development and management of the Iraqi Armed 407 foreign military sales program and the Contractor Logistics Support effort for the government of Iraq. Of the thirty aircraft purchased by Iraq, three

Moving toward efficient use of working space

Renovated buildings getting new occupants

By KARI HAWKINS

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There's a lot of construction activity going on near Gate 10 – activity, that is, in terms of renovated facilities, street re-routing and landscape upgrades.

The Arsenal's construction focus throughout 2012 has been on the area that was once occupied by the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, and involves an area bordered by Patton Road to the east, Aerobee Road to the south, Vincent Drive to the west and Redeye Road to the north.

In 2012, the area welcomed the opening of the Arsenal's One Stop for human resource services, now housed in the renovated Military Personnel facility; the beginnings of a Pershing missile historical park; and the establishment of several service-related organizations in the area.

But, the big moves come in 2013 when several new tenants will move into renovated OMEMS facilities as part of an administrative space realignment plan that also includes a Welcome Center, Education Center, a Judge Advocate General office, and the new headquarters for the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Human Resources Activity.

"We've made a lot of progress on major renovations in the former OMEMS facilities, particularly those that house Garrison services," Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton said.

"The work we've been doing is progressing extremely well."

Since 2011, the Garrison commander and a team of employees from the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works have been working on an administrative space realignment plan that involves 600,000 square feet of working space and 8,000 employees. In 2016, when all the moves are complete, Redstone tenants will



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Building 3301, once used by the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, is one of two buildings near Gate 10 that are being renovated for the Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space. Renovations are expected to be complete in the spring of 2013.

be in locations that take advantage of synergies, offer opportunities for consolidation and new efficiencies, and provide greater capabilities to be effective in support of the nation's war fighters. In addition, the moves will save about \$3.8 million a year in lease costs off post.

"The entire area will get a new look in 2013 as organizations move in," Hamilton said.

"As organizations continue to go through transformation, there will be even more opportunities in this area. The space that came open was the space we needed to begin consolidating organizations. There are a number of organizations pretty scattered out all over the Arsenal and with off-post leases. This space allows for more consolidation and for getting out of off-post leases."

Coincidentally, the Garrison's logistical plan for providing tenants with the most efficient working space will start in 2013 at the heart of the Army's premiere logistics program.

Come this January, the Army Materiel Command's Logistics Support Activity – known as the Army's premiere source of logistics information and expertise – will become the key to launching the Garrison's plan for moving 8,000 Arsenal em-

ployees into newly renovated facilities.

"LOGSA's move to three of the renovated buildings is the first in a series of moves that will take place over the next 2½ or 3 years," Hamilton said.

The first move will involve moving LOGSA employees located in building 5307 at the Sparkman Center, in buildings near Gate 3 on Redstone Road and in buildings off post into the newly renovated building 3303, located on Zeus Road.

"Everything's gone very smoothly with the construction and we've been able to expedite the timeline. The contractors have done an excellent job with schedules and construction," said Kara Malone, project manager for the administrative space realignment project who works for the Directorate of Public Works.

Early plans had building 3303 ready for occupancy by mid to late April 2013. But hard work by contractor CCI and its subcontractors slid that date forward to a January completion. The Corps of Engineers Huntsville Center has also worked to ensure that new office furniture is in place to support the earlier move-in date.

"The Corps of Engineers worked double time to make sure we had the furniture in time for the move," Malone said. "We have a working group that has coordinated and talked and planned to get everyone moved at the right time."

"But it's the Directorate of Public Work's construction and engineering group and the construction crews who have made all this happen. Walls are up, the sheetrock is in, and the break rooms and bathrooms are built out. The floors have been raised for computer wiring. Everything else in 3303 is an open floor plan that will be filled with cubicles."

Then, just north of building 3303, plans are on track to move additional LOGSA employees now located at the Sparkman Center's 5307 into renovated building 3305 in May and renovated building 3307 in August. In addition, the Lead AMC Integration Support Office, will move from the Sparkman Center to

the second floor of building 3307.

In all, the number of employees moving into 3303, 3305 and 3307 total nearly 800.

But that's not all for the OMEMS grouping of buildings. Also in the spring of 2013, renovations will be complete on buildings 3300 and 3301, which will be home to the Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, now temporarily located in buildings 7612 and 7613 near Gate 3 as their permanent facilities are being readied. Additionally, building 5250 completed renovation in 2012 and is now home for C-RAM (Counter-Rockets, Artillery and Mortar), IAMD (Integrated Air and Missile Defense) and CMDS (Cruise Missile Defense System).

"IAMD and C-RAM moved from off post and CMDS moved from the Sparkman Center," Malone said. "By Sept. 1, more than 800 employees were co-located at building 5250. With the completed moves, PEO Missiles and Space has eliminated the use of off-post leases. At the same time, the move has opened up space for new tenants to reside in the Sparkman Center."

More than 800 employees are now located at building 5250, with 400 of those employees moved out of off-post leased facilities.

Other previous OMEMS buildings have already been occupied by the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, and the Redstone Test Center. Those remaining vacant for now will be repurposed as the Garrison identifies other organizations that can utilize them.

The area's Toftoy Hall (building 3495) on Patton Road, is now undergoing renovation to become the new home of the Education Center (now in building 3222) and AMCOM G-1 (training currently being held at a facility off post on Orange Drive) in the spring of 2013, and buildings 3458 and 3459 are being renovated as the new home of Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Human Resources Activity, now located in the Sparkman

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Aviation

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T407 aircraft, in the baseline configuration were delivered in December 2010 and are being used by the Security Assistance Training Management Organization's Security Assistance Team to conduct flight training for Iraqi pilots. Three Prototype 407 aircraft, in the Armed Configuration are also being used at Redstone Arsenal for Flight Loads Survey and Post-Production engineering development. Deliveries of the remaining aircraft, all in the Armed Configuration, began in August; to date 15 have been delivered. The remaining armed configuration aircraft will be delivered to the

Iraqi Government by March.

Unmanned aircraft systems

Lastly, in 2012 the project office for Unmanned Aircraft Systems deployed the first Gray Eagle Company, F/227th out of Fort Hood, Texas, as well as a Shadow platoon with the 101st CAB, at Fort Campbell, Ky. In doing so, these organizations became the first two "full-spectrum" CABs prior to their deployment earlier in the year.

The tactical UAS Shadow surpassed the milestone of 750,000 hours of flight time as well during the past year. Most of those hours were flown while directly supporting 10 years of Overseas Contingency Operations abroad.

Elsewhere in PM UAS, the product office for Unmanned Systems Airspace Integration Concepts demonstrated the capabilities

of Ground Based Sense and Avoid technology in simulations conducted against actual air traffic in the busy skies of Salt Lake City and Boston.

Within the Small UAS Product Office, fielding of both the Puma and the Raven (with a new Gimbaled Sensor Payload) occurred in the busy year. Both were fielded in rapid response to Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statements.

And, in a more broadly scoped development, PM UAS entered into Memorandums of Agreements with the engineering departments of two major universities; Alabama A&M University and Auburn University. The MOAs are expected to be a win-win for the universities as well as PM UAS. Each organization stands to benefit from the expertise and resources of the other.

Across the board, PEO Aviation saw a very busy year with a lot of accomplishments, milestone events and ground work laid for the future. Plans for next year call for full-steam ahead with an eye on budget cuts and sequestration hanging like a sword overhead. No plan, it's been said, survives first contact with the enemy and yet, as Dwight D. Eisenhower famously said, "Plans are nothing; planning is everything." Broken down to the most basic level, it's also been said that what PEO Aviation does best is to balance and manage change. With that in mind, plan for change in 2013. Whatever next year brings, PEO Aviation's bottom line mission remains the same: Reduce the burden on the Soldier. The Soldier's needs will always come first; our Soldiers deserve no less.

Patient care primary concern at Fox in 2012

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

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While the years may come and go, one thing remains constant at Fox Army Health Center — its mission to help its patients live a lifetime of health and wellness.

With more than 54,000 appointments and 320,000 prescriptions filled, 2012 has been a busy year for Fox Army Health Center and its 11,500 beneficiaries. Once again in 2013, Fox will strive every day to inspire their patients to live healthier lives, and thanks to three significant initiatives implemented in 2012, doing that is now a little easier.

Patient centered medical home, implemented last spring, literally puts the beneficiary in the center of their medical care, with a team focused approach led by Fox physicians that makes the patient's needs the primary focus, all the while making the healthcare process more efficient. Now instead of working with just one healthcare provider, beneficiaries at Fox work with an entire team of nurses, physicians and other medical professionals to ensure they are given all the tools and care needed to live a lifetime of wellness.

"That's a major shift in the way we do business, as the U.S. Army Medical Command tries to implement what's known as an operating company model," Fox commander Col. William Darby said. "The goal is to standardize the patient experience. What you experience here as a patient should be very similar to what you'll experience at Fort Bragg, Fort Campbell, or if you were at Fort Rucker. The way you experience your healthcare should be the

same. We want to ensure as an enterprise that Army Medical Command facilities are providing standardized top of the line care, that our beneficiaries deserve."

Part of that top of the line care, and an accomplishment at Fox in 2012, has been the automation of the pharmacy, which has led to a reduction in patient wait times for prescriptions. Lanell Cianciola, chief of pharmacy, and her staff continue to look for ways to shave off the average waiting time, which is now around 10 minutes, according to Darby, 20 minutes under the MEDCOM goal of 30 minutes.

In 2013, patients will spend less time on the phone with the facility, thanks to the secure messaging system, implemented Oct. 1. The online secure messaging system allows patients to log on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to talk to their primary care team, whether they have questions, want to set up an appointment, check on lab results, or need education. Fox staff is required to respond to messages within 72 hours, but are constantly working to beat that standard.

"Secure messaging eliminates that need to have to call in, when a patient might be limited by time of day or whether or not the provider is there to answer the phone," Darby said. "It helps eliminate the frustration of 'There's not somebody there for me to talk to when I have a question.' Now they have the ability to think of a question, whatever time of day, they can log on, ask the question or voice a concern, and within 72 hours they can get a response back, whether they need to come in and get seen or have their question answered. It's a way that we think is going to help our beneficiaries communicate and be proactive in their healthcare."



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Col. William Darby, commander of Fox Army Health Center, discusses his priorities for Fox Army Health Center upon his arrival to the military treatment facility in July.

Although secure messaging will eliminate many patients need to call in, one of Darby's priorities for 2013 is to improve Fox's phone system. Fox is seeking a new system that will be simple and easy to understand for patients, reducing customer's frustration.

"We fully recognize that our phone system needs some work," Darby said. "We are working with MEDCOM to see what enterprise solutions exist, because if we're having problems with a phone system, we recognize that we are not the only medical facility that is having problems handling volumes of calls, types of calls, making sure that phone messages get routed to the cor-

rect provider in a timely fashion, and that our patients get responses back to their concerns."

With improved communication with beneficiaries, Fox is aiming to reach out to patients in the time between their appointments at the facility, known in the medical community as a patient's "white space." On average, a patient is only seen at a medical treatment facility for 100 minutes a year, according to Darby.

"Our challenge is how do we interact with the patient, the other 500,000 minutes a year?" he said.

Through multi-disciplinary education initiatives online, over the phone, and in person, Fox aims to assist its' beneficiaries in dealing with chronic health concerns, such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes or being overweight, challenges that don't just exist in the time a patient is seen by their provider.

Fox is also collaborating in 2013 with other commands across post through its medical management center to reduce the number of medically not ready Soldiers assigned to the installation. With the help of wellness staff and educators, Darby's goal is to get them back to a healthy state faster.

Five months into his time as commander at Fox, Darby looks forward to continuing to serve Team Redstone and Fox beneficiaries in 2013.

"It's been great getting to know the community, getting to know the folks that are part of Team Redstone, and our beneficiaries," he said. "I look forward to working with my team to provide the best possible healthcare services to Redstone Arsenal and the Madison County/Huntsville."

Space

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Center. In addition, building 3475 will be renovated for the CHRA training center.

There have also been changes pertaining to facilities occupied by the 2nd Recruiting Brigade and the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion. The two organizations have consolidated into the brigade's headquarters in building 3435 so that the battalion's previous headquarters in building 3439 can be renovated as the new home of Redstone's Judge Advocate General office, which has moved from building 111 and is temporarily located in building 3494A (the trailer located east of the new One Stop). Renovations are expected to be complete for a January move-in.

"The recruiting brigade and medical recruiting battalion have gone through many fluctuations in staffing. They have similar requirements, so consolidation of their facilities was a good idea for increased efficiencies," Malone said.

Another facility along Hercules Road, building 3215, will be the new home of the Inspector General's office.

The entire area near Gate 10 will have a new look when all the moves are complete, with building exteriors working together to comple-

ment each other. Besides the area's new tenants, it is also home to the new One Stop for personnel, badging and housing services; a Welcome Center that will open in the spring with Army Community Service, Child Youth and School Services, travel and leisure services, and the Java Café; a Pershing missile historical park that will physically connect the One Stop and the Welcome Center; and an expanded Bowling Center.

One of the challenges is to ensure the area's infrastructure can meet the needs of the work force.

"When this area is complete, we realize that it will also need services to support the tenant employees," Malone said. "The Welcome Center will include a Java Café, the Bowling Center offers lunch, and the Burger King, Exchange and Commissary are all nearby."

Of course, tenants have already been secured for Sparkman Center buildings that will be vacated with all the moves. Plans are to consolidate AMCOM employees in buildings 5300, 5301, 5302 and the third floor of 5304, and to move employees of the Program Executive Office for Aviation into 5307, 5308, 5309, and the first and second floors of 5304. PEO Aviation is expected to move into their Sparkman Center buildings in the fall, but the organization will keep its headquarters campus at the building 5681 area. The Sparkman

Center community also includes the Army Contracting Command-Redstone, which will remain in building 5303.

"After 5307 is vacated by LOGSA and 5304 is vacated by CPAC and CHRA, there will be a lot of movement around the Sparkman Center," Malone said.

"The PEO Aviation piece will be the biggest move. We will be moving three product management offices onto post from off post."

One final piece is the renovation of building 111 on Goss Road (the previous home to the Equal Employment Office now at the One Stop, to the JAG and IG, and to AMCOM G-4, which will move to the Sparkman Center). Once the renovations are complete in the fall, the building will be occupied by PEO Missiles and Space.

The building 111 renovations help to vacate building 4505 on Martin Road, now occupied by PEO Missiles and Space and the Missile Defense Agency. A ground breaking ceremony for Von Braun IV at the Von Braun Complex was held in September and, once this building is complete, all MDA employees located at building 4505 will be moved to the Von Braun Complex. Then, building 4505 will be renovated as the new headquarters of the Army Contracting Command/Expedi-

tionary Contracting Command, which is now located in trailers north of the OMEMS area.

Moving so many tenants and their employees takes a lot of coordination and pre-planning. A working group with representation of each of the tenants meets monthly to work out details that are then presented quarterly to the Garrison leadership.

"We have been having a lot of discussion about these moves in our working groups. There are a lot of details that have to be looked into and decided on," Malone said. "We have so many people moving that logistics can be complicated at times."

The Garrison has received positive feedback about the administrative space realignment plan and the moves associated with it.

"I think all the organizations are getting excited now that they are seeing the changes in these buildings," Malone said. "Moving is always stressful and people can be resistant to change. But now that everything is taking shape, there's more anticipation rather than hesitation regarding the moves."

"Everyone understands that what we are doing with these moves is creating efficiencies, getting people off post located on post and putting organizations together where they should be instead of being scattered."

SMDC leaders remember 2012 accomplishments

By JASON CUTSHAW
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command leaders reflected on 2012 as the command prepares for the challenges of 2013.

Serving as the Army's force modernization proponent to space, global missile defense, high altitude, and as the Army's operational integrator for global missile defense, SMDC/ARSTRAT provides America's fighting men and women with technology that protects them on battlefields today, tomorrow and the day-after-tomorrow.

"I wanted to take time to thank you all for your service and to remember those serving around the world," SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica said. "The command continued to provide space and missile defense capabilities to U.S. Strategic Command, to the geographic combatant commands, and to our Army; we are building the future space and missile defense forces and capabilities; and we continue to progress in the research, test, integration of space, missile defense, directed energy, cyber and related technologies."

SMDC provides trained and ready space and missile defense forces and capabilities to the war fighter and the nation. The command provides more than 875 operational forces and its missile crews protect more than 300 million Americans around the clock.

These forces deploy radar, deliver theater missile warning to deployed forces, manage wide-band satellite communications and provided 1.5 million tracks per day by providing joint friendly force tracking to all combatant commands. SMDC still supports space programs and provides operational support for astronauts in 2012.

Representing the command at the Army's 2012 Best Warrior Competition were Sgt. Brandon Kitchen, SMDC's Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, and Sgt. Anthony Moore, SMDC's Soldier of the Year. Kitchen and Moore competed in the Army's "Super Bowl" of competitions at Fort Lee, Va., in October.

"Our Soldiers continue to define what it means to be space professionals," SMDC Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Tur-

ner said. "They are leading from the high ground across the world and continue to keep Americans safe and secure. Their mission is complicated and they continue to accomplish this difficult assignment with professionalism, courage and dedication.

"I, along with Lt. Gen. Formica and the rest of the command team, am very proud of what our Soldiers, civilians and family members do on a daily basis. Their service and sacrifice can never be recognized enough, and I am honored to serve alongside each and every one of our SMDC team members. This has been a great year and I look forward to what SMDC will be doing to serve and protect our great nation in 2013."

The command continues building future space and missile defense forces for tomorrow. SMDC serves as proponent for space, high altitude and global missile defense forces and capabilities and is developing Army space, high altitude and missile defense concepts and doctrine.

SMDC is improving space knowledge across the Army by developing leaders as well as providing individual and collective training. The command continues to inform Army and Department of Defense investments of capabilities through modeling and simulation-based analysis.

"Coming in four months ago, I had no idea of the magnitude of capabilities SMDC/ARSTRAT provides to the DoD and in support of our nation's defense," Ronnie Chronister, who arrived in August as the SMDC deputy commander, said. "I have also become aware that our Soldiers and civilians in the SMDC/ARSTRAT work force do a first-class job in providing those capabilities, and, as such, I am very proud to be a part of the command team.

"SMDC/ARSTRAT is exceptionally relevant in providing space and missile defense capabilities to defend our nation, and to maintain that relevance, we must continue to provide needed capabilities in the most cost effective manner. That means we are all going to have to take a hard look at how we operate and find the opportunities to make ourselves more efficient. If we don't do this ourselves, it will be done for us."

For the day-after-tomorrow technologies, SMDC continues to research, test



Courtesy photo

The Long Endurance Multi-Intelligence Vehicle soars above Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., during its first flight Aug. 7. The LEMV is intended to provide war fighters multi-intelligence sensors capable of persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance in a forward combat environment.

and integrate space, missile defense, cyber, directed energy and related technologies.

The command continues to develop advanced hypersonic weapon and nanosatellite technologies. SMDC continues to research the High Energy Laser Mobile Demonstrator, evaluate Electric Fires potential, test high-power microwave weapons and other technologies for counter-improvised explosive device and research the Long Endurance Multi-Intelligence Vehicle.

SMDC continues to operate the Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site as a major range and test facility base from the RTS Operations Center in Huntsville.

Road upgrades ensure smooth traffic on post

Arsenal travel concerns extend to offpost

By KARI HAWKINS

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As a commuting installation, traffic affects everyone working and living on Redstone Arsenal.

And, it's the Garrison's job to work to ensure a smooth traffic flow. It's a simple fact, as Arsenal facilities continue to expand and missions increase, consequently the number of employees and visitors will also increase with additional employees and visitors.

In 2012 as well as 2013, the primary focus of Garrison traffic studies and improvements will be the Martin Road/Gate 7 corridor and the Rideout Road/Gate 9 corridor, said installation traffic engineer Tom Richardson, who works for the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works.

"We've got about 40,000 vehicles every week day coming on and off post," he said. "We are working to make our roads as safe as possible, and to make our roads convenient for the Arsenal community. We monitor and make changes as needed to ensure good traffic flow."

In 2012, the Neal and Mills Road intersection and parts of Marshall Road were rebuilt to add turn lanes and to improve access.

"The need to expand those roads was directly related to the new buildings we got with the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure recommendations," Richardson said. "We will continue to keep an eye on these roads in the Von Braun Complex area to ensure that traffic flows smoothly."

Also in 2012, the Arsenal community saw the opening of the new Gate 7 access control point, which was the

last one to be upgraded. Those who travel Martin Road on a regular basis also saw the first component of the \$10 million Martin Road four-lane widening project from Gate 7 to Rideout Road.

"Utility relocation and tree clearing all along the route was accomplished in 2012," Richardson said. "Communications, electrical and water were all relocated. We now have an open corridor ready for construction."

Martin Road travelers should see that road construction beginning in the spring/summer timeframe, he said. A project of the City of Huntsville and the Alabama Department of Transportation, Martin Road construction bids will be accepted and opened in early 2013.

"The Martin Road project will be a big priority in terms of getting that going and making sure it's done right," Richardson said.

"The City of Huntsville will be managing the project, so people will see city inspectors and construction managers along the route. Once the construction starts, we will be working with them to make sure it's built by the contractor to the standard we expect and need."

It will take about 18 months to complete the road widening, and Richardson cautioned Martin Road travelers to be extra cautious once construction begins.

"Unfortunately, the way the existing roadway is aligned and because of some constraints, we can't leave the existing two lanes of Martin Road undisturbed while connecting to new lanes," Richardson said.

"There will be pretty significant lane shifts in the construction phase, yet we won't be closing Martin Road. One parameter of the project is to have Martin Road remain open throughout the construction. But traffic will be impacted by construction. Drivers will need to



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Road upgrades, like this resurfacing project on Goss Road west, keep Garrison roads in good working order for the 40,000 vehicles that drive on post every week day.

give themselves more time to get to and from work, and they need to pay close attention to directional signage."

Once the project is complete, Martin Road will be a four-lane road from Gate 1 to the east side of the installation all the way to Gate 7 on the west side of the installation.

"The city is actively developing plans and identifying funding to expand Martin/James Record Road west of the Arsenal as well as the segment of Zierdt Road that extend north of the Arsenal from Gate 7," Richardson said.

At the Rideout Road/Gate 9 corridor, the Garrison added a third outbound lane in 2012 and two inbound lanes to help with traffic flow during peak times.

"We are working to minimize the impact of traffic related to the Redstone Gateway" (the 468-acre enhanced use lease development adjacent to the Gate 9 area to its west), Richardson said.

"The additional lanes going southbound into the Arsenal will help both Redstone Gateway traffic and Arsenal traffic. We are working closely with the developers and engineers of Redstone Gateway to accommodate the needs of the workers driving into the Arsenal and onto Gateway."

Goss Road was modified with a new westbound exit in 2012. Goss Road has also been redesigned and will be constructed to extend south along Rideout Road and will then connect with Rideout Road at a traffic light.

"We expect Goss Road construction to begin in 2013," Richardson said. "It is a City of Huntsville managed project. There are still some hurdles in terms of approvals that we still need to make this happen."

Also in 2012, road infrastructure in the Gate 10 area was improved to accommodate traffic for the One Stop. During 2013, Zeus Road will be turned

into a pedestrian walk area to accommodate employees locating to the area's newly renovated buildings.

While Richardson and other DPW employees concentrate on road improvements on-post, Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton has been a strong voice in the community to ensure road off-post are improved to accommodate Arsenal employee traffic patterns.

"We have a great relationship with the local community and with the state in coming together jointly on priorities for the road networks that support people commuting into the City of Huntsville and into Redstone Arsenal," he said.

Garrison representatives are working with officials from Huntsville, Madison, Madison County and other regional communities to determine road requirements and priorities throughout the Tennessee Valley.

"We're looking at those road networks based on where people are buying houses and where we're seeing the greatest demands. We are helping to identify road projects that need to get planned and that need to get resourced in the next few years," Hamilton said.

For instance, expanding Martin/James Record Road from Gate 7 to the Huntsville International Airport will have a tremendous positive impact on the flow of traffic into Gate 7 as well as alleviate some of the traffic at Gate 9. Improvements along the Highway 53/Research Park Boulevard corridor, and improvements as far away from the Arsenal as the Winchester Road/Memorial Parkway corridor in northeastern Madison County will also support the traffic flow onto the Arsenal.

"Road improvements in those areas will certainly improve traffic and travel time for people coming into the region," Hamilton said.

"The 35,000 people that come to work on the Arsenal every day are coming from throughout North Alabama as well as South Tennessee. So, as we look at where they all live we've got to make sure to have a road network that gets them from their home into Redstone Arsenal.

"We can't look just on the Arsenal or we can't look just a mile or two off the Arsenal. The reality is we have to look way out to the region where our employees are coming from and we continue to grow the road network."

As inconvenient as road work may be, the outcome of all these projects will have a significant positive impact for the Arsenal as well as the region.

Reviewing the top 10 events for 2012

Activities feature growth, change

By KARI HAWKINS
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Looking through the pages of the 50 issues of the *Redstone Rocket* for 2012 is much like looking through an Arsenal history book for the year. The pages are filled with military ceremonies, celebrations, events, news items, personal accounts and accomplishments that represent the best of Redstone Arsenal. The following is a snapshot of what your *Rocket* staff has chosen as the top events for 2012:

Garrison reviews future with tenant leadership, March 21: Reshaping Redstone Arsenal is coming down to the numbers. With all new Arsenal organizations related to the recent Base Realignment and Closure moves now in residence, the Garrison is focusing on further developing the installation's office complexes,

conferencing capabilities, service areas and road network based on what makes financial sense. In other words, consolidating administrative offices, ending leasing arrangements, improving facility efficiencies and improving traffic flow are priorities in shaping the near-term and long-term plans for Arsenal development. On March 14, Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton shared those plans with other leaders during an Installation Planning Board meeting at The Summit. "We've got to make the right decision for the taxpayer," Hamilton said, referring to building usage on the Arsenal. As the Department of Defense and the Army look for ways to save money, the Garrison is planning for consolidations of organizations, facilities and services to create efficiencies and convenience while cutting costs. Most of that effort focuses on the consolidation of administrative offices in renovated office space located primarily in the schoolhouse area once occupied by the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School, and then reutilizing

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

Breaking ground for the Terrorist Explosives Devices Analytical Center at Redstone Arsenal are, from left, FBI director Robert Mueller; senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, who represented Team Redstone; Sen. Richard Shelby and B. Todd Jones, the acting director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Service

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workplace and severe weather incidents," Sheehy said.

The directorate also initiated programs to build its partnerships with other agencies. This included holding a law enforcement symposium last Jan. 26 which included state, county, local municipality, other federal agencies and other Department of Defense law enforcement activities on Redstone.

Six law enforcement agencies brought their best shooters to Redstone Arsenal Oct. 10 for the inaugural Law Enforcement Appreciation Pistol Competition, a chance for the agencies that regularly partner with one another in the field to come together for camaraderie, a chal-

lenge and a chance at bragging rights. DES won after a shoot-off.

In another example of partnerships and efficiencies in light of the directorate's resource considerations, the Redstone fire department is emerging as a training center of excellence for partners inside and outside of the Department of Defense. The directorate has been working with the Alabama Fire College to conduct certification courses at Redstone for customers from as far away as Alaska.

Sheehy described his outlook for next year. "I would say it's one of continued progress. There are some specific initiatives that we're working that we think will advantage the community," he said.

"For example, we're going to be implementing an electronic scanning system at the gates that will not only enhance the

security of the installation but (also) facilitate the ease of access for our broad customer base. I would say first quarter of the calendar year is our expectation," Sheehy said. "In collaboration with the Fox Army Health Center, we are continuing development of a standardized Automated External Defibrillator program, as well as conducting an assessment of how to improve upon the advanced lifesaving support to the community for emergency medical response."

Besides these initiatives, Sheehy said more will continue to evolve for a year of continued progress in 2013.

"Although we'll always continue to refine and improve upon our processes, it remains and will always be our work force that is the heart of our service to the community," he said. "And so our greatest objective, and perhaps our great-

est challenge for the year, is going to be relieving the stress on our work force and investing in them through training and other means to sustain them as they sustain their professional support to our community."

As one year ends and another begins, Sheehy, who has been here nearly two years, had this message to the directorate's workers: "Congratulations, and most importantly thank you for your truly remarkable performance in keeping our community safe and secure in 2012. You have epitomized selfless service, you have redefined professionalism, and you have proven the living embodiment of our motto, 'Do the right thing, the right way, for the right reasons.' I wish you and yours all the blessings of the holiday season followed by an equally successful and spectacular 2013."

Construction

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explosive storage magazine, inert storage facility, open storage pad No. 1, and open storage pad No. 2.

• A November 2012 ribbon cutting officially opened the 70,000-square-foot Redstone Raytheon Missile Integration Facility near Gate 3. Raytheon's \$75 million automated missile facility, built on a 200-acre site, will provide final assembly and testing for Raytheon's Standard

Missile-3 and Standard Missile-6 interceptors, two ballistic missiles associated with the nation's worldwide missile defense strategy. The facility also provides greater capability for Raytheon to grow its missile production at Redstone.

SM-3 is part of the Missile Defense Agency's sea-based Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense, with deployment on Navy cruisers and destroyers, on Japanese destroyers to defend against short- to intermediate-range ballistic missile threats in the ascent and midcourse phases of flight, and at land-based sites in Europe. SM-6 is an extended range anti-air

warfare missile fired from Navy ships against fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles and cruise missiles.

The first missile set to come off the production line will be the new SM-6, which will be complete in the first quarter of 2013 and then delivered to the Navy. Before they leave the facility, each missile is tested with the use of automated guided vehicles that move the missile down a concrete corridor into a test cell that uses a comprehensive, multi-layered system of protection from any potential explosion. Automatic controls guide the

vehicles through the corridors to the test cells. It is the safest and has the highest explosive capacity of any of Raytheon's missile production facilities. The first SM-3 missile will come off the production line in the second quarter of 2013. The SM-3 is currently being produced at Raytheon's Camden, Ark., facility. But that production along with missile depot maintenance and recertification is being moved to the Arsenal facility.

The Arsenal continues to grow, even after BRAC 2005 is completed, as these construction projects prove the face of the Arsenal continues to transform.

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vacated space to further even more organization consolidations. The Garrison is working with seven organizations – the Aviation and Missile Command, Program Executive Office for Aviation, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, Logistics Support Activity/Lead Army Materiel Command Integration Support Office, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center/Civilian Human Resources Agency, Army Contracting Command-Redstone and Army Contracting Command/Expeditionary Contracting Command – to create efficiencies through consolidation. Once these consolidations are made, the physical footprint for these organizations at Redstone will go from 80 buildings to 30 buildings. Of those, four organizations – AMCOM, PEO Aviation, PEO Missiles and Space, and LOGSA/LAISO – will not only reduce the number of facilities they occupy but they will also eliminate all of their off-post leases, representing an annual savings of \$4 million.

ACC welcomes first commanding general, May 23: Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols has come a long way since enlisting in the Army in 1975 in her hometown of Niagara Falls, N.Y. On May 17, she reached the pinnacle of her career by becoming the first commanding general in the four-year history of the Army Contracting Command. “It’s hard to describe,” Nichols said after her assumption of command ceremony on the Activity Field. “It’s really such an honor, something totally unexpected. It’s very emotional in some ways because of where I started in the Army to reach this level and assume this responsibility.” In 2007, the secretary of the Army formed an independent commission on Army Acquisition and Program Management in Expeditionary Operations, also known as the Gansler Commission, to review recent lessons learned and recommend improvements to future military operations. In compliance with these recommendations, on Oct. 1, 2008, the Army recognized the formal establishment of the Army Contracting Command as a major subordinate command of the Army Materiel Command. Nichols, who was commissioned as an engineer officer upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1981, said becoming ACC’s commander is an “indescribable honor.” Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody officiated at the ceremony. During the ceremonial passing of the colors, the organizational flag was handed from ACC’s Command Sgt. Maj. John Murray to Dr. Carol Lowman, who served as ACC’s executive director and now is the command’s deputy commander, to Dunwoody to Nichols and back to



Photo by Reed Armstrong

Two cranes are used to move a Space Launch System Solid Rocket Booster aft skirt from a flatbed railcar to truck transport for movement from the Redstone Arsenal railroad spur to a site on the installation near NASA headquarters.

Murray. An international business enterprise, the Army Contracting Command awarded more than 198,000 contracts in fiscal 2011 valued at more than \$86.9 billion, which is equal to 68 percent of the Army’s contract dollars and 16 percent of the total dollars spent on contracts by the entire federal government. ACC accomplishes this with more than 6,300 military and civilian employees at more than 115 locations worldwide.

FBI brings new facility here for collaboration, June 27: One of the nation’s most valuable tools in defending against improvised explosives devices will soon have a Redstone Arsenal address as building 4940 on Fowler Road. The \$125 million Terrorist Explosives Devices Analytical Center, established and operated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, will be an Arsenal tenant in late 2014. Sen. Richard Shelby as well as FBI director Robert Mueller and the center’s chief, Jorge Garcia, were in attendance during a June 25 groundbreaking for the new facility. Located in an FBI facility in Quantico, Va., since 2003, the center recovers improvised explosive devices and related materials from the Department of Defense for forensic and technical analysis in support of the ongoing war on terrorism and combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. TEDAC employees have examined more than 80,000 IEDs and fragments from IEDs, working side-by-side with representatives of the 11 U.S. agencies to analyze IEDs and IED fragments from 23 nations besides Iraq and Afghanistan. The new facility at Redstone will provide greater efficiencies in the analysis of IEDs. Redstone is also home to the FBI’s Hazardous Devices

School and the ATF’s National Center for Explosives Training and Research, and it is expected that the co-location of the three organizations will allow for the creation of collaborative partnerships, and will strengthen the government-wide approach to countering IEDs and other explosive devices.

Via succeeds Dunwoody as AMC commander, Aug. 8: Gen. Ann Dunwoody on Aug. 7 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. Odierno credited 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. 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. In 37 years she commanded at every level. 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.

Ceremony gives employees sense of

heritage, Aug. 8: 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.” The following AMC employees 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; and Sarah Clements, AMC assistant chief of the Office of Project Management 1964-75. 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 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.

VB Phase IV construction starts with groundbreaking, Sept. 12: By the end of 2014, more than 5,700 people will work in the completed Von Braun Complex. Groundbreaking for construction of the fourth building, Von Braun Phase IV, was held Sept. 5 near VB III off Martin Road. Von Braun IV will have offices for about 850 members of the Missile Defense Agency. The ceremony’s attendees filled the folding chairs under a large white tent. MDA director Lt. Gen. Patrick O’Reilly served as the host and gave opening remarks followed by remarks from Sen. Richard Shelby, Sen. Jeff Sessions and Rep. Mo Brooks. “This will truly be the epicenter of missile defense expertise in the world,” O’Reilly said. Said Shelby, “Although Dr. (Wernher) von Braun has been long gone from Huntsville, his spirit

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is with us today. It has to be." Sessions called the beginning of the completion of the Von Braun Complex "a really great day." "Here today," said Brooks, "we're continuing von Braun's reputation for exceptionalism for what we're doing with the Missile Defense Agency." Construction should be completed by August 2014 with tenant move-in by December 2014. The building will have five floors and 225,000 square feet. "Construction will begin immediately," John Gromos, president of Turner Universal Construction Company, Huntsville, said. From 200-300 construction workers will be employed on this project; and the current schedule is to finish in about 20 months. The initial contract cost was \$53 million and the contract value will likely exceed \$57 million, Gromos said.

Post honors commitment to customer service, Sept. 26: Not even rain clouds could dampen the excitement among the crowd who gathered Sept. 18 to usher in a new era of customer service during a ribbon cutting at the One Stop. Though the ribbon cutting was moved inside, there were plenty of smiles, laughter and words of "congratulations" to seemingly keep the threat of rain at bay and bring a ray of sunshine inside for a ceremony that officially opened Team Redstone's One Stop for human resources services. Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton described the gathering of Team Redstone and community officials as a "real reflection" of leaders who care for the well-being of the Arsenal's Soldiers, civilians, retirees and their families. The renovated 23,000-square-foot facility, known as building 3494, includes the Garrison's Military Personnel Office, Security Division, Retention NCO, Headquarters & Headquarters Company-AMCOM, Defense Military Pay Office, Defense Finance and Accounting Services, Housing and Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity Office. It also includes a State and County Tag License Office. The One Stop is a cornerstone in the development of a social services corridor that will include the 22,000-square-foot Welcome Center and an historical park that connects the two facilities. The Welcome Center, which will be located in the renovated dining facility, will include Army Community Service, Child Youth and School Services, travel and leisure services, and the Java Café. The One Stop is part of an area-wide plan that includes renovating buildings for administrative, and research and development space for a wide variety of tenants. The area is also home to the Education Center, Pagano Gym, Travel Office and Photo Lab facilities, the Thrift Shop, the Army Substance

Abuse Prevention Program facility, 2nd Recruiting Brigade and the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion, Redstone Bowling Center and Community Activity Center. In 2013, it will also be the new home of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, the Civilian Human Resources Agency and the Staff Judge Advocate office as well as the Redstone Aquatics Center.

Fifty years of support appreciated by Army, Oct. 24: The Army was on stage Oct. 15 among local business leaders as well as local and state political leaders to show its appreciation for the industry partners who have helped to make Cummings Research Park the second largest research and development park in the world. "Cummings Research Park continues to be our support network on a national and international scale to grow our space, missile, aviation and defense programs," said Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, Redstone Arsenal's senior commander, who spoke on behalf of Team Redstone at the research park's 50th anniversary celebration luncheon at the Jackson Conference Center. "Our Soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen deserve the best. And Cummings Research Park has striven to provide them with that decisive edge. The strength of our nation is our Army. The strength of our Army is our Soldiers. The strength of our Soldiers is our families. Cummings Research Park is part of that family. It's you that keeps us Army Strong." Although established in 1962, Collyar told the luncheon crowd that the roots of Cummings Research Park go back to 1950. That's the year that Dr. Wernher von Braun and a rocket team made up of 130 German scientists, 501 Soldiers from the Army's 9330th Technical Service Unit, 180 General Electric employees, and 120 Army civilian employees came to Huntsville from Fort Bliss, Texas. The group at Fort Bliss had been working on the V-2 and various versions of the Hermes missile initiated under contract with GE. The Redstone missile evolved from the V-2 studies and Hermes research and development effort. The decision to move to Redstone Arsenal was viewed by the Army as a way to save resources and become more efficient. The move allowed the Army to consolidate the management, and research and development of Army rockets and missile programs in one location that provided much-needed land for facilities and testing. With the initial move of the Army's missile and rocket programs to Redstone in 1950, the area began attracting companies engaged in rocket development, and those companies needed office and research space. That industrial base continued to grow as the German/American rocket and Army missile development grew with the nation's interest in space exploration grew. The year 1962 brought the beginnings of a Huntsville research park that would eventually be called Cummings Research Park.

Garrison works to again provide train

transport, Nov. 7: Redstone Arsenal's railhead is now doing business. Recently, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center used the 3,000-foot railroad spur from the main Norfolk Southern railroad to deliver the first of several pieces of hardware that will be used in the construction of the Space Launch System. On Oct. 24, a Solid Rocket Booster aft skirt that will be used to launch the system was moved from a cargo flatbed by crane to a truck flatbed for transport from the northwestern section of the Arsenal near Gate 9 to a NASA site off Rideout Road. The Arsenal was the aft skirt's final destination in a train route that took it from the Kennedy Space Flight Center at Cape Canaveral, Fla., and to Redstone Arsenal. Once it made it to the end of the rail spur, two mobile cranes were used to lift it off the flatbed and load it on a truck flatbed. It was then escorted by Garrison police south on Rideout Road through Gate 9 using the northbound lanes, taking it around the inbound gate lanes and then returned to the southbound lanes. "The delivery of this NASA hardware by rail is significant for Redstone Arsenal because it keeps active a critical fourth mode of transportation access to and from the Arsenal," Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton said. "Now that the rail spur is in use, our tenants can choose from road, air, water and rail shipping access." Rail access to the Arsenal has been available since the 1940s, when the area first became a federal installation. But in recent years, the railhead's outdated condition did not make it a feasible transportation option. As part of Arsenal upgrades associated with the Redstone Gateway enhanced use lease project, about \$900,000 in upgrades to the train track spur were completed earlier this year as part of the in-kind services provided by Redstone Gateway developer Corporate Office Properties Trust. The upgrade was contracted and managed on behalf of the Arsenal by the City of Huntsville. Previously, the old spur was located in the center of the 468 acres designated for the Redstone Gateway. So, it has been shortened, repositioned and

upgraded, and reconnected to Norfolk Southern's main east-west track.

New missile production plant continues von Braun legacy, Nov. 28: Redstone Arsenal is once again living up to its reputation as "Rocket City, USA." With a ribbon cutting ceremony for the 70,000-square-foot Redstone Raytheon Missile Integration Facility near Gate 3 on Nov. 26, the Arsenal is now officially home to "the most technologically advanced missile facility in the world," according to Vice Adm. James Syring, director of the Missile Defense Agency. Raytheon's \$75 million automated missile facility, built on a 200-acre site, will provide final assembly and testing for Raytheon's Standard Missile-3 and Standard Missile-6 interceptors, two ballistic missiles associated with the nation's worldwide missile defense strategy. The facility also provides greater capability for Raytheon to grow its missile production at Redstone. SM-3 is part of the Missile Defense Agency's sea-based Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense, with deployment on Navy cruisers and destroyers, on Japanese destroyers to defend against short- to intermediate range ballistic missile threats in the ascent and midcourse phases of flight, and at land-based sites in Europe. SM-6 is an extended range anti-air warfare missile fired from Navy ships against fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles and cruise missiles. For MDA, the mission of the SM-3 is clear: "to defend the U.S. and deployed forces, and allies and friends from ballistic missile attack," Syring said. For Redstone Arsenal, the facility continues to grow its reputation for advanced missile development, assembly and testing. Currently, about 40 employees work at the Raytheon facility. By 2014, that number will grow to 130 at the facility with another 170 Raytheon jobs focused on other Huntsville and Department of Defense related activities based out of Redstone. Those jobs will be added to the 550 Raytheon employees already located in Huntsville. The first missile set to come off the production line will be the new SM-6, which will be complete in the first quarter of 2013 and then delivered to the Navy.

Win or Lose

Redstone sports have change of pace during 2012



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Runners start the second annual 9.11K race held Sept. 8 near the Sparkman Fitness Center.

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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This was a year of adjustment for Redstone's sports program after the Ordnance school's departure in 2011.

With most of the young Soldiers gone for Fort Lee, Va., the Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation's sports and fitness menu lost its troop sports. No longer were there seasonal leagues for softball, flag football, basketball, volleyball plus a 5K run and golf tournament. Military units would earn points in each sport to determine the winner of the annual Commander's Cup.

But all that went away because of Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC.

"We really struggled with the Soldiers leaving because it affected our intramural program greatly," sports and fitness director Gaylene Wilson said. "They were our intramural program, so we all missed them.

"We combined leagues with NASA for softball," she said, referring to this year's agreement which enabled Army civilian teams to play in a joint softball league with Marshall Space Flight Center. "And we're looking to add programs for the Redstone civilian work force in 2013."

Other sports highlights from 2012 included the second annual 9.11K (5.66 mile) race Sept. 8 held in remembrance of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Some 152 people registered and 132 finished the run held behind Sparkman Center building 5302. Rob Youngren won in 32 minutes and 6 seconds, a 5:45 per mile pace; and his wife, Kathy, was the female winner in 38:10, a 6:50 pace.

Redstone Arsenal's Ten-Miler Team again was a double winner at the annual Army Ten-Miler held Oct. 21 in Washington, D.C. Redstone won the government agency division for the sixth straight year and the all-comers division for the fourth straight year.



Photo by Paul Reynolds, AFTD

Helicopter sled

Santa and his elf arrive in a UH-60 Black Hawk to deliver personalized letters during the second annual Rudolph Runway 5K on Dec. 7 at Redstone Airfield. The event, sponsored by the RTC Aviation Flight Test Directorate, includes a 5K run, a holiday meal with all the trimmings and live music provided by employees of AFTD.



Courtesy photo

Sgt. Maj. Santa

Members of the Sergeants Major Association gather Dec. 8 during their annual Santa Run held at the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home. With Santa in tow, they presented socks and T-shirts to approximately 135 veterans. The AMC Band performed patriotic music.

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>.

Conferences & Meetings

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.

Protestant women

Protestant Women of the Chapel holds Bible Study classes every Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Child care is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first serve basis for the 9:30 study. PWOC also provides supervision for the home-schooled children at the Youth Services building. For more information, call Bicentennial Chapel 842-2176. You can also email PWOC ladies at Redstone@pwoc.org.

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 Huntsville Christian Church, 171 Indian Creek Road. 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.

Community women’s club

The Redstone Arsenal Community

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Women’s Club invites you to its January luncheon. This event is Jan. 8 at 10:30 a.m. in The Summit. The program is “Valued Traditions and New Beginnings” with guest speaker Beth Boyer. Signup deadline for the monthly luncheons is noon on the Friday before each luncheon. For more information, visit www.rsacwc.org.

Deployed workers’ recognition

The Team Redstone Deployed Workforce Recognition Ceremony is Feb. 26 at 8 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The ceremony will recognize honorees for their recent deployments as well as those who were unable to be recognized during past ceremonies. Senior commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar will present certificates of appreciation to Soldiers, civilians and contractors of Team Redstone who have deployed in support of Redstone Arsenal operations. Please email the following information: full name of deployed person, contact information (phone numbers and email address), and name of organization or office of which the nominee deployed to support. The email address is usarmy.redstone.amcom.mbx.g1-deployed-workforce-ceremony@mail.mil. For more information call Tara Batts 313-0365, email tara.d.batts.civ@mail.mil, or Cindy Gordon 313-0369, email cynthia.m.gordon3.civ@mail.mil.

Government accountants

The Northern Alabama Chapter of Government Accountants will hold its monthly meeting at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Lone Star Steakhouse, 5901 University Drive (near Madison Square Mall). The guest speaker is

Alabama Rep, Terri Collins, who will provide an update on state happenings. The January speaker will be Thomas Nalley of Beason & Nalley LLC, who will present a tax update. That month’s meeting is Jan. 24 at the Lone Star Steakhouse. For reservations and more information, call Heather Smith 313-9285 or email heather.smith.ctr@mda.mil.

Civil space symposium

The Greater Huntsville Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is sponsoring a technical symposium, titled “Civil Space 2013,” on Feb. 12-13 at Dynetics Inc. This event is to discuss current challenges, opportunities and emerging technologies relative to space access and orbital solutions within the civil space market. This discussion includes commercial space providers and the Federal Aviation Administration and NASA. The cost to attend is \$75 for AIAA members and \$150 for non-members. For more information and to register, visit <http://tinyurl.com/CivilSpace2013>.

Civilian leadership summit

The second annual AUSA-sponsored Department of the Army Civilian Leadership Summit will be held Jan. 31 from 1-5 p.m. at The Summit. A panel will share their leadership perspectives and answer your questions. To register: For headquarters AMC, visit the TED link at https://ted.csd.disa.mil/ted/TED_Main.cfm; once in TED, search for DA, 2013 AUSA DAC Leader Summit, 1/31/2013; the TED contact is Linda Harborth at linda.a.slekitis-harborth.civ@mail.mil.

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

Retirement environment

Danny Dunn, supervisory environmental protection specialist at the Garrison, speaks during his retirement reception Thursday. He’s retiring after 32 years. “I will miss working here,” he said. “I’ll miss being able to see all you folks on a regular basis.”

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Door prize winner

Ray Gray won the Army Contracting Command’s door decorating contest Dec. 10. Gray, facility manager for headquarters ACC, said supply technician Karla Loyd helped him. “I didn’t have a theme. We just wanted something classy and in good taste and something traditional,” he said. “It’s just whatever (materials) we could find. A lot of stuff was donated.”



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For AMCOM, visit <https://tip.redstone.army.mil>; course title is 2013 AUSA 2nd annual DAC Leadership Summit; catalog number, F111DACLS.

Miscellaneous Items

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 Test-

ing 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 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 Phyllis Chunn 880-7080 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. 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.

Fraud prevention

Every hour Medicare loses \$6.8 million to waste, fraud and abuse. These costs are ultimately passed down to the beneficiaries and taxpayers. The federal government is cracking down on abusers but they cannot do it alone; they need the help of all current beneficiaries, including you. The Senior Medicare Patrol program, which is made up of beneficiaries within our community, was created in 1997 to help detect and report the red flags of Medicare fraud. Local SMP volunteers can help Medicare stop the loss. For more information on reporting concerns or being a part of the program, call your SMP coordinator Patricia Rogers at TARCOG 830-0818.

Child care center

The Marshall Child Development Center on Redstone Arsenal accepts all members of the Redstone family with Arsenal access. The MCDC currently has openings for children in the Preschool A area with birthdates ranging from Sept. 2, 2007 through Sept. 1, 2008. For more information, call Kelli Wright 544-8609 or visit <http://mcdc.msfc.nasa.gov/>.

Thrift Shop news

If you are interested in volunteering or consigning, call or stop by the Thrift Shop for more information or to pick up a packet. The shop is open Tuesdays and

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Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays from 9-5 and the first Saturday of the month from 10-2. Consignments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-11:45 a.m. unless otherwise stated on the No-List recording at 881-6915. The Thrift Shop is in building 3209 on Hercules Road. The phone number is 881-6992. ... Holiday closings are Dec. 25 through Jan. 3. The shop will reopen Saturday, Jan. 5 from 10-2.

Merit award applications

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club is taking applications for Merit Awards. These financial awards are available to graduating high school seniors, college students and spouses who are family members of military and DoD civilians whose primary residence is located within the Redstone Arsenal community, and who meet the eligibility requirements. Information and applications are available at www.rsacwc.org. If you have questions, call Stacy Prater 617-8558. Applications will be accepted through Jan. 31. The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club is a non-profit, private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Alabama A&M extension

Alabama A&M University has an office at the Education Center, building 3222, room 13, on Snooper Road. Office hours are Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Available is program information leading to the undergraduate degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management, credit evaluations (prior academic and military), advising, and information for other degree programs offered at Alabama A&M. Academic advisement is ongoing for the spring semester; classes begin Jan. 7. 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. Those

interested may also visit <http://www.aamu.edu/business>.

Gala fund-raiser

The 100 Black Men of America-Greater Huntsville Chapter's annual Holiday Gala is Dec. 29 at the Von Braun Center's North Hall. The reception starts at 6 p.m. with the program at 7; and the event continues with dining and entertainment through midnight. "The theme for the event is 'The 100 as One: Mission-Vision-Cause,' and the program will reflect the organization's emphasis on mentorship and their commitment to growing and developing community youth," a prepared release said. "The gala is one of two annual fund-raisers that support academic scholarships and the organization's 'Four for the Future' cornerstone programs (mentoring, education, economic development and health and wellness). The scholarships are awarded to area youth who meet prescribed requirements without regard to gender, race or religious preference." Tickets are now \$75 per person and \$600 for reserved tables of eight. For more information, call Kenneth Anderson 679-4241, James Matthewson 714-8921, or Freeda McDowell at the 100 BMOA-GHC Business Office 536-8050 where credit card purchases can be processed.

Commissary news

The Commissary has the following schedule for the holidays: Christmas – open Dec. 24 but closes at 4 p.m., closed Dec. 25, reopen Dec. 26. ... New Year's – open Dec. 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Jan. 1, reopen Jan. 2.

Chapel holiday services

Bicentennial Chapel has the following holiday services in addition to its regularly scheduled services: Catholic – Christmas pageant, Dec. 24 at 4:30 p.m.; Christmas Eve Family Mass, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m.; Midnight Mass, Dec. 24 at midnight; Christmas Day Mass, Dec. 25 at 9 a.m.; Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass, Dec. 31 at 5 p.m. ... Protestant – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Tree cutting

Anyone with access to Redstone Arsenal

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is authorized to cut trees on a self-serve basis in the old storage yard area on Warehouse Road, located west of building 7427. Trees cannot be cut for commercial or unauthorized use, only for personal use in your home. The gate entering the area has been marked with pink flagging for easy recognition. The tree cutting area is surrounded with a chain link fence. Vehicle travel will be limited to the one road entering the gate and the two turnaround roads. Any further travel will be on foot, so work boots or protective footwear is suggested. Cutting operations will be limited to inside the Christmas tree cutting area only. Caution should be exercised to prevent straying outside the area or off the access route and removing any objects other than a Christmas tree. Trees can be cut through Dec. 24 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The trimmings should not be left on grassed rights-of-way or access roads. For more information and a map, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868, building 5132, or the installation forester's office 313-3258.

Redstone Exchange news

Here's the Redstone Exchange holiday schedule: Dec. 24 – Main Store open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, closed; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist

6 p.m.; GNC, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Express, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; American Eatery, closed; Burger King, 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), closed. ... Dec. 25 – Main Store closed; Alteration Shop, closed; Barber Shop, closed; Barber Shop at VBC III, closed; Flower Shop, closed.; GNC, closed; Laundry, closed; Nail Shop, closed; Firestone, closed; Express, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Optical Store, closed; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, closed; Beauty Shop, closed; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, closed; Charley's, closed; Church's Chicken, closed; American Eatery, closed; Burger King, closed; Café (Fox Army Health Center), closed. ... Dec. 26 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, closed; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist

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Photo by Ellen Hudson

Toy donations

Gunnery Sgt. Michael Lamar and Gunnery Sgt. Wayne Byron, both of the Marines Kilo Battery, collect Toys for Tots during the Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club luncheon Dec. 11 at The Overlook.



Rocket Announcements

Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; American Eatery, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Burger King, closed; Café (Fox Army Health Center), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 27 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; American Eatery, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Burger King, 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 28 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; American Eatery, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Burger King, 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 29 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Anthony's

Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; American Eatery, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Burger King, 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 31 – Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Flower Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; GNC, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nail Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Firestone, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Express, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; American Eatery, closed; Burger King, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), closed. ... Jan. 1 – Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Alteration Shop, closed; Barber Shop, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, closed; Flower Shop, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, closed; Nail Shop, closed; Firestone, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Express, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, closed; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, closed; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Charley's, closed; Church's Chicken, closed; American Eatery, closed; Burger King, closed; Café (Fox Army Health Center), closed. ... Jan. 2 – Main Store, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Alteration Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Barber Shop at VBC III, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Flower Shop, closed; GNC, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Laundry, closed; Nail Shop, closed; Firestone, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Express, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Optical Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman, closed; Anthony's Pizza/Sub, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Charley's, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Church's Chicken, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; American Eatery, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Burger King, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Café (Fox Army Health Center), 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rhythm and blues show

R&B artists Avant and Tank will perform at the Von Braun Center's Mark C. Smith Concert Hall on Dec. 29. The show will be hosted by comedian Tommy Davidson. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8. For more information, call 551-2345 or visit www.vonbrauncenter.com.

Redstone newcomers

The next Team Redstone Newcomers and New Employee Orientation for civilian employees, Soldiers and military family

members will be held Jan. 8 from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at The Overlook, building 150 on Golf Course Road. Participants will receive training to orient them to federal employment and the installation, which will include: Garrison deputy commander and CPAC director remarks, Army Community Service, Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, Fox Army Health Center, Legal/JAG, Security, Management-Employee Relations, American Federation of Government Employees, Classification/Staffing, Benefits, Payroll, Workers Compensation, Training and Workforce Development, Equal Employment Opportunity, Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders, and Safety. For more information on how to participate in Team Redstone Newcomers/NEO, call Jessie McCray 313-0714 or Mary Breeden 876-5397. To obtain a space in this course, you must register in TIP at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil>.

Adult dance classes

A free class on "Introduction to Ballroom Dancing" will be offered by FMWR on Jan. 10 from 8-9 p.m. at Pagano Gym. This class is intended for couples with little or no dance experience and is an overview of the "Dancing Like the Stars 2013" program. Demonstrations, Q&A and a mini-lesson are included. This class is offered without any obligation or pressure to sign up for additional dance classes, but registration is required by Jan. 9. "Swing" classes will be offered six Thursdays from Jan. 17 through Feb. 21 (no class on Feb. 14) from 8-9 p.m. at Pagano Gym; tuition is \$66 per couple. 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. Deadline for registration is Jan. 16. Registration for either or both of the aforementioned activities may be made by calling 876-4531 or by visiting the Community Activity Center, building 3711, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Class size is limited to 25 couples. Copies of the schedule of dance classes for 2013 are also available at the CAC.

Housing service guidance

Soldiers reporting to Redstone Arsenal on permissive temporary duty for house-hunting purposes must have a DA Form 31 and report to the Housing Service Office, One Stop Center, building 3494, room 115, Honest John Road. The Soldier must report to the gaining installation's housing office and have DA Form 31 stamped on the first available duty day. PTDY will end on the date specified on your DA Form 31 or the date you sign into your new duty station, whichever comes first. The stamp and date serves as verification of housing processing and permissive TDY status. Failure to secure the HSO validation may result in the Soldier being charged leave for the entire period. For more information, call housing management specialist Minnie Rhoden 842-9902 or email minnie.s.rhoden.civ@mail.mil.

Church services

A "Special Carols and Readings" service will be held tonight at 7 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church (one block south of Governors Drive in the medical district). Christmas Eve service times include 5 p.m. children's program, 7 p.m. traditional candlelight communion service, and 11 p.m. festive candlelight communion service.

Health center hours

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. As a reminder: The health center is closed on the first Thursday afternoon of every month, Saturday, Sunday and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox is an ambulatory care clinic and does not have an emergency room. In an emergency, dial 911.

Manufacturing innovation workshop

The first public workshop devoted to reviewing and refining the suggested design for a new National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, an initiative proposed by President Obama, will be held Jan. 16 in Huntsville. "Blueprint for Action: Workshop on the Design of the NNMI" will review the design developed from extensive public input received through four public dialog workshops as well as responses to a Request for Information. In addition to feedback on the resulting design, this workshop also seeks input on new questions related to the formation and operations of the proposed network's regional Institutes for Manufacturing Innovation. The workshop is organized by the federal interagency Advanced Manufacturing National Program Office, in cooperation with stakeholders and local organizations. The Department of Defense will host the event and additional support is being provided by NASA and the University of Alabama-Huntsville. The workshop will be held at the Davidson Center for Space Exploration at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Capacity is limited. Registration will be on a first-come first-served basis, with no more than four representatives from the same organization. The registration fee is \$50 per attendee, which covers attendee materials and meal and beverage costs. Online registration will end Jan. 7. Workshop information and a link to the registration site is available at http://manufacturing.gov/event_011613.html.

Learning rally

LearningQuest, partnered with the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library, will have a Rally Day on Jan. 15 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, St. Clair Ave entrance. You're invited to check out the displays of upcoming programs, pick up a Winter/Spring term catalog, register for courses and socialize.