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AMC town hall recognizes workers' commitment

By ADORATIA PURDY
AMC Public Affairs

Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody hosted Friday's AMC town hall and employee recognition day at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Dunwoody welcomed the audience, both present and the approximately 115 AMC organizations from around the globe watching via VTC. She expressed her appreciation for their hard work and dedication to the war fighter and shared her thoughts on what the future holds for AMC.

"The way we have done things in the past isn't affordable and your teams have developed bold ideas for the Army to operate more efficiently. It is a dangerous and uncertain environment ahead and we need to meet the emerging threats, adhere to budget constraints while addressing the complexity of our mission," she said.

Dunwoody also acknowledged the importance of what she defined as the "Means, Ends and Way Ahead" of conducting operations, stating that the means or funding is decreasing but AMC will continue to meet the ends or needs of the nation, while ensuring the way ahead is formulated with adaptive bold ways of doing business.

"It is thanks to your efficiency and resourcefulness the Army can invest in its people and modernization," she said. "AMC is the Lead Materiel Integrator,

matching demand and supply for the Army."

Following the briefing, AMC employees were recognized with length of service certificates and honorary awards.

Lt. Col. Jimmy Bowie was awarded the Soldier's Medal for his heroism on the night of April 27, 2011. Bowie rescued trapped motorist Melissa Wheeler, 29, a management support specialist at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, from flood waters that had consumed her vehicle on a Huntsville road.

"It is a tremendous honor," Bowie said.

He went on to share how he'd seen many heroic acts while serving in combat but doesn't consider what he did as heroic. "I was just in the right place at the right time with a big truck," he quipped.

"I am truly humble that I am being recognized for something any Soldier would have done," Bowie said.

Thirty-one honorary awards were presented and 59 Length of Service Certificates, totaling 225 years of government service.

On receiving her 25-year Length of Service certificate Cynthia Taylor, an admini-



AMC photo by Cherish Washington

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of the Army Materiel Command, addresses her final AMC town hall and employee recognition day in Bob Jones Auditorium. She relinquishes command Aug. 7.

strative officer, said she felt honored by the support and recognition of her peers.

"I am very excited! I can't believe 25 years have passed. It doesn't seem like that long of time has gone by," Taylor said.

AMC town hall meetings are conducted quarterly. This was Dunwoody's final Town Hall and Recognition ceremony as AMC's commander. She relinquishes command Aug. 7.

Soldier's Medal presented to AMC officer

By CHERISH WASHINGTON
AMC Public Affairs

An Army Materiel Command officer Friday received the Soldier's Medal for saving the life of a civilian employee during a flood.

Lt. Col. Jimmy Bowie, assigned to the chief of staff office at AMC, was honored among his friends, family and peers with the Soldier's Medal 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.

AMC photo by Cherish Washington

Lt. Col. Jimmy Bowie receives the Soldier's Medal from AMC commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody on Friday for saving the life of a civilian employee during a flood.



Not only had tornadoes devastated the Tennessee Valley region that day but massive power outages and flooding occurred, too.

Melissa Wheeler of Toney found herself trapped in her vehicle and surrounded by water.

Bowie neared the road and after noticing the waters rising he deemed it not passable.

"I put the truck in reverse and decided to turn around when I noticed something," Bowie recalled. "It was pitch black and the water rose, to the floor boards of the truck."

Bowie pulled his vehicle into the flooded area that surrounded Wheeler and she was able to climb through the window to safety.

Bowie described himself as shocked when he heard of the award nomination.

See Medal on page 15



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Military spouse finds her niche.

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WIN OR LOSE

Renegades flourish on wet softball field.

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RocketViews

How do you feel about the Chinese-made uniforms for the U.S. Olympians?

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



Mike Ackerman
 FMWR Information, Tickets and Reservations Office
 "It's kind of a slap in the face. The U.S. Olympic team needs to be representing the United States. I think the clothing that they're wearing, the uniforms, they should be made in America. They should be representing our own country."



Larry Keel
 FMWR Information, Tickets and Reservations Office
 "I just think it's horrid. The mere fact that our Olympic team can actually participate in the Olympics with foreign-made gear and uniforms is just horrible. It should be manufactured by American workers in our country – not outsourced to a foreign country. That's just ridiculous."



Maj. Beire Castro
 PEO Soldier
 "I think the issue has brought to light that we've lost a lot of jobs and hopefully it'll incentivize some folks to bring some business back to the states that are fully capable of manufacturing those uniforms."



Lisa Townsend
 Product Director Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment
 "I feel like that as Americans and we're supporting our American athletes, they in turn should support the industry here, whether it's equipment or uniforms or outfits."

Quote of the week

'For athletes, the Olympics are the ultimate test of their worth."
 — *Mary Lou Retton*

Letters to the editor

Taking care of wounded troops – a sacred obligation

After serving as the commanding general of the Warrior Transition Command since 2010, I'm packing my rucksack and moving to Korea where I will be the 2nd Infantry Division's assistant division commander – responsible for logistics and support. As I leave you all I feel trained, ready and uniquely qualified to serve with the 2nd Infantry Division. It's been an honor and privilege to serve as the assistant surgeon general for warrior care and transition, and as commander, Warrior Transition Command. It has been rewarding on so many levels and that makes leaving here bittersweet.

Although I'll soon be half a world away in Korea, I'll never really be far. After all, I'm a WTC alumni now and my attention will always be on our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers. I consider taking care of this population a sacred obligation. I believe that how we support these men and women says everything about who we are. It defines our future.

As I pen my last WTC Commander's Drumbeat, I'm reminded that I've deployed and been in battle. I've heard my Soldiers cry 'medic' and I've watched those medics rush to their side, putting themselves in harm's way. This command, the Warrior Transition Command – is a testament to Army medicine. The people in Army medicine are committed and dedicated and professional. They do a lot of heavy lifting without any fanfare.

Today I passed Warrior Transition leadership to Brig. Gen. David J. Bishop. Brig. Gen. Bishop will be only the third commander of Warrior Transition Command. I know he is looking forward to being here and to serving this very special population. I came here as a colonel and followed great general officers who shaped and developed this command. Maj. Gen. Mike Tucker and Maj. Gen. Gary

Cheek came before me and provided all the elements that helped me succeed. I hope Brig. Gen. Bishop will feel he is set up for success as well.

Serving and taking care of Soldiers is what I want to do, and during my past two years as WTC commander, I've been able to assist Soldiers and their families at the strategic, operational and tactical levels – in ways I never knew possible. I found out quickly the wounded, ill and injured Soldiers assigned to the Warrior Transition Units have complex problems that require complex solution sets.

It's been an incredibly satisfying job. No day is the same and no job is the same at the WTC. We are constantly facing challenges and unique cases. During my tenure here, the staff has been extraordinary. Since 2009 we have worked together to develop Army guidance and policy for 29 WTUs and nine Community Based Warrior Transition Units. Collectively, they provide care for more than 9,500 wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and their families. We also have oversight of the Army Wounded Warrior Program. This is a truly special program. AW2 supports and advocates for the most severely wounded, ill and injured Soldiers and veterans with a network of more than 200 AW2 advocates and additional support staff located at WTUs, Military Treatment Facilities, VA Polytrauma Centers and other VA facilities.

Some of you may be surprised to know that since 2007, Army medicine has returned almost 23,000 Soldiers back to the Army and back to the fight. Ladies and gentlemen — that is more than two Army divisions. We also have transitioned about 22,000 to veteran status. We're a lean organization and we're good and getting better every day.

There have been numerous accomplishments under my watch and



Courtesy photo

Brig. Gen. Darryl Williams, commander of the Warrior Transition Command, cheers on the Army sitting volleyball team at the Warrior Games during their match May 1 against the Marines at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

I can't take credit. I've had support for much of the heavy lifting from a dynamic team of professionals at WTC headquarters and at the WTUs and CBWTUs. From the top down to that essential young noncommissioned officer squad leader responsible for 10 Soldiers and family members, each person is an integral ingredient to the success of WTC.

As WTC commander, it has been a privilege to visit the Army's WTUs and CBWTUs. It has been a blessing to be in a position to reach out to Soldiers and families at Military Treatment Facilities, VA Polytrauma Centers and other VA facilities across the country.

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RedstoneRocket

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Army energy official to visit Team Redstone

By **TERRI STOVER**
For the Rocket

The Army takes energy conservation and renewable energy seriously. So does Redstone Arsenal.

Richard Kidd, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for energy and sustainability, will visit Redstone officials Thursday to hear about the Arsenal's efforts toward renewable energy. He will also tour the Solid Waste Disposal Authority, and meet with Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and employees from the SWDA to learn about potential partnerships in renewable energy with the local community.

In 2011 the Army launched an energy-conserving pilot program to only use as much energy as an installation creates. The initiative, called Net Zero, will fo-

cus on energy as well as water and waste usage procedures.

"The cornerstone of the Army strategy for sustainability and energy security is the Army Net Zero Strategy, based on the principles of integrated design, will ensure the Army of tomorrow has the same access to energy, water, land and natural resources as the Army of today," Kidd said. The Army's goal is to have all installations at Net Zero by 2050.

Sustainability is a major feature of installation readiness. The reliance between mission excellence, energy security, environmental stewardship and community relations has never been clearer. The Army is looking to collaborate with industry to establish installations that are more energy efficient and self-sustaining than in the past. Team Redstone has a



strong relationship with the surrounding communities and is looking at ways

Army photo

Richard Kidd, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for energy and sustainability, met with senior leaders and cadets in January to discuss West Point's energy endeavors.

to partner with them to pursue energy sustainability in everyone's long-range goals.

"Operational Energy is energy-informed operations. It is not just about using Operational Energy less, but using it best. Smart energy wins the fight," Kidd said.

The Army strategy increases operational energy effectiveness through a balanced approach: increasing performance, reducing consumption, increasing efficiency, creating energy alternatives and assuring availability.

Letter

continued from page 2

I'm grateful to Army leadership for empowering me to solve problems and find solutions. I had no idea how impor-

tant that would be before I came here. It's important for that WTU Soldier and his family to know that he's going to be all right. It's important for them to know we have their back. WTC is a very young and nascent command. I believe we have a moral imperative to keep the Warrior Transition Command alive.

Clearly this is the best team I've ever been a part of. We've got Army Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and contractors all pulling together for our wounded, ill and injured Soldiers, veterans and families. I'm the guy out front, but this is a total team effort. It has been a privilege to serve in the Army

for almost 30 years and each assignment has always been fulfilling – none more than this.

Thank you – each of you – for your professional and personal support. It is my honor to serve. God bless you.

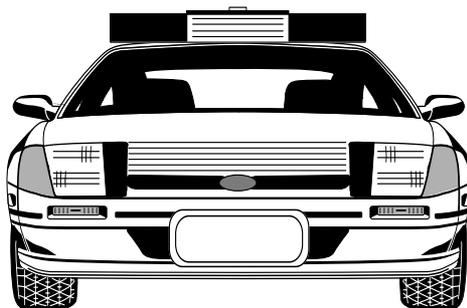
Brig. Gen. Darryl Williams
Warrior Transition Command

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents for July 8-14:

- Police investigated a report of shoplifting at the Redstone Exchange.
- Police investigated a single-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident at Test Area 4.
- A driver was cited for driving with a suspended license at Gate 8 when he presented an Alabama Non-Driver identification card to gain access.
- Police investigated a single-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident at Gate 9.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident at Fowler and Mills roads.
- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident on Ride-out Road.
- A family member reported her Dependent ID card was stolen from her vehicle while it was parked in Huntsville.
- The Army Criminal Investigation Division Command investigated the death of a Soldier in Sardis, Miss. It was determined to be death by natural causes.

- A driver was cited for driving with a suspended license after being stopped for running a stop light on Goss Road.
- Police are investigating a report that a Soldier was arrested for public lewdness in Decatur and later found to have been reported AWOL from Fort Polk, La.
- A resident reported someone had damaged his vehicle by placing an unknown substance on the side and windows.
- Police investigated a reported security violation at Gate 2.
- Seventeen U.S. District Court violation notices were issued.



Getting to know you

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Name: Lori Elmore

Job: Program analyst, Product Director Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment

Where do you call home?

I was born in Birmingham but I grew up here in Huntsville.

What do you like about your job?

I like the people I work with. I like the challenge of working in a product office.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I do crossfit – it's kind of like a workout routine you do in a group of peo-

ple. It's kind of like having a personal trainer but you work out in a group. I'm involved in my church (Willowbrook of Madison Baptist Church). I like spending time with my family and friends. (Husband) Greg and I are expecting our first child due in January.

What are your goals?

Right now I'm just focused on learning as much as I can where I am so I can eventually progress and move up the ladder.

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

I've always wanted to go to Australia. I've just always been fascinated with I guess the way they talk, and it's always looked beautiful in pictures.



New system helps Soldiers master ports, beaches

By **HEATHER R. SMITH**
AMRDEC Public Affairs

When Soldiers make landfall, they have an immediate need for communications and organization; they need to know exactly who is in the harbor and where it is going. To better manage logistics at harbors, ports and beaches, the Army has developed the Harbormaster Command and Control Center.

HCCC is managed by Product Manager Command Post Systems and Integration, which is part of Warfighter Information Network-Tactical, assigned to the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical.

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center provided Government Furnished Equipment, installation, training support, and overall system integration into the existing Harbormaster configuration.

Jeff Loudin, the government project lead, said the AMRDEC Prototype Integration Facility was selected to manage the Harbormaster integration because of the facility's reputation of quickly delivering quality work.

"Program and project offices come to us for rapid response efforts and integration capabilities," Loudin said. "We can

participate in the acquisition process at a very, very accelerated rate because we already have the infrastructure to streamline that process.

"The PIF gets used because of the speed with which we are able to conduct these operations, and we have a reputation of doing good work."

The HCCC system is made up of two identical command centers: a main and a remote. The major components of each command center are a Humvee with mounted Command Post Platform, a Trailer Mounted Support Systems-Medium, a Harbormaster Trailer Sensor Platform, a Dual 18kw Generator Set, and one vehicle from the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles.

The system also includes a side-scan SONAR and Beach and Channel Marking equipment. It provides High-Frequency and Very High-Frequency Maritime Communications; incorporates Local Area Network equipment and Satellite Communication; and provides non-secure and secure Internet connectivity.

Gerry O'Keefe, who was project lead early on in the development of HCCC, said the way units currently manage harbor logistics is very individualized. The Harbormaster System standardizes harbor operations.



Army photo by Amy Walker

Soldiers train on a Rigid Wall Shelter during the Harbormaster Command and Control Center Battle Command System of Systems Integration Training Sept. 8, 2011, at Fort Eustis, Va.

"It brings consistency in equipment, training and capability so different units should be able to provide the same services to the Army," O'Keefe said.

Loudin said the Harbormaster sys-

tems have started being delivered, and the receiving units have been trained on how to use it. The command centers and the Soldiers are ready when they next deploy.

Brigade honors untimely death of one of its own

COLORADO SPRINGS, — Nearly 200 people attended a memorial July 18 for 2nd Lt. Christina Cornejo, who died here July 13. She was a full-time Soldier in the Colorado Army National Guard's 100th Missile Defense Brigade in Colorado Springs. A Guard member since 2006, she was previously assigned to the 117th Space Battalion.

"We are deeply saddened by death of this fine officer," Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, said. "My wife Diane and I offer our sincerest condolences to the families and Soldiers, civilians and contractors who worked with Lt. Cornejo. I'm saddened by

this terrible tragedy — but I'm proud of this great brigade, its leaders and its Soldiers. We watched as the brigade Soldiers and leaders rallied to care for the family and to look after one another during this very difficult time. We watched the caring leadership of the brigade commander and command sergeant major, and others. As leaders and responsible employees of the entire command and the Army, we will continue to focus on taking care of people — serving our Soldiers, civilians and their families." (SMDC/ARSTRAT release)



2nd Lt. Christina Cornejo

Meeting professionals plan regional conference

Planning a staff meeting? Been tasked to host a training workshop? Need hotel rooms for visiting dignitaries yesterday? Administrative and technical support personnel are assuming more duties and responsibilities outside the scope of their job description due to budget constraints. And with the recent GSA conference scandal simmering in the background, where does one go for advice, contacts or networking opportunities? Here's an answer: the Society of Government Meeting Professionals.

This non-profit organization has 3,800 members and 32 chapters nationwide. Its mission is to enhance the knowledge and expertise of government meeting professionals. And its objectives are to improve the quality of, and promote the cost-effectiveness of, government meetings.

The Rocket City-Alabama Chapter has joined the Tennessee, Florida Capital, Georgia Peach and Central Florida chapters to host the second annual Southeast Regional Education Conference. This event will be held Sept. 16-19 at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile; and the theme is "Navigating through Government Meetings."

The educational workshops are designed to cover an array of subjects the planner or supplier encounters when planning or executing a meeting such as event disaster preparedness; Government Requests for Proposal; communications; working

with meeting professionals; effectively presenting information and engaging the audience, and more. AMCOM chief of protocol Barbie Baugh will be teaching dining etiquette.

"My workshop will enhance your ability to interact with a diverse group of people in social situations associated with dining," Baugh said. Attendees will receive 1.0 educational contact hours for each workshop attended throughout the two and a half days of training.

The training event will also bring several keynote speakers such as Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Ala.; Marlane Bundock, "Convention South Magazine"; Edie Hand, Edie Hand Foundation; and Markeeva Morgan of Marshall Space Flight Center who will discuss "Facing the Challenge of Change."

There will also be a tradeshow of exhibitors featuring visitor bureaus, hotels, restaurants, convention services, catering services and more.

Registration is open to all members and non-members of SGMP. It is also listed in TIP under course title "SGMP South East Conference," vendor Society of Government Meeting Professionals, catalog number F124SGMP. You may log into TIP at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil>.

For more information, email barbiebaugh@us.army.mil or Sherry Hilley at shilley@knology.net. The conference website is <http://sgmpcentralflorida.com/srecl>. (SGMP release)

Holding a child's hand brings lasting connection

Volunteers share love with survivor families

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Assistant editor
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Holding a child's hand, seeing them smile with joy, helping them learn how to play a new game — they are priceless experiences to a caring adult.

But when that child has lost their Soldier, those experiences can make a lifetime of difference in the hearts of both the child and the adult.

For the volunteers who are the "hearts" behind Army Community Service's Survivor Outreach Services, the time they get to spend with the children and families of fallen Soldiers is filled with the blessing of knowing they've helped lighten the sorrow that goes along with a sudden and untimely death. Most often, the time spent together is during a quarterly social event organized by SOS.

These days, many of those SOS volunteers are coming from the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Soon after arriving at Redstone in January 2011, SMDC/ARSTRAT com-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

A team of volunteers works with Survivor Outreach Services coordinator Kerrie Branson, far right, to plan quarterly social events for survivor family members. With her are, from left, Sgt. 1st Class Tanya Savell-Marzan, Maj. Wes Young and military spouse Diane Formica, all of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The group is looking for new volunteers to assist with providing SOS support.

mander Lt. Gen. Richard Formica made a commitment to provide support to SOS, which had just opened its facility adjacent to ACS.

"I don't know of anybody that has sponsored and embraced an SOS program like Lt. Gen. Formica has," SOS coordinator Kerrie Branson said. "We send out information about our events to SOS groups in Montgomery and Birmingham, and at Fort Rucker. We invite everyone. We get emails

from survivors who came to our events who say they can't believe the support of leadership that we have here at Redstone.

"I'm a staff of one and I could not do this without this kind of help. SMDC has stepped up to the plate and done this. But I would like to open it up to other Arsenal organizations as well and let them be a part of it, too."

The quarterly social events are currently led by an SMDC/ARSTRAT team consisting of Formica's wife, Diane; Maj. Wes Young, the lieutenant general's secretary; and Sgt. 1st Class Tanya Savell-Marzan, an aide to the lieutenant general. The threesome works with Branson to organize events and then to recruit volunteers who help make those events fun.

Each has their own reason for making SOS their top priority volunteer project.

"We knew about SOS because Lt. Gen. (Richard) Lynch (then commander of the Installation Management Command) did a presentation about SOS at the Senior Leader Conference in the summer of 2010," Diane Formica said.

"For me, I wanted to get involved with

SOS. When we were stationed at Fort Sill (Okla.), we lost a lot of Soldiers and we dealt with a lot of families going through tremendous grief. It touched me. I made a promise I would never forget those Soldiers and their families. This is one way to continue that promise. My husband made that promise, too, for the same reason, but also because he lost his own father when he was 9. He has a soft spot for survivor children. My husband does have an emotional connection to this and it affects everyone in his command."

The Formicas' commitment to SOS has made an incredible difference in the ability to offer survivor families the social events that bring them together, and allow them to learn and heal with each other.

"Having a leader in our community that is emotionally connected to our program is the key. We don't get that a lot and it certainly means a great deal to us," Branson said. "When you have someone like Lt. Gen. Formica, your whole organization feels your passion and excitement for the program."

Savell-Marzan, who became involved with SOS when she was stationed at Redstone last summer, knows what it's like to watch a family member go through the loss of a Soldier.

"I have a half-sister who lost her dad in Vietnam when she was only 3 months old," Savell-Marzan said. "I often wonder: How

See Volunteers on page 9

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

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

Army concert tour

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

Youth golf

Youth Golf Clinic, open to ages 8-17, will be held Thursdays through Aug. 2, 9:30-11 a.m. at the Links. Cost is \$85. Golf clubs are provided if needed. Basic golf instruction is provided by PGA professionals. There will be a Skills Challenge with prizes and lunch on the last day. For more information, call 313-3699.

Dancing classes

Learn how to dance the Rumba by registering through Aug. 15. Classes

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

Greek week

This is Greek Week at the Firehouse Pub. The big party is Friday from 5-8 p.m. There will be drink specials all week and a contest for the fraternity/sorority that has the most visits to the Firehouse Pub.

Rhythms/Brew/Barbecue

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

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

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Boxing's 'first lady' to address Team Redstone

On card as keynote speaker for Women's Equality Day

One of the boxing world's most famous promoters will bring her motivational message to Team Redstone as the keynote speaker during the Women's Equality Day observance program.

Known as "The First Lady of Boxing," Jackie Kallen is recognized as one of the first female managers and publicists to succeed in the male-dominated world of professional boxing. Today she shares the lessons she learned from the boxing world as a motivational speaker, touching on such topics as the challenges of entering a man's world, juggling a family with a career, tackling women's health issues and the many ways to deal with aging.

Kallen will bring her message of women's equality to Team Redstone on Aug. 14 at 10 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium.

The theme for the Women's Equality Day observance program is "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote."

During her 33 years in boxing, Kallen managed six champions and was nominated twice for manager of the year. She spent a decade as the publicist for well-known boxer Thomas Hearns and managed her first champion in 1991 with boxer James Toney.

She has served as the commissioner of the International Female Boxing Association, and continues to mentor young women hoping to work in the boxing industry. Her life was the inspiration for the Paramount film "Against the Ropes."

Kallen was recently awarded the Aileen Eaton Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Michigan Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, and has won

numerous other awards and honors.

Today the Detroit native is a well-known author, publicist, television journalist and host, radio personality and

motivational speaker. Kallen is the author of "Hit Me With Your Best Shot" and is now writing a second book. She appeared on NBC's "The Contender" with Sylvester Stallone and Sugar Ray Leonard, and is producing a boxing film with Leonard.

Kallen lives in Los Angeles, where she is active with charities dealing with battered and abused women and the homeless. She also serves as the youth sports

coordinator for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. She is known for setting up boxing gyms in areas where there are kids-at-risk, and then working to help kids leave the area's gangs and join one of her gyms. She also produces boxing events to raise funds and awareness for various charities.

Kallen is the mother of two sons and the grandmother of three. She has overcome both heart disease and cancer.



Jackie Kallen



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Vet home birthday

Veterans living at Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home gather outside the home to celebrate its 17th anniversary Friday. During the celebration, representatives of the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial collected memorabilia from the residents

and their families to place in a time capsule that will be buried at the memorial around Veterans Day. Other groups supporting the celebration included the Huntsville/Madison County Association of the U.S. Army, Patriot Guard Riders and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1067.

Redstone roadways by the numbers

The Directorate of Public Works provided the following information:

47,000 vehicles enter the installation daily.

200 miles of paved road are on post.

200 stop signs, and an equal number of yield signs, are on primary and secondary roads.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Traffic moves through Gate 9 at noon July 18.

Warrant officers chapter awards scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to local students July 11.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Johnnie Walters, chapter president, presented the scholarships to Alexander Bennett and Destinee Bartow.

Bennett is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Bennett of Madison. He is a 2012 graduate of Bob Jones High School with an advanced diploma and GPA of 4.0. He will attend Auburn University this fall majoring in chemical engineering.

Bartow is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bartow of Madison. Bartow is a 2012 graduate of Bob Jones High School with an advanced diploma and GPA of 4.16. She will attend the University of Alabama-Huntsville this fall majoring in nursing.

This year's scholarships are named in memory of two former chapter members. The first is in memory of former chapter president and active member retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Don E.J. St. Germain who died in August 2011. The second is in memory of Judy Storie who died in July 2011. She was a very active member of the chapter. Storie was the wife of former chapter president retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rick Storie.

The chapter started its annual scholarship program in 2004. The chapter uses charity and fund-raising events as an opportunity for its members to come



Photo by retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Johnnie Keeter
From left are retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Rick Storie, scholarship winners Alexander Bennett and Destinee Bartow and chapter president retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Johnnie Walters.

together. Members donate their time by volunteering for projects such as CASA (Care Assurance System for Aging and Homebound) of Madison County building wheelchair ramps, Madison County Veterans Day parade marshals, supporting Wounded Warrior events or by raising funds for the scholarship fund and other community events. Last year the chapter donated more than 1,500 volunteer hours to various projects in the Tennessee Valley.

For more information on the chapter as well as the rules for scholarship submissions, visit www.redstonewarrants.com. (Chapter release)

Volunteers

continued from page 5

much would she have benefited from a program like this when she was growing up? It's just the right thing to do."

The third member of the team, Young also became involved with SOS soon after coming to Redstone last summer.

"I never even knew about SOS, but I was tasked to help with the fall festival that SMDC/ARSTRAT hosted," he said. "After experiencing that event last fall, it was so rewarding to me and I was on board to keep the command doing this."

Although SMDC/ARSTRAT does provide most of the volunteers needed for SOS events, the program is always recruiting for new volunteers from other Arsenal tenants to participate in the program.

"We never turn volunteers away," Diane Formica said. "Even if we have more volunteers than we need, we can always find something for them to do. We always have one volunteer for each child and sometimes we double up those volunteers so that everyone has fun."

It takes a lot of logistical planning to put together an SOS event. During the fall festival in October at the Formicas' home on post, activities such as face painting, pumpkin decorating, playing football and volleyball, and cookie decorating were all part of the fun as was a fire truck and a police car display.

The winter wonderland event in January at the Overlook, which drew 60 survivor family members, included face painting, videogames, picture frame decorating and lots of clown fun thanks to the Cahaba Shriners. In the spring, lots of volunteers are needed to support a weekend's worth of activities provided by the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors. And the summer picnic, which will be on Aug. 4 at the pool behind building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, will include lots of water fun, a cookout and snow cones.

Besides the Shriners, SOS gets support from organizations like the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, Vettes for Vets, and Redstone's generals' wives and chaplains. Employees of SMDC/ARSTRAT and other Arsenal tenants also make donations. Other organizations are invited to assist with SOS events and programs.

"It's all word of mouth. We have no funding for these events," Branson said.

The summer picnic takes the least amount of planning, although each event is designed with activities that kids can do with their adult mentors so that their parent or guardian can have some "me" time with other adult survivors.

"The children have adult mentors at all the socials so that the parents and guardians can sit and visit, and get to know other survivors," Branson said. "They don't have to worry about their kids at all. They can focus on connecting with each other."

Added Diane Formica: "It also gives some of the adult survivors a more low-key environment where they feel they can ask questions they might not otherwise ask."

Adult mentors spend time talking with the children, playing games with them and, in general, just having fun. The mentors help the children meet each other.

"We tell the volunteers that if you see someone who looks like they are uncomfortable or bored or not enjoying themselves, then work to get them engaged," Branson said.

Some survivor families are apprehensive about attending the social events because they fear they will be solemn affairs.

"They don't know what to expect," Diane Formica said. "But once we get them here and they see that we're all having fun, they relax, too, and have fun. This is all about helping these survivor families through a tough time and showing them they are still part of the Army family. It gives them a way to connect with the active duty Army and to our civilians."

Besides mentors, volunteers are also needed to decorate, cook and serve food, and clean up. People can volunteer any of their talents to make the social event extra special, Branson said. The number of survivor family members attending the Redstone SOS events continues to grow as survivors become more aware of the support that is provided to them.

"The word is getting out about the programs and events we offer," Diane Formica

said. "Survivors tell each other. If they feel they will be welcomed here and comfortable here, they will come."

Not all those survivor family members lost a Soldier in war.

"Most died on active duty. But they are not all war casualties," Young said. "Some died in training accidents, on motorcycles, from an illness or from suicide. It's not only those who died in Iraq or Afghanistan."

Male volunteers are often the most popular at SOS events.

"For a lot of these kids, it's the father figure, the male figure, that's gone from their lives," Young said. "These kids want a father figure around to play with them and to share time with them."

Sometimes relationships between mentors and children go way beyond the social events where they first meet.

"Some of our volunteers have stayed connected with the kids and mentored them and have done other things with them well beyond our social events," Diane Formica said. "They make friendships that last, and that's very rewarding for all of us."

SOS strives to make lasting connections with survivor family members that last a lifetime.

"We love the families. We absolutely do. And that's what it's all about," Branson said.

Editor's note: Those wanting to volunteer or donate for the Aug. 4 pool party or any upcoming event can call the SOS office at 876-5397.

Read about what's new at Post Library

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

Adult fiction: "Dead Man's Tunnel by Sheldon Russell" – The third installment in Russell's 1940s series featuring yard dog Hook Runyon. ... "Gallows View" by Peter Robinson – First book in a series featuring Yorkshire detective inspector Alan Banks. ... "The Third Gate" by Lincoln Child – Professor Jeremy Logan is brought in to investigate when archaeologist Porter Stone and his team suffer bizarre accidents after discovering what is believed to be the burial chamber of an Egyptian pharaoh. ... "Treasure" by Clive Cussler – An international band of terrorists is making its play for power on the high seas, and Pitt is the only man who can stop them.

Adult nonfiction: "Bossypants" by Tina Fey – The star of "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" gives an account of her life, as well as behind-the-scenes stories from her shows. ... "The Color of War" by James Campbell – An account of two pivotal events from July 1944 that explores the battle for Saipan as central to the defeat of Japan and traces the Port Chicago Naval Ammunition Depot explosion that led to the largest mutiny trial in U.S. naval history. ... "Talking Sex With Your Kids: Keeping Them Safe and You Sane by Knowing What They're Really

Thinking" by Amber Madison – A guide for parents in speaking with teenagers about sex covering myths, contraception and sexually transmitted diseases.

Children fiction: "Lone Wolf" by Kathryn Lasky – Abandoned by his pack, a baby wolf with a mysterious mark on his deformed paw survives and embarks on a journey that will change the world of the Wolves of the Beyond.

Children non-fiction: "Just Fine the Way They Are: From Dirt Roads to Rail Roads to Interstates" by Connie Nordhielm Woolbridge – An informative, yet light-hearted look at how the dirt roads of the early 1800s evolved into the present-day U.S. highway system.

DVDs: "Big Miracle" ... "Captain America: The First Avenger" ... "Contraband" ... "The Descendants" ... "Tyler Perry's Good Deeds."

Audio books on CDs: "D.C. Dead" by Stuart Woods (read by Tony Roberts) ... "Game of Thrones" by George R. R. Martin (read by Roy Dotrice) ... "Joy in the Morning" by P. G. Wodehouse (read by Jonathan Cecil) ... "Pride and Prejudiced" by Jane Austen (read by Carolyn Seymour).

Children's audio books on CDs: Magic Tree House Collection Books 41-44: "Moonlight on the Magic Flute," "A Good Night for Ghosts," "Leprechaun in Late Winter," "A Ghost Tale for Christmas Time" by Mary Pope Osborne (read by the author).

Stop smoking through Fox wellness program

Fox Army Health Center's Tobacco Cessation Program offers a series of five classes held every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class incorporates motivation, behavior modification, peer support, and medication safety education into each session.

The program is offered free of charge to all: active duty Soldiers and their Tricare-eligible family members; Tricare-eligible military retirees and their Tricare-eligible family members; and current DoD civilian employees assigned to Redstone Arsenal.

Each class is facilitated by a registered nurse. There is a pre-program physical ex-

amination. Blood pressure evaluations are conducted at each session. Free tobacco cessation medication is provided if indicated. After the classes are over, interval telephone followup is conducted to check on your progress.

The 2012 tobacco cessation class dates are Aug. 7, Sept. 18 and Oct. 30. To sign up, call the Fox Army Health Center Wellness Clinic at 955-8888, ext. 1026/1440. For more information call registered nurse Mary Bouldin, the Welcome to Wellness program manager, at 955-8888, ext. 1429. (Fox Army Health Center release)

Guida takes reins of Air Warrior product

Lt. Col Spencer Guida became the Air Warrior product manager in a change of charter ceremony July 16 at the Community Activity Center.

Guida succeeded Lt. Col. Ian Klinkhammer, product manager the past three years. Klinkhammer's next assignment is military deputy director to the commander of Army Contracting, Command-Redstone; and he is promotable to colonel.

Guida, 42, originally from East Lyme, Conn., previously served as the assistant project manager for systems integration for the Utility Helicopters Project Office.

"My goal is to ensure every aviation crew has the latest survivability equipment to ensure they can complete their mission and return home safely," he said.

Brig. Gen. Paul Ostrowski, the program executive officer for Soldier, conducted the change of charter.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Brig. Gen. Paul Ostrowski, the program executive officer for Soldier, presents the Meritorious Service Medal to outgoing product manager Lt. Col. Ian Klinkhammer.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Incoming product manager Lt. Col. Spencer Guida speaks during the change of charter ceremony.

Antiterrorism awareness focus for August



Team Redstone will kick off Antiterrorism Awareness Month in August with additional antiterrorism training to enhance awareness for Soldiers, civilians and family members.

The observance is to instill and sustain heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent and protect the Team Redstone

community and critical resources from acts of terrorism. Leaders, Soldiers, civilians and family members will better understand the key AT concepts, principles, roles, responsibilities and suspicious activity reporting procedures.

Additionally this campaign will strengthen relationships with local civil-

ian emergency response agencies such as police, fire and medical emergency response agencies in order to enhance responses to terrorism and other hazardous events.

Watch for AT awareness messages that will be published in the *Redstone Rocket*, Army awareness posters on bulletin boards, banners and iWATCH Army public service announcements on Channel 42 during August.

Antiterrorism Awareness tools, videos and information are available through the OPMG-Army ATEP on AKO Page (www.army.mil/suite/page/605757). Contact your organizational antiterrorism officer or Garrison AT officers for more information on antiterrorism awareness.

These organizational contacts and their phone numbers include the following:

Garrison: Daniel Huber 842-2182 or 6170

Mark Olson 842-2186

LOGSA: Vickie Cooper 313-6701

ACC: Bill Cooper 955-8203

AMC: John "Woody" Olatin 450-6905

AMCOM: Josette Paschal 876-2909

ECC: Ken Purdin 955-8221

PEO MS: Robert Turay 876-9879

PEO Aviation: Michael Lombardo

955-7441

AMRDEC: Debbie Tipton 313-5244

MSIC: Russell Akins 313-7679

TSMO: Cindy Wilson 876-8602

2nd Recruiting Brigade: Ron Harper 450-9542

RTC: Joe Nugent 313-4147

SMDC/ARSTRAT: Michael Mitchell 955-2141

MDA: Maurice Elliard 450-3205

USASAC: Travis Otis 450-5812

NEC-R: Michael Horry 876-1810

NASA (MSFC): Jeffrey Branting 544-

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WORKER REACHES OUT AFTER SUICIDE ATTEMPT

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Scenes from Senior Leaders Social

*Quarterly event held
Friday at The Summit*



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Anna Pastorelli, left, and Pearl Clark
enjoy the evening at The Summit.**

Photo by Ellen Hudson

**From left are Macie Macklin, AMCOM
chief of staff Col. Jay Macklin, Barb
Langewisch and Chief Warrant Officer 5
Keith Langewisch.**



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Sampling the refreshments are Toni Gli-
dewell and Air Force Col. Frank Effrece
of the Missile and Space Intelligence
Center.**



Worker reaches out after fourth suicide attempt

Story of survival shared in Army

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Assistant editor

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He's attempted suicide four times.

And it's the last attempt – brought to the attention of his supervisor through an email and subsequent conversation – that has finally gotten him the psychological and medical support he needs to overcome a deep and dark despair caused by physical ailments and financial difficulties.

The 58-year-old Aviation and Missile Command employee is now receiving support from AMCOM chaplain (Lt. Col.) Leon Kircher, medical doctors and his family.

"I tried to commit suicide twice while working as a Department of the Army civilian in South Korea, once here in 2010 and then just recently," the survivor said.

"In 2001, I had a brain tumor. But it was benign. It wasn't cancer and the doctors removed it. When they wheeled me in for surgery I figured I was going to be gone. I gave up my life."

But with survival also came a physical ailment that is visible to others, has caused a speech impediment and has kept him from being able to play baseball or to golf. It has often made this survivor feel uncomfortable and nervous around people.

"I don't know if it was my health or what, but I always thought people were looking at me and saying something behind my back. It's hard to accept that I'm disabled," the survivor said.

Kircher said physical conditions that manifest themselves in disfigurement, or a disability or visible signs of weakness can cause depression and, in some cases, suicide. The chaplain shares the signs of suicide during Suicide Prevention Training classes he teaches regularly at Redstone Arsenal.

During National Suicide Prevention Month in September, the Army will launch a campaign that will share the stories of the survivors of suicide. The story of the survivor featured here will be shared throughout the Army Materiel Command in support of that campaign. Some 300 suicides were reported Army-wide in 2011. So far this year, 151 suicides have been reported.

'He had a plan. He had what he thought was a reason.'

AMCOM chaplain (Lt. Col.)

Leon Kircher

In addition, Kircher has scheduled the following Suicide Prevention Training classes during September at Bob Jones Auditorium: Sept. 5 from 8 to 9 a.m., 1-2 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.; Sept. 6 at 1-2 p.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.; and Sept. 17 from 8-9 a.m. and 10-11 a.m. On Sept. 4, he will offer multiple classes at the Missile Defense Agency between 8 a.m. and noon. The training is mandatory each year for Soldiers and Army civilians. Arsenal tenants can schedule training by calling Kircher at 842-7247 or emailing him at leon.g.kircher.mil@mail.mil.

Although this survivor had learned to live with his disability, in recent months his physical condition was exasperated by financial worries that he hid from his wife.

"About a month ago, I was trying to tell her the truth about everything," the survivor said. "Then, I went home at lunchtime one day and tried to hang myself with a coaxial cable in the garage. I just thought it had to be done. I knew I'd be alone because my wife takes Bible class on that day. I thought I could do it. But I chickened out."

Later, he told his supervisor.

See Suicide on page 16

Medal

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"I've had three combat tours and I've seen some pretty heroic stuff," he said.

"What I did that day is a small part of what everyone did that day," explained Bowie, referring to the tornado relief efforts by Alabama citizens. "There were thousands of people doing the exact same thing that

evening."

Col. Anthony Potts, project manager for aviation systems, nominated Bowie for the Soldier's Medal after working with the Wheeler family to identify Bowie, who did not leave a name after dropping her off at home.

"He continued to go into harm's way at the chance there could be someone in those waters," said Potts, describing the reasons he nominated Bowie. "That's the amazing part of a Soldier, the heart to serve."

Suicide

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“She’s the only one I could turn to,” he said. “When I went back to work, I was so mad at myself for not doing it. I had to do something. So, I emailed my supervisor and told her I needed help. Then, I went to her.”

Fortunately, the supervisor had recently attended Suicide Prevention Training conducted by Kircher.

“She obviously saw something going on depression-wise,” Kircher said. “He had a plan. He had what he thought was a reason. There were medical problems and money issues, too. Sometimes there’s relationship problems involved. His supervisor paid attention.”

And then she took the next step. She took action, immediately escorting the survivor to a hospital emergency room and calling Kircher for assistance.

“She paid attention and didn’t blow him off,” the chaplain said. “It was OK this time. But next time it might not have been OK and we would have found him dead.”

The survivor spent four days in the hospital, working with medical doctors and Kircher to get the help he needed. He’s been placed on anti-depressant medication, has resumed a normal life and is back at work.

“My brother told me after this last attempt that depression runs deep in our family,” the survivor said. “My mom, dad, even my brother takes anti-depressants. I didn’t know that. I hate taking

medicine. But this medicine has made me happier. Everything’s going great. I’m talking to my wife and trying to be really truthful with her.”

One of the critical signs of possible suicide, Kircher said, is “a constant sadness leading to depression. Sometimes the only thing that can make it better is medicine.”

The survivor believes his depression is rooted in a difficult childhood and his need to please others.

“Everything I do, I love to make people smile,” he said. “At my darkest, I thought I couldn’t help anybody be happy anymore. I wanted to help my family, but I knew I couldn’t. The only thing I knew I could do was give it up. I thought the world would be better off without me. I thought my wife would be better off without me.”

Kircher said it is difficult for people to reach out for help with depression because they don’t want to be seen as a burden. Most want to take care of their own problems. Some will self-medicate with alcohol or drugs. Others will isolate themselves from friends and family or fake their own happiness. But when suicide is being considered it is a red flag that a person needs help to help themselves.

“They’ve got to realize that help is right next door,” Kircher said. “Asking for help can be very embarrassing. It’s hard to get past that. A lot of people don’t want others to know what they are wrestling with. This man actually did the hardest thing and that was to get someone to help him. It’s a sign of strength to reach out.”



Photo by Ryan Keith

Facility visitors

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center hosted 32 military and civilian members of the Acquisition Corps who were attending the Functional Area 51 Intermediate Qualification Course. One of their tour stops was the AMRDEC Prototype Integration Facility where T.J. LaPointe, second from right, aviation special projects lead, and Patrick O’linger, right, PIF operations manager, briefed them about the PIF’s ongoing support to Soldiers.

Army's newest helicopter lands at new home

Fleet of three Lakota settle on Redstone

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor
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Three white and orange Lakota test helicopters now have a new home at Redstone Arsenal.

On July 18, the three aircraft "moved in" unceremoniously, landing without fanfare at the Redstone Test Center's Aviation Flight Test Directorate at the Redstone Airfield. The Lakota is the newest helicopter to enter service with the Army, and has been fielded to both the Army and Army National Guard.

"This is now an established field location for Lakota," Lt. Col. Dave Bristol, product manager for the UH-72A Lakota helicopter, said.

"There are 75 sites for Lakota in the U.S., on Kwajalein Island, and in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam. They help in support of test activities in aviation."

Although they aren't painted Army green, the Lakota helicopters will be very much part of the Army mission at Redstone Arsenal. They will be used for general support, and as a rotary wing chase platform in support of developmental testing of aircraft and aviation systems. The aircraft were provided to the Redstone Test Center by the Product Office for Light Utility Helicopters, Program Executive Office for Aviation.

The Army is buying 345 Lakotas from



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Two UH-72A Lakota aircraft are lined up at the Redstone Test Center's Aviation Flight Test Directorate at the Redstone Airfield. A fleet of three Lakota helicopters is now based at Redstone for the first time.

the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company/EADS-North America. A total of 225 of the aircraft have been fielded since November 2006. Delivery will be complete by June 2016.

"This aircraft is unique to the Army because it is a commercial off-the-shelf product," Bristol said. "That allowed us to streamline the development process and to field the aircraft within five months."

The Lakota helicopter is a version of the Eurocopter EC-145 with Army specific mission equipment. It is an FAA-certified platform that meets FAA commercial standards. It is replacing aging UH-1 Hueys and OH-58A/C Kiowa Warrior aircraft, and has freed up 23 UH-60 Black Hawk aircraft for use in the war fight.

The Army has provided Lakota air-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Lt. Col. Dave Bristol, product manager for the UH-72A Lakota, talks with Sikorsky site manager and test pilot Brian McGraw about the three Lakota helicopters now stationed at Redstone Arsenal. In the background is Sikorsky mechanic Thomas James, who is checking one of the Lakota's two engines.

craft to units in 20 states and two territories. The fleet has recorded more than 110,000 flight hours in support of homeland security missions, natural disaster assistance and border patrol missions around the globe. Besides supporting test and training facilities such as AFTD, the Lakota provides flexible response to homeland security requirements, conducts support to search and rescue operations, supports damage assessment, reconnaissance and surveillance, and augments medical evacuation missions.

The twin engine aircraft features a glass cockpit with LCD displays, low-noise rotor blades, state-of-the-art communications package, and multi-functional navigation package that includes dual GPS. The UH-72A has a payload

capacity of up to 1,107 pounds, can carry up to six passengers or 1,500 pounds by a cargo hook and can fly with speeds up to 145 knots.

The Lakota is built by EADS-North America's subsidiary American Eurocopter. Sikorsky Aerospace is a subcontractor that provides Lakota aircraft maintenance at the field locations.

The three Lakotas traveled to Redstone from Columbus, Miss. Following their arrival, mechanic Thomas James of Sikorsky checked to ensure the helicopters were in good shape after a flight of just over one hour.

"We need to make sure that everything is tight. We check for anything that has broken or that is leaking or that has gotten loose," James said.



Photo by Randy Tisor,
PEO Aviation Public Affairs

Milestone books

Utility Helicopters project manager Col. Thomas Todd, right, accepts two logbooks from Joseph Pezdek, deputy commander for the Defense Contract Management Agency, as Mick Maurer, president of Sikorsky Aircraft, looks on. The passing of the logbooks, representing a new UH-60M Black Hawk and a

new HH-60M Black Hawk, were part of a ceremony held July 18 in Stratford, Conn., to commemorate the milestone delivery of 500 M-model Black Hawks to the Army by Sikorsky Aircraft.

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Apache's 'A' stands for excellence in aviation

Last A-model helicopter retires from Army fleet

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**
For the Rocket

HOUSTON – It was a proud, historic and emotional moment for the Army and especially for the Soldiers in the 1-149th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion.

The last AH-64A Apache helicopter, aircraft 451, was “retired” from the Army and handed over to the Apache Project Office during a ceremony July 15 on Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base 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.

The aircraft will be flown to San Angelo, Texas, by Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jim Sandberg, 1-149th ARB standardization officer, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Adrian Domonoski, maintenance test officer, where it will be “depopulated” or disassembled, then taken to the Boeing facility in Mesa, Ariz., and reconfigured into the next generation AH-64D Apache Longbow.

“As the project manager for the Apache Attack Helicopter, I’m really proud to take custody of the 451,” Col. Shane Openshaw said. “In about a year from now, you’ll see 451 come out of the production line as the latest and last AH-64D.”

Aircraft 451 has had a long and proud history with the 1-149th ARB which was recently nominated for the Valorous Unit Award. Four of its aviators had been recognized for their heroism and extraordinary achievements with the Distinguished Flying Cross in Ramadi, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Aircraft 451 took heavy ballistic damage, but the aircraft and crew and the Soldiers they protected always came home safely.

“It’s like losing an old friend,” Capt. Stacy James Rostorfer, 1-149th Bravo Company commander, said. “That aircraft has

saved my life; it has saved many lives. It’s armored in all the right places, so you can go in, protect others and protect yourself. We always brought everybody home.”

Rostorfer had been an Apache fan as a young man and recalled playing with the Apache models when he was 10. “They’re still in the basement of my parents’ house. I’ll never part with it,” he said.

During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Derrek Hryhorchuk, 1-149th ARB commander, recounted the unit’s heroism, remembering that Aircraft 451 kept them safe and alive. “We’re going to make sure that aircraft goes out in style,” he said.

Hryhorchuk had flown the Apache’s predecessor, the AH-1 Cobra, and noted that things that needed to be improved in the Cobra were improved in the A model Apache. “I’m looking forward to the capabilities that needed to be improved in the A model that are now in the D model Longbow,” he said.

Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, said “these types of ceremonies and in the company of Soldiers are the constant reminders of why we do what we do, and why we strive to do it better every day. To all the Soldiers, God bless you.”

Despite the highlight of the aircraft, Crosby said, “I’m not here to talk about the aircraft. I’m here to talk about you. You, the Soldiers of the Texas National Guard, who have stood up and said, ‘I want to make a difference. I want to give back to my country.’ And it’s your pride, your courage, your passion that make that aircraft special. Because aircraft don’t fly. Aviators fly. And they fly because of the mechanics and the crew chiefs who make them ready to fly.”

Maj. Gen. James “Red” Brown, commander of the 36th Infantry Division, echoed Crosby’s remarks, adding, “Never in the history of the United States has there been a better integration between the active component and the Reserve component. It doesn’t matter what uniform you put on, you add concrete to the foundation that



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jim Sandberg, 1-149th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion standardization officer, holds a photo of himself as a young pilot who flew the very first A model Apache. Sandberg is currently obtaining his certification as an instructor pilot for the AH-64D Apache Longbow.

this nation was built upon: our volunteer Soldiers. Apaches give us the capability to prevent those who wish to harm us and enables us to protect the values and freedoms that make this country great.”

Remarking an “end of an era,” vice president of Boeing’s attack helicopter program David Koopersmith said, “It’s the Soldiers that inspire the Apache team. We’re fortunate to have the honor of providing Apache helicopters to help ensure that no fight is ever a fair fight.”

Based on combat reports, the 1-149th ARB has killed 26 enemy insurgents and wounded two in Ramadi. During one mission, while providing a local area orientation of Ramadi at night with the 2-159th ARB, the 1-149th was called to support. Due to “Danger Close” proximity with the friendly units in the area, one of the 1-149th aircrews slowed to 30 knots airspeed to engage the enemy position. The aircraft received battle damage, but the crew was able to hit the tractor trailers that resulted in a massive explosion. The aircrew received the Air Medal with V Device for Valor.

Later in the firefight, a Soldier from 1-77 Armor was seriously wounded and traditional MEDEVAC assets were not able to respond. The 1-149th ARB aircrew in Apache 451 decided to extract this wounded Soldier. They landed and the wounded Soldier was placed in the front seat of the Apache. The co-pilot gunner attached himself to the aircraft by the wing and fuselage holds. The wounded Soldier was quickly treated and received the advanced care he



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Lt. Col. Derrek Hryhorchuk, 1-149th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion commander, presents the logbook and keys of Apache aircraft 451 to Col. Shane Openshaw, the Apache project manager, during a ceremony to commemorate the retirement of the last A model July 15 in Houston, Texas.

needed. In the end, he recovered fully from his wounds. For this action, the crew received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

“After you get through a couple of weeks in combat, you strap yourself into an Apache, you feel a sense of invincibility,” Col. Richard Adams, 36th CAB commander, said. “There are a lot of sons and daughters in America who are alive because of that aircraft.”

Because situational awareness is always key in combat, “the ground guys always requested us,” Adams said. “When Apache flies, nobody dies. I’m very privileged to lead these bunch of guys.”

Photo by Ryan Keith

Top tour

Norm Myers, left, senior system analyst and SAIC support contractor, and Joe Moran, senior systems engineer at AMRDEC’s System Simulation and Development Directorate, provide an overview of the force protection programs at AMRDEC’s Soldier Protection Lab to Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert Beharie of the Research Development and Engineering Command.



Army provost marshal urges vigilance vs. terrorism

By WILLIAM GARBE

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Speaking up about suspicious activity is always the first-line defense against terrorism, said a top Army antiterrorism official.

“Antiterrorism is about people saying something,” Maj. Gen. David Quantock, provost marshal general of the Army, said. He discussed the Army’s antiterrorism initiatives in advance of the upcoming Antiterrorism Awareness Month in August.

“I think in this time, in this day and age, where there are people out there that mean us harm, it requires all of us to be part of this antiterrorism effort and keep our vigilance and our focus up,” Quantock said.

As part of Antiterrorism Awareness Month, Soldiers will be educated about and reminded to participate in the iWatch program. That program operates like a neighborhood watch program, Quantock said.

Soldiers, civilians and families are encouraged to recognize and report suspicious activity to law-enforcement agents. Reports filed in iWatch are then passed to the FBI’s larger “eGuardian” system, which connects law-enforcement agencies and intelligence organizations at all levels of government, across the United States.

While technology is an important part of detecting and preventing terrorist activity, at the most basic level, antiterrorism efforts are actually cost-free; they involve Soldiers, their families and Army civilians to simply keep their eyes open and to remain alert to that which stands out as unusual.



Photo by Todd Lopez

Maj. Gen. David Quantock, provost marshal general of the Army, encouraged Soldiers and civilians to participate in iWatch Army.

“Antiterrorism (efforts) can be people like you and I walking around our post, camp and stations,” Quantock said. “That’s probably the most important, most cost-effective way.”

The general said unusual or suspicious activity could include vehicles parked illegally, unseasonable or ill-fitting clothing, and persons loitering around or taking pictures of a sensitive area, post or access control point.

“All of these kinds of things that look suspicious really need to be reported to law-enforcement officials, and they’ll do something about it,” Quantock said.

The general said consequences of not being vigilant could include a compromise of national security or military and civilian deaths or injuries.

Integrating antiterrorism measures into the contract support process is also an Army initiative. Quantock said military contracts over \$150,000 must now undergo an antiterrorism review to ensure contracts do not violate operational security. He also said measures must be taken to make certain contractors have been properly vetted and trained before being brought into the Army community.

“We have many folks working around (and) on our installations, supporting our installations,” he said. “We’ve got to make sure that they’re actually trying to help us and not trying to hurt us.”

Quantock also said the lessons from the November 2009 shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, have helped the Army identify insider threats.

“From looking at the Fort Hood study we have found many gaps and seams in our personnel, our behavioral, and our law-enforcement systems that really needed to be brought together,” he said.

The general said the military training and culture of getting involved and taking action goes hand in hand with antiterrorism.

Unlike civilians out in the community, who might fear involvement in, or cooperation with a police investigation, even if it means catching a wrongdoer in their own community, Soldiers, he said, take pride in doing what is right.

“All I would say is if you see something, say something,” Quantock said. “Get involved. Don’t be a bystander. Make a difference out there for your community, make a difference out there for your Army, and make a difference for your nation. By doing that, you may save someone’s life someday.”

SMDC system helps fight recent western wildfires

By **JASON CUTSHAW**

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

As western states fought recent wildfires on the ground, a program developed in Huntsville by members of Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Future Warfare Center helped emergency agencies from above.

Local units are providing support to wildfires in the western United States using Eagle Vision. Eagle Vision is a family of deployable, commercial satellite ground stations that collect and process near real-time optical and synthetic aperture radar imagery from commercial satellites. Commercial satellite imagery is processed to agencies using the Eagle Vision and Rover Responsive Exploitation of Space Products for Tactical Use, or EVR2EST – an initiative that was developed by SMDC/ARSTRAT.

"It feels pretty rewarding to have a system we designed here at Redstone Arsenal that can affect people on the other side of the country," Justin Novak, of the SMDC/ARSTRAT FWC's Innovative Ventures Office, said. "It is also rewarding to achieve such a wide utility with this."

EVR2EST is an FWC system developed for Air Force systems to disseminate Eagle Vision Commercial Satellite imagery to remote locations in a timely, bandwidth-efficient manner.

Eagle Vision has processed and distributed approximately 37 square miles of satellite imagery to Colorado fire response authorities. Since June 14, members of the 226th Combat Communication Group located in Huntsville have supported firefighters battling the Waldo Canyon and High Park fires in Colorado. The 226th CCG is also providing Eagle Vision support to fires in New Mexico, Montana and Wyoming, as well as floods in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"We heard the fires were really, really bad and it was one of the largest and most destructive wildfires in the state's history both in terms of property and life," Novak said. "With the help of our system, they were able to get the products in the hands of responders and local emergency management officials very, very rapidly."

Eagle Vision commercial imagery is un-



Army photo

Here's an example of a command center for Eagle Vision and Rover Responsive Exploitation of Space Products for Tactical Use. EVR2EST helps emergency management agencies around the world look at real-time weather and terrain and track emergency situations like the wildfires in Colorado Springs, Colo., and other areas of the western United States.

classified, making it readily shareable and releasable to emergency and first responders. Officials can then use the satellite imagery to efficiently plan and prioritize their actions.

"EVR2EST focuses the response resources where they are needed," Novak said. "So instead of finding the fire when you get there, you already know that information going in so it helps get emergency personnel in the mindset of coming up with a plan and executing that plan."

EVR2EST helps support emergency agencies by providing aerial photos of grid searches to help first responders and workers. It also helps direct rescue crews to hard-hit areas without them going to unaffected areas or areas which already have units there.

"It is a huge game-changer because you typically need different software packages," Novak said. "This way, you go to a website, you pull up the image you want and it's there."

Although the current wildfires are the latest use of EVR2EST, it has been used in the past by the Department of Defense in ongoing combat operations and by national emergency agencies to help with Hurricane Katrina, Haiti relief efforts, the tornado outbreak of 2011 as well as many others.

Partnership puts radar on tactical platform

By Dr. SAM COOKE
For the Rocket

Letterkenny Army Depot and the Aviation and Missile Research Development Engineering Center Prototype Integration Facility are partnering in support of the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office.

This partnership will allow the Sentinel program to deliver an improved and highly survivable platform transitioning the Sentinel radar from a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, or Humvee, to a Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles based platform.

The partnership is based on core technical competencies possessed by each organization; the PIF's rapid design, fabrication and functional checkout capability complements Letterkenny's machining and fabrication technology, and large lot size production capability. CMDS leadership recognized a unique circumstance and a great teaming opportunity to leverage the strengths of each organization.

"The effort to transition the Sentinel radar from a Humvee to a FMTV-based platform would not have progressed as efficiently without the critical leadership and organizational skill exhibited by the PIF and LEAD," Susan

Noojin, Sentinel product director, said. "The team has done an outstanding job bringing together crucial building blocks from industry, suppliers and key elements from each organization into a cohesive team. Thanks to the work done by the PIF and LEAD, we expect to begin producing integrated Sentinel FMTV trucks and trailers without any difficulties."

Beginning with program initiation, the CMDS, Letterkenny and PIF teams implemented systems engineering best practices, including Integrated Product Team participation of all team members, and points of contact in human factors and safety from the Army Research Lab.

In this teaming effort, the PIF will design and develop an interface system to minimize the impacts and changes from the Humvee prime mover and trailer to the FMTV prime



Courtesy photo

From left, Letterkenny liaison Wesley Brown, Sentinel PMO's Ping Seto and Letterkenny engineer Tyler Jones inspect and verify dimensions of prototype interface hardware for mounting the Sentinel radar onto the FMTV trailer in the background.

mover and trailer. The technology involved in this migration includes power generation, communications equipment and other line replaceable units.

The PIF will develop a technical data package consisting of engineering drawings incorporating the production Sentinel equipment for transition to Letterkenny. The TDP will provide Letterkenny with technical information and data for workflow pro-

cess planning and manufacturing.

Letterkenny will transition the prototype configuration through producibility analysis to final system configuration, and then manufacture, integrate and deliver the required quantities to the CMDS prime contractor for integration of the antenna transceiver group. Letterkenny will optimize integration of the government furnished equipment trailer configuration to accommodate the prime contractor's workflow planning and integration based on the contractor's manufacturing/integration facility capability.

Using systems engineering and IPT practices, the Letterkenny team was able to provide the technical tradeoffs relative to design alternatives and feasible manufacturing approaches. These recommendations were made early in the PIF's prototype designs allowing for optimization of follow on core manufacturing and integration capabilities.

Early and continuous dialog and full participation from the team in technical interchange meetings, preliminary design review, and critical design reviews reduced technical and schedule risk. Emphasis on producibility and manufacturing during prototype development established consideration of manufacturing capability maturity at key decision points.

After the first trailer pallet was manufactured the team participated in a walk-around assessment, which provided valuable insights into shrinkage, distortion and verification of tolerances. These manufacturing lessons will be incorporated into Letterkenny manufacturing and integration planning.

"Building partnering opportunities based on shared technical competencies and optimizing facility capacities makes good business sense," Danny Featherston, PIF program manager, said. "On schedule and within cost delivery of reliable, cost effective capability to the war fighter will promote a successful foundation for future LEAD/PIF joint efforts."

Communications spacecraft achieves goal

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The Department of Defense's newest addition to the Wideband Global SATCOM constellation, WGS-4, has achieved a significant milestone with the successful completion of Payload Characterization and Verification.

The government-led event encompassed six weeks of payload characterization conducted by members of the WGS SATCOM System Expert office, the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, the Australian Ministry of Defence per-

sonnel, and support contractors from Femme Comp. Inc.

According to an Air Force fact sheet on the constellation, the WGS system is a constellation of military satellites that use commercial methods and technological advances in the communications satellite industry to provide support to the defense communication system; the Army's ground mobile forces; the Air Force's airborne terminals; Navy ships at sea; the White House communications agency; the State Department; and special users. (SMDCIARSTRAT release)



Artist rendering

Wideband Global Satellite-4 recently completed a Payload Characterization and Verification that lasted six weeks.

Army signs multi-year helicopter contract

PEO Aviation release

Col. Thomas Todd, project manager for the Utility Helicopters, hosted a signing ceremony July 16 to commemorate a five-year, \$8.5 billion contract for 653 UH-60 Black Hawk and Seahawk helicopters.

In addition to leadership and members of the Utility Helicopters Project Office, representatives from the Army Acquisition Command, the Program Executive Office for Aviation, the Navy and Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation also participated in the ceremony.

"The UH-60M Black Hawk is performing extremely well in theater, and I receive positive comments from our combat commanders frequently," Todd said. "The platform receives very high marks for the situational awareness the system provides the crew. These com-

ments are also common from the other services, agencies and countries that have purchased the UH-60M. Accordingly, this contract signing underscores that Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation continues to provide our Soldiers with quality equipment in a timely and cost efficient manner."

The contract provides for UH-60M utility and HH-60M MEDEVAC helicopters for the Army as well as MH-60R and MH-60S helicopters for the Navy.

The five-year agreement also allows the Army and Navy to order as many as 263 more aircraft within the same contractual terms. If exercised, the optional purchases could push the contract value as high as \$11.7 billion. Actual production quantities will be determined year-by-year over the life of the program based on funding allocations set



by Congress and Pentagon acquisition priorities.

This is the eighth multi-year contract

Photo by Randy Tisor,
PEO Aviation Public Affairs

Utility Helicopters project manager Col. Thomas Todd addresses the audience at the Jackson Center during a ceremony July 16 to commemorate a multi-year contract for UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

let since 1982. Multi-year contracts for larger purchases such as the UH-60 series create price structures significantly favorable to the services as compared to single year contracts. Multi-year contracts also serve to stabilize the industries involved in their production.

Some of the aircraft included in this agreement will be included in the government's Foreign Military Sales program.

Deliveries of new HH-60 and UH-60 helicopters under the new contract will begin as early as this month.

Symposium promotes open software standards

By TERRY CARLSON

PEO Aviation chief information officer

The Program Executive Office for Aviation and the Aviation and Missile Research

Development and Engineering Center will sponsor the Future Airborne Capability Environment technical interchange meeting July 31 in Huntsville.

Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive

officer for aviation, will open the morning session. Dr. Bill Lewis of AMRDEC will open the afternoon session.

The meeting will showcase a new common software standard that promises to do for military aviation what Android did for mobile phones and tablets. It is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Jackson Center in Cummings Research Park and is open to the public. The meeting will showcase applications and tools that promote reusable software capabilities. FACE establishes a business model that is beneficial to both industry and government, and fosters innovation and competition. FACE is based on "open architecture," without proprietary interfaces, which allows users to compete for portions of that architecture. It defines a standard Common Operating Environment to enable portable capability applications across Department of Defense avionics systems. In this environment, anyone can add products or create software applications.

The Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstrator, an AMRDEC Science and Technology project, is under way and includes the design, fabrication and test of two flight demonstrators. Phase 2 of the JMR TD includes plans to instantiate the Joint Common Architecture, an AMRDEC open avionics architecture S&T effort, which conforms to and leverages the FACE standard. The JMR TD focuses on the Future Vertical Lift medium vehicle with scalability to light and heavy and will influence critical decisions that will impact DoD rotary wing aviation operations for the next 50-plus years. The JMR TD effort enables the system level performance evaluation of air vehicles and mission systems in pursuit of FVL goals.

The Army has mandated all programs

containing automation begin migration to the Army COE. FACE has been accepted by the Army as a subset of the COE for the Real Time Safety Critical Embedded Computing Environment.

Col. Anthony Potts, project manager for Aviation Systems within PEO Aviation, has been a longtime supporter of the FACE Consortium. He said the Army is marching forward with the FACE standards. "Software portability is essential to reducing costs and expediting the fielding of new capabilities to our aviation war fighters," Potts said. "I have directed the FACE standards be applied to the design and development of the Improved Data Modem Open System Architecture, as the Army's first application of this important standard."

The event's organizer, the FACE Consortium, is an aviation-focused professional group made up of industry suppliers, customers and users. It is intended to provide a vendor-neutral forum for industry and government to collaborate and consolidate open standards, best practices, guidance documents and business models. The FACE Consortium operates as a managed consortium of The Open Group, a global organization whose members work to establish open, vendor-neutral information technology standards and certifications in a variety of subject areas. Members of the consortium include sponsors Lockheed Martin, NAVAIR, Rockwell Collins, the Program Executive Office for Aviation and 40 other organizations.

The meeting is free and open to anyone interested in open standards and architectures for aviation systems. For more information, go to www3.opengroup.org/FACE/events.

Launching the One Stop

The Garrison has consolidated human resource support into one location for customer service convenience. A Pershing missile monument serves as the area's centerpiece on Honest John Road.

Photo by Ellen Hudson



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Garrison's new era of customer service

One Stop the first step in employee campus

By **KARI HAWKINS**

Assistant editor

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Customer convenience. Easy access. Modern facilities. Better efficiencies.

Those key words describe the Garrison's move to renovate and expand the outdated Military Personnel Office into a One Stop that offers all human resources services in one location. Located on Honest John Road near Gate 10, the One Stop is expected to be fully operational by mid-August.

This week, the 14 employees of the Military Personnel Office are once again on the move, leaving the temporary trailers that have been home for about a year and taking up residence in a renovated facility that features modern amenities, a computerized customer service system and an efficient working environment.

MILPO was proceeded in the move by Garrison Human Resources, which moved its four employees from Garrison headquarters building 4488 to the One-Stop building 3494 during the week of July 16. Following MILPO's move into the facility, other human resources agencies will also move in, including: the Garrison's Security Division moving from building 4488, Retention NCO and Headquarters & Headquarters Company-Garrison moving from building 3437, Defense Military Pay Office moving from building 3207, Garrison Housing moving from building 3207, and the Garrison's Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity Office moving from building 111. The last move-in will be the State and County Tag License Office, which is expected to move the first week of August. It is now located at the Exchange/Commissary shopping center.

MILPO services include Common Access Card badging, casualty assistance, retirement services, transition services, re-assignments, officer/enlisted records, in/out processing, Soldier actions and online MILPO. During the move, MILPO will remain open, but they will have reduced services. Customers may experience increased processing times due to a temporary reduction of capability. Customers are asked to be patient and to even, possibly, postpone any requests for MILPO services until the week of July 30.

The new 23,000-square-foot One Stop for human resources services will provide an opportunity to build efficiencies among organizations supporting the personnel needs of Soldiers, civilians, military retirees and their families.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Construction employees put hay over newly planted grass along the rear entrance of the renovated One Stop building 3494. The rear area of the building was once the entrance to the Military Personnel Office. The entrance is now on the south side of building 3494 and MILPO has been joined by the Garrison's Human Resources directorate, Security Division, Housing, Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity Office and other tenants associated with personnel activities.

It will also be one of two anchors of a campus-like area focused on human resources and quality of life services, and bordered by Vincent Road to the west, Hercules Road to the north, Mauler Road to the east and Aerobee Road to the south. The two anchors will be joined by a pedestrian plaza that will feature a historic display with a Pershing missile and other artifacts along Honest John Road. The area's southern anchor will be a Welcome Center, which will be housed in a renovated facility that once was home to the troop Dining Facility.

The 22,000-square-foot Welcome Center is expected to open in the spring and will be the new home of Army Community Service now located in building 3338; and Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation's Child Youth and School Age Services now in building 1500; FMWR membership and leisure travel and ticketing offices, and an expanded Java Café, now all located in the Community Activity Center building 3711.

Also adjacent to the campus will be Pagano Gym, the Travel Office and Photo Lab facilities, the Thrift Shop, the Army Substance Abuse Prevention Program facility, and the 2nd Recruiting Brigade and the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion. And located just southwest of the pedestrian plaza along Aerobee Road will be the offices of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Human Resources Agency. Other facilities will be planned for future development of the area.

See Era on page 28

Views of the One Stop surroundings

Photos by Ellen Hudson

Preparations continued last week to ready the One Stop customer service area for its new occupants.



Looking north across Honest John Road, on the left is Pagano Gym and on the right is the newly renovated building 3494. The Pershing missile monument is in the center of Honest John.



From the base of the missile monument, you can see the AMC Band building in the distance on the other side of Patton Road.



The former Dining Facility is within the evolving area for customer service.

One Stop by the numbers

Here are some statistics from offices within the One Stop customer service area:

- 2,500** ID cards and Common Access Cards are issued monthly.
- 39,958** retirees are served by the retirement services office this year.
- 500** mile radius is covered by the retirement services office.

Retirement services reflect care for community

By **BETH SKARUPA**

Staff writer

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Thousands of military retirees throughout North Alabama will now receive retirement and transition services in a renovated space conveniently located in the new One Stop for customer service campus near Gate 10.

Although services at the Military Personnel Division (also known as MILPO) are reduced this week due to the move to building 3494, they are expected to be back on track by next week. Retirement and transition services are included within MILPO.

The retirement services office provides a variety of services to both active duty Soldiers and military retirees and their family members across the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Reserve and National Guard. The office acts as a liaison between the retirees and all the agencies that have anything to do with military retiree benefits.

"We serve the retiree both pre- and post-retirement," Ed Adams, retirement services officer, said.

Services provided by the RSO include pre-retirement counseling, retirement application, assistance with a retired pay account, retiree benefits and entitlements, the Survivor Benefit Plan, Veterans Affairs benefits, CSB/Redux information, Combat Related Special Compensation, Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments, and the annual Retiree Appreciation Day.

Retirees must have an appointment for all post-retirement visits to ensure that they will be seen within a reasonable amount of time. Although an attempt will be made to see walk-ins, they most likely will have to be rescheduled for a later time or date. The 41st annual Retiree Appreciation Day is scheduled Sept. 28-29. The Redstone Military Retiree Council plays a huge role in assisting Adams with the preparation for the annual RAD, which is held every year during the last week of September. Agencies, both on and off the installation, sponsor the event by donating prizes or money and setting up information booths.

This year's RAD includes a golf tournament prior to the event. The tournament will be at the Links on Thursday, Sept. 27. A retiree health fair is scheduled Sept. 28 at The Summit. The event will culminate Sept. 29 with a variety of speakers at Bob Jones Auditorium. A free breakfast will be offered 6:30-8 a.m. before the presentations begin. Speakers are scheduled throughout the day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 29, ending with

a grand prize raffle that is to be determined.

"We serve 39,958 retirees not including family members. Any military retiree within a 500 mile radius can come here for our services," Barbara Moudy, transition center chief, said. She often serves as an assistant to Adams in retirement services.

Some retirees who are supposed to be served by Fort Campbell, Ky., end up coming to Redstone for services. The RSO has served retirees from Ardmore, Lincoln and Giles counties and from cities as far away as Memphis, Chattanooga and Mobile.

Adams makes sure that they get the service they deserve. Whether he is talking to a Soldier who failed to sign up for the Survivor Benefit Plan or a Soldier's spouse who is tying up loose ends after a death, he tries to help anyway that he can.

"I don't see myself as an employee, I see myself as a servant. I do not want retirees to leave here thinking they did not get services," Adams said. "I give a lot of wisdom and I want them to come back. I love this job. I love the interaction with people."

Sometimes all Adams can do is offer some kind words, but he said even that seems to make a difference. He described a woman who called him on the phone depressed and ended up laughing with him by the end of their talk. She said she wanted to come and meet him in person but she lived an hour and a half away and couldn't drive. It was not necessary for them to meet in person, but two weeks later she had her daughter to drive her to Redstone anyway.

"That touched my heart because she knew somebody cared about her and that brought her out of her slump," he said.

Sometimes he has to give a widow the bad news that her husband did not leave her anything. Although he can send a suffering spouse to Army Emergency Relief, those are difficult conversations that he would rather avoid by preventing the situation.

"You have to put 'What if?' behind everything you do when you retire. The worst thing you could do is die and leave your dependents struggling for the rest of their lives," he said. "The bottom line is retired pay stops with the death of the retiree. You need to sign up for the Survivor Benefit Plan or get life insurance. If not, then they're going to suffer."

Johnny Hawkins in the Casualty Assistance Center, also within MILPO, works with Adams and Moudy to offer services to retirees and their family members.

Moudy runs the Transition Assistance Program, a monthly briefing for every



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Retirement Services officer Ed Adams, right, talks with retired Staff Sgt. L.H. Johnson in an office in the trailer that temporarily housed the Military Personnel Division until this week.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Chief of transition center Barbara Moudy, left, looks over her new office in the renovated building 3494 with retired 1st Sgt. Terry James and his 11-year-old step-daughter Samantha Eddy.

Soldier that leaves the military through separation or retirement. She is not the only person involved in the four-day briefing.

"We bring in the experts from all the areas. It teaches the Soldiers everything they need to know when they out process from Redstone Arsenal and how to receive their benefits. It also addresses taxes," she said.

Areas include transportation, finance, legal, Army Community Service, Tricare, Fox Army Health Center's wellness program, education, dental and the Transition Center. The first day is an overview of all these areas.

The following days follow specifics such as resume writing, Troops to Teachers, social networking, starting a small business, job hunting, interview skills, Veterans Affairs, veterans vocational rehabilitation and employment, medical records, the womens organization, veterans benefits and more.

On the last day Debra Jefferson with Army Community Service presents a resume writing walk through followed by "ladies dress for success" and "gentlemen dress for success" sessions.

"She helps Soldiers, their wives and family members. ACS has computers to work on, they can review your resume and assist with job hunting," Moudy said.

The transition center will maintain an email address list of all attendees so that job opportunities can be sent out whenever they are received.

"This is an all service program, not just for the Army. Spouses are invited to attend as well. The transition center also does the DD Form 214, the most valuable document a Soldier ever receives in their life. It's a complete history of all of their time in the military," Moudy said.

She noted that military retirees who have lost their DD Form 214 should go to the National Personnel Records Center website to request a copy of their DD Form 214. The website address is: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

Carol Lanier is the human resources assistant with the transition center. She assists Moudy with the discharges of all types for all branches of the military. One of her jobs is to compute the active duty and inactive time that goes on the DD Form 214. She also publishes orders and maintains the files for the transition center with her counterpart Betty Anderson.

"Basically we help with the smooth transition from military to civilian life," Lanier said. "We work together as a large team here and we more or less learn each others' duties to an extent. We also issue flags, retirement pins and certificates. We help with all the nuances that kind of make it special to the Soldier. It's a full-time job."

How to contact retirement services

The Retirement Services Office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For appointments, contact the following:

Ed Adams, retirement services officer, phone 876-2022, email RSA-RSO@conus.army.mil, RSA-RSO@us.arm.mil or edward.n.adams6.civ@mail.mil.

Barbara Moudy, chief of Transition Center and assistant retirement services officer, 313-6481, barbara.e.moudy.civ@mail.mil.

Security Division workers look forward to moving

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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It's not unusual to see a line of new Redstone Arsenal employees stretching out from the door of the Garrison's Security Division on the Mondays that start a new pay period.

But come this Monday, that standing-room-only line will no longer be part of a new employee's in-processing experience.

Rather, new employees will be able to wait comfortably in the reception area that is a main feature of the new One Stop for human resources at building 3494. Likewise, the Security Division's six employees will be able to work more efficiently as they process those new employees for Arsenal employment.

Overall, the in-processing experience at the One Stop is meant to be convenient, easy, efficient and professional, and the employees of the Security Division are happy to be a part of it.

"We're looking forward to moving. We're excited about the move into a new building," said Ruby Childers, who oversees the Security Division.

"It does take us away from friends we've made here at the Garrison. But we are

moving into a brand new building with new furniture and a new work area. It's kind of bittersweet, but it's also exciting."

The Security Division has been housed in building 4488 since 2004, when it split from the Aviation and Missile Command. It is responsible for in-processing and out-processing employees, and processing pre-employment background checks, employee investigations for security clearances, electronic and manual fingerprinting, and managing industrial security cases and security investigations for NATO and Critical Nuclear Weapons Design Information clearances. They manage adverse security cases where employee clearances are not issued or pulled until adverse investigation results are mitigated.

The Security Division also provides Security Education and Training Awareness briefings to the employees of Arsenal tenants, including the Logistics Support Activity, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Redstone Test Center and Fox Army Health Center.

In 2011, the Security Division in-processed 2,500 employees and out-processed 1,400 employees.

"We have cases in various stages," Childers said. "You have to be very me-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Employees of the Garrison's Security Division pack up boxes for their move this week to the new One Stop building 3494. They are, from left, Teneka Burks, Morris Burbank and Sharkita Ivy. All personnel files will be locked and closely monitored by the Security Division employees during the move.

ticulous and organized in this job."

The new work environment is not only modern and efficient, but also provides some amenities specific to the Security Division.

"We are happy about the larger and taller cubicles we will have at the One Stop. It's going to make it more private for the employees we are in-processing or out-processing," Childers said.

"We have such a large amount of personal identification information that we will be able to control a lot better in this new work environment. And our new location is much more customer friendly. It

will be a more efficient operation that will allow us the privacy to offer more one-on-one attention to our customers."

In addition, the move will put the Security Division closer to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, which its employees work closely with during employee in-processing and out-processing. CPAC will soon be located in the renovated 3458 and 3459 on the southwestern edge of the human resources and quality of life campus that the Garrison is building on Honest John Road near Gate 10.

The Security Division team, which Childers describes as "awesome," includes Teneka Burks, Sharkita Ivy, Morris Burbank, Ashley Garth, Chris Ryker and Angela Harris. Although packing up and moving is challenging, the employees are looking forward to the end result.

"It will be a win-win situation for us and for our new hires and our retirees," Burbank said. "We want people to know we're here to help them."

Burks likes the higher visibility the One Stop and its surrounding campus near Gate 10 will give the Security Division.

"We will be easier to find when we are located in an area that is bringing all the human resources activities together," she said. "There will be less confusion for new employees because everything they need to in-process will be at one place."

"Nobody likes change at first. But when you think about it this is the right thing to do. At the end of the day, what's going to be best for our customer is going to be the best thing for us."

Era

continued from page 24

Once complete, the Welcome Center and One Stop campus will represent the fruition of a Garrison project that began to take shape in 2005 with the announcement of the movement of the Ordnance Munitions

and Electronics Maintenance School from Redstone Arsenal, which caused the closing of the troop Dining Facility in August 2011. Plans for the area's redevelopment into a customer service area have solidified in the past year following the move of OMEMS to Fort Lee, Va., and the need to renovate the outdated Military Personnel Office (Buildings 3493 and 3494).

Equal Employment Opportunity staff invite all to their office

By BETH SKARUPA

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The Garrison's Equal Employment Opportunity office will continue to serve its customers well when it moves into its new space next week.

"We will have a mediation room and an investigation room in the new building, same as we have here. I think it will be a good place," Becky Miller, Garrison EEO officer, said. "We will have ample parking and ample space to talk about situations."

The EEO is scheduled to move into building 3494 in order to take its place among other organizations in a One Stop for customer service concept for Team Redstone. The 23,000-square-foot One Stop is expected to be in full operation in early August.

EEO works to ensure that all applicants, whether they are male or female or any race, have a fair opportunity in the hiring process, competition for promotions, and access to training or professional development opportunities.

The EEO office offers these five common levels of services: provides com-

pliance and program services, provides advisory services, manages EEO complaints processing, provides training and education, and manages the Special Emphasis Program. These services are available to all of the Arsenal's tenants. The office also publishes a SEP newsletter as well as an EEO newsletter.

"We serve any Army organization on this installation that would like for us to," Miller said. "Several have their own EEO office that is responsible for policy and procedure, but we take care of training and compliance activity and anything they would like for us to do within these areas. Those organizations not under the Army per se have their own EEO offices, like the Corps of Engineers, NASA and SMDC."

The office's management of the EEO complaint process includes both informal and formal complaint processing.

"All of our people are certified counselors and we have certified mediators, too," Miller said. "Certified mediators are responsible for the Alternate Dispute Resolution program. Those would be the things we work on in the complaint processing."

Who can file an EEO complaint? Any

employee, former employee, or applicant for employment who believes that he or she has been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, and/or reprisal in an employment matter, including Equal Pay Act complaints, subject to the control of the Army, may initiate the EEO complaint process.

"I've found that the people who come to us and try to work things out right away have the most success. The quicker someone comes to us with a complaint, the easier it is to work it out," Miller said.

The EEO office staff includes Miller, Jackie Williams and EEO specialists Monique Mixon, Carey Link, Robert Hambrick, Kara Carter-Price and Diane Corlew. Williams, deputy chief, works with strategic planning. Mixon is involved in training and works with the Affirmative Employment program. Carter-Price is the disability program manager. Corlew is both an EEO counselor and a program analyst. Deane McKay is an EEO specialist, but she is on detail at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"I have always wanted people to feel comfortable and not feel like they have to



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Becky Miller is the Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity officer.

have a complaint to come see us," Miller said. "We have a lot of cultural, statistical and training information and we are willing to work with organizations' employees as well as managers to help them gain knowledge of what we do and how we may be able to help them."

Change of scenery, but constant customer care

ID/CAC processing operations begin Thursday at One Stop

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON
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Where you go to receive your ID and Common Access Cards may be changing, but customers can expect the same professional and courteous service at the One Stop.

Today marks move-in day at the One Stop for ID/CAC Card processing staff, and if all goes well, the organization will be fully operational and ready to serve customers in its new and improved location Friday. Limited staff will be available to assist customers with emergencies in the MILPO trailer today and Thursday.

"Our mission is to provide the best possible customer service to the Redstone community," Luis Ortega, chief of the military



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Verifying official Coretta Parks, left, helps customer Vicki Loewen obtain a Common Access Card.

personnel division, said. "You'll be taken care of in a professional and courteous manner. If you're not satisfied with our service, please come see me before you leave the building."

Open from 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 3:15

p.m. on Fridays, ID/CAC card customers will enjoy a new, expanded waiting area at the One Stop, as well as more private customer service stations. But while things may look different, operations largely remain the same. Four contractors and one site security manager are available to service the 100 to 150 customers the organization sees on a daily basis, and each of the 2,500 to 2,800 cards issued a month takes between 10 and 45 minutes to process.

"Wait times may go down some, but not drastically," Ortega said. "I'll be operating with the same amount of folks as I am operating with now. We ask that the customers be patient. The wait time will vary."

Uniformed personnel are given first priority in line, followed by customers that have made an appointment, and then walk-ins. Customers are encouraged to make an appointment at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil>. Civilians and contractors may renew their cards up to 60 days in advance, dependents 30 days. Appointments may be made up to four months in advance.

"Please don't wait to the last minute when your card is expiring to come in," Ortega said.

One noticeable change customers will note is instead of open cubicles each customer service station will have a door, improving privacy. Two forms of ID are required, with one being a picture ID to obtain a card, and for initial issue, original copies of sensitive documents such as a marriage license or birth certificate is required, along with the two forms of ID. To verify the documentation needed for your specific situation, call 842-2413 or 313-0018.

"We deal with personal information and it's our mission and our job to make sure we protect the customer's personal information and also to make sure we abide by the Privacy Act," said Lise Jamar, site security manager and verifying official. "It is our mission to not give out personal information, or let anyone else hear about the customer's personal information. It's about protecting the customer's personal information."

Don't wait to make ID card appointment

To reduce your wait time for an ID card/CAC, customers are encouraged to make an appointment.

To make an appointment, visit <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil>. An appointment may be made four months in advance. Contractors and civilians may renew

their card 60 days prior to the expiration date; dependents 30 days prior.

You will need two forms of ID with one being a picture ID, such as a driver's license or current ID card, with the other being a Social Security card. Individuals look-

ing to obtain their initial card will need their original Social Security card, driver's license, original marriage certificate, and birth certificate, if applicable. To verify the documents needed to obtain your card, call 842-2413 or 313-0018.

Automated kiosk serves waiting customers

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON
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The days of waiting for your number to be called may not be over, but customers at the One Stop will soon note that they are a bit more technologically advanced.

It's not just the physical building – the One Stop – that's improving customer satisfaction when it comes to doing business with agencies such as the Military Personnel Office and Defense Finance and Accounting Services, soon the very way customers register and wait for that assistance will receive a facelift, with the help of Qmatic, a customer flow management and queuing system.

In the days to come, customers will be greeted at the One Stop with a Qmatic kiosk, where they will check in by selecting the reason for their visit, given a number, such as A135, and directed to the appropriate waiting area, where they can relax and watch television until their number is called. Each sector within the building, such as housing, MILPO and DFAS, will have their own letter, identified on the



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Customers sit in the waiting area of the Military Personnel Office trailer, prior the MILPO's move to the One Stop this week. One improvement to the waiting process at the One Stop will be a Qmatic kiosk, a customer flow management and queuing system that will dispense numbers and organize customers by the reason for their visit.

ticket, and each customer their own number, to indicate what order they are in line for that particular organization.

With the press of a button, customer service representatives will be able to call the number they are ready to service, prompting both an automated announce-

ment over the loudspeaker and displays on red LED lights hanging on the walls throughout the waiting room, that will indicate the letter and number being called and what station they are ready to be served at. Signs and arrows will direct each customer to the service provider sta-

tion they need to go to, where their number will be flashing. The system will not only eliminate the need for customer service representatives to shout out names and numbers, but will also take away any worries customers may have about whether or not their number was just called, and where they're supposed to go next.

"I think it's going to improve customer service," Paul Grosch, Garrison facilities manager, said. "It's going to cut wait times way down and it's just going to be a friendlier and faster way of doing business."

While the most visual aspect of the Qmatic may be the kiosks customers use to check in, the system is much more than that. The customer flow management system collects data on areas of concern such as wait times, how long it actually takes to help a customer, how many individuals are being served in a day and what areas are highest in demand, allowing for an improvement in customer service.

"Customers can expect a much more efficient run operation, with wait times diminished," Grosch said.

Human resources office moves into One Stop

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Joe Winston's new office last week was cluttered with unpacked cardboard boxes and newly delivered furniture.

The director of human resources planned to be finished moving into the One Stop customer service area's building 3494 by July 23. He and his staff had started their move July 16 from Garrison headquarters building 4488.

"We continue to conduct business on a piecemeal basis in the process of moving at the same time," Winston said.

The Garrison's Directorate of Human Resources has about 40 people altogether, including four contract employees in the ID card section.

"This directorate is responsible for all the human resource services provided to the installation," Winston said, "which includes military personnel services; Army substance abuse; personnel security; Army Community

Service or ACS; administrative services which includes FOIA (Freedom of Information Act), records management and storage; U.S. Postal mail services; Army education; and personnel services in coordination with CPAC (Civilian Personnel Advisory Center) for U.S. Army Garrison.

"We serve a retiree population of approximately 70,000," he said, including military retirees, family members and retired DoD civilians who return for their ID cards and so on.

"On an annual basis, we issue in the neighborhood of 25,000 to 30,000 ID cards," Winston said.

His office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. And the phone number is 842-2411.

The directorate includes Luis Ortega, chief of military personnel office; Ruby Turner, chief of Army substance abuse office; Ruby Childers, chief of the security division; Donald Battise, chief of administrative services division; Charles Williams, chief of educational services office; and Sue Paddock, chief of Army Community Service.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Garrison director of human resources Joe Winston unpacks at the One Stop building 3494 after moving from building 4488.

Garrison graphic

Customer view

The new customer service campus includes the One Stop, located at the top of the rendering, and the Welcome Center, at the bottom of the rendering. The two facilities are connected by a pedestrian plaza that includes a Pershing missile and historical park. Honest John Road runs east and west through the center of the customer service campus while the campus is bordered by Vincent Road to the west, Hercules Road to the north, Mauler Road to the east and Aerobee Road to the south. The One Stop, now building 3494, was created by renovating buildings 3494 and 3493. The Welcome Center will be housed in what used to be the troop Dining Facility. The One Stop will be fully operational in early August and the Welcome Center will open in the spring.



Specialist serves survivors of servicemembers



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Johnny Hawkins, casualty and mortuary affairs specialist, listens to a client at the Casualty Assistance Center.

Casualty assistance center part of Garrison One Stop

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Johnny Hawkins is like a one-man shop in the One Stop customer service area.

He serves as the casualty and mortuary affairs specialist at the Casualty Assistance Center, which is part of the Garrison's Military Personnel Office. This week he is among those moving into building 3494 as part of a consolidation

of human resource services into one location.

"I do active duty deaths and casualty assistance for (military) retirees, for their benefits," Hawkins said. "We arrange military honors. Casualty assistance for retirees is for all services – not just Army."

After deaths of active duty servicemembers, he helps coordinate assistance such as movement of family members. "Like if they want to move from here to California, the Army will pay for it," Hawkins said. He appoints a casualty assistance officer to take care of their personal affairs and their benefits. He also helps counsel families of veterans, in

conjunction with the Veterans Affairs of office downtown.

Hawkins is the lone occupant of the Casualty Assistance Center. "Barbara Moudy is the backup and she's chief of the Transition Office," he said.

Last year they made arrangements for military honors for 657 people in 11 counties of North Alabama. These included six active duty servicemembers, 190-plus retirees who were assisted with their benefits, and the rest were veterans.

The Casualty Assistance Center's hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Its phone number is 876-4252.

Defense finance office checks into new building

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Their job is ensuring troops get paid for what they do for this nation.

The Defense Military Pay Office, under the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, is scheduled to move into building 3494 in the One Stop customer service area July 30. It's moving across the street from building 3207 on Hercules Road.

"In simplest terms, it's pay Soldiers timely and correctly. That is our mission: Pay Soldiers timely and correctly," deputy director Chong Brizendine said.

But the office doesn't carry cash or issue checks; Soldiers have direct deposit.

"We tell the system where to send the money," military pay supervisor Charie Monroe said. "We determine and process. We determine if they're entitled to it and then we process."

They serve about 5,500 servicemembers in the Southeast, including active duty plus active Guard and Reserve Soldiers.

"Most Soldiers get paid twice a month," Brizendine said, "but they have the option to get paid once a month."

This office is under DFAS out of Indianapolis, Ind. It's open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and the phone number is 876-8510.

The other staff members include director Sonya Morris, military pay review

Photo by Skip Vaughn

The Defense Military Pay Office includes, seated from left, Samantha Drauch, Charie Monroe, Inell Swain; and standing, Lisa Brown, Alashia Quick, Misha Ortiz, Anthony Shane, Penny Woody and Chong Brizendine.

Gayl Catt-Glenn, quality review Inell Swain, administrative assistant Kathy Stephens, teller/processing technician Penny Woody, lead technician Lisa Brown, retirement/separations Samantha Drauch, Reserve/National Guard pay Alashia Quick, in/out processing technician Misha Ortiz, travel pay technician Anthony Shane and systems Lito Valencia.



Housing office to move in early August

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**
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Whether you're buying, selling or renting, look no further than the One Stop for stress relief and assistance.

The housing office will move to its new office at the facility in early August.

"It's a great opportunity for the Soldiers, civilians, contractors and retirees to do everything at one place," Minnie Rhoden, housing management specialist, said of the office's move to the new building.

Open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., the housing office provides service to active duty, civilians, contractors and retirees in need of housing assistance, whether they're moving to the Arsenal and need to find a home in the Tennessee Valley, PCSing

to another location and need to sell their home here or are facing financial hardship and need assistance to avoid foreclosure.

With a wealth of resources and information, housing office services include providing housing counseling services, accurate and available non-discriminatory rental listings and lease negotiation and landlord mediation. The office also partners with Army Community Service to host monthly financial workshops.

A variety of clients come to have the office check their lease, learn more about Alabama rental laws or to list their home on the Automated Housing Referral Network, a Department of Defense sponsored listing of available homes at duty stations across the world. Housing office staff even follow up with their customers weeks after they've made their



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Housing management specialist Minnie Rhoden, left, explains the Automated Housing Referral Network to customer Lisa Brown.

housing decisions to see how things are panning out, and if there are problems,

will investigate the matter.

"We want to make sure the occupant is satisfied with the accommodations that they have chosen, because it's all about the individual's choice of where they want to stay," Kenneth Carter, deputy housing chief, said. "We offer them the information and resources they need to make a wise decision based on their financial income to find something adequate for them."

As the office moves to the One Stop, Carter anticipates an increase in foot traffic as more people discover the services they provide.

"With us being co-located together in that building it's a great advantage for us, because at the same time that they take care of their finances, they can also take care of their housing needs," Carter said.

Garrison's HHC Soldiers prepare for transition

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

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Even though Sept. 30 will mark the end for the Garrison's Headquarters & Headquarters Company, their commitment to the mission and the Soldier remains steadfast until that day arrives.

Garrison commander Col. John Hamilton released a memorandum July 18 that the HHC would inactivate effective Sept. 30. The Installation Management Command's decision comes as the Army aims to transition itself from a wartime environment to a peacetime Army, with a budget that reflects that transformation. Redstone's HHC is one of four Armywide that will inactivate, according to HHC commander Capt. Alyssa Wood.

"The Army is downsizing so these non-deployable spots are critical in the long run of things," Wood said. "You've got able-bodied people sitting in non-deployable positions and we need to be an Army that's ready to deploy at a moment's notice. These men and women need to be in FORSCOM units that are able to get out there and go fight."

Equivalent to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center for the Soldier, the HHC provides a variety of administrative tasks, such as processing leave forms



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Resources assistant Derek Gautreaux and Capt. Alyssa Wood, Headquarters & Headquarters Company commander, assist a customer.

and serving as a major stop in a Soldier's in-processing and out-processing, as well as training and U.S. Code of Military Justice support for Arsenal tenant organizations. Wood and her team are working on a transition plan that may involve certain functions and procedures currently performed by the HHC being transferred to the Military Personnel Office, delegated to other activities or returned to a Soldier's parent organization.

"We are diligently working to ensure customer service does not fail," Wood said. "We won't let the mission fail."

Hamilton's announcement came last week as Wood and her staff prepared to move to the One Stop Thursday and Friday, the HHC's home until their inactivation. The move co-locates the HHC with the MILPO and DFAS, improving customer service.

"We will be able to provide timely and faster process of paperwork between us, the MILPO and DFAS with all of us being in one building together," Wood said. "That will be a crucial element for all of us, just to be close enough to each other to make transactions happen at a faster pace."

For a Soldier, transitioning from one duty station to another involves in-processing and out-processing, a trail of paperwork that leads Soldiers to approximately 20 stops across the Arsenal. While the number of forms and signatures aren't changing, the One Stop will put many of the organizations a Soldier is required to visit in one location, thus reducing travel time and stress levels.

"What can make it an easy process is great customer service, the ability to find what you're looking for and not having

to run around and play the 'Are you the right person to talk to?' game," Wood said. "This move will significantly reduce the amount of angst, because you are anxious. When you're in-processing you're anxious to see what this new environment is, and when you're leaving you're anxious about what your future is going to be looking like at your new installation, especially with people with family and small kids."

"There will be less running around for the customer," said Carl Cooper, human resources assistant with the Military Personnel Office who works with in-processing and out-processing on the MILPO side. "It'll speed things up for the Soldier with everything in one location, and that should be the bottom line for why we did this, is service to the Soldier."

Wood and her staff look forward to serving Soldiers at their new location, but are asking customers to please be patient as they make the transition to the One Stop Thursday and Friday. Phone numbers for the HHC remain the same; HHC staff can be reached at 876-7797 or 876-5710.

"It's really going to be the heart of Redstone," Wood said of the One Stop. "The installation is at such a huge transition point right now that it will be a fresh start, a new face."

Tag license office's satellite station due for change

By BETH SKARUPA

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If convenience is the reason customers use the Alabama Tag and License Office on the Arsenal, the satellite station's move to building 3494 in August should be considered a step up for customer service.

The move is part of the One Stop concept that will consolidate several customer service activities in one location to make them more convenient for members of Team Redstone. The satellite station houses both the Madison County License Office and the Alabama Department of Public Safety, but the county office is currently open Tuesday through Thursday while the state office is open only on Wednesdays.

"Anyone with access to the Arsenal can use the county office, but we re-new tags and registrations for Madison County residents only," Kathy Sisk, Madison County license office clerk, said. "Except for driver's license renewals - we can do that for anyone in the

state of Alabama. And you can register to vote here too, at the county office or the state office."

The county office also allows Madison County residents to transfer titles, replace state I.D. cards, register or renew boat tags, and obtain fishing or hunting licenses. Its hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"We're always busy. It's gotten to where we're busy all the time," Sisk said. "We're looking forward to moving into the new space."

The Alabama Department of Public Safety office is only open on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office is closed for lunch from 12-1 p.m. The state office offers these services: out-of-state transfers, testing for a learner's permits, and exams for drivers of cars, motorcycles or vessels. No road tests are offered at this office.

"That's pretty much it. That keeps them busy all day for the one day a week that we have an examiner there," state trooper Cpl. Jason Osborne, assistant post commander for the driver's license Huntsville post, said.

A new form of identification called the STAR I.D. is something new that can be obtained at the state office. The STAR I.D. was developed by the Alabama Department of Public Safety to comply with the requirements of federal legislation to ensure the safety of U.S. citizens.

Once the provision of the federal legislation goes into effect, people who do not have a valid, unexpired U.S. passport will need a STAR I.D. to board commercial flights or to enter certain regulated federal facilities. The new regulations will go into effect Dec. 1, 2014, for people born after Dec. 1, 1964. For anyone born before or on that date, the new regulations will be effective on Dec. 1, 2017.

The STAR I.D. is available to qualified individuals at any driver's license examining office operated by the Alabama Department of Public Safety. Additional documentation will be required to verify identity, date of birth and authorized presence in the U.S. For more information, visit the Alabama Department of Public Safety's website at dps.alabama.gov or call 877-567-1045.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Madison County license office clerk Kathy Sisk assists customer Lore Harrison last week at the State and County Tag License Office currently located at the Exchange/Commissary shopping center. The tag office will be moving to building 3494 to become part of the One Stop in the personnel services campus being developed near Gate 10 on Patton Road.

Military spouse puts down roots as contractor

Career in defense industry blossoms with the right fit

By KARI HAWKINS

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It seems Dawn Oliver Bailey's life – as a former Soldier, the wife of a Soldier and now working to support Soldiers – has brought her full circle.

Bailey grew up a country girl on a farm near Fort Campbell, Ky. She left the farm for the nomadic life of first a Soldier and then a Soldier's wife. Yet, in recent years, Bailey and her husband – Lt. Col. Dan Bailey, the product manager for Apache Block III, who will be retiring in September – have made a seven-acre farm in New Market their “forever home” with their three young children.

While she and her family enjoy the country life and its four-wheelers, BB guns, bows and arrows, and horseback riding, Bailey is also taking advantage of “putting down roots” to challenge herself in the defense contractor career field. For the past six months, she has served as the Joint Attack Munition Systems task lead for a contract managed by System Studies and Simulation Inc.

“I don't feel like I've pursued a specific career path,” Bailey said. “I just have a drive to use my education and unique skill-set in a significant way. Serving and supporting Soldiers is the perfect environment to allow me that opportunity.”

Military Spouses at Work Part 3 in series

Back in 1989, Bailey, herself, enlisted as a Soldier. To Bailey, the Army presented opportunity.

“I was raised in a really small town with very, very minimum opportunities,” she said. “I was going to school at night and working in a factory during the day. I just started thinking ‘There's got to be more to life than this.’ And, lo and behold, God heard me, and an Army recruiter asked to talk to me.”

A friend had given the recruiter her name. At first, Bailey laughed at the idea



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Dawn Oliver Bailey may seem like any working military mom, raising three children while also supporting her on-the-go Army husband. But her own experience as a Soldier gives Bailey a unique perspective on the commitment every Soldier makes to service and on her own ability to provide support to the war fighter through her work with a local defense contractor.

of joining the Army. But soon it became a viable option.

“I thought to myself ‘I'm not exactly happy here and I'm pretty tough.’ I was raised on a farm and my dad was by no means a pushover. So, I figured I could handle basic training,” Bailey recalled.

“I decided to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test with the idea that if I did well enough to pick my own job then I would join the Army. If I didn't qualify for something that was advantageous, and had a future I could be proud of, then I wouldn't join. Well, my test scores actually qualified me for everything. I could pick any job.”

Bailey chose intelligence analyst as her profession and even requested the option of attending jump school after her advanced individual training was complete. In the five years she served, she was with the 4th Psychological Operations Group at Fort Bragg, N.C., the 8th Signal Brigade in Yon Son, South Korea, and the 4th of the 25th Aviation Regiment at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where she was the security operations non-commissioned officer in charge.

Although she is proud of her profession-

al contributions to the Army, Bailey feels strongest about her contributions as a military wife. Her experiences as a Soldier – particularly the Level-C Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training she received at Fort Bragg in 1991 – have given her an understanding of the sacrifices Soldiers make, and a drive to support those sacrifices in any way she can.

Of her SERE training, Bailey said “There we were, covered in mud, all beat up, exhausted, wondering when this would all end. And then in the distance, someone started playing a bugle, and another Soldier started raising the flag, and then I understood. I understood what all of this military stuff was all about. I got chills. I think I even cried at that moment. I got it. I really got it.”

At five years of service, however, Bailey was ready to move on.

“It's a point where you take a reality check,” she said. “I asked myself ‘Do I want to make my life military?’ And I just didn't really think I would. It wasn't my fit. I enjoyed it. I loved it. I learned a lot from it. But I wanted to experience something different.”

She returned to Fort Campbell as a civilian, taking college courses on the installation. And then, she met her husband while out one night with friends.

“He just looked really confident. He looked like maybe a little bit of a challenge, like he knew himself really well,” Bailey said. “It was the two of us from then on.”

After a couple years of dating, during which they were separated by an assignment at Fort Rucker, the couple married.

For the next 15 years, Bailey held down a series of full-time and part-time jobs, some paid and some volunteer, as she followed her husband to Illesheim, Germany; Fort Monroe, Va.; Patuxent River Flight Test Center, Md. (where her husband attended the Navy's test pilot school); Fort Rucker and, lastly, Redstone Arsenal. She learned how to deal with separations and deployments. The toughest separation was a 2007 deployment while Bailey was pregnant with their third child and living near Fort

Rucker. While there, she and her two daughters lived through the Enterprise tornado that destroyed much of the town and demolished its high school.

It was that first volunteer opportunity in Germany that gave Bailey the confidence to be the “fully engaged” officer's wife that she wanted to be.

“It's really kind of cool. My first step to getting this job I have now was when we arrived in Germany,” she said. “Within a month, I was the second vice president for the women's club. I didn't know anything yet about being an officer's wife, but I did know how to organize efforts and get things done. I accepted the challenge of coordinating the International Bizarre for our post.”

It was a huge event that required a lot of planning, logistics, volunteer coordination, publicity and management skills.

“I loved it. I was really good at it. I amazed myself,” Bailey recalled. “If I had seen a job like that in the paper, I would not have applied. But as a volunteer, it really opened my eyes to what I could do. I saw that I could budget, plan, manage people, motivate people and get people to work on things.”

And yet volunteer jobs weren't quite enough for Bailey. While in Virginia, she worked as an analyst with the Aviation Safety Program for NASA/Langley, Va.

“It was really like the jet set. I was traveling to audit different NASA programs,” Bailey said. “It was a good learning experience. It was different from the military in many ways, including being the first time for me to work in an office of mostly women.”

While there, her female co-workers asked her to join the local quilt guild. She fell in love both with quilting and the friends she made.

“It was during this time that 9/11 happened. We as a group quilted an American flag as a tribute,” Bailey said. “I hang it in our home and am continually reminded of that time.”

As children came along, Bailey stepped back a bit from her career, taking only part-time jobs that worked around the demands of being a military wife and mom, and that allowed her also to pursue quilting and other creative hobbies, including painting, woodworking and home decorating. Many

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USASAC SUMMER HIRES' ROLE MAKES IMPACT

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USASAC summer hires' role makes impact

By CORINNA SLATER
USASAC Public Affairs

NEW CUMBERLAND, Pa. – A Security Assistance Command summer hire's day is frequently filled with menial tasks that have piled up throughout the year such as filing, scanning and shredding. However, this is not always the case. Summer hires are often assigned interesting, more directly significant tasks. This is evident at the USASAC office in New Cumberland where summer hires Bryce Beard, Brittany Walden and Allison Fry work on assignments specific to their department.

Both Beard and Walden from G6 have been able to take part in their department's financial scanning project. The project ensures all hard-copy documents are retained as electronic files.

"I am in charge of quality control on the FMS (Foreign Military Sales) scanning project," said Beard, a junior at Florida Institute of Technology studying environmental science. "I verify that all documents were properly scanned in and are correctly named in the system."

"We must look at the financial statements and remove any personal information from each document," Walden, a senior at Penn State Harrisburg majoring

in management and marketing, said.

In the finance department Fry, a student at Harrisburg Area Community College majoring in business with a concentration in accounting, spends her days compiling data, organizing spreadsheets, preparing documents for scanning and sending out payroll reports.

These specialized jobs can be intriguing and useful for the future, whether or not they pertain to the student's major.

"Working in finance shows me what people deal with, giving me work experience I can use later on in any field," Fry said.

Fry is not the only one who thinks the experience is what makes the job worthwhile.

"In life, every experience in learning something that you didn't know yesterday is a great one," Walden noted.

When asked what they have learned from their time as summer hires, they all mentioned the USASAC mission and process.

"The whole department works together," Fry said. "It's not separate."

"In a short time I learned that USA-SAC is a small part of a mission but plays a large role," Walden explained. USASAC is responsible for the Army's security assistance and foreign military



Photo by Kim Gillespie

Brittany Walden, a senior at Penn State Harrisburg majoring in management and marketing, takes part in a financial scanning project which ensures all hard-copy documents are retained as electronic files. She scrutinizes the financial statements and removes any personal information from each document.

sales for 145 countries around the globe and is known as "The Army's Face to the World."

Even though they may play a small role, there is no doubt these students have had an impact on their departments.

Fry's supervisor Ramona Rabuck said, "Allison has had an immediate im-



Photo by Kim Gillespie

Allison Fry, a student at Harrisburg Area Community College majoring in business with a concentration in accounting, compiles data, organizes spreadsheets, prepares documents for scanning and sends out payroll reports.

impact on the workflow in the office. She is able to perform tasks that enable other staff members to concentrate on other tasks."

By reducing the workload and stress of their co-workers and supervisors, summer hires provide a beneficial service to USASAC by helping the organization accomplish goals more quickly and easily, according to supervisors and co-workers.

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of those jobs involved working as a fitness trainer and instructor. She also volunteered quite a lot at her family church, teaching Sunday school and Bible study classes, and helping with Vacation Bible School and other kid-related activities.

"I've always been engaged. I've never been just a stay-at-home mom," she said. "I've always been engaged with something with the community or the military community. I have a capacity or a need to contribute in some way. Dan and I are wonderfully blessed, and we want to share those blessings with others and make a difference."

The family moved to Huntsville/Redstone Arsenal about five years ago. But after building their family's home in New Market and getting the kids – Payton, 9, Alexa, 6, and Bodhi, 5 – through their early years of childhood, Bailey realized she was "going stir crazy." She and her husband hired a nanny for their children and Bailey entered the work force as a full-time professional in February 2010. She worked as a program integrator for another contractor before taking on her current job.

"It was tough at first," she admitted. "I

have a hard time starting slow. I love a challenge and I was so eager. Sometimes being eager isn't always the best thing because you say 'Yes' to everything and then feel overwhelmed. I also still talked a lot like a stay-at-home mom. I learned there is definitely a difference between professional conversation versus informal, friendly conversation."

Bailey said her service as a military spouse has made her a better, more compassionate employee and boss. Although she believes in a day's work for a day's pay, she also extends her personal support to employees who are enduring tough times and family separations.

"I love my job. But I am a military spouse first and foremost," she said. "There's a guy who works for me who is deploying to Afghanistan in support of the aviation element. He served as one of Dan's Soldiers all those years ago in Germany."

"I told him if his wife needs anything while he's away, that we'll do whatever we need to do to help her. The Soldiers and civilians who deploy are the ones in the real stressful situations. If they blink or get distracted, who knows what can happen. They need to be able to sleep and rest at night knowing their wives and children are OK."

There are times when her own husband is away with work, and Bailey is committed to keeping the home running smoothly even

while holding down her own job.

"He's a Soldier, but he's also a daddy. He fulfills his role just by doing what he does," she said. "We're both flexible. We make a good team. If he's not here, I do what needs to be done. Likewise, there are certain times – like when we are in an audit – when Dan has to take care of things. We do the best we can, and God takes care of us. I just trust in Him."

Both her Soldier and military wife/mom background has helped her excel in her job. Bailey understands what it takes to work for and with civilians who also once served. Her mom skills help her to manage the day-to-day administration requirements of the JAMS employee work force, which includes the employees of eight subcontractor companies, and several deployed employees.

"Somebody that's capable and has initiative and wants to learn can be very effective in this environment," she said. "This job has been awesome for me because the leadership here is very military with a lot of hard-core personalities who are planning and striving to reach goals and get things done. I am more of a nurturer and I like to bring projects and people along, and I think that's why I fit well here."

Bailey long ago stopped worrying about what it took to be the "perfect officer's wife." She prefers being her own person and

finding where she fits best wherever God leads her.

"I am outspoken," she said. "But Dan has always said 'I didn't marry you to change you.' He thought what I had would compliment him and, in so many ways, it has been that way."

"I think everything has a season. I've been an officer's wife who does all kinds of volunteer work in support of Soldier and Soldier families. I've been there and done that. If there's a social, I'm all for it. But I don't think I'm not contributing to any Soldier causes or to the war fighter just because I'm not at a coffee. I'm making a difference being just who I am versus making myself fit into a certain environment."

While juggling military life with work and volunteering has been the answer for Bailey, she acknowledges it isn't always easy and it may not be right for all military spouses.

"Whatever you do, find your fit. If it fits and it's right, then you're having fun," she said. "Don't feel you have to fit a mold. Find your own niche, and nobody can touch that."

"Bloom where you are planted. Be green and alive. Find your little window and when you find your window you are going to grow like crazy and you'll bloom. Finding where you are supposed to be is like finding the perfect sunlight for you."

Win or Lose

Renegades sock it to opposition in rain

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Under threatening skies, the Renegades had a good afternoon July 16 on the Army's softball field off Patton Road.

The Renegades beat Put em in Boots 6-1 at Linton Field. They improved to 6-4 while Put em in Boots fell to 3-6 in Division C of the NASA/Army softball league.

"We played good defense and had some timely hits," Renegades coach and winning pitcher Dan Mullane said.

The game lasted all six innings under a light rain. Batting first, the Renegades scored three runs in the first inning and one apiece in the third, fifth and sixth innings. Put em in Boots scored their lone run in the first.

"It was sprinkling and the field was



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Rich Gladwin touches third base during his leadoff inside-the-park homer for the Renegades against Put em in Boots on July 16 at Linton Field.

wet but it wasn't slippery," Renegades team captain Laura McIntyre said. "The umpire said he was going to call the game

if it was too slick."

Leadoff hitter Rich Gladwin, who played third base, went 3-for-3 with an inside-the-park home run and scored twice. Randy Reed, the shortstop, had two triples and a single and scored twice. John Hutt, who played second and right center, had a double, single and inside-the-park homer.

"We had two innings of three-up and three-down (on defense) so that was good," McIntyre said. "And their final inning was four-up and three outs. So pretty good defense."

After the regularly scheduled and makeup games for the 25-team league, the regular season should end July 26 followed by the tournament starting July 30. The league will try to finish the postseason tournament by Aug. 16, before the Huntsville school year starts Aug. 20.

This is the first year NASA's league

expanded to include Army teams. The Marshall Athletic Recreational Services Softball Club partnered with FMWR's Sports and Fitness to allow Department of Defense/Redstone employees and family members to join in the fun. The MARS League's three divisions include Division A for intermediate/competitive, mixture of skilled/intermediate players; Division B for coed intermediate skilled, minimum of two females on the field; and Division C for coed beginner league, minimum of two females on the field.

"The new Army teams have really brought in some new talent and a lot of new people who enjoy the sport and exercise," league president Jim Lomas said. "The new competition has been challenging the teams that have been ruling the league for years. A lot of new friendships have been made and the Arsenal has a closer 'one team' philosophy among its NASA and Army tenants."

Kenyan-American runners make noise for Army

By TIM HIPPS

Installation Management Command Public Affairs

EUGENE, Ore. – The "Kenyan Connection" made a lot of noise for the U.S. Army during the 2012 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team Trials at historic Hayward Field.

U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, or WCAP, distance runners Spc. Augustus Maiyo and Spc. Robert Cheseret, both Kenyan-Americans, advanced to the finals in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and 5,000 meters, respectively.

Cheseret, 28, said he cherished the unenviable task of challenging older brother and four-time Olympian Bernard Lagat, 37, for the first time in the 5,000-meter finals on June 28.

The brothers lived together as youngsters in Kenya and trained together in Tucson while Cheseret was running for the University of Arizona, but they had never competed in a race.

"I haven't raced him. I only grew up to do what he has done," said Cheseret, who finished fifth in the first heat of the 5,000-meter preliminaries with a time of 13 minutes, 49.42 seconds. "I've been trying to follow what he is doing. I'm going to race him in the finals and it's going to be amazing."

Lagat is perhaps the most dominant distance runner in U.S. history. He is the American record holder in the 1,500 meters, mile, 3,000 meters, and 5,000 meters indoors, as well as the 1,500, 3,000 and 5,000 outdoors. He also is the Kenyan record holder at 1,500 meters outdoors. Lagat is a 12-time medalist in World Championship and Olympic competition, including five gold medals.

"In training, we did almost everything together except for racing," Lagat explained as to why the brothers' paths have never crossed at a track meet. "His schedule was different from mine, as a professional, and his as a collegiate athlete. When he finished running in college, he moved out to join the Army, and I was a professional doing my thing, so we never got to race together.

"This is the best thing ever because we are meeting together at the Olympic Trials in Eugene. We're just going to give the best we can for the finals. This is really exciting," Lagat added.

The 5,000 finale surpassed expectations when Nike's Galen Rupp out-sprinted teammate Lagat in the homestretch to win in a meet record 13:22.67, eclipsing the mark of 13:22.80 set by Steve Prefontaine on July 9, 1972. Lagat, who still holds the American record of 12:53.60, finished second in 13:22.82. Nike's Lopez



Photo by Tim Hipps

U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program Spc. Joseph Chirlee, No. 15, a naturalized citizen from Marakwet, Kenya, runs through a driving rainstorm with leaders in the men's 10,000 meters at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Track & Field Team Trials at historic Hayward Field in Eugene, Ore., June 22. Chirlee finished 15th with a time of 28 minutes, 17.84 seconds. Nike's Galen Rupp won the race in a meet record 27:25.33 and was followed by teammates Matt Tegenkamp (27:33.94) and Dathan Ritzenhein (27:36.09). Rupp broke the meet mark of 27:36.49 set by Meb Keflezighi on July 9, 2004.

10,000 meters. He was, however, ecstatic to see his brother make another Olympic team and get mugged by his children near the finish line.

"I was so happy the first time to race him, and then see him make the U.S. Olympic team," Cheseret said. "And then to see the kids over there so happy for daddy. I was happy for him, too. He has given me a lot of advice and helped me a lot with my training. Even before the race, he was over at the tent talking to me. And during the race, he was trying to keep me with the pace."

Lomong was third in 13:24.47.

Cheseret finished 12th in 13:50.39.

"I think I went out a little bit too quick at the beginning," said Cheseret, who helped set the pace for several laps. "Actually, I didn't run my race, went out with the lead. I think I should have backed up a little bit and run my race, but I ran somebody else's race, and I basically paid at the end."

Cheseret said he tried to run with his brother but the pace was too fast for Cheseret's training, which was aimed more at

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"That guy is amazing. He does all the right things and he does all the little things. He is the best. I learned a lot from this race. I got a lot of experience. They were a little bit quicker than me today, but that tells me some things I need to work on in my training.

"I'm still young. Four more years, I should be ready to be on the Olympic team. I'm going to be on the 2016 Olympic team, that's for sure."

Maiyo's 8:29.29 clocking was the fourth-fastest time in two preliminary heats of the 3,000-meter steeplechase. He coasted across the finish line in fourth place in the fastest heat.

"The first two laps, I felt it was going hard," Maiyo said. "At the middle is when I started settling in, I guess. From there, my mileage carried me because I have been running a lot. On the gun lap, I knew I could hang on with those guys."

Maiyo, 29, finished 10th in the 3,000-meter steeplechase final with a time of 8:35.61. Evan Jager won the race in 8:17.40 and was followed by London-bound Nike teammates Donald Cabral (8:19.81) and Kyle Alcorn (8:22.17).

"From the start, I could (tell) that I was fatigued a little bit," Maiyo said. "When the guys started moving, I could not respond. The first two laps, I stayed in the back. I should have stayed at the front and tried to run with those guys."

"I'm disappointed, but at the same time, I am satisfied. I've still got some work to do. I will really work for the next trials. The WCAP program has given me a second chance to run track, and I love running."

Maiyo's sights quickly turned to winning the 2012 Army Ten-Miler, set for Oct. 21 at the Pentagon, and the 2013 Armed Forces Cross Country Men's Championship, set for February in St. Louis.

Without WCAP, Maiyo would not have been in Eugene for the Olympic Trials.

"When I graduated from Alabama, I didn't want to run anymore," said Maiyo, who took nearly a three-year break from the track. "When I joined the Army, they gave me the chance, so I started running again last year."

Maiyo was happy just to be running in the final.

"Sometimes if you set higher goals, you might get pressure," Maiyo said. "I don't like to run under pressure. If I was meant to go to the Olympics, then I will go."

Cheseret was harder pressed to make the 5,000-meter final. With 200 meters remaining in his qualification heat, no less than eight runners had a shot at six

guaranteed spots in the final.

"I had to push a little bit harder," Cheseret said. "It was almost like an all-out sprint because I saw three guys out there and there were three more guys next to me. I wanted to be in the top six so I had to sprint all the way through to the line."

"The last 600 (meters), the race started to pick up, and I knew that six automatically qualify, so I was trying to count three guys ahead of me and to make sure two more people didn't pass me. I tried to stay relaxed as much as possible."

"It was a little bit of a quick pace for me today," added Cheseret, who exhibited the ability to move from the rear of the field to the front and vice versa in a matter of meters. "The pace surprised me, because with two laps to go, it went like that quick," he said with a snap of his fingers. "I had to start to pick it up. It was a little bit hard to get back to the front."

Lagat said he could not do anything to help Cheseret to the front in the finale.

"This is going to be every man for himself," Lagat said. "I wish I could do that. If it was a semi and you just wanted to get a time, you could easily say 'Let me help my brother here.' But it's a little hard when you're also trying to make that team. This is my fourth Olympics, and if I just miss now, that's it. But my brother has a chance in 2016 because he is still young."

"I cannot push the pace because I have to make sure I have enough for the end," Lagat said. "If you asked my brother to do that, he would say yes because he's an Army man and he always knows you have to be there for your fellow colleague. For me, I'm like, 'Hey, every man on himself.'"

Brotherhood aside, Cheseret faced one of the strongest 5,000-meter fields ever to grace storied Hayward Field.

"I feel great just to make it to the finals," Cheseret said. "My coach told me not to worry about anything else. Just worry about making the finals and when we get to the finals, we'll worry about the next day."

Cheseret and Maiyo are joined in WCAP by fellow Kenyan-American Joseph Chirlee, who finished 15th in the 10,000 meters at the Olympic Trials on June 22.

"Actually, that is the greatest thing that has ever happened to us," Cheseret said. "Coming from Kenya, we went to school here. After school, we joined the Army. The Army helped us get our citizenship, and we're able to represent the Army and represent the U.S. and we're also training together as three guys from Kenya. That is the best thing the Army has ever done for us. We are really happy for that."

"To put on the U.S. Army singlet, and then at the same time to call myself a U.S. citizen, is like the best thing ever to happen to me."



Courtesy photo

Field preparations

Jay Hollenbeck, a mechanical engineer in Marshall Space Flight Center's Facilities Management Office and field maintenance manager for the NASA Softball Club, prepares the field for the next game using the new Solar Gator Groomer. A legacy Saturn-1B is in the background.



Photo by Merv Brokke

War Eagle form

During a busy visit to Huntsville, Aubie took time out to see the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering work force and learn more about what they do to support the Soldier. While visiting the AMRDEC Fixed-Wing Vehicle Lab, one of its newest facilities, Lamar Auman, left, chief of the Aerodynamic Technology Branch, and Daniel Hiatt, engineer in

the Aerodynamic Technology Branch, show Aubie the proper method for launching Small Unmanned Aerial Systems. Auman is holding the Raven while Aubie displays perfect technique with the Puma.

Courtesy photo

Marine Corps director

Lt. Gen. Willie J. Williams, Marine Corps staff director, will address the graduates during the Tuskegee University graduation exercises Aug. 4 at 10 a.m. in the University Chapel. Williams assumed his current position in July 2009.



Photo by Shannon Kirkpatrick, PEO Aviation

Aviation efficiency

Maj. Gen. Tim Crosby, second from left, awards Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Weist, center, the Army's Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification. Weist created a project focusing on developing a streamlined process involving T-7000 series aircraft engine recapitalization that will save time and money. From left are Tim Franklin, PEO Aviation Lean Six Sigma deployment director; Crosby, program executive officer for aviation; Weist of the Utility Helicopters Project Office Common Engine Program; and John Smith and Julian Smith with Millennium Corporation.



Sports & Recreation

Run to remember

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

Golf tournament

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its inaugural Retiree Day Golf Tournament on Sept. 27 at the Links. This is a shotgun scramble. The \$50 entry fee includes golf cart, golf, lunch and door prizes. For information and registration, call Arno Hoerle 837-6523. All profits will go toward scholarships for military dependents.

Babe Ruth baseball

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

Indoor pool

The Redstone Fitness Center, building 3705, is expected to remain closed for approximately six months for construction of an indoor pool. During this time, the Monday and Wednesday 5:30 a.m. classes have moved to the Aerobic Room at Pagano Gym. For information on hours, call Pagano Gym 876-6701 or 876-2943, Scott Fitness Center at 955-6844/7508, Sparkman Fitness Center 313-6091/6096 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Football officials

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

Conferences & Meetings

Weekly worship

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

Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the Redstone community to its mass services noon Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday. For baptisms, weddings or any questions, call 842-2175.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at The Summit. Breakfast is available at the club. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 955-0727.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Marva Morse 430-0860. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 4488, room B-306. For information call Claudinette Purifoy 955-9422. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 8721 Madison Boulevard in Madison. For information call Dan Cutshall 684-2359.

Men's ministry

Men's Ministry, "addressing the needs of men and planting seeds for spiritual growth in Christ Jesus," meets every second or third Saturday – for exact monthly date, call Harry Hobbs at 425-5307 – at 9 a.m. at the Redstone Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for \$5. For more information, call Hobbs 425-5307.

Space society

Huntsville AL L5 Society (HAL5), a local chapter of the National Space Society, will hold its August public program Aug. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. Billy Gonterman, one of the first test conductors during the development of the SSME, will speak on

Rocket Announcements

"Space Shuttle Main Engines Early Testing: Successes, Failures and Corrections." The program is free and open to the public. For more information about HAL5 and upcoming speakers, visit www.HAL5.org.

Parent advisory council

The Parent Advisory Council supports Child Youth and School Services "Parents as Partners" Program at Redstone Arsenal. The PAC helps with activities such as classroom parties, field trips, Teacher Appreciation Day, Month of the Military Child activities, school pictures, book fairs, fund-raisers and other activities that encourage parents to stay involved in their child's education. The group encourages all parents who have children enrolled in CYSS childcare facilities – Mills Road Child Development Center, Goss Road CDC and School Age Services – to enroll annually as a member of the PAC. Its next meeting is July 31 at 11:15 a.m. in building 4488, room D103. If you plan to attend the meeting, call Ca-neeka Miller 346-8244. The PAC is a private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Military officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon today at 11 at The Summit. The guest speaker is Casey Wardynsky, superintendent of Huntsville City Schools. For more information about MOAA, visit <http://huntsvillemoaa.org/home0.aspx>.

Community women's club

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

AMCOM town hall

Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar will hold his first AMCOM Town Hall on Aug. 7 from 2-3:30 p.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium. The commanding general will recognize some AMCOM personnel for their accomplishments, discuss his philosophies, and conclude with a question-and-answer session. All AMCOM personnel are invited. There will be a video-conference hookup for CCAD, LEAD, ACLC and Fort Eustis team members. The

town hall will also be broadcast on Redstone Arsenal's Channel 42.

Leadership conference

The Global Leadership Summit, organized by Chicago's Willow Creek Church, will be simulcast Aug. 9-10 at Cove Church, 366 Old U.S. 431 in Hampton Cove. The conference features author and Willow Creek Senior Pastor Billy Hybels, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, "Good to Great" author Jim Collins, Geoffrey Canada, Patrick Lencioni, John Ortberg and other business, service and religious leaders. Special military rate pricing at \$99. For more information or to register, go to www.covechurch.com.

Airborne consortium

The Future Airborne Capability Environment Consortium is presenting the "FACE Army 2012 Technical Interchange Meeting" July 31 at the Jackson Center in Cummings Research Park. The FACE Consortium comprises representatives from industry, academia and the Department of Defense, many of whom will be exhibiting FACE-related projects and initiatives at this event. The FACE Army 2012 TIM is open to the public and runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.opengroup.us/face/index.php>.

Stop the bullying

A "Stop the Bullying" prevention program will be held Aug. 4 from 4-6 p.m. at the True Light Church of God in Christ, Harris Family Life Center, 6380 Pulaski Pike. Sponsors include the Beta Epsilon Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.'s Social Action Program, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.'s "Z-HOPE- Zetas Helping Other People Excel" program and Dependable Hands Organization. The program will focus on victims of bullying and their attackers. It will include a dramatic skit, musical band performance and inspirational speakers. For more information email Benjamin Otey, 2012 "Stop the Bullying" campaign coordinator, at benlotey@att.net.

Miscellaneous Items

Civilian deployment

Army civilian volunteers are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, operations, logistics and automation, among others. The new personnel deployment website is at the AMCOM homepage or <https://apdw.redstone.army.mil>. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM or AMC. Contractors or military personnel cannot be considered. Army

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civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and visit the deployment website or call Cindy Gordon 313-0369 or Nicole Massey 313-0365. Contractors and others interested can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Fraud hotline

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

Education test center

Thinking of changing your military occupational specialty or entering a commissioning program and need to take an Army Personnel Testing examination? If so, call the Army Education Center Testing Office 876-9764. Tests offered include the Armed Forces Classification Test, Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and the Defense Language Aptitude Battery test. If you speak a language and want it annotated on your records, call 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 non-profit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. R.S.V.P. recruits, places and trains individuals who are 55 or older to fill community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Jennifer Anderson 513-8290 or email rsvp.dir@seniorview.com.

NASA surplus

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

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 Breedon, relocation readiness program manager, 876-5397 or email mary.breedon@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 Breedon 876-5397 or email mary.breedon@conus.army.mil. Stop by Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Computer classes

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

Community youth event

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

Space Camp for special kids

A "Special Needs" Space Camp will be held Aug. 24-29 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. It is for individuals or groups. The camp will be similar in nature to the regular Space Camp, but some activities may be modified, depending on the specific needs of the individual child. Since every child has different needs, organizers encourage parents to call and speak with them directly. The camp is \$749, which includes meals and lodging. Lodging is on-site in the Space Camp habi-

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tat. If a child normally has a full-time aide, he or she may attend as an aide at no additional cost. For more information, call 1-800-637-7223.

A&M logistics registration

Alabama A&M University is now on Redstone Arsenal. Office hours are every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army Education Center, building 3222 in room 13 on Snooper Road. Available is program information leading to the undergraduate Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree, advising, evaluations (prior academic and military), registration and information for other degree programs offered at Alabama A&M University. The Logistics and Supply Chain Management Degree is available to active duty servicemembers, their spouses and adult children, retirees, civilians employed on Redstone Arsenal, and on a space-available basis for all others. Classes are taught in the evenings to allow working professionals the opportunity to earn their degree without career interruption. For more information, contact retired Lt. Col. Samuel Scruggs at samuel.scruggs@aamu.edu or 372-8216 or 479-2730 and Kris Reed at kris.reed@aamu.edu or 372-5753. Interested persons may also visit <http://www.aamu.edu/business>.

Reserve openings

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

Summer reading

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

Photo contest

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table is holding its first photo contest through Nov. 1 with categories for middle and high school students, and for adults age 19 and above. Winners will be announced in January. Individuals

may enter two of their photos in each category – print and digital – with potential subjects pertaining to the Civil War. For more information, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/tvcwrt/>.

Newcomers/new employees

The next Team Redstone Newcomers and New Employee Orientation for civilian employees, Soldiers and military family members is July 31 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Summit. 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, FMWR, Fox Army Health Center, Legal/JAG, Security, Management and Employee Relations, American Federation of Government Employees, Classification/Staffing, Benefits, Payroll, Workers Compensation, Training and Work Force Development, Equal Employment Opportunity, Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders, and Safety. For more information, call Jessie McCray 313-0714, Mary Breedon 876-5397 or Eugene Folks 313-0713. To obtain a space in this course, you must register in TIP by July 30 at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil/>.

College evaluation

Columbia College is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The college will host a visit Oct. 1-3 with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. Columbia College is accredited by the commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the commission's criteria for accreditation. The public is invited to submit comments regarding Columbia College to: Public Comment on Columbia College, The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411.

Thrift Shop job

The Thrift Shop is looking for a cleaning team/person to clean once a week on Mondays. If you are interested, visit the Thrift Shop in building 3209 on Hercules Road or call management 881-6992.

Poker run/pig roast

Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW Post 2702, will have its second annual Poker Run and Pig Roast on Saturday at 2900 North Memorial Parkway. First bike out is 11 a.m. and the last bike in is 4:30 p.m. Cost will be \$15 for one rider, \$25 for rider and passenger. Prizes are awarded for best and worst poker hands. Pork plates with side items cost \$6. The band 5 O'Clock Charlie will perform in concert. There will also be door prizes. For

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more information, call 852-4371 or email reba.j.walters@us.army.mil.

Las Vegas night

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

Community day

Northwest Church of Christ, 5008 Pulaski Pike, is sponsoring a Community Day on Aug. 11 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This free community event includes a clothing giveaway for all ages and expert-led workshops on money and property management, healthy eating and more. Representatives from healthcare agencies, the legal profession, financial planning and TARCOG will be on hand. Health South Blood Mobile will also be there to take blood donations. Continental breakfast and a light lunch will be provided. For more information on this free event, call John or Gladys Branch 837-9217.

Chaplaincy anniversary

The Aviation and Missile Command will celebrate the 237th anniversary of the Army Chaplaincy on Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sparkman Cafeteria. There will be displays about the Army Chaplaincy, an AMC Band performance and a cake cutting. For information call 842-7247.

Rumba dance classes

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

Baby shower

A baby shower will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church in the Hospitality area. New and gently used items are accepted. A donation bin is at the receptionist desk. To attend this Choose Life baby shower, email Rhonda Niemeyer at r.lancey@yahoo.com.

Veterans job fair

"Hiring Our Heroes Career Fair" – a job fair for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members, and military spouses – will be held Aug. 23 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville Marri-

ott, 5 Tranquility Base. For more information on this free event, call Sheila McFerran of Still Serving Veterans 883-7035 or email sheilamcferran@stillservingveterans.org.

Car show

The Ardmore Quarterback Club presents the Ardmore Car Show, Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at John Barnes Park in Ardmore, Tenn. All proceeds go to support Ardmore High School athletic programs. Spectator admission is \$5 per person, \$15 per family; and children 12 and under are admitted free. For more information, call Rodney Willoughby (205) 908-2677, Sandy Hardiman (256) 656-3413 or visit ArdmoreCarShow@gmail.com.

Memorial open house

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

Breast cancer awareness

As part of its vision to realize a world without breast cancer, the North Central Alabama Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is encouraging people to show their true colors by participating in Worship in Pink, a simple education program that inspires breast cancer advocacy and honors those affected by the disease. Worship in Pink Weekend will be held Aug. 25-26 throughout north central Alabama. The Worship in Pink program encourages and empowers places of worship to spread the life-saving message of early detection and honor survivors in their communities. Participants are encouraged to wear pink and get creative to make the day fun and educational. After registering at komenncalabama.org, groups will receive a free participation kit that includes ideas and promotional materials for Worship in Pink Weekend. Groups host their own events and incorporate breast cancer education into their weekly service. For more information, visit komenncalabama.org.

Disabled/veterans recruitment

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

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ment of Rehabilitation Services. Registration is required for this free event. Submit registration requests to John Ambrose via email at Ambrose.John@DOL.gov.

Trolley tours

Enjoy a light breakfast and coffee aboard a 1920s vintage-inspired trolley, while touring downtown Huntsville and the Twickenham historic district. Tours continue to leave from Alabama Constitution Village at 9 a.m. on Saturdays in July and August. Narrated by historic interpreters, you'll learn historical, and sometimes hysterical stories, about people and places from the past. Tickets are \$12 and may be purchased Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Confectionary Shop or by calling 535-6564 and using a credit card. Advance reservations are recommended.

Comedy show

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

Contract managers support

The Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will participate in the 2012 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease is the nation's sixth-leading cause of death and this annual walk is held in more than 600 communities nationwide to raise awareness, funds for care, support and research. The Huntsville Walk will take place Sept. 15 at the Botanical Garden and NCMA is seeking participants of all ages and abilities to join it on this walk. If you wish to walk or volunteer with NCMA in support of this cause,

call Amy Donlin 876-0500 and Kevin Powell 450-4675.

Meet new principals

Huntsville City Schools is holding a "Meet and Greet" for the three new principals of Williams Elementary, Williams Middle and Columbia High School on Aug. 9 from 6-7:30 p.m. The event will be held at Williams Elementary, 155 Barren Fork Boulevard. In addition to meeting the new principals, the Redstone Arsenal community will have the opportunity to do onsite school registration, transportation signup, and learn more about course requirements, extracurricular activities and the extended day program.

Business seminar

"How to Start a Business" with Stephen Levy of SEL & Associates will be presented Aug. 8 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, briefing room. The \$20 fee is payable at the door. To register call 824-6422 or email SBDC@uah.edu.

Artifact collection

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

