

# Redstone Rocket

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## New leadership era for AMCOM

*Collyar succeeds Rogers as senior commander*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Team Redstone bid farewell Friday afternoon to retiring Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers and welcomed incoming Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar.

Collyar succeeded Rogers as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and senior commander of Redstone Arsenal in a change of command ceremony in the mostly-filled, 650-seat Bob Jones Auditorium.

Rogers, who commanded AMCOM since September 2010, retired after 33 years of service.

“To my AMCOM family, thank you all for what you’ve done and what you’ll continue to do in the future,” he said.

See Leadership on page 7



Photo by Skip Vaughn

At Friday's change of command ceremony are, from left, AMCOM's retiring Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers, AMC's commander Gen. Ann Dunwoody and Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, incoming commander of the Aviation and Missile Command.

## Huntsville native returns as AMCOM commander



By SKIP VAUGHN  
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The new commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and senior commander of Redstone Arsenal isn't exactly a newcomer.

In fact Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, a Huntsville native, has returned home.

“I claim this as my hometown,” said Collyar, who was born in Stillwater, Okla. He graduated from Huntsville High School in 1975 and his father, Leo, and mother, Darlene, both worked at Redstone Arsenal. Leo, who died in 1997, retired in 1988 from the then Missile Command.

Collyar played on the golf team at Huntsville High and is an avid sports fan.

He decided in middle school that he was going to West Point but his goal was to serve five years and then leave the Army. He said he never expected to stay for what has now become 33 years.

“Huntsville's such a great town, and the memories of growing up and getting the good education that allowed me to get into West Point,” he said.

Collyar, 55, said he has enjoyed every tour he's ever had, but this one is special.

“I have been looking forward to this for a long time, getting back here,” he said.

Asked about AMCOM's mission, he said, “Missile and aviation are two of the keystones for the Army in the future.”

Collyar succeeded retiring Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers as AMCOM's commander in a change of command ceremony Friday at Bob Jones Auditorium. He previously served as the director of logistics operations for the Defense Logistics Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va., since August 2010.

As an ammunition officer he came to Redstone in 1983 for the advanced course at the Ordnance school. He would later become the Army's 35th chief of Ordnance. The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School moved last year to Fort Lee, Va., under base realignment and closure.

Collyar and his wife, Col. Sarah Green, have been married since October 1999. They originally met in the Pentagon. A Memphis native, she will become the staff judge advocate for the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

“I know a lot of people” in the local community, Collyar said. “And I look forward to the opportunity to work with them.”

### COMMUNITY NEWS

Local chapter represents personnel professionals.

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Identical twin brothers serve as gate guards.

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Rinse facility designed to prevent corrosion.

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Space command competition decides warriors of year.

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### WIN OR LOSE

Post leaders prepare for softball game.

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Photo by Skip Vaughn  
Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar has become the commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and senior commander of Redstone Arsenal.

# RocketViews

What are your plans for the summer?

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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**Sgt. Maj. Michael Brown**

Army Materiel Command G-1 (Human Resources)  
"Relax and enjoy the warm weather, and just play more golf."



**Mendy Lazo**

AMC G-6 (Chief Information Office)  
"Spend time with my family. That's my main thing. Enjoy the water here in North Alabama. Vacation in the Gulf, and work."



**John Wachs**

SMDC/ARSTRAT Technical Center  
"Spend a lot of time at the lake. Spend some time with my kids: I've got two – one (John D.) is a senior in high school; my daughter (Julia) is going to the University of Alabama. And take a vacation with my wife (Kathy)."



**Rachel Griffith**

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs Office, Colorado Springs, Colo.  
"This summer I plan to take a road trip. We are going to flip a coin and decide where to go every day. I'm going to bring my dog Peyton to play with her friend Zola (who belongs to Dottie White of SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs)."

## Quote of the week

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken." — James Dent  
*humorist*

## Letter to the editor

### Army chief: Building flexible force for next decade

WASHINGTON – After six months as chief of staff, I can see clearly that the coming decade will be a vital period of transition for the U.S. Army. The service will have to adjust to three major changes: declining budgets, due to the country's worsened fiscal situation; a shift in emphasis to the Asia-Pacific region; and a broadening of focus from counterinsurgency, counterterrorism, and training of partners to shaping the strategic environment, preventing the outbreak of dangerous regional conflicts, and improving the Army's readiness to respond in force to a range of complex contingencies worldwide.

To ensure that declining budgets do not lead to shortfalls in training and equipment, the size of the active-duty force will have to be reduced. The reductions will be painful, but they are necessary and can be done responsibly. We must do our utmost to ensure that the Soldiers leaving the force are treated fairly and that they and their families are provided with support to help them successfully transition to civilian life. We must also cut units as we cut Soldiers, to prevent units from becoming undermanned and ineffective.

Although maintaining a smaller active-duty Army will involve some risks, those risks will be less than some believe because of the changes that have taken place in the Army in recent years. Today's force is qualitatively different from the Army of a decade ago. It is more combat seasoned, more tightly integrated with the other military services and with special operations forces, and more technologically advanced.

Today's Army also has an unprecedented level of integration between its active and its reserve components. The Army National Guard and the Army Reserve have stood shoulder to shoulder with active-duty troops around the globe, and the level of trust, respect and mutual understanding between them is unparalleled in the Army's history. Our reserve component Soldiers are better than they have ever been, and we will dedicate resources to ensure that some of them will be either deployed or ready to deploy around the globe.

Multiple initiatives are under way to ensure that the Army continues to improve the stewardship of its resources and increase its return on the investment of public dollars. These include broad-based reforms of the processes that

support key Army functions, changes to how the Army defines its equipment needs and then buys and fields systems to meet them, a careful examination of both institutional and operational headquarters to eliminate excess layers of command, and the pursuit of alternative energy sources and practices that can increase operational effectiveness while also saving money.

Ultimately, maintaining the Army the country requires with fewer resources will mean balancing three variables: the overall size of the force, its equipment, and its training and readiness. All the budgetary adjustments I recommend as chief of staff will be governed by the necessity of ensuring that each of these pillars is sufficiently robust to field an Army with the capability and capacity to perform its assigned missions.

The United States serves as a critical guarantor of stability in the Asia-Pacific region, and a robust joint military presence there is an important part of the country's broader regional strategy. U.S. naval and air forces maintain the ability to provide rapid strikes, and if a broader conflict arose, they would play a key role in enabling the entry of the U.S. Army or the Marines into the theater. But the Army has a critical regional role to play in peacetime as well. The presence of Army forces in the region is an essential component of deterrence against aggression, complicating potential adversaries' planning and diverting their resources

from other investments. And despite the region's vast expanses of oceans, Asia's militaries remain dominated by armies, making the U.S. Army's robust relationships with its regional partners a vital resource in a broad range of situations.

The recently announced training initiative between the United States and Australia has already demonstrated a renewed U.S. commitment to the region. This adds to the Army's partnership with South Korea, its long-standing record of exercises with Japan and Thailand, and special operations forces' training missions in the Philippines. Over the next decade, the Army will build on this strong foundation, seeking opportunities to engage new partners. We will also look to increase exchanges with other forces, better align our foreign assistance programs with

**See Letter on page 33**



**Gen. Ray Odierno**

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# Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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**Name:** Frank Fisher

**Job:** Procurement analyst, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office

**Where do you call home?**  
 Huntsville, Ala. I was born at Huntsville Hospital.

**What do you like about your job?**  
 Providing direct support for the war fighter and maintaining our contractual arrangements.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

In my spare time I attend kids' activities, ballgames, Boy Scouts – the whole range. Usually that's what takes up most of my time is kids and family activities. I have three children: Trey, he's 15; Marli, she's 11; and Isaiah, he is 9. I enjoy watching Auburn football and other Auburn sports. War Eagle! My parents dressed me in Alabama clothes until I was old enough to know better.

**What are your goals?**  
 Right now my goals are just to raise happy and healthy children that are



well-educated and adjusted and have every opportunity in life that I had to work hard to attain.

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

I think I'd like to buy a pair of jet skis and a house boat, and just live on the water. Retire and live on the water.

# Armed Forces Celebration Week at a glance

## June 11-16

**June 11 –**  
 9:30 a.m.: Proclamation Signing, Veterans Memorial

6:30-9:30 p.m.: Concert in the Park with Army Materiel Command Band, military displays and fireworks show, Big Spring International Park.

**June 12 –**  
 8 a.m.: AUSA "Iron Mike" Golf Tournament, The Links at Redstone

2 p.m. and 7 p.m.: Army Soldier Show, Huntsville High School Auditorium, free ticket required

**June 13 –**  
 Noon: Armed Forces Salute Luncheon, Von Braun Center North Hall, ticket required

**June 14 –**  
 11 a.m.-1 p.m.: AUSA 237th Army Birthday Celebration, Redstone Arsenal Community Activity Field

7 p.m.: "Hell and Back Again" movie screening, Monaco Theater, Bridge Street

## June 15 –

5 p.m.: Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team vs. Team Redstone, Metro Kwanis Sportsplex

7 p.m.: Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team vs. Senior All-Stars "Rockets"

## June 16 –

4 p.m.: Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team vs. City of Huntsville "The Protectors" Team

6:30 p.m.: AUSA Huntsville Stars Military Appreciation Night, Joe Davis Stadium

## Weeklong events –

Free or discount admission to attractions for active or retired military and military families:

U.S. Space & Rocket Center, museum is free, IMAX S8

Huntsville Botanical Garden, free admission

Early Works Museum, free admission

Huntsville Museum of Art, free admission

Sci-Quest, free admission

Veterans Memorial Museum, free admission



Photo by Carrie E. David

## Meritorious service

Lt. Col. Gregory Ash, deputy chief of staff G-1 at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, pins a Meritorious Service Medal on Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Griffin during an award ceremony May 30 at SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters. Griffin is preparing to leave the command for an assignment overseas.

# Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents for May 20-26:

- Police recovered an Army deserter from Hoover and returned him to his Fort Stewart, Ga., unit.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident on Rideout Road at Goss Road.

- A government employee reported storm damage to a government vehicle that was parked at the Sparkman Center.



- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident at the Redstone Airfield.

- Police investigated a report of shoplifting at the Redstone Exchange.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident on Vincent Drive at Lacrosse Drive.

- Police investigated a family disturbance in the residential area of the Arsenal.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident on Neal Road at Rideout Road.

- Police investigated a report of a suspicious package in the mail room of building 5250 and found it to be harmless.

- Police investigated a report of a Soldier being arrested for assault and disorderly conduct in Spring City, Tenn.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, traffic accident on Goss Road at Patton Road.

- Police investigated a report of damage to government property at 244 Goss Road.

- Seven U.S. District Court violation notices were issued.

# Local chapter represents personnel professionals

By Chief Warrant Officer 4 SHEREN ROBERTS  
For the Rocket

The Rocket City Chapter of the Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association activated May 3, making it the 39th chapter of the national association.

More than 60 potential members attended a breakfast meeting at The Summit led by the chapter's first president Col. Carlen Chestang Jr., the Army Materiel Command's deputy G-1 and adjutant general. During his comments, he challenged the Adjutant General's Corps Soldiers and Department of Defense Human Resources civilians to ensure that the Rocket City Chapter makes a difference in the Huntsville/Redstone Arsenal community and continues taking care of the Army's most precious resource – people.

“With over 1,500 Soldiers and over 15,000 civilians here on RSA, our commanders, Soldiers and family members here expect us, the HR professionals, to deliver the highest quality product regardless of how tough the task or whether we are serving in the operational or institutional parts of the Army,” Chestang said.

“The Rocket City Chapter's aim is to develop new HR methods and techniques to increase efficiency; provide an opportunity for the mutual exchange and discussion of HR professionals in the entire Tennessee Valley; promote esprit de corps among members of the association; encourage improvements in research; and develop programs in our field.”

The vision to start a local chapter came from Team Roberts, consisting of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eugene Roberts and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sheren Roberts. Both moved to Redstone Arsenal from the National Capitol Region last fall. Once they arrived, both noticed that there was not a local AGCRA chapter in the area. They quickly wanted to fill that void and so they formed a small committee to see what interest they would get. To their surprise, more than 20 HR professionals attended that first committee

*“With over 1,500 Soldiers and over 15,000 civilians here on RSA, our commanders, Soldiers and family members here expect us, the HR professionals, to deliver the highest quality product regardless of how tough the task or whether we are serving in the operational or institutional parts of the Army.”*

**Col. Carlen Chestang Jr.**  
Army Materiel Command's deputy  
G-1 and adjutant general

meeting. With experience as members of the executive committee of the AGCRA Potomac Chapter in the National Capitol Region, Team Roberts provided a wealth of information and expertise to ensure that the Rocket City Chapter became a reality.

The Rocket City AGCRA's first executive committee includes Col. Carlen Chestang Jr., president; Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eugene Roberts, vice president of operations; Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sheren Roberts, vice president of programs and outreach; Terrell Pearson, chaplain and vice president of membership; Master Sgt. Wayne Ebenreiter, sergeant at arms; Cedric Thomas, vice president of ceremonies and special events; Tracie Harris, vice president of marketing and public affairs; Chenita Henderson, treasurer; Lt. Col. Carolyn Dukes, vice president of Reserve/National Guard affairs; Sgt. 1st Class Patricia Jenkins, executive administrator; Sgt. 1st Class Chrystal Friendly, vice president of Soldier affairs; Pat Hill, vice president of civilian affairs; Steve Davis, vice president of retiree affairs; and Wes Lowe, Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Griffin, Wesner Louis, Gwendolyn Lee, Capt. Charlene Lockett and Karen Butler, members-at-large.

Anyone interested in joining the chapter can call 450-7462 or email [rsa.agcra@groups.facebook.com](mailto:rsa.agcra@groups.facebook.com).



Courtesy photo

**The executive committee of the newly formed Rocket City Chapter of the Adjutant General's Corps Regimental Association includes, seated from left, Chenita Henderson and Sgt. 1st Class Patricia Jenkins; second row from left, Terrell Taylor Pearson, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sheren Roberts, Lt. Col. Carolyn Dukes, Col. Carlen Chestang Jr., Tracie Harris and Sgt. 1st Class Chrystal Friendly; and third row from left, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eugene Roberts, Cedric Thomas and Wesley Lowe.**

## 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:

### Pool passes

Swimming pool passes are now on sale. Outdoor Recreation offers three well-maintained swimming pools, fully staffed with Red Cross certified lifeguards during all activities. Costs include \$60 for individuals, \$100 for families; \$30 for active duty individuals, \$50 for their families. You can purchase your passes at Outdoor Recreation or poolside; and credit card purchases can be made at both locations. Daily pool passes for individuals and guests are \$3 per person; \$2 for active duty and family with ID cards. Daily pool passes will only be available at the FMWR pools. For more information, call 876-4868.

### 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.

### Movie under stars

A free showing of “Ghost Rider – Spirit of Vengeance,” starring Nicholas Cage and rated PG-13, will be held Friday night at 8 on the 27-foot outdoor screen at the Activity Field. No outside food or beverages allowed. For more information, call 842-3070.

### Drum line classes

Drum line classes, for ages 4-19, started June 4 and are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the CYSS Annex, building 3153 on Youth Center Road. Cost is \$60 per month. If interested 690-6235. This is among the summer programs for SKIESUnlimited (School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills). They also offer martial arts, arts, dance, piano and guitar.

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# Opportunities abound for summer stay-cation

*No need to travel  
for vacation fun*

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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If you think you know Huntsville, make time this summer to prove yourself wrong – and have fun in the process.

“A lot of people ask, ‘Why Huntsville?’ I say, why not Huntsville? There is tons of stuff to do,” Kristi Huskey, marketing manager for the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau, said. “Huntsville has a lot to offer a family, both the adults and the kids. Do you really know what’s in your hometown?”

This summer, banish the all too familiar chorus of “I’m bored” with an adventure right here at home. The Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau is there to help even the most seasoned of North Alabama residents find some place new to play over the summer. Located at 500 Church St., Suite One, on the corner of Church and Cleveland in downtown Huntsville, everything you need to know about North Alabama is right there at your fingertips, with friend-



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Shonda Rose of Huntsville enjoys skating at an overlook in Monte Sano State Park.**

ly staff available to help you find the activities and attractions that best fit your interests. Even though “visitor” is technically in their name, the center isn’t just for out of towners, but for those that call the Tennessee Valley home as well.

“There’s so much to see and do,” said Charles Winters, executive vice president for the convention and visitors bureau. “You really don’t have to leave this area or your own backyard to do some really fun things. Stop at the Visitor’s Center, then go have a blast.”

Open seven days a week, Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays from noon to 5, the Visitor’s



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**T.J Davis of Valhermosa enjoys fishing at Ditto Landing.**

Center not only boasts brochures about North Alabama, and the rest of the state too, including the beach, but also offers 20 percent coupons off admission to ma-

ajor attractions in the area, savings booklets for area shopping, and an All Star Sports Pass, a buy-one-ticket-get-one

**See Fun on page 8**

# Leadership

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He and his wife, Reba, and their four children will remain in the local community.

Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commander of the Army Materiel Command, officiated at the ceremony. She presented to Rogers the Distinguished Service Medal; the Gen. Brehon B. Somervell Medal of Excellence as a multifunctional logistician; a letter from the U.S. commander in chief and a presidential certificate of appreciation; letters of appreciation from senators, representa-

tives, the Army chief of staff and vice chief of staff; a U.S. flag; and a certificate of retirement.

“Not only did Jim do it all, he and his team did it well,” Dunwoody said.

She welcomed “another tremendous leader,” Collyar, who was a 1979 West Point classmate of Rogers.

“We’re so fortunate to have him take the reins at AMCOM,” Dunwoody said.

A Huntsville native, Collyar served as the director of logistics operations for the Defense Logistics Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va., since August 2010.

“I look forward to working with all of you,” Collyar said, “Army Strong.”



Photo by Ellen Hudson

## Pools open

Neisha Magonigal and her three children, from left, Meg (2), Tucker (5) and Parker (7) enjoy Thursday's outing at Pool 3 on Goss Road.

# Fun

continued from page 6

free deal for local sporting events. There's no better time to get out and see what Huntsville and the surrounding area has to offer.

"There are a lot of things that don't cost anything," Winters said. "Hiking, biking, the greenways, bike trails and fishing – you don't have to have any money in your pocket to go have fun. It doesn't necessarily cost anything to get out and have a good time."

The question isn't what's there to do in Huntsville, but rather, what isn't there to do? Here's just a tiny piece of the action going on in Alabama this summer – for a full listing of events, visit [www.ourvall-eyeevents.com](http://www.ourvall-eyeevents.com) or [www.huntsville.org](http://www.huntsville.org).

## First stop: Nature

A visit to Monte Sano, Spanish for "Mountain for Health," is sure to give you a healthy dose of Mother Nature with a plethora of state park to explore. Pack a picnic and watch the kids have fun on the



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Mathew Ganatra, 14, practices his tennis skills at Dublin Park's tennis courts in Madison.**

playground, or take a hike on one of the park's many trails, a variety of distances and difficulties are available, with the beautiful Tennessee Valley as the backdrop. Make it a weekend and spend the night at the park's campground or reserve a cabin for the night. For more information, visit [www.alapark.com/montesano](http://www.alapark.com/montesano).

While you're on the mountain, stop by Burritt on the Mountain, a combination of nature trails, museum, mansion, barnyard, concerts and more. If water is more your thing, walk, bike, boat, picnic, swim, fish or camp at Ditto Landing's more than 560 acres, located at the midpoint of the Tennessee River off the Parkway. Grab your binoculars and go bird watching on the North Alabama Birding Trail, part of the Hays Nature Preserve in Huntsville. Or stop by Dublin Park in Madison for swimming, tennis, disc golf and soccer, and a chance for the kids to pretend they're royalty at the park's Kid's Kingdom Playground.

You don't have to get out of the city for a glimpse at flora and fauna – it's right in the city's backyard at the Huntsville Botanical Garden. Wander through the gardens within the Garden – dogwoods, daylilies, herbs and countless other varieties of flowers, vegetables, trees and plants grow here. This summer's exhibit, "Green Things & Butterfly Wings," features 35 hand painted 5.5-foot butterflies scattered through the garden, the perfect tribute to



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Jonathan Brady, left, and Ricardo Amaya of Huntsville pause for a water break while mountain biking at Monte Sano State Park.**

the thousands of live butterflies that call the garden's open-aired butterfly house, located in the Nature Center, home. For more information visit [www.hsvbg.org](http://www.hsvbg.org).

## Museum magic

Escape the summer sun and head indoors when the heat becomes too much at one of the area's many museums. Uncover the tale of how Huntsville became known as the "Rocket City" at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, located conveniently off I-565 just minutes from the Arsenal. Gaze in wonder at the Saturn V, catch a movie at the IMAX, learn about how Huntsville impacted America's place in the space race or brush up on your Arsenal knowhow at the Team Redstone exhibit, the learning possibilities are nearly endless. Now showing through Sept. 3, "Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age" takes museum goers on a journey back to the Ice Age, with hands-on interactive displays, life sized models, fossil tusks, skulls and touchable teeth that tell the story of the massive beasts. Attendance to the exhibit is included in general admission. For more information about the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, visit [www.rocketcenter.com](http://www.rocketcenter.com).

Be sure to add some science to your summer fun at Sci-Quest, a hands-on science center devoted to making learning come to life with demonstrations and activities for all ages just across the highway from the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Forecast the weather and discover the technology behind the meteorologists at the WHNT News 19 Weather Center, test the laws of motion in Newton's Lab, and if you time it just right, mingle with the center's live turtles, tortoises, geckos and snakes. For more information, visit [www.sci-quest.org](http://www.sci-quest.org).

For three times the fun visit all three EarlyWorks museums – the Children's History Museum, Constitution Village and Huntsville Historic Depot – located within blocks of each other in downtown Huntsville. Learn all about the railroad, experience life in 1819 and listen to stories from the Talking Tree, there's something for all ages. For more information, visit [www.earlyworks.com](http://www.earlyworks.com).

## Catch some culture

Immerse yourself in the arts with a stop at the Huntsville Museum of Art, 300 Church St. southwest, named one of the state's top 10 destinations by the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel. Don't just admire the art, but make some of your own in an art class at the Museum Academy, or take some home from the Museum Store. For more information, visit [www.hsvmuseum.org](http://www.hsvmuseum.org). Let the art come to you at the Sidewalk Summer Arts Stroll, held June 21, July 19 and Aug. 16 at the Madison County Courthouse Square from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Everything from artwork to handcrafted goods, like oil paintings and soap, at a variety of budgets, are available for browse and purchase.

Make room for music with one of the valley's many concert offerings over the summer, which can have your ears ringing several nights a week at no cost to you. Monday nights head to Big Spring Park for Concerts in the Park, show begins at 6:30 and runs through Aug. 6. Let the music move you at the Madison Gazebo Concerts, held Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. through Aug. 9 at the corner of Front and Church streets. Finish off the week at 2211 Seminole Drive in Huntsville with your cooler, favorite lawn chair and even your dog at Lowe Mill's Concerts On the Dock, a free concert series held every Friday from 6-9 p.m. through the end of October.

## Sports

Just because it's not college football season doesn't mean there's not a team to cheer for over the summer. Root for the Huntsville Stars, the Class AA baseball affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers, the Rocket City Titans, of the Premier South Football League, Rocket City United, of the National Premier Soccer League, or the Dixie Derby Girls, the area's roller derby team. You don't have to go to Talladega to catch a race – the Huntsville Speedway offers racing on its quarter-mile oval track through September or try the Huntsville Dragway in Harvest, where the rubber-burning action happens on the weekends. Or get in on the action yourself at one of the area's many golf courses.

# Service dog deploys to new family mission

*Redstone family trains puppies to help others*

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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Last week, the Van Riper family was preparing for a deployment.

But it wasn't their Soldier who was leaving for a mission. Rather, it was their dog, Rory.

Since August, the Van Riper family – including dad Steven, who as a lieutenant colonel serves as the program manager for Apache Sensors; mom Amy, and children Nick and Emma – have been raising Rory for a special mission. The 1-year-old black Labrador retriever is a member of an elite dog corps that works as service dogs – including guide (or seeing-eye) dogs, veteran assistance dogs and therapy dogs through Southeastern Guide Dogs based near Tampa, Fla.

"This is just like a deployment," Amy said. "Part of me is dreading it because it means saying 'goodbye.' Another part of me can't wait because I want to get past the 'goodbye' and to what comes next."

What comes next is a new puppy for the Van Riper family. Rory was the first "puppy in training" that has lived with the family.

This past Saturday, the Van Ripers and 24 other puppy-raiser families delivered their dogs to Southeastern Guide Dogs in a special "goodbye" ceremony called "In For Training" that involved family hugs, doggy playtime and a turn-in of the puppies to the organization's professional trainers. They then spent Sunday having "dogless" fun at Busch Gardens and then returned to Southeastern Guide Dogs on Monday to pick up their new puppy-in-training – 18-week-old Sir Maverick of Monaco, better known as Maverick.

"It will be hard to give Rory back," Amy said. "But we know what these dogs mean to people who get them. I like to say that this is a lesson for us in charity and sacrifice. It will be hard, but the new puppy will make it easier."

Amy and her husband had considered training a service dog several



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Amy Van Riper and her children, Nick and Emma, play with 1-year-old Rory. The Labrador retriever spent almost a year with the Van Riper family as he took the first steps toward being a service dog for Southeastern Guide Dogs. The family returned him to the organization this past weekend, and will begin teaching and socializing their new puppy this week.**

years ago. But deployments, military moves and starting a family kept them from pursuing the idea.

With the move to Redstone Arsenal, the idea began to become a possibility. The family had a pet friendly home with a fenced-in backyard, the kids were old enough to help care for a dog and the family expected to be stationed at Redstone for a good length of time.

"Steve was still in Iraq when we moved here in July 2010," Amy said. "The kids really wanted a dog and we were living in a place where we could have one. We thought again about raising a seeing-eye puppy and then one day we went to Whitesburg Baptist Church for the first time and sitting in church were two people with two seeing-eye dogs that were being trained. I walked up to them and asked them how we could sign up to train a dog."

**See Dog on page 16**

# Keep pets cool during hot summer

By Capt. STEFANIA WILCOX  
Fort Benning Veterinary Services

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Each summer heat injuries claim many victims among our dog and cat populations. Heat injuries range from heat stress (body temperature greater than 106 degrees F) to heat stroke (body temperature greater than 108 degrees F).

Heat injuries have many causes, but they are almost always preventable. Most often, heat injuries occur when owners over-exercise poorly conditioned pets, leave their pets in a parked car, or leave pets outside without access to shade and water.

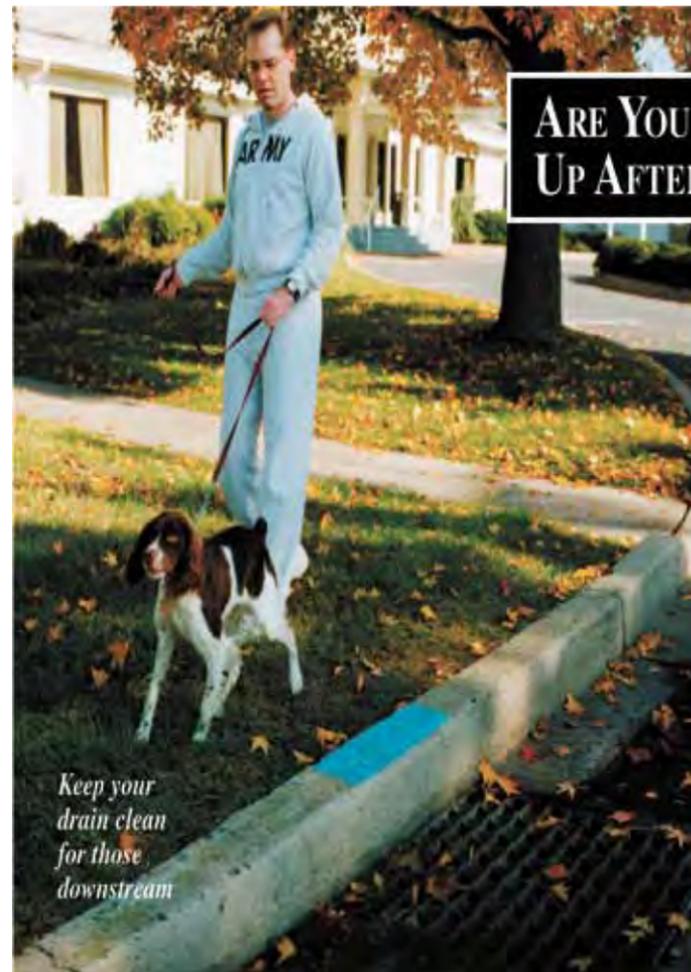
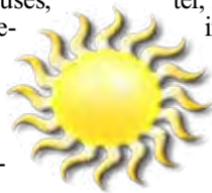
Much of the U.S. gets very hot in the summer, and the heat index can rise to well over 100 degrees any day. Temperatures inside a hot, parked car can reach lethal levels within minutes. Pets cannot perspire like humans and can overheat very quickly. This can also happen when pets exercise too much in the heat or are denied shade and fresh water to help keep them cool. If you and your pet recently moved to warmer climates, ensure that pets slowly get acclimated to the extreme summer heat. It is important to remember that brachycephalic (flat faced)

breeds, such as bull dogs and pugs, often have airway problems that further exacerbate these risk factors.

Symptoms of heat injuries include heavy panting, weakness, excessive drooling, vomiting and/or diarrhea, and can rapidly progress to collapse, coma and death. If your pet is experiencing these symptoms, you must quickly reduce the body temperature by soaking the animal with cool water (tap water, not ice water) and immediate seeking veterinary treatment. Without treatment, body temperatures can continue to rise to 109 degrees or greater, at which irreversible brain damage and organ failure can occur.

Tips for keeping your pet safe from this potentially lethal disease are as follows:

- Never leave your pet in a parked car.
- Only exercise your pet during the coolest times of the day.
- Provide plenty of clean, cool water and shade for outdoor pets.
- Provide adequate ventilation with screened, open windows, air conditioning, or fans for indoor pets.
- Gradually acclimate your pet to the outdoor heat. As with humans, this is especially important for very young, very old, obese and sick or debilitated animals.



*Keep your  
drain clean  
for those  
downstream*

## ARE YOU CLEANING UP AFTER YOUR PET?

### Pet Waste and Storm Water Quality

#### Pet waste can

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

#### Tips for proper disposal:

- Flush it.
- Bury it.
- Trash it.

Contact the U.S. Army Garrison - Redstone at (256) 876-6122.

Improving Storm Water Quality



# 'All he wanted to do was serve his country'

*Memorial Day event honors patriots who died in service*

**By KARI HAWKINS**  
Assistant editor  
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The American patriot mentioned by retiring Maj. Gen. Jim Rogers during a May 28 Memorial Day ceremony at Maple Hill Cemetery wasn't from Huntsville, and he didn't know anyone in the crowd of veterans and families who gathered at the cemetery. But 1st Lt. Jonathan Walsh of Kennesaw, Ga., was very much a part of the ceremony.

For Rogers, former commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, Walsh represents the meaning of Memorial Day. The major general attended the Soldier's funeral in late April after he was killed by an improvised explosives device in Paktia, Afghanistan, on April 22.

"The toughest thing we have to do in those situations is on bended knee make sure this flag is presented as a token of our appreciation for your loved one's honorable and faithful service," Rogers told the crowd.

"This needs to be said, this needs to be recognized – that our servicemembers are



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Retired Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. John Perry leads the 1st Patriot Support Corps in presenting the colors during the Memorial Day ceremony hosted by the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition at Maple Hill Cemetery on May 28.**

willing to make the ultimate sacrifice so we can remain free."

Rogers was the featured speaker at the annual Memorial Day event, which involved nearly 30 local military organizations that

laid a wreath at the foot of Maple Hill Cemetery's veterans memorial. He spoke of the 28-year-old Walsh, who served with the 2nd Battalion, 504th Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division of Fort Bragg, N.C. Walsh graduated from Kennesaw State University and worked in the financial industry before joining the Army.

"All he wanted to do was serve his country ... and he died as part of a platoon going to save another platoon under attack," Rogers said.

Walsh was married and had a 5-month-old son named Austin.

"Austin will never see his father. But he will grow up proud that his father made the ultimate sacrifice for his country," Rogers said. "I want to thank the families that live with that every day. ... Our country has a long lineage of servicemembers willing to make the sacrifice for this

country."

The ceremony included patriotic and military music by the Huntsville Concert Band and Redstone Arsenal's Joe Ausfahl



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Capt. Blair Tighe of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command covers his eyes during an emotional moment at the Memorial Day ceremony at Maple Hill Cemetery.**

on the bagpipes, the presentation of colors

**See Memorial on page 14**

# Memorial

continued from page 12

by a local military re-enactment group known as the 1st Patriot Support Corps, the poem "Imagining Memorial Day" recited by state Rep. Phil Williams, a performance of "God Bless America" and "Prayer to St. Peter" by local television anchor Lee Marshall, a rifle salute by the American Legion 237 Rifle Squad and Taps played by World War II veteran Mike Vacarro.

"Take a minute and look around. There's no better place to be right now," Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle told the crowd. "We're here to honor those who served us and who died in that service. We join forces throughout this country to honor those who served us and made the ultimate sacrifice, those who have kept our way of life for each of us."

The North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition hosted the annual ceremony.

"Today is a sacred day to all Americans and especially to all war veterans," said Joe Fitzgerald, state president of the Association of the U.S. Army and the event's master of ceremonies.

"On Memorial Day, America's collective consciousness demands that its citizens reconnect with their history and core values by honoring the more than 1 million



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**The family of fallen Soldier Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Hall, who was killed June 1, 2009 by an improvised explosive device in Nerkh, Afghanistan, carries the wreath for the Gold Star Families of North Alabama/Survivor Outreach Services. Hall's family members are, from left, daughter Audrey, widow Allison, and parents Annette and Charlie.**

Americans who have died in our nation's wars – each paid with their lives – the most precious price that could possibly be paid for the freedoms we enjoy today."

In honor of the day, Boy Scout Troop 400 placed small U.S. flags on 1,200 veterans' graves in Maple Hill Cemetery. Since 1951, Boy Scout troops have been placing flags on 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks Na-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Members of the Young Marines and Marine Corps League stand at attention after placing a wreath at the veterans memorial at Maple Hill Cemetery. In the background are members of the Military Officers Association of America with the wreath they will present at the memorial.**

tional Cemetery in St. Louis. Troop 400 has pledged to continue that tradition each year at Maple Hill Cemetery.

Rogers joined Leonard Robinson, vice president of the veterans coalition, to place the first wreath at the cemetery's veterans memorial, representing all veterans and all veteran organizations in North Alabama. Representatives of the following organizations then placed wreaths at the memorial:

Gold Star Families of North Alabama/

Survivor Outreach Services; City of Huntsville; 40 & 8 Society and 40 & 8 Ladies Auxiliary Society; Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter 335; Alabama Society Sons of the American Revolution, Tennessee Valley Chapter; American Legion Post 237 and Post 176; Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter; Blue Star Mothers of Madison County, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter; Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 26; Eighth Air Force Historical Society, North Alabama Chapter; GFWC du Midi Woman's Club; Jewish War Veterans, Post 111; Korean War Veterans Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter 145; Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation; Marine Corps League, Brandon-Wilbourn Detachment No. 820; Military Officers Association of America, Huntsville Chapter; Military Order of the Purple Heart, George Rauh Chapter 2201; Military Order of the World Wars, Maj. Gen. Joe Wheeler Chapter; Patriot Guard Riders; Semper Fi Community Task Force; Still Serving Veterans; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2702 Huntsville; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Joyce M. Helson Post 5162, Huntsville; Vietnam Veterans of America, Huntsville Chapter; U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association, Redstone Arsenal Chapter; and U.S. Submarine Veterans-Redstone Base, USSVI.

# Youth awareness event returns for second year

Food, fun, and games are headed back to Huntsville as the second annual Community Awareness for Youth event is slated Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Jaycees Fairground off Airport Road.

Targeted for kids in grades 7-12, the event is open to families as well as to the public, and began as an effort to inform Huntsville's youth about the "Four Pillars of Success" – health, physical fitness, career and education.

CAFY's goal is to have youth attend from all areas of Madison County so they can become more informed about their futures and build relationships that will foster a positive environment

for their success.

This year will see even more food, giveaways, music and contests than last year's festivities, which drew more than 2,000 kids – a number organizer Dr. Harry Hobbs hopes to top this year.

Attendees can expect to enjoy free food and soft drinks, as well as prizes and a variety of family-oriented activities, such as a rock-climbing wall, martial arts demonstrations and inflatable bouncy houses. In addition, Landers-McLarty donated 500 backpacks filled with school supplies to be distributed to the first 500 qualifying students. (CAFY release)



Courtesy photo

## Relay for life

The Pink Ladies gather during the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Huntsville Metro on May 18 at John Hunt Park. Team members include, from left, Diane Formica, Sgt. 1st Class Tanya Savell-Marzan, Kerrie Branson, Elizabeth Knudson, Michal Turner, Tisha Crespín and Lisa Canada (survivor). Not pictured are Dottie White and Deanie Blankenchip. The Pink Ladies raised \$3,311 for the event which is not only to honor cancer survivors and remember people who have been lost, but also to raise funds and awareness to help save lives. Overall the event, consisting of 128 teams and 985 participants, raised \$204,691.

# Dog

continued from page 9

It took another year for the Van Riper family to be assigned a puppy-in-training. First, they had to be approved through the organization's area coordinator, who lives in Boaz.

**T**he coordinator visited the Van Riper home to ensure it was dog friendly and did a background check on the Van Riper couple. Then the family had to wait for a puppy, which were in short supply because most of the dogs trained by Southeastern Guide Dogs at that time were spayed and neutered, causing the organization to look outside of its own kennels for breeder dogs.

In August 2011, the then 16-week-old Rory was donated to the organization and assigned to the Van Riper family. Amy flew to Tampa to get the puppy, and came home with both a 30-pound puppy and a users' guide on everything Rory had to learn during his time with the Van Riper family.

"There are commands he needed to know by certain ages," Amy said. "We had to teach him house manners. We had to teach him not to bark, which was easy because he is not naturally a barker. We could play with him, but we couldn't play fetch with a ball because Labradors can get ball obsessed and we didn't want that to happen. We could, though, do some limited fetch training so that he learns how to pick up things like pens and then give them back to us.

"We had to socialize him, so it is good we have children in the house as well as a cat. We take him with us almost everywhere we go to expose him to grocery stores, movie theaters, church and other environments, and to get him around lots of different people."

Rory particularly enjoyed the fam-

ily's outings to the Post Library.

"I think he liked the librarians," Amy said.

Both Nick, 12, and Emma, 10, have enjoyed teaching Rory commands. They say his favorite words are "food," "the dog" and "red bone," which is a reference to his favorite toy. He doesn't always enjoy – and obey – the command word "come."

"The hardest thing to teach him was 'come' because he is a free thinker," Nick said. "He wants to lay outside for a couple hours."

"And he likes to be chased," Emma said.

Service dogs, particularly guide dogs, should have the ability to think independently to a certain point, Amy said, because they have to be able to determine potential dangers and then steer their owner away from them. They also have to have the right temperament to work in different situations.

"Rory is probably one of the most mellow Labs. He is very well-behaved," Amy said. "But sometimes there's this look in his eyes. He's mischievous. He knows what you want him to do but he doesn't want to do it. It's called intelligent disobedience. You want that in a seeing-eye dog so that you can teach it to go against the handler's orders if they see danger."

The family and Rory met regularly with other Southeastern Guide Dogs puppy-raiser families in the area, and all his veterinarian care was provided locally by Animal Care Clinic at no cost to the Van Riper family. They were required to send reports on Rory's progress to the organization every four months. And for fun, Amy also built a Facebook page for the 72-pound Lab so fans could keep track of him.

Amy plans to set up a Facebook page for Maverick, too. Part of the Van Riper training mission is to promote the organization and its purpose, and to seek out both financial donors

and new puppy-raiser families.

Southeastern Guide Dogs are operated "100 percent on donations," Amy said. "Maverick has a sponsor who has made a donation to cover some of his expenses. So we will be sending emails to the sponsor with pictures so they can see how Maverick is doing. He'll also have a website where people can check on him and make donations."

Since last year Southeastern Guide Dogs has introduced a new fund-raising campaign that encourages puppy-raiser families to raise funds for the organization. With Maverick, the Van Riper family will work to raise \$1,000 in donations while also teaching the dog what it means to be a working member of society.

"It's a challenge to train these dogs. It's a challenge to take a dog to a restaurant or to the movies or the store and have the dog with you all the time," Amy said. "When you are out in public, you have to make sure this puppy has good manners and you have to make sure they go to the bathroom outside before you take them in anywhere."

Nick said that was particularly challenging when the family stayed at the Opryland Hotel in April.

"We were in that big garden in the hotel and we had to make sure Rory knew that he couldn't go to the bathroom there because he wasn't actually outside," he said.

**R**ory's career plans are to serve as a breeder dog. He and his brother were both donated to Southeastern Guide Dogs to increase the organization's canine gene pool. But Amy said if Rory has the right type of disposition and is trainable, he could be "career changed" to be a guide dog, veteran assistance dog or therapy dog.

Southeastern Guide Dogs uses trained dogs in its Paws for Independence program where guide dogs are paired with visually impaired people; and its Paws for Patriots program where guide dogs are paired with vi-

sually impaired veterans, veteran assistance dogs are paired with veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and facility therapy dogs are used in military hospitals to encourage and help wounded warriors healing from injuries. They are also used in the Canine Connection program where they are paired with visually impaired children to acclimate them to the responsibilities and joys of dog ownership, as public service dogs with careers in search and rescue, and arson, bomb or drug detection and as ambassador dogs providing outreach, education and comfort in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices and schools.

Rory's career path could change depending on the needs of Southeastern Guide Dogs.

"They like Rory and his brother because they are from an outside gene pool," Amy said. "He will go through stringent medical tests and genetic tests, and I don't have any reason to believe he won't pass them. If they determine he can't breed or if they think he would make a good service dog, they may decide to change his career path."

Amy is confident that Rory has what it takes to do any job the organization assigns to him.

"Rory is so smart and such a good dog that part of me is hoping he will be a working dog instead of a breeder," she said. "But at the same time, I want him to be a breeder because he could be the father of dozens of seeing-eye dogs, and maybe we could actually get one of his offspring to train.

"Seeing-eye dogs have to be 100 percent completely trustworthy. I am confident that they could train Rory to serve as a seeing-eye. Or, he could be a working dog for a wounded warrior, or be used as an arson dog or a drug sniffing dog or a therapy dog."

*Editor's note: For more information about Southeastern Guide Dogs, go to [www.guidedogs.org](http://www.guidedogs.org) or visit Maverick's website at [caninesavings.org/maverick](http://caninesavings.org/maverick).*

# Double vision, double duty, double no trouble

*Identical twin brothers serve as gate guards*

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Even though Derrell and Terrell Cole's mom stopped dressing them in matching outfits years ago, the Cole twins have come full circle. It's hard to tell the two apart in their Redstone Arsenal gate guard uniforms.

As identical twins, for the past 27 years the Cole brothers have gone to the same schools, made the same friends, enlisted in the same National Guard unit and deployed to Iraq at the same time, so when positions opened up for gate guards on the Arsenal, the two naturally applied. They were interviewed on the same day, hired on the same day, and have worked the same shift ever since.

"It's a nice conversation piece," Derrell said about his twin status. "A lot of people have questions about the twin intuition, like, 'If I hit you will he feel it?' That's not true." "If he's in trouble, he's on his own," Terrell said with a laugh.

The duo have caused quite a lot of double vision – and confusion – since coming to work on the Arsenal May 16, 2011. While they don't always work at the same gate, when passersby can see the brothers together, that's part of the problem. Folks that know one of the twins will often think

the brothers are playing a joke on them when they smile and say hello to the Cole twin they know at the gate and the guard reacts as if he doesn't know who they are – because he doesn't. Oftentimes if someone comes in one gate in the morning and another for lunch and has a Cole checking their badge, they'll just assume that guard has been gate hopping.

"One day someone came in at Gate 7 and came back at Gate 1 and said, 'They've been moving you all around today,'" Derrell said. "At first I didn't get it, I was like, 'Uh yeah, I move around the gates.' And then I got it. Terrell was at 7 at that morning, and I was at 1 all day, so it kind of throws them off."

"We don't have time to explain it to them, we just have to play along," Terrell said.

The mix-ups have been something the brothers have been dealing with all their lives. While they don't know how their mother was able to tell them apart as babies, to this day she is one of the only people that can, the twins said. In high school their football coaches used to razz them during workouts if they weren't performing up to their usual standard – likely because Derrell could bench press more than Terrell, and Terrell could squat more than Derrell, and they had the two mixed up. And then there was the time one of their aunties brought the two to the doctor and Terrell wound up with Derrell's shots, because she couldn't tell the difference.

Where everyone else sees similarities



Photo by Ellen Hudson

**Terrell, left, and Derrell Cole, identical twins, have had Redstone Arsenal motorists seeing double at the gates for the past year, where the pair serve as guards.**

however, there are differences. Derrell is the more outgoing and talkative one, while Terrell is laid back and quiet. Derrell has three children, Terrell one son. And both profess that while they like to use their identical twin status to mess around with people, they'd never do that romantically.

For as much fun as they have, and confusion they at times cause, there is one undeniable advantage to being a twin, the brothers said, even if they don't get the tingles when their other twin is in trouble.

"You always know that someone's got your back," Derrell said.

## SMDC commander honors World War II veteran

By **CARRIE E. DAVID**

SMDC/ARSTRAT

ATHENS – Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and more than a dozen command employees joined with the Athens community to honor Memorial Day May 28 at the Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives.

In addition to the planned ceremony, Formica had the honor to present medals to former Staff Sgt. Theo Calvin that he earned for actions during World War II but had never received.

"From time to time, the Army makes mistakes," Formica said. "I'm very pleased to have the honor and privilege of correcting one of those oversights."

Calvin enlisted in 1942 and served for almost three years. During his service, he fought in the Sicily Invasion, landed at Omaha Beach, and helped hold the line near Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.

Calvin had already received two Purple Hearts, an Army Good Conduct Medal, the Infantry Rifleman's Badge and several campaign ribbons. Formica presented Calvin with the Combat Infantryman

Badge, a Bronze Star, the World War II Victory Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal with German Clasp, and the Belgian Fourragere.

Formica was the guest speaker for the Memorial Day ceremony, and he took the opportunity to remind the audience what Memorial Day is about.

"Today we honor sacrifice. We remember those who gave their lives in service to our country," Formica said. "Since the birth of our nation, tragically over one million men and women in uniform have died to defend our country.

"Freedom isn't free. Every Soldier, sailor, airman, Marine and member of the Coast Guard writes a blank check when they raise their right hand and swear to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States. To the veterans – thank you for your service; to those who have lost a loved one – thank you for allowing us to honor your loss today."



Photo by Carrie E. David

**Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, pins a medal on former Staff Sgt. Theo Calvin for medals he earned during World War II but had never received during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives in Athens May 28. Calvin's wife is by his side.**

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# Harwood named RTC's employee of quarter

Once every quarter supervisors nominate outstanding employees to compete for the honor of being selected as Redstone Test Center's Employee of the Quarter.

When nominations are received by the S1 Office, they are reviewed and ranked by a panel assembled for that purpose. Once a winner has been selected, they are recognized within RTC and their name is forwarded to the Army Test and Evaluation Command to compete for ATEC's Employee of the Quarter.

RTC's third quarter nominees were Dr. Richard Moore, Karen Soto, Cathy Ligon and Michael Harwood, all of whom represented the organization with selfless service and excellence in their respective areas.

Harwood, a senior systems engineer with the Aviation Systems Division, was selected as RTC's Employee of the Quarter. He began supporting Redstone Technical Test Center in July 2004 as contract support with ERC. He was hired with RTTC in August 2006, with the Airborne Sensors branch Harwood transferred to RTTC Test Management, currently the Systems Engineering Directorate, in November 2007, where he currently works.



Courtesy photo

**Redstone Test Center's Employee of the Quarter, Michael Harwood, center, is joined by nominees Dr. Richard Moore and Karen Soto. Not pictured is Cathy Ligon.**

His primary responsibilities consist of supporting Program Manager Aircraft Survivability Equipment, Product Manager Fixed Wing, and Product Manager Aviation Mission Equipment. He and his wife have two children.

"There is a sense of pride in providing the Soldier (user) with the support that assists in ensuring that they are receiving what they want, it works, works safely, and is available when they need it," Harwood said. *(Redstone Test Center release)*

# USASAC worker helps world through 'math problems'

By HANNAH LAWRENCE  
USASAC G8

Working with overseas partners during foreign military sales case closures has taught one Security Assistance Command employee the value of relationships. Tammara Buckey, an accountant for USASAC's Resource Management division, also applies the same ethics to her involvement with the local community through her volunteer work.

Buckey, who joined the command last year, has worked for the Army for the last four years including being assigned to posts in Germany and California. She currently works case closure for USASAC's EUCOM and AFRICOM regional operations.

She describes her work as "a bunch of math problems." She says that the most time-consuming aspect of her job is the research it takes to find records and accurate data for old cases. She recalls one of her more difficult cases for Israel that took almost six months to close due to the age, complexity and amount of research required to resolve the discrepancies. Buckey says it is complex cases like these and the more high-profile cases she works for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that give her a sense of accomplishment when she is able to close them. After all of the research is complete, it is the solving of the so-called math problems that lead to reconciliation of the accounts, which in turn, allows for case closure.

Buckey said the impact the work has on foreign poli-

cy is what she likes best about working at USASAC.

"I think it's an important mission to fulfill," she said. "How better to strengthen an alliance with another country than to offer products and services that will help secure its borders and hopefully our own borders too? As a great nation we should take advantage of the opportunity to help other nations become more democratic and militarily self-sustainable.

"On a smaller scale, I enjoy working here because of the close-knit, family-style organization we have here," she said. "Minus a few crazy cousins," she joked.

Although Buckey has only worked at USASAC for less than a year, she said she already feels like part of the USASAC family. She quickly volunteered to be a part of the activities committee as a way to meet people in the organization and help plan and raise funds for employee activities.

While she does enjoy "helping the world through math problems," ask anyone who works with Buckey and they will tell you she is concerned with helping people and making the world a better place, both inside and outside the parameters of work.

"Tami is not only a true career professional, but



Photo by Melody Sandlin

**Tammara Buckey works on foreign military sales case closures for the Security Assistance Command and volunteers throughout the community in her spare time.**

she goes above and beyond the call of duty to assist the general public in many meaningful ways," Stewart Wakefield, USASAC Resource Management branch chief, said.

She volunteers with multiple community service programs and spends much of her spare time working with underprivileged youth and the homeless in Huntsville.

Buckey works with her church as a part of a ministry called "Tent City," an outreach ministry for the homeless in Huntsville. Another area in the community that she volunteers with is Community Awareness For Youth (CAFY), organized through the Huntsville Police Department. She is involved in an upcoming back-to-school event for Madison County

youth to inform them about various career opportunities and the "Four Pillars of Success" – health, physical fitness, career and education.

USASAC serves as the "Army's Face to the World" and strongly emphasizes building relationships with foreign countries. Buckey takes that to heart when dealing with foreign customers and affiliates. She takes it one step further and applies these same principles to building relationships in her own community as well.

# Army chaplain survived Tiananmen Square

*Former protester in China appreciates U.S. freedom*

By **JASON CUTSHAW**  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

A witness to history gave a dynamic account of those events to members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command as they celebrated Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month on May 30 at the command's headquarters.

Chaplain (Maj.) Yan Xiong, Fort Rucker Garrison resource manager, is one of 21 student leaders who were on the Chinese government's "Most Wanted List" for being a student leader during the Tiananmen Square protest on June 4, 1989. Xiong's involvement at Tiananmen Square led to his arrest and imprisonment at Qin Cheng Prison for 19 months. He came to the United States in 1992 as a political refugee.

"Today, I am privileged to be here with you, sharing this occasion in honoring the enduring legacy of those Americans whose roots extend from the soil of nations in the Asia and Pacific region," Xiong said. "Immigrants from the Asia-Pacific countries are amongst the newest wave to arrive in the United States in recent years. However, they are merely the latest chapter in the long history of Asian-



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

**Chaplain (Maj.) Yan Xiong, Fort Rucker Garrison resource manager, speaks to members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command as the command celebrated Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month on May 30.**

Pacific Americans in our nation."

After coming to America in June 1992, Xiong enlisted in the Army in February 1994 as a personnel service manager. He would later become an Army chaplain in 2003, author three books and receive two bachelor's degrees, two master's and a doctorate.

"As we celebrate our rich tapestry of culture through events like Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, let us not forget that while we are a diverse nation, we are also a united one because we are all created by

and Asian-Pacific Americans wish to find a just and equitable place in our society that will allow us, like all Americans, to grow, succeed, achieve and contribute to the advancement of this great nation."

Members of the command thanked Xiong for coming to speak at the event and talked about how important these events are in celebrating different cultures.

"Today's program was excellent," SMDC G-3 Sgt. Maj. John Mattie said. "Listening to the chaplain speak from his perspective about how America has treated him and how he has supported America through his service in the Army and as a chaplain was inspiring. The virtue of his life experiences is a bonus for him working with Soldiers of varying backgrounds and different ethnic groups and only makes the Army better.

"We have a great program here in SMDC for our ethnic observances, and I am proud to be a part of today."

Members of the SMDC team were appreciative of the message and thankful to hear such a dynamic speaker and his message.

"Today was a great reminder of what our nation is," Jason Scarborough, SMDC work force analyst, said. "What got to me is the driving force behind his struggle. It was good to hear another brother in Christ talk about his career, and especially from someone who came from another part of the world.

"One thing that stuck out to me was his story about being in China. I have been to other parts of the world where they have protests, and they can get pretty violent. And the one in China was very historic. To meet Chaplain Xiong, and not just study about him in a book, is amazing to me."

*"Today was a great reminder of what our nation is."*

**Jason Scarborough**  
SMDC work force analyst

God," Xiong said. "Let us celebrate our differences but also appreciate our unification as a country founded on the belief that all are equal, and all are deserving of liberty and freedom.

"When I envision America, I don't see a melting pot designed to reduce and remove racial differences. The America I see is a brilliant rainbow – a rainbow of ethnicities and cultures, with each people proudly contributing in their own distinctive and unique way. That is what America is all about,

# Rinse facility designed to combat natural enemy

*Helicopters can be damaged by corrosion from seawater*

By **KARI HAWKINS**  
Assistant editor  
Kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

Machine gun fire and rocket propelled grenades are known enemy threats against the nation's Army helicopter force.

But, so, too, is a relatively passive culprit that causes damage over time – the minute fragments of salt that remains on a helicopter after flying near or over seawater.

Salty residue left on the nation's helicopters can cause extensive corrosion, with the chlorides found in seawater coating their metal exteriors, and finding their way into helicopter magnesium transmission houses and gear boxes. The Aviation and Missile Command spends about \$1.6 billion a year to mitigate corrosion on helicopter components and materials. And as budget constraints are requiring that the Army maintain its existing helicopter fleet for several more years, issues with seawater corrosion are sure to rise.

"Years ago, we pinpointed a need for an automated and portable helicopter rinse system," said Steve Carr, program manager for the Aviation and Missile Command's Corrosion Program and an employee of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

"The Army has a requirement to rinse aircraft that have operated low-level flights over seawater or in areas where there is lots of seawater. Helicopters are very sensitive to seawater. There are lots of places where we operate close to seawater – Savannah, Ga., Corpus Christi, Texas, and Hawaii, for a few – and we've never really had a good way to rinse those aircraft. Rinsing on a frequent basis will prevent corrosion or at least extend the life of a helicopter, even one that spends nine months working on a beach."

Helicopters flying over seawater should be rinsed daily. Yet, that's a tough requirement to uphold when there's a

whole battalion worth of helicopters – anywhere from 12 to 24 – operating in a seawater environment at the same time.

"There's no way to rinse those aircraft in a timely manner. Soldiers have used (garden) hoses and fire truck hoses or anything they can find sometimes. But even using a fire truck to rinse them requires a good length of time. It can be as much as 30 days before an aircraft gets that required rinse," Carr said. "Even when you get some help from nature with rain, it just doesn't come often enough."

Although large military aircraft – such as the C-130s, F-113s and C-5s – do have rinse facilities, the Army does not have a rinse facility for rotary wing aircraft.

"They are not designed for rotary wing," Carr said. "The pressure and the direction of the spray is not good for the blades of a helicopter."

In 1998-2000, studies were conducted to determine the amount of damage seawater can do to the Army's helicopters. Since then, the Army fleet has grown, operations have expanded throughout the world and the requirement for rinse standards has become more significant. In 2008, the Aviation and Missile Command, with the help of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, conducted a Clean Water Rinse System Demonstration and Validation Project, with the findings submitted to the Office of the Secretary of Defense in 2010.

"We're trying to help the Aviation and Missile Command sustain its assets. That's the mission we have," Carr said. "That's always been a big focus, but it's even a bigger focus as we go through the drawdown with the Army. The drawdown makes it even more important to sustain our fleet."

The rinse system that was demonstrated uses a relocatable aluminum pad or a fixed concrete pad that is 200 feet by 290 feet wide. It is automated and uses different configurations of ground and over-the-rotor spray nozzles to fit the different types of aircraft. One demonstration at Wheeler Army Airfield in Hawaii involved the CH-47 Chinook, UH-60 Black Hawk and the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

**Steve Carr, program manager for the Aviation and Missile Command's Corrosion Program, at left, looks over corrosion caused on metal samples by seawater residue with corrosion engineer Nancy Whitmire and metallurgical engineer Chris Gieseke.**

OH-58 Kiowa while another demonstration at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Ga., involved the AH-64 Apache and Special Operations aircraft.

"We were able to successfully demonstrate a system for rinsing aircraft using off-the-shelf technology that had never before been used to rinse aircraft," Carr said.

"The CH-47s needed the most nozzles because they had to reach over the rotor blades in both the front and the back of the aircraft. The Kiowa required a lot less nozzles and a shorter rinse time."

The rinse system also captured used water and recycled it through a filtration system so that it could be reused. That feature is important as many seawater locations are limited in the amount of clean water that is available, Carr said.

During the demonstration phase, water was reused to show the effectiveness of the filtration systems. Engineers also checked helicopter fluids to ensure that the rinses did not cause water to get into the aircraft's hydraulic system or into its oil reservoirs.

"We wanted to make sure the rinse system was not damaging the aircraft," Carr said.

"We wanted to make sure it rinsed well and that we did not get water intrusion in the oil and hydraulics."

With the demonstration successful and

the report complete, the Army Corps of Engineers is now completing the standard design for a helicopter rinse system that will become the Army standard.

The next step will be to get Army funding for four permanent rinse facilities – one each at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hunter Army Airfield, Camp Humphreys, Korea, and Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, and for re-locatable rinse facilities for theater outposts. There is also a possibility the Navy will purchase rinse facilities for some of its installations and depots.

The Army Standard Rinse System Design can be used to provide the rinse facilities for all military helicopters and small fixed wing aircraft. The cost is \$2 million to \$4 million per rinse facility. But compared to the price tag of a \$25 million helicopter, the investment would be worth it, Carr said.

"From 2000 to November 2012, it has taken us 12 years to get a standard," he said.

"Now we have an Army Corrosion Executive and a formal corrosion prevention program. In the last few years, we've added an Army strategic plan for preventing corrosion. There's lots of emphasis on trying to address corrosion, so I'm optimistic that we will get funding for these corrosion rinse facilities."

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# Engineers achieve milestone in sensor development

By HEATHER R. SMITH

AMRDEC Public Affairs

A team of Army engineers has conducted a series of flight tests on a newly developed sensor, moving the Army further along the path to getting smaller, lighter, cheaper precision missile technology into the Soldier's war-fighting toolkit.

The successful flight tests were of the crossed beam Height of Burst Sensor being developed under the Small Organic Precision Munition integrated technology demonstration program. The purpose of SOPM is to develop, integrate and demonstrate critical technology and system performance of a Soldier-carried, Soldier-launched precision guided loitering munition.

"The idea is to give the Soldier a weapon that can be self-deployed to defeat (soft-skinned vehicles) and personnel in the open," Jay Land, the HOBS lead for the SOPM program, said.

The purpose of the Height of Burst Sensor, Land explained, is to trigger



Army photo

**An air cannon, built from PVC pipe and powered by compressed air, is used for flight testing a proximity sensor prototype.**

the munition's warhead to detonate at the optimum height above ground to most effectively incapacitate the threat. The HOBS uses a low power invisible laser and detector to determine its distance from objects within its field of view. The challenge, he said, is developing a sensor to oper-

ate in realistic battlefield conditions which can be heavily obscured by smoke and dust.

"Typically, laser sensors do not see well in these conditions, so the HOBS is being designed with features to make this possible, and signal processing algorithms are being developed to distinguish the difference between smoke and dust reflections from those of hard targets such as the ground, vegetation, or man-made objects such as vehicles," Land said. "The goal is to ensure that the sensor is not falsely triggered to detonate by laser reflections from smoke or dust clouds as it flies through them." To develop these capabilities, prototype HOBS sensor hardware was built and tested on the grounds surrounding AMRDEC's Russell Measurement Facility. To fly the prototype sensors without incurring a lot of testing cost, a pneumatic cannon was developed to allow sensors to be launched at operational speeds of around 100 mph into target nets suspended inside or just beyond a smoke-

filled tent. The air cannon – with a 4-inch bore size and an 8-foot barrel – was built from PVC pipe and powered by compressed air.

"HOBS function and internal operation could be determined by watching a set of high intensity light emitting diodes mounted on the sensor on the recorded high speed video and by downloading internally stored flight information after capturing the sensor after the flights," Land said of the April tests. "By controlling the reflectance of the targets and the amount of smoke in the tent, we are able to fully characterize and evaluate the sensor's performance. The results of the latest testing were very successful and demonstrated proper HOBS functioning and no false triggering against a variety of targets and in smoke conditions ranging from clear air to heavy smoke, in which visibility is only a few feet."

The next phase is to transition the current prototype test hardware to the actual form factor hardware that will be integrated with and mounted on the front of a munition testbed air vehicle.

# Natick meeting strengthens science, technology ties

By **BOB REINERT**

*USAG-Natick Public Affairs*

NATICK, Mass. – Cooperation between government, private industry and academia to benefit the war fighter took center stage May 22 at the ninth meeting of the Natick Soldier Systems Center Science and Technology Board.

Representatives from those realms met at NSSC to strengthen ties and continue the flow to American servicemembers of the world's finest equipment.

"It's really all about collaboration," said Brig. Gen. John J. McGuiness, NSSC senior commander, "to be able to work together, really to the advancement of everybody. It's a pleasure and really an honor for everybody to be here."

As Jack Obusek, Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center director, noted, the Army will always be about "boots on the ground, Soldiers face to face."

Innovation that produces their equipment must come from a variety of sources, as represented by the board.

"Attendance here is a testimony to the importance of the work we're trying to do with the board," said Obusek, "which is really facilitating the transfer of technology in and out of the Army."

McGuiness pointed out that three of the Army's nine top science and technology projects – known as Technology Enabled Capability Demonstrations, or TECDs – are being led by Natick.

"This is where the Army is going in terms of science and technology," McGuiness said.

The Natick-led TECDs include Force Protection; Soldier and Small Unit; Sustainability & Logistics-Basing; and Overburdened-Physical Burden. Program managers gave briefings on the three TECDs.

"Force Protection seeks to make significant improvements in everything that protects an individual dismounted Soldier on the battlefield," Mike Codega said. "The kit that our Soldiers have today is good. It's the best on the planet."

In Sustainability & Logistics-Basing, operational energy has become the focus.

"In the calendar year 2011, contingency bases consumed about a quarter of a billion gallons of fuel, which is absolutely enormous," Craig Rettie said. "And the cost isn't just a dollar cost. In 2011, there were more than 1,000 convoy-related incidents in Afghanistan. Every one of those incidents presents an opportunity for war fighters to be injured or lose their (lives).

"We're not just looking at energy and fuel. We're looking at water and waste, as well."

Andra Kirsteins literally is trying to take weight off of Soldiers' shoulders in Overburdened-Physical Burden at Natick.

"This TECD is focusing on the dismounted Soldiers (who) today are carrying weight sometimes in excess of 130 pounds," Kirsteins said. "We're aiming so that a Soldier carries no more than 50 percent of their body weight. Our longer term goal is that no Soldier carries



Photo by David Kamm, NSRDEC photographer

**Brig. Gen. John J. McGuiness, right center, and Jack Obusek, left center, speak with board members prior to the May 22 meeting of the Natick Soldier Systems Center Science and Technology Board.**

more than 30 percent of their body weight. So that's a lot of weight that we need to reduce."

Down the road, Obusek envisions the establishment of a Soldier performance center at Natick.

"We really think we've got the power in this region to plant that flag and push this forward," Obusek said. "We're always going to need to have fully equipped and high-performing people to do the mission of the Army."

# Army delivers new blue force tracking system to Korea

By NANCY JONES-BONBREST  
PEO C3T

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – The Army's next-generation friendly force tracking system that equips Soldiers with a faster satellite network, secure data encryption and advanced logistics for improved tactical communications and situational awareness has been deployed to installations in Korea.

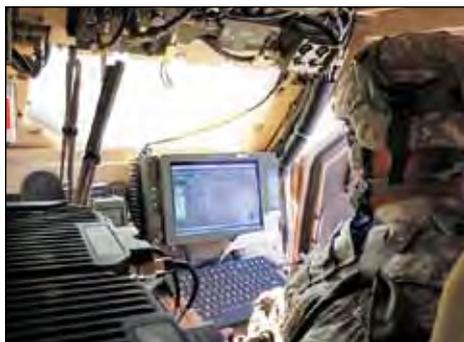
This marks the first time Soldiers outside of evaluation and training exercises will be equipped with the software-enhanced Force XXI Battle Command Brigade-and-Below/Blue Force Tracking, or FBCB2/BFT, known as Joint Capabilities Release, or JCR.

The Army's Project Manager FBCB2, assigned to the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical, began fielding JCR in April to the 2nd Infantry Division, and various formations of the 8th Army. Fielding to Korea will continue through September and includes fitting more than 1,000 platforms with the upgraded capability.

Delivering JCR to the peninsula was accomplished one year ahead of schedule and fully synchronized with unit training requirements, said Brig. Gen. Chuck Taylor, 2nd Infantry Division, deputy commanding general-maneuver.

"This JCR-BFT improves our readiness to support our mission in the Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance especially mission command on the move," said Taylor, who pushed for the early fielding. "Our mission readiness will be significantly increased with JCR-BFT. Since BFT is our common tactical mission command fighting system, JCR-BFT mapping, encryption and user defined open architecture is an exponential leap for our Soldiers."

FBCB2/BFT is a critical part of the Army's tactical communications network that Soldiers rely on for situational



Army photo

**The Army has begun fielding the Joint Capabilities Release to Korea. This upgraded capability is a critical part of the Army's tactical communications network and will improve situational awareness.**

awareness. The system includes computers, global positioning equipment and communication systems that work in tandem to provide near real-time information to combat leaders at the tactical level. Soldiers inside vehicles can plot the location of enemy, friendly and neutral objects and exchange command and control messages.

Because 8th Army units must maintain "Fight Tonight" readiness, the JCR fielding was tailored to each Major Support Command using the "crawl, walk, run strategy," said Jeff Forgach, readiness management chief for Project Manager FBCB2/BFT. The "crawl" phase came during testing at the Network Integration Evaluation (NIE) 12.1 last fall, while the current fielding to forces in Korea serves as the "walk" phase. The "run" phase will come in October when JCR fielding to 13,000 combat platforms in Afghanistan begins.

"We're confident in the network, we're confident in the software, but one of strategies was small steps," Forgach said. "Kick the tires and let's see how it performs. Korea is a diverse environment of

scope and scale and 2ID does have day-to-day missions in support of the host nation. We know they'll embrace the capabilities, they'll utilize it and they'll give us valuable lessons learned that we can adjust if necessary in preparation for Afghanistan."

The 2nd Infantry Division is the first unit to receive JCR for maneuver platforms, Forgach said.

"There was a thirst for these capabilities. This leadership very aggressively pursued the best capabilities available from the entire ASA(ALT) (Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) marketplace," Forgach said. "They made this happen."

Among the many upgrades JCR brings is the premiere of JCR-Logistics, which integrates FBCB2/BFT capability with Movement Tracking System. MTS is a vehicle-based system that tracks combat support and combat service support vehicles, as well as other assets. It offers a Radio Frequency Identification capability to provide in-transit, real-time visibility of critical cargo.

The MTS JCR-Log provides the technology necessary to communicate with and track tactical wheeled vehicles and cargo in near real times, enabling the safe and timely completion of distribution missions in support of full spectrum operations. The upgraded capabilities result in a seamless, two way situational awareness and message exchange between convoys and the maneuver formations to which they are delivering goods.

"JCR-Log represents a significant upgrade to the current capability set for MTS," said Jim Carver, MTS fielding manager. "Most significantly, the ability to have two-way situational awareness/common operating picture with the maneuver elements in the theater of operations is key."

Training managers from MTS and FBCB2 worked together and jointly developed programs of instruction and

technical manuals that allow for greater flexibility in new equipment training presentations and a superior product for Soldiers.

Other JCR enhancements include access to the type one secret network through the KGV-72 encryption device, allowing users on-the-move to send secret data and interoperate completely with the command post. JCR also incorporates a new chat function and instant messaging capability. A powerful new map engine will allow Soldiers to render images and a Self Descriptive Situational Awareness feature allows for units to change task organization in the field.

JCR also utilizes the BFT 2 network, a new satellite infrastructure that can handle significantly more data than the first BFT. This capacity increase allows for more frequent and larger message traffic, and in many cases cuts the system's refresh rate from minutes to seconds.

JCR capabilities will modernize the way lower echelons communicate and navigate in theater, and testing of JCR at recent NIE events received positive feedback from Soldiers.

Staff Sgt. Cody Moose, 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, said the chat room feature proved a huge capability and was widely used.

"I think it's the best system we've tested so far and it seems like it's working perfectly, exactly how it's supposed to and how they told us it would," Moose said. "It's super easy to use. That's the best part. Anybody that's been on a chat room before knows how to use it."

Capt. Luis Albino, commander of C Troop within 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment of 2/1 AD, referred to the upgraded FBCB2 as one of the best tools he's seen in his seven years in the Army.

"I know where I'm at. I know where all my buddies are at. If the radio is down, I can still send a text," Albino said. "They've made it more user friendly for the guys. That's a tool they like."

# AMRDEC meets need for tanker aircraft

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

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center has helped the Air Force repair parts critical to keeping the KC-135 Stratotanker flight-ready.

AMRDEC teamed with Warner Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins, Ga., to provide support for the KC-135 Airborne Digital Interphone System.

Electronics engineer Jeff Loudin, the platform integration lead for small arms/communications, said certain ADIS control panel and interface unit stock were at a critical low.

The Air Force requested AMRDEC develop a repair process to restore ADIS system components back to the Air Force supply system. KC-135 availability for airborne refueling operations is critical for combined forces activity, according to Loudin.

“Aerial refueling operations require communication between the tanker aircraft pilot, boom operator and receiving aircraft pilot,” he said. ADIS is the communication management system onboard KC-135 tankers that control all interior and exterior communications for

refueling operations.

Loudin said the Air Force Materiel Command, 407th Supply Chain Management Squadron, Robins AFB, had in stock several quantities of F-condition, non-flight ready units. “These three Line Replaceable Units are commercial off-the-shelf items,” he said.

The 407th SCMS requested AMRDEC’s Prototype Integration Facility provide a repair capability for the items.

## Test division team cited for excellent support

Members of the Electromagnetic Environmental Effects Test Division’s Electromagnetic Compatibility Team received award certificates May 17 for outstanding support to the Redstone Test Center and its customers.

Leah Cunningham, director of the Environmental and Component Test Directorate, made the presentations.

From January through March, the EMC Team successfully completed an inordinate number of System Level Aviation Electromagnetic Capability Tests, allowing the Army to make timely and critical Air Worthiness Re-

lease decisions. The accomplishment for the completion of this large number of tests is augmented by the fact that several of the efforts were conducted at off-site locations. The outstanding competence and commitment to excellence reflected great credit on this group, the Redstone Test Center and the Army.

The honorees included Philip Garrison, Chris Anderson, David Bagwell, Nathan Brandes, Chris Pulley, Sean Gough, Steve Carey, Molly Uribe and Mark Whitt. *(Redstone Test Center release)*



Army photo

**Mark Foster, Yulista support contractor to the AMRDEC Prototype Integration Facility, runs an automated test procedure on the Combined Audio Interface Unit and Interphone Audio Control Panels simultaneously.**

# Top Soldiers win space command competition

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command has selected its Best Warriors.

Sgt. Brandon Kitchen of 53rd Signal Battalion was selected as the Non-commissioned Officer of the Year and Sgt. Anthony Moore of 1st Space Battalion was selected as the Soldier of the Year. Kitchen previously won Soldier of the Year in 2011.

“The intent for the Best Warrior Competition is to promote morale, esprit de corps and cohesion within the command. It is also to identify, recognize and send the best-prepared NCO and Soldier to the Best Warrior Competition hosted by the Sergeant Major of the Army,” 1st Sgt. Steven Adams, SMDC Headquarters and Headquarters Company, said.

The command brought eight candidates to Peterson Air Force Base to compete for the title. Four Soldier candidates and four noncommissioned officer candidates were put through a series of mental and physical challenges meant to gauge their ability at warrior tasks.

“I’ve been looking forward to this day for a while now,” Sgt. 1st Class Andrew B. Brown, the 2011 NCO of the Year, said. “I’m happy to hand over my title. When you look at this group of competitors, they’re all winners in my book.”

The candidates arrived from the command’s various geographic locations just days before the competition started. They began with a test aimed to gauge their knowledge of warrior tasks and drills.

All eight candidates completed the Army Physical Fitness Test, performed at an altitude of nearly 7,000 feet. Later during day one, they were taken to Fort Carson to compete in

a situational training exercise testing their abilities at crowd control, gathering information and finding a high-value target.

They were given little sleep before returning to the competition, where each candidate was asked to lead a group of Soldiers through a physical fitness warmup drill. Immediately following the drill, they wrote an essay. Later that afternoon, they returned to Fort Carson to shoot the M-4 rifle in a day and night firing range. They ended the competition by appearing in front of an administrative board.

Each candidate was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for their selection as regional representatives in the competition. Kitchen and Moore additionally received the Army Commendation Medal.

Kitchen and Moore will now begin a rigorous training schedule to get them ready to compete at the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition held in Virginia this fall.

“I know a little bit more about the competition so I’m not going to be blindsided. I’m personally going to do whatever I can to get started and work on getting up to speed so that myself and Sgt. Moore can do the best that we can in representing SMDC,” Kitchen said. “Hopefully we’ll be able to go there and prove that just because we aren’t a combat arms MOS we are space Soldiers and we are integral parts of the U.S. military, hopefully we can prove that to the rest of the Army. I’m excited to go, I’m excited to compete again, and I really hope that Sgt. Moore and I can pull it out of the top and show the rest of the Army what SMDC is all about.” (*SMDCIARSTRAT release*)

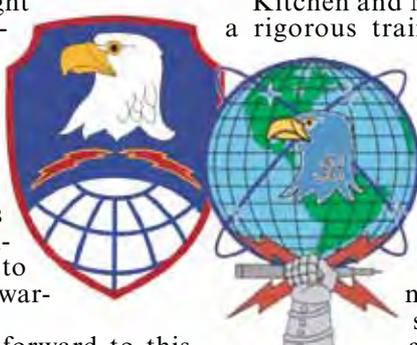


Photo by Dottie White

**Sgt. Brandon Kitchen, left, is named the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, and Sgt. Anthony Moore is named the command’s Soldier of the Year during a ceremony May 24 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., following the command’s weeklong Best Warrior competition.**



Photo by Melody Sandlin

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## Civilian sendoff

Tony Visaggio, division chief of regional operations for European Command at the Security Assistance Command, receives the Department of the Army’s Meritorious Civilian Service Award from USASAC commander Maj. Gen. Del Turner during his retirement ceremony May 23. Visaggio is retiring after more than 38 years of government service.

# ACLIC at Fort Rucker has new commander

FORT RUCKER – Col. Michael Aid succeeded Col. Richard Crogan as commander of the Aviation Center Logistics Command in a ceremony May 30.

Aid enlisted in August 1979 and attended basic training at Fort Dix, N.Y., and advanced individual training at Fort Devens, Mass., as a Morse Code signal interceptor.

He was accepted to the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School in July 1980 and entered West Point in July 1981. Aid graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in May 1985 with a bachelor's degree in engineering and was commissioned a second lieutenant.

He has completed the Aviation Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College and the Air War College. He has also completed Aviation Maintenance Management Course and the UH-1 and UH-60 Test Pilot courses. He is a senior Army aviator and is air assault and airborne qualified.

His past assignments include duties with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Fort Bliss, Texas; the 12th Aviation Brigade in Wiesbaden, Germany; the

2nd Battalion, 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment at Fort Rucker; the Directorate of Combat Developments in Fort Rucker; two tours with the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Stanley, Korea; 10th



**Col. Michael Aid**

Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y.; Joint Interagency Task Force South in Key West, Fla., and served in Iraq on the U.S. Forces Iraq staff in the J9 as the deputy for strategic effects. He commanded aviation unit maintenance companies in the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment, aviation intermediate maintenance companies in the 2nd Infantry Division and the 10th Mountain Division and the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion in the 2nd Infantry Division.

He has served two tours on the Department of the Army G-3/5/7 staff; in the Aviation Directorate as chief, Trans-

formation/Force Structure Division and in the Training Directorate as the chief, Collective Training Division.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters) and the Army Commendation Medal (three oak leaf clusters).

He is married to the former Tammi Lindsey of Enterprise. They have two children: Justin, 21, entering his senior year at the U.S. Military Academy, and Robert, 19, entering his sophomore year at Auburn.

Courtesy photo

## Guest speaker

**Athens State University president Dr. Robert Glenn, left, is thanked by Brian Mathy, acting SOLE Chapter chair, after speaking at the May 23 luncheon of the International Society of Logistics, Tennessee Valley Chapter.**



# Thousands watch Twilight Tattoo

By **GEORGE MARKFELDER**

*JFHQNCRMDW*

JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL, Va. – The Army’s chief legislative liaison joined thousands of visitors to the nation’s capital to watch Soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) perform to the sounds of The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” during the “Twilight Tattoo” at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Maj. Gen. Frederick B. Hodges was the guest host for the show and is responsible for formulating, coordinating and executing the Army’s congressional policy and engagement strategy with Congress. Hodges honored retiring congressman Todd R. Platts of Pennsylvania on May 29 during a small reception held at the JBM-HH Officers Club just prior to the Twilight Tattoo.

“The things we need to make our Army the best in the world, whether it is a piece of equipment or the patriotic young Americans to fill our ranks, don’t just come in a box,” Hodges said. “It is the oversight and legislation of committed legislators like Congressman Platts that make it possible for us to achieve all that we do.”



Photo by George Markfelder

**Soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) perform to the sounds of The U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” during the “Twilight Tattoo” at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va., May 30.**

Twilight Tattoo is a production of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and is free and open to the public. It is scheduled every Wednesday night, rain or shine at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (Fort Myer) during the summer through the end of August.

Check the U.S. Army Military District of Washington’s Twilight Tattoo website for schedule details and history of the Twilight Tattoo at <http://twilight.mdw.army.mil/>.

# Letter

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additional engagement opportunities, and explore a range of other changes, from new command-and-control structures that would enhance responsiveness to modifications in how Army forces in the region are provisioned to increase their readiness.

Of course, even as the Army increases its activities in the Asia-Pacific region, it will retain substantial responsibilities elsewhere in the world. The posture of the U.S. military in the Middle East is critical to maintaining regional stability there. Peace between Israel and its neighbors remains elusive, Iran's behavior continues to be provocative and destabilizing, and the trajectory of the Arab Spring is by no means fixed. To maintain U.S. influence, particularly if additional U.S. naval assets will be devoted to the Pacific, the Army will continue to need some combination of prepositioned equipment and a permanent and rotational presence there throughout the next decade.

**I**n most of Africa and the Americas, as elsewhere, the dominant military forces are armies, giving the U.S. Army a major role to play in continued U.S. military engagement. In Africa, past partnership activities have included assisting local forces in assuming greater responsibility for peacekeeping operations, and this will remain an important responsibility. With wars proceeding elsewhere, the Army's efforts in both Africa and the Americas have been limited in recent years. But we are exploring new ways to enhance our support to the U.S. Africa and Southern Commands as needs arise and existing operational commitments decline, while remaining respectful of local sensitivities.

Relationships with our European partners will be even more critical as so many Western nations reduce their defense expenditures. We have already announced the removal of two Army brigades from Europe. But we will continue our pattern of robust engagement with our allies and partners in the region by deploying rotational forces to ensure continued interoperability and the further development of advanced military skills. Furthermore, the Army intends to continue to invest in logistics hubs, intelligence facilities, state-of-the-art medical capabilities, and training grounds there, all of which serve as dramatic multipliers for U.S. joint forces and allied military activities both within and beyond Europe.

Finally, the challenges in the United States itself remain daunting. Although the actions of our forces overseas have helped preclude more terrorist attacks on the U.S. homeland, the threat persists. The need for U.S. armed forces, and the

Army in particular, to provide planning, logistical, command-and-control, and equipment support to civil authorities in the event of natural disasters continues to be demonstrated regularly and is unlikely to diminish. And many security challenges in the Americas are transnational, including humanitarian crises, illicit trafficking, organized crime, terrorism and weapons proliferation. Army forces will continue to be ready to contribute to broader national efforts to counter those challenges at home, if needed. Our reserve component Soldiers remain the bedrock of the Army's domestic response capability, but where appropriate we will also dedicate active-duty forces, especially those with niche skills and equipment, to provide civilian officials with a robust set of reliable and rapid response options.

The final major transition the Army must manage is that from a force focused on counterinsurgency, counterterrorism, and advising and assisting to one that actively prepares to effectively conduct a fuller range of potential missions. Since counterterrorism missions will not diminish in the foreseeable future, the Army will need to preserve and enhance its relationship with joint special operations forces. The evolution of this partnership over the past decade has been extraordinary, and the ties can become even stronger as we continue to develop new operational concepts, enhance our training, and invest in new capabilities. The Army will also need to preserve the intellectual and organizational knowledge it has gained about counterinsurgency, stability operations, and advise-and-assist missions. This expertise has come at a very high price that is etched into the hearts and minds of all of us who have worn the Army uniform over the last 10 years, and we will not dishonor our fallen comrades by allowing it to atrophy. But we will address new needs as well.

The Army will make it a high priority in the next several years to more fully integrate cyberspace capabilities into our tactical and operational units. Despite continuing ambiguities about how and when such capabilities may be employed, we will clearly be increasingly challenged in cyberspace, and we must accelerate our efforts both to protect ourselves and to exploit our advantages in this domain.

**T**he Army will also make sure it firmly embeds one of the most costly lessons it has learned over the last decade: how to deal with the challenge of hybrid warfare. In the future, it will be increasingly common for the Army to operate in environments with both regular military and irregular paramilitary or civilian adversaries, with the potential for terrorism, criminality and other complications. Advanced technology and the information revolution have fundamentally altered the battlefield. Now, any activity a Soldier undertakes can rapidly evolve

into a combination of combat, governance, and civil support missions, and any individual, military or civilian, can alter the trajectory of an operation with the push of a button on a cell phone. The Army's experiences in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere have shown that failing to account for this challenge is dangerous. In recent years, we have made great strides in incorporating the complexity of hybrid warfare into our training for deploying forces, and we are determined to consolidate and build on those gains to ensure that our Soldiers and leaders are prepared for the uncertainty they will face in the future.

Finally, the Army needs to prepare for doing many different things well. In addition to combat of all kinds, possible operations in the next several years will include everything from helping victims of a flood to restoring order in a collapsed state with large-scale criminal activity, violence and perhaps even unconventional weaponry. But how can the Army broaden its scope and maintain its readiness even as the available resources decline? First, we must align our forces, both active and reserve, with regional commands to the greatest possible extent. Regional commanders' anticipations of likely contingencies should dictate the mission set for which aligned units prepare. This means that some units may focus on higher-end war fighting while others dedicate much of their training to disaster relief or exercises with partners in the region. Regional alignment will also help inform the language training, cultural training, and even the equipment that units receive. Second, we will develop our capacity for adaptation and rapid adjustment so as to be able to respond to unexpected demands of any kind as and when they emerge. At the individual level, this means revitalizing how we train and prepare our leaders. At the unit level, it means re-examining how to provide the most efficient, effective and flexible forces to joint force commanders — making sure they retain a high level of war-fighting competency while still train-

ing for other missions as appropriate. And at the institutional level, it means ensuring that the Army's equipping strategy includes realistic projections about the industrial base and re-evaluating the Army's capability to rapidly project power around the world.

The English philosopher Francis Bacon noted that "things alter for the worse spontaneously, if they be not altered for the better designedly." The Army is determined to design its better future, given the constraints and requirements it faces.

**O**ver the next 10 years, we will be increasingly focused on preventing conflict and shaping the broader security environment. This means maintaining a force of sufficient size and capacity so that potential adversaries understand clearly our ability to compel capitulation if necessary. It also means maintaining a vigorous presence abroad, one that reassures our partners and dissuades our foes.

As we shift away from active involvement in major combat operations, we will increasingly emphasize activities aimed at deepening our relationships with partners and demonstrating our country's commitment to global security. Ideally, a focus on prevention and shaping will keep future conflicts at bay. Should they emerge nonetheless, the Army, as part of the joint force, will be ready to decisively achieve American ends, whatever they may be. Ten years of war have produced an exceptional cadre of commissioned and non-commissioned leaders able to shift among different missions and different physical, political and cultural environments. With years of sacrifice in Iraq behind us, and a responsible transition in Afghanistan on the near horizon, Army leaders will put those skills to use again to posture the force for the decade ahead.

**Gen. Ray Odierno**  
Army chief of staff

*Editor's note: Gen. Ray Odierno, chief of staff of the Army, wrote this commentary for the May/June edition of Foreign Affairs, which is published by the Council of Foreign Relations.*

# Medevac crew reacts to dangerous call

By Capt. RICHARD BARKER and  
Sgt. DANIEL SCHROEDER

25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs

CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan – In the midst of combat, acts of valor and bravery are performed so often they are sometimes overlooked. This was almost the case with the story of the Soldiers who rescued Marine Lance Cpl. Winder Perez.

On Jan. 12, 2012, a call was passed over the radios to a medical evacuation, or medevac, crew to rescue a 3-year-old Afghan girl who had suffered from a gunshot wound and shrapnel to the back. After dropping off personnel and equipment from their current mission, they headed back out to the location for pickup.

Upon contacting the ground crew on the directed frequency, the pickup location had moved. After verifying the medevac request and landing safely to retrieve the patient, the landing zone controller came over the radio with a loud, frantic voice, “the patient has (unintelligible) unexploded ordnance!”

The patient was no longer the girl, but Perez who had a rocket-propelled grenade embedded in his leg extending to his lower abdomen. The RPG had not detonated yet, meaning the slightest wrong move could set it off.

“That call will be in my mind all my life,” said Sgt. Robert Hardisty, a crew chief with C Company, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment, New Mexico National Guard, who was attached to 25th Combat Aviation Brigade. “First you land thinking it’s a little girl and the next thing it is a Marine with an unexploded RPG embedded in his body.”

Spc. Mark Edens, a flight medic with C/1-171, was the first to see the RPG round visible in Perez. At this point the crew had to make a decision.

“Because of the level of danger, if the crew left Perez on the ground and decided not to take him, no one would have ever blamed them. We all would have understood,” said Maj. Christopher Holland, C/1-171 commander.

Capt. Kevin Doo, the pilot-in-command for this mission, the pilot of the crew, decided they would only take Perez if the entire crew agreed.

“There was no doubt to anyone that we were going to take this Marine and get him the medical attention needed to save his life,” Doo said. “When dealing with this, not knowing that any moment could be your last. Eighteen inches from the patient’s legs was about 360 gallons of aviation fuel.”

The crew transported Perez as quickly as they safely could, landing at Forward Operating Base Edinburgh only 24 minutes from the time the RPG hit Perez.

“After Lance Corporal Perez was loaded on the Black Hawk, it was a total of 11.2 minutes of flight time where every minute felt like an hour,” Doo said. “During that time, we were on the radio coordinating with our escorts, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team, and medical personnel who were going to treat Perez.”

The crew’s coordination paid off. The coordination included telling the armed escorts of the medevac helicopter to stay a good distance away for their safety, calling the EOD team to handle the disposal of the RPG, and ensuring medical personnel were aware of and prepared for the situation they were about to handle.

Upon hearing the news of the RPG, the medical team set a plan in motion to properly remove the round as they gathered necessary supplies and met the medevac at the landing zone. When Perez arrived at FOB Edinburgh, he was transported to a safe area to extract the round with only the necessary personnel present.

Lt. Cmdr. James Gennari, department head, Surgical Company B, 2nd Supply Battalion, noticed the wounds Perez received were life threatening. If he had not been transported by the speed of medevac, then he would have died of those wounds.

After removing the round and closing up the wounds, Perez was transported to Bastion Hospital for further care. The same crew who evacuated him from the battlefield were the ones who transported him to the next higher medical facility.

Although the RPG round was now miles away from Perez, other issues arose for him and the crew. His ventilator failed during the flight prohibiting his oxygen flow. At this moment, Edens and Hardisty acted rapidly manually giving oxygen and bringing the Marine back to a stable condition.

“After stabilization, I witnessed Specialist Edens and Sergeant Hardisty work in a calm, cool and professional manner ensuring the safety of this patient who suffered a second near catastrophic event with the loss of the oxygen ventilation machine,” Gennari said. “I distinctly remember thinking that if Dustoff could risk their lives to bring this patient to us, the least I can do is take some risk and get that thing out of his leg.”



Photo by Navy Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Summer M. Anderson

**On Jan. 12, a call was passed over the radios to a medical evacuation crew to rescue a 3-year-old Afghan girl who had suffered from a gunshot wound and shrapnel to the back. Pictured here, Soldiers transport a trauma victim to a U.S. Army medical helicopter in Tarmiyah, Iraq, Sept. 30, 2007.**



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

## Retirement recognition

Unmanned Aircraft Systems project manager Col. Tim Baxter, left, presents the Legion of Merit to Lt. Col. Matt Munster during Munster’s retirement ceremony May 24 in Bob Jones Auditorium. Munster, product manager for UAS modernization, retires after more than 20 years service. He also received the Knight of the Order of St. Michael Award from the Army Aviation Association of America. His wife, Sandra, received the Military Spouse Medal.

## Win or Lose

# Redstone team ready to play wounded warriors

*Among scheduled games for armed forces week*

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

A team representing Redstone Arsenal will play the first game against the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team during Armed Forces Celebration Week.

“Our intent is to compete well and represent Team Redstone as best we can and at the same time honor these young men that we get a chance to play with,” AMCOM chief of staff Col. Skip Sherrell, the Redstone team’s coach, player and organizer, said.

Team Redstone will play the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team at 5 p.m. June 15 at the Metro Kiwanis Sportsplex. The wounded warriors will play the Senior Rockets All-Stars that night at 7 and then face a City of Huntsville Team at 4 p.m. June 16. The games are among the activities for Armed Forces Celebration Week, June 11-16. Admission is free.

“Our team does consist of all-stars, however most were back in the 1970s from little leagues across the country,” Sherrell said laughing. “And our team does consist of at least one Army nurse (Fox Army Health Center commander Col. Elizabeth Johnson) and Col. Mark Smith (the Army Materiel Command surgeon) so I’ve got a surgeon and nurse at our disposal should we need it.

“And we understand we’re the warmup acts in preparation for their followup games against the Rockets and the City of Huntsville.”

The Redstone team is led by three general officers: AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, Missile Defense Agency’s director for test Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown and the program executive officer for missiles and space Brig. Gen. Ole Knudson. The rest of the team consists of mainly colonels, command sergeants major and one civilian, a retired colonel. They represent organizations throughout Redstone Arsenal.

“I would say our average age is mid-40s and obviously the team is composed of senior leadership across the Arsenal,” Sherrell said.

rell said.

The team planned to practice this week for the first time and then have a practice game against the Senior Rockets All-Stars.

“Given our day jobs we’re much further behind on this than obviously the downtown folks are,” Sherrell said.

Sherrell, 48, played baseball in high school where he was a shortstop and pitcher. “But my arm has had about 30 years of rest now – well-rested like the rest of the team,” he said laughing.

This is his last hurrah because he’s retiring in a ceremony June 28 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium with more than 26 years service.

“We’re just thrilled and privileged to have the opportunity to recognize these young warriors for the sacrifice and example they demonstrate on a daily basis,” Sherrell said. “And so for us it’s an honor to be able to share the same field with these great representatives of the Army.”

Team Redstone’s other players include Col. Jerry Jones, Col. Jeffrey Ogden, Col. Bennie Pokemire, Lt. Col. Isaac Johnson, Staff Sgt. Felix Marbury, Col. Dan Williams, Col. Mark Smith, Col. Peggy Masterson, Com-

mand Sgt. Maj. Tod Glidewell, Col. Dave Luders, Col. Elizabeth Johnson, Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Austin, Col. John Hamilton, Col. Bob Marion, Brig. Gen. Ole Knudson, Col. Gary Stephens, Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar, Col. Bob Pastorelli, Col. Jimmy Jenkins, Col. Bill Whitney, Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown and Darryl Colvin, a retired colonel.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

**AMCOM chief of staff Col. Skip Sherrell is player/coach for Team Redstone which will face the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team on June 15.**



## NASA/Army softball league standings

Here are the standings entering this week’s games:

Division A	Wins	Losses	Ties
Got the Runs	5	0	0
Hit Circus	4	2	0
Kitchen Sinks	4	2	0
Expendables	3	2	0
Rotorheads Too	1	5	0
RTC	0	6	0

Division B	Wins	Losses	Ties
WYLE Coyotes	4	1	0
TBE Integrators	4	1	0
A-Team	3	1	1
Spaceballs	3	2	0
Fireballs	2	3	1
Redstone’s Step-Children	1	4	0
Space Cowboys	0	5	0

Division C	Wins	Losses	Ties
Hard Noc Hitters	5	1	0
Renegades	4	1	0
Misfits	3	2	0
Screw Balls	3	2	0
Rotorheads	3	2	0
ESTS Jacobite Rising	3	3	0
EVengers	3	3	0
Bit Players	2	2	1
Put em in Boots	2	2	0
ET Throw Home	2	3	0
Guns ‘N Hoses	0	5	1
Starz	0	4	0

Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Coin toss

Wounded warrior **Jae Barclay** and Missile Defense Agency’s director for test Maj. Gen. Heidi Brown, right, participate in the opening coin toss at Saturday’s “Military Appreciation Night” at the Alabama Hammers professional indoor football game in the Von Braun Center. As a first lieutenant, Barclay was injured in Afghanistan in August 2006 when his vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb. He medically retired

in 2008 and is starting a company called Working Wounded Warriors that gives wounded veterans an opportunity at meaningful construction work on Redstone Arsenal. The Hammers lost to the Richmond Raiders 57-40.



## In this section...

LAUNCHERS DIVE INTO SWIMMING SEASON

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# Launchers dive into swimming season

Photos by Ellen Hudson

The Launchers, Redstone Arsenal's youth swim team, had its second practice of the season Thursday morning at Pool 2, near building 1500, with coach Colette Migliozi in charge. These swimmers are the junior and senior groups, ages 9-17.

**See Launchers on page 37**



# Launchers

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## Sports & Recreation

### Huntsville Stars night

Huntsville Stars baseball "Military Appreciation Night" is June 16 at Joe Davis Stadium. See the Stars play the Montgomery Biscuit at 6:45 p.m. All active military components are asked to wear their duty uniforms. Free tickets, provided by the Association of the U.S. Army, are available at the Community Activity Center for all military ID and CAC card holders. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis; limited to four tickets per family.

### 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. The Redstone chapter participated in the Cotton Row Run on Memorial Day and will continue their activities with other area running events. 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>.

### County golf championship

The American Cancer Society 2012 Madison County Golf Championship is July 9 at the Valley Hill Country Club with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Lunch, provided by Carrabba's Italian Grill, is noon to 1 p.m. for all participants. For more information, call 535-1090.

### Boating safety class

Boating Skills and Seamanship class, sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, will start June 14 from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Garrison Safety Office building 3687 on Neal Road. For more information, call flotilla public education staff officer Thomas Kunhart 830-6621 or 527-4475.

### 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 at 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>.

### Iron Mike golf tourney

The Iron Mike Tournament, presented by the Association of the U.S. Army during Armed Forces Week, is

June 12 at the Links. It's named after the 27-inch trophy, with the "Iron Mike" bust on top, which is awarded to the winning team. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:30. This is a non handicap, three flight tournament. Cost is \$45 for serving military and current DoD civilians, \$75 for all others. Entries are due today. Send an email to tournament chairman Mike Kelley at [mkelley@knology.net](mailto:mkelley@knology.net).

## Conferences & Meetings

### Weekly worship

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

### Protestant women

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

### Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the Redstone community to its mass June 10 at 9 a.m. "June 10th is the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ," a prepared release said. Mass services are held noon Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 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.

### Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville

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Chapter, will hold its monthly luncheon June 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church. Susan Goodyear, AMC assistant deputy chief of staff for resource management, will install 2012-13 ASMC officers. For ticket information, call Audrea Edwards 313-2382 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

### 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 Senator 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.

### Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet June 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Historical re-enactor Daniel E. Hughes will speak on "Was Thomas Really Slow at the Battle of Nashville?" Optional chicken buffet starts at 5:30 for \$8.95. Visitors are welcome. For information call 539-5287.

### Meeting professionals

The 2012 Society of Government Meeting Professionals Southeast Regional Conference, "Navigating through Government Meetings," will be held Sept. 16-19 in Mobile. Information

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regarding the educational workshops can be found at <http://sgmpcentral-florida.com/srec>. The conference is geared for administrative/technical professionals who plan/execute meetings, seminars, tutorials, etc. TIP information is: course title, SGMP Southeast Conference; vendor, Society of Government Meeting Professionals; catalog number, F124SGMP. For more information, call Barbie Baugh 876-7135 or Sherry Hilley 479-0198.

## Federal employees

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter 443 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Refreshment and social time will start at 9:30 a.m. with the meeting following at 10. The speaker is Pat Colson, coordinator for the Crime Prevention Academy for Seniors. Active federal employees and retired non-members are invited

to visit at any time. For more information, call 508-8250 or 539-1333.

## Women's connection

Huntsville Christian Women's Connection will have a luncheon June 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Ave. The scheduled speakers are Tony Yelle, a children's book author and young father, and recording artist Amy Drinkwater. Cost is \$17. For reservations call 837-8286 or 883-1339 by June 21.

## Historical society

The Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society invites the Redstone Arsenal employees and their families, friends and retirees to Sunday's 2 p.m. meeting in the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library auditorium, 915 Monroe St. Ralph Allen, an architect trained in historic preservation, will speak on "What Can Be Historic - A Look at Historic Structures at Marshall Space Flight Center."

## Union meeting

AFGE Local 1858's membership meeting is June 11 at 5 p.m. in building 3202 on Mauler Road. All members are asked to attend. Delegates will be elected to attend the AFGE 39th National Convention in Las Vegas Aug. 13-17.

## Executive committee meeting

Alabama Sen. Tammy Irons will be the keynote speaker at the June 14 Madison County Democrats Executive Committee Meeting on June 14 at 6 p.m. at the Optimist Park Recreation Center. Admission is free. For more information, email [info@madison-countydemocrats.com](mailto:info@madison-countydemocrats.com).

## Space society

Huntsville AL L5 Society (HAL5), a local chapter of the National Space Society, will hold its June public program Thursday at 7 p.m. at the main auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Main Public Library, 915 Monroe St. David Smitherman, technical manager at NASA MSFC Advanced Concepts Office, will speak on "Space Transportation Infrastructure Supported by Propellant Depots." The program is free and a social will follow. For more information about HAL5 and upcoming speakers, visit <http://www.HAL5.org>.

## Special Forces chapter

The North Alabama Chapter (Chapter 92) of the Special Forces Association will meet Saturday at 11 a.m. at Bill Dansby's Team House on Silver Creek Road off of Highway 31/7 north of Elkton, Tenn. All Special Forces qualified and personnel who served with or contributed in a unique and definable way to Special Forces units are welcome to attend. For more information, visit <http://www.chapter92sfa.com/>.

## Miscellaneous Items

### Civilian deployment

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

sor 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](http://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 nonprofit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. R.S.V.P. recruits, places and trains individuals who are 55 or older to fill community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Pamela Donald 513-8290 or email [pdonald@seniorview.com](mailto:pdonald@seniorview.com).

## NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased

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through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to [www.gsauctions.gov](http://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 Breeden, relocation readiness program manager, 876-5397 or email [mary.breeden@conus.army.mil](mailto:mary.breeden@conus.army.mil).

## Lending closet

The lending closet is stocked with basic household items to use before your household goods arrive or after you have been packed for your new assignment. Items may be borrowed for 30 days. ID cards and a copy of your PCS orders are required. All newly assigned/attached military personnel,

appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden 876-5397 or email [mary.breeden@conus.army.mil](mailto:mary.breeden@conus.army.mil). Stop by Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Parenting classes

"Parenting 101," free classes presented by the National Children's Advocacy Center, will be held on the second Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. upstairs in the ChildWise Building, 1413 Nike St. Topics include Keeping Your Kids Safe, June 12; and Positive Discipline, July 10. Space is limited; child care is provided with reservations. To pre-register call Army Community Service 876-5397. This is sponsored by the New Parent Support Program, for birth through age 3.

## 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. 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 1,000 kids will receive a free backpack with school supplies. For more information, call Dr. Harry Hobbs 425-5307.

## Space Camp for special kids

A "Special Needs" Space Camp will be held Aug. 24-29 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. It is for individuals or groups. The camp will be similar in nature to the regular Space Camp, but some activities may be modified, depending on the specific needs of the

individual child. Since every child has different needs, organizers encourage parents to call and speak with them directly. The camp is \$749, which includes meals and lodging. Lodging is on-site in the Space Camp habitat. If a child normally has a full-time aide, he or she may attend as an aide at no additional cost. For more information, call 1-800-637-7223.

## Workshop papers

This is a call for papers for the Hyperspectral/Polarimetric Community Collaboration Workshop scheduled July 18-20 at Redstone Arsenal. For more information, email [angie.cornelius@us.army.mil](mailto:angie.cornelius@us.army.mil) or visit the workshop website at <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/SMAP-CENTER/Conferences/HyperPolar2012/index.html>.

## Ability-Plus day

The third annual Ability-Plus Fun Day is July 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Friendship United Methodist Church, 16479 Lucas Ferry Road, Athens. Ability-Plus is a 501(c) non-profit organization that maintains residential homes for individuals in

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# Rocket Announcements

North Alabama with intellectual disabilities. Ability-Plus operates 26 homes and serves more than 70 special needs citizens in North Alabama providing 24-hour care, supervision and supportive services. Fun Day is sponsored by the Decatur-Athens Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. and the Central North Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. For more information, call Willie Boyd 842-3111.

## Cyber security summit

The North Alabama Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association and Cyber Huntsville will hold the fourth annual Cyber Security Summit on Thursday at the Von Braun Center under the theme of "Next Generation Cyber: Developing Capabilities and Minimizing Vulnerabilities." With the expansion this year to the VBC, more than 500 attendees are anticipated to join in the separate Management and Technical Tracks and hear industry recognized speakers, as well as see exhibits from major security vendors. For more information, email [sponsors2012@northalabama.issa.org](mailto:sponsors2012@northalabama.issa.org) or visit [\[curity-summit.org\]\(http://curity-summit.org\).](http://www.cyber-se-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

## A&M logistics registration

Alabama A&M University will conduct onsite registration Thursday for its sought-after logistics degree program, which has doubled its students in the last two years. Registration will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Redstone Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. For more information, call Samuel Scruggs 372-8216 or Bonnie Banks 372-4777/4781.

## AER campaign

Army Emergency Relief campaign chairman Capt. Alyssa Wood invites Team Redstone to the AER recognition ceremony June 21 at 10 a.m. at Heiser Hall to recognize directorates and organizations that contributed to this year's campaign. In 2011 Redstone AER provided \$292,000 in assistance to 268 people, which included 172 loans and 96 grants. Army Emergency Relief represents 70 years of helping the Army take care of its own, and a strong tradition of Soldiers helping Soldiers.

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# Rocket Announcements

## U.S. flag birthday

Celebrate the 235th birthday of the U.S. flag at the Main Library on Monroe Street in Huntsville on June 14. Included are activities for young children from 9:30-11 a.m., flag ceremony by Boy Scout Troop 400 at 11, historical re-enactors at 11:15, patriotic concert by the Crestwood Sunshine Singers at 11:30, and the DVD story of the flags that have flown over our land, "The Many Faces of Old Glory," at 1 p.m. The public is invited to bring a brown bag lunch and share in the festivities. Drinks and birthday cake will be furnished by Learning-QUEST. For more information, email [tuckmo1935@aol.com](mailto:tuckmo1935@aol.com).

## 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](mailto:miranda.walker@usar.army.mil), phone 535-6232 or Sgt. 1st Class Stumpe at [roy.marcus.stumpe@usar.army.mil](mailto:roy.marcus.stumpe@usar.army.mil), phone 535-6229 or Capt. South at [william.south@us.army.mil](mailto:william.south@us.army.mil).

## Military job fair

A job fair for military, military family members and veterans, including financial services workshops, will be held June 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Optimist Park, 703 Oakwood Ave. This is sponsored by the American Red Cross in partnership with the Joint Family Support Assistance Program, Madison County Vet Center, Army Community Service, Still Serving Veterans and the West Corporation. Military ID is required; pre-register by calling 536-0084, ext. 310.

## Museums admission

Sci-Quest, Hands-on Science Center, has announced the launch of Blue Star Museums – a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 1,300 museums across America – to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families

through Labor Day. Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The complete list of participating museums is available at [www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](http://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums).

## Summer reading

The Summer Reading Program, for ages 18 and under, runs through July 14, culminating in a recognition ceremony July 19 at 4:30 p.m. at the School Age Services building. Pick up your reading log at the Post Library on Redeye Road or Parent Central Services on Weeden Mountain Road. Receive credit for 25 free pages each time you check out books. Participation prizes will be handed out at the library throughout the program, while supplies last. Call the library 876-4741 or Barbara Williams 842-9642 for more information.

## Religion rally

The Huntsville Stand Up for Religious Freedom Rally is Friday from noon to 1 p.m. at Whitesburg Baptist South Campus Pavilion, 7300 Whitesburg Drive south.

## Road advisory

Marshall Road – from Toftoy to Neal – is closed through June 13, according to the Garrison.

## 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/>.

## Federal job search

Need help understanding how to apply for federal jobs? Then reserve a seat for the Federal Employment Process overview Thursday from 9-11 a.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. A representative from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will conduct this session. Topics will cover various recruitment sources, USAJOBS procedures, and how candidates are evaluated and referred to the hiring authorities. This session is open to all military ID and CAC card holders. For more information or to reserve a seat, email

# Rocket Announcements

debra.d.jefferson@us.army.mil or call ACS at 876-5397.

## Flower arrangements

A Flower Arrangement Workshop will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 307 Gates Ave. Cost is \$5 for members, \$8 non-members. The workshop is presented by Connie Baird from Nashville Rose Society, an American Rose Society arrangement judge, and Tammy Clemons from Huntsville Twickenham Rose Society, an ARS consulting rosarian. Bring a bag lunch, drinks will be provided. Attendees should bring two vases (you will make arrangements to take home), clippers and any flowers and plant material from your garden you would like to share. For more information, email Jill Chappell at greenmtntnoses@comcast.net.

## Youth arts camp

While We Wait Productions and Huntsville High School will present "Blue Plate Broadway," a summer arts camp for children ages 5-15. The third annual camp is June 18-22 from noon until 5 p.m. at Huntsville High School

Auditorium, 2304 Billie Watkins Drive (off Bob Wallace Avenue). The students will work alongside New York professional singers, dancers and writers to create a full Broadway-style production the students will present June 22-23. The cost is \$310 which includes a performance DVD, a creative writing journal, snacks each day and two complimentary tickets to any performance. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students, and \$8 for military attendees. For more information, call 361-6107 or (609) 226-7345 or visit [www.blueplatebroadway.com](http://www.blueplatebroadway.com).

## Red Cross blood drives

American Red Cross blood drives this month include the following: Today from 7-11 a.m. at Corps of Engineers. ... Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at MDA building 5222 (Von Braun II Complex) and from 10-2 at the Redstone Exchange. ... June 14 from 7-noon at building 5400 and the Sparkman Center. ... June 15 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316. ... June 21 from 7-noon at building 6263. ... June 22 from 7-noon at building 4545. ... June 29 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5681.

## Military appreciation award

In the spirit of Memorial Day, Bodybuilding.com and BSN have kicked off their Military Appreciation Award wish-granting program. "Do you know someone in the military lacking the daily basics, a veteran with a special need, or a relative of a fallen Soldier going through a difficult time? Bodybuilding.com and BSN are excited to grant an ultimate wish to those making the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Tell us what they need, so we can help give back," Ryan DeLuca, Bodybuilding.com CEO, said. This award is open to all active, reserve or veteran members of the U.S. military – including their spouses, widows or children. Bodybuilding.com is accepting video nominations through June 24. This isn't a high-tech video assignment, a simple camera or smart phone is all entrants need to share their honoree's story and have the chance to make their wish come true. For more information on the Military Appreciation Award, and to nominate your deserving candidate, go to [www.Bodybuilding.com/Honor](http://www.Bodybuilding.com/Honor).

## A&M alumni picnic

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter Alabama A&M University Alumni Association Inc. is sponsor-

ing its annual "Picnic on the Hill" Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. on the Quad of A&M campus (in front of the Chambers' Building). All alumni, spouses, children and friends of alumni of Alabama A&M University are invited. Games for all ages: moon bounce, bingo, card games and more, plus music provided by A&M's own WJAB. Show your school spirit: dress in maroon and white, and bring your lawn chairs. Enter the campus at the main entrance on Chase Road. For more information, call Pam Thompson 683-4014.

## Young Marines recruiting

The Young Marines of North Alabama will hold Recruit Training beginning June 18. Young Marines stress academic achievement, service to others, devotion to God, country, community and family. The program is open to boys and girls ages 8 through the completion of high school. Recruits will complete an intensive course of training in citizenship, drug abuse prevention, close order drill and physical fitness. An orientation meeting will be held June 12 at 6 p.m. at the Marine Corps Reserve Center, 3506 South Memorial Parkway. For more information, visit the website [www.orgsites.com/al/ymarines](http://www.orgsites.com/al/ymarines).



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# ARMY BIRTHDAY



June 14, Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

11-11:30 a.m. Army Band Plays

Vendors serve food

11:30 a.m. Ceremony

National Anthem

Invocation

Remarks by Mayor of Huntsville

Remarks by Mayor of Madison

Team Redstone Command Remarks

Cake Cutting Ceremony

Army Song

12:30-1 p.m. – Army Band – Patriotic Songs

Food service is available from on-site vendors. Water and lemonade provided by MWR. Event open to all.

Please RSVP by 11 June 2012 to [bill\\_tillman@msn.com](mailto:bill_tillman@msn.com). Please encourage members of your organizations to attend and help us celebrate.

Event is located at Community Activity Field, behind the MWR building,

3rd building on left after entering gate on Patton Road.

For those who do not have access to the Arsenal, please contact Bill Tillman @ [bill\\_tillman@msn.com](mailto:bill_tillman@msn.com) to have your name placed on the list for access for this event.

Questions: Bill Tillman, 256-783-8838.