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Redstone Rocket

VOL. 47 No. 48

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December 2, 1998

Returning service... Volunteer helpers wanted for tax assistance program

By Skip Vaughn

A free program that saved active and retired servicemembers \$160,000 last year needs your help.

That's what they would have paid altogether to have their tax returns done downtown. Volunteers prepared federal and state income tax returns as a free service under Redstone's Tax Assistance Program.

How many volunteers are needed for this year's program? "As many as possible," said Capt. Erika Cain, who will serve as officer in charge of the tax center.

"Experience is helpful but not necessary because we will be training," she said. "The IRS will be giving training classes from Jan. 11-15. And we'll need (the volunteers) all through the tax season which ends April 15th."

Anyone, whether military or civilian, can volunteer to prepare tax returns and file them electronically. They can work at their convenience; any help would be appreciated. The tax center, which opens Feb. 1 at building 3475 on Honest John Road, will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday with extended hours of 5-7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

"I think volunteers are a vital part of our ability to be able to provide quality customer service," Cain, chief of administrative law and chief of claims in the Staff Judge Advocate Office, said. "The more help we have, the more people we can serve in a timely manner."

"It's a good professional experience for the volunteers. Not only do they do a great service to their community, they acquire skills that can be used through their lifetime."

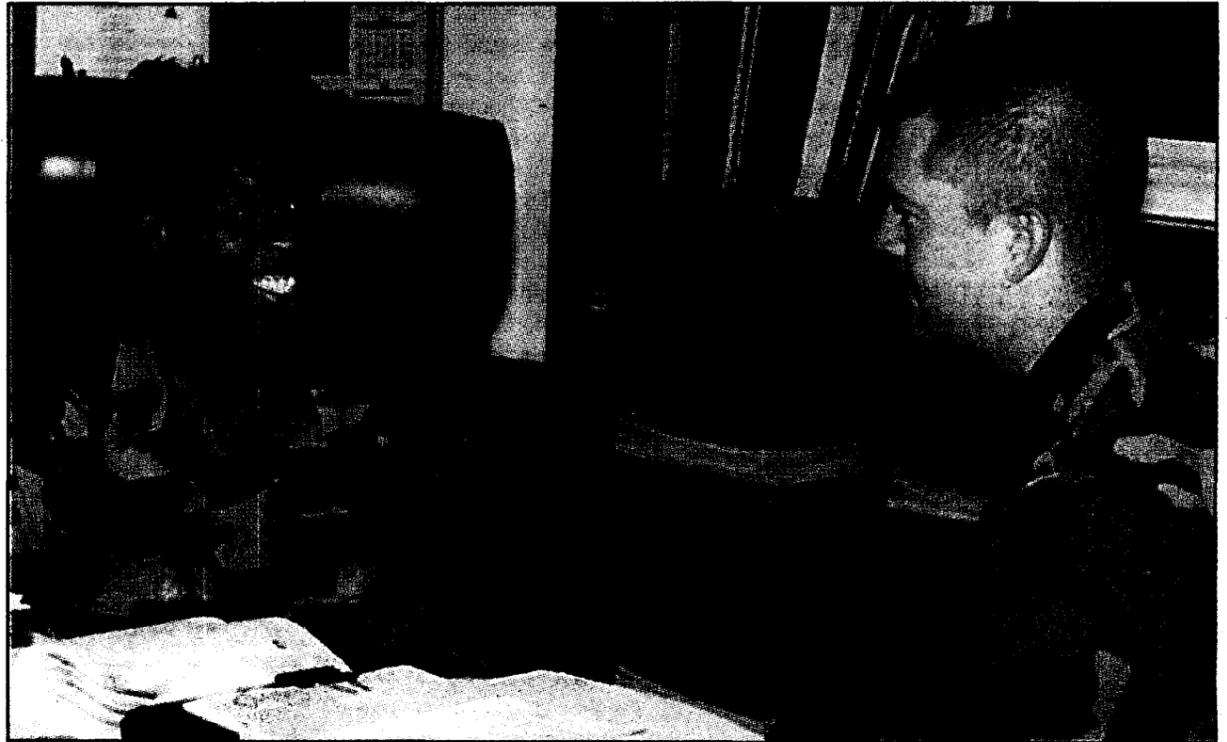


Photo by Skip Vaughn

TAX OFFICER— Cain, left, talks with Capt. Martin White who was last year's tax officer.

Interested persons can call Mary Breeden at Army Community Service 876-5397. The tax assistance program is a joint effort between ACS and the Staff Judge Advocate Office.

Tax returns are prepared for free for active and retired military and their dependents. Besides a service for customers, this program is "also to assist people in getting back faster refunds than if they had mailed it themselves," Cain said.

Cain succeeded Capt. Martin White, now chief of military justice, who served as last year's chief of tax law. A 28-year-old Brooklyn native who grew up in Maryland, Cain has been in the Army nearly two years and arrived at

Redstone in April 1997. She formerly served as legal assistance attorney.

"We want to make this the best tax filing year ever in terms of the services we provide to the soldier," Cain said. "There are new tax laws and conveniences being offered to assist people."

As an example of the conveniences, she mentioned the IRS' "file now, pay later" opportunity. Taxpayers who owe a balance can electronically file in January, receive confirmation of acceptance, then delay actual payment until April 15.

Last year Redstone's tax preparers completed 3,249 returns including 2,100 federal and 1,149 state.

Heading home for the holidays... Student soldiers will take Christmas exodus

By Sandy Riebeling

There's no place like home for the holidays and it's nice to know the Army understands that. In fact, they encourage and assist young soldiers in finding their way back to family and friends over the holiday break commonly referred to as exodus.

The Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School closes for two weeks during the Christmas holiday to allow student soldiers in Advanced Individual Training at Redstone a chance to go home, see their families and return refreshed and refocused in the new year.

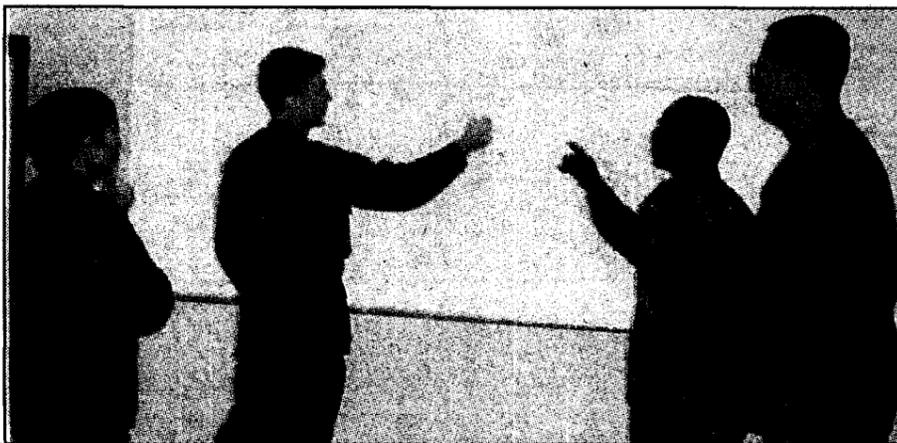


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ON TRACK— Getting nearly 500 students to their planes, trains and buses on time takes coordination. The cadre— including, from left, 1st Lt. Joy Coleman, Brown, Sgt. Odell Barker and Capt. Mark Richardson — check the timeline to make sure everything is on track for the holiday trip home.

"We have 530 student soldiers eligible for the program this year," Lt. Col. George Mixon, commander of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, said. "We have to start a month or more in See EXODUS on page 18



Photo by John Allen

Tide tamed...

Doug Bosarge, left, makes fun of his wife, Monique, in Doug's Deli at Sparkman Center last week. She lost a bet on the Alabama-Auburn football game and had to wear Alabama Crimson Tide garb all day. Monique bets on the game each year with Gordon Seuyoshi of Techni-Core. Gordon lost the bet last year and had to wear Auburn clothes all day.

Letters To The Editor

Cyclists' rights

"Get out of my way!" shouted the driver as he gestured wildly with his left hand. I had turned when he blew an angry horn blast to get my attention. "I can't believe a federal officer would endanger his life and others by getting in the way of a 2,000 pound vehicle and blocking traffic," he kept repeating, even after two Huntsville police officers carefully explained that portion of Alabama law to him. Actually, his mini-van was much closer to 3,000 pounds, but he wasn't about to let facts—any facts—get in the way of a good opinion.

Like all too many American drivers, he just did not get it. Bicycles belong on the road.

Alabama law is quite specific. Bicycles are vehicles. It's as simple as that. Cyclists have all the rights and responsibilities of motor vehicle operators with two simple exceptions:

1. Cyclists are not allowed to ride a bicycle on most Interstate highways.
2. Cyclists require no driver's license.

Bicycles have a very long history on our highways. It was the old steel-wheeled bicycles that had trouble negotiating the dirt roads prevalent before the turn of the last century. The League of American Wheelman lobbied Congress and initiated a network of paved roadways before the automobile even came along.

Cyclists' rights are not only based on ancient history. Bicycles open up transportation possibilities for those too young, too old, or physically handicapped in such a way as they cannot safely operate a motor vehicle. Others

cannot afford either the initial or operating cost of a motor vehicle, but they can afford a bicycle. They have the right to use public roadways too.

Consider the environmental impact of the two vehicles. Even a well-tuned car produces almost four times its own weight in pollution each year—and how many have you noticed that are obviously not well tuned.

A typical car will consume more than twice its own weight in petroleum products each year. Petroleum is in finite supply, and no more dinosaurs are dying to make any more. Petroleum will some day run out. Bicycles do not pollute. Bicycles consume infinitesimal quantities of petroleum in a lifetime.

If all this were not enough then consider the health benefits of cycling. It is a low-impact form of exercise. It improves muscle tone, heart function, lung capacity, and overall health. Bicycle commuting saves time by combining an exercise program with the daily chore of getting to work.

Why do I "risk my life" to ride a bicycle to work? Well, we risk our lives daily anyway. A young high school student was stabbed to death inside a Central Alabama school while a policeman patrolled the hallways. We are never completely safe anywhere. I ride carefully and defensively in traffic. I am careful to obey all traffic laws and to watch out for the few careless and ignorant drivers like our aforementioned friend. I am prepared to give up my legal right-of-way if my life is threatened. I have minimized my risks.

Why do I risk the lives of others by riding a bicycle in traffic? I'm sorry, but I fail to see how a 200-pound man on a 30-pound bicycle presents any serious threat to

someone inside a 3,000-pound steel cage. Maybe I am missing something here.

Blocking traffic? This driver waited behind me through almost a complete light cycle with the left lane empty. I wondered why he did not change lanes during all that time. As soon as the light changed, I accelerated rapidly through the intersection. At the time he started blowing his horn, I was about 20 feet behind the car in front of me—the minimum following distance required by Alabama law and less than the minimum interval recommended by the National Safety Council. I was still accelerating. I do not know where this guy would have gone if I had not been "blocking the road."

Now I realize that all cyclists—like all motor vehicle operators—do not obey all the laws. I realize that some riders ride neither predictably nor carefully. I would be glad to discuss cyclists rights, poor riding examples, good riding habits, or any other aspect of bicycles and motor vehicles sharing our public roads. I ask only that you be factual and specific in your discussions.

Please do understand that "Bicycles Belong" and "Share the Road" are not new concepts. They are Alabama law, and they have been since the law was written. Please give cyclists the rights and the courtesy that you expect others to give you.

I want to close with a special thanks to the two highly professional and cool Huntsville city policemen who responded to my request for assistance. I would like to think they left the aforementioned van driver a little smarter. Somehow I doubt it.

Morton Archibald

Role models...

Big brothers watch over youngsters in local community

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of North Alabama are hoping more men and women will volunteer to participate in their program.

Adults who are interested in becoming a big brother or big sister must be at least 18 years old. To become a big brother or sister, there is an application process and interviews, including references, criminal history and driving record checks, a home visit and pre-match training.

Once a volunteer is accepted, a suitable match with a little brother or sister is sought. After the match is made, the organization stays in touch with the parent, the child and the volunteer to answer questions and provide support. The entire process takes a few weeks and adult volunteers are asked to commit to a minimum of 12 months.

According to John Blaesel, quality assurance representative for the Huntsville Office of Defense Contract Management Command, being a big brother is a worthwhile experience. The DCMC is part of the Defense Logistics Agency.

"If a boy doesn't have a father around, a big brother is there to be a role model and mentor," Blaesel said.

Blaesel joined Big Brothers 14 years ago when he lived in Milwaukee. Like every other adult volunteer, he was careful-

ly checked by the organization before being accepted. Blaesel had to quit Big Brothers there when he accepted a job with civil service and moved to Alabama in 1987.

After living and working in Israel and Egypt from 1992-97, Blaesel transferred back to the states. After relocating to Huntsville in 1998, Blaesel wanted to give something back to his new community. He chose the Big Brothers program because he had been involved in the program before, and to him the benefits are more tangible and more meaningful.

He's been a big brother to 9-year-old Jake since April 19. The relationship between Blaesel and his little brother allows for some flexibility. They try and see each other at least once a week for three to five hours. If either of them can't make it, they reschedule, but those times are rare according to Blaesel.

"It's fun for me to be able to share part of my week with Jake and show him things that he has not been exposed to," Blaesel said. "I enjoy teaching him to hit a golf ball, or taking him to the driving ranges, water and roller-coaster parks and carnivals. And, sometimes we just stay at home and have a cookout or watch television."

Jake's mother, Beth, is also enthused about the new relationship. Beth, a single parent, has a full-time job and another

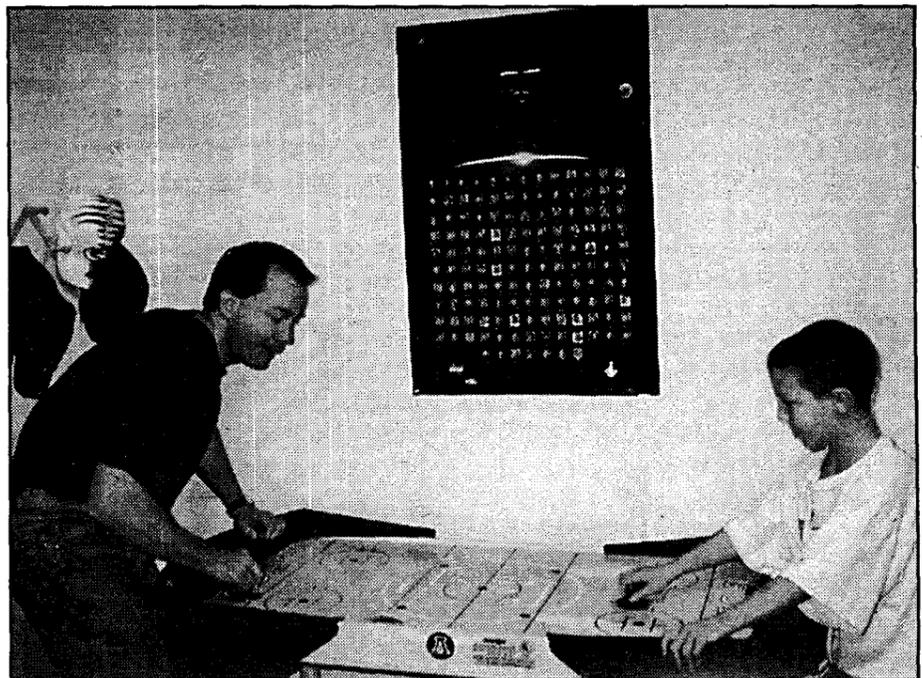


Photo by Beth Everidge

QUALITY TIME— Blaesel serves as a big brother to 9-year-old Jake.

child, a 7-year-old daughter, Casey.

When Jake has a day off from school, he may call up Blaesel at work and ask if they can go out to lunch.

The organization also plans weekend group outings as well: picnic, barbecues, football and softball games, hay rides, and float trips.

Once a month the adult volunteers get together and talk about their experiences and share ideas on how they handle different types of situations.

"I'd like to think," Blaesel said, "that later on Jake will look back and say, 'The guy was a good friend. He brought something to my life.'"

Redstone Rocket

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Rocket Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Al Schwartz

Editor: Skip Vaughn

Contract Manager: Shirley Smith

Reporters: John Allen

Sandy Riebeling

Production Coordinator: Sue Youngblood

Graphic Assistant: Jennifer Anderson

Advertising Sales Reps: Fay Burroughs

Zana Carter

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Accounting Clerk: Chris Reisel

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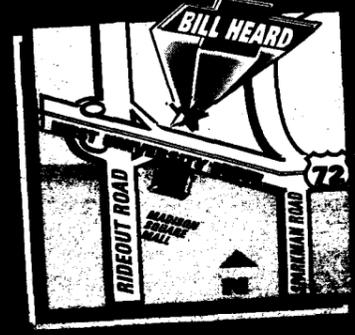
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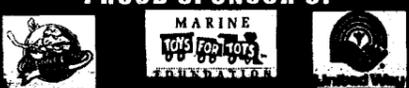
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Learn to fly the friendly skies...

Pilots soar to their goals through Redstone Flying Activity

Photos and story by Sandy Riebeling

How many times have you said to yourself, "Someday I'm going to...." Only to find that someday has come and gone and your dream remains just that, a dream. If becoming a pilot is one of those someday wishes, it can become a reality.

The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity has 26 certified flight instructors, 10 planes and a host of ground support to help you earn your wings.

"We offer basic pilot training from ground school up," Jack Ferguson, RAFA manager, said. "It really depends on the student for how long it takes to get their license. We've got people who've done it in three months, and then there are people who have taken three years. Some students just need more time than others."

Jim Covington earned his private pilot license in 42 flight hours, just two hours over the minimum of 40. He began training with Master Certified Flight Instructor Rob Lindstrom about a year and a half ago.

"I had always— since I was a kid— wanted to learn to fly," Covington said. "I guess part of it was growing up around Huntsville with all the astronauts and the space program here. Learning to fly was sort of a natural extension of that."

With his initial pilot's license, Covington was certified for Visual Flight Rules, which meant he was allowed to fly only in good weather. He continued his training for another 40 hours to become certified for

Instrument Flight Rules, which means he can fly in inclement weather as well.

"Understanding weather was a concern for me," Covington said. "You have to know how the fronts coming in are going to affect you— and how fast they are moving."

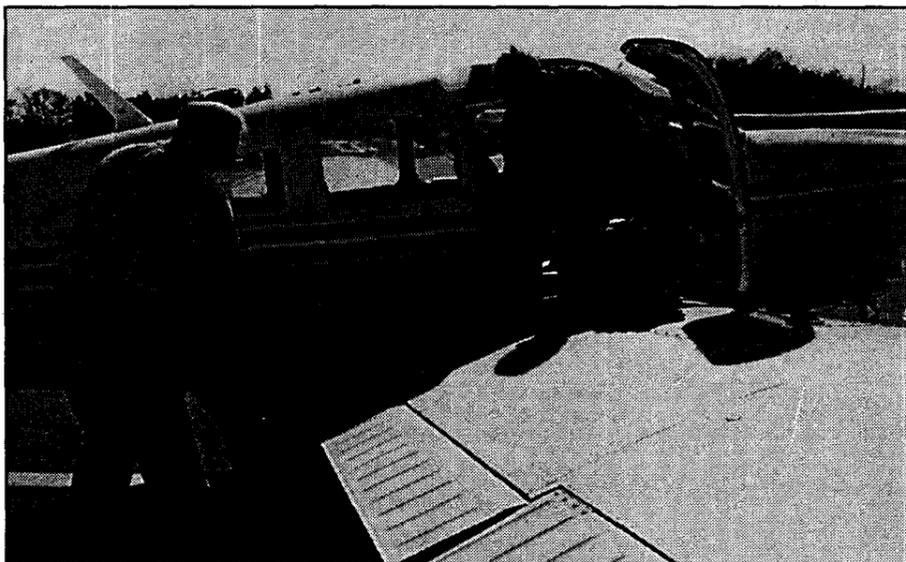
Covington was watching the weather closely last week before flying his wife and children to St. Louis and then on to Chicago for a holiday visit.

"One of the best things about flying is that you can get there in a hurry— a lot faster than in a car," he said. "And it's not hard. Actually, flying isn't much different than driving, but you get there faster."

"Jim is a success story," Rob Lindstrom, RAFA flight instructor, said of his student. He encourages anyone who's ever thought about becoming a pilot to come out to the flying activity and give it a try. Lindstrom was honored in September as a Master Certified Flight Instructor by the National Association of Flight Instructors. He is one of about 60 that have been recognized for his flying abilities and achievements as well as being an exceptional teacher.

But unlike Covington, not everyone has the time or money to get through the course in three months.

"Money is a consideration," Ferguson said. "Students make their own schedule so they can fly as often as they want to. It's a pay as you fly course. On average, it costs about \$2,800 to earn a private pilot license."



POSTFLIGHT CHECK— Returning from a one-hour flight, Lindstrom, left, and Covington perform an inspection of the plane and update the log books.

Costs broken down include a \$25 initiation fee into the Flying Activity which is a one-time expense, but you must be a mem-

ber to be a student. Monthly dues are \$23.

See PILOTS on page 19



GROUND CONTROL— Flight Activity clerks White, left, and Lancaster, keep the paperwork and scheduling flowing smoothly which enables pilots and students to spend most of their time in the skies instead of in the office.

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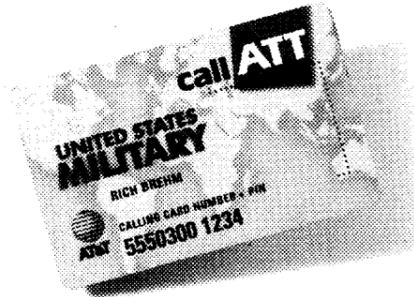
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Former procurement operators remember their days together

By Pauline Hieber

It was a "priority" day in the lives of certain Redstone procurement technicians, past and present.

Nineteen one-time PADDs operators met Nov. 19 at Cracker Barrel for old time's sake. Many memories were revived and everyone was brought up to date on current happenings at work and at home.

There was such a good response and the event turned out so well, it was decided that this luncheon will be continued at least annually.

Over the years these operators worked together at one time or another in putting 97 percent of the arsenal's Army contracts into the Procurement Automated Data Document System (PADDs) for contracting offices at Redstone.

Their work is now done by more than 300 contract specialists who input their own documents into the PADDs system. Some operators retired, some have been retrained in new positions, some have since been promoted into career/professional slots, and few were left to maintain the system.

Some former operators could not be located. Any former PADDs operator who did not get contacted should call 881-3158 and leave a message with your name, mailing address and phone number. This will ensure your notification of the next luncheon and receipt of the current newsletter.

The operators included Sheila Anderton-Dendy, Debbie Auton, Bennie Beam, Mary Boyd, Nancy Brown, Lonnie Burton, Brenda Chandler, Christine Dulaney, Kristi Foster, Pauline Hieber, Goldie Hill, Maude Johnston, Roena Love, Connie Magnuson, Billy Miles, Jessie Moore, Barbara Nelson, Delores Nichols, Angela Raney, Sandy Self, Wanda Smith, Betty Walker, Joy Warden, Juanita Wardlaw, Raymond Washington, Betty Weaver and Betty Yant.

(Editor's note: Hieber works at the Acquisition Center, building 4488.)

Preschool book fair helps meet classroom wish list

Parent advisory council contributes books to children's center

By Jonnesa Countess

The Redstone Arsenal Parent Advisory Council (PAC) recently sponsored a Preschool Book Fair by Scholastic Books at the Child Development Center (CDC) for their patrons. Over 250 books were sold during the three-day book fair and sales exceeded \$1,000, which is almost three times the average for a school our size. Not bad for our first time out!

The Classroom Wish List Program was a success, as well, and a big boost to the book fair. Each class at the CDC made a list of books they wanted for their classrooms. Many gracious parents/patrons bought books from the wish lists for donation to the CDC classrooms.

The PAC chose to redeem the "profit" in books. Because of the support of the patrons and staff, and on behalf of the PAC, here's what we were able to do:

Hardback books were donated by the PAC for each of the Family Child

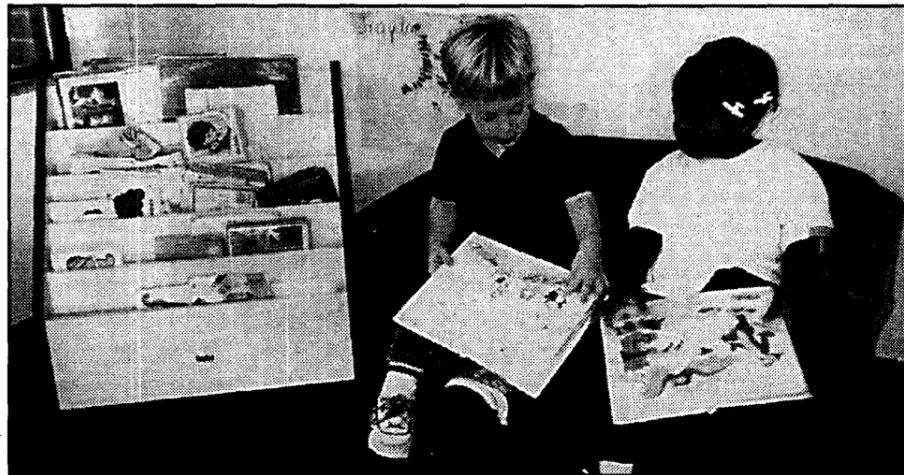


Photo by Skip Vaughn

BOOKS ARE US— Sam Moss and Kamea Overstreet, both 2, visit the reading area at the Child Development Center. The Parent Advisory Council has donated books to the center.

Care (FCC) homes on-post.

- The PAC donated hardback and board books for the Hourly Care Room at the CDC.

- Parents/patrons donated a total of 61 books to the CDC classrooms as a result of the Classroom Wish List Program.

- The PAC donated a total of 92 books to the CDC classrooms and the FCC program. Many of the books donated by the PAC were hardback and board books.

- Bottom line: 153 books were donated to CDS programs because of the patrons and PAC. All donated books have bookplates indicating the class to which the book was

given and the donor.

I believe this was a win/win event all-around and we should all be proud of what we have been able to accomplish. Since I can't do it myself, everyone should reach around and pat yourself on the back for a job well done.

Thanks to all those who supported the book fair. I feel as though we've set a precedent for the next PAC and patrons to follow. And a big heartfelt thanks go out to our parent volunteers — without you, we couldn't

have made it possible.

The Parent Advisory Council is open to all patrons and staff of the Child Development Services Programs and usually meets on the last Tuesday of each month. However, due to the holidays, this month's meeting will be held Dec. 15 at 11 a.m. at the Bicentennial Chapel.

(Editor's note: Countess is public relations officer and book fair chairperson for the Parent Advisory Council.)

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Y2K demonstration shows...

Blasting into new century doesn't stop missile

By Bob Hunt

The Army conducted its largest Year 2000 sensor-to-shooter demonstration at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Nov. 24.

The demonstration proved that the AH-64A Apache, the AH-64D Longbow Apache, and the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior will be able to designate, identify and attack targets with their missile systems and communicate with the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) to direct a Multiple Launch Rocket System attack in the new millennium.

"This clearly shows that we are ready to be deployed rapidly and that we will be able to do our job," Mimi Browning, Y2K coordinator for the Department of the Army, said.

Technicians and soldiers first moved all systems' clocks ahead to Dec. 31, 1999, just before the new year. Then the Apache, the Longbow Apache and the Kiowa Warrior each fired a Hellfire missile at an armored target. The Kiowa Warrior, still in 1999, then fired an air-to-air Stinger missile at an aerial target. All systems' clocks rolled over naturally to Jan. 1, 2000, and each aircraft repeated the firing sequence. Finally, each aircraft crew transmitted digital or voice commands for



Army photo

MISSILE AWAY— An AH-64A Apache fires at a target during the Year 2000 sensor-to-shooter demonstration.

fire support to an AFATDS, which passed the fire order to a Multiple Launch Rocket System battery. The MLRS crew then fired six rockets at the target area identified by the aircraft.

"The real purpose of this demonstration," said Col. Craig Madden, commander, 4th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, "was to prove to our soldiers that their equipment will be ready after the year 2000 arrives."

Many Army organizations worked behind the scenes to ensure the demonstration was a success. The 4th ID, Fort Hood, Texas, provided the soldiers and most of the systems used in the demonstration. White Sands Missile Range was the host for the demonstration. And the following organizations manage the systems involved in the demonstration: the Aviation and Missile Com-

mand (Kiowa Warrior and Stinger missile), the Program Executive Office (PEO) Aviation (Apache and Longbow Apache), and the PEO Tactical Missiles (MLRS and the Hellfire missile), all from

Redstone Arsenal; and the PEO Command, Control and Communications Systems (AFATDS and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System), Fort Monmouth, N.J.



Photo by Connie Davis

Special induction...

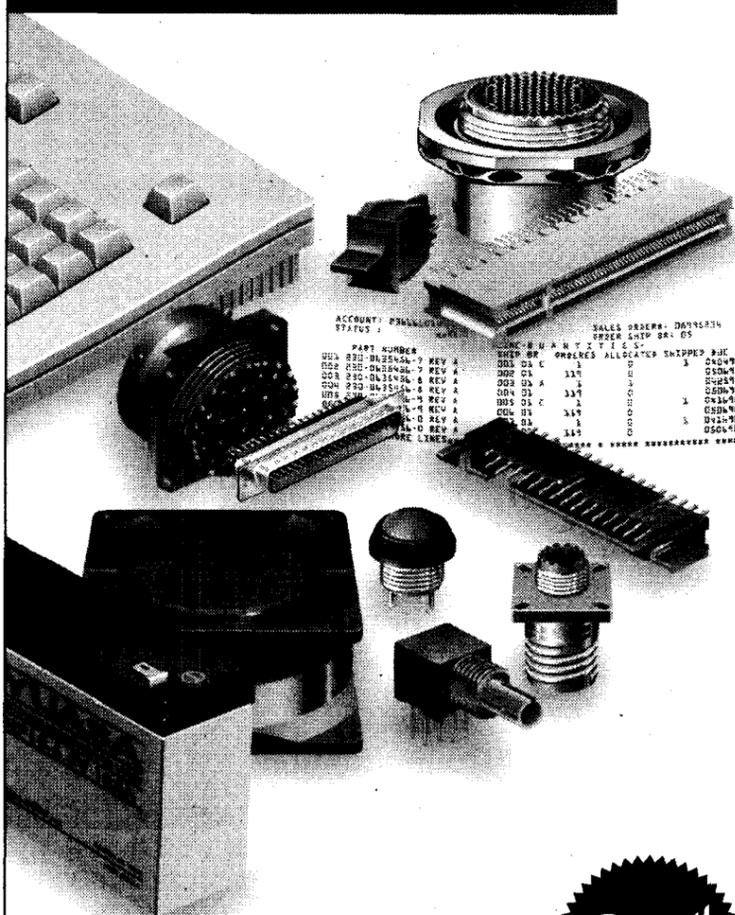
Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer is inducted into the Order of Saint Barbara and awarded a Saint Barbara medal by Brig. Gen. Dan Montgomery, program executive officer for air and missile defense. This took place Nov. 13 during the Redstone Arsenal/Huntsville Chapter, Air Defense Artillery Association luncheon at the Redstone Arsenal Club.

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Local community organizations could use holiday helpers

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

For those who would like to share their time during this season of giving, here's a list of volunteer organizations needing help during the holidays:

- Christmas Charities Year Round— phone 539-2500. Help pack up gifts for Christmas and put names on the boxes. Need gifts for teen-agers and elderly (Hope Place/homeless/burnt out families). Deliver gifts to families Dec. 19. From Dec. 21-23, give out gifts to families that come into the center on Cook Avenue.
- Volunteers of America— phone 830-2155. Group homes for mentally retarded, mentally ill and day care centers. Need people who can sponsor (financially) a resident at Christmas time who can't afford it. They can provide a list of sizes and items needed or you can donate cash— no administrative cost taken out.
- Seminole Service Center— phone 539-1359. Volunteers needed to help with program funds or refreshments Dec. 17. Stocking stuffer needs are: (for 40 boys and 50 girls) crayons, pencils, scissors, coloring books, toothbrushes and paste, combs, knit caps and scarfs, gloves, socks, candy and toys.
- Cerebral Palsy— phone 852-5600. Mother's Day Out Program. Mom can shop for Christmas or spend time with other children who often do not get as much attention because of their sibling's special needs. Volunteers needed to help give a special gift to special mothers who have a child with a disability. Two volunteers are needed Tuesday afternoons, Dec. 8 and 15.
- Helpline— phone 539-1000. Do you like to wrap presents. Gift wrap booth at local malls and shopping areas provide a successful fund-raiser for a local non-profit as shoppers' monetary donations are exchanged for gifts that are ready to go under the tree. Staff the booth for a few hours starting day after Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve.
- Lift Housing— phone 534-7009. Volunteers may deliver their own food boxes or deliver a prepared meal to low-income families for Christmas.
- New Futures— phone 837-2856. Volunteers may deliver their own food boxes or deliver a prepared meal to low-income families for Christmas.
- CASA— phone 880-0603. Volunteers needed to deliver Christmas presents furnished by churches and local organizations to aging homebound people.
- Salvation Army— phone 536-5576. Volunteers can help with Angel Trees and the Adopt a Kettle program.

Quietly serving community...

Post library offers latest on best seller list

By Sandy Riebeling

Whether it's information on rebuilding a 16th century clock or getting your hands on the latest best seller, the Post Library is the place to find it. And if they don't have exactly what you're looking for, chances are they can request it from one of the other 50,000 libraries in their inter-library loan system.

"We have a collection of about 39,000," Norma Harkness, post librarian, said. "We get the best sellers through a lease service to get the newer books faster. We also have Internet access now. We went on-line early summer."

Besides the staple collection of fiction and non-fiction adult reading, the library offers an extensive military history section along with college entrance exam guides, books on tape, large print edition books, more than 130 current magazines and newspapers as well as a children's room and a paper-back trade-in program.

"Library traffic has gone

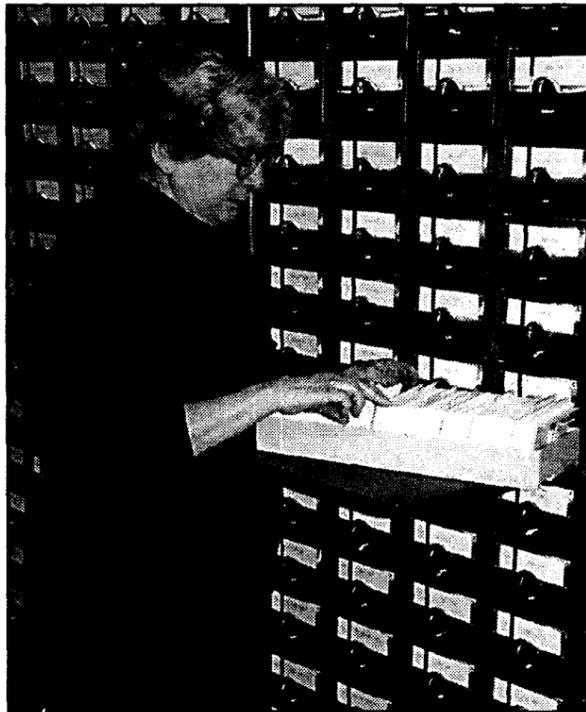


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

CARD CATALOG— Harkness has been looking up books and taking care of patrons of the post library for more than 38 years.

down over the years," said Harkness, recalling the early days of the library in the 1960s. "We used to get around 375 people a day coming through. That number has dropped to about 100-150."

Harkness believes the

numbers have dwindled, in part, because of television, access to more branch libraries and book stores and the Internet, coupled with the fact that families have busier lifestyles these days.

With the drop in usage and shrinking budget,

library staff and hours have been cut over the years. When Harkness came to work for the library in 1960, there were four full-time librarians, one aide and 10 part-time employees. The current staff is Harkness, a full-time employee, one part-time volunteer and one student volunteer who earns high school credit for working in the library.

"We still get a lot of retirees coming in," Harkness said. "They come to the Arsenal to do their shopping, have lunch, maybe play some golf and then swing by here on their way out of town."

Harkness is also hoping to revive children's story time after the holidays. "A man volunteered to do it on his lunch hour but I have to get back with him about the details."

The library is open to all military, retirees, DoD civilians and contractors working at Redstone. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 1:30-7:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

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Going digital/electronic...

Telephone system switches with the times

Photos and story by John Allen

Time was an employee at Redstone Arsenal would ask for a telephone and it would be installed posthaste.

No more.

Now, when an employee wants a telephone, he must show that he has the budget for it, then it has to pass through an approval process. This new scenario is partly due to the government's efforts to downsize, and partly due to more stringent budget restrictions.

Another change is tighter controls on the use of telephone lines.

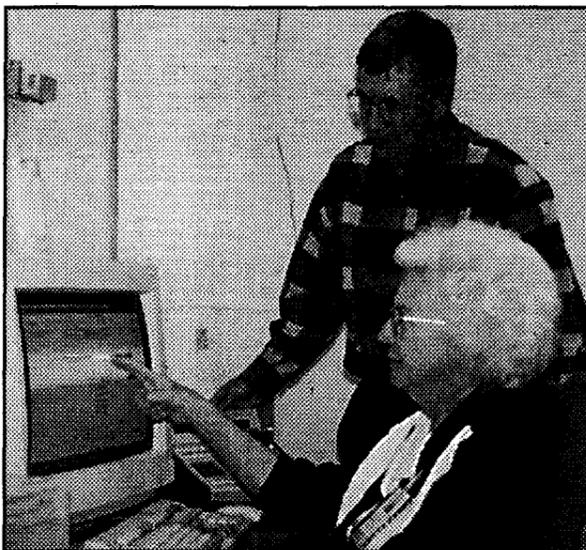
"In the old days, an employee might move down the hall or to another building and to a new telephone hookup," Leroy Dennis, team leader at TELLEC, said. "More often than not, the old phone line was left intact, and a user fee continued to be charged for that line. Now, all bills from telephone venders must be verified, including cellular phone bills. In buildings

that are abandoned, the telephone cable is removed to eliminate monthly charges."

Redstone Arsenal is different from most Army facilities, according to Dennis. "Usually, the Army owns the telephone system. At Redstone, BellSouth owns and operates the services. And BellSouth also owns all of the fiber optics and copper wire on the Arsenal that is used for telephone service, most of which is underground," he said.

In 1988, Redstone made the switchover to digital/electronic equipment. Prior to that, the telephone building (5298) at Patton and Martin Roads was filled with switching equipment and required 20 operators to handle 12,000 lines. Now, that same building handles 26,000 lines, but requires only a fraction of the space and is handled by two operators per shift. Redstone handles an additional 12,000 to 14,000 more telephone lines in Research Park.

Redstone reportedly



PHONE DATABASE— Marge Gates, site manager and chief operator, looks at the new "switchboard," actually the telephone information database, while Leroy Dennis looks on.

budgets \$10 million per year for telephone operations. In one month alone (last July), the bill for tele-



ONE MOMENT, PLEASE— Donel Hayes sits at one of the old Redstone telephone switchboards, which is on display in building 3687. Redstone used these switchboards until 1988.

phone service at RSA was \$861,367. There are approximately 460 cellular phones on Redstone Arsenal, representing 2 percent of the bill.

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After calling consumers...

Purple Heart Foundation reviewed by business bureau

By John Allen

What's the difference between the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Military Order of Purple Heart Service Foundation? Give up?

The first is an organization of persons who were wounded in action by the enemy while in the U.S. military. The second is a tax-exempt charitable organization that solicits donations of clothing and household goods. Is there a connection?

Yes. The latter is under contract with the first as a fund-raising charity.

There are 10 chapters in Alabama of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Association (for wounded veterans). The one in Huntsville is known as the George A. Rauh Sr. Chapter 2201.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, or Purple Heart Foundation for short, is headquartered in Annandale, Va.

In September, the Better Business Bureau of North Alabama reported it began receiving calls from Huntsville-area consumers. The callers indicated they had been contacted by Purple Heart Foundation representatives via telephone solicitations.

The BBB says that despite written requests to the Purple Heart Foundation in Annandale this year, it has not provided current information about its finances, programs and governance.

Information in the BBB's files indicates that the local appeals for the Purple Heart Foundation are currently being conducted by a management company, American Heritage Inc., of 3008 North Memorial Parkway, in business since September. The BBB report further states that this organization previously operated as American Heritage Realty

Inc., and prior to that, was a Century 21 franchise.

According to the BBB, American Heritage Inc., has entered into a contract with the Purple Heart Foundation to manage its solicitation and pickup services. As of this writing, no consumer complaints have been registered with the BBB against American Heritage Inc..

Located at the same address as American Heritage Inc., according to a BBB report, is Value Village Inc., which is listed as a for-profit thrift store.

There are reportedly nine thrift stores in the U.S. that sell merchandise collected on behalf of the Purple Heart Foundation.

According to Joan Vercruysse, president of American Heritage Inc., they solicit and collect clothing and household goods, using the name of Purple Heart Foundation. The goods are then packaged in large wooden containers measuring 8-by-4 feet. These containers are then "purchased" from the Purple Heart

The Better Business Bureau says that despite written requests to the Purple Heart Foundation in Annandale this year, it has not provided current information about its finances, programs and governance.

Foundation for sale in the Value Village Thrift Store.

The *Rocket* was told that the purchase price for the containers is a contractually agreed upon amount with the Foundation, which American Heritage Inc., would not divulge.

"We collect approximately one container per day," Vercruysse said, "but we have collected as many as five in one day."

She said that storage space is becoming a problem, and that she and her husband, Steven, who is the company treasurer, are looking for creative ways to "move" the merchandise, including a contractor who might sell it to the needy in Haiti or South Africa.

Vercruysse said that the

during the construction of the Floyd (Tut) Fann State Veterans Home, then left town."

Vercruysse said that her operation is similar to the "Yellow-Bag" people (Vietnam veterans), who solicit in Huntsville, but operate out of Birmingham. A statement on the yellow bags says, "The Vietnam Veterans of America have found the most profitable way to sell donated household discards through bulk-purchase agreements through private retailers on a bid-basis."

She said the yellow bag further states, "Through your generous support, we have collected in excess of \$500,000 per month in Alabama."

"The Am Vet thrift stores in other states operate in a

similar fashion," she said.

Vercruysse contends there are 34 military groups that have been authorized by Congress to raise money this way.

The BBB's Philanthropic Advisory Service (PAS) reports on national charities and determines if they meet 23 voluntary standards. Without the requested information, the BBB cannot verify if the charity meets these standards. PAS does not evaluate the worthiness of a charitable organization.

The BBB also says that as a matter of policy, it does not recommend, endorse, or disapprove of any company, product or service. It issues information solely to assist consumers in making their own best judgment.

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Celebrating the holidays...

Time running out to buy tickets for Redstone party

If you are planning on going to Team Redstone's Holiday Party, you need to hurry and get your tickets.

The deadline for buying tickets is noon Dec. 7. The entire Team Redstone community is invited. Cancellations will not be accepted after noon Dec. 8.

For ticket and reservation information, call Olene McGowen 842-9038, Mae Hargrove 842-9588 or Gaila Kelso 876-9857. Tickets are \$21 per person. The price includes a meal, gratuity and entertainment. And rumor has it that perhaps there will be one or two surprises during the evening!

For your convenience, tickets may be charged against a major credit card or your Redstone Arsenal Club account. Tables may be reserved for groups wanting to sit together.

The party, scheduled for Dec. 11 at the Redstone Arsenal Club, begins at 6 p.m. with a social hour. Dinner will be served at 7:05. A word to the wise should be sufficient: eat a very small



Photo by Jim Bowne

FINAL PROOF— Malcolm Lowery and Karen Duke do the final proof of the souvenir program for Team Redstone's Holiday Party, Dec. 11. Lowery is the graphics lead for CIC's Graphics Department, and Duke is the desk clerk.

breakfast and leave plenty of room for dinner.

Dinner includes filet mignon and breast of chicken, tossed salad, new potatoes, green beans almondine, hot rolls, crabapple ring on a bed of greens, dessert, coffee and tea.

For your pleasure, the Omni-Music Band will provide the soft sounds of

jazz during dinner. Then, beginning at 8, you can dance the evening away as the band plays some of your favorite dance music. Whether you prefer the soothing rhythms of the oldies or the more upbeat sounds of rock and roll, the band will provide the music you like to dance to.

So, get your tickets and

join your friends for an evening of fun. Reserve a table or two, or as many as you need for you and your friends.

Come socialize, eat and dance to a live band. Be a part of the Team Redstone Family on Dec. 11. See you there!

(Editor's note: This article was submitted by the Publicity Committee, Holiday Party Working Group.)

County organizations receive gifts from Boeing Company

The Boeing Company and the Boeing employees in Huntsville and Decatur continue to give to those in the community with needs.

Boeing Huntsville vice president/Huntsville operations, Jake Volkert and Boeing Employees Community Outreach co-chairmen Kathy Knox and Melody Cathy delivered about 12,500 pounds of food and essentials and 3,000 articles of clothing and blankets to the Salvation Army of Morgan County, the Madison County Christmas Charities, and Athens/Limestone Food & Shelter program.

"The Boeing Company sponsors an employees community outreach program each year as another way of giving back to the communities where Boeing employees live and work," Volker said.

Capt. Mark Smith from the Morgan County Salvation Army, Gerri Mills from the Madison County Christmas Charities, and Amy Goldin of Athens/Limestone Food & Shelter program accepted the Boeing employees' gifts.

The Morgan County Salvation Army serves 800 families in the county and 500 in Limestone County. The Madison County Christmas Charities serves 1,400 families. The Athens/Limestone Food & Shelter program serves 840 families in Limestone County. In addition The Boeing Company donated \$2,000 to Decatur Salvation Army and \$3,720 to Madison County Christmas Charities. **(Boeing release)**

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In the spirit of giving...

Santa arrives on fire truck in housing areas Dec. 21

By Skip Vaughn

Santa will make his annual pre-Christmas rounds via fire truck through the Redstone housing areas Dec. 21.

This is a joint effort by the Sergeants Major Association and the post fire department. There will be two trucks running separate routes— see the maps accompanying this article — from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 21. Inclement weather date is

Dec. 23.

"Santa Claus rides through the housing area but we use the fire trucks for sleds," quipped Sgt. Maj. Frank Hyatt, president of the Sergeants Major Association.

Santa and his helpers on the trucks will distribute candy to the children in the housing areas.

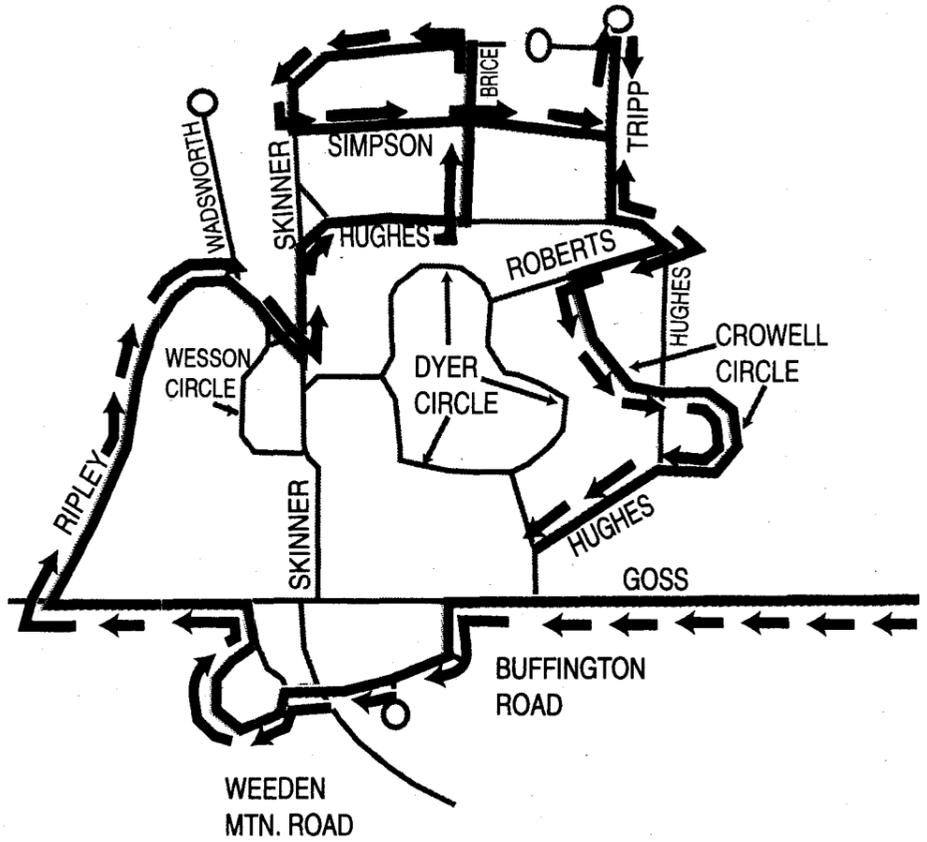
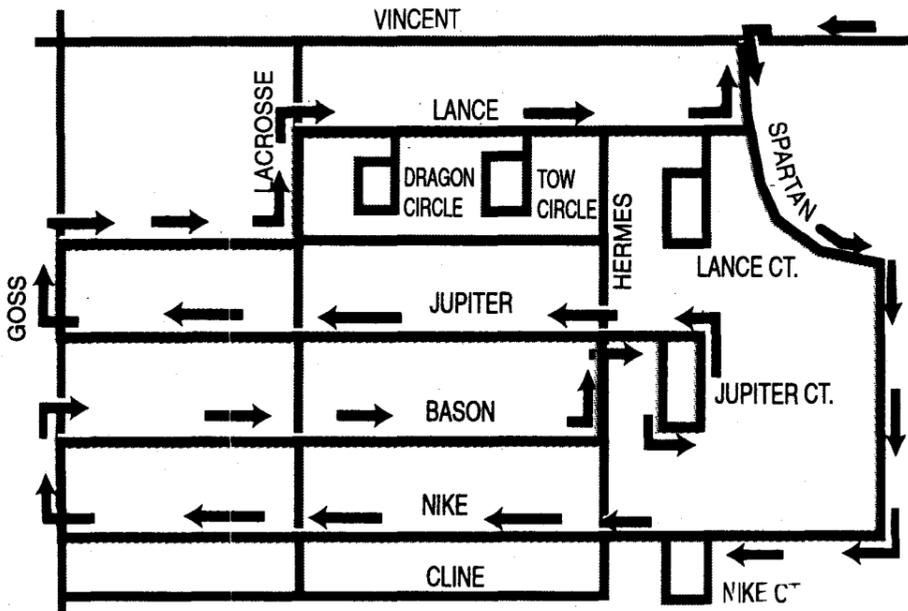
"The fire department provides their people and equipment. The association provides people and purchases the candy

from its budget," Hyatt said. The Post Exchange also contributes some of the candy to this event each year.

"We do this every year just for the

Christmas spirit of giving and seeing smiles on kids' faces," Hyatt said.

For more information, call Hyatt at 876-4160.



Demonstrated Performance



Tactical Operations Centers

TRW has demonstrated the performance of its 21st Century Tactical Operations Centers (TOCs) in a simulated environment. The TOCs are designed to provide a common operational picture and to support the decision-making process. The TOCs are designed to be flexible and scalable, and to support a wide range of operations. The TOCs are designed to be easy to use and to provide a high level of performance.

As a result of its demonstrated performance, the United States Army selected TRW as its lead system integrator for the 21st Century TOCs. To date, TRW has delivered more than 25 TOCs systems at tactical, operational and strategic levels, each delivered on schedule, on cost and exceeding technical

requirements. TRW also has any of the experience, expertise and resources that experienced and qualified team is assembled and prepared to support the Army in setting the standard for the 21st Century.

TOC Team

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Advising on ethics...

Sometimes just saying no is way to go on private gifts

By Robert Garfield

In my first Ethics Advisory, 98-01, I set out the rules on "widely attended gatherings." With so many members of the Redstone community being offered free attendance at widely attended events such as the AAAA or AUSA conventions or Chamber of Commerce events, we constantly receive questions on what individuals may accept. We also receive many questions on gifts from contractors and other outside sources.

This Ethics Advisory focuses on those issues.

The basic rule is that we are not permitted to accept "gifts" from "prohibited sources" or which are offered to us because we are federal employees.

This sounds simple, but it is not. For example what is a "gift"? What is a "prohibited source"? The Office of Government Ethics defines these terms and adds "exclusions" and "exceptions." The result is that anytime you are confronted with the question whether you may accept a gift from a contractor or other non-federal source, you have to ask not one question, but a series of questions, to arrive at the answer.

Definitions

A "gift" is anything of value (e.g., discounts, entertainment, training, favor, discount, forbearance, hospitality). Simple enough so far, however, the Office of Government Ethics specifically "excludes" some items from this definition, such as:

- Greeting cards, plaques and similar items with little intrinsic value that are meant for presentation purposes.

- Coffee, doughnuts, and similar refreshments offered during a meeting (the "doughnut rule"). This does not include a working lunch.

- Something offered to all federal employees or all uniformed military personnel (for example, government employee discounts at hotels or military air fares).

- Rewards or prizes given in contests or other events open to the general public, unless the employee entered the contest as part of his or her official duties (for example, if you attend a seminar, symposium or exposition as part of your official duties and you win a computer as a door prize, that computer belongs to the government).

A "prohibited source" includes anyone doing business with the Army, trying to do business with the Army, seeking official action from the Army, or affected by how the Army employee performs or does not perform his or her duties. This definition includes on-site contractors and their employees who work in the federal workplace along side federal employees.

Sometimes private professional, scientific or technical associations argue that a proffered gift should be permissible because they are not a "prohibited source." They may or may not be correct. Whether or not they are a prohibited source depends on who their members are. If a majority are prohibited sources or their employees, they, too, are prohibited sources. In any event, it usually does not matter whether the organization is a prohibited source because, in all likelihood, the gift would not have been

See GIFTS on page 14



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

Gas mask lesson...

Sgt. Maj. Lewis Lockett demonstrates Elementary School, Nov. 10 under the auspices of the AMCOM Speakers Bureau program. during his talk to kindergarten through fifth-grade pupils at Monte Sano

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GIFTS

Continued from page 13

offered if the recipient had not held his or her position as a federal employee— also prohibited.

Some exceptions

As I mentioned, there are "exceptions" to the basic rule of "no gifts." Some of the exceptions are:

• 1. If the fair market value of the gift is \$20 or less, you may accept it as long as you do not accept more than \$50 from the same source and its employees during the year using this exception. If the gift is a ticket, the fair market value is the price on the ticket. If the ticket price is \$25, you may not pay merely the difference (\$5) to keep within the exception — you must pay the full price of the ticket (\$25). If you are offered two \$18 tickets, you may accept just one; or you may accept one as a gift and pay \$18 for the other one. If offered a five course dinner in a fancy restaurant downtown, you may not accept based on reciprocity (i.e., you intend to return the favor at a later date).

• 2. You may accept an award for outstanding public service as long as it is not coming from someone who is affected by how you perform your official duties. In most instances, before you accept, you must obtain a written ethics-counselor determination that the award meets certain criteria.

• 3. You may accept an honorary degree in most cases. But, again, an ethics counselor determination will be required.

• 4. You may accept gifts based on outside business or employment relationships. For example, if your spouse works for an Army contractor and, as employee of the year, your

spouse is given an all-expense paid trip to a resort in Cleveland, Ohio, you may accompany your spouse at the contractor's expense. Similarly, if you are seeking employment with a contractor who wants to bring you and your spouse to its home office in Indianapolis, you may accept this trip assuming that this is way that the company treats others at the level that you are interviewing.

• 5. You may accept free attendance at a social, dinner, seminar, or other event that is a "widely attended gathering" (a large number of persons with a diversity of views will attend) if your supervisor determines that there is "agency interest" in your attending (your attendance will further agency programs or operations). I described the rules on "widely attended gatherings" in Ethics Advisory 98-01; therefore, I will not repeat them here.

• 6. There is a higher dollar threshold for gifts from foreign governments, currently \$245. Where this area becomes tricky is sometimes it is difficult to tell whether an entity is part of the foreign government or is a foreign company that should be treated in the same way as other prohibited sources. Anytime you receive a gift from a foreign entity, you need to contact an ethics counselor immediately for further instructions.

More questions

Assume for a moment that you are offered a gift that meets one of these exceptions. Does your analysis end here? Remember I said you must answer a series of questions, and there are still more to answer. For example:

• If the gift is offered as a "quid pro quo." What if a contractor sent you a \$20 ticket to a Stars' game (obviously the best seat in the

house) as a "thank you" for providing some requested information in a timely manner. You should not accept something where it looks like it is in return for being influenced to perform an official act.

• If it was solicited. For example, if an employee solicited \$20 gift certificates from a local restaurant to use as prizes for Team Redstone Organization Day or for creating the winning slogan for the AMCOM cost savings program, we may not accept them even though each would fit into the first gift exception. Under these circumstances, the gift is regarded as given because we are federal employees.

• If the employee receives gifts with such frequency that it looks as if the employee is abusing his or her official position. For example, if a contracting officer constantly receives lunches from various vendors during the year, he or she should refrain from accepting such gifts even though most of them are well under \$20 and the maximum of \$50 is never exceeded for any one source.

Politely declining

Finally, remember, it is never wrong to decline a gift. Often, a polite declination is the way to go, even if the rules say that you can accept it.

If you receive gifts from a source that are valued \$250 or more during a year, you must report the gifts if you file a public (SF 278) or confidential (OGE Form 450) financial disclosure report.

Ask counselor

What if you receive a gift that you are not sure about? It might come in the mail, or someone may have left it on your desk. Ask your ethics counselor! Do not wait for the inspector general to begin an inquiry... ask your ethics counselor about it right away. If it is an improper gift, there are a number of options. You can pay fair market value for it (now, it is no longer a gift). You can return it (at government expense). If it is perishable (e.g., flowers or food) and not practical to return, with the concurrence of your supervisor or ethics counselor, you might give it to an appropriate charity, share it within your office, or destroy it.

If you are offered a gift and you have any doubts, decline it or tell the person offering it that you will have to check with your ethics counselor. Who might that be? Call me at 313-2820 or Don Hankins 876-8922.

(Editor's note: Garfield, an ethics counselor, is chief of the general law/intellectual property law division.)

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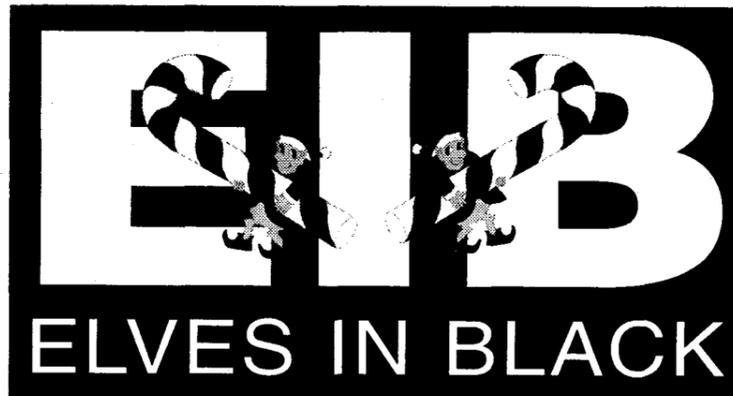
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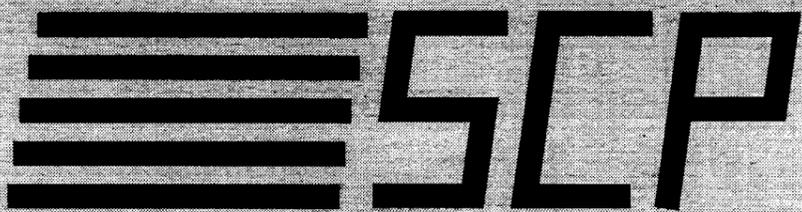


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The following contracts are available for ordering:

Army Consolidated Enterprise Solutions - 1 (ACES-1)

- BPAs awarded to CSC (DAAB07-97-A-Y0002), EDS (DAAB07-97-A-Y0003), IBM (DAAB07-97-A-Y0004), & Unisys (DAAB07-97-A-Y0005).
- Requirements: Outsourcing of IT functions, Y2K review/solutions, Information Security, and Business Process Re-Engineering.
- Army Sponsored.
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Tom Leahy.

Desktop Video Teleconferencing (DVTC)

- Awarded to TRW (DAAB07-95-A-L264), Delta Corp (DAKF11-95-D-0001).
- Order point-to-point (POTS or ISDN), LAN configurations (multiple protocols) and multi-point DVTC; maintenance; order to SEP 98
- 1-year warranty
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Adelia Wardle.

Army Portable-2

- Awarded to Vanstar (DAAB07-97-D-V003), GTSI (DAAB07-97-D-V004).
- Pentium class notebooks, sub-notebooks, mini-notebooks, ruggedized notebooks, docking stations, palmtops, monitors, peripherals, and software. Ordering to May 99.
- 5-year warranty.
- Help desk: Vanstar (888)797-6739, (540)662-1736, GTSI (800)333-4874, (703)502-2000.
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Steve Miller.

Enhanced Technologies - 1 (ET-1)

- BPAs awarded to Comark Federal Systems (DAAB07-98-A-V005), GTSI (DAAB07-98-A-V003), and Vanstar (DAAB07-98-A-V004).
- HP printers, various OEMs software and peripherals to upgrade, enhance and improve performance of existing computer platforms.
- Warranty: Minimum of 1-year, some OEM warranties exceed 1-year.
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Steve Miller.

Army Personal Computer - 2 (PC-2)

- Awarded to Vanstar (DAAB07-97-A-V001), BTG (DAAB07-97-D-V002).
- Order Pentium class PC's (bundled or configurable); OA software; printers; CD-ROM; modem; monitors; ordering to FEB 99.
- 5-year warranty, Vanstar (888) 797-6739, (540)662-1736.
- Lifetime warranty, BTG/GTSI (800)950-5657
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Linda Cook.

Army Licenses for Software Upgrades - 1 (ALSU-1)

- BPAs awarded to GTSI (DAAB07-97-A-Y008)
- Provides Microsoft Select variable SW license for the family of existing Microsoft products that the Army currently utilizes in support of the Army's mission.
- Army use only.
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Adelia Wardle.

Small Multi-user Computer II (SMC-II)

- Awarded to Telos (DAHC94-95-D-0010).
- Order multi-user CPU's (servers); network HW/SW; technical services; ordering to SEP 98.
- 3-year warranty, (800)708-3567, (703)724-3612.
- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Adelia Wardle.

Army Leasing 1 (AL-1)

- BPAs awarded to TBD.
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- POC: Steve Miller.

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- Army lead. Service charge 1%.
- POC: Mark Corzine.

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Sports & Recreation

Units vying for 1998 Commander's Cup prize

Basketball, softball among most popular activities for troops

Photo and story by John Allen

One of Donald Lewis' jobs is to open up Pagano Gym every morning at 5. One of Joe Reed's jobs is to close it each night at 10.

In between, they, three other recreation assistants, and recreation director Ted Compoc, manage a facility that includes weightlifting, racquetball, basketball, saunas, and a whole slate of intramural sports.

Seven intramural sports are organized into an annual program called the Commander's Cup competition. The events and when they are played include the following:

- Flag football— September to November
- Basketball— Decem-

ber to March

- Volleyball— March to May
- Softball— May to September
- 5K run— October
- Racquetball— September
- Golf— May.

The commander's all-sports trophies are awarded annually to the top three participating organizations, or units, accruing the most points in competition. The winning units keep the trophies, which are generally awarded within the first three months of each new year. All nine units field a team, with some units fielding two teams.

"Of the seven sports, basketball is the biggest by far," recreation assistant Joe Reed said. "Basketball is followed

by softball in popularity."

"But they are all popular," recreation assistant Donald Lewis said. "Golf is very popular. And in the 5K run last month, we had 62 runners. Intramural sports is a lot of fun, but we do have some problems. For instance, sometimes we find some participants who are not eligible; either they are from the wrong unit, they are civilian, or they might be reservists."

Point system

Place points are awarded according to the place in which units finish in the post-season tournament for football, basketball, volleyball, soccer and softball. All other sports activities are awarded points for that particular event at the time the event is held. Teams earn an automatic 25 points just for entering, if done during regular season competition.

Pagano name

It was 10 years ago this

week that Pagano Gym was named in honor of Capt. Barbara Pagano, who died of cancer at age 34. Pagano was the commander of the 95th Maintenance Company and had been a very active athlete. She won the All-Military Championship in women's racquetball in 1979, and was women's racquetball champ in the U.S. Army in Europe in 1983. She was also very active in rifle and pistol competition. Her sports awards and photo are in a display case in the lobby of the gym.

Pagano Gym is closed only three days per year: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. For more information, call 876-2943.



WORKOUT PARTNERS— Recreation assistants hold sports equipment depicting some of the activities available at the Pagano Gym. In front row, from left, are Joe Reed, Sheila Baker and Donald Lewis. Standing are Paul Green, left, and Mike Potter.

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CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 AND END THURSDAY, MAY 13

COURSE	CODE	SEC	TITLE	ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME
BIO 102	1024	60	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY I	LEC LAB	MW	8:30 A.M. - 9:45 A.M.
MTH 098	1031	60	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA	LAB	MW	11:30 A.M. - 1:10 P.M.
MTH 100	1030	60	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		MW	9:55 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
BIO 103	1033	61	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY I	LEC LAB	MW	7:20 P.M. - 8:35 P.M.
MTH 098	1035	61	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 9:10 P.M.
MTH 100	1034	61	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		MW	8:35 P.M. - 9:50 P.M.

SPRING FIRST MINIMESTER 1999
CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 AND END WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

COURSE	CODE	SEC	TITLE	ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME
ART 100	0969	R1	ART APPRECIATION		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
BUS 241	1021	R1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
CIS 145	1023	R1	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS		MW/WF	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ECO 231	0954	R1	PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS		MW	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
ENG 092	1016	R1	BASIC ENGLISH I		M/T/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ENG 093	1000	R1	BASIC ENGLISH II		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
ENG 101	0998	R1	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I		T/TH	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
ENG 102	1017	R1	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II		M/T/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ENG 252	0973	R1	AMERICAN LITERATURE II		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
HIS 102	1002	R1	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION II		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
MTH 090	0999	R1	BASIC MATHEMATICS		T/TH	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
MTH 098	1016	R1	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA		M/T/W	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
MTH 100	1020	R1	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		MW/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
POL 211	1010	R1	AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		M/T/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
PSY 200	0968	R1	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY		MW	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
SPH 107	1003	R1	FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
BSR 095	1013	R1	IMPROVED COLLEGE READING		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
BSS 118	1014	R1	COLLEGE STUDY SKILLS		T/TH	9:10 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
BUS 241	1007	R2	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
BUS 242	1837	R1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
CIS 130	1015	R1	INTRO TO INFORMATION SYSTEMS		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
CIS 148	0991	R2	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
CIS 212	0997	R1	VISUAL BASIC		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
CRJ 100	1011	R1	INTRO TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ECO 231	1006	R2	PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 092	0879	R2	BASIC ENGLISH I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 093	0993	R2	BASIC ENGLISH II		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ENG 101	0982	R2	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 102	1008	R3	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ENG 102	1004	R2	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 251	0995	R1	AMERICAN LITERATURE		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
HIS 101	0885	R1	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
MTH 090	0994	R2	BASIC MATHEMATICS		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
MTH 098	1022	R2	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA		MW/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
MTH 100	1005	R2	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
MTH 112	1012	R1	PRECALCULUS ALGEBRA		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
PHS 120	0988	R2	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	LEC LAB	MW	4:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
POL 211	1019	R2	AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
PSY 200	1019	R2	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
SOC 200	1009	R1	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
SPH 107	0987	R2	FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.

SPRING SECOND MINIMESTER 1999
CLASSES BEGIN THURSDAY, MARCH 11 AND END THURSDAY, MAY 13

COURSE	CODE	SEC	TITLE	ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME
BUS 242	1086	S1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
CIS 147	1067	S1	ADVANCED MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS		MW/WF	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ECO 232	1038	S1	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS		MW	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
ENG 092	1059	S1	BASIC ENGLISH I		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
ENG 093	1081	S1	BASIC ENGLISH II		M/T/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ENG 101	1084	S1	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I		MW/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ENG 102	1041	S1	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
ENG 262	1057	S1	ENGLISH LITERATURE II		T/TH	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
HIS 202	1080	S1	UNITED STATES HISTORY II		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
MTH 098	1080	S1	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA		M/T/W	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
MTH 100	1082	S1	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		M/T/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
MTH 112	1040	S1	PRECALCULUS ALGEBRA		MW	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
MUS 101	1061	S1	MUSIC APPRECIATION		T/TH	1:30 P.M. - 4:10 P.M.
PHS 120	1042	S1	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	LEC LAB	MW	4:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
SOC 200	1037	S1	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY		MW	8:30 A.M. - 11:10 A.M.
SPH 107	1085	S1	FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING		MW/TH	11:30 A.M. - 1:20 P.M.
ART 100	1044	S1	ART APPRECIATION		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
BUS 241	1079	S1	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
BUS 242	1071	S2	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
CIS 146	1070	S1	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
CIS 147	1078	S2	ADVANCED MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
CIS 251	1054	S1	C PROGRAMMING		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
CRJ 150	1074	S1	INTRODUCTION TO CORRECTIONS		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ECO 231	1068	S1	PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ECO 232	1077	S2	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ENG 092	1043	S2	BASIC ENGLISH I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 093	1050	S2	BASIC ENGLISH II		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ENG 101	1063	S2	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
ENG 102	1073	S2	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
ENG 261	1047	S1	ENGLISH LITERATURE I		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
HIS 102	1051	S1	HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
MTH 098	1083	S2	ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA		M/T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
MTH 100	1075	S2	INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE ALGEBRA		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
MTH 112	1064	S2	PRECALCULUS ALGEBRA		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
MTH 116	1045	S1	MATHEMATICAL APPLICATIONS		MW	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
MUS 101	1067	S2	MUSIC APPRECIATION		T/TH	4:30 P.M. - 7:10 P.M.
PHS 120	1048	S2	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	LEC LAB	MW	4:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
SOC 247	1053	S1	MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY		MW	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.
SPH 107	1076	S2	FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING		T/TH	7:20 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Sports & Recreation

Logging miles...

Logistician pledges to run his first marathon

By John Allen

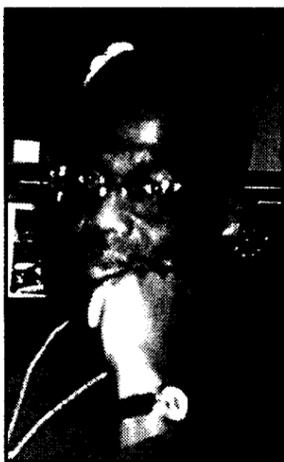
When Larry Gopher decided to run his first marathon, the WZYP Rocket City Marathon, Dec. 12, his wife, Theresa, thought he was crazy.

"She wanted to know why anybody would want to run 26 miles," he said.

Gopher, who has run in about 15 area 10K races, wanted to run a marathon before his 40th birthday. "I missed that goal," the 42-year-old said.

Gopher said he found a marathon training log in the Chicago Tribune. "It recommended running 20 miles per week, then working up to 50 miles per week. I was still hesitant but when I showed the schedule to my friend Jimmy Mastin, he said 'Let's do it!' and I was crazy enough to agree."

There will be five of his buddies running with him in the marathon. They are Mastin, Clarence Matthews,



GOPHER

wedzi work on Redstone. Gopher is a logistics management specialist on the Patriot missile program.

Gopher's friend, David Langham, who has run in many marathons, suggested he run his race for charity. "He said that if I finished the race, he would donate \$25 to my favorite charity, which I told him was Christmas Charities of Madison County." He said that Langham created a flyer for him that has been circulating in the Sparkman Center to solicit pledges.

Langham will not be running in this WZYP

Rocket City Marathon, but instead will be working at the marathon's 18-mile marker.

Anyone who has not seen Gopher's flyer, but would like to make a pledge, may phone him at 876-1346.

Army, Tennessee favored this week

By Skip Vaughn

My college football predictions went 199-61 over 13 weeks. Here are Skip's Picks for selected games this week:

- Mississippi State vs. Tennessee—Tenn.
- Army vs. Navy—Army
- Kansas State vs. Texas A&M—K-State
- Air Force vs. Brigham Young—BYU
- UCLA at Miami—UCLA

Larry Bradley, Dale Crumbough and Marshall Chimwedzi. All but Chim-

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SHOWCASE RENTALS

EXODUS

Continued from page 1

advance, making travel plans, to assure that all the soldiers who want to go home, can."

This year, exodus begins Dec. 18 with a return date of Jan. 3. Classes end at noon Dec. 17 and soldiers ship out beginning the next morning, depending on their travel schedule. It usually takes two to three days for the soldiers to clear out.

"We provide command and control to see that every soldier gets to the bus station, airport, some go by train, on time," Mixon said. "And then we have to do the same thing, coordinating their return to Redstone."

Mixon heaps praise on the drill sergeants, first sergeants and company commanders who are responsible for coordinating the effort along with the travel agency, Carlson Wag-onlit. The planning begins well over a month in advance, coordinating destinations and transportation

schedules, shuttle buses and ticket reservations

The information is put into a data base, and the cadre begins making a timeline for the departure and arrivals of their students. Travel agents book flights early to assure that the soldier has a ride home, but they also keep an eye on the fares. If prices drop, they automatically reschedule to give the soldiers the best deal.

"The soldiers pay for their own ticket and have to use their leave time but most of them do go home," Mixon said. "We don't tell them to go home and they certainly don't have to, but most end up going because it's a time of year that most people want to be with their family. Last year we had about eight or 10 stay."

Mixon said that 80-85 percent of the soldiers go out on the first day, depending on flights. "RASA (Redstone Arsenal Support Activity) and the post give us great support with buses and drivers to get people where they're going. Some soldiers

have family that come and pick them up for the exodus."

Even with all the planning and support from the Army, some students find that they just can't make it home. Some don't have the money or don't want to use their leave and then there are others who arrive at Redstone out of basic training too close to the holiday to book a flight or arrange transportation.

"We have 55B scheduled to arrive on the 14th," Maj. Brian Brown, executive officer for the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, said, referring to a new group of students reporting for AIT on Dec. 14. "They're going to have to scramble to get their tickets if they want to get home for Christmas. Of course, they can leave anytime during exodus but they still have to be back Jan. 3."

The only exception to the Jan. 3 return date is for those soldiers returning to Puerto Rico for the holiday. The Army honors the Latin American tradition of Three Kings Day or the Feast of the Epiphany, which will conclude Jan. 6.

The soldiers that choose to stay on post will be assigned to C Company. "We have things planned for the soldiers that stay here," Mixon said. "There's trips to the mall, tours, and other outings to keep them busy doing fun things. They won't pull detail just because they're here. It's a holiday for them too. We want them to enjoy themselves."

Exodus is considered an Army tradition for all soldiers in the Training and Doctrine Command. It is done worldwide.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Bravo campsite...

Drill Sgt. James Ross of B Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion shows the display he and other members of the unit built for Native American Heritage Month in November.

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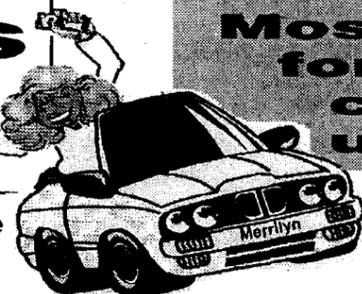
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PILOTS

Continued from page 4

Rates for aircraft vary from \$36-\$72 per flight hour depending on the type of the plane. Fuel is included in that cost. Instruction is \$17 per flight hour.

Classroom instruction includes Private Pilot Ground School, total cost \$215. This is not mandatory for licensing but it is very helpful for most students. The total cost for Instrument Pilot Ground School is \$190.

Although less romantic but hugely important to flying the friendly skies is the Flying Activity staff that handles scheduling, billing, maintenance records, computer checks, weather alerts, log book filing, inventory of parts, merchandising and more.

"These two ladies here keep us going," Ferguson said, referring to clerks Mildred Lancaster and Mildred White. "We have to keep meticulous records and they do a fantastic job."

"We're just learning the new software Jim designed for us," White said. "Our other program was from the dark ages."

Covington custom designed the new software system for the RAFA as a volunteer effort and the clerks are singing his praises.

"Safety is our number one priority," Lancaster said. "We keep track of everything in here. If the pilots have a problem when they come in, we can usually get it straightened out."

Every plane is given preflight and postflight checks to assure that it is working properly and that any minor problems are reported immediately. cursory checks and oil changes are done on each aircraft at 50 flight hours. After 100 flight hours a Federal Aviation Administration in-depth inspection is done by a licensed mechanic. Once a year an inspector goes over the plane for an additional inspection.

"We have a great safety record," Lancaster said. "We have members here that have been to Flying Activities all over the world and they all say that this is the best one."

The Activity has 238 active members, 217 of which are students in some stage of pilot training. The RAFA is open seven days a week.

For more information about the Flying Activity, call 881-3980 or 880-9495.

Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Sports survey

For many years Civilian Welfare Fund Council has offered off-duty sports leagues for the Redstone civilian work force. For the past two years, CWFC has had no money to support these programs. We now have the opportunity to offer these programs again. Please visit the CWFC web site at <http://intranet.redstone.army.mil/cwfc> to view the programs being offered, and take part in the survey. If you do not have access to a computer, please see your organization's CWFC representative or call Valerie Carey 955-6739 for a survey form.

UAH hockey

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council has UAH hockey game tickets for 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11 and 1:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Von Braun Center. Cost is \$4 per ticket. Call Carol Lang 313-4028.

Health Matters

Alcoholics anonymous

A new group for Alcoholics Anonymous meets Thursdays at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For more information, call the AA central office 885-0323. The Redstone Arsenal Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of the Bicentennial Chapel.

Blood program

The Red Cross blood schedule for December includes the following: Dec. 4, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at building 5400, call Pepper Takayama 313-2381. Dec. 10, from 6-11 a.m., at building 3412, Marine Detach-

ment, 1st Sgt. McKenzie 842-2214; and from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5309, first floor, room 9128, Betty Mountain 313-1779 or Ricky Moore 876-6463. Dec. 11, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at building 4488, Fran King Wilburn 842-7533. Dec. 18, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at SMDC on Wynn Drive, bus, Al Longhi 955-5901; and from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at building 4752, NASA, Edwina Bressette 544-8115.

Miscellaneous

AER scholarships

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund, administered by Army Emergency Relief, is a secondary mission to help Army families with the costs of undergraduate level education, post-secondary vocational training, and preparation for acceptance by service academies for their dependent children. Scholarship applications are available at Army Community Service, building 3491, or may be printed from AER Headquarters' web site www.aerhq.org through March 1, 1999. The completed application with supporting documents must be mailed to AER Hq and postmarked by March 1, 1999. Applicants must be unmarried dependent children, stepchildren or legally adopted children of soldiers on active duty, retired, or deceased while on

See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 20

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Announcements

Continued from page 19

active duty or after retirement. They must be U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents under age 22 on June 1 preceding the academic year for which the scholarship is requested. All eligible persons are encouraged to apply. For more information call Juanita Adams, AER officer, 876-5468.

Apprentice program

Applications are available for the 1999 Science and Engineering Apprentice Program and College Apprentice Program. The distribution point of contact for applications is the senior counselor at all public, private and parochial high schools. Possible career placement areas at the Aviation and Missile Command include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program (SEAP) is for students who have demonstrated aptitude interest in science and engineering courses and careers. Eligible students must be U.S. citizens who are at least 15 by the start of the program, June 15. The College Apprentice Program (CAP) is for undergraduate students who have completed the SEAP and are enrolled in a scientific or technical major. Other criteria are stated on the applications. Both programs are fast paced and require discipline and professional work habits. Junior and senior scientists and engineers serve as mentors who guide students through an interactive research project. If your child is unsuccessful in getting an application from the senior counselor, applications are available from the management employee relations and training branch, building 5303, Betty Duke 313-4790 or Jerrel McCollum 842-8850.

Special Forces team

A Special Forces team will visit Redstone Arsenal from Dec. 8-10 to conduct presentations and recruit qualified officer and enlisted soldiers for Special Forces training and duty. The hour-long briefings will be held 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Dec. 8-9 in building 3447. All interested applicants will be administered the APFT wearing BDUs and sneakers. The APFT will be conducted at 7 a.m. Dec. 10. Interested soldiers must bring an updated copy of their 2A or 2B and DA Form 2-1 to the briefing. For more information, call MSgt. Duwayane Thompson 842-0870.

Commissary hours

The Commissary will have the following holiday operating hours through Dec. 31: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 1-4; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 5; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 6; closed Dec. 7; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 8-11; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 12; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 13; closed Dec. 14; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 15-18; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 19; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 20; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 21-23; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 24; closed Dec. 25-26; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 27; closed Dec. 28; and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 29-31.

Blacks in government

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will hold its fifth annual Training Conference, "Maximizing Performance Through Excellence in Training" on Thursday at the Marriott Hotel. Registration fee is \$125. For more information, call 551-7230.

Artillery members

Attention all members of the Redstone Arsenal Field Artillery community (to include contractors): The Northern Alabama Field Artillery Association is now accepting nominations for the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara, Honorable Order of Saint Barbara, and Artillery Order of Molly Pitcher. All nominations must be submitted to Capt. Jeff Shapiro (shapiro-jm@msl.redstone.army.mil) via email by Dec. 7. The tentative date for award is Jan. 23 at the St. Barbara's Day Ball. Nominations do not have a specific format, but must contain sufficient details about the candidate to enable the Award Authority to make an informed decision. For ease of reading, please use the informal or formal memorandum. The invitations for this event will be mailed out at a later date. If you are new to the area, and are a member of the Military Society of Saint Barbara, or an Artilleryman in the rank of sergeant first class or higher, call Shapiro 876-6143 to ensure that you are extended an invitation.

Holiday party

Only three days left to buy tickets for Team Redstone's holiday party! "Our Party" will be held Dec. 11 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Reserve a table, or tables, for you and your friends, have a great dinner, and dance to the music of the Omni-Music Band. Tickets are \$21 per person. For tickets and reservations call Olene McGowen 842-9038, Mae Hargrove 842-9588 or Gaila Kelso 876-9857.

Circus performance

Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey circus

is coming and CWFC has tickets for the Dec. 6 performance at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$13.50—box seats only. Price is same for children and the young at heart. Call Mary Ann, of the Civilian Welfare Fund Council, 313-1698.

Town Hall meet

"Accomplishing change, while accomplishing mission" will be the theme of the AMCOM Quarterly Town Hall Meeting—featuring Maj. Gen. Emmitt Gibson, AMCOM commander— at 9 a.m. Dec. 8 in the Sparkman Auditorium. The meeting will be broadcast on Team Redstone television channel 42. Agenda items will published soon. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the Auditorium.

Florida Tech

Florida Institute of Technology has begun registration for the spring semester. All interested students should visit FIT's administrative office room 4326 in building 5304. Classes are open to all area residents. Starting in January Florida Tech will offer two new master of science programs: the master of science in computer information systems and the master of science in human resource management. For more information, call 881-7878.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) will hold its Christmas social from 5-9 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Rustic Lodge. There will be food, a DJ and door prizes. The Redstone community is invited. Cost is \$3 per person. All proceeds will go to benefit ASMC member Teresa Ivey. For

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'92 Dodge Dakota 6 cyl., 5 spd., AC, stereo, topper. \$4,995	'90 Pontiac Firebird Formula 350, V8, auto, PW, PL, 60K mi. \$4,995	'91 Chevy Lumina Euro 4 dr., auto, loaded, V6 \$3,995
'92 Ford T-Bird V6, auto, PW, PL, tilt, cruise. \$4,795	'93 Mercury Cougar V6, auto, PW, PL, loaded. \$5,995	'94 Chevy Cavalier Green, 5 spd., high miles. \$2,252

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Announcements

more information, call Tammy Moore 876-3033 or Dennis Summers 876-8351.... ASMC will have its holiday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 10 at Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Scheduled speaker is Barbara Bonessa, Department of Army's ASA Financial Management Office. Cost is \$9 for members, \$10 for non-members. For reservations call Janet Sierma 955-3890.

Weather closures

Northern Alabama is approaching the time of year when inclement weather may cause a closure or delay in the opening of Redstone Arsenal. The following television and radio stations will be contacted and asked to make announcements if such an event occurs: Arab—WRAB, 1380 AM; Athens—WZYP, 104.3 FM; Decatur—WDRM, 102 FM; Guntersville—WGSV, 1270 AM; Huntsville—WAHR, 99.1 FM; WDRM, 102 FM; WJAB, 90.9 FM; WLRH, 89.3 FM; WNDA, 95.1 FM; WRSA, 97 FM; WTKI, 1450 AM; WHNT-TV (Channel 19); WAAY-TV (Channel 31);

WAFF-TV (Channel 48); Scottsboro—WWIC, 1050 AM and Fayetteville, Tenn.—WEKR, 1240 AM. Remember, if you do not hear an announcement, assume the installation is open and report to work.

OMMCS party

The Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School will hold its Christmas holiday party at 6 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Marriott Hotel, adjacent to the Space & Rocket Center. The party includes a buffet dinner, door prizes, and DJ entertainment. Cost is \$15 per person. A photographer will be available for \$5-\$12. Dress is semiformal (coat & tie, uniforms are optional). For ticket information, call SSgt. Parker 876-8036, or see any OMMCS department representative.

Thrift savings

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) open season began Nov. 15 and ends Jan. 31. During open season, employees can begin to contribute, increase/decrease the amount of employee contributions, and/or change their future fund allocations. Election forms and

pamphlets have been distributed to the primary organizational elements and are available through the employee's administrative office. An employee wishing to make a change should send their TSP-1 Form directly to: South Central-Civilian Personnel Operations Center, Attn: SFCP-SC-S, Sparkman Complex, building 5304, Redstone Arsenal 35898-6222. All mailed forms must be postmarked by Feb. 1. Forms may be handcarried to the SC-CPOC mailroom, building 5304, room 4266. Questions concerning TSP should be directed to the employee's servicing personnel list in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Visit the Thrift Savings website at www.tsp.gov for additional TSP information.

Retiree speakers

Did you know that every month, AMCOM receives dozens of requests for guest speakers from schools, clubs and other groups? There is a strong demand for AMCOM speakers in the local area. Unfortunately, the Speakers Bureau Program is often unable to accommodate all requests that are

received. There are not enough speakers available to fill all of them! Therefore, we are recruiting help from retirees who would like to join our team and talk about their hobbies, activities or interests. For more information call Margaret Banish-Donaldson, Public Affairs Office, 842-0558.

Food drives

Because of limited storage facilities, Army Community Service isn't collecting food donations for local families. But ACS does have a list of organizations that are accepting items. Call Mary Breeden 876-5397.

Talent/fashion show

Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers (BOSS) will present a "Talent/Fashion Extravaganza" at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Recreation Center, building 3711. Tickets, which cost \$5, are available at the center's box office. For more information, call Spec. Saffiatu Mansaray 876-0936.

See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 22

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued from page 21

Plastic modelers
Huntsville Plastic Modelers Society will meet at 7 tonight at the Recreation Center. For more information, call 851-6842.

Youth basketball
A few spaces are still available in the Youth Services basketball registration. All active military, retired military, DoD, DA, and contractor family members ages 4-18 are encouraged to participate. Practice will begin in December and league play begins in January. Anyone interested may sign up at the Youth Center, building 3148 from 1-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 876-2255.

Processing workshop
A workshop on Data Compression Processing Techniques for Missile Guidance Data Links will be held Dec. 2-3 at the Sparkman Auditorium. For more information, call 890-6343 (ext. 279).

Merit awards
The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will present one or more Merit Awards to eligible graduating high school seniors who plan to attend an accredited college or vocational school and to undergraduate or graduate students who are presently enrolled in a college and working toward a degree. Applicants must be family members of active duty,

retired, reserve, or deceased commissioned or warrant officers. All applicants must submit a photo-copy of a valid military identification card. Their primary residence must be with parents or parent residing in the Huntsville area. Students on fully paid scholarships or who have previously received this award are not eligible to apply. Merit Award applications are also available for spouses of active duty, retired, reserve, or deceased commissioned or warrant officers who have been accepted or are presently attending an accredited college or university as an undergraduate or graduate student. All applicants must hold a valid military identification card and their primary residence must be in the Huntsville area. Previous recipients of this award are not eligible to apply. The deadline to apply for Merit Awards is March 8, 1999. Applications can be obtained by written request to Linda Butler, Merit Awards chairman, 49 Ripley Drive, Redstone Arsenal 35808. Please include your phone number and the type of Merit Award you are applying for (i.e. high school, college, or spouse) on all requests.

Helping Honduras
For the last four years, St. Thomas Episcopal Church

in Huntsville has sponsored a Medical Mission to a little village in Honduras. Now, in response to Hurricane Mitch, the church would like to collect food and supplies to send down to Honduras. The Dole Fruit Company has offered to let groups send down containers full of such materials for free, if they can get it to Pass Christian, Miss., by Saturday. "City Lumber has offered to truck what we can gather to the Coast," the church said in a prepared release. "Please help us fill the truck with needed supplies for our brothers and sisters in Christ, who are right now in great need." For more information, call the church 880-0247/0248 or Cindy Atkins 880-2296.

Self-help center
Due to the holidays the Self-Help Center, building 3500, will be closed the following days: Dec. 19, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Holiday concert
"Nutcracker of the '90s," presented by Danz Artz Co!, is scheduled Saturday at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Matinee is 1:30 p.m., with the evening performance at 7. Tickets are available at VBC and Ticketlink locations. Prices range from \$5-\$13.

Marsgrams
There is now a Marsgram drop box at Toftoy Hall, building 3495. Margrams are a free service for all servicemembers and their families. Send your holiday messages home now. Forms are available at the drop box and at <http://members.aol.com/wmjparkar/mymars.htm>.

NCO graduations
The NCO Academy will conduct graduation ceremonies at 9 a.m. Dec. 9 and 9 a.m. Dec. 10 for the Advanced Noncommissioned Course, and 9 a.m. Dec. 15 for the Basic Noncommissioned Course in the graduation hall of building 3329. The public is invited. For more information, call 955-7954.

Astronomical society
Von Braun Astronomical Society will present "The Christmas Star," by Sandra Sherman and Steve Sauerwein, at 7:30 p.m. this Saturday and Dec. 12 at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For more information, call 539-0316 or Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

Seniors brunch
The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold its 21st annual Senior Citizens' Holiday Brunch at 9:45 a.m. Dec. 15 at the Redstone

Arsenal Club. The menu will include breakfast sandwiches, assorted muffins and danishes, coffee and assorted juices. Cost is \$6.25. For more information or to make a reservation, call Glenda Moeller 772-0977 or Maryellen Myers 464-0583. For day care, call Pam Bahne 721-9530.

Pershing dinner
Pershing Missile System officers, enlisted, civilian support and spouses are invited to a Christmas dinner at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Fogcutter Restaurant, 3805 University Drive. RSVP by Dec. 10. For information call 895-7008/8638.

Union meeting
AFGE Local 1858 will hold its monthly membership meeting at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at the union office in building 3202. All collective bargaining unit employees are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 881-7430 or 876-4880.

Classifieds

Federal law makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion or national origin. The Redstone Rocket will not knowingly accept advertising that is in violation of the law, and readers and advertisers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this paper are available on an equal opportunity basis. According to the Inspector General, the use of office phone numbers in classified advertising is contrary to regulation. Please submit home phone numbers only.

Autos/Trucks



'98 Mitsubishi Montero Sport XLS. 4 dr., 2 WD, sunroof, leather, CD, power pkg., white, 9K mi. \$27,500. 518-9701.

'96 Mustang GT. Perfect for UT fans! 5 sp., V8, Tangerine, CD, very good cond. \$15,500. 650-0269.

'94 Ford F-150. 60K mi., exc. cond., looks and runs like new. Still under warranty. \$8,600 obo. Kelly, 882-7409.

'94 GMC van. White, 6 cyl., fully loaded, alarm/car phone, exc. cond., runs great. Asking \$8,950. Night (931) 438-0706, day 650-4133.

'94 MAZDA B2300 Pick-Up. With matching camper shell, 5 spd., AC, 61K mi., immaculate. \$7,200 OBO. 883-6894.

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'88 Mitsubishi Mirage. 4 dr., 124K mi., regular maintenance, good running cond. \$2,000 OBO 430-1069.

'87 Plymouth Caravelle. Well maintained, 1 owner, good running car. New tires, 95K mi. \$1,890. 883-2022.

'85 Audi 5000s for parts. 461-0022, after 5 pm.

Antique wardrobe. Light walnut wood-burl doors. Can easily convert to entertainment center or bookshelves. Asking \$475. 880-6763.

Callaway Warbird 12 degree driver. RCH96 graphite shaft, R Flex, winn grip, w/headcover, \$85. 880-0412.

Century car seat, \$20. Booster seat, \$15. 2 girls bikes, \$10 ea. Little Tykes large blocks cart, \$5. 864-2816.

Entertainment Center, good cond., \$40 neg. Aerobic Rider Exerciser, exc. cond., \$90 neg. 830-1975, lv. msg.

486DX2 Intel Comp Tower, 66 Mhz, CDROM, 2 HD, sound blaster, 28.8 internal fax modem, Win95, 14" monitor. \$450. 233-2924.

HP Deskjet 400 printer, \$100. RCA 3 CD bookshelf system, \$50. Sharp VCR, \$20. Bell-South answering machine, \$7. 430-1069.

Just in time for Christmas! Little Tykes beauty salon, \$40. Little Tykes kitchen, \$15. Rocking horse, \$40. 230-0980.

Kenmore side-by-side refrigerator, almond (ice and water in door), 2 yrs. old, exc. cond. \$600. (256) 582-5104.

Medium blue couch with reclining foot rests. Exc. cond., \$100 obo. 883-5930.

1960's walnut dresser. Chest, night stand, \$300. Coffee table, \$50. Bulletin board, \$25. Lazy Susan, \$25. TV stand, \$50. 551-0620.

Piano for sale. Console. Exc. cond., zero down, assume low payments. See locally. 1-800-437-9757.

Starter NCAA Florida Gators coat, size large. New, never worn, great for Christmas, \$65. 461-1486.

2 Pennsylvania country pine twin beds with new box springs (no mattresses), \$125 for both. 881-6708.

Wall oven. Built-in, electric, self-cleaning, \$75. 464-7081.

Washer and gas dryer, almond, Sears heavy duty, exc. cond., \$250 for the pair obo. Will deliver within area. 772-2422.

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Employment

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'93 Suntracker Pontoon. 21', 60 hp. Evinrude, Eagle auto finder, cover, stored in garage, exc. cond., 1 owner. \$7,500. 883-0282.

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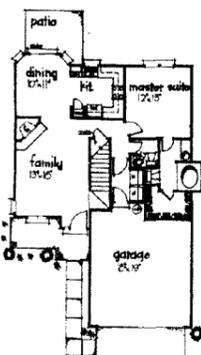
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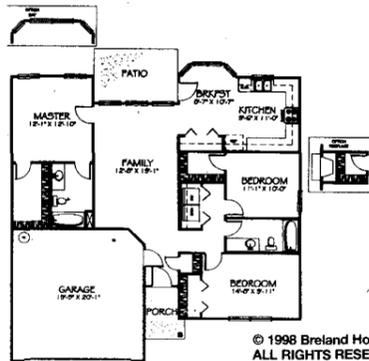
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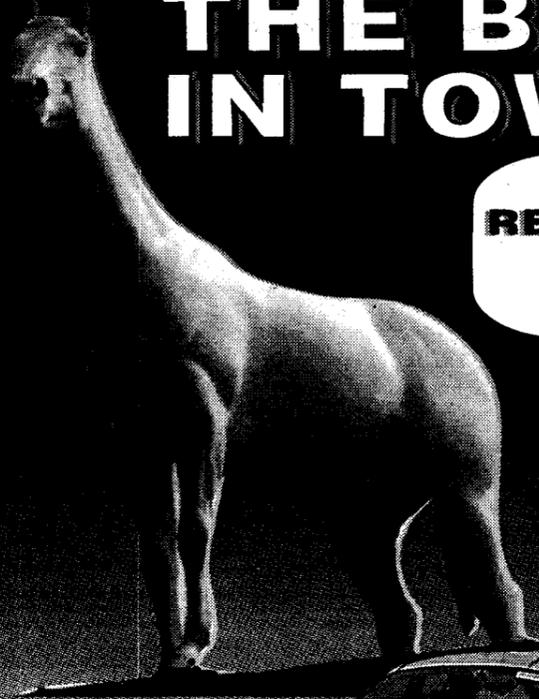


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