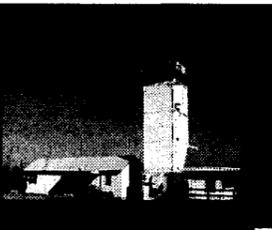


Airfield
train for
Page 7



Young
learn
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Devastating fire
kindles spirit.
Page 14



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Redstone Rocket

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December 9, 1998

Safety becomes top job at Propulsion and Structures

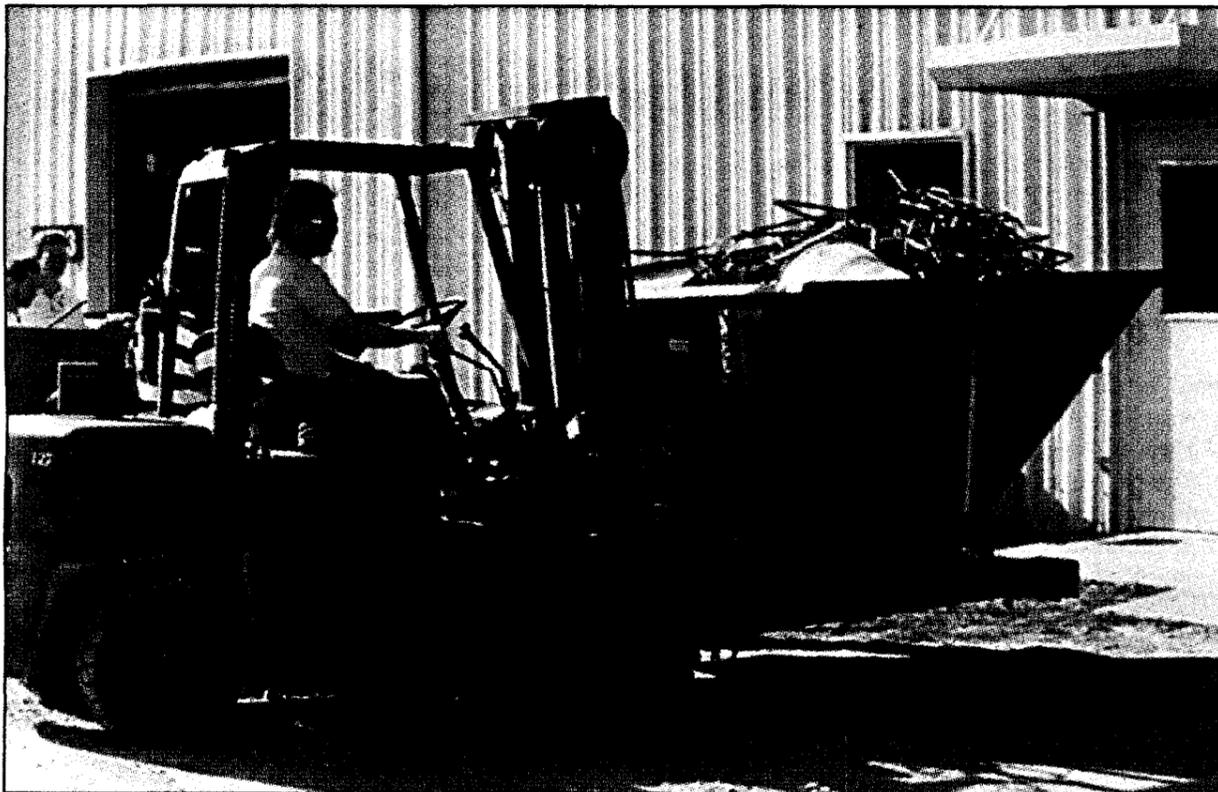


Photo by Skip Vaughn

CLEANUP TIME— Members of the Propulsion and Structures Directorate discard old materials from their workplace.

Sharing the credit...

Career counselor helps achieve command's re-enlistment goals

By Skip Vaughn

MSgt. Duwayne Thompson has one of the toughest jobs in the Army.

He's Redstone's career counselor, responsible for re-enlisting soldiers. He gets number goals quarterly from higher headquarters and is expected to retain as many soldiers as possible despite these uncertain times. He spends sleepless nights worrying about how he's going to retain soldiers whose skills are in demand in the private sector.

But somehow those goals get met; and Thompson attributes that success to the command group and the units.

Because of his accomplishments, Thompson received the Army Materiel Command (AMC) Commanding General's Retention Achievement Award for fiscal 1998. The Aviation and Missile Command achieved 140 percent of its goal for initial term soldiers, 100 percent for mid-careerists, and 250 percent for the Reserve Component.

"I think that the command should be real proud of this particular award this year because in many ways the odds were

stacked against them," Thompson said. "We have a large number of soldiers that are stationed throughout the world who are in high demand throughout the civilian community and their future as far as how the Army's going to deal with them is still, for lack of a better word, up in the air.

"So what we had to do as a command was to draw upon all our resources to attempt to get these soldiers re-enlisted. So great credit should go to the HHC AMCOM commander, Capt. James Stevenson, and 1st. Sgt. Arthur Wiley. Great credit should go to them for getting personally involved with their soldiers who were not sure whether or not they would re-enlist or stay in the Army. And the bottom line to all of this is HHC AMCOM actually carried us through FY '98, so a lot of credit should go to those folks."

He also gave credit to the 95th Maintenance Company. "Their contribution for the FY '98 mission was certainly important," he said. "If the soldiers that re-enlisted in 95th Maintenance Company had not, we would not have made mission for the year."

As an example of command involve-

Recent mishaps increase awareness of work-related hazards

By Skip Vaughn

Mishaps this year underscore the importance of safety in missile propulsion testing.

In September during research on how to de-sensitize rocket motor materials, the test fixture erupted. Two workers sustained minor ringing of the ears due to the noise, but both reported back to work the next day.

In July during a static test of a small low-cost turbojet, the engine failed unexpectedly and threw several pieces of metal away from the test stand. Standard operating procedures called for the testing to be done remotely, so no one was in the area.

Also in July during a

static test of a small-diameter solid rocket motor, insufficient restraint of the motor combined with an undersized pressure fitting caused the motor to back out of the test stand. Again this remote operation prevented any injuries.

With these incidents in mind, members of the Propulsion and Structures Directorate held a "Safety Stand-Down Day" Nov. 30 to emphasize the importance of safety in their work.

"We wanted to take this opportunity to stop and do a critical assessment of our operations," Mike Lyon, acting deputy director for Propulsion and Structures,

See SAFETY on page 20



Photo by Skip Vaughn

COUNSELING SESSION— Thompson discusses a soldier's plans for re-enlistment.

ment Thompson recalled that Sgt. Maj. Lewis Lockett, the acting command sergeant major, personally called the Army's chief of retention management

branch to get a soldier a particular job specialty. The chief approved that request, and

See GOALS on page 22



Letters To The Editor

Roadway risk

I, like most other Alabama drivers, respect cyclists on our roadways (reference "Cyclists' rights" letter Dec. 2). I believe that our roadways can be reasonably shared and concede that Alabama law provides for certain cyclists' rights. I also believe that bicycles can be more energy-efficient and cause a lot less pollution than do motor vehicles operated by the consumption of refined fossil fuels.

I would like to pose a few questions to Alabama's cyclists. (1) Do bicycles require a license as they do in most other states? (2) Do cyclists understand the purpose for which roadways, streets, highways, thoroughfares and parkways were originally designed? and (3) How would most Alabama courts define a prudent person (cyclist) if that cyclist takes the high risk of operating his/her bicycle on Alabama's roadways during the come-to-work and go-home rush hours (or comparable time periods), particularly on the Arsenal?

Jim Keebler

Closed artery

I would like to submit to the Redstone Arsenal powers-that-be (whomever they may be in this case) that the section of Dodd Road south which intersects with Buxton Road at the southernmost edge of the Arsenal be reopened. To my knowledge, this portion of the road has been closed for over five years. When I left Marshall in 1993, the road had been closed for some time. Since returning to AMCOM in 1995, I have known of no time that the gates to this area have been open.

I understand that during range testing or classified operations, there might be a need for temporary closure. And I realize that some portions of the road are very low-lying and might need to be closed during times of heavy rains and flooding. But to close and lock the gates indefinitely is unjustified and unreasonable.

Name withheld by request

Employing disabled people...

Support contract awarded for laser test facility in New Mexico

By LuAnne Fantasia

A \$1.5 million contract was awarded to Tresco Inc. in Las Cruces, N.M., in late November. The basic contract with four one-year options provides jobs for about 37 full-time, disabled and non-disabled employees at SMDC's High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility at White Sands, N.M.

The isolated test site—operating the nation's most powerful laser in support of DoD's laser research, development, test and evaluation—had no flexibility for restructuring or remodeling the infrastructure to accommodate disabled employees.

"Initially, this was a major concern," Col. Larry Anderson, deputy director of the Missile Defense and Space Technology

Center, said. He was the commander of High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility during contract negotiations, before reassignment this summer.

"Because of the structure and use of the buildings at HELSTF, we did not have the option of cutting new doors and installing elevators and ramps," he said. "But the Tresco corporation provides work for their people in an environment as it exists."

Anderson said about a year ago, the command's small and disadvantaged business office contacted him in New Mexico and asked him to meet with Walter Cramer, operations manager at National Industries for the Severely Handicapped. NISH is a non-profit organization working directly for the federal government, acting as a liai-

son for the president's committee for disabled Americans. The organization represents many companies such as Tresco Inc.

"Tresco appeared to be cost-efficient and their employees could fill over one-third of the contractor jobs at HELSTF," Anderson said.

Those jobs include the snack bar, grounds maintenance, shipping and receiving, machine and carpentry shops, administrative functions and other base support positions.

"Over a five-year period, the Army is looking at a savings of about \$800K," Anderson said. "That was my point of view as a manager, but there are other benefits." The contract supports the local economy and community and its special

programs, and it employs disabled people who might otherwise be unemployed. Tresco also is a non-profit company whose small fee on contracts such as this provides funding for the local disabled vocational school in Las Cruces.

"NISH is dedicated to helping these people work, and Tresco Inc. is one of the more aggressive companies," Anderson said.

Walter Cramer, NISH's operations manager, said, "Opportunities for people with disabilities to take on these types of jobs represents opportunities for people to get off welfare, and to earn an income. With the HELSTF project, that's exactly what these people will get."

Soldier found dead in barracks room

A soldier on temporary assignment was found dead in the barracks Nov. 30. Cause of death is officially ruled undetermined but foul play is not suspected, according to the Provost Marshal Office.

SSgt. Joey Arthur Jordahl, 36, was assigned to the 65th Ordnance Company, 6th Ordnance Battalion, Camp Page, Korea. He was on leave to Huntsville from Korea through Nov. 11 and had requested a compassionate reassignment, the provost marshal office said.

His body was discovered at 8:37 a.m. Nov. 30 in his room at building 3496, HHC AMCOM, where he was temporarily assigned. Jordahl was on the floor between the bed and wall. An investigation was under way.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara, formerly of Columbus, Miss., who resided on post; two children; his mother, Donna Nelson of Wyoming; and eight siblings.

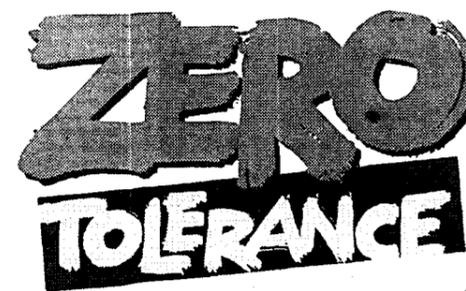
Raising awareness...

Holiday parties can make roads dangerous

Throughout the year, there are many events and causes for celebration that are usually accompanied by increased alcohol consumption. During these times, communities frequently experience an increase in impaired driving.

Community support for National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month has grown since 1982, when President Reagan signed the first proclamation designating Dec. 9-15 as Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week.

In an effort to make Team Redstone more aware, and perhaps save at



THINK. DON'T DRINK.

least one life, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Program (ADAPCP) will send out e-mails with tips about what you can do about impaired driving, recipes for Mocktails (non-alcoholic cocktails), holiday planning and tips for party givers.

Please join the

ADAPCP and people all over the United States by observing "Lights on for Life Day,"

Dec. 18. This

campaign is a nationwide observance in that motorists are asked to drive with their headlights on all day to show support for anti-drunk driving efforts and to remember those killed or maimed by impaired drivers.

Another campaign during December is "National

Holiday Lifesavers Week-end," Dec. 18-20. Law enforcement agencies across the nation will increase enforcement efforts against impaired drivers, speeders, aggressive drivers and others who make the roads especially dangerous this time of year.

The Mothers Against Drunk Drivers ribbons are available for you to tie on the antennae of your car. Call Evelyn Pharris of ADAPCP at 842-9897. As always, the ADAPCP is available to give classes or provide information and videos to anyone in the Team Redstone community.

Redstone Rocket

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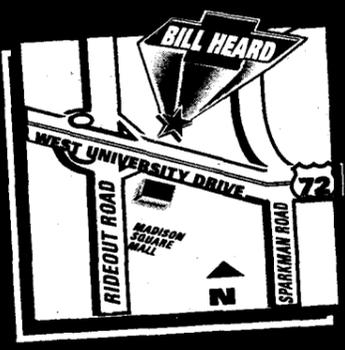
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Meeting requirements...

MLRS launcher passes flight test at White Sands range

The Multiple Launch Rocket System M270A1 launcher passed a critical program milestone, during the recent System Integration Test series by firing five different MLRS Family of Munitions at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., from Oct. 29 through Nov. 9.

The success of the M270A1 flight tests can be credited to a team effort by Lockheed Martin Vought Systems, White Sands, and MLRS Project Office.

The M270A1 system consists of a new Improved Fire Control System (IFCS), Improved Launcher Mechanical System (ILMS) and a remanufacture carrier and launcher load module. The evolution of the M270A1 system began with the award of the IFCS development contract in 1992 and the ILMS development contract in 1995. Contracts cost initiatives allowed several of the IFCS and ILMS flight tests to be combined. The ATACMS Block I is one example of these initiatives.

On Oct. 29, the first flight test from the M270A1 launcher was conducted using MLRS M28 Practice Rockets. The M270A1 team had planned on firing three M28 missions, which included one round, two round, and nine round ripple. The one round ripple was successfully fired but the launcher would not allow the system to fire ripple rockets. Lockheed Martin quickly evaluated the M28 firing data, determined

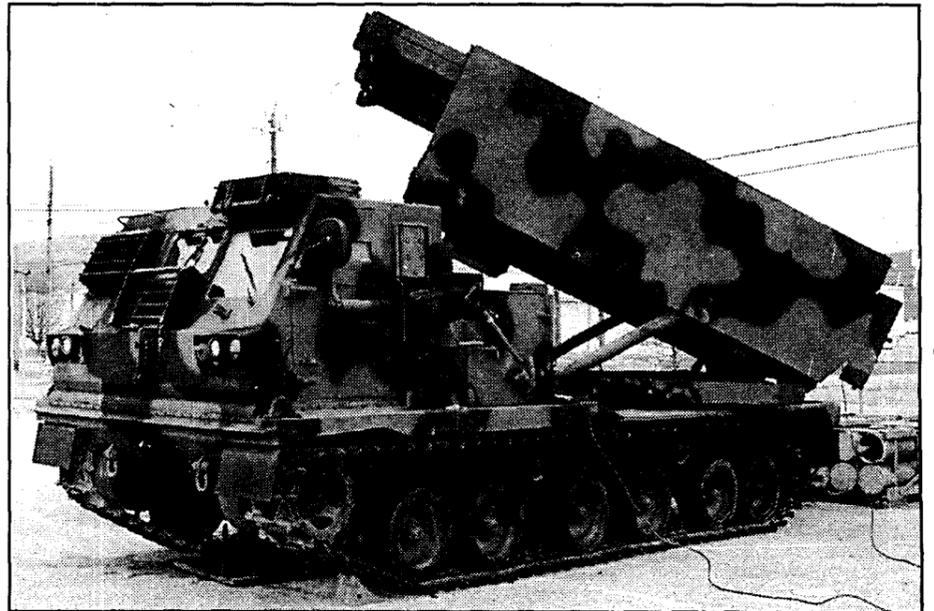
the root cause of the failure, and implemented a software version update in time to support the next scheduled firing on Nov. 3.

The second of the five M270A1 scheduled flight tests was conducted Nov. 3 using the M28A1 Reduced Range Practice Rocket. The flight test consisted of an M28A1 two round and 12-round ripple. The M28A1 two round ripple was added to the flight schedule to validate the software version update prior to performing the 12-round ripple. Both missions were successful and all rockets landed within the impact area.

The third and fourth of the five scheduled M270A1 flight test missions were conducted Nov. 5, using M26A2 Extended Range and M26 Basic rockets. The planned fire missions included two M26A2 three round ripple and an M26 five round ripple. All three missions were successful and met requirements.

The fifth and final scheduled M270A1 flight test was conducted Nov. 9 with an ATACMS Block I Missile which was conditioned at cold temperature prior to launch. When launched, the missile flew the predicted flight profile and met requirements.

The M270A1 launcher system demonstrated that it could execute fire missions for all of the fielded MLRS Family of



File photo

TACTICAL SYSTEM— The Multiple Launch Rocket System is managed by the MLRS Project Office, under the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles.

Munitions weapons with the exception of ATACMS Block IA, which is scheduled for test validation in early 1999. This highly successful M270A1 flight test program was a major stepping stone for the anticipated ground and flight tests of the M270A1

launcher Initial Operational Test and Evaluation scheduled for the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999. Results of this critical IOTE milestone will be used to justify entry into full scale production of the M270A1 launcher.

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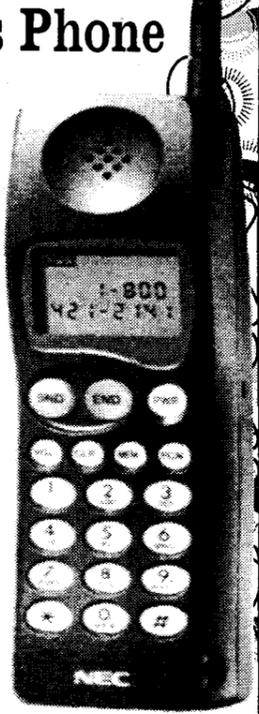
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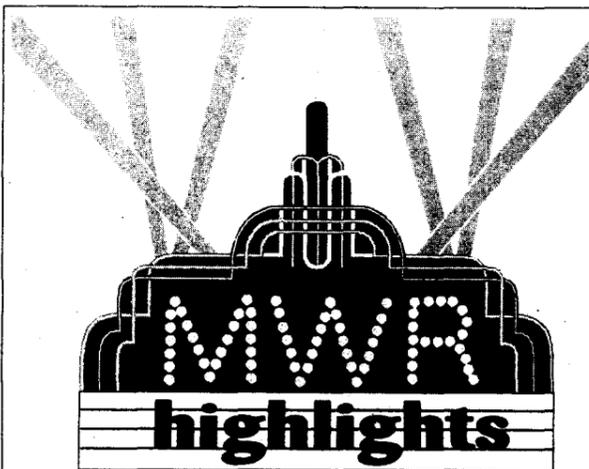
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Activities for Morale, Welfare and Recreation include the following:

- **Leisure travel:** The Leisure Travel Office offers a "Two Night Cruise Around," "Five Night Mexico Cruise," and "Seven Night Caribbean Cruise." For information call 880-8158.
- **New Year's Eve ball:** Tickets are now on sale for the Redstone Arsenal Club's New Year's Eve Ball featuring last year's dance band, "The Usual Suspects." Cost is \$25 per member and \$27.95 per non-member. Admission is by tickets only. The featured meal will include a prime rib of beef buffet with all the trimmings to include a feature from the ocean: blackened pink salmon with a special salsa. Serving begins at 6 p.m. At 12:05 a.m. the Club will open a continental breakfast buffet. All participants must be 16 or older. For more information or to book your reservation, call 830-2582.
- **Financial advice:** You are invited to a "complimentary box luncheon" from 11-noon Dec. 15 in building 5307, room 7142. Topics of discussion will include Survivor Benefit Plan Options, Roth IRA, Educational IRA, and Inheritance Gifts. To register for this class, call the Wellness Center 955-6844.
- **Teen-age babysitters:** Child Development Services will offer a training class for teen-agers to become certified as babysitters Dec. 21-22 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in building 113 in the basement. Cost is \$25 per person. The training sessions—four and a half hours per day for two days—will include safety procedures, parent and public relations, first aid techniques, child abuse, child development guidance techniques and choosing toys for children. For more information, call 876-7801.

Fox Army Health Center has care advice hotline

Fox Army Health Center offers a Telephone Advice Nurse Service which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Our advice nurses can help you decide what to do about your symptoms and answer your health-related questions," said a prepared release from the public affairs office, Fox Army Health Center.

To speak with an advice nurse, call 955-8888 or toll free 1-800-223-9531.

The advice nurse will ask you specific questions about your symptoms following guidelines and protocols your doctors at FAHC have recommended. A call can often save you an office visit. The advice nurse will assist you with guidance on home treatment for symptom relief and when appropriate schedule an appointment for you to be seen by your primary care provider. When possible call from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

Before calling the advice nurse, have the following information ready: the sponsor's full Social Security number, the patient's temperature and in the case of a child, the patient's weight. Have a pen and paper available and if you do not understand the care advice given, continue to ask until you have a clear understanding.

If your symptoms worsen despite the care advice given, or if you are still concerned about your problem, don't hesitate to call the advice nurse back.

"We are here to serve you and your health-care needs," the release said. "Your concerns are important to us."

Remember, if you have a medical emergency and time and conditions allow, call the advice nurse before going to the emergency room downtown. Patients are seen at Fox Army Health Center by appointment only and emergency and walk-in services are not available.

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Evaluating system performance...

Simulation center closes loop for testing guided missiles

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

The Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center's Advanced Simulation Center has been in the business of hardware-in-the-loop simulation of guided missile performance for over a quarter century. State-of-the-art computer technology has been a feature of this center from its earliest days.

HWIL simulation provides a cost-effective way to integrate missile systems and evaluate performance in a laboratory while minimizing the number of range tests needed for product development.

Alexander Jolly is chief of the HWIL Simulations for the Systems Simulation and Development Directorate of the MRDEC. He is tasked to provide HWIL simulation support to missile program executive officers and project managers, who are responsible to develop and field tactical precision guided missiles and submunitions for the Army.

The HWIL has 23 government employees sup-

ported by 120 on-site contractors.

Jolly is a native of England who moved to Huntsville in 1966. He worked as a contractor and later as a civilian for the center. He says that then there were only three simulation facilities. Today, there are 11 HWIL facilities. "There's been quite a bit of an increase in this arena over the last 30 years," Jolly said.

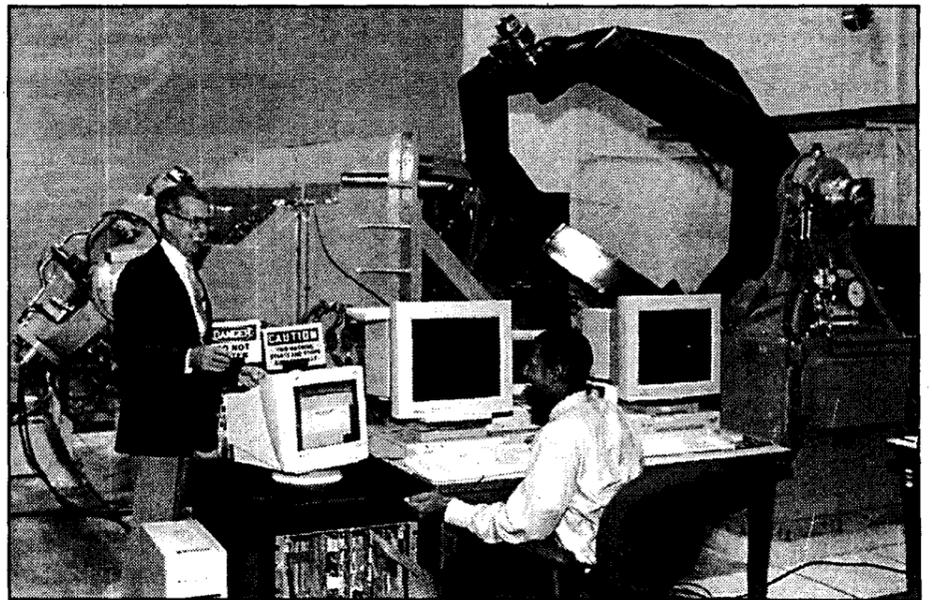
The Simulation Center includes the following facilities: two radio frequency simulation systems; two millimeter wave simulation systems; four imaging infrared simulation systems; two combined millimeter wave/infrared systems; and one simulation/test acceptance facility.

The ASC is led by Dr. Kelly Grider, director, assisted by Michael Schexnayder, deputy director.

The simulation facilities are considered world-class, state-of-the-art high fidelity simulation tools, according to Jolly. They provide a critically essential capability to missile and submunition system developers.

The simulation facilities provide real-world signal environments in which the actual missile guidance hardware and software can be used to determine system performance with great accuracy. Battlefield scenarios, which cannot be reproduced on a test range for various reasons, can be evaluated using simulation.

"An important element of missile guidance system design is the susceptibility of the system to countermeasures and jamming," Jolly said. "The ASC is ideally suited to evaluate the efforts of enemy countermeasures on missile performance and how to combat these effects—in effect, how to design counters to the countermeasures. An ample amount of work



Harold Garner/Photo Lab

COMPUTER NETWORKING— Jolly, standing, and Curtis Lanier discuss computer simulation support for developing and fielding tactical precision guided missiles and submunitions for the Army.

along these lines has been done over the years."

At the heart of each of the simulation facilities are the computers. They control all aspects of the simulations. These range from guidance signal generation to calculation of missile flight mechanics. This is in

response to the guidance commands that come from the actual guidance hardware, which also includes embedded computer processors.

The computers are linked throughout each facility by a fiber-optic network, custom-designed to

provide high-speed real-time communication among the missile hardware and simulation elements. This network forms a loop, which is the origin from the term "hardware-in-the-loop."

See TESTS on page 20

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Redstone Airfield marks 17 years without a major accident

Safety officer: Consistent training, proactive approach are keys

By Sandy Riebeling

Redstone Army Airfield traffic averages about 300 aircraft a week and ensuring safe arrivals and departures is the main focus of the operation. For the last 17 years, the airfield has operated without major incident or injury. It's a record the aviation folks are very proud of and work hard to maintain.

"We take a proactive approach through prevention," CWO 4 Randy Sullivan, airfield safety officer, said. "We have frequent inspections, monthly and quarterly, and training on both aviation and general safety matters. Safety is stressed in all activities both on the job and off the job which includes health and motor vehicle operations."

The "we" Sullivan refers to are the 12 pilots assigned to the airfield along with the staff from flight operations, maintenance, air traffic control, administration, and alert services. Some 35 employees work together to see that incoming and outgoing traffic moves without incident.

"We take one day a month for training," Sullivan said. "Sometimes we have a guest speaker, sometimes we just get together and spill our guts, talking about the situations that occurred over the last month. Safety is so important to the Army that they require that the contractors participate in training. It's written into the contract."

Redstone pilots fly four UH-1 Huey helicopters and two C-23 A's assigned to the airfield, but contractors also house aircraft on the airfield and use the services, as

does NASA, which shares the airfield with the Army. The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity with more than 200 members, also makes use of the airfield.

Support of research and development is one of the main functions of the pilots and aircraft at the airfield. Nearly 70 percent of the flights are R&D.

"The UH-1H are highly modified for research and development missions," Sullivan said. "It includes equipment racks, special electrical systems, stabilizing platforms and external mounts. We take the seeker part of a missile up on the helicopter and teach the software how to recognize a target. We teach it the difference between a building, a rock, a tree, stuff that we don't want it to kill, and the target. We fly around the tank at all sorts of angles, from the top down and sideways to teach it what to look for. It's pretty neat stuff."

Sullivan calls the safety record a team effort. Air Traffic Control is the eyes and ears of the airfield, handling the safe arrival and departure of all aircraft. When the visibility is poor and the ceiling low, Ground Control Approach tracks aircraft on the radar and talks the pilot through the landing. The tower controls airspace in a five mile circle around the airfield, from the ground to 2,500 feet.

They have a special responsibility to monitor the airspace over the test ranges and to enforce restrictions when the ranges are hot.

The maintenance folks keep the mile and a half of runway ready for takeoff as

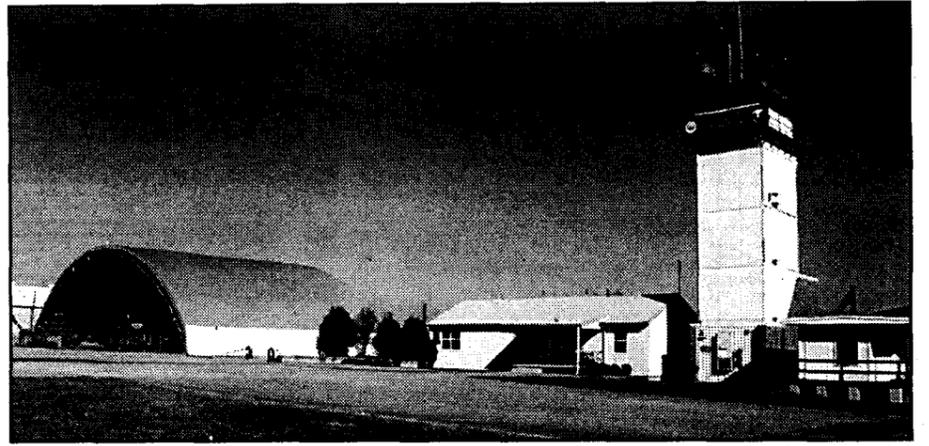


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

TAKE A GOOD LOOK— Construction is set to begin early next year on a new building next to the control tower. The \$1.5 million project also includes a facelift for the air traffic control tower.

well as keeping the airfield's Army aircraft in top condition. Alert Services maintains the fuel supply, "which has to be pristine," Sullivan said. "They pump hundreds of thousands of gallons of jet fuel to our own and transient aircraft."

Flight Operations handles flight records and coordination of research and development missions, training missions and transportation, while administration takes care of the other essential support needed to keep the skyways safe and the airfield ready.

Over the years a variety of top brass, including three presidents, have arrived in Huntsville via the Redstone Army Airfield. NASA has also brought in some interesting flights ranging from astronauts and space shuttles to assisting with the departure of a component of the international space station just last month.

Besides the duties one might expect with a job at the airfield, Sullivan also monitors and oversees the transporting and displays of Army aircraft on post and for events such as those at the Von Braun Center. He also flies helicopters to local schools as a community service, talking to students about the aircraft and the Army.

"We are very involved in the community," Sullivan said. "Sometimes we fly out to the school and sometimes students come here and we give them tours. It's a lot of fun for the kids and it's a good thing to do."

The airfield has also been involved in flying relief efforts for hurricanes Hugo and Andrew and occasionally assists in fire fighting efforts.

"We have a fire bucket for the aircraft," Sullivan said. "Sometimes a fire catches in

See AIRFIELD on page 16

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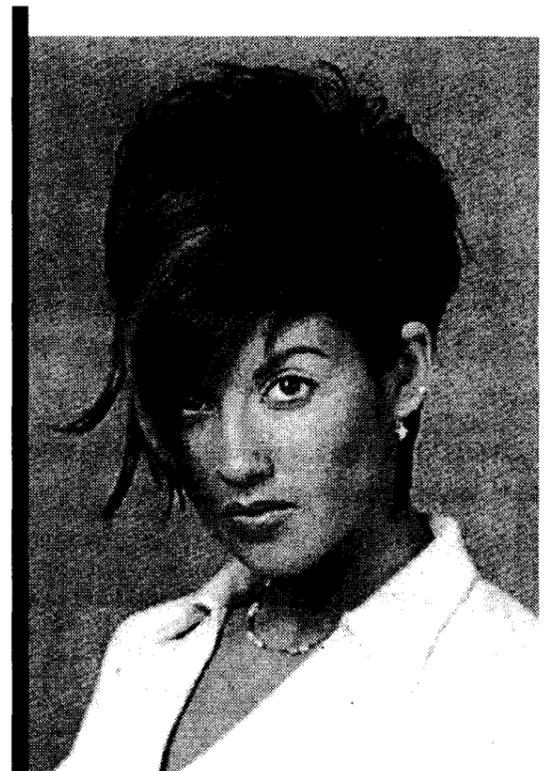
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Organization cites those who contribute to U.S. defense

National Defense industrial Association revamps awards program

Photos and story by John Allen

Do you know someone who has contributed significantly toward the United States' defense effort or material acquisition process? The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) wants to know who you have in mind before Jan. 15.

The NDIA has revamped its annual awards program to recognize outstanding local government employees and outstanding local defense contractor employees.

The awards have been established to honor senior managers and intermediate-level individuals. They will be presented at an NDIA dinner meeting in April.

The NDIA says it is the premier association representing all facets of the defense and technology industrial base and serving all military services. Formed by the merger of the American Defense Preparedness Association and the National Security Industrial Association, NDIA says it has been at the forefront of defense

technology and policy since 1919.

"We are asking each organization to provide us with one or more nominees for these awards," Linda Theusch, president of the Tennessee Valley Chapter, NDIA, said. "Nominations for the awards are by letter and must include a description of the contributions made by the nominee for furthering the national defense through management within the material acquisition process, or through the advancement of technology."

Art Meier is the awards chairman. "The Book Scholarship has increased from \$600 to \$1,000., and we changed the name of the Mid-level Award to the Defense Technology Award and upped the number of recipients from two to four," Meier said. "We also added a new award: the Defense Management Award."

A description of the NDIA awards follows:
• **Defense Management Award**— for two individuals (one military and one civilian) who have contributed significantly toward the defensive posture of the United States for at least 15

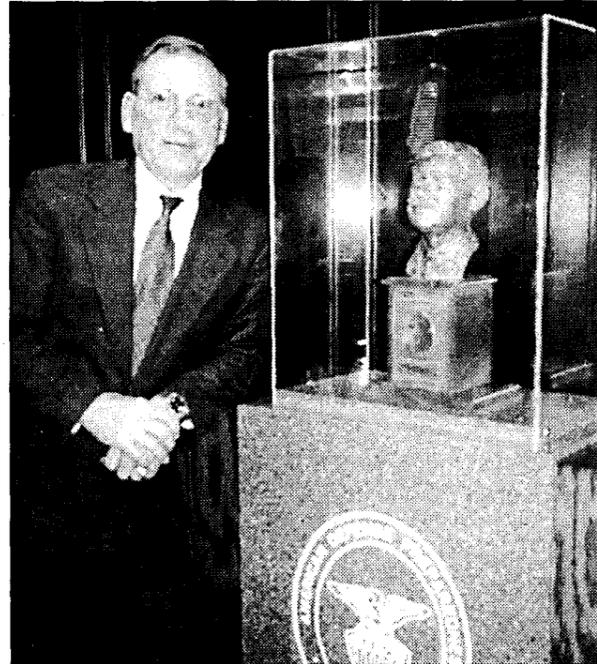


COMMITTEE MEETING— Linda Theusch and Meier review notes at the local NEIA's committee meeting in preparation for this year's awards program.

years in their primary area of endeavor; recognizes outstanding managers in the GS-15/O-6 and above, and non-government senior management positions. The award will consist of a certificate, a plaque, and a U.S. Savings Bond of \$2,000.

• **Defense Technology Award**— for individuals (two military and two civilian) who have made significant contributions to the material acquisition process, or who have significantly advanced technology toward

the defensive posture of the United States within the past two years; recognizes exceptional performers in the GS-12 to GS-14 grade



ON DISPLAY— Meier shows the bust of Maj. Gen. John Medaris in building 5300. A replica of the bust will be awarded to NDIA's winner of the Medaris Award. Medaris, along with Dr. Wernher von Braun, pioneered the Army rocket and missile program at Redstone Arsenal.

levels, and a civilian mid-level management or technical position. The award will consist of a certificate, See DEFENSE on page 16

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EOE

'Intense' training...
Configuration management specialist joins select group with certification



Photo by John Allen

THE GRADUATE— Knight, left, has received CMII certification. With her is Donald Harmon, who recommended her for the certification course.

By John Allen

The Sentinel Product Office's Susan Knight has become only the 15th person in Alabama to receive Certification Management II (CMII) status, and only the 11th to receive it at Redstone Arsenal.

The three-week course was held in Orlando, Fla., and offered jointly by Arizona State University's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Institute of Configuration Management.

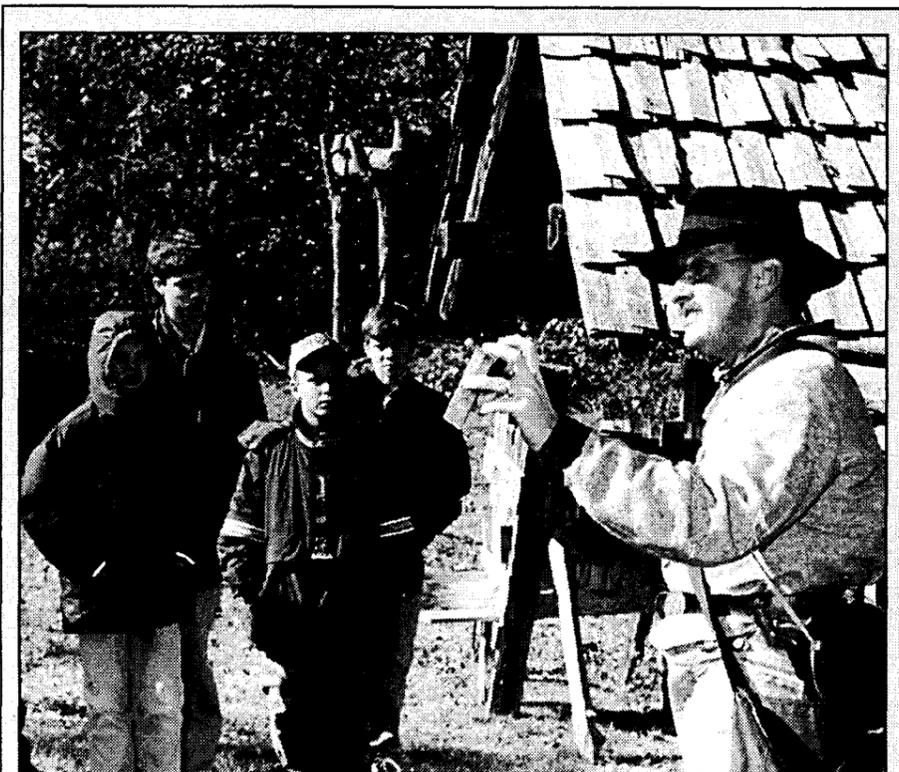
"The course was very intense," Knight said. "I took my husband and son to Florida with me, but I had very little time to spend with them. The course consisted of multiple workshops, presentations and tests. It was not unusual for the workshops to run until 6:30 p.m. One of the really good things about this course was that it had the private sector and the government working together."

Configuration management is a process by which all design-related documentation

requirements are managed throughout all functional areas within management from the concept of a product to the end of the life cycle. CMII encompasses all documentation requirements, and not just those that are design-related. It is a process for "changing faster" and "documenting better." It reportedly has proven to be an essential ingredient in successful efforts to revitalize industry and improve productivity on a broad scale.

Knight, a Gadsden native, has worked in the Sentinel Product Office (formerly Ground-Based Sensors Product Office) since 1991. "I have been detailed as a configuration management specialist for four years," she said. She works for CM specialist Jasper Burgess and division chief Ronald Harmon of the technical support division in building 5308.

Knight joins a select group of more than 2,000 individuals from various business enterprises and government agencies who have satisfactorily completed this program.



Mikki Sario/Photo Lab

History revisited...

Members of the 19th Alabama Infantry and the 42nd Indiana Infantry came to life for 600 children at the Burritt Museum and Park in a Civil War Living History Encampment, Nov. 6. Robert Smith, management analyst in

the Directorate of Logistics, shows and tells the crowd about the pins that come out of a carriage box. These were used by both the Union and Confederate soldiers.

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Shedding light on festival...

Jewish community will celebrate annual Hanukkah Dec. 13-20

By Leba Hirsch

Yes, Virginia, there is a Hanukkah. Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, recalls the 165 B.C. Jewish revolt led by Judah the Macabee against the Syrian-Greeks, led by King Antiochus IV of Syria.

The reason for the revolt? Like so many before (and after) him, Antiochus prohibited the observance of sacred Jewish practices, including circumcision, Temple ritual, observance of the Sabbath, and the study of the Torah. Worst of all, he ordered the desecration of the Temple, turning it into a pagan shrine.

Temple rededicated

The word Hanukkah means rededication, and the holiday commemorates a miracle which happened when the Temple was rededicated. In those days, a menorah was kept burning in the Temple at all times as a reminder of God's constant presence (represented today by an "eternal flame" in each synagogue or temple). Only sacramental oil could be used, and when the time to light the menorah arrived, only one small cruse (jug) was found. A cruse burned for only one day, and it took the High Priests eight days to properly prepare the oil. A miracle occurred, and the oil burned for eight days. Thus, Hanukkah is celebrated for eight days. Another explanation for Hanukkah's eight days is that when Judah and his brothers defeated the Syrian-Greeks and entered the Temple, they found eight iron spears inside. They pushed the spears into the earth and kindled

a light in each one.

Symbols

Menorah: A candelabra used only on Hanukkah. Holds nine candles, one for each of the eight days of Hanukkah and one shamash (servant) used only to light the other candles. The light of the menorah is intended exclusively to help celebrate the holiday, and the menorah may only be used for that purpose. Menorahs traditionally are placed in a window in the front of the house to publicize the miracle of Hanukkah. Although menorahs come in many shapes and sizes, a true kosher menorah is one in which only the shamash is at a different height than the other candles. This is because each day of Hanukkah is equal in its importance.

Dreidel: A four-sided top bearing four Hebrew letters on each side. Outside of Israel, the letters are nun, gimmel, hay and shin, representing the words "nes gadol haya sham," a great miracle happened there. Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, dreidels in Israel bear the letters nun, gimmel, hay and pay, representing the words "nes gadol haya po," a great miracle happened here. Dreidels have been used throughout the ages to facilitate Torah study when it was forbidden by local authorities. Boys would gather with their teacher to study, with one acting as a lookout. When someone outside of the Jewish community would approach, the lookout would give a signal, allowing the students to put away their studies and bring out a dreidel. It would



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BRIGHT TRADITION— Ellen Hirsch, 7 months, watches the candles her mother, Leba, light for Hanukkah. This year's Festival of Lights is Dec. 13-20.

then look as if the group had simply been playing with the dreidel.

Latkes: Potato pancakes are often eaten during the holiday season, as are other foods cooked in oil, such as sufganiyot (Israeli doughnuts, often eaten during Hanukkah). Many Jews eat potato latkes with sour cream or applesauce, depending on their family's traditions.

Gifts were not a part of the Hanukkah tradition before this century. In Eastern Europe, families would gather for a special family night on the fifth night of Hanukkah. On this night, children were

given Hanukkah gelt (money, in Yiddish). Ashkenazic Jews descending from these Eastern European communities continue the tradition. Gift-giving became a part of the Hanukkah tradition when Jews and Christians mingled more freely (after ghettos were no longer government-established), and were influenced by the Christian tradition of giving Christmas gifts. Hanukkah will be celebrated by the Jewish community Dec. 13-20.

(Editor's note: Hirsch is the wife of Maj. Daniel Hirsch of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center.)

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Making better Americans...

Young Marines program teaches discipline, self-respect

Photos and story by Sandy Riebeling

The 11-year-old platoon leader's voice rings out strong and clear as he calls the roll for the weekly

meeting of the North Alabama Young Marines and their new recruits.

"Here, sergeant; here sergeant; here sergeant;" is repeated as youngsters, ages 8 to 17, respond as

ordered.

Young Marine Sgt. Tony Kincaid is shorter and younger than many of his peers but that doesn't get in his way as leader of the platoon. "It's tough at times but I like being in charge."

With rank comes responsibility. "I'm responsible for what they do," Kincaid said, referring to the 40 other kids in the program. "If they misbehave or act out, I get in trouble."

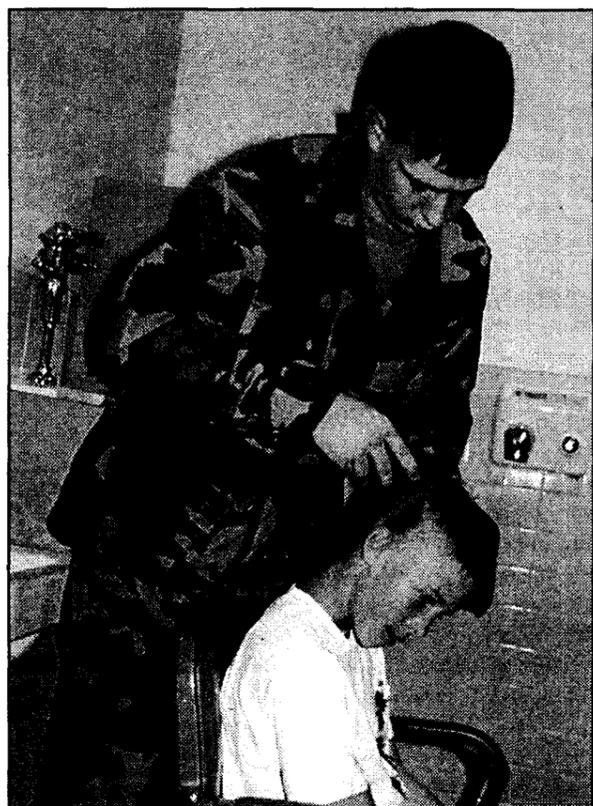
But Kincaid makes sure that if he has to do push-ups, they will have to do the same.

"Everything here is done the Marine Corps way," said Sgt. David Garay, Young Marines commanding officer and active duty Marine. "You have to earn the right to become a Young Marine. It's not just handed to you. But it's also something these kids are very proud of. It's an accomplishment for them."

Youngsters wearing the fatigues have already earned that right through 13 weeks of boot camp that includes close order drill (marching), physical training and class work. The 12



UNIFORMS...FINALLY— Recruits, from left, Anthony Barrow, Aaron Bernard and Danna Gaines have worked through 12 weeks of boot camp to earn their the right to wear their greens. They received their uniforms a week before graduation to be sure of a proper fit for the ceremony.



BUZZZZZ— Young Marines are expected to follow the Marine dress code which includes keeping hair shorter than three inches. Drill Instructor Rick Weobber gives recruit Aaron Stephens a close shave.

recruits in boot camp now will join the rank and file after next week's graduation.

"Boot camp isn't about breaking a kid," Garay said. "We get loud and we insist on their best but we don't break them down. We start with where they are

and build them up. We change them and mold them and you can see a difference in them.

"We don't teach any self defense or combat tactics here," he said. "We give Young Marines through leadership and management the ability to over-

come obstacles. Success comes through discipline, respect and guidance."

Parents must attend an orientation before their children may join the program because the success of the program and ultimately the

See MARINES on page 18



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To Sarajevo, with love...

Donations sought for refugees in war-torn country

By Sandy Riebeling

The Christmas season brings to most a feeling of joy and love and warmth. It's holidays dinners, gift giving and a celebration of peace on earth. But in many areas of the world, including the Balkan States, peace is an illusion, captured by signatures and enforced by the military. The Bosnians, Serbians and Croatians have been battling for years leaving in their wake thousands of homeless people, living in refugee camps, clinging to the hope that one day there will be true peace.

It was the faces of these people that touched the heart of Maj. Tom Ramsay, assistant project manager for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle at CCAWS, who arrived in Sarajevo three weeks ago to provide logistics support for the peace-keeping mission in Bosnia.

"Tom calls the office pretty regularly," Karen Lambert, secretary for the deputy project manager for Close Combat Anti-armor

Weapon Systems, said. "Normally for Christmas the office sponsors Christmas Angels for people in need but this year we asked Tom if he might know somebody there who needed help.

"Tom said, 'Yeah, there are these refugee camps all over. They could really use the help.' So we decided to do the Christmas Angels and take up donations to send to Tom."

Ramsay, with the help of the chaplain, will distribute the donations he receives throughout several refugee camps. He speaks of a great need for winter clothing—coats, hats, mittens, sweaters, socks. The temperature hovers around the 15 degree mark, with snow on the ground and more expected.

"They need personal hygiene items like toothpaste, soap, shampoo," Lambert said, reaching into a large paper sack filled with complimentary hygiene items offered by hotels to their guests. "Col. Carter brought this sack in. He

travels a lot and collects all the little bottles and soaps in the room. We wish everyone who goes on TDY (travel) would save their soaps and shampoos and bring them in. We will be making shipments over there at least until April."

The first shipment of clothes, toiletries, candy and toys is expected to leave today but Lambert is hoping donations will pick up and continue so that another shipment can be made around Dec. 14 or 15 that should arrive before Christmas.

"We're looking for a someone to either donate the shipping or cover the charges for shipping," Lambert said. "Otherwise, we will have to take the cost out of the monetary donations made. And by the way, we welcome money donations so that we can go and purchase items needed that aren't donated. Toilet paper is something Tom said was very much needed."

"Anything people want to give we will take," Judy

Polly, secretary to the PM, said. "There are people of all ages, from infant to elderly and they have nothing. They've been forced from their homes and had to leave everything behind."

"Maybe after Christmas, when people get all their new stuff, they will bring some of their old things in to send over," Lambert said. "It's the perfect time to do some cleaning and get rid of the things they aren't using."

Ramsay will handle disbursing the shipments as they arrive until he leaves to come back to the states in early May. If the community is willing to continue to support the effort, it's possible that the chaplain will take over that responsibility after Ramsay leaves.

The only food item to be shipped is candy. Relief efforts currently under way supply the camps with some food.

Anyone interested in



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

DONATIONS— Clothing, toys, candy and personal hygiene items were dropped off at the CCAWS Project Office in building 5250 in response to an e-mail sent to the Redstone community. Donations will be shipped to refugee camps in Sarajevo. Secretaries, from left, Lambert, Genia Koonce and Polly will continue the program through the holidays and into the spring, as long as the donations keep coming.

giving money or items can drop off their donations at building 5250, room B-302. Polly said there is plenty of room for dona-

tions, including the use of a vault.

For more information, call Lambert 876-5185 or Polly 876-7194.

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Staying prepared...

Selective Service signup goes online

FALLS CHURCH, Va.— On Dec. 2 a “switch” was thrown, giving millions of young men an easier way to fulfill a civic and legal responsibility. As of that moment, 18- through 25-year-old male U.S. citizens everywhere (as well as male non-citizens residing in the U.S.) were able to register with the Selective Service System using the Internet.

“This is real, interactive, on-line registration,” said Gil Coronado, director of Selective Service, who activated the new, on-line service. “For nearly two decades men have gone to post offices, completed and mailed a registration form, and waited 60-90 days to receive an acknowledgment card from us. With this new on-line service, a man with a valid Social Security number connects to the Selective Service Web Site at <http://www.sss.gov>, which links him to the agency’s computers. He clicks on the ‘Register Now’ icon, types in his registration information, clicks on the ‘Submit’ button which appears on the screen, and instantly receives his Selective Service number. Additionally, he receives a formal acknowledgment postcard in the mail within two weeks.”

The agency hopes that registration via the Internet becomes the primary way of registering, Coronado said.

He activated the new system during a visit to a Washington, D.C., area high school for a special kickoff event. Using

personal computers at the school’s computer lab, several young men turning 18 years old became the very first men to register on-line with Selective Service.

Federal law requires virtually all men to register with Selective Service within 30 days of turning 18. About 1.8 million men are required to register each year. Although late registrations are accepted, a man cannot register after reaching age 26. Failure to register is a felony. Registration is linked to many federal and state benefits. For example, a man must be registered to be eligible for federal student loans and Pell grants, job training programs under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and federal jobs in the Executive Branch of the government, including jobs with the U.S. Postal Service. Male immigrants who fail to register as required cannot obtain citizenship. Half of the states have supporting legislation which precludes men who are required to register, but who have not done so, from receiving many state benefits, like state tuition assistance, eligibility for state jobs, and (in some cases) enrolling in state post-secondary institutions.

Although the U.S. relies on an all-volunteer military today, the Selective Service System and the registration program help America remain prepared to reinstate a timely and fair draft in a future crisis, should a draft become necessary. (Selective Service System release)

Central America sends its thanks for disaster relief operations by U.S.

By Linda D. Kozaryn

CARTAGENA, Colombia— Central American defense leaders recently thanked U.S. troops for the help they’ve provided in their nations’ time of need.

Nearly 3,000 U.S. servicemembers are involved in disaster relief operations in Central America, where Hurricane Mitch blasted through in early November and left what one senior U.S. military leader called “a tragedy of enormous proportions.” U.S. aircraft have flown some 600 sorties delivering 4 million pounds of emergency supplies. Military engineers are restoring roads and the more than 350 bridges damaged by the storm.

El Salvadoran Defense Minister Jaime Guzman, Guatemalan Defense Minister Hector Mario Barrios and Nicaraguan Defense Minister Pedro Joaquin Chamorro expressed their nations’ gratitude during a meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary William S. Cohen here Dec. 1.

The defense leaders were here for the Defense Ministerial of the Americas, a three-day conference designed to strengthen military ties among the Western Hemisphere’s 34 democracies. Honduras, the nation hardest hit by Mitch, did not send representatives to the conference.

Following their meeting, the four leaders met briefly

with international news media. Cohen told reporters the road to recovery in Central America will be a long-term process as the region must first rebuild its infrastructure and then restore its economy. Along with sending troops, equipment and supplies, he said, the Defense Department has contributed \$150 million of the total \$250 million the United States is providing in aid.

“We’ve been very impressed with the level of cooperation and the reaction on the part of the Central American armies working very closely with our military,” Cohen said. “We are very proud of the level of cooperation we were able to achieve.”

Guzman noted that a second U.S. unit, Joint Task Force-Aquila, will be based in El Salvador to help with reconstruction efforts in his country and in Guatemala and Nicaragua.

“It will be very difficult to engage in reconstruction efforts using our very own resources,” he said. “We have been set back 20 years in terms of the infrastructure and the human potential that was lost with so many deaths. We thank the United States very much for its willingness to work with us, and we are very willing to work hand-in-hand with U.S. personnel in the reconstruction of our country.”

Barrios recalled U.S.-

Guatemalan disaster preparedness training conducted months ago in his country that has proved so fortunate in Mitch’s wake. He said the training helped save lives.

“The government is responsible for the well being and life of its citizens,” Barrios said. “My country was able to save 7,000 lives on the border with Honduras and 3,000 people in other regions of the country. We thank the United States.”

Chamorro stressed the importance of America’s immediate rescue efforts in Nicaragua and its continuing support. “We are sure that we can count on the support of the United States in the reconstruction of our infrastructure,” he said.

The Nicaraguan minister acknowledged the service and sacrifice of America’s men and women in uniform, particularly those of U.S. Southern Command. “They are sacrificing their vacations, their Christmas and New Year’s holidays, working with us hand-in-hand to help us recover our infrastructure,” Chamorro said. “Our army is very pleased to be able to work alongside U.S. forces.

“I would say it is a historic event, after several decades of threats and crisis, that we are able to work together to help Nicaragua in this situation.” (American Forces Press Service)

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Fire destroys IMMC worker's home

Importance of people, joy of giving among lessons from ashes

By John Allen

When Kim Lund's house burned down the night before Thanksgiving, the only things she and her family saved were the pajamas they were wearing, her purse, and a cat named—of all things—Smoky.

Lund, who works in IMMC's Land Combat Directorate as a logistician/maintenance engineer, also lost two family cars, one of which was loaded with Christmas presents. Luckily, the house, some contents, and the cars were insured.

Located in Arab, 23 miles south of Huntsville, Lund's house was situated on a quiet, wooded street with just four other houses. The fire, still of unknown cause, originated in the garage at 4:30 a.m. The Lunds were awakened by the blowing of one of the car horns, the burglar alarm, which may have been activated by the fire.

"We looked out the sliding glass door and wondered why the back yard seemed illuminated," Lund said. Almost immediately thereafter, she said they discovered the fire in the garage, which was well-

involved.

In a panic, Lund and her husband Scott raced down to the basement to awaken their two sons—Wes, 16, and Seth, 13. After exiting through a back door, they suddenly realized that Seth had not come out of the house. Scott broke out a back window and re-entered the house looking for Seth. Unable to find Seth, and with his hand bleeding from breaking the window, they collectively realized that Seth was not home, but had spent the night with a friend.

The Lunds' neighbor, Wanda Moody, who also works at Redstone, was awakened by the car horn and barking dogs. It was she who called 911.

"Neighbors came out and brought us blankets and coats," Lund said. "Once the firemen arrived, they told us right away that they could not save our house, but could only contain the fire. My husband was taken to the hospital to have his bleeding hand seen about, and Wes and I went to my parent's house, which is only a block-and-a-half away."

Family in shock

"Our family was in

shock for three or four days," Lund said. "We were like zombies. Our insurer told us that everything would be taken care of and issued us a check to purchase basic essentials for our family. We are living temporarily in the Jamison Inn in Arab; we have three rooms that are connected."

"Wes has a car that was not destroyed," she said. "One of the lights was melted, and the keys burned up in the house, but my parents had an extra set."

"People have been wonderful to us," Lund said, with much emphasis on wonderful. "My sister, Brenda Hicox, has taken over the management of our stress and has done a lot of cooking for us. People at work have been extremely understanding and helpful."

Lund said the family has voted to rebuild on the same location. "We have woods and a creek behind our property, and we have great neighbors—so why would we want to build anywhere else?" She said, however, that the insurance company has not given them any indication yet as to when a settlement will be

made.

Scott, a native Californian, owns and operates SAC3, a computer data business in Huntsville. Lund met her husband in Florence when she was a student at the University of North Alabama.

Irreplaceable losses

Lund said her family lost everything, but feels fortunate that they still have each other. "Most of what we lost can be replaced," she said, "but some of the things cannot be replaced, like all of our family photos and my children's birth certificates with their little footprints on them."

Other losses Lund cited as irreplaceable include her marriage certificate; all of her jewelry; her father's military service cap with the colonel's wings; her children's sports trophies; her teddy-bear collection; a framed, silk Chinese blanket that had been passed down to her husband from his grandparents, who had been Episcopal missionaries in China; and an 18-year collection of Christmas tree



Photo by John Allen

ENLIGHTENED—Lund, with pictures of her sons, says that the burning down of her house has taught her what's really important in life, and it's not Christmas presents.

ornaments, including a much prized, but "ugly little pinto bean wreath that one of my children had made."

Things aren't important

"A disaster makes you realize what is really important in your life," Lund said. "What I have learned is that nothing is

important except people—your family, your friends, and your co-workers.

"We get so wrapped around the axle with our daily rituals that we often don't help others when we need to, and sometimes even deprive others of the

See FIRE on page 15

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Real-world training...

West Point cadets help solve issues for project engineers

By Brett Barraclough

WEST POINT, N.Y.— What will our commissioned officers need to know in order to lead the Army in the 21st century? How can the U.S. Military Academy prepare its young men and women for a rapidly changing world?

Cadets majoring in Civil and Mechanical Engineering will be Army leaders in the next century and are finding answers to these questions. Thirty cadets taking Computer-Aided Design (EM370) apply the knowledge gained in class to solve engineering challenges on the Army Tactical Missile System, a weapons system they will employ on future battlefields. Thanks to the assistance of Col. John Holly, the program executive officer for tactical missiles at Redstone Arsenal, the cadets are able to solve real problems faced by engineers and acquisitions officers.

Holly, a West Point Class of 1973 graduate and a faculty alumnus in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, sponsored a program that ensured that cadets could gain a deep appreciation for the power of technology in solving problems that are current, relevant and directly related to their future role in the Army.

Complex weapon

This is a "great opportunity to enhance the instructional material at USMA using an Army system that is one of the most sophisticated and technically complex weapons in the world," Holly said.

Collaboration with industry on an Army weapon system like the ATACMS makes active learning part of the USMA program for leaders of the 21st century. During the summer, a member of the

Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering faculty worked with Army combat developers and engineers from Lockheed-Martin Vought Systems to select appropriate design projects for the cadets related to the ATACMS, Block II, anti-tank weapon.

Design process

The result was a series of engineer-design projects in which cadets used their experience in CAD solid modeling and applied numerical methods (including finite element methods, finite difference methods and dynamic modeling). They created a solid model for the nose cone of the missile, designed straps to secure the Brilliant Anti-Tank weapon inside the ATACMS, solved a thermal problem with the wrap-around antenna and designed an improved skid for the ground-handling system. As part of the top-down design process, the cadets understood the capabilities of the ATACMS and how their designs supported the overall mission of the weapon.

"This was a double benefit for our Army," Holly said. "Our project profited from the technical expertise (of West Point), plus our cadets are now able to apply engineering principles to real-world Army systems like ATACMS."

Cadet feedback

How do the cadets feel about working on the ATACMS Engineering Design Projects?

"I love it," Cadet 2nd Class J. T. Edwards said. "It is really interesting to find out what the 'real' engineers do. It gives us some insight into what we have to look forward to."

Cadet 2nd Class Nate Cook added, "It definitely helps me to see the relevance of what we learn in EM370. The application of

our knowledge on designs actually being undertaken by the Army allows me to see the importance of the course."

The integrated design projects encourage cadets to seek help outside class. Cadet 2nd Class Will Canda shared, "My father is an engineer in the Air Force and this type of thing has been his life. Now, I can talk to him about things and it helps me."

(Editor's note: Maj. Barraclough is a member of the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at the U.S. Military Academy.)



Photo by Jim Bowne

Making a list...

John Jacobi and Gail Hopkins review table assignments for Team Redstone's Holiday Party scheduled for Friday evening. Hopkins, of the Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, and Jacobi, of

Security Assistance Management Directorate, are among nearly 40 Team Redstone members who have been working since August to ensure that "Our Party" will be a night to remember.

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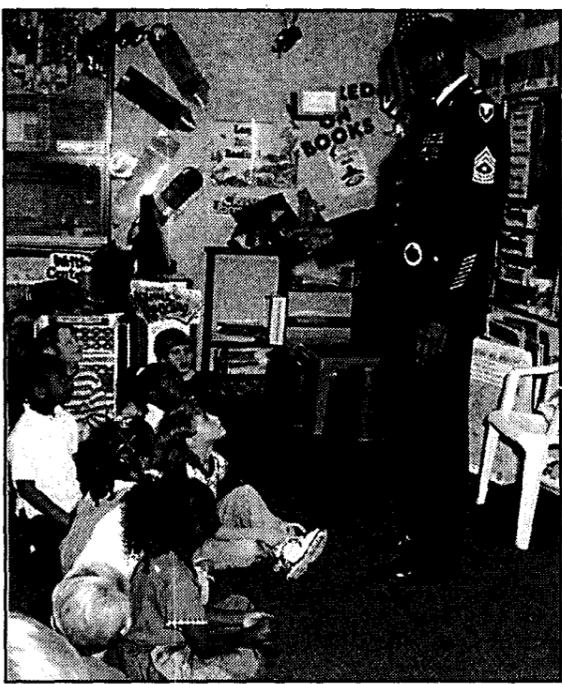
FIRE

Continued from page 14

opportunity to help us, thereby robbing them of a blessing—the joy of giving.

"The news and entertainment media helps drag us into the pursuit of buying things—and things are not important," Lund said. "I used to be very clothes conscious, but no more. Now, I'm a minimalist. Next Christmas, I won't feel the need to shower my kids with stuff; instead, I will go to the Salvation Army's angel tree at Madison Square Mall and pick some needy kid's name.

"I had lost touch with my own spirit and had forgotten why I married my husband. Now, I know. When he broke out that window to save my child, he was my hero. But it took a disaster for me to realize it," she said, "and it happened on Thanksgiving."



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

Career day...

Sgt. Maj. Lewis Lockett, acting AMCOM command sergeant major, speaks to K-4th graders at West Madison Elementary School's Career Day, Nov. 16 under the auspices of the command Speaker's Bureau program.

AIRFIELD

Continued from page 7

the swampy areas at the test ranges when they are testing. We go in with the bucket and put out the fire because the fire trucks can't get to the fire."

As safety officer, one of Sullivan's main concerns was the loss of operation of the fire station located on the airfield.

"With the cut in fire protection services, we no longer have fire protection services on the airfield," Sullivan said. "We don't have people properly trained in the event of a fire. As we become more and more contractor dependent, the problem is exacerbated by lack of personnel who could respond to a fire.

"As long as everything is going good and nothing bad happens, my job is hard to quantify," he said. "Training is really the key. Even if everyone already knows what we are reviewing, by taking the time to go over it, it keeps safety in their minds. The people out here are excellent in what they do."

Just in time for holidays...

Reservists get extra shopping visits at the Commissary

FORT LEE, Va.—Forgot that loaf of bread and gallon of milk? Afraid you don't have enough visits left at the commissary to stop for a few items? Think again.

Reserve and National Guard members can now enjoy 12 additional commissary shopping visits during the last days of 1998. The best news is the additional commissary visits come just in time for the holidays.

In October, Congress passed the 1999 Defense Authorization Act, which grants 24 commissary visits annually for reservists and guardsmen. The new

law also gives reservists 12 commissary visits in 1998 in addition to the 12 they already had.

"Gray-area" reservists who have retired from the reserve, but who have not yet reached age 60, also get the 12 additional commissary shopping visits in 1998. Reservists who are called to active duty enjoy full-time commissary shopping privileges. "Unused visits, including the additional 12 visits for 1998, do not carry over from one calendar year to the next. If reservists do not use their commissary visits during December, the visits will be

gone come the first day of January," said Kaye Fannin, DeCA consumer affairs advocate at the headquarters of the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), Fort Lee, Va. "We definitely want the men and women of the Reserve and National Guard to use their additional visits before the end of the year. To accommodate Reserve members using their additional 12 commissary visits in 1998, commissary personnel will date and initial 12-visit 1998 Commissary Privilege Cards a second time, as necessary.

"The commissary bene-

fit is part of the non-pay compensation of our reserve forces," Fannin said. "With thoughtful planning, a reservist with a family of four and 24 shopping visits per year could save about \$2,000 on their grocery purchases each year. Members of the Guard and Reserve can use their commissary shopping visits anytime during the year."

Guard and Reserve personnel who want additional information about their commissary shopping privileges should contact their units or talk with the commissary officer where they shop. (DeCA release)

DEFENSE

Continued from page 8

a plaque, and a U.S. Savings Bond of \$1,000.

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field of defense preparedness, and may recognize a series of activities over several years that, considered together, made a significant contribution to the technical progress of the national defense programs. The award will consist of a replica Medaris bust and certificate. The awardee's name will be placed on a plaque with the bust located at Sparkman Center. Last year's award winner was Dave Harris, retired spokesman for Redstone Arsenal. This award should not be confused with another annual Medaris Award, which is given to those who

have made notable contributions in enhancing the Army's role in space.

• **Book Scholarships**— A \$1,000 scholarship will be given each to University of Alabama-Huntsville, and Alabama A&M University. Each university will select a recipient, who may use the scholarship for the purchase of textbooks. The recipients will be recognized at the awards dinner in April.

For more information about the awards, call Meier at 864-7070 or fax 864-7001. You may also check out the NDIA's web site at <http://www.ndia.org>.

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Challenging debts...

Seasonal credit-card charges can cause consumer headaches

By Andrew Sinn

If you are like most Americans, then you will be purchasing many of your holiday gifts on credit. For many folks, it is convenient to "charge" a purchase in the store, on the phone or over the Internet. Unfortunately, the ease of credit allows many consumers to purchase more than they can afford. Even careful financial planners can be surprised by unexpected events that force them to use credit in order to meet emergency obligations. For whatever reasons, people sometimes find it difficult to make ends meet. When this happens, there are steps you can take to offset the damage and prevent a more serious financial disaster.

This article is intended to raise the awareness of the legal rights of consumers, civilians and soldiers alike, regarding consumer debts. You may wonder what your rights are when being "harassed" by creditors (those to whom the debt is owed) or collections agencies (hired by the creditor to collect the debt). Anyone who makes purchases on credit and is concerned about the consequences of missing a payment or challenging a disputed debt may benefit from this article.

Adverse information

Failure to manage personal financial affairs could damage a soldier's career. Commanders may take administrative or disciplinary action against soldiers who do not pay their obligations in a proper or timely manner. Also, commanders may consider putting adverse information into a soldier's records, denying re-enlistment, administrative separation, or punitive action under the UCMJ. The Army generally does not assist debt collectors or creditors trying to collect a debt against a soldier. The Army only assists creditors that provide specific proof to commanders that they have complied with the requirements of Army Regulation 600-15. The general policy, in accordance with Department of Defense Directive 1344.9 and AR 600-15, is that enforcement of the private obligations of a military member is a matter for civil authorities.

If you foresee difficulty in making payments on a debt, you should take a proactive stance. Skipping the payment or simply ignoring the debt altogether is not a good idea. Some of

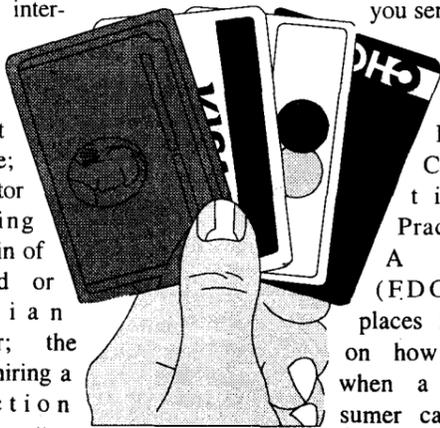
the short-term consequences of not paying a debt may include: fees, charges and increased interest on the principal debt you owe; the creditor contacting your chain of command or civilian employer; the creditor hiring a collection agency or attorney to pursue you for the debt. Long-term consequences may include: a less than desirable credit rating and inability to make any purchases on credit; revocation of your security clearance for financial concerns; a judgment lien and the sale of your property at a public auction or a garnishment order placed on your basic pay or wages.

There are resources on Redstone Arsenal and in the local community to assist you in dealing with financial difficulty. Army Community Service (phone 876-5397) offers financial counseling to servicemembers and their dependents. The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Huntsville Inc. (phone 533-1904) offers credit counseling services to the general public. Many banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions offer debt counseling to their members. The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 111, has free informational handouts on many common consumer law issues and a fact sheet with useful Internet sites.

Proactive stance

Taking a proactive stance could start by contacting the creditor and notifying them that you are unable to make your payment on time. Some creditors will listen and understand your explanation of current difficulties—such as unexpected and sudden expenses, electronic transfer was not timely, etc. The creditor may agree to postpone billing you for a period of time in exchange for you making larger payments later. Generally, most creditors would rather receive some money from you at a later date, rather than get nothing from you at all. Creditors prefer to avoid the cost of pursuing collections or suing in court. Be sure to note the dates and names of any employees you speak with on the telephone, then follow up with a letter acknowledging the agree-

ment and send it "return receipt requested." Always keep a copy of the letter you send.



The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)

places limits on how and when a consumer can be contacted about a debt. Be aware that, as a general rule, the FDCPA applies only to "debt collectors," and not to "creditors." Thus, it is important to clarify the status of the person or company that is writing letters to you or calling you about a debt. Here are a few ways the FDCPA protects consumers from debt collectors: A debt collector must

warn you that they are a debt collector; a debt collector may not communicate with you after you provide written notice to them that you do not want to be contacted; a debt collector may not engage in any conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person; a debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representations. The FDCPA also addresses the manner in which debt collectors can call or write to third parties (such as your employer, family, friends, etc.).

Billing errors

The Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA) applies to billing errors on credit cards and store charge accounts. An example of a billing error would be if you swiped your credit card at the gas pump to pay for a fill-up, but later your credit card bill showed that you

were charged three times for the same fill-up. Generally, you have 60 days from the date that the creditor sends you the billing statement to notify that creditor in writing of the error. Under the FCBA, the creditor must correct the error or explain to you why your complaint is rejected.

It is recommended that everyone request and review a copy of his or her credit report at least once a year. Credit reports may be requested in person at the Credit Bureau of Huntsville, 807 Franklin St., for a small fee. Look for harmful or unusual information in your credit report. Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, if you dispute information in your report, then the credit reporting agencies must investigate it and resolve it. If it still remains unresolved, you should submit a statement (less

than 100 words) that explains away the harmful information.

Above all, do not ignore billing statements that you receive in the mail. Review bills promptly and file a timely, written protest. Attention to detail and taking a proactive approach to managing consumer debts is the best prescription for avoiding credit troubles.

Please stop by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 111, and pick up free information packets on consumer issues as well as other legal issues such as divorce, child custody, small claims court, etc. Persons eligible for legal assistance must schedule an appointment to meet with the legal assistance attorney by calling 876-9005.

(Editor's note: Capt. Sinn is legal assistance attorney in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.)

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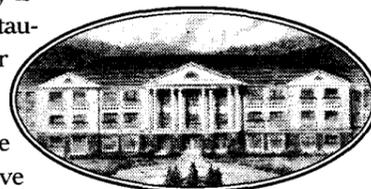


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MARINES

Continued from page 11

child lies with commitment. Garay makes it a point to tell parents that it is a hard program but that what a child earns for himself will be with him forever— discipline, honor, self-respect, loyalty and perseverance.

"The program helps the kids deal with society better," Carol Kincaid, training officer for the program and mother of platoon leader Tony, said. "It teaches them how to relate to adults, children and their peers better. It helps them to resist peer pressure."

An elevated level of respect, responsibility, morality and achievement is expected from Young Marines. The staff, which includes both military and civilian leaders, challenges them constantly to do their best.

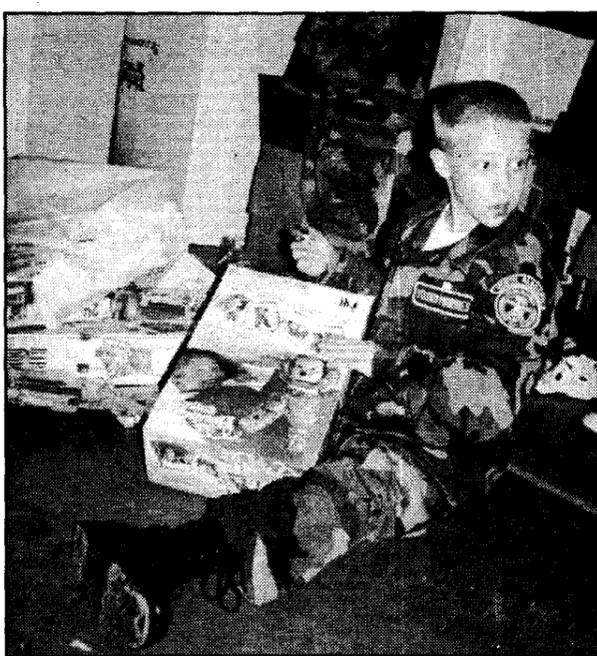
Young Marines meet monthly for two hours to work on physical training, drills and classwork. Each

month curriculum is chosen which may include teaching American and Marine history, first aid, CPR, land navigation and other skills. Young Marines are tested on the level of knowledge and skills they have mastered which allows them to earn certain ribbons and to advance in rank.

The program goes beyond what's done in those two hours, though. Quarterly reports are filled out by the school teachers of Young Marines and sent to the commanding officer.

"We keep detailed files on all of our Young Marines, so that we know how they are doing in school, if they are having problems, to reward them when they excel and to help them however we can," Garay said, adding that copies of report cards and awards are kept in each child's file.

"I like that they monitor our grades and make sure they don't slip," said Lance Cpl. Ryan Kane, 14.



TOYS FOR TOTS— Young Marine Pvt. Jonathan Young helps mark and sort toys collected by the Marine Corps Reserves.

"Sgt. (Vern) Gohana helped me with my science," Pvt. George Lankford, 9, said. "He helps me to have respect and self discipline."

The staff offers tutoring and counseling to the Young Marines in need. "We expect them to do well and

we help them in every way we can to see that they succeed," Garay said. "This staff is amazing. They give a lot to these kids and it's all done voluntarily."

Staff members are not chosen lightly. It is a formal process including three rec-

ommendations, a detailed packet of personal information and background checks.

It takes a devoted staff to earn the respect of the kids so that they can make a positive impact on young lives. Staff members not only donate the time it takes to teach and work with the kids during their meetings but they work hours on preparing the work, keeping the records and sacrificing weekends to take the kids on encampments.

"Encampments are more than just camping out," Garay said. "The Young Marines have to do much of the planning with their curriculum, deciding schedules of who will do the cooking, washing gear and activities for each shift. It builds skills, gives them confidence in their abilities, teaches them leadership and they can also earn their field ribbons."

"This is a great program," said Huntsville Police Sgt. Ricky Pressnell, who also works on staff

with the Young Marines. "I wish more parents would get their kids involved in it. There are lots of kids out there that need discipline and a sense of self worth. This program gives children a chance to bring their confidence level up—be proud of who they are."

Young Marines make a commitment when they join. It is called an obligation and is part of the written code, that they recite at meetings:

"From this day forward, I sincerely promise, I will set an example for all other youth to follow and I shall never do anything that would bring disgrace or dishonor upon my God, my country and its flag, my parents, myself or the Young Marines. These I will honor and respect in a manner that will reflect credit upon them and myself."

"We're not here trying to recruit new Marines," Garay said. "We're here to build a stronger, better American."

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Stressful situations over long term can cause serious health problems

Some suggestions: Learn to relax, take a breather, exercise

By Lisa E. Stafford

WASHINGTON— Stress is inevitable in everyone's life today. And especially with the upcoming holiday season fast approaching. However, proper stress management can lead to a healthier life.

Each person's body reacts to positive stress such as the birth of a child or a wedding and to negative stress such as the death of a close friend or relative. How each individual handles stress and the physical hormonal changes that occur varies.

Stress causes hormones like adrenaline to surge in your body. Your heartbeat and blood pressure increase, and your blood sugar rises.

According to the American Medical Association, stressful situations that continue for a long time without relief can cause various diseases and disorders. Colds, ulcers, asthma, heart attack, stroke and other gastrointestinal problems can develop. You will feel tired, irritable, depressed or anxious.

For some individuals, getting too much or too little sleep becomes a problem. Eating disorders can also become an issue, as can smoking.

To decrease your stress:

- **Defuse stress.** Consider how you will handle the next potential stressful situation before it happens. Most times, stress

results from the fear of the unknown.

- **Learn to let go.** Stressful situations themselves are not the triggers, but our reaction to the situations causes physical and emotional distress.

- **Take a breather.** When you start to feel stressed out, take a breather. Inhale deeply, hold for a count of five, then exhale slowly. Repeat three or four times until you feel calm.

- **Learn to relax.** Go to a movie, take a long hot bath, go for long walks, listen to soothing music, take up a hobby.

- **Exercise regularly.** Seek your doctor's permission first, then get into a routine that works for you.

- **Avoid overindulgences.** Excessive alcohol, caffeine, fats, sugar and smoking will increase stress.

- **Help others.** Give volunteer time to a charity. Help someone who is ill. Find something that gives you pleasure and satisfaction.

- **Create a support network.** Surround yourself with people you can confide in for comfort, a sympathetic ear or advice. This can include family members, friends or co-workers, and anyone else who cares about your well-being.

Maintain calm. Don't let passing stressful situations develop into permanent health problems. (American Forces Press Service)



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Guest speaker...

Lt. Col. John Burke, product manager "Defending Our Country" and for Apache Attack Helicopter Project "Readiness Issues" to the Daughters of the American Revolution, Nov. 10 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Office for Aviation, spoke on

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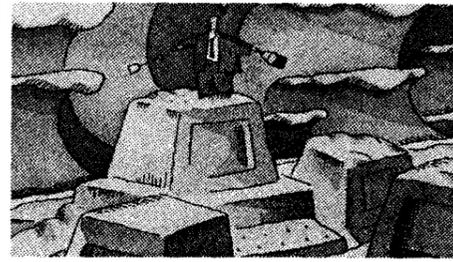
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Military visitor...

Lt. Col. Cindy Hamilton, inspector general, talks about her experiences in the military to second through fifth-grade students at Lincoln Elementary School, Nov. 5, under the auspices of the AMCOM Speakers Bureau program.



Photo by John Allen

Light smoke...

Smoke from a ceiling light fixture at Toftoy Hall on Dec. 2 resulted in a call to the fire department. It turned out that a defective fluorescent light ballast caused the smoke, and there was no damage to the building.

SAFETY

Continued from page 1

said. "This involves everyone within the directorate—technicians, scientists and engineers, clerical. All looking at their activities to identify safety issues and safety equipment requirements. Our intent is to keep the directorate a safe place to work and visit."

A kickoff meeting was held the morning of Nov. 30 in the Rocket Auditorium, building 7120 where the directorate's main offices are located. "And in that meeting I stated the directorate's position that there is no more important a job than to ensure one's own safety, the safety of one's co-workers and the safety of one's visitors," Lyon said.

"This directorate deals with hazardous operations on a daily basis and it's important to pause periodically and assess our safety position. This Stand-Down Day will result in increased efficiency and enhanced safety and safety awareness for all of our workers."

The directorate's approximately 130 workers have a

mission of development and support of the weapon systems to include missile propulsion, weapons materials, and launch platforms. The organization is part of the Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center.

In addition to building 7120, the directorate has people in at least 15 nearby buildings where various testing devices are located. They spent the day removing from their buildings old test materials—including various hardware—to ensure safer working environments. "We are reviewing all of our procedures and our facilities to evaluate compliance with safety practices," Lyon said. "Each individual is tasked with identifying specific equipment and protective clothing needs. And the directorate as a whole is conducting a policing and cleanup of work areas to eliminate hazards in the area."

The directorate has formed a standing safety committee which has been meeting biweekly for several months. It includes at least two members from

each of the directorate's seven functions: systems and warheads, propulsion research, structural analysis and design, system evaluation, ground support equipment design, systems engineering, and composite structures and materials. The committee includes at least two members from each of the seven functions.

"This committee, composed of government employees and support contractors from all of the directorate's functions, serves as the eyes and ears for the director in matters related to safety," Lyon said. The directorate's acting director is Paul Doyle.

Jean Hasse, a program analyst in Propulsion and Structures, said Safety Stand-Down Day is a result of this safety advisory committee which is currently reviewing all safety procedures.

"I think it's something that's been needed," she said of the event. "I think it's a good example for the entire command to take a good look at their facilities to make sure our working environment is safe."

TESTS

Continued from page 6

"Facility computers are being replaced and improved on a continuous basis," Jolly said. "And, advantage is taken of each development in computer technology to upgrade and improve facility performance."

The ASC works jointly with the Redstone Technical Test Center to extend HWIL simulation techniques from missile development phases into the production arena, initially with the Longbow Hellfire missile. The objective is to reduce the number of flight tests needed to accept each production lot. And, particularly now that the Army moves away from MILSPECs to performance specifications, to monitor

the health of the missile production processes.

A special simulation facility has been built at Test Area 1 to perform HWIL evaluation of all-up (including motor, warhead, batteries, squibs) missile rounds from the production line. The facility includes the capability to temperature-condition the round during the evaluation process. After successful testing, the round can be placed in the inventory. This concept is in operation now with the facility working a double-shift. The concept has produced an annual cost avoidance of \$12 million.

"Interaction with the Aviation RDEC and PEO, Aviation is in its early planning stages," Jolly said. "It will definitely expand in the future as the benefits to combine MRDEC and AVRDEC activities are realized."

Jolly has three sons: Steven Charles, a printer for the *Huntsville Times*; Edward Alexander, a welder and part-time student; and Richard James, an engineer who now works in Orlando, Fla. Previously, Richard James worked here from 1994-98 in the same laboratory that his dad did in 1970 with some of the same government people.

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'Tis the season for giving gifts but know the government rules

Ethics standards govern contributions to official superiors

By Robert Garfield

As the year draws to a close and with the VSIP and VERA approved, we know a large number of our co-workers will be leaving federal service through retirement or resignation. When these departures occur, those of us who work for and around these departing individuals normally wish to honor their service and to provide a token that shows our appreciation for their contribution to our organization and the Army.

However, there are rules governing gifts between employees set out in the Office of Government Ethics Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch and the DoD Joint Ethics Regulation (JER).

The basic rule is twofold: Employees may not:

- directly or indirectly give a gift to, or make a contribution toward a gift for an official superior, or solicit a contribution from another employee for a gift to an official superior; or
- directly or indirectly accept gifts from employees who receive less pay than they do, unless there is

no superior-subordinate relationship between them two, and there is a personal relationship that would otherwise justify the gift.

Exceptions to rule

There are exceptions to this rule. The primary one for departures and retirements is the "special, infrequent occasion." For occasions that terminate the superior-subordinate relationship, such as retirement, resignation or transfer, we may solicit voluntary contributions of a "nominal amount" to give a gift appropriate to the occasion. The JER says that the "nominal amount" solicited may not exceed \$10, and that the total value of the gift generally should not exceed \$300. Note that a "promotion" is not considered to be a "special, infrequent occasion" unless the employee is also being transferred out of the supervisory or command chain.

As stated, contributions to the gift truly must be voluntary. You cannot coerce anyone into contributing, either directly or indirectly, e.g., reporting names of those who do not contribute. Also, the general \$300 limit does not include the cost of food,

refreshments, and entertainment provided to the honoree and that person's guests to mark the occasion for which the gift is given.

There is also a technical aspect to the JER rule regarding "donating groups." If an employee contributes as part of more than one "donating group," then the total value of all gifts given by each group donating toward a gift normally should not exceed \$300. Additionally, "donating groups" may not band together to buy the departing individual a gift intended to circumvent the \$300 limitation. For example, a print that costs \$250 paid for by one group of employees, which is then framed for \$150 by another group of employees would be an improper gift.

Contractor employees

Finally, a word of warn-

ing regarding contractors in the workplace. For retirements and similar occasions, it is easy to forget that the contractor employee who sits at the desk next to you is not a federal employee, even though he or she may have been at one time. Gifts from contractor employees on special occasions like retirements are subject to the rules on gifts from outside sources, the subject of Ethics Advisory 98-02. When dealing with contractor employees in such situations, be guided by the following:

- Do not solicit contractor employees for contributions toward any gift and do not accept their voluntary contributions.
- Gifts from contractor employees are subject to the \$20 limitation from any particular source. Employees of the same contractor are regarded as the same source; therefore, they cannot pool their resources to

give a gift valued over \$20, nor may they give separate gifts all valued under \$20 for the same occasion.

- Contractor employees may attend luncheons or receptions for departing government employees; however, their attendance should be totally voluntary. If the event will take the contractor employee away from the workplace for longer than the normal lunch period, you need to consult with the contracting officer. Issues such as whether: (a) the government will be charged for the time away from the workplace, or (b) an important tasking will not be accomplished when required; need to be addressed.

Seek advice

The rules can be complicated. The key is to seek the advice of your ethics counselor before making definitive plans, before soliciting contributions, and before presenting the

gift. Early advice and counsel will prevent embarrassment for the recipient, the employees and the organization. Please call me at 313-2820 or Don Hankins 876-8922 if you have any questions.

With this Ethics Advisory, I have said all I want to say about gifts for a while, although I will always answer your questions. I still have a number of potential topics from which to choose, but I have no strong feeling about which one to include in the next Ethics Advisory. That being the case, here is your chance. What ethics issues concern you? Let me know. Help me choose my next topic. In the meantime, everyone have a healthy, safe, joyous holiday season.

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

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Educational advice...

College Board: Get up to speed on test prep scams

DANTES continues to hear from military members and their spouses across the United States who have been badly victimized. Most recently a headline in the Fort Sill, Okla., base paper read, "Soldiers scammed by door-to-door deal." The article begins: "More than three-dozen Fort Sill soldiers and their families have been victims of a costly scam."

According to the Fort Sill Legal Assistance Office, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, a company which offers "educational services through door-to-door sales has bilked thousands from military families."

Common practice

Unfortunately, this is not a new story. The cover story of the January 1998 "DANTES Information Bulletin," titled "Consumer Alert," warned of the fraudulent and misleading practices of a number of test preparation agencies. DANTES stands for Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support.

In Oklahoma and on installations across the country, the following scenario is played out. An intelligent, well-dressed salesperson appears at the door talking about the importance of education when competing for promotion or trying to get ahead. The salesman tells

the military member and his spouse that these products are essential—there can be nothing more important than preparing for your education. He offers an "education package" which supposedly includes things like study guides and practice tests for CLEP tests, a set of encyclopedias, a "free" health dictionary, and other such products. The pitch is persuasive and high-pressured. There is even a promise of earning an associate degree just by taking the tests. The salesperson leaves the impression there will be corresponding distance learning courses and counseling assistance. The company charges between \$1,800 and \$2,200 for these promises, which are not delivered, and if delivered at all are of very poor quality.

Fraudulent contracts

There are a number of different actions taking place to make candidates aware of these companies and their practices. The College Board posts the following in all of its publications and on its web site:

"A practice has been identified whereby unauthorized agents use the CLEP name to market study aids. Unfortunately, these study materials are inadequate for preparation, and the claims made by these agents are patently

false. Candidates are misled into signing contracts and then pressured to pay or threatened with destruction of their credit rating. Often the test prep company and the lending party are in close alliance and purposely intimidating. In some cases, companies may seek to give the false impression that ETS or the College Board sanction their activities.

"When a consumer has been induced by fraud or unscrupulous practices to enter into a contract, the consumer may have the contract set aside. If you feel you have been misled into signing a fraudulent contract, seek legal help. If you are in the military, contact your base legal officer as well as your education officer. Military personnel

can obtain study materials free of charge. For further information about authentic study materials, contact CLEP directly. Visit the College Board web site at www.collegeboard.org."

These fraudulent companies have been a topic of discussion among JAG attorneys from coast to coast. Many have asked the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board to place the companies "off limits." However, the companies are often one step ahead of investigators, changing their names and their locations.

Beware of phony test prep scams. You could end up with nothing but empty pockets and a hard-earned lesson. (DANTES Information Bulletin article)

GOALS

Continued from page 1

the soldier re-enlisted Nov. 19.

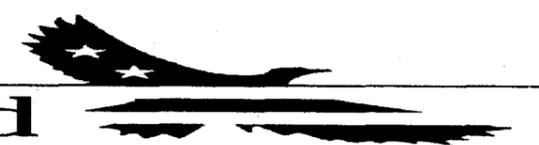
"That type of command involvement is what it takes and what it will continue to take to be successful as far as retention mission is concerned," Thompson said.

Thompson, 46, from North Chicago, Ill., joined the Army in 1974 and served two years as a combat engineer. He left the service, worked for a while then decided he wanted to see a little more of the world. So he rejoined the Army in 1983 in the Infantry and served in West Berlin. Thompson went on recruiting duty in 1986 in Peoria, Ill. In 1990 he switched from the Infantry to career counselor. After that he served at Fort Bliss, Texas, and in Korea. He arrived at Redstone in March 1997.

He and his wife, Edith, have two daughters: Maria, 8, and Deanna, 4. Thompson enjoys practicing basketball with his oldest daughter.

"Recruiters bring civilians into the Army. Career counselors keep soldiers in the Army," he said, explaining the difference between the two jobs.

And why is he a successful career counselor? "Number one, I'm honest with soldiers. I'll tell them exactly how it is. I will leave no stone unturned attempting to get the soldier what he or she wants and I just get a personal satisfaction when we can get a soldier what he or she wants," he said. "I love taking care of soldiers."



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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. Friday and 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Von Braun Center. Cost is \$4 per ticket. Call Carol Lang 313-4028.

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. 10, from 6-11 a.m., at building 3412, Marine Detachment, 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.

Holiday stress

Holidays got you stressed? Public Health and Education, Fox Army Health Center, will offer "Holiday Stress Management Techniques" from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 15 at Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4247. To sign up call 842-0196.

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 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

See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 24



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



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

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Announcements

Continued from page 23

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.

Commissary hours

The Commissary will have the following holiday operating hours through Dec. 31: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 9-11; 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.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will have its holiday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Thursday 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. Thursday 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.

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 par-

ent 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.

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.

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.

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

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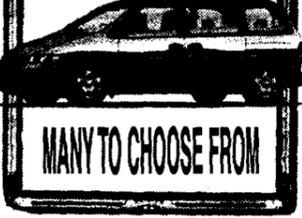
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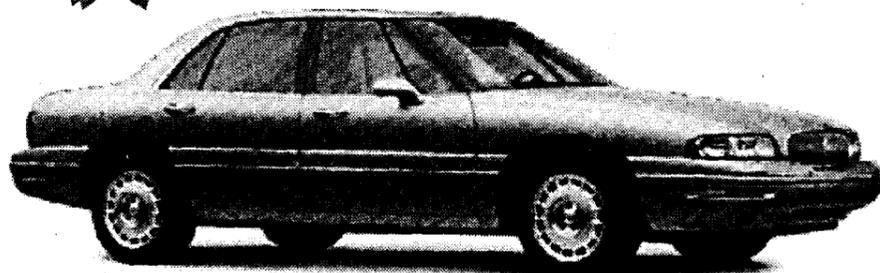
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Announcements

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.

Holiday arts

Ars Nova School of the Arts will present "Spirit of Christmas" featuring "The Gift of the Magi" at 8 p.m. Dec. 10-12 at the Renaissance Theatre at Lincoln Center, 1216 Meridian St. Cost is \$17 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. Dec. 10 costs are \$12 adults, \$7 students/seniors. Tickets are available at the door, Pratt Avenue Antique Mall and Shaver's Book Store or call 536-4889.

Greeting cards

The AMCOM Public Affairs Office is col-

lecting old greeting cards for children in orphanages to be used in their art classes. Just tear off the front of your old cards and send them to AMSAM-PA, building 5300, room 5143. For more information, call Margaret Banish-Donaldson 842-0558.

Thrift shop job

Applications are available at the Thrift Shop for the position of manager. Yearly salary is \$12,180. Requirements include knowledge in retail sales, computer skills (Windows 95 and Microsoft Office 97), interfacing with volunteer and paid staff. Application deadline is Jan. 6; and the job begins Jan. 18. For more information, call the assistant manager 881-6992.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will hold its Christmas luncheon Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. The meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. with the installation of officers for next year. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

Parents council

The Parent Advisory Council will hold its monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Dec. 15 at the Bicentennial Chapel. All parents and staff in Child Development Services programs are invited.

Prayer breakfast

The December Non-Denominational Prayer Breakfast hosted by the IMMC will be Dec. 15 at 7 a.m. in building 5309, room

9128 (conference room at east end of Sparkman Center Food Court). The program is to feature Joey Savell and the Wall Highway Baptist Church Youth Group. No food or drinks will be served, but you may bring your own if you wish. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend. For more information, call Ronnie Davis 313-1624.

Christmas trees

All offices, day rooms, military personnel on active duty, and other activities requiring Christmas trees, are authorized to cut trees on a self-help basis in the area northeast of the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) Area which is located across the road from the Redstone Arsenal Saddle Activity. Trees shall not be cut for commercial, or unauthorized use. This area has been marked with orange flagging for easy recognition. Travel will be limited to the single pasture trail along the east side of the open pastureland. Cutting operations will be limited to inside the Christmas tree cutting area only. Extreme caution should be exercised to prevent straying outside of the area or off the access route and removing any objects other than a Christmas tree. Trees should be cut from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. by Dec. 24. Tree trimmings should not be left on grassed rights-of-way, railroad tracks or access roads. For more information and location map, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic community at Bicentennial Chapel will hold a "Fam-

ily Advent Celebration" from 10:45-11:45 a.m. Dec. 13 at the chapel. Everyone is encouraged to attend to make Advent and Christmas symbols. This event will be held in the assembly room; fellowship will be in the activity room. For more information call the pastor, Father Mike Travaglione, 842-2178 (work) or 721-5602 (home).

Time cards

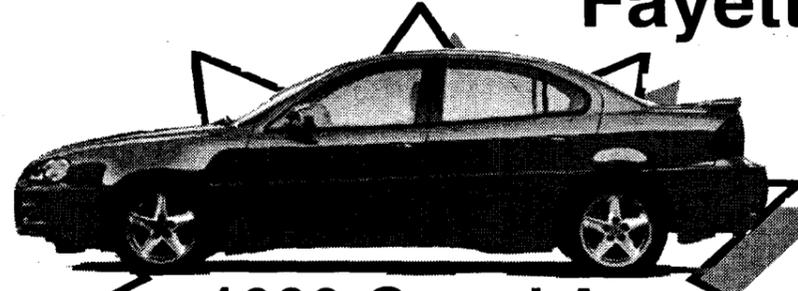
The window of certification for pay period Dec. 6-19 will open at 7 a.m. Dec. 17 and close at noon Dec. 21; no exception. The window of certification is being closed early because DFAS is accelerating the pay processing one day. Christmas Eve falls on Thursday this year, which is one of the normal pay close-out days. This will allow the customer service representatives to receive the reports early, make corrections, and input missing Time and Attendance cards in a timely manner. Timekeepers are encouraged to post daily; especially during the holiday season when a lot of leave is taken, the response time is better. This would leave minimum postings during the certification window. For more information, call Vanessa Williams 876-8078 or Debra Boyer 876-7104.

PX news

Santa's visit to the Post Exchange this Saturday will be held 2-4 p.m. instead of 11-1 due to "reindeer complications," the PX said in a prepared release. "We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Happy holidays."

HOWARD BENTLEY

Pontiac • GMC • Oldsmobile • Toyota
Fayetteville, TN



1999 Grand Am
\$199.18 per mo.*

*48 month lease + Tax, Tag and Title.
Stock#P9030, MSRP \$17,025,
12K Miles Annual.



1999 Toyota Camry
\$17,590

Stock #IM 7937 + Tax, Title and Tag.
Auto, air, cruise, int. wipers, mudguards, power windows
and door locks, tilt, floor mats, center arm rest.

We will beat any Alabama Dealers price. Call our Hotline, 1-800-654-1597.
If for some reason we don't, we will buy your gas back home and give you a FREE gift!

**PLEASE NOTE:
FAYETTEVILLE
DEALERSHIP
WE ARE NOT
AFFILIATED WITH
ANY HUNTSVILLE
DEALERSHIP**

HOWARD BENTLEY
PONTIAC - GMC - OLDS - TOYOTA
1230 Huntsville Highway, Fayetteville, TN
1-800-654-1597 or 1-931-433-6527

**OPEN
8:30 a.m. until last
customer is served**

**Service and Parts
Open Saturdays**

* Lease based upon \$2,100 down or trade equity. Includes first payment and sec. deposit + tax, tags, title and GMAC WAC will charge \$400 ACQ. fee.

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 FORD F-150 XLT. 4.6L V8, 4x2, loaded, low mi. \$26,500. 852-4495.
- '98 FORD F-150 XLT. Power lumbar, lmted. slip, Ford rep. driven, all TN, AL, hwy. mi., service record & remainder of factory warranty. 517-1211. After 9 p.m., 301-1773.
- '97 CHEVY Z21 Pick-Up. Ext. cab, like new, fact. warr. \$26,500 OBO. 851-6111.
- '97 FORD Taurus GL. Full power, Ford marketing driven AL, TN, GA, hwy. mi., service records & warranty avail. 517-1211, 301-1773, after 9 p.m.
- '96 FORD Windstar. Cargo van, tilt/cruise, PW, PL, AM/FM/Cass., 115K mi., \$5,700. 230-0971.
- '96 MITSUBISHI Galant. Fully equipped, exc. cond., 27K mi. Asking \$14,500. 885-0521.
- '95 CHRYSLER New Yorker. 1 owner, loaded, leather, Infinity CD, 66,xxx mi., 100K mi. ext. warr. \$10,900. 721-0360.

- '94 CHEVY Astro Van. 4WD, V6, auto, quad seating, rear air, LT model, 122K mi., exc. cond. \$7,800. 828-2911.
- '94 FORD F-150. Red, 60K mi., exc. cond., looks and runs like new. Still under warr. Asking \$8,600 OBO. Kelly, 882-7409.
- '94 LINCOLN Continental. Exc. cond., loaded, 64K mi., \$9,500. '94 PONTIAC Bonneville. 4 dr., exc. cond., \$7,000. (W) 539-8111, (H) 881-7667.
- '94 MAZDA B2300 Pick-Up. With matching camper shell, 5 spd., AC, 61K mi., immaculate. \$7,200 OBO. 883-6894.
- '94 NISSAN Pathfinder SE. 4 dr., auto, air, keyless entry, sunroof, tint, luggage rack, pwr. doors/locks/windows. \$13,200. 837-7467.
- '93 FORD Thunderbird. Auto, red/gray, AC, cruise, PL, tilt, V8, 87K, class 2 hitch, \$6,500. 837-6783.
- '93 OLDS Royale 88. 138K mi., good cond., fully loaded, \$3,500 OBO. 971-9928, after 7 p.m.
- '93 PONTIAC Bonneville SE. Red, loaded, 118K mi., \$4,850. '93 FORD T-Bird LX. Black/gray, loaded, 73K mi., \$6,850. 778-9325.
- '92 HONDA Civic LX. Cruise, radio/cass., PL, PW, good cond. \$5,000 OBO. 830-9964.
- '90 TOYOTA Supra. Turbo, ruby pearl, 5 spd., loaded, all power, 1 owner, exc. cond., very pretty, \$5,995. 539-6190.
- '90 OLDS Ninety Eight. 73K mi., immaculate inside/out, loaded, never wrecked, new tires. \$5,950 OBO. 232-3540, Athens.

- '89 HONDA Prelude SI. Gold, very good cond., 5 spd., moonroof, AC, PW, Honda alloys, new tires, \$4,750. 883-6765.
- '88 MITSUBISHI Mirage. 4 dr., 134K 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.
- '82 AMC Eagle. Station wagon, AWD, auto, AC, PS, PB, \$1,500. 883-6115.
- '79 Vette. Black, L-82, auto. \$7,900 OBO. 882-1930.
- '69 FORD Bronco. 4x4, good cond., \$3,995 OBO. Antique diamond ring, .60 center with 14 diamonds, platinum, \$1,400 OBO. 461-0786.

Boats & RVs

- Bayliner 2450 Ciera Sun-bridge Cruiser. 1987, 25 ft., 5.0 OMC, exc. shape, depthfinder, trim tabs, shore power, radio, all options. \$13,000. 852-5099.
- '89 Catalina 25 Sailboat. 150 genoa w/roller furl, bimini, OB, head, microwave, exc. cond., freshwater only, \$11,000. 883-4118.
- '79 20' WEBBCRAFT. 210 HP, Chevy V8, tndm. axle trailer, full teak swim platform, exc. mechanically, great ski boat, \$4,400. 355-5016.

Miscellaneous

- 3 Card Displays With Drawers, \$15 each. Black, metal futon with mattress, \$75. Dark wood pedestal table, \$40. 880-7154.
- 486 DX2 66MHz Computer. 8MB RAM, CD ROM, sound, 14" SVGA monitor. Desk, chair and surge protector included. \$250. 883-2082.
- 5' Set Of Shower Doors, tub enclosure style, good quality, hardware included, \$25 OBO. 882-0655.
- Bose 501 Speakers, \$325. Sofa/Loveseat, \$425. 864-2941.
- Brand New Ampron 15" computer monitor, Canon bubblejet color printer, computer speakers with woofer. \$300 for all. 880-8682.
- Callaway Warbird 12 degree driver. RCH96 graphite shaft, R Flex, winn grip, w/headcover, \$85. 880-0412.
- Cannon Rebel G EOS Camera with 80 mm and 300 mm lenses and carrying case. Paid \$750. Asking \$500. 890-9221.
- Car Cassette Player. JVC, AM/FM, auto reverse, digital tuner. Car equalizer/booster, CD/aux. input. Both for \$59. 883-6951.
- Free Standing See-Through wood burning stove with fire-place accessories. \$500 OBO. 721-1664, after 5 p.m.
- Full Size BR Set, \$275. Oak file cabinet, \$425. 1860 mahogany office desk, \$300. Burgundy full comforter set, \$20. 461-9227.

- Girl's Bike. 21", purple and pink, like brand new. \$45. 883-6894.
- Great Electric Guitar! Ibanez Roadstar w/hardshell case. See it at www.hsv.tis.net/~sholder/guitar.html. \$200 OBO. 534-0904.
- Hamilton Oak Drafting Table, built-in oak files, reconditioned, old but beautiful wood, 3x5 top, over \$1,000 originally. First \$250. 880-8681.
- HP 550C High Quality Color Deskjet Printer, \$125. IBM PSI 386 PC w/monitor, \$100. Both for \$200. 722-9167.
- HP Deskjet 400 Printer, \$100. RCA 3 CD bookshelf system, \$50. Sharp VCR, \$20. Bell-South answering machine, \$7. 430-1069.
- Large Wooded Swing Set, \$290. Little Tikes Little Pony, \$20. Queen oak waterbed, \$250. Utility trailer, \$300. Treadmill, \$150. 830-2679.

- LOST: Engraved Leatherman Tool. Last week near Vincent and Goss Rd. Appreciate Return! Please call 830-1929.
- Long Branch Opry Presents: The McLain Brothers Band, Wild Mountain Honey, Chris Jones and the Nightdrivers. Time: 6:00 Date: Dec. 12, 1998. Gates Open at 4:00 pm. Upcoming Shows. Date: Jan. 30, 1999. Performing: Doyle Lawson, Quicksilver. For more information call: 256-586-5489 www.longbranchopry.com.
- Men's Raleigh Technium. 12 speed, 21" frame, perfect cond., \$250. 722-9250.
- Metal Desk. New top and paint. Desk can be seen at http://www.netnav.com/bblanke n/desk. \$80. Contact bblanken@netnav.com or 656-6330 or 582-2187.
- (MINK) Fur Coat. Size 12-14, American made, no dyes, worn twice. Appraised, \$7,000; sell \$3,500. (Appraisal papers avail.) 772-0067.

Santa Letter

Your child can receive a Santa Letter with your help. Fill out form below and mail with \$2.00 to:

Techpertise
Personalized Children's Books
PO Box 4733
Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Child's Name: _____
Address: _____
Hometown (if different): _____
Date letter should be mailed: _____
Parent's Name: _____
Telephone No.: _____

!!! LOOK !!!

Whether you need counter tops for a new or remodeled kitchen **WE'VE GOT IT!**

Over 200 colors & seven different profiles to choose from.

Colors From: **FORMICA** **WILSONART** **NEVAMAR**
Solid Surface By: **CERATA**

• Professional Fabrication & Installation Available •
Commercial & Residential

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CDM CounterTops
828-5637

CREDIT WORK THAT!

Discharged Bankruptcy or Debtors Court... Bad Credit... Re-Establish... Re-Start Your Credit. **YOU MAY QUALIFY.** Confidential applications taken and approved by phone.

DON'T BUY JUNK
Select from our huge inventory of new and clean used cars, trucks and vans... Hundreds to choose from. Let Our Credit Specialist Go to Work for You!
Call Wanda at 205-353-5598
Huntsville Direct Line 533-1576
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LYNN LAYTON
Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, Cadillac & Nissan.
Highway 31 South (at Hwy. 67) Decatur, AL

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

(256) 464-3701
RICHARD KRUCZEK, MBA
OWNER / BROKER

PAGER: 1-800-906-3075

BUYING/SELLING???
RELOCATING
IN OR OUT???

3-acre wooded lot.
East Limestone Co. \$19,500

4 BR, 2 BA, full-brick home. 2 year old Greenlawn Plantation. \$163,500. \$20K below market value!

3 BR, 2 BA, full-brick home. Spring Hill Farms Subdivision. \$104,500

HOW TO PLACE REDSTONE ROCKET CLASSIFIED ADS

Free classifieds (limited to 20 words) are provided to all Redstone Arsenal personnel. PERSONAL ITEMS ONLY REAL ESTATE, BUSINESS AND "FOR PROFIT" DO NOT QUALIFY FOR THIS FREE OFFER.

Only one ad per week from an individual

Ads must be mailed, delivered, or faxed to **The Advertiser Company,** 3315 Bob Wallace Ave., Suite 106 Huntsville AL 35805

FAX (256) 539-9866 by 5 p.m. Friday prior to Wednesday's paper.

FOR COMMERCIAL AD RATES CALL **(256) 539-9828**

Please run the following non-commercial classified ad in the next edition of the Redstone Rocket:

Please print or write legibly (including home phone no.)

Name _____

Home _____

Address _____

Redstone _____

affiliation _____

Daytime phone no. (not to be included in ad) _____

Classifieds

Oak Desk. Formica top, 40x24x31, middle and three side drawers, \$35. Also, 3 oak office chairs, \$10 each. 880-6763.

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

Plantable Christmas Trees. Norway Spruce, White Pine & Blue Spruce. Poinsettias, \$2.99 & Up. Jimmy's Greenhouse, 1-800-257-4782 or 233-0247.

Portable Kerosene Heater. Sears, 20,000 BTU/HR, practically new and unused, \$75. 883-2701.

Reclining Couch & Loveseat. Like new cond. \$750 Firm. 881-0807.

Ski Boots, \$25. Skis, \$100. Jasmine/Little Mermaid sleeping bags, \$8 each. Kingsize waterbed mattress w/heater, Best Offer. 233-7677.

Social Membership Huntsville Country Club. \$2,550. 883-2701.

Sony Trinitron Color TV. Console, 26", exc. cond., \$269. 883-6951.

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

Treadmill. Vita Master Power Pro, 2.5 HP, 0-10 MPH, \$200. Tanning Bed. 18 bulbs, \$600. 858-9284.

Triple Oval Gold Frame Mirror, \$200. Antique Duncan Phyfe Sofa, \$1,350. Antique dining table with six chairs, \$350. 931-4517.

Underwater Camera. Sea & Sea MX-10. Strobe, wide angle lens, carrying case and film. \$500. 518-9843.

Vita Master Exercise Bike, \$30. Longaberger Baskets: '97 Shades Of Autumn w/lid, \$80; '95 All-American Carry Along, \$50; '95 Evergreen, \$140. 851-0622.

Wanted To Buy: Used THERMAX vacuum cleaner w/shampoo attachment. 859-1153, Sun. - Thurs.

Westinghouse Refrigerator, freezer works, fridge needs help, \$100. Dishwasher, \$50. 851-6386.

Women's Dunlop Golf Clubs. 3-9 irons, PW, SW, putter, 3 woods, \$100 OBO. 828-5166.

Real Estate



5 Points Bargain. Reduced! Must see to appreciate. 2-3 BR, detached garage w/extra storage, very cute int. w/Williamsburg colors. A must see! Call Paula at Omni, 720-0790.

Ashton Place Apts. Fully furnished corporate apartments, flexible lease terms, 1 & 2 BR apts. 881-5403, Gate #1.

Brick rancher. 2400 sq.ft., 4 BR, 2 BA, .5 + acre lot, storm cellar, new roof, heat, air, .25 mi., from RSA. 4222 Penny Street. \$85,900. 883-8310.

Enjoy luxury living! 2 BR, 2 BA condo, all appliances and much more. Prime location. Only \$52,900 or \$550/mo. 830-1927.

For Sale. Executive lake front house, den and breakfast room. Too many nice amenities to list. 259-5644, 574-3367 or 582-2937.

House. 5.4 acres, East Limestone. 2,800 sq. ft., 3 BR, 3 BA, sunroom, deck, hardwood cabinets, storage, many amenities, outbuilding/workshop, 2 car garage, garden tractor, Bush hog included. \$189,600. (256) 233-0259.

HUD & VA. Repossessed homes. Hud pays closing costs. \$500 down on VA homes. Joe Jensen Realty. 830-0821.

Lease/Option. Northwest House. 3 BR, 1.5 BA, garage, fence, convenient location. Rent \$550. Sell \$47,900. 830-8366.

Lease Or Purchase. Nice, large 4 BR, 2.5 BA, LR, GR, den, DR, EIK, 2 car, new HVAC. \$850/Mo. Avail. 12/98. 3513 Maggie, NW. 15 min. to RSA. 720-7533, msg.

Madison Apartment. 2 BR, 1 BA, unfurnished, \$335. Furnished, \$395. \$150 deposit. FREE cable, W/D. 2 weeks FREE rent. 830-8366.

Northwest Apartment. 3 BR, 1 BA, \$369. 2 BR, 1 BA, \$325. \$150 deposit. W/D, 2 weeks FREE rent. 830-8366.

Southeast Huntsville. Heatherwood Subdivision. 4 BR, 2.5 BA, corner lot across street from Willowbrook Baptist Church. \$207,000. 882-2172.

Winter at Gulf Shores! Gulf side, fully furnished, 2 BR, 1 BA condo. Yards from beach. \$650, \$347, \$58. Call 883-5983 anytime.

Services



Avoid Bankruptcy. Free debt consolidation application with service. Cut payments to 65%. 24 hour approval. 1-800-873-8207.

Bus To Boaz Shopping Trip. 15 days to Christmas. First trip Sat., Dec. 12. Weekly trips avail. Call V.J. 859-2216.

Casino! Casino! Let's Go! Let's Go! Ride our new motor-coach. Dec. Special \$15. Round trip to Tunica & Evansville, Indiana. 859-0091.

Openings in Quality Child Development Program. Ages 1-5 years. Excellent tuition rates and quality staff. Convenient to Redstone Arsenal. 536-6069.

Ride Dee's Winning Fun Bus to Tunica every Sat. and Wed. Bus fare, \$20. Two free meals. \$15 in coins. It's the best! 536-0205.

Reach Your Customers

The Printers of The Redstone Rocket
The Advertiser Company 539-9828

FINALLY, a financing program AND monthly payment within YOUR REACH.

5.99% Annual Interest

Wheeler Station
90's & Up ♦ 461-4126

AVAILABLE NOW

\$699*
Per Month

DOGWOOD
113 Otter Trail
1,312 sq. \$99,900

CONVENIENT

- ♦ J.E. Williams Elementary located in Wheeler Station!
- ♦ Madison, Decatur, and Huntsville easily accessible.

I-565	5 mi
Hwy 20	5 mi
Huntsville International Airport	6.5 mi
Huntsville Hospital	13.6 mi
Madison Academy	6.1 mi
Madison MedPlex (Hughes Rd)	6.7 mi
Integrph	3.8 mi
Publix, Pharmacy, Gas Station (Hwy 20)	5 mi

WHEELER STATION IS A BOND TARGET AREA.

QUALITY FEATURES

- ♦ Low maintenance vinyl siding
- ♦ Large family room
- ♦ Bayed breakfast area
- ♦ Dishwasher & garbage disposal
- ♦ Custom built wood cabinets
- ♦ Two bathrooms
- ♦ Master suite w/walk-in closet
- ♦ Superior insulation package
- ♦ Double pane insulation "tilt-in" windows
- ♦ Rear yard patio
- ♦ Steel insulated exterior doors w/ deadbolts
- ♦ Ceiling fan & blocking for extra ceiling fans
- ♦ Pre-wired for garage door opener

Value Packed!

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY A BRELAND HOME

Models Open Daily
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Monday - Saturday
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Closed Friday

BRELAND HOMES
We build homes for life.

DIAMOND BUILDER AWARD

AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE IN CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

REALTOR Equal Housing Opportunity

Time Is Running Out..
The Best New Home Value In Madison Will Be Gone Soon!

Liberty Manor

Homes Starting at \$79,900-90's

- \$2,400.00 down, 7.125% 30 year fixed rate, no PMI. Rate is subject to change. Income limits apply.

Model Home

The Newbury

Over 1530 sq. ft.

1,533 square feet - The Newbury is a spacious family home featuring a downstairs master suite with a large walk-in closet. The upstairs features two bedrooms sharing a full bath plus a game room that can be a fourth bedroom. This unique use if vaulted ceilings make this an open, airy home that is a delight to the senses.

JB **JEFF BENTON HOMES**

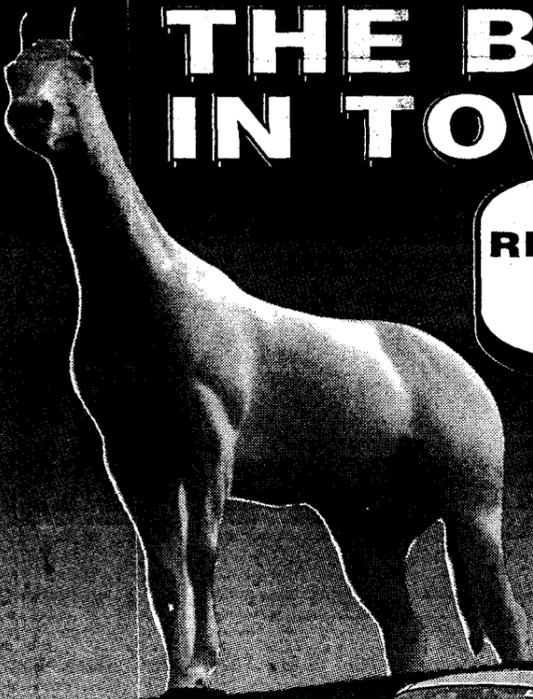
Without a doubt, Liberty Manor is the best new home buy in Madison. You are encouraged to compare features, location, quality and cost per square foot. The more you look, the better the value looks at Liberty Manor by Jeff Benton Homes.

Liberty Manor
430-4063

I-565	To Huntsville	To Decatur
Highway 20	Madison	Brownberry
Old Madison Pike	Liberty Manor	

THE BEST DEALS IN TOWN ON USED CARS

ALL VEHICLES HAVE EITHER
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'98 FORD
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STARTING AT

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'98 FORD
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to choose
from

'98 FORD
WINDSTARS
STARTING AT



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'97 FORD
MUSTANG GT CONV.
LOW MILEAGE

\$19,900

LOADED



'98 MAZDA 626 REAL NICE

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AUTO



'99 FORD
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'97 FORD
F-150 SUPERCAB 4X4
BLACK

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'98 FORD
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ONLY 8,000 MILES

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'95 LINCOLN
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LOADED

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**LOW
MILEAGE**

'98 HONDA
ACCORD EX
LOADED, SUNROOF

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SPORTY



'96 FORD
COBRA MUSTANG

\$20,299



'97 MERCURY
MOUNTAINEER 4X4
V8, RED, GRAY LEATHER, ROOF, CD PLUS

\$23,990

LEATHER



'98 FORD
CONTOUR SVT
SUNROOF

\$18,885



'98 FORD
EXPLORER

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'98 HONDA
CIVIC

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**LOW
MILEAGE**



'98 MITSUBISHI
SPYDER GST

\$21,990

HOT CAR



'98 FORD
CROWN VICTORIA
26,000 MILES

\$18,900



'98 HONDA
ACCORD EX
LOW MILEAGE, LOADED, SUNROOF

\$20,995



'97 GEO
TRACKER CONV.

\$10,995

*All Prices + Tax, Title & DOC fees, W.A.C. not valid with any other offers.

WOODY ANDERSON FORD



Corner of Sparkman & Jordan **539-9441**

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