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## Sergeant, son starting over after losing everything

### Four-plex fire victim appreciates the support from local community

By Skip Vaughn

Suddenly the test didn't seem so important.

Sgt. Elizabeth Fisher was taking a test in a class at Calhoun Community College on post when she was notified that her house was on fire. When she arrived at 507-C Walnut Circle about 4:45-5 p.m. April 12, Fisher saw her house up in smoke.

"I know I was crying, upset. It was like shock really. I couldn't believe everything was gone," Fisher, of HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade, said. "When they told me the house was on fire, I was just thinking it was a small fire. I never dreamed like it was."

She lost everything, just like the other three families in the two-story, four-plex. They had resided in housing which opened in 1995 for junior enlisted families. Fire inspectors determined the cause of the blaze: A natural gas line coming into the residence was leaking underground and the gas reached a barbecue grill which had been lit by one of the residents.

Fortunately, most of the occupants weren't home and no one was injured. Fisher was in class and her 3-year-old son, Damien, was at the Child Development Center.

But except for the BDUs she was wear-

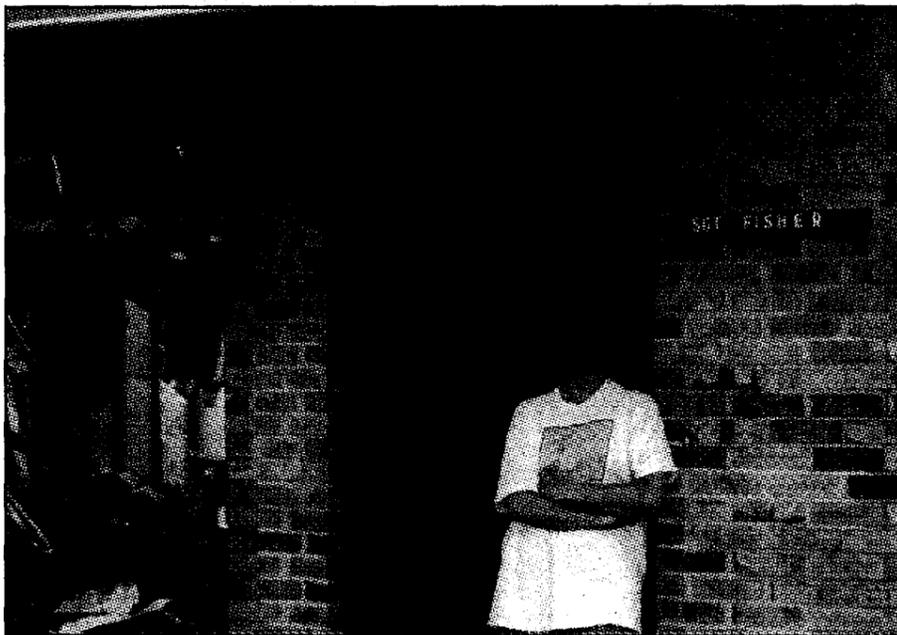


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FIRE LOSS**— Fisher stands in front of 507-C Walnut Circle, her former home. She has moved to new quarters since the fire.

ing, all her material belongings were gone. The four televisions. The three videocassette recorders. The stereo with speakers. Couches, love seat, chair, bedroom furniture, dining room table, rolling butcher block, washer and dryer, entertainment center. All gone.

The only things remaining, ironically, were Fisher's Bible and a framed photograph of Tanya Zeringue, a high school classmate who had died in a car accident in 1992. The Bible was sitting in front of the

picture atop the entertainment center.

"It made me realize what I had and what I didn't have, and I really had more than I thought," Fisher said of the fire. "It makes you thankful for what you do have. And you think it happens to other people and it'll never happen to me. And it just goes to show you never know."

The local community responded to help the victims. Sgt. Maj. Lewis Lockett, the sergeant major for Redstone Arsenal Support Activity, ensured the families had

a place to stay that night. Each family received a \$500 grant from the Army Emergency Relief fund at Army Community Service. Donations from the community started coming in, slowly at first and then picked up.

Fisher went to the Post Exchange and shopped for basic necessities and clothes for herself and her son. Of course \$500 went fast when you need everything. Damien needed clothes for the next week, a brush, toothbrush, and so on.

"Of course he lost all his toys. So I tried to get him a little bit of stuff to make him feel at home, feel at ease about it all. But of course it was hard to do," Fisher said, her voice trailing off.

The Sergeants Major Association gave each family a check for \$250. By April 16, three of the families were in new quarters. The fourth family moved into new quarters April 19.

Fisher, 24, from New Orleans, expressed her appreciation for the support she received. An administrative sergeant, she has been in the Army five years and arrived at Redstone from Fort Drum, N.Y., in November 1997.

"I would like to thank first of course the Lord for not having anybody in the house (at the time of the fire) because they said if we were in there, we'd be dead," she said. She also thanked the leaders of her unit—Capt. Martha Brooks, commander of HHC 59th, and SFC Daryl Crowder, the unit first sergeant — for their help. And she thanked

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Completing career...

## Event marks 37 years of service for retiring AMC commander

WASHINGTON— In a well-known role of teacher, mentor, leader and friend, Gen. Johnnie Wilson used his final moments as commander of the Army Materiel Command to address his grandchildren in his retirement speech, highlighting and underscoring the history of the Army, the importance of dedicated service and the significance of freedom in America.

Wilson, who retired in a ceremony at Fort Myer, Va., April 26, had more than 1,200 people turn out to say farewell, and according to chief of staff Gen. Dennis Reimer, the largest crowd known to be assembled for a retirement ceremony at Fort Myer. Secretary of Veterans' Affairs, Togo West attended the retirement. Also attending were Texas Congressman Solomon Ortiz; secretary of the Army, Louis Caldera; deputy secretary of defense, John Hamre; under secretary of defense (acquisition & technology), Dr. Jacques Gansler; under secretary of defense (per-

sonnel & readiness), Rudy de Leon; Mrs. Alma Powell; chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Mrs. Henry Shelton; and former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, retired Gen. and Mrs. John Shalikashvili, among many other distinguished guests.

Wilson used the retirement ceremony as an opportunity to express his appreciation to his family, colleagues, employees, staff and friends for their support to him over his 37 years of soldiering.

He also explained to his grandchildren the significance of the retirement ceremony and the current and past roles of "Pershing's Own," the U.S. Army Band; the Old Guard Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division; the Army's Fife and Drum Corps; the Commander-in-Chief's Guard; and the Color Guard, all of whom participated in the ceremony. Wilson ensured his grandchildren understood the ceremony was "far more than just a parade."

See CAREER on page 20



AMC photo

**SHOW OF RESPECT**— Wilson and his wife, Helen, participate in his retirement ceremony April 26.



## Letters To The Editor

### End the violence

I am writing in response to yet another shooting by teen-agers. Everyone is blaming everyone. I think we all need to take a deep look at the cause(s) of each one of the shootings. I assert "teasing" is a common thread, not the only one, just a common one. If we would just talk to our kids at early ages and tell them that a verbal assault on someone is like a nail in a wall. Once you remove the nail the hole is still there.

First it is the jocks against the nerds. Then thin against fat. Then smart against dumb. Then rich against poor. Then an assault on the handicapped, minorities, etc. Where and when does it end? I say, here and now. Please take time to mentor a youth to get away from feeling good at the expense of others. I know some are going to assert teasing has been going on forever. Why are they shooting each other now? Could it be TV, radio, CDs, cassettes, movies, lack of parental control, degradation of morals, etc.? It doesn't matter. Each one of us must take a role in turning around our youth. Stop worrying about, "He/She is not mine! I'm afraid of a lawsuit from the parents, if I step in!" Step in anyway. You owe it to all children to participate in their maturing. Each one—reach one! Do it now! It's never too late.

If you have no children or your children are grown, volunteer to help another. Here are a few of my suggestions. Volunteer with Big Sisters/Big Brothers, Girls Incorporated, YMCA, YWCA, schools, recreation centers, etc. Be a coach, statistician, equipment manager, etc. with a sports team. Lead an academic team to success. Help with a super computer class. Be a tutor. Assist the sponsor (a teacher with too many duties already) of a math club, science club, school organization, etc. Assist youth ministers at our churches, etc.

I know you all may say that I have my nerve telling people what to do. I do. Somebody has to stand up, take names, and make some changes.

Are our memories so short that we forget there's a problem in between shootings? Stand up and be counted. Or, buy bulletproof vests, armored cars, etc. for all. Arm every citizen and go back to the Hatfields and McCoys. Where and when does it end? I say, here and now.

Janice Isbell

### Graduating class

Coming to Redstone Arsenal for the first time as a PFC in 1969, I've been associated with thousands of Redstone students from all over the world. Let me take this opportunity to commend BNCO class C40-005-99 which graduates Friday, May 7.

Every member of the class approached all tasks with enthusiasm. From academics to evening workouts in the gym these NCOs display initiative, integrity and judgment. Tasked with community service, CQ, or weekend car washes their tact, loyalty and bearing never swayed.

These men and women will be the senior NCOs and officers of tomorrow. Upon what do I base this statement? Instinct. After years of leadership, we know which of those in our charge will excel and which will fall behind. The class is technically and tactically proficient, but above all they are sincere and unselfish. Every man and woman must have self-respect and dignity. We must be at peace with ourselves. We must like ourselves and be mature. Those are some of the qualities I see in these soldiers. They will go forward with respect for others, leading by example while displaying maturity and tact, looking out for the welfare of others as they become the leaders of tomorrow.

Timothy M. Blake  
Retired MSgt., Marine Corps

### Military mom

He comes home from his day "at work." It is a real place where he gets paid money. He is all dressed up in his uniform—dressed for success. He looks quite impressive and very professional. He even has a fancy pin on his collar. I greet him with a hello. Although I worked at my "job" today, my uniform is a bit more modest—T-shirt, shorts, and my no-fuss haircut. I have drool on my collar!

His tools of the trade are superfast computers and hi-tech instruments. Mine are crayons and play-do. He asks, "How was your day?" I reply, "Fine, thanks, how was yours?" "BUSY!" he says. Why is it that his day always seems to be busier than mine? At the dinner table

we get into the specifics of our day. He asks, "So, what did you do today?" I reply, "Oh, you know, the daily grind; cooking, cleaning, laundry, and caring for the kids," and I stumble to fill in the blanks. I ask him, "What did you do today?" "Well..." he goes on to tell me about the important project with the important people with the important deadlines. "Wow! That's so interesting!" I say. (And it truly is interesting to hear about his day.)

Between the request for hot chocolate and the baby's demands, and the endless answers to life's most complex questions, and the diaper changes, and the dog barking and the timer going off, and the phone ringing, I actually had a moment to think about what I did today. The first thing I realized is that I totally shortchanged myself. I concluded I AM NOT a daily grinder! I AM a teacher, financial planner, and an event organizer (for the next hour, next day, next weekend, and next birthday). I am a nurse who kisses the boo-boos away, a dietitian who plans, shops, and cooks the meals my family eats. I am an entertainer—I sing, I dance—oh boy, do I put on performances! I am a reader, a poet, a photographer, and a pooper-scooper. I am an artist, a listener, and I have the special talent of consoling cries and extinguishing whines. I am a sales person. I sell all day long, especially why he should eat his broccoli and why naptimes are a good thing. I change diapers and more diapers and more diapers. Did I mention that I change diapers? I juggle one glass ball after another. I am a time manager who creates the activities while carefully and strategically implementing them at the appropriate times. Most importantly, I am a mother, a friend and a forever playmate.

I tell my children that Daddy works outside the home and gets paid money. Mommy works inside the home and gets paid love. I am blessed with a husband who "gets it" and respects and supports the very important job I have chosen. I see my children truly blossoming as their knowledge of the world is growing, as they learn to be loving, confident, little people. The smiles on their faces are the most impressive paychecks I have ever received. It's the payment of love.

Lori Bleckley

To prevent melanoma...

## Daily protection, early detection prescribed for skin care

By Pat Johnson

As summer is almost here; with long, leisurely days, and the possibilities of many enjoyable outdoor activities such as swimming, sailing, fishing, boating, tennis, or just lying in a hammock and watching the grass grow. Just as we care for the equipment for these activities, let's use that same preventive maintenance mindset for our skin, which is our body's largest organ, and our primary defense system against the environment and disease. Daily protection and early detection are the key elements for proper skin care, to keep it strong, and vital.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that skin cancer is the most common and most rapidly increasing form of cancer in the United States. It was reported that melanoma skin cancer deaths represent the third highest mortality increase for all cancers. One in

five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime.

Skin cancer is among the most preventable forms of cancer; yet we, as Americans, seem to continue our love affair with the sun, oblivious to the actual long-term damage that a "healthy tan" represents. It is not surprising that one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime.

Some studies indicate that the majority of lifetime sun exposure occurs before age 18. This is because a newborn's skin provides it with little protection from the sun. A baby's skin is so sensitive that even the slightest exposure to the sun can cause serious and lasting damage. A single blistering sunburn at an early age is strongly associated with the development of skin cancer later in life.

The major risk factors for melanoma skin cancer are light skin, family history of melanoma, personal history of melanoma, presence of moles and freckles, and history

of severe sunburn especially occurring in childhood. Add to these attitudes (a tan is attractive) and behaviors (unprotected time in the sun) which increase a person's chances of developing skin cancer.

Remember, daily protection and early detection are the best defenses against skin cancer. Reduce direct exposure to the sun, especially from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you must be out in the sun, take the following precautions:

- Wear a broad-brimmed hat, protective clothing, and sunglasses to reduce exposure. There are clothing companies that construct clothing from 30-plus sun protection factor (SPF) for sun sensitive individuals who want to continue active outdoor lifestyles.
- Use sunscreen lotion with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 to protect against ultraviolet A and B radiation. Sunscreen can be applied to a child starting at age 6 months. Prior to this time, try to keep

the child out of direct sunlight as much as possible.

- Avoid artificial sources of (ultraviolet) UV light, including tanning beds and sun lamps
- Examine your skin regularly—especially those moles and/or freckles, that we all have. Any changes in the shape, size and color can be the first sign of skin cancer and should be evaluated by a health care provider.

Remembering to check your freckles and to prevent sunburn in you and your children are very important summer sun safety tips to place at the top of your list for taking care of yourself and your children. Practicing these healthy sun behaviors daily and modeling them for your family will prevent the costly, sometimes deadly, yet senseless effects of melanoma skin cancer.

(Editor's note: Johnson is a health educator at Public Health and Education Center, Fox Army Health Center.)

## Redstone Rocket

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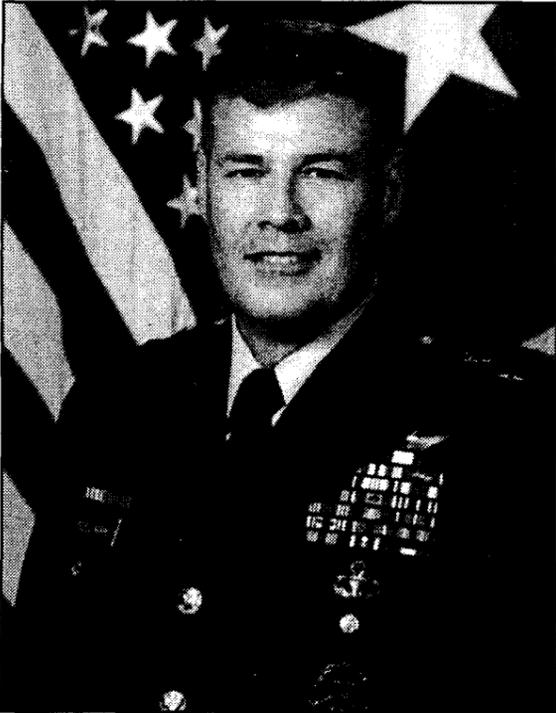
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# New commander slated for AMCOM, Redstone Arsenal



SULLIVAN

Maj. Gen. Julian Allen Sullivan Jr. has been named to succeed Maj. Gen. Emmitt Gibson as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command.

Gibson, AMCOM's commander since July 17, 1997, has been reassigned as the vice director for force structure, resources and assessment on the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.

Sullivan is the director for supply and maintenance in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Washington, D.C. He has been there since June 1997. Previously he commanded the 19th Theater Area Command, 8th U.S. Army, Korea.

Sullivan, a 29-year veteran, is a Memphis native. He has a master's degree in logistics management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

The general officer assignments were announced Monday by Department of Army. Report dates will be determined.

For Operation Allied Force...

# President Clinton calls up reserve component

By Jim Garamone

WASHINGTON— Up to 33,102 reserve component members can be called to active duty for Operation Allied Force under a presidential selected reserve call-up signed April 27 by President Clinton.

The call-up order authorizes the mobilization of reservists for up to 270 days. Initial focus is on 2,000 members and 47 aircraft in eight Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve air refueling units. The order affects all the services, however, and sets the Air Force activation ceiling at 25,000 reservists, the Army at 6,100, the Navy at 892, the Marines at 1,100 and the Coast Guard, 10.

Charles Cragin, acting assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, said the units in the first increment are all refuelers. The eight units are the Air Guard's 161st Air Refueling Wing of Phoenix, Ariz., 171st ARW of Pittsburgh, 117th ARW of Birmingham, Ala., and 128th ARW of Milwaukee, Wis.; and the Air Force Reserve's 927th ARW of Detroit, 940th ARW of Marysville, Calif.,

434th ARW of Kokomo, Ind., and 931st Air Refueling Group of Wichita, Kan.

The reservists will help increase the tempo of the air campaign over Yugoslavia, Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon said April 27. They will be based in Budapest, Hungary.

The services are also authorized to invoke stop/loss programs that would suspend servicemembers' normal separation dates from active duty. The Air Force will invoke the stop/loss program; personnel most affected are pilots, air crews, aircraft maintenance personnel and those in other critical specialties.

Air Force Maj. Gen. Susan Pamerleau, director of personnel forces management on the Air Staff, said the service invoked stop/loss as a matter of fairness because of the large number of reservists being called up. She said, however, stop/loss will specifically target those in critical specialties needed for the operation.

Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard officials said their services will not invoke stop/loss.

Cragin said the call-up demon-

strates the critical role the reserve components play today. "We really can't do anything from a military operations point of view without the reserves," he said. "The Guard and Reserve are integral parts of America's total force now and this is just the latest example."

Similar reserve call-up orders have been used for operations in Bosnia and Southwest Asia. Reserve component airmen also have been part of Operation Allied Force since the beginning, but they were volunteers, Cragin said.

"About 1,500 reservists at any one time support the operations over Yugoslavia," he said. However, the scale of operations has increased, and DoD could not sustain operations without calling the reserves, he noted.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve assets include aerial refueling and strategic airlift units, electronic warfare units and some strike units. Most units called will support air operations against Yugoslavia, though some will support the Kosovar

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Befitting the occasion...

# Special ink pen used for Longbow Hellfire signing ceremony

By Skip Vaughn

When contracting officer Sarah Kerry said she forgot her pen during a major contract award ceremony Friday, some folks in the audience knew what was up.

Everyone found out and the room filled with laughter when a 3-foot-long, floppy yellow pen was carried to the head table. It was just comic relief during the multiyear contract award signing for Longbow Hellfire.

Kerry, chief of the Javelin/Hellfire Directorate at the Acquisition Center, finally received a real pen and signed the contract with the other dignitaries at Redstone Arsenal Club.

A \$1.2 billion contract to produce 10,397 Longbow Hellfire missiles over the next five years was awarded to the joint

venture of Northrop Grumman and Lockheed Martin.

"All of you are responsible for making this happen," Lt. Col. Carl Runyon, assistant product manager for Longbow Hellfire, told the attendees.

Vicky Armbruster, deputy program executive officer for tactical missiles, noted that the contract was awarded on schedule and within cost.

"My congratulations to all of you. It certainly is an event worth celebrating," she said.

Col. Richard "Doc" Savage, project manager for Air-to-Ground Missile Systems Project Office, and Michael Bennett, Lockheed Martin vice president for air-to-ground missile systems, cut a ceremonial ribbon.

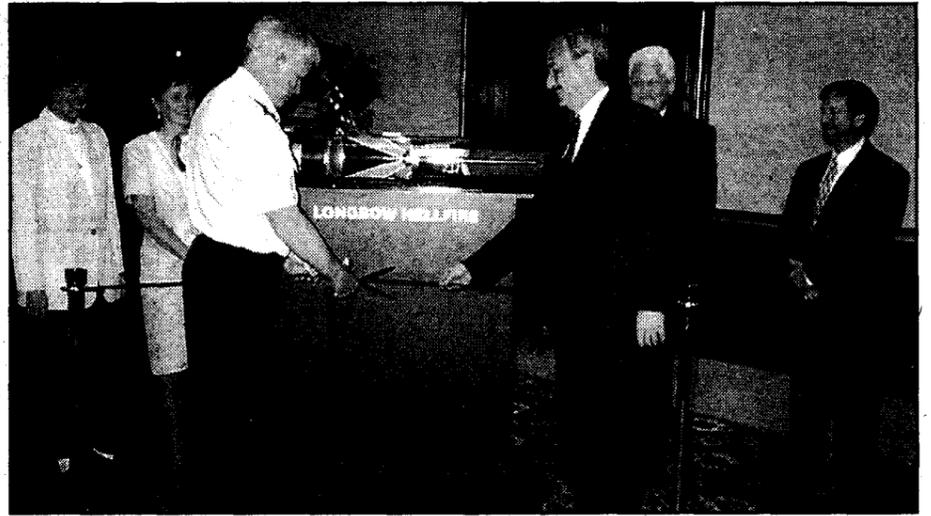


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**RIBBON CUTTING—** Savage, left, and Bennett cut the ribbon during the Longbow Hellfire multiyear contract event.

# Wellness Center presents postwide Health Fair '99 on May 11

By Bobby Taylor

On May 11, in conjunction with National Employee Health and Fitness Week, the Wellness Center will present its eighth annual health fair for Redstone Arsenal employees, military personnel, and their families from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Redstone Fitness Facility (building 3705, Aerobee Road).

In an effort to enhance the importance of health awareness throughout the Redstone community, Maj. Gen. Emmitt Gibson has set aside May 11 as a time to recognize these events. There is a commander's letter which encourages management to authorize up to 59 minutes of administrative leave to employees desiring to participate. Employers are asked to provide the oppor-

tunity for their employees to participate in activities which endorse health and safety. A healthy lifestyle contributes to many positive effects in the workplace including improved morale, camaraderie, alertness, productivity, decreased absenteeism, and improved work performance.

Health Fair '99 will feature various information booths from local organizations on the Arsenal and around the Huntsville community. These booths will cover various topics such as nutrition, safety, physical and mental health. There will also be free screenings of cholesterol, bone density, blood pressure, body fat analysis, sickle cell anemia, body alignment, and a massage therapist. Health Fair '99 will also have a wide variety of entertainment such as the senior line dancers, the senior friends

singers, a cooking demonstration, and we will also have free food/drinks and various door prizes available.

The May 11 Health Fair will kick off health awareness week as well as National Employee Health and Fitness Week. NEHFW is presented annually by the National Association of Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and the Association for Fitness in Business. NEHFW highlights the importance of a healthy workplace and aims to promote corporate health and fitness programs. In light of the out-of-control medical insur-

ance and health care costs, health promotion and disease prevention seem to be the best tools an employer has to cope with these costs.

Be sure that you call to receive the commander's letter encouraging management to authorize up to 59 minutes of administrative leave to those employees desiring to participate in the health fair. For more information on these events which are sponsored by the Wellness Center, call 955-6844.

*(Editor's note: Taylor is director of the Wellness Center.)*

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# Management analyst among volunteers on relief mission

## Medical team takes good will, checkup clinic to Belize City

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

If you were in pain, could you wait to see a doctor or dentist for a year? People in Belize do.

They wait for Dr. Eugene Tate and his wife, Kathleen, and their group of volunteers to arrive each spring.

This year the 39 volunteers included doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses and non-medical support helpers. And John Moore, a licensed EMT and a management analyst in Resource Management Directorate, was among the volunteers. The team made the trip in four little planes in one day from Huntsville to Belize City, Belize.

Moore became involved in this cause while listening to members of the Mayfair Church of Christ talk about the medical mission. For the past 14 years, the Tates and other volunteers have traveled to Central America the week of Easter to help the less fortunate.

Three 18-wheelers filled with medical supplies and equipment donated by local doctors, medical clinics and hospitals, were shipped two weeks prior to their arrival.

"It was an educational experience, a chance to do something for others with hands-on experience," Moore said. "It also has given me a reason to pursue medical school before I get too old."

The clinic opens every morning at 7,



Courtesy photo

**FACE TO FACE—** Volunteer John Moore, licensed Huntsville and Madison County EMT, checks vital signs before the family sees the doctor.

with the exception of Sunday when it opens at noon after church services. By 8 a.m., hundreds of people are in line for medical assistance. Some travel several miles by foot, bus and bicycle. One group came as far as from Honduras for treatment.

A volunteer worker scrubbed patient's heads that were full of lice before they entered the clinic. All the volunteers were given de-lice shampoo for themselves before returning to the United States.

Moore would write the patients' vital signs information and ask them why they were there to see the doctor. He would then explain their complaints to the doctors.

Most of the Mayan patients spoke English. However, Moore occasionally would have to find an interpreter.

"I would listen with my stethoscope to their heart and lungs," Moore said. "I would then check their ears, nose and throat. Most of them had a buildup of wax in their ears, which I irrigated. One even had a dead bug in his ear canal."

Most of the patients were given vitamins and worm medicine. Tylenol, cough and cold medicine and antibiotics were commonly prescribed medications. Some were even offered birth control pills or contraceptive injections.

The eye doctors performed cataract surgery and gave out thousands of prescription glasses and sunglasses. The other doctors did hernia, tubal, vasectomy, cleft palate and growth removal surgeries.

Moore said he knew the medical staff was doing a good job when he saw all the smiles on the patients' faces each day.

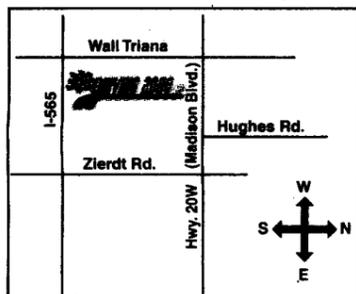
"The Mayan people are amazing," Moore said. "They were so patient waiting in line, sometimes all day in the hot sun, without complaining. They were so appreciative for the treatment and attention."

In a week, the doctors and dentists saw almost 4,700 families. Forty-eight people received general surgery and eight were treated for cataracts, 18,000 were given prescriptions, and hundreds had their teeth pulled, filled or cleaned.

The living conditions were rough by American standards according to Moore. There wasn't any television, radio or newspapers. Cold water was used for showers because there was no hot water. Toilet paper couldn't be flushed in the toilets because the pipes were so small. Every morning, a lady would burn the toilet paper that had been folded and thrown into a bucket next to the toilet. Shoes were shaken out each morning before putting them on in case a scorpion or tarantula had crawled into them.

"Being a rookie, I sprayed the concrete walls and floor in my room with Raid when I first got there," Moore said. "Also, at

See MISSION on page 18



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New vehicle in the Hood...

# Digitized Bradley ready for thorough round of training and testing

By Scott Shifrin

The centerpiece of the new Digitized Bradley (M2A3), the Improved Bradley Acquisition Subsystem or IBAS, will undergo a new round of training and testing using soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas.

Thorough soldier training and rigorous system level testing are both critical events to ensure the Bradley program maintains its current schedule as key component of the Army's first digitized Division, centerpiece to the new Force 21 package currently scheduled to be fielded in fiscal 2000.

The IBAS is a material change for the Bradley A3 Program to replace the TOW 2 Subsystem. It drastically improves the Bradley Fighting Vehicle System's ability to defeat heavily armored threats, fortifications, and other enemy targets including helicopters by significantly increasing detection, identification and tracking ranges. The IBAS provides a day/night capability to acquire, identify, and aid in tracking two targets and engage one of these two targets from any aspect using the TOW family of missiles. The IBAS also allows for future missile integration and system upgrades. IBAS consists of three major subassemblies; a Target Acquisition Subsystem, a Missile Control Subsystem, and a TOW Missile Launcher. The TAS includes a 2nd generation Forward Looking Infrared, a day Television camera, an internal boresight, and a laser rangefinder. The IBAS can be maintained within the Army's 3 level maintenance concept using

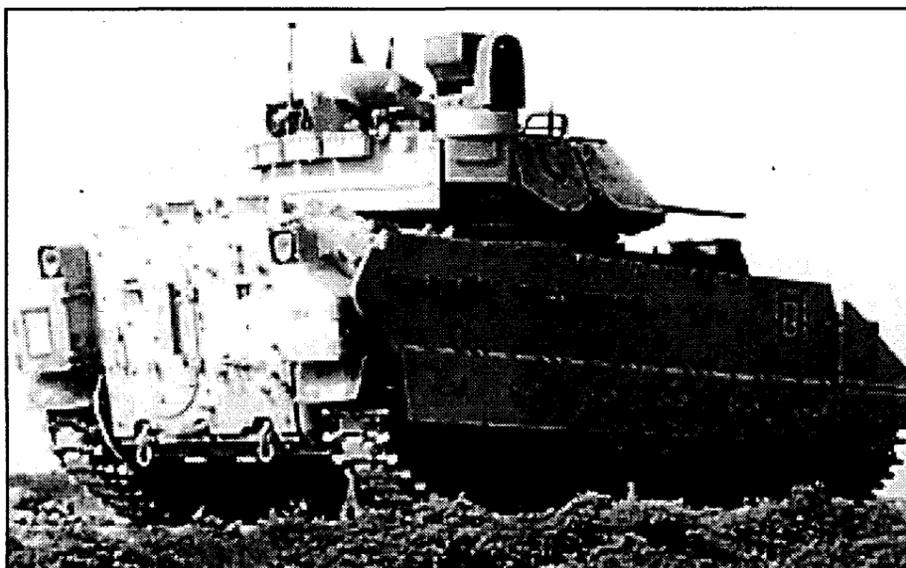
a combination of Built In Test/Built In Test Equipment. The IBAS, led by Lt. Col. Ed Dowling, is managed from the Close Combat Anti-Armor Weapon Systems Project Office, PEO Tactical Missiles.

The Bradley A3 program completed the TEXCOM conducted Operational Experiment (OE) in October 1998. Soldier comments and desires were quickly reviewed and equipment improvements folded back into the current version of production representative vehicles.

"The system performed well during the OE and we are excited to have been part of the process for improving the system even further. We know soldiers will risk their lives by taking our design into combat," Bill Farmer, the senior Field Service Representative at Fort Hood, said.

Soldiers provided valuable feedback that allowed the contractors to develop an acquisition system with improved reliability, streamlined gunnery procedures, and better positioning and functionality of components. Soldier comments have also been incorporated into the system software allowing for a more robust weapon system. The IBAS is now involved in Low Rate Initial Production and ready for extensive testing prior to advancing to a Milestone III decision and full rate production.

In order to ensure the weapon systems are ready for training and testing, a comprehensive technical inspection was completed on each vehicle, as well as installation of several critical hardware modifications. Government employees from the CCAWS Project Office and field service



Courtesy photo

**IN POSITION**— This is the new Bradley M2A3 in an overwatch position. Soldiers are training and testing on the new system in preparation for test.

representatives from United Defense, Raytheon/TI Systems, and DRS Sensor Systems worked day and night over a 96-hour period to complete inspections on all Bradleys guaranteeing each vehicle is ready for months of operation under the harshest of conditions.

"We pulled together and swarmed the vehicles like bees. We had no time to waste and wanted the vehicles to be ready for the soldiers. We built the systems and want the soldiers to know we are excited to see the equipment involved in test," Tim Long, of DRS Sensor Systems, said.

The soldiers from 2-8 Infantry will sign for 16 Bradley Weapon Systems and are expected to maintain the equipment throughout the train-up and test. New Equipment Training for both Maintainers and Operators began last week. Training has been outsourced to United Defense, while being supervised by master gunners and officers from Fort Benning, Ga. Testing will be managed and conducted by TEXCOM beginning in early July.

*(Editor's note: Maj. Shifrin is the assistant product manager for the IBAS, Close Combat Anti-Armor Weapon Systems Project Office.)*

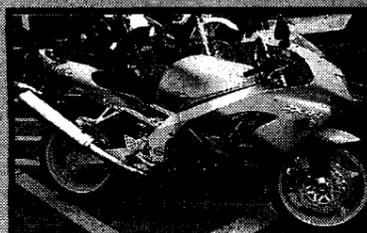
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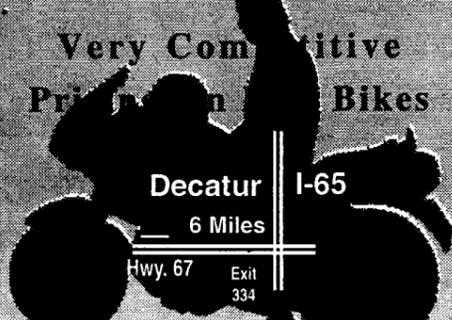



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Have you ever come home from work and found that someone opened the back gate and your prized family pet was nowhere to be found? This happens frequently across the United States and finding them can be very frustrating at times. Now, there is a better way.

Implanting a microchip under the skin of your animal, if they should ever get loose, can greatly enhance the chances of your pet coming home again. A vast majority of the stray animal kennels including the local animal shelter, have chip readers that can help identify who the animal belongs to and contact you almost anywhere you go.

The Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility has begun microchip implanting using the popular Avid Microchip. The procedure takes about five minutes. After the chip has been planted, you must contact the company and give them your name, address and phone number. They keep track of the information for you, and as long as you update them, they can help ensure your pet's safe return anywhere you go.

The Redstone veterinary facility plans to have a special day this summer when it will do only microchip implanting all day. The day has yet to be determined and will be announced when it becomes available.

For more information or an appointment call 876-2441 from 8-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The veterinary facility is in building 3543, just across from the Soldatenstube. (Veterinary Treatment Facility release)

## The Rocket City now has 'Tree City' at Redstone Arsenal

By June Johns

It's official. You can now think of Redstone Arsenal as "Tree City." Last Friday afternoon, RSA was officially awarded this special designation as part of an Arbor Day tree planting ceremony and festivities. Held near the golf course off Goss Road, this celebration was attended by representatives of the Army, the Huntsville and Madison mayors' offices, and the state and city forestry services, among others.

The "Tree City" designation was presented by representatives of the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF).

Roger Schwerman, chief of the installation management office at Directorate of Public Works, and one of the volunteer coordinators of the Arbor Day event, said that this post is one of only a handful of Army locales to receive this special designation.

To become a "Tree City," four NADF criteria must be met:

- Development of a tree board or department;
- Enactment of a tree care ordinance;
- Creation of a comprehensive community forestry program;
- Conducting an annual Arbor Day observance.

According to Schwerman, as long as these standards are maintained at Redstone, the Arsenal will keep the NADF designation. It is in the Arsenal's best interest to continue to do so, Schwerman said.

"Redstone is an oasis in the middle of a town; we want to maintain its park-like atmosphere," he said. In order to do so, Arsenal employees maintain "an aggressive forestry program, which calls for logging of older trees to make way for new growth, as well as an ongoing softwood and hardwood replanting program to (preserve) the Arsenal's tree population."

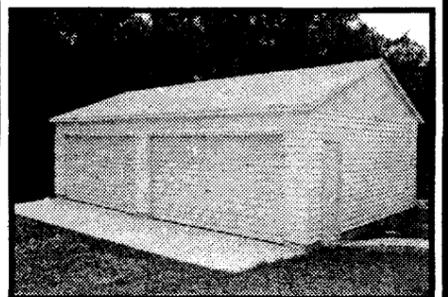
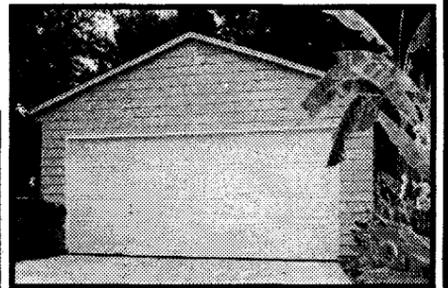
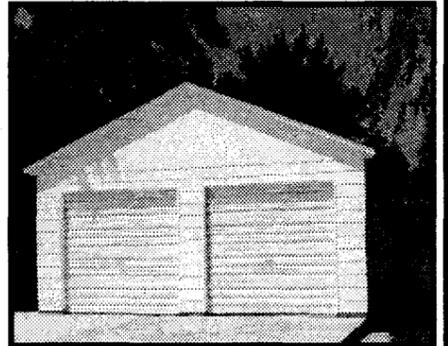
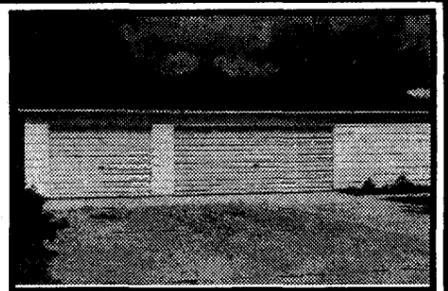
Interestingly enough, Schwerman noted that due to intensive, nationwide tree planting efforts, such as those at Redstone, "we (now) have more trees in the U.S. than we did during the 1800s," when the National Arbor Day Foundation was first organized.



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From small beginnings...

# Green thumb earns blue ribbon for orchid work in community

By June Johns

It all started when she took pity on a small orchid that was reduced in price by 75 percent during a "gotta go" sale at Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse Store.

From small beginnings, SSgt. Nancy Mitchell's captivation with orchids has helped her earn two prized blue ribbon awards.

One first-place ribbon she pocketed was for her decorative touch on a 50-foot orchid display at a show held in mid-March in Chattanooga. She took home another blue ribbon for her work on a 70-foot display featured in a show held the last weekend in March and sponsored by Huntsville's Heart of Dixie Orchid Club. These awards were based on demonstrable display expertise involving symmetry, color and style. In order to exhibit award-winning displays, Mitchell relied on her own interpretive capabilities, as well those learned from a specially-produced video on the subject.

Such display techniques can often be challenging, as well as rewarding, as orchids vary in size from ones that fit on the head of a dime to much larger varieties worn as corsages, according to Mitchell. Orchid colors range from white to pastel yellow to a deep, rich magenta.

"I quit smoking and it's cheaper than smoking," Mitchell said coyly of the cost of her hobby. She added that the cost of

being an orchid-growing enthusiast varies according to level of interest and the size of one's pocketbook.

But at least you can look at it as a long-term investment. With proper care, orchids can last anywhere from 5-20 years.

While Mitchell's floral collection is modest in size by an orchid fanatic's standards — she estimates she owns over 45 — some gardening enthusiasts can own thousands, and invest money in special greenhouses to store and grow them. Mitchell must contend with nurturing hers using available light from her home's windows, and humidifiers.

While Mitchell grows orchids as a hobby, her military life centers around providing non-commissioned officers with instruction on technical, managerial, and field training. She is an instructor with D Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

Mitchell's love affair with orchids blossomed over the last two years, but she has loved plants in general ever since she can remember. She grew up on what she referred to as a "truck farm," located outside of Independence, Mo. There, she and her family members were part-time "gentlemen" farmers, growing tomatoes, green peppers, onions, potatoes, and sweet corn, among other vegetable crops. These fresh vegetables would then be trucked to roadside stands, where she and her siblings and parents would sell them.



Photo by June Johns

**BLUE STREAK**— Mitchell examines one of her prized orchids.

As a guarantee of continuing her work with plants, gardening, and agriculture, Mitchell said that wherever she moves she always "tries to do as much of (an Army post's) grounds maintenance and beautification efforts as I can." And of course now she is involved with a club of local orchid lovers.

Locally, there are approximately 50 members in the orchid society. While

Mitchell did not have numbers for national participation, she did note that the nationwide orchid society is one of the top two largest botanical memberships in this country, second only to the rose society.

Below are some tips for any would-be orchid growers out there, courtesy of Mitchell:

See ORCHID on page 16

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Turning the page...

# Local inventor merges popular Beanie Babies with beepers

By June Johns

It's a collectible that has swept the country with its popularity, and it's almost ready to morph into another form, if a local inventor has his way. The collectible? Beanie Babies, of course!

And with the help of Army Reserve 1st Lt. Rob Dewberry, these cuddly cuties will soon function as a handy way to carry your beeper. They'll be called Beeper Babies.

The 32-year-old Dewberry is currently attached to the 184th IMA (Acquisitions & Logistics), which is sponsored by the Smart Weapons Management Office.

Just like their popular cousins, Beeper Babies will come in an assortment of animal shapes. Dewberry hopes they eventually assume the forms of Disney and Warner Brothers' cartoon characters, but he and the company that will market his product, Invention Technologies, are exploring unlicensed characters as well. Dewberry is hoping for an initial lineup of approximately 9-12 different animal variations of Beeper Babies.

Dewberry describes his primary target market for these cute carriers as being women and teens who are "looking for a fun way to carry their pager, as well as a way of protecting (the device)."

This modern-day inventor came up with his idea in 1996, during the height of the Beanie Baby craze and the hysteria over the Tickle Me Elmo doll. He also noticed the fabulous successes of Beanie Baby "spinoff" products, such as clothes, carrying cases, and books. He then made a connection while thinking of fashionable ways the public might latch on to carrying their ever-present beepers.

Now for someone to help him produce and market his idea. Dewberry was searching for suitable help while stationed in the Netherlands in 1997-98. While there, he viewed a television advertisement promoting a firm that markets inventions. He selected this company, Invention Technologies, over several others he was considering at the time, based on the firm's track record and company personnel. Fortunately for Dewberry, the company expressed mutual interest.

"Only about 2 percent of inventor's ideas get accepted by this company," Dewberry explained.

Representatives from Invention Technologies are attending trade shows looking for suitable manufacturers and licensing companies for Dewberry's product. After a manufacturer is selected, and everyone agrees on the specifications for making this product, a prototype will be created. A working prototype is necessary in order to obtain a patent. "Patent-Pending" status will be applied for during the several months it takes to be awarded with a final patent for his idea, Dewberry said.



Photo by June Johns

**BEEP-BEEP—** Thanks to Army reservist Dewberry, beepers such as the one he's holding soon can be carried conveniently and fashionably in his new invention, Beeper Babies.

While his Beeper Baby creation will initially be promoted and marketed in the United States, Dewberry is

planning on its popularity expanding into Europe, where, he explained, fads "are slower building, but last a lot longer in popularity" than they do here in America. He added that marketing his product worldwide is only natural "since everything is global now, anyway." And, he noted, European and also South American teen-agers love fads, "especially American fads."

Dewberry anticipates that Beeper Babies will be in full production and on store shelves by this holiday season. Where to find them? Dewberry expects they will be sold at the same type of places that currently carry Beanie Babies. He also foresees them becoming a popular gift-with-purchase idea for cellular phone companies.

Should Beeper Babies prove successful — watch out! Close behind on their heels will come Beeper Buddies, which will house cellular phones.

Dewberry's enthusiasm for creating new contraptions has been with him a long time. Dewberry said he's been inventing things since he was 6, and claims he has additional inventions in mind that would benefit Army personnel, aid in manufacturing, and create new vendor markets.

"My inventions run the gamut," Dewberry said. He added that the creation of Beeper Babies will be a "coming out party" for his other invention ideas, and explained he is pursuing this creation first, as he feels it will be his most successful and popularly-received one.

What prompted Dewberry's enthusiasm with inventing was his combined love of creativity, marketing, and the world of business, as well as his belief in the American dream.

"In this country, you can do things here that you can't do anywhere else, and the rest of the world follows suit," he said.

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Model home...

# Blantons open their door to foster children of the county

By Margaret Banish-Donaldson

During the last 16 years, Doug and Sandra Blanton have brought 65 foster children into their home in southeast Huntsville, with no end to the influx in sight.

"I don't think we will ever be through with foster care," he said. "There's such a need out there. We just can't say no."

The Blantons are model foster parents, always willing to take in "just one more child," always ready to go to bat for extra services for the children in foster care, and always recruiting new families to open their homes.

"There aren't enough foster families to go around as the public and private agencies are being swamped with children who are neglected and abused," Blanton, a branch chief for the Combat Support Aviation Division in the Security Assistance Management Directorate, said. "On the average, there are perhaps 250 children in foster care on a daily basis here in Madison County. Qualities that make foster parenting easier include patience, flexibility and a willingness to put up with a certain amount of bureaucracy."

Foster parents can be single or married. They can get required training from the Department of Human Resources and more training is available if their foster child has special needs. Continuing education, workshops and support groups are also available locally from the Madison County Foster Care Association.

Foster parents receive a monthly stipend to help pay for the basic needs of a foster child but, Blanton cautioned, "you will never be able to make money on foster parenting."

"We receive a daily allowance for each child-based on age: \$8 for newborns and toddlers and \$10 for teen-agers," he said. "At the end of the month, we receive a check for the number of nights the child was in our home."

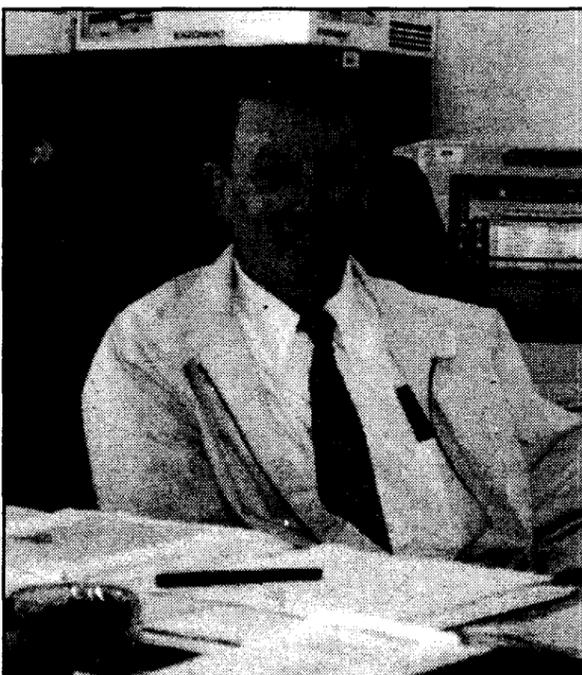


Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

**AT WORK**—Blanton, a foster parent, is a branch chief for the Combat Support Aviation Division in the Security Assistance Management Directorate.

Group homes are provided for those children that don't get along with others and therapeutic homes for those children that have had been physically or sexually abused. These children need a lot of counseling and close supervision in tending to their needs.

Foster children need temporary care because of neglect, abuse or other problems that have caused a breakdown in the functioning of their natural family. In most cases, foster children are unavailable for adoption. If at all possible,

the DHR works with the parents and children to help return the children to their natural families. The children come from all walks of life.

For the Blantons, the hardest part of being a foster parent comes when the children leave, "because part of you leaves with them."

Several years ago, the Blantons had a 9-month-old boy they kept for two years. His mother couldn't take care of him. After a long period of time the mother came back from Kansas with the father, her husband, and got him back. Today, the family lives in Fort Wayne, Ind., and keeps in touch with the Blantons through letters and telephone calls. The family even brought the little boy over to the Blantons' house—when he was 4—for a visit when they came into town.

Children can stay with their foster families for several weeks or sometimes quite a few years. However, an average stay is three to six months for newborns and one to two years for older children in foster homes supervised by the DHR.

"We may get a call from the DHR at 1 or 2 in the morning asking if we can take a child," Blanton said. "We try and ask them as much as we can about the child. What kind of a situation is the child coming from? Are they coming with any clothes or just the ones they have on right now? We don't always get answers to all of our questions."

One night the Blantons received an 11-year-old girl who they didn't know had lice. The Blantons called DHR and asked them to pay for getting their house bombed and for aid in getting the girl de-liced. DHR agreed to pay for the services.

Other children have come to the Blantons from being picked up at a motel. They were caught eating out of

See DOOR on page 18

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Riding the waves...

# Boaters must have 'V' on license to rent at Redstone

By Sandy Riebeling

As the April 28 deadline approached, boaters scrambled around taking tests, getting eye exams and paying the fees to obtain that all important "V" on their driver's license. If you want to rent a boat at Outdoor Recreation or drive a boat on Alabama waters, it's something you have to have, or face the consequences.

The "V" stands for vessel operator and the waters are a bit muddy concerning the details of this new law, which applies only to the operation of motorized water vehicles. Sailboats, rowboats, canoes and other non-motorized vessels are not included in this requirement. Alabama is the first state to require a boat operator's license for motorized vessels and as the law is enacted, modifications are being made.

The first change came on deadline day, April 28, when the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources authorized officers of the department to issue written warning citations instead of regular citations for failure to possess a boat operator's license. The Marine officers will issue warnings until Oct. 28. After that, if you are caught operating a boat without a license it's going to cost you.

As the deadline approached, the Conservation Department was deluged with calls about who is exempt from testing and where and how to take the test.

Outdoor Recreation supplied the following information, from state sources, to clarify the requirements and help boaters

obtain their license.

There is a population of people who do not have to take a written test to get the "V" put on their license. These people include anyone born before April 28, 1954, or any persons that can show proof that they have successfully completed a Coast Guard or Marine Police boating safety course. People fitting into these categories must still go to the Alabama State Troopers office and pay a \$5 fee to obtain the proper form to add the "V" to their license. The form must be taken to the License Department where a new license will be made. The cost of the new license varies, depending on the individual's circumstances.

There is one other type of exemption that deals with non-residents. People who have a permanent residence outside the state of Alabama and that are at least 12 years old, are given an exemption for a cumulative operation period of not more than 45 days in any calendar year.

Those who want a license and are not exempt must meet the following criteria: Operators can be no younger than 12. Each person operating the vessel must be licensed.

"The law used to read that as long as someone in the boat was 12 years old, anyone could drive it, even 5-year-olds," Gail Glass, of Outdoor Recreation, said.

Minors must furnish a certified copy of their birth certificate or a certified statement from the superintendent of the school which the minor attends containing name, date of birth, and address.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**PREPARING FOR LAUNCH**— Gail Glass prepares a boat for rental at Outdoor Recreation. The facility has more than 50 boats for rent, including canoes, pontoons, Jon boats and bass boats.

Applicants must go to the Department of Public Safety Driver's License Examining Office in the county of residence, make application and pay the appropriate fee. They must then pass an eye exam and a written/oral exam and answer medical questions. Once all of these steps are com-

pleted, take the necessary paperwork to the License commissioner's office to have the "V" endorsement placed on driver's license. Minors will receive a state identification card with this classification on it.

See RENT on page 18

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From dams to museums...

# Huntsville Corps of Engineers keeping watch worldwide

**H**untsville Center's Electronic Security Systems team is building a reputation for excellence one customer at a time. The proof of its success is in the significant growth of the program over the last several years.

The Electronic Security Systems program for fiscal '99 is currently projected at approximately \$17 million. According to John Brown, the team's technical lead, "customer care" is largely responsible for their success.

"We've seen some pretty phenomenal growth this year," Brown said, "but the team has worked consistently to provide the absolute best service to our customers. Word travels fast when your customers are satisfied."

The customers Brown is referring to include familiar agencies such as the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the FBI and the well-known Smithsonian Institution.

The ESS team has had a long-standing relationship with the Smithsonian that has grown substantially over the years, he said. "Initially the Smithsonian considered us a cadre of specialists," he explained. "But now, that relationship has changed and the Smithsonian has effectively made us their agent for electronic security. Which means we are heavily involved in the planning, design and acquisition of electronic security systems for Smithsonian facilities both in and out of the Washington, D.C. area— one of those facilities is in Panama."

Of course, the team is accustomed to working in countries all over the world. Support to Department of the Army and other customers requires that members of the ESS team travel to places such as Japan, Korea, Bosnia, Germany and the Middle East.

The ESS team will add to their long list of regular customers when the Bureau of Reclamation and Huntsville Center finalize

an agreement this spring for ESS support. The Bureau, a part of the Department of Interior, owns and manages hundreds of dams in the Western United States including Hoover Dam, said Brown.

"The Bureau has become increasingly concerned about threats to critical infrastructure," he explained. "Once the support agreement is signed, Huntsville Center will do site surveys to identify security vulnerabilities and make recommendations to reduce those vulnerabilities. Then, through an indefinite delivery-indefinite quantity contract already in place, the ESS team can buy and install the systems required to fill the Bureau's needs."

According to Brown, this "cradle-to-grave" service is key to continue broadening the ESS team's customer base.

"We supply our customers with a one stop service that is quite unique and very cost effective. Since we have competitors within the federal government who would

love to serve our customers," Brown said. "We live and die by our ability to provide a high quality reimbursable service at the lowest possible cost. You know, the kind of service that people come back for— every ESS team member understands that and it shows."

ESS Team members include Jeff Alford, estimator; Darrel Anerton, branch chief, COR (acting); Ken Arrington, project manager; Pete Brake, project engineer; John Brown, technical lead Sandy Fisher, clerical support; Ken Haynes, project engineer; Connie Oberle, contracting officer; Jon Richards, resource management; Kathy Sparks, engineer technician; Leigh Ann Toth, project engineer; Piet Vanderhoeven, project engineer; Suzanne Wear, contract specialist; Jim Wilcox, project engineer; and Steve Willoughby, project engineer. (Corps of Engineers release)

# Lady golfers play springtime tournament at post course

**R**edstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association's Spring Handicap Tournament drew 40 lady golfers to the Redstone Golf Course for a day of drives, puts and prizes April 28.

Bev Van Oostrum was the overall champion for the tourney and also received a special award, along with Elaine Owens and Florence Teir, for having the longest drives. Awards for closest to the pin on designated holes in

their flights went to Bev Robbins, Marina Jarvis, Marian Deppensmith and Pam Bucey.

Other winners included:

- 1st Flight— Marian Deppensmith, first; Marina Jarvis, second; Joy McGuire, third; and Elke Napier, fourth.
- 2nd Flight— Elaine Owens, first; Debra Plate, second; Pam Bucey, third; and Jackie Lane, fourth.
- 3rd Flight— Ernestine Anderson, first; Pauline

Robertson, second; Pat White, third; and Bev Robbins, fourth.

- 4th Flight— Peggy Potter, first; Hyeran Richards, second; Sally Shepard, third; and Shirley Ponder, fourth.

Ladies eligible to play on the Redstone Golf Course are invited to join the RALGA. For more information, call the golf course at 883-7977 or Bev Van Oostrum at 828-7664.

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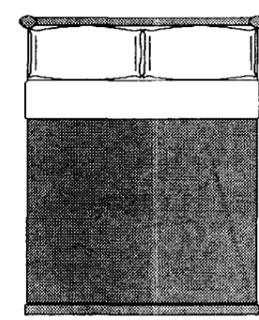
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# Lucky little leaguers on guest list at home of the Braves

## Opening day raffle has treat for Redstone's youth

By Skip Vaughn

Youth baseball commissioner John Galinaitis wanted something different for the youngsters on opening day this season. So he called on the Atlanta Braves.

As a result, 20 players from Redstone's teams will be guests of the Braves on May 22 at Turner Field when Atlanta plays the Chicago Cubs at 7:10 p.m. They are the winners of a raffle held at Redstone's opening day May 1.

"They are encouraged to bring a banner because their group will be recognized on national television," SFC Galinaitis, in his third year as the volunteer commissioner, said. "I think that will be a lifetime memory for them."

Youth baseball should be full of memories for the youngsters, according to Galinaitis. And he wants these to be good memories— not focusing on winning but on the experience.

"The thing I expect from parents and coaches— especially from coaches — is: When all else fails, kids first. This is for them, and it's 100 percent for them," Galinaitis said. "The purpose isn't to win, it isn't to argue with umpires, it isn't to be coach of the year. It's to teach kids sportsmanship, baseball fundamentals, and competitiveness. To teach the kids that competing is what makes winners; not just scores."

That's why he started an annual Commissioner's Award of Excellence last season. At the end of each season, he will present a trophy to a member of each team— selected by that team's coach. This award

is to reflect the youngster's deeds on and off the field.

"The trophy does more than just show that they have potential to be good ballplayers. It's conduct and sportsmanship and commitment," Galinaitis said.

Redstone has five T-ball teams (ages 4-6), three coach-pitch teams (7-8), two minor teams (9-10), and one major team (11-12). The nearly 200 boys and girls are members of the Redstone community including civilian and military. The teams are sponsored by Youth Services.

They play other Huntsville teams under the auspices of the Southern League. Competition continues through June.

Galinaitis and his wife, Chrissy, have three children: Katie, 4, Joshua, 7, and Seth, 10. Joshua plays coach-pitch while Seth is in minors.

A 39-year-old Chicago native, Galinaitis teaches at the Explosive Ordnance Disposal training division and is a member of Headquarters and Alpha Company. He has been in the Army 17 years and arrived at Redstone in January 1997 from Fort Dix, N.J.

Galinaitis expressed his appreciation to the Post Exchange, which provided bats and balls for the opening ceremony raffle; the Active and Retired NCO Spouses Club, which donated money for the trophies for the Commissioner's Award of Excellence; and Missy Richards, youth sports director, who ensured the Goss Road ballfields were ready for play.

His phone stays busy this time of year with callers concerned about everything from game schedules to why their young-

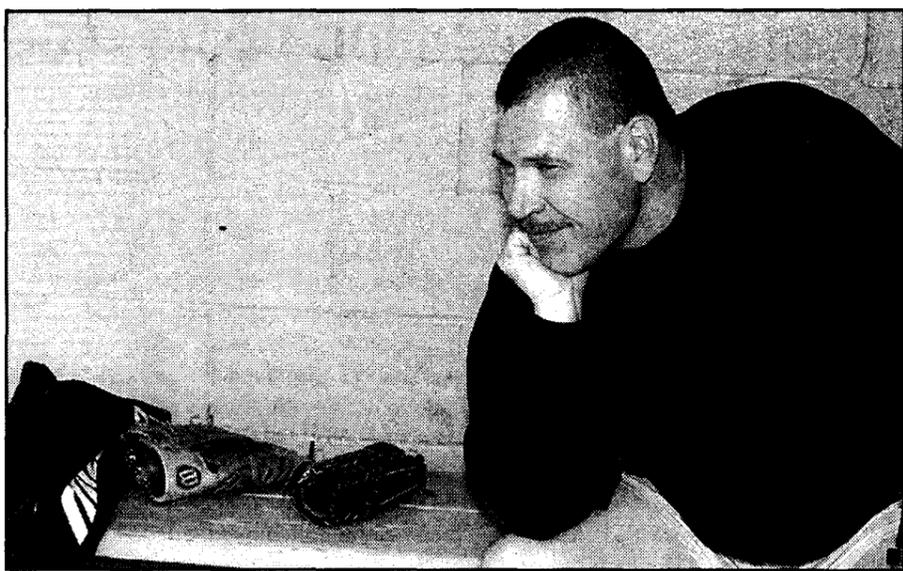


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**WATCHING THE ACTION—** Galinaitis looks forward to his third season as youth baseball commissioner.

ster's not starting.

"So for all the parents and guardians out there, I say to them: Please worry about your child's happiness and not about the

conditions of the field, or the schedules or whether or not they're going to play on a rainy day," Galinaitis said. "We'll take care of that."

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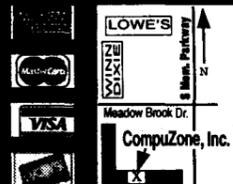
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Among MWR activities...

# Redstone's swimming pools ready to open May 29 for community

The MWR Sales & Marketing office, phone 955-7399, listed the following events for Morale, Welfare and Recreation:

• **Swimming pools**— The Redstone swimming pools are scheduled to open May 29 at 11 a.m. Season swim passes will go on sale Saturday at Outdoor Recreation (building 5129, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Sunday) and at the Recreation Center (building 3711, 1:30-8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday). Family season passes are \$40, individual season passes are \$30. Daily passes and guest passes can be purchased at each pool site for \$2 per person. There are three pools available for the Redstone community: pool 1 on Vincent Drive, pool 2 at the Challenger Club, and pool 3 on Goss Road. Swim lessons are also available this summer. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868/6854.

• **Turkey shoot**— Outdoor Recreation presents the 1999 Turkey Shoot annual schedule: May 8, June 12, Sept. 11, Nov. 6 and 13, Dec. 11 and 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. between trap and skeet ranges. The cost is \$4 per shot, and prizes are awarded. For more information, call 876-4868.

• **Mother's Day brunch**— Tickets are on sale now for this year's Mother's Day Brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 9 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Tickets are \$11.50 for members, \$12.50 for non-members, \$5 for children 7-12; and children 6-under are admitted free. The menu for the brunch will be: creamed beef, home fried potatoes, grilled ham slices, sausage patties, scrambled eggs, cheese blitz's with fruit topping, chicken ala king, carved roast sirloin of beef, rice pilaf, green bean casse-

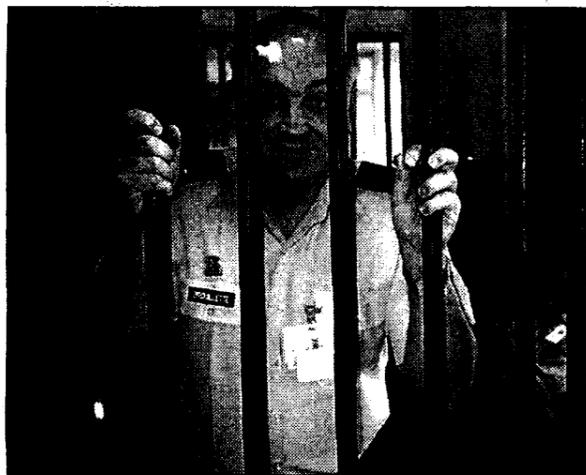
role, biscuits and rolls, blueberry muffins, coffee, tea and yogurt bar.

• **Health fair '99**— The Wellness Center presents Health Fair '99! The entire Redstone community is invited to attend the Health Fair, May 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free screenings of cholesterol, bone density, blood pressure and more. Come enjoy the complimentary refreshments, entertainment and door prizes while learning how to maintain a healthy lifestyle! For more information, call the Wellness Center 955-6844.

• **Flying activity**— Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity will have its annual Open House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 5. There will be food, fun and flying for the entire family. Always wanted to fly? RAFA instructors will be on hand to take you for a ride: \$20 fee for an hour of flight time as a passenger. Get to the RAFA Open House early to sign up for a flight time, enjoy the

food, and inquire about membership! The first month's dues of \$23 will be waived for new members signing up June 5. For more information, call the Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity 880-9495.

• **Family child care training**— Are you interested in caring for children in your home? As a Family Child Care provider, you can own and operate your own business. If you are interested in becoming a FCC provider, you can receive your certification now! Learn about nutrition, administering medication, policies for family child care, business practices, first aid, CPR, child growth and development and more. Some benefits of becoming an FCC provider include career opportunities, enhanced parenting skills, liability insurance, USDA food reimbursements, professional resources, and toy lending library. For more information, call Evelyn Carnes 876-7801.



Courtesy photo

**AER INMATE**— Col. Douglas Brouillette, director of Intelligence and Security Directorate, serves his one hour and 20 minute sentence in the AER "get even" fund-raiser jail April 27.

## Tournaments, rummage sale on tap for AER fund

All that fun stuff going on to raise money for the Army Emergency Relief campaign will continue through May 15. Here's a calendar of some of the upcoming events:

- **Today**— Rummage sale, sponsored by CIC, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at building 5309, room 9128.
- **Thursday**— Redstone Arsenal Support Activity will hold "AER FUNdraiser Day" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 112 courtyard.... Mother's Day Plant Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the northeast parking lot of building 5309.
- **Also Thursday**— Bowling tournament, sponsored by CIC, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration

fee is \$10. For information call Sgt. Maj. Jackson 876-4516.

- **Friday**— Golf tournament at the Redstone Arsenal Golf Club. Entry fee is \$36. For more information, call Mary Russell 883-7977.
- **May 11**— Popcorn sale from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at building 5300/south hall; \$1 bag.
- **May 12**— Cookout and car wash, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at building 3714 (old post chapel). Rain date is May 13. Hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken; prices range from \$1.50 to \$5. Car wash prices range from \$6 to \$10. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Jackson 876-4516.

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 May 10-June 18 • Online • TS 0554-01N  
 Supporting Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 - Enterprise Technologies  
 May 17-27 • M-Th • 4:30-8:55pm • TS 0415-03N  
 Intro. to HTML: How to Create World Wide Web Pages  
 May 17-21 • M-F • 8am-Noon • TS 0305-07N  
 Microsoft PowerPoint 97  
 May 19&20 • W&Th • 9am-4pm • TS 0593-01N  
 Basic Oracle Database Administration  
 June 7-24 • M-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • TS 0422-03N  
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 June 7-July 26 • M&W • 6-8:15pm • TS 6287-02N  
 Microsoft Word 97  
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 June 9 • W • 9am-5pm • MC 6321-01N  
 Habits of Successful People  
 June 15&16 • T&W • 9am-4pm • MC 6262-04N  
 Analyst Fundamentals: Cost Estimating  
 June 21-23 • M-W • 9am-5pm • MC 6291-02N  
 Risk Planning and Analytical Techniques  
 July 6-27 • T • 6-9pm • MC 6209-10N  
 Managing Diversity in the Workplace  
 July 8 • Th • 8:30am-4:30pm • MC 6323-01N  
 Survival Skills for Women in Leadership Positions  
 July 14&15 • W&Th • 9am-4pm • MC 6198-06N  
 Communication Skills for Leaders  
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# Apache Longbow helicopter getting more firepower

MESA, Ariz.— An advanced electronic turret for the next generation AH-64D Apache Longbow is being developed by The Boeing Company in Mesa, Ariz., to make the aircraft's 30mm gun more lethal and accurate.

The Boeing Ordnance division, which is based in Mesa, has signed a 2 1/2-year, \$5 million contract with the Tank & Automotive Command Armament Research Development Engineering Center in New Jersey to create a lighter weight, more compact turret expected to become standard equipment on the Apache Longbow by late 2003.

"The goal is to take the turret from hydraulic to electric operation, a change that will significantly improve pointing accuracy of the gun," Tom Johnston, Integrated Product Team leader for the program at The Boeing Company in Mesa, said.

"The new turret also will be 10 percent lighter and require one instead of two electrical boxes in the aircraft, enabling it to hold more fuel," he said.

The Boeing Company is working with HR Textron of California to produce the turret.

"We're going to start from scratch, with Textron doing the controls and Boeing developing and producing the rest," Johnston said. "We'll create a whole new turret structure and control system."

Boeing Company plans to produce a turret with applications for its other products such as the V-22 Osprey and RAH-66 Comanche.

"The new turret is expected to enhance international sales since it will make the Apache more effective in combat," Robert Glantz, PET program manager, said.

Because of the digital enhancements to

the Apache Longbow, the aircraft's 30mm weapon system is more accurate than the same system in the AH-64A. With the new turret, the system's lethality will increase tremendously, Glantz said.

The AH-64D Apache Longbow is the Army's next generation version of the combat-proven AH-64A. The AH-64A and AH-64D aircraft are in service with defense forces around the world. (Boeing release)



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State champions moving on up...

# Coach takes OMer team to competition

By Sandy Riebeling

It's been dubbed the Olympics of the Mind. Teams of students participate in a segmented competition that includes theatrical performances, costume design, spontaneous answers and problem solving skills. The seven-member Odyssey of the Mind team from Monrovia Middle School, coached by Sharon Bocclair of the Intelligence and Security Directorate, is going all the way to the top.

Bocclair's OMer team took first in the state competition last month and are headed to the University of Tennessee where they will compete against teams from around the country and 38 international teams.

"This is exciting for all of us," Bocclair said. "I was so proud of the children and the way they performed at state. We won three personal awards besides winning the best overall."

The Monrovia team won the Rantra Fusca award for their outstanding efforts in

the spontaneous answer portion of the competition. This is the highest OMer award given in the United States. Two individuals on the team earned personal awards. Bocclair's son, Nate, won an Outstanding OMer award for performance of technical ability and Corrinia Brewer won Outstanding OMer for her stage performance.

"We've been busy trying to raise money to go to the Worlds ever since we got back from state competition," Bocclair said. "We have been having fund-raisers and are asking for corporate and individual donations to cover the \$2,600 cost of the competition for the team."

Bocclair, along with the other team coach and school sponsor, Neena Kemp, will continue to train with the team right up until the world competition May 26.

"We're doing everything we can," Bocclair said. "We're going there to win."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**GOING FOR THE GOLD—** Bocclair's OMer team won the state competition in April. She and her supervisor, Col. Douglas Brouillette, director of Intelligence

and Security at AMCOM, discuss her need for time off to take her team to the world competition at the end of May.

## FORCE

Continued from page 3

refugee relief effort.

At this time, Army officials said they plan on calling not units, but individuals in such job specialties as civil affairs, psychological operations, water purification and logistics. These Army reserve component members will concentrate on helping the humanitarian mission.

Details of the other services' plans were

not immediately available.

Once called up, reservists qualify for all benefits afforded active duty counterparts, including the tax exemption for service in the Allied Force area of operations.

Some of the reservists will back-fill active duty personnel going to Allied Force, Cragin said. "The United States has worldwide commitments," he said. "These must continue. We are handling all contingencies as they arise. Obviously, this requires an effort by all members of the total force." (American Forces Press Service)

## ORCHID

Continued from page 8

- Hydrate these flowers using room-temperature water.
- Avoid using chlorinated water.
- Let these plants dry between watering.
- Supply sufficient light and humidity.
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tant and dependent on what type of orchids you are growing.

For more information on the art and science of growing these floral beauties, you can purchase publications on the subject from bookstores or the local Botanical Garden shop, according to Mitchell. Using your favorite search engine, you can also look for various web sites dedicated to information on orchids.

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Memorial in the works...

# Buffalo Soldiers camped in Huntsville 100 years ago

By Sandy Riebeling

It's about history. It's about pride. It's about recognizing the heroes of yesterday and creating heroes of tomorrow.

When Oliver Baxter, a contractor with Sigmatech Inc. supporting SAMD, twice saw articles in the Redstone Rocket announcing and describing Buffalo Soldier exhibits, and twice saw that the connection to Huntsville had not been included, he spoke out.

"The fact that the 10th Cavalry was once bivouacked here in Huntsville is important," Baxter said. "To the Huntsvillians that should be significant, I think."

The Buffalo Soldiers is a nickname for the soldiers of the 9th and 10th cavalry regiments that served in the Army from 1866 to 1917. These courageous black soldiers are rarely given credit for the accomplishments garnered while in service. Historians call them Indian fighters that help to tame the Wild West, but there is more to the story.

These regiments were instrumental in the construction of roads, towns, military forts. They acted as escorts for wagon trains and cattle drives, and as peace keepers in the border towns. Seventeen Buffalo Soldiers earned Medals of Honor.

Perhaps one of the most obvious oversights is that of their role in the charge up San Juan Hill. Lt. Col. Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders are given the credit for the victorious capture of the Spanish blockhouse atop the hill, but it was the Buffalo Soldiers that led the way on that charge.

Immediately after the war, as Roosevelt and his Rough Riders were touring the country as heroes, the 10th cavalry regiment had been bivouacked to Huntsville, the Five Points area, in October 1898.

Being black soldiers with authority in the South was

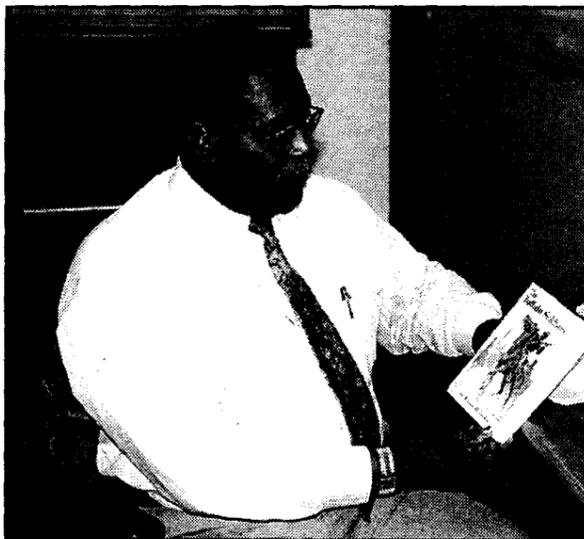


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**SOLDIER TO SOLDIER— Like the Buffalo Soldiers nearly 100 years before him, Baxter served in the Army in a race segregated battalion in 1948.**

troublesome to the white soldiers stationed in the Five Points area at that time. The conflict became so intense, the 10th regiment was moved to the area of Huntsville now referred to as Cavalry Hill. At the time the soldiers were bivouacked there, it was called 10th Cavalry Hill. The Buffalo Soldiers remained there for roughly four months

before moving on.

Nearly 100 years later the city of Huntsville decided it was time to recognize the Buffalo Soldiers and their connection in history to Huntsville.

In 1997 an ad hoc committee of 12 local citizens was appointed to study the significance of the Buffalo Soldiers and their contributions in an effort to erect a monument in their honor.

"It took us a year of study and research before we were finished and could make a recommendation to the City Council," Dr. James Johnson, committee chairman and history professor at Alabama A&M University, said. "We decided that the memorial should depict the battle of San Juan Hill."

According to Johnson, the council accepted the recommendation and chose a sculptor to create a model of a monument appropriate for the honor. The model was created and "enthusiastically received by the council," in October 1998.

There has been no official approval of the sculptor's depiction from the council yet. It will take at least a year for the sculptor to create the monument once final approval is given.

"I would like to see the monument erected," Baxter said. "Our history in this area is considered recent, because of the space program. It's important to show that our history goes back much farther than the 1950s when von Braun came here."

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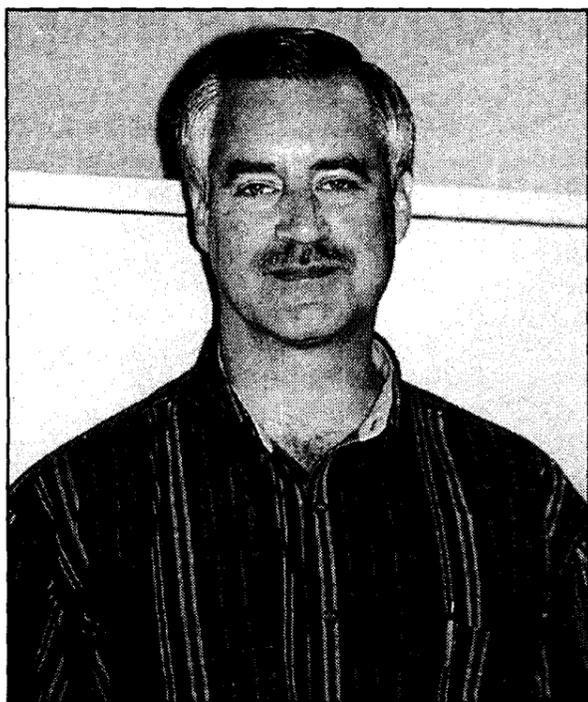
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# MISSION

Continued from page 5



MOORE

night, I zipped my shoes up in my luggage bag to guard against any unwanted visitors."

Water was brought in every day and treated with Clorox for drinking and brushing teeth. However, it was usually warm because ice was only provided once in a while for lunch or dinner. Scrubs, towels and washcloths were provided. When clothes were washed, a village lady would take them to the river, bang them on rocks and bring them back folded that evening.

"As a precaution, I had typhoid, yellow fever and cholera shots before I left," Moore said. "Everyone was given malaria pills to take two weeks before we left. We also were instructed to take the pills for eight weeks after returning from our trip."

During lunch breaks and at the end of the day, the children would come around to sell their baskets and jewelry. Before the week was over with, Moore was being called 'Mr. Basket.' He had a hard time saying no to the children. "I feel we are so fortunate in this country," Moore said. "It was hard working 10 to 12 hours each day, but it was a great experience. And being so helpful to those people made me feel good about myself. I can't wait to go back again next year."

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Courtesy photo

## Recruiting duty...

Pvt. Tyrone D. Jones, a 1995 graduate of Texarkana High School, is temporarily working with recruiters of the Army recruiting station in Huntsville. Jones will be stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., from this May through May 2004. He joined the Army last October and is the son of Wilma and Larry Melvin of Huntsville.

## DOOR

Continued from page 10

dumpsters in the back of a motel or going into the lobby in the morning for their free doughnuts.

In the last five years, Sandra has taken over the responsibility for the Madison County Foster Care Association clothes closet. One bedroom in their house is devoted to this area now. Sandra gets donations from the southeast Huntsville Super Wal-Mart and Play it Again stores. She sorts the clothing into sizes, age groups and sex. Whenever a foster family needs clothing, they call Sandra and tell her what they need. If she has it in stock, they can pick it up.

Also, the MCFCFA provides its members a food bank for

## RENT

Continued from page 11

"Most counties have it set up so that it can all be done at one location," Glass said. "Madison County is the exception. There is one location that has everything and that is at the State Troopers office at the Church Street location. If they go anywhere else, they won't be able to get everything done at one place."

Alabama Boat Operator's Certification Manuals are available at all licensing facilities. This is the manual used to study for the written exam.

Current policy for rental of a motorized water vessel at Outdoor Recreation requires that a "V" appear on the license of persons renting the vessel. There is some discussion ongoing about how the law applies to rental agencies which includes Outdoor Recreation. Changes may be made sometime in the future.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary boating safety classes are periodically held on the Arsenal. The remaining classes for this year are June 10 through July 22; Aug. 12 through Sept. 23; and Oct. 14 through Nov. 24. The classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m. in building 3305, room 215, Zeus Drive. There is no charge for the classes but a \$14 fee to cover the cost of the class manual and student study guide is required. For more information about these classes, call Tom Kunhart at 885-7096 or 830-6621.

Other phone numbers to obtain information about boat safety courses include the Coast Guard at 883-5275, the Marine Police at 582-1099 or (888) 903-7659 and the Alabama Marine Police Division at (334) 242-3673.

supporting children in foster care. Once a month Sandra goes to the Madison County Food Bank to pick up non-perishables, diapers, deodorants, toothpaste and whatever other items might be needed.

"Foster care expands the interests and horizons of a family," Blanton said. "I feel the benefits far outweigh any sacrifices we might make."

For information on becoming a foster parent, call the Blantons at 881-0902 or the DHR at 535-4500.

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# CINCOS 're-look' to boost NCO ranks by about 4,000

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON— The Army's Non-commissioned Officer Corps is getting back some rank.

In 1998, about 6,700 NCO positions in the Army's enlisted personnel inventory were downgraded one grade or more as a cost-saving measure, said Robert M. Carty, a management analyst in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

That initiative, known as Change in NCO Structure, mostly involved re-grading enlisted positions which were previously performed by sergeants to specialists or privates first class, Carty said. The Army's senior leadership re-examined CINCOS, he said, and in February, it decided to "buy back" approximately 4,000 of those positions.

"[NCO] positions were never removed from the Army inventory because of CINCOS; all of the enlisted NCO positions affected by CINCOS were 'rolled down,'" Carty said. "Most of those positions were downgraded into skill-level-one levels (specialists, privates first class) from NCO skill levels."

Carty said the intent of CINCOS, which was proposed in 1995, was to redistribute the Army's aggregate NCO strength from the 1989 level of 49.8 percent of the force, to 47.6 percent.

"CINCOS was a money-saving measure," Carty said. "Leadership decided to

'buy it back' because it created leadership hardships; the Army didn't have the level of expertise it needed [to perform the 'rolled back' jobs]."

The revocation of the majority of CINCOS will return NCO aggregate strength to 49.6 percent of total enlisted strength in the Army, said Carty, who noted all military occupational specialties are being reviewed and will be affected.

Army senior leaders also wanted to use CINCOS to balance NCO career management fields and military occupational specialties for the future, according to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert E. Hall during an April 9 Soldiers Radio and Television interview with correspondent SSgt. Scott Speaks.

"[CINCOS] was a good drill for each of the career management fields to go through; to look at their MOSs to ensure that they have promotion opportunities [for soldiers] from private to sergeant major ... [but, it was] a very emotional time for the Noncommissioned Officer Corps," Hall said. "The good news is the CINCOS buy-back means we're going to bring [NCO jobs] back into the force over the next three or four years; that's how long it'll take us to promote them."

Exact post-CINCOS numbers are being worked between ODCSPER and Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations planners, said Carty. Rank "roll-ups" will be "spread across all NCO

grade levels, from sergeant to sergeant major," he said.

Carty said the "roll-ups" will affect senior NCOs, but to a lesser degree than junior grades.

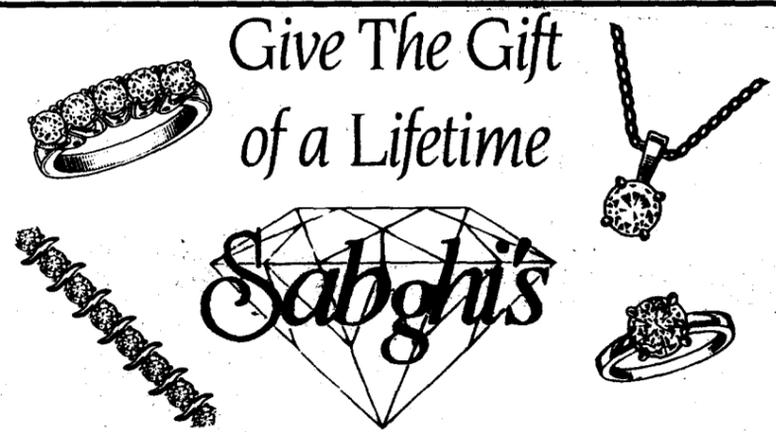
"The most senior NCO ranks, master sergeant and sergeant major, are congressionally constrained; only 3.5 percent of enlisted soldiers can be master sergeants or sergeants major," he said. "The 'roll up' will result in some current NCO positions to be upgraded one rank, or two, depending on operational need, functions and require-

ments.

"All MOSs are being looked at, at all grade levels ... changes should start showing up next year in Army authorization documents."

If a soldier is in a job that is affected by post-CINCOS changes, that wouldn't trigger an automatic promotion, said Carty.

"It does not cause that soldier to be promoted, but it could improve future NCO promotions," he concluded. (American Forces Press Service)



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# Army moving forward in destroying chemical agents

By Connie E. Dickey

WASHINGTON— The Army has awarded a contract to destroy more than 2 million pounds of VX nerve agents stored at the Newport Chemical Depot in Newport, Ind.

The \$295 million contract has been awarded to Parsons Infrastructure and Technology Group of Pasadena, Calif. Parsons and its team will not only destroy the chemicals, but will also close the depot.

Terry Arthur said that with this contract, 89 percent of the U.S. stockpile of chemical weapons now are under contract to be destroyed. Under the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty, the U.S. must destroy its entire chemical weapons stockpile by April 2007, however the Army is committed to completion by Dec. 31, 2005, she said.

The depot stores 1,269.33 tons of Chemical Agent VX in carbon steel containers.

VX is highly toxic in both liquid and vapor forms and is similar to present day pesticides, Arthur said. VX was designed during the Cold War as a skin contact. It also can be inhaled through the lungs and absorbed through the digestive system if eaten or swallowed.

The rapid-acting, lethal nerve agent affects the nervous system by interfering with signals sent from the brain to the vital organs and other parts of the body, Arthur said. If VX enters the body and is left untreated, the result can be convulsions and death due to paralysis of the respiratory system.

The Army has selected neutralization to destroy the Newport VX stockpile rather than the Army's baseline technology, incineration, which was opposed by citizens in the Newport area, Arthur said. One of the criteria used to select the neutralization process was that the process was shown to

be as safe as incineration.

Neutralization is a low-temperature, low-pressure process where VX is added to a mixing tank containing water and hot sodium hydroxide. The VX reacts with the water and sodium hydroxide to produce a liquid called hydrolysate. Hydrolysate is composed of water, sodium, hydroxide, phosphorus and sulfur compounds. After neutralization, the hydrolysate is held and tested in the tank to confirm that all the VX has been destroyed before it is released for the supercritical water oxidation post treatment.

In SCWO, a high-pressure, high-temperature industrial process, the hydrolysate is mixed with water and oxygen to create inorganic salts, which can be disposed of offsite in a landfill permitted to handle hazardous waste. The water is either recycled through the neutralization process or sent through the depot's wastewater treatment

facility.

The project will cost approximately \$500 million for the design, construction and pilot testing. Electricity, natural gas and water will be used at the facility and will include a main building, which will house the neutralization reactors and the container decontamination line. It will be built next to the chemical agent storage building. Separate buildings will serve as support buildings.

The necessary environmental permits are being processed at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Until those permits are issued, the contractor will focus on staffing, preparing planning documents and completing the facility design. Construction activities are not scheduled to begin until November. (American Forces Press Service)

## CAREER

Continued from page 1

Reimer reflected on Wilson's career, his dedicated service to the country, his efforts to improve the Army and the country.

"Johnnie is truly a special person and a loyal friend," Reimer said. "He never backed away from tough issues. You could count on him to choose a harder right instead of an easier wrong."

Reimer continued by saying that Wilson's contributions to the Army and the country will stand the test of time. "The Army is better because of Johnnie Wilson," he said.

Wilson, one of 12 children, began his Army career in 1961 at age 17 when he enlisted from a recruiting station in Lorain, Ohio. He attained the rank of staff sergeant before attending Officer Candidate School. After completing OCS in 1967, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps.

He was awarded a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He also holds a master's degree in logistics management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

His military education includes completion of the Ordnance Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Wilson held a wide variety of important command and staff positions during his career. Before commanding AMC, he served as deputy chief of staff for logistics, Department of the Army, Pentagon; chief of staff, Army Materiel Command; commanding general, Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; deputy commanding general, 21st Theater Army Area Command, U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army; commander, 13th Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas; and commander, Division Support Command, 1st Armored Division, U.S. Army Europe.

Wilson served with distinction at every

level of command. He commanded three times at the company level; a maintenance company in the 82nd Airborne Division as a first lieutenant, followed by command of a supply and services company in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, and a maintenance company with the 1st Armored Division in Europe. At the lieutenant colonel level, Wilson commanded the 709th Maintenance Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., which converted and became the Army's first Main Support Battalion. He commanded twice at the colonel level serving as the DISCOM Commander of the 1st Armored

Division followed by command of the 13th Support Command at Fort Hood, Texas.

Wilson, in saying goodbye, said it had been his honor and privilege to serve the nation, beside the best soldiers on earth, for nearly 38 years.

"Soldiering requires respect, doing what is right and protecting all that our nation stands for," Wilson said. "Taking the oath to 'support and defend the Constitution of the United States' is indeed a higher purpose."

"There are few higher callings than to be able to follow in the footsteps of soldiers past, but it is now my time to go." (AMC release)

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From responsive community...

# Contributions still needed for four-plex fire victims on post

By June Johns

**M**ilitary families who were victims of a four-plex fire April 12 need the following items: queen-size bed linens, towels, pots and pans, dishes, and electrical appliances.

To confirm particular items are still needed, people should call Army Community Service at 876-5397 before donating, according to Ann Owens, Army Emergency Relief officer.

A responsive community has already donated sufficient clothing and furniture, in an effort spearheaded by the victims' company commanders and first sergeants. Members of the military and civilian community, representatives of local non-profit thrift shops, as well as other groups too numerous to mention, all pulled together to come up with donations for these families.

"People have been really supportive," Owens said. "You can't say enough about this community. When the chips are down, they come through."

Items not selected by the families were

sent to the post Thrift Shop, which in turn generates additional funds for the Army Emergency Relief fund.

In addition, Owens said, an AER grant provided money for hotel rooms and basic clothing, which helped these families get through the first few days before they were transferred to new on-post housing. ACS also opened up its "lending closet" so that the fire victims could have immediate access to kitchen utensils, bed sheets, and children's car seats. Counseling to deal with the trauma has also been offered, Owens said.

The purpose of the AER is to help out Army personnel and their families during emergencies. The AER will aid with basic necessities such as money for rent, utilities, and car repair costs.

"We provide anything essential in a recognizable emergency situation," Owens said. Army regulations determine what is considered a reimbursable emergency.

"You never know when these things will happen, or when they can happen to you," Owens said.

## OVER

Continued from page 1

her friends and family. Her mother, Kathy Fisher, a New Orleans nurse, arrived the day after the fire and took Damien home with her April 18. Fisher planned to go to New Orleans to get him last weekend.

Fisher also thanked the entire Redstone and Huntsville communities. This included organizations such as K-Mart, Wal-Mart,

the Red Cross, and various thrift shops in Huntsville. The Red Cross gave Fisher a \$75 voucher for the Commissary and \$190 for the Post Exchange.

"I would like to say it was amazing how everybody came together in time of tragedy and just took us under their wing. Everybody wanted to know ways they could help," Fisher said. "I think it's a good community to raise a family. And I think it has a lot to offer here."



Photo by June Johns

**HOP ON IT—** Owens admires "hip hop" bunnies bound for children whose families lost everything during the April 12 fire in the housing area.

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**3:00 PM - MISC. ITEMS IN WAREHOUSE & OUTSIDE:** Plant Buckets & Pots - Trees - Plants - Misc. Display Items - Garden Hose - Mis-matched Furniture & Display Items.

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# How DoD got budget hike: Readiness woes spark action

By Jim Garamone

WASHINGTON— The DoD budget request for a \$112 billion increase over the next six years is a lesson in how senior leaders listen to soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen — and a lesson in compromise within a democracy.

When Defense Secretary William S. Cohen took office in January 1997, the balanced budget agreement between Congress and the executive branch capped DoD spending at certain levels. Under the agreement, a spending increase in one area had to be met with equal cuts somewhere else. Cohen has said in interviews that he felt obligated to live within the spending caps.

The budget agreement has been successful. The U.S. government ended 1998 with a budget surplus and economic forecasters look for more of them in the years to come. President Clinton said the budget surplus should be used to fix Social Security and Medicare first.

At the same time, however, anecdotal evidence was accumulating that not all was right with the military. While the spearhead — soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who are forward deployed or the first to deploy in a crisis — was sharp, it was often at the expense of ready follow-on forces.

Joint Staff officials were hearing more stories of planes cannibalized to keep other aircraft flying. They were hearing how soldiers and Marines were working longer hours to keep an older fleet of armored personnel carriers and tanks on the road. They were hearing how installation commanders were delaying needed maintenance and repair of buildings and equipment.

They were also seeing some of the problems as many servicemembers voted with their feet. Departing mid-level officers and NCOs were saying the duty was important, but the pay, retirement and other benefits were not enough to keep them in uniform. The services were losing the skilled men and women needed to project American force in an uncertain post-Cold War world.

## Healthy economy

The continued good health of the U.S. economy complicated the situation. High-school graduates were going directly to civilian jobs, making recruiting tough. The Navy and Army, for example, missed their fiscal 1998 recruiting goals, and, in fiscal 1999, the Air Force bought its first TV advertising airtime.

At meetings in "the tank" — the Joint Chiefs' Pentagon meeting room — Joint Staff officers brought these anecdotal concerns forward. The heads of the unified commands also expressed concern over military readiness. The chiefs believed the United States could fulfill national security requirements, but rising problems heightened risks to U.S. interests. They decided the way to address the money issue was to present it as a case for sustaining a quality military force.

Readiness reports finally started backing up the anecdotal evidence: The readiness of follow-on forces was down, older equipment was breaking down more often, Navy ships were sailing undermanned, and the Air Force and Navy faced pilot shortages.

The chairman took the Joint Chiefs' concerns to Cohen. In July 1998, Cohen concluded that despite efforts to make the department more efficient, DoD simply

needed more money. He would have to take the case directly to the president.

Cohen, who had always visited servicemembers when traveling, went on a series of trips to personally assess military readiness and to hear servicemembers' concerns and view firsthand some of the problems they faced. Trips to Moody Air Force Base, Ga., and Fort Drum, N.Y., and the conversations he had there with airmen and soldiers convinced him he could not delay fixing these problems.

On Sept. 15, 1998, President Clinton and White House aides met with Cohen, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the unified command chiefs at Fort McNair here. While the meeting was a regularly scheduled one for the military leaders, it gave them the unusual chance to put readiness concerns before the president, representatives of the National Security Council staff and the Office of Management and Budget.

It was a meeting to warn the president of a potential "nose dive" in military readiness, Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon told reporters at the time. "It's a meeting about the readiness of U.S. forces today and their ability to do not only their assignments now, but the challenges they might face in the future," he said.

The president came away convinced there was a problem.

## Budget boost

The Joint Chiefs and the services looked at "what it would take to make the military completely well," said a DoD official. They came up with \$148 billion over six years starting with a \$20 billion increase in fiscal 2000.

White House officials felt the \$148 bil-

lion was too much. Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre worked with military leaders to narrow the request to what the chiefs felt they "absolutely needed." Pay, changes to military retirement and pay table reform headed the DoD list. The increase came to \$112 billion over six years with a \$12 billion increase set for fiscal 2000.

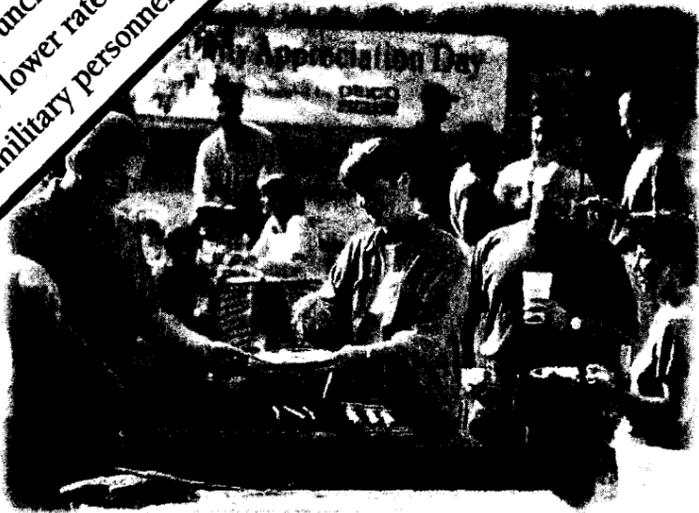
"If you go back to the previous era of big pay raises — in 1979, 1980 and 1981 — you will see defense officials waited until [the military] was broke and then they went to fix it," said a Joint Staff official. "What we started to do was look and see how we can prevent that. The serious effort started nine months ago."

Just after Thanksgiving, Cohen met with National Security Adviser Samuel Berger and presented the Pentagon request. President Clinton accepted the budget increase and on Jan. 2 announced his decision during his weekly radio address.

"When we give our servicemen and women a mission, there is a principle we must keep in mind," Clinton said in his radio address. "We should never ask them to do what they are not equipped to do, and we should always equip them to do what we ask. The more we ask, the greater our responsibility to give our troops the support and training and equipment they need."

On Jan. 19, 1999, President Clinton delivered the State of the Union address to a packed audience in the U.S. Capitol and to an audience of millions throughout the United States and the world. "It is time to reverse the decline in defense spending that began in 1985," he said. (American Forces Press Service)

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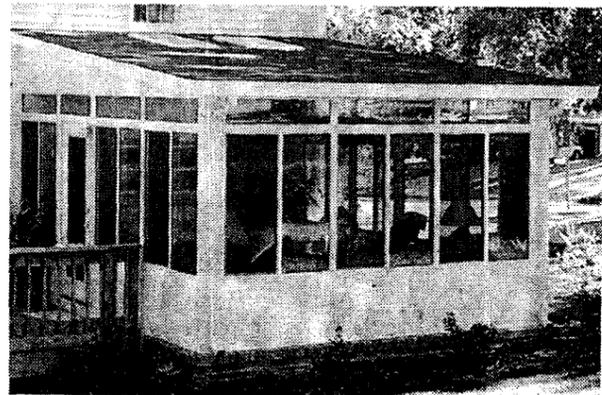
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Photo by Sandy Riebeling

## Checking for claws...

This Bearcat 2 was the hit of the three-day CH-47 User's Conference held in the Sparkman Auditorium last week. The conference, hosted by the CH-47 Project Manager's Office at PEO Avia-

tion, covered topics ranging from current fleet issues to future modernization efforts. The Bearcat was on loan from the Aviation Technical Test Center at Fort Rucker.

## Announcements



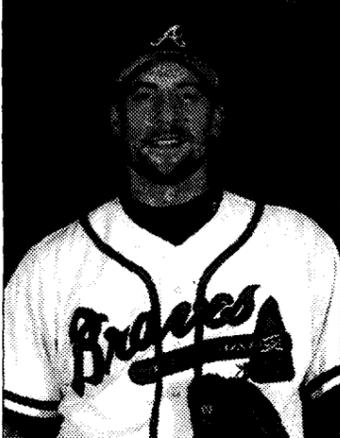
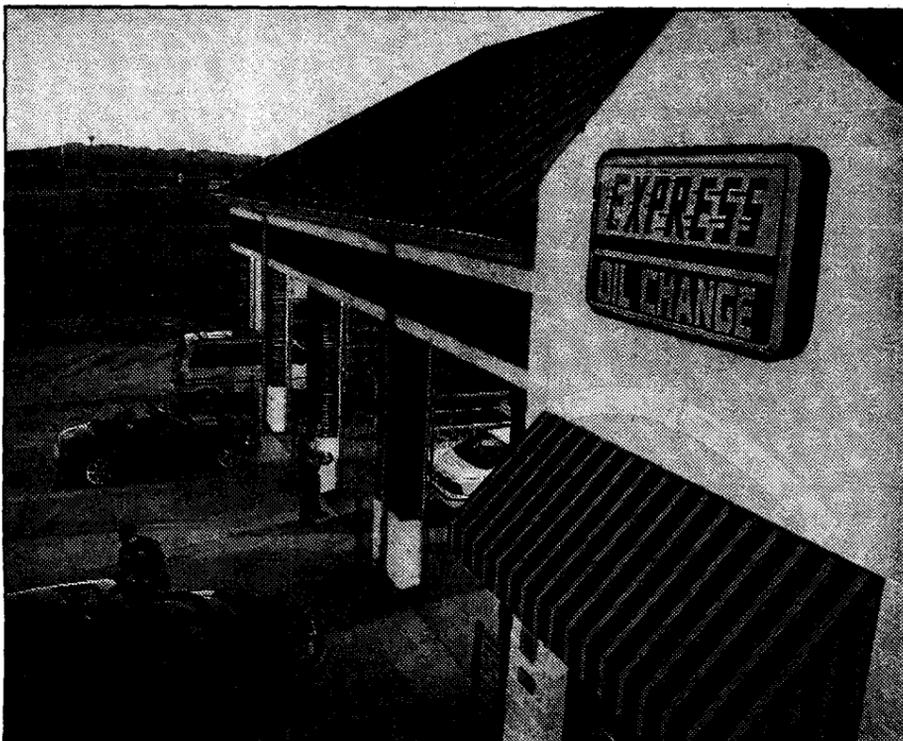
### Brotherhood 5K

The annual Brotherhood Run 5K will be held May 22 at building 3440 across from Pagano Gym. Trophies will be awarded for the first three places in each age group: 19-under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50-over. Fee is \$10 before April 23 or \$12 thereafter and race day. Registration starts at 8 a.m., with the race at 9:30. For more information call MSgt. Battle 842-2234, MSgt. McGuire 876-6427 or 1st Lt. Coe 842-0585.

### Tennis clinic

A free Tennis Across America clinic is scheduled for 9-11 a.m. May 9 at Colonial Village Apartments in Research Park; and again from 9-11 a.m. May 15 at Bob Jones High School. This event is sponsored by the U.S. Tennis Association. Be among the thousands of players hitting millions of tennis balls in this 10th annual nationwide celebration of the sport of a lifetime. For more information, call the Youth Development Association and the Garrett Tennis Academy 464-9906.

See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 24



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# Announcements

Continued from page 23

## Miscellaneous

### Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel announces the following: Rosary is recited daily at 11:30 a.m., followed by either a communion service or Mass at noon.... Confirmation will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Thursday.... Military Council of Catholic Women will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, followed by the rosary at 11:30 and Mass at noon. Business meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. May 11, with a potluck dinner to follow.

### Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will have its annual picnic at 11 a.m. May 13 at the Col. Carroll Hudson Recreation Area. Menu includes quarter chicken, baked beans, potato salad, slaw, bread, and soft drink. There will be games and door prizes. Bring your lawn chair and blanket and get ready to relax and have fun in the sun. Cost is \$2 for members, \$5 for non-members. Get your ticket by close of business Thursday. For reservations call Janet Siersma 955-3890. Volunteers are still needed. For more information or to volunteer, call Tammy Moore 876-3033.

### Memorial scholarship

Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association may award up to

three scholarships of \$1,000 each to college students pursuing a degree related to contract or procurement management or to NCMA members pursuing the UAH Contract Management Certificate Program. Applications are due by May 31. For more information, call Patsy Robinson 837-8004.

### Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting May 20 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning at the Radisson Suite Hotel on South Memorial Parkway. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Marvin Whitted 842-2879.

### AER cookout

ATACMS-BAT will hold its third annual Army Emergency Relief car wash/cookout from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 13 at the PEO Tactical Missiles building 5250 at the northwest corner. Let the project office wash your car while you have lunch. Menu includes hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks and baked desserts.

### Health center

For military beneficiaries: Fox Army Health Center is registering participants for the weight control program, "A Lifetime of Weight Control and Fitness." Unlike diet programs that typically fail and make us "fatter," this program has proven success. This program is a nutrition education program as well as a weight control program. Be advised, you will not lose weight quickly. Instead, you will begin making perma-

nent, realistic changes in your eating and exercise habits—changes that will become a natural part of your lifestyle. It may take six months, a year, or more to reach your personal goals, but you will maintain them for a lifetime. Past participants have rated the program as excellent and stated "the program was excellent and helped me a lot," and "I really learned a lot to help me with my making my heart healthy for life." Classes are scheduled from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, beginning May 18 and continuing until Aug. 17. To register call the Public Health and Education Center 842-0196.

### Asian Pacific contest

As a tribute to this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the AMCOM/OMMCS EEO/EO Office will sponsor an essay and display contest. Essays should be double spaced, two pages or less, and pertain to this year's theme, "Celebrating Our Legacy." Essays can be faxed or mailed to arrive at either office by close of business May 13: Commander, Aviation and Missile Command, Attn: AMSAM-EO (SFC Pugh); or Commandant, OMMCS, Attn: ASTK-AE (SFC Quesenberry). The fax numbers are 876-8947 or 842-6853. Organizations that set up a static display should have them in place by close of business May 13 and must notify either office of the location and point-of-contact to ensure that your displays will be evaluated. Judging will take place May 14; and a representative should be available for questions and photos.

Plaques will be awarded for the top two essays and trophies to the top three displays May 25 during the Asian Pacific Heritage Month luncheon at the Redstone Arsenal Club from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call SFC Pugh 876-8648 or SFC Quesenberry 876-9224.

### Alcoholics anonymous

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

### Wireless networks

University of Cincinnati professor Dharma Agrawal will give a talk on "Wireless and Mobile Networks," Friday from 10:30-noon at Quality Research, 4901-D Corporate Drive. RSVP to Diane Patch 955-3498.

### Thrift Shop jobs

The Thrift Shop is trying to fill the following job vacancies: Assistant manager— must have knowledge in retail sales, computer skills, organizational skills, interfacing with volunteers and paid staff. Bookkeeper— must have knowledge in bookkeeping, familiar with Quicken or Quickbooks, payroll, data entry. Applications for either job are available at the Thrift Shop during operating hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and

Visit us during the

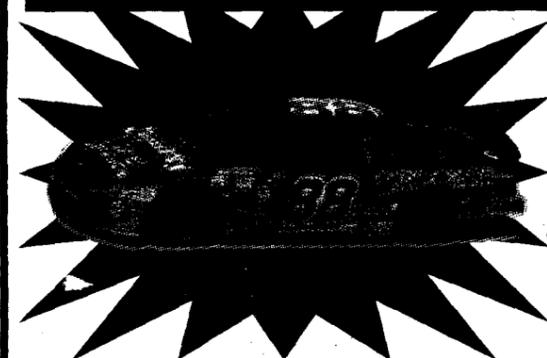
# GRAND OPENING OF QUICK LANE

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# Announcements

Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. The deadline is Friday. For more information call Sheila Torongeau, manager, 881-6992.

### Red Cross youth

The Redstone Red Cross Summer Youth Program will hold its teen orientation at 5:30 p.m. May 11 at the Red Cross Chapter House, Huntsville. Teens age 14 and older with a valid military ID are eligible to participate in the program. For information call the Red Cross Chapter House 536-0084.

### NCO graduation

The NCO Academy will hold a graduation ceremony for the Basic NCO Course at 9 a.m. Friday in the graduation hall of building 3329. The public is invited. For more information, call SFC Timothy Capers 955-7954.

### Masters degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold a registration meeting for its Master of Business Administration program at 6 p.m. Friday at Calhoun Community College, classroom 51 at 102 Wynn Drive. Attend classes on alternate weekends; complete degree requirements in 18 months; learn from doctorally-qualified faculty; classes are held in Huntsville beginning in July. To RSVP or for more information call 800-672-7223, extension 5039.

### Research symposium

The Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) is sponsoring the 38th Army Operations Research Symposium, "Reshaping Army OR for the 21st Century Operational Challenge," at Fort Lee, Va., Oct. 19-20. There will be tutorials and registration Oct. 18. Abstracts of unclassified papers must arrive at AMSAA by June 4 to be considered for presentation. Submit requests for registration by July 23. Information and forms are available at the AORS website, <http://amsaa-web.arl.mil/aors> <<http://amsaa-web.arl.mil/aors>>, from selected organizational point-of-contacts, and from Jean Smith, Command Analysis, 313-0379.

### Marine Corps league

The Marine Corps League will hold its monthly meeting May 11 at the American Legion on Drake Avenue. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7. All present and past Marines are encouraged to attend.

### Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will hold a "career day" program at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For more information, call Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

### Plastic modelers

Huntsville Plastic Modeler's Society will meet tonight at 7 at the Recreation Center, building 3711. For more information, call 851-6842.

### Red Cross blood program

Friday— building 5400, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., call Pepper Takayama 313-2381.... May 10— building 3411, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, from 4-8 a.m., 1st Sgt. Berger 842-0608.... May 13— building 5309, first floor, room 9128, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Zaklyyah Shakoor 876-

8136, Jean Hicks 876-2944 or Betty Mountain 313-1779.... May 14— C Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, from 4:30-8 a.m., Lt. Smith 876-6697; building 6260, from 8-noon, Kathy Brooks 876-0351; building 4488, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Fran King Wilburn 842-7533.... May 21— building 4752, NASA, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Edwina Bressette 544-8115.... May 28— building 5681, from 7-noon, Susan Zimmerly 313-4163; Corps of Engineers, 7-noon, Donna Smiley 895-1760; SMDC, Wynn Drive, room 1 C 400, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Al Longhi 955-5901.

### Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments at 9:30 a.m., program at 10. Scheduled speaker is Gary Pledger, regional director of Bell South phone company. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

### Mr. Man quest

Samuel Brown Productions is looking for men interested in participating in the annual Mr. Man Premiere, held at the Redstone Arsenal Club Sept. 3. Selected men will be judged on style, finesse, personality and performance for the title of Mr. Man. Anyone interested in being a contestant, female model for the show or working with the production aspect should call Brown 233-4702 or pager 650-7736.

### Comedy theater

Theatre 'Round the Corner presents "The Moving of Lilla Barton," May 7-29. Lilla Barton is the congregation's former minister's widow, set on living out her days in the church rectory but the congregation has already promised it to the new pastor and his family. This is a delightful yet passionate Southern comedy. Featured dinner and theater nights on May 14-15 will take on a church social atmosphere with Bubba's providing the covered dishes. For ticket information, call 539-7529. Discounted tickets are also available at the Recreation Center with an Arsenal identification badge.

### Surplus sale

A sealed bid sale of surplus property will be held May 17 at the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO), building 7405. Property inspection and bid submission are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 12-14. Verbal bids will not be accepted. Submit bids by fax (876-9634), Internet ([www.drms.dla.mil](http://www.drms.dla.mil)), mail, or by hand delivery. Catalogs will not be mailed but are available at building 7415. For more information, call Donna Davis 842-2570 or Elizabeth Couch 842-9474.

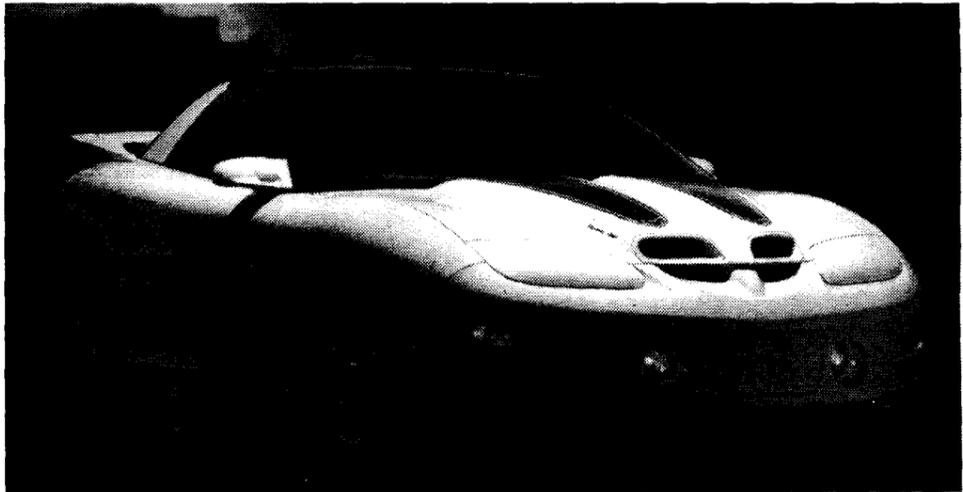
See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 26

# Howard Bentley

Announces Arrival of the

## 30th Anniversary

## 1999 Pontiac TransAm



The commemorative, limited edition 1999 Firebird TransAm will excite sports car enthusiasts everywhere with the power and performance they have come to expect. The TransAm legend is reborn with its 5.7 liter V-8 with Ram Air induction and 320 horsepower. In Arctic White with the broad blue striping of the original 1969 TransAm, and only 1,000 in the US, this car is a true collector's dream.

Features include: power rack-and-pinion steering, rear wheel drive, next generation dual air bags, cruise control, air, remote keyless entry and audible theft-deterent system, remote hatch release. Full length console and full power group including antenna, power windows with driver's "express down" and power door locks and dual sport bucket seats, mirrors and remoteable Trip.

Performance and handling package includes Ram Air Induction, specifically tuned suspension and dual outlet polished exhaust.

Wheels are medium blue-tinted clear coat Hi-polished 17"x9", 5 spoke with 30th Anniversary emblem. Interior features include white leather seating with embroidered 30th Anniversary, dark gray interior. Stereo system is complete with the MonSoon series AM/FM with CD player and 10 disc changer, high performance 8 speaker system.

Pontiac backs every 1999 Firebird with extensive 3 year/36,000 mile warranty and 24-hour roadside assistance.

This special, limited edition TransAm is here for your inspection and ready for delivery at \$35,995, plus tax and title.

Buyers will receive a package of commemorative 30th Anniversary jacket, hat and car cover.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

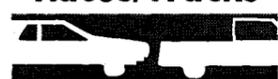
Continued from page 25

**Special forces**

Special Forces is looking for professional enlisted and officer volunteers. If you are an enlisted soldier in pay grade E-4 through E-7 with a GT score of 100 or higher, or you are a commissioned officer in year group 1993 through 1997, you can apply for Special Forces training. For more information on Special Forces, access the web page at: [www-benning.army.mil/fbhome/SForce/index.html](http://www-benning.army.mil/fbhome/SForce/index.html) or call the Special Forces Recruiting Team at Fort Benning, Ga., (706) 545-3079 or DSN 835-3079. Capt. Thomas Jarzen, SFC David Boyer and SFC Andy Wilson can answer your questions.

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**



'99 Buick Le Sabre. Custom-loaded, less than 1K mi. \$21,000. 256-586-4896.

'97 Buick Riviera. V6, auto., pearl white, tan leather int., AM/FM/CD, 28K, exc. cond. \$23,000. 256-232-5831.

'97 Ford Taurus GL. Exc. cond., 4dr, auto/pwr, new tires, non-smoker, Firestone inspected, see at S. Pkwy. lot. \$9,850. 883-1510.

'96 Honda Accord LX. Must sell, 4dr, 5sp, full pwr, CD/FM/AM/cass., 58K, like new. \$1500 below book. 882-9062.

'96 Mitsubishi Eclipse GS. 2dr, green, auto., AC, AM/FM/cass., roof, 30K mi., exc. cond. \$12,825 OBO. 256-881-7295.

'93 Ford Escort. Station wagon, red, 90K mi, as is, good working cond. \$2,500 OBO. 852-8516, Glenn.

'93 Mustang Convertible GT. Exc. cond., 64K mi., leather interior, all power, new top. \$11,500. 658-1840 or 233-1840.

'92 Mercedes 190E. White ext./light gray int., gorgeous car, 99K mi. Avg retail \$12,000. Asking \$10,000. 883-6894.

'91 Dodge Stealth ES. 88K mi., good cond., new tires. \$6,400. (256) 534-1733.

'91 Toyota Supra. Auto, removable top, AM/FM/cass., 129K mi. \$9,000 OBO. 971-1983.

'90 Ford Ranger. White, 5 spd, AC, bed liner, camper shell, long bed, alloy wheels, runs great, 119K mi. \$2,300 OBO 721-0402.

'90 Honda Civic LX. Loaded, high reliability, 4dr, PW, PD, auto, great condition, well-maintained, blue, 130K mi. \$3,400. 837-9371.

'89 Ford F150 4X2 Pickup. 1/2 ton, blue, 5 spd, 6 cyl, PS, PB, AC, 134K mi., LWB. Asking \$3,500 OBO. 859-0348.

'89 GMC Sierra SLE. 350, auto, all power and air, AM/FM/CD, tilt, cruise, 108K mi., custom paint/int./wheels. \$7,900. 256-232-6262.

'89 Toyota Supra. White, dark blue int., AC, all pwr, Alpine stereo and alarm, great cond., 153K mi. \$4,200. 379-4460.

'86 Olds 88. 3.8L, 115K mi., runs very good. \$1,500. 880-8012.

'83 Z-28 Camaro Roadster. 2 seat, retractable hardtop, factory conversion, very rare and fun investment automobile. \$9,500 OBO or trade! 931-5032.

'80 Honda Accord. 4 dr., auto or 5 spd. Needs some mechanical repair. \$400 as is. 883-6115 after 6 p.m.

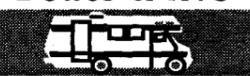
'79 Ford Fairmont. 4 cyl, PS, PB, 70K orig. mi. \$1,200 OBO. 461-7622.

'75 Ford F-150 Supercab Truck. 390, V8, auto., runs well but rusty. Must sell-too many cars. \$700 OBO. 721-6481.

'67 Mustang Fastback. Partially restored. \$6,000 OBO. Will consider trading for truck. 881-2687.

'57 Chevy Bel Air SW. Body, frame & all accessories included. \$1,900. 883-1631.

**Boats & RVs**



'96 Chris Craft Ski Boat. 17', 190 HP V6. \$10,995. More details at [http://people.goplay.com/r\\_mason](http://people.goplay.com/r_mason), email: [jrmason@airnet.net](mailto:jrmason@airnet.net) or phone: (256) 878-9463.

'91 Yamaha 650 Waverunner. Exc. cond. w/trailer. \$1,750. 882-9449.

'90 FS 1200 Yamaha motorcycle. Midnight blue, new clutch, fork seals, exc. cond. Asking \$3,000 OBO. 895-0348.

'89 19' Welcraft 3.2 Mercruiser in/out board, \$4,500. 2 super single waterbeds w/drawers, \$100 each. 828-4972.

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	<b>1994 Chevy C1500 4x4</b> Low Miles \$14,500		<b>1997 Nissan Pick-up</b> Low Miles \$9,250
	<b>1994 Chevy Blazer</b> \$8,395		<b>1997 Ford Escort</b> \$8,995

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**Classifieds**

'86 Bayliner. 21 ft. Ciera Cruiser, exc. cond., low hrs, Volvo Penta 225, radio, depthfinder, trim tabs, compass, trailer. \$8,900 OBO. 837-1785 Howard.

'82 Honda Magna V-45 750cc motorcycle. Must sell. \$1,200. 256-536-2424, lv. msg.

17' Glasspar Fiberglass Boat. Trailer, 140 hp, inboard/outboard, carpet and plywood replaced, spare prop. \$2,500. (256) 534-7911.

12' Aluminum "V" Hull boat. 5 1/2 hp, Johnson motor and trailer, all in exc. cond. \$600 OBO. 837-1834.

22' Cuddy Cabin Cruiser. VIP Special, completely restored, custom tandem trailer w/surge brakes. Too many extras to list. \$15,000. (256) 837-5303.

**Miscellaneous**



Apple Computer Performa 550. Modem and software. \$350. 880-7788.

Bookcase, Gray Metal. 3 sections, glass fronts, first \$35. 880-8681.

Butterfly Bushes, Mosquito plants, lantana & hydrangeas. Jimmy's Greenhouse. 233-0247. 1-800-25-SHRUBS.

Canondale T-700 Touring Bike. Like new. \$400 OBO. 722-2102.

Ceiling Fan. 52", 3spd, reversible w/light fixture, exc. cond. \$29. 883-6951.

Collectibles And More Auction. May 8, 1-3 pm, Messiah Lutheran Church, 7740 Hwy. 72W, Madison. Beanies, sports items, autographs, coin sets and more. Refreshments /childcare.

Computer 386/Win3.1. Monitor, printer, modem, 40mhd, manuals, lots of floppies. \$45 533-4672.

Defiance 31" Fireplace Insert w/blowers. Takes logs up to 22", exc. cond. New \$1050, asking \$550. (256) 498-3720.

Dove Tail Trailer. 84"x18'3", 14,000 lbs. cap., brakes on both axles, 1 1/2 yr old, 10 ply tires. \$2,900. 461-7442.

Free To Good Home. Beagle, female, 8-10 months, white, brown & black, very friendly & loveable. Found in Morgan City. 256-498-5520.

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In-Wall/Ceiling Speakers. 60 watts, 30 Hz-20kHz, 2 pairs available. \$115 per pair, new in box. 722-8288, Ron.

JBL Home Theater Speaker System. Five individual satellites plus powered subwoofer. \$250. 534-8205.

Moving. Must Sell. 6 piece swing set, 2 yrs. old. \$75. 464-7029.

Murray Riding Mower. 18 hp, B&S engine, 46" cut, auto. trans., grass catcher, 1995 model, exc. cond. \$975. 461-1401.

Oblong Cherry Coffee Table, \$45. Small computer table/desk, \$12. 881-6118.

Piano. Vertical Kimball Console. Used. \$500. 882-5450, John or Susan.

Photography Studio Lights, meter, power pack, \$15. Propane gas logs w/grate, never used, \$25. Children's pool table set, \$5. 350-8764.

Precious Memories Consignment & Thrift Shoppe @ 6210-E Old Madison Pike (next to GEICO) is now open, 11 am-5 pm. (256) 895-8141.

Riding Lawnmower. 11 hp, 36" cut, well cared for, covered from weather, need bigger machine. Asking only \$350. 882-1399.

Sharp Carousel II Microwave oven. Large capacity, 900W, exc. cond. \$75. 536-3675.

"The Annals of America." American history from 1493-1928, 14 volumes, \$150 OBO. 423-2519.

Used Raleigh Technium. Perfect cond., 12 spd, 21" frame. \$200. 722-9250.

**Real Estate**



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House FSBO: 2000 Tucker. 1512 sq. ft., 3 BR, 2 BA, eat-in kit., LR, enclosed garage, lg. lot, \$50,000. 464-5878.

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Large Country Lot with great view in nice residential area, perked, util. Toney 852-1180. Price negotiable.

Lease or Sale. Nice large, 4BR/2 1/2 BA, LR, GR, den, FP, DR, EIK, 2-car, new HVAC. \$850 mo. Avail. now. 3513 Maggie, NW. Lv. msg: 720-7533/(05) 856-8393 eve.

Nice one bedroom apartment completely furnished, includes washer/dryer, utilities, linens and all kitchen supplies. Non smoker. \$375/month. 852-7230.

1 BR/1 BA Condo For Sale. Good central location near Drake Arsenal entrance. Appliances included, clean. \$29,900. Call (256) 551-0223.

3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, Gate 3 Redstone Road. Huge porch, huge patio, 19 trees, 3/4 acre, workshop, 24x16 grandmother house, heat, air. \$117,000. 885-0521.

3023 Andros, Near Arsenal. New siding, flooring, central A/C & heat, 3 BR, fenced, assumable loan, refrigerator, stove, landscaping, storm windows. 533-1323.

Wanted To Buy: Doublewide used mobile home with fireplace. 852-3987.

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**Services**



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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.

**Employment**

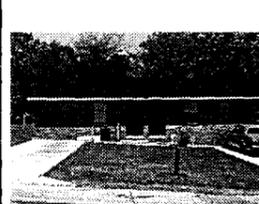


No Weekends, No Evenings, No holidays. If you like coffee and enjoy meeting people, then this fun job is for you. Applications being accepted for part-time positions at the Redstone Arsenal, Sparkman Center Espresso Bar, located in Bldg. 5302, cafeteria entrance. Open M-F 6:30-3:30. For further information call 721-7772, evenings.

For Advertising Information call The Advertiser Co. **539-9828**

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