

Redstone Rocket

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October 13, 1999

Buying a chance to save lives

Annual charity campaign goal hopes to raise \$1.4 million

By Sandy Riebeling

The Combined Federal Campaign's annual kickoff celebration at the Sparkman Auditorium Oct. 5 was a roller coaster ride of emotions, from the toe tapping performance of Grissom High School's Jazz Band and Choral Ensemble to the heartwarming and sometimes comical moments shared by the guest speakers.

In his welcoming remarks, Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, spoke with confidence about reaching the \$1.4 million goal for the Tennessee Valley this year.

"This is a truly worthy event," he said. "The slogan, 'Care Enough to Share Enough' is right on target. We who have so much should be willing to part with some for those who do not. We exceeded last year's goal and I expect to do it again. I'm looking forward to the rivalry and competitions this year's campaign should bring—I'm waiting for someone to kiss a pig."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

GUEST SPEAKERS — The inspirational stories of Hurley, left, and Morris gave the crowd living proof that giving matters.

Keynote speaker Liz Hurley, news anchor for WAFF-TV Channel 48, shocked the audience with her opening announcement, "I'm here to talk about the lottery."

While the audience remained respectfully silent, there was a moment of confusion. She went on to explain.

"No one told you I was here to talk to



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

AGENCY FAIR—More than 30 agencies benefiting from the contributions of the CFC set up outside the Sparkman Auditorium for the campaign kickoff. Brenda Latson, left, and Brenda Lovejoy, both from South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, browse the information table at the March of Dimes booth.

you about the lottery? About buying a chance? About gambling, chances and choices—the Lotto of life? When you don't have regular physicals, you're playing the lottery, taking a risk and hedging your bet. I know what I'm talking about. I did have regular checkups and I still found myself having to bet on survival."

Hurley was referring to her battle against breast cancer she has waged for the past year. When she was diagnosed, she and her husband researched all the possibilities before deciding on a non-traditional route which involved receiving high-dose

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From colonel to Mr. Mom

Retiring SAMD director ready to report for domestic duty

By Sandy Riebeling

When Col. James Mitchell joined the Army in 1969, he wasn't looking at it as a career decision. With the Vietnam conflict in full swing, Mitchell knew it was volunteer or be drafted so four days after graduating college he headed to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., for basic training.

"My thinking was to do my two years and then get out," Mitchell, director of the Security Assistance Management Directorate, said. "I was married at 17. Worked my way through college. I wasn't

See Mitchell on page 10

Town Hall Q&A

Web site is answer for questions posed at quarterly meetings

By Sandy Riebeling

The AMCOM Town Hall web site has received more than 7,000 hits since the most recent meeting Aug. 12. Some log on to see the video presentation of Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, speaking at the meeting. Some log on to peruse the questions and answers posed by employees concerned about the issues that were discussed, or perhaps, not discussed. Others may be looking for something more specific—perhaps the answer to a question they have asked, via e-mail, after the meeting was adjourned.

"We put the videotape on the web with-

in a couple of hours of the meeting," said Claus Martel, historian in the AMCOM Historical Office, who designed and maintains the site. "We also post all the questions and answers that occurred during the meeting whether they were asked by e-mail, phone or from someone in the audience. The e-mail address is open for 10 days after the meeting so people can write in with additional questions. This time we had 89 questions in all."

Debbie Bearden works in automation assistance for the secretary of the general staff and is the one responsible for pulling the questions off the e-mail, sending them out to the proper subject matter experts for

See Web site on page 13

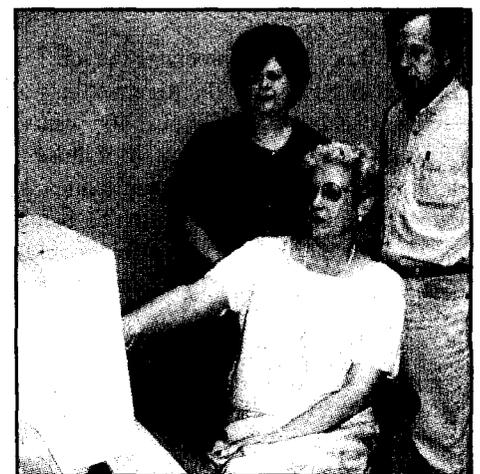


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

WEB CHECK—The Town Hall web site offers employees an electronic avenue to ask questions and get answers about information presented at the quarterly meetings. A team of three, Collier, seated, Bearden, left, and Martel, keep the site updated with the latest questions, answers and information.

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Letters to the editor

POSH training

I just attended the annual POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) training. It is a shame the EEO Office can't bring themselves to take this seriously. They could not even take the time to develop a professional, current presentation. It scares me that if I am ever a victim of harassment that these are the people who are supposed to assist me. They might as well have stood up and said "don't bother me with your problems, we don't consider sexual harassment issues as worthy of our attention."

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: Kate Love, POSH program manager, AMCOM EEO Office, provided the following response. "Numerous videos were reviewed in preparation for training in the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH). The selected video, while dated, was the most comprehensive for the purposes of recognition and prevention of sexual harassment in the government environment.

"As indicated in the training, the EEO Office is equipped with a sexual harassment hotline (876-6461) which is available 24 hours a day. Managers and employees are encouraged to contact the office via the hotline or in person when a situation involving allegations of sexual harassment arises."

Voter turnout

The National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) Local 405 wishes to thank all of the AMCOM employees for coming out in such large numbers to vote in support of the election that was held on Oct. 7, 1999.

NFFE Local 405 appreciates the job that each and everyone did to make this election a success. NFFE Local 405 wants to give a special thank you to all of those employees who volunteered their man-hours in helping with the election by being organizers, poll observers, our voices, and those loyal supporters. NFFE Local 405 appreciates you coming out to vote for representation.

Again, we want to thank everyone for coming out to vote. If and when you need us, please make a note that we will support you in any way possible.

Larry S. Jones Sr.
President NFFE Local 405

Octoberfest

When you hear the word Octoberfest, you would think of these three main things, the German music, the German beer and the German food. In the past the Arsenal had all of these things and it made for a great fest. Now for this year the Arsenal had the German beer and even added Jagermeister and schnapps, and a great German band, but as for the food. The only German food was a bratwurst on a hot dog bun; this is not my idea of German food nor my friends. My friends and I were very upset with this because when the Arsenal started this we would all meet out there (about 20 people plus kids) and eat/drink, dance and let the kids ride the rides and have a good time. We all looked forward to not only the German music and beer but the German food and if we want a hot dog or barbecue we can get that somewhere else. To all of us you need to have those three main things to even call it an Octoberfest.

If possible maybe next year you can at least tell what kind of food you are having (not a bratwurst on a bun); so that way we can go to the Soldatenstube or somewhere and eat and then come and drink German beer and listen to German music and let the kids ride the rides. This will not make the Redstone Rocket but I sure would like to hear from someone on this.

Mike Stewart

Editor's note: Dan Ahern, director of community and family activities, provided the following response. "Thank you so much for your input. Contrary to your belief, the Rocket decided to run your letter and give me the chance to respond; and I'm grateful because all customer input is valued by my Directorate of Community and Family Activities (the Customer Service Directorate).

"Your points are very valid ones. In fact most of the customer exit survey input we collected on site at Oktoberfest '99 reflected similar satisfaction with the overall event, quality and value of the entertainment,

rides, most food and beverages, and lack of lines.

"However, I truly wish we had \$1 for every time we on the DCFA 'Oktoberfest' team heard the three words 'where's the Schnitzel?' during the event.

"Our decision to go without schnitzel and serve a variety of German wursts and German-style 'Brathendl' (Weiner-Wald rotisserie chicken) as our German food offerings was, in retrospect, a poor one. Based on overwhelming customer input received during the event that exactly mirrored your comments, we WILL SEE SCHNITZEL, Sauerkraut, und Kartoffelsalat at all future Oktoberfests on Redstone Arsenal! Our customers want it, so you will have it.... Schnitzel in 2000!

"Thanks again for the input; and we're glad you came and had an overall good time at the Fest. Plans are already under way for a greatly improved event with additional activities and menu offerings at Oktoberfest 2000, so we look forward to serving (and feeding) you and your guests next year."

Union representation election results on hold pending appeal

By Beth Skarupa

After the polling places closed Thursday, the union representation election ballot boxes were sealed so that the votes could be counted at a later date. The ballots cast are being maintained by the Federal Labor Relations Authority until a ruling is received on an appeal.

According to Al Schwartz, AMCOM public affairs officer, an appeal was filed after FLRA ruled that an election would be held. The appeal asked that exclusive representation be granted to a union rather than being determined by an election.

The reason for the election goes back to the base realignment and closure decision of 1995 which caused the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis and the Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal to be disestablished and the Aviation and Missile Command to be formed. Both the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), the union which had represented the employees in St. Louis, and the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), the union which had

represented the employees at Redstone Arsenal, then petitioned the Federal Labor Relations Authority to represent the AMCOM employees.

According to LeRoy Daniels, AMCOM civilian personnel officer, each union was granted "status quo" provisions pending a representational decision. Based on a hearing held in June 1998, FLRA ruled that a representational election would be held. In August 1999, FLRA met with representatives of the two unions and management officials from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center to establish ground rules for the election.

According to those ground rules, the purpose of the election was to determine the exclusive representative, if any, desired by the eligible employees for purposes of collective bargaining with AMCOM. Exclusive representation was to be chosen by a majority of the valid ballots cast.

Until a ruling is made on the appeal, the ballots will continue to be maintained by FLRA.

"We may not know the results for a while," Schwartz said.

Water quality meets standards

The Directorate of Environmental Management and Planning (DEMP) has completed the installation's first Drinking Water Quality Report and is able to announce that Redstone's drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

DEMP has made the report available to residents through the U.S. Postal System and to installation personnel via Redstone's web page: (www.redstone.army.mil).

In 1998 President Clinton announced the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's new drinking water right-to-know initiative, the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule. The rule requires that all community water systems prepare annual drinking water quality reports for their consumers.

These CCRs will enable individuals to make practical, knowledgeable decisions about their health and their environment. You are encouraged to review the CCR. For questions or comments, contact: Commander, AMCOM, Attn: AMSAM-RA-EMP-IC (Tim Howard), Redstone Arsenal, 35898-5300, phone 842-2843; or e-mail Howard at howard-ti@redstone.army.mil.

Redstone Rocket

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AUSA sponsors soldiers' trip to Washington for convention



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HEADING FOR D.C.— From left in front row are Wiley, SSgt. Stephen Booker, Dewberry, Scheett, Cathey, SFC Sharon Booker, CSM Roscoe Johnson; in back row CSM Lewis Lockett, Carmichael, Charles, John Riche (AUSA representative), Bullard, Abernathy and Ramirez. Not pictured are Blanco, Clay and Henderson.

Redstone's best soldiers for the past year are in Washington, D.C. this week for the annual AUSA convention.

Soldiers who were named either NCO of the Quarter or Soldier of the Month traveled to the convention in a trip sponsored by Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army. The 14-member group also included committee members.

The Redstone community is also represented by a display board at the convention, Oct. 9-15. Besides sponsoring the trip, the

AUSA chapter funded uniforms for Redstone's team in the annual Army Ten-Miler held Sunday.

The soldiers and NCOs include Sgt. Angela Wiley, SSgt. Stephen Booker, Spec. Arvin Dewberry, Cpl. Jennifer Scheett, Sgt. Shana Cathey, SFC Sharon Booker, Sgt. Chad Carmichael, Spec. Richard Charles III, Spec. Robert Bullard, SSgt. Johngeline Abernathy, Spec. Gerson Ramirez, SSgt. Ramon Blanco, SFC Phyllis Clay and Sgt. James Henderson.

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Community town hall

Residents ask about gas prices, garbage pickup, guard gates

By Sandy Riebeling

Gouging gas prices at the Shopette was a hot topic of discussion among the larger than average crowd at the community town hall meeting last week. Redstone residents wanted to know why the gas prices at the Shopette were at least 10 cents a gallon more than public gas stations located within a mile or two of the Arsenal. Prices from nearby Wavaho, Citgo and Fuel City were named specifically as lower priced stations.

Kenny Barton, general manager at the Post Exchange, briefly explained policy pricing at the Shopette, which is a part of the AAFES.

"We survey six stations in the area as part of the process," Barton said. "Our policy is to get a reasonable return and offer reasonable prices. It will not be the cheapest all the time. Our price does match the lowest price on the survey."

Barton also explained that public station gas prices are determined by several factors including whether the facilities are leased or owned and additives in the fuel. He also said that Wavaho was not one of the stations on the survey list but that he would look into the price discrepancy and perhaps revamp the survey list.

Garbage collection at the playground was on the mind of 12-year-old Dayton



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

SAFETY PATROL—Unit coordinator for Tripp Drive, SFC William Weed expresses concern for youngsters biking in his neighborhood without wearing helmets. He was told that unit coordinators do have the authority to talk to the parents of children violating the bicycle helmet law at Redstone.

Carroll.

"I've been playing at this same playground for almost two years and the trash hasn't been emptied since I've been there. It's really bad," Carroll said. The issue was

See Community on page 6

Castings cost-reduction seminar scheduled Oct. 27

As part of the Defense Logistics Agency Casting Initiative, the CH-47 Project Office is working with Boeing and the American Metalcasting Consortium to look at castings as an alternative source of parts for the CH-47 to reduce both acquisition and lifecycle costs.

Seminars will be held at Boeing, Philadelphia, and at Redstone Arsenal. Personnel from all the Program Executive Office organizations and AMCOM are invited to participate in an intensive, day-long, data-packed seminar on Premium Quality Aluminum Castings on Oct. 27. The seminar will qualify for the award of eight Continuous Learning Points for acquisition education.

Developed by the American Metalcasting Consortium, the seminar will feature three premium quality foundries – Hitchcock Industries, Wyman-Gordon, and Howmet. Together these foundries will explore and demonstrate the use of sand and investment cast aerospace structures. Using case studies, this team will address the following topics in detail:

- Casting Design Case Studies including Design for Manufacture, File Transfers, Casting Simulation, Casting Prototypes, Casting Properties, Casting Factors, and Casting Inspection;
- Casting Processes including Investment Casting and Composite Sand Casting;
- Casting Acquisition including working with foundries in during design, and working with foundries during production.

Seminar participants will be provided handout materials, technical and specification data, and access to technical experts in premium quality aluminum casting design and acquisition. The seminar will be conducted in the SELA Auditorium in building 5400 starting at 8 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m.

If you are interested in attending this seminar, register with John Hynan 313-3358, e-mail hynanj@peoavn.redstone.army.mil, (e-mail preferred) by Oct. 18. Registration is necessary to ensure that the appropriate number of handouts will be available and to expedite the badge requirements for building 5400. Participants must be U.S. citizens. If you would like specific details to specific questions, direct these requests to John Hynan or Jon Tirpak, the American Metalcasting Consortium's engineering manager at (843) 760-4346.

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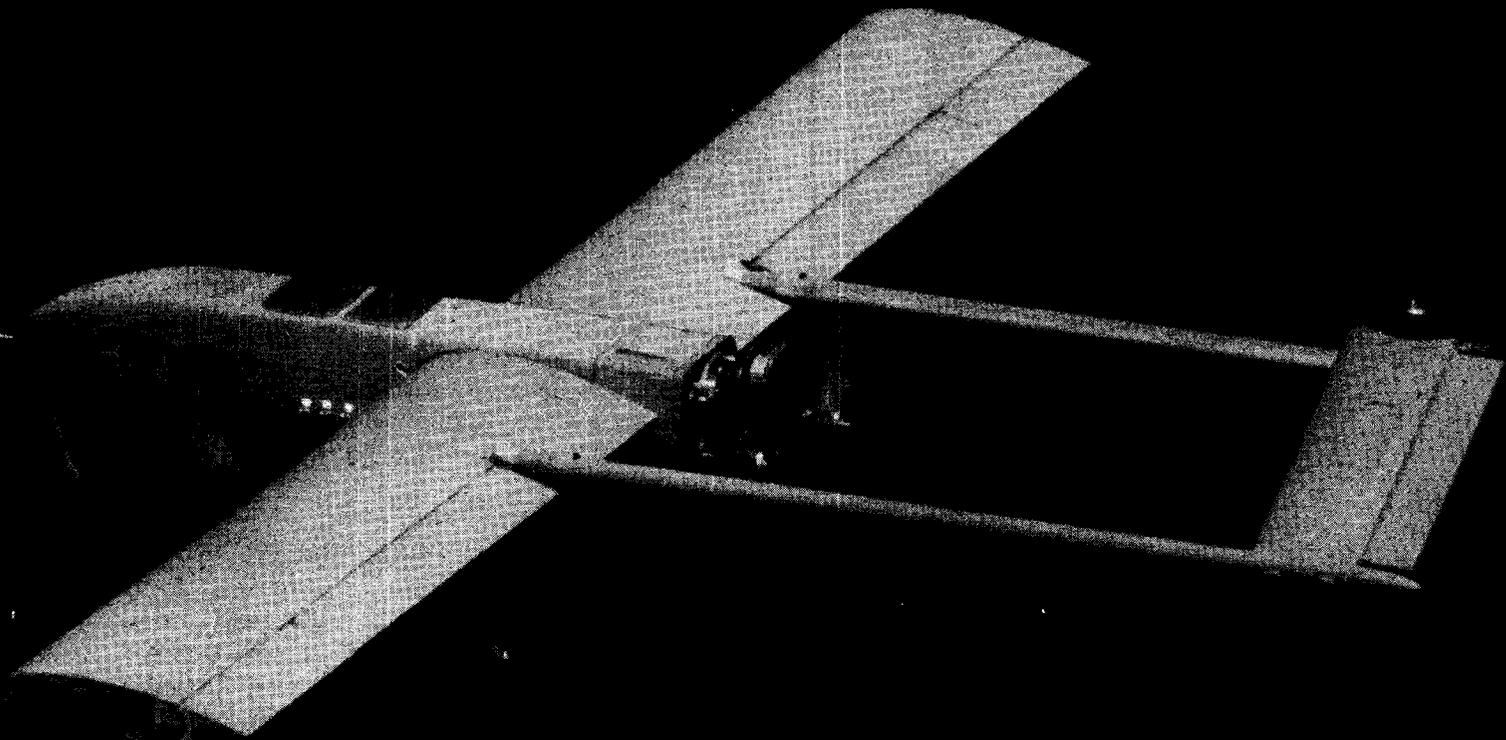
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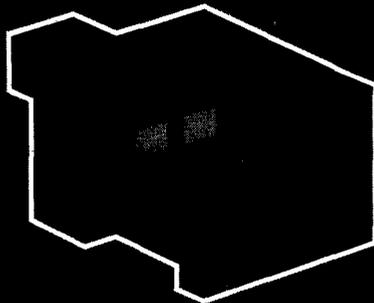
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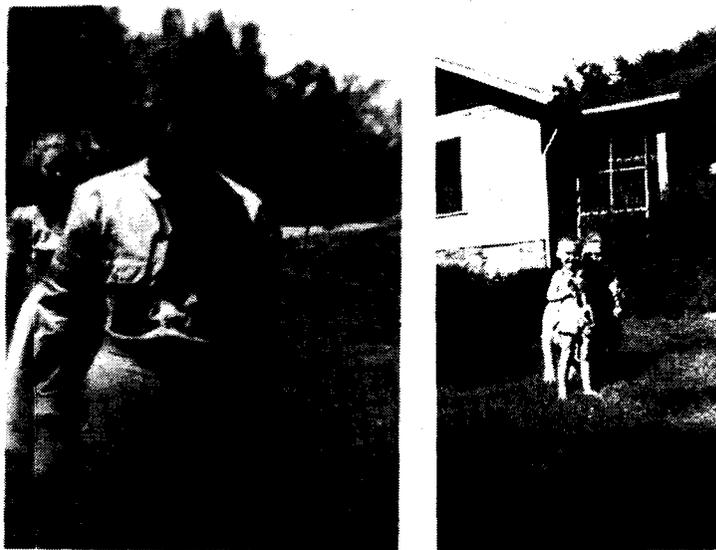


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Residents express their concerns during town hall meeting

Community

continued from page 4

discussed and found to be a contracting problem. Garbage removal from playgrounds is not included in the contract. Steps are being taken to amend the contract to include service to all the playgrounds.

Construction on a new guard gate north of gate 4 (Patton Road) is expected to begin in November. Gate 9 on Rideout Road will also be under construction at the same time with the addition of guard stations for each driving lane. Both projects should be complete in April.

Other topics of discussion included:

The school bus operations reported on the status of 10 new air-conditioned buses ordered. Three have arrived, two are on the road and one is still undergoing the safety check. In addition, video cameras are on order and will be installed in the school buses upon arrival.

Fall cleanup is slated for Dec. 2-3. Also, requests for fall plantings have been mailed to the residents and must be filled out and returned to Housing by today. Plants should arrive in mid-November.

Safety was the big issue concerning demolition in Area 4 due to begin in November. Residents are ordered to stay clear of the area and be aware that some streets will be blocked as demolition progresses.

The Bicentennial Chapel is currently undergoing improvements to include a sprinkler system in the flower beds, replacement of the front sign and installation of handrails and a handicap ramp.

New safety fencing will be installed on

baseball fields 4, 5, 6 and 7. Concern was voiced about the poor condition of the athletic fields near the AIT soldier's quarters but no resolution was discussed.

Roof repairs in Area 3 on Ripley Drive and Wadsworth Drive is expected to take 2-3 days per house, depending on the condition of the wood beneath the shingles. Residents are asked to remove all wall hangings before the roofers begin work.

The first road paving project in three years is set to begin in the spring. The contract to pave Goss, Rideout and Fowler roads was awarded in September but the contractor will not be available until the spring. The company shuts down during the winter months.

Both Toftoy and Martin bridges will be undergoing repairs.

The Soccer season is off to an energetic start with 16 teams and 162 youth ages 5-13. Youth basketball registration begins Oct. 25 at the Youth Center. Practice begins the first week of December.

Sue Paddock, chief of Army Community Service, submitted a report on the progress of the Huntsville City School Strategic Plan which she helped to develop as representative from Redstone Arsenal. Task forces will be formulated to address the goal objectives of the plan. Paddock encouraged Redstone parents to get involved and serve on these teams.

Before dismissing, Ivy Downs, quality of life coordinator for Redstone, announced the upcoming Family Symposium in November, asking those with problems, issues, or improvement ideas fill out the survey, available on the web, and possibly serve as delegates for the two-day event.

Boeing plans Phantom Works technology expo

The Boeing Company's advanced research and development unit - Phantom Works - will conduct a technology exposition at the Redstone Army Airfield (Hanger 4832) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 20-21.

The exposition will present technologies, processes and advanced systems developed by the Phantom Works, and will address acquisition reform, lean manufacturing, affordability, supportability and sustainment initiatives that can improve the lifecycle value of existing and future products.

Other highlights of the exposition

include: 3-D modeling and simulation processes, structures and vehicle configuration technologies, advanced prototyping techniques, and advanced systems such as hypersonic/space transportation vehicles, blended wing-body aircraft and a canard rotor/wing concept.

The exposition at the airfield is open to all active-duty U.S. government military and civilian personnel of U.S. citizenship. A valid U.S. government identification badge will be required due to the proprietary nature of the information on display. (Boeing release)



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Techno talk

Friday's ribbon cutting opens lab to test communications between weapons systems in a task force environment

By Sandy Riebeling

Imagine yourself in a battle situation. You have the binoculars and can see the approach of the enemy. Your comrade who controls the weapon system for the ensuing battle stands next to you ready to fire. You tell him the coordinates but it's obvious by the look on his face that he doesn't understand. You get more excited as the enemy nears, pointing and shouting, telling him where to fire. Now is the wrong time to find out that he doesn't understand English and that's all you speak.

Communication between weapons systems in a task force situation is critical. It's important to know before the battle is at hand that what the Sentinel radar sees is correctly interpreted by the other systems operating in the theater and that the target being tracked is seen by all the systems in its true form and location. A misinterpretation of information between systems could be disastrous.

Enter: Task Force Exerciser. The TFX is real time hardware in the loop, Air and Missile Defense Interoperability test bed housed in the Software Engineering

Directorate at Redstone Arsenal that provides a capability to realistically stimulate and stress U.S. Army Theater Air and Missile Defense systems operating in a task force configuration. This tool exercises and tests the integration and interoperability of multiple AMD tactical battle management command, control, and communications systems hardware and software.

"The TFX is a free standing lab that feeds threat data to the tactical system and measures the system's response to the threat," Jay West, system integrator for the AMD TFX, said. "We know what we've fed into the system. We want to see how it interprets the threat and how the information is worked through the system. If there is a problem, we need to see at what point the system overloads or fails."

West used Patriot as an example. Once the Test Exercise Controller, which is part of the TFX, puts out the threat, he's interested to see if the Patriot data "sees" it as it should and does Patriot accurately pass sensor data to other AMD systems. Do other systems in the task force accurately receive and process the data they have been passed.

"We are comparing the perceived data

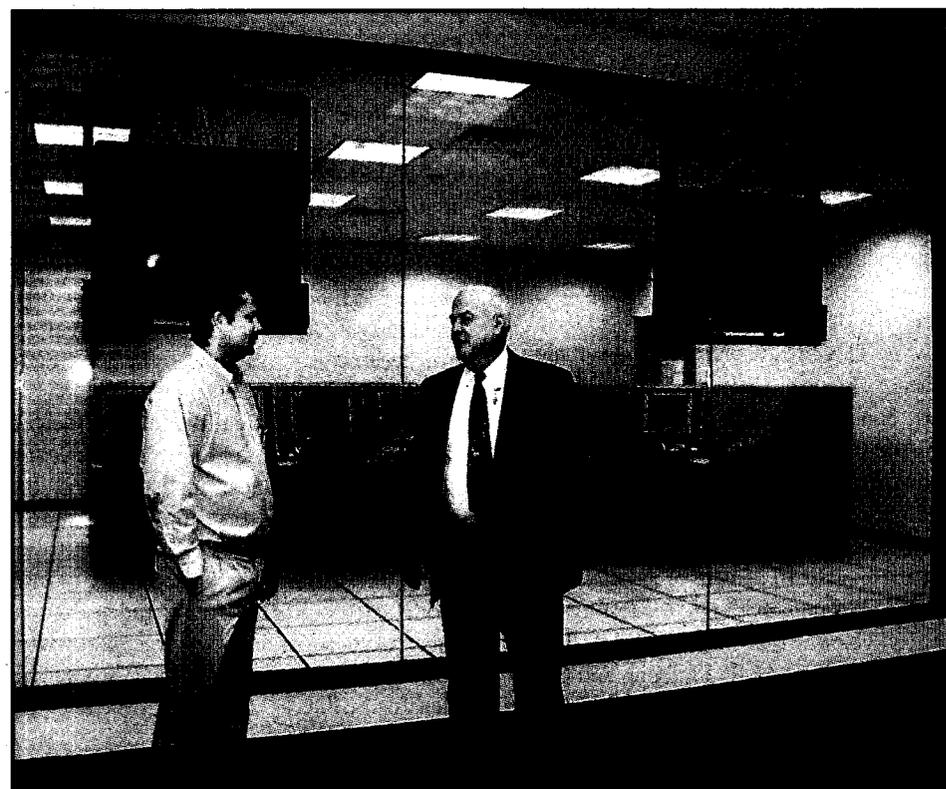


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

SIM LAB—The ribbon cutting for SED's new simulation lab will be Friday. The lab tests the interoperability of several weapons systems in a task force situation. West, left, with Craig and finalize the last of the details before the official opening.

within the systems to the truth data that was input and how well the systems responded," West said. "We can do a day of testing and generate incredible amounts of data. It only takes one week to run a formal exercise but it may take two or three months of preparation and another month afterward to reduce

the data and analyze it."

TFX development is managed by a government team comprised of representatives from the Program Executive Office, Air and Missile Defense and the Aviation and Missile Command SED. In 1997 then Brig. Gen. Dan

See TFX on page 8



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TFX

continued from page 7

Montgomery, PEO AMD, recognized the need for interoperability testing not just after the systems are fielded but during the developmental stages, to reduce communication problems between the systems once they are fielded.

The TFX Test Controller is a variation of Theater Missile Defense System Exerciser test controller developed by the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization to conduct joint interoperability tests. Using the existing technology, the TFX test controller was duplicated and installed on Redstone Arsenal for approximately 10 percent of its original cost.

Systems integrated into the testing system currently are the Patriot, Joint Tactical Ground Station, AMD Planning and Control System, Sentinel, Tactical Communications

Environment Segment and Theater High Altitude Area Defense. Within a few months, other entities of the Short Range Air Defense program will be included.

"This is a real time test," West said. "It's amazing what can be learned here, without the expensive field testing at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. We can test parts of individual systems during development to avoid future problems. It's cost effective because it is all done right here. Field tests are expensive."

Each AMD tactical system is located within its own lab at SED. A fiber-optic network links the tactical systems with the TFX Controller to form the TFX test bed. Construction of the TFX Test Controller began in March. The lab consists of two rooms, a monitoring room and a conference room separated by large glass windows. Ribbon cutting for the TFX is scheduled for Friday.

Strike zone

The following are high bowling scores recorded at the Rocket Lanes:

Jeffery Corker, 255, series 693
 Pat Hunt, 227, series 607
 John Howard, 257
 Tom Ninon, 222
 Harry Evans, 222
 Carl Collins, 218
 John Goltz, 234, series 640
 Harold Stitt, 233, series 627
 Norwood Cutter, 213, series 621
 Lewis Trayvick, 235; series 623
 Roy Brown, 234, series 627
 Alonzo Buggs, 221, series 614

Wes McKleroy, 224
 Mathew Rosenblum, 249
 Jeffery Grimm, 222
 Dorenda Pleasure, 255
 Turien Lane, 240, series 619
 Phyllis Schnaare, 215
 Patti Lin, 230
 Brenda Glouner, 223
 Teresa Ennis, 214.
 High scores for the Youth American Bowling Association included Jed Spencer, 215; and Matthew May, 220.

Crimson Tide should ride past Mississippi

By Skip Vaughn

Skip's Picks had a 80-36 record after six weeks. Here are my predictions for selected games this week in major college football:

Alabama at Ole Miss—Alabama
 South Carolina at Arkansas—Ark.
 Florida at Auburn—Florida
 Georgia at Vanderbilt—Georgia
 LSU at Kentucky—Kentucky
 Tuskegee at Ala. A&M—Tuskegee

North Alabama at Delta St.—Delta St.
 Fresno State at Southern Methodist—Fresno
 Ohio State at Penn State—Penn State
 Southern Cal at Notre Dame—USC
 Utah at Air Force—Air Force
 Army at Southern Miss—Southern Miss
 Wake Forest at Florida State—FSU
 Temple at Miami—Miami
 Colorado at Texas Tech—TT
 California at UCLA—UCLA
 Arizona State at Washington—Wash.
 Kansas at Texas A&M—Texas A&M



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Health matters

New facility at Fox centers on customer service satisfaction

By Beth Skarupa

A large crowd turned out at Fox Army Health Center for the ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening the new Customer Service Center Friday.

"At Fox we focus on continually improving customer service. This customer service center will assist in eliminating the bottlenecks sometimes encountered in accessing military healthcare," Col. J. Mark Kirk, commander of Medical Department Activity at Fox Army Health Center, said.

Located on Fox's second floor, the center offers a central location for health care assistance and information for all members of the Redstone family. Members of the center include the Tricare Service Center, the health benefits adviser, the Supplemental Care office, the Exceptional Family Member coordinator, the Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program, and the Physical Evaluations Board liaison officer. Staff members are also available to offer assistance in obtaining referrals to specialty physicians or to answer questions on health care in general.

"This all ties into our mission to continuously improve the medical readiness of Team Redstone and provide accessible quality health services for our beneficiar-

ies," Kirk said.

Kirk especially thanked his predecessor, Lt. Col. Mark Miller, who conceptualized the center and saw it through design, funding and construction, and Kate Roberts, the project officer. He also thanked Clement Kristoferson, who he called "the 'man on the scene' who made things happen," housekeeping, and the maintenance contractors ACE and BMAR who "went above and beyond the call of duty in bringing this center to fruition."

The Customer Service Center is open 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday except for holidays. Appointments are not required. Call 882-7404 for more information.



Photo by Beth Skarupa

INFORMATION OUTLET—Satisfaction is the goal of the new Customer Service Center located on the second floor of Fox Army Health Center. On hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony were, from left, Miller, Kirk, and Barbara K. Reed, health systems manager for the Tricare Service Center.

Mitchell

continued from page 1

looking at the Army as a career."

But as it turned out, the Army wasn't such a bad deal. After all, Mitchell got a whole day and a half off every week, something he'd never had before.

"My family owned a restaurant back east," Mitchell said. "The diner part of it was open 24 hours a day and the two dining rooms in the back were open 11 in the morning until 8 at night. We didn't get days off. I started working there when I was 9 or 10 years old as a dishwasher. By the time I was going to college, I had worked my way up to short order cook."

While his two older sisters and older brother stayed to work in the restaurant, Mitchell was off to see the world. Although he had earned a bachelor's degree from Millarsville State College before entering the Army, he enlisted as a private. After

See Mitchell on page 11

Admin professionals hone leadership skills

The International Association of Administrative Professionals, Redstone Arsenal Chapter once again held a four-hour class Sept. 16 at no charge for Redstone administrative professionals.

Fifty-four professionals, including two from Birmingham, took advantage of the opportunity to hear Marilyn Lands of the Huntsville/Madison County Mental Health

Center speak on "Leadership Skills for Administrative Assistants and Secretaries." Participants received recertification credits for attending this workshop. Lands provided attendees skills for leadership roles in the 21st century for their work, family, religion and social or civic groups.

Many tools were given dealing with leadership skills for secretaries and admin-

istrative assistants. The leadership information tools presented were applicable in both professional and personal lives.

The Redstone Chapter will present its fifth annual seminar Feb. 15 at the Huntsville Hilton. For more information, call Ivagene Baxley 828-7420.

See Leadership on page 11

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Mitchell

continued from page 10

completing basic and then advanced individual training at Fort Sill, Okla., he went to Field Artillery Officer Candidate School and then landed in Alaska at his first duty station as a second lieutenant.

"That was probably one of my best assignments," Mitchell said. "I got to do a lot of training, tough winter training. I even got to be a battery commander. As a first lieutenant I served as the battalion S-3 which was an operations officer. That was an unusual opportunity. My son, Kyle, who is now 28, was also born in Alaska."

Next stop for Mitchell was Vietnam. "Interesting" is the word chosen to describe his time there. He did however, earn the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, with a Bronze Star for his time served there.

Back home again, reunited with his family in Fort Rucker, Mitchell was again a father, to a little girl this time, Jamie.

"I always kept thinking that I would just



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

COUNTING THE DAYS— After nearly 31 years of Army life, Mitchell and his wife will head back home to York, Penn., where he will become the homemaker and his wife will begin her career in management technology.

finish out this tour and then get out," Mitchell said. "Then after about 18 years, I thought that I would stick it out for 20 and retire."

But when 20 came and went, Mitchell was still in the Army. He and his family enjoyed the traveling and experiences the Army offered. Nearly one-third of his career was served at Fort Monmouth, N.J., which

See Mitchell on page 18

Leadership

continued from page 10

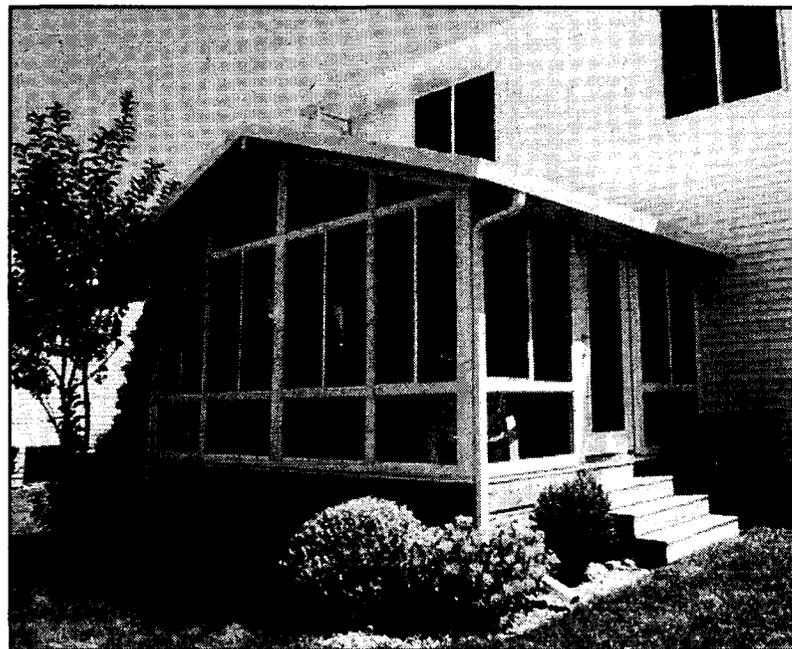
The chapter, which has 26 members, is open to all government-employed administrative professionals. For information on membership, call June Pockrus 876-3322

or Jacqueline Kenner 876-8131.

Luncheon meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to noon at the Redstone Arsenal Club. The Redstone Chapter provides scholarships yearly to local high school and college students. For information on IAAP scholarships, call Armita Lee 876-8082.

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Photo by Beth Skarupa

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY—Sullivan, left, talks with Anthony Ramirez during the luncheon.

Heritage celebration

Ceremony highlights Hispanic legacy of service to nation

By Beth Skarupa

Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated Oct. 5 at the Redstone Arsenal Club with music, food, songs and speeches. Hispanic Americans were honored for their commitment to excellence and service to country in defense of liberty and democracy.

This year's national theme for the celebration was "Visions for the 21st Century."

The new millenium is expected to bring unprecedented opportunities for Hispanics, partly because of their expanding population, as well as their growing representation in local and national politics and their participation in all areas of American enterprise.

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was Anthony Ramirez, an attorney from St.

See Luncheon on page 13

Hispanic Heritage Month contest winners announced

Sgt. Ismael Moreno had the best vision for the 21st century during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Moreno, of Headquarters & Alpha Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, won the essay contest on the theme, "Visions for the 21st Century." AMCOM and OMMCS/59th sponsored the contest for Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 through Oct. 15.

Moreno received a plaque from Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, during the Hispanic month luncheon Oct. 5 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Pvt. Jennifer Gonzalez, of C Company, 832nd, received the second-place plaque.

Winners of a display contest for the month included: ETTD, 832nd, coordinated by SFC William Parker, first-place trophy; MSTD, 832nd, coordinated by SFC Ramon Ortiz, second-place trophy; and C Company, 832nd, coordinated by SSgt. Thomas Dobbin, third-place trophy.

Moreno's essay was selected by a panel of judges from among several entries, according to SFC Terry Quesenberry, equal opportunity adviser for 59th Ordnance Brigade. It was chosen for its "connection with the theme," he said.

Here is the text of Moreno's essay:

"The 'Visions for the 21st Century' are merely echoes of our ancestors. Where exploitation and criticism will be part of the past. Conformity to cultural diversity will be significant to our social status as we are all descendants of Adam and Eve.

"Participation, rather it be individually or collective to our nation will be complex with an emphasis on creating a stronger nation. Individuality will manifest for the barrios and campos (labor camps) across the United States, some will remain anonymous for their contribution will be to simply help our nation grow.

"Roll call in our nation's armed forces will be filled with more Hispanic names, such as Spec. Alfonso Villalobos now serving in the United States Army and all fallen soldiers will set forth the example for the security of our great nation, and to everyone in all fields making the 21st century the century of our nation. Those are, and will be, a reflection of our traditional emotional and spiritual existence.

"Ultimately and inevitably the 21st century will bring changes to all aspects of life in our nation. With integrated cultures our nation will flourish. The similarity in standards, and values across cultural lines will be self evident."

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■ Web site answers questions from Town Hall meeting

Web site

continued from page 1

answers, tracking the questions, receiving the responses and getting them to Martel so that he can update the web site as soon as possible.

"We know that some questions have taken a while to get answered but we're doing what we can to speed the process along," Bearden said. "We take great pains to make sure every question gets an answer."

While there is an answer posted for every question, some questions that ask the same thing, just in a different way, may be consolidated for space. To find out if a particular question has been answered, it's important to look for the answer instead of the exact wording of the question, Bearden said.

As Martel receives the questions and answers, he divides them into topical categories to make it easier for people to find answers to their questions. Major topics for the last Town Hall included VERA/VSIP, downsizing and RIF related questions; AWS, labor, personnel and related topics; personnel demonstration program/ A-76; Unions and other topics.

"As the questions cover a broader range of topics, categories will be added," Martel

said. "These were just the major concerns from that particular Town Hall meeting."

Also on the web site are printed answers to questions asked on the new 6-BOSS hotline set up by Sullivan as another means to open lines of communication.

"We post ones that may be of interest to a lot of people on post," Carolyn Collier, chief, command management and support office, said. "Claus also archives all the questions from the previous meetings to get the site ready before an upcoming town hall meeting. These questions are available at the web site."

While there had been a web site in existence for several years, it wasn't until June 1998 that Redstone's chief of staff put it under the direction of the secretary of the general staff. Collier was the acting SGS at the time and contacted Martel to assist with the redesign.

"Claus handles everything on the web site," Collier said. "He does a fantastic job keeping it up to date."

For Martel, building the web site was nothing new. He built and maintains the Historical Office web site for Redstone Arsenal that has had more than 9 million hits since its inception. He is working on some changes for the site which include changing the video format by utilizing two different streaming methods. The change should increase response time and save

space on the server. Martel is in the process of creating several new web sites for the SGS.

"Within a month we should have the new 6-BOSS web site up and running," Martel said. "That way we can keep the town hall issues and the phone line questions separate."

While the team is willing to provide answers to all questions, they suggest that users check out the questions and

answers already posted before submitting a question. A similar question may have already been asked and answered.

Anyone interested in viewing the web site can reach it through the AMCOM home page: intranet.redstone.army.mil/sgs/town-hall. While questions are no longer being accepted for the last town hall meeting, future questions can be sent to: town-hall@redstone.army.mil

■ Luncheon celebrates Hispanic heritage month

Luncheon

continued from page 12

Louis who served in the Army as a member of the Army Intelligence Corps and Special Forces in 1959-60 and 1961-64. Ramirez is a co-founder of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis and a facilitator and officer of the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis. He also is a charter member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic Affairs and has served as a commissioner on the Missouri Commission on Human Rights.

Special recognition was given to both the Soldier of the Year, Spec. Gerson Ramirez, and NCO of the Year, Sgt. Carlo Varon, by Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, and Mario Cervantes, CEO of

Cervantes Consulting Inc.

Sullivan thanked the more than 220 people who attended the luncheon for helping to celebrate the diversity that is the essence of the country.

"America has been called a melting pot, and it's true. We have a great number of diverse cultures. Today we celebrate the diversity that Hispanic heritage has brought to our great country," Sullivan said.

Robert Salinas of LOGSA, who shared master of ceremony duties with Signey Hernandez of the AMCOM Safety Office, explained that Hernandez made his announcements in Spanish because "the spoken language is beautiful and we don't often get the opportunity to hear it." Manuel Gonzalez entertained the audience with songs in Spanish while lunch was being served and Gabe Nieto provided music after the keynote address.

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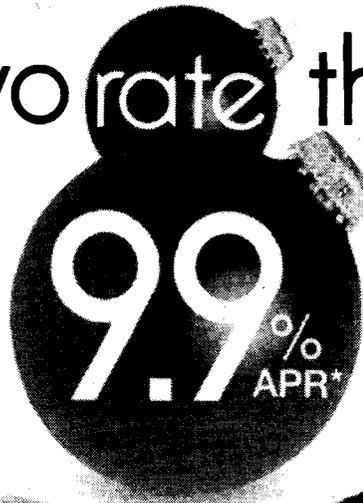
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Logistics torture chamber

LOGSA center ensures containers tough enough for transport

By Michael Barnansky

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa.— Drop it, shake it, squeeze it, and freeze it. These are but a few of many trials endured by packaging and containers at the specialized laboratory of the Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center.

The demands of the military distribution environment are, by necessity, the most grueling imaginable. To illustrate the demands our military equipment must face, consider how the home computer is treated. One would never take his personal computer, throw it into the back of a pickup truck, drive over miles of rough dirt roads in foul weather, and load it into the cargo hold of an aircraft for an unpressurized, high-altitude, extremely cold trip, only to land in a steamy jungle environment and endure more extremes of heat, humidity, shock and vibration. Yet these are the conditions commonly encountered by our military equipment, which is used not to "surf the net" at

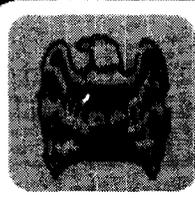
home but to serve the soldier in a theater of war where lives are at stake.

Laboratory personnel of the Army Materiel Command Logistics Support Activity Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center (PSCC) use their vast experience and over \$5 million worth of specialized equipment to shake, freeze, drop, soak, tumble, and crush packages and packaging materials before they get to the field. The goal is to ensure that materiel is protected from damage while in the military logistics pipeline. The professional, engineering, and technical personnel responsible for these tortures come from a wide range of disciplines and include chemists; packaging specialists; technicians; and electrical, mechanical, industrial, packaging, and civil engineers.

Located at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa., PSCC is one of the largest applications engineering laboratories in the world.

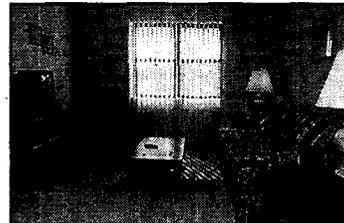
See Logistics on page 15

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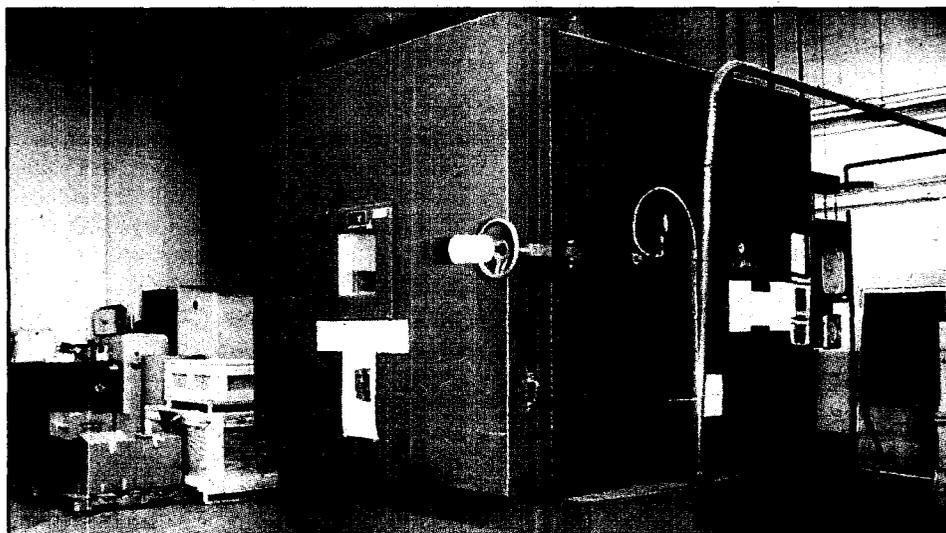
Logistics

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Three separate laboratories make up the engineering and testing facilities: a container testing laboratory, a materials testing laboratory, and a standard conditioning laboratory. The test equipment used within these "torture chambers" ranges from an infrared spectrophotometer that analyzes the infrared spectrum of materials to a compression tester capable of applying 30,000 pounds of force.

Duplicating conditions

To prevent damage to a packaged item in transit, all modes of transportation must be considered. As the oxygen canisters that caused the now-well-known Valujet incident demonstrated, changes encountered during an air cargo flight can create dangerous conditions within hazardous materials containers. PSCC emulates air cargo shipment in an altitude chamber that can change air pressure to simulate changes in altitude from 2,000 feet to 90,000 feet in less than 45 minutes. Temperature also affects the performance characteristics of different materials. A 12-by-8-by10-foot cold chamber applies the "big chill" by dropping from



PSCC photo

TEST SITE— This altitude chamber can replicate air cargo shipment pressure and temperature changes from 2,000 feet (site level) to 90,000 feet.

room temperature to minus 85-degrees Fahrenheit in less than two hours. In order to simulate rough terrain conditions, a 12,000 pound capacity vibration table is capable of adjusting frequency and displacement while in motion.

Unique challenges

One problem peculiar to military pack-

aging is that the destination of the item being shipped often is unknown. Thus, military packaging frequently must be able to protect very sensitive, expensive or dangerous materiel against the worst possible environmental conditions. In the commercial logistics arena, the method, mode, duration and conditions of transport usually

are known, and the protective packaging requirements are fairly straightforward. Although standard commercial packaging has its place in the military distribution system, much of the materiel used by the soldier in the field is far too critical to trust to commercial packaging designed to endure a cushioned ride over a smoothly paved road. Combine this requirement with the current trend toward tighter budgets and downsizing, and some of the challenges facing today's logistician become apparent.

Readiness factor

Another challenge is long-term storage. To ensure readiness, a wide range of materiel must be stored in various climates throughout the world and protected from wide swings in environmental conditions by efficient packaging and containers. This often is accomplished by providing a dehumidified atmosphere. The static dehumidification system, currently used to protect Army field hospitals during long-term storage, was designed and tested at the laboratories. Although a dry environment is preferred for long-term storage, a very dry atmosphere also can produce static electricity in electronic components, such as sensitive circuit boards, and drying of rubber seals in

See Logistics on page 16

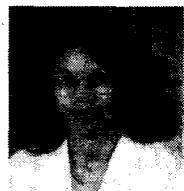
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Logistics

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hydraulic equipment. In some applications, active, powered systems are required to provide the proper atmosphere to protect equipment and materials effectively. In addition, all variables must be considered. The talcum-like, ultra-fine, blowing sand of some desert environments can wreak havoc with equipment that is not properly protected. PSCC specialists and engineers travel throughout the world to provide onsite technical assistance to agencies that have such long-term storage requirements.

Hazardous materials packaging

The Department of Defense, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, follows the rules found in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including those for the packaging of hazardous materials and the required testing of those packagings. The PSCC laboratories receive a constant flow of hazardous materials containers that must pass a series of performance tests before use. The containers come from various Army activities and other federal agencies, such as the Defense Logistics Agency, National Institutes of Health, and DOT. Under a formal agreement with DOT, the PSCC laboratories conduct the required series of performance tests on all containers pulled by DOT inspectors across the United States. All tests are videotaped for proof of accurate, unbiased testing.

Private partnering

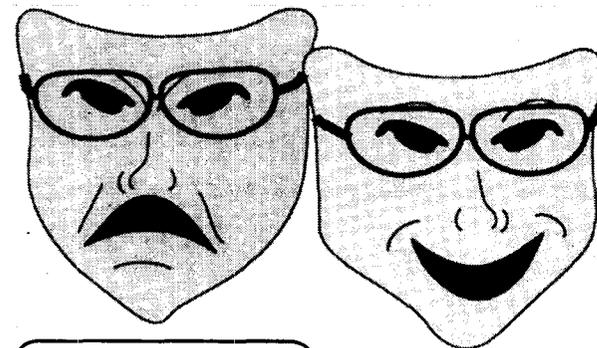
The PSCC laboratories maintain a strong association with leaders in the packaging industry and stay on top of developments that have potential application within the

Department of Defense. In addition, the labs have representatives in several government-industry associations, including the American National Standards Institute, the American Society for Testing and Materials, and the International Safe Transit Association. The goal of partnering is to modernize and eliminate unnecessary packaging standards. Several engineers and specialists at PSCC and its Packaging and Transportation Division have received national recognition for their proactive efforts in partnering.

While the means to test and evaluate packaging and materials are complex, the ends are simple: provide well-protected equipment to the soldier in the field. As our customer, the soldier can provide us with valuable feedback. What product or process needs improvement? What new problems or environmental conditions have not been accounted for in standard test procedures? Is there a better way to package an item, or a more effective method for protecting a particular piece of equipment? The most valuable and technologically advanced equipment is worthless if the soldier receives it in a damaged and unusable condition.

PSCC's commitment remains to provide responsive, professional service to the warfighter through the application of engineering expertise and sound scientific principles. (Editor's note: Barnansky is a packaging specialist at LOGSA's Packaging, Storage, and Containerization Center, Tobyhanna, Pa. He is a graduate of Penn State, has been designated a military packaging professional by the School of Military Packaging Technology, and is an associate staff member of the Department of Transportation's Transportation Safety Institute.)

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CFC

continued from page 1

chemotherapy before surgery. After her six-month chemo course, she underwent a double mastectomy.

"I took a shot with this therapy," Hurley said. "It reminded me of the poem by Robert Frost, 'The Road Not Taken.' And I am the better for it."

Hurley emphatically reminded the audience that everyone is at risk for this disease, citing the following breast cancer statistics: 175,000 women are diagnosed annually, 43,000 die each year and of those 8,000 are under 40; 1,600 men are diagnosed annually; it is the leading cause of death for women 35-54; and only 10 percent of those diagnosed have a heredity link.

Early detection and routine health exams were at the crux of her talk, which was truly a survival story. While feeding the audience the grim reality, Hurley balanced her talk with the other side of life.

"I've lost so much to this disease— my breasts, my fertility, my hair, my mind—but I miss my mind the most," she said. "But I've gained a lot too— 35 pounds, an entire new circle of friends, a new appreciation for life, a

spiritual awakening, knowledge about the disease—I'm a walking Internet site. Survival is about attitude, courage to make the right choices and turning lemons into lemonade. And you have to be able to laugh."

Hurley went on to describe one of her bad hair days, the Monday after the weekend she'd lost all her hair from the chemotherapy treatments.

"It was my first wig," she said, setting up the newsroom scene. "Just before we were to go on air, my co-workers were trying to give me a little encouragement—brushing off my shoulders. Mark Thornhill went to brush a loose hair off my shoulder but it was still attached to the wig and when he pulled it, my wig shifted over to one side. I'm trying to readjust it, meanwhile I hear, 'On in five, four, three, two, one...' Here I am with this half-cocked wig, Mark is under the desk, mortified; Jay Prater has left the room... You have to be able to find the humor in life.

"I want you to know that the money that you give is vitally important," she said. "It may go for gene therapy, new drugs, tools to enhance medical abilities. There is a study going on right here in Huntsville to study two osteoporosis drugs that show great promise for breast cancer therapy. We're doing things here to change the universe. Your donation will help

someone, somewhere. It may save your life. It may save your parent's life. It may save your child's life. I'm here today to say thank you because it may save my life."

Guest speaker Terry Morris, electrical engineer in the Information Systems Division at the NASA Langley Research Center, was a return CFC speaker, who again offered his life story as a living testimony to the good that comes from charity organizations that care, the kind supported by CFC contributions.

The audience watched a video depicting the early years of Morris' life, the abuse suffered at the hands of his biological family, the horrible and dangerous living conditions he was forced to endure, but then as the lights came up, there he stood, smiling, ready to tell his story.

"Everybody has a different story," he said. "I grew up in Chicago, Ill., with abusive parents. They would put me out of the house in the winter time— ice, snow, 20 degrees below zero. I had to sleep in abandoned basements, cars, alleys. I was one of those people you'd see searching through a garbage can, looking for anything to eat.

"During those times when I cried long enough and loud enough that my biological parents would let me back into the house, my punishments were things like drinking bleach

or urine. I've had nails and knives stuck through my hands. They put screws in my food that would cut the inside of my throat as they went down."

Morris went on to describe his childhood and the emotional abuse heaped on him. At 14 years old, Morris was abandoned in Mississippi during a family trip from Chicago.

"They just stopped the car and made me get out," he said. "I didn't have anywhere to go or anywhere to go back to, so I just started walking. I lived on the streets for a while and ended up getting arrested. But then there was somebody. Somebody who cared enough to stop and see that I needed help."

Morris ended up at Alpha House, a CFC funded group home. There, he said, he learned respect, for others as well as himself. He went on to graduate high school, go to college, earn a bachelor's and master's degree and is currently working on his doctorate.

"It was because people like you cared enough to give that I had a place to go, and I want to say, thank you— a million times, thank you."

Morris went on to discuss a special disease, one that so many are afflicted with but so easily cured.

I call it the One-eye Closed disease," he
See CFC on page 18

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■ CFC kickoff speakers give inspirational talks

CFC

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said, placing his hand over one of his eyes as he continued to speak. "I know you haven't heard about it because I'm the one that made up the title. It's when you see and hear these people who have so much but are still complaining. They only focus on the few little things they don't have. I want to tell them to look at their lives and see everything they have to be thankful for—people to love them, food, drink, clothes. With this disease, all we can see is what we don't have. Remove the covering from your other eye and you can see all the blessings you do have. It's time to care for one another. I can't tell you how grateful I am

because someone cared. It changed my life. I'm living proof that your giving counts. Thank you."

During the ceremony, Sullivan presented a plaque to CFC slogan contest winner T.G. Jones, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant.

Last year the Tennessee Valley collected \$1,540,560. This year's CFC campaign will wrap up Nov. 12. Contributors can specify the organization which will receive their donation from a pre-approved CFC list of more than 1,300 organizations. Donations can be made as a one-time gift from federal civilian employees, military retirees and on-site contractors. Federal employees also have the option of giving through a payroll deduction.

Mitchell

continued from page 11

was only a few hours from his home.

"I served two five-year tours in New Jersey," Mitchell said. "It's funny, when someone asks my children where they're from, they'll either say, everywhere, and call themselves Army brats, or they'll say they're from New Jersey. They both graduated high school there."

Mitchell's wife Pam stayed especially busy at Fort Monmouth, earning post volunteer of the year two years in a row. Mitchell also noted that he was given the opportunity to do "some pretty neat career things—product manager, project manager."

In between his tours in New Jersey, Mitchell and his family came to Redstone for 18 months beginning 1989. He served as the deputy project manager for the Ground Based Interceptor Program in the then Strategic Defense Command. Because housing on the post was nearly impossible to get at the time, Mitchell bought a house in the county.

Mitchell arrived back at Redstone in 1996 as the director of the Technical Support Directorate, PEO Air and Missile Defense.

"I was glad to get back to Redstone," he said. "It gave me a chance to get my house ready to sell and meet up with old friends."

Mitchell moved to SAMD as the director in October 1998 to finish out his military career.

"They needed someone over here," he said. "I knew nothing about foreign military sales when I came here but there are great

people here who know the business very well. So I got to spend my last year learning something new. I work with a great bunch of people and I realized, especially after 31 years in the Army, you never do anything by yourself. It takes a lot of dedicated folks to get the job accomplished and I've been very fortunate here."

While Mitchell said that he's "never had a bad day in the Army," he is nevertheless, looking forward to retirement.

"I'm going to be Mr. Mom," Mitchell said. "My wife graduated Athens State University in January with a bachelor's degree in management of technology. She's looking forward to her new career and being the one to work outside the home. She's had jobs, taken great care of our family, worked hard to get her degree and now it's her time. I'm going to stay at home and take care of things."

The first order of business for Mitchell is to get a home built. His last day in the office was Oct. 7. He is officially retired on Dec. 1. He and the family are going back east to York, Pa., where they will build a home on part of his sister's farm. They will also be just a few hours drive away from their son, daughter-in-law and grandchild who live in Allentown, Pa.

"My daughter graduates from Athens State College in December," he said. "I'm not sure what her plans are after that. We expect to move sometime in mid December. I have to get my house sold first, though."

When Mitchell leaves the office Dr. Eugene Paro, SAMD deputy director, will step up as the director.



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

Make and Take workshop--Join Carolyn Taylor, Training and Curriculum Specialist for Child and Youth Services, in learning hands on activities for children 4 weeks and up. This Parent Education Course will help you learn how activities such as folder and learning games, and puppets can enhance your children's learning skills. For reservations call 876-7801. The Make and Take Workshop will be in building 3148, Youth Services, from 11 a.m.-noon on Oct. 27. This workshop is open to all Military and DOD personnel. Call 876-7801 for more information.

Gymnastics classes--Redstone Arsenal Youth Center offers Gymnastics classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays for ages 3 and up. Beginner classes are from 5:15-6 p.m. Intermediate Classes are from 6:15-7 p.m. Advanced classes are from 7:15-8 p.m. The cost is \$25 per month for once a week class (4 classes), or \$45 per month for twice a week participation (8 classes). The preschool program for ages 3-5 is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:15-10 p.m., and 10:15-11 p.m. For more information, or to register your child, call the Youth Center at 876-5437, or Debra Poole at 837-2459.

Fall Fest--Oktoberfest is over, but you can still sample the flavors of Germany at the Soldatenstube! The Soldatenstube will host a "Fall Fest" on Oct. 30 from noon until 5 p.m. Gather up the family and come down to the Soldatenstube for a fun filled afternoon, featuring delicious German food served on the patio, a large selection of German wines, clowns, Moon Bounce, face painting, and much more! You are then invit-

ed to stay for our German style buffet that evening. For more details, call 830-2582 or 881-5181. (The Soldatenstube Fall Fest date has been changed to October 30 so as to not conflict with the OCWC Pineapple Open, we apologize for this sudden change, and look forward to seeing you at both of these great events!) Don't forget, the Soldatenstube is also open for lunch on Thursdays only, and for dinner on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening. Try the new German style buffet dinner on Wednesday evenings! Dinner reservations are required. Present your MWR card and receive a 10% discount on your dinner! For reservations or info call 830-2582 or 881-5181.

Turkey shoot--Join us at the Outdoor Recreation Center for the Turkey Shoot on October 23 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. between trap and skeet ranges, the cost is only \$4 per shot and prizes are awarded! ORC will provide weapons or you can bring your own 12 gauge shotgun. Active duty, retired military, DOD Civilians, DA Civilians, Redstone Contractors, family members and guests are invited to participate in this event! The fall 1999 Turkey Shoot dates are: October 23; November 6 & 13; December 11 & 18. For more information call 876-4868.

New Year's party--Join us at the Redstone Arsenal Club to bring in the year 2000! Tickets are on sale now for this great New Year's Party! Tickets are only \$27.95 for members and \$29.95 for non-members. Prime Rib of Beef will be served with all of the trimmings and will include a feature from the ocean, Blackened Pink Salmon with a special salsa! Serving time is from 6-8:30 p.m. After dinner, enjoy the live entertainment by "The Usual Suspects" band.

And that's not all! At five minutes past midnight, we will open the continental Breakfast Buffet with creamed beef, biscuits, assorted pastries, fresh fruit bowl, assorted juices, and coffee and the traditional New Year's lucky black-eyed peas! Get your tickets today at the Redstone Arsenal Club! For more information, call 830-2582.

New Year's celebration--Come to the best little Millennium New Year's Eve party in Alabama! The Redstone Arsenal Rustic Lodge will host a New Year's party like no other on December 31 beginning at 8 p.m. The dress code is casual, but the evening is filled with fun! Entertainment from all decades by America's Party Pro's, with a DJ light show. Tickets are only \$45, and include entertainment, balloon drop with over \$600 in prizes, hors d' oeuvres including shrimp puffs, chicken tenders, beef finger sandwiches, chips and dips, veggies, fresh fruit, variety of beverages, and an "After Midnight Breakfast!" Tickets go on sale on Oct. 19, and is limited to the first 250 sold. For more information, call 955-6739.

Bowling special--Come take advantage of the Saturday fall special at Rocket Lanes! Only \$1.25 per game open bowling every

Saturday from noon to 11 p.m. this Fall! This is the best deal in town! Rocket Lanes is located in building 3707 on Aerobee. Rocket Lanes has 16 synthetic lanes, automatic scorers, a snack bar, a private party addition, and a great game room. For more information call 876-6634.

Arts and crafts--The June M. Hughes Arts and Crafts Center has a lot to offer! Stop by our multicrafts shop today for a current class schedule! We are located in building 3615 Gray Road. Hours of operation are: Tuesday & Wednesday 1:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., Thursday 5-9:30pm, Friday & Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Sunday & Monday. From basket weaving to wood-working, we have something for you! Call 876-7951 for more information! Arts and Crafts October Schedule: Oct. 5,12,19,26-oil painting classes at 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 6,13,20,27-acrylic painting classes at 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 7,14,21,28-mandatory wood safety class at 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 9,16,23-beginner watercolor classes at 11 a.m.; Oct. 14 & 21-introduction to basket weaving at 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 1-30-matting classes, call for an appointment to attend class; Oct. 1-30-stained glass classes, call for an appointment See MWR on page 22



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Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Hunter safety orientation

The mandatory Hunter Safety Orientation will be held 4:30-6 p.m. Oct. 14, Oct. 28 and Nov. 11 in the Recreation Center, building 3711. The orientation is also available on computer at all Learning Resource Centers. Please call in advance to ensure availability of terminals. For hours and locations, call 876-9416. All first-time hunters to Redstone or those persons who have not participated in the RSA hunting program within the last three years are asked to attend one of the in-person briefings. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868/6854.

Halloween 5K

The 11th annual Spirit of Halloween 5K and one-mile Fun Run will be held Oct. 30 at 9 a.m. in front of the Von Braun Center. The Boeing Runners Club invites you to show up in costume and win an award. Adults can win costume awards for individual, couple and group categories. Additionally, the best dressed in the true Spirit of Halloween category will be available to children as well as adults. Overall, master and age group awards will be given to 5K winners. Long sleeve T-shirts will be given to registered runners. Emerson Scott and the Sophisticated Swingers will provide music; and refreshments will be provided after the race. Be sure to join the post-race festivities at Bubba's. The entry

fee for either or both races is \$10 if received by Oct. 23. Race day registration, for \$12, will be held from 7-8:30 a.m. in the VBC parking garage. A family discount will be offered: the first two entries at regular fees and a \$3 discount for each additional entry. Early entries should be mailed to Spirit of Halloween 5K, c/o Carl Smith, 2025 Sun Lake Blvd. 609, Huntsville, Ala., 35802. For more information, call Cheryl Ibarra 881-3590.

Triathletes

The Spring City Triathletes will have its monthly meeting 6:30 p.m. Monday at Logan's Roadhouse, 4249 Balmoral Drive off Airport Road, across from Wings. Scheduled speaker is David Cain, UAH cross country coach. For information call Mike Ekbundit 881-5772.

Miscellaneous

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Oct. 21 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.

Communication skills

Universal Communicators, International Training in Communication will meet Thursday from 4:45- 6 p.m. at building 5681 (PEO Aviation), conference room 125. If you are interested in improving your com-

munication skills, attend the meeting to see if ITC is what you're looking for. For more information, call Janice Isbell 313-4216.

Donations request

Oct 21 is the new deadline for contribution requests from the Thrift Shop. Anyone who faxed requests from Sept. 3-10 should resubmit them due to equipment failure. Anyone who qualifies under the 501c category of non-profit organizations is eligible to make requests. Requests for funds for the needs of a specific individual are ineligible. Requests must be specific about what the money is needed for and must include: name and address of the requesting party; to whom the check must be made out to; and a phone number for more information. Also, please include in the request if funds have been requested from other organizations. Gift certificates may also be requested and these certificates are for merchandise from the Thrift Shop and must be used within a certain time period to be determined by the board of governors. The Thrift Shop makes welfare contributions twice a year. Requests can be addressed to the Thrift Shop, welfare chairperson (Fran Rubery), building 3657, Redstone Arsenal 35898 or faxed to the Thrift Shop 881-9807. Requests may be submitted at any time. A new request must be submitted in writing at each give-away.

Major item workshop

The Logistics Support Activity will sponsor its Major Item Training Workshop '99 from Nov. 1-5 in the Sparkman Auditorium. "MITW '99 will be an interesting, enjoy-

able and information-packed venue of mini-workshops, briefings, hands-on demonstrations and presentations on issues/concerns of the Army's Class VII items-of-supply." Registration fee is \$35. To register visit the LOGSA homepage at www.logsa.army.mil or call Florence Walker 313-2447.

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call the AA central office 885-0323.

Cancer screening

The Fox Army Health Center Surgery Clinic is opening its doors Oct. 27 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for Breast Cancer Screening Day which is open to all military beneficiaries. This is your opportunity to have a walk-in appointment for a clinical breast examination, breast self-examination instruction, and if ordered by a physician, a mammogram on the same day. For more information on breast screening, call 876-4228. Osteoporosis and body fat screenings may also be offered that day. For more information on screenings, call the Public Health and Education Center 842-0196.

Air defenders

The Redstone Arsenal/Huntsville chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association is sponsoring its annual St. Barbara Dinner Dance saluting the Air Defense Artillery branch Saturday at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Scheduled speaker is Col. John Urias.

See Announcements on page 21



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Announcements

program executive officer for air and missile defense. "His presentation will be of interest to all air defenders and supporters of the branch," a prepared release said. "The evening will include a program that celebrates our heritage, recognizes the accomplishments of individual members and offers the opportunity for you and your guest to enjoy dinner, dancing and great fellowship." For more information, call the chapter secretary 922-1512 ext. 2855.

Nobel Prize winner

Nobel laureate William Phillips is to deliver the Second Putcha Venkateswarlu Memorial lecture at 3 p.m. Tuesday in the Dawson auditorium on the Alabama A&M University campus. Phillips, of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, received the 1997 Nobel Prize in Physics for the development of methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light. Phillips will also deliver a seminar lecture to A&M students, faculty and other interested persons on the same day at 11 in the Dawson auditorium. Everyone is invited to both lectures. Venkateswarlu was an A&M physics professor who died in August 1997.

Prayer breakfast

The October Nondenominational Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by the IMMC, will be held Oct. 26 at 7 a.m. in building 5309, room 9128 (conference room east end of the Sparkman Center Food Court). The scheduled speaker is Rebecca Pratcher, chief of Strategic Planning Office. "No food or drinks will be served, but you may bring your own or come and feast on the spiritual food that will be served," a prepared release

said. Everyone is welcome. For information call Ronnie Davis 895-4181.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon will be held 11:30 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Personal Growth Center, Airport Road. Scheduled speaker is Holly Ralston McClain, director of development, Early Works Museum. Cost is \$9 for members, \$10 for non-members. For reservations call Janet Siersma 955-3890.

Genealogical society

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the auditorium of Huntsville-Madison County Main Library. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call Bob Pace 881-6670.

Special Forces recruiters

The 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment Delta Force will recruit here Oct. 18-22. Briefings will be held 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Oct. 18-21 at building 3447. Everyone with a military ID card is welcome. A physical training test will be held Oct. 22. There is also a written examination for the applicants. For more information call MSgt. Duwayne Thompson, the post career counselor, 842-0870.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel announces the following: Rosary is recited daily at 11:30, followed either by mass or a communion service at noon.

Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will

present "ghost writers in the sky" by George Adams at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For more information, call Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

Galaxy of lights

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council will sell tickets for the "Galaxy of Lights," the holiday light show scheduled at Huntsville / Madison County Botanical Gardens for Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve. Tickets go on sale starting Nov. 1. Cost is \$10; however, through CWFC, tickets will only be \$7.50 per car. For more information, call Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck 313-1698.

Telephone security

The Intelligence and Security Directorate provided the following reminder: "Do not discuss classified information on non-secure telephones. Official DoD telephones are subject to monitoring for communication security purposes at all times. DoD telephones are provided for the transmission of official government information only and are subject to telecommunication security monitoring at all times. Use of official DoD telephones constitutes consent to telecommunication security monitoring in accordance with DoD Directive 4640.2 and AR 380-53. Ensure that the Warning Notice DD Form 2056 is affixed to all government telephones. If you have STU-III, you can affix AMSAM-SI Form 99 instead of the DD Form 2056. The AMSAM-SI Form 99 can be obtained from the Security Division, Intelligence and Security Directorate. The point of contact for this action is Wesley Fagan. 842-7512."

Light aircraft

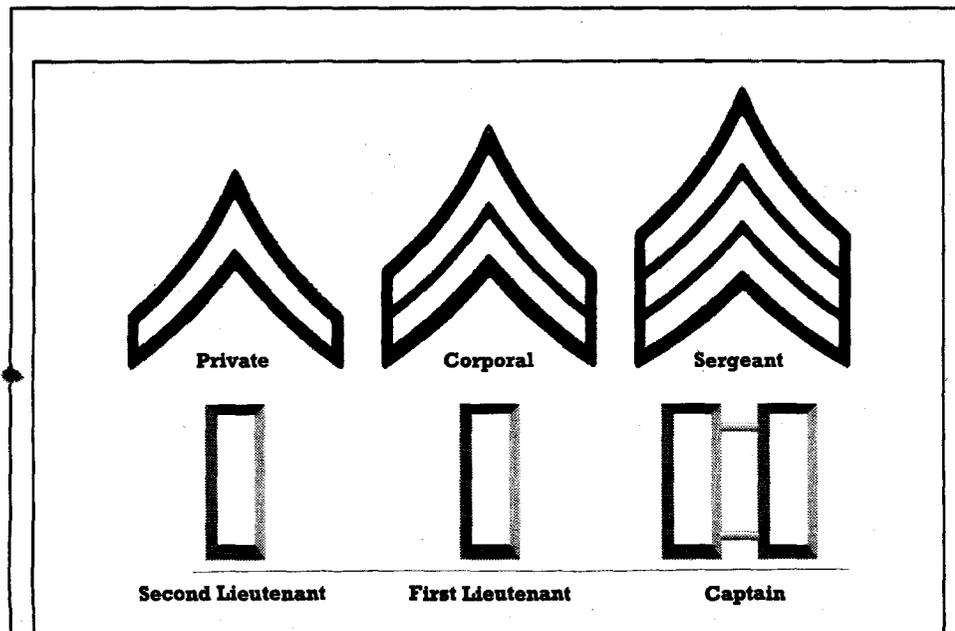
The North Alabama Ultralight Association will hold a fly-in for ultralight aircraft Saturday at the Moontown Airport, Moontown Road off Highway 72 East. Competition begins at 10 a.m., and includes bomb drop, torpedo run, and spot landing competitions. All ultralight pilots are eligible to compete. The public is invited; please bring lawn chairs. Concessions will be available. No admission charge. For more information, call 883-6034.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Guy Jones, Blue Cross district manager for the Federal Employees Health Benefits program, is to discuss changes in the Blue Cross and Medicare programs for year 2000. Refreshments start at 9:30 a.m., and the program at 10. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

Job search seminar

The Athens State University extension here at Redstone Arsenal will present a free seminar on "Job Search Overview." Seminar will cover resume preparation, development of interview skills, and job search techniques in today's job market. It will be Oct. 20, from 3-4:30 p.m. in building 3200 on Little John Road. The seminar is open to individuals who are interested in further development of their job search skills in a rapidly changing job market. There is limited space available so please call 876-7561 if you are interested in attending. For more information about the seminar contact the Office of Counseling and Career Services at Athens State College (256) 233-8285.



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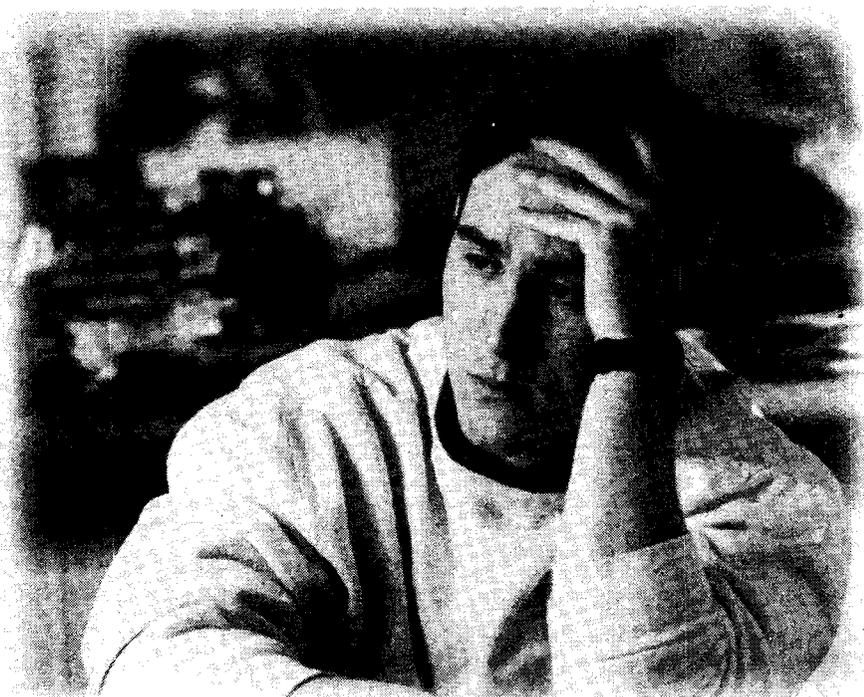
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These announcements provided by the AMCOM CPAC can be found on the web at www.cpol.army.mil. This list includes announcements that opened prior to the Friday before Rocket publication date and close on/after the publication date. For a complete list and details on these opportunities go to the web.

Most of these announcements are limited to Army employees.

Other announcements that are open to all U.S. citizens can be found at www.opm.gov

PVA NUMBER	TITLE	CLOSES	LOCATION	PPSERIES	GRADE	POT
99D1393WT	Motor Vehicle Operator	14-Oct-99	AMCOM TMDE	WG-5703	6	6
99D1338BJ	Superv. Indust. Engr.	15-Oct-99	PEO Tact. Missiles	GS-0896	14	14
99B1405AC	Product Manager	16-Oct-99	PEO Air Missile	GS-0340	14	14
00B0014AC	Superv. Gen. Engr.	18-Oct-99	PEO Air Missile	GS-0801	14	14
00D0015KH	Secretary (Steno/OA)	18-Oct-99	AMCOM Res. Mgmt.	GS-0318	7	7
99B1355SS	Computer Engr (DEMO)	18-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0854	III	III
AGM92208	Nurse (Various Spec)	19-Oct-99	MEDCOM	GS-0610	9-12	12
00D0007DW	Program Analyst	19-Oct-99	AMCOM Command	GS-0343	11	11
00B0012DT	General Engr (DEMO)	19-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0801	III	III
00C0013JH	Electronics Pub Spec	19-Oct-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0301	13	13
00D0021DW	Protocol Specialist	20-Oct-99	AMCOM SGS	GS-0301	11	11
99B1369SS	Mechanical Engr	20-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0830	III	III
00B0025SH	Chemical Engr	20-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0893	III	III
00B0024SS	Mechanical Engr	20-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0830	III	III
99B0023SS	Mechanical Engr	20-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0830	III	III
00D0026KH	Computer Specialist	21-Oct-99	AMCOM TMDE	GS-0334	13	13
99C0020JH	Supv Log Mgmt Spec	21-Oct-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	14	14
HA99A2616	Contract Specialist	22-Oct-99	Cofe	GS-1102	7	7
99B1316SH	Human Factors Engr/Psy	22-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-801 0180	III	III
00-B0046-AC	Deputy Product Manager	22-Oct-99	PEO Air Missile	GS-0340	14	14
00-B0047-AC	Deputy Product Manager	22-Oct-99	PEO Air Missile	GS-0340	14	14
HA99A2632	Civil Engineer	22-Oct-99	Cofe	GS-810 808 893		
				830 850 819	13	13
00D0035KH	Computer Specialist	22-Oct-99	AMCOM CIC	GS-0334	13	13
99B1323SS	General Engr (DEMO)	22-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0801	III	III
99B1320SS	General Engr (DEMO)	22-Oct-99	AMCOM MRDEC	DB-0801	III	III
00-B0045-AC	Deputy	22-Oct-99	USAAESA	GS-0340	14	14
99B1322SS	Aerospace Engr (Demo)	23-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0861	III	III
00B0030SH	Electronics Engr (DEMO)	29-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0855	III	III
99B1220SH	Aerospace Engr (Demo)	29-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0861	III	III
99B1221SH	Aerospace Engr (Demo)	29-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0861	III	III
99B1222SH	Aerospace Engr (Demo)	29-Oct-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0861	III	III
00B0029SH	Electronics Engr (DEMO)	4-Nov-99	AMCOM AVRDEC	DB-0855	III	III
00D0032KH	Program Manager	5-Nov-99	AMCOM TMDE	GS-0340	15	15
AGM92700	Medical Technologist	12-Jan-00	MEDCOM	GS-0644	5-12	12
NC08699	Criminal Investigator	13-Apr-00	CID	GS- 1811	9-12	12

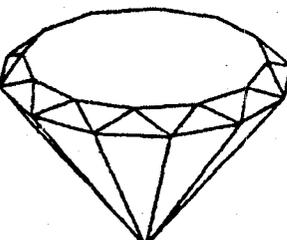
MWR

continued from page 19

to attend class; Oct. 1-30-stained glass Christmas classes, call for an appointment to attend classes.

CDC/Family Child Care--The Child Development Center has pre school openings (ages 3 and 4) for full time care. Family Child Care (FCC) providers also have child care openings for ages 2 and up. Call Evelyn Carnes at 876-7801. These openings are for Military Personnel and DOD Civilians only working on Redstone Arsenal. Are you interested for 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 an 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 much more. Some benefits of becoming an FCC provider are career opportunities, enhanced parenting skills, liability insurance, USDA food reimbursements, professional resources, and a toy lending library. For more information, call Evelyn Carnes at 876-7801.



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Lariat 4WD
\$27,599



1997
Ford F350 Pickup
Cab & Chassis 4WD
\$21,999



1997
Toyota Avalon
\$15,399



1999
Ford F150
Lariat 2WD
\$23,699



1998
Ford 250 Cargo Van
\$18,599



1998
Ford Contour
\$10,599



1996
Chev. 1500 Pickup
\$19,599



1999
Dodge Ram 1500
Supercab SLT
\$23,999



1998
Ford Escort
\$9,599



1999
Ford Ranger XLT
\$19,999



1999
Ford Windstar
Mini-van 4DR
\$19,999



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