

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 48 No. 46

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

November 17, 1999

Great big radar

X-band project on track for national missile defense system

By Skip Vaughn

Call it what you want: X-band radar or Ground Based Radar, but GBR might as well stand for "Great Big Radar."

As George Bush would say, "It's big... Oh, it's big." How big is it? Well, let's put it this way: Col. Tim McKaig, the X-band radar project manager, pointed at two little dots on an enlarged photograph of the radar prototype. They were people standing on a balcony of the main radar building.

"It is one of the largest radars in the world," McKaig said.

Likewise, this project would be a big part of the proposed National Missile Defense System.

"We're very busy right now preparing for a deployment readiness review," McKaig said. "Next summer the president will make a decision on whether or not the country will deploy a National Missile Defense System to protect the nation against ballistic missile attack. The review with the office of the secretary of defense will be in June 2000."

Getting there involves a lot of work by the members of the X-Band Radar Project

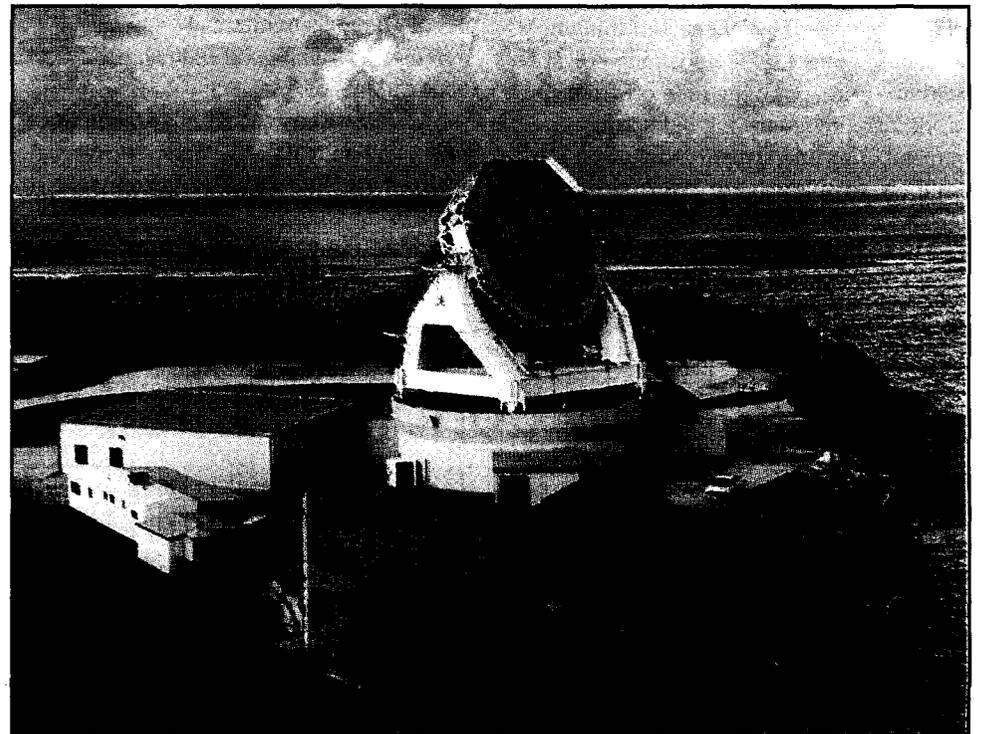
Office, located in Huntsville. The project office reports to the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense, and to a joint program office in Washington.

The radar prototype is located at Kwajalein Missile Range in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific Ocean. Construction on this \$175 million prototype began in March 1996 and was completed in July 1998. Testing on the facility continues.

"We've had pretty good success," Lt. Col. Johnnie Bone, product manager for the ground based radar prototype, said. "We've identified areas that we need to refine and work on. And at this stage, the beginning of the program for ground based radar, that's what you're really expecting. We've had a total of five missions to date, three of them have been targets of opportunity."

The radar participated in the first target intercept attempt in October. It was a success. "We're one-for-one right now," McKaig said.

The radar performs the following functions for the national missile defense program: target acquisition, target tracking, discrimination (distinguishing the target from other objects on the horizon), and kill



Courtesy photo

ON THE ISLANDS—The X-band radar prototype is undergoing tests at Kwajalein Missile Range.

assessment (determining whether the target was intercepted). It can track an incoming target as far away as 4,000 kilometers, basically out to the horizon.

Raytheon is the contractor for the radar. If the president decides to go ahead with a national missile defense system, the actual radar would be built at one of two locations:

Shemya, Alaska or North Dakota. Construction cost would be about \$300 million.

Pending approval, the planned deployment date is 2005. The radar design should be completed by the end of January 2000. And construction could begin in 2001.

See Radar on page 12



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BRIEFING— Bill Hughes, right, an RDEC engineer, describes the launch vehicle for Maj. Gen. Robert Nabors, commander of Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

Rocket proving ground

General officers see demonstration of ground-launched aviation rocket at test area

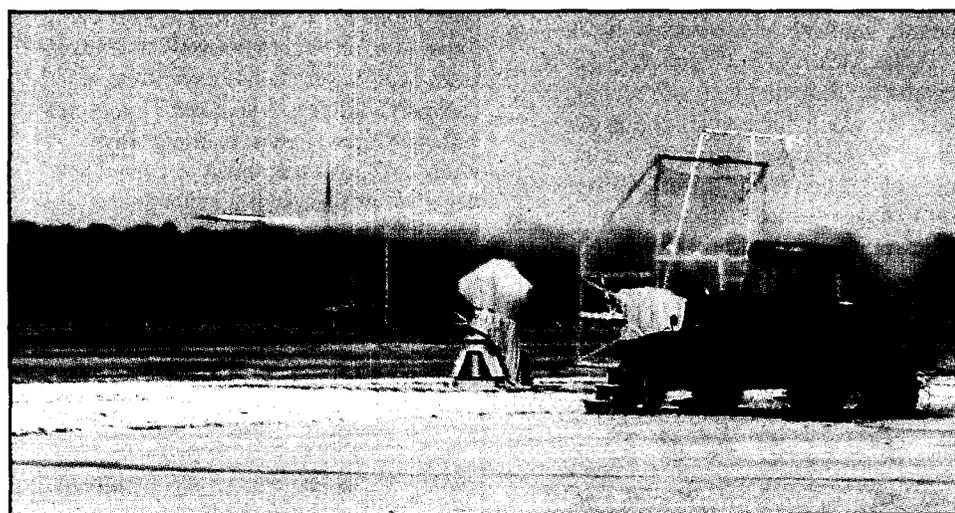


Photo by Charlie Mason/Technicore Engineering

MISSILE AWAY— A 2.75 inch rocket is launched from a TOW Humvee during the demonstration for visiting general officers.

By Skip Vaughn

This wasn't a typical day on the test range.

The system being demonstrated, a ground-launch version of the 2.75 inch rocket, represented new technology. And the audience included general officers who were here last week for the AMC board of directors meeting.

The Army Materiel Command brass seemed to appreciate the show. The 2.75 rockets were fired in single shots and then in rapid ripples from a TOW Humvee on Nov. 9 at Test Area 1.

This was a unique application of a rocket that is normally fired from helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft as an air-to-ground system.

See Demonstration on page 12

Consolidations empty buildings

Smaller footprint

4

Veteran visits local school kids

Kindergarten vet

11

Daughters make trip worthwhile

Overseas adoption

15

Letters to the editor

Commander's letter: Our holiday party

As we prepare to enter the new millennium, many of us find ourselves reflecting on past accomplishments while mentally preparing to meet future challenges. We also find ourselves thinking about our plans for the upcoming holiday season – perhaps taking time off from work, relaxing, renewing our spirits, remembering and spending time with our families, friends and our loved ones.

The holiday season always marks a special time to be with family and friends. Why not join Team Redstone's family at "Our Party" at the Redstone Arsenal Club

on Friday, Dec. 10?

"Our Party" will be the perfect occasion for all of us to get together and celebrate the season. So why not plan now to be a part of all the festivities and enjoy an evening filled with good friends, good food, and lots of fun.

The Team Redstone Holiday Committee is planning a great party. Watch for further details about "Our Party" in upcoming issues of the Redstone Rocket.

Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan
Commander,
AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal

Bone marrow donors wanted

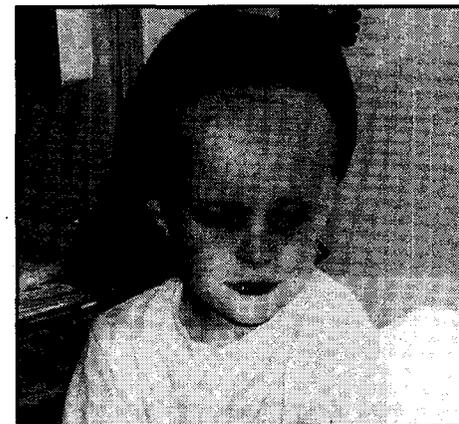
I would like to express my deepest appreciation for all the leave that has been so generously donated by friends and associates. According to the rules of the leave donor program, the donors' names must be kept confidential; therefore, I have no way of knowing who donated their leave. But, I would like everyone to know that my heart has been forever touched.

There are no words to express how I feel regarding the outcry of support my family has received. I hope in some way this letter will express some of the love I truly feel for each of you. While I may never know who you are, you that were so kind and generous, God does, and He will bless each of you.

For those of you who do not know I would like to tell you my story. In August 1998 I was scheduled to go on a TDY trip to Canada. I was a little hesitant to go because my 3-year-old son, Alex, had a cold. Of course my husband, Bruce, and our 6-year-old daughter, April, assured me they were capable of taking care of Alex in my absence.

I did go on the trip that lasted one week. While I was away Alex became worse. Instead of having a common cold he had what is called hand foot and mouth disease. At least this is what we thought since several children in Alex's Sunday School class also had the same symptoms. While the other children recovered quickly, Alex did not seem to get any better. We began taking him to the pediatrician on what seemed like weekly visits. The pediatrician could find little wrong.

One night at the end of September, we were awakened by a terrible scream com-



Courtesy photo

HOSPITAL VISIT—Alex has a quiet moment during his last hospital visit.

ing from Alex's room. He was in such pain from his stomach that he was screaming. Alex was placed in Huntsville Hospital.

The doctors started running test after test trying to find out what was wrong. Originally, they thought he may have had appendicitis. Appendicitis was ruled out and the doctors thought he may have had some type of septic poisoning. However, none of the tests pointed to anything specific. They did find that Alex was very anemic. We were told to change his diet.

While Alex was in the hospital, he became so weak that he could no longer walk. We would have to carry him everywhere. When he was home, he would crawl on his hands and knees. We were sent to a gastroenterologist. But like the other doctors, he could find nothing to explain Alex's pain.

From August to November, Alex became progressively worse. He was extremely pale, continuously ran a fever,

Rest in peace, Carol

I would like to join the family of Carol Sathern and her extended family, her former co-workers at the Distribution and Transportation Division, Integrated Materiel Management Center (IMMC) in building 5302 to pay our respect to Carol who passed away in a hospital in Florida on Oct. 23. Despite her physical handicap, Carol has been a loyal and dedicated full-time federal employee for the past 25 years and was well liked by her peers.

I came to know Carol when she moved to my apartment complex in Huntsville from St. Louis in October 1997. After recovery from her surgery, Carol took a taxi to and from work every workday. Shortly after, her former co-workers, Steve Geaschel and Danny Ogles gave Carol a ride to and from work every workday as well as to church and grocery stores on Sundays until Danny's retirement. Then another of Carol's former co-workers, Linda Bess continued their kind act, complemented by a new neighbor, Beth Feikman who often took Carol to go shopping in her sports car. I was impressed with the genuine kindness, compassion, and good intentions these individuals bestowed on Carol, above and beyond the call of their duty. Carol always greeted you with a smile, and at the end of a conversation, would always wish you a nice day. Carol was so kindhearted that she would put two pieces of white bread every day under the tree in front of her apartment to feed the birds.

Many of us find it easy to like those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we do not like people who inconvenience us and make us feel uncomfortable. Many of us would rather stay away from people who are not as healthy, beauti-

continuously complained of his stomach hurting, would not eat (lost five pounds in three months), did not want anyone to touch him, and could not walk. Alex went from being a very active 3-year-old to basically a lifeless 3-year-old. Everyone who saw Alex knew something was wrong. All tests continued to come back negative. At this point we thought leukemia had been ruled out because even that test came back negative.

On Nov. 22, 1998 Alex became extremely ill; once again complaining

See Donors on page 5

ful, or smart as we are. Thankfully, there are also many nice people like Carol's former co-workers and neighbors who will not treat the downtrodden that way.

Life was very unfair to Carol since birth but she was a fighter in life with a positive attitude and kind personality despite much suffering end surgeries. Carol taught us how to look at life at a different perspective and overcome obstacles in life. Carol and her former co-workers and neighbors were true examples of what the late Princess Diana said of a quote from an unknown author in a charity fund-raising event in Washington, D.C., "Life is mostly froth and bubble. Two things stand like stone: kindness in others' trouble, courage in your own."

The best way to remember and show our respect to Carol is to show our kindness to those in need of help, then you can be sure she will say a few good words to the Almighty for us, just like she would tell her family and co-workers when someone did a kind act to her. Carol, may you rest in peace where there is no pain and sorrow!

John Yim



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

Senior executive appointee...

Thomas Devanney is congratulated after being appointed to the Senior Executive Service as the deputy program manager for National Missile Defense Joint Program Office. Devanney retired as a colonel in 1994 and worked for Alliant Techsystems Inc. before this appointment. The ceremony was held Oct. 26 at the Redstone Arsenal Club.

Redstone Rocket

Editorial office 876-1500 Retail Advertising 532-4539 Classified Advertising 532-4300 Fax 532-4349

The Redstone Rocket is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The Redstone Rocket through the Public Affairs Office, Army Aviation and Missile Command, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the Redstone Rocket is The Huntsville Times, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, Huntsville AL 35801.

The deadline for display and commercial classified is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: redstone-rocket@redstone.army.mil

Rocket Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Al Schwartz

Editor: Skip Vaughn

Reporters: Sandy Riebeling

Beth Skarupa

Copy Editor: Scott Seeley

Advertising Sales: Fay Burroughs
Zana Carter

The Redstone Rocket is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by The Huntsville Times a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed by writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised within this publication.

The Redstone Rocket is distributed free of cost to Army personnel at Redstone Arsenal, and Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates off post for The Rocket are \$30 per year, tax included. We

do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual) We do not send subscription renewal notices.

Everything advertised in this publication must be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, creed, sex or national origin of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in refusal to print advertising from that source.



This might be the best news
in the entire paper.

Grand Opening Specials Continue.



The response to our Grand Opening deals has been phenomenal. So, like a hit show, we're holding them over. But deals like this can't last forever, so hurry in.

150 MINUTES	REGULARLY 100 MINUTES	\$24.95 PER MONTH
450 MINUTES	REGULARLY 300 MINUTES	\$39.95 PER MONTH
650 MINUTES	REGULARLY 500 MINUTES	\$49.95 PER MONTH

free roaming & long distance for North & Central
Alabama and Middle Tennessee calls

coverage coast to coast
as low as \$14.95

no roaming charges in AT&T Wireless
Network cities nationwide



1-877-SUN-1-PCS

www.suncompcs.net

SunCom
Madison Square Mall Store
5901 University Dr.
Huntsville
837.8662

SunCom
Parkway City Mall
2801 Memorial Parkway S.
Huntsville
533.3044

SunCom
3016-B University Drive*
Huntsville

SunCom
Decatur Store
(OPENING IN DECEMBER)
1101 Beltline Road SW, Kroger Plaza
Decatur
353.6202



SureCom
Huntsville



©1999 SunCom. Credit approval, \$20 activation fee and TDMA tri-mode digital phone required. No roaming or long distance charges for calls originating and terminating within North and Central Alabama and Middle Tennessee. All such airtime will apply towards included rate plan minutes. No roaming charges for calls made from any SunCom or AT&T Wireless Services market throughout the U.S. All such airtime will apply towards included rate plan minutes, but long distance charges may apply. Roaming and long distance charges may apply to all other calls. Listed rates do not apply when credit or calling card is required to place a call. Other charges, surcharges, and taxes apply. Airtime is measured in full minutes and rounded up to the next full minute. Included minutes cannot be carried over to any other month. Additional terms and conditions are contained in the SunCom Welcome Guide and Rate Plan brochures. Offer not valid with prepaid wireless service plans. Offer expires 12/31/99, and rates are valid until 12/31/2000, at which time customer will be moved to most comparable then-existing rate plan. *Independent Authorized Dealer

Organizations on the move

Buildings empty as Operation Smaller Footprint phase II begins taking shape

By Sandy Riebeling

The results of the first phase of Operation Smaller Footprint identified nearly 1 million square feet of underutilized space in buildings on Redstone Arsenal. Consolidation efforts between the OSF team and organizations housed on post are under way to make the most of the very best space the Arsenal has to offer.

The goal of the five-year plan is to save money through consolidation. Phase I began in fiscal year '98 with a survey of the buildings on post that housed administrative space or buildings that were heated and cooled for other reasons. Carol Meekins, Sparkman Center building manager, and Sandy Hodges from the Directorate of Public Works, formed the Operation Smaller Footprint team that performed the surveys.

"As we surveyed each organization, we worked with them to form a plan on how to better utilize the space they have," Meekins said. "Once a plan was agreed upon by both the OSF team and the organization, a team was chosen from within the selected organization to be responsible for implementing the move. As buildings are vacated, they are then turned over to Sandy."

Meekins applauded the efforts of the organizational move teams.

"They've done an exceptional job,

pulling together on these plans and making it happen. OMMCS was the first to step up to the plate and do a major consolidation."

The OSF team identified 100 buildings to be vacated. The breakout of the buildings calls for 20 buildings to be reassigned to the work force in the consolidation effort, which means no actual savings will be realized because they are still in use. Twenty buildings on the Arsenal will be put in lay-away which means the utilities will be cut off to the buildings and only minimal maintenance will be done. These are buildings that are fairly new and in good shape, ready to be used by Army organizations as the need arises. Once all 20 buildings are empty, the annual savings in utility bills alone will be nearly \$500,000.

"Part of the overall plan calls for all Army and DoD entities to be housed on government property, which means bringing tenant activities and project offices on post," Meekins said, adding that the empty facilities secures a place for other commands through future base realignment and closures.

Demolition of 36 older buildings is planned with an expected savings of \$550,000 annually. The cost of the demolition comes from DA funded programs and not the operations and maintenance budget.

The plan also eliminates the use of 23 government trailers on the Arsenal netting

an annual utility savings of \$166,000. Once the entire plan is implemented the subtotaled savings of these 99 buildings will be \$1.2 million annually.

In addition, the Space and Missile Defense Command, located at 106 Wynn Drive, is scheduled to move onto the Arsenal into building 4488, current location of the Acquisition Center. This move will save the government \$6.7 million annually, the cost of the off-post building lease. To accomplish this goal, the Acquisition Center will be moved to the Sparkman Center complex in January 2000 and building 4488 will undergo a renovation, funded by congressional appropriations.

The timeline for the plan estimates 10 percent savings by Dec. 31, 20 percent by March 31, 2000, 50 percent by September 2000 and 100 percent by December 31, 2001.

"Phase II is the second year of the program—a follow-on to the efforts of phase I," Meekins said. "We need to keep in touch with the organizations to make sure the moves are going as scheduled—that they are turning in the buildings committed to in the plan. We will also do surveys on the buildings we didn't get to last year, mainly storage areas, not heated and cooled, as well as examining contractual commitments for facilities to private organizations on post, something we haven't done yet."

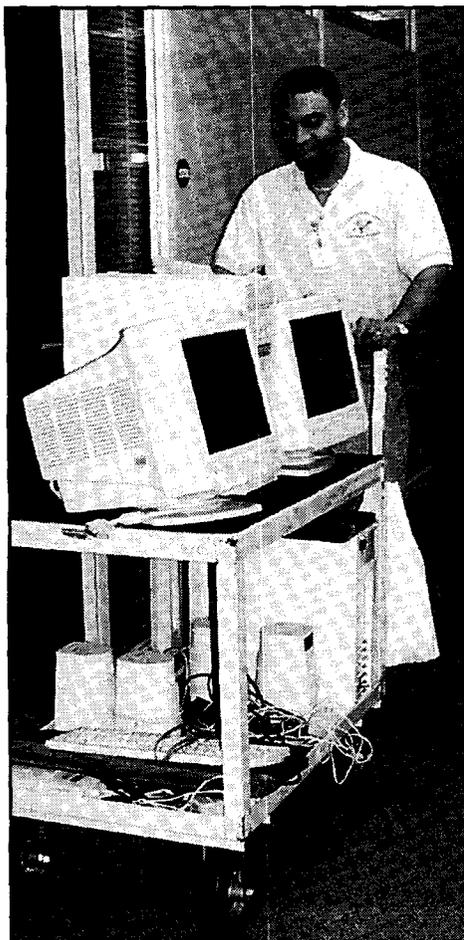


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

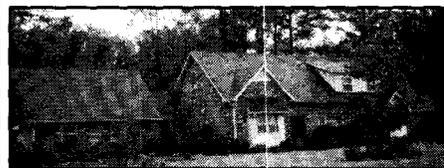
OFFICE MOVE — Resource Management employees on the third floor of building 5300 in the Sparkman Center are moving around the corner to clear a block of space on that floor for new tenants, all part of the consolidation efforts of Operation Smaller Footprint.



\$169,900 - PINE LAKE, ONE-OF-A-KIND! 3 BR, 2 BA w/potential upstairs expansion. Hardwood throughout, high ceilings, crown moulding, open plan with lots of french doors, ceramic sunroom, full length front porch & entertainment size kitchen. Also, oversized garage. CO3324.



\$114,500 - PRIVATE, PEACEFUL & PERFECT! This full brick home is neat, clean & move-in ready! Home features 3 BR, 2 BA, foyer, double garage with work area as well as sunroom and large deck overlooking the picturesque 3 acre grounds. If you are looking for comfort, space & privacy in a nice neighborhood, you must see this home. Winter lake view included at no extra cost! Motivated seller is ready & waiting for your offer! Call today! WE3307



\$275,000 - CHARM, WARMTH & TRADITIONAL ELEGANCE. This exceptional brick home has 4 BR's, 2.5 BA's. The den has hardwood floors, built-in bookcases & fireplaces. Among other amenities are a formal LR, DR, a large Kit./Breakfast rm. combo, a rec. room & an enormous amount of storage. Located on 3 acres with a guest house & storage bldg. HO3318



\$179,500 - Located near Grassy school, 29 acres & a very nice 2 bedroom, 2 bath brick home. Carpet, central H&A, full basement, 2-car garage and out buildings. KN3329

423 North Main Street
Arab, AL 35016
(256) 586-7450 or
Toll Free
1-800-659-6838

Century 21
The Premiere Agency



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

On Sale Now Thru Dec. 31st

Get into Coleman Spas



The Journey

Coleman Spas

Maximum value. Maximum accessibility. Coleman spas offers a complete yet compact hydrotherapy spa with a dry weight of 195 pounds for optimum portability without sacrificing the performance and reputation of the most reliable name in outdoor recreation. The height of the Journey makes it perfect for rolling through standard doorways. Bring the relaxation wherever you are - out on the patio or in the exercise room.

The Journey by Coleman Spas is distinctive. It's also the most economical in the Coleman Spas Line. But with indulgent features like a mini therapy seat, five therapeutic jets, and an automatic topside control - your body, mind and spirit will be soothed and refreshed.

AMERICA'S LARGEST SUNROOM COMPANY!

FOUR SEASONS
SUNROOMS

Design & Remodeling Centers

The Extraordinary Home Addition
Monday-Friday 8-5 • Saturday 9-2
(256) 722-2101

2832 Jordan Lane • Huntsville
www.four-seasons-sunrooms.com

Donors

continued from page 2

violently with his stomach hurting and running an extremely high fever. This time my husband and I drove Alex to the emergency room at Children's Hospital in Birmingham. Being that it was a Sunday morning, we really did not expect anything to happen that day. We thought we would be told to come back Monday morning. But thankfully that is not what happened. Upon entering the emergency room, the doctors and nurses took Alex with open arms. They could tell something was very wrong with our little boy.

There was no waiting for a doctor, they immediately took him to a room and started running test after test. The doctors performed a bone marrow aspiration on Alex that resulted in the extraction of very limited fluid.

That evening we were told that Alex had some abnormal cells and that a hematologist was being called in to look at Alex's slides. On Monday, Nov. 23, 1998 my husband and I were told that our beautiful 3-year-old boy had malignant cells, cancer. Words cannot describe the devastation we felt hearing the words, "your son has cancer."

At this time the oncologist, Dr. Castleberry told us he believed Alex had neuroblastoma, but with the limited bone marrow fluid he could not be conclusive. We had never heard of neuroblastoma, but Dr. Castleberry spent time from his busy schedule to explain this type of cancer. The prognosis for this type of cancer was not good. This discussion was something no parent should ever have to go through.

Dr. Castleberry also explained they would not know for sure what type of cancer until a double bone marrow biopsy was performed. They needed to extract more bone marrow for testing. Therefore, the following day our precious baby was put to sleep so that a bone marrow biopsy could be performed. My husband and I as well as our family and friends and complete strangers prayed through the night that Alex's biopsy would come back with different results.

Our prayers were answered. The day before Thanksgiving, Dr. Castleberry told my husband and I the good news as well as the bad. Alex did not have neuroblastoma but he did have acute lymphocytic leukemia. No parent wants to hear that their child has any type of cancer but it was a blessing to hear the words leukemia instead of neuroblastoma. Acute lymphocytic leukemia is very treatable and considering Alex's age has a

very good prognosis for cure. But the treatment for this type of leukemia requires approximately three years of chemotherapy.

The first six months of Alex's chemotherapy was very intense requiring several treatments per week. This treatment also required him to be in the hospital weekly on a three week cycle. After Alex completed the first six months of therapy, we were told that he was in remission. At this point we were so excited. It was as if all of our prayers had been answered. However, we were also told the next two years would be a battle to keep Alex in a state of remission.

For the next two years Alex will be required to visit the doctor weekly for an injection of chemotherapy medication plus he will be required to take a daily regime of chemotherapy medication at home. He must also have his blood count checked weekly. Those of you who are parents can just imagine what it is like to take a 3-year-old to have his blood drawn on a weekly basis.

Alex is now 4 years old. He is learning to cope with the leukemia. He knows what day he has to visit his doctor. Most of the time he realizes what treatment he is going to receive. One day Alex may have the energy of any normal 4-year-old and the next day he may have little or no energy.

The big problem with leukemia is that remissions don't always last. Sometimes a relapse happens and the leukemia comes back. When a relapse occurs, it is like starting all over again. With each relapse it gets harder and harder to induce a remission.

Sometimes a bone marrow transplant is necessary. But, finding the right donor is a very difficult task. That is why I am asking each of you to please consider being a bone marrow donor. I speak from experience when I say one never knows what is around the next bend on this walk of life. Can you imagine what it must feel like to give the gift of life, your bone marrow, to a dying child, mother, father, sister, brother, friend, or maybe a neighbor down the street? Bone marrow is a very special gift. Please consider giving this gift.

A bone marrow drive will be held on Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. The bone marrow drive will be in the Sparkman Center building 5304 room 4347. All that is required for screening is a small blood sample. Point of contact for this drive is Jean Weisser 876-2484 or you may contact me. Kathy Whisenant, 876-1846.

Again, I thank you and God bless you.

Kathy Whisenant

SAFHOME
Chimney Cleaning

10% Discount (with this coupon)

FREE INSPECTION



TRAY HUNT
828-7972 • 512-7534 (PAGER)

Start The New Millennium with... **A NEW COMPUTER**



Credit Problems — No Credit

NO PROBLEM

We can Finance You! No Payments For 60 days

Call Today - apply by phone 1-888-825-1580

Regions

Investment Company, Inc.

Regions Bank and Regions Investment Company have teamed up in an effort to satisfy all of your banking needs and investment needs at one place.

REGIONS BANK REDSTONE ARSENAL BUILDING 4200:

- Retirement Options
- IRA Transfers
- College Education Funding
- Tax-Free Investing
- Simple IRA Plans
- Rollovers
- Probate Avoidance

Please Call Tom Keene,
Your Regions Investment Specialist,
at **(256) 535-0327** or come
by one of our branches for
more information.

- Not FDIC Insured
- No Bank Guaranteed
- May Lose Value



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

NEW INFORMATION— Dixon, left, briefed the townhall audience on the new Merit Promotion Plan which combines former ATCOM and MICOM MPP issues into one AMCOM agreement, adopted Oct. 25. Dorothy Tiller, lead personnel management specialist from CPAC, right, was on hand to field questions from the audience after the presentation.

Acquisition town hall

Opening lines of communication between the center and CPAC

By Sandy Riebeling

In an effort to keep the work force better informed about Civilian Personnel Advisory Center issues, the CPAC hosted an Acquisition Center town hall meeting, the first of its kind. Similar meetings with other organizations are expected to follow.

Major areas of concentration centered around the South Central Expedited Referral System using Easy ACCES and the new Merit Promotion Plan for all AMCOM employees, adopted Oct. 25.

"We want to communicate with our customers," LeRoy Daniels, CPAC director, said in his opening remarks to the sparse audience in the Sparkman Auditorium Nov. 9. "We thought the best way would be to come to the customers, that's why we're here today. I came prepared with several CPAC employees to help answer your questions."

Daniels explained that until the union issues are settled concerning STAIRS, the South Central Expedited Recruitment Program will work in the interim. "But to be considered for career programs," he said, "you have to be in the ballgame. You have to be registered through Easy ACCES, the Army Civilian Career Evaluation System."

Employees can register with Easy ACCES on line at www.cpol.army.mil/eza-cces. Daniels urges all employees to put

their best foot forward in this process.

"We're in a highly prized location," he said. "For some reason, people want to come to Redstone, lots of people want to live in Huntsville. You have to make sure you're registered and that's not the time to be modest. High self-esteem is desired. Make sure all your information like address, e-mail and phone number are correct. That's how you're contacted. Make sure your supervisor has all the information needed to rate you. Remember to say that you did a great project if someone said that you did a great project."

He also reminded employees to be sure and return their referral notification letter promptly and to the correct place. He also invited those that believe they should have been on a referral list and weren't to call about it, at (203) 325-9571.

After Daniels' presentation, Don Dixon, chief, customer support B in CPAC, presented the new Merit Promotion Plans which apply to all Team Redstone unless servicing agreements or local common regulations/policies provide for different procedures.

"When AMCOM was formed we had two sets of MPPs, one for former ATCOM jobs and one for former MICOM jobs," Dixon said. "While there were many areas

See Town hall on page 7

SALES SERVICE NETWORKS TRAINING

Computer RENAISSANCE
SMALL BUSINESS TEAM
The right solutions. Long-term relationships.

THE FOURTH R
Authorized Education Center

MILITARY PERSONNEL GET 10% OFF ALL CABLES AND ADAPTERS WHEN YOU SHOW PROPER ID.

**M-F 10AM - 7 PM
SAT. 10AM - 6 PM**

5000 WHITESBURG DRIVE
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35802
(256) 880-3707
WWW.CRHSV.COM

8000328



We're your home for car and life, too.

Whether you need insurance for your home, your car or your life, you only have to looking one place to find it all: Alfa. With a host of options, your hometown Alfa agent can provide you the coverage you need at rates you can afford. So for multiple lines of insurance, take a short drive around the corner to Alfa, or simply give us a call today.



Charlie Miller
2336 Whitesburg Dr.
539-2724



Call Alfa

ALABAMA • GEORGIA • MISSISSIPPI

8000102



Come In For Lunch And Bring Home Dinner.

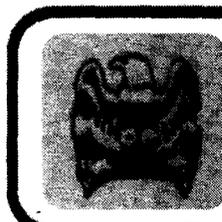
When Taste Matters™... We've Got You Covered.

Save some time tonight! When you come in to pick-up one of our tasty Box Lunches or sandwiches, surprise the family with a delicious, honey and spiced glazed ham or smoked turkey. Truly one stop shopping.

7540 S. Memorial Parkway • Huntsville • 382-4426 • Fax 382-4429

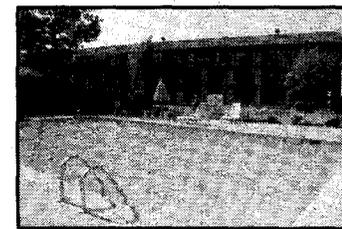
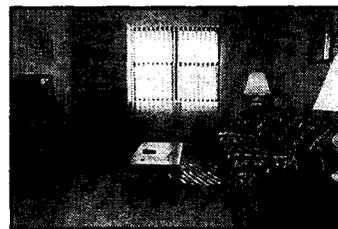
\$100 OFF Any Boxed Lunch For All... **HEAVENLY HANG**

8000324



FEDERAL SQUARE MOTEL & SUITES

CORPORATE APARTMENTS



- Fully Furnished & Equipped Kitchens
- Microwaves • Direct TV
- 24 Hr. Phone Service with Switchboard & Message Center
- Washer & Dryer • Utilities Included
- No Deposit, No Applications Fees

Daily	*Weekly	*Monthly
1 Bed \$58 ⁰⁰	1-Bed \$364 ⁰⁰	1-Bed \$810 ⁰⁰
2 Bed \$78 ⁰⁰	2-Bed \$427 ⁰⁰	2-Bed \$990 ⁰⁰

*Restrictions Apply

Studio Rooms - all rooms have microwave, refrigerators & coffee pots

\$40 DAILY

This special is for All retired, active & gov't. agencies
8781 Madison Blvd. • Madison, AL 35758
1-(256) 772-8470 1-800-458-1639

www.federalsquare.com

8000006

Construction begins at Patton and Rideout Road gates

By Beth Skarupa

Two proposed construction projects begin this week at the Patton and Rideout Road gates 4 and 9.

Work will include pavement widening on the east side of Patton Road and the construction of a permanent guardhouse with overhead canopy. Pavement widening also will occur along the west side of Rideout Road and an overhead canopy for the inbound lanes will be constructed at the existing guardhouse. Both contracts are for 135 days.

"We're going to build a canopy over the inbound lanes to keep the guards out of the

weather. Since we increased security, we need to protect the guards," Bobby Noles, Redstone Arsenal traffic engineer, said. "The work will be done in phases to keep traffic interruption at the minimum."

Work at Patton Road will be at the intersection of Vista Drive, just north of the existing temporary guardhouse. The existing area of Patton Road where the new guardhouse will be constructed consists of one northbound lane, two southbound lanes and a center turn lane.

"We're building a permanent gate and canopy that will be more visible and more modern," Noles said.

During Phase I an additional lane will be

added on the east side of Patton Road. The contractor will construct the guardhouse first without the canopy and widen the existing roadway. Traffic will be routed to the two existing southbound lanes. The west southbound lane will carry southbound traffic and the east southbound lane will be used for temporary northbound traffic.

During Phase II the contractor will construct the concrete island and overhead canopy for the guardhouse. Northbound traffic will be diverted to the newly constructed east lane and southbound traffic will continue to use the existing southbound lane.

The temporary guardhouse decal checkpoint on Patton Road is located several hun-

dred feet south of the project site and will remain fully operational during the construction of the new guardhouse.

Work at Rideout Road will be at the inbound lanes on the west side of the existing guardhouse at Gate 9. The construction limit will begin approximately 440 feet north of the guardhouse and extend to approximately 170 feet south of Overlook Road.

The three inbound lanes of Rideout Road and the visitor registration service lane adjacent to the guardhouse are in the work area and will be affected by construction. The work will be accomplished in three phases to provide the least disruption to incoming traffic. A minimum of two inbound lanes will be open at all times and the lanes will be as unrestricted as possible.

During Phase I the contractor will widen the roadway on the west side of Rideout Road and relocate roadway lights. The complete work will include finished pavement, seeding or mulched shoulders and ditches, placement of temporary traffic control markings and removal of old conflicting markings, as well as construction of new pole bases to relocate the existing roadway lights.

During Phase II the contractor will construct roadway widening on the east side of Rideout Road affecting the inbound lanes. Excavation and placement of column footings and the construction of two concrete islands will be performed. Once the footings are completed, columns and structural steel will be erected.

Acquisition town hall is first of its kind

Town hall

continued from page 6

of commonality within the two union contracts, there were about 12-15 areas of differences. We've had some good dialogue with the unions and we reached an agreement on Oct. 25."

Some of the compromises included keeping announcements open for 10 days instead of seven; announcements will be posted on the web rather than on bulletin boards or only in the area of consideration; using SCERP as interim system pending STAIRS process concerning evaluation of applicants; the number of referrals will be

the top 25 qualified applicants, ranked on desired skills, if less than 25 possess all required skills, refer all; interviews are required for all GS-14/15 applicants and is optional for others, using job related criteria to reduce the number to interview to a reasonable number not less than five; candidates not referred will be notified in writing, the names of selected candidates will be posted on the web and supervisors will issue non-selection notices; temporary promotions more than 120 will be competitive (179 days in activities within two years of a major drawdown).

After presenting the areas of compromise in the new MPP, Dixon opened the meeting

to questions. One secretary asked for a response to a question she had submitted in writing days before the town hall took place. A representative from CPAC said that she'd received 20 similar questions regarding secretary promotion structure, classification and pay. While she didn't have an answer at that moment, one was promised in written form within a few days. In fact, all employees who had submitted a question on that subject were promised a copy of all the questions and answers submitted.

Some audience members didn't ask a question but offered a suggestion or comment about the information presented at the town hall.

The AEPCO OMNIBUS 2000 Logistics Team

Wants to take this opportunity to introduce our team and congratulate Dr. James Whang, Chairman and President of AEPCO, Inc., on his selection as a consultant to the Army Science Board

The Army Science Board is a Federal advisory committee comprised of prominent scientists, engineers, academicians, and business people who advise senior Army leadership on a wide variety of scientific, technological and managerial matters. The advice and counsel received is applied in fashioning and guiding the Army's research, development, and acquisition programs.

Team AEPCO - Already Providing Worldwide Logistics Support for Team Redstone and Poised to Continue "World Class" Logistics Support for the New Millennium

Educating parents

Williams schools PTA seeks boost in membership

By Beth Skarupa

The Parent Teacher Association is encouraging parents of students at the J.E. Williams Elementary and Middle Schools to join their organization.

Of the 712 students enrolled at Williams 5-8, 343 live on Redstone Arsenal. That means Redstone Arsenal accounts for 48 percent of the student population at Williams. Last year, 50 percent of the PTA membership was made up of parents from Redstone Arsenal, but only 19 percent are participating this year.

"Col. (Steve) Hamilton is concerned about this," Capt. Mike Newell, chairman of the Army Community Service Education Committee, said of the deputy post commander.

Kevin Ring, the Education Committee's representative for Williams Elementary and Middle Schools, and Newell agree that a misconception may be the cause of this low participation.

"We think we are facing a misconception at our school where parents don't want to join the PTA or contribute to fund-raisers because they think that's why we pay taxes. But the funding we get isn't enough," Ring said.

Ring explained that people may think

that the schools are getting a lot of money from Impact Aid and that it should pay for everything for the kids. But that money actually is divided between the entire Huntsville City School system and the surrounding school systems as well. When looking at the per student spending paid for by this fund, parents will find that the Williams Elementary and Middle Schools are not even in the top half.

Both Ring and Newell are concerned that another misconception or miscommunication on their part may be contributing to the lack of participation in the PTA this year. Each family was asked to donate \$5 per month instead of participating in a traditional fund-raiser. This fund-raiser is not the same as PTA membership.

PTA membership is a one-time fee of \$5 for the entire year, with \$2 of that going to the state PTA for dues. If parents are paying the monthly fund-raiser dues, they are not automatically members of PTA. They must fill out a membership form and send it back to the school with \$5.

"I truly think parents care about their children and their education. But these misconceptions, time constraints and the rotation of military parents makes them think there's no point in getting involved in the PTA," Ring said.

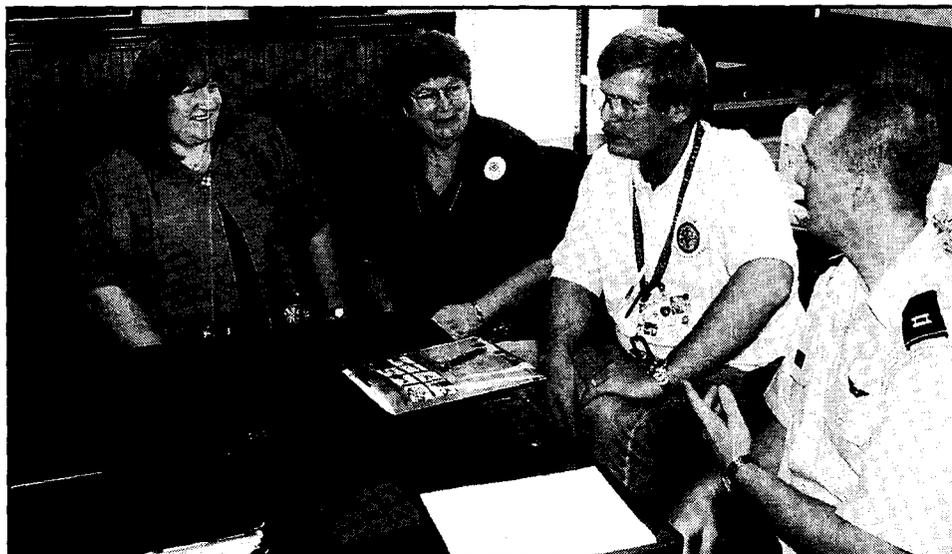


Photo by Beth Skarupa

EDUCATIONAL BRIEFING— From left Kathy Cuthbirth, spouse of AMC's command sergeant general, talks with Donna Scofield, Ring and Newell at Army Community Service during her first visit to Redstone Arsenal last week.

The PTA decided on this new fund-raiser because the students are not allowed to solicit on post and it can be dangerous to solicit door-to-door. This way, 100 percent of the money donated by the parents is put to work in the classroom through different PTA projects instead of the usual 40-50 percent of the money collected when an outside vendor is brought in to conduct a fund-raiser.

"Generally, for every \$1 raised, only 40-50 percent stays at the school and the rest goes to the vendor to pay for the candy or gift wrap or whatever they're selling," Newell said. "Versus

when you're paying right out, all the money stays at the school and it's fully tax-deductible because no goods were received for the money."

Some of this PTA fund-raiser money goes to teacher start-up funds. Since the state does not give money to the Huntsville City School system until Oct. 1, the fund-raiser helps pay for chalk, paper and other supplies needed to start teaching classes in August.

Fund-raiser money also goes to art and music programs because these are the first to be cut when state funding is low since

See Williams on page 9



"For honest service that's straight across the plate, visit one of our eight Huntsville area locations."

John Smoltz
Atlanta Braves Pitcher

Permanent discount for all Redstone Arsenal Employees (Military & Civilian) with Arsenal ID

\$2.00 OFF ANY FULL SERVICE

EXPRESS OIL CHANGE

10-10-10

It's Easy as 1-2-3 Own a 5120 for only 1*¢

<p>* \$10 = Service * \$10 = 100 min * \$10 = nights & weekends</p>	<p>* Free Call Waiting * Free 3 Way Conference calling</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

Authorized Agent of **BELLSOUTH Mobility**
 • Backed by Bellsouth Mobility's 7 days a week Customer Service.
 • BellSouth is the Largest Cellular Provider in the State of Alabama

5 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU.
 HUNTSVILLE, AL - 2501 WASHINGTON ST. - 534-5664
 MADISON - 7917 HWY 72W - 864-3144
 MADISON - 8000 MADISON BLVD. - (NEXT TO PUBLIX)- 464-6010
 HAZEL GREEN, AL - HWY. 231 N. STE 1 - 828-8736
 REDSTONE - PX - 883-9127

* Subject to credit approval, 12 month service agreement, subject to early disconnect penalty, certain other restrictions may apply.

MILLION DOLLAR SURPLUS SALE

LIQUIDATION

ENTIRE STOCK UP TO 70% OFF

3030 South Memorial Pkwy.
Stadium Place • (Next to Tailbot's)
880-2810

90 Days Same As Cash

Williams

continued from page 8

these programs are not part of the core curriculum. The PTA also funds the "Big Backyard Outdoor Learning Classroom" used to teach the environmental side of the science curriculum for grades K-8 at Williams. Technology at Williams Elementary and Middle Schools also is funded by the PTA fund-raiser, honoring requests for hardware and software not paid by state funds.

The money also funds the Reading Renaissance Program, an incentive program used to encourage children to read.

It is used in conjunction with another PTA-funded project called the Accelerated Reading Program. These programs include computer reading tests and a student point award system for successful completion of the tests. Awarded points are used at a "Reading Renaissance Store" where students choose items such as decorated pencils, notebooks and reading material.

"Join PTA not for the PTA members or the teachers, but for your child. The PTA fund-raiser is worth the 16 cents a day to do for your child," Ring said. "PTA is so important because it gives people a voice as a combined unit. It means so much if we

can present concerns to the school board or to the state board with a 600-700 member unit rather than just 100 because there's strength in numbers."

The PTA publishes a weekly newsletter that is sent home with every child. It is distributed to the elementary school children on Tuesdays and to the middle school children on Wednesdays. If parents are not receiving the newsletter, Ring suggests that they ask their children about it. Parents also can find information about upcoming events at the Williams Elementary and Middle School website with a link at www.hsvk12.al.us.

Crimson Tide should hold off Auburn Tigers

By Skip Vaughn

Skip's Picks had a 133-52 record after 11 weeks. Here are my predictions for selected games this week in major college football:

Alabama at Auburn—Bama
Mississippi St. at Arkansas—MSU
Florida State at Florida—FSU
Georgia at Ole Miss—Ole Miss
Tennessee at Kentucky—Tenn.
Clemson at South Carolina—Clemson
Ark.-Pine Bluff at Ala. A&M—A&M
Air Force at Colorado State—Colo. St.
Ohio State at Michigan—Michigan
Purdue at Indiana—Purdue
Boston College at Notre Dame—ND
Penn St. at Michigan St.—Penn St.
Houston at Army—Houston
Navy at Hawaii—Hawaii



Impact Aid affects quality of education

By Beth Skarupa

Impact Aid was designed to offset the cost of educating military children in the public school systems by making up for the property and business taxes the government would pay if it were a business. It is administered and managed by the Department of Education.

Two categories of students affect the amount of Impact Aid paid to a school district. Students living on government property, category "a" students, are allocated 100 percent of the local cost of education. Military students living off the local economy, category "b" students, are allocated 10 percent of the cost.

"Impact Aid was designed to cover the cost of military students attending public schools, but Congress only funds Impact Aid at a 40 percent rate. This means that although it now costs about \$6,700 per year to educate one child, Impact Aid only pays \$2,000 per "a" student and \$200 per "b" student," Capt. Mike Newell, Army Community Service (ACS) Education Committee chairman, said.

Eighty-one percent of school age Army family members attend public schools. Most of these approximately 209,000 students are classified as category "b" students. The president's budget for Impact Aid funding for this fiscal year is \$736 million. The actual FY '99 appropriation was \$864 million. None of this

is Department of Defense funds. Full Impact Aid funding for DoD connected students would be almost \$900 million.

According to Newell, it would be a great disadvantage for this funding to go directly to the individual schools rather than the school system as a whole. If it did go to the school, the schools would be thousands of dollars short on their budgets.

"Since most military do not vote in this local area, we must educate the local voters who can influence their congressmen and senators," Newell said. "If they understand that an increase in the funding of Impact Aid will bring more money into the entire system, they will be likely to lobby their representatives to pass these measures."

Hand Receipt Holders & Alternates!

GRA has been providing AMCOM hand receipts with property management support for over 7 Years

Contact Dewanna Comer or Shariene Hicks at (256) 883-7000 for more information

Gleason Research Associates, Inc.
2227 Drake Avenue Suite 2
Huntsville, AL 35805
Phone: (256) 883-7000
Fax: (256) 883-1525
www.grainc.net



The Property Accountability Solution

GRA's Auto-Scan Tracking System (ASTS₂) provides automated inventory management.



- Networkable or Stand Alone Systems
- Multiple Hand Receipt (s)
- Life Cycle Tracking of Property
- Paperless Transaction Capability
- Automatic Reconciliation with DPAS Posts All "In Process" Transactions
- Automation of ALL Hand Receipt Transactions
- Multiple Level Hand Receipt Assignment
- Automates School Reutilization Process
- Built-in Standardized Government Forms
- Prints Labels, Scannable Barcodes
- Extensive Reporting Capabilities
- Automatic Notification of Sub or Temporary Hand Receipts Due Update; Calibration, Warranty, Contract Due Dates
- Automation of All Maintenance Transactions for Telos, Audio Visual and Calibration Equipment
- GFE & Software Accountability
- Automatic Reconciliation of Found on Post Equipment
- Archive/History File
- Fully Customizable to meet specific needs of customer

AVIS SAYS

"Thanks"

FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

Thanksgiving Savings for you!



WEDNESDAY NOV. 24th 12:00 noon
thru MONDAY Nov. 29th 12:00 noon

Pontiac Grand AM or similar car for only **\$29⁹⁹** per day unlimited mileage.

Buick Century or similar car for only **\$33⁹⁹** per day

Cadillac Sedan Deville or similar car for only **\$79⁹⁹** per day unlimited mileage.

University Drive Location Only • Limited Availability • Other Restrictions Apply

Call 539-8483

Advanced reservations required. Limited availability at these rates. Avis features GM cars. When Avis in Huntsville offers rates like these, you get more for less. Rates and cars are subject to availability and are non-discountable. Maximum rental period applies. Cars must be returned to renting location. There is no refueling charge if you return the car with a full tank. Renter must meet Avis age, driver and credit requirements. Taxes and optional items, such as refueling are extra.

8000443



The Hampton Inn - Arsenal / South Parkway
Honors our Veterans!

Government Rate Only \$58.00 (plus tax) • Single or Double Occupancy

Hampton Inn

501 Boulevard South
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Call for reservations and mention this advertisement.

(256) 882-2228

"We Make It Easy To Take It Easy"

08000337

Health officials urge proper disposal of hypodermic needles

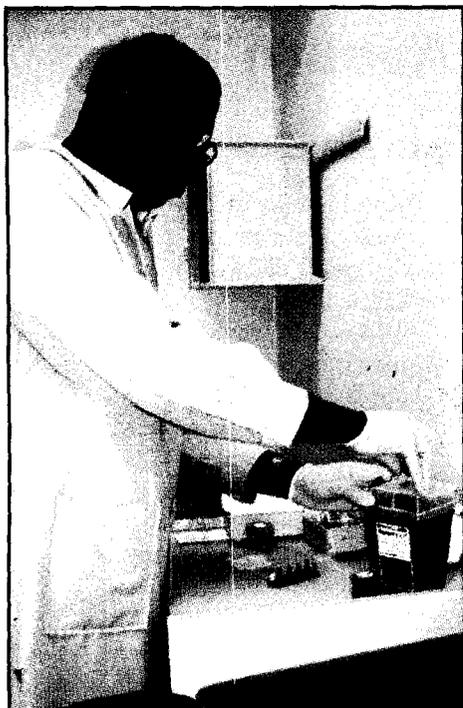


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

PROPER DISPOSAL— The health center uses biomedical hazard disposal containers for their used hypodermic needles. While an official container isn't necessary for insulin dependent employees using hypodermic needles at work, needles shouldn't be just thrown in the trash. Proper disposal includes placing the needle in a rigid plastic container such as a milk bottle or two-liter soda bottle, closing the container and placing it in the trash.

By Sandy Riebeling

It happened again. Someone in the Sparkman Center tossed a used hypodermic needle in the trash can without putting it in a proper container first. A sanitation worker found the needle and had to be sure it was properly disposed of, something that should have been done by the person who used the needle.

"This happens every once in a while," Cherie Miller, safety officer for Fox Army Health Center, said. "People get careless with the way they throw away their nee-



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

BLOOD DRAW— Linda Potter has no complaints about the needle stick as lab technician Joe Tibbs draws blood.

dles. It seems like we need a reminder every few years of the importance of proper disposal."

One of the biggest risks with improper "sharps" disposal is that a custodian emptying the trash could be pricked by the needle. It is well known that serious diseases such as AIDS and Hepatitis can be transmitted through such an exposure. Sharps must be properly contained before being placed in trash receptacles to avoid possible injury to others.

According to SSgt. Eric Twitchell, training NCO at Fox Army Health Center, the only types of people using needles at work are diabetics who are insulin dependent and have to take injections at work and possibly those who have an epinephrine kit in case of severe allergic reaction.

"It used to be that people would just bend the needle to render it unusable to someone who might find it in the trash," Twitchell said. "While that works to keep it from being used again in an improper manner, it is still sharp and can still poke someone through a trash bag."

Proper disposal of sharps includes placing the used needle and syringe in a semi-rigid plastic container such as a milk jug or two-liter soda bottle, capping the container and then placing it in the trash. People using sharps daily at work can place sever-

al sharps in the container before putting it in the trash; just keep the container with the used sharps secure and out of sight.

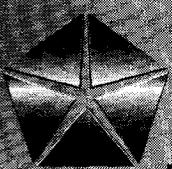
In case of an accidental needle stick, Maj. Kathy King, officer-in-charge of infection control at Fox Army Health Center, said to first remove the needle and let the puncture bleed initially, under cold running water. This may help expunge an infection in the wound. Then clean the area with soap and water and place a bandage on the wound.

"It's important to try and ascertain whose needle it was," King said. "It's also very important that you report the incident to your supervisor. The key, though, is to let it bleed at first."

While the safety of employees is the first concern, the government also faces certain liabilities.

"The people who collect the trash in the offices are contractors but if they are stuck by a needle, it is the government's responsibility to pay for medical treatment and lost time as a result of the injury," Miller said.

If you are unsure about proper disposal, King suggests talking to your health care provider. Not only should people be doing the right thing at work, King said, they should be using the same procedures in their home.



Huntsville Dodge

6519 University Drive



\$16,995
Regular Cab
Auto, A/C, AM/FM
Cass. & more

New 2000 Durango





\$17,595* V6, Auto, A/C, 4 Door & More!
* All Rebates Applied

LARGER Selection Best Prices

"North Alabama's Program Headquarters"

'99 Dodge Grand Caravans SE A/C, PW, PL, & more \$19,980	'99 Dodge Intrepid V6, Auto, PW, PL, & more \$15,995	'99 Dodge Caravan SE V6, PW, PL, & more \$16,995	'99 Dodge Ram Quad Cab SLT, V8, PW, PL, Alloys \$23,980
'99 Dodge Durango SLT 4x4, leather, V8, CD & more \$29,980	'98 Dodge Ram 2500 Quad Cab, V8, loaded \$23,980	'97 Ford F150 LWB, Auto, A/C, more \$8,998	'98 Dodge Avenger Sport V6, Auto, PW, PL *SAVE*
'98 Dodge Avenger Sport V6, Auto, PW, PL *SAVE*	'95 Ford Taurus GL V6, PW, PL, & more \$6,998	'98 Saturn SC Sunroof, A/C, Stereo, & more. Low miles *SAVE*	'99 Dodge Ram 1500 Auto, Chrome wheels, A/C, & more. *SAVE*

OPEN Saturday
8:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

721-9560

OPEN Mon.-Fri.
8:30 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Maurice Lacroix. Tomorrow's Classics.



Masterpiece Phase de Lune No. 37757-1121

Masterpiece Phase de Lune:
Automatic movement ML 37,
stainless steel case, scratch-resistant
sapphire crystals (see through back),
water-resistant to 50 m, available in
Ladies and Mens sizes.



MAURICE LACROIX
Switzerland



MASON Jewelers

3011 S Parkway
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 883-2150 • 1-800-883-2152
Mon/Sat. 10am-6pm

Kindergarten vet

OMMCS instructor visits local school to talk about Veterans Day

By Sandy Riebeling

In his 19-year military career, this was a first for SFC William Owens. So how do you keep 60 kindergartners interested in what the flag of the United States represents?

Like a good Ordnance soldier, he came prepared for battle. But instead of guns and tanks and explosives, he arrived at Owens Elementary School armed with a billboard, music, songs, pledges, marches, trinkets and a lot of patience.

Owens spent the day before Veterans Day visiting with the kindergarten and first-grade classes at the school in Limestone County as a volunteer of Redstone's Speakers Bureau program. He spent the morning talking with the children about the U.S. flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the many people who fought for the right to say those words.

His morning began in the midst of 60 some kindergartners. He introduced himself and began to explain what some of the patches and insignias on his uniform represented. He was doing great until he had to explain his job as an Ordnance instructor/writer for the Bradley Linebacker and the Avenger systems. Once the door was opened to the exciting world of explosives

and weapons, getting the kids back on track took some quick thinking.

After his question, "Who knows what tomorrow is?" came some interesting answers— "Thursday." "My teacher's birthday." "We don't have school." "So, where's your tank?" Undaunted, Owens continued, "Tomorrow is a big birthday for all the veterans who have served the United States."

He explained about the military's role in safeguarding the nation and peacekeeping missions in other countries. To bring the idea of a veteran a little closer to the hearts of the wee ones, Owens told them that once they made it through the tough stuff of kindergarten, they would be veterans too— kindergarten vets.

He led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, played some military marching music, to which they all marched and let them hear the Army song. The children followed his every move with giggles and interest. "It was a lot of fun," said kindergartner Savannah Turner.

Before moving on to the first grade, Owens gave the children drug prevention comic and coloring books along with a box full of fuzzy balls with a no drugs sign.

The tone was a bit different for Owens as he spoke to more than 80 first-graders,



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

OLD GLORY— Owens helps kindergartner Savannah Turner hold the flag for her classmates as the Star Spangled Banner song plays in the background.

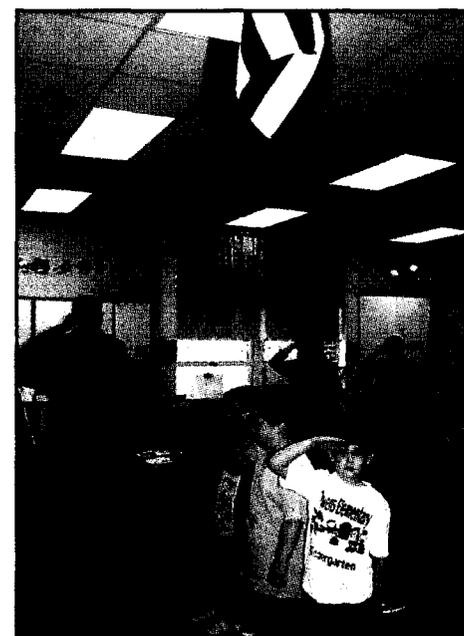


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

HONORING THE FLAG— Owens demonstrated the proper way to give a military and civilian salute to the flag.

bringing them the same message. They asked more questions about what his job was and the places he'd served. They were especially interested in his tour in Bosnia.

Before he played the Star Spangled Banner for the group, he taught them how to give a proper military salute and the importance of honoring the flag and all that it stands for. He gave them some understanding into what it means to be a veteran and why we should celebrate Veterans Day.

"You salute us when you salute the flag," Owens said to the children. "We salute you back by defending the nation."

After his formal presentation, Owens left books and stickers for the teachers to distribute to the children. The children were

more interested in getting a close-up look at his uniform, gingerly touching the patches and medals he wore.

Teacher Patsy Jackson commended him on his presentation.

"He did a wonderful job," she said. "He knew just how long to talk before he let them get up and move around a little bit. I know the kids loved having him here. He made quite an impression on them. We are so glad he was able to come and visit with us today."

Evening Classes on the Arsenal

- Master of Business Administration (PMBA)
- Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- M.S. in Acquisition and Contract Management
- M.S. on Computer Information Systems
- M.S. in Engineering Management
- M.S. in Logistics Management
- M.S. in Human Resource Management
- M.S. in Management (MSM)
- M.S. in Materiel Acquisition Management
- M.S. in Systems Management

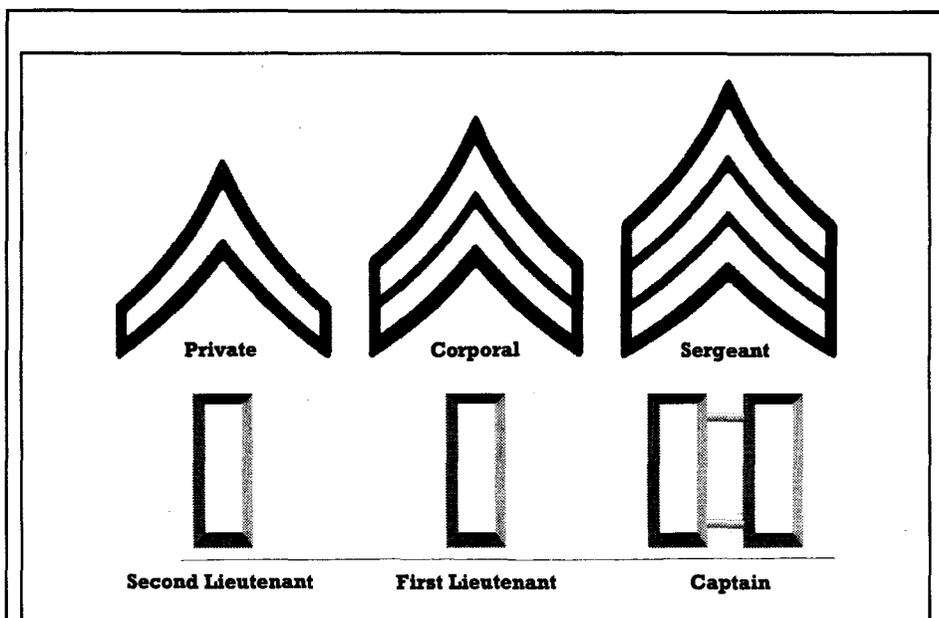
Our degree programs are approved by the Alabama State Approving Agency for Veterans Administration credit and reimbursement by NASA for reimbursement by local private industry and by the Department of Defense for reimbursement. Florida Tech is licensed by the State of Alabama Department of Education and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Spring Semester Begins January 3, 2000
Registration Begins November 15, 1999



Florida Institute of Technology
 Redstone Graduate Center
 Sparkman Center
 Building 5304, Room 4326
 Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898

<http://www.segs.fit.edu/~redstone> **(256) 881-7878**



GO FROM STRIPES TO BARS.

If you're leaving the Army to go to college, there's one course that can change your stripes. ROTC.

It's the one course that gives you the chance to use your previous Army experience to become an officer upon graduation from college.

You may also qualify for scholarships set aside for people with previous Army experience.

For more information on how Army ROTC can be a golden opportunity, contact the Education Center on post or the ROTC recruiter below.



ARMY ROTC
THE SMARTEST COLLEGE COURSE YOU CAN TAKE

MAJ Reginald Johnson
 (205) 851-5773 / 5775

8000164

08000123

■ Radar has big role in national missile defense program

Radar

continued from page 1

"It's a challenge," Jack Remich, facilities engineer, said. "This is not going to be an easy facility, not just to design but to build."

The project office includes about 30 government employees. Some of the mem-

bers include Dennis Boyd, test engineer; Catherine Weywadt, general engineer; Carlton Ellis, test team leader; and Billy Carter, chief of the engineering division.

"The political leadership of this country are coming to the conclusion that there's a credible ballistic missile threat to the nation," McKaig said.

Demonstration

continued from page 1

"Fundamentally this is a look at the possibility of ground-to-ground application," Wesley McElveen, the project manager for 2.75 inch rocket systems, said. "We think it has tremendous possibilities."

At least some of the potential user community indicated interest.

"That's a different use of an aviation rocket," Maj. Gen. David Gust, program executive officer for intelligence and electronic warfare at Fort Monmouth, N.J., said. "And also the NDI (non-developmental item) aspect of it is interesting, the fact that the contractor produced this thing for a direct-fire weapon rather than the common mission of the 2.75."

"I thought it was fantastic," Maj.

Gen. John Doesburg, commander of the Soldier and Biological Chemical Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., said. "Great new technology and great possibilities as we look to the future and look at the chief of staff's vision. I think it has great possibility to fit in the chief of staff's vision."

The 2.75 rocket itself has been around for a while. "As a matter of fact, it's 50 years old," McElveen said. "It's like television: You keep improving it."

Formerly part of the Industrial Operations Command, his project office now reports to the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles. The Hydra 70 Project Office is located at Rock Island, Ill.

Thiokol Propulsion, Brigham City, Utah, produced the rocket motor used in the demonstration.

Expo 2000 promotes education for the new millennium

By James H. Campbell

This is American Education Week and many exciting education related events are taking place. There is EXPO 2000, Education in the New Millennium. EXPO 2000 is taking place right here at Redstone Arsenal on Nov. 17 and 18.

On Nov. 17 at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., EXPO 2000 demonstrations will be in the EMS room. The EMS room is on the third floor of building 5309 in the Sparkman Complex. On Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ECHO 2000 demonstrations will be at the Education Center (building 3222 on Snooper Road). Come see and take part in some of these exciting new ways in which education programs are being packaged and delivered.

You will learn how easy it can be for you to enroll in a distance learning course and receive live lectures by your instructor, with two way communications, in your home or workplace at a time that will fit into your personal schedule. There will be demonstrations of distance learning and computer based education to include Self-Paced Army Computer Education (SPACE) for GED and College Credit and Functional Academic Skills Training (FAST).

Demonstrations are organized and conducted by two highly qualified organiza-

tions in automation and distance learning. They are New Horizon Computer Learning Center of Huntsville, and Southern Christian University of Montgomery.

Southern Christian University was recently designated as a "Distance Education Demonstration Program Institution" by the U. S. Department of Education. You will understand why the school was selected after you have seen and participated in their demonstrations on Nov. 17 or 18. Also, the university is one of 15 higher educational institutions in the United States that are partnering with the U.S. Department of Education to develop models to help enhance access to federal student aid for distance education-based programs and test new models of financial aid delivery to students participating in distance learning programs.

New Horizons Computer has more than 200 successful computer Learning Centers in 24 countries around the world. The center in Huntsville is one of 138 locations in the United States. The organization trained more than 2.4 million people on 1998.

Don't miss this opportunity to become knowledgeable of and get involved in some of the many new innovations that have been developed in the field of education.

(Editor's note: Campbell is education services officer for Redstone Arsenal.)

Joe Sartain
DECATUR
3300 Hwy. 31 S. • (256) 350-2120



Jim Sawyer
Sales/Leasing
Professional
U.S. Army (Ret.)
Will get you the
best deal on
new or used
vehicles

FORD

New Car & Truck Rebates & Rate (APR) Incentives
Many Program Car Specials In Stock

'94 Olds 88 Full power, real nice, 70k \$6,200 #1554P Ask for Jim Sawyer	'98 Contour Loaded - One owner \$9,800 3 in stock Ask for Jim Sawyer	'98 Ranger Very nice super cab 4x4. 4 lit. V6, auto, power win & locks. 23k miles \$18,990 Ask for Jim Sawyer
'99 ZX2 loaded \$11,990 Ask for Jim Sawyer	'96 Toyota Camry Auto full power 41k miles \$13,990 Ask for Jim Sawyer	Over 100 Other Used Late Model Trade-Ins

BINGO
at the **CHALLENGER**

OVER \$1,000,000 IN PRIZE MONEY HAS
BEEN AWARDED SO FAR THIS YEAR

BIG BUCKS!

The Entire Redstone Community Is Invited To Play

BINGO HOURS
Tues.-Sat 6:45 - 9:45 pm
Sunday: 1:45 - 5:30 pm
For More Details Call 837-0750



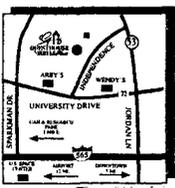
GROWING ACROSS AMERICA

GAH
GUESTHOUSE
SUITES Plus

GOVERNMENT RATE
from
\$58*

4020 Independence Drive
Huntsville, Alabama 35816

Call (256) 837-8907
for reservations
or 1-800-21-GUEST



*based on length of stay
Offer good through 12/31/99

CASH NOW FOR YOUR CAR TITLE

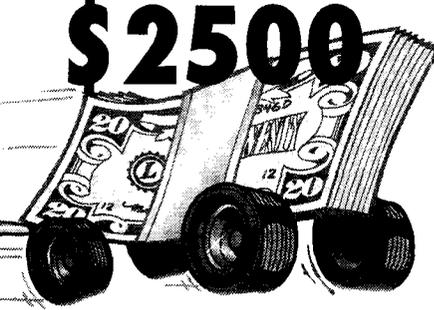
MOST VALUE FOR YOUR CAR...UP TO

MONEY EXPRESS
TITLE PAWN

\$2500

4294 UNIVERSITY DR. • 726-9959

18%* • 18%* **OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK** **18%* • 18%***



Supersonic flight

Procurement analyst's son gets opportunity of lifetime on Concorde

By Beth Skarupa

Bobbie Moore, a procurement analyst at AMCOM's Business Management Directorate, has been proud of her two sons some time. But now one of them has given her even more reason to be proud — Ravaris, a senior at Sparkman High School, was chosen to be one of the seven students from the Alabama Department of Education's student representatives on the Concorde's 25th anniversary flight to Alabama from Paris, France, last week.

The Concorde was chartered to fly the Huntsville Hospital Foundation to Paris on a charity fund-raising event Nov. 6. Air France invited the Department of Education to select three student representatives and one public school teacher to fly the supersonic jet when it came to Huntsville to pick up its charter passengers. Ravaris represented the Madison County school system, while Alana Greer from Sparkman High School represented the Huntsville City school system and Colleen Baum from Bob Jones High School represented the Madison City school system. Ravaris' chaperone was Alabama's High School Teacher of the Year, Carolyn Eckert, of Bradshaw High School in Florence.

The four flew to Paris on a commercial flight on Nov. 2, which was Ravaris' 18th

birthday. They were taken on a quick sight-seeing trip including the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre and shopping before they returned to Huntsville on the Concorde Nov. 5. They were greeted at a special arrival ceremony at Huntsville International Airport that night.

"There were hundreds of people waiting for the passengers to get off," Bobbie said. "They were the last ones to come off the plane with the news media, hugging and snapping pictures."

Alfred Moore, an electrician for Daimler-Chrysler, is Ravaris' proud father. Bobbie said he was the one with all the cameras waiting to get a photograph of their son. Other important guests for at the ceremony included Roger Hillis, Ravaris' guidance counselor, Gail Owen, an assistant principal at Sparkman High, Steve Holland, Sparkman High principal and Tony Harris of the Alabama Department of Education.

Ravaris' brother, Starcy Moore, was not able to be at the ceremony because he had to attend classes at the University of Montevallo where he is an advanced sophomore studying music. But he was able to see Ravaris later that night.

"He couldn't make it in time for the plane landing, but he still got to see him all hyped up," Bobbie said.



Photo courtesy Bobbie Moore

SPEEDY RETURN— From left students Ravaris Moore, Alana Greer and Colleen Baum are welcomed back from Paris after arriving at Huntsville International Airport on the Concorde last week.

The student representatives were chosen based on their resumes. Academics, especially advanced levels in physics, math, science and French were considered, as well as extracurricular activities and community service. Ravaris said his principal called him into his office one day and explained everything to him, then told him he needed to get a resume together in four hours.

Luckily, Ravaris had plenty of achievements to list on his resume. He is an active member of the school's National Honor Society. See Concorde on page 20

Apache helicopters inspection ordered

The Army announced Nov. 5 the inspection of its Apache helicopter fleet for possibly defective hanger bearing assemblies.

The order comes following a detailed analysis and investigation that revealed the possibility for stress corrosion fractures in either of two areas in the assemblies.

The Program Executive Office here and the Boeing Company in Mesa, Ariz., have determined that the inspection order is a prudent measure to assure safety.

The Program Executive Office for Aviation, with Boeing and the Aviation and Missile Command have identified the part numbers and serial numbers of the hanger bearing assemblies that need to be replaced. After inspection, Apaches not having assemblies that need to be replaced are cleared for flight. Apaches with assemblies requiring replacement will be grounded until the assemblies are replaced.

CLASSIC BEVERAGE
SPIRITS • BEER • KEGS

2017 DRAKE AVE.
NEXT TO KROGER'S
704-CLASS
704-2527

Call ahead for Keg Orders

ONLY 49¢ EACH

BAGS OF ICE

NOW \$2.19 PER PACK

25% OFF
Any Non-Alcohol Mixers

WORK AT HOME

AND EARN UP TO

\$45,000 PER YEAR!

You can now get paid by local doctors to process medical insurance claims electronically from your home computer. Software purchase required. Training and local leads provided.

CALL TODAY

1-888-660-6693 ext. 151

*Computers and financing available

MATERIALS UNLIMITED, INC.

Serving Redstone Arsenal since 1983

Beyond providing quality products & service, we also help eliminate the unnecessary workload for the buyers by only having to make one call. At MATERIALS UNLIMITED, we understand responding to our customer's needs.

Communications	• A/V Recording Media	• Office Products
Lab / Medical	• Repairs / Warranty Service	• Misc. Quotes
ADP / Computer	• Research & Development Support	• Safety / Clean Room Supplies
Electronics		• Telephones

Our sales representatives are available for immediate support and response.

Payment options: Impact Credit Cards - open acct and BPA contract #DAAH-03-97-A-0022.

256) 461-7180 800-999-7185 Fax (256)464-0043

Visit our website: <http://www.angelfire.com/biz/mui1>

e-mail us at mui@advicom.net

UAH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Solutions for Today and Opportunities for Tomorrow

Certificate Programs/Series

- Oracle Database Admin. • Begins Jan 11 TSP9908-01N
- Visual Basic • Begins Jan 18 TSP9905-01N
- Contract Mgmt. • Begins Jan 24 MCP9902-01N
- Supervisory Development • Begins Jan 24 MCP9905-01N
- Web Publisher • Begins Jan 31 TSP9911-01N
- Microsoft Office • Begins Jan 31 TSP9914-01N
- ISO9000 • Begins Feb 3 MCP9909-01N
- Java Developer • Begins Feb 14 TSP9915-01N

Advanced Technologies

- Microsoft PowerPoint 97Nov 22&23 • M&T • 9am-4pm • TS0593-03N
- Enterprise JavaNov 29-Dec 3 • M-F • 1-5pm • TS0545-01N
- Windows Programming with Microsoft Visual C++ & MFCNov 29-Dec 10 • M-F • 8am-Noon • TS0558-02N
- Power Programming Using Visual BasicNov 29-Dec 17 • M-F • 5-9pm • TS0565-02N
- Supporting-Microsoft Windows NT 4.0-Core TechnologiesDec 6-16 • M-Th • 4:30-8:55pm • TS0319-06N
- Hosting and Promoting Your Web SiteDec 13-15 • M-W • 8am-Noon • TS0531-04N
- Advanced PowerBuilder 6.0 ControlsDec 14-16 • T-Th • 5:30-9:30pm • TS0449-02N
- Inside Computer ProgrammingJan 10-14 • M-F • Noon-4pm • TS0412-07N
OR Jan 10-14 • M-F • 5-9pm • TS0412-08N
- Advanced Programming w/Microsoft Visual C++ & MFCJan 10-21 • M-F • 8am-12:30pm • TS0451-01N
- Advanced Assembly Design Using Pro/ENGINEERJan 11-Feb 3 • T-Th • 6:00-9:20pm • TS0405-07N
- Basic Oracle Database AdministrationJan 11-Feb 3 • T-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • TS0422-04N
- Fundamentals of Visual BasicJan 18-28 • M-F • 1-5:30pm • TS0564-03N

Business & Management

- Cost Accounting Standards and PrinciplesNov 22&29 • M • 6-9pm • MC6103-11N
- Technical Performance ParametersNov 23-Dec 14 • T • 6-9pm • MC6207-11N
- Performance ManagementDec 2&9 • Th • 6-9pm • MC6313-02N
- Financial Management of Government ContractsDec 6&13 • M • 6-9pm • MC6104-11N
- Engineer LiabilityDec 7-16 • T&Th • 5:30-9:15pm • MC3309-05N
- Schedule and Cost ParametersJan 11-Feb 1 • T • 6-9pm • MC6208-11N
- Training and DevelopmentJan 13&20 • Th • 6-9pm • MC6316-02N
- Understanding the Government Procurement SystemJan 24&31 • M • 6-9pm • MC6071-19N
- Effective Communication: The Key to SuccessJan 24-Mar 6 • M • 6-9pm • MC6010-24N
- Principles of Supervision/LeadershipJan 24-Mar 20 • M • 1-4pm • MC6040-25N
- ISO9000 ImplementationFeb 3-24 • Th • 5:30-8:30pm • MC6327-01N

Our Courses can be Customized & Offered On-Site to Meet Your Company's Specific Training Needs!

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Division of Continuing Education

Rapid responders

Missile school division trains chemical decontamination teams

By Beth Skarupa

Here's the scenario: A civilian contractor mowing grass on Redstone Arsenal finds several munitions on the ground. He reports the incident to the Provost Marshal and a patrol is dispatched to the site. The security patrol requests Explosive Ordnance Disposal support. An EOD technician renders the munitions safe, but notices that the rounds had deteriorated badly and contained liquid. The technician becomes ill after leaving the area, reporting that his eyes and skin were burning and that he was nauseous, and short of breath. Military police secure the area and the Redstone Arsenal Fire and Emergency Services set up a decontamination station under the direction of Capt. Steven Sain. What happens next?

A Technical Escort Team would be called in to take command of the scene. The described Chemical Accident/Incident Response and Assistance Exercise scenario was played out Nov. 3 as part of the Technical Escort Division training. The team was given an operations order at 8 a.m. with the mission to move to the staging area and set up a forward Emergency Operations Center.

Next they had to deploy an Initial Entry Party to assess the site to determine whether any harmful chemicals were present and identify existing hazards to protect people living and working in the immediate area. A working party was then sent out with tools to seal and package the rounds and to take necessary actions to remediate the site. A decontamination team stood ready to decontaminate personnel and the command cell was in charge of the operations.

"When they leave here, these students walk away with some pretty impressive credentials," Capt. Daniel Farmer, chief of the Technical Escort Division at Redstone Arsenal, said. "This is the only Army school that does what we do."

The Technical Escort Division is owned and operated by the Ordnance Missile Munitions Center and School. According to Farmer, the Technical Escort school is the training piece for students who will go to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., where their actual mission will be to respond to real world incidents in support of the Department of Justice and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The mission of the Technical Escort course is "to provide training to U.S. military, Department of Defense civilians and international students able to perform worldwide, no-notice missions involving field sampling, detection, identification, decontamination and mitigation/remediation of hazards associated with chemical and biological materials in compliance with international, federal, state and local laws."

Farmer, a Chemical officer by trade, arrived at Redstone Arsenal six months ago. Having been in the Army for 17 years, he considers this his last assignment and plans to retire from here. He works with a staff of five instructors who are Chemical non-commissioned officers and a Marine liaison. They have worked to add realism to the training by bringing in the fire department and EOD officers to give the students a better understanding of what happens when responding to an actual chemical accident or incident.

Until this year, only five classes were scheduled per year in the Technical Escort Division. Now Farmer expects to have double the number of students and nine classes per year because the course was brought up to the Pentagon in reference to the Presidential Directive Declaration 39 U.S. Policy on Counterterrorism. PDD-39 defines policies regarding the federal response to threats or acts of terrorism involving nuclear, biological, and/or chemical material, and/or weapons of mass destruction. PDD-39 discusses crisis management and consequence management.

The potential for terrorists to use weapons of mass destruction within the borders of the U.S. has led to the formation of Rapid Assessment and Initial Detection teams in every state. Although many local areas have hazardous materials teams in place ready to handle chemical and biological threats, the DoD has decided to provide the new National Guard RAID teams as a resource to assist when requested by local authorities. The teams will be operational by Jan. 1, 2000. Fifty percent of the Technical Escort course's students will be members of those RAID teams.

Maj. Mario Morales, commander of the 4th RAID team out of Atlanta, was selected to be the commander of the Nov. 3 exercise. His participation in the Technical Escort course gives him the opportunity to proof the training for the rest of his team and gives him a different level of expertise, according to Farmer.

Organizations and agencies supported by the Technical Escort division course are: Army Chemical School, Army Technical Escort, the Army Special Operations, Army Chemical Reserves, Army National Guard (RAID), other Forces Command (FORSCOM) units, Component Service Support for the Marine Corps and civilian government agencies such as the On-Site Inspection Agency.

The Technical Escort program of instruction includes military escort operations, hazardous waste operations and environmental sampling. The students participating in the Nov. 3 exercise had attended the course for nine days learning about such subjects as military chemicals, personal protection equipment, chemical agent



Photo by Beth S

FIRST RESPONSE— Firefighters get equipment from their Rapid Response Unit set up an Emergency Personnel Decontamination Station as part of the Chemical Accident/Incident Response and Assistance Exercise.

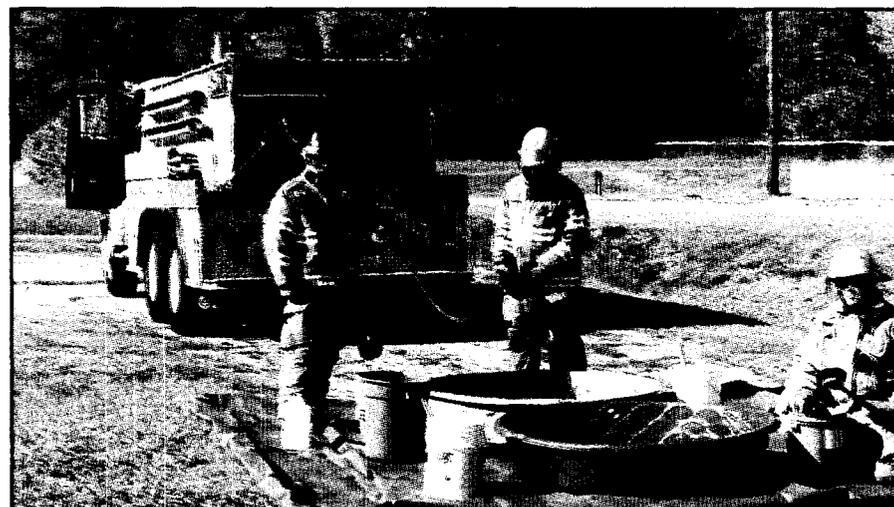


Photo by Beth S

DECONTAMINATION STATION — From left firefighters Kenneth Andrews and Scott Dunham and driver-operator Jimmy Shelton, sitting, are ready to decontaminate personnel.



Photo by Beth S

TAKING COMMAND— Soldiers chosen to be part of the Initial Entry Party don protective suits while other members of the Technical Escort response team comprise the forward Emergency Operations Center.

detectors and chemical firefighting. These subjects and the exercise allow them to successfully perform response and mitigation of a chemical accident or incident in order to receive certification in the military escort operations phase of the course.

"In my opinion, Three Mile Island in the United States, the Union Carbide chemical disaster in Bhopal, India, and the nuclear excursion at Chernobyl all had one common thread. The Emergency Response forces could not and did not respond in a reasonable manner due to lack of training," Paul Michaels, the Munitions Training Department deputy director, said. "The Army takes these steps to make sure it never happens again. This kind of training is very expensive, but it's in the national interest."

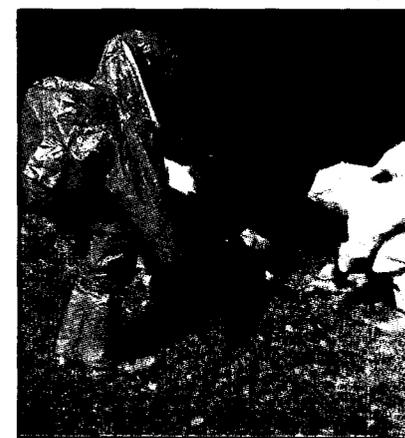


Photo by Beth S

ASSESSING THE SITE—The Initial Entry Party conducts a vapor test to determine the type of chemical agent leaking from the ammunition at staged incident site.

Long-distance adoption

Dream comes true as couple goes overseas to bring their family home

Sandy Riebeling

Adopting a child from Russia was not how Ken and Resha Andrews dreamed of starting their second family.

"I love kids," Resha Andrews, of Resource Management, said. "Ken and I each have a son from a previous marriage, both the same. In fact, they were buddies in high school. They were the ones who set us up to start dating the first place. We got married in 1992 and they were 17. The boys were great but Resha and I wanted to have children together." After conventional methods failed and fertility therapies left little hope, they doubled their efforts toward adoption. The search began in 1995 in Alabama. Andrews' disappointment came when she found that the waiting list for infants was years long.

"We didn't have to have a newborn," Resha said. "We checked into children a litter but there was still a waiting list and age restrictions on adoptive parents. I was 36. Ken was 4. Things didn't look too promising."

When the couple met up with Joyce and Ken Love who had just adopted a little girl from China.

"We talked to them, checked around and tried to fill out some of the paperwork," Resha said. "First there was a home study by the State of Alabama. That took sev-

eral months. Then it was off to Atlanta for the INS forms."

International adoptions must be cleared through the Immigration and Naturalization Service. INS sends paperwork to the embassy of the country the child will be processed out from.

"At the time, China was doing a reorganization of their adoption laws and kept pushing us back," Andrews said. "We had been waiting a year and half when my father brought me an article about Chinese adoption from a USA Today. What was so important about that paper wasn't the article but a small ad that read, 'Russian orphans available immediately' and it gave a phone number."

Andrews called the number and connected with the Frank Adoption Agency in North Carolina that handled international adoptions, including Russia. She called and found out that there were children available for adoption right away so it was back to the INS to change the paperwork from out processing in China to the embassy in Moscow. All her paperwork was changed over in about a month.

June 13, 1997, Andrews got the call—"We've got you a baby."

"I was expecting at least a two or three month wait before a referral," Andrews said.

"I was freaked out. They overnighted me the picture of Natasha and faxed me the medical report. She had a pretty little round fat face

and long fingers."

Natasha was 9 months old and in an orphanage in Tver, Russia, several hours north of Moscow. This particular region "shut down" official business in July for a holiday so it wasn't until August that the Andrews could fly out to see the little girl in the picture. The adoption agency arranged everything, flight, transportation in country, a translator, and someone to help them through the legal proceedings while in Russia.

The first thing on the agenda was meeting Natasha.

"We were traveling with two other couples that had come to adopt babies," Andrews said. "When we got to the orphanage, they brought out the other two couples babies first. Then they brought me this blue-eyed, blonde-haired baby. I was a little confused. In the picture she looked like she had dark hair and eyes. My husband looked at me and said, 'What do you want to do?' We're taking her and going home, I told him. But the more we looked at her and the picture, we could see it was the same baby. Her features were the same.

"When they first brought her to me she had green dots on her head," she said. "I found out that it was mosquito medicine. She also had a little cold. She was perfect and she was ours."

Natasha was already in the Andrews hearts, but she still had to be legally adopted.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

WELCOME HOME — Celebrating the adoption of the Andrews' second child, Sofia, held by mother, Resha, and Natasha with her father Ken, enjoyed a cake and presents, given by Resha's co-workers.

The couple went to court, answered questions about their income, home, caregiver for the baby and such. While the court was satisfied with the family, the judge refused to waive the 10-day waiting period required by law. The Andrews came back to Alabama without their baby.

"There was a 10-day waiting period and then the judge was on holiday for 10 days so it was a month before I could get back to get Natasha," she said. "I went without Ken the second time. I was a little nervous going alone but that baby was mine and she needed

See Adoption on page 20

GMAC Mortgage gives VA Buyers 100%

With the 100% VA Home Loan Program, qualified veterans can obtain a home loan with no down payment. The program features loan amounts up to \$203,000, which can include the VA funding fee and settlement costs. There's also easy qualifying ratios as high as 41% and loan terms of 15-to-30 years in 5-years increments. Call today and ask for John H. Tate, Tammy Helton or Matt Hyde!

1-888-588-4622 **GMAC Mortgage**

©1999 GMAC Mortgage Corporation.

Anita Eason-Jones, M.D., P.C.
Providing medical care for your entire family

Madison Med Plex
44 Hughes Rd., Ste. 2100
256-461-0100

*Appointments and walk-ins welcome
Now accepting all insurances
except Medicare and Medicaid.*

HAVE A MERRY KARAOKE CHRISTMAS

AUDIO VIDEO PROS

28 Meridian St. • Huntsville, AL
(256) 533-5511

Discs - Mics - Stands - Accessories

Sound Choice

Will Finance 60 DAY WARRANTY

These CARS & Others

94 INTREPID	\$1000 DOWN
91 EXPLORER	\$1000
92 MAXIMA	\$ 950
94 ACHEIVA	\$850

539-3911 433 N. MEMORIAL PKWY. HUNTSVILLE, AL

S&S Auto Sales

89 ACCORD	\$ 650
93 SUNDANCE	\$ 550
91 COUGAR	\$ 550
93 SHADOW	\$ 450

AND OTHERS. 60 DAY WARRANTY

859-2309 5933 HWY. 53 HARVEST, AL

LA. ALAMEDA
Mexican Restaurant

FREE MEAL!

Buy One Lunch or Dinner Entree And Get One Of Equal or Lesser Value **FREE!**

Lunch: 11AM to 2PM
DINNER BUFFET
THURSDAY - SATURDAY:
5PM TO 9PM

Not good on Fajitas, Steak Dinner or Special Dinner. Valid every day except Friday. One coupon per table. Not valid with other offers. Must present coupon. Expires 11-30-99.

3807 University Dr. Huntsville • 539-6244

Bevill

Conference Center & Hotel

Where service and customer satisfaction is our TOP PRIORITY!
Our professional and friendly staff is ready to serve you!

- 100 Guest Rooms and 3 Junior Suites
- Government, Corporate, University, & Weekend Rates
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast
- Gardenview Cafe Serving Breakfast and Lunch
- Free Local Calls
- Health Club Access
- Free Airport Shuttle
- Lobby Lounge
- Full Service Catering
- Business Center

- 20,000 sq. ft. State of the Art Meeting & Banquet Space
- Convenient to Research Park, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Square Mall, Dining and Attractions

UAH Campus
550 Sparkman Dr.
Huntsville, AL 35816
(256) 721-9428 • FAX (256) 890-6679
Toll Free (888) 721-9428

Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Youth basketball

Youth basketball registration continues until Nov. 20 at the Youth Center, building 3148. Eligible are youths ages 5-16 who are dependents of active duty military, DoD, DA, contractors, NASA and retired military. Cost is \$25 per child or \$100 for the family plan which includes all sports for one year. Copies of birth certificates and a current physical are required at the time of registration. Registration is 1-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 876-2255.

Rocket City marathon

Huntsville's annual marathon, rated one of the best in the country, is now The Huntsville Times Rocket City Marathon. The Huntsville Times will be the title sponsor beginning with this year's 23rd annual race on Dec. 11. The marathon was first held in 1977. Since 1981, it has been rated one of the top marathons in America. It is the only marathon on the Running Journal Grand Prix circuit and will again be the Road Runners Club of America Southern Region Championship. The race is operated by the Huntsville Track Club with the help of many volunteers. For entry information on the race call Malcolm Gillis, race director, 828-6207, download entry forms from www.huntsvilletrackclub.org, or register on line at www.RaceGate.com.

Miscellaneous

Health insurance

An open season—in which eligible federal employees may enroll or change enrollment to a new health benefits plan – began Nov. 8 and continues through Dec. 13. During open season, any eligible employee who is not currently enrolled may enroll in a Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) plan. The FEHB 1999 Enrollment Information Guidance and Plan Comparison Chart will be made available to employees through their administrative office. Since it contains only a general description of benefits, do not rely solely on this booklet when deciding to enroll in or change enrollment to another plan. If employees need advice and assistance concerning completion of the Health Benefit Reenrollment Form, contact your servicing specialist. Completed forms should be mailed to: South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center, Attn: SFCP-SC-S, Sparkman building 5304, Redstone Arsenal, 35898-6222. For more information, call Betty Duke 313-4790.

Future scientists

Applications are available for the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program for high school students and the College Apprentice Program. The distribution point of contact for applications is the senior counselor at public, private and parochial

high schools. Possible career placement areas at the Aviation and Missile Command include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program is for students who have demonstrated aptitude interest in science and engineering courses and careers. Eligible students must be U.S. citizens who are at least age 15 by the beginning date of the program, June 15, 2000. The College Apprentice Program is for undergraduate students who have completed the SEAP and are enrolled in a scientific or technical major. Besides school counselors, applications are also available from the Management Employee Relations and Training Branch, Betty Duke, in building 5303, at 313-4790 or Jerrel McCollum 842-8850.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday 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.

Retirement ceremony

The Quarterly Post Retirement Ceremony will be held 4 p.m. Dec. 16 between buildings 5303 and 5304 at the Sparkman Center Parade Field. Rehearsal for the ceremony will be held that morning at 8 in the same location. Retirees who wish to participate in the ceremony should call MSgt. Loew, RASA Support Operations, 876-2819 by Nov. 24.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic Community at Bicentennial Ct announces the following: Rosary is recited daily at 11:30 a.m. followed either by a mass or a communion service at noon. A Mass will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Thanksgiving meal

The Sparkman Cafeteria will offer its annual Thanksgiving special Thursday, Nov. 23. \$6.35 this includes turkey with your choice of two vegetables, dessert and drink.

Holiday party

The 1999 IMMC Christmas Party will be held Dec. 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Club ballroom. Tickets are \$10 each. For tickets call Pickard 842-7849, Vanessa Adair 313-4790 or Pat Blackman 842-8101.

DPW dinner

The Directorate of Public Works will hold its 46th annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 23 at building 5663. The Arsenal is invited to attend. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from the following: Mable Brooks 876-1893, Elise McWill 876-5578 or Sandy Lawrence 876-1893. Tickets must be purchased by Nov. 17.

Delta Zeta marketplace

The Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Zeta will present the 32nd "Delta Marketplace" Friday through Sunday in the South Hall of the Von Braun Center. For more information, see Announcements on page 17.



NEED CASH FOR THE HOLIDAYS?
ESTABLISH OR REESTABLISH CREDIT
RAPID LOANS

www.rapidloans.com

1-800-692-3410
(334) 598-1563
(334) 598-4019 Fax

We Specialize in Loans for Military and Federal Employees
"A Helping Hand To The Little Guy"

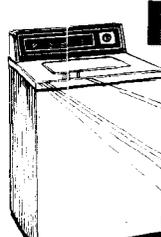
Explosives Safety Training at RSA

Ensure a safe workplace environment, attain or maintain explosives certification, and meet regulatory requirements. Call now to register.

- Dec 14-15, 99 Hazard Analysis & Risk Assessment for Explosive Operations. (16 Hours) AMC-Regulation 700-107.
- Jan 10-12, 00 Ammunition and Explosives Certification Training. (24 Hours) AMC-Regulation 350-4.
- Jan 10-14, 00 Ammunition and Explosives Certification Training. (40 Hours) AMC-Regulation 350-4.



(256) 722-7200, ext 23
fax (256) 722-7232
safety@amtec-corp.co
www.amtec-corp.com



H&S Appliance Inc.

830-9484

Sales & service

- Over 25 years experience
- In-home professional service
- Factory authorized service on Maytag & Frigidaire
- Service on all major brands
- We sell rebuilt washers & dryers with full 6 months guarantee

MarCC's

Full Service Salon
3425 Pulaski Pike
859-8006

Relaxer (RETOUCH) \$20.00	* Barber Shop
Care Free Curl (RETOUCH) \$25.00	* \$2.00 off Tues. & Wed.
Ponytails \$25.00 + up.	Christyles Nail
Shampoo & Style \$17.50	Wed. Special \$15
* Braids By Tina 10% Off With Ad.	Full Set
* Expressions Tattoos	Greek Paraphernal
20% Off With Ad.	10% Off With Ad
* Body Piercing by Steel Goddess	
* 10% off with Ad.	

\$1.00 OFF

2 Piece Ladies' & Men's Suits

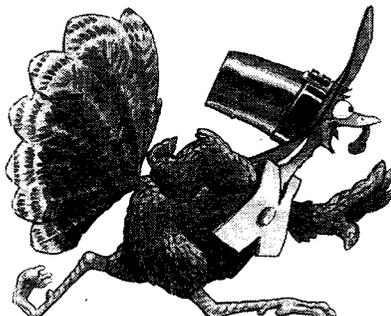
Exp. 01/24/99. 1 coupon per visit. Must present coupon with incoming order.

ULTRACLEAN CLEANERS

2719 PATTON ROAD • 539-4724

(Corner of Bob Wallace and Patton Rd.)

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



From the Bean Crock

THEY'RE MOVING FAST

So place your order early for your Turkey, Dressing, All the Trimmings & Your Favorite Pie!

1836 WINCHESTER ROAD • PHONE (256) 852-3957

FAX IN ORDERS (256) 852-3941

Announcements

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, noon - 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is

Prayer breakfast

November Nondenominational Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the MC will be held Nov. 23 at 7 a.m. in Sparkman Complex, building 5309, end of the Sparkman Center Food Court. This program will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Prayer Breakfast. The program will feature Frank Tackett playing music by Tommie Lockhart, accompanied by Leon Chavers on piano. No food or drinks will be served, but you may bring your own. Everyone is invited. For information call Ronnie Davis 4181.

Party managers

Market City Chapter of the National Party Management Association will present a seminar Nov. 22 at the Sparkman Community Center. Scheduled guest speaker is Dr. Douglas Goetz, "guru of government professionalism." A continental breakfast (registration) is from 8-8:30 a.m., and lunch will be provided. The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. Cost is \$75 for members of NPMA and sister associations, \$100 for non-members, or \$125 for members receiving automatic new NPMA membership status. Please pre-register via e-mail at william.r.demarco@boeing.com, fax 461-3699 (attn: Bill DeMarco).

Gate 9 hours

Gate 9 on Rideout Road is now open, and manned by gate guards, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Previously the gate was open 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. The change took place Nov. 7, according to Lt. Jackie Martin, a DoD guard supervisor.

Alcoholics Anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. 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.

Team Redstone party

Tickets are now on sale for the Team Redstone Holiday Party. "Our Party" will be held Dec. 10 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Reserve a table, or tables, for you and your friends, have a great dinner, and dance away the evening. Tickets are \$19 per person. For tickets and reservations, call Lisa Chesnutt 313-6834, Kathy McMurry 313-3742 or Gaila Kelso 876-9857.

Project management group

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Project Management Institute will hold its monthly general membership meeting at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Redstone Arsenal Club, in the Regency Room (upstairs). Dr. Donald Tippett, associate professor, engineering management, University of Alabama-Huntsville, is scheduled to speak on "Team Building—

Current Project Management Research at UAH." For more information, call Stan Cagle 851-9020 or Margaret Breniman 895-7658.

Government accountants

The North Alabama Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants will hold its monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Holiday Inn at Madison Square Mall. Scheduled speaker Patti Muller serves on the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board. Cost for lunch is \$13 per person. For reservations call Rick Angle 544-0070.

Motivational video series

Today, the Army Learning Center will present "If Enough People Care," the third tape in the Motivational Videotape Series. "Come join us and review foundational principles that, when implemented, can help improve job performance," a prepared release said. The videotape will run continuously from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the side section of the Sparkman Cafeteria. The main principles reviewed during this video include planning, goal setting, and attitude. Discussion

questions will be placed on each table that are geared to assist individuals or work teams in identifying actions to stop, start, or maintain that may increase job performance. The Army Learning Center, located in building 5304, houses training aids such as books, videotapes, and audiocassettes that are available to Team Redstone. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday 7:30-4. For more information, call 876-1061.

Rustic Lodge event

Need help with your party-planning needs? Looking for a photographer? A caterer? A florist? Or, perhaps, live entertainment? Then attend the second annual Rustic Lodge Special Events Extravaganza being held today from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Local merchants will be promoting their products and will gladly offer help in planning your party needs. There will be door prizes and giveaways. This event is open to all Redstone Arsenal employees. For more information, call Michelle Klein 842-0972.

See Announcements on page 18

STOP LOOKING!!

Let Alabama Career College prepare you in as little as 12 months:



**ALABAMA
CAREER
COLLEGE**

WE BUILD CAREERS!

- Above average income potential
- Professional Career
- Freedom to make your own choices
- Be in control of your future

CLASSES FORMING NOW!!

- Court Reporting • Medical Transcription • Medical Office Assistant

Financial Aid Available
VA Approved

4900 Corporate Dr. G1 • Huntsville, AL 35805 • 256-430-1830

Now Open on South Parkway!

CUSTOM COMPUTERS

by Design

Solutions to all your Computer Service needs.

- New Systems
- Upgrades
- Memory

- Modems
- Monitors
- CD Rom

Weekly Special: 32 MB PC100 RAM \$59.95

881-0105

11220 So. Memorial Parkway
(In the Hunnington Center)



Mon. - Fri. 10-6; Sat. 10-5

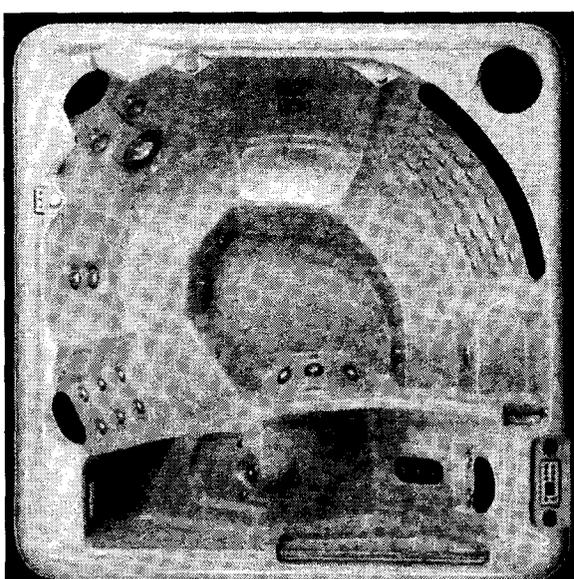
FACTORY DIRECT HOT TUBS & SPAS

Save \$1000's

7 styles to choose from TOP-OF-THE-LINE

- Redwood cabinets • Stainless steel equipment
- Delivery & Installation • Service after the sale

True quality to last for years!



OK NOW I'M
READY, POINT
ME TO THE
HOT
TUB!



Southland Spas

Alabama's Oldest

CALL TODAY 1-205-486-7919

Announcements

Party tickets

Buy your tickets now for the "best little non-formal millennium 2000 New Year's Eve Party in Alabama." Sponsored by your Civilian Welfare Fund Council, the party will be held Dec. 31 at the Rustic Lodge. The dress code is strictly "casual." Heavy hors d'oeuvres, entertainment, dance contests, balloon drop (over \$600 in total prizes), party favors, and an after midnight breakfast—all for \$45 per person. For ticket information, call 955-6739.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. NARFE will elect chapter officers for the next year. Pete Maiker, the chapter's insurance counselor, is to update changes in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program as well as changes in Medicare. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m., and the program at 10. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

Model/talent tryouts

Model and talent tryouts will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Huntsville Public Library on Monroe Street. Models must be age 14 and up. Males and females are needed. Designers Against Breast Cancer 2000 and the Huntsville Council of Fashion Designers are sponsoring this event. For more information, call 539-0001 or 536-1863.

Astronomical society

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

PX news

The Post Exchange will operate with the following holiday hours: Nov. 25, Thanksgiving—closed; Nov. 26—open 6 a.m. to midnight; Nov. 27—open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Nov. 28 through Dec. 10—regular hours; Dec. 11—open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Dec. 12—open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Dec. 13-16—open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Dec. 17—open 8 a.m. to midnight; Dec. 18—open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Dec. 19—open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Dec. 20-23—open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Dec. 24—open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Dec. 26—return to normal business hours; Dec. 31—open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Jan. 1—open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Pershing Christmas dinner

Pershing missile system officers, enlisted, civilian support and spouses are invited to Christmas dinner at the Fogcutter Restaurant, 3805 University Drive on Dec. 10 from 6:30 p.m. to closing. RSVP required by Nov. 26. For information call 895-7008/8638.

Bible study

Bible study is held every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the back room of

Bicentennial Chapel. Free hamburgers will be served. Both civilian and military are invited. For more information, call 955-4086.

Diabetes seminar

Dr. Ralph Carson of Carson Nutritional

Consultants will hold a free information seminar on diabetes from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the Huntsville Hilton. Do open at 5:30. For more information, call Carson Nutritional Consultants 880-455

ARMY MERIT PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND THE HUNTSVILLE AREA

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
00B0157AC	Program Analyst	17-Nov-99	PEO Air Missile	GS-0343	13	13
00B0125AC	General Engineer	17-Nov-99	USAAESA	GS-0801	13	13
00D0142DB	Secretary (OA)	17-Nov-99	USAOMMCS	GS-0318	5	5
00C0126JH	Logistics Mgmt Spec	17-Nov-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	13	13
00B0108AC	Operations Resrch Anal	17-Nov-99	PEO Aviation	GS-1515	13	13
00C127JH	Logistics Mgmt Spec	18-Nov-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	12	12
00C01341G	Logistics Mgmt Spec	18-Nov-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	11	11
00C0136JH	Logistics Mgmt Spec	18-Nov-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	12	12
00B0090KR	Secretary (O/A)	19-Nov-99	PEO Aviation	GS-0318	5	5
00D0139KH	Program Analyst	22-Nov-99	AMCOM RMD	GS-0343	12	12
00C0153JH	Logistics Mgmt Spec	23-Nov-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0346	12	12
00D0169DB	Mil. Personnel Clerk OA	23-Nov-99	USAOMMCS	GS-204	4	4
00D0166DW	Intern. ADP Prog Spec.	26-Nov-99	AMCOM SAMD	GS-0301	13	13
00D0116DB	Supv. Security Spec.	29-Nov-99	AMCOM ISD	GS-0080	14	14
00A0111PA	Program Manager	29-Nov-99	CofE Huntsville Ctr	GS-0340	15	15
00D0140BJ	Prog/Acq Mgmt Officer	6-Dec-99	PEO Joint Tact UAV	NH-0301	IV	IV
00C015RC	Program Mgmt Officer	9-Dec-99	AMCOM IMMC	GS-0340	15	15
00A0165PA	Interdisciplinary Engr.	10-Dec-99	CofE Huntsville Ctr	GS-0810 0850		
				0830 0808	14	14
00D0042DB	Electronics Engineer	31-Dec-99	STRICOM	GS-0855	7	11
00D0041DB	Electronics Engineer	31-Dec-99	STRICOM	GS-0855	12	12
NC08699	Criminal Investigator	13-Apr-00	CID	GS-1811	9-12	12



JOY LUCK

Chinese "Super Seafood" Buffet

What's Special This Week!

BUY ONE BUFFET, GET ONE BUFFET FREE
Lunch or Dinner with Purchase Of 2 Beverages

COUPONS NOT VALID ON SUPER SEAFOOD BUFFET
(FRIDAY & SATURDAY AFTER 3:00 PM)

Huntsville's Largest Gourmet Buffet • Over 80 Items

BOOK NOW FOR HOLIDAY FUNCTION

ALL DAY BUFFET 7 DAYS A WEEK

3782 University Dr. Huntsville • 256-536-7100

Rated 3 1/2 Forks
3 1/2 Servers
H'ville Times
Restaurant
Review



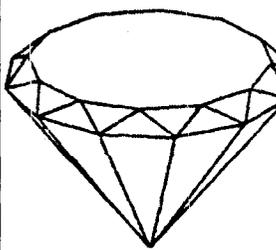
Open Mon.-Sun. 11AM-9PM

Why Rent- When You Can Own For Less?

MUSIC-GO-ROUND

Visit Our Store and See Our Large Selection Of
Quality Used Band Instruments

2905C Bob Wallace Ave. 534-7575
3/4 mi west of the Parkway in the Home Center



Gill Diamond and Jewelry, Inc

Diamonds and Jewelry at Wholesale Prices Plus Brokerage F

www.gilldiamond.com

use our web site or Call Don Gill

534-3334

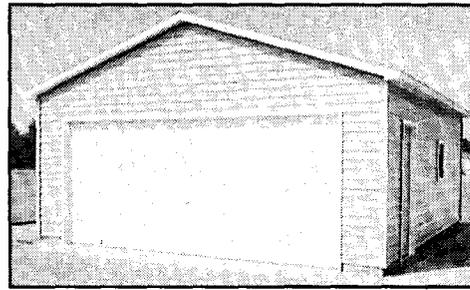
Don Gill, Graduate Gemologist G.I.A.

2006 Franklin Street, Suite 205 • Franklin Professional Building
Huntsville, Alabama

"Where Quality Is Not Expensive"

We've had a fire...
but we're still
BURNING
with some
HOT
deals!!

100% Financing Available





BULLOCK GARAGES

Since 1952

1916 JORDAN LANE (256) 837-6992

DEBT CONSOLIDATION. CREDIT COUNSELING

Back House Payments - Credit Cards - Medical - Past Due Auto Loans - Back Taxes

CALL FOR TOLL FREE 24 HOUR RECORDED INFORMATION

1-877-ONE-DEBT
(6 6 3 - 3 3 2 8)

HUNTSVILLE DECATUR FLORENCE

Office: 539-9899 Office: 355-2447 Office: 760-1010

Call For A FREE Appointment!

We Offer Bankruptcy & Non-Bankruptcy Solutions!

B

BOND, BOTES, SYKSTUS & LARSEN, P.C.

ATTORNEYS PROVIDING FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

Visit Our Website: www.bondnbotes.com

Former U.S. Army Judge Advocates

No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.
Title 11 U.S. Code including Chapter 13 Debt Consolidation and Chapter 7 Bankruptcy.

**THE FORECAST FOR FALL IS FOR GREAT PRICES—
JUST IN TIME FOR WINTER DRIVING.**

Harvesting Super Savings

**99 Program Cars
Ford Taurus SE**

starting at
\$13,999



Quality Used Cars	Model	Price
	94 Ford F-150 9T703A.....	\$10,900
	94,95,96 T-Birds starting at.....	\$4,999
	95 Ford F-150 L9T917B.....	\$8,999
	97 F2 250 Heavy Duty, Low Miles 97823-B.....	\$18,900
	98 Ford Mustang Conv. Automatic.....	\$15,900
	94 Pontiac Grand Prix L9T1357A.....	\$7,999
	96 Chevrolet Corsica LT91545A.....	\$5,998
	95 Ford Crown Victoria 9T1616A.....	\$7,999
	96 Ford Probe L9T1510A.....	\$9,399
	99 Ford Ranger Super Cab automatic 98017.....	\$9,399
	97 Suburu Legacy Outback ?T223A.....	\$16,900
	98 Jeep Grand Cherokee 9T1486A.....	\$18,900
	99 Honda Civic automatic 9T1784A.....	\$14,999
	98 Pontiac Grand Prix loaded L9T1730A.....	\$16,999
	98 Nissan 200SX auto, loaded moonroof9F1235A.....	\$12,999
	97 Toyota Camry Low Miles, automatic 9T610A.....	\$14,999



Program
96, 97, 98 
JAGUAR
starting at
\$29,999

WOODY ANDERSON

SERVICE DEPT. 7-6 MON-FRI, SAT 8-4
SALES DEPT. 8-8 MON-FRI, SAT 8-7
www.woodyandersonford.com
e-mail: WAF@hiway.net

539-9441 
2500 Jordan Lane

Concorde

continued from page 13

member of the Math, Science and French clubs, secretary of the National Honor Society, a physics tutor and president of the First Missionary Baptist Church Youth Council. He also has been on the Superior Academic Honor Roll, a Habitat for Humanity volunteer and was Tae Kwon Do National, State, Regional and World Cup Champion for 1997-98. He is now Black Belt recommended.

Ravaris also worked for Marshall Space Flight Center during the 1999 SHARP (Summer High School Apprentices Research Program) session. His mentor was Cydale Smith in the Materials, Processes and Manufacturing Department. Ravaris was part of the Ceramics and Ablatives Team in the Non-metallic Materials and Processes Group.

The Concorde is the world's fastest commercial passenger jet. It flies at more than 1,400 mph at an altitude of approximately 60,000 feet. The supersonic portion of Ravaris' trip across the Atlantic Ocean took less than three hours.

"When you looked out the window, the clouds were still moving slowly. You don't feel the acceleration at all except when you

take off and land," Ravaris said.

Although Ravaris is still undecided on a major in college, he said he is interested in international business and would like to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta.

"It was the most fun and most enlightening thing I've ever done. World travel was not as important to me before, but now that I've done it and seen what's out there, I really want to go see everything," Ravaris said.

"He's been so on cloud nine since this happened," Bobbie said. "He said everything was so beautiful as well as functional, even the highways were decorated. He brought back souvenirs for everyone."

Bobbie has lived in Huntsville all her life and has worked in different areas at Redstone Arsenal for almost 20 years. She said she first learned of Ravaris' chance to fly on the Concorde through an e-mail he sent to her at work with the subject heading "Good News." Ravaris enthusiastically wrote to her about the opportunity and asked her and everyone in her office to pray for him to be selected.

"I just think it was an experience of a lifetime and I am really happy that he was able to take advantage of it. I think it's something he'll always remember and cherish," Bobbie said. "People were so supportive, calling to congratulate him and e-mailing him. It was great, really awesome."

Two children from overseas join local household

Adoption

continued from page 15

to come home and be with her family."

Andrews stayed a week on the second visit, collecting all the official paperwork, birth certificate and getting Natasha her exit medical exam.

Hectic was the way Andrews described the following months. "It had been 23 years since I'd had a baby in the house," she said. "Of course, I loved every minute of it. I wouldn't trade it for the world."

But as Andrews watched her daughter grow and blossom into an active toddler she began to think of her growing up as an only child.

"My son was an only child and I've always regretted that he didn't have anyone to play with besides me," she said. "So the first thing I did was go to my mother-in-law who was the one that took care of Tasha while Ken and I work. I asked her if she thought she could handle another one. If she couldn't, I wasn't going to pursue it because I didn't want to put the kids in daycare. I have nothing against a daycare but I loved that Grandma was taking care of her."

The problem, Andrews found out, wasn't her mother-in-law but her husband. Ken, a Redstone firefighter, wasn't as receptive to the idea of adopting another child. So while he didn't say absolutely no, Resha quietly started the paperwork to adopt another child. Finally, in answer to the question of another child, Ken told her, "Well, let's get another little girl."

The home study was only good for two years so it had to be completed again, as did the paperwork with the INS office, because it has to be done for each child."

Things didn't move as quickly or as smoothly with the second try. More agencies had opened up to adopting out Russian children so there was more competition. Andrews went through the same adoption

agency as before but started with a few restrictions. She wanted a girl and the waiting period waived.

"The first referral was from Siberia but we had to turn it down because of medical reasons," Andrews said. "I have to have a healthy child. I know what I can handle and with Natasha being so active, I knew the child would have to be ready to go."

The Andrews accepted the second referral for a child from Siberia but a few days before they were set to fly out, the Siberian adoption judge had concerns about the home study, that it was done by a private worker in Alabama, and called it off. After refusing two more referrals, this time from Russia, the agency called with a referral for a baby in Kazakstan, a country south of Russia.

Sofia was 11 months old when the Andrews went to get her. The dark-haired, dark-eyed little girl melted their hearts in moments. This time, when they went to the court, the prosecutor was troubled by the fact that the girl was being adopted by a foreign couple. He insisted on an investigation to be sure that no one in Kazakstan wanted to adopt her first. It took an extra two days but the adoption finally cleared the courts and after a 14-day trip, the Andrews brought home their second child.

"It was a beautiful country, but I don't want to go back," Andrews said. Two little girls are enough to fill her life. The couple's older children, Scott and Ken Jr., are thrilled with the new siblings.

The Andrews will readopt both children in Alabama so they will have U.S. birth certificates to accompany their native paperwork. While adoption isn't easy, or cheap—the Andrews had to take out two loans and a second mortgage on their house to finance the effort—it was certainly well worth it.

"I think I'd have a house full if I could," Andrews said. "But Tasha and Sofia are plenty. Two is enough for us."