

Redstone Rocket

www.theredstonerocket.com

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Armed forces take center stage

Community luncheon launches weeklong salute to military

By KARI HAWKINS
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The swearing-in on Thursday of North Alabama's next civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army in front of about 1,000 attendees of the Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon was a telling example of the strong relationship shared between the Army and Redstone Arsenal, and the local community.

Gen. Dennis Via, the luncheon's keynote speaker, conducted the investiture of local businessman Joe Fitzgerald as the area's new CASA while Army veteran John Rogers, who left the volunteer post after 10 years of service, looked on with emotion. Fitzgerald had several family members in the audience, including his oldest brother, retired Master Sgt. George Fitzgerald.

"I am humbled and proud that this great American Soldier – Gen. Dennis Via – conducted this investiture. ... What a grand and wonderful tradition this state and community has in its support of Soldiers and the Army they serve," Fitzgerald said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Joe Fitzgerald takes the oath of office administered by Gen. Dennis Via during the Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon on Thursday to become North Alabama's civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army. Fitzgerald replaces Army veteran John Rogers, in background, who has held the volunteer post for 10 years.

Fitzgerald, who currently serves as the state president of the Association of the U.S. Army and who coordinated the local Honor Flight program for World War II veterans, was appointed to the North Alabama CASA slot by Secretary of the Army John McHugh.

The CASA promotes good relations between the Army and the public, disseminates information about the Army and its policies, and advises the Army secretary and Army leaders on public sentiment. CASAs were formally recognized in 1922. Fitzgerald will serve a two-year term in the role.

While the ceremony represented the strong bond between the Army and the community, it was Via's comments that put into words what it means for the Army and all service branches to have the support of the nation's patriotic communities.

"Redstone Arsenal sincerely appreciates the great partnership that we have with your communities," Via, the commander of the Army Materiel Command, told the community and business leaders who attended the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce event.

"Armed Forces Day is a celebration of the military men and women who patriotically serve and sacrifice for our nation.

See Luncheon on page 4

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Exchange service marks its 118th anniversary.

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Javelin hits target with Soldiers' help.

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Security Assistance Command welcomes its first chaplain.

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WIN OR LOSE

Project office team entertains families.

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Armed Forces Celebration Week things to do

Here are the remaining events during Armed Forces Celebration Week:

Soldier Show Performance 2 – Tonight at 7, Von Braun Center Concert Hall.

Iron Mike Golf Tournament – Friday, the Links at Redstone, 7 a.m. registration, shotgun start at 8:30. Contact: Eric Post, 783-4126. Co-host is Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Community Softball Games – Friday, 5:30 and 7 p.m., Metro Kiwanis Sportsplex, 3590 Patton Road. Game 1 is Huntsville Senior Rocket All-Stars vs. Team Redstone at 5:30. Game 2 is Community VIPs vs. Senior Recreation League All-Stars at 7. Color guard presentation at 5:10. The co-host is the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA.

Huntsville Stars Military Appreciation Night – Saturday, 6:43 p.m., Joe Davis Stadium. Complimentary tickets available at FMWR Information, Ticketing and Reservations office located at the Community Welcome Center, building 3443. Tickets available on a first come-first serve, and are limited to four tickets per family. Co-host is the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA.

RocketViews

Why should we celebrate Armed Forces Celebration Week?

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

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Bobbie Nazworth
Exchange operations squad

"It connects all of the branches of the armed forces. It also gives the retired a chance to participate and is an opportunity

to honor their service."



Anthony Jones
Exchange GNC

"I personally feel that the armed forces do so much for the country, and I think that it is only right that we celebrate their service."



Anne Walker
Exchange vendor

"I think it is important because my husband was in the Navy and we need to celebrate what they did for us."



Marsha Pike
Exchange vendor

"Because the sacrifices that the Soldiers and their families make for our freedom. My husband is a Vietnam veteran and I am grateful for what they do for our country to keep us free."

RedstoneRocket

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Email: skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Letter to the editor

Workers use extra day off to serve community

Just wanted to share a little tidbit with you on how several employees of AMCOM G4 decided to spend their first furlough Friday. We know that this time is stressful for many of our team members and that we are inconvenienced but we decided to focus on those that deal with stresses and inconveniences on a daily basis. We spent the morning on July 12 volunteering at the CASA Community Garden.

CASA of Madison County is a non-profit agency that provides services to individuals age 60 and older and to the homebound (wheelchair and bed bound) of all ages. CASA of Madison County's mission is to provide needed services to aging/homebound individuals that allow them to remain in their homes and age in place.

AMCOM G4 weeded the vegetable gardens that were encumbered by recent rains and harvested approximately 130 pounds of potatoes that will service clients. It was a worthwhile and great team-building experience. Persons or groups interested partaking of this great experience of assisting those in Madison County can contact CASA at 533-7775.

Claudinette Purifoy-Fears
AMCOM G4, Engineering Branch



Photo by Claudinette Purifoy-Fears

AMCOM G4 workers assisting in the CASA Community Garden include, from left, Phillip Dark, Martin Richards, Wynn Sterling, Talmadge Goss, Helen Smith, Lisa Maddox and Eric Hunnicutt.

On this date in history: July 24

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

In 1866: Tennessee becomes the first Confederate state readmitted to the Union.

In 1942: Irving Berlin's musical "This is the Army" premieres in New York City.

In 1944: Soviet forces liberate the concentration camp

Majdanek.

In 1948: The Soviets blockade Berlin from the west.

In 1974: The Supreme Court unanimously rules Nixon must turn over the Watergate tapes.

In 1975: Apollo 18 returns to Earth.

In 1990: U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf are placed on alert after Iraq masses nearly 30,000 troops near its border with Kuwait.

Quote of the week

"I have many friends and family members who have served (or are currently serving) in our nation's armed forces. I have such a profound respect for what they do day in and day out."

— *Karl Malone*
Ex-pro basketball player

Correction on cited reference

In the July 10 *Redstone Rocket* article titled "Drivers of government vehicles must be certified," the Army regulation cited should have been AR-600-55, according to transportation specialist Frank Williams.

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Furlough impacts on Redstone Arsenal

As the furlough progresses into its third week, traffic patterns and service hours are stabilizing.

“Our security force has made small adjustments in gate capacity throughout the furlough that seem to be working well,” said Col. Bill Marks, Redstone’s Garrison commander.

“Employees and customers have also been adjusting how and when they enter the Arsenal, so we are pleased to see much shorter traffic lines. The professionalism of our security force has carried the day when we needed it most. The professionalism of our security force has carried the day when we needed it most.”

Gate hours and staffing will be reduced at each access point during the week. Gate 7 (Martin Road West) and Gate 3 (Redstone Road) will be closed on Fridays.

Gate hours during the furlough are:

- Gate 1 Martin Road East – 5:30 a.m.

to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday

- Gate 3 Redstone Road – Normal operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and closed on Friday

- Gate 7 Martin Road West – Normal operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and closed on Friday

- Gate 8 Goss Road – Reduced operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday through Thursday and 9:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday

- Gate 9 Rideout Road – Open 24 hours, seven days a week

- Gate 10 Patton Road – Normal operating hours of 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; and reduced operating hours of 5:30-9:30 a.m. on Friday

Redstone Emergency Services will be available during this period.

More information concerning furlough impacts on Redstone operations will be provided each week on page 3 in the *Redstone Rocket*.

Former dining facility manager dies

For many years, Hal Weatherman managed what was then known as the troop dining facility. He retired from Redstone for medical reasons and resided in Arab.

Weatherman died July 13 in the Marshall Medical Center North emergency room. He was 62.

Survivors include his wife, Vickie L. Weatherman of Arab; two sons and daughter-in-law, Stephen Dane Weatherman of Arab and Trenton Colby and Kristin Weatherman, also of Arab;

a grandson, John Declan Weatherman; brother and sister-in-law, Tony and Sue Weatherman of Florida; sisters-in-law, Virginia Weatherman, Joy Joiner, Dana Lands, Carol French, Sharon Miller, Judy Frank; brother-in-law and spouse, Billy Ray and Pat Padgett; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Weatherman was a member of the Arab First United Methodist Church. He served in the Army during the Korean War.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents for July 7-13:

- A report was received that a patron had passed a counterfeit \$100 bill at the Shoppette. The incident has been referred to the U.S. Secret Service.

- Police and firefighters responded to a fire at building 3619. Damage was limited to the dryer.

- Police investigated a two-vehicle, without injury, accident at building 4100.

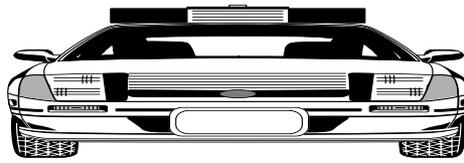
- A vehicle was reported to have been damaged at building 5220.

- A vehicle was reported to have been damaged at building 4880.

- Police are investigating a single-vehicle accident on Hanson Road at Patton Road. The vehicle left the scene after running over a stop sign.

- Police are investigating the unauthorized use of a debit card after it was left at a Redstone Federal Credit Union ATM.

- Eighteen U.S. district court violation notices were issued.



Comment: I found this (Military Personnel badging) system – MILPO – to be antiquated and needs to be updated. Two forms of picture identification and a set of orders should be enough to renew. I shouldn’t have to go through this fiasco every couple of years.

Response: Thank you for your recent comments submitted through the ICE system. I



apologize for any convenience, but we’re certainly working on improving our services. Not sure what the issue in your case was, but depending on the situation, the majority of the time, two sets of identification are all that’s required to obtain an ID card.

Tell us about your experience. Put it on ICE at ice.disa.mil. For more information or questions about the Garrison ICE Program, call Donna Johnson at 876-2924.



Redstone security guard remembered

A Garrison worker assigned to the security guard force died last week.

Officer James R. Patterson died July 15 in Huntsville Hospital. He was 66.

Born July 19, 1946, Patterson was retired from the Army. He worked at the Directorate

of Emergency Services since July 1999.

Survivors include three sons and four daughters who reside in Florida. Patterson’s remains were flown to Florida for funeral services in Del Ray Beach and burial.

Getting to know you

By MICHAEL GUTERL

For the Rocket

Name: Leland McGregor

Position: IT specialist network intern, Signal Network Enterprise Center

Where do you call home?

I’ve lived in so many different places while serving in the U.S. Army for much of my career. I grew up in Georgetown, Calif., but call home in Madison, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

I love the day-to-day diversity in my job. It is always changing and each day is never the same as the next day.

What are your goals?

I would like to be IT manager and retire in 20 years as a civilian from the Army. In addition, I want to finish my MBA in management information systems at Florida Institute of Technology. I am constantly learning new systems and gaining knowledge from my peers.

What do you like to do in your spare time?



I love to spend time with my family. I have a 19-year-old, 16-year-old and 15-month-old that keeps my days very active and busy. My life seems to revolve around chasing the 15-month-old around the house. Also, my wife and I enjoy sightseeing in Nashville and Chattanooga. Locally, we love going to Havoc hockey games.

What’s on your bucket list?

I have seen so much over the years in the Army but I would love to travel overseas to Greece and Germany. My biggest thing on my list is to do a free-fall skydive.

Luncheon

Continued from page 1

Having an Armed Forces Celebration Week here is a true testament to the commitment of this magnificent community.”

Via and his family have lived in several communities throughout the nation and world during his 33 years of service. He said there is no other community that plans an entire week to honor its military.

“Huntsville/Madison County is one of the most welcoming, supportive, patriotic communities in the nation. I’ve never witnessed a community that is as supportive of our military and its veterans,” he said. “I know of no other community in this nation that does an Armed Forces Celebration Week.”

The theme for the luncheon was “Strong and Resilient: Prepared to Meet Any Challenge.” It is a theme that has been used nationwide to celebrate Armed Forces Day.

It is an important theme to also recognize locally, Via said, because of the 12 years of war that have been fought solely by volunteers. Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan represent the longest war in the nation’s history.

Quoting national leaders who credit the nation’s military for making America the greatest nation on Earth, Via said it was President Harry S. Truman who said, “America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.”

Via said he has seen that courage in the acts of the nation’s Soldiers. But to those characteristics, he also added resilience – the capacity to endure and overcome adversity – along with conviction, resourcefulness and the “ability to achieve extraordinary results to forge a brighter future for us all.”

The veterans of wars past and the servicemembers

of today’s wars, “contribute enormously to making today a reality and tomorrow an opportunity,” Via said. “The business of warfare is a collective team effort.”

The general said the nation’s servicemembers do notice when they are supported by their communities.

“We hear it and we appreciate it. It sustains us more than you know,” he said.

He thanked the “good neighbors, good friends” that help to support Army families when their Soldiers are away. He thanked the charities that have developed programs to help keep service families strong. And he thanked the businesses that employ veterans.

As the war draws down and the service branches downsize, there will be more veterans leaving the services and looking for work in the civilian sector.

“They are true leaders. They have been tested and they are ready to work to help improve and grow your businesses,” Via said. “I encourage you to give them a chance. They have certainly earned it.”

The general said a nation succeeds and fails based on the character of its people. That is the same for the Army and other military branches. The values of the Army – loyalty, duty, respect, honor, selfless service, integrity and personal courage – are supported by the character of strength, bravery and resilience demonstrated by its Soldiers, he said.

The three Massachusetts National Guard Soldiers, 1st Lt. Steve Fiola, 1st Sgt. Bernard Madore and Staff Sgt. Mark Welch of the 1060th Transportation Company, who followed their instincts and training and ran into the epicenter of the Boston bombing site on April 11 to help others are examples of Army character. Likewise, Soldiers like Spc. Heidi Olson in Afghanistan who saved the lives of others under attack from improvised explosive devices despite her own injuries on May 8, 2012, is another living example of Soldier character.

“They are driven by rigorous training, and a character of service and dedication,” Via said. “They believe what they are doing is right and that their service is for all humanity. ... They demonstrate the strength and resolution of a nation, of our armed forces. They are a small sampling of heroic acts. There are 2.3 million more.”

Selfless service, devotion to the mission, courage, loyalty to their teammates and love of country are all traits that define the nation’s servicemembers, Via said.

“Their love of country is challenged in every corner of the world, and they have always succeeded and accomplished the mission,” he said.

As servicemembers return from war, and reintegrate into their communities and take on civilian jobs, Via said he has the “utmost confidence and faith in our servicemembers. The future belongs to the brave, the strong and the resilient. On their behalf, I express my sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the support that consistently shows in this community every day.”



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Gen. Dennis Via speaks with World War II veteran Tony Victor, 96, following the Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon. Victor was the only WWII veteran in the audience. Victor was a WWII POW.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Gen. Dennis Via, commander of the Army Materiel Command, speaks about the support for the military that is on display in the local community every day.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

The Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon, hosted by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, kicks off a weeklong celebration of the armed forces that continues through Saturday.

Exchange service celebrates 118th anniversary

Customer events begin Thursday

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

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The Exchange is celebrating 118 years of service to the Soldier with three days of sales and savings to start Thursday.

Much has changed since Col. Henry Morrow opened the first canteen at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., in 1880. Formally established in 1895, the Exchange has grown into a global presence with employees across the world dedicated to assisting Soldiers, military retirees and their families.

Not just a retail establishment, the Exchange has often been called to assist in grave and life-threatening situations. In the first two days after 9/11, more than 2,000 first responders were served by the Pentagon Mobile Field Exchange. Exchange employees have participated in the Wounded Warrior project at Germany's Landstuhl Medical Center; the Exchange supported troops at the first post-9/11 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City in 2002; and they served more than

7,000 troops assisting in the Haiti Earthquake Relief effort in 2010.

Redstone Exchange staffers feel a special bond with the military community that they serve.

"We are like a family," Exchange administrative assistant Sylvia Sasan said.

Operations Squad member Bobbie Nazworth, employed with the Exchange for 17 years, agrees.

"It is guaranteed that we provide what the (customer) needs. Not what sells good, but what they need," Nazworth said.

The Exchange has several special events planned for Thursday through Saturday. On Thursday, a Summer Savings Tent Sale will kick off the celebration with cake and punch at 11 a.m., and giveaways and sales will be held throughout the day.

On Friday, the Exchange will hold a Summer Savings Sidewalk Sale, weather permitting. The celebration will conclude with a Back to School Fashion Show at 1 p.m. Saturday.

The Burger King on post will also participate in the celebration, offering a \$1.18 Whopper with the purchase of a medium fry and large drink. In addition to the savings Thursday through Saturday, the Exchange food court is



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Exchange employees Bobbie Nazworth, left, and Sylvia Sasan look over an Exchange photo album.

offering a 20 percent discount all summer for purchases made with a military STAR card.

The Exchange is located off Goss

Road. It serves servicemembers, military retirees and their families Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Warrant officers chapter presents scholarships

The Redstone Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to local students July 10.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Johnnie Walters, chapter president, presented the scholarships to Thomas Pigott and Christopher Roberts Jr.

Pigott is the son of Michael and Karen Pigott of Huntsville. He is a 2013 graduate of Huntsville High School with an advanced diploma and GPA of 4.37. He will attend the University of Alabama this fall, majoring in mechanical engineering and physics.

Roberts is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Roberts Sr. of Huntsville. He is a 2013 graduate of Huntsville High School with an advanced diploma and GPA of 4.35. He will attend Birmingham Southern College this fall in pre-health track, majoring in biology.

The Redstone Chapter started its scholarship program in 2004 pledging to make it an annual event. The chapter uses charity and fund-raising events

Courtesy photo
From left, retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Johnnie Walters, president of the Redstone Chapter of the Army Warrant Officers Association, presents a \$1,000 scholarship to Thomas Pigott, son of Karen and Michael Pigott. The other scholarship participant, not pictured, is Christopher Roberts Jr.

as an opportunity for its members to come together. The members donate their time by volunteering for projects such as CASA (Care Assurance System for Aging and Homebound) of Madison County building wheelchair ramps, local Veterans Day parade marshalls, supporting Wounded Warrior events or by raising funds for the scholarship fund and other community events. Last year the chapter donated more than 1,700 volunteer hours to various projects in the Tennessee Valley.

More information on the chapter as well as the rules for scholarship submissions can be found at its website www.redstonewarrants.com.



In this section...

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Sparkman Center nearly empty during furlough

Photos by ELLEN HUDSON
Rocket photographer

The Sparkman Center was like a ghost town on the second Friday furlough day. This photographer, a contractor employee, had ample room to roam.



The hallways connecting the buildings don't have the usual walkers and talkers.



Even the duck that has been walking in the courtyard apparently takes the day off. Someone put the pool there for the duck, but it's empty.



The Sparkman Center's usually busy courtyard is the direct opposite.



The Sparkman Cafeteria has open seats and tables.



Plenty of parking spaces are available on this day.

Build your personal project at woodshop



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Volunteer Paul Tougaw and instructor Charlie Mullins work on a set of table legs.

Arts & Crafts Center has tools, teachers

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

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Government employees looking to hammer out their furlough frustrations can find a positive outlet at the June M. Hughes Arts & Crafts Center's Woodshop. Who knows? At the end of the 11 weeks, they might just have a birdfeeder or a window box to commemorate the summer of sequestration.

The woodshop is a multifaceted operation with state-of-the-art equipment. It is a place where beginners can learn the skill of woodworking from experienced instructors. It provides tools and a work room to more experienced woodworkers who are completing a personal project. It also has a fully functional retail component that builds everything from podiums to command boards for the various organizations on post.

The DIY class is an opportunity for woodworkers to use the woodshop's tools, equipment and storage to create whatever their heart desires. But before they start sawing, a few safety requirements must be met.

All woodworkers are required to obtain their Woodshop Safety Certification Card (DA3031) and complete an Introduction to Woodworking safety certification class before using the woodshop.

"The Orientation to Woodworking class reinforces skills that are very important,"

Lori Connors, supervisory arts specialist and facility manager, said.

Woodworkers looking for more instruction can participate in various woodworking classes that the woodshop offers, such as cabinet-making and bookcase construction. Connors said an Adirondack chair class is also coming soon.

A woodshop supervisor or trained volunteer must be present for anyone using the facility for DIY projects. The woodshop has two seasoned woodworkers, Charlie Mullins and Charlie Putnam, on staff to assist patrons.

"Both of these individuals have more information about woodworking than anyone I have ever known," volunteer Paul Tougaw said. Between the two of them, Mullins and Putnam have more than 75 years of woodworking experience.

"We are really lucky to work here. The people are fantastic, just quality folk," Mullins said. "(Redstone) has one of the best (woodworking) facilities of all of the military bases.

"Recently I had one man building a kitchen cabinet, one building a wine rack, and one building a grandfather clock. I thought, 'This is what it is all about.'"

The Orientation to Woodworking class is free, but the woodshop does charge a \$4 hourly fee to use the facility and equipment for DIY projects. For more information about the woodworking program, call the Arts & Crafts Center at 876-7951 or visit the website at www.redstonemwr.com/rec-creation/arts&crafts.html.

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation events

The Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation provided the following list of upcoming events:

Karaoke night

Brooklyns Sports Bar is offering karaoke night on Friday and Aug. 9 from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Patrons can enjoy karaoke provided by 2 Dance and Sing. Pizza and wings will be served from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 876-6634.

Tunica trip

Toni Terrell's Trip to Tunica (Miss.) II, set for Saturday, will take gamblers on a fun romp to three casinos – Gold Strike, The Horseshoe and The Tunica Roadhouse. The gambling expedition will depart at 7 a.m. from The Summit and will return around midnight. Cost is \$55 and includes a grab-n-go breakfast, free Toni Tees, discounted lunch at Gold Strike Casino and \$5 free play. To make a reservation and for more information, call 876-4531.

Friday movies

A free movie is shown each Friday at 6 p.m. at Heiser Hall, building 3712 near the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. For more information, call Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers president Staff Sgt. Perry Logan (205) 585-9564 or Child Youth and School-Age Services' Kevin Frankson, 842-3202. Snacks are sold for a nominal fee.

Tango lessons

Dancers are now being registered for Dancing Like the Stars 2013, Course 4, Tango. The class will be taught from 8 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays beginning Aug. 15 and going through Sept. 19 at Pagano Gym. For more information, call 876-4531 or visit the ITR Office inside the Community Welcome Center, building 3443 on Honest John Road.

Book travel

The Summer Reading Program, "Have Book, Will Travel!," will continue through Aug. 1 at the Post Library, building 3323 on Redeye Road. Participating children can pick up their weekly reading incentives at the library or at Parent Central Services, Community Welcome Center. To be entered for CYSS awards, log sheets must be turned in to the library by Aug. 1, and CYSS will hold an awards reception Aug. 8. For more information, call 876-4741.

Challenger bingo

Bingo at the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, is held at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1:45 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Arts and crafts

Explore your creative side at the June M. Hughes Arts & Crafts Center, building 3615 on Vincent Drive. Try your hand at something new or increase your skills.

The center offers a variety of classes each month. For more information, call the center at 876-7951 or email lori.j.connors.naf@mail.mil.

Golfing attractions

Throughout the summer, the Links will offer Twilight Golf daily from noon to dark. For more information, call 842-7977.

Sports for kids

CYSS Sports and Fitness Start Smart Sports Programs are offered for Redstone children each Saturday from 10-11 a.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148. Classes are \$35 each. Summer programs include: Golf, June 22 through Aug. 3, ages 4-7; Sports Development, Aug. 10 through Sept. 14, ages 3-5; Soccer, Sept. 21 through Oct. 26, ages 3-5; and Football, Nov. 2 through Dec. 14, ages 4-7. For more information, call 313-3699.

Water aerobics

Water aerobics classes are being offered at the Redstone Aquatics Center, building 3705 on Aerobee Road. Times and days for the classes are: 8 to 9 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; and 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays. Fees are: active duty and family members, \$2 per class; and all other authorized users, \$3 per class. Thirty-visit punch cards can also be purchased for \$50 for active duty and family members; and \$75 for all other users. For more information, call 313-1200/1201.

Redstone Arsenal then and now

Conferencing center grew from recreational facility

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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What was formerly the Recreation Center once served as a popular hangout for Soldiers, complete with pool tables, videogames and other leisure activities.

It was renamed the Diane Campbell Recreation Center in memory of its director Diane Campbell after she died Sept. 25, 2002, at age 51 from a heart attack while at work in her office.

Building 3711, at the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads, subsequently became the Diane Campbell Community Activity Center. Leisure travel and ticket sales, once housed there, moved in June to the newly renovated Community Welcome Center, on Honest John Road. The Java Café also left for the Community Welcome Center.

“Now it’s basically a conferencing center,” Mike Chemsak, chief of the recreation division within the Garrison’s Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, said. Formerly under his division, what used to be the Diane Campbell Community Activity Center now belongs to FMWR’s Francine Stone, the director of conferencing and information technology.

And it’s now the Diane Campbell Community Conferencing Center.

“It’s solely for conferences, workshops, small events, meeting space, training, town halls, change of commands, that sort of thing,” Stone said. “It’s one of the buildings that make up the Community Conferencing Complex.”

That complex also includes Heiser Hall, building 3712; the Magnolia,



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The Diane Campbell Community Conferencing Center is at the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads.

building 3704; and the Community Activity Field and its two pavilions.

Angelique Ortiz serves as Stone’s operations assistant for conferencing and IT.

“In this building right now we have seven rooms,” Ortiz said. “Just the rooms are 7,000 square feet (total). That’s not with the lobby or anything.”

The center can be reserved for any time Monday through Saturday. For information call 842-7366.

William Butler, of the Air Traffic Control Project Office under the Program Executive Office for Aviation, attended a class there July 16 for yellow belt training under Lean Six Sigma.

“It’s pretty nice,” Butler said of the center. “You have a nice big area and communications type equipment to have a conference or to hold a function.”

Editor’s note: Dr. Kaylene Hughes, historian in the AMCOM Historical Office, provided information for this article.

Spiritual living at Redstone

Fixing troubled relationships promises a better life for all

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) PAIGE HEARD
Garrison chaplain

One of the experiences that most of us have in common is that somewhere out there is a family member, either immediate family or extended family, who we have a broken relationship with. It could be a brother or sister. It could be a mom or a dad, or a stepbrother. It could be one of your children, it could be an aunt or an uncle, it could be an ex-husband or ex-wife. Life goes on and our broken relationships stay broken.

If you are like many, or if you are like me, in your heart there is a desire to reconnect those broken relationships, to go back, before the time you said what you said or they did what they did to break that relationship. You wish you could go back to a previous time when things were better.

Even though there is a lot of anger and a lot of frustration, there is a real desire to go back, even though you say there is no point to try to reconnect. They don't care and you don't care. There is so much damage and so much anger. There is so much time and so much distance. There is so much awkwardness. You would argue that there is really no point in even trying. Although, sometimes around holidays, birthdays and, sometimes, when you are just laying in bed at night, or when you hear a song, there is something in you that wishes that you could push a magic button and make things be like they used to be, or things would be like they should have been or things would be like you can't ever imagine them being. And yet you would argue that there is no point in trying. It just won't do any good.

Perhaps it is a situation where you were injured or you were harmed and it is the other person's fault. It is clearly their fault and even though you have a great case against them there is still something in you that would like to reconnect. But you don't dare pick up the phone because of how you feel. Maybe they tried to reconnect with you, but there is still so much anger. Although you are angry or pushing back, there is still something on the inside of you that wishes you could get past that disagreement and reconnect. Or maybe you are the person that injured them, you harmed them, you walked out on them, you left them, you messed up their reputation, you hurt them in some way, you stole from them, and it's your fault. And even though it is your fault and you don't blame the other person for

not wanting to have anything to do with you, something inside of you that desires to reconnect and your feeble attempts to apologize in the past have not been well-received. Things are not where they ought to be. Every once in a while your wife, or another relative says, "Why don't you call?" You wish that you could just get past that wall of pain, that wall of frustration, and that wall of fear, and somehow just breakthrough and the two of you reconnect, the two of you reconcile.

Do you know why this is so important? God offers us the extraordinary life, a life in relationship with him and we can't experience that wonderful life if we have broken relationships with others. Those past relationships where things got dysfunctional and weird, even when we considered them something in the past, those relationships don't really stay in the past. All that emotion and anger is something that you continually carry. It has the potential to spill over into your current relationships. In fact, I believe that as you examine your current relational difficulties with your husband or wife or son or daughter, or your in-laws, oftentimes part of the trauma and part of the tension that you experience now is the leftover emotion from unreconciled relationships in your past. It is easy to see this in the lives of other people.

Whenver there is unresolved tension between family members, whenever there is a relationship from the past where you deserved to get something that you didn't get either because of your actions or the actions of someone else, we have the potential to carry with us into other relationships that tension, that frustration, that need, that anxiety. And even though we may have put that person in our past, shoved them into the past, slammed the door on that relationship, maybe they aren't in our lives anymore, still we carry a piece of that puzzle around with us. It will continue to haunt us in our relationships.

You may say that there is no point in reconciling with him or her or them. Well, God's goal of reconciliation may not be reconciliation. His goal for you may be the process of reconciliation. In the process of reconciliation, changes may occur in you. You may experience great change in your life as you attempt reconciliation.

An account in the Old Testament scripture gives us insight on God's view of reconciliation. In Genesis 32, the account of two brothers whose relationship fell completely apart sheds light on the power of the process of reconciliation. This account of Jacob and Esau takes place over 20 years. Deception, betray-

al and threats of murder comprise 19 years of their lives. The younger brother, Jacob, deceives the older brother, Esau, out of his birthright. The birthright was the right of the oldest son to get a double-inheritance. In their culture, a birthright could be bartered away or sold, and could even be forfeited based on certain kinds of behavior. So Jacob, knowing this says, to Esau, "I'll give you this stew that I'm cooking if you give me your birthright." What a terrible deal? But Esau was so hungry that he said, "I'm going to die anyway, so what's the point? I'm going to starve. So, sure, I'll trade." So they did some contractual thing. Jacob handed over the bowl of stew, and Esau sat down, had a meal and lost his birthright due to his appetite. Later on Esau regretted the decision and realized the foolishness of his decision.

Well, time went by and Isaac, their father, grew old. In fact, he lost his eyesight. Before he got any closer to death he decided that it was time to call in his oldest son, Esau, lay his hands on him and give him the family blessing.

Now this was a big deal back then in this culture. This blessing was a prophecy that the father made over the oldest son to say here is what is going to happen to you, here is how God is going to use you. It was a big deal.

Well, some of you know this story. Jacob and Rebekah, their mother, tricked Esau out of his father's blessing. Jacob deceptively received his father's blessing. Not only does Esau lose his birthright, but also has his blessing stolen by his brother.

As you read these stories you may think like I did, "God, these are the people you used? Wow, it is unbelievable, all this deceit. There is still hope for me."

After realizing that Jacob received the blessing that his father meant for him, Esau quits crying, walks outside and he makes an oath – he says this, "When my father dies and when the days of mourning are over, I'm going to kill my brother Jacob." Rebekah overheard that, too. She ran to Jacob and told him, "We have a little problem in the plan. You've got to get out of Dodge" and she sends him away to live with her brother.

Meanwhile, Esau is waiting for dad to die and Jacob is gone. Jacob is now living with Rebekah's brother, Laban. And there is another incredible story that happens here (you have got to read that). So 20 years go by. For 20 years they are separated. Jacob has gone away for 20 years. And while he is away, God blesses him. What?

Yes, God blesses Jacob, the deceiver. He's has an abundance of sheep, cattle

Bicentennial Chapel Sunday Schedule

Catholic Mass 9 a.m.

Protestant Sunday

School 9:30 a.m.

Protestant
Worship Service
11 a.m.



and camels. He's got all of these children and a couple of wives. He was a very wealthy, successful man.

Then one day something happens, God says to Jacob, "You've got to go home and face your brother." Jacob says what we say, "It's not going to do any good. It's not going to work. Hang on, God. You said that you wanted to bless me, you have blessed me. I don't think blessing me is going to see my brother who wants to kill me. I don't see blessing in that. I'm fine here. Life is great."

Again, you may be in a similar situation as Jacob. You may say to God in your own way, "There's no point, they won't reciprocate, they don't want to talk to me, they don't miss me, it won't do any good, it won't work." I believe that God will say, "I have a different definition of what works and a different definition of good. It may not work the way that you see it. It may not do any good the way you see it. But it is time to go home."

So, Jacob quits arguing with God, and packs up everything he has and heads back toward home to see his brother who he has not seen in 20 years. Esau is the guy who promised to murder Jacob if he ever had the chance. That is where the story picks up in Genesis 32. In verse three, we see Jacob is on his way back and he does a very smart thing. Jacob sends messengers ahead to meet Esau first. He is afraid of encountering his brother without offering some type of greeting and peace offering. Jacob still believes that reconciliation will not work. In chapter 33, we see that reconciliation was not God's goal, but his goal was for Jacob to engage in the process of reconciliation. He wanted Jacob to stay in the pursuit of reconciliation.

So, what can we learn from this account? We should pursue reconciliation regardless of our expectations. When do we get to stop pursuing reconciliation? Whenever your Heavenly Father stops pursuing you, which is never. We should always keep the door open for restoring our broken relationships. Why? For the sake of the next generation, in Genesis 33:2, Joseph, the son of Jacob, is mentioned for a reason. He observed his father

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Spiritual

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pursue reconciliation even in the face of potential death by the hands of his brother, Esau. Many years later, Joseph offers to his brothers the same forgiveness and opportunity for reconciliation as his uncle and father experienced.

Who comes to mind while you've been reading? With whom do you need to reconcile your relationship? God can and will do so many wonderful things in your life if you offer reconciliation. And, I believe that offering, being in the process of reconciliation is the healthiest thing you can do for your emotional well-being. You may think that life is great even with a few broken relationships. Well, give yourself an opportunity for the best life. Engage in the process of reconciliation and see what rewards God has in store for you.

Bible summer study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel is meeting every Thursday through Aug. 1 for a summer Bible study series. The meetings are from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., and will go through Aug. 1 at Bicentennial Chapel. The study involves a DVD lecture on women in the Bible with discussion following. Child care is not provided during the summer.

Ramadan

The Muslim period of prayer, fasting, charity-giving and self-accountability for Muslims in the U.S. began July 8 and extends through the evening of Aug. 7. Ramadan occurs every year with a new moon sighting marking the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. This is considered as the holiest season in the Islamic year and commemorates the time when the Qu'ran is said to have been revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. The word "Ramadan" is derived from the Arabic word for intense heat, scorched ground, and shortness of food and drink. Fasting during Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars (fundamental religious duties) of Islam. It is a time of self-examination and increased religious devotion. People of Islamic faith are encouraged to read the entire Qu'ran during Ramadan.

Catholic mass

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel invites the Redstone community to its mass services noon Monday through Thursday; 5 p.m. Saturday; and 9 a.m. Sunday. For baptisms, weddings or any questions, call 842-2175.

Men's ministry

Men's Ministry, "addressing the needs of men and planting seeds for spiritual growth in Christ Jesus," meets on a Saturday each month – for exact date, call Harry Hobbs at 425-5307 – at 9 a.m. at the Links golf clubhouse. Breakfast is served for \$5.



Photo by Ellen Hudson

Celebrating military families

Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling of the Army Materiel Command signs a new Tennessee Valley Community Covenant symbolizing the commitment of the Tennessee Valley to care for Army families. The Monday event at the Chamber of Commerce kicked off the annual Armed Forces Celebration Week.

Leadership development students take staff ride

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Two groups of leadership students took turns going on a Redstone tour and sitting in on a senior leader panel July 17.

They represented the combined classes of Leader Investment for Tomorrow or LIFT, a leadership development program sponsored by the Aviation and Missile Command G-1 (Human Resources). The staff ride's theme was "Redstone Leadership – Past and Present."

The 10-month classes include UpLIFT for GS-11 and below, LIFT for GS-12 and GS-13, and Advanced LIFT for GS-14 and GS-15.

"This is the program's combined staff ride so all the programs are combined into one class," human resources development specialist Roger Kitchen Jr., the contact for all three classes, said. "And they'll take a tour of Redstone Arsenal and the AMRDEC Prototype Integration Facility. Then students will hear a leadership panel and participate in team-building activities."

There were 29 students in Group "A" and 30 in Group "B." The senior leader panel and team building were held at The Summit.

Helen Branch, a LIFT student, was a member of Group "B." Her class started in February and continues through November; and her mentor is Kathy Messer, a logistics management specialist with the AMCOM Logistics Center. The class meets monthly. Each student meets with his or her mentor at least 55 minutes monthly.

"I love it, it's great," Branch, team leader for new equipment training with the supportability and sustainment directorate under the AMCOM Logistics Center, said of the class. "I've learned a lot. I really like that the senior leaders are taking their time out to come talk to us and they're open for questions. I'm learning a lot about leadership skills. And the key element is com-

munication – open communication – to put emphasis on that we make sure to let our people know what's going on."

The students included the following:
Group "A" – Brenda Armstrong, Advanced LIFT, Space and Missile Defense Command; Terry Bradford, Advanced LIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Valerie Cortez, Advanced LIFT, Missile Defense Agency; David Hartfield, Advanced LIFT, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; Patrick Miller, Advanced LIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Barry Morton, Advanced LIFT, AMCOM G-6; Jeanene St. Amant, Advanced LIFT, AMCOM G-6; Randall Cohen, LIFT, Missile Defense Agency; Eileen Beardsley, LIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Laura Alacantara, LIFT, AMCOM G-4; Judson Alexander, LIFT, Army Contracting Command-Redstone; Lana Barshinger, LIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Elise Brasseale, LIFT, AMCOM G-6; Tiffani Dobbins, LIFT, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; Ann Hutson, LIFT, AMCOM G-6; Climetha Rhodes, LIFT, AMCOM's Security Assistance Management Directorate; Carson Wakefield, LIFT, Program Executive Office for Aviation; Mandy Albers, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Eric Brown, UpLIFT, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity; Vicktory Eichelberger, UpLIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Beth Grimes, UpLIFT, AMCOM G-6; Regina Hargrove, UpLIFT, AMCOM G-1; Megan Morgan, UpLIFT, AMCOM G-6; Joseph Pangburn, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Jennifer Richardson, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Lea Rivera, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Cameron Shwedo, UpLIFT, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; Ebonee Walker, UpLIFT, Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; and Tyrus Edwards, LIFT, AMCOM G-8.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Human resource specialist Tom Olszowy, who teaches the UpLIFT class, addresses the combined leadership classes during team building July 17.

Group "B" – Cassandra Boyd, Advanced LIFT, Army Contracting Command-Redstone; Wes Brown, Advanced LIFT, Marshall Space Flight Center; Mark Feathers, Advanced LIFT, AMCOM G-4; Dwight Kenon, Advanced LIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Sherry Miller, Advanced LIFT, Army Contracting Command-Redstone; Mark Patrizi, Advanced LIFT, Logistics Support Activity; Baraka Truss, LIFT, Marshall Space Flight Center; Mary Rich, LIFT, Garrison; Velenia Moran, LIFT, Logistics Support Activity; Alfreda Alexander, LIFT, AMCOM G-3; Sonya Anderson, LIFT, Army Contracting Command-Redstone; Helen Branch, LIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Jessica Cole, LIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Tihera "Shay" Duckett, LIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Neil Frazier, LIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Robert Mitchell, LIFT,

Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity; Rebecca Shelton, LIFT, Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity; Angela Williams, LIFT, AMCOM G-1; Candiace Brown, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Eric Delk, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Song Flagler, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Gary Ross Guerrero, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; Aaron Hearne, UpLIFT, AMCOM G-6; Cheryl Neill, UpLIFT, AMCOM G-3; Lucrecia Points, UpLIFT, Garrison; Tracey Randall, UpLIFT, Marshall Space Flight Center; Jed Sheehan, UpLIFT, AMCOM Security Assistance Management Directorate; Joanna Southerland, UpLIFT, Lead AMC Integration Support Office; Brett Williams, UpLIFT, AMCOM Logistics Center; and Ross Wright, UpLIFT, Logistics Support Activity.

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The 10-month classes include UpLIFT for GS-11 and below, LIFT for GS-12 and GS-13, and Advanced LIFT for GS-14 and GS-15.

Webber joins ranks of senior executives

By **CARRIE E. DAVID**

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

A Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command leader has become the most recent addition to the Senior Executive Service.

Thomas Webber, acting director of SMDC's Technical Center and director of the Technical Center's Space and Cyberspace Directorate, was promoted to the SES on July 16 at the Von Braun III auditorium.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be selected into the Senior Executive Service," he said. "Since leadership is the cornerstone of the SES ranks, I take great pride in the trust and confidence placed in me as a leader."

While some who are promoted to SES see a substantial change in their role, Webber has not.

"In my particular case, my role (job) has not changed significantly because I have been acting in this capacity for several months. But becoming an SES now solidifies my responsibility to look strategically across the organization and to focus on shaping our vision," he said.

The SES ranks consist of men and women charged with "leading the continuing transformation of government," according to the Office of Personnel Management website. These leaders are the major link between top presidential appointees and the rest of the federal work force. Because "they operate and oversee nearly every government activity in approximately 75 federal agencies," the selection process is stringent.

"I'm glad the appointment process is done, because the selection process was very challenging, and understandable so," Webber said. "I want to thank



Photo by Carrie E. David

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, administers the oath to Thomas Webber, acting director of SMDC's Technical Center and director of the Technical Center's Space and Cyberspace Directorate, during Webber's promotion to the Senior Executive Service at the Von Braun III auditorium July 16.

Lt. Gen. (Richard) Formica for his outstanding leadership – he sets the standard – and Mr. (Ronnie) Chronister for putting his trust in me. I am also grateful that my family was able to be here for the ceremony. That meant more to me than they could ever know."

Webber said he wants to focus on why he serves.

"This is a responsibility that I gratefully accept, but I take on the position not for personal reasons but to make a difference for the men and women we serve, all those Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines defending this great nation every day," he said. "We can never lose sight of why we are here and why we take our oath. We must defend our freedoms and continue to develop and prepare our future leaders."

Division recognized for providing 24/7 support

By Maj. RAIN JONES

SMDC/ARSTRAT GEOINT Division

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. – Members of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's G-2 Geospatial Intelligence, or GEOINT, Division have been recognized by the director of intelligence for the North American Aerospace Defense Command-U.S. Northern Command.

Rear Adm. Brett Heimbigner, director of intelligence, or J-2, NORAD-NORTHCOM, presented "flag officer" coins to the team for "outstanding support" provided during an operation in April and May.

The presentation was made at the SMDC's operations headquarters on Peterson Air Force Base. Members of the GEOINT Division supported 24/7 operations for more than four weeks for NORAD-NORTHCOM's J-2 as well the U.S. Strategic Command J-2 and the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense.

During this period, division personnel completed 1,105 GEOINT reports in support of this operation.

The support included providing rapid, time-critical, analytical reports plus more detailed follow-up reports of fused intelligence information. The division, which includes imagery scientists and analysts with advanced skill levels, used multiple types of advanced geospatial intelligence technologies to provide an overall GEOINT pic-

ture in support of the operation. The reporting provided NORAD-USNORTHCOM, USSTRATCOM, JFCC-IMD and other units with important situational awareness during this time frame. Division reporting results were provided directly to the NORAD-USNORTHCOM commander and were also used in daily briefings by the J-2 of another regional combatant command.

GEOINT Division analysts were able to transition from normal day-to-day operations to 24/7 operations in coordination with, and support of, NORAD-USNORTHCOM to develop timely, accurate analytical products in a collaborative environment. The SMDC G-2 GEOINT Division met this ad hoc requirement while minimizing the impact on its other support requirements in other areas for its five combatant command customers that include USSTRATCOM, NORAD-USNORTHCOM, U.S. Transportation Command, U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command.

Heimbigner, who engaged with the division's analysts on a daily basis during this period, said their support of this operation was critical to his command. He complimented the unit's timeliness, accuracy and reliability.

The mission of the GEOINT division is to gather and analyze imagery such as that gathered from satellites in both a literal and non-literal methods. This information is then provided to combatant commanders and boots on the ground as well as to civil authorities in disaster relief efforts.

Courtesy photo

Space Badge

Capt. Mark Anderson, commander, A Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, presents 1st Lt. Saif Vazquez with a certificate for earning the Space Badge during an awards ceremony June 7 at the company's location at Fort Detrick, Md. Vazquez earned the badge by completing the Army Space Cadre Course and 12 months in a space cadre position.



Second Recruiting Brigade receives new commander



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Col. David Stewart assumes command of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade during Thursday's ceremony in Bob Jones Auditorium.

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The new commander of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade is a Virginia native with more than two decades of service.

Col. David Stewart succeeded Col. Michael Faruqui in a change of command ceremony Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium. Faruqui, who commanded the 2nd Recruiting Brigade the past two years, retired after 27 years.

"It's a tremendous honor to go out and build the legacy of the Army," Stewart, 44, from Vienna, Va., said. He has served 22 years.

Stewart graduated from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia in 1991 and was commissioned in the Air Defense Artillery. He and his wife, Annie, have

two daughters, Hailey and Ainslie.

Maj. Gen. Allen Batschelet, commander of the Army Recruiting Command, officiated at the ceremony.

"Second Recruiting Brigade has excelled in just about every category that we measure," Batschelet said.

A native of San Jose, Calif., Faruqui was a distinguished military graduate of San Jose State University, where he received his commission through ROTC in 1986. Before joining the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, he served as the director of intelligence, J-2, for the Special Operations Command-Europe.

Faruqui and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Hayley and Tiffany. They plan to stay in the local area.

"Commanding this brigade has been one of the greatest privileges in my life," Faruqui said.

N.Y. Guard Soldier recognized for courage under fire

By Master Sgt. CORINE LOMBARDO

Army News Service

GLENVILLE, N.Y. -- Despite a massive explosion and continuous Taliban small-arms fire, New York Army National Guard Sgt. Joshua Young rescued his platoon sergeant, rallied his troops, and continued his mission March 16, 2012, while serving in Afghanistan.

Young's heroism was recognized July 19 with the award of the Bronze Star with V Device at the Scotia-Glenville Armed Forces Reserve Center here.

At the time Young, a resident of Perinton, N.Y., was serving with the Army's 760th Ordnance Battalion, based at Fort Drum, N.Y. He is assigned to the New York Army National Guard's 1018th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), which is headquartered at the Reserve Center.

"It's weird, I'm not sure what all the hubbub is all about," said Young, referring to the recognition. "It happened a long time ago, and I would do it again."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo praised Young's actions in a written statement.

"Today we honor an individual who went to extraordinary lengths to protect and save the lives of his fellow Soldiers," Cuomo said.

"At great personal risk, Sgt. Young not only carried his badly injured platoon sergeant to safety through enemy gunfire, but he also returned to the battlefield to successfully complete his mission," Cuomo added.

New York Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Michael Swezey, who presented Young with his medal, pointed out that while many Soldiers serve and serve well, Young did something more.

"The military awards very few Bronze Star medals for valor, indicating that Josh demonstrated a level of extreme personal courage and selfless service," Swezey said. "I am struck by the courage he displayed to protect his fellow Soldiers."

March 16, 2012, Young was attached to Company A, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed Attack Company, which was operating in Siah Choy, Afghanistan, in the area known to the military as Regional Command-South.

See Courage on page 19



Photo by Eric Durr

New York Army National Guard Sgt. Joshua Young, a member of the 1108th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), receives the Bronze Star with V device for valor during a ceremony at the Scotia-Glenville, N.Y., Armed Forces Reserve Center, on July 19. Brig. Gen. Michael Swezey, the commander of the 53rd Troop Command, presents Young with the medal.

Courage

Continued from page 18

The unit is known as “Syke’s Regulars,” a historic Army designation.

The company command had decided to blow up a strategic wall in the village of Manezai. The wall bordered a road that was used to resupply and reinforce Combat Outpost Siah Choy, where Young’s company was located.

During the previous three months, the company had observed insurgents planting more than 60 improvised explosive devices, known as IEDs, along the road, using the wall as cover. With the wall gone, the company would be able to use their reconnaissance capabilities to stop the IED attacks.

The 3rd Platoon of the company was given the mission. Young was accompanying the platoon as the EOD team leader, tasked with placing the explosives and detonating them. Young and his team placed more than 1,200 pounds of C4 explosives at points along the wall as they prepared to execute the mission.

About 15 minutes after the 3rd Platoon moved into place, 50 enemy fighters moved to locations north and east of the American Soldiers and began firing AK-47s and mortar rounds at

them. One of the mortar rounds detonated 400 pounds of C4 that had been placed along the wall at its northern end. The explosion of the C4 incapacitated the entire squad at that location, including the platoon sergeant.

Young was about 150 feet away from the blast, which picked him up and threw him backward into a row of grapes, while debris rained down over him.

While the rest of the platoon sought cover to regroup from the shock of the explosion, Young sprinted across the open ground, through dust and settling debris, to assess any casualties.

He searched for and found the platoon sergeant 50 feet away from the center of the blast buried under debris. The platoon sergeant was suffering from massive internal trauma and had burns over 60 percent of his body.

Young ignored enemy fire and ran to

find the platoon medic to begin treatment. He again moved through the open to find the aide and litter team accompanying the unit to bring them to the platoon sergeant’s location.

Young then volunteered to carry the platoon sergeant to the landing zone where the medevac helicopter was heading, despite the sporadic fire the platoon was still taking from the enemy.

After carrying the platoon sergeant to safety, Young returned to the battlefield to complete the wall’s demolition, accomplishing the platoon’s mission.

His award citation reads, “Sgt. Young demonstrated incredible personal courage and selfless service by risking his life on multiple occasions to save a Soldier’s life and complete the mission. Sgt. Young’s valorous actions reflect great credit upon himself, Attack Company, the Syke’s Regulars Battalion, the Arrowhead

Stryker Brigade, Regional Command South, and the United States Army.”

Young, 26, served in the active Army from 2007 to 2012, and joined the 1018th Ordnance Company (EOD), of the New York Army National Guard, in August 2012.

Now he is studying chemistry at Monroe County Community College in Rochester, serving on the local volunteer fire department in Fairport, N.Y., and moving ahead with his life.

He still keeps in contact with the Soldier he saved, although the sergeant lost both legs. That platoon sergeant is doing pretty well and learning to walk on his artificial legs, Young said.

The five months of specialized explosive ordnance disposal training he received prior to deploying gave him the skills and the mindset he needed when the time came, Young said.

“It was second nature, it’s what you do as a Soldier,” he said.

But his mother, Kim Young, who attended the ceremony with Young’s father, Tim, said her son needed to give himself more credit.

“We’re extremely proud of Josh and his accomplishments,” she said. “He never really told us a lot about the incident so we are learning about his actions today.”

“At great personal risk, Sgt. Young not only carried his badly injured platoon sergeant to safety through enemy gunfire, but he also returned to the battlefield to successfully complete his mission.”

Gov. Andrew Cuomo
New York

Garrison's retired commander joins Huntsville leadership

Hamilton to become city administrator

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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One of the Army's leadership assets will now put his logistics, planning and operations skills to work for the betterment of Huntsville residents.

Retired Col. John Hamilton, who left his post as Garrison commander on July 11 during a change of command and retirement ceremony, was introduced during a July 15 press conference at Huntsville City Hall as the city's next city administrator. He will replace longtime city employee Rex Reynolds, who is retiring Jan. 1.

"Part of government is making sure you have continuity," Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle said.

Pending city council approval, Hamilton will join the city's work force in the fall as a contractor. He will work side-by-side with Reynolds to learn about the responsibilities of the city administrator and then will fully assume the position as a city employee Jan. 1.

Hamilton, who will be the city's top non-elected official, will be charged with reviewing structure efficiencies and the utility of the work force to ensure the city continues to get better at providing services that city residents want and need, the mayor said. He will be an administrator overseeing 2,400 employees working in 28 city departments with an annual budget of \$235 million in a city of 180,000 residents.

"I look forward to the opportunity to have an impact on this community, to fight every day to improve people's qua-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Retired Col. John Hamilton is introduced as Huntsville's next city administrator during a press conference at city hall. Hamilton retired from the Army as the Garrison commander on July 11. Behind Hamilton are, from left, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle, current city administrator Rex Reynolds and city council president Mark Russell.

lity of life and grow this city in a smart way," Hamilton said.

"While I still have much to learn about the city, my work in the Army has afforded me a broad range of experiences leading teams around the world, and I look forward to bringing those experiences to the team. Ultimately, it's about truly listening to the needs of the community, caring for the municipal staff that delivers those valuable services, and being smart about where we apply our limited resources. I look forward to that challenge."

Reynolds, 54, has served as a city employee for 33 years, first as a Huntsville police officer. He was promoted to police chief in 2004 and then to public safety director overseeing both police and fire

departments in 2007. In 2008, Battle requested that Reynolds serve as the city administrator.

With that promotion, Reynolds became one of the most respected city administrators in the field with professional connections throughout the state. He serves on several boards and commissions, including the Boys and Girls Clubs, Partnership for a Drug Free Youth, United Way, Huntsville Sports Commission and Crime Stoppers.

"He has been a stalwart partner in the progress for the City of Huntsville in moving the city forward," Battle said. "He made progress happen here in the city.

"Rex has served this city admirably and selflessly for decades, and he has been my most trusted adviser, manager, confidant and friend. He deserves the joys and pleasures of a happy retirement, though I expect that will include a continually active role in public service."

Reynolds said he is considering running for public office in the future. But for now, he plans to enjoy being a grandparent to his grandson, and concentrating on serving in his volunteer leadership roles.

"I've been so blessed to have a great career," he said. "I have been incredibly fortunate to have had an opportunity to serve this community and work alongside some outstanding co-workers."

Hamilton served 23 years as a logistics officer, mostly with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. He is a decorated veteran with deployments to Operation Joint Endeavor-Bosnia in 1996, two to Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan in 2002 and 2005; and two to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and 2006.

He was assigned to Redstone

Arsenal in 2010, taking over command of the Garrison during a period of challenging growth stemming from the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations that brought the Army Materiel Command, the Security Assistance Command and several other Army organizations to Redstone. He worked closely with all aspects of the Garrison – the Directorate of Public Works; Emergency Services; Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security; Human Resources; Public Affairs; and Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation – to ensure the Redstone community has the facilities and services that lead to mission success. He worked with private industry and the city in developing Redstone Gateway, and he initiated a "city center" concept that is anchored by Redstone's new One Stop and Community Welcome Center.

"The Garrison commander's job is similar to that of a mayor's, and John Hamilton's record as a high-performing team leader is well-known and respected," Battle said.

"I am delighted and honored to have him join our administration and look forward to a great partnership. ... John will be a great asset to this community. He is someone who can lead the community into the next generation."

Both Mark Russell, the president of the city council, and councilman John Olshefski, a retired colonel who also served as Garrison commander before his retirement, were in attendance at the press conference.

"I want to welcome my good friend Col. John Hamilton to the team. ... I see great things in the future," Russell said, speaking on behalf of the city council.

Also in attendance at the press conference was Hamilton's wife, Melinda, and their son, Walker. Their daughter, Rebekah, was out of town visiting relatives.

Space Cowboys help with Colorado wildfire

PAGOSA SPRINGS, Colo. – Army Space Soldiers from the 117th Space Battalion,

Colorado Army National Guard, providing a first by bringing space-based products and support to civilian authorities fighting the West Fork Complex fire in southern Colorado that began June 5.

Three Space Cowboys from the recently redeployed six-member Army Space Support Team 27 designed to support the war fighters in the theater of operations were mobilized and put on state active duty for Colorado on June 23 to support firefighting efforts.

They include Army National Guard Soldiers Capt. Tim Bouma, team leader and space operations officer; Sgt. Cassandra Quinones, geospatial engineer; and Sgt. Nathan Faith, network specialist. The team's operations are based out of the Pagosa Springs Airport along with the Incident Command Center.

Products and services being provided to firefighters include GPS, imagery and mapping tailored to the fire's unique properties. The 117th is the only unit with the tools to produce the imagery required to best fight the West Fork Complex fire.

“This is the first time in the battalion's

history that we are able to recall an Army Space Support Team force package and to provide civil support for wildfire effort,” Lt. Col. Martin Bortolutti, commander of the 117th Space Battalion, said. “The team has performed magnificently and will stay as long as allowed in order to provide any advantage to the firefighting effort. The 117th Space Battalion hopes to provide continued civil support to the state whenever called upon.”

The battalion is assigned to the 1st Space Brigade, which is part of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. (SMDCA/ARSTRAT release)

Photo by Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Wolfram Stumpf
Colorado Army National Guard Sgt. Nathan Faith, 117th Space Battalion, points out areas on an infrared satellite image of the West Fork Complex fire to Matt Gibson, U.S. Forest Service-Lolo Interagency Hotshot Crew from Missoula, Mo., and Sgt. Cassandra Quinones, 117th Space Battalion, from their location in Pagosa Springs, Colo., on June 27. This is the first time the 117th Space Battalion has been called to support a domestic operation.





Photo by Carrie E. David, SMDC/ARSTRAT

Army spouse

Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, left, and his wife, Diane, present Leanne Ogden with the Honorable Order of Molly Pitcher on July 16. The honor is bestowed by the U.S. Field Artillery Association to recognize women who have voluntarily contributed in a significant way to the improvement of the U.S. field artillery or air defense artillery communities. Leanne is the wife of SMDC's deputy chief of staff, engineer, Col. Jeffrey Ogden, right, who for the past six months has served as the interim chief of staff for the command.

Soldiers get explosive exercise with Javelin

Missile system testing gives realistic training

By KARI HAWKINS

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Even with plenty of simulation training under his belt, Sgt. Brad Taylor still got a little jolt of surprise when he fired a Javelin missile for the first time.

Aiming at a battle tank 2,000 meters down range at Test Area 1, Taylor squeezed the trigger, heard a click, waited a second, and then watched as the missile flew through the sky and into the clouds. Eighteen seconds into launch, and an explosion downrange indicated the missile had impacted its battle target.

"That was exciting. I couldn't be happier. I don't like to miss," said Taylor, who is assigned to the 3rd Infantry, Alpha Company, 1-15th Infantry Regiment.

On July 17-18, Taylor was the first of six war-veteran gunners from Fort Benning, Ga.'s Maneuver Center of Excellence receiving Javelin target practice during a routine testing of samples from the Army's inventory of Javelin missile systems.

The test involved firing the Javelin under 120-degree heat conditions, which required that the Javelin be "soaked" in a 120-degree heated chamber for 10 hours to ensure all internal components were at the 120-degree-plus hot firing temperature and then fired from a building heated to 120 degrees. Taylor wore regulation combat gear (including a protective vest, helmet and gloves) so that he could safely handle the missile and launcher.

Although there is no back kick from firing the soft-launch Javelin, the explosive noise surprised Taylor.

"It was exciting. I didn't expect that much concussion," he said. "You can't beat the real thing."

The Javelin missile system, managed by the Close Combat Weapon Systems Project Office of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, is a man-portable, fire-and-forget, medium-range missile with enhanced situational awareness and precision direct-fire effects to defeat armored vehicles, fortifications and soft targets. It consists of a reusable Command Launch Unit and a mod-

ular missile encased in a disposable launch tube assembly. The system weighs just under 50 pounds, with 35 of those belonging to the missile round.

Javelin has a high-kill rate against a variety of targets at extended ranges under day and night light conditions, battlefield obscurants, adverse weather and multiple counter-measure conditions. The system's soft launch feature permits firing from a fighting position or an enclosure.

Steve Hagewood and Will Black, Javelin test engineers for the Close Combat Weapon Systems Project Office, PEO for Missiles and Space; and Scott Canterbury, lead Javelin test engineer for the Redstone Test Center, invite Soldiers to participate in about 50 Javelin test firings each year.

"We have two categories of tests. The first type – and the one we are doing today – involves the Stockpile Reliability Program where we take a random sample of missiles out of inventory and put them through various system and component functional tests that culminate with a test firing," Hagewood said.

"Some of these missiles are two years old, 10 years old, 12 years old and 14 years old. Some of these missiles have been in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait."

The second type of test is a Quality Assurance Lot Verification Test that involves testing a sampling from a lot of new missiles to ensure they meet all requirements.

"About two-thirds of our missiles are the SRPs, and about a third are brand new," Hagewood said.

"But, in either case, they will all go through vibration and temperature tests. They will be X-rayed and dropped, and put in tests that simulate things like riding on the back of a truck on a bumpy road or through the woods. Then we will pull a sample and fire them. If they are SRPs and the testing is successful, then we will extend the life of the inventory. If they are QALVTs and testing is successful, then the government will accept the new missiles into the inventory."

By involving Soldiers in the test firings, the PEO for Missiles and Space is providing training opportunities for combat arms war-fighters who may actually fire Javelin missiles in theater.

"We get both SRP data and gunner



Photo by Greg Patch, Redstone Test Center

Sgt. Randy Rhoden of Bravo Company, 2-29th Infantry at Fort Benning, Ga., uses an inert Javelin disposable launch tube and a Command Launch Unit to demonstrate how a Javelin missile can be fired from a shoulder-held position. He was among six Soldiers who fired Javelin missiles as part of a flight test of missiles taken from the Army's inventory.

experience from firing actual Javelins," Hagewood said.

More than 2,988 Javelin missiles have been fired to date in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan.

"Throughout Javelin's deployment in the ongoing fight, the system has proved invaluable to the war fighter in urban combat operations," Brig. Gen. L. Neil Thurgood, the program executive officer for missiles and space, said.

"The firings today are demonstrating confidence in not only the Javelin weapon system and training program, but also the Stockpile Reliability Program. The Javelin SRP provides the data needed to assure the Javelin missile maintains the expected perfor-

mance, reliability and safety for the duration of its use in the field. The Javelin SRP program provides maximum assurance that the Javelin missile meets the established explosive safety and reliability requirements."

Data gathered from the test program identifies performance trends and supports decisions regarding priority of issue, timely replacement, shelf-life extension and demilitarization. Through tests, Redstone engineers can detect any performance degradation and then determine if missiles need to be removed from inventory, if new firing restrictions need to be imposed or if system maintenance needs to be recommended.

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Army aviation striving to 'own the weather'

By HEATHER R. SMITH
AMRDEC Public Affairs

Flying a helicopter through rain, fog or cloudy conditions is challenging and dangerous, so a team of Army engineers has taken on the challenge to research ways to make flying in degraded visual environments easier and safer for rotorcraft pilots.

In July 2012, the Army initiated the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center's Rotorcraft Degraded Visual Environment Mitigation Program in order to execute a synchronized, collaborative effort across the AMRDEC Science and Technology community to assess and address the problem of degraded visual environment.

Degraded visual environment, or DVE, is defined as reduced visibility of potentially varying degree, wherein situational awareness and aircraft control cannot be maintained as comprehensively as in normal visual meteorological conditions and can potentially be lost.

Todd Dellert, an experimental test pilot and lead of the Rotorcraft DVE Mitigation Program, said over the past 10 years DVE contributed to 87 rotorcraft accidents, 108 fatalities and more

than \$880 million in material losses. Many of these were due to operations in "brownout" conditions, which are helicopter-induced dust clouds resulting from downwash of the rotor system.

But DVE is more than just "brownout." Other factors include smoke, rain, smog, sand and dust, clouds, darkness, fog, snow and flat light.

Dellert said the team's mantra is "Own the Weather," which means the pursuit of material solutions to not only allow safe and efficient rotorcraft operation but also to expand the capability of commanders to deploy their rotorcraft aviation assets when the weather is well-below visual meteorological conditions minimums.

Army officials view potential DVE mitigation system solutions as comprised of three pillars: improved flight controls, sensors and cueing.

Improving the existing flight controls systems and/or laws and handling characteristics will assist the pilot in managing workload when vision or situational awareness is challenged or obscured. Sensor technologies will allow "see-through" capability when DVE conditions are encountered. And symbology, aural or tactile cueing will provide information to the pilot reference aircraft



Photo by EJ Hersom

Soldiers of the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, watch a Kiowa helicopter land in the desert dust at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., on Feb. 21. Aviators and acquisition officials are exploring sensors, cueing and control methods to better enable flying and landing in what is called a "degraded visual environment."

state and potentially guidance for executing a mission task such as landing and takeoff.

The Rotorcraft DVE Mitigation Program includes the AMRDEC Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, AMRDEC Aeroflightdynamics Directorate, AMRDEC System Simulation and Development Directorate, and the Night Vision and Electronics Sensors Directorate from the Communications Electronics Research Development and Engineering Center. AMRDEC and CERDEC are part of the Research Development and Engineering Command.

Through analysis, simulation, ground and flight test, Dellert said the stakeholders on the team are exploring the trade space involved to assist PEO

Aviation in making informed decisions on future material upgrades and potential programs of record. The capstone of the program will be demonstration flights at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., in fiscal 2016.

"The AMRDEC Degraded Visual Environment Mitigation Program is oriented toward examining the combinations of technologies required that will give Army rotorcraft pilots the advantage on the battlefield," Dellert said. "In total, this integrated three pronged approach to a Degraded Visual Environment system solution is aimed at increasing air-crew safety and survivability while also helping to provide them every conceivable tactical and operational advantage."

Severe weather research lab coming to UAH



Photo by Michael Mercier, UAH

Ground is broken July 15 for the Severe Weather Institute-Radar and Lightning Laboratories behind the Robert “Bud” Cramer Research Hall on the UAH campus. From left, Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce chairman Ron Poteat talks with Huntsville mayor Tommy Battle and UAH president Dr. Robert Altenkirch after shoveling the first dirt.

The University of Alabama-Huntsville broke ground July 15 on a new \$7 million Severe Weather Institute-Radar and Lightning Laboratories to grow its education and research capabilities into severe weather and atmospheric science.

The structure is being built through a state grant made possible by the efforts of Gov. Robert Bentley.

“This is the fulfillment of another recommendation of the Tornado Recovery Action Council,” Bentley said. “Alabama is no stranger to severe weather and it is important that we take proactive steps to protect and prepare for natural disasters. The establishment of this severe weather research institute at the University of Alabama in Huntsville will allow us to better prepare for severe weather through improved forecasting and detection. While it is not within our power to prevent severe weather, we still must search for methods to mitigate the impact.”

UAH president Robert Altenkirch noted that UAH’s Earth System Science Center is one of the university’s largest centers of research and is ranked among the top 10 in the nation in research activity, according to the National Science Foundation. The Atmospheric Science Department is also cited as being among the top 10 in the nation by the Chronicle of Higher Education based on scholarly productivity.

“Atmospheric science is one of those areas where UAH demonstrates national leadership in education and research,” Altenkirch said. “This is an area of our campus that has also been identified in our new strategic plan where we envision continued growth. This investment by Alabama will allow our campus to continue to expand this important program and provide quality research to help protect our citizens as well as produce graduates for the local work force. We thank Gov. Bentley for his support of research and education.”

Lean Six Sigma project earns cost avoidance

By RYAN KEITH

AMRDEC Public Affairs

While completing requirements for Lean Six Sigma green belt certification at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, John Braswell implemented process improvements for the missile design trade study process that promise the Army savings of approximately \$2 million over the next seven years.

Over the course of six months, Braswell managed a program titled "Improved Systems Analysis Process for Early Missile Development" that looked at the amount of time required to turn customer requirements into functional requirements. This information is used to create an engineering trade space that can help narrow down the possible solution set that can meet the stated user needs.

"This process has been very effective but not always efficient. At times the process requires too much time to generate a complete trade space using the current tool set. My project was able to utilize a government off-the-shelf solution from the AMRDEC Collaborative Environment team called the Missile Design Tool. It's a graphical user interface that links medium and low fidelity design tools, that are widely used in the lab, together using the Python scripting language," Braswell said.

Braswell, an industrial engineer in AMRDEC's System Simulation and Development Directorate, discovered that the Missile Design Tool could be used to reduce the time to generate data points by 70 percent, resulting in a cost avoidance of \$1,961,314 over the next seven years. He also added a user guide and training to the process which will increase the ability to train new engineers on how to do this process.

The Army's Lean Six Sigma deployment began in 2005 to create a culture

Photo by Merv Brokke, AMRDEC

John Braswell, an industrial engineer in AMRDEC's System Simulation and Development Directorate, receives a Lean Six Sigma green belt certificate from AMRDEC LSS deployment lead and mentor Julius Turner. Braswell is only one of five Army candidates to have simultaneously completed the training and achieve certification.

of continuous process improvement. The purpose of this program is to help the Army provide speed and efficiency by eliminating waste, reduce variation and defects and identify where there are redundancies in effort and resources.

According to the Army's G-1 website, "the result is a process that saves time and money and improves customer satisfaction."

Said Braswell, "I started learning about Lean Six Sigma and other quality programs during my undergraduate degree in industrial and systems engineering at Georgia Tech. I had the opportunity to apply what I had learned during my internships and senior design project."

There are varying levels of LSS certification. Similar to martial arts, LSS uses the belt system to distinguish between different levels of knowledge. Braswell is only the fifth Army candidate to simultaneously complete training and achieve green belt certification.

"The thing I have most enjoyed about this process is being able to help the other green belt candidates with their projects. I hope to be able to continue mentoring others in Lean Six Sigma in the future," Braswell said.

He has a bachelor's in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech, and a master's in industrial engineering/engineering management from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. He is pursuing a doctorate in industrial engineering/engineering management at UAH.



Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Cory Payne

Joint operation

An 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade AH-64D Apache Longbow prepares to land during a Joint Operation Access Exercise, live-fire mission at Fort Bragg, N.C., on June 28. JOAX is a seven-day integrated effort between the 82nd Airborne Division and its Air Force partners. JOAX synchronizes the planning and execution of a large-scale forcible entry into a hostile area; securing sufficient freedom of movement while facing anti-access and area-denial capabilities of our enemy. This unified training brings together two Infantry Brigade Combat Teams, six Air Force Wings, support elements from Fires and Aviation Brigades and other enablers along with the Division headquarters in order to prove the force multiplying value of joint operations.

Technical managers complete training program

Twelve technical managers from the Missile Defense Agency have completed the American Society for Engineering Management's Executive Edition of the Management and Leadership Professional Development Program.

The certified program, delivered by ASEM in partnership with the UAH Systems Management and Production Center, is being offered to introduce technical personnel serving in management and supervisory positions, to management and business concepts and provide tools that can be used in day-to-day management situations.

The two-day program included modules in Management Concepts and Practices, the Integrated Management Model, Motivating Knowledge Workers, Myers-Briggs Analysis, Team Management Concepts, Strategic Management, Systems Thinking, and Leadership Theory and Practices. Other modules available include Introduction Project Management, Time Management, Organization Structure, and Problem Solving.

For more information, please visit the ASEM website at www.asem.org or email Angie Cornelius at CornelA@uah.edu.



Courtesy photo

The certified program is being offered to introduce technical personnel, serving in management and supervisory positions, to management and business concepts and provide tools that can be used in day-to-day management situations.

Instructors from the American Society for Engineering Management gather with their MDA students in a celebration of their graduation from the Executive Edition of the Management and Leadership Professional Development Program. From left are Timothy Ditman, Dr. Jerry Westbrook, Gail Lowe, Rob Aldridge, Anh-Huy Nguyen, Patrick Schuette, Thomas Griffin, Henry Holmes, Mellany George, Kenneth Fort, Donna Havrisik, Dr. Pamela Knight, Rod Grubb and Pamela Blackwell.

Centralized computer help desk ready to serve

Army Enterprise Service goes active this Friday

By MICHAEL GUTERL
For the Rocket

If you need support for your computer, telephone, email, hardware and software, you have a new Information Technology enterprise system called Army Enterprise Service Desk that will centralize all service requests through two hub locations in Nashville and Oklahoma City.

"Army Seven Signal provided an initiative to centralize all IT support for computers, software, hardware, email and telephone," Pat Clark, Army Enterprise Service Desk and Information Technology Service Management project lead, said.

You will no longer be able to send emails to request IT support or stop by the IT support office at building 5301 in the Sparkman Center. Tickets must be submitted online through the ITSM system, which is located on the service desk portal, <https://nec.redstone.army.mil/default.aspx> or by phone at 1-866-335-2769. You may call the current number at 876-2291 and choose option three, which will

reroute the call to AESD from noon this Friday to Aug. 26. After this date, you will need to call the AESD at 1-866-335-2769 directly.

The AESD is a value-added, consistent, efficient and effective IT support system that maximizes efficiencies and reduces cost, according to Clark.

"There is a low cost for Army Signal Network Enterprise Center and in fact we save \$40,000 a year by not having to use an automated call distribution system that distributes calls to IT support staff based on availability and reduction of man hours," Clark said.

"Instead the calls are received by the AESD where they can assist you remotely and if the problem is not resolved, the call will be forwarded to Army Signal Network Enterprise Center at Redstone Arsenal."

Randall Yeoman, acting director of Desktop Support NEC, said, "AESD will be a 24/7 IT support service, a big advantage over our current system, which had limited hours of support. It will allow our local IT support staff to cross train and provide more hands on support to our customers at Redstone Arsenal. AESD allows the Army to see any inefficiencies immediately that is Armywide throughout the network.



Photo by Michael Guterl

Randall Yeoman is the acting director of Desktop Support NEC.

"The key to implementing this system is getting people to call in on the new number, 1-866-335-2769, or to make online ticket requests on the

portal. AESD provides an effective, efficient and cost-saving enterprise system to our IT support at Redstone Arsenal."

Javelin

Continued from page 23

"SRP decreases combat risk by detecting performance degradation and decreasing the risk of unreliable assets being issued to our Soldiers for war, as well as increases the safety for Soldiers in both tactical and training environments," Thurgood said. "Additionally, the SRP helps save taxpayer dollars by decreasing new missile procurement costs."

Initially, Javelin was built for a 10-year shelf-life.

"Because of SRP we've been able to extend certain lots of Javelins for as much as 18 years," Hagewood said. "As long as they are still reliable, there is no reason to destroy them."

Besides Taylor, Sgt. Randy Rhoden of Bravo Company, 2-29th Infantry; Sgt. Brandon Murphy of the 5-15th Cavalry Regiment, 194th Armored Brigade; Sgt. Joseph Kilgore of Bravo Company, 2-29th Infantry; Staff Sgt. Nikia McLeod of the 316th Cavalry Brigade; and Spc. Antonio Byrd of the 1-15th Infantry Regiment also participated in the two days of test firings. All are stationed at Fort Benning.

At Fort Benning's Maneuver Center

of Excellence, the gunners train on three types of simulators that are part of the Javelin Training System, their escort Francis Brissett said. The Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainer teaches the basic skills to engage targets with the Javelin system, the Field Tactical Trainer allows the gunner to refine his abilities by participating in range training as well as force-on-force exercises, and the Missile Simulation Round familiarizes the Soldier with the Javelin system's physical characteristics.

During the Redstone test firing, both the Soldier and the Javelin missile were put in extreme temperature situations. In the summer, the missile is fired from a building kept at 120 degrees and in the winter it is fired from a building that is minus-5 degrees.

"If the rounds can still function under super-hot and super-cold conditions, then they can still function anywhere in between those two extremes and in conditions all around the world," Hagewood said.

All test firing on Javelin missiles is done at Redstone Arsenal through a partnership with the PEO for Missiles and Space, the Redstone Test Center, and Javelin production contractors

Raytheon and Lockheed Martin.

"The Redstone Arsenal community is instrumental to the success of the ongoing fight," Thurgood said. "One of the most important things to a

Soldier is confidence in their weapon. The continued dedication and teamwork of Redstone Arsenal builds that confidence and allows Soldiers to accomplish their mission."



Photo by Greg Patch, Redstone Test Center

Fleet Willoughby of Raytheon reviews Javelin missile system operations with Soldiers from Fort Benning's Maneuver Center of Excellence before the Soldiers participate in test firings of the system. The Soldiers include, from left, Sgt. Brandon Murphy; Staff Sgt. Nikia McLeod; Sgt. Randy Rhoden; Spc. Antonio Byrd; Sgt. Joseph Kilgore; and Sgt. Brad Taylor.

Security Assistance Command welcomes first chaplain

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Bob Owen lives to serve the Soldier, the Army and God.

Owen will never forget the summer of 1987, when he and a fellow Soldier were guarding a mission support site, watching the sun go down, talking about life and their faith.

"He asked me, 'So what do you think you'll do long term? What is God calling you to?'" Owen remembered. "I said, 'I just know if I was ever called into ministry I would love to be a battalion chaplain in a special forces battalion.'"

Ten years later almost to the day, Owen was doing exactly that.

"Every Soldier, every chaplain out there has a story about how God called him and how he knew that this was the place to serve," said Owen, chaplain for the Security Assistance Command.

Owen is one of some 2,500-plus Army chaplains serving both God and country worldwide. Officially created July 29, 1775, over the course of the Army Chaplaincy's 238 years, chaplains have served more than 25 million Soldiers and their families through both peacetime and war.

"We call it incarnational ministry – it's the ministry of presence," Owen said. "I enjoy being with the troops. I get to go to work with my parishioners, day in and day out, and of course the mettle of our ministry is in combat, deployments. I just enjoy that, I enjoy being with the Soldiers, it's a delight. There's a mantra that I learned early on – if it stinks, then you ought to be there. If it stinks for the troops, if it's really miserable, if it's just a tough place to be, then that's where you ought to be."

Commissioned into the Army from Auburn University in 1984, Owen's original intentions as a Soldier had nothing to do with being a chaplain, but rather, as a line officer with intelligence and special operations. But Owen felt God tugging him in another direction.

"I just kept having that call, that interest, that desire," Owen said. "My wife and I spent a lot of time over those years talking and praying. The call was already there. It was always there. It was always a struggle wanting to know if that was really God's will for me."

Taking three years off from active duty to serve in the Reserves while he attended seminary, Owen came back on



Photo by Ellen Hudson

USASAC Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Bob Owen explains the importance of chaplains to both Soldiers and civilians as the Army Chaplaincy Corps prepares to celebrate 238 years July 29. Since its creation in 1775, approximately 25,000 Army chaplains have served Soldiers and their families through times of peace and conflict.

active duty in 1996, only this time as a chaplain. Over the past 17 years, Owen has found the chaplaincy to be an important mission on a variety levels, whether he's serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, or here on the Arsenal, with a predominantly civilian population.

"It's a very politically interesting and charged time," Owen said. "One of the reasons the chaplains have always been there is to ensure free exercise of religion and to advise the command on what that looks like for the Soldier in the field. It's constitutionally fundamental to our nation and to our military."

"The spiritual growth and development, sustenance of our Soldiers and their families, as well as the moral and ethical advisement that we give to our commanders, that is a real calling. We're to advise the command on morals and morality, on the ethics and culture of the command. We're also very important in military communities where Soldiers and their families move into a place and may only be there two to three years – we provide them with a sense

of belonging, a connection, when their home church or parish is not there."

Owen knows firsthand just how important that faith connection can be. It took him eight years on active duty before he fully realized his desire to serve in another way – in ministry with the Presbyterian Church of America. His decision to go into the Reserves to pursue his religious calling came just after the birth of his fourth child.

"My faith helped me make decisions," he said. "It helped sustain me when things were hard. My faith was important to help me navigate the wickets of decision making. I had a decision to make and my faith helped guide us through that."

While he did end up choosing to go into the special forces full time, it was a door that was closed to him due to the need for Soldiers in his current branch. So Owen pursued a dream he initially didn't know he had – to be a chaplain. In that role he's served Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan and all over Africa, through both good times and bad.

"My faith helped me really just endure the miseries," Owen said. "There's that saying, 'misery loves company,' and my faith helped define for me why we were having so much fun. We're enjoying fellowship, we're iron sharpening iron, and my faith just said you're living out a biblical principle – everyone's miserable together, but you're having a good time because you have a vision for why you're there. It helped me as a leader. A servant leader is what we need in the military. I saw myself as being there for the troops, that I'm not there for myself or as a career. My faith speaks to that from beginning to end. Jesus said, 'The first will be last.' He said if we want to follow him we will serve. A servant leader is the best of leader and troops know that. Troops love it. They see that we are not in it for ourselves. We are there to take care of them."

Originally from Montgomery, his wife from Blount County, when the

Owen family received news that they were being sent to Redstone Arsenal, where Owen would serve as the first chaplain for USASAC, it was a dream come true.

"This is a huge blessing that we got to come back," Owen said. "Every which way we turn is a blessing."

His role at USASAC is not only in serving the Soldiers, but civilians as well, who predominantly make up the work force. Whether it's just saying hello to employees, connecting them with a faith community when they arrive on the Arsenal, or preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to fellow Christians, Owen is there to serve as both an example and servant to everyone he meets.

"They may have a great pastor or priest downtown, but they don't walk the halls or come into the office every day," Owen said of the benefits of having a chaplain. "It's access, it's an ease of spending time with them. In the Army we've recognized the dimensions of a person's resiliency and strength includes the spiritual dimension."

Regardless of one's faith background, Owen is there to minister to them. Having served as a world religion instructor at the Command and General Staff College, he understands the plurality and complexity of religious beliefs, convictions and traditions. As a chaplain, he either performs religious support, or provides for them to follow the path as their constitutional right.

"Religion freedoms are always being threatened or potentially impinged upon in our culture," Owen said. "It's a tough balance. We want to guard and protect their religious freedoms. One of the chaplaincy models is how to encourage the plurality that makes our nation great."

Married for 30 years, the father of nine children and grandpa to one, gratitude sums up Owen's life as a Soldier.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve," he said. "We're very grateful to serve the nation."

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WWII chaplain remembered by his grandson

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Brig Gen. Ted Harrison always has somebody watching over him.

Harrison's memories of his grandfather, retired Lt. Col. Lawrence Fenwick, are few but fond – eating the gooey popcorn balls Fenwick loved to make, riding with him on his scooter as a 2-year-old in just a diaper and helmet, and visiting him in the hospital in Florida before he died of cancer in 1966. While it has been 37 years since his grandfather's death, when Harrison was just a child, the commander of the Expeditionary Contracting Command doesn't have to look far to find the retired lieutenant colonel – wherever his office is, a portrait of Fenwick hangs.

"I always have that hanging in my office, just as a reminder that somebody's watching," Harrison said. "Somebody's proud."

On the back of that portrait is taped a picture that tells the story of Fenwick's life in one image – his grandfather, an Army Air Corps chaplain, giving communion on the hood of a jeep to Soldiers in WWII on Easter Sunday.

Born Aug. 21, 1907, in East Falls, Va., Fenwick was rector of Christ Church Frederica, in St. Simons, Ga., when he felt the call to serve God in another way – as a chaplain in uniform. About 10 years after graduating from seminary at the University of the South near Chattanooga, Fenwick joined the Army Air Corps May 13, 1942 at Fort McClellan, Ala., bringing his young family, wife Rosalie and three daughters, with him.

"We moved down to be with him for three months, and we stayed in Anniston in the church parish office, camped out on cots until he went overseas," said Harrison's mother, Julie Fenwick Harrison.

Fenwick served in WWII in Europe from Jan. 6, 1943 to Sept. 21, 1945. While serving overseas, the units he served with flew B-26s, helped prepare for the invasion of Normandy by bombing bridges, oil tanks and missile sites in France and Belgium, and at one point were even attacked by the Luftwaffe.

"He used to ride with them on bombing raids, and Meanie didn't like to hear about that," Fenwick Harrison said, referring to her mother.

While deployed, the Fenwick family lived in Augusta, Ga.,

where pictures of their father occasionally made the local big screen.

"We used to go to the movies, and they had news reels and that's how you got the war news," Fenwick Harrison said. "The theater owner opened the theater just for our family to watch that news reel with daddy in it giving communion."

Upon his return from WWII, Fenwick was transferred from the Army Air Corps to the Air Force, where his career took him to Okinawa, Japan, Guam and a few years stateside, before the family returned to Japan from 1956-59.

"You were 1 year old when they came back," Fenwick Harrison reminisced to her son. "They had never seen you."

When the family returned from Japan, they settled at Tyndall Air Force Base, where Fenwick retired after 20 years of service on July 25, 1963. Throughout his military career Fenwick received the Distinguished Unit Badge, American Campaign medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with six bronze stars, WWII Victory medal, National Defense Service medal, Air Force Longevity Service award ribbon with four bronze oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hour glass device and the United Nations service medal. Following his retirement, he became assistant to the rector at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, Fla.

"He didn't know it but when he got there he had cancer," Fenwick Harrison said.

It is from their days in Florida that Harrison has captured memories of his grandfather.

"I really just remember them from when he was at Tyndall, when I was really young," Harrison said. "I was only 7 or 8 at the most when he died. So I remember him barbecuing with that new electric barbecue starter gadget. I remember him making popcorn balls, he was big into doing that."

"And he loved to do that when you were all dressed to go on the airplane back to Baltimore when you had your good clothes on, you'd get that gooey

**Army Chaplaincy Corps
celebrates 238 years
July 29th**



Photo by Amy Guckeen Tolson

Brig. Gen. Ted Harrison, commander of the Expeditionary Contracting Command, reflects on his grandfather retired Lt. Col. Lawrence Fenwick's military service. Fenwick served as a chaplain in WWII.

stuff all over you and I'd just go nuts," Fenwick Harrison added.

Fenwick was treated for his cancer at the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville for a little under a year until his death in 1966. The Navy's care for him made such an impact that Fenwick's wife Rosalie insisted a Navy chaplain perform Fenwick's funeral service at Arlington National Cemetery, where there is a special area designated just for chaplains.

"The chief of chaplains said, 'But Mrs. Fenwick, he was in the Air Force,'" Fenwick Harrison recalled. "But mama said, 'I don't care. I want a Navy chaplain.'"

Years later, when Harrison was assigned to Fort Polk, La., the family ran into that very same chaplain after a local church service. When Harrison brought his mother up to say hello afterward, Fenwick Harrison couldn't take her eyes off the visiting chaplain.

"I started saying, 'Oh my father was a chaplain in the Air Force,' and he said, 'Really? Where is he now?'" Fenwick Harrison recalled. "I said, 'Unfortunately he died of cancer, he's buried at Arlington,' and I just said, off the top of my head, 'A Navy chaplain conducted the service.' And then his

ears perked up and we started putting the pieces together."

The copy of the portrait Harrison has hanging in his office to remember his grandfather by almost never happened. Fenwick had inherited some money from his father and told his wife Rosalie that he would take her on a trip wherever she wanted to go. But what Rosalie really wanted was a portrait painted of her husband.

"He didn't want to do it, but since he said he'd do anything, he had to live up to it," Fenwick Harrison remembered of the painting. "He did the painting and my mother saw it for the first time and said, 'Oh it looks like you put too much color in his face,' and the painter said, 'Have your husband stand next to that picture in the morning after he shaves,' and sure enough his color was exactly the same."

Standing next to it, Harrison bears a remarkable resemblance to his grandfather. Whether or not Fenwick had any impact on his decision to enter the military Harrison is not sure, but he has certainly had fun digging into his grandfather's military career.

"Pops is the only career military that I can think of," Harrison said. "I didn't think that I would make a full career of it, but I enjoyed it, I knew I liked it and I figured I would just see where it led."

Government contracts awarded to Radiance

Huntsville-based Radiance Technologies, headquartered on Wynn Drive, has received two significant government contracts. Radiance will support NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command.

Radiance will begin supporting the Marshall complex through the Engineering Solutions and Prototyping contract, a full and open procurement. Radiance was the only small business selected against large business competitors. ESP is also a win for the community with a potential value of \$350 million over five years. In partnership with Marshall, Radiance will support the design and development of space systems; provide engineering support, rapid prototyping, hardware testing, integration and application of new technology innovations.

While Marshall is a new mission support area for Radiance, they are no stranger supporting SMDC/ARSTRAT having been the incumbent on the pre-

vious SETAC 07 Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contract. Radiance support for SMDC/ARSTRAT will continue under the System Engineering and Technical Assistance Contract 2010. SETAC 2010 is also a large ID/IQ with a ceiling value of \$997 million over the contract's five-year period of performance. SETAC 2010 supports SMDC/ARSTRAT's mission along with other government agencies and strategic partners; advancing research and development efforts, developing missile, air and space technologies; and supporting future defense applications.

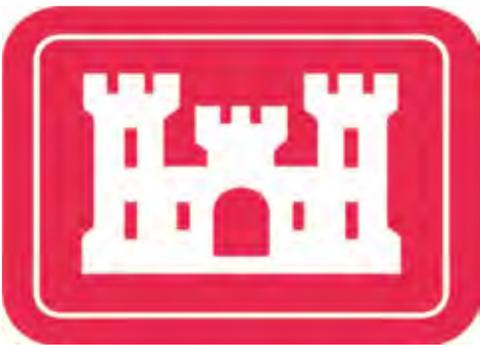
"This is significant as it leverages our prototyping and engineering capabilities, establishes new relationships with Marshall and will be supported by a great team at our new Rapid Production Facility on Governors West outside of Gate 9," Radiance president Bill Bailey said of the ESP award. He also praised his team "for their creativity and hard work in making this possible."

Engineering center awards \$230 million contract

The Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, on July 9 awarded contracts to seven companies to perform design-build work in support of the center's Access Control Points Program.

The \$230 million shared capacity multiple award task order contracts were awarded to Barlovento LLC of Dothan.; Bhate, Brasfield & Gorrie JV LLC of Birmingham.; CH2M HILL of Englewood, Colo.; Innovative Technical Solutions Inc. of Walnut Creek, Calif.; Johnson Controls Building Automation Systems LLC of Huntsville; Zachry Federal Construction Corporation of San Antonio, Texas; and Smith & Wesson Security Solutions Inc., of Franklin, Tenn.

The seven companies represent the unrestricted pool of contractors identified



to compete on future task orders issued under the Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity MATOC for up to five years.

Work to be performed includes construction and renovation of access control points at government facilities around the world, according to a center release.

Security Assistance Command aims for audit readiness

By MICHELLE HARLAN
USASAC Public Affairs

Following a directive from former secretary of defense Leon Panetta, the Army must be "audit ready" by 2014 for the General Fund Statement of Budgetary Resources and by 2017 for all other Army financial statements. The Department of Defense is the only Chief Financial Officer Act agency that has not received a favorable independent audit opinion.

"While the department's systems do tell us where we are spending taxpayer funds, we do not yet have the details and controls necessary to pass an audit," Panetta said in an October 2011 statement to the House Armed Services Committee. "This is inexcusable and must change."

Panetta continued to say, "I have directed the department to cut in half the time it will take to achieve audit readiness for the Statement of Budgetary Resources, so that in 2014 we will have the ability to conduct a full budget audit."

In order to prepare for this task, Maj. Gen. Del Turner, commander of the Security Assistance Command, extended an invitation to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller) to meet

with USASAC for an information sharing meeting between the two agencies July 8-10. The intent of the session was to decrease learning curves on USASAC processes and Army Audit Readiness requirements, develop working relationships and promote teaming within the Army Audit Readiness community.

"Audit Readiness is the Army's effort to ensure we produce timely, relevant and accurate financial information that supports the highest standard of military readiness in order to pass an audit and obtain an unqualified opinion," Allison Warner, government representative for SBR, said.

"An unqualified opinion proves that we are responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars and accountable for all resources funded through those dollars," added Sherry Masters, chief of internal review and audit compliance at USASAC.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the agencies to partner and develop an understanding of each other's policies, practices and expectations in working toward the 2014 SBR Army Audit Readiness deadline set by Panetta.

Chris Borek, USASAC's resource management team lead for the event, led USASAC subject matter experts in briefing OASA (FM&C) on the policies and process-



Photo by Kim Gillespie, USASAC

William Roberts, left, director of the Army General Fund Audit Readiness at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management and Comptroller), and Allison Warner, right, government representative for Statement of Budgetary Resources, meet with Maj. Gen. Del Turner and members of the Security Assistance Command during a visit July 8-10 in order to prepare for Army audit readiness.

es involved in the Army's Foreign Military Sales program. Information on topics such as administrative and case funds, requisitions and Centralized Information System for International Logistics were presented by the USASAC team. In return, OASA (FM&C) provided guidance and clarification on the audit testing criteria from an Army Headquarters perspective.

Warner said her department is tasked to oversee Army audit readiness and evaluate Army financial processes, controls and transactions while addressing identified failures. For example, often standard Army processes do not fit the USASAC FMS program and must be tailored to address those unique circumstances.

"USASAC operates under tailored FMS processes in addition to the traditional Army procedures," Warner said. "We need to adjust Army audit readiness testing to align with USASAC processes."

Warner said the two-day meeting was valuable to understand how FMS works and be able to work together with USASAC to meet audit requirements. During the visit, the teams walked through testing samples and discussed the criteria applied in reviewing transactions. In depth discussions provided a learning environment with all participants taking away lessons learned.

The partnership developed among the two teams allowed the teams to find potential weaknesses in USASAC's processes and find solutions to correct them and be audit ready by 2014.

"The partnering session was a valuable learning experience and a great investment for both OASA (FM&C) and USASAC," Masters said. "Each attendee's participation contributed to the overall success of the session. Obtaining our goal of 'audit ready' is very close to becoming reality."

AMC's Reserve brigade grows footprint of support

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

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A Reserve unit on Redstone Arsenal is looking for a few good Soldiers.

The Army Materiel Command-Army Reserve Element Sustainment Brigade, which provides essential support services to a host of Army Materiel Command programs at Redstone and at other Army Materiel Command installations throughout the U.S., is growing its local footprint with a new headquarters detachment and additions to its Reserve Soldier work force.

"This is a growing brigade with a dynamic mission," said its commander Col. Jody Creekmore. "We are in the process right now of standing up our headquarters detachment and we're anticipating another detachment joining us soon with an additional 71 Soldiers."

Currently, the AMC-ARE Sustainment Brigade includes 196 Reserve Soldiers, supporting AMC units as far west as the Army Field Support Battalion at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; as far east as Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., and Research Development and Engineering Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; as far north as the Tank and Automotive Command at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich.; and as far south as the Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas. The majority of those Reserve Soldiers – roughly 105 – support AMC at Redstone Arsenal.

"We are a unique brigade in that many of our reservists work in the civilian world right here at Redstone and then when they are on Reserve duty they are able to integrate right into their customer unit here in support of AMC," Creekmore said.

"Our reservists are fully integrated into their supported partner organizations. Everybody is considered part of the team. This is a one-of-a-kind brigade in the Army Reserve. There's no other brigade like this."

The brigade's mission is to provide an "enduring, available, trained and deployable Reserve force that is integrated into the Army Materiel Command structure for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the AMC mission."

The part of the brigade supporting AMC at Redstone Arsenal is known as Team South, and involves not only providing support to AMC but also to such subordinate commands and reporting agencies as the Security Assistance Command and Logistics Support Activity.

The brigade's Team North provides support to the Tank and Automotive Command, and Research Development and Engineering Command along with the Joint Munition Command at Rock Island, Ill. The brigade's Team Central provides support to the Communications-Electronics Command and Chemical Materials Agency at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The brigade stood up four years ago and Creekmore, who previously commanded a Reserve brigade in Houston, Texas, took over as its second commander last month.

"I knew this was the right fit for me," he said. "I was already working as a civilian here at Redstone, so this brigade was where I needed to be. I want to keep the brigade moving in the right direction with excellent support to the Army Materiel Command.

"The best part of this assignment is that my Soldiers



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Ensuring Soldier readiness, managing customer support and ensuring all personnel actions are in order are some of the duties of the AMC-ARE Sustainment Brigade headquarters team. That team includes, from left, Lt. Col. Steve Case, commander Col. Jody Creekmore, Lt. Col. Ken Taveres, Maj. Crystal McCarter, Sgt. Maj. Randall Southerland and Col. Dan Arzonico.

are value added. They are not just coming to a drill hall for training on weekends. They come in to work and do a real mission in support of AMC. We are full partners in the mission."

The brigade's new headquarters detachment will soon be located in dedicated office space at the Reserve Center on Patton Road. Currently, the brigade uses shared office space at the center. Its headquarters staff, led by Reserve Sgt. Maj. Randall Southerland, will soon grow to three permanent civilian employees who support the brigade.

"We have a lot of our detachments here so it makes sense to have our headquarters here," Creekmore said. "But these other detachments are just as important, and I have to ensure our Soldiers are taken care of and our customers get the support they need, no matter where they are in the AMC footprint."

While most Reserve units spend a weekend a month and 14 days in the summer fulfilling training and other readiness obligations, the Redstone brigade uses up to 29 days to support actual missions for AMC. Often, weekend duty hours are worked during the week in support of the brigade's customers. Many of its Reserve Soldiers are also Army civilians or support contractors already employed by AMC or one of its support organizations, which makes it easier for them to obtain a leave of absence from their civilian job as needed to transition into their Army Reserve job.

Even its commander manages double duty at Redstone, wearing his civilian uniform when he is working as the lead engineer for operational devices for the UH-60M (Black Hawk Modernized) Training Aides, Devices, Simulators and Simulations Office. When he puts on his Reserve uniform, Creekmore is meeting with the brigade's customers, discussing support issues with his Reserve Soldiers and leading efforts to provide the best Reserve support possible to AMC.

"I try to be the face of the brigade," Creekmore said. "I make sure my Soldiers are supporting all the different aspects of AMC as required by our mission. I am in the first 70 days of my command, and I've started my battlefield circulation. I will visit all the detachments and meet the commanders of all the units. I have met with the leadership at AMC and will continue to reach out to the leadership of the units we support to ensure we are meeting their needs."

Although many of the Reserve Soldiers in the brigade provide support for engineering, logistics and acquisition programs, the brigade can also provide many unique opportunities for Reserve Soldiers of other branches and military occupational specialties.

"We respond to the AMC commander's input into our force structure," Creekmore said. "The structure for each detachment is based on the unique requirement of the organization that detachment supports. We fill positions based on the particular skill sets and ranks required by that part of AMC.

"We are not a cookie cutter brigade by any means. We are a mixture dependent on what the mission is for the organization we support."

Even his Reserve Soldiers are not expected to be "cookie cutter" in terms of their duties.

"I expect them to always be a Soldier first. But then I expect them to integrate themselves into their customer unit and be value added. I want them to actually contribute to the mission," Creekmore said.

Every year, Creekmore is charged with reviewing Reserve support needs with AMC leadership.

"No mission stays the same. Even now, AMC is changing because it is leaving the war fight. Whereas before it was building up the war fight, now it is taking the war fight down," he said. "So the needs for an engineer may change to the needs for a logistician expert. We relook at AMC's needs each year and, if necessary, adjust to changes made by AMC."

And Creekmore said his brigade is always in search of Reserve Soldiers who can grow its mission strength.

"Soldiers who have just left active duty and who want to keep serving their country in uniform and have civilian jobs as well can be part of this brigade," he said. "We are looking for all ranks, all military occupational specialties. As the war fight draws down, we are expecting a lot of active duty Soldiers to leave active duty with the hope of continuing to serve. We can give them the flexibility they want and also keep their skill set in support of the Army."

Creekmore, a West Point graduate with 32 years of active and Reserve duty, sees the brigade and its mission as a win-win for both Reserve Soldiers and AMC.

"I think this is an awesome mission. I've never done anything like this before in the Army," he said. "This is a very interesting and vital brigade that executes a very important mission. It's a national brigade. We can be wherever AMC needs us to be."

Creekmore's leadership team includes Col. Mark Davis at AMC, Col. Mike Kosalko at AMCOM (currently on training with Col. Dan Arzonico serving in his position temporarily), Lt. Col. Ken Taveres at USASAC and Lt. Col. Nathele Anderson at LOGSA.

For more information on joining the Army Materiel Command-Army Reserve Element Sustainment Brigade, call 535-6203 or email randall.r.southerland.mil@mail.mil.

Radar upgrade on horizon for air defense system

By Capt. TAMMY PARKER
Lower Tier Project Office

The Patriot radar is an essential component of the Patriot missile system. The Patriot system was developed in the early 1960s as a replacement for the Hawk air defense platform.

The Patriot system with its organic radar has become one of America's top defensive weapons with multiple upgrades since inception. The Patriot radar is a multifunctional, passive electronically scanned array radar mounted on the M-860 semitrailer, towed by M-983 Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck.

Throughout the years, the Army has strived to keep its Soldiers prepared and safe on the battlefield against all enemy threats. The Patriot system was combat-proven during Desert Storm and most recently, Operation Iraqi Freedom. Patriot is the most advanced ground-based air and missile defense system fielded in the world today.

The next stage of the Patriot radar is called the Radar Digital Processor-Configuration. The RDP-C processes commands from the Engagement Control Station, which controls the radar system timing and processes data received from various radar subsystems. The RDP-C is a major upgrade to the radar set, replacing analog and digital signal processing components with a ruggedized commercial off-the-shelf processor. The new RDP-C increases the reliability of the digital processing system and related analog components 10-fold, resulting in a predicted 40 percent increase in overall radar reliability, availability and maintainability which improves the performance of the Patriot radar. The radar's flexible design will enable future capabilities through software upgrades; including digital side lobe canceling, organic combat identification, improved target detection, multifunction surveillance

and support of advanced PAC-3 Missile Segment Enhancement. MSE enhancements coupled with radar upgrades have provided improved radar system effectiveness by an estimated 50 percent and increased defense against tactical ballistic missile threats.

The Lower Tier Project Office, Ground Support Equipment Product Office, is tracking the efforts of this upgrade to the system along with the prime contractor, Raytheon, to ensure that the RDP-C meets the criteria of cost, schedule and performance attributes. The Preliminary Design Review was successfully held at Raytheon in Tewksbury, Mass., in December 2012, and resulted in LTPO's concurrence to transition into and proceed with detailed analysis and development. The RDP-C Critical Design Review was scheduled during June at the Raytheon Corporation in Massachusetts.

With these enhancements and the next evolution of the Patriot radar migrating to netted sensor, the Patriot system will continue to be the Department of Defense workhorse in missile systems defense, ensuring that our nation, its allies and more importantly the war fighter maintains a strategic battlefield advantage during Full Spectrum Operations. The Patriot system will continue to be vital to our nation's defense now and well into the 22nd century.

Editor's note: Capt. Tammy Parker is the assistant product manager for radar integration at the Lower Tier Project Office under the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.



Patriot radar



Army photo

Raven flight

Spc. Ryan Dickinson, a Multiple Launch Rocket System fire direction specialist with B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Regiment, 41st Fires Brigade, throws a Raven unmanned aircraft system to launch it over Fort Hood, Texas, on June 26. Soldiers from the 41st Fires Brigade spent two weeks learning how to operate the Raven, a hand-launched remote-controlled aircraft used by the Army.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Aaron Duncan

Heroes remembered

Jung, Tae Jo, right, the president of the Seijong chapter of the Korean Military Merit Award Association, and Col. Walter Rugen, the commander of 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, salute during the playing of the national anthems during the eighth annual Gaemi Hill Memorial Ceremony, on July 11 near Jochiwon, South Korea, to honor fallen Soldiers.

Win or Lose

Unmanned & Unafraid delights appreciative fans

Family members relish team's decisive win

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
 Rocket editor
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Families from the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office had plenty to cheer about during their employee appreciation day July 15 at the NASA softball field.

They enjoyed hot dogs, cold drinks and a decisive win by their Unmanned & Unafraid team.

Unmanned & Unafraid beat the Renegades 15-7 to stay atop Division C in the Army/NASA softball league. Unmanned & Unafraid (9-1-1) entered last week in a first-place tie with the FireBalls.

"Great hitting by the top of the lineup," Unmanned & Unafraid coach Doug Wolfe said. "Our top of the order went 13-for-14 with a home run."

Chris Statler went 4-for-4, Joey Pierce 4-for-4, Ben Racoma 3-for-4 and Ty Butler 2-for-2 with two intentional walks. Butler hit a towering home run during the 12-run third inning.

"I think our team was above par," designated hitter Enrique Ramos said. "We got

the synchronization down pat. The lineup was perfect today."

Col. Tim Baxter, the UAS project manager, was the winning pitcher. His wife, Anne, was the catcher. Four daughters, ages 15, 16, 18 and 21, were among the appreciative spectators.

"A lot of fun," Baxter said of the outing. Leaders from his organization chipped in to buy the hot dogs and drinks. It was the office's second employee appreciation day this season; the first was a month ago at the Army's Linton Field.

"We figured we'd give folks a break. Come out and watch some softball," Baxter said. He missed two of the team's games when he was away on temporary duty.

Baxter pitched the first five innings and Racoma was in the circle for the bottom of the sixth.

Pitcher/coach Dan Mullane took the loss for the Renegades (8-4).

"They hit the ball well," Mullane said. "I've got to tip my hat to them. They hit the ball well, and our bats just didn't get it done today. We had a couple of base running mistakes. Honestly we just didn't get it done at the plate."

Mullane, 50, pointed out that his team's average age is 50. "We're just trying to keep playing," he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn
Anne Baxter gets an RBI infield hit during the 12-run third inning for Unmanned & Unafraid, scoring Dave Pollman from third base.

Army/NASA softball league standings

Here are the standings for the 2013 Marshall Athletic Recreational Services Softball Club for week 14:

Division A

	Won	Loss	Tie
Got the Runs/			
WYLE	10	1	0
Hit Circus	7	3	0
Ballistic Bombers	7	3	0
Expendables	7	4	0
Fly Outs	5	5	1
RTC	4	5	2
Rotorheads Too	3	8	0
Kitchen Sinks	2	8	0
SMDC	1	9	1

Division B

	Won	Loss	Tie
TBE Integrators	10	1	1
Spaceballs	8	2	1
CWFC A-Team	8	4	0
Hard Noc Hitters	6	4	1
WYLE Coyotes	5	6	1

Hit to Kill	4	7	0
HNC Dream Team	4	7	0
Outside the Wire	3	7	0
The Interceptors	3	9	0
Boeing Team	0	4	0

Division C

	Won	Loss	Tie
FireBalls	9	1	1
Unmanned/			
Unafraid	9	1	1
Misfits	10	2	0
Starz	10	2	0
Renegades	8	4	0
Rotorheads	6	5	0
2nd Brigade			
Eagles	5	6	0
Hits 'N MITS	5	7	0
Guns 'N Hoses	4	7	1
Mind the Gap	4	7	0
Ice Cold Pitchers	4	8	0
Bit Players	3	8	1
Space Cowboys	1	11	0
EVengers	0	10	0



Photo by Skip Vaughn
Renegades pitcher/coach Dan Mullane makes a delivery while David Sizemore stands on second base for Unmanned & Unafraid.

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START SMART SPORTS FUN FOR PARENT AND CHILD LAUNCHERS READY TO MOVE UP IN SWIM LEAGUE

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Start Smart Sports fun for parent and child

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

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It's summertime, when kids tend to park themselves on the couch in front of a television screen. Parents looking to get their kids up and away from the cartoons will find an ally with the Child, Youth and School Services' Start Smart Sports program.

Held every Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Youth Center, building 3148, Start Smart Sports aims to introduce skills necessary to play organized sports in a fun and non-competitive environment. The program is geared toward children ages 3-7 who are new to sports.

In 2004, CYSS sports and fitness director Mike Gates recognized a need for a preschool sports program and brought the Start Smart Sports program to Redstone. Created by the National Alliance of Youth Sports, the program is utilized by military installations and recreational organizations across the U.S.

For parents looking to mold the next Phil Mickelson, the program is not intended to groom tiny PGA Tour members. It is a parent participation program and is designed for the child to have fun

while learning in a low-pressure environment.

"Don't worry about (the child) doing it perfectly," Gates advised. "We want them to have fun."

"The hardest thing that I try to tell coaches and parents is that if it is not fun, they will not want to do it. It will get more serious as they get older."

"Coach Mike" has an obvious affection for the youngsters, which is enthusiastically returned, even when he makes them run sprints at the beginning of class. Even the warmup is designed to be fun – the kids run, crawl and "crab walk" from one side of the gym to the other.

Currently the Start Smart sport offered is golf, but on Aug. 10, the program will rotate to sports development. Start Smart Sports is a year-round program with a wide range of sports offered. The program is held rain or shine in the Youth Center gymnasium. The upcoming Start Smart Sports schedule includes: Aug. 10 through Sept. 14, sports development (ages 3-5); Sept. 21 through Oct. 26, soccer (ages 3-5); and Nov. 2 through Dec. 14, football (ages 4-7).

For more information about the Start Smart Sports program, call 313-3699 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.



Photo by Katie Davis Skelley

Matthew Martin, 4, works on his swing during golf instruction.



Photo by Katie Davis Skelley

Parents and kids attend the Start Smart golf class at the Youth Center.

Launchers ready to move up in swim league



Photo by Barbara Stokes

Members of the Redstone Launchers take a break during the Rocket City Swim League meet July 13-14 at Brahan Spring Park Natatorium. In the front row, from left, are Riley Groves, John Thomas Stokes, Nicholaus Stokes and Rebekah Hamilton. Looking on behind them are Jessica Cornelius and Jackson Eames.

Redstone's youth swimmers capped a banner year by taking sixth place overall at the Rocket City Swim League meet July 13-14 at Brahan Spring Park Natatorium.

The Launchers won the B League crown within the RCSL. The Launchers and Sherwood were tied 4-1 in their dual meets, but the Launchers took first place on points – 1,501.5 to 1,479.

Here are the final standings for the B League: Launchers (4-1), Sherwood (4-1), Mt. Spring (3-2), Hampton Cove (3-2), Whitesburg (1-4) and Mt. Carmel (0-5).

Winners at the Rocket City Swim League meet included: Riley Groves, 25-yard freestyle and 25 butterfly for boys 8-under; Claire Munster, 50 freestyle and 50 butterfly for girls 15-17; 200 freestyle mixed relay with Derek Santiago, Munster, Ellen Haapoja and Zach Harting; and 200 freestyle relay for girls 15-17 with Haapoja, Zhivon Johnson, Logan Maddox and Munster.

The Launchers will move up to the A League in 2014 for their fourth year.

Redstone's youth swimmers capped a banner year by taking sixth place overall at the Rocket City Swim League meet July 13-14 at Brahan Spring Park Natatorium.

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Sports & Recreation

Benefit walk

The Alabama Chapter of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is holding a "Walk to Defeat ALS" on Aug. 24 at the McMillian Park at HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology. Check in begins at 10 a.m. and the walk begins at 11. Those interested in participating in the walk can register online at www.WalkToDefeatALS.org. There is no cost to attend or to participate in the walk, no registration fees, no admission charges, and no minimum fundraising requirements. Monies raised from the walk will go to provide services to ALS patients and their families in the Alabama communities. The event site is wheelchair-accessible, and participants can walk as long or as short a distance as they choose. For more information about ALS and the walk, call Nancy Colin, executive director, at 519-9030, email walk@ALSAlabama.org or visit www.ALSAlabama.org.

Stars baseball night

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, along with the Huntsville Stars baseball team, will hold its annual "Military Appreciation Night" on Saturday at Joe Davis Stadium. Come out and see the Stars play the Tennessee Smokies. The game starts at 6:43 p.m. All active duty military, Guard and Reserve components are asked to wear their duty uniforms. Complimentary tickets provided by AUSA have been available since July 1 at the One Stop building 3443 for all military ID and CAC card holders. Tickets are distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis; limited four tickets per family.

Babe Ruth baseball

The Huntsville Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the 2013 Fall Season on Aug. 17 and 24 from 9 a.m. to noon; and players ages 12 to 18 as of May 1, 2014, are invited. Registration forms will be accepted after Aug. 24 on an individual basis upon park approval and team availability. A copy of

the player's birth certificate is required for those new to the league. Persons interested in coaching a team are encouraged to apply as well. Registration will be held in the press box at John Hunt Park, just past the tennis center off Airport Road. The Babe Ruth contacts include the following: Southern Division, Sandhurst Park, Tim Harrison, tth3180@bellsouth.net; and Eastern Division, Optimist Park, T. Poe, wyatt.poe@gmail.com.

Rocketman triathlon

The 20th annual Rocketman Triathlon will be held Sunday, Aug. 25, at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. This Olympic-distance triathlon will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a 1,500 meter swim in the Tennessee River, followed by a 40 kilometer bike and 10 kilometer run. More than 500 participants are expected. For more information, visit the website teamrockettri.org/content/races/rocketman-triathlon.

Scholarship golf tourney

The second annual MOAA Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled Sept. 13 at the Links at Redstone. Registration begins at 7 a.m.; and the shotgun start is at 8. This will be a four-person Scramble format.

To sign up, call Brian Osterndorf 527-9380 or John Inman 425-8022. Entry forms are also available at the golf course and The Summit and informational posters are at the Exchange and in Sparkman Center. The fee is \$60 per golfer, which includes range balls, cart, golf and lunch. There will be prizes for the top three teams, the longest drive, and closest to the pin, plus door prizes. All proceeds will be applied to the Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America's Student Scholarship Program. Persons or organizations interested in sponsoring or donating directly to the scholarship program should call Bruce Robinson 450-2252.

Golf benefit

Huntsville Post, Society of American Military Engineers will hold its 27th annual scholarship benefit golf tourney Oct. 3 at Robert Trent Jones Hampton Cove golf course. Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start following at 12:30 p.m. Tournament proceeds support scholarships for local students to pursue degrees in engineering. For more information, call Chip DeShields 800-264-6481 or email chip.desields@ssainc.com.

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Mud/obstacle run

River Bottom Swamp Romp, a five-mile, adventure run through McFarland Park in Florence, will be held Sept. 7. Times are 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in 30-minute intervals. Early registration costs \$40 for individuals, \$35 for teams, which includes a free ticket to that night's University of North Alabama football game. All registrations also include an after party and event T-shirt. To register visit riverbottomswampromp.ticketleap.com.

Golf classic

The 14th annual John Riche Memorial Golf Classic, sponsored by the 100 Black Men of America's Greater Huntsville Chapter, is Aug. 9 at 8 a.m. at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Hampton Cove. The tournament raises monies for academic scholarships and the organization's "Four for the Future" cornerstone programs – Mentoring, Education, Economic Empowerment, and Health and Wellness. Early registration through Aug. 4 is \$125; and late registration is \$150. For more information, call tournament chair Robert Clark 759-6060, co-chair Mirie Westbrook 694-0646 or the 100 BMOA-GHC business office

536-8050. Registration is available at www.100bmoa2013.eventbrite.com.

Run to remember

A Redstone Arsenal chapter of Run to Remember is meeting Saturday mornings to jog together as a living memorial to fallen Soldiers. For meeting locations and times, call Charity Watral 542-1208. Members are encouraged to wear royal blue T-shirts or the Run to Remember T-shirt that can be ordered from www.wearblueruntoremember.org.

Conferences&Meetings**Sergeants major**

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at The Summit. Breakfast is available at the club. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try

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and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For information call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Battle 955-0727.

Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Marva Morse 430-0860. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 4488, room B-306. For information call Claudinette Purifoy 955-9422. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Christian Church, 171 Indian Creek Road. For information call Dan Cutshall 684-2359. The Confidentially Speaking Toastmaster Club 1422738 meets the first and third Thursday at noon at building 4545; potential members must have access to Redstone Arsenal. For in-

formation call Shelton Torbert 313-7134 or Larry Davis 313-7127.

Adjutant general corps

The Rocket City Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association has a monthly meeting every second Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at The Summit. Lunch is available. The AGCRA meetings are open to all military and civilian Human Resources professionals in the commuting area. You can join the Rocket City AGCRA at www.AGCRA.com. For information call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Eugene Roberts 955-6507.

Space society

The Huntsville Alabama L5 Society or HAL5, a local chapter of the National Space Society, August program will be on "From Mars to Moleskins: Writing and Selling Science Fiction, Fantasy and Other Speculative Fiction." HAL5 member Amy Herring shares tips gained from years of writing and marketing science fiction, fantasy and other

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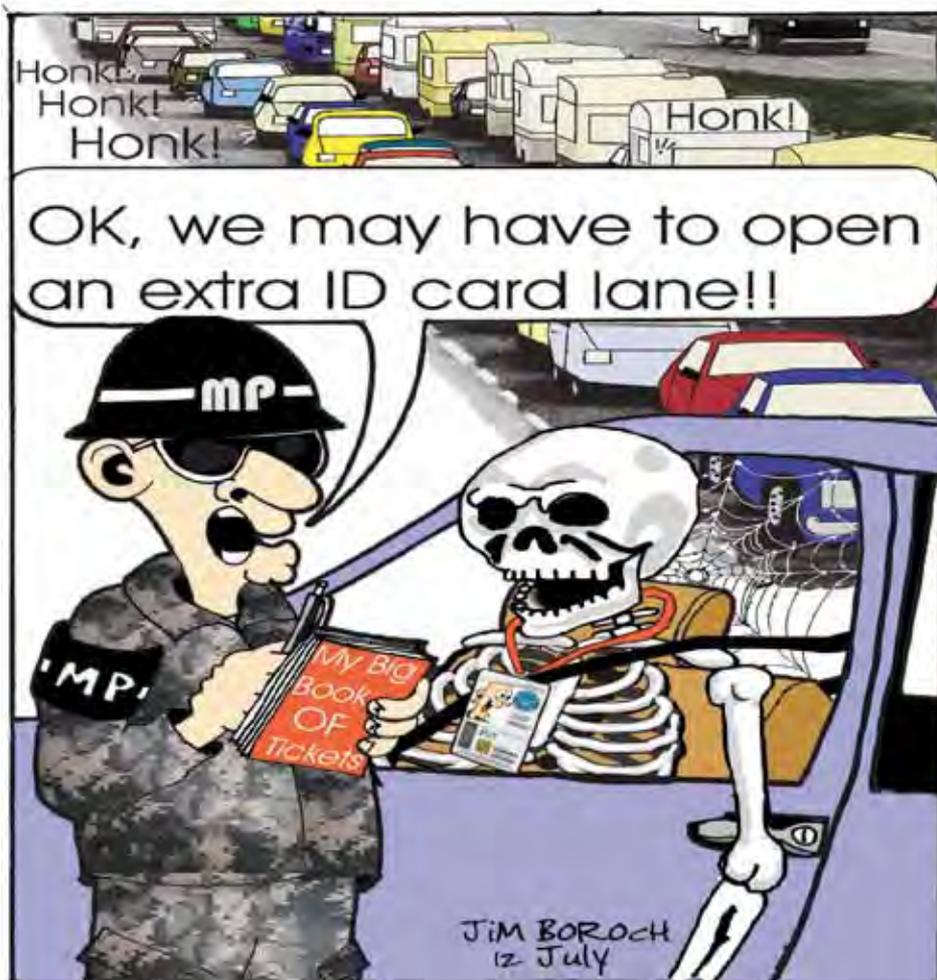


Photo by 1st Lt. Skye Robinson

Deployment sendoff

Lt. Col. Martin Bortolutti, commander 117th Space Battalion, addresses the Soldiers of Army Space Support Team 23 during a departure ceremony at the Colorado National Guard state headquarters June 25. ARSST-23 is deploying for about a year and will provide space-based products and support to units serving in the Southwest Asia area of operations.

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genres of speculative fiction. The talk will take place Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. at the main auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library. A social will follow.

Community women's club

The Redstone Arsenal Community Women's Club will hold its annual Sweet Home Alabama "Super Signup" membership drive Aug. 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit. "This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your organization's programs, activities, community resources or vendor wares," a prepared release said. "Community members are invited to join this event filled with fabulous door prizes, great refreshments, and wealth of community information for everyone. We aim to make this experience exciting and fun for everyone who will join us." Interested organizations should email CWC first vice president Bonita Owens at bowens1227@yahoo.com. For more information, visit rsacwc.org.

Newcomers orientation

The Team Redstone Newcomers and New Employee Orientation for civilian employees, Soldiers and military family members will be held July 30 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at The Summit. Participants will receive training to orient them to federal em-

ployment and the installation, which will include: Garrison deputy commander and CPAC director remarks, Army Community Service, Family and MWR, Fox Army Health Center, Legal/JAG, Security, Management and Employee Relations, American Federation of Government Employees, Classification/Staffing, Benefits, Payroll, Workers Compensation, Training and Work Force Development, Equal Employment Opportunity, Tomorrow's Army Civilian Leaders, and Safety. For more information on how to participate, call Jessie McCray 313-0714 or Mary Breedon 876-5397. To obtain a space in this course, register in TIP by July 30 at <https://tip.redstone.army.mil/>.

Field artillery group

The North Alabama-Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the U.S. Field Artillery Association holds its monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Firehouse Pub. All current and former members as well as those interested in joining the association are welcome to attend. For more information, call Ed Poniatowski 426-8874 or email Skibert@aol.com.

Warrant officers association

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officers Association

holds its monthly meeting the second Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit, in the Loft Room. Come join the meeting and have lunch. For more information, visit www.redstonewarrants.com.

Miscellaneous Items

Fraud hotline

The Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency (USACIDC) has implemented a fraud hotline. It is designed to help you, the taxpayer, to report incidents of suspected fraud involving government contract companies, government employees or government agencies. If you suspect or know someone who either is committing, or has committed any type of fraud against the government on Redstone Arsenal, or surrounding area, report it by calling 876-9457. You do not have to leave your name – all information will remain confidential and anonymous. Please leave enough information so any followup investigation can be completed.

Education test center

Thinking of changing your military occupational specialty or entering a commissioning program and need to take an Army Personnel Testing examination? If so, call the Army Education Center Testing Office 876-9764. Tests offered include the Armed

Forces Classification Test, Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and the Defense Language Aptitude Battery test. If you speak a language and want it annotated on your records, call and make an appointment to take the Defense Language Proficiency Test. All Soldiers and qualified DA civilians are eligible to take the DLPT. In addition to APT exams, the Education Center offers the ACT, SAT, Test of Adult Basic Education and GT Improvement exams. If you are taking college classes and need a proctor, proctoring services are free and available to the Redstone Arsenal community (military/government ID card holders). Call 876-9764 to see if you are eligible to test and to schedule an appointment.

Senior volunteers

Madison County Retired & Senior Volunteer program is partnered with various nonprofit organizations in Huntsville and Madison County that utilize volunteers. R.S.V.P. recruits, places and trains individuals who are 55 or older to fill community service needs. For more information about R.S.V.P. or volunteer opportunities, call R.S.V.P. director Kay Vest 382-0924 or email rsvp.dir@seniorview.com.

Library news

The Post Library will undergo renovations from Aug. 3 through approximately Oct. 15. During this

Photo by Sofia Bledsoe, PEO Aviation

Change of charter

Lt. Col. Bradley Bruce, left, accepts the colors from Col. Thomas Todd, Utility Helicopters Project Manager, during a UH-60M Black Hawk Product Office change of charter ceremony July 16 at Bob Jones Auditorium. Bruce assumed responsibility as product manager from Lt. Col. Billy Jackson, right, who will assume a new position at the Pentagon. As the new product manager, Bruce will oversee the UH-60M fielding of the next three combat aviation brigades.



time the building will not be open to the public. The project involves an upgrade to the total lighting system which includes a replacement of the ceiling grid. For updates on the library go to www.redstonemwr.com, click on Recreation, and then click on Library. The staff, relocated to another building, may be reached at 876-4741.

NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by state of Alabama, and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-1774.

Re-entry information

Just back from an overseas assignment and new to the Redstone Arsenal community? Feeling like a stranger in your own homeland? Contact the Relocation Readiness Program, Army Community Service, for a re-entry briefing to learn about community programs and services. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden, relocation readiness program manager, 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil.

Lending closet

The lending closet is stocked with basic household items to use before your household goods arrive or after you have been packed for your new assignment. Items may be borrowed for 30 days. ID cards and a copy of your PCS orders are required. All newly assigned/attached military personnel, appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian personnel, contractors and spouses, as well as retirees are welcome to call Mary Breeden 876-5397 or email mary.breeden@conus.army.mil. Stop by Army Community Service from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Computer classes

Free self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, QuickBooks and SharePoint. Each class has about three levels and will take about three hours to complete each, but you can work at your own pace. Certificates of completion are issued after you successfully complete each course. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Fraud prevention

Every year, criminals find sneaky new ways to steal billions of dollars from our nation's Medicare Trust Fund. One of the most effective scams is to call a beneficiary claim-

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ing to be from Medicare and then request personal information in order to send out new cards. Seniors and beneficiaries should know that Medicare is not giving out new cards, and does not make cold calls. People can stop these criminals in their tracks by simply hanging up, and never give out any information over the phone. If you have been a victim, report it to your Senior Medicare Patrol at 716-2458.

Youth awareness event

The third annual Community Awareness for Youth will be held Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the Jaycees building off Airport Road. CAFY promotes awareness through its four pillars for success: health, careers, education and finances. For more information or to help sponsor this event, call Dr. Harry Hobbs, communications relations officer for the Huntsville Police Department, at 427-7043 or 425-5307. Visit the website at www.cafyhuntsville.com/.

Redstone Thrift Shop

The Redstone Thrift Shop has started putting out its holiday items, so visit and check out its seasonal room. "We have a lot of good items and clothing to choose from," a prepared release said. Tips for Troops is look-

ing for donations of personal items and dental supplies for Soldiers. The shop is looking for an outside storage shed or a metal storage container (almost like a pod) to store some of its items. If you would like to donate one or have one that's reasonably priced, call Sheila or Julie 881-6992. If you can get onto Redstone Arsenal, you can shop there and bring a friend. You can consign if you are a contractor, civilian employee, NASA employee or have any type of recognized badge/card, active or retired. If you are interested in consigning, stop by and pick up a packet. The shop goes by color coded tickets and changes them weekly. It also has bargain racks with clothes ranging from 25 cents and up. Business hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday 9-5 and the first Saturday of the month 10-2. If you cannot make it during those times, call management 881-6992 and they will work with you. Consignment hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9-11:45 a.m. unless otherwise stated on the No-List. Call the No-List 881-6915 Mondays after 3 p.m. to see what they are not taking for that week. Donations are welcome anytime. After hours, leave them in the gray box under the pavilion.

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Courtesy photo

Achievement commendation

Capt. Mark Anderson, commander, A Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, presents Staff Sgt. John Mitchell an Army Achievement Medal for achieving the Senior Wideband Controller position, as well as an Army Commendation Medal before Mitchell leaves the company, during a ceremony June 7 at the company's location at Fort Detrick, Md.



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Summer reading program

The Summer Reading Program, presented by the Post Library along with Child Youth and School Services, runs through Aug. 1. Children may pick up program materials from the library on Redeye Road or from Barbara Williams at Parent Central Services and count pages they read throughout the summer. Readers will receive credit for bonus pages each time they visit the library and check out items. The library will hand out weekly incentive items to all children participating in the program, while supplies last. To be entered for CYSS awards, log sheets must be turned in to the library by Aug. 1, and CYSS will hold an awards reception Aug. 8. This free program is open to all people with access to Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call the library 876-4741.

Drum corps show

Alabama A&M University will hold a Drum Corps International Event on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Louis Crews Stadium on the A&M campus. It is part of a series of 100 national marching band events that are part of the annual Drum Corps International Tour involving performers ages 14 to 22. The event will feature performing ensembles competing against each other through music, visual formations and choreography. The Army Materiel Command Band's jazz band will perform the national anthem. And the evening's drum corps performances will include the Troopers of Casper, Wyo., whose members dress in the uniforms of the 11th Ohio Cavalry that protected supply trains in the 19th century. Event tickets are \$35 reserved seating, \$25 general admission and \$20 groups of 20 or more. Tickets are available at www.dci.org/tickets.

Quartet available

The Redstone Rocketeers Quartet is available for your next party or civic event. For more information, call 998-0757.

Change of charter

The program executive officer for missiles and space will conduct the Lower Tier Project Office change of charter ceremony today at 2 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. Col. John Eggert will assume responsibility as the LTPO project manager from Darryl Colvin. Eggert recently graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In his prior assignment, he served as the military assistant to the undersecretary of the Army. He has also served as an assistant product manager and an Army systems coordinator for the Patriot/PAC-3 programs.

Breakfast trolley tours

Enjoy a light breakfast and coffee aboard a 1920s vintage-inspired trolley bus while touring downtown Huntsville and the Twickenham historic district. Tours leave from Alabama Constitution Village, 109 Gates Ave., at 10 a.m. on Saturdays in July and August. Narrated by historic interpreters, you'll hear stories about people and places from Huntsville's past. Tickets are \$15 and available with credit card by calling 535-6564 Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Seats may also be purchased by visiting the Confectionary Shop during business hours. For more information, call 535-6564.

Staff judge advocate office

Due to the mandatory furlough of civilian employees, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate is closed Fridays throughout the furlough. Its hours are Monday through Thursday

from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed from noon-1). The office will return to normal operating hours when the furlough ends.

Lifelong learning event

Lifelong learning at the University of Alabama-Huntsville is celebrating its 20th anniversary by launching a Speaker's Series with Dr. Michael Goldfarb, a Ph.D. graduate of MIT. His notable advances in robotics are finding solutions for amputees and others with physical disabilities. He will speak in UAH's Wilson Hall on Aug. 15 at 4 p.m. with a reception following. For more information on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH, call 824-6183 or visit the website PCS.uah.edu/OLLI. OLLI membership is \$15 per year and non-members are invited to join on Aug. 15 to hear this dynamic speaker.

PTSD program

Dr. David Ferguson of Fox Army Health Center will be the featured speaker at a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Discussion presented by the Veterans Upward Bound program of the North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence on July 31 at 11:30 a.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. Ferguson, a psychologist and chief of the Behavioral Health Department at Fox, will discuss the signs and symptoms of PTSD, and the federal and local resources for those suffering from PTSD. For more information, call Linda Blankenship or Mattavia Burks 372-4600, Karlton Stephens 233-5909 or email karlton.stephens@amu.edu.

Vegas night

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. will hold "Vegas Night" on Aug. 2 from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the Omega Center, 181 Import Circle. Cost is \$25 in advance, \$35 at the door. Proceeds benefit the scholarship foundation and Harris Home for Children. For more information, call Rick Suttle 655-6769 or Gerald Vines 682-1071.

Help for heroes

Holiday Help for Heroes is a nonprofit, charitable organization dedicated to helping lower ranking military personnel, not only during the holiday season but all yearlong serving the Tennessee Valley. All donations are for servicemembers E-5 and below. HH4H accepts household item and cash donations; and all donations are tax deductible. The group will accept aluminum cans which will be recycled to raise funds for organizational operations. Call Lori (585) 350-5182 or Angela (678) 672-8733. For information visit the website holidayhelpforheroes.com.

[idayhelpforheroes.com](http://holidayhelpforheroes.com).

Tango for adults

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, under its program "Dancing Like the Stars," is offering course number 4 of 5 Tango, six Thursdays from Aug. 15 through Sept. 19 from 8-9 p.m. at Pagano Gym. The Tango is a romantic Latin dance that is enjoyed on dance floors all over the world and is known as "the dance of love." Tuition is \$66 per couple. No experience necessary. This course is also available as a five-week, \$55 course (by eliminating the first class only) for those who have taken this course previously at Redstone. Deadline for registration is Aug. 14. You may register by calling 876-4531 or by visiting the ITR Ticket Office inside the Community Welcome Center, building 3443 on Honest John Road. Class size is limited to 25 couples. Instructors are Mary Jo Blount and Vince Guarin.

Art project benefit

The Painted Bra Art Project is intended to increase awareness about breast cancer while creating a nurturing support system, with the help of artists around the world. Painting parties in August include the following: 6 p.m. Aug. 8 at Creative Canvas, Somerset Apartments, 121 Continental Drive in Madison, cost \$35, phone 497-5934 ... 2 p.m. Aug. 17 at Hooters, 4730 University Drive, donations accepted ... 11:30 a.m. Aug. 24 at Art & Soul Gallery, 5732 U.S. 431 South, Brownsboro, cost \$35, phone 245-270-7363 ... 6 p.m. Aug. 29 at Straight to Ale Brewery, 3200 Leeman Ferry Road, donations accepted.

Ride wanted

Human resources specialist Curtis Tucker and his guide dog need a ride to and from work. He lives in Whitesburg Estates, Huntsville; and he works in building 3458 on Aerobee Road. His hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with furlough Friday. Call 842-9289 or email curtis.a.tucker8.civ@mail.mil.

Party bus trip

McCloud Entertainment and Eventblack.com present the "Old Skool Summer Fest Party Bus Trip" on Aug. 10 to the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater. The concert lineup includes Bell Biv DeVoe, Doug E Fresh, Rob Base and DJ EZ Rock, and Salt-n-Pepa. The ticket includes transportation and ticket to the show. The bus departs at 3 p.m. and returns immediately after the show. For more information, call 693-2004 or visit www.eventblack.com.