

# Redstone Rocket

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## Family focus



Heart transplant tops little girl's wish list

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Gingerbread house earns \$2,000 prize

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## Win or lose



Delta Company wins flag football final

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## Honoree won't use disability as crutch

Don Gardner of Precision Fires recognized by local community

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
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Don Gardner suffered his first broken bone when he was only a few weeks old, an unfortunate side effect of the bone disease Osteogenesis Imperfecta. Since then, he's had about 25 major fractures, not counting broken ribs, but like the Energizer bunny, he just keeps going and going and going.

"He had a big setback in January when he broke his hip," Steve Mitchell, Gardner's boss at the Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, said. "Most people would have just left the job but not Don. Instead of giving up, he wanted to keep working so we set him up with the capabilities to work from home.

"He did all the daily activities, everything we were doing here," Mitchell said. "He worked late hours and just kept going. He never missed a lick. It was incredible and everyone knew it."

Such admiration led Mitchell to nominate Gardner for an employee of the year award presented by the Huntsville Area Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities which is affiliated with the Alabama Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**ON THE GO**— Don Gardner, an industrial engineer at Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office, was named Employee of the Year by the Huntsville Area Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities at a luncheon Oct. 1.

Gardner was one of five to receive the award at a luncheon at the Huntsville Hilton Oct. 1.

"It was very encouraging that the people I work with would nominate me — to have the respect of my co-workers," Gardner

said. "It makes you feel like maybe you're doing something right. But it's also humbling. There are a lot of people who deserve awards but just don't fall into a

See Honoree on page 9

## Combined Federal Campaign tops last year's outpouring



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**OH MY GOSH**— Gay Money, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee, reacts to her caricature presented by loaned executive Bob Salinas of Logistics Support Activity during the Combined Federal Campaign awards ceremony Dec. 3. The watercolor was by Jack Carter of LOGSA.

## Organizations thanked for fund-raising efforts

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen knew that last year's Combined Federal Campaign would be tough to top.

"Last year was an incredible year for CFC," said Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and chairman of the Tennessee Valley campaign. "In the aftermath of 9/11, our whole nation was caught up in the spirit of giving."

But the area's federal workers came through again. They contributed \$1,828,018 as of Dec. 2, exceeding last year's total by \$877 and this year's

\$1.6 million goal. Collections continue until Dec. 31.

"This year we have exceeded the incredible year we had last year," Dodgen said at the CFC awards ceremony Dec. 3 in Bob Jones Auditorium.

Organizations and individuals received awards for their fund-raising efforts. Gay Money again served as chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee.

"We have had another wonderful year thanks to all of you and all of your people," she told the audience.

Jim Flinn, deputy to the commanding general, delivered a final prayer. "Lord, we thank you for the blessings of resources because we had the opportunity to give to those less fortunate from the bounty you have provided to us," he said.

## Firemen, police are son's heroes

This is a very overdue thank you that I owe to the Fire Department on Vincent and Rideout Road and the Provost Marshal Office. My son, Joey, turned 4 this past September, and wanted a Rescue Hero birthday party. I contacted the fire station on Rideout Road and they donated many goodies for the children attending my son's party. On the day of Joey's party my husband called the Provost Marshal Office to see if he could get a patrol to come to our house and talk a little about safety and allow the children the opportunity to see inside a police vehicle. Officer Mackk arrived with lights on and sirens going, the children were so excited to see a real "rescue hero." Soon after the officers arrival, we heard the sound of more sirens and a loud horn; up came the fire truck from Vincent Road. The fireman

approached my son and presented him with a bright yellow Hot Wheels fire truck as a gift. Not only did the fireman and woman get down on the children's level, but they squirted the fire cannon and took the children for a ride in the truck around the block. That night my son was so excited about meeting real "rescue heroes," he went to bed with the same smile on his face that he had worn all day.

So here is my way overdue thank you to the fire station on Rideout and Vincent Road and to the Provost Marshal Office and especially Officer Mackk. You are all true heroes! Thank you for what you do everyday, not just on my son's special day — you are all extraordinary men and women! Thank you very much.

Tracy Silvia

## Caring community responds for soldiers

The Community Projects Committee of the American Society of Military Comptrollers wants to thank everyone for their efforts in our committee's project in collecting items for the care packages to our local soldiers in Afghanistan. Several people were instrumental in notifying people of our need, collecting, sorting and boxing donated items, helping load several cars and vans of donated items, taking boxes

to the post office plus collecting money to help with the shipping of more than 100 boxes. As chairperson of the Community Projects Committee, I wanted to thank everyone for their efforts during this great undertaking.

**Theresa McBride**  
ASMC chairperson,  
Community Projects Committee  
Redstone/Huntsville Chapter

## Army Family Team Building Day set

On Dec. 16, 1998, the chief of staff of the Army and sergeant major of the Army proclaimed Dec. 16 as "Army Family Team Building Day" at a Pentagon ceremony. The purpose of

Army Family Team Building Day is to celebrate AFTB success and recognize the dedication and achievements of the

See Family on page 3

## An open lane random survey

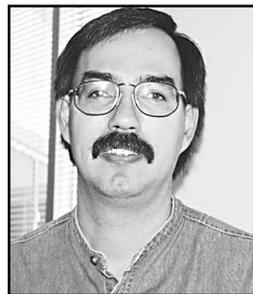
Are you spending more or less on your holiday shopping this year?

By **KELLEY LANE**  
Staff writer  
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



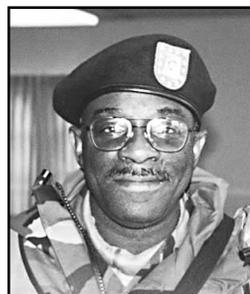
**Jan Pickard, supply system analyst**

"I'll probably be spending the same as I normally do. Well, probably."



**Kevin Rodrigues, supply system analyst**

"Well, my wife does the spending and I'm sure she's spending at least as much as she did last year if not more."



**Sgt. Robert Stubbs**

"I'll spend about the same — not worried about the economy at all."



**Sgt. John Maynard**

"Probably less. I'll be a little more conservative in the selection of the items that I'll be purchasing."

## Condolences to fallen Screaming Eagles

Two soldiers from the A Company, 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Cpl. Jason Fisher, 27, and PFC Joseph Favorito III, 20, were

killed when they were run over by a 63-ton, M-1 Abrams tank while participating in urban assault exercises at the

See Condolences on page 12

## Rocket rumblings: Your holiday wishes?

What would you like for Christmas? "I could remember being a kid and during Christmas time having my list already ready for Santa next to some cookies and milk waiting while he brought my gifts I waited all year for," **PFC Emilia Ortiz** of Charlie Company wrote. "But it wasn't until 1993 when I knew that things would never be the same from that year or any holiday season, because it was earlier that year that I lost my mother at the age of 38.

"Now nine years later I've come to terms with her being gone and know that she would've wanted me to continue being joyful during this time of year. So with time I've learned to enjoy the holiday season. So this Christmas all I want is

to hope and pray that our country stays strong and always free, so we can continue to appreciate our loved ones and this life we live.

"Tomorrow isn't promised to us, so every day should feel like Christmas in our hearts. I will always hope that the traditional theme of Christmas always will be a factor in a child's life, so that Santa never goes a year without enjoying the smiles of all who grew up waiting for him to arrive to their homes.

"Happy holidays to the soldiers all over the world!"

Respond to this month's "Rocket rumblings" question, in 50 words or less, by fax 955-9138 or e-mail: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil.

## Redstone Rocket has holiday break

The Redstone Rocket staff will celebrate the holidays by taking a two-week break Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. After the Dec.

18 publication, our first issue next year is Jan. 8. We hope you enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

## Redstone Rocket

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# Ex-public affairs officer remembered for sound advice

David G. Harris dies  
after lengthy illness

By SKIP VAUGHN  
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The job of an Army spokesman can be like a juggling act — a struggle between the duty to tell all and the need to keep some information under wraps. Dave Harris always found the proper balance.

Harris, the longtime Redstone Arsenal chief of public affairs who retired in 1995, was known for his openness and honesty. He was trusted by military and civilian leaders, the work force, members of the press and the local community.

Harris died the night of Dec. 4 in Huntsville after a lengthy illness. He was 72. Survivors include his wife, Nancy, three children and five grandchildren.

"He was the sergeant major's friend and sounding board," Bob Whiteford, who served as the then-MICOM command sergeant major from 1985-87, said. "My marching orders on Redstone Arsenal when I got here was to develop relationships with the local community and you couldn't do that without Dave. He was just a tremendous friend, a tremendous guy to work with. I had nothing but respect and admiration for the guy."

## 'To me I'd always thought of Dave as Mister Redstone.'

— Retired Brig. Gen. Bill Fiorentino

"I tell you, what a guy," added Whiteford, the program manager for base support contractor Northrop Grumman Corporation. "I worked for three commanders here. I know they trusted Dave. You couldn't get anything done on post unless you ran it by Dave first. That's the kind of influence he had and the kind of trust he had by his commanders."

"It's an absolute loss, a major loss to those that had worked with him," retired Maj. Gen. George Turmeyer,



Courtesy photo

**VOICE SILENCED— Dave Harris, longtime spokesman for Redstone Arsenal who retired in 1995, died Dec. 4.**

the MICOM commander from 1975-77, said. "I found that he was absolutely honest and dependable, that everything he touched was total professional. I had total confidence in the man and trusted him completely."

Steve Hettinger, who works for contractor Science Applications International Corporation, served as Huntsville mayor from 1988-96. "Particularly while mayor I worked with Dave on many, many issues of importance to the city and Redstone Arsenal," he said. "And Dave was a person from whom you could always get sound and wise advice. He very quietly provided leadership in many areas that greatly influenced the development of Huntsville."

"To me I'd always thought of Dave as Mister Redstone," said retired Brig. Gen. Bill Fiorentino, who knew Harris for 25 years and was a close friend. "Because not only was Dave the voice of Redstone Arsenal but to me he was the conscience of Redstone."

Retired Lt. Gen. Jim Link, the president of Teledyne Brown Engineering, commanded Redstone from June

1994 to July 1997. He had previous tours here from 1986-89 and 1991-93. "As the commanding general particularly, I realized very quickly Dave was a go-to guy in that Dave had the ability to give sound advice," he said. "He could take bad news and make sure it didn't become really bad news and had a way of shielding me from things that could turn into a bad situation."

"He'll be greatly missed and was truly the best I'd ever served with in that field," Link said.

"He was a fantastic guy, he really was," said Charles Ray, who knew Harris since the 1960s and retired in December 2001 as the command's equal employment opportunity officer since 1971. "He was a fantastic individual and a tremendous negotiator, a tremendous guy and very human personality once he understood where you were trying to go and how you were going to get there. He was one of the guys I would like to have work with me on any endeavor."

David Gordon Harris was born Oct. 18, 1930, in Dover, N.J., and graduated from Dover public schools. He attended Columbia College, New York City, on a Navy scholarship, and received a bachelor's degree in liberal arts in June 1952. He received a master's degree in journalism from Columbia in 1956. He served in the Navy from 1952-56.

Harris worked three years as a general assignment reporter and bureau chief for the Morris County Daily Record in Morristown, N.J., before joining the Army Ballistic Missile Agency at Redstone in July 1959 where he prepared classified picture film reports. In July 1960, he became news chief of the Army Ordnance Missile Command's Public Information Office and became information officer, later public affairs officer, of the Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal in September 1962. He retired in December 1995. He was a devoted family man and avid fly fisherman.

"I always wanted to be on the varsity but my mom and dad had seen too many torn up knees. So my friends played football and got to date the cheerleaders," Harris wrote in part in a farewell article in the Redstone Rocket published Dec. 13, 1995. "I came to Redstone to work for the Army in 1959 convinced I finally had my chance. I was right. The first team at last."

## ■ Army program managed by volunteers

### Family

continued from page 2

many volunteer trainers that have contributed countless hours to the program and trained thousands of family members Armywide. AFTB's positive impact is

felt throughout America's Army, both active and Reserve.

Designed to be run and managed by Army volunteers, AFTB is a family training and readiness program that provides participants with an understanding of Army culture, as well as the skills and resources they need to become self-

reliant and self-sufficient members of the military community. Enrollment in the program is based on experience as an Army family member, not on the rank of the sponsor. Family members can enter the training program when and where they desire. Call Army Community Service at 876-5397 for more information.

The Redstone Arsenal AFTB staff will be out in force Dec. 16. The staff will be helping the Enlisted Spouses Club with

their annual holiday gift-wrapping fundraiser at the AAFES Mall (outside the Post Exchange). Take this opportunity to learn more about the program and meet the dedicated volunteers who make it happen — and have a gift wrapped, for a good cause, at the same time. Come help us celebrate AFTB!

**Chris Swart**  
AFTB marketing chairperson

# Aviation workers volunteer for enduring freedom

*Army civilians, contractors say they just did their job*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
 Rocket editor  
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Snapshots from the trip were shown on the big video screen as rock music played in the background. "Congratulations to these heroes for a job well done," read the final slide.

The award ceremony Dec. 2 at Bob Jones Auditorium was for the eight team members from Aviation Systems Project Management Office who went to Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom and the aviation troops. Their trip was Oct. 22 to Nov. 12.

"I'm very, very pleased to be here today and very proud of this gang of eight folks," Maj. Gen. Joe Bergantz, program executive officer for aviation, said after presenting the awards.

He presented Superior Civilian Service Awards to Arlie Keister, Art Medellin, Christopher Paulillo and Barry Solomon; and certificates to contractors John Conyers, Ismael Flores, Rock McLaughlin and Charlie Rinebold. Keister, Paulillo, Solomon, McLaughlin and Rinebold were from the Product Manager for Aviation Mission Equipment; and Medellin, Conyers and Flores represent-

ed the Product Manager for Air Traffic Control Systems.

The trip resulted from an operational needs statement initiated by Central Command. The support team members endured "an austere and sometimes hostile environment," according to the award citations.

"Like being in the desert," Solomon, an engineer in aviation mission equipment, said of the conditions. "Conditions are OK in the base camp. I think they feed the soldiers good. It got a little cold at night, hot during the day.

"I'm not a hero," he said. "I just felt like it was a capability that they needed. I mean there's an operational needs statement by CENTCOM that they need a Blue Force Tracking Capability and that's what we provided."

Rinebold, who works for ARINC Engineering Services, agreed. "It's the job, it's in a day's work," he said.

McLaughlin also works for ARINC Engineering Services, Conyers for Computer Sciences Corporation and Flores for General Dynamics Decision Systems.

Capt. Stephen Smith and Spec. Clinton Williams, both from Fort Bragg, N.C., were also members of the support team. "We couldn't have succeeded over there without them," said Rinebold, who works at Fort Monmouth, N.J., like Paulillo and McLaughlin.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**HOME AGAIN**— Sharing their Afghanistan experiences are, from left, Rock McLaughlin, Christopher Paulillo, Arlie Keister and Charlie Rinebold. They were deployed Oct. 22 through Nov. 12 to support Operation Enduring Freedom and the aviation troops.

## High school students earn presidential scholarships

Two youngsters in the Redstone community have received the Boys and Girls Club Presidential Freedom Scholarship in recognition of their outstanding service.

Yolanda McDonald and Russell Rawson received a certificate and letter of recognition from President Bush, and the President's Student Service Award gold pin. They will receive a \$1,000 scholarship check to the college of their choice.

Rawson, a senior at Marion Military Institute, belongs to Boy Scout Troop 340 in Huntsville and Troop 1842 in Marion. He has almost finished the requirements for Eagle Scout rank. His other interests include computers and railroads. The son

of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rawson, he plans to attend Marion Military Institute next year and eventually earn advanced degrees in electrical engineering from Auburn.

McDonald, a junior at Lee High School, would like to attend the University of North Carolina. Her hobbies include talking on the telephone, dancing, skating, basketball, track and keeping her nephews under control. She is involved in the school band, volleyball team, basketball team and the honor roll. The daughter of retired SFC James E. McDonald, she belongs to the Junior Civitans, Beta Club and the Youth Council at Redstone Youth Services.



Courtesy photo

**RUSSELL RAWSON**



Courtesy photo

**YOLANDA McDONALD**

# Retiring general officer returning to native Italy

*Lt. Gen. Franco Parisi served NATO agency*

By PAM ROGERS  
For the Rocket

Lt. Gen. Franco Parisi is finishing his assignment as general manager of the NATO Medium Extended Air Defense System Management Agency and returning to his native Italy.

As the head of the only NATO agency on American soil, Parisi has overseen for the past three years the development of the joint American-German-Italian effort to provide a mobile, transportable air and missile defense system for defense of maneuver forces and other civilian and military assets.

Since Parisi took the helm of NAMEADSMA in January 2000, the agency has progressed from project definition efforts to the current mission of executing a \$216 million risk reduction contract, intended to generate reliable information regarding system performance, program risks, and life cycle costs to serve as a basis for decisions on proceeding to the Design and Development phase of the program.

During Parisi's tenure as general manager, NAMEADSMA also successfully defended itself against a protest lodged by MEADS Inc., in response to the selection of MEADS International as the contractor for the MEADS system. The successful defense of the protest validated the source selection process that was used and ensured that it could be used as a model for future multinational source selections.

Parisi is no stranger to this type of business, having served on the steering committees for several international programs before becoming head of NAMEADSMA. This will be his last multinational program, however, since he intends to retire when his tour here ends later this month. And as much as he looks forward to returning to Italy and his children and one grandchild, he said he will miss Huntsville.

"I have enjoyed these three years. This is a great country in every respect. The people here are very friendly, courteous and supportive," he said, adding that he believes the openness of people in Huntsville may be indicative of Southern manners.

Parisi noted that NAMEADSMA was still in its fledgling stage when he arrived in 2000.

"The program was not so established then and we did have some problems," he said.

The main mission of the agency, as Parisi sees it, is to take all procurement practices of each country involved in the program and use the best from each in developing the international system. It's an involved process, but one that has worked because the players all work well together.

"Cooperation has been very high," he said, because he has good people who are team players.

Parisi said that although he will be happy to get back to his children in Rome, he and his wife, Antonalia, will miss Alabama.

"I have mixed feelings about going back (to Italy). It will be very sad to leave this country and our friends. On the other side, we will rejoin our two daughters and granddaughter."



Courtesy photo

Lt. Gen. FRANCO PARISI

# National Guardsmen on target during lively weapons training

*Soldiers get used to shooting from Humvees on the move*

By **KELLEY LANE**  
Staff writer  
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The soldiers of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 131st Armor stand ready at Redstone's gates to ensure security. Now they are more ready than ever.

From Nov. 18-22, they conducted live fire training at Shields Range. The exercise was designed to enhance preparedness and increase confidence of the soldiers in their ability to handle the machine guns.

The first day was spent in familiarization with the weapons. Only one day was spent in machine gun training at Fort Rucker when they were mobilized, so getting better acquainted with the machine guns was essential. By the end of the day all were comfortable with the basics, with safety being a priority.

"Of course it was a live fire event, just to make them even more confident that they know what they are doing with the weapon systems and again, give all of the leaders and the commanders all the way up to Colonel Devlin and General Dodgen the heads up that we know what we are doing with our machine guns," Capt. Zach VanDyke, Alpha Company commander, said. The 10 crews consisting of four soldiers apiece took to Humvees mounted with M249 and M60 machine guns in order to familiarize themselves with the task of firing accurately from a moving vehicle.

"We need to make sure that the machine gunner has confidence in their skills and we as commanders

know that these soldiers are certified and know what they are doing when they have to fire off the top of the Humvee," VanDyke said. The experience was new for the soldiers. "As tankers, we have a nice computerized thermal sight. All we have to do is zero the thing," VanDyke said. "When you actually get on top of a vehicle and you're standing out there in the open air, leaning on a machine gun and shooting it while the vehicle is hitting bumps, there is no stabilization and no precision sights. It's a lot more challenging."

The experience was also designed to tighten crew interactions. The gunner must perform his duty in synchronization with the three other soldiers in the vehicle. The driver must maintain course and keep consistent speed so that the vehicle is as stable as possible, while avoiding bumps, holes and obstacles in the road and possibly giving chase. The vehicle commander must maintain communication, call in reports and direct both the driver and gunner. A second gunner stands by to add suppressing fire when necessary. In an environment that is loud and fast paced, being able to work together efficiently is crucial.

All soldiers met top standards during the weeklong training. Further training is planned for either May or June with the exercises becoming more challenging. Simulated civilian and non-threat targets will be added so that soldiers must not only strive to hit their target but also select it from various possibilities. The changes will be designed to mirror real life situations and possibilities at Redstone. The scenarios promise to be more difficult but confidence is high. "They've already done it once, if we up the bar they should be able to take that hurdle, too," VanDyke said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## *Deck the halls*

Systems analysts Kym Brown, standing, and Cindy Easter trim the Christmas tree at the DOIM help desk at Sparkman Center building 5301.

# Little girl wishes for Christmas gift of life



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**HEART TO HEART**— Carmen Guzman snuggles on the couch with her daughter, Jassmine, 11, who was put on the national organ donor transplant list in August. Jassmine's father, George Guzman, is former military and now works as a supply technician at Fox Army Health Center.

## Jassmine Guzman requires heart transplant to survive

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer

sandy@attimes.com

Eleven-year-old Jassmine Guzman has a long Christmas wish list, most of it having to do with Barbie — the travel train, the micro bus, the video camera, the sparkling ice show. But the one thing she hopes for most of all can't be purchased at a Toys 'R Us or delivered in Santa's sleigh.

"I need a new heart," she said. "There's something wrong with mine. I get tummy aches and headaches and real dizzy sometimes. And sometimes it just starts pounding really, really fast," she said, tapping her slim fingers lightly on her chest. "It hurts when that happens."

In August, after two severe episodes of irregular heart rhythms, each stressing the body and weakening the heart muscle, Jassmine was put on the national donor list for a heart transplant.

"We've gotten two calls for possible matches already," Carmen Guzman, her mother, said. "When the first call came, we weren't ready at all. We didn't have anything packed. They called back an hour later and said it wasn't a match. After that first call, we keep our bags packed and in the trunk of the car so we're ready to go at any minute."

That's the way this family lives, moment to moment. They don't go out of town on vacation. They don't go anywhere they can't be reached immediately by phone. They don't make plans a week in advance. They survive on the hope that today is the day the call will come

"Every time the phone rings, I check the caller ID," George Guzman, Jassmine's father, said. Guzman spent four of his 13 years active Army stationed at Redstone, from 1987-92. He switched to the Reserves in 1996, moved back to Redstone and works as a supply technician at Fox Army Health Center.

"I enjoy playing sports but I don't do that much anymore because I don't want to be out of touch when the call comes," he said.

Even when a producer from the Oprah Winfrey show called last week, Carmen was quick to tell them that she can't guarantee any certain date because when the call comes, they're gone. "We'd love to meet Oprah and be on the show but you are going to have to come here. We can't come to you."

Winfrey became interested in Jassmine's story after receiving a thank you note sent by Carmen to her sister-in-law in New Jersey who had done some fundraising for the family.

"My sister-in-law put the thank you letter up for people to see and these two women read it and broke out in tears. They sent it to the show and that's how Oprah found out. I don't know if it will really happen or not."

Jassmine was born with a congenital heart defect. She had reconstructive heart surgery at four days old, the first of more than eight operations and procedures to keep her heart pumping and assist with the body's blood flow. A pacemaker put in four years ago was replaced last year with a newer, more advanced model which allows her to be closer to microwaves and cell phones that are in use.

"We've had to be very careful with

See Heart on page 11

## Honoree

continued from page 1

special category to get them.”

But special is not how Gardner, an industrial engineer in the precision fires office, describes himself or the life he's lived.

A native Alabamian, he grew up in Huntsville mostly, but his parents moved to Auburn when he was a freshman in high school. He went on to graduate from Auburn University in 1981 and moved back to Huntsville to work for Proctor and Gamble. He was there six months before coming to work in research and development at the Missile Command.

Most of his 20 years at Redstone were spent working with the Bat submunition through its various offices to the current precision fires project office.

“I work in earned value management,” Gardner, the 1995 Department of Army employee of the year with a disability, said. “I monitor contractors' progress on contracts vs. the money spent. Primarily research and development contracts but it applies to anything not a firm, fixed contract.”

Until the broken hip in January, Gardner traversed office halls and shopping malls using a walker. Because of the nature and severity of the injury, he was confined to his home for about five months. His parents, Don and Renee, came up from Auburn to help him during his recovery.

Normally a broken hip is treated with surgery and steel pins but that wasn't an option for Gardner who already has a steel rod in his leg that prevented the use of pins. The doctors worried that if Gardner tried to drive his van to work and maneuver in and out of it, he would dislocate the joint causing more pain and damage.

When he was physically able to return to the office, he purchased a scooter to travel longer distances such as going from building to building for meetings and down the long hallways. He still uses his walker for short trips.

“He's never let his disability get in the way,” Mitchell said. “He never complains or makes excuses. He never tries to use it as a crutch. He's more dependable and professional than many people without disabilities.”

Gardner doesn't consider his physical challenges any greater or lesser than the next person's.

“In some ways it's easier with a physical disability,” Gardner said. “If a person is going through a rough time because of the death of a loved one or a difficult divorce or some other problem, people can't see their pain, the chal-

lenges they are facing and trying to overcome. I guess if you're going to have a disability, it's better to have one people can see and understand.”

Being more dependent on a scooter has enlightened Gardner about some handicap issues such as parking, heavy doors and curb ramps to get onto the sidewalks.

“I'm not complaining. Building codes have come a long way for handicap access,” Gardner said. “But playing the ‘If I were king for a day’ game, I'd make every architect, builder, planner, any person who designs buildings, spend a week or two in a wheelchair. Not just for a few hours but all the time, like some people have to do, so they would get a better perspective of what it's like. I'm glad we have the codes we do but some of them are not always the best option. It might help them see a way to do it better.”

Automatic doors for building entrances are commonplace now but most restrooms still have the heavy self-closing doors that make it difficult for people in wheelchairs to open.

“It took a little while, but they installed a power door opener for the bathroom in my building (5250) and it's great,” Gardner said.

Gardner is also having a few custom features built into his new condominium under construction in Madison. He sold his house in October and is living with a friend until his new home is finished, hopefully by February.

“I thought a condo would be the way to go because I don't have all the yard work to do and because I could get one on the ground floor without the steps. My house had steps because it was built on a crawl space.”

A lot has changed in his life in the last year but the one thing that keeps him grounded are his kids. Gardner has coached baseball and basketball for 12 years, and served as little league president for both at McGucken Park.

He is the director of the Upward basketball program at his church, Mayfield Church of Christ, and the season is about to begin.

“(As a coach) I've never had a problem with kids or parents because of my size,” Gardner said. “I think my advantage with the kids is that we see eye to eye. I think they like having someone their size.”

Gardner said his physical challenges are no better or worse than anyone else's.

“They are just different,” he said. “You have to find a route that works. Sometimes you need a little help. Sometimes you have to find a different way to get there. That's all.”

# Bowling event a class project for youth in community

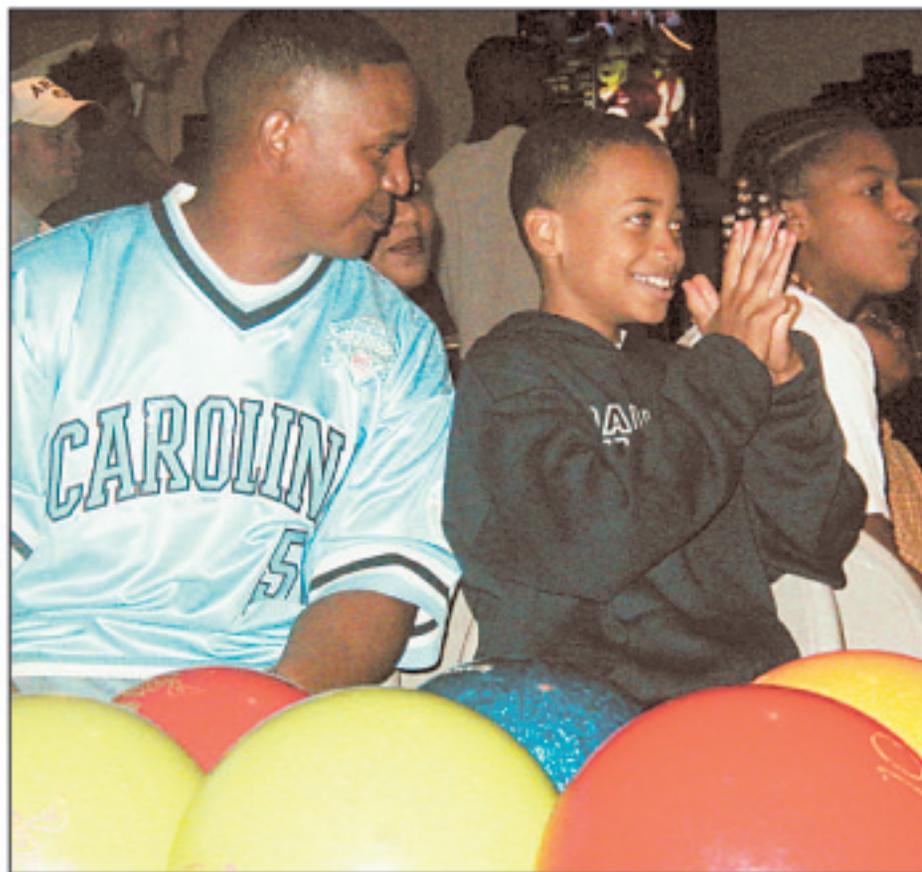


Photo by Spec. Evan Morrow

**SETUP FOR SUCCESS**— SSgt. Tirso McCoy and Wesley Holmes discuss the finer points of knocking down pins and obstacles in life during the Big Brother/Big Sister bowling event Nov. 23.

## Advanced NCO students spare time for youngsters

By Spec. EVAN MORROW

Staff writer

evan.morrow@omemc.redstone.army.mil

The 14 students of the Advanced NCO Course class number 1-35-C42-003-03 chose a class project to benefit local youngsters.

The class teamed up with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, North Alabama Chapter and case manager Kee-tra Rice to hold a party Nov. 23 for more than 15 youngsters awaiting placement with a mentor for the new term.

The North Alabama program covers Marshall, Madison and Jackson counties. Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America is a non-profit organization that seeks to match children in the community with competent volunteers who can provide positive advice and guidance for children ages 5 to 13.

SSgt. Tirso McCoy knew about the program because his wife, Latosha, was a big sister.

"She was the one who suggested it to the class as a worthwhile project," said McCoy who has completed the orientation process and will be a big brother in January.

ANCOC teaches noncommissioned officers the skills they need to be leaders at higher levels of command. The emphasis on leadership, being a role model and mentoring younger soldiers is expected to produce leaders who do positive things in their units and communities. Many members of the class have experience raising children and giving them the guidance they need.

The event at Redstone Lanes was a chance for sergeants to pass on knowledge, not just about bowling but about life. The fun atmosphere kept the children involved and attentive to what the sergeants had to say.

"We do a lot of things with our sponsor," Cory Green, 11, said. "This has been a lot of fun but going skating was just a little bit more fun."

Maybe next term a class project like this can catch up to the skating event.

## Garrison command sergeant major takes note of concerned shopper

A funny thing happened to a senior enlisted soldier while shopping the other day.

CSM Lawrence Rogers, the Garrison command sergeant major, parked in front of the Commissary Nov. 27 in a space reserved for his rank and sergeants major. When he returned to his vehicle, someone

had left a note saying that space was for CSMs or sergeants major and not anyone else. In fact Rogers' vehicle sticker identifies his rank.

Rogers has this message for the anonymous note writer, "In due respect, I am a sergeant major. Thank you for your concern."

# Heart

continued from page 8

her," Carmen said. "She can't walk very far. A trip to the mailbox is exhausting. We can't put her in daycare because her immune system is not as strong as it should be. Any little germ floating in the air, she'll get. A cold will put her in the hospital because of the way it stresses the heart."

Because both her parents work, Jassmine spends a lot of time with her grandmother, Luisa Carver, who also works part time at the Post Exchange. Jassmine is home-schooled to minimize exposure to possible health risks. A city school teacher comes to her grandmother's home a few hours a day, four days a week.

"I love my grandma and bepa," Jassmine said. "I call him Bepa because when I was little I couldn't say grandfather. When I get my new heart, Grandma is coming with us. She's going to make me her special soup to help me get better fast."

Until this year, Jassmine's life has been a sort of choreographed dance between doctor's visits, surgeries, medicines and self-care that has enabled her to lead a full life but when her heart rhythm changed unexpectedly during a visit with George's parent in Puerto Rico, so did the dance.

"We talked to her doctor about going and flying on a plane and he OK'd the trip," Carmen said. "About four days

after we got there, she got very sick — some kind of virus in the air — and we had to come home."

"That really scared me," George said about the emergency return trip from Puerto Rico. "We had oxygen on the plane but we had to drive from Atlanta (where the plane landed) to Huntsville without it. She had a fever of 102. She wasn't looking that great. We drove straight to Huntsville Hospital. She ended up having to go to Birmingham where her cardiologist is."

A second episode in August, this time Jassmine's heart began beating wildly for no apparent reason, sent her back to Birmingham for a weeklong hospital stay. She was put on Pacerone, a medicine to keep her heart rhythm normal, which is working well but the side effects complicate her life.

Because of the medicine, she can't be in direct sunlight which meant no beaches, swimming, picnics this summer. Just the heat stresses her body. But the medicine keeps her from going into an irregular heartbeat. It's the only thing left to do for her until she gets a new heart.

And when the family, including Jassmine's brother Michael, 19, a senior at the University of Alabama, talks about Jassmine, it's always "when" never "if" she gets a new heart. They are convinced by their faith in God and each other that a new heart is on the way.

"I thought on Sunday we would get a call today," Jassmine said. "But if not today then sometime this week, I think."

When the day does arrive and the family does race off in their already packed car, mother-in-law included, there will be joy, expectancy and hope as well as the weight of reality. Carmen and George have to give up their jobs, their paychecks, for at least three months, maybe longer, to stay in Birmingham with Jassmine during her recovery. That means double living expenses and no income.

"People have been really great about having fund-raisers and helping us build a savings we can use after the surgery," Carmen said, referring to the dozens of bake sales, car washes, benefits, concerts and donation gathering on their behalf. "It comes from people we don't even know, wanting to do something because they've heard about Jassmine."

It's also happening here at Redstone. Tamara (Mullins) Williams, who works in the Military Personnel Office, saw Jassmine's poster hanging up at her Reserve unit office and brought it to work.

"I e-mailed all my friends, everybody I could think of, and asked them to give up buying lunch for two days and donate that \$10 for Jassmine," Williams said. "Quite a few people did. My hairdresser surprised me with a \$100 donation. Then I went to the gym and asked the guys I play basketball with to give \$10."

Williams made an initial deposit of about \$750 at Union Planters bank where an account is set up to receive "Donations for Jassmine Guzman." She's made two more deposits of several hundred dollars since then.

"I didn't even know who Tamara was," George said. "I'd never met her.

She just went around out of the goodness of her heart and began collecting donations. It was amazing. It shocked me that someone I don't know just went out and did that. But I'm seeing a lot of people helping now. It's incredible the way people can reach out to strangers and I'm so grateful to everyone for all the help. We're really going to need that money when the time comes. It's a lot to worry about, having to take care of two households, up here and down there, without any income."

Some days are harder for the family than others and Carmen admits to having weak moments when she just needs to take a few minutes for herself, listen to a gospel song on the radio and regain the peace she says comes from believing God will meet their need.

"I get my strength from God and from her," Carmen said. "If she can tell me she's going to get her heart — that God's going to give her a heart — I can be strong."

The family is not without understanding from where Jassmine's new heart will come. It must be from another child. It must be a gift of life given in the midst of a tragedy. Carmen gets tearful at the thought of another mother losing her child — a fear she understands well and faces with every new day.

"People need to be informed on the importance of organ donation," Carmen said. "It is something good that can come from such pain. It can be a gift of life."

For more information about making a donation or sponsoring a benefit, call Carmen at 772-9304.

# Units gain 20 soldiers

Twenty soldiers, including four officers, arrived for duty during November.

The Personnel and Training Directorate provided the following list:

Capt. Scott Micklewright, MSIC; Lt. Col. Darryl Colvin, PEO Tactical Missiles; CWO 4 Scott Gruenke, AMCOM; Lt. Col. Robert Stevens, AMCOM; SSgt. Lonnie Hausler, Headquarters & Alpha; SSgt. Eric Fletcher, Delta Company; SSgt. Neal Nowak, MSIC; SSgt. John Clem, Headquarters & Alpha Company; SSgt. Jose Figueror, Delta Company;

SSgt. Clifford Ferrell, Delta Company; Sgt. Carmen Herron, Delta Company; SFC Christopher Fludd, Delta Company; Spec. Samuels Rodgers, HHC 59th; SFC Tony Shivers, AMCOM; Spec. Janeze Allison, 832nd Ordnance Battalion; SFC Derrick Whittington, 832nd Ordnance Battalion; SSgt. Timothy Fughett, Headquarters & Alpha Company; SSgt. Robert Sterling, Headquarters & Alpha Company; SSgt. Jean Mulcahy, Delta Company; and SSgt. Keith Willard, AMCOM.

## LOGSA recognizes departing officers

The Logistics Support Activity recognized two departing officers Nov. 26 for exceptional service as logistics operations officers.

Lt. Col. Ralph Cobb and Lt. Col. Thomas Epperson were commended by Col. Kurt Weidenthal, activity commander, for exceptional service in establishing and

operating the LOGSA Emergency Operations Center in support of Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom that operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cobb and Epperson completed their assignments with the LOGSA Transformation and Readiness Office as individual mobilization augmentees.

### ■ Training accident claims two lives

## Condolences

continued from page 2

Army's Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., on Nov. 14.

Soldiers and family members gathered on a chilly Friday morning, Nov. 22 (coincidentally the anniversary of the death of former President John F. Kennedy) at the Soldiers' Chapel at Fort Campbell, Ky., to mourn the deaths of two 101st Airborne Division infantrymen. Fisher and Favorito were part of the Rakkasan (a Japanese word for paratrooper) Brigade (more than 2,000 soldiers) that had deployed to

Afghanistan earlier for six months and fought tenaciously, selflessly and bravely against terrorism in one of the toughest environments in which U.S. forces have found themselves; and all of the Rakkasans made it back alive to Fort Campbell.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Let there be light

Children help flip the switch at the Christmas tree lighting ceremony Thursday in front of Bicentennial Chapel.

It was hard to find a great and dedicated soldier. It was even harder to lose them, especially to a training accident. Yet as the only civilian standing abreast with members of the 187th Infantry Regiment, and other aviation and support units at the back of the packed Soldiers Chapel during the memorial service, I could not help but feel a sense of pride, honor and optimism for all those American heroes (Afghan war veterans) despite the sad and solemn occasion, as all of them, like Fisher and Favorito, have answered President Kennedy's call: "Ask not what your country can do for you,

ask what you can do for your country."

I salute to Fisher and Favorito for their dedicated service and ultimate sacrifice in the defense and common interests of our country. Fisher entered the Army in September 1998 and is survived by a wife, Tara, and stepson Christopher Seely of Clarksville, Tenn.; and another brother who serves with the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. Favorito entered the Army a year ago and is survived by his father, Joseph P. Favorito, of Green Bay, Wis. I request you to join me to send in cards of condolence to the honorable Fisher and Favorito families to help them ease their pain at this difficult time: Tara Fisher, 439 Cranklen Circle, Clarksville, Tenn., 37042; and the Favorito family, 1116 Jaymar St., Green Bay, Wis., 54313.

John Yim

# Redstone rules out running on major roadways

*Provost marshal office committed to safety*

## PROVOST MARSHAL RELEASE

The Provost Marshal Office periodically revisits policies or regulations pertinent to the safety of all who reside and work on the installation. Recently several incidents of running/jogging violations on Redstone Arsenal have occurred.

Redstone Arsenal's daytime employee population is in excess of 30,000 personnel. Add to this the large amount of new construction ongoing and the additional contractor presence and the result is an enormous number of vehicles entering and exiting Redstone Arsenal daily. The large amount of traffic only adds to the already congested roadways experienced on the installation prior to all of the new construction. The Provost Marshal Office is committed to providing a safe place for not only the joggers, but for vehicle traffic as well. We direct your attention the following regulatory requirements for running/jogging/walking and bicycling on Redstone Arsenal:

In accordance with AMCOM Regulation 210-2, Appendix B, Traffic Regulations, marching, running and jogging are not authorized on any roadway with a speed limit greater than 25 mph. The only exception to this prohibition will be a formally pre-approved "sponsored event."

The regulation also states that:

- All persons running or jogging are responsible for their personal safety and for selecting a safe place to run or jog, i.e. jogging paths, sidewalks or athletic field/track.

- Where a sidewalk is provided, individuals walking, running or jogging will do so on the sidewalk, not the roadway.

- Where a sidewalk is not available, the individual will walk run or jog only on a shoulder of the roadway as far as practicable from the edge of the roadway.

- Where a sidewalk is not available, individuals will walk run or jog as near as practicable to the outside edge of the roadway and only on the left side of the roadway, facing any oncoming traffic. During periods of low visibility (dusk, fog, rain, etc.) or darkness, these persons will wear reflective devices (i.e. reflective vests, armbands or belts).

- Individuals will not wear radio headphones while walking, running, jogging or riding bicycles.

- Individuals walking, running or jogging will yield the right-of-way to all vehicular traffic except as otherwise provided in Alabama Motor Vehicle Laws (32-5A-211: Pedestrian's Right-of-way in Crosswalks).

Marshall Space Flight Center has authorized jogging on specified Test Areas in their area of control. However, this is limited to test areas where there is a security officer to control access and authorizing only joggers who have a spe-

cial test area badge and received safety training for that area.

Violations of AMCOM Regulation 210-2 will result in violators being cited for non compliance by issuance of an Armed Forces Traffic Citation with penal-

ties up to and including restriction from jogging on Redstone Arsenal.

Help us to help you maintain a safe environment for everyone on Redstone Arsenal, whether you are a runner, bicyclist or motorist – obey the rules.



Courtesy photo

## Certified contractor

MFC-Orlando has received a new Contractor Performance Certification flag based on an annual review by the Aviation and Missile Command and the Defense Contract Management Agency. The company has held this recognition since April 1990. From left are Tom Simmonds, MFC director; Tony Hodgens, associate director of AMCOM Engineering Directorate; Michael Wynne, principal deputy under secretary of defense; Stan Arthur, president of MFC-Orlando; Lt. Col. Norbert Doyle, Orlando DCMA commander; Capt. Michael Gordon of Orlando DCMA; and Charles Upshaw, AMCOM Engineering Directorate auditor.

# PX worker built best little gingerbread house

Magazine contest winner takes home \$2,000 prize

By JIM BOWNE  
For the Rocket

Last year about this time, Sheila Burhart was thumbing through the December 2001 issue of *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

She noticed an article about previous winners of the magazine's Gingerbread Contest. The contest wasn't about coming up with a new recipe for gingerbread or baking a better tasting one. It was about building a house — an award-winning gingerbread house.

"I looked at the photos of what the previous winners had done, and I thought to myself, 'I can do that,'" Burhart said. "I really didn't have much to do during the winter months, so I decided to give it a try."

She ended up winning.

The contest rules were pretty much open with no previous criteria, according to Burhart. The only caveat was that the person had to design the house, construct it, decorate it, and submit a photo by March 2002.

"I really didn't think I had any chance of winning," Burhart said. "I was secretly hoping for an honorable mention, though,



Photo by Jim Bowne

**COOKING UP A WINNER—** Sheila Burhart shows how she won this year's *Good Housekeeping* Gingerbread House Contest.

because it was worth \$250."

Over the next three months, except when she was at her job, Burhart worked on her creation. She's a learning facilitator with the Post Exchange.

"I never really had tried anything like this, before," she said. "As it turned out, it was a major undertaking. Of course, I did-

n't work on it full time. But I got tired of it near the end of the three months. But I figured I had gone too far to quit. I already had invested so much time, not to mention the \$50 I had spent on the ingredients."

Her first objective was to design the various units of her house. Next she cut out the patterns she had drawn on white poster board and used her patterns to cut the dough. "I used an exacto knife so the units would be really precise," she said.

Burhart used a large piece of foam core as the slab on which she built her house. "I cut a hole in the center of the foam core, put a night light inside, and let the cord dangle down through the hole. Then I built the house around it. That way, I would have a house that would be all lit up."

Next, she said, came the really hard part. After having completed all the gingerbread panels for her house, she still had to build it up by using other ingredients, which she would have to glue on the cake.

"The house was about 30-by-24 inches and two stories high," Burhart said. "And according to the contest rules, every bit of the house itself had to be made from food stuffs. So, I used a wide variety to make all the details."

The details included such things as the tin roof (no-boil lasagna noodles); the foundation and chimney stones (pecan shells); logs (pretzels); the porch roof

(pecan half-shells); the dogs, roof, window units, and sign (gingerbread); chimney flues (peanut butter cups); and the weather vane and evergreens (dried seaweed). Melted butterscotch hard candies served as glass for the windows.

"Of course, I had to make the glue to hold all these pieces together," Burhart said. "I made what is called 'royal icing,' which works nicely. It's made from confectioner's sugar, egg white powder, and water. You can mix it, color it, pipe it, and mold it. It gets hard and shiny when it dries. It's what I used it to make the snow and garlands."

Not everything went smoothly, however. "I remember that after I had finished making the trees and snow," Burhart said, "I got up one morning and noticed that my cats had eaten a good portion of the trees and had left their paw prints all over the snow. So I had to redo those items a couple of times."

After completing her "Cedarmoon Lodge," as she called her creation, Burhart had her brother photograph it. She sent both the photo and the original entry form in by the deadline.

The magazine called Burhart in August and told her she had won first prize. Her reaction? "I thought that \$2,000 was a pretty good return on my \$50 investment," she said.

# Quick cash, title loans can be big money mistake

Try to make budget,  
check out options  
before signing

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
sandyri@hltimes.com

It's tempting, especially this time of year when money is tight and the gift list is long, to turn to one of those check cashing places or title pawn companies to get a little extra cash to get you through the holidays.

"Don't do it," Ann Owens, Financial Readiness program manager at Army Community Service, said, emphatically warning all those drawn in by the lure of a quick fix. "It will cost you more than you ever dreamed."

Owens offers the wisdom learned from soldiers, retirees and family members who have gone that route and are now paying dearly.

"We've seen an increase, Kristi Foster, the Army Emergency Relief officer, and myself, of people who go to these places, get in debt and then never seem to pay it off. An example: One family member wrote a personal check for \$300 for them (a local check cashing business) to hold. The fee is \$67 every 10 days until they pick up that check," she said.

These types of businesses all have different rules but generally work in the

same way. For check cashing or payday advances, a person writes a check for the amount of cash needed. The company gives them the cash and holds the check. They charge either a flat fee or a percentage (25 percent is common) of the loaned amount, for an increment of time — a week, 10 days, two weeks or monthly. If the person cannot come up with the entire amount of the check plus the interest, the check stays in hock and more interest or fees are added.

A widow came to Owens after first borrowing from a title pawn company. She borrowed \$300 and is paying \$75 in interest monthly.

Title pawn companies work much like check cashing but you have to give the company the title and a set of keys to your car at the time of the transaction. Some title pawns, unlike check cashing, will let you pay down the principal in increments as long as you pay the interest payment for the month first.

Rarely does either type of service enforce a close date; as long as the person continues to pay the interest, the loan will stay in effect. Which means a person could pay \$900 in interest fees for a \$300 loan in a year's time and still not pay off the loan.

"People get into this thinking, 'Oh, I can handle the \$300. I'll have that next month.' But you really can't or you

See Loans on page 17



Graphic by Sandy Riebeling  
**WARNING SIGNS—** Check cashing and title pawn companies can end up costing consumers dearly.

# Civil Air Patrol squadron here marks record year for awards

## *Cadet promotions, honors presented*

By Maj. ARNOLD STATON  
*Civil Air Patrol*

The staff and officers of the Redstone Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, honored several cadets at a recent awards dinner held at the Greenbrier Restaurant in Madison.

Maj. Arnold Staton, deputy commander for cadets, and Cadet Maj. Kyle Unger, cadet commander, presented the following cadet promotions:

- Cadet Senior Airman Benjamin Goodly to cadet staff sergeant;
- Cadet SSgt. David Morganroth to cadet technical sergeant;
- Cadet Senior MSgt. Mathew Hulsey to cadet chief master sergeant;
- Cadet Chief MSgts. Amanda Rice and Nicholas Simmons to cadet second lieutenant;
- Cadet 2nd Lts. Nathan Noel and Andrew Johnson to cadet first lieutenant;
- Cadet 1st Lts. Christine Bloom and Patrick Waller to cadet captain.

Lt. Col. Larry Becker, Redstone Composite Squadron commander, presented the Civil Air Patrol Red Service Award to Cadets William Curtis, Cameron Bourgoin, Michael Barron Jr., Nicholas Simon and Erik Olsen.

The Red Service Award is presented to a member of Civil Air Patrol who has given a minimum of two years service. Col. John Tilton, Alabama Wing commander, presented four cadets with program milestone awards. Cadet Christine Bloom and Cadet Patrick Waller received the Amelia Earhart Award, Cadet Amanda Rice and Cadet Nicholas Simmons received the first milestone award, the General Billy Mitchell Award.

Air Force Maj. Terry Roop presented the Air Force Association's Outstanding Cadet Officer Award to Bloom. Hulsey received the Air Force Sergeant's Association's Outstanding Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer Award.

Morganroth and Bourgoin were named

the Squadron's Outstanding Cadet Non-Commissioned Officers. Hulsey was named the Squadron's Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year.

Noel and Barron were named the Squadron's Outstanding Cadet Officers. Waller was named the Squadron's Cadet Officer of the Year; and Bloom was named the Squadron's Cadet of the Year.

Waller has received a four-year Air Force ROTC scholarship. He plans to attend the University of Alabama, and aspires to be an Air Force aviator.

This has been a record year for cadet awards for Redstone Composite Squadron with eight Mitchell Awards, and three Earhart Awards. The national average is that only 15 percent of all cadets nationwide receive the Mitchell Award and even fewer receive the Earhart. This year 24 percent of Redstone cadets received the Mitchell Award, and 9 percent received the Earhart Award, nearly double the national average.

Civil Air Patrol is the official Air Force Auxiliary. There are 322 cadets statewide. Cadets receive instruction in aerospace education, leadership, physical fitness, teamwork, search and rescue, and ethics. The Redstone Composite Squadron's Cadet Program meets every Tuesday night at the squadron's headquarters next to the Redstone Flying Activity at the airfield. CAP has been recognized for more than 61 years as one of the finest youth programs in the United States. Ten percent of Air Force Academy cadets are former Civil Air Patrol cadets.

CAP is a civilian, volunteer, nonprofit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs.

For more information about Civil Air Patrol or the Redstone Composite Squadron visit the web site at <http://www.alwg.cap.gov/rsa> or call 1-800-FLY-2338.

## Army enters agreement for aviation technology

UAH RELEASE

The Aviation and Missile Command has selected the University of Alabama in Huntsville to create an academic and research program for rotorcraft development.

The Rotorcraft Systems Engineering and Simulation Center will contribute to America's capability for rotorcraft design and development.

"This Cooperative Agreement represents another major step forward in cementing the future of Army aviation in the Huntsville area and the development of the Aviation Corridor of Excellence," Dr. William McCorkle, director of the Research Development and Engineering Center, said. "In addition, it builds upon a long and productive relationship between the Army and the University of Alabama in Huntsville. This

agreement will allow us to gain access to additional talented and experienced members of our academic and industrial partners to resolve technical issues and develop modern aviation systems. I look to this relationship to develop the scientists and engineers that will be the future work force that carries forward the tradition of excellence and total support to the men and women who depend on our country."

"This center will focus resources on improving rotorcraft development across very broad lines," Jorge Aunon, UAH's dean of engineering, said. "This agreement with the Army will help develop rotorcraft engineering expertise, improve system and aircraft reliability, reduce costs and increase safety of rotorcraft, both in the commercial sectors as well as for the Department of Defense."

UAH has a number of academic offerings and research contracts involving rotorcraft systems. However, in order to provide the full breadth of engineering

expertise, UAH has gathered a premier team of university and corporate partners. The academic institutions include Georgia Tech, Tuskegee University and the University of Tennessee Space Institute. Corporations involved in this initiative include Quality Research Inc., Teledyne Brown Engineering and Honeywell.

"UAH and its partners are committed to developing a world-class, university-sponsored advanced engineering environment, consisting of advanced educational, computational, communication and networking processes that will provide applications on rotorcraft systems," UAH president Frank Franz said.

UAH professor and eminent scholar Dr. Alan Wilhite will serve as director of the new center. Wilhite has extensive management and systems engineering experience, leading NASA's Independent Program Assessment Office, which was responsible for the evaluation of the systems engineering, project management

for all of NASA's programs. He also created and managed the Systems Management Office at NASA-Langley.

UAH will also coordinate the curriculum and research plans, oversee execution of the center and provide periodic reports and reviews for AMCOM.

The RSESC will be integrated with the university's Laboratory for Systems Engineering, Analysis and Modeling, which Wilhite created after arriving at the university in 2001. He will also implement distance learning capabilities to the other academic partners from the campus.

The university will also develop a formal graduate program in Rotorcraft Systems Engineering and Simulation, the only one of its kind in the United States. That program will result in a master's of science degree engineering with a specialization in rotorcraft systems engineering and simulation. This program will enhance the university's current academic programs in mechanical engineering and industrial systems engineering.

## Easy money leads to hard lesson for debtors

### Loans

continued from page 15

wouldn't be in the situation in the first place," Owens said. "People don't realize that it's a business. They're not there to help you, they exist to make money and they are making lots of it. Let's face it, we wouldn't have that many check cashing places and title loans unless they were making money. They're all over Huntsville."

Owens does offer a few suggestions for people feeling the money crunch.

"First, come here," she said. "Let's look at your bills, make a budget, see if there are things that can be cut back to help you meet your bills without getting into financial trouble."

And for military card holders, if an expense is an emergency covering a basic need, Army Emergency Relief can usually help — things such as rent, food, utilities, car repairs, insurance and travel in the case of illness or death of a family member.

"But we can't pay off a loan at one of these companies," Foster said. "You need to come to us first and see how we can

help you. We can give you some options. Even people who don't have a military ID, we have a list of agencies downtown that you can contact for yourself to get help — churches, Red Cross, veterans organizations."

"The message here is that there is no quick fix," Owens said. "If you're in financial trouble, it took you time to get there and it will take time to get out of it but you can do it and without using one of these companies."

Owens encourages everyone to make a budget and revisit it often, especially when income or expenses change within the family. Build a savings account through small automatic deductions into an account at a bank other than the one you use regularly and do not get an ATM card on that account.

"If you're going to withdraw from it, you're going to have to think about it first because you can't just swing by and pull money out of the ATM," she said.

"Start out small," Foster said. "People hear these statistics like you're supposed to have six months worth of savings stored away — thousands of dollars — and it feels impossible when you're just

starting. Set a small goal and then build up from there. Anything you can do is better than nothing."

The Thrift Savings Plan is another way to invest and build a savings account. "I'm a firm believer in it," Owens said.

The bottom line — stay out of financial trouble if you can but if you see the budget slipping, get counseling and make adjustments before real trouble takes root. And if you're already in deep debt, there

are steps that you can take to get out of debt and rebuild healthy credit.

"But the only way to improve credit is to know what you have, know how you spend it, make a plan to pay all of your bills and pay them on time," Owens said. "And don't make things worse by going to those check cashing or title loan places. Come see us first."

For help or more information, call Owens or Foster at 876-5397.

# Delta's Devastating Dragons defense dethrones 59th

*Linebacker/guard Bruce Hollis makes winning grab on offense*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

HHC 59th and Delta Company finished just as expected, fighting it out for the flag football championship.

The league's two best teams met in the postseason final on a cold night Dec. 3 at the Patton Road field. They had split the previous four meetings including two games in the preseason, one in the regular season and one in an earlier round of the postseason tournament. The defending champion 59th advanced to the final from the losers' bracket by beating the NCO Academy 38-6.

Pushed to a deciding game when the 59th won 20-18, Delta had one last shot to take the crown. The score was tied 6-all in the closing minutes.

Delta quarterback/coach Cedric Tims passed to Bruce Hollis for a 10-yard touchdown with 4:48 left. Then Delta's defense stopped the 59th for a 12-6 win and the post championship.

"It was a hard-fought game," said Tims, who connected on 10-of-12 passes for 112 yards and two touchdowns in the clincher.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**DRAGON FIRE**— Delta's Bruce Hollis (5) celebrates his team's flag football championship.

"My hat is off to 59th. They played a real tough game. Those people who did not show up for the game, they missed a real treat. It came down to the wire, it came

totally down to the wire. And thanks to Bruce Hollis changing up the defense on Jerry McIntyre, the 59th quarterback; it changed the complexion of the game.

"Since Jerry McIntyre left Delta Company, he swore on his last grave that Delta Company wouldn't win a championship without him. We proved him and Sgt. Maj. (Larry) Taylor wrong. My hat's off to the (Delta) Devastating Dragons. And now we're waiting on basketball to bring home the second championship to Delta Company."

When Hollis scored the winning touchdown, he collided with a defender on the goal line and stayed down on the ground briefly. But he seemed to have no ill effects while celebrating with his teammates after the game.

"Tims just put it out there where I could go get it," said Hollis, a linebacker/guard. "Once I got in the end zone, I felt no pain but I had to get it. I had to lean that out there for 'Raise up.'" Raise up is the 59th's motto.

McIntyre, the 59th quarterback/coach, wasn't sure Hollis scored. "You saw that play down here that gave them the lead," he said. "We clearly pulled the flag at the 10 yard line and they still called the touchdown."

In the first game, McIntyre hit 10-of-21 passes for 121 yards and three touchdowns. But Delta (11-2) held him to 8-of-20 for 78 yards in the second. His 5-yard

See Football on page 19

# Skip's picks

## Grambling Tigers favored over Ala. A&M Bulldogs

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Skip's Picks went 15-4 in the 14th week of the college football season,

bringing the season totals to 335-118.

Here's my prediction for the Southwestern Athletic Conference championship game Saturday at Legion Field in Birmingham:

Grambling vs. Alabama A&M —  
**Grambling**

Look for my bowl picks next week.

## ■ Delta's Shepherd celebrates 32nd birthday with two TDs



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**FULL SPEED AHEAD—** The 59th's Patrick Perry (13) races downfield against Delta in game one of the final. The 59th won 20-18 but lost the deciding game 12-6.

## Football

continued from page 18

touchdown run accounted for the 59th's only points in the nightcap.

"They played good defense," said the 59th's Laevrmonde Watts, who caught a 30-yard touchdown pass with one hand. "And they kept their composure."

Tims was 10-of-18 for two touchdowns, 78 yards and one interception in the first game. Ron Shepherd caught both scoring tosses, one for 13 yards at 14:41 in the second half and the other for 18 yards with 7:32 left. Tims had a 1-yard touchdown run with 15 seconds left but the 59th's Michael McGilton knocked down his two-point conversion pass that would have tied the game. McGilton intercepted a pass at the 59th's 5 with 1:12 remaining. "We wanted it just all season long," Shepherd said of the championship. "It

was ours for the taking. It was something we just had to have. We had to beat them and it's a happy birthday present to me. My 32nd birthday was Dec. 2."

McIntyre opened the night's scoring with his 26-yard touchdown pass to Patrick Perry at 16:01 in the first half of game one. He passed to Eddie Bryant for two points and the 59th (13-2) led 8-0 at halftime. His 3-yard touchdown pass to Brett Holder made it 14-6 with 12:05 left. Watts' right-handed grab came at 4:53.

Tims threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Johnie Walker at 15:19 in the first half of the second game. The 59th tied the score with 8:30 left in the half. Hollis' touchdown accounted for the only points in the second half.

"It was an outstanding game," Delta center Stanley Lewis said. "The 59th, they were true champions. They brought a good game but we brought a better game."



## Sports & Recreation

### Volleyball league

The Redstone Volleyball League has had three weeks of competition with some teams facing teams that need more clinics to improve their skills, according to organizer Felix Milar. The league will take a holiday break and resume play and clinics Jan. 12. For more information, call Milar 313-6091 or 313-1200.

### Basketball clinics

Upcoming clinics at Optimist Park Gym include a Basketball Coaches Clinic, Dec 20 from 6-8 p.m., cost is \$15 and includes a free T-shirt; and a Basketball Clinic for Youth (ages 8-12), Dec. 21, boys 9 a.m. to noon and girls 1-4 p.m., cost is \$20 and includes a free T-shirt. Call 325-7529 or register online at [www.playsmartt.com](http://www.playsmartt.com).

### Youth gymnastics instructor

Youth Sports is looking for a qualified gymnastics instructor for beginning and intermediate classes to be held on post. Instruction will be available for ages 5-18. Interested individuals should call Missy Richards, youth sports director, 313-3699.

### Turkey shoot

A turkey shoot will be held Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Trap and Skeet Range at Outdoor Recreation, Sportsman Drive. Targets and ammunition are provided; and the weapon is provided if necessary. Cost is \$3 per shot. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868/6854 or stop by building 5132.

### Youth basketball openings

Youth Sports still has a few basketball openings for the 9-10 and 11-12 coed age groups. Anyone interested may call 313-3699 or 313-3735. This activity is open to youth whose parents/guardians are military, retired military, DoD or Army civilians, RSA contractor, or NASA employees. A copy of a current immunization record must accompany registration.



## Conferences & Meetings

### Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Dec. 19 from

6:30-7:30 in the morning at the Redstone Golf Club. The association is open to E-9s from all services, Army, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserve. For more information, call retired CSM Jean Rose 313-1659.

### Blacks in government

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will sponsor a lunch and learn program today at 11:15 at the Sparkman building 5304 in room 4331 (third floor). Tim Grey, director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, is to speak on the privatization/outsourcing of Army civilian and military jobs, and how this may impact the future federal work force. The meeting is open to anyone interested in dialogue about this important process. For more information, call Mary Peoples 955-4275.

### Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its monthly meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Kent Quinn, president of the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, is the scheduled speaker. For tickets — \$9 for members, \$10 non-members — call Virginia Moore 955-6262, ext. 165.

### Parents council

The Parent Advisory Council will meet at 11 a.m. Dec. 17 at the ChildWise Center, building 1413, second floor, Spartan Drive. Parents with children in the Child Development Center, Youth Services and School Age Services are encouraged to attend. Parents earn PAC participation points for attending. For more information, call Anita Epps 774-6737.

### Florida A&M alums

Alumni of Florida A&M University invite all alumni and friends to an interest meeting to establish a local chapter of the FAMU Alumni Association. For more information, call Robert McCoy 858-0830 or Wendell Johnson 427-7043.

### Alabama State alums

The Rocket City Alumni Chapter of Alabama State University will have its monthly meeting Dec. 21 at 8:30 a.m. at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in Madison Square Mall.



## Miscellaneous

### Catholic pilgrimage

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic community at Bicentennial Chapel is planning a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Lourdes, France for the annual International Military Pilgrimage. The patrons will be in France May 14-23. Many sightseeing trips are included in this pilgrimage, to include a day trip to Utah and Omaha Beaches, visit to the American Cemetery, and two days in Paris. The price of this pilgrimage is approximately \$1,677 per person based on double occupancy leaving from Huntsville and \$1,560 per person based on double occupancy leaving from Atlanta. Cost includes roundtrip coach air fare, transfers, tours, two meals per day, 4-star hotels and taxes. For more information, call Donna Ragocci 461-9415.

### Apprentice program

The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program is held each summer to give academically talented high school and college students research experience with mentors at the Aviation and Missile Command. Applications are available from high school senior counselors or college placement services; and the deadline is Jan. 31. For more information, call Betty Duke of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center 313-4790.

### New Year's Eve gala

The Officers and Civilians Club is having another blow-out New Year's Eve party Dec. 31. We're starting with a buffet dinner served 7-9 p.m. and live music by "The Usual Suspects." Ticket price is \$35 per person and includes dinner, entertainment, continental breakfast from midnight to 1 a.m., party favors, and champagne for toasting. We're also offering an all-inclusive on-post lodging package. You do the celebrating, we do the driving. Includes lodging on Redstone Arsenal in cottages or deluxe hotel rooms, transportation to and from the New Year's Eve gala, dinner and dance. Sixty-six deluxe rooms - \$115.50 per couple and five cottages - \$127.50 per couple. For tickets, call 830-CLUB or call Redstone lodging 837-4130/876-5713 for the New Year's Eve gala package. This event is open to the entire Redstone community. The Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, will open for its New Year's Party at 6 p.m. Dec. 31. The \$15 ticket price includes DJ/karaoke, hors d'oeuvres, party favors and champagne. Call 837-0750/0751 for details. The Firehouse Pub, on Hankins Road, will also open for its New Year's Party at 6 p.m. Dec. 31. The \$10 ticket price includes DJ/karaoke, Tommy McPerson, hors d'oeuvres, party favors and champagne. Call 830-2582 or 8420748 for details.

### Holiday party

Make plans now to attend the 2002 IMMC Holiday Party, Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. This year's theme is "Home for the Holidays." Tickets are \$13. For tickets call

Romona Rice 313-1641, Cindy Yassi 313-1328, Lisa Pipes 842-6276, Janice Perry 842-6336 or Lynn Dimock 313-0569.

### Weather closings

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: Radio — WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKI, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM; Television — WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement or you can log on to the Team Redstone Internet site ([www.redstone.army.mil](http://www.redstone.army.mil)) and click the button for weather information.

### Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for Merit Awards to help offset the cost of tuition, books and related fees. Applications are available at OCWC board meetings and luncheons, and the deadline is Feb. 1. Applicants must: be a member, spouse of a member, or dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of last Oct. 1 and live within 50 miles of Huntsville. Candidates may compete in one of four categories — high school senior, undergraduate, graduate and member/spouse. Previous winners may compete in succeeding years, but may win only once in each category. Students receiving full scholarship may not apply. For more information about Merit Awards call Diane Moore, merit awards chairman, 864-2670.

### Christmas trees

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

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-4 and Thursdays

from 9-5. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. The shop has appointments Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. Christmas items will be accepted until Dec. 13. The shop will be closed from Dec. 25 through Jan. 4 for the holidays. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Christmas angel program

Members of the Integrated Materiel Management Center are sponsoring their 13th annual SOS Christmas Angels program. They ask that your office or team adopt an Angel for Christmas by providing toys and gifts for a needy child. Gift turn-in is Thursday. Be prepared to give the number of Angels to be adopted, team leader's name, office symbol, telephone number and your location. For more information call Vanessa Adair 842-8678, Darneshea Alexander 842-7847, Ellametrica Butler 313-1163, Belinda Leak 876-5956, T.J. Longoria 842-7840, Nadine Manderson 842-8714, Alma Morgan 313-2445, Judy Rodriguez 876-1155, Charlotte Rutherford 313-1396 or Terry Russell Green 842-9369.

### Ebony fashion fair

Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will sponsor the 45th annual Ebony Fashion Fair, "Simply Spectacular," Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Proceeds from the fashion show will benefit scholarships and other community projects. Ticket prices are reserved \$30, general \$25, and students (K-12) \$15. Persons purchasing general or reserved tickets are entitled to a year subscription to *EBONY* magazine or a six-month subscription to *JET* magazine. Student ticket purchasers are entitled to a year subscription to *EBONY* magazine only. For tickets call 852-9325 or 755-9196.

### Prayer breakfast

The next IMMC Nondenominational Prayer Breakfast is Dec. 17 at 7 a.m. in building 5308, room 8124. No food or drinks will be served, but you may bring your own. Everyone is invited. For information call Clifton Canady 876-1587.

### Youth camps

Registration for both School Age Services (grades K-5) and Youth Services (grades 6-12) Winter Break Camps will be held through Dec. 20 at Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Rd. Cost is based on total family gross income plus \$15 Child and Youth

Services central registration fee. The camps are open to youths whose parents or guardians are military, retired military, DoD or Army civilians, RSA contractors or NASA employees. A copy of a current immunization record must accompany registration. To sign up or get information, call 876-3704 or 955-6309.

### Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers announce its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.asmconline.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Jan Howard 313-3447 or Debbie O'Neal 842-7501. Application deadline is Feb. 28. These may be mailed to Howard at PEO, Air and Missile Defense, Attn.: SFAE-AMD-BD-SF, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, Ala., 35807-3801 or taken to O'Neal, building 5300, third floor, Sparkman Center.

### Helicopter repair facility

The president of Helipro Corporation International, Sandy Strukoff, announced plans Dec. 2 to open a fully operational helicopter repair and overhaul facility at the Andalusia-Opp Airport in Andalusia by Jan. 1. Helipro and its sister company, ACRO Aerospace, make up the helicopter division of Vector Aerospace Corporation Combined, they form the largest helicopter repair and overhaul company worldwide.

### Retired employees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will hold its Christmas luncheon Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Coffee will be served at 10:30 a.m., with the program at 11 and lunch at noon. The Huntsville Community Chorus will again perform Christmas songs. For ticket information, call Theresa Scholz 882-2406.

### Retirement ceremony

A retirement ceremony for Doug Blanton will be held at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 17 at building 7611, SAMD, central conference room.

### Health center hours

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Christmas, Dec. 25. The Primary Care Extended Hours Clinic will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 24, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and the Pharmacy will be closed these four days. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-

223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments. Access to the building may be gained through the Pharmacy entrance on the south side.

### Santa coming to housing

Santa Claus will arrive Saturday at Redstone Arsenal, hosted by the Sergeants Major Association in cooperation with the Vincent Fire Station. His visit will begin at the fire station Saturday morning where he will be escorted by members of the fire department and the association — and of course some of his elves. They depart Vincent Station at about 9:30 a.m. going to Columbia Centre Housing area. They will then continue to Voyager Village and Apollo Landing, on to Freedom Landing and Saturn Pointe. He will make a brief stop by the Redstone Lodging office before moving on to Challenger Heights. His final destination will be Endeavor Village. Santa is looking forward to seeing all the children of Redstone Arsenal on his annual visit. Listen closely for the sirens and horns.

### Senior military workshop

The Military Personnel Office Transition Center, in conjunction with Department of Army, will conduct an executive level (major and above and CSM/Sgt. Maj.) videoconference Jan. 6 and 8 from 8 a.m. to noon in the Sparkman Center VTC room, building 5304, first floor. Senior personnel who are considering retirement soon or who have submitted retirement requests are invited. This presentation targets retiring senior personnel seeking executive level positions. Registration for this videoconference is mandatory and seating is limited. Call Tanzella Jackson 842-2721 or Phil Fredrich 313-6184.

### Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University offers a Master of Business Administration program with weekend classes at Calhoun Community College, on an 18-month alternate weekend format. An information meeting will be held Dec. 19 from 6-8 p.m. at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101E, 102 Wynn Drive. For more information, call 800-672-7223, ext. 5046 and ask for Bill Spade.

### Holiday ballet

Huntsville Ballet's "The Nutcracker" will

be performed Friday through Sunday at the Von Braun Center's Concert Hall. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are available at the VBC Box Office, all TicketMaster outlets, including Publix in Madison County, or call 1-800-277-1700. Prices are \$14 (orchestra level), \$12 (loge) and \$8 (upper balcony); \$2 discounts are available for students and seniors. For more information or season tickets, call Community Ballet 539-0961.

### Acquisition demo town hall

An Acquisition Demonstration Town Hall will be held Dec. 17 from 9-11 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium for AMCOM employees transitioning into the new personnel system. The purpose of the town hall is to brief employees on the current milestones, discuss recent developments, and familiarize everyone with the process of transitioning into the demo. Employees who will be in the demo are non-bargaining unit employees (supervisors, managers, and employees involved in advising management on labor relation issues). The Acquisition Demo IPT has provided a list of the names of employees to each AMCOM primary organizational element. Bargaining unit employees as well as employees in RDEC, the Garrison, and Intelligence and Security Directorate are excluded from participation in the demo. All employees who will be participants in the demo, as well as administrative representatives, should plan to attend the town hall.

### Management training

The South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center is offering a regional training opportunity for managers, supervisors and team leaders. A two-day course titled "Management Skills — The 7 Attributes of Excellent Management" and will be presented by Craig Stevens of Westbrook Stevens, Jan. 15-16 at the Sparkman Center on Redstone Arsenal. The cost is \$170 but the course is limited to 25 participants. To enroll follow your organization's procedures for training approval before having your credit card holder complete a Payment Authorization Sheet provided by the SC CPOC. Enrollment closes Friday. For more information or the Payment Authorization Sheet, call Louise Olszewski 842-6540 or Charanne Harris 842-4545.

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# ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

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| ANNOUNCEMENTS | POSITION TITLE | CLOSING | ORGANIZATION | PAY PLAN | GRADE | POT | PAY RANGE   | WHO CAN APPLY? |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------|----------------|---------|--------------|----------|-------|-----|-------------|----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|               |                | DATE    | LOCATION     | & SERIES | LEVEL | GRD | (FROM - TO) | A              | B | C | D | E | F | H | I | R | T | V | U |

**THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL**

|                |                                   |           |                 |         |          |       |                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|----------|-------|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SCBK03137295   | Program Mgmt Officer              | 11-Dec-02 | TMDE            | GS-0340 | 14       | 14    | 76,580 - 99,552  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 03BK0142149RW3 | Activity Career Prog Asst         | 11-Dec-02 | IMMC            | GS-0301 | 9        | 9     | 37,579 - 48,849  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0141231BM1 | Investigative Oper Asst           | 12-Dec-02 | CIDC            | GS-1802 | 7        | 7     | 30,721 - 39,940  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | X |
| 02BK0139608DC1 | Inventory Mgmt Spec               | 12-Dec-02 | GARRISON        | GS-2010 | 9        | 9     | 37,579 - 48,849  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0139796RM2 | General Engineer                  | 12-Dec-02 | PEO Aviation    | GS-0801 | 14       | 14    | 76,580 - 99,552  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0141551OD2 | Aerospace Engineer                | 12-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-0861 | 3        | 3     | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 03BK0136630RW3 | Log Mgmt Spec                     | 13-Dec-02 | IMMC            | GS-0346 | 11       | 11    | 45,469 - 59,105  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0136475SH1 | Police Officer                    | 13-Dec-02 | GARRISON        | GS-0083 | 6        | 6     | 27,645 - 35,941  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SCBK03144598   | Log Mgmt Spec                     | 13-Dec-02 | LAISO           | GS-0346 | 12       | 12    | 54,495 - 70,841  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0143136SH1 | Transporation Assistant           | 13-Dec-02 | GARRISON        | GS-2102 | 7        | 7     | 30,721 - 39,940  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SCBK03135743   | Accounting Technician             | 14-Dec-02 | RMD             | GS-0525 | 7        | 7     | 30,721 - 39,940  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0141043FM2 | Aerospace Engineer                | 16-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-0861 | 3        | 3     | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0141701DR2 | Management Asst (OA)              | 16-Dec-02 | GMD JOINT BMD   | GS-0344 | 8        | 8     | 34,023 - 44,233  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0135448MW2 | Electical Engineer                | 17-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-0850 | 3        | 3     | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0143465BR1 | Log Mgmt Spec                     | 17-Dec-02 | LOGSA           | GS-0346 | 13       | 13    | 64,803 - 84,241  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 02BK0141671VW1 | Oper Research Analyst             | 17-Dec-02 | SMDC            | GS-1515 | 13       | 13    | 64,803 - 84,241  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | X |   |
| 02BK0130797VW1 | General Engineer                  | 18-Dec-02 | SMDC            | GS-0801 | 14       | 14    | 76,580 - 99,552  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | X |   |
| 02BK143476BR1  | Supvy Log Mgmt Spec               | 18-Dec-02 | LOGSA           | GS-0346 | 14       | 14    | 76,580 - 99,552  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SCBK03135429   | Administrative Officer            | 19-Dec-02 | CofE Huntsville | GS-0341 | 11       | 11    | 45,469 - 59,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0137441RM2 | Business Mgmt Officer             | 19-Dec-02 | PEO Aviation    | NH-0301 | 4        | 4     | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0142984MW2 | Metallurgist                      | 19-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-1321 | 3        | 3     | 54,495 - 84,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0140529DR2 | Support Assistant (OA)            | 20-Dec-02 | PEO Combat      | GS-0303 | 6        | 6     | 27,645 - 35,941  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK014499ODR2 | Secretary (OA)                    | 20-Dec-02 | SHORAD PO       | GS-0318 | 9        | 9     | 37,579 - 48,849  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0143447BM1 | Attorney-Adviser (Contracts)      | 20-Dec-02 | AMASM-L         | GS-0905 | 13       | 13    | 64,803 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| SCBK03134659   | Supvy Civil Engineer              | 20-Dec-02 | CofE Huntsville | GS-0810 | 14       | 14    | 76,271 - 99,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0135151RM2 | Supvy General Engineer            | 20-Dec-02 | PEO Aviation    | NH-0801 | 4        | 4     | 76,850 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0140866MS1 | Budget Analyst                    | 26-Dec-02 | SMDC            | GS-0560 | 14       | 14    | 76,580 - 99,552  | X |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | X |   |
| 02BK0127250MR2 | Supvy Computer Engineer           | 26-Dec-02 | OCS             | GS-0854 | 15       | 15    | 90,078 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0130870FM2 | Lead General Engineer             | 27-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-0801 | 4        | 4     | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK0140077OD2 | Lead General Engineer             | 29-Dec-02 | AMRDEC          | DB-0801 | 4        | 4     | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-2027     | Social Worker                     | 30-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0185 | 9-11     | 12    | 37,428 - 81,180  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-2024     | Counseling Psychologist           | 31-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0180 | 9-11     | 12    | 37,428 - 81,180  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-1286     | Nurse (Various Occup Spec)        | 31-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0610 | 9-10     | 11-12 | 37,428 - 78,366  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-1325     | Medical Tech (Various Occup Spec) | 31-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0644 | 5-7-9    | 11-12 | 24,701 - 77309   | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-1303     | Medical Officer                   | 31-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0602 | 11-12-13 | 14-15 | 50,964 - 114,251 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| MD-02-1295     | Pharmacist                        | 31-Dec-02 | MEDCOM          | GS-0660 | 9,11     | 12,13 | 37,428 - 85,184  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK060779JH3  | Equipment Specialist (Gen)        | 27-Feb-03 | IMMC            | GS-1670 | 12       | 12    | 54,275 - 70,555  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 02BK066825JH3  | Equipment Specialist (Air)        | 27-Feb-03 | IMMC            | GS-1670 | 12       | 12    | 54,275 - 70,555  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

**THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.S.OPM.GOV**

|                 |                         |           |                    |         |    |    |                  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|----|----|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| X-SL-03-4551-HW | Aerospace Engineer      | 11-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0861 | 13 | 13 | 64,903 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-SP-03-4444-ST | Supvy General Engineer  | 11-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0801 | 4  | 4  | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-SP-03-4565-ST | Envir Protection Spec   | 12-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0028 | 12 | 12 | 54,495 - 70,841  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-AO-02-4333-HW | Supvy Contract Spec     | 13-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-1102 | 15 | 15 | 90,078 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-JB-03-4549-RD | Patient Representative  | 13-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0303 | 7  | 7  | 30,721 - 39,940  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-JB-03-4574-RD | Mechanical Engineer     | 17-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0830 | 2  | 2  | 24,802 - 59,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-JB-03-4573-RV | Aerospace Engineer      | 17-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0861 | 2  | 2  | 24,802 - 59,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4576-RD | Aerospace Engineer      | 17-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0861 | 3  | 3  | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4561-RD | Lead General Engineer   | 19-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0801 | 4  | 4  | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4587-RD | Aerospace Engineer      | 20-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | DB-0861 | 3  | 3  | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-AO-03-4543-AO | Supvy Civil Engineer    | 21-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0810 | 14 | 14 | 76,271 - 99,105  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4586-RD | Oper Research Analyst   | 23-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-1515 | 13 | 13 | 64,803 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| XSP-03-4546-ST  | Supvy Computer Engineer | 24-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | GS-0854 | 15 | 15 | 90,078 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-SP-03-4564-ST | Business Mgmt Officer   | 30-Dec-02 | Office Sec of Army | NH-0301 | 4  | 4  | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4577-RD | Lead General Engineer   | 2-Jan-02  | Office Sec of Army | DB-0801 | 4  | 4  | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-LW-03-4562-RD | Mechanical Engineer     | 3-Jan-02  | Office Sec of Army | DB-0830 | 3  | 3  | 54,495 - 84,241  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| X-SP-03-4566-ST | Supvy General Engineer  | 6-Jan-02  | Office Sec of Army | NH-0801 | 4  | 4  | 76,580 - 117,105 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

**WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)**

- A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
- C - Compensably Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
- D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
- E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)
- F - All Federal Employees
- H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
- I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)
- R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
- T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
- U - All U.S. citizens

**NOTE:** If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.  
**NOTE:** The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com), or you may telephone 876-7772.