

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 52 No. 35

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September 3, 2003

## Survey says

Peaceful solutions to world conflict  
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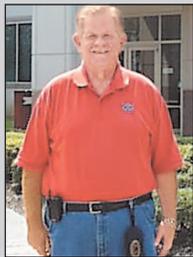
## Hail and farewell



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an aviation soldier  
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## Still serving

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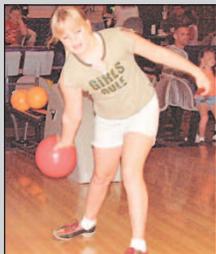
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## Win or lose

Kids have  
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# Taking no chances with radiation

Safety officers reassess  
older used equipment

By **KIM GILLESPIE**  
For the Rocket

Radiation safety may not invoke the kind of exciting images associated with Army helicopters and missiles, but it is a crucial part of the military and its high-tech work.

In the past, the use of radium in small amounts was not considered a risk to health or the environment, but with increasing knowledge and experience, risk standards have become more stringent. More stringent standards mean many previously used materials and equipment at installations must be reassessed.

Keith Rose, radiation safety officer for the Aviation and Missile Command, and his co-worker, fellow health physicist Jean Moore of Science Applications International Corporation, and safety specialist Bobby Taylor of the Garrison, are responsible for

See **Radiation** on page 7



Courtesy photo

**HEAVY SEARCH**— Bobby Taylor of Garrison Safety Office, Keith Rose of Aviation and Missile Command Safety Office, and Jean Moore of Science Applications International Corporation, search an old tank looking for old gauges containing radioactive material radium at Test Area 3 vehicle targets.

# Total Redstone community plays role in security

Awareness campaign  
slated to start soon

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

Why wait until something happens before becoming security conscious?

That's part of the idea behind an awareness campaign planned for the entire Redstone community — including offices, homes and other areas on post. The security effort, suggested by garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin, is to begin with the new fiscal year in October.

"We're basically gearing it to residents or employees here on Redstone to be more aware of their surroundings," Alvin Odoms, chief of the installation security office under the garrison, said. "Security is everybody's business."

This means watching for things that look suspicious and reporting them — someone not wearing a badge in an office building, an unfamiliar auto parked in the housing area and so on. There are about 40,000 people on post most days and all need to be aware of security, according to Odoms.

"We would rather respond to a security call (reporting suspicious activity) than an incident," he said. "We're going to make everybody aware and understand it's very

important to have protective measures here on Redstone. Again, we're only as good as our weakest link."

Plans include providing security tips on the web, briefing the work force and residents, and offering incentives (such as recreational tickets) for reporting suspicions.

"We're just going to go out and try to educate this community. I feel we're a very safe community but you can become lax or feel too safe," Odoms said. "If somebody's looking over your shoulder, you need to ask them what they need because 9 times out of 10, that person's lost. However, that 1 percent you need to be concerned about."

The military police, the guard force, the activated National Guardsmen on the gates, badge checkers in the various buildings all play a role in helping to keep Redstone safe. "What are we doing ourselves?" Odoms added. "They work hard to protect us. There are some things we can do to help."

He would like to see workers bring the same attitude they have in protecting their homes — locking their doors when they leave for work, for example — to the workplace.

"Everybody's important to this awareness program and we want everybody to help us out," he said. "We want the Redstone Arsenal community to join in with us

in being aware of their surroundings. The more we're aware, the safer we are."

Security specialist Dolores Willis also sees the value of this massive campaign. "I think it's very important to have a security awareness or training program throughout Redstone to heighten the security awareness of the total Redstone community," she said. "Security awareness is the bottom line."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GARRISON DIRECTED**— Alvin Odoms, chief of installation security office, talks with security specialist Dolores Willis.

## Mutual respect leads to loyalty

Recently the subject of loyalty came up in an exchange with a senior manager for an AMCOM primary organizational element. This POE deputy seemed surprised, perplexed and irritated when I commented I was fortunate to have the almost unconditional loyalty of the employees I supervised. When I offered an explanation on how this came about — beginning with mutual respect and trust — this senior manager made it absolutely clear there was no interest in my philosophy on loyalty. The deduction was this administrator expected loyalty “upon demand” as opposed to earning the privilege; this person was not open to observations to the contrary — a disap-

pointing mindset.

The lack of appreciation for or understanding of a key leadership principle, by an individual occupying a key leadership position, should cause all AMCOM managers to pause and re-examine what our high potential employees are being taught. With the continuing exodus of experienced AMCOM managers, we that remain have a pressing obligation to leave the command in the hands of well-prepared public servants. So you senior managers out there look hard at what you’re nurturing in your people; leaders lead as they’ve been led.

**Christopher Chavez**

## Triathlon rockets to success

The Spring City Triathletes of Huntsville would like to thank AMCOM, the Garrison, Outdoor Recreation, the Provost Marshal Office, the Marine Corps Reserve, and all others who helped in us in having the 10th annual John Masterson Memorial Heart Center Rocketman Triathlon at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area on Aug. 24.

More than 300 athletes from all over the South along with their families were able to compete on one of the best ven-

ues in this part of the country, Redstone Arsenal. This event benefited Toys for Tots and many children will have a much happier holiday season. We are grateful for the Army permitting this event to be held annually on the Arsenal. We could not do it without the gracious help of all of the above and many others.

**Bob Mulkey,**  
race director,

**Matt Brass,**  
president, Spring City Triathletes

## International students get royal treatment

*Huntsville stop on 2-week tour*

TELEDYNE BROWN RELEASE

Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. recently hosted nine students and staff from the United Kingdom’s Royal Air Force College Systems Engineering Master’s Degree program.

Huntsville was one stop in a two-week tour of the U.S. designed to improve the students’ understanding of U.S. government and industry business operations.

While at Teledyne Brown, the group received several briefings on the company’s products, services in the engineering and manufacturing areas, and community involvement. After receiving their degrees, students will work in intelligence agencies in Huntsville, other U.S. locations and the U.K.

Participants included Ft. Lt. Richard Sidney; Derek Clark, ASEC course lecturer; Wing Cdr. Keith Griffiths, Sqn. Ldr. Graham Bingham, Ft. Lt. Laura Janette Lacey; James Williams, a student from the National Air Intelligence Centre in Dayton, Ohio; Sqn. Ldr. Douglas Bye, Ft. Lt. Ray Forryan, Ft. Lt. Guy Hoyton; and John Latimer, director of international business development, Teledyne Brown Engineering.

## Quote of the week

‘If you have an opportunity, you should do it. If you have a big opportunity, you should do it big.’

— Andre Agassi, tennis player

# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

**Aug. 22** — Several individuals were detained after being denied access at Gate 1 because they did not have the proper identification. The individuals entered Redstone Arsenal and were stopped a very short time thereafter. The driver was issued a violation notice for operating his motor vehicle without a driver’s license and he along with his passengers were issued violation notices for trespassing.

**Aug. 23** — A soldier reported that someone damaged the window to his quarters. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Aug. 27** — A contractor is under investigation by the Provost Marshal Office after an investigation revealed that he was utilizing his government issued computer to access sexually explicit web sites.

**Aug. 27** — An individual was detained after a domestic altercation became physical resulting in minor injuries. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Aug. 28** — A soldier was injured while inspecting a vehicle at Gate 10 when a



motorist failed to come to a complete stop striking the soldier with her vehicle. The soldier was transported to the Huntsville Hospital for evaluation. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Aug. 28** — A contractor was issued several violation notices when he was observed making an improper turn onto Vincent Drive and when stopped, was found to have a dangerous weapon in his vehicle, that the vehicle itself was not displaying the proper registration, nor could the operator show proof of liability insurance.

**Violation notices issued:** speeding, 9; possession of dangerous weapon, 1; failure to obey traffic control device, 3; driving without a license, 1; no proof of liability insurance, 1; and improper registration, 1.

## Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. *The Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

## Clarification

The article in last week’s *Rocket* describing the presentation of a Segway human transporter to the Research Development and Engineering Center failed to mention the fact that the transfer was made under a cooperative research agreement between BAE Systems and the RDEC.

## An open lane random survey

*How would you solve the Israeli/Palestinian conflict?*

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



**Brenda Thomas,**  
military spouse

“To solve the problem, I think the United States needs to back off. My husband, Sgt. Darryl Thomas, is in Kosovo with that problem. Why not bring him home so he can do me some good?”



**CWO Ron Mitchell**

“The answer is that there is no answer. There’s always going to be a conflict until, basically, the Lord comes down to solve it. You will never have peace in that area.”

*MSgt. Verg Matthews*

“They’ve been fighting for quite some time over there and it seems like every time you look up there’s one of the sides doing something and that makes it hard. The leadership over there needs to do everything possible to find the militant groups who are blocking the roadmap to peace and deter them from interfering. Without them giving their best, it will be hard to put that roadmap to peace in place.”

*Donna Moon,*  
retired military spouse

“It’s a matter of getting new leaders in there and letting the Israelis and the Palestinians work it out for themselves instead of all this outside help that’s not doing any good.”



# Redstone Rocket

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# Grievance process undisputed in intent

*Procedures outlined in union agreement*

By **EVETTE BROOKS**  
For the Rocket

The necessity for grievance and arbitration procedures is a fact of life in all workplace environments.

AMCOM has responded to that necessity by incorporating grievance and arbitration procedures in Article 51 of the new union agreement.

The traditional grievance procedure is a three-step process that includes, in the first step, in general terms, the initial notification to the grieving employee's immediate supervisor of the intent to file a grievance. This notification should take place within 20 days of the incident, act or knowledge of the act that is the subject of the grievance. It is also in the first step that an attempt is made to resolve or clarify the circumstances for the grievance. Movement to the second level of the process results if the grounds for the grievance cannot be resolved.

The second step is to attempt resolu-

tion by the head of the primary organizational element or the deputy immediately below the commander or applicable program executive officer. A peer panel may also be used for a resolution attempt if the grieving employee so chooses.

**'The goals of the grievance process are to resolve disputes at the lowest level, while providing equity in the workplace.'**

— Brooks Woerner  
Personnel and Training

The third and final step in the grievance process involves the attempted resolution by the commander. If the decision rendered is not acceptable, the union may invoke arbitration.

"However, the goals of the grievance process are to resolve disputes at the lowest level, while providing equity in the workplace," Brooks Woerner of Personnel and Training said. "Additionally, arbitration may be invoked by the employer or the union, but

not by the employee. The arbitrator's written decision is binding and includes a statement of the basis for the decision."

The decision is provided concurrently to both parties, and either party may file an exception to the arbitrator's decision, Woerner added.

An alternative to the traditional grievance procedure is also provided in Article 51 of the union agreement. The Alternative Dispute Resolution procedure uses a mediator and a less-formal process in crafting a solution to a complaint. If mediation is successful, a negotiated settlement agreement will be signed by the participants. If mediation fails, the grievance procedure may be invoked.

It is important to keep these points in mind relative to the grievance and arbitration procedures:

- The procedures are designed to provide a mutually acceptable method for the prompt and equitable settlement of grievances.

- The filing of a grievance will not adversely impact an employee's reputation, performance appraisal or value to the employer. Employees, employee representatives, and all others involved in the grievance process will be free from

restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal.

- An employee or group of employees filing a grievance can be self-represented or represented by the union or a representative approved in writing by the union president.

- An individual grievance cannot be filed under the aforementioned procedures unless the resolution or the corrective action sought is under the control of the commander or equivalent levels.

- The grieving employee must be a bargaining unit employee.

- The relief sought by the grievant must be personal in nature.

Reduction in force, adverse actions and Equal Employment Opportunity issues, including Alternative Dispute Resolution, and appeals can use the grievance process. However, an EEO complaint and a formal grievance cannot be filed about the same issue. Multiple issues can be grieved, but only in one forum at a time.

For more information about the process, go to following web sites: <http://dpd19.redstone.mil:8454/welcome.html> or <https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/spotlight>

# Combined Federal Campaign values donor designations

By **MELINDA SEIGLER**  
For the Rocket

The 2003 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign team is comprised of federal agencies and their employees from seven counties in the North Alabama area: Cullman, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Morgan and Lincoln County, Tenn. Collectively, through the generosity of federal donors, CFC raised \$1,849,000 for local, national, and international charities during last year's campaign. Since 1961, when President Kennedy saw the need to unify fund-raising within the federal work force, CFC has been a donor designation campaign.

Donor designation simply means that

you the donor will tell us where you want your dollars to go. And believe me, we have many checks and balances in place to assure that happens. There is much confusion in regards to the undesignated dollars. Undesignated dollars are those pledge cards we receive where folks haven't written in a charity agency code number. Contrary to what some folks believe, undesignated dollars are not distributed by individuals. The Office of Personnel Management in Washington has structured CFC distributions so that the total

pooled undesignated dollars are shared proportionately with all the charities that received designations within each campaign. For example, if an individual charity receives 5 percent of the overall campaign designations then they receive 5

percent of the undesignated dollars.

Why, you may ask, is this important to know? Well, there are many organizations to which you would like those undesignated dollars to go; however, there may be many organizations you don't wish to fund. Typically, each campaign year we have anywhere from 200 to 300 charities in the CFC brochure to whom no money was designated and those charities will

receive none of the undesignated dollars. So, designate, designate, designate!

Again, the foundation of the Combined Federal Campaign is that it's the federal employees' campaign; you are in charge of where your dollars go. It's efficient, effective and it works!

*Editor's note: Melinda Seigler is the CFC director for United Way of Madison County.*



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JEEPERS CREEPERS 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (12:00 1:25 2:45 4:10 5:00) 7:10 7:45 9:35 10:10	DIRTY PRETTY THINGS (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1:10 4:10) 7:10 9:50
THE ITALIAN JOB (PG-13) DIG (1:25 4:15) 7:20 9:50	JEEPERS CREEPERS 2 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1:05 1:35 4:05 4:35) 7:05 7:35 9:30 10:00
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MY BOSS'S DAUGHTER (PG-13) DIG (12:05 2:50 5:05) 7:35 9:50	WHALE RIDER (PG-13) 7:20 9:50
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S.W.A.T. (PG-13) DIG (1:30 4:15) 7:05 9:30	SPY KIDS 3D (PG) DIG (1:05 3:05 5:10) 7:30 9:30
FREAKY FRIDAY (PG) DIG (1:20 4:00) 7:10 9:30	BAD BOYS 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (12:55 3:55) 6:55 9:55
AMERICAN WEDDING (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1:25 4:10) 7:15 9:45	TERMINATOR 3 (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1:30) 7:30 9:45
LARA CROFT: CRADLE OF LIFE (PG-13) DIG (1:30) 7:20	FINDING NEMO (G) (12:55 3:05 5:10)
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# Aviation soldier lands as command sergeant major

*CSM Gregory Lunn arrives for first Redstone tour*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Some of his favorite toys growing up were miniature soldiers. His oldest brother served in the Army and went to Vietnam; and he was always fascinated with his brother's uniform.

So when Gregory Lunn graduated from high school, the Army seemed like a logical career choice and he joined in October 1977. Twenty-five years later, he has arrived as the new command sergeant major for the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal.

"This is a great opportunity," the Baltimore, Md., native said. "I'm the first aviation guy to assume the AMCOM (command sergeant major) position. I see it as a blessing in disguise and an opportunity to serve soldiers in a greater capacity."

His specialty is aviation operations. From November 2001 until July, he served as command sergeant major for the 25th Aviation Brigade at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He was among three candidates who interviewed for AMCOM's position which is traditionally filled by someone with an Ordnance or logistics



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**TOP ENLISTED SOLDIER— CSM Gregory Lunn became the post command sergeant major July 25.**

background. With AMCOM's aviation mission, he said, his background can be an asset.

"Redstone Arsenal is truly a facility of community of excellence," said Lunn, serving his first tour here. "The teamwork between military and civilian populations here is truly phenomenal. Redstone is a hidden jewel.

"I think what sticks out the most about Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville is the friendliness of the people. The community outreach to embrace the military and the teamwork that really shows itself in anything from soldier support, to industry contributions to military operations."

He and his wife of 27 years, Sheryl, childhood sweethearts, got a good first impression at the Army Community Service newcomers' orientation. "My wife and I felt welcome to the installation," he said.

"He's a very astute individual and willing to learn," Garrison CSM Lawrence Rogers said, "and very knowledgeable in the arena of aviation."

Lunn, 45, one of nine children (six girls and three boys), completed advanced individual training in aviation operations in 1977 at Fort Rucker. He has served at Fort Bragg, N.C., Germany, Fort Campbell, Ky., Washington, D.C. and Korea. He served in two combat tours with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment from Fort Campbell: 1990 in Operation Just Cause in Panama, and 1991 in Operation Desert Shield/Storm in Iraq. He

received an associate degree in history in 1993 from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn.

The Lunn's have three sons and two grandsons. Their oldest son, Gregory Jr., 26, is a military spouse at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; Gary, 24, is a Navy petty officer on the USS Enterprise at Norfolk Va.; and Bryan, 21, is an Army specialist at Fort Gordon, Ga., who just graduated from the Primary Leadership Development Course. A nephew, Michael Williams, 11, resides with the Lunn's on post.

His hobbies include playing golf and jogging. Lunn roots for the University of Miami in football, the Los Angeles Lakers in pro basketball and North Carolina in college basketball.

"For Redstone and AMCOM, my plan is to reinforce Army standards, maintain a community of excellence, reinforce Army traditions, standards and customs of the Non-commissioned Officer Corps and that's real important," he said of his plans. "For my Army career, I will see what the Army has to offer as time passes."

## Redstone units add 62 soldiers during month

Sixty-two soldiers, including 46 officers and 16 enlisted, arrived for duty in July.

The garrison provided the following list:

**Enlisted** — Sgt. Christopher Hambken (CID), Sgt. Roderick Cobb (Delta Company), SSgt. Ricardo Gutierrez (Delta Company), SFC Larry Morgan (Delta Company), SFC Herbert Downer (AMCOM), Sgt. Ousley Ivy (PEO Tactical Missiles), SSgt. Arnold Scott (832nd Ordnance Battalion), SFC Jay Ragan (Headquarters & Alpha), SSgt. Bruce Litaker (Delta Company), Sgt. Torreon Scott (MEDDAC), PFC Diana George (MEDDAC), Spec. Marlene Butler (HHC 59th), Sgt. Anthony Thomas (Headquarters & Alpha), Pvt. Daniel Stimpson (Garrison), SFC Reggie Johnson (AMCOM) and Pvt. Ray Lee Jr. (MEDDAC).

**Officers** — Maj. Derek Santiago (Aviation & Missile), Lt. Col. Robert Hammons (HHC AMCOM), Lt. Col. Monica Gorbandt (MEDDAC), Maj. James Kennedy (PEO Aviation), Maj. Robert Mortlock (PEO Tactical Missiles), Maj. Reid Vander Schaaf (Aviation & Missile), Lt. Col. Christopher Smith (PEO Aviation), Lt. Col. Carter Hale (MEDDAC), Lt. Col. Robert Rivas (PEO Air & Missile), Maj. Theodore Perryman (STRICOM), Maj. Frederick Hughes (PEO Tactical Missiles), Maj. Michael Tice (Missile Defense Agency), Maj. Courtney Cote

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# Make a difference, be a mentor

*Redstone's program needs members to meet demand*

By **SANDY RIEBELING**  
Staff writer  
sandy@htimes.com



A young girl stands at a podium in front of a room full of adults. Her hands tremble slightly; her voice strained by nervousness. She's had so little experience at public speaking, she struggles to put her thoughts and feelings into the perfect words. She's trying to explain to this group at the Huntsville Kiwanis Club the impact Ann Turnmeyer, her mentor, has made in her life.

Tears fill her eyes as she speaks, not only because she's grateful for the devotion and care of her mentor, but because her mentor is gone. Ann Turnmeyer, daughter of

retired Maj. Gen. George Turnmeyer, died last year, leaving an emotional hole in the lives of many, including this young girl.

"Mentors are so important," Ruby Turner, coordinator for Redstone's Mentoring Program, said. "Ann Turnmeyer was a mentor from the beginning. You just never know what kind of an impact you're going to have on a kid. Something you give to them in the few minutes you're there can change their life forever. People are a gift to each other."

Program membership has dwindled to about 15 mentors but the demand is out there for more. "I'd like to have at least 100 members," Turner said. "I get calls all the time from schools and individuals looking for mentors."

Mentors need to meet with their child at least once a week to provide support academically and/or social skills development. Federal employees in the program are granted 59 minutes administrative leave each week which allows some time during a school day for a meeting or to attend an after-school function with their student.

"A lot of times these mentors step in when the parents haven't," Turner said. "Functions at school, attending activities to support the child or spending time just doing whatever you both like to do. Talk to them. Listen to them."

Turner asks for a commitment of at least one school year. A three-hour block



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**REWARDS ARE PRICELESS—** Ruby Turner, Redstone's alcohol and drug control officer, heads Redstone's mentoring program and is searching for at least 90 new members to meet the demand for mentors in the community.

of instruction is required to become a member. Turner would like to provide the training in groups but says there's such a desperate need, she'll train them one at a time as they come into the program, if necessary.

For more information about the program or to register for training, call Turner at 842-9895.

# Personnel manager describes 'glass ceiling'



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GUEST SPEAKER— Shelley Thomas, of the Office of Personnel Management in Washington, D.C., addresses the Women's Equality Day program.**

## Shelley Thomas sees gender gap

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

Women have come a long way in the federal government but still have a ways to go, according to the guest speaker for this year's Women's Equality Day program Aug. 26 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Shelley Thomas, deputy associate director of the Center for Merit System Compliance at the Office of Personnel Management in Washington, D.C., quoted statistics reflecting women's progress in the past three and a half decades. Disparity remains however in the number of women in higher grade levels compared to men.

Inequities must be continually addressed "until we can expect to see an end of the glass ceiling," Thomas said.

The event was jointly sponsored by Federal Women's Program managers of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, Marshall Space Flight Center, Office of Personnel Management, Aviation and Missile Command, Space and Missile Defense Command and the Army Engineer-

ing and Support Center. It marked 83 years of women's suffrage since passage of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote.

Outstanding Achievement Awards were presented to Valerie Clinkenbeard, a civil engineer in the Huntsville Center, Corps of Engineers; Bennie Noel, management support assistant (office automation) at Fox Army Health Center; Candace Perfetti, supervisory computer specialist in the Corporate Information Center at Aviation and Missile Command; Gail Sikes, a general engineer at Space and Missile Defense Command; Dawn Stanley, deputy manager of the logistics services department at Marshall Space Flight Center; Linda Teetz, an office automation assistant at Space and Missile Defense Command; Barbara Thurman, executive support assistant at Marshall; and Ela Washington, human resources specialist at Marshall.

Supervisory Awards were presented to Ann McNair, manager of ground systems department at Marshall, and Tony Torres, chief of operations branch at Huntsville Center, Corps of Engineers. A Distinguished Service Award is to be presented to Dr. Linda Gentle, acting director of the Test and Evaluation Center at the Space and Missile Defense Command.

# Officials launch family-centered care initiative

By K.L. VANTRAN  
 American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Few occasions are more joyous or stressful than the birth of a child, said David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, as Defense Department officials launched the new family-centered care initiative at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md., Aug. 27. The new Tri-care Management Activity program offers expectant mothers and their families standardized services from the first obstetric visit through birth and follow-on pediatric care. This includes inviting fathers and children to participate in prenatal visits and the birth of the child, as well as reserved parking spots — "stork parking" — for expectant and new mothers.

"This is an important moment in military medicine and for military families," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assis-

tant secretary of defense for health affairs. "We're committing ourselves and the system we lead to be more responsive, accessible and to be a leader in family health care services."

The process to change the way military treatment facilities offer obstetric care began more than a year ago, Winkenwerder said. Patient feedback and the leadership of the services' surgeons general "who understood that a fundamental responsibility of the military health system is to match high-quality medical services with a patient-focused system" were instrumental in forging the initiative, he added.

Family-centered care is a commitment to servicemembers that "we will meet their needs for quality care in a sensitive and responsive manner," added Chu. Because of duty and deployments, major family events often take place without the military member. Some 50,000 babies are born in military hospitals every year, and

the father, Chu noted, is "regrettably often absent."

"This is one reason the family-centered health care is so important," he added. "For those of us who have had the great good fortune to participate (in) and witness the birth of our children, this singular sacrifice of our servicemembers and their families is humbling. Childbirth is a time for uncertainty and concern. It's also a time for great expectation and, most frequently, joy. When families do have the great fortune to be together for the birthing experience, we will extend the joy of birth to be more inclusive of the entire family."

Winkenwerder said health-care professionals are honored to serve the men and women who volunteer to wear the uniform and to demonstrate that pride by the quality of care they offer.

"We're privileged to be guests at some of the most important events in their lives,

such as the birth of their children," he said. "The new family-centered care program is the focus — the center of our attention. (We) need to be focused on patients' and family needs. In introducing this program, we are telling our patients, "We value you, we believe in the quality of care for our health care system, and we want you to choose us."

The goal of the program is to ensure the same, exceptional level of care and services is available across the military health system, according to a DoD news release. Hospital and clinic staff members are receiving additional training to be more receptive to patients' questions, to help develop individualized birth plans, and to ensure patients receive coordinated care.

"I'm excited about the program," said Chu. "I'm confident it'll be a success, and I know it will be of extraordinary value to our military families."

# Soldier killed, 3 wounded in attack on convoy in Iraq

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A 4th Infantry Division soldier was killed and three others were wounded Aug. 29 when their convoy was hit in a rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms attack north of As Suaydat in Iraq.

U.S. Central Command officials said the wounded soldiers were taken to the 21st Combat Support hospital for treatment.

Also, CENTCOM reported Aug. 28

that an off-duty soldier from the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade died of undetermined causes the morning of Aug. 27 in Kuwait. A news release said fellow soldiers found him unresponsive in his Camp Arifjan living quarters and administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Further attempts to revive him failed at a nearby medical clinic, according to the news release. The cause of the soldier's death is under investigation.

Names of the soldiers were being withheld until their families were notified.

## ■ Safety officers check for radioactive materials

# Radiation

continued from page 1

protecting health, safety and the environment from radioactive materials.

Recently at Redstone, Rose, Taylor and Moore found themselves on tank patrol because radium paint was used to highlight gauge numbers and dials used on early generation military equipment — in this case, the dials used to guide tank turrets and oil temperature and pressure gauges. The paint composition was radium salts with a phosphor added and it glowed in the dark.

The tanks have long been retired from “active duty,” but were later used for training activities. Approximately 30 tanks occupied Test Area 3. Rose, Moore and Taylor had to search the tanks for gauges and assess the radioactive emissions.

“The risk posed was very low, but our job is to ensure every precaution is taken,” Rose said. Only three dials were found that still contained radium, and these were removed, stored and secured while awaiting disposal through the proper authorities.

The tank patrol operation was nothing unusual — it followed the same process used for other radiation safety issues: survey and inspect. In the case of the radium paint, Rose, Taylor and Moore used radiation detection instruments to read the level of radiation.

“The instruments serve as our protection by alerting us to potential danger,” Rose said.

Taylor, who recently attended the two-week Radiation Safety Officer Training course conducted by Rose and Moore, said the most important thing he took away from the safety course was the measurement and protection aspect.

“Learning how to monitor for your protection and others is the key to radiation safety,” he said.

But Taylor also praised the on-the-job training he received. “I had not been involved with radiation safety before I took the course, and having Keith and Jean take me into the field and show me how they do this type of survey and inspection was extremely valuable,” he said. “I will be handling the Garrison's radiation safety issues now, so I'm

extremely lucky to have such experienced professionals at AMCOM to consult with.”

The radium found in the paint of the tank dials is just one of many radiation safety issues posed by old equipment on installations. Moore cited another example of an old high-speed camera used for photographing early missile firings. The technology was early '50s and the piece of equipment had been warehoused. When the equipment was being removed for disposal, it set off the alarm for the radiation monitoring equipment it was required to pass through.

Although the piece of equipment was identified as a camera part, no one knew why it contained radioactive material. “After researching the Internet and calling around, I came to the conclusion the radioactive material was used as a static eliminator,” Moore said.

Equipment that has been stored for long periods is a radiation safety issue that many installations have in common. “Most of the time, no one has been in contact with this stuff in years,” Rose said. “It's our job to ensure these items don't pose any type of risk to humans or the environment before they are excessed and removed.”

While radioactive materials and old equipment pose one type of risk, new equipment presents a whole new challenge.

“In the case of the radium paint used for the tank dials, the problem was resolved by using a different material that has insignificant radiation emissions,” Rose said. “Nowadays, we know when any type of equipment contains radioactive material and we must account for it at all times. This is not only a safety issue, but a significant security issue since 9/11 because of the potential construction of dirty bombs.”

Technology continues to advance and the use of radioactive materials is becoming more prevalent. But the basics of radiation safety remain much the same — monitoring, inventories, surveys, inspections and documentation. “Just like with any other hazard, we've just become more knowledgeable about the effects of radiation and how to better protect ourselves and the environment,” Rose said.

# Military retirees have their day in September

*2003 retiree appreciation day showcases available benefits*

By **KELLEY LANE**  
Staff writer  
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The retiree community at Redstone and in the surrounding area is immense. Many who come to the installation as soldiers are charmed by the community and decide to stay in the area when their service is done. They make good use of the benefits and services available to them — if they know what they are.

How do retirees find out exactly what is available and what they should be doing to get the most from their benefits? One way to get all the information they need is to attend Redstone's annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Sept. 20 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Beginning that morning at 7, a continental breakfast will be served and attendees will have the chance to socialize before the formal opening of the event at 8. Announcements, an opening ceremony and a welcoming address by Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, post commander, will precede the guest speaker, retired Lt. Gen. John Dubia, co-chairman of the Chief of Staff of the Army Retiree Council.

Offices with services of benefit to retirees will present information so that attendees will know not only what is available to them, but why they should make use of their services. Last year's event saw 1,500 retirees and dependents in attendance. Ernest Weir, co-chairman of the Redstone Retiree Council, expects a similar turnout this year.

Lunch is available by reservation. A meal of roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered carrots and green bean casserole with rolls, dessert and a drink will be served in the cafeteria at building 5302 for \$8 per person. No meal tickets will be sold at the door this year, so reservations must be made beforehand. The Huntsville Concert Band will provide music in the courtyard. After lunch, awards will be presented. Mike Gray of the Veterans Administration will close out the formal portion of the day.

"We're trying to get the word out that we're here for the retirees," Weir said. "We're going to have a lot of good presentations about all the things that are available."

A "county fair" of exhibits and services for retirees will be set up in the lobby of the auditorium. They will showcase services and features for retirees, many of which will be performed on the spot.

"The thrust of this whole thing is to provide the retirees with the information they need," Weir said. "In addition to all the presentations we have what we call our county fair."

Legal Services will have attorneys on hand to draft simple wills, powers-of-

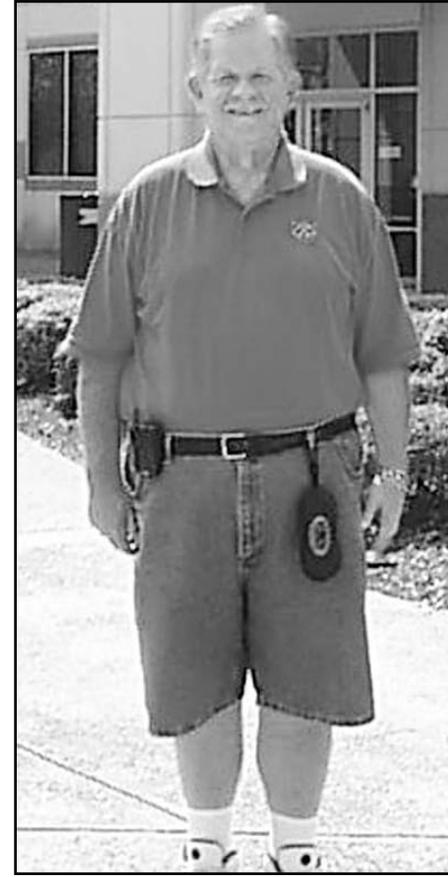


Photo by Kelley Lane

**READY FOR EVENT— Ernest Weir and the rest of the Redstone Retiree Council will be at Bob Jones Auditorium for Retiree Appreciation Day.**

attorney and provide notary services free of charge to retirees and dependents. Those wishing to use legal services should bring documents pertaining to their needs, including a will worksheet. The worksheet is available online at [www.redstone.army.mil/legal/lao.html](http://www.redstone.army.mil/legal/lao.html).

Defense Finance and Accounting Service will have its computers ready to make changes to retirement accounts. Retirees should bring documentation items such as marriage and birth certificates or divorce decrees. All DFAS forms will be provided on site. Redstone's Military Identification branch will also be present to make and update ID cards.

Weir estimates that more than 50 exhibits and booths will be ready and waiting to assist retirees with records, health issues and other needs. The Post Exchange and Commissary will also be there providing free drinks, gifts and prizes.

Attendees must enter the installation through gates 1, 9 or 10 on the day of the event. Those without a vehicle sticker should bring photo ID for themselves and all passengers, one of which must possess a valid military ID. For more information on Retiree Appreciation Day events, scheduling, lunch reservations or for assistance, call Cynthia Anderson, retirement services officer, at 876-2022.

# Ordnance school exercises its mass casualty response

*Community involved  
in event for training*

By Sgt. EVAN MORROW  
Staff writer  
evan.morrow@omems.redstone.army.mil

An explosion. Casualties. Grief. Fortunately, it wasn't really happening.

The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School and others in Team Redstone conducted a mass casualty exercise Aug. 26. The Training and Doctrine Command requires an annual Medical Support to Training Exercise to test an installation's ability to deal with accidents that may occur in high-risk training.

"Compared to other TRADOC posts, the degree of involvement from all the organizations on the Arsenal far surpasses anything I have seen at these other posts," Don Cranford, 59th Ordnance Brigade safety officer, said.

"We really want to see how quickly we can take the necessary steps to save lives and contain the situation," Sgt. Maj. Dexter Hornsby, the 59th Ordnance Brigade

S-3 NCO-in-charge, said. "It's not just the EMS teams and the fire department, but also the organizations within the Arsenal that have to respond quickly and get information where it has to be."

An after-action review determines needed improvements for the emergency response. Communication is considered vital to success in the exercise.

"In the event of an incident, all the soldiers on site are going to have to be combat lifesavers," Sgt. Maj. Douglas Patrick, the Directorate of Instruction sergeant major, said. "They are all trained in common task first aid and in the event of a catastrophe they will need to try to sustain those casualties' lives until the medical technicians arrive."

At 9:30 a.m. in building 3306, the simulated explosion of a Multiple Launch Rocket System battery started the exercise. The emergency operations center, the hospital and the fire department were notified. NCOs on site took action to control the situation.

Combat lifesavers arrived on the scene and provided direction to the NCOs. Within 15 minutes, Huntsville Emergency Medical Services Inc. ambulances and the

fire department had arrived. Casualties were taken outside where an elevated hose was used to rinse them off. From there they were loaded on ambulances and taken to the hospital for treatment.

By 11 a.m., critical information about the event was in the hands of the people who most needed it. A panel included representatives from Military Personnel Office, the Provost Marshal Office, Army Community Service, the Chaplains Office and Office of Staff Judge Advocate. The panel determined what each representative's role would be and tried to identify any gaps in

responsibilities. All the responses from the after-action review surveys were compiled so that key leaders could be briefed on the results of the exercise.

"This event needs to be unpredictable at least semiannual," said Maj. Keith Barshinger, the 59th Ordnance Brigade S-3 officer-in-charge, whose shop led the way in planning the exercise for the schoolhouse. "It also needs to test our ability to handle an incident that involved 100 casualties instead of 12. A very realistic future scenario would be to have a tornado come through."

Photo by Sgt. Evan Morrow

**COMING THROUGH—**  
Combat lifesavers Spec. Ivan Torres and SSgt. Tommy Haygood evacuate a casualty during the mass casualty exercise.



## Letters, small packages get to troops quicker

*Some items can't be sent  
to Iraq, Afghanistan*

By K.L. VANTRAN  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, — The U.S. Postal Service and the Military Postal Service Agency process about 2 million pounds of mail a week for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and some items make it to the recipient faster than others, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Brian Lomax, agency chief of plans and policy, said here Aug. 28.

Depending on where it originates, a letter or package spends "a couple of days" in the USPS system before it reaches either San Francisco or New York City, Lomax said. Then it travels another 16 to 19 hours by plane before landing in Kuwait or Bahrain. From there, it's picked up or delivered by motor vehicle.

Once in theater, a letter takes seven to 14 days to reach the servicemember, while a package usually takes 14 to 24 days, Lomax added. Packages make up 90 percent of the mail.

"The mail is getting to the troops," he said. "The troops are happy. Our intent is to continue to make improvements and exceed their expectations."

Using automated mail scanning equipment and increasing the number of people working at mail facilities are two improvements that have speeded up mail delivery, Lomax said.

People who mail letters and packages also can help, he added. "The size of the package plays an important role," Lomax said. "Large packages take up a lot more

room. If there's a choice between taking one large box or a lot of smaller boxes and letters, the large box will stay (at the mail facility). The ideal size is a shoebox. It's also important to correctly address the package."

Aerosol cans, alcoholic beverages, ammunition, fireworks, flammable or explosive materials and illegal or infectious substances are among items that cannot be mailed to servicemembers in Iraq and Afghanistan. For more information, call 1-800-ASK-USPS or visit the USPS Web site.

Though it's not one of the restricted items, Lomax recommends against sending chocolate. "Chocolate and 140 degrees makes chocolate paste," he said.

Cookies and sunflower seeds seem to travel well, he added, and placing cookies in a coffee can helps to protect them.

Heat also takes its toll on the tape used in packaging, Lomax said. The USPS Web site states a clear or brown packaging tape, reinforced packing tape or paper tape is best. Cord, string and twine should not be used, because they can get caught in the mail processing equipment.

Servicemembers love to get mail, Lomax continued. "When I was out at sea, it was always a joy to get a letter from home or a copy of a report card. It's an exhilarating feeling: 'I'm out here doing my job, and they haven't forgotten who I am.'"

Lomax said the mail system's success is a result of the joint effort of the USPS and his agency. "We have motivated soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who are committed to doing their job to make sure the mail gets to the troops," he said.

# Changes on menu at Sparkman Center snack bar



Photo by Kelley Lane

**SPECIALTY ITEM—** Amanda Colson has a tuna sandwich ready and waiting for a regular customer.

*Patrons can help themselves to new self-service cooler*

By **KELLEY LANE**  
Staff writer  
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Some things are different at the snack bar in Sparkman Center building 5304. But the main idea remains the same.

Quality items, a fair price and speedy service.

Recent changes include: longtime manager Doug Bosarge left to become the cafeteria manager at St. John's Catholic in Madison; new items have been added to the menu; and a new self-service cooler is in place.

Beauford Watson is running the snack bar on a temporary basis until a permanent replacement takes over, which is expected by the end of September. Watson is balancing duties at the Sparkman Center with his other position as operator of the snack bar in building 4546 and his responsibilities to the vending machines in both locations. He has made a few improvements since he took over Aug. 1.

The breakfast menu has been expanded to include biscuits. Sausage, ham, steak or gravy are among the list of things available between layers of fluffy bread.

Pancakes, eggs or french toast are also available.

"Sausage and biscuits are the most popular item," Watson said. For lunch, the same items as before are available along with an occasional special item or two. Specialty sandwiches and salads are popular with the lunch crowd, according to Watson. A diet version of salad dressing is also available.

While the word 'cafeteria' implies a more leisurely meal, 'snack' denotes quickness. Watson said that pace can make it difficult to find or maintain good workers.

"That's the difficulty, getting personnel," he said. "People come and stay awhile and find they don't want to work at such a hairy pace."

Making customers happy and sending them on their way quickly is at the core of the snack bar business. Another way to do this is to install a self-service cooler. The new cooler allows customers to access drinks and any ready-made items faster and without assistance.

Business has dropped off slightly since the change in vendors, but the lull is expected to be temporary. As the new operator comes in and the aromas drift down the halls, Watson is confident customers will return.

"Business is down compared to what it was reported to be," he said. "But people will come back gradually."

# Shoppers can save calories, cash at Commissary

*Salad recommended for seasonal dining*

DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY RELEASE

FORT LEE, Va. – When it's sweltering and sticky outside, who wants to eat a hot, heavy meal? One of the best meal solutions for this sort of weather is the tossed salad. And it's not just about the typical garden variety anymore either.

Bagged salad greens, widely available in the commissary, offer customers convenience and choice.

"The variety of bagged salad blends provides customers with the opportunity to bring home different lettuces that they may have encountered in a restaurant but wouldn't normally serve at home," said Polly Ring, DeCA marketing business unit commissary management specialist, produce.

Bagged lettuce mixes include commonplace varieties such as Bibb and Romaine to the more exotic-sounding curly endive, frisée, arrugula, radicchio and escarole.

Formerly the province of serious "foodies," commissary shoppers can now discover and enjoy such artsy sounding lettuces as lolla rosa, mizuna, tatsoi, tango baby red oak, baby green oak, red swiss chard, and white salad savoy.

Speaking of art, imagine the creativity that can be brought to the preparation of a tossed salad. Since most of the work has been done for you, subtract the effort of chopping, dicing and shredding the lettuce and apply that energy to thinking up unusual ingredients.

Commissaries carry a wide variety of classic salad complements such as dressings, croutons and bacon bits. If you can imagine it on your salad, the commissary probably carries it.

When you're in the commissary produce aisle eyeing the bagged salads, keep in mind that prices have dropped

in stateside commissaries thanks to a merchandising agreement between the Defense Commissary Agency and a major supplier of bagged salads.

"Customers in U.S. commissaries are enjoying steady, low prices on bagged salads and are really taking advantage of the additional savings," said Robert Vitikacs, executive director for operations and product support at DeCA.

Bagged salads have become increasingly popular since they first made an appearance in grocery stores and commissaries. About 70 percent of consumers routinely bring home bags of spring mix, romaine, Italian, garden, slaw, Caesar salad and more.

Garden mixes and Caesar salad kits are the most popular with commissary shoppers.

Commissary savings on the overall shopping basket average 30 percent over retail, but produce savings typically run even higher – 36 percent or more. The higher the better, said Vitikacs. "The commissary is the premier military benefit and we're constantly seeking initiatives that can help us provide greater savings for our military shoppers."



# Café crafts culinary delights at research laboratory

Expansion planned,  
ideas welcomed

RDEC COMMITTEE RELEASE

One of the ongoing efforts of Research Development and Engineering Center's "Quality of Life" Committee has been the expansion of the Sidewalk Café, located in room M-121 of building 5400.

Plans for the café's expansion coincide with the construction of a new cafeteria in the courtyard between A and B wings which will begin this summer. This development will free space for the expansion of the café, and possible uses for the soon-to-be-vacated cafeteria are still being considered, among them a workout facility; however, this desire is being weighed against the need for additional office and laboratory space. Cheryl Garrison, Dan Lighton and Ann Beddingfield are just a few of the government staff members on the Quality of Life committee which publishes a monthly newsletter routed to the RDEC community. Suggestions and assistance are always welcomed. For more information, contact [cheryl.garrison@rdec.redstone.army.mil](mailto:cheryl.garrison@rdec.redstone.army.mil).

Through the dedicated efforts of Randy Buford and Marnie Funderburg, the café was established two years ago. Dr. Alicia Ward, proprietress of the 'Sidewalk Café,' has done wonders with her currently allocated space. Prior to her current business venture, Ward worked as a city planner and ran her own bakery. Open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., Ward serves up a variety of culinary delights. Since she currently does not have an Internet connection to post daily specials on a community bulletin board, she makes good use of the chalkboard just outside her door.

Morning fare includes regular, decaffeinated and gourmet coffees, including fresh pastries, bagels and sausage English muffins kept in a food warmer and, for the health conscious, an endless variety of fruit juices, botanicals, sugar free candies and fresh fruit in season. Lunch time for busy on-the-go professionals can be hours before and after the cafeteria opens and closes its doors for lunch (10:50 a.m. until 1 p.m.). Frozen fare such as pizzas and sandwiches are kept in the freezer, which Ward will gladly prepare in her microwave. For morning and afternoon



Courtesy graphic

**DAILY FARE—** The Sidewalk Café, at building 5400, opened in 2001.

snacks, fresh roasted peanuts and soft serve ice cream really hit the spot.

Ward's shelves are also stocked with a variety of snacks (including GooGoo Clusters), gifts, toys, standard cold and sinus remedies, Avon orders waiting to be picked up, seasonal card stock, and even locally grown organic honey produced by Richard Long.

Long, currently an employee of Computer Science Corporation and longtime employee of the Navigation and Control Technology Branch's Machine Shop, became a beekeeper after retiring from government service. Unlike many beekeepers that mix their seasonally harvested honey, his Madison Station Honey is never blended or overheated (which destroys pollen content). From the earliest light sweet "honeysuckle and privet" spring honey, honey in the comb, to the darkest fall varieties packed with minerals and antioxidants, all have a deliciously different flavor.

Although the café is quite small and space is limited, Ward does consider local artists' work for display and sale. Since

wall space is at a premium inside the cafe, only two artists are represented at this time. Sarah Lawless, 15-year-old daughter of local contractor Daniel Lawless, an employee of Navigation Technology Associates, features a pencil drawing in a patriotic theme. Steve Cornelius, a government engineer who works in the Propulsion and Structures Directorate, has a watercolor painting in the café, as well as a portfolio. His interest in painting began when he painted a small watercolor of a friend's beach house as thanks for a wonderful weekend he and his wife spent there in summer 2002. Since then, Cornelius has completed more than 50 paint-

ings of homes for family, friends and on commission. He has also completed more than 30 paintings of churches, businesses and other buildings and has recently expanded into landscapes and still life watercolors. His current portfolio is featured, not only in Ward's café in book format, but also at [www.stevecornelius.com](http://www.stevecornelius.com).

The Sidewalk Café, from its opening in 2001, has maintained its unbelievable rating of 100, and also offers a unique change of pace in a currently operational Seed Exchange. Ward's many interests, other than art and gardening, include a deep commitment to the healing benefits of well-directed diets, and she teaches a course at a local Madison health food store in the evenings for people struggling with Type II diabetes.

By diet modification, she was instrumental in freeing her father, Franklin Brandon, from insulin dependence. Since the birth of her daughter last fall, her father helps out with running the café on Fridays, and Merle Towns assists her on Mondays, so she can spend more time with her growing family.

Once the cafeteria construction project is under way, and more space becomes available, who knows what may be next? Although the café is currently too small for tables and chairs, there is a seating area just around the corner, where customers can enjoy their snacks. Wall space in this area is being considered for a small art gallery, so more local artists can be represented and enjoyed. Other improvements which have been suggested by patrons are the inclusion of Internet connectivity for laptops and more tables and chairs.

The new cafeteria will be about 8,800 square feet — compared to the existing one's 5,000 square feet. Sherrick Construction Inc., of Cookeville, Tenn., was awarded the nearly \$2 million contract Aug. 12.

# Don't let lice bug you or your children

## Head lice spread easily among kids

By **BARBARA ANDERSON**  
Community health nurse

Head lice outbreaks are common worldwide affecting 6 to 12 million people yearly. Preschool and elementary-age children are infested most often because the lice spread easily among children who are together in one place.

Head lice (Pediculosis) are tiny insects that live in the scalp. These insects lay eggs, called nits, which stick to the hairy parts of the body. Head lice do not have wings to hop, jump or fly. They must spread from person to person by direct contact or on items such as bedding, clothing, hats, combs, hairbrushes and headphones. As long as the lice or eggs remain alive on the infected person or surface, they remain ready to attach and grow on a new host.

Head lice do not live on pets and you cannot get head lice from a pet. In the U.S., African-Americans are rarely bothered by head lice. This is believed to be due to louse's preference for the shape and width of the hair shaft of other races.

A person's first hint of an infection with lice is itching and scratching in the area where the lice feed. Scratching the area can increase irritation and may result in a secondary bacterial infection. Scratching an itch is better done with the pads of the fingers, not the nails.

A close look at the scalp, behind the ears, in back of the neck and top of the head may show what looks like a case of dandruff. On a closer look, nits (or eggs) can easily be seen attached to the hair close to the scalp. They are grayish white in color and are oval in shape. The nit hatches into a nymph (louse) in about 7-10 days and soon becomes an adult. Adult lice are tan to grayish white and about the size of a sesame seed.

Adult females can lay up to eight nits per day and live 30 days. Lice feed on blood several times a day. Without blood meals, the louse will die within a few days.

What can be done if someone has head lice? Medicated shampoos or cream rinses containing lindane or pyrethrins can be used to kill eggs and lice. Products containing pyrethrins are available over-the-counter. Those containing lindane are only available through a physician's prescription and are not recommended for infants, young children and pregnant or breast feeding women. These products are pesticides approved for human use so the dose and use of shampoo treatment should be followed according to label instructions or the advice of the physician.

Before using any over-the-counter treatment for lice on an infant, talk to a physician. Nit combs are available to mechanically remove nits and lice from the hair. Do not treat anyone with a head lice product unless you find lice or nits in

their hair. Most school systems will allow children to return to class when there are no more nits in the hair.

At the same time treatment is given for head lice, the home or environment should be cleaned. Otherwise, re-infection may occur. Avoid using insecticide sprays to get rid of lice; they may be harmful to people and pets. Collect all clothes, towels and bed linens used by the person with head lice in the last two days. Wash these items in hot water and dry in a dryer at the hottest setting. Dry-clean clothing that cannot be washed. Any non-washable item can be sealed in a plastic bag for two weeks. Pillows or furry stuffed toys can be put in a hot dryer for 20 minutes. Clean all combs and brushes by soaking them overnight in the head lice treatment and rinse the next day. Never share combs, brushes or hats. Vacuum all carpets, mattresses, car seats or furniture. For more information, go to <http://www.webmd.com>.

*Editor's note: September is Lice Awareness Month.*

## Vision problems should be seen about early

### Complete eye examination advised for preschoolers

By **THERESA KENNEDY**  
Fox Army Health Center

Kentucky recently passed a law requiring all children to have a complete eye exam before entering preschool. Here's why. Many vision problems or potential vision problems go undiagnosed in children until that first vision screening at school, whenever that may be.

And some problems are missed even then, because a simple screening is insufficient; it takes a complete examination of the eyes to detect them. These problems include amblyopia (lazy eye), which consists of a decrease in visual acuity in an otherwise healthy eye, which cannot be corrected by glasses or contact lenses. Strabismus, or an eye turn, is another of these problems. It can be obvious or very subtle and can result in amblyopia if left untreated. Another such problem is anisometropia, or a significant difference in

prescription between the two eyes. It can result in amblyopia or strabismus.

There are also many internal eye diseases which may not be obvious during a simple vision screening. All of the above conditions can result in decreased depth perception and decreased efficiency of the visual system. As with most conditions, when these things are detected and treated early, the outcome is much better.

We all know how important vision is in our lives. For children in school, constantly learning, it is even more important. As much as 80 percent of learning can be attributed to the visual system. So, you see, examining children's eyes early and often (even ones who seem normal) is essential for a long, healthy, successful life.

For more information, log onto [www.oep.org](http://www.oep.org), or [www.covd.org](http://www.covd.org) or call the Optometry Clinic at 955-8888, ext. 1038.

*Editor's note: Theresa Kennedy is an optometrist at Fox Army Health Center.*

# 1st Armored dedicates Bob Hope dining facility

By Spec. SHAUNA MCROBERTS  
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Task Force 1st Armored Division's dining facility was dedicated to Bob Hope's memory in a ceremony at Baghdad International Airport Aug. 24.

"Today we honor one of our own, a truly great friend of America's soldiers, Bob Hope," Brig. Gen. Martin Dempsey, 1st Armored Div.'s commanding general, said.

Hope died July 27 shortly after his 100th birthday

He was one of television's most renowned comedians and actors, worked in vaudeville, radio, film, television, and most prominently as a United Services Organization entertainer. Hope spent much of World War II traveling the globe to entertain allied troops, a service he performed with gusto during wars in Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East. His "entertain-the-troops" tours became his enduring signature.

"For several generations of soldiers, Bob Hope brought us a piece of home, an infectious smile, great entertainment, and a brief break from the rigors of combat," Dempsey said. "Wherever there were U.S. soldiers in harm's way, Bob Hope was there with them. In the Pacific Islands, the hills of Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, and the sands of Desert Storm, Bob Hope was there."

SSgt. Robert Potter Jr., an imagery analyst with Headquarters and Headquarters Operations Company, 501st Military Intelligence Battalion, and Spec. Omid Zehtab, a tanker assigned to Company C, 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 1st

Armd. Div.'s Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year, unveiled the sign and the plaque, officially dedicating the dining facility to Bob Hope.

The dining facility, which is open 24 hours daily, serves chow to thousands of

1st Armored Div. Soldiers.

"This will be a place for soldiers to relax, joke with friends, tell stories and watch a little football," Dempsey said. "It will host the USO shows that Bob made famous, and it will help keep those smiles

on the faces of the next generation of American soldiers, doing their duty far from home."

*Editor's note: Spec. Shauna McRoberts is with the 1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office.*



Photo by Sandy Riebeling



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

## Working at the car wash

SSgt. Vashone Jordan of Delta Company takes a Gatorade break between car washes. Delta held a car wash Sept. 24 to raise money for its

Bill Napier, deputy director of the electronics and technology training department, does the rinsing while SFC Roy Oshiro, left, and SSgt. Bruce Litaker, both of Delta Company, scrub off the grime.

# Youth bowled over at appreciation day

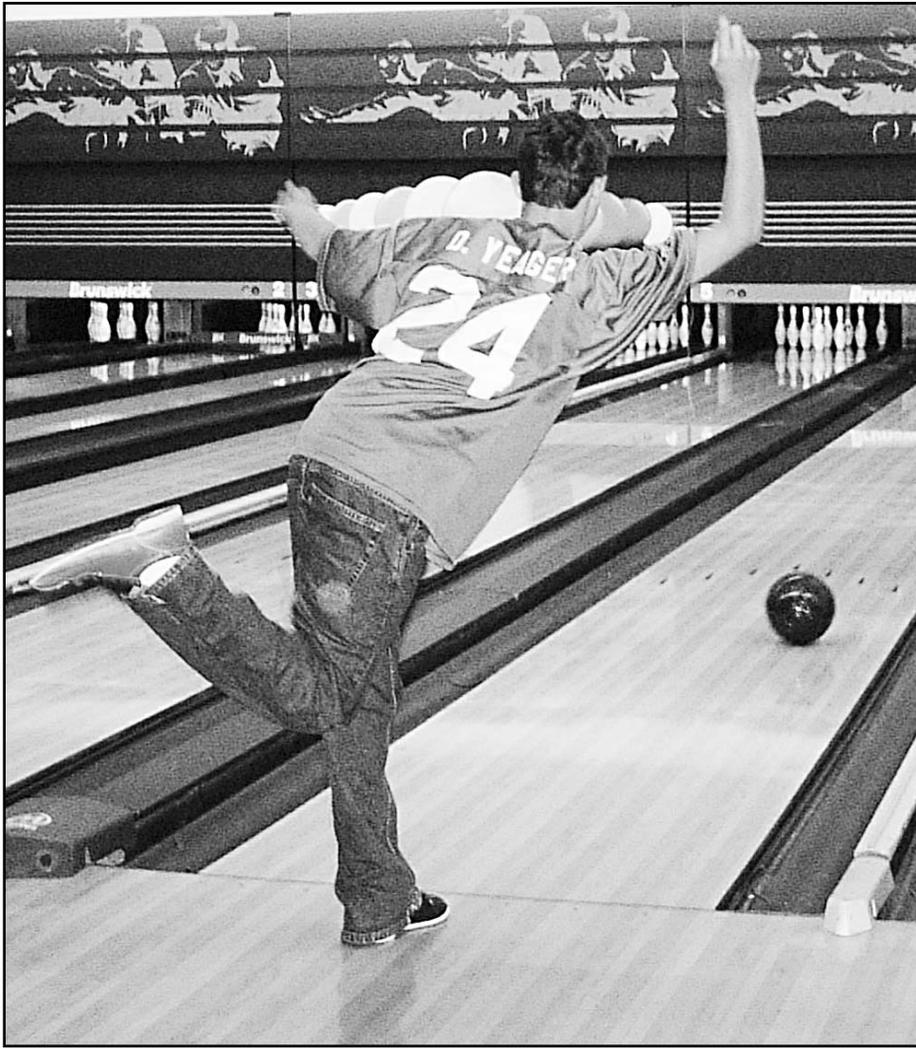


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**FOLLOW THROUGH—** Daniel Yeager, 14, has bowled in the YABA leagues at Redstone Lanes for several years.

## YABA league play begins Sept. 6

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
sandy@htimes.com

Every Saturday morning, beginning in September, Mary Parrish and her husband, Byron, take their six grandchildren and one “adopted” grandson to Redstone Lanes. It’s a tradition they started with their own children 25 years ago.

But they’re not the type of grandparents to sit on the sidelines and watch. Mary and “Pops,” as the children call him, are also head coaches for the Young American Bowling Alliance league at the center.

“We love children,” she said, sitting at the YABA registration table Aug. 23, signing in children and handing out food and drink coupons. About 150 children attended Youth Appreciation Day, getting in some preseason practice with free games and shoe rental. “About 40 kids signed up for leagues that have never been on our roster,” she said. “We had a great day. Everybody had a great time.”

Redstone YABA is split into two leagues. The junior-senior league is for youth 12 and older. The Lucky Strikers are ages 3-11. Registration is open to any youth affiliated with the Arsenal. Registration is \$11 for the season and you do not have to be a member of Child and Youth Services to bowl. League play is on Saturday mornings at 10 beginning Sept. 6. Weekly fee is \$6 and includes three games and free shoe rental.

“I live closer to Pin Palace but I still come here,” said Claire Camp, informa-

tion specialist at the garrison’s Directorate of Information Management and assistant coach for the YABA league. “The kids love coming here. It’s cheaper than any other league in the city but it’s very organized – a quality league. I’m a bowler in the summer league.”

Camp’s daughters, Chelsea and Kayla, have been Lucky Strikers for the last four years. “I like the special occasions,” Chelsea said. “You know, the parties, like on Halloween.”

“It’s the best,” Daniel Yeager, 14, said of the league. “I’ve been bowling six or seven years here. Love it.”

Sarah McNeely, 9, signed up for leagues during Youth Appreciation Day. She and her mother, Mary Lou, came out for a day of fun.

“I like to bowl lots and lots,” Sarah said. “I used to come here every Saturday with my dad.” Sarah’s dad, SFC Robert McNeely, is in Baghdad after spending three months in Kuwait. “I have good memories of us here together.”

League registration is open throughout the season. Anyone interested in league play can call Redstone Lanes at 876-6634 or Mary Parrish at 882-0590.

Parrish is also asking the community to support a YABA fund-raiser to help defray member cost to participate in the state tournament in Dothan and in the city tournament. Entry fee is about \$25 per tournament.

“We’re asking individuals and offices on post to save and donate their empty computer cartridges (printer, fax and copier ink jet and laser). We’ll come out and get them or you can drop them off at the bowling center,” she said. “We really appreciate all the help we can get.”



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**‘POPS’ULAR WITH THE KIDS—** One of the head coaches, Byron “Pops” Parrish is surrounded by admirers, from left, Rayne Riebeling, assistant coach Claire Camp, and Camp’s children Kayla, 9, and Chelsea, 12.

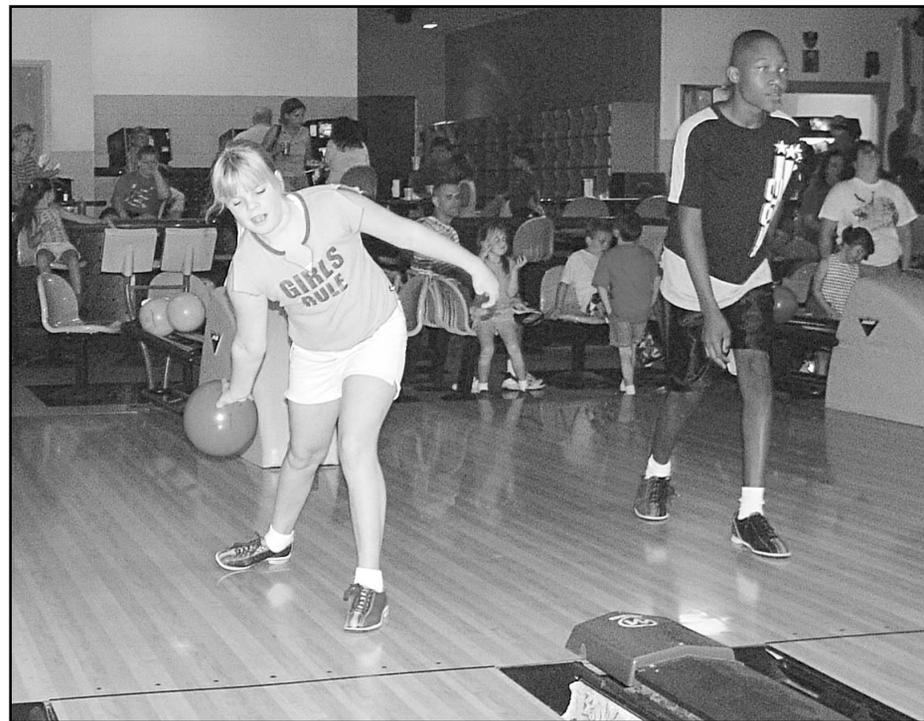


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**LEAGUE NEWCOMER—** Sarah McNeely, 9, daughter of SFC Robert and Mary Lou McNeely, signed up for her first league season at Youth Appreciation Day at Redstone Lanes Aug. 23. Cameron Nichols, son of retired Sgt. Maj. Clifton and SFC Penny Nichols, bowls on the next lane.



## Sports & Recreation

### Bowling league

The Monday night military mixed bowling league is looking for additional bowlers. All military, active or retired, Reserve or National Guard and their spouses, are eligible to join this fun league. The new season will start Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. For information call Maryellen Myers 464-0583 or Ray Weinberg 885-0089.

### Boating safety class

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct Boating Safety Classes through Sept. 25 on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in building 3305, Stillwell Hall, Zeus Drive, room 215. There is a \$22 fee to cover text and materials. This boating safety class will satisfy requirements for the state boating operator's license and can reduce the cost of boat insurance. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 or 830-6621.

### Recreation volunteers

Volunteers are wanted to assist with and instruct Outdoor Recreation programs like hunting, fishing, shooting, canoeing, archery, boating, camping, hiking and special projects. Those eligible persons interested in volunteering for the 2003-04 year should apply at Outdoor Recreation, building 5132, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. For more information, call Mike 876-0901 or 876-4868.

### Hunter orientations

Redstone Arsenal Hunting Orientations, for everyone planning to hunt on post, will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 4, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Nov. 6 and Nov. 20 at the Recreation Center, building 3711. Participants only have to attend one session. For information call Missy 876-4868 or Mike 876-0901.

### Volksmarch

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officers Association, in conjunction with the MWR Oktoberfest, is holding a Volksmarch, Sept. 13. The start point will be at the Recreation Center, building 3711. Walkers may begin anytime from 8-11 a.m. Tickets are \$3 per walker at the start point. Adult and children's walking sticks as well as commemorative mugs will be available for purchase. And don't forget to stay when you are done walking because MWR's Oktoberfest begins at noon.

### Japanese swordsmanship

Interested in learning a traditional martial art? If so contact jeshern@comcast.net and www.shinkendo.com.

### Union meeting

American Federation of Government Employees will hold its monthly meeting 5 p.m. Sept. 8 at building 3202, conference room, on Mauler Road. For an agenda, see <http://www.afge1858.org>.

### Retired eagles

Retired colonels/captains with their spouses and widows of retired colonels and captains are invited for cocktails and dinner Sept. 13 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Reservations are required. These semiannual "gatherings of retired eagles" are strictly social affairs to renew acquaintances and meet other retired O-6's from the Tennessee Valley. For more information or an invitation, call 880-6701.

### Enlisted spouses

The Enlisted Spouses Club will meet Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Challenger Activity Center. "The theme is '70s night, so dress the part and enjoy some fondue afterward," a prepared release said. "We help the local community with volunteer hours and various donations and scholarships. Membership costs \$15 per year and we're open to all active duty and retired enlisted spouses. Membership extends to GS-8 and below, too. We're looking for people to help out during Oktoberfest. If you can help set up on Sept. 10, or help in the food tent Sept. 12 or 13, please let us know." Call Jennifer Kennedy 895-6782 or 837-3310 for more information.

### Protestant children

Protestant "Patch the Pirate" Club for children in kindergarten through fifth-grade meets every Wednesday from 3:30-5 p.m. The first meeting and registration is today in the Assembly Room at the Bicentennial Chapel. Call Chris Fishel 489-0939 or 520-3607 for more information.

### Youth ministry

Club Beyond meets every week at 50 Bomford Road. Middle school (grades 6-8) meetings are Sundays from 2:30-4 p.m. and high school meetings are Thursdays at 7:11 p.m. Call Mike Fishel 520-3606 for more information.

### Aeronautics group

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics will have its September dinner meeting Sept. 16 at the Holiday Inn at Research Park (by Madison Square Mall). Social begins at 6:15 p.m., with dinner at 7. Scheduled speaker is David King, director of Marshall Space Flight Center. Cost is \$25 per person. For reservations call Joe Sims 544-4650 by noon Sept. 15.

## Conferences & Meetings

### Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone Arsenal group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of Bicentennial Chapel.

## Miscellaneous

### Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.



Courtesy photo

## Oktoberfest sounds

**Terry Cavanagh & the Alpine Express will perform at Oktoberfest Sept. 11-14 at the activity field. Gates open at 5 p.m. Sept. 11-12, noon on Sept. 13 and 1 p.m. Sept. 14. The event is open to the public.**

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5 and Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. The Thrift Shop seeks more volunteers for Thursdays and Fridays. A "dollar-a-bag sale" on selected merchandise will be held Sept. 6. And the shop's first craft fair, to become an annual event, is Oct. 4. Signup sheets will be available at the shop. The shop will start taking fall items today. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Male singers

The Rocket City Barbershop Chorus invites all male singers to join it for a musical tribute to the fallen heroes of Sept. 11. This program is dedicated to the families and victims of the terrorist attacks — New York, Pentagon, American Airlines Flight 11, United Airlines Flight 175, American Airlines Flight 77 and United Airlines Flight 93 — and to all the heroic emergency service personnel and volunteers who gave of themselves unselfishly to aid them. This tribute will be performed Sept. 11; and rehearsals are being held at 7 p.m. every Thursday in the fellowship hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 12901 Bailey Cove Road southeast. For more information, call John Gonzalez 852-2408 or Gerald Roberts 881-3762.

### Johnson High reunion

Johnson High's Class of 1983 will hold its 20-year reunion Oct. 17-18. For more information, call Sheila Luck (Smith) 536-0341.

### Huntsville High reunion

The Huntsville High School Class of 1978 will hold its 25th reunion Sept. 20. "There are still a number of classmates we are seeking," a prepared release said. "Are you one of them or know their where-

abouts?" For more information, visit the reunion web site: <http://www.78hhs.com>.

### Alabama A&M reunion

Alabama A&M University Class of 1978 will hold a 25th reunion Oct. 4 during homecoming celebration. For more information, call Debra Henderson 830-0579 or Richetta Wilkerson 851-7917.

### Children's center

Child and Youth Services is accepting applications for its Child Development Center (ages 6 weeks to 5 years), School Age Services (kindergarten through fifth-grade), middle school and teen (grades 6-12), and Family Child Care (4 weeks to 12 years). Items needed for registration include completion of the registration packet, current shot record and current physical. You may pick up the registration packets at the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. You may also visit the web site at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) and download the CYS forms. Registration cost is \$15 per child or \$35 per family. These programs are open to children of anyone who works on, lives on or can legally access Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call Chris Carter 876-3704 or Pam Berry 955-6309.

### Logistics achievement awards

The Integrated Materiel Management Center is accepting nominations for the 2003 E.A. Young Logistics Achievement Award. Two awards — the Management/Executive Award for GS-13s and above and the Professional/Technical Award for GS-13s and below (or military equivalents) — will be presented at a luncheon Nov. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Eligible population for the award includes all Team Redstone personnel who contribute to the logistics mission at AMCOM and meet the awards' criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Sept. 9. For more information, call Faye Yates 876-1757 or Debra Foley 842-6783

## Retirement ceremony

The Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is Sept. 25 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate. If you would like to participate, call SFC Pettitt 876-2819 or Sarah Brazzel 313-0546. Deadline for signing up is Sept. 5.

## Army family team building

You're invited to make the connection with Army Family Team Building, Level I. Learn about military customs and courtesies, the chain of command/chain of concern, family and military expectations, impact of the mission on family life, benefits/entitlements/compensation, and how to support your child's education. The classes are free and open to anyone who supports an Army servicemember (spouse, parent, grandparent, significant other, guardian or friend). Come meet others new to Army life — you'll find out you're not alone and that a basic understanding of Army culture and lifestyle can open so many doors. The learning environment is casual and child care will be provided free of charge. Level I classes will be held Sept. 23-25 from 6-9 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. Call 876-5397 by Sept. 12 to enroll.

## Still serving specials

The Post Exchange will honor its retired military customers with a Sept. 19-21. Shop each day for "Still Serving" specials. On Sept. 20 at 2 p.m., register to win a \$200 shopping spree at the PX. The first 300 retirees get a free gift (limit one per family). Play balloon bust from 2-3 p.m. Visit the Service Station for a Tire Sale from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Stop by the One Stop for a wine tasting event from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and a spirits tasting from 1-5 p.m. All day Sept. 20, seniors enjoy free senior drinks at the Redstone Burger King. Register to win a Thomas Kincaide painting at the Furniture Store. Mark your calendars for this event in September.

## 9/11 tribute

A special one-hour 9/11 commemorative tribute will be held at 9 a.m. Sept. 11 in Bob Jones Auditorium for Team Redstone. The theme for the ceremony is "Americans, United We Stand, A Tribute to Freedom." The tribute is designed as way for Team Redstone members to come together and show their support for the families of victims and for the nation. For more information, call Sam Wright 955-3154 or e-mail september11@redstone.army.mil.

## Bingo pack night

Challenger Bingo will have Special Pack Nights on Sept. 5 and 19 from 5:45-10 p.m. Come on out for extra games; buy one game pack and get one free, as well as free snacks. Call 837-0750/ 0751 for details.

## Community luau

The Redstone Arsenal MWR Community Hawaiian Luau has been rescheduled for Sept. 26 from 4-8 p.m. at the Firehouse, building 115 on Hankins Road. Come on

out for a Polynesian night of fun in your favorite Hawaiian outfit, grass skirt, or wild shirt. There will be a Hawaiian buffet, dancers, limbo and contests. Tickets are \$8 for adults (\$6 for NCO Club members) and \$3 for children 7-12; with free admission for children 6 and under. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-1203.

## Missouri-Rolla scholarship

The North Alabama MSM-UMR Alumni Section announces its annual section scholarship to prospective students who intend to enroll at the University of Missouri-Rolla. This is an annual \$1,000 renewable scholarship that is contingent on the student maintaining a 2.75 grade point average. Any prospective UMR student desiring to apply for this scholarship who meets the UMR qualifications for admission, can complete the section's scholarship application by contacting the UMR Office of Admissions, 1870 Miner Circle, 106 Parker Hall, Rolla, Mo., 65409, phone 1-800-522-0938 or e-mail admissions@umr.edu.

## Veterinary clinic

The Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics Sept. 16 from 4-6 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk-in basis for routine vaccinations and heartworm tests only. For more information, call 876-2441.

## Oktoberfest

Redstone Arsenal's eighth annual Oktoberfest is a delight for adults and children of all ages. Come on out Sept. 11-14 for German schnitzel, bratwurst, and other cuisine, delicacies, and beverages served by the Soldatenstube German restaurant. Terry Cavanagh and the Alpine Express will be in the 'Fest tent each night with plenty of authentic games, music, and traditional Bavarian dance. Games, carnival rides, a kids area with two bands, military displays, an arts and crafts fair, and parking are included with the gate admission. Oktoberfest 2003 will be held on the Activity Field near the intersection of Patton and Aerobee roads. 'Fest times are that Thursday, 5-11 p.m.; Friday, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturday, noon to 1 a.m.; and Sunday, 2-6 p.m. Price is Sept. 11 and 14, \$8; and Sept. 12 and 13, \$10. There's no advance ticket sales — all tickets for purchase at the gate. Look for \$2-off coupons (limit one coupon per person) in *The Huntsville Times*, *Redstone Rocket*, and at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com). For more information, call 876-5232.

## River float trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring an Elk River Float Trip, Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. The CWFC group rate is \$17.50 per person and \$5 for children. Bring your food basket for lunch in the picnic area. Elk River canoe rental is located nine miles east of Fayetteville, Tenn., on Highway 64. For reservations call Patricia Cross, CWFC Special Events Committee chairman, 955-9640.