

RedstoneRocket

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Redstone stays relevant with community's support

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Redstone Arsenal is growing and thriving.

Redstone Senior Commander Lt. Gen. Ed Daly shared that message at the Redstone Update presented by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber, Dec. 4 at the Von Braun Center's North Hall.

With 44,000 workers and 78 agencies, this Army post has evolved into a Federal Center of Excellence with worldwide impact. Daly said its four core competencies include logistics services; space operations and missile defense; research, development, test and engineering; and intelligence and homeland defense.

"Our nation's leaders look to us to solve complex issues, to discover new ideas, to address threats and, ultimately,

to keep our nation safe," Daly said. "Our missions extend way beyond any state or U.S. boundary. We have a worldwide impact."

The Redstone workforce is projected to exceed 50,000 by 2025; and this is without any base realignment and closure action. Currently, Redstone Arsenal has a \$22 billion economic impact annually, more than 44,000 employees with indirect employment of 108,000, and more than \$2 billion in infrastructure, Daly said.

"Redstone Arsenal is growing, we are thriving and it's absolutely, unequivocally these continuing efforts that make us relevant not only to the Tennessee Valley but also to the nation's defense," he said.

Daly reviewed some of the major impacts of Redstone's 78-plus tenants. The installation's senior command – Army

See Update on page 16



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Redstone Senior Commander Lt. Gen. Ed Daly speaks at the Redstone Update luncheon Dec. 4 at the Von Braun Center's North Hall.

SMDC welcomes new commanding general

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command

Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler assumed command of the Space and Missile Defense Command and the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense from Lt. Gen. James Dickinson during a change of command ceremony Friday in the Von Braun III auditorium.

During the ceremony, Gen. James McConville, Army chief of staff, placed a Superior Unit Award streamer on the SMDC colors before accepting them from Dickinson and then passing them to Karbler. He then thanked Dickinson and his wife, Angie, for all they have done for the Army and the command.

"Giving up the colors is never easy," McConville said. "But thank you for your steady hand and leadership of SMDC. I know the community here is sad to lose you and Angie, but we are all excited that such a great team will be moving over to U.S. Space Command. I know the command there will be better

for having you both."

McConville then welcomed Karbler and his wife, Leah, and challenged him to build upon the SMDC legacy.

"I have full trust and confidence that SMDC is in good hands," McConville said. "You have the skills and experience this command needs. We look forward to seeing you and Leah lead the SMDC team going forward. I know the community here will wrap its arms around you both and I have no doubt that SMDC is better for your leadership."

The Army chief of staff also took a moment to talk about the impact of the command and the role SMDC Soldiers, civilians and family members have in maintaining peace around the world.

"I want to thank all of you for what you do every single day to make us the world's greatest military," McConville said. "Today's ceremony is really about more than just passing the colors, it's a chance to recognize this command and the men and women who make it great. Winning matters in our profession.

See General on page 21



Photo by Cecil Longino

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command, passes the command colors to SMDC Command Sgt. Maj. Finis Dodson during a change of command ceremony Friday in the Von Braun III auditorium. Karbler assumed command of SMDC as well as the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense during the ceremony.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Holiday spirit strong at tree lighting event.

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MILITARY SCENE

Unit ministry teammate joins ranks of NCOs.

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WIN OR LOSE

Defending champ Mavericks soar in their season opener.

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RocketViews

On this date in history: Dec. 11

In 2012: At least 125 people were killed and up to 200 injured in bombings in the Alawite village of Aqrab, Syria.

In 1972: Apollo 17 became the sixth and final Apollo mission to land on the Moon.

In 1941: Germany and Italy declared war on the United States, following the Americans' declaration of war on the Empire of Japan in the wake of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The United States, in turn, declared war on them.

In 1941: During World War II, the Imperial Japanese Navy suffered its first loss of surface vessels during the Battle of Wake Island.

In 1816: Indiana became the 19th U.S. state.

Quote of the week

“Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you.”

— Carl Sandburg
U.S. biographer and poet (1878-1967)

Send your letters to editor

The Redstone Rocket invites your signed letters to the editor and your commentaries. Unsigned letters will not be published. Send your letters and commentaries to Skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com.

RedstoneRocket

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Where's the beef to block scam calls

The phone rang at 8:02 a.m. Thursday. Nobody calls me that early. At least nobody I want to talk to, because whoever it is never has anything good say. It varies from typos in the paper to grandma fell, we're taking her to the hospital.

As a general rule, the earlier my phone rings, the worse my day is going to be.

This time it was the Social Security Office who urgently needed to talk to me before the Federal Criminal Investigation Division started an investigation into the use of my Social Security number.

I hung up and blocked the number.

I don't mind scam calls, but if you're going to try to scam me at least have a live person on the other end of the phone. I can't share my wit with a robot.

At 8:29, they called back again. Then at 8:53 again, my caller ID said +1 603-450-6165.

This continued about every half hour until 2 p.m.

I know what you're thinking. If he blocked them at 8 a.m., how are they still getting through?

I don't know. So, I googled it. Google didn't know either.

Luckily, though, it seems all of the house lawmakers in Washington have a shared hatred for robocalls.

On Wednesday, they passed the

Snippets
By Jonathan Stinson
Assistant editor

TRACED Act to help combat the problem.

The act does three things. First, it requires phone companies to offer services that combat robocalls to consumers at no additional cost.

Second, it gives the Federal Communication Commission and other law enforcement agencies more authority to go after the people behind the scam calls.

Third, it creates a group within the Justice Department that will focus on prosecuting robocallers.

I'm not sure how successful the FCC and Justice Department will be combating the people who set up these call centers because they are so hard to pin down, and a lot of them operate outside of the U.S.

But I will gladly take the free service from my phone company. It'll only save me like \$2 a month, but \$2 is \$2.

At least that will buy me a cup of coffee the next time an early phone call ruins my morning.

Rocket takes holiday break

The Redstone Rocket will take its annual holiday break after the Dec. 18 paper. Our first issue of 2020 is Jan. 8. We wish you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

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First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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What do you think of your job?

"I was retired out of the defense and aerospace industry," Ron Warner, an access control technician at the ATF's National Center for Explosives Training and Research, said. "And after a couple of years being bored at home, this opportunity came along as a part-time job. And I've been here a little over two years and I love the job because I get to meet people from all over the world literally. As an access control technician, we screen everybody that comes into this building. So our job is to protect the integrity of the building and all the people in it. It's just a privilege to do that."

Warner, 79, a Huntsville native, is employed by Drodex/Moseley Technical Services in support of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. He graduated from Huntsville High in 1957 and from Auburn University in 1963 with a bachelor's in business. He served in the Army National Guard from 1958-60. Warner worked for SCI from 1963 to 2006 and subsequently for three other contractors until he retired in 2012. He and his wife of 35 years, Nina, have a daughter, Meagan Owens of Madison. He enjoys watching football and golf. Warner roots for the Auburn Tigers.



Ron Warner

Tis the season for safety

By Garrison Public Affairs

Burglars and porch pirates and con-men... Oh My! As the hectic rush of the 2019 holiday season quickly descends, ensuring the safety and security of your loved ones at home and work becomes so much more important. Safety is always an important topic for military families, and this is our holiday safety reminder.

Redstone law enforcement will be working hard during the holidays' to ensure that everyone who comes through Redstone's gates enters a secure environment. From our security guard force to our law enforcement officers, employees and families will see an increase in patrols and Random Access Measures throughout the holiday season.

On the home-front, employees and families should use extra care by using verified secure websites for online credit/debit card purchases, break down boxes from expensive purchases and do not put them out prior to trash day, and keep purchases in your trunk out of sight during a day full of shopping.

Above all, do not hesitate to say something if you see something that seems out of place. Often times, there are simple actions we all can take to ensure our safety through the holidays, and common sense decisions may just protect your money, possessions, and life. Stay safe this holiday season, Redstone!

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

Directorate of Operations, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following report for Nov. 24-30:

Nov. 25: A security guard at Gate 8 requested a police officer because of possible drugs. Police made contact with the driver whose vehicle did not have a tag displayed and had the odor of marijuana. The driver consented to a search of the vehicle where a scale was found, including a green leafy substance. The driver was arrested after failing a series of field sobriety tests and was transported to the police station for further processing. The driver was advised of the implied consent and

was asked to submit to a blood draw at Huntsville Hospital. A wrecker service towed the vehicle to their impound lot.

Nov. 25: While traveling west on Redstone Road, a vehicle collided with a deer and sustained minor damage. The deer was not located. Redstone game wardens were notified.

Nov. 27: A westbound vehicle on Martin Road collided with a deer and had functional damage. The deer was located on Martin Road east of Mills Road. Redstone game wardens were notified as was Minor Repair for removal.

For Nov. 24-30, one citation was issued for speeding.

Getting to know you

By WENDY REEVES

Staff writer

wendy.reeves@theredstonerocket.com

Name: Kevin Davidson

Profession: Individual taxpayer advisory specialist

What did you want to be when you grew up?

To be successful at whatever I choose to do.

What do you hope to accomplish within the next year?

Go on a cruise with my wife for the first time.

Who is your hero?

My mother. She raised me and four other siblings by herself.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?

Be the CEO of Amazon.

What is the best piece of advice someone has given you?

It's better to ask for forgiveness, than to ask for permission.



Know your laws: Alabama's Move Over Act

Alabama's Move Over Act was established to help prevent law enforcement deaths in traffic accidents.

The idea of Act 2019-520 is to force drivers to be more attentive behind the wheel and to encourage mindfulness among citizens.

As of Sept. 1, fines increased to \$100 for a first violation, \$150 for a second violation and \$200 for a third or subsequent violation.

Maj. Jimmine Haigler, military law attorney at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, has shared her research on Section 32-5A-58.2, Code of Alabama 1975, which is known as the Alabama Move Over Act.

The law reads in part:

"When driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the direction of the law enforcement vehicle, emergency vehicle, wrecker, utility service vehicle, vehicle

displaying flashing lights, or garbage, trash, refuse, or recycling collection vehicle, the driver shall vacate the lane closest to the law enforcement vehicle, emergency vehicle, wrecker, utility service vehicle, vehicle displaying flashing lights, or garbage, trash, refuse, or recycling collection vehicle, unless otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer. If it is not safe to move over, the driver shall slow to a speed that is at least 15 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit unless otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer.

"When driving on a two-lane road, the driver shall move as far away from the law enforcement vehicle, emergency vehicle, wrecker, utility service vehicle, vehicle displaying flashing lights, or garbage, trash, refuse, or recycling collection vehicle as possible within his or her lane and slow to a speed that is 15 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit

when the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour or greater or travel at 10 miles per hour when the posted speed limit is 20 miles per hour or less, unless otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer."

The act requires drivers to move over (as soon as it is safe) when they encounter emergency vehicles and any other vehicle with flashing lights stopped on the roadside. This applies to any first responder vehicle, to include an ambulance, police officer, a fire truck, or anybody responding. Additionally, any private car, if it has its flashing or emergency lights on. This also includes a tow truck or a garbage truck parked on the side of the road while personnel do their job. If drivers are unable to move over, the law requires them to slow down to at least 15 mph under the speed limit. On roads where the posted speed limit is less than 20 mph, motorists must reduce



speed to 10 mph. The only exception to these speeds is when a law enforcement officer directs otherwise.

Editor's note: Maj. Jimmine Haigler, military law attorney at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, did the research and provided the content for this article.



Lunch and Learn Program

December 18, 2019

"Streamlining the Pre and Post Negotiation Memorandum Process"

11:30 a.m. EST

<https://daunet.dau.edu/LunchandLearn/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Save the Date: DAU-South Acquisition Update

Save the Date: February 20, 2020

DAU-South Acquisition Update – a Free Event "Acquisition 20/20: Navigating DoD Acquisition in an Age of Transformation"

DAU-South Campus – Huntsville, AL and Via WebEx

Registration Coming Soon!

Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Why you joined the Army.

"I had an interest in the Army," Maj. Greg Metellus, a student at the Command and General Staff School, said. "When I was a teenager, I was in what was called the Civil Air Patrol in Miami, Florida. That sparked my interest in the military. After I graduated from the University of Miami in 2003, I spent a couple of years in the civilian workforce. And then I ran into a recruiter. And he started to talk to me about some of the programs in the Army. And I enlisted in 2006 and I went to basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, knowing there were programs I could transition into being an officer. It's been an amazing experience. The places I've been, the interactions I've had with people I normally wouldn't have had and then the growth that I've experienced through the different assignments that I've had, have made me a better person both personally and professionally."

Metellus, 39, from Miami, is active duty for the Army Reserve and he received a direct commission in 2009. He started as a military intelligence officer and transitioned to civil affairs in 2011. He is chief of operations for the 436th Civil Affairs Battalion in Sanford, Florida. Metellus was deployed to Afghanistan from 2008-09, twice to Haiti in 2010 and 2011, and to the Dominican Republic in 2012. He and his wife of six years, Malenny, have two sons, Alexander, 15, and Dominique, 1, and two daughters, Nevaeh, 10, and Alaia, 3. He roots for the Miami Hurricanes.



Maj. Greg Metellus

CommunityNews

Holiday spirit strong at tree lighting ceremony

By WENDY REEVES

Staff writer

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Santa Claus stopped by the annual Redstone Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday and said he saw a lot of good boys and girls.

"There were a few who were undecided but I told them the most important time is between now and Christmas," Santa said as the event wrapped up. "So there's still time for them."

The man in red took a lot of photos with children who waited in line for a chance to share their requests for the upcoming holiday. The number one request, Santa said, was for hover boards, closely followed, if not tied by walkie-talkies.

"The best request I heard was from one little girl who just wants her mom to be better and one boy who wants to be with his dad but he can't because his father is deployed," Santa said.

Decked out in a festive red holiday dress, Lauren Moe, 5, was among those who enjoyed seeing Santa, according to her grandfather Owen Moe, a Vietnam veteran. He served in the Army. Her favorite part was "everything."

"It's really good," Lauren said of the Huntsville Ballet dancers after being held up high by her grandfather to see the special performance of excerpts from the upcoming 50th annual production of *The Nutcracker*.

Grant Lee, 3, also watched the ballet performance intently perched on his dad Chris Lee's shoulders.

"None of us have ever seen the ballet so we enjoyed it," said Nicole Lee, mom of Grant, Christian, 7, and Vivienne, 5. It was the family's first time to experience the Arsenal's tree lighting and holiday kickoff party.

"It's more than exceeded our expecta-



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith reads *The Night Before Christmas*.

tions," said Chris Lee, a former Navy lieutenant and supply officer.

Every space in The Summit was buzzing with activity as soon as the event got started at 4:30 p.m. Kids and their parents dropped off toys for the Marines Toys for Tots Program and picked up free piggy banks from USAA.

Activities included tile painting in the Home Depot Kids Workshop, Holiday Card Making for Deployed Soldiers, chances to win toys, including a motorized police vehicle from Woody Anderson Ford.

There were many hugs given from Mrs. Claus as she mingled with the crowd, ornament making and toy soldier painting.

First Command Financial Planning was on hand with giveaways like tiny Santa and Elf hats and a prize Lego Toy Soldier giveaway.

Around 5:30, Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith was joined by Aeliana Albandoz, the 4-year-old daughter of fallen 1st Lt. David Albandoz. Smith held the little girl's hand until together they pulled the lever to light the 12-foot tree. Her mother, Nicoleta Padureanu, was there to cheer them on, following the tradition of having a Gold Star family participate in the annual event, coordinated by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Following the tree lighting, everyone headed back inside as Smith gave a reading of *The Night Before Christmas*.

Kids also decorated ice cream cone Christmas trees with buttercream frosting and colorful sweet treats. Then there was the food, including Mrs. Ruby's Chili,

a chocolate fountain, chips and dip, hot chocolate and citrus water. Many children chomped the colorful Christmas trees they had carefully crafted.

Ann Do returned to the event for the second year with her children Ryan Liu, 7, and Tylee Liu, 4. Their father, Sgt. Eason Liu was working but the family had fun at the event. Ryan loved "toy time," while Tylee had a big time painting a Christmas tree on a tile.

"Last year it was very good for the children and the lighting of the tree is beautiful so we came back," Do said.

Lana Barshinger and Atty Allred of the Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club were among the many volunteers who kept the holiday party going strong.

"The kids and families are having a great time and this is great bonding time for them while they're here together," Barshinger said in between handing out bowls filled with ice cream cones and green frosting and candies.

Allred helped dish out chips and dip which was pretty popular based on the near empty container of cheese dip. She's been helping out with the annual event for years.

"I love it," she said. Allred put together the Snow Village and coordinated the decorating of the 12 trees by the RSAMCC at The Summit.

While Carl Bell, who works in the Arts & Crafts Center, was busy volunteering to help kids paint toy soldiers, his wife Alissa led their children Joseph, 8 and Amelia, 4, through the festivities. Amelia loved decorating the ice cream cone tree and Joseph most enjoyed painting a toy soldier where his dad was working. Amelia asked Santa to bring her a Barbie.

Santa said she is on the "Good List" but that all behavior between now and Christmas is the determining factor for all children.

As he was preparing to leave the event as it ended around 7 p.m., Santa said, "I want to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year."



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Zachary Johnston is focused on his work Thursday night at the annual Redstone Tree Lighting.



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Members of the Huntsville Ballet Company perform parts from *The Nutcracker*. There will be a special military night Thursday. For more information, visit www.huntsvilleballet.org/nutcracker-military-night.

In this section...

SUPPORT GROUP OF FRIENDS ENCIRCLE GOLD STAR FAMILY
YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY RECIPE
JROTC CADET PUSHES PROPER FLAG ETIQUETTE
PARENTS RECEIVE HOLIDAY GIFT OF NIGHT OUT
GIVE THE GIFT OF RECREATION EXPERIENCE
WORKFORCE PREPARES TO PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULT
NEW CANCER SCREENINGS APPROVED FOR TRICARE USERS
HELICOPTER PILOT'S FATHER ALSO SERVED IN VIETNAM

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Support group of friends encircle Gold Star family

By WENDY REEVES

Staff writer

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When her name was called, Aeliana Albandoz walked over to Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith and the two pulled a lever, almost as tall as she is, lighting the 2019 Christmas tree.

It was around 5:30 p.m. Thursday. A large crowd counted down, 5-4-3-2-1 – followed by applause and cheers as the dark night was immediately filled with bright light from the 12-foot tall tree located at The Summit.

Aeliana estimated the tree had “a ton” of lights on it as she spread her arms out wide standing in front of it.

The 4-year-old wasn’t done, even though the crowd started wandering back inside to enjoy holiday activities and food. Held in the arms of her mother, Nicoleta Padureanu, the two had been posing for photographs in front the tree, a podium and microphone was nearby. Once close, Aeliana grabbed the microphone and said, “Thank you.”

Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Director Derrick Gould turned the microphone back on and handed it to the young girl, who proceeded to say a few words and sing a rendition of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.”

“That’s appropriate,” a nearby woman said to Aeliana, “Just look at all of those little lights, they do look like stars.”

It was a poignant moment.

“You make me so proud,” Nicoleta told her daughter.

Earlier in the week, sitting in the living room of their Madison home, Nicoleta said the holiday season, starting with Thanksgiving is a tough time for the mother and daughter after the loss of husband and father, 1st Lt. David Albandoz.

Albandoz was among eight members of the Puerto Rico Air National Guard killed on May 2, 2018, when the WC-130H they were delivering to Davis-Monthan



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Aeliana Albandoz, 4, daughter of fallen warrior 1st Lt. David Albandoz, helps Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith throw the switch to light Redstone's Christmas Tree.

See Family on page 9

Your favorite holiday recipe

Here's one from Katie Skelley, Rocket staff writer:

Slow Cooker Buffalo Chicken Dip

Ingredients:

4 cups cooked chicken breasts, shredded (she cooks hers in her Instant Pot and shreds the chicken with her stand mixer)

8 ounces cream cheese

3/4 cup buffalo sauce

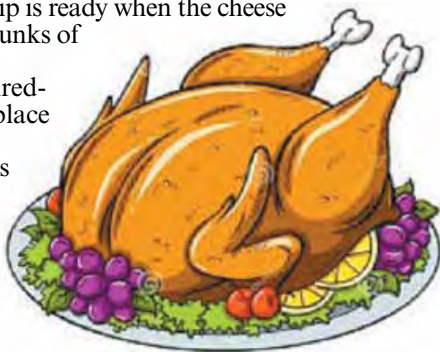
1 cup ranch dressing

2 cups cheddar cheese shredded (leave out 1/2 cup to sprinkle on top at end)

Toss all of the ingredients into your slow cooker and cook for 3-4 hours on low heat or 1-2 hours on high heat, stirring every 30 minutes until the whole mixture is heated through. The dip is ready when the cheese is fully melted and you no longer see chunks of cream cheese.

Sprinkle the 1/2 cup of remaining shredded cheddar cheese over the top and place the lid back on, letting the dip continue to cook until the cheese on top is melted.

Serve with tortilla chips, corn chips, veggies, crackers, bread ... whatever suits your fancy.



Family

Continued from page 6

Air Force Base in Arizona crashed shortly after takeoff outside of Savannah, Georgia. A native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, he spent 16 years serving in the Air Force, including deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He was 37.

"It doesn't matter how long it's been, when you lose someone you're going to feel it this time of year more poignantly," Nicoleta said. "For myself I like to retreat and spend time at home but I've found that having a support group of friends and spending time with them, it doesn't replace the person you lost but it sometimes makes it better."

Friends are the family that help her make it through the tough times. She and Aeliana were surrounded by them at the tree lighting ceremony. Nicoleta said she's found an inner strength to help her stay strong for her daughter when they attend military events. It's hard, but she wants her Aeliana to meet other military kids and to know that part of her father.

"They're all nice events and I think it's how you move forward. It's cathartic," she said, while not always easy.

At an event earlier in the year, Aeliana mistook a uniformed Gen. Gus Perna

for her father, running up to him saying, "Papa!"

"I started crying ... she's still so young and doesn't understand," Nicoleta said. "Gen. Perna was wonderful. He held her, gave her extra attention and introduced her to his wife."

She knows as their daughter gets older she will have more questions and she's preparing for it. For now, she relishes the joyful moments that fill each day with Aeliana.

"She is so much like him," Nicoleta said. "She is super fun and mischievous, just like him. She's bright and there's never a moment of boredom around here."

Nicoleta said this year, more than ever, Aeliana speaks of Santa. She knows with their family of friends, they will have the best possible holiday.

"We want to wish everyone happy holidays and I hope people will remember those who have not only lost ones they love, but don't forget those who have been injured in service because that is still a traumatic thing," she said. "This is a hard time for all who have had these experiences. I want to wish strength and joy to our serving members, wherever their service may take them this season; the wounded warriors, the POWs and MIAs – and their families. Also all of our veterans and their families, we thank you all for your and your families sacrifices."



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

After the tree lighting, Aeliana Albandoz, 4, daughter of fallen warrior 1st Lt. David Albandoz, sings a song.

JROTC cadet pushes proper flag etiquette

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

Sean Huh is a young leader who strives to improve himself and those around him. When the student saw a shortage of flags at Bob Jones High School, he did something about it.

Huh, a senior who serves as cadet commander of the school's JROTC program, contacted Redstone Arsenal leaders for assistance. He said he felt obligated to share with others his respect for the American flag and he knew Redstone was a good place to start.

"Our flag is not just a piece of material, but a message," Huh said. "It is a representation of the people, united under one nation, under God, indivisible, and with liberty and justice for all. When I recite the pledge every morning at my high school, I take a personal note of the sacrifices that have been made for me to stand where I am and enjoy the freedoms I have today. The American flag is a symbol of our freedom, dignity, and to our many men and women who fight to keep that flag flying high. It is always important to pay tribute and respect



Sean Huh

for those who relinquish their own freedoms to ensure our nation remains strong and free."

Several Redstone organizations and af-

filiates responded to assist the school's JROTC program. These include the Garrison, Sergeants Major Association and Troop 96, Scouting BSA led by scout master Mary Breeden. These groups expressed their willingness to provide flag etiquette training and other mentoring opportunities to support the cadets.

Breeden, relocation readiness program manager at Army Community Service, said she was eager to help the JROTC team.

"I'm very patriotic myself, so I was very eager to help out," Breeden said. "We collect distressed flags. Our troop recently retired 708 flags in August. I know many military organizations that would love to work with this group on sharing information and donating flags to them. I am glad that they are taking the lead."

Breeden said she provided the cadets a flyer used to tell people about flag etiquette. One of her scouts will help provide flag training as an Eagle Scout project.

Huh said the JROTC program instills within students a sense of leadership, selfless service and honor. He said military service members have helped shape him into the person that he is today. His mother,

Valerie Huh, was a cadet commander in her JROTC program during high school and received a ROTC scholarship to Texas Christian University. His father, Col. Beaver Huh of Redstone, attended the U.S. Military Academy.

"My father is an immigrant from South Korea and a great example of the American dream – he's my hero," Huh said. "He arrived in the U.S. at the age of 3 and he and his family faced some intense hardships. He secured himself a future within West Point, and has brought me up in a nation of enduring freedom and opportunities. I also want to make a positive difference in my community."

Huh said his future plans include military service. He wants to become a commissioned officer through one of the service academies. He also wants to continue bringing awareness to flag etiquette.

"Under the guidance of my past and present aerospace science instructors, I feel confident in my ability to lead and educate others on what it takes to become a productive leader," he said. "I have an ethical obligation to inspire others to respect our nation's colors."

Parents receive holiday gift of night out

By WENDY REEVES

Staff writer

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Parents lined up and waited outside the Goss Road Child Development Center before it opened for Parents Night Out as visions of dinner, movies, shopping and sleep danced in their heads.

"I don't even know what I'm going to do except I won't be chasing a toddler," one mom said as she walked out after dropping off her child Friday. "I just need a break ... I'm probably just going to get some sleep, I need some sleep."

Parent feedback led to the first evening childcare opportunity in a while through the service provided by the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Parents Night Out was available from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Goss Road Child Development Center for children six weeks to age 5; and next door at the School Age Center for children in grades one through six.

"A lot of the parents have come in all dressed up and I've never seen them like that before but they're all smiles and excited about their night," said Deedra Mack, acting director of the Goss Road Child Development Center. "Usually when they come in they're tired after working all day and dragging a bit."

She didn't expect most parents to pick up until close to or right at 11 p.m.

Brianna Mixon dropped off her daughter Lily for a chance to go Christmas shopping.

"My husband, Luke is deployed (with the Marines) and this is blessing to say the least because we have no family here," Brianna said.

In Huntsville on temporary duty travel for four months, Nicholas and Christina Koreerat said it's hard to find a babysitter for their 3-year-old, Meka.

"When we saw this opportunity with people we already trust we wanted it," Christina said. "And she loves it here ... we're going to get food for sure and we'll see what happens from there."

Another mom rushing out the door told the staff she wasn't worried about getting dressed up anymore, she was just looking forward to getting something to eat with her husband.

Doremus and Christina Montgomery's daughter Kalvary was born nine months ago. They had a plan for their rare time off together, and dressed up for the occasion.

"We have reservations at Commerce Kitchen," Christina said. "We did plan because we don't get out much."

Melody and Milton Wilson dropped off one child at each of the childcare centers.



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Doremus and Christina Montgomery drop off their daughter Kalvary, 9 months, for Parents Night Out before heading out for an evening together.

"We don't have adequate childcare so we are paying for a night out," Melody said after dropping off her tearful son. "I would prefer it be on a Saturday because it would not be as hard on him. He was just here two hours ago and he is a routine child so he didn't quite understand."

Once her son Mason got into the classroom, the tears stopped when the fun started.

"We're just going to get something to eat, together," Melody said.

While the parents were taking a break, their kids had a fun-filled evening. They played with toys, participated in arts and crafts activities. The older kids kicked off their evening with dancing and karaoke, making slime, playing Bingo and watching the Lego movie.

Over at the School Age Center, 15 kids eagerly anticipated each number called for Bingo with teachers Holly Moulder and Franchezka Barnes.

"I know, I'm going to win, I'm going to win," one boy said, as another commented, "I'm getting sadder and sadder," as nearly full Bingo cards and the importance of each number called got to them.

In the end, 6-year-old Baelyn Green discovered she had won that game. As she dug through the prize box, it was hard to decide what to choose. Finally, she picked a blue ring and asked, "Can I get two? One for my brother and me?" She happily walked over and gave one of two rings to her twin brother, Braelyn, as the group prepared for another round of Bingo.

It was a long day for the teachers, who started early on Friday morning. "But we know the parents need to get out too," Strong Beginnings teacher Gloria Brazille said. "So it's worth it."

Give the gift of recreation experience

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

Staff writer/Social media

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Looking for a gift for that “hard to buy for person”? Family and MWR is here for you this holiday season with their gift certificate program.

“Anyone with access to Redstone, including recreation visitor badge holders, can purchase a gift certificate,” Stephanie Stone, of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said. “Keep in mind that whomever you are purchasing the gift

card for must also have access.”

What services can be used with the Family and MWR gift certificate?

“Massage therapy, the exclusive Redstone Arsenal Aquatics Center float pod; Auto Detailing; matting and framing projects and gift certificates can be used towards custom made gifts from the promotional services department at (June M. Hughes) Arts & Crafts Center,” Stone said.

Give the gift of an experience this holiday season. Stop by any of the participating Family and MWR activities to purchase a gift certificate.

Workforce prepares to prevent sexual assault

Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention training is offered from January through September. Here is the Team Redstone fiscal 2020 SHARP training schedule:

- Jan. 21 at 8:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium by the Aviation and Missile Command SHARP team
- Jan. 22 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the CCDC Aviation & Missile Center SHARP team
- Feb. 20 at 8:30 a.m. at Toftoy Hall by the CCDC Aviation & Missile Center SHARP team
- Feb. 27 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. by the Garrison SHARP team
- March 11 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Garrison SHARP team
- March 19 at 8:30 a.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Security Assistance Command SHARP team
- April 1 at 8:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium by the Aviation and Missile Command SHARP team
- May 21 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Garrison SHARP team
- June 18 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Garrison SHARP team
- July 16 at 8:30 a.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Security Assistance Command



SHARP team

- Aug. 20 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Garrison SHARP team
- Sept. 10 at 8:30 a.m. in Bob Jones Auditorium by the Aviation and Missile Command SHARP team
- Sept. 17 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Toftoy Hall by the Garrison SHARP team

New breast cancer screenings approved for Tricare users

Editor's note: The following story is being reprinted with the permission of Stars and Stripes, which retains all rights.

By NIKKI WENTLING

Stars and Stripes staff writer

WASHINGTON – The Defense Department will add new technology for breast cancer screenings to its Tricare coverage after female veterans in Congress pushed the Pentagon to make it available to active-duty service members, retirees and their families.

Digital breast tomosynthesis, a 3D mammogram said to better detect breast cancer, will be available for Tricare users beginning Jan. 1, but only on a temporary basis. The decision came after Rep.

Chrissy Houlahan, D-Pa., and Sen. Martha McSally, R-Ariz., urged Thomas McCaffery, the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, to expand Tricare coverage to include DBT screenings.

“I’m glad to see the Department of Defense step up and provide needed coverage for DBT screenings to our active-duty service members and others,” McSally said in a statement. “This common sense change will benefit the many women who utilize Tricare.”

The lawmakers introduced legislation in the House and Senate on Nov. 21 that would require Tricare to offer DBT as a primary and preventive health care service. Tricare already offers DBT in some instances for diagnosing patients but not for routine screenings.

Helicopter pilot's father also served in Vietnam

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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On Christmas Day 1971 in the Mekong Delta, 1st Lt. Marshall Eubanks decided to take a little trip to celebrate with the troops.

The Huey helicopter pilot, who had turned 23 the previous month, wasn't flying a mission that day with the 114th Assault Helicopter Company in Vinh Long. So he took an empty seat as a passenger on one of the unit's helicopters going to see the Bob Hope Christmas show at Long Binh on the other side of Saigon, about an hour flight.

"It was packed. There was thousands of troops there. The show was great. Troops were hooting and hollering and Bob Hope was his typical self with his comedy and his serious side," Eubanks recalled.

He flew UH-1H Hueys for the 114th from November 1971 until March 1972 and for the 18th Aviation Company in Cantho from April to November 1972. The 18th had a weekly mission to take two Hueys to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to support the U.S. Embassy. Eubanks flew deep into Cambodia, all the way to the ruins of Angkor Wat.

He had about 825 combat hours and received a Distinguished Flying Cross.

"At first it was very interesting to be involved in something like that – very challenging," Eubanks said. "And it went from exhilarating on certain missions to very sad when we lost fellow Soldiers."

The Mekong Delta was flat and wet with "wretched living conditions" for the inhabitants along the canals and creeks and tributaries of the Mekong River. Whenever the helicopters landed, youngsters would run up looking for handouts.

"I remember the unbelievable indepen-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Marshall Eubanks, a retired colonel, is president of the North Alabama Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

dence of the kids in that war-torn country. They had to grow up fast," Eubanks said.

He grew up fast, too. He was the oldest of three boys in Lucedale, Mississippi. Their father, Carl, was a 39-year-old master sergeant who died in Vietnam in 1967 from pancreatitis.

Eubanks received his commission through ROTC at the University of Southern Mississippi and graduated in May 1970 with a bachelor's in computer science. He would earn a master's in systems engineering from the University of Florida in 1978.

"Being ROTC I just knew when I graduated that's what I was going to do," he said of going to Vietnam.

In December 1972 after the yearlong tour in Vietnam, he went to Fort Riley, Kansas, and the 1st Infantry Division. The Soldiers didn't wear their green fatigues off post unless they were making a brief stop for gas or at a convenience store or at the cleaners. They didn't talk in public about their Vietnam experience.

"You always had the feeling something

was not right. Why were we embarrassed to go off base when we had the uniform on?" Eubanks said of that antimilitary era. He is still unhappy about Jane Fonda's visit to Hanoi in July 1972. She was photographed sitting on a North Vietnamese antiaircraft gun.

Eubanks retired as a colonel in 1996 after 26 years of service. He was deputy director of the Training and Doctrine Command's Analysis Center at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. Eubanks was the associate dean of academics at the Defense Acquisition University, South Region campus in Huntsville, when he retired in January 2014 after 13 years.

The New Market resident and his wife of 48 years, Sharron, have three children and five grandchildren. Tamara Ayers resides in Manassas, Virginia; and their younger daughter, Kimberly Foster, lives in Meridianville. Their son, Carl, of Middleburg, Florida, is a Black Hawk helicopter pilot with a Florida National Guard medical evacuation company. Carl, a chief warrant officer three, spent nine and a half years on active duty as a Black Hawk pilot. He had four deployments, including one with his National Guard unit.

Eubanks, 71, is president of the North Alabama Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association. The North Alabama

Chapter, one of 24 chapters, has 83 members. The national organization has about 9,000 members. Eubanks also belongs to the American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Army War College Alumni Association, the Army Engineer Association and the Army Aviation Association of America.

The North Alabama Chapter of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association restored a UH-1 C/M Huey gunship from the local Veterans Museum and displays it about a dozen times annually in parades, at schools and other veterans events. The helicopter had 1,400 combat hours in Vietnam.

Eubanks, who enjoys woodworking and traveling, shared his thoughts on this nation's commemoration of 50 years since the Vietnam War.

"I think it's a great opportunity for people to learn more about the Vietnam War through the thousands of events that take place annually or through the educational programs," he said. "North Alabama Chapter is a commemorative partner in the DOD 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War and participates in many events throughout the year."

Editor's note: This is the 249th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Vietnam revisited
Part 249 in series

Update

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Materiel Command – has a \$50 billion a year budget, and its workforce has grown from 120,000 to 190,000 worldwide as the Army shifts missions to AMC.

"AMC is focused on logistics and sustainment support of Army equipment from the installation all the way to the foxhole," Daly said.

One of AMC's major subordinate commands located at Redstone – the Security Assistance Command – is building partner capacity worldwide with a \$300 billion portfolio and \$18 billion worth of new business annually.

Redstone tenants are making huge contributions to the nation's defense and space strategies, Daly said, including the Space and Missile Defense Command's expanding operational lead in the Army's space programs, Marshall Space Flight Center role in propulsion as well as in space ground systems, Missile Defense Agency's development of the nation's layered missile defense programs, the Future Vertical Lift Cross Development Team's management of a \$3 billion investment in Army aviation, and the Missile and Space Intelligence Center's role in defense intelligence. In addition, the FBI is investing nearly \$500 million in facilities at Redstone while its Hazardous Devices School continues to lead the agency's bomb technician training efforts, training 20,000 federal, state and local agents since 1971.

Daly credited four ways that the Tennessee Valley supports Redstone's relevance: economic development, the value put on infrastructure investments, the



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The morning panel at the Redstone Update includes, from left, moderator John NERGER; Maj. Gen. Doug Gabram, director of test for the Missile Defense Agency; Juanita Christensen, executive director of the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center; Bill Marriott, deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command; Special Agent Brice McCracken, division chief for the National Center for Explosives Training and Research, ATF; and Charles Basham, chief of staff for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.

"unequaled" quality of life, and a continued focus on education at all levels that not only provides a qualified workforce today but also sets "skill sets for tomorrow and that allows us to thrive for the next several decades."

Redstone needs employees interested in contracting, engineering, administration, finance, human resources and vocational trades. "As the mission grows, so does the Redstone Arsenal workforce and the skill sets required," Daly said. "We have to be prepared to support the workforce of tomorrow."

Throughout his career, Daly and his

family have moved to 18 different locations both within and outside the continental United States.

"Without a doubt Redstone Arsenal is the best place my family and I have been stationed," Daly said. He attributed its excellence to the people.

Regarding partnership, Daly said there is "no daylight between us in terms of the direction we are heading and what we want to achieve tomorrow." Partnerships with the community and support from the community is "revolutionary and game changing, and makes me optimistic and confident about our strategy going forward."

Looking to 2025-30, he said, "We're not settling for a double here. We're looking for a home run on the glide plan and synchronized with the local community.

"Remember that we're much more than an Army installation. We are a federal center of excellence."

During the luncheon with more than 790 attendees, he unveiled the new Redstone Arsenal video and he discussed the "revolutionary and game-changing initiatives taking place on Redstone Arsenal."

"I can tell you we are doing things right," Daly said. "But we're also focused on doing the right things."

He said Redstone Arsenal remains "the Tennessee Valley center of gravity and I look forward to our future partnership together."

The morning program preceding the luncheon included presentations by Redstone organization leaders and a panel discussion. The 350 attendees heard from Brig. Gen. Walter Rugen, director of the Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team; Jeri Manley, deputy director of

Assured Positioning, Navigation and Timing Cross Functional Team; James Johnson, deputy commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command; Col. Ian Humphrey, project manager for the Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office, or RCCTO, Hypersonic Project Office; Rob Hamilton, senior executive for FBI Redstone Operations Support; and Jody Singer, director of Marshall Space Flight Center.

"We love Redstone Arsenal," Singer said. "We love where we work and play."

John NERGER served as moderator for a panel discussion on Redstone's four core competencies. The panelists included Maj. Gen. Doug Gabram, director of test for the Missile Defense Agency; Juanita Christensen, executive director of the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center; Bill Marriott, deputy commander of the Aviation and Missile Command; Special Agent Brice McCracken, division chief for the National Center for Explosives Training and Research, ATF; and Charles Basham, chief of staff for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space.

After the luncheon, attendee Suzanne Norris shared her thoughts about the Redstone Update. She is vice president of administration for Engenix, a woman-owned small business.

"It was incredible, informative and in my mind I just kept thinking there is so much that people that live here do not even realize that's happening, the scope, the depth and the breadth and the impact we have that's everywhere," Norris said. "And it makes me so proud to be part of this community and it inspires me to do my very best and to support the efforts."



Photo by Mary Breeden

Trimming by committee

DuMidi Women's Club members decorate a Christmas tree at the Pershing Welcome Center. From left are Meb Shaw, Angela Whitt and Kathy Johnson. Not shown is Danny Whitt who helped move the decorations in and pushed the tree in place.

MilitaryScene

Unit ministry teammate joins ranks of NCOs

By GLENN RODGERS

2nd Recruiting Brigade Public Affairs

The “Backbone of the Army” was strengthened Dec. 2 when the Army added Sgt. Jerani Smith to the noncommissioned officer corps rolls.

Smith, a native of Dublin, Georgia, is undoubtedly the most junior leader on Redstone Arsenal, an installation better known for having one of the Army’s most senior leaders at Army Materiel Command. This reality has created both challenges and opportunities for Smith. When asked what her most difficult challenge since arriving at Redstone as a young specialist was, she responded “Adapting to working side by side with senior leaders on a daily basis after coming from a battalion unit ministry team.”

She has adapted and now has even more opportunity to do what she enlisted for and what she enjoys the most about her career as a religious affairs specialist, helping Soldiers.

Perhaps that is the reason the second stanza of the NCO Creed resonates so personally to her.

“My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind – accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers,” Smith said.

As a member of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade’s unit ministry team, Smith is responsible for assisting its two chaplains as they provide ministry and counseling to the brigade’s more than 2,200 Soldiers and civilians.

Smith is proud of her career so far, and views this promotion as one of her most rewarding Army accomplishments.



Photo by Glenn Rodgers

From left are Chaplain (Capt.) Robert Cairns, newly promoted Sgt. Jerani Smith and Sgt. 1st Class Caleka Booker. The religious affairs specialist was promoted Dec. 2 at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade.

It provides validation to the hard work and effort she applies to her vocation. It’s the reason her large family, who were ini-

tially apprehensive of her enlistment, are now fully supportive.

Smith acknowledged a trio of NCOs, Master Sgt. Christy Wise, Sgt. 1st Class Caleka Booker and Staff Sgt. Kate McErvin, whose mentorship has helped her get to where she is today. They con-

tinue to serve as strong role models providing a blueprint for her career. And as far as her future is concerned, she plans on working to earn a master of science in nursing. This will enable to continue her passion of helping Soldiers and their families.

As a member of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade’s unit ministry team, Smith is responsible for assisting its two chaplains as they provide ministry and counseling to the brigade’s more than 2,200 Soldiers and civilians. Smith is proud of her career so far, and views this promotion as one of her most rewarding Army accomplishments. It provides validation to the hard work and effort she applies to her vocation. It’s the reason her large family, who were initially apprehensive of her enlistment, are now fully supportive.

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Space museum CEO leaving

The Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission has announced that Deborah Barnhart, CEO and executive director of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, is stepping down.

Barnhart has led the Rocket Center for the past nine years and her departure is effective Dec. 31.

“On behalf of the Alabama Space and Science Exhibit Commission, I want

to say how grateful we are to Dr Barnhart for her strong leadership, creative vision, devoted service and unmatched legacy,” John Nerger, chairman of ASSEC, said. “She has earned the respect and admiration of so many throughout the Tennessee Valley, the state of Alabama and across the country. Hers are difficult shoes to fill so we will work hard to identify and select a worthy successor.”

Army chief of staff promotes Karbler

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

The new commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command is also the Army's newest three-star general.

Gen. James McConville, Army chief of staff, promoted Maj. Gen. Daniel Karbler to lieutenant general during a ceremony Friday in the SMDC headquarters.

"It is a great day to be in the United States Army because we are going to promote the wonderful Army team of Dan and Leah Karbler to lieutenant general," McConville said. "Very few officers make it to this level and we are so blessed he has taken on this mantle of leadership.

"Dan's career is a remarkable list of superlatives. If you look at his biography it shows he has been selected for the most challenging jobs at every single echelon. Dan is absolutely the right person at this time to take charge. We know you are going to do great and we want to congratulate you and Leah."

During the ceremony, Karbler said it is an honor being promoted and that he feels privileged to serve. As the incoming SMDC commander, Karbler will serve in the position of the Army's senior air defense artillery and space operations expert.

"Thanks everybody for taking time to come out," Karbler said. "I am really looking forward to working with the SMDC team and to continue working together with the U.S. Strategic Command team."

Karbler thanked family and friends who traveled from Wisconsin and across the nation to witness the historic occasion, adding they are the biggest reason he is where he is today.

One family member who is continuing the family business of serving as an air defense officer traveled from West Point, New York, to witness the promotion.

"It is an absolute incredible opportunity to be here," said Cadet Lauren Karbler, the general's daughter and a firstie at the U.S. Military Academy. "I am beyond proud of him. He has always been an incredibly great leader to me and a mentor in every aspect.

"He is definitely very inspiring to me and I want to do that same thing for people



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

U.S. Military Academy Cadet Lauren Karbler and Tim Karbler place three stars on their newly promoted father's, Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, Army service uniform during a ceremony Friday at the Space and Missile Defense Command's headquarters. Karbler assumed command of SMDC and Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense following his promotion.

as an air defense officer. It is a great day, I am so thankful for the support of our family and friends who are here today."

General

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When we send the United States Army somewhere, we don't go to participate. We don't go to try hard. We go to win. There is no second place or honorable mention in combat.

"In providing missile defense and space capabilities, not only to our Army but to the joint force and our allies and partners around the world, SMDC is a key part in making sure we can do that and that we can win. SMDC deploys missile batteries, satellites, computers and sensors to enable warfighters to win, and that is what it is all about. It is our people in the Army here at SMDC who make us strong and make us special. In our Army we don't man equipment, we equip people because our Army is people. All of you define SMDC and your hard work is what makes this command great."

After placing a Joint Meritorious Unit Award streamer on the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense colors, Navy Adm. Charles "Chas" Richard, commander of U.S. Strategic Command, presided over

a change of command where Karbler took the helm of JFCC IMD.

The SMDC commander also serves as commander for JFCC IMD and provides USSTRATCOM commander with synchronized missile defense plans, conducts ballistic missile defense, operations support and advocates for missile defense capabilities to deter adversaries and defend the United States, deployed forces and its allies against ballistic missile attacks.

Richard then thanked Dickinson for his service to the nation and those who serve at SMDC.

"I could not be more proud of what Jim Dickinson and this command have done," Richard said. "He solved very difficult problems with Army can-do and SMDC know-how, and that is what I am always going to remember about him and this organization."

SMDC serves as the Army service component command to USSTRATCOM, as well as supporting USSPACECOM, and conducts space and missile defense operations and provides planning, integration, control and coordination of Army forces and capabilities in support of missions of strategic deterrence, integrated missile defense, space operations and cyberspace operations.

Richard congratulated Karbler and said he looks forward to serving with him.

"Dan, I know you are going to crush it here. I am indeed very proud of you, and I look forward to working with you," Richard said. "I am confident you are up for the challenge and will continue to do great things."

Dickinson, who is assuming the position of USSPACECOM deputy commander, reflected on his time at SMDC and thanked everyone for his success during his three years at the command.

"I need to thank my wife, Angie," Dickinson said. "Thanks for being here today and always being by my side and taking care of the families and taking care of me at the same time.

"Dan, I couldn't be more proud to pass these colors to you today. You've got the absolute right background and right leadership skills to take this unit and organization to the next level. The interest could never be higher in both missile defense and space.

"This has been the absolute best job I have ever had in the United States Army," Dickinson added. "There wasn't a day that went by that I didn't thank God that I got this job and was able to do some of the things we were able to do

as an organization."

During the change of command, Karbler thanked everyone for their kind words and said he and Leah look forward to working with the SMDC team.

"To Team Redstone and the greater Huntsville area we appreciate the warm welcome we have already experienced," Karbler said. "We look forward to being a part of this terrific community.

"To the SMDC team, we are humbled and honored to lead SMDC. At no other time in my 32-plus years have I seen this command so relevant to the complex challenges that face us today and tomorrow. Twenty-first century strategic deterrence is more than just nuclear deterrence, it demands we provide world-class support to space, missile defense, high altitude, and emerging counter-UAS missions. In the face of adversaries who are ever-adapting, we must move fast, innovate and be willing to accept risk.

"What we do is critical to warfighting readiness and ensures our Soldiers can shoot, move and communicate on the complex battlefields of not only today, but also tomorrow," Karbler added. "We are grateful for the privilege to lead the SMDC team and for the opportunity to become key members of Team Redstone and the Huntsville community."

Unofficial drone use doesn't fly on Redstone Arsenal

By ROB CANNON

Installation air traffic and airspace officer

With the holiday shopping season ramping up into full swing now may be a good time to ask yourself, what don't you know about drones before you buy one.

Unmanned aircraft systems, also known as drones, have become extremely popular and to many people the next must have item.

Like most emerging technologies the rules and regulations governing use often lags behind its growth in popularity.

Drone use is growing so fast it outpaces the public's knowledge of the responsibilities that go along with these new toys.

These rules and regulations are constantly being re-evaluated, amended and updated. What applied last year or even last month isn't necessarily the right way to do things today or even next month.

If you are going to own a drone, it is your responsibility to constantly educate yourself on its proper use.

Before purchasing a drone a little research and education can save you a lot of heartache and possible legal woes. With the rules and regulations for drone use being issued by different agencies and evolving as the use of drones grows, it is the operator's responsibility to educate themselves in order to fly safe and legal. The bottom line is all nongovernment operated drone use on Redstone Arsenal is prohibited unless specifically authorized and approved by more than one agency.

If you have questions on proper use of UAS operations at Redstone, call the installation air traffic and airspace officer at 876-2186.



Photo by Elizabeth Behring

Reserve sustainment commander

Brig. Gen. Donald Absher, right, commander of the Army Reserve Sustainment Command, speaks with Sgt. 1st Class Jason Foster, NCO-in-charge of Soldier, civilian and family programs at Army Materiel Command, about opportunities for Reserve Soldiers, Thursday as part of Absher's first official visit to AMC upon taking command of the ARSC in October. Foster, who is on active duty for operational support orders, was previously the human resources NCOIC at the ARSC, located in Birmingham. The Soldier, Civilian and Family Programs Office, which stood up earlier this year after AMC assumed Installation Management Command March 1, follows IMCOM's priorities of ensuring there are initiatives and services that improve readiness and resilience of Soldiers and their families. More than 500 Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers are on full-time duty across the materiel enterprise.

Here are a few things you need to know before you buy a drone.

Can I fly a drone on Redstone Arsenal?

No. Recreational drone operations are not permitted on Redstone Arsenal. And all drone operations within controlled airspace off the installation (Redstone Class D or Huntsville Class C) will require a Federal Aviation Administration airspace authorization.

Do I need a license to fly my drone?

Yes. FAA policy puts UAS use into categories depending on who owns it and how it will be used and the qualifications vary accordingly. These categories are Public (e.g. Government), Commercial and Recreational Flyer operations. For more information and guidance on drone use, visit the FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems website at www.faa.gov/uas/.

Where can I fly my drone?

As mentioned earlier, the FAA places restrictions on all drone flights in controlled airspace. Redstone Arsenal has an airfield with associated controlled airspace.

The FAA website provides guidance on what controlled airspace is and how to obtain the required authorization.

The FAA "B4UFLY Mobile App" helps recreational flyers know where it is safe to fly. B4UFLY App is available for download from a separate tab at the FAA website.

The FAA authority to regulate airspace and its use is derived from Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations.

The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 repealed the special rule for model aircraft and replaced it with new conditions to operate recreational small unmanned aircraft.

The exception for limited recreational operations of unmanned aircraft established by section 349 is codified at 49 U.S.C. 44809.

Recreational flyers must adhere to all eight of the statutory conditions to operate under the exception for limited recreational operation of unmanned aircraft.

Section 44809 can be found at: www.govregs.com/uscode/title49_subtitleVII_partA_subpartiii_chapter448_section44809.

Otherwise, the recreational operations must be conducted under 14 CFR part 107 Commercial UAS operations.

By selecting the "Recreational Flyers & Modeler Community-Based Organizations" tab at the FAA UAS website you can access links to the required aeronautical knowledge and safety test, register as a modeler and learn the proper way to mark your drone with your registration number.

Who regulates drone use and what are some of those regulations?

In addition to FAA regulations drone use on Redstone Arsenal is further governed by the Department of Defense, and Department of the Army.

As you can imagine there can be multiple layers of rules and regulations to navigate before you can legally and safely fly your drone.

The DOD in coordination with the FAA, has established National Defense Airspace over most DOD installations, one of which is Redstone Arsenal.

The FAA utilizing its existing authority under Title 14 CFR Part 99.7 established Special Security Instructions airspace through Temporary Flight Restrictions. Approved SSI locations prohibit all recreational flyers UAS use without exception. All commercial use is prohibited in the SSI unless specifically approved on a case-by-case basis by the Garrison commander in coordination with the Department of Army representative to the FAA. SSI airspace can be found at: <https://faa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9c2e4406710048e19806ebf6a06754ad>.

In addition the secretary of defense has banned all commercial-off-the-shelf UAS use over military installations with limited exceptions (public or commercial UAS with an approved DOD or Army waiver). Again, commercial-off-the-shelf recreational and commercial UAS are prohibited on Redstone Arsenal.

Department of Defense enforcement for unauthorized use of a UAS from within an installation may result in the loss of installation access privileges; potential forfeiture of any unauthorized recordings, photographs or videos; adverse personnel action; and possible criminal prosecution under federal or state law, as appropriate. FAA violations of unmanned aircraft system rules and regulations could result in fines, imprisonment or the suspension of a service member's license both manned and unmanned.



Photo by Henry Norton, CMDS Project Office

Tactical tailgater

IM-SHORAD, the Army's newest air defense system, will be featured at the Army-Navy Game and on ESPN's College Gameday in Philadelphia on Saturday. The Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space's Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office is conducting testing on the new system at Redstone in addition to testing on other prototypes at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and White Sands Missile Range, N.M. After testing is complete, the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office expects to award an IM-SHORAD production contract in late fiscal 2020.

Apprenticeship program trains newest metrologists

By MILES BROWN

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

Finding qualified, technically proficient maintenance technicians to support Army readiness presents a recurring challenge across the Army. Finding technicians with the specialized training and experience to calibrate Army test, measurement and diagnostic equipment can often be downright difficult.

The TMDE Activity leadership team needed to find new ways to fill vacancies across their worldwide organization. With necessity being the mother of invention, an apprenticeship program was born.

“The Army must maintain a robust calibration program to ensure Army readiness around the world.” Myra Gray, TMDE Activity executive director, said.

“Our calibration enterprise assures TMDE reliability and accuracy across the Army. And the backbone of our success is our calibration workforce. USATA’s metrology professionals enable Army readiness through accuracy, and this new apprenticeship program will bolster our workforce for years to come.”

The two-year apprenticeship program starts with a six-month introduction to electronics and calibration techniques at the TMDE Activity headquarters. Upon completion of this basic course, the apprentices transfer to different calibration laboratories across the organization to continue their education and training during an 18-month on-the-job training phase. At the end of apprenticeship program, these trainees, five in the inaugural class, will enter the Army workforce as journeyman calibration technicians.

Martin Roggio, the activity’s director of Management and Operations Directorate, said the apprenticeship program requires major buy-in from both the organization and the trainees.

All of the program applicants had to agree to pay their own way to Redstone Arsenal to attend the initial training blocks. The apprentices actually start as wage trainee 00 and every six months they receive an increase in pay, up to their full performance level as a WG-11 at the end of two years.

“They all had to pay their way here, which shows their level of commitment, and we committed to six months of classroom training, after which we will move them to a calibration lab for OJT,” Roggio said.

The activity team built this program from the ground up because the pool of experienced calibration technicians leaving active duty or technical schools is not sufficient to meet the Army’s needs. TMDE Activity is authorized a total of 640 people, but they have around 100 vacancies – many are calibration technician slots, Roggio said.

Back in the 1980s, the Army had more than 1,000 active-duty calibrators. Now that total is closer to 160 technicians, and not all of those military veterans will continue calibrating after their active-duty service time ends, according to Gary Davenport, the activity’s chief of the Requirement, Publications Management and Training Branch.

“We (initially) hired two prior military service TMDE instructors to teach our apprentices everything from basic electronics to more advanced calibration techniques,” Davenport said. “The idea is to immerse them in the (calibration) field so when they move to the OJT phase, they already have a foundation in metrology principles to build on as they grow to become calibration technicians.”

Setting up the initial basic metrology program on Redstone Arsenal required more than just hiring a couple of instructors. The activity’s team needed to create an electronics and calibration training environment and classroom, complete with a suite of TMDE calibration standards and test equipment needed to build that foundation, according to Davenport.

They added classroom space through a renovation project and purchased electronic-training equipment and software students will use to learn basic electronic principles. Then the newly hired instructors had to write the training program and develop training exercises to challenge and develop the apprentices’ skills.

“We started from scratch, developing our training program based on our years of experience and some old lesson plans,” Tony Odom, an apprentice program instructor, said. With all the new calibration standards and ever-changing TMDE in the



Photo by Miles Brown

Stephen Atteberry, an apprentice trainee, measures the resistance of different circuits before energizing the test board.

Army inventory, the instructors were challenged every time they started writing a new block of instruction, he said.

The curriculum offers the trainees a deep-dive into component-level electronics right from the start. All of students in the initial class are military veterans, but not all have electronics backgrounds. Jessie Cook, an apprentice trainee who moved to Redstone Arsenal from Oregon to join the program, served as a hydraulics technician in the Army.

“I have my aircraft power plant license and I have done some component work, but I don’t have a lot of electronics experience,” Cook said.

At this point of his training, just a few months into the basic course, Cook finds the course challenging, yet rewarding.

“I have some experience with mechanical devices like micrometers and torque wrenches but very limited exposure to electronic TMDE,” Cook said. “(The course) is a lot different than I am use to ... I have a lot to practice on and learn.”

Once the apprentices complete the initial course work, they will move to one of the activity’s many laboratories across the country for the OJT phase. That is what makes this apprenticeship program unique in the Army, according to Roggio.

“Most apprenticeship programs across the Army train new apprentices at the same location they will work after completing the program,” Roggio said. “Our apprentices will end up moving twice in the first two years and then be eligible to apply for open positions at any of our calibration laboratories worldwide.”

With more than 40 locations across the Army, these newly minted metrologists will have many options once they complete the program.

“It was imperative that we developed a new source for quality calibration technicians to replace the experienced professionals we lose every year due to attrition,” Gray said. “Our new apprenticeship program is just one of the approaches we have implemented to get healthy across the activity. We hope to add 10 to 12 new metrologists each year once this program reaches full maturity.”

The apprentices in the first class were selected using the Delegated Examining Unit hiring process which provides a higher priority to military veterans. Subsequent classes may be advertised differently to expand the pool of applicants. All vacancies are announced via the USAJOBS website and the next class of calibration technician apprentice slots will hit the website early next year. The next class will start in March.

Retired Kiowa helicopters join partner Greek fleet

By RICHARD BUMGARDNER

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

The distinctive and venerable OH-58 Kiowa helicopter, mothballed and grounded in the dry desert of Arizona, after being retired from Army service with almost 50 years of service, is finding its wings again in Greece.

For an Army aviator, this was also a chance to get back into the seat of a historic platform and to share his knowledge and flying skills to a new generation of Hellenic pilots.

"I lucked out with this (foreign military sales) case as I was an instructor pilot in the Kiowa prior to switching to the Apache," Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Meadows said of his selection.

Meadows is assigned to USASAC's Security Assistance Training Management Organization at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He is the team lead for the initial Greek OH-58D training program as well as the first OH-58D Technical Assistance Fielding Team deployed to Greece.

Seventy aircraft were granted to Greece in early 2018 under the foreign military sales program administered by the Security Assistance Command.

The helicopters were unloaded at the Greek port of Volos on May 16, and then flown by U.S. and Greek crews to the Hellenic Army Aviation air base at Stefanovikio where pilot and maintainer training is being conducted.

"The procurement of the Kiowa Warrior helicopters by Greece helps build partner capacity by covering an immediate gap in Greece's attack or observation helicopter requirement," Andrew Neushaefer, USASAC's country program manager for Greece, said.

The Kiowa helicopters had been invaluable to the Army as a light observation and reconnaissance aircraft since it was first received in 1969 and saw immediate action supporting the U.S. war efforts in Vietnam.

In 2013 almost 350 aircraft were retired under an Army-centric effort to modernize their aviation fleet. The newer and more complicated AH-64 Apache was chosen to fulfill the Kiowa's role until a future vertical lift aircraft could be fielded.

"The Kiowa Warrior was a vital and irreplaceable asset in the Army," Meadows said. "After its divestiture, ground Soldiers and pilots alike wished we still had it."

According to Bell Helicopter, as of 2013, the OH-58 airframe had more than 820,000 combat hours in its decades of service. During the wars following 9/11, the OH-58D accounted for nearly 50 percent of all Army reconnaissance and attack missions flown in Iraq and Afghanistan, the highest usage rate of any Army aircraft.

Now held in long-term storage at the "boneyard" of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, the Army considered the Kiowa helicopters excess defense articles and made them available to approved allies and partner forces.

Greece saw an opportunity to upgrade its defensive capabilities and acquired the helicopters at a reduced cost as it was only required to pay for packing, crating, han-



Courtesy photo

Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Meadows, left, stands with the battalion commander of the Greek Army helicopter training unit at the Greek port of Volos, before flying the newly arrived helicopters to the Hellenic Army Aviation air base at Stefanovikio, Greece.

dling and transportation, as well as any refurbishments, if necessary.

But bringing any new airframe into a military's service, even as seemingly uncomplicated as a 1960s-era helicopter, requires a well-trained and highly qualified team of aviators and maintainers to fly and manage the airframe.

Using a total package approach, members of the USASAC team, along with their partners at Aviation and Missile Command, made sure that transportation, parts, supplies and training were all accounted for during FMS case development with timelines built-in to ensure continuous progress.

Meadows was involved with the Greek's OH-58D case from the early stages and has had many challenges to overcome in bringing the program together.

"I made frequent drives to Fort Eustis in Virginia to assist in the regeneration of the Kiowas and began flying them again in order to support the training mission," Meadows said.

Although assigned initially as a contracting officer representative and the government flight representative, Meadows had the skills and experience to do much more and was selected to be an instructor as well.

Once Meadows and his team got the program on the ground in Greece they faced a number of challenges, mostly associated with maintenance and logistics.

"The Greek system of maintenance and logistic support, although effective, is very different than the U.S. systems," Meadows said. "If we had something break, and it wasn't a common issue, any parts needed had to be shipped from the U.S. to Greece, which adds substantial time from parts demand to replacement. That being said, the Greek maintainers are excellent. They are doing a superb job at learning this aircraft and maintaining it."

To date, under the FMS program, at least 10 countries have OH-58s in their inventory with Croatia, Tunisia and Greece being the latest.

"Seeing Greece gain this capability and being part of it is amazing," Meadows said. "The mission set of the Kiowa and the pilots it produces will greatly complement the already robust Hellenic Army."

Editor's note: The OH-58 is a single-engine, single-rotor military helicopter used primarily for observation, utility and direct fire support. The OH-58D version, known as the Kiowa Warrior, is primarily used as a light attack and armed reconnaissance helicopter to support troops fighting on the ground.

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U.S. conducts training with Saudi policewomen

By **JEROME MAPP**

OPM-SANG Public Affairs

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia – Once restricted to men, law enforcement has opened its doors to female Soldiers in Saudi Arabia.

To exercise this relatively new liberty, female military policewomen underwent training with U.S. troops Nov. 3-7 at the King Fahad National Guard Hospital in Riyadh.

Four female MPs with the Army Reserve's 302nd Military Police Company

(Grand Prairie, Texas) instructed troops from the 3rd MP Battalion/King Fahad National Guard Hospital, Central Sector Military Police Brigade.

While the training was not unprecedented – an all-women U.S. Air Force security unit trained Saudi female MPs three years ago – this is the first rotation for an Army MP unit, according to Capt. Rachel Johnson, executive officer with the 302nd.

Along with their male counterparts,

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Training

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the female MPs protect the hospital, often searching more than 500 bags and parcels a day.

“We wanted to give these MPs the fundamentals of law enforcement that their male counterparts are given, to do their jobs,” Johnson said.

The training, held in a hospital training room, consisted of lectures and practical exercises on MP tasks including interpersonal communication skills, apprehension, search procedures and basic self-defense.

Master Sgt. Anthony DeLawrence, Security Branch senior enlisted adviser with the Office of the Program Manager-Saudi Arabian National Guard, said the training is in line with OPM’s train and advise role and is a critical advantage to the hospital MPs.

“When I first arrived to the KSA, we

recognized the MPs were hiring females, but they were not offered any of the training their male counterparts were receiving,” DeLawrence said.

DeLawrence said Saudi commanders working with OPM saw the direction the country is going, as women have increasingly gained rights under the kingdom’s recent monarchs. The Saudi commanders fully supported the OPM advisers’ recommendations to train the female MPs, who not only received the technical and tactical knowledge they needed, but also a new level of professionalism.

Johnson and her unit conducted a post-training assessment with their Saudi counterparts and believes the training will prove to be a crucial advantage to both the MPs and the hospital.

“This training empowers these (Saudi) MPs, and they, in turn, become more confident and eager to do their jobs,” Johnson said. “It gives them a strong sense of purpose.”



Photo by 302nd MP Company

A Soldier with the 302nd Military Police Company instructs female Saudi MPs on apprehension and restraint procedures.

Mavericks soar over Trashed Pandas in opener



By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The defending champion Mavericks don't mind slowing their usual fast pace.

On opening night of the season in the Marshall basketball league, they made an adjustment midway into the first half and beat the first-year Trashed Pandas 66-55. This was one of five games Dec. 3 on the two courts in Marshall Wellness Center.

Mike Baez and newcomer Lee "Smitty" Smith scored 22 points apiece for the Mavericks. Baez, the team captain, made six 3-pointers and had 14 rebounds. Adrian Hargrove had 10 points. Breion Ware had 11 rebounds while Lorenzo "Zo" Burks grabbed nine.

"They had a pretty good team," Baez said. "We didn't hit shots early and they kept the game close and then we slowed it down and got some good shots. And then we pulled the ball out to pull them out of their zone. We were real rusty."

Smith, the point guard, scored 17 points in the first half as the Mavericks led 35-22 at halftime. The staff sergeant arrived in April from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and he is assigned to the Army Materiel Command.

"It was my first time playing so I had to adjust to them," Smith said. "But I think around the 10-minute mark (of the first half), we started figuring out their zone and started making some shots. And then I think our full-court pressure made some easy buckets for us and got some easy layups."

Smith, 35, from Memphis, played at Southern Illinois in 2005-06 and then joined the military.

"I was rusty at first. Once I got a couple of layups in, I started catching rhythm," he said.

Nick Haas scored 16 points for the Trashed Pandas which is one of the two new teams in the 11-team league. Hunter Olive had 12. Joe Keywood had 11 points and 12 rebounds. Chase Pendley, the team co-captain, had 11 points and two blocks. Michael McCreless grabbed nine rebounds.

"This is our first time playing in a while," Pendley said. "So I thought we played really well considering none of us have played basketball within the last year."

The Mavericks won the 2018-19 Division A championship and finished unbeaten at 17-0.

Mike Baez and newcomer Lee "Smitty" Smith scored 22 points apiece for the Mavericks. Baez, the team captain, made six 3-pointers and had 14 rebounds. Adrian Hargrove had 10 points. Breion Ware had 11 rebounds while Lorenzo "Zo" Burks grabbed nine.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Breion Ware, right, goes up for the opening tip against the Trashed Pandas' Joe Keywood. The Mavericks went on to win 66-55.

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GIFT FROM TEAM WRAPPED IN ORANGE AND BLUE	PAGE 36
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Hard Knox knocks down their shots when needed

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.v Vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Erik Hatton's two free throws with 38 seconds left lifted Hard Knox over Almost Semi-Pro on opening night in the Marshall basketball league.

Hard Knox beat Almost Semi-Pro 42-40 on Dec. 3 at the Marshall Wellness Center. With the score tied 39-39, Hatton put Hard Knox up 41-39 at the foul line.

The forward finished with 10 points. Nick Mastramico had 11 with three 3-pointers.

"It was a real good game," Hatton said. "It was good competition. The other guys, they were solid. We really had to crank up the D. Our guys were able to get to the rim, get to the line at the end of the game and we knocked down the shots we needed to."

Nathan Sowada had nine points for Almost Semi-Pro.

Space Jam 79, RTC 55: Brett Bouldin poured in 32

points for Space Jam, which was runner-up for the 2018-19 Division A title.

"We got a couple of new faces," player/captain Byrd Hayes said. "We play unselfish ball. Feed the hot hand. We always have fun. You got to have fun."

"They were hitting a lot of easy shots and they were hitting a lot more difficult shots," RTC forward/center Julius Lucas said. "And it's hard to beat a team hitting everything. They were probably hitting about 65 or 70 percent from the field."

Monstars 42, Marske & Crutch 39: Adam Molloy scored 20 to pace the Monstars.

The Monstars scored the first nine points but trailed 26-21 at halftime. Bob Gillis finished with 15 for Marske & Crutch.

Blouses 57, Hot Cheese Soup 44: Josh Hills had 18 for the Blouses in their debut.

Grant Kochevar countered with 12 for Hot Cheese Soup.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Erik Hatton takes a jumper for Hard Knox between the Almost Semi-Pro defenders. Hard Knox won 42-40.



Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance Program

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 10 a.m., Bob Jones Auditorium

Points of Contact

For the essay contact: Staff Sgt. Shonda Smith
450-7656 or Sgt. 1st Class Derron Gadison 450-6575. For the
Display Contest contact Sgt. Michael Roberson, 450-6712 or Sgt.
1st Class Gadison at U.S. Army Materiel Command.



Essay and Display Contest Rules

The ESSAY contest is a two paged, double-spaced essay on the relative theme of the observance. **The essays are due via email by close of business on Dec. 31.** The essay contest is judged by a three to five person panel.

The essays are judged on a 1-5 scale based on the scoring criteria (recognize achievements and contributions, provide education and awareness of the celebration, relationship to

the theme, originality and paragraph and sentence structure) with one being the lowest and five being the highest. The essays are given a point in each area on the score sheet. The total points are tallied from all three/

five judges by the lead POC / Sponsor of the contest and winners are determined by most total points earned.

The DISPLAY contest works the same way, on a 1 to 5 point scale. The ideal focus is on the educational value of what's on display (quality of the content over quantity) and does it represent the theme of the observance.

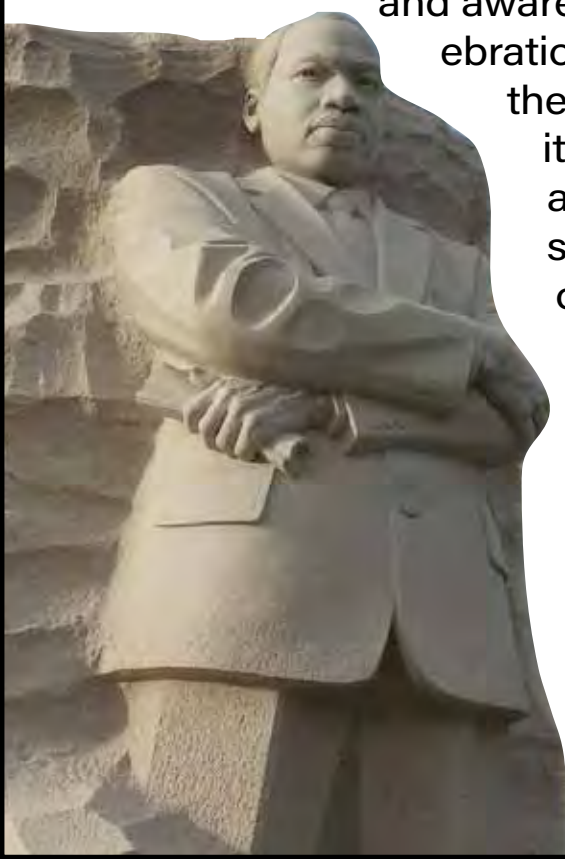
Displays must be visible throughout respective observance day or month.

Displays will be judged on Jan. 7.

If you have placed, you or your organization will be notified prior to the program. No order or rankings will be provided prior to the program. Your attendance will be requested to receive your award. If you cannot attend, please ensure a representative is present to accept the commendation on your behalf.

If you have a display, and you wish to bring the display to the Bob Jones Auditorium on the day of the program we need to know a week in advance.

Tables for displays must be requested in advance (one week) and will be provided upon request.



Exchange sets hours for Christmas, New Year's season

Here's the Redstone Exchange schedule for Dec. 21-25 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1:

Facilities

Main Store: Dec. 21, open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Jan. 1, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Express/Class Six, building 3234: Dec. 21, open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 31, open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. ... Jan. 1, open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Express, Martin Road, building 5215: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, closed. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Concessions

Alteration Shop, Exchange mall, building 3220: Dec. 21, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Barber Shop, Exchange mall, building 3220: Dec. 21, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Barber Shop at Von Braun Complex, building 5220: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Barber Shop at Sparkman Center, building 5302: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

GNC, Exchange mall, building 3220: Dec. 21, open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Jan. 1, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dry Cleaner, Exchange mall area, building 3220: Dec. 21, open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Dry Cleaner, MDC building 5224: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Dry Cleaner at Sparkman Center, building 5302: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Dry Cleaner at Army Materiel Command, building 4400: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Nail Shop, Exchange mall, building 3220: Dec. 21, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, closed. ... Dec. 24, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Optical Store, building 3230: Dec. 21, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Optometrist Dr. Hartman, building 3230: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, closed. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Gathering Grounds: Dec. 21, open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Smoothie and Things, building 4488: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Fox Gathering Grounds: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Admin/Food

Human Resources: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Starbucks: Dec. 21, open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Jan. 1, open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Subway main food court: Dec. 21, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Charley's MFC: Dec. 21, open 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Popeye's MFC: Dec. 21, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 22, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 23, open 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1, open 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Burger King, building 3228: Dec. 21, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, open 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Subway, Martin Road, building 5215: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, closed. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Burger King, Martin Road, building 5215: Dec. 21, closed. ... Dec. 22, closed. ... Dec. 23, open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ... Dec. 24, closed. ... Dec. 25, closed. ... Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... Jan. 1, closed.

Navy gets nod over Army

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Skip's Picks were 467-163 for 74% after 15 weeks. Here's my prediction for Saturday's game:

Army vs. Navy – Navy

U.S. Army photo by Spc. James Harvey

U.S. Military Academy football player, Kelvin Hopkins Jr., reads the defense during an option play during the 119th Army-Navy Game at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 8, 2018. The Army defeated the Navy for their third year in a row.



Gift from team wrapped in orange and blue

You'll just have to put up with us for the next year or so.

We are the Auburn Nation. We earned bragging rights by beating our rival Alabama Crimson Tide 48-45 in the annual Iron Bowl showdown.

So, the guards at the gates will have to listen to my "Good morning" greeting followed by a hearty "War Eagle." Forgive me, guys, but my Auburn tag on the front of my car speaks volumes.

It really is great to be an Auburn Tiger these days, especially when our team has topped the Tide for the second time in three years. It's good to see both teams do well. With the returning talent at both schools, perhaps Auburn and Alabama will be undefeated when we meet again next year.

The Southeastern Conference is definitely the strongest in the nation. I'll root for the SEC teams in the bowl games. Hopefully we'll bring a national championship back to the SEC where it belongs.

Like they say in the television commercial, football in the Southeastern Conference just means more. I enjoyed

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

attending games as an Auburn student from 1972-76. It bears (no pun intended) repeating that I was among the students who rolled Toomer's Corner for the first time after our Tigers upset Bama 17-16 by blocking two punts and returning them for touchdowns in 1972. I was among the residents of Magnolia Dormitory who grabbed some rolls of toilet paper and started a tradition.

My son, Cole, and I attended the Arkansas game in 2010 and cheered as Cam Newton went on to lead Auburn to the national championship. Hopefully our Tigers will win another title within the next few years.

From a proud 1976 Auburn graduate to you and yours, enjoy the holiday season and War Eagle!

Your glory days in sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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What is the highlight of your athletic endeavors?

"I wrestled and played football in high school (at Huntsville High from 1973-77)," John King, a retired chief warrant officer four, said. "I actually wrestled a little bit in college (at Notre Dame in 1979-80)."

King, 60, from Huntsville, wrestled at 132 in high school and 142 at Notre Dame. He served 15 years on active duty and about 15 in the Reserve and he retired in 2015. He was deployed to Iraq in 2004-05. King retired from the government in 2016 after 32 years of service, including 17 as an Army civilian. He and his wife of 32 years, Okcha, reside in Huntsville. Their daughter, Mary Ables, resides in San Antonio, Texas; and their son, John II, lives in South Bend, Indiana. They have two grandchildren. King likes to go to the lake, work out and spend time with family. "I root for Notre Dame until 'the game.' Then it is 'Go Army, beat Navy,'" he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

John King wrestled and played football at Huntsville High from 1973-77.

Marske & Crutch take control against Controllers



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Kirk Johnson looks to score against Court Controllers defender Steed Cain. He finished with seven points, 14 rebounds and three steals as Marske & Crutch won 49-37.

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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Marske & Crutch found their groove midway into the first half.

They pulled away and beat the Court Controllers 49-37 on Thursday night at the Marshall Wellness Center.

Kirk Johnson controlled the boards with 14 rebounds and made three steals for Marske & Crutch (1-1). Brandon Cook scored 16 points while Derek Mayer had 13.

“It was really close at the beginning but we adjusted and started taking advantage of their aggressiveness which helped us build a lead. And then we

played sound ball after that to keep it,” team captain Jason Marske said.

Marske & Crutch led 33-15 at halftime and they built their advantage to 43-22.

Cook had two 3-pointers and 12 of his 16 points in the first half.

“I was shooting pretty good the first half,” the shooting guard said. “Almost every time I drove I made space for myself and I was able to get a good shot in. I just played aggressive.”

Cook played for Central High-Phenix City in 2010-11.

Reggie Bishop had 10 points and two steals for the Court Controllers (0-1), a new team making their season debut. Anthony Bishop, his father, had nine points with three 3-pointers.

“Not the outcome that we wanted,” team captain Alysse Bishop said. “But it was our first game playing together and I know we’ll find our chemistry.”

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Conferences&Meetings

Sergeants major association

The Redstone Arsenal Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Garrison building 4488, conference room D-101. The meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services -- Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is \$20 for a one-year membership, \$50 for a three-year membership and \$100 for a lifetime membership. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in

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the Tennessee Valley area.” For information visit www.redstonesma.org and www.facebook.com/redstonesma.

Union's holiday luncheon

AFGE Local 1858 invites union members to its annual Christmas luncheon Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the union's office, building 3202 on Mauler Road. The local is providing turkey, ham, dressing and plates. Members are asked to bring side items or desserts. Come dressed in your ugly holiday/Christmas sweater or attire, ready to relax and have some fun. For more information, call the union office 876-4880.

Toastmasters club

Are you interested in improving your public speaking skills or learning to effectively organize a speech? If so, Toastmasters International can assist. Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in building 4488, conference room D-254. For more information, call Claudinette Purifoy 651-3621 or email cpurifoy70@gmail.com. Last year the club achieved the highest distinguished club rating available in Toastmasters, President's Distinguished Club.

Hi-Noon Toastmasters

Hi-Noon Toastmasters invites you to visit as their guest any Tuesday at 11:50 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive, in room 343. Visiting is free. Toastmasters enables you to practice public speaking, improve your communication and build leadership skills.

Protestant women of chapel

Protestant Women of the Chapel is a place where women can seek God and connect with each other through Bible study, prayer and friendship. Redstone Arsenal PWOC meets Thursdays at 930 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the school year. For more information, call Bicentennial Chapel 842-2173 or connect with the group on Facebook at www.FB.com/PWOCRSA.

Premier Providers club

The Premier Providers, Toastmasters Club 05606202, meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Army Materiel Command, headquarters building 4400 on Martin Road, Suite A1SE050-A1SE052. Employees can earn 1 CPE for every hour of training. Officers include president Rontario Hicks, vice president for education Lt. Col. Burt Fisher and area director Lisa Owens. For more information, call Marticia Banks-Booker 450-6738 or 690-7385.

Military and Civilians Club

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club meets for a luncheon on the second Tuesday of each month, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit. For more information, visit <http://rsamcc.org/activities/luncheons/>. Reservation is required by the Friday prior to the luncheon, and can be made by emailing the reservations chair at rsamccreservation@gmail.com. The goals of RSA MCC include fostering and preserving good fellowship; providing educational, cultural and fun activities for its membership while maintaining its military roots; and empowering members through camaraderie and networking. RSA MCC is open to everyone connected to Redstone Arsenal with independent gate access who wish to promote community assistance and support community activities through fundraising.

40 and 8 veterans group

Founded in 1920, the 40 and 8 veterans organization draws its origin from WWI where Soldiers were transported via French boxcars which could hold 40 men or eight horses. Remembering the close brotherhood of those days, the 40 and 8 was formed. Locale 1012 meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at American Legion Post 237 on Drake Avenue. They also have a women's auxiliary. All veterans with an honorable separation (DD 214) are eligible to join.

Engineer society

Huntsville Post of the Society of American Military Engineers meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Redstone Federal Credit Union, 220 Wynn Drive. For more information, call Ted Foster 799-0262 or email tfoster@ssr-inc.com.

Marine Corps league

The Brandon-Wilbourn Marine Corps League Detachment 820 has a monthly meeting every second Saturday at noon at the American Legion Post 237, 2900 Drake Ave. Detachment 820 is open to all active, retired and former Marines. The league is a veterans/military service organization formed for promoting the interest

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of the Marine Corps, to provide camaraderie and assistance to Marines and preserve the traditions of the Marine Corps. For information call commandant Stephen Cecil 829-1839, senior vice commandant Earl Hokanson 881-2852 or adjutant Charlene Antico 778-7093.

Space society

The Huntsville Alabama L5 Society offers free STEM talks at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. On Dec. 12 at 7 p.m., Les Johnson, principal investigator of NASA interplanetary solar sail missions, will present “Setting Sail for the Sun.” The event is open to the public. For more information, visit www.hal5.org or email info@hal5.org.

Purple Heart chapter

Military Order of the Purple Heart, George A. Rauh Chapter 2201, meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 237 at 2900 Drake Ave. All combat-wounded veterans are invited. For more information, call Leonard Robinson 337-8313.

Federal employees chapter

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Chapter 443 will not meet at the Huntsville Senior Center on Dec. 14. December's Holiday Luncheon will be held Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. at Brookdale Place in Jones Valley, next to the Jones Valley Mall. Brookdale at Jones Valley is hosting the buffet luncheon this year and it will be free for all who attend. The chapter will provide the entertainment and they will have a gift exchange. Gifts should be in the range of up to \$10. All members, spouses of members, and prospective members are invited. For reservations call the Service Office 382-5693 and leave your name and how many will attend the luncheon.

Contract management association

National Contract Management Association, Huntsville Chapter, will hold a national education seminar Jan. 16 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 4090 South Memorial Parkway. Russ Blaine, CPCM, will present Leadership Strategies for Contracting Professionals. Attendees will earn 7 CPE/CLPs. Visit www.ncmahsv.org for registration.

Air defenders/field artillery dinner

The Huntsville/Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Air Defense Association and North Alabama Chapter of the U.S. Field Artillery Association will hold the annual St. Barbara's Dinner and Induction Ceremony on Feb. 8 at The Summit. The Order of St. Barbara is awarded to those who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and moral character, displayed outstanding competence and professionalism, and have made significant contributions to the Air Defense Artillery and Field Artillery branches. Nominations for awards are made through local organizations and submitted by Nov. 25 to the ADAA and NAFAA. For more information and nominating instructions email Mike Steves of ADAA at michael.r.steves3.civ@mail.mil, or Lt. Col. Michael Fitzgerald of NAFAA at nalfieldartilleryasn@gmail.com.

Warrant officers

The Warrant Officers Association meets the second Wednesday each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Redstone Lanes bowling center, meeting room 1. Join the meeting and have lunch. For more information, visit www.redstonewarrants.com.

Vietnam veterans

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1067, meets the second Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 237 on Drake Avenue. For information call first vice president and membership chairman Richard Knight 722-3027 or visit www.vietvethsv.org.

MiscellaneousItems

Men's ministry

Men's Ministry addresses the needs of men and plants seeds for spiritual growth in Christ. Call Harry Hobbs at 783-1793 for more information.

Young citizen of month

Do you know a young citizen in grades 7-12 who has done something special and

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BICENTENNIAL CHAPEL (BC) REDSTONE ARSENAL HOLIDAY RELIGIOUS SERVICES/ACTIVITIES 2019

For Additional Information Contact the Garrison Chaplain's Office, (256) 842-2176

CATHOLIC SERVICES/ACTIVITIES

Dec. 1	1st Sunday of Advent. Sunday Mass Vigil Mass on Saturday	9 a.m. 5 p.m.
Dec. 8	2nd Sunday of Advent. Sunday Mass Vigil Mass on Saturday	9 a.m. 5 p.m.
Dec. 9	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Not a Holy Day of Obligation for AMS)	
Dec. 15	3rd Sunday of Advent. Sunday Mass Vigil Mass on Saturday	9 a.m. 5 p.m.
Dec. 18	Reconciliation Service	6 p.m.
Dec. 22	4th Sunday of Advent. Sunday Mass Vigil Mass on Saturday	9 a.m. 5 p.m.
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass	5 p.m.
Dec. 25	Christmas Day Mass.	9 a.m.
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve. Vigil Mass.	5 p.m.

PROTESTANT SERVICES/ACTIVITIES

Dec. 15	Christmas Singing Celebration	1 p.m.
Dec. 22	Protestant Worship Service	11 a.m.
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	7 p.m.
Dec. 29	Protestant Worship Service	11 a.m.

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deserves recognition? Rocket City Broadcasting/Community Awareness for Youth conduct the Young Citizen of the Month award program. Each month's recipient will meet the Huntsville mayor and City Council members, receive a Huntsville Human Relations Commission certificate and other prize packages. Sponsors include Rocket City Broadcasting, Huntsville Utilities, Huntsville Optimist Club, Huntsville Police Department, CAFY and the Florida Institute of Technology Huntsville Site. To nominate a young citizen, visit mystar991.com or call Kenny Anderson 883-3993.

Community grants

The Thrift Shop will take applications for the 2019 grants until Feb. 29. These grants are open to all nonprofit groups (no individuals please) that impact the Redstone military community. Applications must be mailed through the post office before deadline date to be considered. They ask that applications not be dropped off at the Thrift Shop. For more information, email Ruth Soracco at ruthsoracco@bellsouth.net or call 539-0606.

Shop with a hero

Saturday at 9 a.m. will bring the annual "Shop With a Hero" event for those in need in the community. Youngsters will be paired with service members, veterans and other designated heroes (defined on the website) so they can go shopping at the Walmart on Sparkman Drive and the Walmart in Hazel Green. Participants are encouraged to sign up now. Register at <http://shopwithahero.info/>.

Winter chill party

The "Winter Chill" Holiday Party is Friday from 7-11:30 p.m. at the HFA Building, 2606 Artie St. in Huntsville. The event features music by DJ Jolly; there will be food, free raffles, and it is BYOB. Proceeds will support the Suits for Scholars program. A \$10 donation is requested. For tickets go to Eventbrite.com, search Winter Chill. Sponsored by The Coalition for Advancement and Progress in Education, a 501-c3 organization. For information call Larry Vance 529-5870.

Gala fundraiser

The 100Black Men of Greater Huntsville Gala Fundraiser (Mentoring, Education, Health and Wellness, Economic Empowerment) is Dec. 21 from 6-11:30 p.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall. They will celebrate 20 years of service to the Greater Huntsville community. The formal evening will offer entertainment (clean comedian, music), dining, dancing, fellowship and the satisfaction of knowing that each attendee/partner/sponsor support will be an investment in the community. Gala fundraiser tickets are \$62.50 individual seats and \$500 for table of eight seating. For tickets call James Matthewson 714-8921 or the Business Office 536-8050.

Dinner dance

The MARS Ballroom Dance Club will hold its 2019 Christmas Dinner-Dance on Saturday at the UAH Conference Training Center Exhibit Hall, 1410 Ben Graves Drive. Semi-formal attire is suggested. The social will begin at 6 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30. Dancing to the music of the Edd Jones Band is 7:30-10:30. Tickets for MARS Ballroom Dance Club members are \$43 each. Nonmembers are welcome and their tickets are \$48 each. Reservation forms are due by Dec. 5. You can locate mail-in reservation forms by selecting "Club Forms and Documents" at the website, <https://sites.google.com/site/marsballroomdanceclub>, or by requesting a form by email at mbdc@cursorland.com. For more information, call MBDC president John Weir 714-6886 or contact any of the MBDC board members listed on the website.

Health department report

The Madison County Health Department released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for Nov. 25-27. Establishments with the highest scores included Jones Valley Burgers, 2724-C Carl T. Jones Drive, 100; Super Target 1367 (Starbucks), 2750 Carl T. Jones Drive, 99; Rocket Republic Brewing Company, 617 Meridian St., 99; Phuket Canteen-SAIC, 6723 Odyssey Drive, 99; and The Montessori School of Huntsville, 15975 Chaney Thompson, 99. Establishments with the lowest scores included Kimtai LLC, 4001 Pulaski Pike NW, 89; Diversicare of Big Springs, 500 St. Clair Ave., 89; The Brickhouse Sports Café, 7 Town Center Drive, Suite 103, 88; Neighbour Quick Stop, 3421 Pulaski Pike NW, 88; Great American Grill, 4801 Governor's House Drive, 88; E-Z Mart, 5990 Pulaski Pike, 87; and TLT Group Huntsville LLC, 920 Bob Wallace Ave., 87.