

Redstone Rocket

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Perna leads materiel enterprise through evolving needs

By MEGAN GULLY

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

For nearly four years, Army Materiel Command's top leader has focused on operationalizing the AMC enterprise to concentrate the command's efforts on output, amid significant organization structure changes and evolving Army requirements.

Gen. Gus Perna, AMC commander, will pass the colors Thursday to Lt. Gen. Ed Daly, who will be promoted to the rank of four-star in a private ceremony before the change of command. When Perna took the reins in 2016, he committed to ensuring the command, its subordinate units and capabilities would be synchronized and integrated in support of Army readiness.

"I am convinced that if we focus our efforts and capabilities on what is important, and we hold ourselves accountable while working as part of the greater Army team – the total Army team – there will be no mission that we cannot accomplish," Perna said nearly four years ago.

See Perna on page 15



Photo by Eben Boothby

Gen. Gus Perna outlines his strategy and focus for assembled Army Organic Industrial Base commanders during a leadership summit at the Army Materiel Command, Aug. 29, 2017. The summit brought leaders from around the country together to improve materiel efficiency across the enterprise.

Redstone Rocket wins statewide newspaper competition

By JONATHAN STINSON

Assistant editor

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The staff of the Redstone Rocket has captured the top prize in the annual Alabama Media Awards Editorial Contest placing first in General Excellence in their division, and the staff took home top prize in the Alabama Media Awards Advertising Contest winning the Advertising Sweepstakes in their division.

In all the paper collected 36 awards amongst the two contests and swept the Best Humorous Column, Best Human Interest Column, Best Editorial Column or Commentary, Best Local Sports Column and Best Special Section-Newsprint categories.

The Alabama Press Association is the state's trade association for newspapers and consists of 24 daily newspapers and 99 nondaily newspapers, along with more than 100 associate members.

This year 98 publications submitted 2,921 entries in the annual contest and the Mississippi Press Association member-

See Awards on page 2

Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Skip Vaughn, Rocket editor, holds the first place General Excellence award presented to the staff by the Alabama Press Association.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Fox Army Health Center welcomes new commander.

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MILITARY SCENE

Army Hiring Days seeking recruits.

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WIN OR LOSE

Volleyball tournament coming to Huntsville.

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Awards

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ship judged the entries.

Normally the winners would be announced during the APA's annual convention, however due to COVID-19, the APA held a virtual ceremony and announced the winners Friday.

The specific awards were:

- General Excellence, 1st Place.
- Best Sports Coverage, 3rd Place.
- Best Local Economic Coverage, 3rd Place.
- Best Local Education Coverage, 2nd Place.
- Best Local News Coverage, 1st Place.
- Best Use of Photographs/Editorial Content, 3rd Place.
- Best Layout and Design, 3rd Place.
- Best Business Story or Column, 3rd

Place for "Dos and don'ts for selling a home in 2019" by Katie Davis Skelley.

- Best Editorial, 2nd Place for "Savor the moments with your loved ones" by Amy Tolson and 3rd Place for "Educators set tone for young people's lives" by Amy Tolson.
- Best Humorous Column, 1st Place for "Buckle up for fallout from temper tantrum" by Amy Tolson, 2nd Place for "Son rises to swimming rite of passage" by Amy Tolson and 3rd Place for "Sharing road with that guy behind the wheel" by Amy Tolson.
- Best Human Interest Column, 1st Place for "Vietnam Veterans series" by Skip Vaughn, 2nd Place for "No ifs, ands or buts about need for screening" by Amy Tolson and 3rd Place for "A toast to moms and all mothers to be" by Amy Tolson.
- Best Editorial Column or Commentary, 1st Place for "Power outage can't stop celebration dinner" by Amy Tolson and 2nd Place for "A Tale of Two Sand-

wiches" by Amy Tolson, Katie Davis Skelley.

- Best Local Sports Column, 1st Place for "No one is truly safe at home in this world" by Skip Vaughn, 2nd Place for "Technology puts sports violence on video" by Skip Vaughn and 3rd Place for "Football in the air for state's diehard fans" by Skip Vaughn.
- Best Feature Photo, 2nd Place, for "Sacrifice" by Eric Schultz and 3rd Place for "Front row seat" by Eric Schultz.
- Best News Photo, 2nd Place for "Five thousand rockets" by Bryan Bacon.
- Best Photo Essay, 2nd Place for "Community's patriotism on parade" by Eric Schultz.
- Best Special Section-Newsprint, 1st Place for "Veterans and Heroes Week 2019," 2nd Place for "Engineers Week 2019" and 3rd Place for "Memorial Day 2019."

• Best Niche Publication-Newsprint or Glossy, 3rd Place for "Apollo Anniversary."

- Best Use of Social Media, 1st Place: the Redstone Rocket for "Rocket Facebook Page" by Katie Davis Skelley
- Advertising Sweepstakes Award, 1st Place.
- Best Single Ad 1/2 page and under, color, 1st Place for "Bookshelf" by Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett.
- Best Single Ad over 1/2 page, color, 1st Place for "Gibsons BBQ" by Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett.
- Best Original/Creative Idea, 2nd Place for "Indigo's Boutique" by Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett.
- Best Signature Page, 1st Place for "Restaurant Guide" by Donna Counts, Rhonda Stennett.
- Best Presentation of Online Advertising, 1st Place for theredstonerocket.com.

Quote of the week

"Our greatest happiness does not depend on the condition of life in which chance has placed us, but is always the result of a good conscience, good health, occupation, and freedom in all just pursuits."

— Thomas Jefferson

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.

On this date in history: July 1

In 2002: Bashkirian Airlines Flight 2937, a Tupolev Tu-154, and DHL Flight 611, a Boeing 757, collided in midair over Überlingen, southern Germany, killing all 71 on board both planes.

In 1980: "O Canada" officially became the national anthem of Canada.

In 1903: The first Tour de France bicycle race started.

In 1898: During the Spanish-American War, the Battle of San Juan Hill was fought in Santiago de Cuba.

In 1870: The U.S. Department of Justice formally came into existence.

In 1863: The Battle of Gettysburg began during the Civil War.

RedstoneRocket

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First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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How do you handle stress?

“You have to compartmentalize,” Ashley Crawford, an emergency dispatcher for the NASA Joint 911 Center which serves the entire Redstone Arsenal, said. “You’re working with a team – not only the other dispatchers but the firemen and policemen – so when you’re on your desk you need to be always ready to go. And when you get up out of your chair, you leave it at your desk. And you tell yourself that you’re doing exactly as much as you can.”

“I’m a runner and running is my stress relief because I know that when I’m running full speed and it’s painful it just kind of melts away.”

Crawford, 24, from Huntsville, has been here since October. She worked as a liaison at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center from 2015-18. She is pursuing an associate degree in business from Liberty University. The Huntsville resident is an equestrian athlete in her spare time. Crawford also enjoys running and playing the piano.

“I would like to get back into soccer because I played every single year growing up,” she said.



Ashley Crawford

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents June 14-20:

June 15: Redstone Police responded to a report of a domestic assault at a residence in north housing. Their investigation revealed a verbal altercation had turned physical between the two occupants. The witness was struck as they attempted to restrain the one occupant that was doing the hitting. Police observed overturned and displaced furniture, blood spots and other signs of a struggle that took place inside the residence. The investigation also revealed alcohol was a factor in this altercation and a weapon was found in the quarters. Redstone Fire responded and treated the attacked occupant for minor injuries. The attacking occupant was arrested and transported to the station for a breath sample on the Draeger. A weapon was seized from the residence and placed

in an evidence locker for processing.

June 15: An accident caused damage to a government vehicle. The police report states the driver of a government vehicle observed another team member approaching from the opposite direction and decided to pull off the road. In doing so, the government vehicle struck part of a concrete culvert that was sticking out of the ground causing minor damage to the vehicle’s bottom front.

June 17: At the Gate 9 Visitor’s Center, an individual was attempting to obtain a Redstone visitor badge to enter the installation for work. The National Crime Information Center revealed a warrant with Madison County Sheriff’s Office for failure to appear for a seatbelt violation. The individual was apprehended and turned over to a sheriff’s deputy.

Citations included one for no driver’s license/unlicensed and three for speeding.

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Name: KC Bertling

Position: President, North Alabama Veterans Fraternal Organizations Coalition and co-founder, Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation

What did you want to be when you grew up?

During my teenage years, I wanted to be a nurse like Nightingale. But when I went to school for training, I learned that I wasn’t fit to be a nurse. Couldn’t handle the blood and needles.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2020?

Publish two books in one year. My first book, “A Chance to be Born – My American Dream,” was published in April 2020. I am now on a mission to write a second book dedicated to the Korean War veterans to tell their stories in the book titled, “Our Forgotten War Heroes – the Korean War Veterans Stories.”

Who is your hero, and why?

In the family, my heroes are my husband and my son. I often get off the track, trying to do things fast and in a hurry, and they both keep me on track with their love and prayers. Outside of family, Korean War veterans. Because they served our country and afforded me to become a citizen of the greatest country in the world.



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

My father. When I was about 7 or 8 years old (I think) we took a long trip to get some apples. On the way home, he taught me that I might be too young to understand, but he said to remember, NOT to chase money. He said money has to come to me, but I must never chase money because the love of money and greed will bring many sorrows in life. For the life of me, I didn’t know how I have two legs and cannot chase the money, but money must come to me without two legs.

What do you like to do for fun, to pass the time, during this time of social distancing or just in general?

Think about what else I can do for our veterans and veterans organization next. I am constantly thinking about this.

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Know your laws: Removing children from locked vehicles

Before last September, Alabama had no specific provision that provided criminal immunity to a person who rescued a child or an incapacitated person from an unattended motor vehicle.

However, effective Sept. 1, 2019, Act 2019-475, Senate Bill 207, prohibits any person from leaving a child or an incapacitated person in a motor vehicle unattended in a manner that creates an unreasonable risk of injury or harm. Additionally, this bill provides criminal immunity to anyone who breaks into a car in order to rescue a child or a disabled person from unsafe conditions, including excessive heat.

Maj. Jimmine Haigler, military law attorney at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, has researched Alabama's Act 2019-475, SB 207, which was enacted to draw more awareness to the increasing number of children that died in overheated vehicles in the past two decades.

The law state's the following:

"No person shall leave a child or an incapacitated person in a motor vehicle unattended in a manner that creates an unreasonable risk of injury or harm to the child or incapacitated person. A vehicle that has an ambient interior temperature of 99 degrees Fahrenheit or less shall be presumed safe.

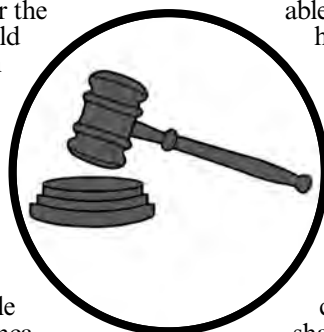
"A person who enters a motor vehicle by force or otherwise at the direction of a public safety official, for the purpose of removing a child or an incapacitated person from the vehicle shall be immune from criminal liability for damage to the motor vehicle if the person meets all of the following requirements:

"Determines the motor vehicle is locked or there is otherwise no reasonable method for the child or incapacitated person to exit the motor vehicle without assistance.

"Has a good faith and reasonable belief, based upon the known circumstances, that entry into the motor vehicle is necessary because the child or incapacitated person is in imminent danger of suffering harm.

"Contacts a public safety official before entering the motor vehicle, provides information requested by the public safety official, and remains in contact with the public safety official until the child or incapacitated person is in a safe condition.

"Uses no more force to enter the motor vehicle and remove the child or incapacitated person than is necessary.



"Remains with the child or incapacitated person in a safe location in reasonable proximity to the motor vehicle until law enforcement or other first responders arrive.

"A public safety official who has been contacted by a person reporting a child or incapacitated person in a motor vehicle unattended in a manner that creates an unreasonable risk of injury or harm to the child or incapacitated person shall immediately dispatch a locksmith or towing company with vehicle lockout capabilities and attempt to make contact with a registered vehicle owner and the vehicle operator.

"A public safety official, acting reasonably in the course of his or her employment and pursuant to this act, shall be immune from criminal liability and civil liability in accordance with Section 36-1-12, Code of Alabama 1975."

In summary: Act 2019-475, Senate Bill 207, prohibits leaving a child or incapacitated person unattended in a motor vehicle in a manner that creates any risk of injury or harm. It further provides immunity from criminal liability for damage to

the vehicle for persons who enter a locked motor vehicle by force to remove a child or incapacitated person if specified conditions are met, including that there is no other way for the child or the incapacitated person to get out of the car; a public safety official (911 or local police department) is contacted before entering the vehicle; that the person must have a reasonable belief that the child or incapacitated person is in danger of suffering harm; and that the person entering the vehicle remains with the child or incapacitated person until law enforcement or first responders arrive.

Additionally, the law provides that public safety officials contacted in such circumstances must immediately dispatch a locksmith or towing company with lockout capabilities to the scene and attempt to make contact with the vehicle's registered owner or operator. Further, the law specifies that public safety officials acting reasonably in the course of business pursuant to this act are immune from both civil and criminal liability for their actions.

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



Leaders never stop learning –
DAU Webcast: Think Differently Series

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

11:30 a.m. CDT

<https://www.dau.edu/events/>

Join us in this session of "Think Differently" to hear from John Laney, who created DoDreads.com, and Ryan Evans, CEO of War on the Rocks share how they got inspired to read, write and create platforms to empower you to lead and drive the mission.

Data Analytics, Digital Engineering

Thursday 7/9/2020 11:30 a.m. CDT

<https://www.dau.edu/events/>

Tell us about ...

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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Your best Fourth of July memory.

"Probably 1999. I was living in Germantown, Maryland," Mike Lew, a defense contractor employee at Redstone, said. "And I'd been to D.C. fireworks before but the traffic was always real bad. We parked in Bethesda, Maryland, and bicycled down on walking paths. And at 20 minutes, we popped up under the K Street bridge in D.C. So we'd brought in all of our food and refreshments on the bikes. So we stayed there all day from like 2 p.m. until 10. And when we left, there was no exit stress. And we got to enjoy all the fireworks without worrying about when to leave. And then upon leaving, there were a sea of bicycles heading back on unlit trails. But everyone was wearing the glow-in-the-dark glow sticks and glow necklaces and glow bracelets. And that lit the way home."

Lew, 46, from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is a Ground-based Missile Defense Models and Simulation Lab architect for Modern Technology Solutions Inc. in support of the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center. He has worked at Redstone 15 years. "And I have very much enjoyed my time at Redstone," he said. The Huntsville resident and his wife of 10 years, Mary Kay, have four children combined, including three daughters and one son. Lew does men's discipleship. He also enjoys playing music and spending time outside. Lew roots for the Tennessee Volunteers.



Mike Lew

Fox Army Health Center welcomes new commander

Photos by ERIC SCHULTZ
Staff photographer

Col. Roberto Cardenas succeeded Col. Anthony Meador as commander of Fox Army Health Center in a ceremony June 22 at Heiser Hall. Meador, who commanded Fox about two years, will become the chief of staff at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington.



Col. Roberto Cardenas speaks upon becoming commander of Fox Army Health Center.



The Fox Army Health Center colors are presented to Col. Roberto Cardenas, the incoming commander.



Col. Anthony Meador speaks with guests before the ceremony in which he relinquished command of Fox Army Health Center.



Alicia Cardenas, wife of Col. Roberto Cardenas, holds flowers she received during the ceremony where he husband assumed command of Fox Army Health Center.

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Governor gives virtual update on state of Alabama

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

Staff writer/Social media

katie.skelley@theredstonerocket.com

When Alabama ushered in 2020 on Jan. 1, the state was approaching its most robust economy in history with a 2.7% unemployment.

Three months later in the wake of the COVID-19 spreading across the state, the resulting shelter in place order ground that economy to a halt. More unemployment claims were processed in the first three weeks of March than all of 2019. Today the state's unemployment hovers around 10%, with 585,000 unemployment claims filed.

Gov. Kay Ivey acknowledged that 2020 has not gone according to plan, while speaking at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber's Alabama Update Thursday. The event itself was not the typical luncheon held at the Von Braun Center. Because of the coronavirus, for the first time the update went virtual with Ivey speaking to business, government and Redstone leaders via videoscreen.

Ivey admitted that in attempting to slow the spread of the virus, designating businesses essential and nonessential early on was a mistake and that she never intended to prioritize some over others.

"All jobs and all businesses are essential to our state," she said.

Ivey touched on the unprecedented challenges of the virus and the balance of protecting people while also recognizing that "a healthy life needs a quality livelihood."

While Alabama is still in the midst of the pandemic with new case numbers spiking in June, Ivey called on its citizens to each do their part to protect themselves, their neighbors and their communities.

"Now more than ever we must recognize and embrace this reality. And that is my prayer for the people of our state – that we work together," she said. "Whether it be by practicing social distancing to slow the spread of this virus or whether it is by completing a census form, it is imperative that each of us do our part to make our state better."



Screenshot by Katie Davis Skelley

Gov. Kay Ivey addresses members of the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber virtually Thursday at the Alabama Update.

Army to support Salute to America, awards contracts

DOD to support Salute to America 2020

The Department of Defense will provide aerial, musical and ceremonial support to this year's celebration in Washington, D.C. This year's support will also include a flyover of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial, as well an aerial salute to several cities that played roles in the American Revolution.

The highlight of this year's celebration will be the salute to the Great Cities of the American Revolution. The flyovers will begin in Boston and proceed to New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore. From there they will join other DOD and heritage aircraft in the Salute to America over our nation's capital.

The flyovers provide an opportunity for the DOD to demonstrate the capabilities and professionalism of the United States Armed Forces. Flying hours are a sunk cost for the DOD, and these aircraft and crews would be using these hours for proficiency and training at other locations if they were not conducting these flyovers.

Army awards contracts

Sharp Minds LLC, Alexandria, Virginia, was awarded a \$473,021,064 hybrid (firm-fixed-price and time-and-materials) contract to provide Letterkenny Army Depot with labor support. Five bids were received. Work will be performed in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, with an estimated completion date of Jan. 31, 2026. Fiscal 2020 Army working capital funds in the amount of \$26,577,042 were obligated at the time of the award. U.S. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, is the contracting activity (W911N2-20-F-0494).

Raytheon/Lockheed Martin Javelin JV, Tucson, Arizona, was awarded a \$25,408,756 modification (P00353) to contract W31P4Q-04-C-0046 for support ser-

vices for the Javelin weapon system. Work will be performed in Tucson, Arizona, with an estimated completion date of June 30, 2025. Fiscal 2020 Foreign Military Sales (United Kingdom) funds in the amount of \$25,408,756 were obligated at the time of the award. U.S. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, is the contracting activity.

MCR Federal LLC, McLean, Virginia, was awarded an \$8,579,438 modification (000127) to contract W31P4Q-16-A-0016 for technical engineering services in support of the Fixed Wing Project Office. Work will be performed in Huntsville, Alabama, with an estimated completion date of July 28, 2021. Fiscal 2020 operations and maintenance (Army) funds; and 2018 aircraft procurement (Army) funds in the amount of \$8,579,438 were obligated at the time of the award. U.S. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, is the contracting activity.

Missile Defense Agency awards \$2B contract

Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems, Woburn, Massachusetts, is being awarded a sole-source contract in the amount of \$2,271,181,543 under the Foreign Military Sales program to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The contract type will be a hybrid firm-fixed-price, fixed-price-incentive-fee, cost-plus-award-fee and cost-plus-incentive-fee contract. Under this production contract, the contractor will provide seven Army/Navy Transportable Surveillance and Control Model 2 radars, radar spares, obsolescence design, sustainment services and initial contractor logistics support for KSA. The work will be performed in Woburn, Massachusetts. The performance period is June 26, 2020, to Aug. 31, 2027. KSA FMS funds in the amount of \$2,271,181,543 will be used to fund this effort. The Missile Defense Agency, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, is the contracting activity (HQ0862-20-C-0002).

By the numbers: *Best snacks*

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

- 
1. Popcorn
 2. Granola/protein bars
 3. Dried fruit and raisins
 4. Crackers
 5. Nuts and seeds
 6. Chips and crisps
 7. Nachos with cheese
 8. Cookies
 9. Breadsticks
 10. Chocolate

Fourth of July weekend brings holiday closings

From staff reports

Redstone Arsenal is preparing for Independence Day and a number of businesses and services have announced their holiday hours.

Starting with Morale, Welfare and Recreation:

- Arts and Crafts will be closed July 3-4.
- Auto Skills will be open July 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on July 4.
- Leisure Travel/ITR will be closed July 3.
- Outdoor Recreation will be open July 3, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed on July 4.
- The golf course will be open 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on July 3 and 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on July 4.

Other businesses that have announced holiday hours are:

- Main Exchange will be open July 3-5 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Class Six/Express will be open July 3-5 from 8 a.m.

to 8 p.m.

- Martin Road Express will be open July 3, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed July 4-5.
- Popeye's will be open July 3-5 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Charley's will be open July 3-4, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and closed July 5.
- Subway will be open July 3, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed July 4-5.
- Main Burger King will be open July 3, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., July 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed July 5.
- Martin Road Burger King and Subway will be open July 3, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and closed July 4-5.
- Starbucks will be open July 3-5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Main Store Barber Shop will be open July 3, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed July 4-5.



Veteran showman has more free time these days

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Vietnam veteran Dave Dunlap is still available to sing and tap dance while performing as Uncle Sam. But cancellations from the pandemic have definitely impacted his schedule.

Dunlap developed his patriotic education show, "The Shaping of Uncle Sam," in 2014. Since then he has done 94 shows in 14 states. The show usually runs about 40 minutes. His last one was for the Austin High School JROTC in November 2019 in Decatur. Several trips and events have been canceled since March.

"I haven't been actively seeking new gigs," he said. "Basically I try to work with schools. So when the schools closed, I just threw my attention to the workload I had around the house."

He added with a laugh, "I haven't done a show with a mask on yet."

Dunlap, born in Spokane, Washington, grew up in Gulfport, Mississippi. He went to Long Beach High School in the Gulfport area. He was from a military family. His father, a

Vietnam revisited Part 276 in series

World War II veteran, medically retired from the Navy as a commander after 27 years of service. His older brother did two tours in Vietnam with the Marines. His younger brother graduated from the Naval Academy while Dunlap was in Vietnam and went on to serve in the South China Sea.

He sang in the church choir with his mother and he did plays in high school. Dunlap said he wasn't doing well in college and "needed a sabbatical" so he volunteered for the draft. He entered the Army in 1970 and went to Vietnam as a 22-year-old private first class. He became an infantryman in Charlie Company, a light weapons platoon, in the 1st Cavalry Division in "the bush and remote firebases," he said. Bien Hoa was his battalion's rear location but he said he was only there twice other than when he was medically evacuated. The roles he served included walking the point, the second in line with the compass, assistant gunner, machine gunner and as a squad leader for three months.

"It kicked my butt. I grew up. I learned to love myself," Dunlap said. "I also learned to take more responsibility for myself. But I also left with survivor's guilt. I wrote a lot of stuff off because I survived and some people hadn't."

He said he was lucky to survive three incidents, including a major ambush June 15, 1971. His unit was called to retrieve a company which had been ambushed but found itself attacked



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Somerville resident Dave Dunlap, who portrays Uncle Sam in patriotic shows, served in Vietnam with the Army and he later retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel.

by North Vietnamese soldiers entrenched in bunkers, hidden in triple canopy jungle. Dunlap's 30-man platoon lost one killed and 14 wounded. A 100-pound crate left a volleyball-sized bruise on his back. That happened when a helicopter swooped in with resupplies during the firefight.

In May 1971 he and his fellow Soldiers were flown to Fire Base Mace, about 40 miles from Bien Hoa, for a USO show featuring Miss America contestants. But Dunlap wasn't impressed by their performance. "It was played off a tape recorder," he said. "They were lip syncing."

He thought to himself that he could do better. About four months later, the Soldiers were watching a movie which was interrupted by a mortar attack. "A guy and I got up and did an impromptu vaudeville show and that was a hoot. I've been into it ever since," he said.

Dunlap, who served in Vietnam from December 1970 to January 1972 and left the Army as a sergeant, remembers returning to the states in uniform at the San Francisco airport. A teenage girl rushed up to him and called him a "baby killer."

"I was proud of what I'd done up until that point," Dunlap said.

He went to work for a year and then finished school. He received his bachelor's in industrial engineering in December 1973 from Mississippi State University and started pursuing a master's. He received a commission through ROTC and became an Air Force second lieutenant. He went on active duty in December 1974 and retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel in 1994.

"Participating in Tops in Blue, the Air Force-wide talent contest, I got two first place and a second place at base level in 1976, '77 and '78," Dunlap said. During a rehearsal in Tops in Blue, he had the opportunity to perform with the Air Force Band. The band played Yankee Doodle Dandy while Dunlap tap danced and sang.

After his Air Force career and three years as a student, he worked 12 years as an engineer



Courtesy photo

Dave Dunlap performs his patriotic show for Veterans Day 2017 at Buckhorn High School.

for Teledyne Brown. He left in 2009 as a senior systems analyst.

At 72 he stays busy with his performances and volunteer work. He serves with the Military Order of the World Wars as director of the Huntsville Youth Leadership Conference, the national chairman of MOWW's Patriotic Education Committee and as adjutant and treasurer of the Huntsville Chapter. He directed the MOWW Southwest Youth Leadership Conference held June 9-13, 2019, at the University of Texas at Dallas. MOWW's Huntsville Youth Leadership Conference is scheduled Oct. 28-31. Some 80 students attended last year, including 57 from the local area. Twenty-one youth leadership conference graduates helped conduct the event with the MOWW providing support and funding acquired through donations from local community organizations.

The Somerville resident also belongs to the American Legion, the Military Order of Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Toastmasters Speaking Easy Club in Decatur, the Military Officers Association of America, and the Vietnam Veterans of America.

"I appreciate it," he said of this nation's commemoration of 50 years since the Vietnam War. "I also have participated in some of the activities as a member of MOWW and the VVA Huntsville chapters."

His wife of more than 31 years, Sandra Johnson Dunlap, died in 2014. His stepson, Richard Bell, and his younger son, Howard, reside in Somerville. His daughter, Susan Short, lives in Nashville. He has two grandchildren, including a grandson in the Air Force.

Dunlap's hobbies include karaoke, dancing, jogging, kayaking and canoeing. He started doing karaoke in 2008.

"We – well some of us – sang a lot while at firebases," he said of his yearlong tour in Vietnam. "Man, that's freedom. You go to a firebase, that's freedom. I mean, man, let your lungs go when silence discipline is not in effect."

Editor's note: This is the 276th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Garrison workers recognized for service achievements

Photos by JONATHAN STINSON

Assistant editor

Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith presented civilian service achievement, service culture and senior executive service note awards during the Garrison's all-hands meeting June 17.

Civilian Service Achievement Medal recipient Kendra Brown ensured the workforce honorary awards were consistently available for employees separating from federal service and being recognized at the Garrison virtual town halls which was vital to employees' morale.



Civilian Service Achievement Medal recipient Stormy Ripley is recognized for demonstrated service excellence for support during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Service Culture Award recipient Angel Solomon provided outstanding customer support during the Defense Performance Management and Appraisal Program 2020 annual closeout.



Justin Barber, Redstone Fire Department, received an SES note from the Director, IMCOM Sustainment, for being selected as the IMCOM Sustainment nominee to compete in the category of Fire Instructor of the Year, at the IMCOM level for 2019 in the Department of the Army Fire-fighter Award.



Jared Battee received an SES note from the Director, IMCOM Sustainment, for being selected as the IMCOM Sustainment nominee to compete at the IMCOM level in the category of Firefighter of the Year for 2019. Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith presented the note.



Michael Statton, Redstone Fire Department, received an SES note from the Director, IMCOM Sustainment, for being selected in the category of Fire Inspector of the Year to compete at the IMCOM level for 2019 Department of the Army Firefighter Awards. Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith presented the note.

Army aims to hire 10K new Soldiers in three-day event

By 2nd Recruiting Brigade

Army recruiters in Madison County are part of the Army's first nationwide virtual hiring campaign June 30-July 2 with a goal of recruiting 10,000 new Soldiers to serve in 150 different occupations.

Army National Hiring Days is an all-Army effort to inspire individuals across the nation to consider military service.

As part of the three-day hiring event, Army leaders and recruiters across America will encourage individuals to explore the Army's potential career paths, ranging from traditional combat roles to support positions in logistics, engineering and technology. They will also discuss the benefits of military service, to include health insurance, retirement plans, training and education opportunities, and family support programs.

Army recruiters have focused heavily on virtual communications since mid-March when the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a socially distant society. This new virtual

hiring event will be the first time the Army has come together as a whole to leverage the digital space in a concentrated all-Army nationwide recruiting effort.

"The last three months have challenged America, and our Army has been part of the team working to fight this pandemic together," Maj. Gen. Frank Muth, commander for Army Recruiting Command, based at Fort Knox, Kentucky, said. "We are adapting our recruiting efforts to the current environment to ensure we can continue to protect and support our nation in the future."

During Army National Hiring Days, interested individuals can visit www.goarmy.com/hiringdays to see if they meet the qualifications, learn about job opportunities and associated hiring incentives, and connect with a recruiter in their area.

"The Army is a worthwhile career option beyond the call to patriotism, because of the professionalism, camaraderie, benefits,"



Army Recruiting Command graphic

Lt. Col. Susan Tallman, commander for the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion, said.

"The privilege of serving and taking care of our men and women is very rewarding."

Army gives Soldier opportunity for American dream

By RACHEL DELOACH

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

A move to the United States and a conversation with a college roommate put one immigrant on the path to military service and an assignment at one of the Army's four major commands.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Walner Nelson, who serves at Army Materiel Command, migrated to the U.S. with his family from Haiti in 1995. His father would tell him and his siblings, "This is the land of opportunity – you can do anything you want."

In Haiti, children are encouraged to pursue careers as doctors or engineers because they are the most respected professions, but Nelson's dream was to hold an office job in human resources. He did not consider that the Army would make that dream a reality until his college roommate and a local Army recruiter encouraged him to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test.

"To join the Haitian Army, you have to have connections, such as a relative already serving," Nelson said. "With the U.S. Army, you can take the ASVAB starting in the 11th grade and easily pursue your career in the military."

Taking his father's words to heart, Nelson joined the Army in May 1999, and in January 2000, he applied for his U.S. citizenship.

At the time, the Army didn't help with the citizenship process, but Nelson was driven to earn his in order to stay in the Army. After



Photo by Rachel DeLoach

Army Materiel Command Chief Warrant Officer 4 Walner Nelson reflects on his Army career amid Army National Hiring Days.

what he describes as a long and grueling process, Nelson was notified of his citizenship in September 2001 – and just a week after the 9/11 attacks, he swore in as citizen and was headed to his first duty station at Fort Riley, Kansas, shortly after.

Twenty-one years later, Nelson has risen through the ranks to achieve the esteemed position of chief warrant officer 4.

"There are so few four-star generals in the Army. I never imagined I would be working for one," he said.

Throughout his career, Nelson said the Army has given him the opportunity to travel around the world and learn about many different cultures.

"I've been deployed to Iraq twice, Korea three times and Germany," he said. "It was wonderful spending time in all those differ-

ent countries because you meet people from all walks of life."

The Army relies on Soldiers of diverse backgrounds and as a foreign national, Nelson said he offers a unique perspective.

"As someone from a foreign country, I am more aware of my circumstances and approach every situation with an open mind while treating everyone with dignity and respect," he said.

Through the Army, Nelson was the first in his family to not only earn a degree, but three. He holds an associate degree in general studies, a bachelor's in public administration, a master's of business administration with a concentration in human resources, and a graduate certificate in project management.

Nelson was pursuing his doctorate until he learned of his daughter's interest in becoming a medical doctor.

"I transferred 70% of my GI Bill to her

and I would do it again in a heartbeat," said Nelson, who is grateful for the benefits available to him and his family through his Army service. Nelson joined the Army because he saw an opportunity to pursue the American dream. He continues to serve because of the people who have faith in him to carry out the mission.

"I see people before I see the rank," he said. "Take care of people and they will take care of you."

Editor's note: The Army is the best trained, best equipped and most talented force in the world. To maintain its competitive edge and address complex world challenges, the Army is conducting its first National Hiring Days campaign June 30- July 2 with a goal of hiring 10,000 new Soldiers in 150 career fields. For more information about Army opportunities and to find a local recruiter, visit goarmy.com hiringdays.

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Engineer honored for boosting space mission safety

By WILL BRYAN

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA and the agency's Marshall Space Flight Center place the highest premium on safety. During the virtual "Mission Success is in Our Hands" forum June 18, Greg Swanson, an engineer in Marshall's Damage Tolerance Assessment Branch, became the latest recipient of the Golden Eagle Award – presented to those who make significant, identifiable contributions to flight safety and mission success – for his actions supporting the Artemis I mission.

Artemis I is the first flight of NASA's Space Launch System rocket and Orion spacecraft. Swanson is also the chairman of Marshall's Fracture Control Board.

"Dr. Swanson made significant contributions beyond the normal work require-

ments during the investigation of the SLS booster propellant liner insulation system," Rick Burt, head of Marshall's Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate, said. "His input led to substantial improvements in the testing and analysis of those propellant liner insulation systems and were critical to the development of the acceptable booster propellant liner insulation for the Artemis I segments."

Swanson provided assessments of the test plans, test results and methods to analyze the investigation's data. The booster segments for Artemis I arrived at NASA's Kennedy Space Center on June 15.

"Missions to the Moon don't happen without the efforts of a team, and we want everyone to have that right culture and mindset," Burt said. "We want to share lessons learned in a meaning-

ful way so that people can take the lessons back and apply them to their role in these fantastic missions that we work at NASA."

Marshall's Safety & Mission Assurance Directorate, with partner Jacobs Engineering of Huntsville, promotes awareness and appreciation for the connections between employees' everyday activities, the overall success of NASA and Marshall missions and the safety of astronauts through the Mission Success is in Our Hands speaker series.

All Marshall team members are eligible for nomination for a Golden Eagle Award by management or peers.

Editor's note: Will Bryan, an ASRC Federal Analytical Services employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.



Greg Swanson

Perna

Continued from page 1

Since that day, he has led the command through some of AMC's greatest organizational and mission changes as the Army underwent its largest restructuring since World War II.

In the early months of his command, Perna initiated a major realignment across AMC, known to employees as Shape the Fight. The initiative reorganized certain staff functions to better synchronize, integrate and deliver readiness, in line with Army senior leader's priorities and ongoing reform efforts.

"Our collective goal must be to have 100% of the people doing 100% of the right work across our enterprise," Perna said.

In 2019, AMC continued to change as it transitioned its research mission to the newly formed Army Futures Command with the realignment of the Research, Development and Engineering Command. However, the command grew in size and responsibility with the integration of three additional missions – Installation Management, Medical Logistics and Financial Management, and the AMC workforce more than doubled from 63,000 Soldiers, civilians and contractors to nearly 190,000 around the world.

These changes were important for posturing one Army command to be responsible for readiness of the Strategic Support Area within Multi-Domain Operations, Perna said.

"Multi-Domain Operations require us to effectively generate combat power, quickly project our forces, and then sustain systems and formations for extended durations along multiple dispersed routes, against an enemy focused on disrupting our abilities," he said. "Army Materiel Command has reorganized and reshaped to ensure readiness of the Strategic Support Area, where military might is generated, projected and sustained during the fight."

One such area AMC is taking the lead is installation readiness. With the assumption of the Installation Management mission, AMC leadership changed the narrative about Army posts, camps and stations.

"Installations are so much more than just where Soldiers and families live," Perna said. "It is where our Soldiers train, where they mobilize and deploy from, and where they conduct the day-to-day business of the Army. All of those functions require logistics and sustainment, and fit within AMC's core competencies."

In addition, AMC has taken steps to ensure it is taking care of the Army's number one priority – people. Through Soldier, civilian and family readiness initiatives the command is working to

increase quality of life across the Army and is responsible for four of the five quality of life priority initiatives set by the chief of staff of the Army: Housing, Child Care, Spouse Employment, and PCS Moves.

"We are committed to delivering the best programs and services to our Soldiers, civilians and families," Perna said. "Our Soldiers and civilians join our team with the confidence that we will take care of them. We will not let them down."

Perna's commitment to enabling these strategic focus areas, along with the AMC's five other focus areas – Industrial Base readiness, Munitions readiness, Strategic Power Projection readiness, Supply Availability and Equipment readiness; and Logistics Information readiness – aligned the command to best support Army strategic readiness.

"Strategic readiness is why AMC exists," Perna said. "While combat troops have always been the foundation of the Army, our strategic advantage has been our ability to mobilize, deploy, move and sustain the force."

In his final months at AMC, Perna faced a new challenge, addressing the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on both the workforce and the mission, while participating in the whole-of-government response. Through it all, his emphasis has been three things – ensuring the health and safety of the workforce, stopping the spread of the virus and accomplishing AMC's mission.

"We can't lose sight of our role in this fight or our mission to support Soldiers around the world," Perna said. "We must always be ready as an enterprise; there is no other acceptable option. We may not be in combat, but make no mistake, we are at war. This is an attack and winning matters."

Through all these changes, the hallmarks of Perna's leadership has been the philosophy of following a regular battle rhythm with standards and discipline, the importance of being able to see yourself as a command, knowing your capabilities and your areas for improvement, and focusing the workforce's time and energy on doing the right things for the right effects.

"We have focused on how we support and project our force in these challenging times, and how we ensure our efforts are directly linked to the Soldier on the battlefield," he said. "In war, the difference between being ready and reacting will be measured by the number of lives lost."

In his next assignment, Perna will serve as chief operating officer for Operation Warp Speed, a whole-of-government effort to accelerate the development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics (medical countermeasures).

"It's a tough task, but I promise to do more than my best; I promise to do what is required to get us to the finish line," he said.



Army photo

Gen. Gus Perna receives Army Materiel Command's colors from Gen. Mark Milley, the 39th Army chief of staff, while Gen. Dennis Via, outgoing AMC commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. James Sims, AMC's senior enlisted adviser, stand by.



Photo by Eben Boothby

Vietnam War veteran Robert Bettencourt receives an honorary Vietnam pin from the Army Materiel Command's Gen. Gus Perna following the program at the Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon June 28, 2017, in Huntsville. Congratulating Bettencourt is Joe Fitzgerald, North Alabama's civilian aide to the secretary of the Army. Bettencourt served as an Army combat medic with the 4th Infantry in Vietnam from 1969-70.

Team effort emphasized for nation's missile defense

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Military leaders gathered virtually with the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance to discuss their roles in global missile defense and in the defense of the nation during a roundtable June 23.

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command and commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, joined leaders from U.S. Northern Command, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, and the Missile Defense Agency to discuss the role of current and future air and missile defense during the discussion on "Global Missile Defense Responsibilities."

"Everything we're working at is making sure the generation close to 2020 gets the best air and missile defense capabilities to keep everybody safe," Karbler said. "I appreciate you inviting me to be on the global missile defense responsibilities forum today. It's really an honor. It is about relationships as we're into global missile defense responsibilities and how you build on those relationships, how you interact the frequency of them. It can't just be a pickup game."

MDAA, a private, nonprofit organization, advocates for the development and deployment of missile defense systems to defend the United States, its armed forces and its allies against missile threats. Their goal is to educate the American public about missile defense issues and to recruit, organize and mobilize proponents to advocate for the critical need of missile defense.

"We have a single purpose and mission," Riki Ellison, MDAA chairman and founder, said. "We're all about making our nation and the world a safer place through the development, the evolution and deployment of missile defenses. We have a national defense strategy that's calling us to compete with our near peers. We have limited capacity and capability that are deployed today under extreme high demand across our combatant commands.

"Today's discussion is, how do we make this better? How do we set the conditions to make our nation and the world safer through the deployment, the evolution and development of missile defense systems?"

Karbler said that JFCC IMD leads U.S. Strategic Command's integration efforts, working closely with all Department of Defense stakeholders and allies and partners. He added that SMDC is also leading the Army's air and missile defense integration efforts.

"I work for STRATCOM, but I'm also the Army Service Component Command to U.S. Space Command," Karbler said. "That's important to me because we've got to integrate our space capabilities into the missile defense mission."

Karbler said multi-domain operations rely on integration with clear roles, responsibilities, and joint policy and doctrine to increasingly emphasize integrated planning. He said that missile defense is not just a transregional challenge, it is a global one and requires planning synchronization across combatant commands, as well as allies and partners.

"I am the Army's air and missile defense enterprise integrator," Karbler said. "I report directly to the secretary of the Army and the chief of staff of the Army on all



Army photo

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command and commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, addresses a Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance-hosted virtual roundtable June 23. Karbler, shown with Riki Ellison, MDAA chairman and founder, was joined by leaders from U.S. Northern Command, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, and the Missile Defense Agency in discussing the role of current and future air and missile defenses during a virtual roundtable discussion on "Global Missile Defense Responsibilities."

those Army-specific air and missile defense issues that come up. That gives me the distinct view of AMD forces and capabilities."

Karbler explained that integration is a priority and that the recent Missile Defense Review gave guidance on how to clarify and optimize missile defense roles and responsibilities across the DOD.

He said ensuring warfighter involvement in requirements and fielding processes to assess how better to use missile warning assets against emerging threats is important, as well as the need to rapidly transition ready systems and focus materiel developers on research and development to keep pace with evolving threats.

"When I took command, I said in my 32 years of being in the Army, never had I seen Space and Missile Defense Command, more relevant than it was then," Karbler said. "And that holds true for today. Missile defense plays a major role in denying benefit. So my interface with USSTRATCOM is to make sure that those missile defense forces are there and available, whether regionally or globally to make sure that we're denying adversary benefit.

"That's super important as we look at where we have capabilities around the globe to make sure that they are equally dispersed to the combat commands to support their mission needs so that the adversaries don't feel that they could take advantage of a lesser missile defense capability in a particular region."

Karbler highlighted modernization efforts saying the Army planned to invest more than \$24 billion for advanced sensors, weapon systems, and command, control and communications.

He said the Army requires an Indirect Fire Protection Capability that integrates with the Army Integrated Air and Missile Defense network architecture, which uses the IAMD Battle Command System as its command and control, to enable a multi-domain ready Army by 2035.

"As we know, the Patriot force is probably one of the most highly deployed forward station to conventional forces in the Army," Karbler said. "There's just a huge demand on the Army's Patriot forces. One of the things that I like to say, though, is people keep clamoring for more and more air defenses. We can't Patriot our way out of this. AMD is a team sport. And so we can't just always rely on the Army air and missile defense forces to provide capabilities. It really does have to be a joint effort.

"Globally, if we're unbalanced in one area, then the other geographic combatant commanders could be without capability."

Tullahoma campaign studied for strategic success

By ED KENNEDY

For the Rocket

Studied for decades by the military, the Tullahoma campaign is considered one of the most classic operational-level maneuvers during the War Between the States.

Going from June 24 through July 3, 1863, the campaign was one of three major campaigns being conducted by the Army in the summer of 1863. Often overshadowed by the Vicksburg and the Gettysburg campaigns, the Tullahoma campaign is characterized

by masterful planning and operational maneuver by Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans who commanded the Union Army of the Cumberland. Although the Tullahoma campaign was a tremendous success, it was the precursor to the Union Army's disaster in September at Chickamauga, Georgia, when it suffered a stunning defeat.

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table conducts a battle or campaign field trip every October to study regional military actions. These field trips are open to the public and led by professional historians. Unlike

military staff rides, the field trips are strictly tours and require no extensive preparation by the participants although it is encouraged. This year's field trip is the Tullahoma campaign.

The Tullahoma field trip will occur on Saturday, Oct. 31, led by historian Greg Biggs of Clarksville, Tennessee. The TVCWRT field trip will travel the major routes of the armies from Murfreesboro and end in Sewanee, Tennessee, visiting all the major sites of the campaign. Visitors are always welcome on the second Thursday of the month meet-

ings and to attend the field trip (with priority given to TVCWRT members). For more information, visit www.tvcwrt.org.

Editor's note: Retired Lt. Col. Ed Kennedy is the former senior officer on the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, staff ride team. He has led numerous staff rides and tours to Korea, Germany, the Sioux Wars sites (Little Bighorn battle), the Tullahoma campaign, the Vicksburg campaign and numerous other War Between the States sites. He is currently on the board of the TVCWRT.



Photo by National Guard Spc. Christopher Shannon II

Dagger descent

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Beavers, a member of the Army Special Operations Command's parachute demonstration team, the Black Daggers, descends during a demonstration in Jackson, Miss., June 17.

Reservist on frontlines helps contain virus spread

By JOSEPH LACDAN

Army News Service

ORLANDO, Fla. – She left for her first Army mission without knowledge of her final destination, or when she'd be able to return home to her two dogs, cat and bearded dragon.

As she prepared to leave for the mission in early April, Capt. Holly Beard, an Army Reserve entomologist, had only one certainty: she'd be battling against the spread of a deadly virus.

At the time, Beard knew little of COVID-19, apart from information disseminated by the news media and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

She received the ambiguous phone call from her unit while visiting family in Florida. The 332nd Medical Brigade, based in Nashville, had selected her to join an Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force and travel to a military base in rural Kentucky for additional training before deploying to an unknown location.

She loaded her suitcases with everything she thought that she needed: her military uniforms, extra clothes, tuna snack packs and toilet paper.

In less than a day's time, she said goodbye to her girlfriend and boarded a plane in a nearly empty airport.

"It happened so fast," Beard said.

After training in Kentucky and taking another flight to Fort Dix, New Jersey, she finally learned she'd be deploying just outside New York City in Newark, New Jersey, to bring relief to overtasked healthcare workers in the pandemic's epicenter.

No stranger to changing conditions, Beard welcomed the challenge.

A competitive cyclist who raced for the University of Florida, Beard had faced uncertain circumstances before, though none this grave. Cycling requires adjustments to the elements, inclines and other cyclists' vying for position.

In one riding season, she had suffered about 10 falls and collisions during races. Beard had to overcome the worry of another accident.

She remembers the burn of those tumbles and how they shook her confidence. Beard's response: push harder. She eventually finished as one of the Gators' top cyclists and earned the school's female athlete of the year award in 2014.

During some races she'd hit a rough patch of gravel, or another cyclist would collide with her. Each time she'd get on her bike, she'd have to learn to mentally block the fear of falling again.

"It's kind of like the catchphrase 'a little progress was made with little risk,'" she said. "I think that's exactly the same mentality that I went into for (the) COVID-19 (mission).

"You know, the fear ... you can't always be afraid of the unknown. You kind of have to accept that you're already confident in your abilities."

Beard grew up in Boca Roton, along the state's tourist-friendly southeastern coast. The humid Florida heat also conjured a different type of crowd: insects or specifically fire ants, mosquitoes and termites. A 2010 national homeowner's report claimed Florida as the "buggiest state" in the country. Insect behavior and activity fascinated Beard at an early age.

That love of entomology led her to study the field at the University of Florida's Gainesville campus and to take a job as a senior technical sales and research associate for Texas-based Polyguard Products. Beard studied how the condition of a building's envelope including waterproofing and insect prevention, determined a structure's long-term health. She commissioned into the Army Reserve in 2017 after graduating with bachelor's and master's degrees in entomology at UF.

She said she could not have predicted her area of expertise would impact the long-term health of COVID-19 patients. At UF, she read that disease and injury unrelated to the battlefield caused more deaths than combat and she joined the Army Reserve to help protect Soldiers against those illnesses.

Although her role as an Army entomologist focused more on preventive medicine, some of the skills and ability to perform thorough inspections of a structure or space proved critical to COVID-19 patients, and the doctors and nurses charged with their care.

Inside Newark's University Hospital, which housed hundreds of patients in this New Jersey's largest city, Beard and the task force worked behind the scenes and impacted COVID-19 patients from a distance. As of June 21, total coronavirus deaths in the state had climbed to 12,870.

She split her days between inspecting and setting up hospital beds for one of the nation's most heavily-tasked hospitals, with working in the morgue alongside attendants to help coronavirus victims reach their final resting place. The nurses and hospital staff often worked through the night to meet the demand for care in the sprawling complex, logging 18-hour work days.



Courtesy photo

Capt. Holly Beard, an Army entomologist, prepares to conduct an inspection while deployed to Newark, N.J. Beard joined an Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task force that helped support overworked healthcare professionals at Newark's University Hospital.

Beard said often up to 60 patients had to wait as long as four days for one of the coveted hospital rooms. The hospital often housed between 10-15 ventilated patients in the emergency room.

"It's not something that you normally see," said Beard, who also helped convert the New Jersey Convention Center in Edison to a field medical station before arriving in Newark. "The civilian staff was already severely worn down. It was very stressful on the providers and on the nursing staff.

"So I feel like just being able to be there before it peaked, we were able to ... alleviate some of the pressure (off) that staff."

Beard examined each room for environmental safety and hygiene, a crucial step in the critical task of containing a virus. For a complex as massive as University Hospital, preventing the spread became no easy job.

Rooms must meet specific requirements and, in some cases maintain negative pressure to control the virus.

She helped New Jersey hospital workers adjust to the growing cases of patients around them and restore order beneath the chaos.

During her inspections, Beard performed air-pressure checks for each hospital room. Hospitals like University maintain airborne infectious isolation

rooms to house COVID-19 patients. Her preventive medicine team also inspected food storage and enforced proper doffing of personal protective equipment in the facility's cafeteria using meticulous precision as a single contaminated item could further the spread.

"(The intent) was to contain the infection within the rooms instead of putting it into the environment that your staff is also working in," she said. "We focused a lot on education and training for environmental services and so your quality checks empowered a staff that felt fear associated to the unknown of COVID."

Her work could often be a thankless job, but on her final days at University Hospital, she and her fellow Soldiers left to applause from hospital workers. In those two short months, she formed such a strong a bond with the hospital staff at Newark and her fellow Soldiers in the task force, that she decided to extend her reserve commitment by another four years when she returned home May 20.

"It's an honor to be a part of something like this," Beard said. "It's a humbling experience. It's very different than anything I've ever done before. And I think that it's very rewarding to be able to have an experience like this one.

"As a preventive medicine Soldier you don't always get these types of opportunities."

Transportation staff judge advocate caps his career

By MIHAEL KLEIMAN

U.S. Transportation Command Public Affairs



Photo by Michelle Gigante, USTRANSCOM

Col. Rick Lear, staff judge advocate, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., left, meets with his successor, Col. Andras Marton. Lear retires from active-duty service in October, after achieving a 30-year Army career. In July, he departs USTRANSCOM for Huntsville to reunite with his family, and transition to the next chapter in his life. For the past two years as the USTRANSCOM SJA, Lear has led a 25-member staff and provided legal counsel to command senior leadership.

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Since October 1994, Col. Rick Lear, staff judge advocate, U.S. Transportation Command, has practiced the legal profession in uniform, but in a few weeks, he will transition from the familiarity of his Soldier experience to the unfamiliarity of civilian life.

Lear, who joined the Army 30 years ago as an armor officer prior to earning his doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law, retires from active-duty service in October, but will depart USTRANSCOM in July.

For the past two years, he has led the command's 25-member Staff Judge Advocate office, while also providing legal counsel to organizational senior leadership on military justice and transportation-, international-, fiscal-, and civil-related law. Some of Lear's milestones achieved during this tour of duty included spearheading the entire TCJA staff's synchronized participation in Turbo Challenge 2019. Occurring in March last year, the annual USTRANSCOM-sponsored exercise involved participants' training in coordination, command and control, and integration of capabilities and functions of USTRANSCOM and its components.

In addition, TCJA had a significant role in the initiation and execution of the command's historic, first-ever Global Household Goods Contract awarded on April 30, 2020. The GHC represents a part of the Department of Defense's wider strategy to enhance the relocation process for DOD families. USTRANSCOM's legal office has also been actively engaged in the command's response to the subsequent award challenge and reevaluation.

And with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in March, more than 20 TCJA members have consistently teleworked since, but Lear and his staff have not missed a beat in performing their duties, due, in large part, to the sense of urgency they demonstrated – and experienced – during the TC19 exercise the year before.

"It's been a privilege and humbling experience to serve in USTRANSCOM. This unique assignment has been the first time as a staff judge advocate I've served at the combatant command level," Lear said. "The organization has a strong, capable, and confident military, civilian, and contract workforce, which sets the standard for professionalism and performance, not only within the DOD, but perhaps throughout the whole of government. The USTRANSCOM assignment was the 13th – and best – of my 30-year military career."

Before coming to USTRANSCOM, Lear held the position of staff judge advocate with the Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky, for over three years. He cited this particular tour as a tremendous opportunity for an attorney. Some other highlights from his three-decade military career included completing 85 static line jumps during his assignment as chief of operational law with the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in the mid to late 1990s. And while working as the command judge advocate, U.S. Special Operations Command, Europe in the early 2000s, Lear was legal lead for the COCOM's endeavors in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, as well as on the African continent.

While assigned as the Army Recruiting Command SJA, he worked for and with Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Snow, the USAREC's 25th commander, in building – and sustaining – the world's best Army today and tomorrow by attracting top volunteer recruits to become Soldiers.

"I consider myself incredibly fortunate to have had Rick Lear as my SJA, while leading USAREC. Rick is in a league of his own and a consummate professional," Snow said. "Anyone who has served with Rick knows he is a superb SJA, but he is much more than that — he is also a great leader, teammate and team builder. I consider him to be among the finest leaders I had the privilege to serve alongside in my career and wish him and his lovely spouse Jennifer the very best as they transition from the Army. I have no doubt Rick will continue to excel in any endeavor he pursues."

After departing USTRANSCOM in July, Lear heads to Huntsville to reunite with his family, and transition to his next chapter professionally and personally.

"During the USTRANSCOM assignment and throughout my 30-year Army career, there were no accomplishments I did on my own," Lear said. "It's been all about the team – think and value the team. I've been fortunate to conclude my Soldier experience at USTRANSCOM, which I believe is the most-professional, most-respected organization I've served in and was proud to be a part of."



Army photo by Steve McCool

Enhanced reconnaissance aircraft

The Army is taking delivery this week of the Enhanced Medium Altitude Reconnaissance and Surveillance System-Vehicle and Dismount Exploitation Radar prototype at the Sierra Nevada Corporation Hagerstown, Md., facility. The Army Contracting Command-Redstone, on behalf of the Fixed Wing Project Office, awarded a contract to SNC for the modification of one EMARSS-V aircraft as a deliverable prototype in September 2019. During the \$5 million, seven-month integration effort, a number of systems were integrated to enhance performance, increase safety and improve the aircraft's ability to operate in a near-peer environment. The EMARSS-V prototype will be inducted at Fort Hood, Texas, with the 15th Military Intelligence Battalion in July and then ferried to the L3 Harris facility in Greenville, Texas, for scheduled maintenance. The aircraft will then ferry to the Command, Control, Computers, Communications, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Flight Activity in Lakehurst, N.J., to undergo calibration and testing of the signals intelligence system. Upon completion of testing, this enhanced EMARSS-V will make its return to the 15th Military Intelligence Battalion for force generation and future operational deployments.



Photo by Dave Hylton, PEO Aviation

Aviation product leadership

Carlos Correia, left, accepted responsibility as the product lead for the Soldier Unmanned Aircraft Systems Product Office from Margaret Patton, right, in a June 15 ceremony hosted by Col. Joseph Anderson, project manager for Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Before this assignment, Correia was the deputy product lead for SUAS. Patton is transitioning to her next assignment as the deputy chief of staff for the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Rocket Pet of the Week

Molly

This is Molly and she belongs to NASA contractor Matt and his wife Andrea.

“Molly is a very extroverted cat who has to be around people as much as she can. She loves sitting by the window and watching for the USPS truck as well and various creatures in the yard. When we are busy at home (such as teleworking) Molly does creative things to get our attention like sitting in a box looking cute.”



Redstone**Rocket**
www.theredstonerocket.com

Aviation Center Logistics Command has new leader



Photo by Holly Sterling

Col. Stephen Owen, the incoming Aviation Center Logistics Command commander, receives the colors from Maj. Gen. David Francis, commander of Aviation Center of Excellence, on June 23 at Fort Rucker.

By MILES BROWN

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

FORT RUCKER – Col. Richard Martin relinquished command of the Aviation Center Logistics Command to Col. Stephen Owen, June 23 at Fort Rucker in a virtual ceremony hosted by Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command.

Royar hosted the ceremony from AMCOM headquarters at Redstone Arsenal. Maj. Gen. David Francis, commander of Aviation Center of Excellence, stood in for Royar locally during the ceremony.

The ceremony also marked the change of responsibility for the ACLC command sergeant major from Sgt. Maj. Jerry Cowart to Sgt. Maj. Nicholas Burney.

The requirement to hold a virtual ceremony was a result of continued social distancing and safety measures put in place in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Royar provided remarks following the passing of the unit colors and thanked the ACLC team for their resilience and hard work during Martin's tenure.

“The team’s results have been remarkable,” Royar said. “Col. Martin and Sgt. Maj. Cowart were able to change the game at ACLC and move the team forward in providing improved Army readiness. They did all this while assuming even more responsibilities; picking up missions at Fort Sill and Fort Huachuca. Truly an outstanding leadership duo leading an all-star team.”

Martin passed the colors to Owen after two years leading ACLC where he provided full spectrum maintenance, supply and contractor oversight in order to ensure availability for all aviation training mission requirements in support of the Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Rucker and Fort Benning, Georgia.

During his departing speech, Martin reflected on the contributions of people.

“In fact, they (the statistics) aren’t what I’m the most proud of after two years. ... Instead I’m going to talk about people,” Martin said during his final remarks to the ACLC team. “Two years ago I said ‘we are in this together. My, how those words have changed in meaning, but are even more important in today’s context. We, collectively, persevered, improved

and accomplished what many literally told me we could not do. For two years, I said ‘I don’t care what shirt you wear’ – whether you are in uniform, a DA civilian or a contractor – if you are on our team and you support our efforts – that’s all that mattered.

“It is the maintenance personnel – from the mechanic, technical inspector and production control teams, to skilled artisans and supply personnel. These (ACLC) men and women make sure that aircraft are ready to fly. They enable Army readiness.”

Owen, a native of Littleton, Colorado, comes to ACLC after serving as the director of the USAACE Directorate of Training and Doctrine at Fort Rucker. His Army aviation career has taken him around the world and included many command and staff positions. Owen is a senior Army aviator qualified in the CH-47F Chinook helicopter and is a graduate of the CH-47D Instructor Pilot and Maintenance Test Pilot courses. He is also a graduate of both the Airborne and Air Assault courses. He deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan multiple times during his 23-year career.

Burney, who hails from Osceola, Missouri, enlisted in the Army in 1998 as an AH-64 Apache maintainer. During his 22-year career, he has supported Army aviation units across the globe and, most recently, he served with the 128th Aviation Brigade, Fort Eustis, Virginia. He also deployed multiple times to Iraq and Afghanistan during his career.

Royar had one charge for the incoming commander and sergeant major: Keep winning.

“At the end of the day, this is not a short game,” Royar said. “We in the Army are in this for the long haul. Col. Martin and Sgt. Maj. Cowart got us way ahead in the game, but we are not done yet. The game is not over. I have absolute confidence that Col. Owen and Sgt. Maj. Burney will lead ACLC to new heights. Winning does matter, and the Army can’t afford not to win. The new leadership team at ACLC is going to make us successful in the future and continue winning. Army Strong!”

Martin will assume the duties as the AMCOM chief of staff, replacing Col. Richard Zampelli.

Resource manager joins ranks of senior executives

By RACHEL DELOACH

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

The Army Materiel Command enterprise welcomed a new resource management assistant deputy chief of staff during a ceremony at the headquarters June 24.

Mike Cook joined a field of 297 distinguished leaders as the newest member of the Senior Executive Service – a select group of top executives who make up just 0.1% of the civilian workforce.

Members of the SES serve in key positions just below the top presidential appointees and are the link between the appointees and the rest of the federal workforce.

“We are here to recognize a seasoned leader who has the character, commitment and courage to lead at the senior executive level,” Lisha Adams, executive deputy to the commanding general, said. “Undoubtedly, Mike’s credentials mark him as an exceptional choice to lead AMC G-8 alongside Mrs. (Christina) Freese.”

Cook is no stranger to the Army as he comes from a service-oriented family. His father retired as a colonel with the

Ordnance Corps after a nearly 30-year career while his sister and brother currently work for the Department of Defense.

Following in his father’s footsteps, Cook completed 28 years in uniform before beginning his career as a Department of the Army civilian.

Prior to coming to AMC, he served as the deputy G-8 for Space and Missile Defense Command. Other notable assignments include comptroller for the 20th Engineer Brigade, Army Reserve Qatar, and 3/160th Special Operations Aviation Division.

Cook’s hard work has not gone unnoticed. Throughout his career, he received awards for his military and civilian contributions, including 2014 ASA Comptroller of the Year (Army command level), 2014 Military Capstone award and 2015 McCall Award for Distinguished Service.

In the first month of his new role, Cook has recognized the commitment and professionalism of his team.

“I am humbled by the beast that is resource management at AMC,” he said. “I look forward to adding value and being a part of this effort.”



Photo by Doug Brewster

Lisha Adams, executive deputy to the commanding general at Army Materiel Command, administers the oath as Mike Cook joins AMC as resource management assistant deputy chief of staff.

Adams concluded the ceremony by offering Cook one piece of advice.

“Know what the standards are, focus

on the output and hold yourselves and others accountable to execution,” she

said.

NASA photos

Space agency heroes

From left, Russel Parks, Melinda Swenson, Rodney Phillips and Kellie Craig, along with Darrell Bailey, not shown, are the latest team members from NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center to be named a HEO HErO. Parks led a team of engineers and technicians in conducting the Space Launch System core stage modal test under challenging conditions. Swenson assists the Science and Space Systems Support Office by developing an expanding workforce and managing major contracts. Phillips worked overtime to ensure the successful installation of the SLS core stage into the B-2 test stand at NASA's Stennis Space Center. Craig leads critical contract management processes for the SLS core stage, boosters, engines and Spacecraft Payload Integration/Evolution. Bailey leads SLS test facilities design, construction, activation and checkout. HEO HErOes from across the agency are honored in the weekly Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate newsletter.



Supply chain stays intact amid coronavirus pandemic

By SAMANTHA HILL

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Army Materiel Command is continuing to ensure Soldiers have the equipment they need, when and where they need it, despite the ongoing challenges.

With the world facing the COVID-19 pandemic and the Department of Defense cutting unnecessary travel through its stop movement order, Lindsey Jones, an AMC employee working in the Lead Materiel Integration operations branch, said the fielding of military equipment was impacted.

“I have been working with the government for 18 years, doing this mission for 10, and this is the first time I have experienced something like this,” Jones said.

Typically, AMC receives component allocations from the Department of the Army’s resources department, or G-8. Then, Army Sustainment Command develops a distribution plan they vet with Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology program managers and commands. While that process didn’t change this year, the Army’s response to COVID-19 impacted the next phase – fielding the equipment.

“Fielding teams were not able to go on ground to execute the fielding,” Jones said. “They were able to do some virtual fieldings and trainings, but otherwise the teams had to collaborate on rescheduling all the fieldings that didn’t happen to a timeframe when the program managers could travel again to field the equipment to the units.”

In recent weeks, through work sessions like those held during the virtual Army Modernization and Equipping Conference, nearly all the fieldings have been rescheduled. For those that weren’t, due to special circumstances, AMC, ASC, program managers and combatant commands are developing a plan to get the fieldings back on track.

While equipment is getting into the hands of the Soldier, AMC has been tracking supply availability.

“Supply availability measures the overall health of the supply chain, how we are able to fill the requirements levied on the supply chain, not only for the tactical requirements, but to support the Organic Industrial Bases,” said Renee Mosher, AMC director of the Supply Chain Management Directorate, G-3.

Mosher said AMC’s goal is to have 100% supply availability, meaning if a Soldier or the Organic Industrial Base needs a specific part, that part would be available without delay. In addition to the parts managed by AMC, AMC partners with the Defense Logistics Agency to ensure the right parts are being ordered to support readiness. Right now, supply availability is above 90%. While some small businesses were impacted by the ongoing pandemic, Mosher said the Army is experiencing high readiness rates for its combat, missile and aviation platforms, and supply availability is not currently seeing a decline.

“We did not close the doors on the Organic Industrial Base,” Mosher said. “Our workforce came to work every day and AMC continued to meet our production requirements. Our revenue is strong and we’re doing well.”

Pandemic impacts on supply availability may not yet be known due to the lead times of how parts are delivered to fill requirements. Parts available now were ordered months in advance to maintain readiness. Mosher said AMC will watch very closely in the coming months for any impacts COVID-19 may have had on the Army’s supply chain and document lessons learned.

AMC is looking at personal protective equipment stockpiles to see if adjustments need to be made in the event of a similar situation to COVID-19. Also, AMC is looking at how the Organic Industrial Base has been running during COVID-19, with workers social distancing and lines being run with less people in some cases. These documented lessons learned are shared with the other services.

For the AMC enterprise to get Soldiers the supplies and parts they need, when they need it, during a global pandemic, Mosher credits the command’s focus on readiness.

“All the preparation and planning to get us where we are today are enabling us to get through COVID-19 without a major impact on Army readiness or the Organic Industrial Base’s ability to continue meeting production requirements,” she said. “We have yet to see any major impacts on the supply chain.”



Army photo by Charles Rosemond

Pfc. Antonio Montes assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment (Attack Reconnaissance), conducts maintenance on an AH-64 Apache helicopter at Katterbach Army Airfield, Germany, June 24.

X-rays from new star hint at Sun's earliest days

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

By detecting an X-ray flare from a very young star using NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, researchers have reset the timeline for when stars like the Sun start blasting high-energy radiation into space – which may help answer questions about the Sun's earliest days and the evolution of the solar system.

Astronomers discovered the X-ray flare at HOPS 383, a young protostar some 1,400 light-years from Earth. Protostars are in the earliest phase of stellar evolution following the early collapse of a large cloud of gas and dust. Once it matures, HOPS 383 will have a mass about half that of the Sun.

HOPS 383 is surrounded by a doughnut-shaped cocoon of material containing about half its mass, which is in the process of falling inward toward the central star. Much of the infant star's light is unable to pierce this cocoon, but X-rays from the flare are powerful enough to do so. Infrared light emitted by HOPS 383 is scattered off the inside of the cocoon.

Chandra observations in late 2017 revealed the X-ray flare, which lasted about three hours and 20 minutes. The rapid increase and slow decrease in the amount of X-rays documented during the flare is similar to the behavior of X-ray flares from young stars more evolved than HOPS 383.

No X-rays were detected from the protostar outside this flaring period, implying that during these times

HOPS 383 was at least 10 times fainter, on average, than the flare at its maximum. It is also 2,000 times more powerful than the brightest X-ray flare observed from the Sun, a middle-aged star of relatively low mass.

As material from the cocoon falls inward toward the disk, there is a corresponding exodus of gas and dust. This outflow removes angular momentum from the system, allowing material to fall from the disk onto the growing young protostar. Astronomers have seen such an outflow from HOPS 383 and think powerful X-ray flares like the one observed by Chandra could strip electrons from atoms at the base of it. This may be important for driving the outflow by magnetic forces.

When the star erupted in X-rays, it also likely would have driven energetic flows of particles that collided with dust grains at the inner edge of the disk of material swirling around the protostar. Assuming something similar happened in the Sun, the nuclear reactions caused by this collision could explain unusual abundances of elements in certain types of meteorites found on Earth.

No other flares from HOPS 383 were detected over the course of three Chandra observations with a total exposure of just under 24 hours. Astronomers will need longer X-ray observations to determine the frequency of such flares during this very early phase of development for stars like the Sun.

A paper describing these results appeared in the latest issue of *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. Marshall Space



NASA graphic

An illustration depicts HOPS 383, the young protostar some 1,400 light-years from Earth, where astronomers discovered the X-ray flare.

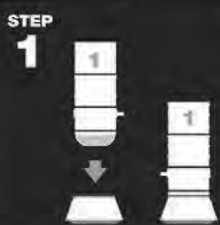
Flight Center manages the Chandra program. The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory's Chandra X-ray Center controls science and flight operations from Cambridge and Burlington, Massachusetts.

SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM

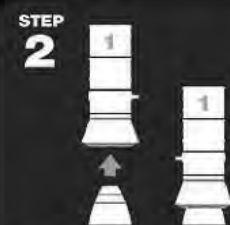
STACKING THE SLS BOOSTERS

Starting from the bottom up, each booster is built with an **AFT ASSEMBLY**, **MOTOR SEGMENTS** and a **FORWARD ASSEMBLY**.

Stacking begins with the **AFT ASSEMBLY** at the Rotation, Processing and Surge Facility at Kennedy Space Center.



AFT MOTOR SEGMENTS are inspected and stacked onto the **AFT SKIRTS**.



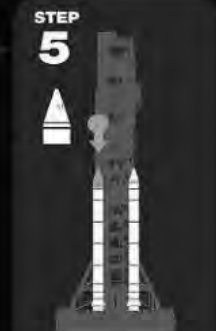
AFT EXIT CONES are then stacked with their nozzles to form **AFT ASSEMBLIES**.



AFT ASSEMBLIES are installed on the mobile launcher.



Remaining **MOTOR SEGMENTS** are then stacked one-by-one.



The **FORWARD ASSEMBLIES** are joined last.

At 177 feet tall, the **SOLID ROCKET BOOSTERS** are taller than a 16-story building, weigh 1.6 million pounds each and are the first elements of SLS to be installed on the mobile launcher at Kennedy's Vehicle Assembly Building.

Once boosters are assembled, the SLS **CORE STAGE** is lowered to the mobile launcher and joined to the two boosters, which carry **THE ENTIRE 5.75 MILLION-POUND FUELED WEIGHT OF THE SLS LAUNCH VEHICLE**.

Solid rocket boosters assembly

With the arrival of booster segments for NASA's Space Launch System rocket at the agency's Kennedy Space Center, NASA's Exploration Ground Systems team is preparing the rocket motors for stacking activities. Stacking of the twin, five-segment solid rocket boosters begins with the aft assembly at Kennedy's Rotation, Processing and Surge Facility. The boosters are the first elements of the SLS rocket to be installed on the mobile launcher at Kennedy's Vehicle Assembly Building in advance of the first launch of NASA's Artemis program.

Huntsville serves as volleyball tournament host



Courtesy photo

This year athletes will compete July 21-26 at John Hunt Park in Huntsville in partnership with Rally Volleyball, the Huntsville Sports Commission and the City of Huntsville in the 2020 USA National Beach Tour Junior Championship.

By B.J. HOEPTNER EVANS

USA Volleyball

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – USA Volleyball has announced that the 2020 USA National Beach Tour Junior Championship will be held July 21-26 at John Hunt Park in Huntsville in partnership with Rally Volleyball, the Huntsville Sports Commission and the City of Huntsville.

Athletes who received a bid at a Beach National Qualifier will be top seeds with other registrants all qualifying to play in the open division.

“USAV is excited to be holding the nation’s premiere junior national championship this year for the first time in Alabama,” USAV President and CEO Jamie Davis said.

“We know that junior athletes and their families have been missing volleyball during the shutdown and we have planned extensive and strict safety protocols to protect the players, officials, coaches and fans. The USA NBT Junior Championship is a great place for the top American youth players to test their skills against some of the best players in the country.”

“We are honored to assist USAV in hosting this premier event during this challenging time,” Colleen Craig, CEO of Rally Volleyball, said. “John Hunt Park offers

a great inland alternative for beach volleyball. The complex boasts a brand-new premier beach facility including air-conditioned bathrooms, indoor and outdoor showers, Wi-Fi, power, water sprinkling system for the sand, and lights on all the courts, to name a few of the amenities.”

The event schedule is as follows:

- 12U and 16U Age Divisions: July 21, Pool play. July 22, Pool play. July 23, Play-offs.

- 14U and 18U Age Divisions: July 24, Pool play. July 25, Pool play. July 26, Play-offs.

The top three teams in each age group receive medals and prize packs. Admission for spectators is free.

Register now at <https://usav.bracketpal.com/signup/124>.

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YOUR GLORY DAYS IN SPORTS

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Part of baseball died with Roberto Clemente

The classic American Pie song by Don McLean comes to mind when I think of baseball Hall of Famer Roberto Clemente.

When the 1971 World Series hero died tragically in an airplane crash in 1972, it was like part of baseball perished with him. Like in the 1971 American Pie song, this was the day the music died.

I was already a big baseball fan by the 1970s and Clemente was one of my heroes. In my brief infamous Little League career, I tried to imitate his batting stance. He could hit anything, and of course I couldn't.

Clemente became the first Spanish-speaking ballplayer named the World Series MVP in 1971. In the Pittsburgh Pirates championship triumph over the Baltimore Orioles in seven games, Clemente collected 12 hits and hit .414. He hit safely in all seven games of the series, duplicating a feat he had performed in 1960 when the Pirates beat the Yankees.

He was part of the Pirates murderous lineup in the 1971 season. Clemente hit 13 home runs that year with 86 runs batted in and he batted .341. The Pirates other sluggers included Willie Stargell (48, 125, .295) and Bob Robertson (26, 72, .271).

Clemente, a native of Puerto Rico, played 18 seasons for the Pirates. He was an

All-Star for 13 seasons and played in 15 All-Star Games. The right fielder was the National League most valuable player in 1966, the NL batting leader in 1961, 1964, 1965 and 1967 and a Gold Glove Award winner for 12 consecutive seasons from 1961-72. His batting average was over .300 for 13 seasons and he had 3,000 hits during his major league career. He also played in two World Series championships.

Clemente was involved in charity work in Latin American and Caribbean countries during the offseasons, often delivering baseball equipment and food to those in need. On Dec. 31, 1972, he died in a plane crash at age 38 while en route to deliver aid to earthquake victims in Nicaragua.

He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973, becoming both the first Latin American and Caribbean player to be enshrined.

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

Classic replay: Pirates outduel Orioles in 1971 series

From combined reports

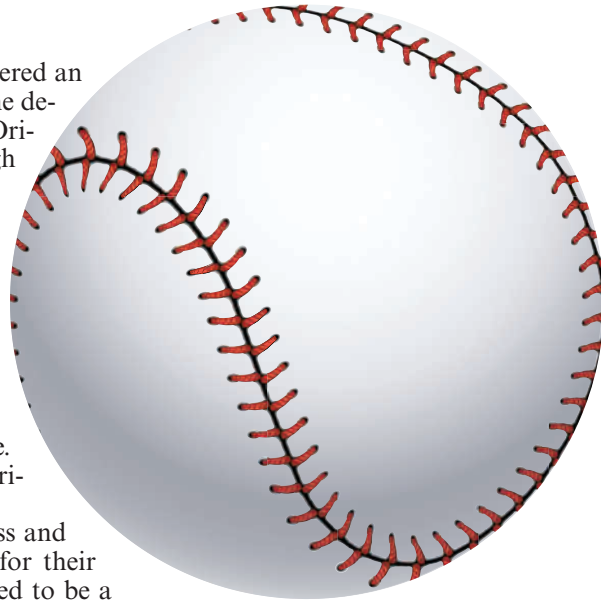
The 1971 World Series delivered an intriguing matchup between the defending champion Baltimore Orioles and the upstart Pittsburgh Pirates.

Pittsburgh prevailed in seven games, thanks to Roberto Clemente, who was named the series most valuable player.

The home team won the first six games which set up the deciding tilt Oct. 17 at Memorial Stadium in Baltimore. The Pirates beat the favored Orioles 2-1.

With ace pitchers Steve Blass and Mike Cuellar on the mound for their respective teams, game 7 proved to be a pitcher's duel. Clemente drew first blood for the Pirates by hitting a two-out homer in the fourth off Cuellar. The Pirates added another run in the eighth when Jose Pagan doubled in Willie Stargell.

The only run the O's could muster off Blass was an RBI groundout by Don Buford in the eighth. Blass would get his



second complete game win of the series.

Game 7 was the only game in which the visiting team won. It was the fourth World Series in which the home team won each of the first six games before the road team won game 7 with the others being 1955, 1956 and 1965.

Your glory days in sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

What is the highlight of your athletic endeavors?

“The highlight of my athletic endeavors is enjoying the afternoon on the golf course on a sunny afternoon and I can have the course to myself,” retired Command Sgt. Maj. Greg Lunn said. “Redstone Arsenal affords that opportunity especially in the time of COVID-19.”

Lunn, 62, from Baltimore, Maryland, served in the Army from 1976 to 2007 and retired at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, after 31 years and moved to Huntsville. He served as the command sergeant major for the Aviation and Missile Command from 2003-05.

Lunn is a program manager for Science and Engineering Services LLC.

The Athens resident and his wife of 44 years, Sheryl, have three sons and 11 grandchildren. All three sons have served in the military: Greg Jr., former Air Force in Korea; Gary, Navy in Virginia Beach, Virginia; and Bryan, Army in Orlando, Florida.

Lunn plays about two rounds of golf a month and has an 18 handicap. He also enjoys reading books. He roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Greg Lunn enjoys a Saturday afternoon at the Links.

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Cotton Row Run rescheduled

Due to concerns for its runners, volunteers and spectators around the COVID-19 pandemic, the Huntsville Track Club has decided to move the 41st Cotton Row Run to a more suitable date. Working closely with the City of Huntsville and the sponsors, they have set the race day for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 7 at Big Spring Park in downtown Huntsville. Even though they must postpone this Memorial Day tradition of honoring our military who have lost their lives in service to our country, they are committed to honoring service members' sacrifice and dedicating the race to them on Labor Day. Bill Penney Toyota returns as the presenting sponsor. Other sponsors include Fleet Feet Huntsville, TOC Orthopaedics, Spine & Sports Medicine, and the City of Huntsville. Register at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Huntsville/CottonRowRun>. For more information, email Race Director Donna Palumbo at runcottonrow@gmail.com.

Conferences & Meetings

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 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.

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.

Lance reunion 2021

The 2021 Lance Missile and MLRS Veterans Homecoming Celebration is tentatively scheduled May 20-22 in Huntsville. The signup deadline is October. They will honor their Vietnam veterans at this event. For more information, call retired Sgt. 1st Class John Williams, the organizer, at 210-209-2000 or email jwilli9014@aol.com.

Tennessee Valley Corridor

The Tennessee Valley Corridor has announced new dates for its 2020 National Summit celebrating 25 years of innovation in transforming our region. The summit will now be held July 15-16 at Milligan College in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Infantry division reunion

In Fox Lake, Illinois, the Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 99th annual reunion in Kansas City, Missouri, from Sept. 23-27, visit www.2ida.org/99th-annual-reunion/ or contact Bob Haynes at 2idahq@comcast.net and (224) 225-1202.

Small business contracting conference

A small business contracting conference and expo will be held Oct. 21 at the Von Braun Center. This event features key government contracting personnel, senior military leaders and industry professionals, matchmaking, contracting classes, networking for defense companies and trade show. The presenter is Contract Ready, based in Virginia Beach, Virginia; and the co-host is Alabama PTAC (Procurement Technical Assistance Center), from Birmingham. For information email Phil Kiver at pkiver@contractready.org.

Miscellaneous Items

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 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.

Family advocacy advice

Jeannie Johnston, Army Community Service division chief, recommends the following website for good information about coping during this difficult time: www.militaryonesource.mil/sp-1-news.

PS Magazine website

PS Magazine has received many questions lately like, "Where's the monthly magazine I used to read using a mobile app or at the LOGSA website? What happened to the cartoons? Where the heck do I read PS Magazine now?" The answer to each question is that PS Magazine now informs Army readiness using a fully online, mobile-friendly information portal. Its heritage to present timely and accurate preventive maintenance, supply and safety information directly to Soldiers remains the same, although without cartoons. Check out their new website at www.psmagazine.army.mil.

Thrift Shop closed

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thrift Shop is closed until further notice and cannot accept any donations. The management appreciates your understanding during these difficult times.

America Salutes tribute

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper will participate in America Salutes, our nation's first virtual tribute to honor the Class of 2020 high school seniors who plan to enlist into the military immediately after graduation. The one-hour pre-recorded show will be streamed live over social media on July 4, then again on July 16, July 28 and Aug. 9. There will be a live Career Fair for Veterans, immediately preceding the America Salutes broadcast July 28 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.americasalutes.us.

Korean War veterans, families

Local author KC Bertling is writing a book dedicated to the Korean War veterans to tell their stories from 1950-53. If you'd like to have your story to be published in a book titled "Our Forgotten War Heroes – the Korean War Veterans Stories," email KCBertling@yahoo.com or visit www.legacy4koreanwarveterans.org. The

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deadline to submit your story is Aug.15 with two photos of the veteran (one from their younger days and one for current days).

Korean War veteran's birthday

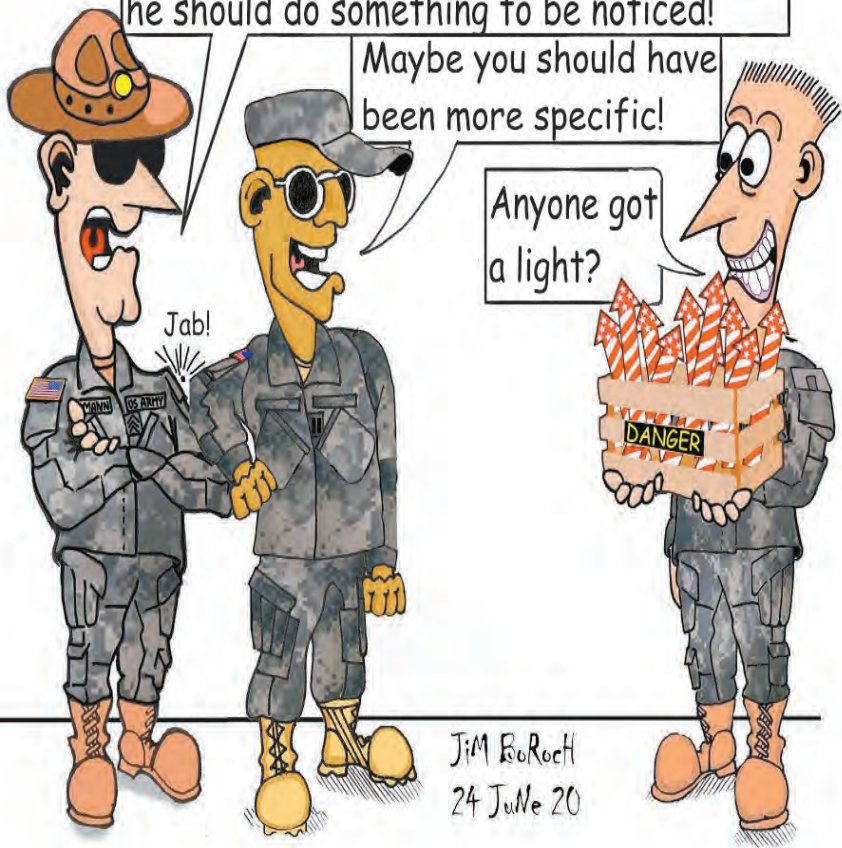
KC Bertling asks that you help honor Air Force Maj. Samuel P. Logan Jr., a B-29 bomber who served WWII and Korean War but never returned home. When he left for the Korean War in 1950, he was 30 and left behind a beautiful wife and two precious sons (2 and 4 years old then), and he was the only child of his parents. Aug. 27 will be Logan's 100th birthday. Bertling wants to collect cards, letters, emails as many as possible, and hand deliver them to Logan's two sons residing in Tennessee. Send cards and letters by Aug. 15 to: PO Box 8170, Huntsville, AL 35808.

I told Hazard if he wants to be promoted he should do something to be noticed!

Maybe you should have been more specific!

Anyone got a light?

Jab!



Jim BoRoach
24 June 20