

## Remember rules for returning to Redstone

By JONATHAN STINSON

Assistant editor

jonathan.stinson@theredstonerocket.com

Spring has sprung, and the Team Redstone workforce is slowly returning to the Arsenal. As some workers return to post, however, they seem to be bringing some items with them that need to be left at home – like their unauthorized weapons.

“It’s easy to forget some of the do’s and don’ts that come with working on a federal installation – especially when you’ve been working from home for over a year – but, as we transition back, we need to remember that it takes everyone’s cooperation to ensure the workforce can enjoy a safe and efficient work environment,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said.

Mellor reminded the workforce on the do’s and don’ts of coming back to work during a virtual town hall last week.

Some of the do’s on the list include: hiking, biking, walking and golfing, along with a slew of other recreation opportunities offered by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Mellor also said the outdoor swimming pool was going to open around the end of May.

These are some of the don’ts: don’t speed or drive while under the influence, don’t take photos on post, don’t fly drones or other UAV’s on the Arsenal or carry knives with more than a 3-inch blade.

“We’ve seen an increase in traffic violations recently,” Mellor said. “And there are no firearms permitted in your vehicle ... please, no handguns on Redstone Arsenal.”

Mellor added that for those who do bring handguns on post, they’ll have their guns impounded and face at least a “hefty” fine.

The Arsenal does allow select firearms on post for hunting, along with trap and skeet shooting.

Those firearms must be registered in advance. More information about registering those firearms can be found at <https://redstone.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation>.

See Rules on page 7



### Dos

- **Hiking on the installation**
- **Biking** (check the Biking Rules & Regulations on the <https://homme.army.mil/redstone> website)
- **Walking, Jogging** – Tons of sidewalks
- **Golf**
- **Check out MWR Activities**
- **Outdoor eateries**
- **Swimming**
- **Boat rentals**
- **RV rentals**
- **Fishing**
- **Trap & Skeet** – Check out the Beginners Classes
- **Camping**

### Don'ts

- **No driving under the influence on the installation**
- **No firearms in your vehicle**
- **No speeding**
- **No photography**
- **No flying drones or any kind of UAV's**
- **No venturing into restricted areas**

## ★ HELLO ★ SUMMER



### MILITARY

Digital Garrison pushes readiness.

PAGE 5



### COMMUNITY

Summer camps invite youngsters.

PAGE 17

### FEDERAL

Ingenuity Mars helicopter makes historic first flight.

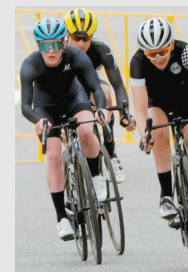
PAGE 29



### SPORTS

Paralympic cyclists compete in Huntsville.

PAGE 35



# Letter to the editor: We must learn from the Holocaust

In the ashes of the second world war, the evidence of unimaginable events became apparent and visible for the citizens of the free world to see, visit and touch. Only slightly more than two decades after the Great War, the spectacle of mass casualties and violent death was not unfamiliar to people in all corners of the globe, but it was the intentional annihilation of millions of noncombatants, deliberately worked to death, starved to death, or systematically executed that questioned the legitimacy of civilized society and government. Solemnly symbolic monuments and carefully choreographed court trials conducted to document and chronicle the atrocities did little to assuage the sorrow, reduce the fear, or remove the guilt of those involved in that century's most horrific human event.

Nations of the world united together around a core set of principles after the Holocaust and affirmed their pledge to "Never Again" permit the genocide of a people while the capability existed among member states to prevent or arrest such tragic injustice. As great powers cast aside age-old ideological differences, boundaries, borders and the yolk of social control, the seeds of far more dangerous and diabolical antagonisms were fertilized anew. Sadly, during the decades following the horrors of the Holocaust, the will and resolve to fulfill that "Never Again" pledge has been too often weak and too few willing to protect populations in peril or to stop the evil of genocidal bloodlust. People driven to return their culture to a vivid past or frustrated by the accommodation of modern social disparities have proven they're only one critical event away from the barbarism and butchery of the 20th century. But today, the frenzied fury plays out in full view of an anxious world, a world hoping that someone else will act.

Most of our society learns of atrocious acts such as genocide through the jaundiced lens of a bias media, that is, if we learn at all. The cause and effect are often simplified to portray victims and villains as a type of accident victim while in truth, the seeds of conflict were always present. The rest of us will come to understand the most violent of human catastrophes through the efforts of the movie industry, usually after the tragedy has ended. The Holocaust was graphically illustrated for two generations through movies like Night and Fog

and Schindler's List yet there were many, many others. The film, The Killing Fields painfully articulated how millions of Cambodians died at the hands of the Khmer Rouge while the shame of inaction was aptly depicted in the movie Hotel Rwanda. Audiences did not have to wait long as they learned again of ethnic cleansing in the Balkans through films such as The Land of Blood and Honey or how the lust for scarce resources in Africa led to mass murder as illustrated in Blood Diamonds. Genocide in modern day Burma was graphically chronicled in the film Rambo even as ancient racial and ethnic cleansing was given example in the movie Attack on Darfur and, from the dust of Baghdad, in The Hurt Locker. Given this trend, we can assume the horrific acts committed by ISIS that occurred in Iraq and Syria will soon find their way into our culture through the genre of film.

The tragic events that were the Holocaust were so frightful that they gave mankind the courage to speak with one voice when we exclaimed "Never Again" – yet even this quick review of recent atrocities dramatized in film narrative reveal our failure to learn or to act. The United Nations, while well intentioned, lacks the inherent capacity to act and is depicted in many scenarios as a jury in search of a policeman because sometimes, only the resolve of objective force can bring about peace. During this month of remembrance, we would do well to recall what we've learned and remember the motivation that moved us to make the bold and specific claim of "Never Again" because our recent past would indicate that too many citizens and leaders believe that epic human tragedies are the thing of fantasy, film, and of the past - even in the clear light of convincing recent evidence that they are sadly a part of the current global landscape. We must do better; we must learn faster, finding the will and the courage to act.

Al Bazzinotti  
Huntsville

*Editor's note: The 2021 Days of Remembrance observance was April 8.*

## Quote of the week

“What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight – it's the size of the fight in the dog.”

– Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

## 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](mailto:skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com).

## RedstoneRocket

The Redstone Rocket is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in the Redstone Rocket through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 4488 Room A-213, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the Redstone Rocket is Tennessee Valley Media Co., Inc., located at 201 1st Ave., SE, Decatur, AL 35603.

Retail advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday before Wednesday publication. Classified advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

**Email:** [samuel.c.vaughn2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:samuel.c.vaughn2.civ@mail.mil)

Email classified ads to [rocketads@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:rocketads@theredstonerocket.com)

Rocket articles are available at:

Editorial office: 256-876-1500 Editorial Fax: 256-955-0133 Retail Advertising: 256-340-2463 Classified Advertising: 256-260-2218 Advertising Fax: 256-260-2211

<http://www.theredstonerocket.com>

### Rocket Staff

**Editor-in-chief:** Col. Glenn Mellor, Garrison commander

**Director of Public Affairs:** Julie Frederick

**Editor:** Skip Vaughn

**Assistant editor:** Jonathan Stinson

**Staff writers:** Emily Strickland, Rebecca Sallee

**Staff photographer:** Eric Schultz

**Copy Editor/Design:** Kelley Lane

**General Manager:** French Salter

**Advertising Sales:** Donna Counts, 256-714-7152, or [donna.counts@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:donna.counts@theredstonerocket.com)

The Redstone Rocket is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by Tennessee Valley Media Co., Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Depart-

ment of the Army. Opinions expressed by writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army or the civilian publisher TN Valley Media, of the products or services advertised within this publication.

The Redstone Rocket is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Redstone Rocket newspaper are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, or the Public Affairs Office. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of Redstone Arsenal Public Affairs Office.

Published by Tennessee Valley Media, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, under

exclusive written contract with the Department of Army. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, physical handicap, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser will result in refusal to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The Redstone Rocket is distributed free of cost to any personnel at Redstone Arsenal and Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates for off post for the Redstone Rocket are \$35 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual). We do not send subscription renewal notices.

# First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

## What's your favorite thing about spring?

"I appreciate the fact that the weather is getting warm," Daniel Brown, a security guard at the gates, said. "Everything starts to bloom in the spring. You can get out and work in the yard, plant flowers. You can get a tan. Just being able to enjoy the outdoors. I really don't care for the pollen. Let me say that."

Brown, 28, from Cullman, became a Redstone guard in June 2020. He served in the Air Force from 2011-17 and left as a staff sergeant. Brown graduated from Auburn University in 2019 with a bachelor's in psychology. He and his wife of nine years, Mallory, reside in Cullman. His hobbies include lifting weights, running, gardening and reading. He roots for the Auburn Tigers, Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta Braves.



Daniel Brown

# Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

**Name:** Rachel Deloach

**Position:** Public affairs specialist, Garrison

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**

A news anchor. I wanted to be a news anchor because I love telling stories. I transferred that passion into public affairs where I tell the Army story.

**What do you hope to accomplish in 2021?**

I want to complete my public affairs three-month internship rotation to the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs at the Pentagon and accept a full-time permanent public affairs position.

**What is the best part about your job?**

The best part about my job is getting to engage with local media and Huntsville community members to highlight the great things happening on Redstone Arsenal.

**Who is your hero, and why?**

My dad (Dale Deloach of Atlanta) because he served 18 years in the Army. He was a Ranger and the chief instructor for the Military Free-Fall Jumpmaster Course at the John F.



Kennedy Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was in the 3rd Special Forces Group.

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

I love going to the beach. It's peaceful, relaxing. I love hearing the sound of the waves. I was a competitive swimmer for 10 years. So anytime I can get around the water, I like that.

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

Probably my dad again. And the advice is, "You can do the impossible when you set your mind to it."

# Lawn mowing doesn't make favorite to-do list

I know an inordinate amount of lawn care professionals, and I still can't get any of them to mow my yard in a timely manner.

I get it. The weather is unpredictable and I'm getting a steep discount, so I shouldn't be at the top of the list with the actual paying customers, but still this is a problem because when the grass doesn't get mowed, it really irks my wife.

Anna spends a lot of time pulling weeds, raking leaves and doing things to actually make our house look welcoming. Personally, I think that sends the wrong message to our neighbors, but it makes her happy and I genuinely want my wife to be happy.

So we're driving in the car the other day and we are pulling back into our driveway and she goes "I'm just going to buy a lawnmower."

I said something like "You don't have time to mow the grass." (Reference the above list.)

She said, "I didn't say I was going to be the one mowing the grass." Then she gave me look No. 11 of the 47 different looks I regularly get from my wife.

This particular look meant I would in fact be the one mowing the grass and I was an idiot for not immediately coming to that conclusion on my own.

That's when I had a flashback of 10-year-old me when it was time to mow the grass.

I would do everything in my power to avoid mowing our grass. One time I managed to put off mowing the grass for three weeks. Each time I would go to start mowing the grass it would start raining.

I had been wishing, praying and performing whatever rituals I could think of

## Snippets

By Jonathan Stinson

Assistant editor

to help the rain along and to my surprise it was working. Basically, I was Harry Potter before there was a Harry Potter.

This ended up being bad on two fronts.

One, I thought I had magical powers and there's nothing more insufferable than a 10-year-old who thinks they're magical. Two, rain only makes the grass grow taller.

So, week three comes along, day 21 of my magic streak, and I'm in the garage trying to make it rain again. By this time I'm sure I had some props like a magic amulet or two, a wand and lord only knows what else. And. It. Worked. Again.

So, I go back inside and plop back down on the couch and turn on some baseball. Then dad gets home.

Unfortunately, dad was not in the least bit enchanted by my abilities and he was about to conjure up a spell of his own.

I don't remember exactly what he said, but I do remember dragging our old push mower all over the yard that day in the pouring rain.

You would think a lot would've changed since I was 10 years old and for the most part, you would be wrong.

Because the first thing I did when it was made clear who would be mowing the grass when Anna goes to buy a lawnmower was to start wishing, praying and performing whatever rituals I could think of to get my lawn guy out to my house to mow my grass.

# On this date in history: April 28

**In 1986:** High levels of radiation resulting from the Chernobyl disaster were detected at a nuclear power plant in Sweden, leading Soviet authorities to publicly announce the accident.

**In 1970:** During the Vietnam War, President Richard Nixon formally authorized American combat troops to take part in the Cambodian campaign.

**In 1945:** Benito Mussolini and his mistress Clara Petacci were shot dead by Walter Audisio, a member of the Italian resistance movement.

**In 1930:** The Independence Producers hosted the first night game in the history of Organized Baseball in Independence, Kansas.

**In 1788:** Maryland became the seventh state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

**In 1503:** The Battle of Cerignola was fought. It is noted as one of the first European battles in history won by small arms fire using gunpowder.

# Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com



**Master Sgt. Betsy Weintraub**

## Why you joined the Army.

“I had just immigrated from Cuba,” Master Sgt. Betsy Weintraub, of the Army Contracting Command operations section, said. “I saw an ad in the paper about ‘Be all that you can be,’ and that really stood out to me and spoke and it gave me a sense of purpose.”

Weintraub, 42, from Miami, Florida, joined the Army in 1999. The acquisition Soldier arrived at Redstone in December 2020. She and her husband of 11 years, Nelson, reside in Madison with their daughters Elana, 12, and Emma, 6. Weintraub said her hobbies include traveling and cooking. She roots for Barca, a European men’s soccer team.

## Soldier/civilian/family readiness briefs

By Army News Service and Defense Department websites

### Withdrawal from Afghanistan

President Joe Biden said the war in Afghanistan was never meant to be multi-generational, as he officially announced the drawdown of all 2,500 U.S. troops in that country beginning May 1 and concluding by Sept. 11, the 20th anniversary of the war.

The president lay the path for the way forward in Afghanistan April 14 in an address to the nation and noted that only the citizens of Afghanistan have the right and responsibility to lead their country.

“After consulting closely with our allies and partners, with our military leaders and intelligence personnel, with our diplomats and our development experts, with the Congress and the vice president, as well as with (Afghan President Ashraf Ghani) and many others around the world, I concluded that it’s time to end America’s longest war. It’s time for American

troops to come home,” the president said.

The United States met its objective 10 years ago with the assassination of Taliban leader Osama bin Laden, he said, adding since then, “Our reasons for staying have become increasingly unclear.”

### Contract award announcements

The Boeing Co., Mesa, Arizona, was awarded a \$436,691,186 modification to contract W58RGZ-16-C-0023 for full rate production of Apache AH-64E aircraft. Work will be performed in Mesa with an estimated completion date of Feb. 28, 2025.

Fiscal 2021 aircraft procurement, Army funds in the amount of \$436,691,186 were obligated at the time of the award. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, is the contracting activity.

Nanometrics Inc., Ottawa, Canada, has been awarded a ceiling \$10,000,000 firm-fixed-price, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract.

## Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents April 11-17:

**April 11:** At Gate 9, an individual was driving without a license. The National Crime Information Center revealed the individual’s Arkansas driver’s license was suspended indefinitely. They also had a warrant out of Arkansas for parole violation. The individual was cited for driving with a suspended license and transferred to Madison County Jail to await extradition. The vehicle was released to another licensed driver.

**April 15:** Redstone police responded to a call for possible marijuana possession. Upon arrival they located the vehicle and identified the driver, and while doing so detected the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A consented search of the vehicle concluded with negative results. The National Crime Information Center revealed the driver had a suspended license. The individual was cited for driving with a suspended license and released. The vehicle remained in the secured area until a licensed driver

was able to remove it.

**April 16:** Two vehicles were damaged in a towing accident. Vehicle 1 was towing vehicle 2 traveling east on Lacrosse Drive. While trying to make a right turn into a parking lot, the vehicle struck a tree which tore off the passenger side rear awning of vehicle 1 and that damaged the hood of vehicle 2.

**April 16:** A Redstone security guard requested police presence at Gate 9 for an individual with a suspended license. The driver said their license was suspended for failing to pay a fine. Confirmation was made through the National Crime Information Center. The individual was cited for operating a motor vehicle on a suspended license and the vehicle was released to a licensed driver. Both were escorted off post without incident.

**April 17:** A Redstone security guard requested police presence at Gate 9 for a possible DUI. Upon arrival the police contacted the driver who had stopped approximately 200 feet from the guard booth in lane one of Gate 9 and appeared to be incoherent and unaware of their current location. Police

saw a child sitting in the rear seat. The driver was staggering and unable to maintain balance when asked to exit the vehicle. A series of field sobriety tests was given which resulted in a failure. The driver was apprehended and transported to the police station for further processing, and was advised of the implied consent law. The Draeger breath test revealed a blood alcohol content of .17. The individual was cited for driving under the influence and for endangering the welfare of a child, then placed in the detention cell until their BAC reached an acceptable level. The vehicle and child were released to a family member.

**April 17:** At Gate 8, a driver and passenger said they smoked marijuana prior to proceeding to work. The driver was asked to perform a series of field sobriety tests, which was passed. The passenger said there was a firearm in the center console of the vehicle and they had a concealed carry permit. The National Crime Information Center revealed both driver and passenger’s licenses were current with no wants or warrants. A vehicle search recovered a

.38-caliber Smith and Wesson semiautomatic pistol, two magazines with six rounds of .38 ammunition each, and an unknown substance that police believed might be a narcotic. The firearm was cleared through NCIC and a drug test was performed on the unknown substance, which yielded negative results. The firearm and the unknown substance were confiscated and documented. The driver was apprehended and transported to the station to be fingerprinted and cited for a weapons violation. The driver and passenger were later released on their own recognition and the investigation concerning the unknown substance continues by Redstone Arsenal Police Investigations.

Citations included two for driving while license is suspended or revoked, one for possession of a firearm and dangerous weapon, one for no driver’s license/unlicensed, one for driving under the influence, two for failure to use seatbelts, one for failure to maintain lane, one for expired registration, one for child endangerment and 36 for speeding.

# Military

## Digital Garrison pushes readiness Armywide

By SARAH LUNA

Army News Service

While garrison commanders and other Army leaders rely on Digital Garrison to communicate critical information during emergencies, a global push notification test April 22 highlighted an opportunity for improvement.

Digital Garrison is the Army's free mobile app that communicates important information and connects Soldiers and their families with a full array of on-post services and events. One of its capabilities is push notifications intended to deliver emergency information about gate closures, inclement weather or disruptive events. Commanders at multiple installations successfully used these push notifications during last year's hurricane season and recent winter storms.

During an April 22 test of Digital Garrison's ability to push notifications to its global audience, the app incorrectly sent two messages without identifying them as tests.

"While we were encouraged by Digital Garrison's ability to instantly reach a global audience, the false alarm highlighted an opportunity for improvement. Steps have been taken to mitigate the potential for future miscommunication," Tom Shull, Army & Air Force Exchange Service director/chief executive officer, said.

Digital Garrison is a partnership between the Army and AAFES. The Army's point person is Lt. Gen. Doug Gabram, commander of the Installation Management Command.

"Digital Garrison is a primary tool for commanders to keep their communities informed," Gabram said. "In the Army, we maintain and test our weapons and other tools regularly. Today, our test wasn't perfect, but we reacted quickly by correcting misinformation, learned a couple of important lessons, are addressing what happened so it won't happen again, and continue to work with our garrisons and AAFES to improve this critical technology every day."

Digital Garrison is customizable by the user to provide information specific to one of 63 Army installations. That number will grow in the coming months. The app integrates information about installation services provided by IMCOM, Army MWR, AAFES and the Defense Commissary Agency. Individual users switch between Army bases they want to visit and set up their account to accept push notifications and other announcements via the app.

"This global test, albeit imperfect, showed about 15% of Digital Garrison users have opted in to receive push notifications and announcements. This highlights an opportunity to further encourage users to receive notifications because commanders use them to provide critical information in times of emergency," Shull said.

Current users should open Digital Garrison and go to the Account icon at the bottom of the landing page, and from there choose Communication Preferences to opt into these features. Digital Garrison is a free app available on the Apple and Google Play stores.

Users can set up their account, select their installa-



**YOUR PORTAL TO POST LIFE**  
virtually all the information you need  
for post living and shopping

Graphic by L.V. Moore

**Digital Garrison communicates critical information during emergencies. Soldiers and their families may also connect with a full array of on-post services and events. All Army stakeholders may download the app for free on Google Play and Apple App stores.**

tion and opt in for notifications. Users can then choose to link to their ShopMyExchange.com account to use Digital Garrison's ability to shop with AAFES and have purchases for in-store pickup or shipped to their home.

"Digital Garrison is another great way the Army and the Exchange partner to improve the everyday quality of life for Soldiers, civilians and families," Gabram said. "We are working together every day to make it even better. If you haven't yet downloaded it and dis-

covered what it can do for you and your family, you should. This is especially true for those who are about to PCS."

Digital Garrison links users to the Army PCS App, the Army Maintenance App, the Interactive Customer Evaluation System, privatized housing maintenance apps, newcomer and COVID information, and much more. Digital Garrison is part of the Army's move from the industrial age to the information age. Download it for free today.

# Security enterprise sees Colombian capabilities firsthand

By RICHARD BUMGARDNER

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Douglas Lowrey, commander of the Security Assistance Command, and six staff members, traveled to Colombia to engage in one of the most wide-sweeping key leader engagements for the USASAC team since the pandemic hit in early 2020.

Understanding the high priority of Colombian military capabilities to Central and South American regional stability, Lowrey brought along foreign military sales experts from USASAC's Southern Command division and the central case manager from USASAC-New Cumberland.

Lowrey was invited to Colombia by Colombian Vice Minister of Defense for Strategy and Planning Jairo Garcia Guerrero during a November 2020 meeting at Sierra Army Depot. Guerrero was in the U.S. inspecting excess M1117 Armored Security Vehicles, which were no longer needed by the U.S. Army and being stored in the dry desert of southern California.

"Seeing him here, having this conversation, and meeting our capabilities is very important for us," Guerrero said after the arrival of the delegation to Bogota. "We cannot have a USASAC relationship outside a strategic relationship, so that's why the context is so important for us, that's why we invited him. This is not about cases, this is about the realities and challenges on the ground that will be very good for him to make decisions about the FMS cases we have."

Hosted by Guerrero, and the commander of the Colombian Army, Gen. Eduardo Zapateiro, the USASAC team traveled by planes, vans and buses, over a four-day period, to observe training, live-fire demonstrations, riverine boat operations, Cavalry and motorcycle operations, aviation and maintenance facilities, simulators, and classroom instruction.

"The main reason we came down here is to strengthen our relationships with our partners and allies, and Colombia is a very important strategic partner in South America," Lowrey said. "Not only that, all of us that traveled down here gained a



Photo by Richard Bumgardner

**Maj. Gen. Elder Giraldo, chief of operations for the Colombian Army, center, briefs Brig. Gen. Douglas Lowrey, commander of Security Assistance Command, during a key leader engagement at a Colombian Army base in Bogota, Colombia, April 5. Lt. Col. Andrew Pesature, left, Army chief of missions at U.S. Embassy, provides translation services. Lowrey and members of his staff visited several sites to see the impact of U.S. security assistance and foreign military sales, in support of the Colombian military in defending their country from counter-narcotic and internal terrorist threats.**

See Enterprise on page 9

# Rules

Continued from page **1**

The process for registering a shotgun or black-powder firearm starts with the RSA Firearm Registration form. Applicants will fill out that form and bring it to the proper personnel who will then run a background check on the person and the firearm, according to MWR's hunting website.

Normally, when someone runs a serial number on a firearm, or any item for that matter, the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center says that item must be in your possession or physically present, but since patrons are not allowed to bring an unregistered firearm onto Redstone Arsenal, the ACJIC allowed an exception for Redstone Arsenal.

# Enterprise

Continued from page 6

much better understanding of the conditions, and the environment, that the training, services and equipment, that we are providing to the Colombian Army, operates in. So we get to see that firsthand, not on a piece of paper.”

Col. George Crockatt, the regional director responsible for FMS sales to SOUTH-COM, knew that traveling to Colombia, even with the difficulties of operating under strict COVID-19 restrictions, was necessary to understand the challenges the Colombian military face, and the context in which they operate.

“There is only so much that can be done with video-teleconferencing,” Crockatt said. “Looking at someone on a small screen can only get you so far, emails or the phone can only get you so far, and you need to be able to see body language, the tone of their voice and the sincerity in their eyes.”

Over the past year, modern technology has given the USASAC workforce many tools to communicate quicker and more efficiently. When working with foreign partners and allies on complicated FMS cases, not being in the same room can be a disadvantage as nonverbal language, context and cultural sensitivities are difficult to see and understand over a small computer screen.

“Being face-to-face is the critical piece,” Crockatt said. “By working side-by-side you get to see the ‘ah-ha’ moment. I never really got that on VTC. Plus, presence alone sends a message to our partners, that they are important.”

In the end, the 2,000-mile trip was all about using foreign military sales and training to build partner capacity, support combatant commanders’ engagement strate-

gies and strengthen relationships with allies like Colombia.

“The visit of Brig. Gen. Lowrey gives me peace of mind after he visited our many military cantons, where the USASAC team could see with direct perception, how we work in each of these military cantons,” Zapateiro said. “The logistics support brigade, in combined weapons, task forces, the strategic part of our armored vehicles, in the artillery fires (in La Guajira) and the aviation school and air assault division on the Tolemaida air base. This visit marks a milestone in the history of our National Army.”

In the first visit from a USASAC commander since 2012, Lowrey and his team participated in multiple socially distanced briefings, meetings, capability demonstrations, and sidebar conversations with senior Colombian military and Ministry of Defense officials.

“My biggest takeaway is that the relationship is strong, and will remain strong,” Lowrey said. “I will also take away a new perspective of the country of Colombia, it has blown me away. The Colombian Army, in my opinion, is one of the best armies I have ever observed. They are disciplined, well-trained and resourceful.”

One of the key benefits of U.S. efforts to build international communities for security assistance and cooperation is the interoperability and long-standing relationships by partners and allies over the course of many military careers. Zapateiro passionately spoke about the years of working with the U.S. Army as a young Special Forces officer, and the benefit to himself and his army.

“This allows the two countries to be partners, partners throughout the history of our armies and to continue to strengthen this friendship, to continue the strengthening of this alliance that we have built for many years,” he said. “Our aim is security and hemispheric defense, so to global security – as we have said in all the symposia and seminars – there will always be the flag of Colombia and the flag of the United States.”

# Aviation workforce members volunteer in community

By PEO Aviation Public Affairs

Volunteers play a vital role in our communities and National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and recognize their impact, and encourage volunteerism in our communities. Held annually during the third week of April, this year's National Volunteer Week took place April 18-24.

Many members of the Program Executive Office for Aviation workforce dedicate their time and talents outside the office to serve as volunteers, both locally and abroad. Volunteer jobs include working to save abused and neglected animals, helping out at the Huntsville Hospital gift shop, assisting local veterans, supporting hurricane relief in Honduras, or even opening up their homes for children in need.

In honor of National Volunteer Week, members of PEO Aviation shared their volunteer experiences and explained what moves them to selflessly offer their time, skills, experience and passion to help others make a difference in their communities, and around the world.

"I am a member of a team that is passionate about saving the lives of dogs," said Jennifer Stevens, an executive assistant with Attack Helicopter, who volunteers as the chief financial officer for an organization that saves last chance dogs with a history of abuse, trauma or neglect. "When they come to us, they are not in the best state. But when they are ready for their 'forever' home, they are ready to love and be loved by the perfect family."

"What I love most about volunteering is being given the opportunity to make a difference in a veteran's

life," Stephanie Wear, an operations analyst with PM Apache, said. She volunteers with a nonprofit organization dedicated to healing America's veterans. "I support this organization because veterans are a part of my heart. I believe they need to know that even when their mission with the military is over, they still have a purpose to fulfill."

Amber Wise, Future Long Range Assault Aircraft Systems Engineering Branch chief, has been a foster parent for almost five years. In that time, Wise has opened her home to children in need – sometimes only for a night, often for weeks and occasionally for years.

"My favorite aspect about being a foster parent is seeing each child open up and experience something new like learning to read after being told they were illiterate, getting to see sharks in real life or playing on a sports team for the first time," Wise said.

Over the past year, as the global pandemic intensified, nonprofits found themselves rushing to restructure the ways in which they serve. In 2021 we are still facing many of the same challenges we did last year – but we are constantly creating a new "normal" as we navigate the changing volunteer landscape.

"During the pandemic I have had to do more communicating over the phone versus in person," Katie White, an assistant program manager in PM Apache, said in describing some of the adjustments she's had to make helping out during the pandemic. White, who volunteers as a coach for her daughter's hockey team,



Courtesy photo

**Jennifer Stevens, an executive assistant with PEO Aviation's Attack Helicopter Project Office, volunteers as the chief financial officer with Hard Knocks Rescue and Training Inc., an organization that saves last chance dogs with histories of abuse, trauma or neglect.**

**See Volunteers on page 12**

# Volunteers

Continued from page 10

also helps with clinics, the Learn to Play hockey program and supports the Grisson High School girls soccer team.

“I also had to adapt to coaching while wearing a mask,” White said. “This has meant more demonstrations and dry erase board teaching versus talking, which was a positive change.”

Wesley Key, a sensors acquisition analyst, also volunteers helping children. Key and his church youth group go to Indian Creek Youth Camp near Jasper

each summer. Since they missed camp last summer due to COVID, they have been making regular trips to the camp to get it prepared to reopen this summer. The group has made about five or six trips there during the past year doing these “work weekends.”

As members of the greater Army and PEO team, volunteering continues to be a part of the culture, with efforts like these individuals and many others playing an important role in the community. And while volunteering is a form of service that is critical to the existence of countless organizations, the volunteers themselves will tell you that they “receive more than they give.”



Courtesy photo

**Wesley Key, right, a sensors acquisition analyst with PEO Aviation's Attack Helicopter Project Office, works with two members of his church youth group to collect logs for firewood and cabin renovations at the Indian Creek Youth Camp.**



Courtesy photo

## Three-peat drill champions

Members of the Brewer High School JROTC won awards in the American Legion Post 15 annual drill meet in Decatur. The armed and unarmed drill teams both won, and the armed color guard teams finished second and third. The Patriot Battalion cadets won first place overall and were crowned grand champions for the third consecutive year. Kneeling, from left, are Alana Puckett, Sidnie Ross (cadet battalion commander), Kylie Curbow, Tori Boles and Jordan Valdes. Standing, from left, are retired Col. Bennie Pokemire (senior Army instructor), Aurora Truss, Shannon Johnsey, Andrew Ballinger, Jonathan Crossland, Ttevan Bailey, Levi Kyle, Austin Hutchens, Jeremiah Earls and retired Sgt. 1st Class Fred Traylor (Army instructor).



Photo by Eric Schultz

## Personnel Soldier commended

Staff Sgt. Marvell Allen, left, of the Military Personnel Division, receives the Army Commendation Medal from Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor during a ceremony Thursday at the One Stop. Allen, who has 23 years of combined service, will transition to the 5th Logistics Civilian Augmentation Program in Sheffield. During his three years with the Military Personnel Division, Allen generated about 6,400 ID cards or PIN resets and was instrumental in the transition from Teslin cards to Next Generation ID Cards.

# Logistics center workers meet app development challenge

By SAMANTHA TYLER

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Two Logistics Data Analysis Center employees have joined an app development team and created a solution that saved the Army both time and money.

Susan Cranfill and Kenneth Baker were two members of a six-person team that developed an app, which changes the way Supply Support Activities organize their common authorized stockage list and fulfill Soldiers' orders. The app, CASL Pick Sorter, allows Soldiers to upload their supply list PDF and prioritize the results lists by part location, specific parts or unit.

"After I really got a better understanding of what the aim of the project was, it was definitely very exciting because I understood that we were going to be able to work with Soldiers directly and definitely a little anxiety producing because there was a lot riding on whether or not we could prove this out," Cranfill, a senior strategic adviser at LDAC, said.

The team's goals were to develop a tool to help Soldiers and to prove that a team of Soldiers and Army civilians, some without any previous software development experience, could develop an app to solve complex Army problems. The team was made up of two software engineers, two platform developers, an app designer and a product manager, which is the role Cranfill took on.

"Initially, I didn't really have a sense of what the role would be," she said. "I had not had any experience working with software. I kind of sort of knew what a product manager did, but I didn't know if there was already a product in place or if we were supposed to come up with one."

Cranfill made sure the team was mitigating risks at each point of the development process and that the customer's voice was heard. She got an appreciation for the layout and footprint of each Supply Support Activity, and how those differences could be addressed with the app. On top of understanding the problem, Cranfill said learning software development was a challenge.

"There's always a learning curve when you're going into something new, but I think that is one of the great things about the Army is that we take folks from all walks of life and then we give them the tools for them to succeed and they rise to the challenge," she said.

For Baker, who served as the team's software developer, the challenge was adjusting to a new culture based in agile development, which involves user feedback throughout the development progress and software updates.

"It was actually a pretty simple app, but it was all the effort that went into understanding the user, understanding what they're doing, why they do that and picking this problem that could be solved fairly simply," Baker, who works in the LDAC's logistics automation branch, life cycle support division, said. "It's the culture piece."

Baker said software development can sometimes feel like a feature factory, where developers make what the customer asks for without learning more about the problem. He said through customer interaction, the team added features they wouldn't have originally thought of, like filtering lists to pick parts for deploying units quickly or adding clear instructions to make using the app easier. The team also added a PDF merger within the app to make the process easier for Soldiers with multiple lists.

"If I had to try to imagine all these requirements up front before we started and write them out in detail, I wouldn't have even gotten half of these," he said.

Using this process also caught users off guard. While most Army apps can take months to update, updates to the CASL Pick Sorter would only take a few days. Baker said being able to show Soldiers a version of the app one week then a version with their updates the next earned trust and more user feedback.

"We didn't expect to have the 100% answer at the beginning, and by interacting with them and getting that feedback, we really did start to add a lot of things that I don't think any of us would have realized at the very beginning," he said. "I think that was kind of the real, secret sauce right there, that customer interaction."

The team ultimately met both goals: developing a helpful tool and proving a team with different backgrounds could make the tool. CASL Pick Sorter has saved more than 3,400 man hours a day, leading to a 173% increase in picks of parts per minute and providing 65% cost savings through optimized cloud development. Baker and Cranfill both said after their experience, they would work on a team like this again.

"Now that I have the benefit of hindsight, I would say that it went probably as well as it could have, and the impact of this very, very simple application that we were able to come up with to Soldiers across the footprint has been pretty phenomenal," Cranfill said.



Susan Cranfill



Kenneth Baker

**CASL Pick Sorter**

**Instructions**

1. Update MRO Print Format to Trifold in GCSS-Army
  - a. See Training Bulletin TB 000661 for instructions
2. Download and save Print Cockpit to your computer
3. Click the "Choose PDF" button and select the Print Cockpit file
 

Choose File No file chosen
4. Click the "Sort By" drop down to select the sorting option
 

Sort by: ▾
5. Click the "Process PDF" button to sort the Print Cockpit pages
 

Process PDF
6. Print the Sorted PDF after it opens

Army graphic

**The CASL Pick Sorter application allows Soldiers working in Supply Support Activities to sort lists of items to pick by location, parts or unit. Soldiers can access the app via military networks at <https://armyfirst.apps.platform.futures.army.mil/>.**

# Community

## Youngsters encouraged to swing into summer camps

By REBECCA SALLEE

Staff writer

rebecca.sallee@theredstonerocket.com

After a camp-free summer last year due to COVID-19, this year's programs will begin on June 1 and offer nine full weeks of planned activities and field trips for kindergartners through high school seniors-to-be.

Registration for summer camps is underway, said Jeanine Bailey, director of the Middle School Teen program (for children in grades 6-12), and Tameka Smith-Grant, director of the School Age Program (for children in K-5).

The theme of leadership will kick off week one in the MST program.

"It's an opportunity for us to get to know the kids," Bailey said, adding that newcomers are expected in this year's program.

Week two is game week, where everything from competitive Uno to board games, videogames and kickball will be the focus.

Week three is art week, including "painting, sculpting, theater, the whole arts community," Bailey said.

During week four, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) week, campers will study robotics and drones and create their own videos.

Week five studies health and nutrition, with gardening, cooking, sports and fitness activities, "helping the kids get out and get active," Bailey said, while week six focuses on organized and team sports.

Workforce readiness in week seven will prepare campers for jobs. "It could be how to make a flyer to put up in your neighborhood advertising dog-walking," Bailey said. Resume writing and interviewing tips will also be covered.

Cultural awareness in week eight will be highlighted by a field trip to the National Museum of African-American Music in Nashville.

In a take on show-and-tell, "We'll encourage people to bring things from their home cultures," Bailey said.

The final week of camp will be "Choice Week."

"Basically, towards the end of summer, what have we not done that you want to do," Bailey said.

Nature, hiking, kayaking, and field trips to area greenways are also planned for MST summer programs.

Weekly themes for the younger campers begins with an "ice-breaker/reunion" in week one and an emphasis on social skills and expectations, Smith-Grant said.

Week two is "SAC Around the World," highlighting various cultures and traditions.

"Get Active," week three, will include basketball and baseball clinics and field trips to an amusement center and a trampoline park.

A bowling field trip is planned for week four, called "Bring Your A-Game," while swimming at the YMCA will round out week five, "Under the Sea."

Week six will be "Crafty and Crazy," with lessons in painting, sculpture, crocheting, sewing and knitting, and field trips to a skate park and an arcade, Smith-Grant said.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) is the focus of week eight ("STEMtastic Week"), while nature, botany, gardening and flowers highlight week nine.

"They plant vegetables. We plant fruit. We grow greens and eat them," Smith-Grant said.



MWR photo

**A summer camper gives a "thumbs up" in preparation for a zip line trip during a past Youth Summer Camp.**

The last two days of camp will turn children's attention to their return to school, she said.

Parents can sign children up for one week only, all nine weeks, or any number of weeks of their choice, allowing them to plan around their family vacations and work schedules. Camp will also be held for two days only during the 10th week. Pricing varies from week to week and is based on a sliding scale for active duty military and DOD civilians, and a flat fee for contractors and military retirees (per DOD). Field trip costs are additional.

Hours for the camps are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and include breakfast, lunch and snacks. No outside food or drinks are allowed.

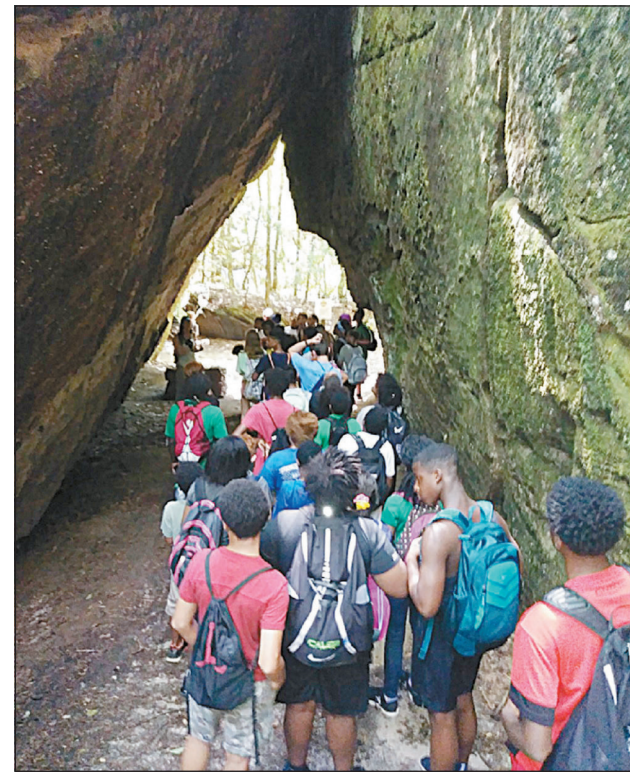
Dress code for campers follows guidelines set by Huntsville City Schools, Bailey said.

Protocol to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will include required masks for all staff and campers, as well as social distancing, sanitizing and frequent hand-washing.

Orientation for the School Age Program will be on May 20 at 4:30 p.m. in building 3155. There is no formal orientation for the MST program, but Bailey encourages parents to drop by and observe the after-school activities now in progress.

Although there is no official cutoff date for camp registration, parents are encouraged to register early.

For more information on summer camp programs, call the MST center at 876-5437, Parent Central Services at 876-6595 or the School Age Center at 876-6595.



MWR photo

**Campers learned about local flora and fauna at Dismal Canyon during a past summer camp program.**



MWR photo

**Children from a past summer camp plant fruits and vegetables with Maggie Morales, child and youth program assistant.**

# Army Emergency Relief drive goes through May

Army Emergency Relief is the official nonprofit of the Army.

The annual fundraising campaign began March 1 and continues to May 31.

In 2019, AER provided \$70 million in loans and grants to 40,000 Soldiers and families. This amount of assistance was possible by generous donors. Consider donating to this worthy cause.

For information about contributing to AER, visit [www.armyemergencyrelief.org/donate/](http://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/donate/).



# Military families expected to make moves in summer

By EMILY STRICKLAND

Staff writer

[emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com)

Summer is approaching quickly, and that means that hundreds of Soldiers are preparing for a permanent change of station, or PCS, move.

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez said Redstone Arsenal is expecting 50-60 new Soldiers this year, including several that were unable to take new assignments in 2020 due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. These Soldiers will fill positions across the installation, from Fox Army Health Center to the many Army tenant organizations.

The Garrison offers several resources for Soldiers PCSing into the area. First, Jimenez said, each Soldier will receive a sponsor, often the person whose position they will be filling when they arrive.

“As soon as a Soldier is identified to a permanent change of station or PCS move, they get assigned a sponsor to their next duty station,” Jimenez said. This assignment happens 90-120 days before the move is expected. “We fill out our sponsorship form, and then we start

to get to know that person coming in.”

During this process, incoming Soldiers are asked to share personal information with their sponsors to ease the transition from one duty station to the next.

This may include details about the Soldier’s family, whether or not they plan to live on the installation, details about medical conditions and other pertinent information to ensure that Redstone Arsenal leadership is fully prepared to meet the needs of the incoming Soldiers and their family members.

Once Soldiers arrive on Redstone Arsenal, Jimenez said the most important thing is for them to go by the One Stop on Honest John Road for in-processing. Then, they are encouraged to take advantage of all the services the Garrison has to offer to make the transition “as smooth as possible,” he said.

Jimenez also encouraged incoming Soldiers and their families to download the Digital Garrison app and ensure that their location in the app was updated to reflect their new station, Redstone Arsenal. Digital Garrison provides up-to-date information regarding gate closures, safety alerts and other impor-

tant updates.

Below are some of the resources that incoming Soldiers can take advantage of at Redstone Arsenal:

## Places to know

**One Stop:** In-processing, DEERS record updates, Common Access Cards and Identification Cards  
Building 3494, Honest John Road

**Pershing Welcome Center:** Houses Morale, Welfare and Recreation, which includes Army Community Service, Child and Youth and Services and the school liaison officer  
Building 3443, Aerobee Road

**Central Issue Facility:** Gear issuance by appointment  
Building 8024, Cottonwood Road

**Religious Support Office:** Provides religious services for anyone with access to Redstone Arsenal  
Building 376, Goss Road (Bicentennial Chapel)

**Fox Army Health Center:** Medical center for Soldiers and their families  
Building 4100, Goss Road

**Housing Services Office:** Provides information for those seeking housing off-post, as well as Military Relocation Assistance, counseling services, a rental partnership program and other services  
Building 302, Hughes Drive

**On-Post Housing:** Helps Soldiers, civilians, contractors and retirees make arrangements for on-post housing  
Building 302, Hughes Drive

**Transportation Services:** Provides personal property and official travel services, including counseling and coordination for pickup, shipment, delivery and storage of personal property  
Building 3433, Snooper Road

Many more services are available. A complete list of services for incoming Soldiers can be found at [home.army.mil/redstone/index.php/my-fort/new-comers](http://home.army.mil/redstone/index.php/my-fort/new-comers).

# Redstone housing ranks high, upgrades coming soon

By **EMILY STRICKLAND**

Staff writer

[emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com)

Redstone Arsenal is among the best in Army housing, according to results from an Army Tenant Satisfaction Survey released April 14.

The 2021 TSS was intended to chronicle customer satisfaction regarding military housing for both privatized and Army owned/leased housing. Housing at Redstone Arsenal has been privatized since 2006 per the Military Housing Privatization Initiative. The Army partners with Hunt Military Communities to provide service members, retirees, civilians and contractors on-post housing if they so choose.

Ray Zapata, Garrison housing chief, said he was pleased with the results of the survey and looks forward to making even more improvements in the coming year.

Redstone Arsenal placed fourth in overall satisfaction out of the 43 installations with privatized housing with a score of 85.3. Redstone was also one of only four installations whose score qualified them for the “outstanding” category. The top-scoring installations included Fort Greely, Alaska; Yuma Proving Ground, Utah; and Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Redstone Arsenal also had the second-highest survey response rate at 46.6%.

Zapata credits this success to a process that began more than two years ago with a Senate hearing on Feb. 13, 2019. The Senate Subcommittees on Personnel and Readiness and Committee on Armed Services convened to evaluate complaints from military families who were dealing with hazards in their MHPI homes including mold, mildew, infestations and structural issues, among others.

Though the situation on Redstone Arsenal was not as severe as other installations, the hearing provided a wake-up call for all Army installations, and improvements began immediately.

“Feb. 15, 2019, was kind of when everything really kicked off and started – the additional eyes on the property, holding town halls, putting together a plan for greater oversight,” Zapata said. “We already performed an oversight with respect to the private partner, but I think that oversight got a little more focused and zeroed in on specific areas, i.e., work orders, in greater detail, and what they refer to as between-occupancy maintenance, or a BOM inspection, where we inspect the homes of those service members prior to them taking up residency in those homes.”

A successful partnership between Army leadership and Hunt management has enabled continued success. Zapata said Brittany Morrison, Redstone Family Housing community director, and Brad Mundon, the maintenance director, are largely to thank for the recent improvements.

“(Mundon) has really turned around the work orders,” Zapata said. “Redstone was probably looking at a backlog at one time of 4, 5, 600 work orders back in early 2019. I think when he came on board, that number had gotten down to around 400 or so, and we are literally now at probably 30 or 40 work orders currently, so really awesome job on getting those things down.”

Morrison said her main goal since taking over as community director in May 2020 has been to increase and maintain communication between the manage-



Eric Schultz / Redstone Rocket

**Brad Mundon, maintenance director, and Brittany Morrison, community director with Redstone Family Housing, go over notes in front of a house on Rice Drive Monday, April 26, 2021, on Redstone Arsenal.**

*Redstone Arsenal placed fourth in overall satisfaction out of the 43 installations with privatized housing with a score of 85.3. Redstone was also one of only four installations whose score qualified them for the “outstanding” category.*

ment company and residents, ensuring that customer service remains the top priority for all Hunt employees.

Hunt maintains eight neighborhoods on Redstone Arsenal: Columbia Centre, Challenger Heights, Saturn Pointe, New Endeavor, Endeavor Village, Freedom Landing, Voyager Village and Pathfinder Pointe. The neighborhoods have a combined 353 units, including 217 single-family homes, 44 duplexes and 12 quads. According to the most recent estimate, 336 of those units were occupied, although Zapata said this number is subject to change on an almost daily basis.

The majority of the on-post housing population comprises military retirees, who made up 38.69% of the occupancy based on recent numbers. Active duty military accounts for another 37.8%, divided between officers (15.48%), enlisted service members (19.05%) and National Guard and Reserves (3.27%). The remainder of the population is composed of federal employees (19.35%) and federal contractors (4.17%).

“I couldn’t do it without the team that we have in place,” Morrison said. “It’s definitely a team effort.”

Although Redstone received impressive scores in

most categories, Zapata said that the TSS revealed several areas where improvement is needed. These include things like landscaping, appliances, lighting and other hardware. Addressing those issues begins now: Over the next year, Housing plans to spend \$3-4 million on minor renovations for approximately 120 homes. These improvements will include upgrades to siding, roofs and windows, placing privacy screens in some neighborhoods, and removing some trees and will largely affect the Challenger Heights, Columbia Centre and Freedom Landing neighborhoods.

“I’m excited about what the future brings,” Zapata said. “I think here at Redstone we’ve kind of turned a corner. I like to think we’ve got one of the best community directors and maintenance directors in the game today. They’re doing a great job ... They’re very good at their jobs and professional, smart, they teach me something every day. It’s good to be in housing. Sometimes we can’t say that, because, you know, February 2019 rolled around and things were looking pretty dismal. I think the sun is shining on Redstone right now – knock on wood.”

# Army combat veteran recalls 'walking through hell'

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Disabled veteran Jessie Qualls likes being a disc jockey in his native Shoals. You can tell by his colorful description of his combat tour in Vietnam, 1965-66.

"Like walking through hell with a pair of gasoline-soaked drawers on," he said. "That's exactly the way it felt like."

Qualls was an automatic weapons squad leader with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 502nd Airborne Infantry Strike Force, 101st Airborne Division, from March 1965 until July 1966. Initially he was in Cam Rahn Bay. From there he went to the central highlands up to An Khe and to Kon Tum Province.

When his company went out on their nightly patrols, his 12-member squad provided the automatic weapons fire. The 22-year-old specialist four carried an M60 machine gun, an Army .45-caliber pistol and a 12-gauge shotgun.

"Every night we'd go out on patrols and go out on search-and-destroy missions," Qualls said.

On Sept. 18, 1965 in An Khe, on his second combat mission, he got hit in his side by shrapnel during Operation Gibraltar. But he stayed in the field.

He said his unit was the first combat unit to engage the enemy in Vietnam. "We had other units that were there before us. They were more or less training the South Vietnamese people," Qualls said. "They called them advisers to the South Vietnamese army."

In the Battle of Ia Drang Valley, Nov. 14, 1965, Qualls was there. It was the first major battle between the U.S. Army and the North Vietnamese army.

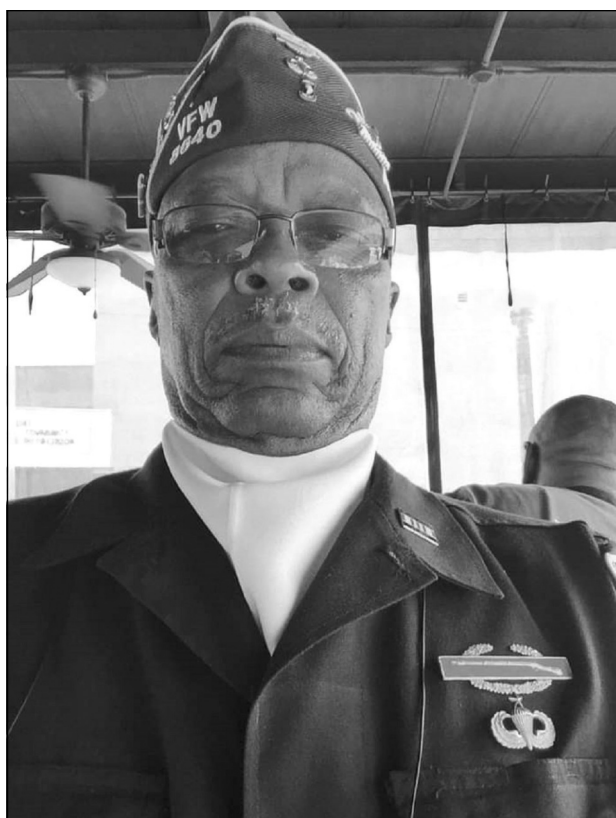
"We were sending out automatic weapons fire in support of that," Qualls, who was in the valley with his unit, said. "We were engaged for 31 hours, the whole entire time the battle was on. And we lost a lot of casualties."

He didn't get much sleep during his year at war.

"I remember it was hot. It was wet. And we stayed engaged most of the time we were there. We stayed engaged with small arms infantry fire," he said. "And the smell of death and gunpowder, and explosives. And not being able to sleep."

Qualls received the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Army Commendation Medal with V device for valor, the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, the National Defense Service Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Air Medal.

But when he returned to the U.S. and landed in San Francisco in 1966, he was met by violent protesters. They were throwing bricks and rocks and calling the returning troops "baby killers."



Courtesy photo

**Florence resident Jessie Qualls is commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8640 in Sheffield.**

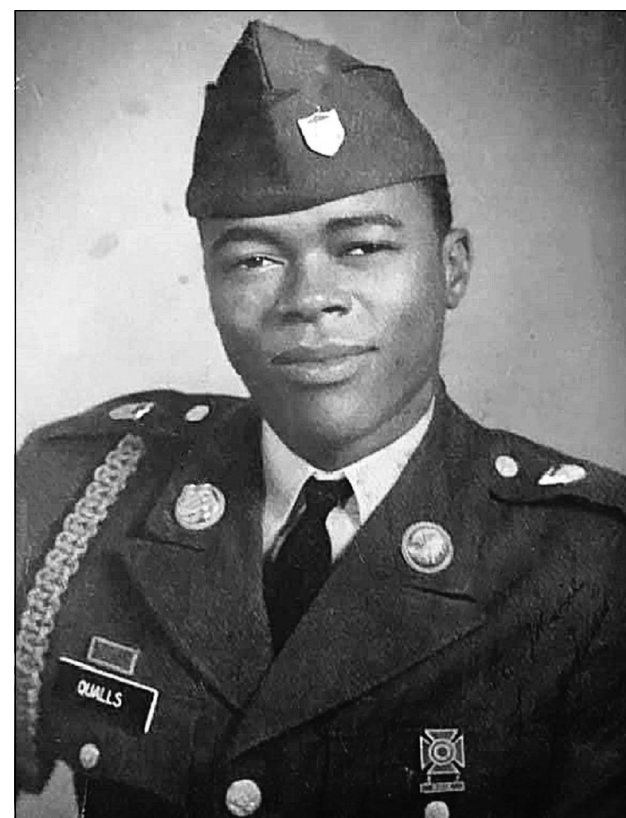
The protesters killed a Marine.

"I was just trying to get home to my wife and my firstborn," Qualls said. "That's what I was thinking about, and just fortunate I made it."

The native of Leighton, in Colbert County, dropped out of school and joined the Army at 16. He was the third oldest of seven children – five girls and two boys. His twin sister forged his parents' names so he could enlist before his 17th birthday. He passed all the tests, and the Army sent him to Montgomery for his induction. While he was in Montgomery, his sister confessed to their parents what she had done. "I got a really disparaging phone call from my dad," Qualls said. "I said, 'I'm grown now, I'm in the Army.' He said 'You ain't grown.' He started chewing on my butt. He said 'Are you sure this is what you want to do?' I said yes. So that's how my career started."

Qualls was stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, and then went to Korea with his unit and was there from 1960-61. He said reality set in when he went to Vietnam in 1965. He left the Army in 1968 as a sergeant.

The Florence resident eventually got his GED and had about two years of college. His first job after the military was with Reynolds Aluminum in Sheffield. Next he drove a tractor trailer for nearly 30 years until his post-traumatic stress disorder became too much. With shrapnel wounds, prostate cancer and PTSD, he said he has a 280% disability rating from Veterans



Courtesy photo

**From 1965-66, Jessie Qualls served in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.**

Affairs.

He and his wife of nearly 60 years, Annie Pearl, have three children and two grandsons, all residing in Florence. Their son, Christopher, the oldest, has a lawn mower service. Their oldest daughter, Rosalinda, is a labor and delivery nurse at Decatur General Hospital. Their younger daughter, Tawana, works from home as a computer programmer. Their grandson Ben, Rosalinda's son, is 21; and their grandson Emmanuel Colman, 26, is Christopher's son.

Qualls, 78, is commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8640 in Sheffield. He is also first vice president of the tri-county branch of the NAACP and he serves as chairman of the state's NAACP military and veterans affairs committee. On the third Sunday of each month, he does a radio broadcast on WZZA AM-1410 in Tusculumbia for veterans updates, church schedules and church music. As a sideline, he disc jockeys for parties.

He shared his thoughts on this nation's commemoration of 50 years since the Vietnam War.

"I think it's way past due to be commemorating any portion of the Vietnam War history," he said. "And I'm just proud to be alive during this period to be able to talk about it. I'm very blessed to be here."

*Editor's note: This is the 317th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.*

**Vietnam revisited**  
*Part 317 in series*

# Soldier looks back at Desert Storm deployment



Courtesy photos

**Samuel Scruggs was an S4, or logistics officer, with the 101st Airborne Division during Operation Desert Storm.**

**By EMILY STRICKLAND**

Staff writer

[emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:emily.strickland@theredstonerocket.com)

If you were a boy born into the Scruggs family, chances are you joined the military.

Samuel Scruggs joined the Army in 1980. Of his six brothers, one other joined the Army, three were in the Navy, one joined the Air Force and one became a Marine.

Scruggs spent 13.5 of his 24 years in the Army deployed overseas. One of those deployments occurred 30 years ago when Scruggs traveled to Saudi Arabia as an S4 with the 101st Airborne Division.

“My job in logistics was to make sure my brigade, which was DISCOM, had everything they needed in terms of water, food, bullets, maintenance parts, clothes, tents and so forth.” Scruggs said. “Everything that you can put your hands on in a unit during war-

time was my responsibility, to make sure my brigade had that.”

Scruggs’ assignment also required him to coordinate with the Division Support Command, or DISCOM, commander to establish a base for allied troops in the desert.

“We flew around the desert, basically, and the DISCOM commander was like, ‘that’s a good place for our headquarters, right there.’” Scruggs said. “So, we all looked right there, and there was nothing there but sand. There were no roads there.” Scruggs and the other officers on the helicopter at the time were in disbelief that a complete headquarters could be constructed out of nothing but a patch of sand. However, the DISCOM commander then mobilized the Army Corps of Engineers to connect that sandy spot to the main roads, not only constructing a road into the base and a road out, but also building berms to protect the division while at headquarters.

“That was the weirdest thing I ever saw,” Scruggs

*Check out all of our Operation Desert Storm Coverage at [theredstonerocket.com/military\\_scenelods](http://theredstonerocket.com/military_scenelods) or just follow the link under Military on the Navigation Bar.*

said. “But you know what, it actually happened. We ended up at that spot.”

Once the headquarters was set up, Scruggs got to work making sure that all the Soldiers in his brigade had all the supplies they needed. He helped execute contracts for laundry and water and ensured that they had fresh fruits and vegetables, or FF&Vs, MREs, and kerosene heaters for the cold desert nights. The “supply

**See Soldier on page 24**

# Soldier

Continued from page 23

guy,” Scruggs said, arrived everywhere before infantrymen to ensure they would have the necessary supplies to complete their missions. They were also the last to leave deployment and head home.

Because of Scruggs’ important role as a “supply guy,” he took part in several missions that led helped prepare for the infantry to march into Iraq.

“We, 101st, we were in the fight and deeper than a lot of the infantry guys were as soon as the war started,” Scruggs said. “So we went into Iraq and set up a resupply base for the infantry to get their fuel and food and all that stuff... We went into an area that was supposed to be almost unoccupied by enemy forces, like a very slim amount of people. So, the area we went into wasn’t slim. It was a hot area, which means a lot of Iraqi soldiers were there. So we were in combat with these guys, deep into Iraq, waiting on the infantry.”

Scruggs also assisted in taking down enemy radar units before the air war began, disabling the enemy’s radar capability. Though his time in Iraq and Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm was short, the quarter of a century he spent in the Army left a lasting impression on him.



Courtesy photo

## Samuel Scruggs as a young logistics officer.

“I retired as a lieutenant colonel, and that was not by accident,” Scruggs said. “Part of it was because of the way I saw things. So if you are doing anything, any job, anywhere, I think the quality of your work is dependent in a large part on your attitude.”

Scruggs received a Bronze Star for his service in Desert Storm. After he retired from the Army, he taught ROTC and JROTC in area high schools and colleges. The lessons that he learned while in Army leadership have remained with him to this day.

“As a leader, you should lead,” Scrug-



Photo by Eric Schultz

## Samuel Scruggs poses at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans memorial in downtown Huntsville. Scruggs was in the army for 24 years, retiring in 2004 as a lieutenant colonel.

gs said. “That means doing the best you can do at everything you do, because the people that work for you are with you... The people in your unit, Soldiers or civil-

ians, they’re going to take on your attitude, and that’s in any job, any company, anywhere in the world, it’s going to be the same.”

# Cyber technology school invites Redstone students

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

The Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering opened for its first year in Huntsville in August with an influx of students from across Alabama. The school is Alabama's only fully public, residential high school for students interested in engineering and cyber technology.

ASCTE is offering at least two slots at the school to those who reside on Redstone Arsenal. Students will need to meet minimum admission requirements and be rising ninth or 10th graders for the 2021-22 school year. After this year, admissions will be limited to rising ninth graders. Tuition and housing are free for all students.

School President Matt Massey said the ASCTE offer to Redstone students shows how Redstone Arsenal is a valued part of the community and ensures military-connected children have access to a specialized science, technology, engineering and math driven curriculum.

"In 2018, Gov. (Kay) Ivey signed SB 212 to create the Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering, a public residential magnet high school," he said. "The legislation provides each school system in the state a seat at our school for qualifying students. The school assists teachers and schools across the state to replicate cyber and engineering studies developed at ASCTE.

"As the first tuition-free residential high school focused on integrating cyber technology and engineering across all academic disciplines, ASCTE is charged with addressing the significant gaps in the cyber workforce and further ensuring the integrity of our national security. It's an incredible opportunity for students to learn from leaders in STEM education and subject matter experts from within industry."

Although the school wants to offer at least two slots at the school to Redstone students, Priscilla Krause, assistant to the



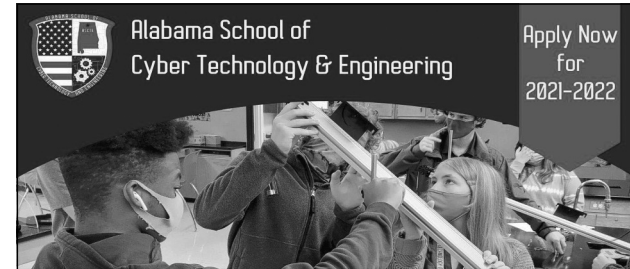
Courtesy photo

**The Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering opened its doors in August 2020.**

president, said more slots may be given depending on the number of applications received. The deadline for Redstone students to submit applications is May 31.

Erica Lewis, the Garrison's school liaison officer, said she is pleased that ASCTE has reached out to Redstone students to provide this educational opportunity. Being a former educator, she knows that a "one-size-fits-all" approach to education doesn't work when it comes to getting the necessary skillset for college and career preparation. It's important that every student has a chance to get a great education at a school that puts their unique needs first.

"We want to raise awareness on this opportunity and are making every effort to get this information out to students who live on Redstone Arsenal," Lewis said. "We want students with an interest in cyber technology and engineering to take advan-



Alabama School of  
Cyber Technology & Engineering

Apply Now  
for  
2021-2022

tage of this educational opportunity."

Massey said he agrees. He thinks ASCTE has a lot to offer for students who are interested in pursuing STEM career fields. He encourages parents from the Redstone community to take the time to explore whether the school is a good fit for their child.

ASCTE is located on the Oakwood University campus near Research Park, where the permanent facility is being constructed. They will begin school in August 2022 at their new location at the corner of Bradford Drive and Wynn Drive.

Massey said they want to increase the student population in the next few years. He encourages prospective students and parents at Redstone to visit the school. He and his staff can arrange a tour upon request.

"In August, we opened our doors to 71 freshman and sophomore students from across the state of Alabama – many of whom have already been offered industry internships due to their incredible accomplishments and technical acumen," Massey said. "For the 2021-2022 school year, we are thrilled to welcome our new students, bringing enrollment to approximately 150 students across grades 9-11. Our goal is to eventually grow our student body to about 350 students in grades 9-12. We want Redstone students to be a part of that growth."

For more information about ASCTE, call Aaron Brazelton, enrollment management coordinator, at 489-3700 or email [info@ascte.org](mailto:info@ascte.org).

# Veterinarians ready to serve pets of military community

By JONATHAN STINSON

Assistant editor

jonathan.stinson@theredstonerocket.com

After a nine-month hiatus, the Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility is open, and the staff is working to get the word out and let people know.

"We're back. We're up and running and we've got our staffing going, and we are excited to serve the community and help out the retirees and active duty personnel," Capt. Tim Beck, the officer in charge of the veterinary treatment facility, said.

Beck left the facility back in September 2019, and in January 2020 the previous veterinarian left leaving the facility without a doctor of veterinary medicine.

Beck returned in September 2020 and was followed by Dr. Jennifer Hahs in November.

Hahs grew up on a farm in middle Tennessee and earned her doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Tennessee.

Hahs said she's looking forward to helping and developing new relationships with

**Hours:** Tuesday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed for lunch noon to 1 p.m.

**Location:** 3583 Shillelagh Circle

**Contact:** 876-2441 or

Redstonevet3583@gmail.com



Photo by Eric Schultz

**Staff Sgt. Holly Smith and Capt. Tim Beck examine a client at the Veterinary Treatment Facility, April 15.**

people in the community.

"The part I really like about this job is providing a service for the people and the families who have served us," she said.

Right now the VTF is only offering wellness appointments, according to Beck.

"Wellness appointments are going to be your basic annual physical, bloodwork to see how your dogs and cats are doing, along with vaccines, heartworm test and getting heartworm medication," Beck said.

The facility is responsible for caring for military working dogs, but they also tend to



Photo by Eric Schultz

**The Veterinary Treatment Facility staff includes, from left, Charles Silver, Tena Smith, Jennifer Hahs, Capt. Tim Beck and Staff Sgt. Holly Smith.**

the companion animals of active duty and retired military personnel.

The first step in making an appointment is to get registered. Beck said to do that patrons need to either call the facility or email them to coordinate getting the proper documentation filled out and ready to go.

The number for the facility is 876-2441 and the email address is redstonevet3585@gmail.com.

Then once the registration is complete, the staff at the VTF can schedule an appointment for you.

"We've got to have you registered in our system, even if you're coming from another base," Beck said.

The facility is located in building 3583 on Shillelagh Circle and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed for lunch between noon and 1 p.m. It's also closed the last working day of each month for inventory.

For more information, the Redstone Arsenal Veterinary Treatment Facility has a Facebook page that can be found at [www.facebook.com/RedstoneVetClinic](http://www.facebook.com/RedstoneVetClinic).

# Know your laws:

## State considers changing the Guard process

By AMY WASYLUKA

Huntsville attorney

A bill to revise the appointment procedure for the adjutant general and general officers of the line is pending before the Alabama House Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs. Sponsored by Sen. Tom Whatley from State Senate District 27, Senate Bill 108 passed from the State Senate earlier this year.

State law currently provides that the adjutant general for the Alabama National Guard is appointed by the governor. It also requires that anyone so appointed must be: (1) an active officer of the National Guard; (2) have previously served in a line position or exercised general command authority; and, (3) be eligible for operational command positions.

SB 108 revises the requirements regarding who may be appointed adjutant general and imposes certain residency,

service and age limitations on potential appointees. Under SB 108, any appointed adjutant general must be between 40 and 65 years of age; must be a resident of Alabama; and, must have served in the Guard for a minimum of 15 years and must have been a commissioned officer in the Guard for a minimum of five years.

SB 108 also provides that any adjutant general so appointed would serve until the adjournment of the next regular session of the Legislature. If they are not confirmed by the Senate by that time, the position would once again become vacant. Finally, the Military Department would not seek federal recognition of the appointment until after confirmation by the Senate.

In addition to changing the appointment procedure for the adjutant general of the National Guard, SB 108 also changes the procedure for the appointment of general officers. Current law al-

lows general officers of the line to be appointed by the governor from among the active officers of the National Guard. SB 108 would allow the governor to submit an officer for confirmation as a general officer to the Senate at any time, regardless of whether there is an existing vacancy. The governor could then appoint that officer as a general officer at any time before the expiration of that confirmation at the conclusion of the final session of the legislative quadrennium during which the confirmation occurred.

For those interested in reading the full text of SB 108, you can do so by going online to <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/SESSBillStatus.aspx> and inputting SB108.

*Editor's note: The opinions in this column do not constitute legal advice nor do they establish an attorney-client relationship. If you have questions concerning the issues discussed, contact an attorney of*



*your choice. No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.*

# Ingenuity Mars helicopter makes historic first flight

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

On April 19, NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter became the first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on another planet. The Ingenuity team at the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory confirmed the flight succeeded after receiving data from the helicopter via NASA's Perseverance Mars rover at 5:46 a.m.

"Ingenuity is the latest in a long and storied tradition of NASA projects achieving a space exploration goal once thought impossible," acting NASA Administrator Steve Jurczyk said. "The X-15 was a pathfinder for the space shuttle. Mars Pathfinder and its Sojourner rover did the same for three generations of Mars rovers. We don't know exactly where Ingenuity will lead us, but today's results indicate the sky – at least on Mars – may not be the limit."

The solar-powered helicopter first became airborne at 2:34 a.m. CDT – 12:33 Local Mean Solar Time (Mars time) – a time the Ingenuity team determined would have optimal energy and flight conditions. Altimeter data indicate Ingenuity climbed to its prescribed maximum altitude of 10 feet and maintained a stable hover for 30 seconds. It then descended, touching back down on the surface of Mars after logging a total of 39.1 seconds of flight.

Ingenuity's initial flight demonstration was autonomous – piloted by onboard guidance, navigation, and control systems running algorithms developed by the team at JPL. Because data must be sent to and returned from the Red Planet over hundreds of millions of miles using orbiting satellites and NASA's Deep Space Network, Ingenuity cannot be flown with a joystick, and its flight was not observable from Earth in real time.

NASA Associate Administrator for Science Thomas Zurbuchen announced the name for the Martian airfield on which the flight took place.

"Now, 117 years after the Wright brothers succeeded in making the first flight on our planet, NASA's Ingenuity helicopter has succeeded in performing this amazing feat on another world," Zurbuchen said. "While these two iconic moments in aviation history may be separated by time and 173 million miles of space, they now will forever be linked. As an homage to the two innovative bicycle makers from Dayton, this first of many airfields on other worlds will now be known as **Wright Brothers Field**, in recognition of the ingenuity and innovation that continue to propel exploration."

Ingenuity's chief pilot, Havard Grip, announced that the International Civil Aviation Organization – the United Nations' civil aviation agency – presented NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration with official designator IGY, call-sign **INGENUITY**. The location of the flight has also been given the ceremonial



NASA photo

**NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter captured this shot as it hovered over the Martian surface April 19, during the first instance of powered, controlled flight on another planet. It used its navigation camera, which autonomously tracks the ground during flight.**

location designation JZRO for Jezero Crater.

As one of NASA's technology demonstration projects, the 19.3-inch-tall Ingenuity contains no science instruments inside its tissue-box-size fuselage. Instead, the 4-pound rotorcraft is intended to demonstrate whether future exploration of the Red Planet could include an aerial perspective.

This first flight was full of unknowns. The Red Planet has a significantly lower gravity – one-third that of Earth's – and an extremely thin atmosphere with only 1% the pressure at the surface compared to Earth. This means there are relatively few air molecules with which Ingenuity's two 4-foot-wide rotor blades can interact to achieve flight. The helicopter contains unique components, as well as off-the-shelf-commercial parts – many from the smartphone industry – that were tested in deep space for the first time with this mission.

Parked about 211 feet away at Van Zyl Overlook during Ingenuity's historic first flight, the Perseverance rover not only acted as a communications relay between the helicopter and Earth, but also chronicled the flight operations with its cameras. The pictures from the rover's Mastcam-Z and Navcam imagers will provide additional data on the helicopter's flight.

Perseverance touched down with Ingenuity attached to its belly on Feb. 18. Deployed to the surface of Jezero Crater on April 3, Ingenuity is currently on the 16th sol, or Martian day, of its 30-sol (31-Earth day) flight test window. Over the next three sols, the helicopter team will receive and analyze all data and imagery from the test and formulate a plan for the second experimental test flight, scheduled for no earlier than April 22. If the helicopter survives the second flight test, the Ingenuity team will consider how best to expand the flight profile.

# Hawkins named deputy manager of human landing system

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Lakiesha Hawkins has been named to the Senior Executive Service position of deputy manager of the Human Landing System Program Office at Marshall Space Flight Center, pending approval by the agency's Office of Personnel Management.

The Senior Executive Service is the personnel system covering top managerial positions in federal agencies. Hawkins will assist HLS Program Manager Lisa Watson-Morgan in leading the development of an integrated human lunar landing system, including elements such as the descent element, ascent element, and transfer vehicle for the Artemis program.

Since 2019, Hawkins has been manager of the HLS Program Office's Program Planning and Control Office, and was responsible for leadership of the budget, risk, schedule, governance, cyber security, and audit aspects of lander development efforts. From 2018-19, she was deputy manager of the Habitation Systems Development Office, providing program and project leadership for the Gateway Habitation Element. In 2017, she was chief of the Avionics Systems Integration Branch, where she managed systems engineers leading avionics software and hardware integration for the Space Launch System.

In 2016, Hawkins accepted a temporary assignment at NASA Headquarters in the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, where she developed an in-space transportation strategic plan to inform the Agency Planning Programming Budgeting and Ex-

ecution 19 process. Additionally, she provided critical support to the Mars Study Capability Team, Future Capabilities Team, and NextSTEP Broad Area Announcement Team.

As team lead for propulsion dynamic loads and data analysis from 2012 to 2016, Hawkins provided leadership and technical direction to the Structural and Dynamic Analysis Branch, giving day-to-day guidance in structural dynamics, system loads, rotordynamics, data acquisition and analysis, vibroacoustics, and shock. Hawkins began her NASA career at Marshall in 2010 as a lead systems engineer for the J-2X engine fuel turbopump development and a technical expert in liquid engine component and systems development.

Prior to joining NASA, she worked in private industry supporting development of turbomachinery for the Space Shuttle Main Engine and leading technical integration efforts to resolve turbopump issues for the Ares Upper Stage J-2X engine.

Hawkins holds a bachelor's in mechanical engineering from Florida A&M University and a master's in engineering management from the University of South Florida. She was awarded a NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal in 2017 and was honored as a Distinguished Alumni by the Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering Department of Mechanical Engineering in 2018.

A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Hawkins and her husband, John Jr., live in Madison with their daughter, Shayla, and son, John III.



**Lakiesha Hawkins**

# NASA picks SpaceX to land next Americans on Moon

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA is getting ready to send astronauts to explore more of the Moon as part of the Artemis program, and the agency has selected SpaceX to continue development of the first commercial human lander that will safely carry the next two American astronauts to the lunar surface. At least one of those astronauts will make history as the first woman on the Moon. Another goal of the Artemis program includes landing the first person of color on the lunar surface.

The agency's powerful Space Launch System rocket will launch four astronauts aboard the Orion spacecraft for their multiday journey to lunar orbit. There, two crew members will transfer to the SpaceX human landing system for the final leg of their journey to the surface of the Moon. After approximately a week exploring the surface, they will board the lander for their short trip back to orbit where they will return to Orion and their colleagues before heading back to Earth.

The firm-fixed price, milestone-based contract total award value is \$2.89 billion.

"With this award, NASA and our partners will complete the first crewed demonstration mission to the surface of the Moon in the 21st century as the agency takes a step forward for women's equality and long-term deep space exploration," Kathy Lueders, NASA's associate administrator for Human Explorations and Operations Mission Directorate, said. "This critical step puts humanity on a path to sustainable lunar exploration and keeps our eyes on missions farther into the solar system, including Mars."

SpaceX has been working closely with NASA experts during the HLS base period of performance to inform its lander design and ensure it meets NASA's performance requirements and human spaceflight standards. A key tenet for safe systems, these agreed-upon standards range from areas of engineering, safety, health, and medical technical areas.

"This is an exciting time for NASA and especially the Artemis team," Lisa Watson-Morgan, program manager for HLS at Marshall Space Flight Center, said. "During the Apollo program, we proved that it is possible to do the seemingly impossible: land humans on the Moon. By taking a collaborative approach in working with industry while leveraging NASA's proven technical expertise and capabilities, we will return American astronauts to the Moon's surface once again, this time to explore new areas for longer periods of time."

SpaceX's Starship, designed to land on the Moon, leans on the company's tested Raptor engines and flight heritage of the Falcon and Dragon vehicles. Starship includes a spacious cabin and two airlocks for astronaut moonwalks. The Starship architecture is intended to evolve to a fully reusable launch and landing system designed for travel to the Moon, Mars and other destinations.

"I am so proud of the hard work the team has put in, while working hand-in-hand with our commercial partners, to get to today's milestone achievement," Marshall Director Jody Singer said. "I can't wait to make even more history together!"

The HLS award is made under the Next Space Technologies for Exploration Partnerships Appendix H Broad Agency Announcement.

In parallel with executing the Appendix H award, NASA intends to implement a competitive procurement for sustainable crewed lunar surface transportation services that will provide human access to the lunar surface using the Gateway lunar outpost on a regularly recurring basis beyond the initial crewed demonstration mission.

With NASA's Space Launch System rocket, Orion spacecraft, HLS, and Gateway, NASA and its commercial and international partners are returning to the Moon for scientific discovery, economic benefits, and inspiration for a new generation. Working with its partners throughout the Artemis program, the agency will fine-tune precision landing technologies and develop new mobility capabilities to enable exploration of new regions of the Moon. On the surface, the agency has proposed building a new habitat and rovers, testing new power systems and more. These and other innovations and advancements made under the Artemis program will ensure that NASA and its partners are ready for human exploration's next big step – the exploration of Mars.



SpaceX graphic

**This is an illustration of the SpaceX Starship human lander design that will carry NASA astronauts to the Moon's surface during the Artemis missions.**

## DAU Corner

### Think Differently Series:

#### How do we get the workforce Quantum ready

Thursday, 04/29/2021 1:00 P.M. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events>

Dr. Jake Sotiriadis is a global futurist and expert in intelligence and geopolitical risk. He is currently the United States Air Force's senior futurist at the Pentagon in Washington, DC, where he leads a team that advises the department's senior leaders in developing anticipatory thinking and breakthrough innovations.

### Let's Talk Agile: NITES Next

Wednesday, 05/05/2021 12:00 P.M. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events>

Please join us for a discussion with Eric Windell, Assistant Program Manager for Naval Integrated Tactical Environmental System – Next Generation (NITES-Next). Hear how Mr. Windell and team successfully transitioned the program from an ACAT III program to Adaptive Acquisition Framework – Software Pathway within the execution phase – the first program within the Department of the Navy to do so. He will discuss the program's best practices and lessons learned with an agile methodology, including DevSecOps and how they are using it to enable rapid capability deployment. The session will include an opportunity for attendees to ask questions.

### DCMA Commercial Item Group Office Hour, May 2021

Thursday, 05/06/2021 11:00 A.M. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events>

In an ongoing effort to streamline acquisition, DAU and the Defense Contract Management Agency Commercial Item Group, will host a virtual "Open Office Hour" intended to continue the open dialogue between the DoD and industry.


This session will use an "ask me anything," open topic format—so bring questions!

# By the numbers: Best of jam bands genre

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

[skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com)

- 
1. Dave Matthews Band
  2. Jimi Hendrix Experience
  3. Cream
  4. Santana
  5. Led Zeppelin
  6. The Allman Brothers Band
  7. WAR
  8. Pink Floyd
  9. Chicago
  10. Jefferson Airplane
  11. The Black Crowes
  12. The Grateful Dead
  13. Hootie & the Blowfish
  14. Red Hot Chili Peppers
  15. Steely Dan
  16. Blues Traveler
  17. Bachman-Turner Overdrive
  18. Phish
  19. Widespread Panic
  20. Tedeschi Trucks Band
  21. Blackberry Smoke
  22. Little Feat

## Sports

## Paralympic cyclists tune up for international games



Cyclists power through the turn from Explorer Boulevard to Moquin Drive on the last lap of the C5 category of the cycling competition April 18.

Photos by ERIC SCHULTZ

Staff photographer

More than 100 athletes competed in the U.S. Paralympics Cycling Open, April 17-18 in Huntsville. Winners are preparing to be at their best for this summer's Paralympic Games in Tokyo. To get there, they'll compete at the U.S. Paralympic Team Trials for Cycling in Minneapolis, June 17-20. Some riders will also take part in a world cup event next month in Belgium, which is also a Paralympic qualification event.

Winners included the following:

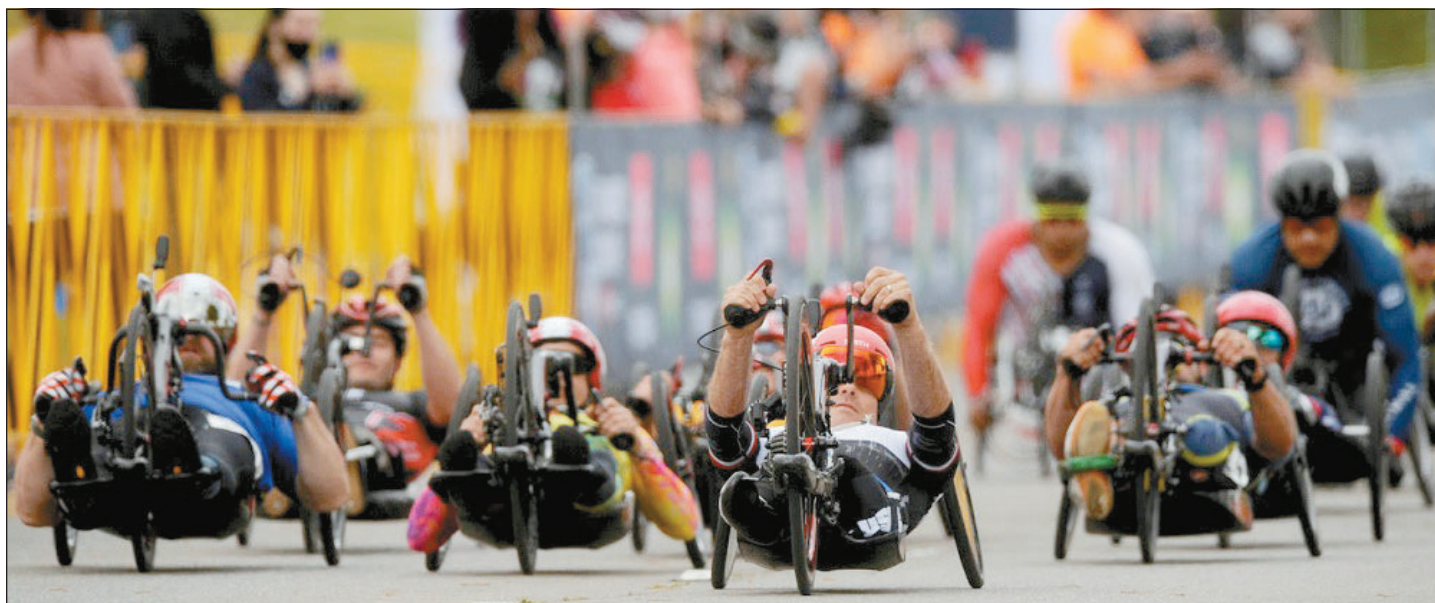
**April 17:** Men's BVI – 1. Chester Triplett/Michael Bisette. ... Women's BVI – 1. Kimberley Dobbs/Rebecca Martz. ... Men's C1 – 1. Aaron Keith. ... Men's C3 – Noah Middlestaedt. ... Women's C3 – 1. Clara Brown. ... Men's C4 – 1. Cody Jung. ... Women's C4 – 1. Sam Bosco. ... Men's C5 – 1. Kyle Pitman. ... Women's C5 – 1. Jennifer Schuble. ... Men's H1 – 1. Barry Wilcox. ... Men's H3 – 1. Ryan Pinney. ... Women's H3 – 1. Alicia Dana. ... Men's H4 – 1. Tom Davis. ... Women's H4 – 1. Ryen Reed. ... Men's H5 – 1. Oz Sanchez. ... Women's H5 – 1. Oksana Masters. ... Men's T1 – 1. Ryan Sykes. ... Men's T2 – 1. Dennis Connors. ... Women's T2 – Jill Walsh.

**April 18:** Men's BVI – 1. Chester Triplett/Michael Bisette. ... Women's BVI – 1. Kimberley Dobbs/Rebecca Martz. ... Men's C1 – 1. Aaron Keith. ...



Cyclists make the turn from Explorer Boulevard to Moquin Drive during the C5 competition April 18.

Men's C3 – Noah Middlestaedt. ... Women's C3 – 1. Clara Brown. ... Men's C4 – 1. Jason Macom. ... Women's C4 – 1. Sam Bosco. ... Men's C5 – 1. Kyle Pitman. ... Women's C5 – 1. Josie Fouts. ... Men's H3 – 1. Ryan Pinney. ... Women's H3 – 1. Alicia Dana. ... Men's H4 – 1. Tom Davis. ... Women's H4 – 1. Ryen Reed. ... Men's H5 – 1. Oz Sanchez. ... Women's H5 – 1. Oksana Masters. ... Men's T1 – 1. Ryan Sykes. ... Men's T2 – 1. Dennis Connors. ... Women's T2 – Jill Walsh.



Men's hand cyclists start rolling at the start line April 18 on Explorer Boulevard near Columbia High School.

# Chicago Cubs show signs of life on offense

Upon further review, my beloved Chicago Cubs aren't so bad after all.

This is Friday's updated version of a column I wrote at midweek. Entering April 21, the Cubs occupied last place in the National League's Central Division. They were a disappointing 7-9 because of their anemic offense.

I was ready to start calling my Cubs the Bad News Bears.

But suddenly everything changed. They completed a three-game sweep of the New York Mets and staggered the Milwaukee Brewers in the opener of their next series at Wrigley Field.

So I'm going to take some credit for this resurgence. The baseball gods wanted me to revisit this column and admit that I was wrong.

Maybe the Cubs can stay competitive the rest of the season. There will be peaks and valleys as usual but the talent is there.

Let's raise the W flag, my fellow Cubs fans. Reports of their death on offense have been greatly exaggerated.

---

## From the sidelines

**By Skip Vaughn**  
Rocket editor

---

# Gray seniors team rallies to topple royal blue

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

After falling behind early, the gray team made defensive adjustments against royal blue.

“We changed up our pitcher for one,” gray player/coach Rick Anthis said. “And also switched out our left fielder from normal playing position. So I think that was the keys. And of course, Kelly hitting that home run.”

The gray team replaced their pitcher and left fielder and got a three-run homer from cleanup hitter William Kelly.

The result was a 16-13 win over royal blue on April 19 at field 2 in Brahan Spring Park. They play in the 55-and-over Rockets league in Huntsville Senior Softball.

Kelly’s blast came in the five-run bottom of the sixth inning for gray (2-1). Mike Hoy pitched the last five innings in relief for the win.

Left-hander David Key, who pitched the first two innings, had three hits with a two-run homer. Ron Baer, Kelly, Steve Bishop and Sam Sepulveda had two hits apiece.

“It was a heck of a game, total fun game,” David Koch, who had a run-scoring double, said. “This is why I come to play seniors. Competitive but fun at the same time.”

Jorge Marin went 4-for-4 with two runs batted in and two runs scored for royal blue (2-1). Mike Keyser had three hits and five RBIs. Jim Smelser and Mark Wilbourn also had three hits apiece. Jim “Hitman” Myers and player/coach Bob Thomson added two hits apiece while Myers took the loss.

“Our bats went cold,” Thomson said. “First time we’ve been behind all year.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Gray player/ coach Rick Anthis drives in two runs as his team beats royal blue 16-13.**

|                |           |           |           |           |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Bob Thomson    | 4         | 0         | 2         | 1         |
| Pete Mitchell  | 3         | 1         | 1         | 0         |
| Stan Sillivant | 4         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| Yogi Guess     | 3         | 2         | 1         | 1         |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>41</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>11</b> |

**Pitching**

|                  |           |           |          |          |           |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                  | <b>IP</b> | <b>AB</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>ER</b> |
| Jim Myers (loss) | 6         | 33        | 16       | 16       | 12        |

**Gray (2-1)**

|                 |           |           |           |            |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|                 | <b>AB</b> | <b>R</b>  | <b>H</b>  | <b>RBI</b> |
| Bennie Pokemire | 4         | 2         | 1         | 0          |
| Mike Hoy        | 4         | 2         | 1         | 0          |
| Ron Baer        | 3         | 1         | 2         | 2          |
| William Kelly   | 4         | 3         | 2         | 3          |
| David Key       | 4         | 3         | 3         | 2          |
| Rick Anthis     | 2         | 1         | 1         | 2          |
| David McNeill   | 3         | 2         | 1         | 0          |
| David Koch      | 3         | 1         | 1         | 1          |
| Steve Bishop    | 3         | 0         | 2         | 3          |
| Sam Sepulveda   | 3         | 1         | 2         | 1          |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>33</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>14</b>  |

**Pitching**

|                |           |           |          |          |           |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                | <b>IP</b> | <b>AB</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>ER</b> |
| David Key      | 2         | 13        | 9        | 8        | 8         |
| Mike Hoy (won) | 5         | 28        | 11       | 5        | 3         |

|            |                |          |          |          |
|------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|
|            |                | <b>R</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>E</b> |
| Royal blue | 3 5 1 0 0 3 1- | 13       | 20       | 3        |
| Gray       | 0 4 3 2 2 5 x- | 16       | 16       | 5        |

|                         |           |          |          |            |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|
| <b>Royal blue (2-1)</b> | <b>AB</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>H</b> | <b>RBI</b> |
| Jim Smelser             | 5         | 2        | 3        | 0          |
| Mark Wilbourn           | 5         | 3        | 3        | 0          |
| Jorge Marin             | 4         | 2        | 4        | 2          |
| Jerry Bevel             | 5         | 2        | 1        | 0          |
| Mike Keyser             | 4         | 1        | 3        | 5          |
| Jim Myers               | 4         | 0        | 2        | 2          |

# Wickizer delivers in clutch for red seniors team

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Red player/coach Kirk Wickizer didn't like his team's sluggish start Thursday night against royal blue.

But he definitely enjoyed the finish.

Wickizer's hit in the bottom of the seventh inning drove in the winning run as red beat royal blue 22-21 on field 2 at Brahan Spring Park. They play in the 55-and-over Rockets league in Huntsville Senior Softball.

"We started out really slow. They got out way ahead of us," Wickizer, the cleanup hitter and shortstop, said. "First few innings we got way behind. Fourth inning we started to turn things around. We played a little bit better D (defense). We started hitting the ball into the holes. And then by the time the sixth and seventh innings rolled around, we started hitting the ball the way the red team always does. And that was it. And we were back to our old hitting ways."

Wickizer went 3-for-4 with a home run, two runs batted in and three runs scored for red (3-1). The defending champions trailed 14-9 after three innings.

Yogi Guess, Phil Shriner, Freddie Childs and Gary Wilkison had four hits apiece. Wickizer and Jerry Cowan had three hits apiece. Cowan pitched all seven innings for the win. Mike Panko, Mike Hoy and Booger Clark added two hits apiece.

Mike Keyser hit a two-run homer for royal blue (2-2). Pete Mitchell went 5-for-5 with a double. Jim Smelser, Mark Wilbourn and Jerry Bevel had four hits apiece. Jorge Marin, Keyser and David McNeill had three hits apiece. Player/coach Bob Thomson, Michael Gundersen and Bill Hartsell added two hits apiece. Gundersen, a left-hander, pitched the last two innings and took the loss.

"That was just a good game," Thomson said. "I'd be interested to see who outhit who."

Royal blue outhit red 32-29. They stranded 14 baserunners apiece.

## Royal blue (2-2)

|                   | AB        | R         | H         | RBI       |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Jim Smelser       | 5         | 3         | 4         | 2         |
| Mark Wilbourn     | 4         | 2         | 4         | 3         |
| Jorge Marin       | 5         | 1         | 3         | 1         |
| Jerry Bevel       | 4         | 4         | 4         | 4         |
| Mike Keyser       | 5         | 3         | 3         | 2         |
| Bob Thomson       | 5         | 1         | 2         | 2         |
| Pete Mitchell     | 5         | 2         | 5         | 3         |
| Michael Gundersen | 5         | 1         | 2         | 0         |
| David McNeill     | 5         | 2         | 3         | 0         |
| Bill Hartsell     | 5         | 2         | 2         | 2         |
| <b>Totals</b>     | <b>48</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>19</b> |

## Pitching

|                          | IP  | AB | H  | R  | ER |
|--------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Pete Mitchell            | 4.1 | 29 | 17 | 14 | 12 |
| Michael Gundersen (loss) | 2   | 16 | 12 | 8  | 8  |

## Red (3-1)

|                | AB        | R         | H         | RBI       |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Yogi Guess     | 6         | 2         | 4         | 1         |
| Phil Shriner   | 6         | 2         | 4         | 2         |
| Freddie Childs | 5         | 1         | 4         | 4         |
| Kirk Wickizer  | 4         | 3         | 3         | 2         |
| Mike Panko     | 2         | 4         | 2         | 3         |
| Pat Cross      | 5         | 1         | 1         | 1         |
| Mike Hoy       | 4         | 1         | 2         | 2         |
| Booger Clark   | 4         | 3         | 2         | 1         |
| Jerry Cowan    | 4         | 2         | 3         | 0         |
| Gary Wilkison  | 5         | 3         | 4         | 2         |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>45</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>18</b> |

## Pitching

|                   | IP | AB | H  | R  | ER |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Jerry Cowan (won) | 7  | 48 | 32 | 21 | 18 |



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Kirk Wickizer lashes a single to left for the game-winning hit in red's 22-21 win over royal blue.**

|            |                  | R  | H  | E |
|------------|------------------|----|----|---|
| Royal blue | 4 5 5 0 0 4 3 -- | 21 | 32 | 2 |
| Red        | 1 3 5 3 3 4 3 -- | 22 | 29 | 5 |

## Your glory days in sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

### How do you stay in shape?

"I work out six days a week," Shandi Campbell, wife of Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Campbell of the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, said. "I run six miles every Sunday and I do 5K races every chance I get. I've been training for about three years. This helps my mental health. It's my relaxation time."

Campbell, 34, from New Martinsville, West Virginia, resides on Redstone Arsenal with her husband of almost 17 years and their daughter, Chloe, 12. She said her hobbies include painting with acrylics, photography and drawing. She enjoys Marvel movies.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Shandi Campbell works out in the Col. Stephen K. Scott Fitness Center.**

## Sports&Recreation

### Pineapple Open golf scramble

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club's 2021 Pineapple Open Golf Scramble is April 30 at the Links. It will be held on the Warrior course. This is the club's biggest fundraising event so far this year and only prepaid teams are guaranteed a spot. Registration continues until the event. For more information, call Cherie Cain 254-368-5363 or email [rsamccfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:rsamccfundraising@gmail.com).

### High school football officials

The North Alabama Football Officials Association are a group of officials that serve North Alabama. They currently contract to high schools in Huntsville, Madison, Madison County, Limestone County and Jackson County. If you are interested in becoming a referee today, visit <https://nafoa.net>.

### Cyclist training

The Spring City Cycling Club will kick off its 18th annual Ride A Metric training series May 1. This training series will help participants progress from neighborhood or casual riders to cyclists who are confident about riding on the road. This program is intended to prepare riders for the SCCC All You Can Eat Metric Century (100 kilometers) on Sept. 18 but is also a development program for those who wish to ride shorter distances on the road. The RAM series is a collection of weekly rides that help cyclists advance their skills and ride longer distances as the weeks go by. For more information call Geanine Lehmann 655-6385, email [gean31356@aol.com](mailto:gean31356@aol.com), or visit [www.springcity.org/ram](http://www.springcity.org/ram).

### Pitch, hit and run contest

Madison American Legion Post 229 will hold a pitch, hit and run competition May 19 at 6 p.m. at Palmer Park, 574 Palmer Road in Madison. Age cutoff is as of July 17, 2021. Age groups for boys and girls include 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14. Bring your bat and glove. Each participant must present a birth certificate and verification of health at the competition. Register online at [www.mlb.com/pitch-hit-and-run/find-a-competition](http://www.mlb.com/pitch-hit-and-run/find-a-competition).

### Junior home run derby

Madison American Legion Post 229 will hold a Junior Home Run Derby, May 5 at 6 p.m. at Palmer Park, 574 Palmer Road in Madison. Age cutoff is as of July 17, 2021. Age groups for boys/girls are U12 and U14. Bring your bat. Each participant must present a birth certificate and verification of health at the competition. Register online at [www.mlb.com/junior-home-run-derby/find-a-competition](http://www.mlb.com/junior-home-run-derby/find-a-competition).

## Conferences&Meetings

### Sergeants major association

The Sergeants Major Association is still meeting every third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. They are not meeting at a physical location because of the pandemic but they are meeting virtually through Zoom. Attendees must download the Zoom app on either their home computer, laptop or mobile device to participate. Once you get into the Zoom app, you will see Meeting ID number. Type in 710 211-4188. Then you will see the "Join meeting" button. If you have problems getting into Zoom, call retired Sgt. Maj. Willene Orr 410-533-2685.

### West Point chapter

Do you know there is a West Point chapter in the Huntsville area? They do several chapter activities throughout the year to include cheering on Army to victory during sporting events and their annual Founder's Day celebration. For more information about the chapter activities and to learn how you can be a part of this organization, visit the chapter website at <https://sallyport.westpointaog.org/topics/11179/memberships>. For more information or assistance, email Dale McDonough at [dmac550@gmail.com](mailto:dmac550@gmail.com).

### Business/government contracting expo

The Business to Government Contracting Expo is Oct. 27-28 at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville. Free expo tickets are available for DOD/CAC holders. This event should interest primes, 8As, government agencies, military directorates and also buyers, sellers and small and large business. For information call Phil Kiver (509) 999-8645 or email [pkiver@contractready.org](mailto:pkiver@contractready.org).

# RocketAnnouncements

### Veterans of foreign wars

VFW Gentry-Isom 2702 meets the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in its post home on the corner of Sparkman Drive and 2900 North Memorial Parkway. For more information, call Bobby Lee Jr. (931) 265-5685 or email [bobbyleejr01@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyleejr01@gmail.com).

### Lance/MLRS veterans reunion

The 13th Lance missile and Multiple Launch Rocket System veterans reunion is Sept. 2-4 at the Marriott Hotel SeaWorld in San Antonio, Texas. Six seats are reserved until May 10 for Huntsville area veterans. If interested, call retired Sgt. 1st Class John Williams 210-209-2000.

### Marine Corps league

The Brandon-Wilbourn Marine Corps League Detachment 820 conducts a monthly meeting every second Saturday of the month at noon at the American Legion Post 237, 2900 Drake Ave. The detachment is open to all active, retired and former Marines. The league is a veterans/military service organization formed to promote 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 Earl Hokanson 881-2852, Senior Vice Commandant Albert Mallory 379-2904 or Adjutant Stephen Cecil 829-1839.

### 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 at 337-8313.

## MiscellaneousItems

### Men's ministry

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

### Young citizen of month

Do you know a young citizen in grades 7-12 who has done something special and 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](http://mystar991.com) or call Kenny Anderson 883-3993.

### Masquerade gala

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club presents "Masquerade Gala in the Garden," Oct. 22 from 6-10 p.m. at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, benefiting the RSAMCC community assistance grants and merit scholarship awards. For information, visit [rsamcc.org](http://rsamcc.org).

### Charity car show

Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners 16th annual Charity Car Show is June 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cabela's parking lot, 7090 Cabela Drive. Events are open to all cars, bikes and trucks. There will be trophies and plaques along with games and prizes, silent auction, food and drinks and a 50/50 drawing. Proceeds will benefit veterans' charities. This is a rain-or-shine show with a prize package from Cabela's.

### Community blood drive

A planned blood drive wants you: Redstone housing residents and anyone else with access to Redstone Arsenal. Hunt Military Communities is sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive June 11 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. outside the post housing office, 302 Hughes Drive. They will have complimentary refreshments – juice drinks and snacks – outside the office to help donors replenish after giving blood. Interested persons should contact David Ugarte, resident service specialist, at [david.ugarte@](mailto:david.ugarte@)

# Rocket Announcements

huntcompanies.com. For information call him at 430-1517.

## Exchange job openings

Redstone Exchange HR Recruitment Office will conduct weekly on-the-spot interviews at the Main Store food court every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call the Exchange Recruitment Office 650-5928.

## Craft/vendor marketplace

The Senior Center's spring Craft & Vendor Marketplace is May 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the center, 2200 Drake Ave. Rain date is May 22. Cost is \$50 vendor donation for a 10-by-10 outdoor spot. Vendors provide their own tables. For vendor reservations, call Nancy 880-7084.

## Health department ratings

The Madison County Health Department has released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for April 12-16. The highest scores included Foodland 464 (Meat), 14470 Highway 231/431 North, Hazel Green, 100; and Capshaw Road Nutrition, 573 Capshaw Road, Madison, 100. The lowest scores included BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, 401 The Bridge Street, 81; and Waffle House Inc. 2295, 11879 Highway 231/431, Meridianville, 75.

