

Redstone Rocket

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Matériel enterprise reaches out through hiring event

By KARI HAWKINS

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

There's a weekend in February that has become synonymous with opportunity for employers like Army Materiel Command that are building a diverse bench of new talent.

It's known in college circles as BEYA – equally Black Engineer of the Year Awards and Becoming Everything You Are – and typically occurs on the third weekend of the month. The conference, which includes both in-person and on-line elements, invites the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics community to three days of learning, networking, celebrating excellence and showcasing career opportunities.

Of particular interest to employers is the conference's centerpiece – the BEYA Career Fair – set virtually Feb. 18-19. This year, AMC's role in BEYA has grown substantially.

"Three years ago, we had less than 10 hires at BEYA. We didn't capitalize on the opportunity to hire some great, great talent," AMC Commander Gen. Ed Daly said.

"Last year, we were in the fight to get that talent. We had 186 job openings and we made over 100 offers, eventually hiring 76. This year, we want to exceed 200 offers. We need to be all in on this. We need to make every day an opportunity to hire great and diverse talent."

BEYA's 35-year history for providing employment opportunities for minority STEM careerists began in 1987 with the Black Engineer of the Year Awards. Since those early years, BEYA has expanded to include college students and professionals of all diverse backgrounds and career interests.

"Becoming Everything You Are is built off Black Engineer of the Year," Max Wyche, AMC's deputy chief of staff for human resources, said. "It is focused on mentoring, networking and employment offers primarily in STEM fields, but it's open to all college students who are interested in new opportunities."

Now named the BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference, the event's mission is to inspire next-generation sci-

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entists and engineers.

Even before BEYA opens its virtual doors this year, AMC and its major subordinate commands have been busy recruiting. Because of a command-wide concerted effort, AMC was able to open a website for resume submission prior to the event, already gaining more than

800 resumes and more than 115,000 page views. That's important, Wyche said, for an Army command that has 274 openings to fill and must compete with hundreds of the nation's best companies and government agencies for talent.

"Applicants are showing interest in

See Hiring on page 16



MILITARY

AMC senior enlisted Soldier addresses basic training grads.

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COMMUNITY

Gateway field of dreams growing more tenants.

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FEDERAL

Developer chosen for rocket to sample Mars surface.

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SPORTS

Veterans overcome adversity, capture bowling championship.

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RocketViews

Auburn coach avoids sack while rebuilding program

I'm not an Auburn fan. So, when there's drama down on the Plains I enjoy sitting back with a bag of popcorn and watching what happens.

After a couple of weeks of speculation about the future of their new head coach, Bryan Harsin, Auburn University's president Jay Gogue issued a statement last week that said despite all of the Internet rumors, Harsin would in fact keep his job and has the full support of the administration.

Good on them.

The whole thing had me perplexed from the beginning.

Here you had a university hire a football coach with the explicit goal of raising them from the depths of mediocrity to appease its legions of fans and then the legions of fans got mad when said coach started to clean house and remove

Snippets

By Jonathan Stinson
Assistant editor

the elements that led to the program's mediocrity in the first place.

It makes me wonder what exactly people thought the problem was with Auburn football.

When I think about the problems with Auburn football the first thing that comes to mind is the Auburn Family's weird obsession they had with Bo Nix.

The guy just never really did anything for them, but there would be two plays a game where he should have been sacked, but wasn't, which somehow managed to convince the Auburn nation he was the second coming of Johnny Football.

The only thing the two have in common is they both beat Alabama once. Well, at least, Nix was on a team that beat Alabama. I'm not sure you can call going 15-for-30 with one rushing and one passing touchdown beating a team in a game that had over 90 points scored between the two sides.

I could be wrong about the guy... could be.

Nevertheless, Nix leaves for Oregon and then you have a mass exodus of other coaches and players behind him.

If I were sitting on the board at Auburn, that's exactly what I would've been expecting to see from my new head coach. The only question I would have is why didn't he do that before last season instead of trudging through a 6-7 season with all of that dead weight in tow?

It doesn't take a football genius to

know that when you have a bunch of C and D players, and you ask them to play to the level of A players, that they either can't or won't. It's hard enough to get A players to play with B players, but there's no way to avoid that because it's almost impossible to field a team with 85 A players – unless you're Nick Saban.

The Tigers still might have gone 6-7 had Harsin made some moves prior to last season, but they would be miles ahead for this upcoming season.

Not that I'm necessarily excited about a resurgence of Auburn football. The Auburn fans I work with every day are hard enough to deal with now that they're a basketball school.

But I do believe that if Auburn is going to make any progress then Harsin is the guy that's going to build the foundation for them.

Quote of the week

“I had no idea that history was being made. I was just tired of giving up.”

– Rosa Parks

Send your letters to editor

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

On this date in history: Feb. 16

In 2013: A bomb blast at a market in Hazara Town, Quetta, Pakistan killed more than 80 people and injured 190 others.

In 2005: The National Hockey League canceled the entire 2004-05 regular season and playoffs.

In 1998: China Airlines Flight 676 crashed into a road and residential area near Chiang Kai-shek International Airport in Taiwan, killing all 196 aboard and seven more on the ground.

In 1862: During the Civil War, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant captured Fort Donelson, Tennessee.

RedstoneRocket

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First responder spotlight

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Carlos Gupton

What is your favorite action movie?

“It’s a couple of series. I like the Jason Bourne series and the Matrix series,” Carlos Gupton, firefighter/driver at Station 5 at the Airfield, said. “The Jason Bourne series is how the system recreated a man’s mentality to make him into a totally different person. And then by the transition of him finding himself. I love the Matrix movie because it questions does man make machines or does the machine make man, and the purpose of the interconnection that we have of the creation of life.”

Gupton, 50, from Nashville, has been a Redstone firefighter since 2005. He served in the Army from 1998-2001 and left as a sergeant. He served in the Air National Guard from 2001-20 and left as a master sergeant. Gupton was deployed in Tuzla, Bosnia, from 1999-2000; Iraq in 2002, 2005 and 2010; Oman in 2012; and Djibouti in 2018. The Murfreesboro resident has three children: son, Bomani, 26, of New York; and daughters Amaya, 25, of Nashville, and Nialah, 17, of Murfreesboro. He enjoys working out, horseback riding, sports, ATV riding, reading, and watching movies. Gupton roots for the San Francisco 49ers and the Florida State Seminoles.

Tell us about ...

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Why you joined the Army.

“Initially I joined the Army for more than one reason,” Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles Lahmon said. “One, I wanted to play music. So I joined an Army band. That was another way to pursue that passion to play music. In addition, it was a way to help me through college financially. And it helped that my father had served in the Army. So he was supportive as well as my mother. I would say those are the primary reasons I joined. That was years before I decided to become a chaplain. That was back in 1988. I became a chaplain in 2002.”

“It goes back to a calling. God called me to this ministry to serve Soldiers. Of course that’s broadened over time. I realized that part of that calling was to serve civilians as well.”

Lahmon, 51, from Mount Vernon, Ohio, arrived at Redstone in summer 2018 from Hohenfels, Germany. He became the Garrison chaplain in summer 2021. The Madison resident and his wife of 27 years, Lisa, have four children: daughters, Anna, 25, Bethany, 23 and Chloe, 21; and son, Daniel, 18. Lahmon likes to run, hike, read and visit historic places with his family. He roots for the Cincinnati Bengals. “I’ve rooted for the Bengals for decades,” he said, “and of course the Ohio State Buckeyes.”



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Charles Lahmon

Getting to know you

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
 Rocket editor
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Name: Joan Montanez

Position: Real property specialist for VanJoh Graphics in support of the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works master planning division

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a singer. I sing every day. Music’s my first passion. I also write music. I was pursuing a degree in music therapy. I stopped pursuing the degree because of COVID. My great-grandmother passed away so I had to stop. I went back and forth to New York to help her while she was in Hospice.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2022?

I hope to continue to be a role model for my newborn daughter, LizMarie, 3 months. I’m looking for career development opportunities.

What is the best part about your job?

The best part of my job are the two people I work with day in and day out, Mike Randolph and Dustin Adair. It’s just the communication and work environment we have is very positive.

Who is your hero, and why?

My parents (Ivan and Josie Montanez



of Havre de Grace, Maryland). They are a walking example of love, generosity and humility.

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

I would bring all of my family members together and just enjoy each other wherever. Just being around people I love, good company.

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

It would come from my dad. I think it’s treat everyone the way you would like to be treated, with love and compassion.

What do you like to do to pass the time?

I like to play sports and watch sports.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents Jan. 30 through Feb. 5:

Feb. 1: The driver of a government vehicle said they struck a fence post while attempting to leave a parking lot on Redstone Arsenal.

Feb. 5: At the intersection of Rideout Road and Goss Road, Redstone police conducted a traffic stop for defective equipment. A check of the driver’s license revealed it was suspended for more than a year. The driver received a citation, and the vehicle was removed by a licensed driver.

Citations included one for driving while license is suspended or revoked, one for damage to government property, one for driving under the influence, seven for expired registration, one for no insurance and 22 for speeding.

Know your laws: Resolving a patent dispute

By ANN DENNEN
Huntsville lawyer

The first hurdle to overcome is to obtain an issued patent from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Once a patent owner owns an issued United States patent, the issued patent is enforceable. However, enforcing a patent against a potential infringer is a long, expensive, formidable process.

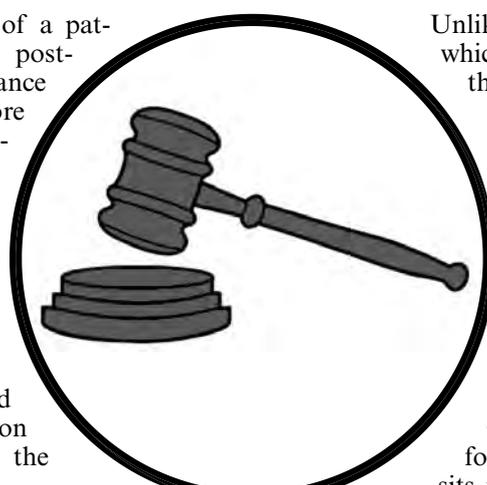
A patent infringement action is a federal cause of action. The patent infringement action is brought by the owner of a U.S. patent. The owner of the U.S. patent brings the action against another party that the patent owner asserts is practicing the patented invention without its authority.

There are non-federal patent dispute resolution venues. For example, there is a process for settling patent infringement claims with the International Trade Commission. In addition, the USPTO has procedures in place for settling patent infringement disputes. The USPTO offers ex parte patent reexamination proceedings that may determine the validity

and enforceability of a patent. Additionally, post-grant and pre-issuance proceedings before the USPTO are provided by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act.

There is also alternative dispute resolution. These are economical procedures that may be employed when an accusation is asserted against the party.

In the U.S., federal district courts have exclusive subject matter jurisdiction over patent infringement claims. Therefore, all patent infringement claims must be brought in federal district court. Any federal court in any jurisdiction may preside over the case if the requirements of personal jurisdiction and venue are met. A jury trial may be requested by the patent owner or the alleged infringer.



Unlike non-patent cases, which are appealed to the appropriate circuit court of appeals depending on the district court's geographic location, all appeals from patent infringement claims are heard by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit sits in Washington, D.C.

Like other circuit courts of appeals, decisions of the Federal Circuit can be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

There are two types of patent infringement: direct infringement and indirect infringement. Direct infringement means that the alleged infringer practices each element of a claim in the patent being enforced. Indirect infringement means that the alleged infringer does

not necessarily practice each element of a claim, but the alleged infringer contributes to direct infringement by another party or induces another party to engage in direct infringement.

A party is liable for direct infringement if, without authority, it either makes, uses, offers to sell, sells or imports the patented invention. Infringement is a strict liability offense. Thus, the alleged infringer does not have to have the intent to infringe. It need not copy a patent or even know the patent exists to be held liable.

To be found liable for patent infringement, the allegedly infringing device or process must include each element of a patented claim.

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.

Soldier/civilian/family readiness briefs

By Army News Service and Defense Department websites

Contract award announcements

Weston Solutions Inc., Peachtree Corners, Georgia, was awarded an \$8,590,275 firm-fixed-price contract to maintain and repair petroleum systems and facilities. Bids were solicited via the Internet with four received. Work will be performed in Aniston; Fort Rucker; Starke, Florida; Columbus, Georgia; Dahlonga, Georgia; Savannah, Georgia; Palmerola, Honduras; Grenada, Mississippi; Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Morrisville, North Carolina; Salisbury, North Carolina; Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina; Southport, North Carolina; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Salinas, Puerto Rico; Guaynabo, Puerto Rico; and Peachtree Corners, with an estimated completion date of Feb. 7, 2023. Fiscal 2022 revolving funds in the amount of \$8,590,275 were obligated at the time of the award. Corps of Engineers' Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, is the contracting activity.

Avion Solutions Inc., Huntsville, was awarded an \$8,555,935 hybrid (firm-fixed-price and time-and-materials) contract for technical support for the Fixed Wing Project Office. Bids were solicited via the Internet with three received. Work will be performed in Huntsville with an estimated completion date of Feb. 2, 2027. Fiscal 2022 operation and maintenance, Army funds in the amount of \$8,555,935 were obligated at the time of the award. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, is the contracting activity.

Regional health command pair win medic contest

WASHINGTON – The most challenging course during the 2022 Army Best Medic Competition became even more daunting after daylong rainfall over central Texas. A downpour on the competition's opening day at Fort Hood, Texas, made a 13-mile ruck march a muddy, heavy slog for 22 teams of contestants.

Yet Maj. Bryan Ahlborn and Sgt. 1st Class David McAfee didn't let the hurdle stop them from blazing their way to an eventual first place finish, during the contest,

which took place Jan. 24-28.

The pair, representing Regional Health Command-Central, had already weathered through other physically demanding events of the annual contest before the afternoon ruck march.

"It was the thickest mud I think I've ever walked in," said McAfee, a medic from Fort Irwin, California. "We were pretty tired ... I got some pretty bad blisters from that ruck. And I think a number of the competitors didn't finish there because it was pretty challenging."

Many of the contestants carried packs that weighed about 50 pounds and had to march in the dark with only chemical lights to guide them.

Still Ahlborn and McAfee managed to overcome the endurance test and several other physical challenges during contest. After placing third in last year's Best Medic competition, Ahlborn and McAfee set their minds on winning the contest this season.

Ahlborn and McAfee, Regional Health Command, were the first team to cross the finish line during the last event of the 2022 Army Best Medic Competition.

Ahlborn and McAfee finished first after finishing in third place in 2021.

They placed a greater emphasis on physical fitness for 2022 and also attended additional trainings after placing as the top finishers in the RHC-C regional contest held at Fort Carson, Colorado, in September.

That training included the medical master gunner course held at Fort Hood, Ahlborn's duty station, and the Field Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

"Last year ... there was no preparation beforehand or anything and we still did pretty well," Ahlborn said. "So this year, with that extra training, it pushed us just above everybody else and helped us to win."

McAfee, a Knoxville native, increased his workouts to twice daily and would run in the mornings and body build in the evenings. Ahlborn already had a robust fitness regimen but increased cardiovascular workouts leading up to the contest.

Military

'Standing with all these great Soldiers is my son'

AMC senior enlisted Soldier addresses basic training grads

By MEGAN GULLY

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Speaking to the newest Soldiers can be an honor for any Army senior leader, but for the Army's senior enlisted sustainer a recent basic combat training graduation had a special meaning.

The 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, 193rd Infantry Brigade at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, hosted a graduation ceremony for more than 600 Soldiers, Feb. 3. Among the graduates stood Pvt. Zahn Delgado, son of Army Materiel Command's senior enlisted adviser, Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado.

"Standing with all these great Soldiers is my son," said Delgado, the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremony. "I can tell you from my heart as a service member that this is the most special day, to know my son is standing in uniform and carrying on our family's proud tradition, it means so much."

Delgado, who has served in the Army for 35 years, spoke to the graduates about the path ahead of them.

"I stood where you are standing, ready and willing, but not fully knowing all the success and opportunities the Army would offer me," he said. "I look out in the audience today, and I see future command sergeants major and future general officers, because in the Army you can do whatever you want to do as long as you put in the hard work."

Delgado encouraged the graduates to take what they learned during training at Fort Jackson and build their Army career.

"The Army has equipped you to be successful," he said. "It has given you skills, capabilities, knowledge and experience to be the Soldier you want to be. It's also given you a team – brothers and sisters who will have your back through thick and thin."

To the parents of the graduates, he imparted a promise to take care of their children. Something he now, for the first time, understands as both a Soldier and as the parent of a Soldier.

"I will do everything in my power to protect their safety and afford them every opportunity to develop and grow in this honorable profession," Delgado said.



Photo courtesy of Fort Jackson, S.C.

Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado, Army Materiel Command's senior enlisted adviser, embraces his son, Pvt. Zahn Delgado. His son was among the basic combat training graduates for 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, 193rd Infantry Brigade.



Photo courtesy of Fort Jackson, S.C.

The keynote speaker at the Feb. 3 basic combat training graduation is Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado, Army Materiel Command's senior enlisted adviser.



Photo courtesy of Fort Jackson, S.C.

From left are Army Materiel Command's Command Sgt. Maj. Alberto Delgado; his wife, Vanessa; their daughter, Aizah; and son, Pvt. Zahn Delgado.

Ready, resilient council provides quarterly update

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

The Commander's Ready and Resilient Council serves as the Redstone senior commander's platform to articulate the focus, conditions and resources required to fulfill the Army's Ready and Resilient objectives.

CR2C assesses and monitors installation high-risk, mitigation strategies, improves readiness and resilience, synchronizes activities and advances health promotion, risk reduction, and suicide prevention on Redstone.

Redstone Senior Commander Lt. Gen. Donnie Walker chaired the virtual CR2C meeting Feb. 8 with more than 30 leaders from organizations throughout Redstone.

The CR2C team, led by Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor and Bryan Copeland, community readiness and resilience integrator for the installation, participated in the meeting, informing Walker on second quarter updates.

Copeland said his team is making progress addressing issues of concern for the Redstone community.

"CR2C is a tool to mobilize resources," he said. "We want to show how the four working groups have established metrics within their platforms to measure progress



File photo by Jonathan Stinson

Runners participate in the Run in Their Shoes 5K to raise awareness for domestic violence during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October 2021

and success in meeting our goals as we continue to develop a strategic plan. CR2C is a tool to mobilize resources. We've gathered enough information from these discussions, along with past practices and other historical data that will allow the senior commander to set his priorities for our team. Our team will continue to raise awareness on CR2C initiatives and intensify our effort to build a stronger workforce based on the five pillars of Army wellness."

Participants heard working group reports from the Behavioral Health, Family and Social Resiliency, Spiritual Health and Social Resiliency. These groups are chaired by Redstone subject matter experts and meet monthly.

Topics discussed during the update included Department of the Army quality of life priorities (housing, health care, child care, spouse employment, PCS moves, support and resilience and suicide prevention)

and five pillars of wellness (emotional, family, physical, social and spiritual), the Community Resource Guide and the results of the Community Strengths and Themes Assessment survey held at Redstone.

Additionally, the CR2C team provided information on the Exchange restaurants, MWR facilities and walking trails, religious support activities, Commissary Click-2-Go, COVID-19, teleworking, SHARP and domestic violence awareness initiatives and the Digital Garrison app.

Walker thanked the CR2C Council for their efforts. He asked participants to make him aware of any barriers or challenges.

"One of the goals of this meeting is to provide solutions to address concerns," Walker said. "When we come together in this forum, I'd like to get updates on matters that have been brought up during previous discussions. I want to ensure we're making progress with CR2C. If there are any challenging areas that need my attention, reach out to my staff to get on my calendar so I can elevate these concerns. You have my support."

Redstone leaders showed their commitment for improving the overall health of Redstone members by participating in the council update.

Bill Marks, deputy director of NASA's

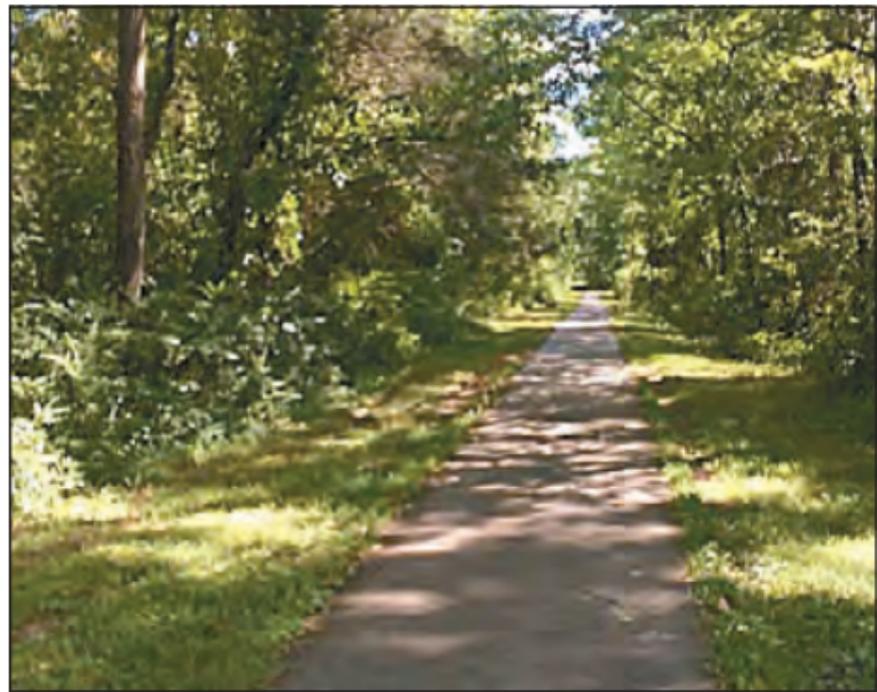
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Resiliency

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Marshall Space Flight Center's Office of Center Operations, said having the CR2C updates are helpful.

“Thanks for including Redstone organizations as part of these updates because it’s been incredibly rewarding to be a part of this discussion,” Marks said. “Some good information was put out today. Having this knowledge allows us to keep our workforce abreast of the resources that are available to them on Redstone Arsenal. This also shows how you’re making wellness a top priority. You’re doing a great job.”



Courtesy photo

Walking trails are among the physical fitness options for the Redstone community.

United Kingdom receives newest of Apache helicopter

By BELINDA BAZINET

Apache Attack Helicopters Project Office

The ongoing delivery of AH-64E Apaches, along with training other materiel and services, to the British Army Air Corps is a critical step in deterring regional threats and strengthening U.S. partner capabilities.

The British Army has been using Apaches since 2005. Adding the AH-64E to their fleet will enable them to maintain its innovative attack helicopter capability. The United Kingdom's Wattisham Flying Station in Suffolk took delivery of the first of pair of an eventual 50 AH-64E Apache gunships in November 2020, kicking off a long-awaited modernization of the British Army's attack helicopter capability. To date, the U.K. has accepted 14 V6 aircraft with two more set for delivery in February.

"The AH-64E Apache is a 21st century attack helicopter that is more lethal, agile, survivable and integrated and will enhance the way the Army fights." Lt. Col. Simon Wilsey, commanding officer of 3 Regiment Army Air Corps, said. "It is a central part of the British Army's warfighting capability.

"What is key to the AH-64E's improved capabilities is its ability to integrate with other ground and air assets, allowing us to share information so that we can find and strike the enemy before our forces are targeted themselves. Everyone in the regiment – aircrew, engineers and ground crew – is proud and excited to be at the forefront of bringing AH-64E into service."

Before the updated Apaches arrived in country, in the spring of 2021 the Program Executive Office for Aviation Apache project office's New Equipment Training team traveled to the U.K. to provide training to pilots and maintainers on the new version aircraft. U.K. crews also trained at Fort Rucker.

The aircraft offers commonality with the U.S. Army and other allied AH-64E fleets, is more reliable and will be easier to maintain.

The upgraded helicopter is equipped with the latest communications, navigation, sensors and the first cognitive decision aiding system. The V6 includes numerous enhancements over its predecessor – improved digital connectivity, Joint Tactical Radio System, more powerful engines, the capability to control unmanned aerial vehicles, new composite rotor blades, and improved landing gear, cruise speed, climb rate and payload capability. These enhancements deliver a significant boost in aircraft performance, and embedded system-level di-



Photo courtesy of Boeing Company

AH-64E version 6 Apache helicopters hover over the Boeing helicopter production facilities at Mesa, Ariz. The latest version of the Apache is being fielded to the British Army Air Corps in the United Kingdom. The U.K. has accepted 14 V6 aircraft to date with two more set for delivery in February.

agnostics increase aircraft availability.

The aircraft also features enhanced performance, joint digital operability, improved survivability, and reduced operating and support costs. The combination of the fire-control radar, radar frequency interferometer, and the advanced navigation and avionics suite provides increased situational awareness, lethality and survivability.

The Modernized Day-Side Assembly improves the ability to find and distinguish targets in full color and Fire Control Radar software and targeting modes to increase range performance and utility in the Maritime domain and assist in counter-unmanned aerial system detection. The helicopters also use Link-16 and Manned-Unmanned Teaming to increase situational awareness on the battlefield, enhance interoperability, and extend the Apache's range.

Whether a new pilot or a seasoned one, operating the AH-64 V6 requires extensive mission equipment and flight training. The U.K. began flying the new aircraft in

the summer, focused on developing instructional techniques to manage aircrew transition. Apache project office's NET team provided critical instruction to ensure operators are prepared to safely operate and take full advantage of the many upgrades in V6 aircraft.

The Apache NET team used a combination of classroom training, Longbow Crew Trainer sessions and training flights to familiarize pilots with the upgraded version. Operator training consists of four different course types: Aircraft Series Transition Course, Aircraft Version upgrade training (Differences), the Maintenance Test Pilot Series Transition Course and the MTP version upgrade training. The courses vary in length from one to five weeks. The training qualifies pilots of existing AH-64E version 4 or earlier models to fly the V6.

Additionally, the NET teams conduct Link 16 unit manager training aircraft refueling training, aviation mission planning system training and secure communication loading/interface training.

Engineer's drive to make difference draws recognition

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

DEVCOM Aviation & Missile Center
Public Affairs

It is not often that you get instructed on how to do the new Army-style push-ups from a general officer.

That was where Rodney Morgan found himself last fall in Yuma, Arizona. Morgan, a mechanical engineer, was new to the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center and didn't quite know what he was getting himself into when volunteering for the two-month assignment. But his "up for anything" personality and a desire to help wherever needed led him to offer to assist in an Army demonstration of emerging and future technology.

That demonstration was Project Convergence 21, the Army's main modernization showcase focusing on the future of warfare with a joint-domain approach. Which translated into: high profile event, high profile guests. Morgan found himself interacting with top members of the Army as he assisted with the implementation of COVID-19 protocols. It turned out to be a natural fit.

"Growing up, I was always a worker bee," Morgan said. "I grew up working



Army photo

Combat Capabilities Development Command Commander Maj. Gen. Miles Brown recognizes DEVCOM AvMC's Rodney Morgan with a Civilian Service Medal at Project Convergence 21 in Yuma, Ariz.

in a family-owned business created by my father and that entrepreneurial work effort rubbed off on me."

Morgan, from Bessemer, went to Alabama A&M University on a football scholarship. After internships with Toyota Motor Manufacturing, NASA and



Photo by Haley Myers

DEVCOM Aviation & Missile Center Director Jeff Langhout, right, presents Rodney Morgan with a certificate of appreciation for his work at Project Convergence 21.

Turner Construction, he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering and accepted a career opportunity with the DEVCOM Aviation & Missile Center in early summer 2021. Starting a new job during the COVID-19 pandemic influenced his decision to volunteer and gain

some in-person experience, even if that experience would not be the typical 9-5 office setup.

"They were up front about what was expected from the workdays — six, sometimes seven days a week, 12-hour days, in the Arizona weather," he said.

During one of those long days, Morgan and DEVCOM Commander Maj. Gen. Miles Brown shared an inspiring conversation.

"He asked me, 'What are you passionate about? What drives you?' I told him that I really want to be able to give back to the community using STEM education," Morgan said. "That's a problem where I'm from, STEM education is a huge area where we are lacking. In college, I had to get up to speed with some of my peers who had STEM education programs and had experienced a lot of cool stuff like computer-aided design. I never had that so I had to work extra hard to catch up and to get ahead. That is a big one for me. And you know, I think the general and I shared that passion."

Brown took note of Morgan's desire

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Engineer

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to serve, awarding him a Commander's Coin and a Civilian Service Medal at the end of PC21, and his office later inviting him to a speakers' panel for Black History Month at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, this month.

Courtesy photo

Rodney Morgan is a mechanical engineer with the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center.

“Rodney’s positive energy and desire to do his best, regardless of the assignment, are infectious. Whether at DEVCOM AvMC or in his community, he strives to make a difference,” Brown said. “He is just one example of the amazing STEM professionals we have across DEVCOM and with teammates like Rodney on our side, I’m confident that the future of Army modernization is in good hands.”

His dedication also caught the notice of AvMC Director Jeff Langhout who presented Morgan with a certificate of appreciation earlier this year.

Morgan’s love for all things science, technology, engineering and math doesn’t just stay at the office. He is close with his family and enjoys spending time with them at family dinners.

“I have a lot of nieces and nephews and little cousins who know when I come in, it’s time to do math – and win money. I bought little dry erase boards and they run up to me saying, ‘Give me my problem!’” Morgan said with a laugh.

“It’s cool to see them excited – they weren’t always like that. They inspire me by how excited they are about school. That’s amazing to me.”



Courtesy photo

Recognizing law enforcement

Redstone Senior Commander Lt. Gen. Donnie Walker, right, visits members of the law enforcement division Feb. 9 to thank them for what they do to keep this community safe. At left is Redstone Police Chief James Lamm.

Equal opportunity advisers play diverse roles

By REBECCA SALLEE

Staff writer

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Redstone Arsenal's four equal opportunity advisers wear a lot of hats.

Some oversee equal opportunity issues for civilian and Army personnel throughout the world. In addition to interacting with commanders and sharing information, they address complaints that are filed regarding issues of discrimination related to sex, race, sexual orientation, national origin and religion.

But they are also in charge of informing members of their respective commands about the many cultural and historical observances that are honored at the Arsenal, and planning events accordingly.

Asked to describe a typical day, all have similar responses.

Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Romo, EOA at Space and Missile Defense Command, said his geographic responsibilities range from Huntsville and Colorado to Alaska and Kwajalein Atoll.

While overseeing the equal opportunity welfare of some 5,000 people, his responsibilities include addressing staff about policies and action plans for the command, conducting unit inspections and providing military training.

"Our job is to be an agent for change in the command," Romo said.

Master Sgt. Elaina Paxton, EOA at Army Materiel Command, said the equal opportunity jobs are one-time assignments typically lasting for 24 to 36 months, with a possible extension of an additional year.

A native of Miami and who has been in the Army for 22 years, Paxton has since obtained a bachelor's in human resources management from Park University.

Her job as EOA, in a nutshell, is "to check the pulse of the command, ensure individuals know they have access" to assistance with discrimination complaints.

As she processes various complaints, "we want to resolve all issues at the lowest level possible," Paxton said, noting that "diversity drives the organization."

Sgt. 1st Class Raul Cabanellas, EOA at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, joined the Army in 2006 and has been in his current position since January 2021.

He frequently conducts "climate surveys," processes complaints, and provides training on a regular basis.

What he likes most about his job is "the opportunity to mentor Soldiers, even outside the normal issues of complaints," said Cabanellas, whose troops are scattered throughout the Southeast.

With COVID cases coming down, he has resumed traveling from post to post, where he interacts with Soldiers and assures them

that their concerns will be handled confidentially and without retaliation.

Sgt. 1st Class Jerian Graham, EOA of the Army Contracting Command, sums up his duties as "assisting the command, answering questions and dealing with project inclusion."

A native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, he has spent almost 16 years in the Army and said his EOA assignment is a career highlight.

"I love the duties and the job that goes with it," he said. "It's important for me to share my experience and make sure the culture is going in a positive direction."

Candidates for the EOA position undergo extensive background checks because "you deal with a lot of very sensitive subjects," Romo said.

When he completes his assignment, he will return to air defense artillery. A native of Melbourne, Florida, he is a graduate of Eastern Florida State College.

"One of the best parts of my job is helping take care of Soldiers," Romo said. "It is one of the most challenging and rewarding positions I've ever had in my career."

Paxton said about one-third of the EOA assignment involves planning and events to honor observances, including those surrounding Veterans Day, the Army's birthday and Hispanic heritage, among others.

The EOAs at Redstone typically take turns planning the events, which lately have been virtual due to COVID-19.

The observances "recognize the achievements of that particular culture and in-



File photo by Jonathan Stinson

Many from across Redstone Arsenal and the local community gather in Bob Jones Auditorium on Feb. 25, 2020, for the Black History Month observance.

crease awareness and understanding of that particular culture," Romo said.

For Black History Month, Graham produced a prerecorded video with participants from ACC throughout the world answering such questions as "What does Black History Month mean to you?" and

"Who are your black role models?"

Paxton said she has learned a lot about the purpose of the Army's EOA program, why it is here and how it can be used.

"Every Soldier or leader should take the time to get more involved in the military EO program," she said.

2022 Team Redstone Observance Schedule

Event	Date	Unit Responsible	Loc	Time	Guest Speaker
MLK Celebration	17 Jan 2022	-----	-----	-----	-----
African American/Black History Month	28 Feb 2022 (Tentative)	ACC	Virtual	Pre-recorded	Paneled Discussion
Women's History Month	Mar 2022	USASAC	Virtual	Pre-recorded	TBD
Holocaust Days of Remembrance	28 Apr 2022	Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center	Virtual	Pre-recorded	TBD
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month	May 2022	2 nd Recruiting Brigade	TBD	TBD	TBD
U.S. Army Heritage Month/U.S. Army Birthday	11 Jun 2022	USAG, RSA	Redstone Gateway	TBD	TBD
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month	Jun 2022	Tentative	TBD	TBD	TBD
Women's Equality Day	26 Aug 2022	AMCOM	TBD	TBD	TBD
Hispanic American Heritage Month	15 Sep – 15 Oct 2022	AMC	TBD	TBD	TBD
American Indian Heritage Month	Nov 2022	MDA	TBD	TBD	TBD



Hiring

Continued from page 1

joining our great AMC team,” Wyche said.

Much of the pre-BEYA recruiting has been managed by Communications-Electronics Command, a major subordinate command that is historically AMC’s largest employer of BEYA recruits. Under CECOM’s leadership, AMC headquarters along with its other nine major subordinate commands have implemented an expanded communications plan with college career counselors and students to increase awareness and, consequently, participation in this year’s event.

“The entire AMC enterprise has really come together to get us where we are today,” CECOM Commander Maj Gen. Robert Edmondson said. “It’s huge to have set the conditions for the work that’s about to begin. We have postured ourselves differently so we can better handle hiring at a faster pace.”

This year’s BEYA includes the in-person awards and mentoring programs at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.; and a Digital Twin Experience, which offers much of the same opportunities virtually.

The BEYA website (<https://intouch.ccgmag.com/mpage/beya-home>) is designed with young college graduates in mind, said Roy Wallace, assistant deputy chief of staff for Army Human Resources (G-1).

“This is exactly where we need to be. We have to meet these young people where they live and where they get their information,” Wallace said.

College students and professionals visiting the AMC virtual booth during BEYA will have access to not only hiring personnel, but also to command leaders and mentors who are interested in the development of young talent. The AMC booth will provide access to information on the entire AMC enterprise.

“I do believe you’ve met the commanding general’s intent for BEYA 2022,” Lisha Adams, AMC’s executive deputy to the commanding general and it’s most senior civilian employee, told AMC’s BEYA working group. “The conditions are set for a very successful event.”

BEYA went fully virtual in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In doing so, organizers realized one huge benefit of a virtual career fair: more college students and young professionals can participate, relying on their at-home technology to make the connection. This year, BEYA is continuing with a virtual career fair to ensure large

numbers of participation.

“The virtual BEYA conference made attendance much easier and made me curious to experience a conference online,” said 2021 BEYA hiree Henry Hemphill, who now works for AMC’s Aviation and Missile Command.

“I tuned in and had a direct line to mentors who shared their experiences working as Department of Defense civilians. They opened my eyes to all the career opportunities.”

Working as a logistics manager for AMCOM has provided Hemphill with a promising career, challenging problems to solve for the Army and the ability to support the nation’s Soldiers, he said, providing this former Soldier with a high level of job satisfaction.

“I work on a vast array of military programs involving both Army aviation and missile systems,” Hemphill said. “It was the best professional decision I’ve ever made. The Army allowed me to leverage my wealth of acquisition knowledge and experience as I grew into my job. It has been an exciting assignment with plenty of challenges and responsibilities. Thanks to BEYA for pushing my career forward and helping me find a place where I can contribute professionally.”

Hiring, developing and retaining a diverse, qualified workforce has a positive impact throughout the AMC enterprise, making it more capable, resilient and knowledgeable in responding to Soldier equipment and sustainment needs, Wyche said. AMC’s continued and future success relies on a workforce of professionals who can respond to needs across the Army’s and command’s priorities.

Once AMC recruits new employees, the focus shifts to development and retention, ensuring employees have the option to turn their new job into a lifelong career.

“We want to attract, recruit and hire at BEYA, and bring these young professionals into our great workforce, and then educate, train and prepare them to become future leaders,” said Paula Taylor, director of AMC’s Office of Diversity and Leadership.

“These young professionals are critical to building AMC diversity and also to building future capability across the AMC enterprise.”

The BEYA conference also includes an awards programs for those excelling in the STEM fields. This year, two AMC employees will be recognized in the Modern Day Technology Leaders category for their workplace contributions in STEM fields. Feleliah Berry, information technology specialist, and Robert T. Brooks, cybersecurity engineer, both working for CECOM’s U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command, will be recognized virtually during the Technology Recognition Event, Feb. 18.

Community

Gateway's field of dreams continues to grow

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

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As the economy staggered in the early days, weeks and months of the pandemic, the way Americans went “to the office” changed.

Teleworking became the new norm and, in a lot of cases, it still is the norm. Office building developers and owners were staring down the barrel of a gun that contained empty offices.

Officials with Corporate Office Properties Trust, the developers behind Redstone Gateway, were facing the same challenges and questions.

Are office buildings a thing of the past? Will workers now stay home with their laptops?

“In 2020 and early '21, we thought people were taking a second look (at office projects),” said James Lomax, director of asset management and leasing for COPT. “We’re very grateful that KBR (Government Solutions) and Northrop Grumman have made a commitment to office space during the pandemic.”

Those two companies are the latest to join the growing family at the sprawling 468-acre park.

“As our capabilities in aerospace engineering, asset management and space-flight operations continue to evolve and grow, maintaining offices in close proximity to both existing and future customers is the right thing to do,” KBR President Byron Bright said.

“We’ve been looking at moving for the last one to two years,” said Lisa Brown, Northrop Grumman’s vice president of the company’s Missile Defense Solutions Business Unit and program manager for the Next Generation Interceptor. “There’s no better place to do it than right on the doorstep of your customer.”

“And it’s a way to further our commitment to Huntsville not just as a business leader — but also as stronger community stewards and active members in the Rocket City.”

And it all began about 10 years ago in an empty field outside Gate 9.

“It was a hayfield, and the Army was getting \$3,000 a year to lease it,” Lomax said. “With the Enhanced Use Lease, we’re providing \$1 million a year to the government for Redstone Arsenal improvement projects.

“It works out for both.”

The land is owned by the U.S. government and is under a long-term master

lease to COPT and its partner Jim Wilson & Associates.

Jake Roth, chief of master planning in the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works, said the lease is beneficial to Redstone Arsenal.

“We are proud of the growth and development by our Enhanced Use Lease development team and appreciate the support we receive from USACE Mobile District and partnership with the City of Huntsville to make this exciting project a reality,” he said. “We feel that leasing these 468 acres is the best use of land for the Army and provides for maximum financial value as well as proximity to many of our DOD partners and even lease space in a secure environment for tenant agencies awaiting future project funding for new facilities on Redstone Arsenal.”

The first major tenant was Boeing, whose buildings are visible from I-565. As companies do before any move or investment, Boeing dedicated a significant amount of time analyzing the location and proposed facilities, said Ramon Sanchez, Boeing Missile Systems Operations and Huntsville Site director.

In the end, the opportunity to be so close to its customers proved to be a deciding factor.

“This co-location of people and programs enabled more collaboration and better communication for our teammates,” Sanchez said. “Additionally, Boeing could not pass up the opportunity to be located outside the main entrance of the Redstone Arsenal, where many Boeing customers are located.

“In the end, the Gateway development offered an excellent opportunity for the company to consolidate a number of smaller locations, scattered across Huntsville, onto a single campus.”

And now, 10 years later, Sanchez said it has been a good move for Boeing’s local operations.

“The close proximity to Boeing customers has facilitated collaboration as we work together on critical capabilities for the warfighter,” he said. “It has also allowed Boeing teams to provide in-person support, thus improving the relationship with Boeing customers.

“Boeing looks forward to continuing to be a part of and investing in the Huntsville community.”

One of the first developers to come on board was Robins & Morton. And, what has developed since, was a pleasant surprise to the company.



Photo by Erin Elise

Employees helped Northrop Grumman with input into the design of its buildings at Redstone Gateway.



Photo by Erin Elise

Yulista is the largest facility in Redstone Gateway with 365,000 square feet.

“Ten years ago, when we began our first project for Corporate Office Properties Trust at Redstone Gateway, we couldn’t have imagined the boom that Huntsville would see in the coming decade,” Robins & Morton Senior Project Manager Stephen Flournoy said. “As an Alabama-based construction firm with a permanent location in Huntsville, we were thrilled to begin work within a planned development that would contribute to the economic growth of the city.

“It’s been amazing seeing Redstone Gateway expand and attract world-class tenants such as Northrop Grumman and we’re grateful that our client and partner, COPT, continues to trust us to deliver their facilities.”

The Northrop Grumman Redstone Gateway campus will house about 1,100 employees in two five-story buildings and is expected to open this fall.

Brown said one of the buildings will

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Signal officer serves his tour as war winds down

By SKIP VAUGHN

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John Patch grew up around military people. The Seattle native used to bag groceries in the commissary at Paine Air Force Base.

He went to the University of Washington and entered Army ROTC.

“University of Washington was a land grant college. They required one year of military training,” the retired lieutenant colonel recalled. “And so after the first year, I got enthusiastic about the program. So I did extracurricular things to kind of round out the military education.”

He became the distinguished military graduate in 1969 and received his bachelor’s in business. The Vietnam War was winding in down and he was eager to go.

The signal officer was a 25-year-old first lieutenant when he went to Vietnam in June 1970. He served with the 1st Signal Brigade, which was responsible for communications throughout Vietnam.

Patch spent five months as the Headquarters & Headquarters Company commander at Can Tho. Promoted to

Vietnam revisited *Part 357 in series*

captain, he spent the last seven months of his yearlong tour as aide-de-camp to the brigade commander in Long Binh.

“The war was winding down so it was fairly quiet,” he said. “Vietnamization was going on where they were turning all the activity over to the Vietnamese army.”

He said he did not see combat and the tour was relatively uneventful. But after a month on an Army airfield in Can Tho, one of the infrequent mortar attacks put a mortar through the roof of the mess hall or dining facility. It made a hole in the mess hall but no one was injured. It happened one evening in July 1970.

“I wouldn’t call that action. That was an aside,” Patch said.

For his Vietnam service, he received the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal. He also received the Air Medal for the time he spent in a helicop-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

John Patch, a retired lieutenant colonel, is in his 10th year as a volunteer at the Redstone Tax Center.

ter with Maj. Gen. Hugh Foster, the brigade commander.

Patch returned to the U.S. and landed at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, where he served as an advanced individual training company commander. He came

to Redstone Arsenal in 1987, worked two years in procurement and then at the Multiple Launch Rocket System Project Office his last year. He retired in June 1990 as acting product manager for the Search and Destroy Armor Munition at MLRS. The lieutenant colonel finished with 21 years of service.

He became a procurement specialist for Boeing in 1990 and retired in 2012.

The Monrovia resident and his wife of 50 years, Peggy, have two daughters and four grandchildren. Their oldest, Michele Zerbowski, resides in Atlanta; and Jennifer Brent lives in Birmingham.

Patch, 77, has served as a volunteer at the Redstone Tax Center for 10 years. He has a 10% disability rating from Veterans Affairs because of hearing loss.

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

“There’s two sides to the Vietnam War,” he said. “Those who supported it, and those that didn’t. I was a career officer so I supported it.”

Editor’s note: This is the 357th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.



Photo by Erin Elise

Boeing has been a tenant in Redstone Gateway since it opened in 2013.

Gateway

Continued from page 19

be for administration and operations but will include a 300-seat wellness gym and a cafeteria. The other will be for primarily research and development facilities, along with program offices and laboratories.

She said employees also provided input into the design of the buildings.

“It’s rare to start with a clean sheet of paper,” Brown said. “Why not have the employees have a hand in helping with the design?”

“It felt good to have the employees help.”

Yulista will celebrate its first anniversary at Redstone Gateway next month.

“We’ve worked with COPT since early 2018 to jointly develop a solution that could consolidate all of our local operations, except aviation which remains in Meridianville at the Huntsville Executive Airport, into one campus,” said Rich Montecalvo, Yulista’s director of Facility & Hangar Operations. “We designed and developed three distinct facilities that would replace all of our outliers and house our manufacturing and integration, warehousing and engineering, logistics and program management as well as our Yulista Holding headquarters. This culminated into three facilities with about 365,000 square feet, making us the largest tenant currently residing at the Redstone Gateway.”

The Yulista campus supports about 800 employees in the three buildings. The first, a 133,000-square-foot facility housing fabrication and integration was completed in May 2020; a 126,000-square-foot warehouse and distribution center was completed that July; the final addi-

tion, a four-story, 105,000-square-foot office building with conference center and cafe, was completed in March 2021.

“This consolidates our operations to gain efficiencies through proximity, while bringing us much closer to some of our most important customers, the U.S. Army as well as other government agencies we serve at Redstone Arsenal,” Montecalvo said.

Bailey Harris Construction is building a 182,000-square-foot project which will give its tenant a unique perspective along the west shore of Redstone Gateway’s six-acre lake. The lake is one of the amenities that has attracted companies to the park. There are a walking trail, three restaurants, a day care center and a hotel – for now with a second hotel to be announced – all open to the public.

“There’s exciting potential at Redstone Gateway as Huntsville continues to grow as a leader in aerospace, defense, technology, manufacturing and so much more,” Flournoy of Robins & Morton said.

“The Gateway area continues to grow with a number of developments either underway or recently completed,” Boeing’s Sanchez said.

Lomax said 100 Secure Gateway – “our secure campus behind the gate” – is coming along, as well. COPT recently executed a 20-year lease with the government for a 206,000-square-foot development in the secure campus at Redstone Gateway. Tenants will include the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, FBI, and Corps of Engineers-Huntsville. The PEO office will enable the agency to have its entire staff on post, ending the need for the off-post facility on Wynn Drive.

“It’s been rockin’ and rollin’,” Lomax said. “We’ve got a lot under development right now.

“The market itself is great.”

Monthly virtual town halls post information

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

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The bugle sounds of “Reveille” and “Taps” may echo through Redstone Arsenal once again.

At Thursday’s monthly Facebook Live Town Hall meeting, Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor responded to a question about the longtime tradition begin reinstated. The bugle sound was halted prior to the pandemic and due to safety issues with the four-lane roads –

some motorists would stop while others did not for the bugle playing.

“We’ve had some near-misses,” Mellor said. “Safety is always a priority.

“But this is a military installation; this is something we will look into.”

Mellor also stressed the importance of the town hall meetings for getting information.

“This is your Facebook Town Hall,” he said. “Send us recommendations on people you want to hear talk; let us know.”

Emptying the notebook from the

meeting:

While Popeye’s is still closed Sundays due to staffing issues, Burger King is open for breakfast from 6-10 a.m. daily.

Applications are being accepted for jobs with the Exchange; they start at \$15 per hour. Visit applymyexchange.com. “We have lots of positions with a lot of benefits,” Sheila Enderle, Exchange general manager, said.

Supply chain issues are still impacting the Commissary, causing some products to be unavailable for customers.

In a Q&A segment, the commander

To see more from this month’s Town Hall, watch video on www.redstonerocket.com

said families of badged contractors can use the bowling center and other recreation facilities if they have a rec badge. The family members can apply for the free badges at the One Stop.

Speaking of the One Stop, there will be three GS positions and a contractor’s job opening soon. Visit usajobs.com.

Lifeguards needed for reopening the Aquatics Center

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

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An announcement from the monthly Facebook Live Town Hall meeting held Thursday promises to make a splash around here.

“We’ve heard you,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said. “We are going to open up the Aquatics Center.”

The commander said he is hopeful to open the facility around April 1 but it is contingent on a problem facing businesses and facilities, alike – staffing.

The pool is having a hard time finding qualified lifeguards, he said. “If you know somebody, we would love to have them.”

Mellor also said there are plans for improvements at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area, on the Tennessee River. “We’re going to throw some money at that,” he said.

A sand volleyball court is also in the works along with refitting and improvements to the ballfields.

“We’re going to take a hard look at the ballfields and put in a sand volleyball court,” he said.

MWR Marketing Manager Stephanie Stone said Little League registration is ongoing for youngsters ages 5-13. She said the cost is \$60 and includes a uniform. For information, visit redstonemwr.com.

Housing residents’ survey results addressed

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

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Time is running out to complete the annual housing survey. Garrison Housing Director Ray Zapata urged residents to turn in their survey by the Feb. 24 deadline. So far, more than 40% of the residents have completed the survey, he said.

“We’ve had 135 responses for 41 percent; last year it was 46.6 percent,” he said during the Garrison’s monthly Facebook Live Town Hall held Thursday. “We need 30 more surveys for 50 percent – well above the Army housing average.”

The deadline to return the surveys is Feb. 24; they are strictly confidential and take about 10 minutes.

“We take these surveys very seriously,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said.

Zapata said housing inspectors conduct weekly drive-throughs and residents should “keep their eyes open for a white Ford Fusion or a silver Chevy Eldorado pickup” driven by the inspectors.

He said if residents are in immediate need of an inspector, to call 313-4408 or 842-3712.

Brittany Morrison, the community director, said some residents had issues with the mail service and she is trying to get a dedicated route manager with the Postal Service.

In a comment about trash pickup, Morrison said the waste management company had personnel and vehicle issues and those were being addressed.

In other issues, Zapata responded to complaints about speeding in the neighborhoods.

There was a request for speed bumps on Vincent Drive as residents are concerned about speeding on their street. Zapata said, “Post police have indicated they’ll step up their watch.”

He also said the Directorate of Public Works will be replacing a speed limit sign on Columbia Center: “You should see action soon.”

Answering a comment about cleaning up the forest area and trails, Zapata said cleanup activities in the forest are ongoing and the trails are mowed at 21-day intervals during the growing season.



Residents along Vincent Drive have asked for speed bumps.

Photo by Erin Elise

Tips provided on thriving through life's challenges

By REBECCA SALLEE

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With everything going on in the world today, we can all use a little more resilience.

A 13-part weekly series on the topic will take place virtually starting in March and is open to anyone who wants to hone their life skills.

Valerie Francis, health promotion program manager and master resilience trainer at the Command Surgeon's Office, Army Materiel Command, said the virtual series follows the skills outlined by the Army in its resilience training.

Titled "How to Thrive During Life's Challenges: Charting Your Course to Improve Performance and Resilience," the class will be offered online from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays starting March 3.

It's the second iteration of a series that started in October and ran through January, Francis said.

"Although the content is the same, we tailored the slides and case studies to be appealing for both military and civilian personnel," she said, noting that the upcoming series should apply to everyone.

Taught by a team of six master resilience

trainers at Redstone Arsenal and Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois, the training stemmed from a discussion about "how to provide employees tools and resources to address stress, anxiety and uncertainty" as they transitioned back to in-person work.

Variants of COVID-19 still haven't allowed that transition for many people, but the need for coping skills and resilience remain more necessary than ever, Francis said.

The teachers of each class in the series represent headquarters AMC, Army Sustainment Command, Army Contracting Command, Security Assistance Command and the Installation Management Command. Each have obtained certification from the Army's two-week course and share a variety of roles and jobs, from wellness to human resources and family advocacy.

Keven Hutchinson, master resilience trainer and wellness coordinator at the Security Assistance Command, will lead three of the 13 classes, one on gratitude, one on detecting mental "icebergs," and a third on how to respond appropriately to other people's good news.

"Good news is a gift; handle it with care," the latter class, offers tips on building connections and maintaining relationships, Hutchinson said. "When a person shares their joy, they chose you to share that gift."

But it's instinctual to sometimes question someone else's good or exciting news. As an example, he said, his daughter recently told him she was planning a beach vacation. Instead of congratulating her and acknowledging her excitement, he asked if she could afford it.

"I was being a joy thief," he said. "I was actively destroying the news she brought me."

It would have been better to share his daughter's joy, and inquire about her budget another time, he said.

Tim Rolfe, family advocacy program manager at Army Community Service, will teach classes on two topics he said are closely related, using your mind to boost performance, and escaping "thinking traps."

The first class helps participants "identify how activating events are not what produces our outcomes or consequences," Rolfe said.

For example, you may have an important presentation to make one morning, when suddenly your computer crashes. Your immediate thought may be of repercussions, from your manager getting angry with you to actually getting fired.

In reality, you should think logically about how to handle the situation rather than assuming the worst and jumping to conclusions.

"Try to slow down the thinking process; think more positive thoughts," Rolfe said.

"(Negative) thoughts can be debilitating."

Patricia Hill, a human resources specialist at Army Contracting Command, will teach a class called "Get Your Head Back in the Game," which she said is best summarized as skills for "real-time resilience."

When things go wrong and you are dropped a "counterproductive bomb," Hill said, her class will teach skills to "fight back and give it the 'one-two punch.'"

Another class on effective communications is a primer on dealing with conflict.

"You're not arrogant, not passive, not cocky," she said. "You're giving your thoughts in a straightforward way. What has missed the mark?"

Resolving conflict may require a timeline or agreement on a reasonable deadline to fix a problem.

"My idea of reasonable may not be your idea of reasonable," Hill said, adding that resilience training for civilians at Redstone "benefits the team as a whole."

The date of each class, its teacher, and a brief synopsis is provided in the graphic that accompanies this article, along with information on how to access the classes online or by telephone.

For more information, email Francis at valerie.l.francis.civ@army.mil or call 509-3137.

Black History Month tribute: Exhibit to honor troops

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

bud.mclaughlin@theredstonerocket.com

In late September 1864, just a few miles north of Athens, a bloody battle took place when Confederate troops led by Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked a Union fortification guarding the train trestle crossing Sulphur Creek.

The bridge was on a vital Union supply line connecting Nashville and Chattanooga.

Among the nearly 1,000 Union troops was the 106th United States Colored Infantry. The unit was organized in Decatur and mustered in March 31, 1864. Their primary task was guarding railroads and trestles.

"This was the first African American unit formed inside the state," Mark Hubbs, commander of Pvt. Richard Taylor Camp No. 53, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, said. "The hope was they would replace the white regiments by guarding the railroads and trestles.

"Not many of the black regiments saw action."

On that September day, the Union troops were decimated by artillery and lost about 200 men before surrendering. While the white Soldiers who surrendered were sent to prison camps, the members of the 106th who survived the battle – which was the bloodiest of the war in north Alabama – were forced back into slavery.

"They were sent to Mobile, either by train or marched to help build earthworks there," said Hubbs, an Army veteran and former historian for the Space and Missile Defense Command.

As part of Black History Month, the Pvt. Richard Taylor Camp is sponsoring an exhibit at the Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives in Athens. The exhibit will include a life-size mannequin, dressed and equipped like a Soldier of the 106th U.S. Colored Infantry.

"I'm looking for a meaningful exhibit," Hubbs said. "We're going to make him the highest rank possible for a USCT."

Hubbs said the camp is raising funds for the exhibit which will become the permanent property of the museum. The goal for this project is \$4,000. Any remaining funds from this effort will go toward the identification and care of the graves of Union Soldiers in North Alabama.

"Our exhibit will tell the untold story of the 106th USCI, and the 180,000 men of the United States Colored Troops who fought and bled for the Union and to end the institution of slavery," Hubbs said. "We've gotten good donations, some from out-of-state. We're hoping to capture the interest of descendants of these Soldiers who may be here."

The camp is named after Pvt. Richard Taylor, a native of Madison County who received the Medal of Honor in the Civil War as a Union Soldier.

"He was born and raised here and, around 1860, went to Illinois to be a mechanic (in a factory)," Hubbs said. "When the war broke out, he joined the 19th Indiana and fought in the Battle of Cedar Creek (Virginia)."

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Pvt. Richard Taylor Camp are 501c3 nonprofit organizations. All donations are tax deductible.

For information, visit the camp's website at <https://taylorcamp53suvw.webstarts.com>; the organization at suvw.org and the museum at www.alabamaveteransmuseum.com.

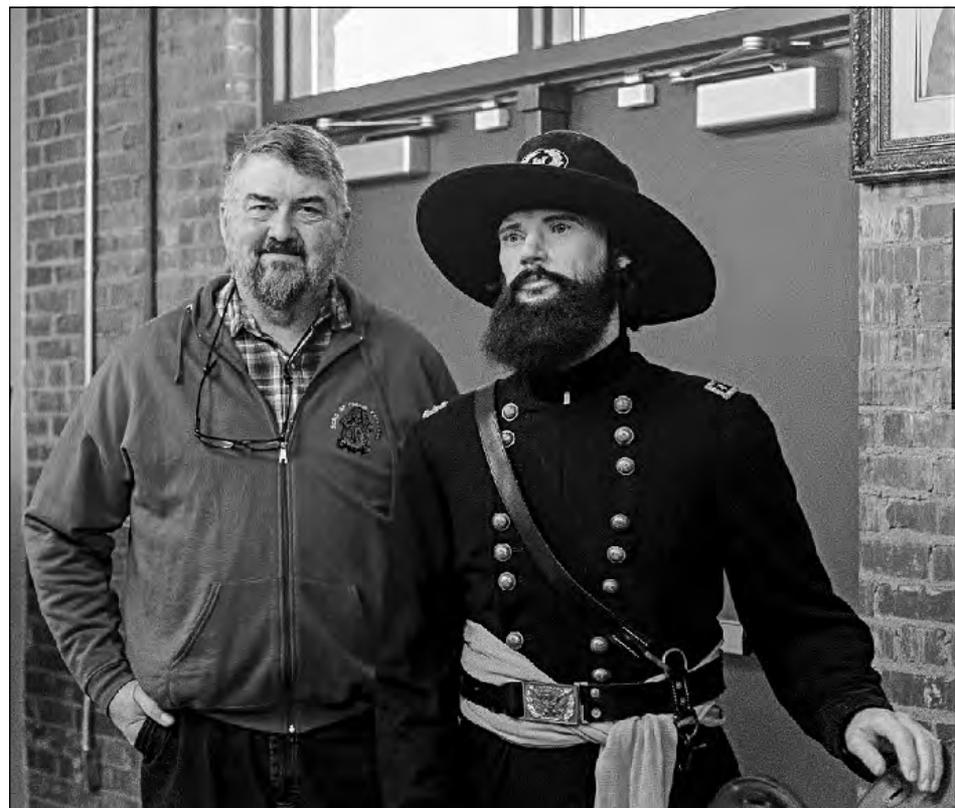


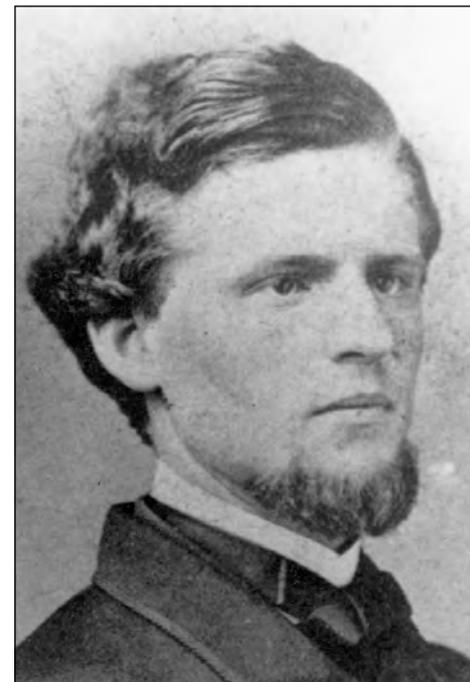
Photo by Erin Elise

Mark Hubbs, commander of Pvt. Richard Taylor Camp No. 53, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, stands next to a replica of James B. McPherson who was a Union officer in the Civil War. It is part of the Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives in Athens.



Courtesy photo

This is a vintage picture of a Soldier of the United States Colored Infantry during the Civil War.



Courtesy photo

Pvt. Richard Taylor, a native of Madison County, received the Medal of Honor in the Civil War as a Union Soldier.

Photo Booth

By Skip Vaughn



What is your favorite pastime?

“Relaxing and watching movies. That’s something I enjoy doing but I don’t get to do it a lot.” – **Greg Knight, logistics management specialist for Product Director, Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment**

DAU Corner

CONNECT Live!

Thursday, 02/17/2022

Thursday, 02/24/2022

10:30 A.M. CST

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

CONNECT Live is where contracting professionals learn from each other. Ask questions, share best practices, discover valuable tools & resources, and so much more. Nothing is off limits. Best of all, it is a place where contracting professionals can connect with each other, and leverage our collective contracting knowledge.

COR Office Hours

Tuesday, 02/22/2022

10:45 A.M. CST

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

DAU hosts the virtual COR Office Hours every Tuesday starting at 11:45 a.m. ET for one hour. These live virtual office hours were created for the DoD COR community, which not only includes CORs, but also program managers, contract specialists, contracting officers and requiring activities who manage CORs. The idea is to connect people, ideas, resources and information in this community together.

DAU's Virtual Acquisition Update - South Region Hosted Virtual Event

“Acquisition 2022: Embracing the Digital Environment”

February 23-24, 2022

Event is open to Government, Contractor, and Industry Workforces

<https://www.dau.edu/event/2022-Acquisition-Update>

Registration closes on
February 17th

Developer selected for rocket to sample Mars surface

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA has awarded a contract to Lockheed Martin Space of Littleton, Colorado, to build the Mars Ascent Vehicle, a small, lightweight rocket to launch rock, sediment, and atmospheric samples from the surface of the Red Planet.

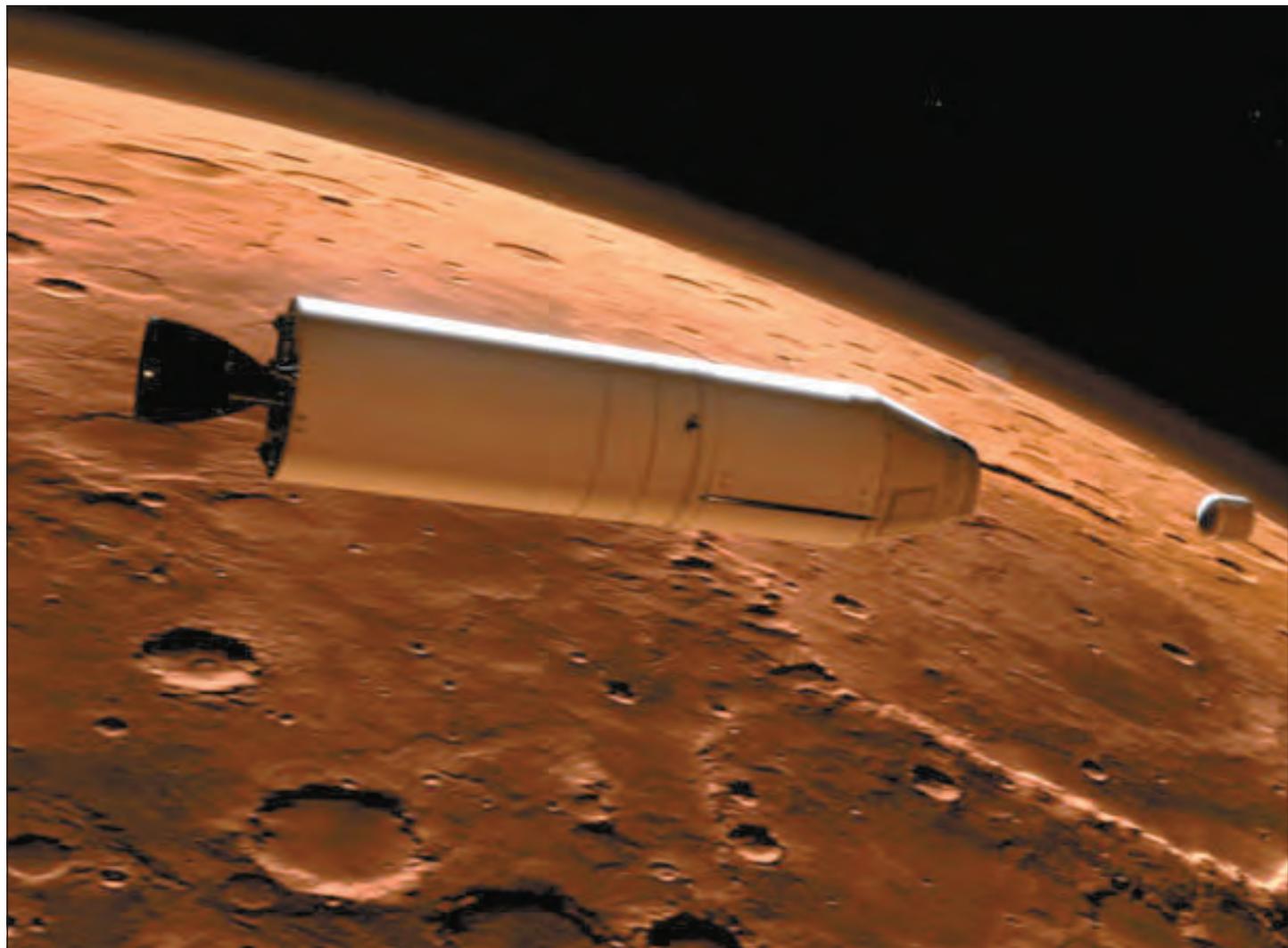
The award brings NASA a step closer to the first robotic round trip to bring samples safely to Earth through the Mars Sample Return Program.

“This groundbreaking endeavor is destined to inspire the world when the first robotic round-trip mission retrieves a sample from another planet – a significant step that will ultimately help send the first astronauts to Mars,” NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said. “America’s investment in our Mars Sample Return Program will fulfill a top priority planetary science goal and demonstrate our commitment to global partnerships, ensuring NASA remains a leader in exploration and discovery.”

Set to become the first rocket fired off another planet, the MAV is a crucial part of a campaign to retrieve samples collected by NASA’s Perseverance rover and deliver them to Earth for advanced study. NASA’s Sample Retrieval Lander, another important part of the campaign, would carry the MAV to Mars’ surface, landing near or in Jezero Crater to gather the samples cached by Perseverance. The samples would be returned to the lander, which would serve as the launch platform for the MAV. With the sample container secured, the MAV would then launch.

Once it reaches Mars orbit, the container would be captured by a European Space Agency Earth Return Orbiter spacecraft outfitted with NASA’s Capture, Containment, and Return System payload. The spacecraft would bring the samples to Earth safely and securely in the early- to mid-2030s.

“Committing to the Mars Ascent Vehicle represents an early and concrete step to hammer out the details of this ambitious project not just to land on Mars, but to take off from it,” Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator for science at NASA headquarters, said. “We are nearing the end of the conceptual phase for this Mars Sample Return mission, and the pieces are coming together to bring home the first samples from another planet. Once on Earth, they can



This is an illustration of the Mars Ascent Vehicle.

NASA graphic

be studied by state-of-the-art tools too complex to transport into space.”

Returning a sample is complicated, and the MAV faces some complex development challenges. It must be robust enough to withstand the harsh Mars environment and adaptable enough to work with multiple spacecraft. It also must be small enough to fit inside the Sample Retrieval Lander. The Sample Retrieval Lander is planned for launch no earlier than 2026 from NASA’s Kennedy Space Center.

Lockheed Martin Space will provide multiple MAV test units and a flight unit. Work under the contract includes designing, developing, testing, and evaluating the integrated MAV system, and

designing and developing of the rocket’s ground support equipment.

The cost-plus-fixed-fee Mars Ascent Vehicle Integrated System contract has a potential value of \$194 million. The performance period begins no later than Feb. 25 and will extend six years.

NASA’s Mars Sample Return Campaign promises to revolutionize understanding of Mars by bringing scientifically selected samples for study using the most sophisticated instruments around the world. The campaign would fulfill a solar system exploration goal, a high priority since the 1970s and in the last two National Academy of Sciences Planetary Decadal Surveys.

The samples collected by Perseverance

during its exploration of an ancient river delta are thought to present the best opportunity to reveal the early evolution of Mars, including the potential for life.

Marshall Space Flight Center is responsible for overall management of the MAV as the agency continues to build on a history of successful industry partnerships for planetary missions. While leveraging the experience of its commercial partners, Marshall will produce the flight software and guidance, navigation, and control subsystems in-house based on similar, recent work. This provides the project with the most beneficial blend of experience and capability. Marshall’s Angie Jackman is the MAV project manager.

NASA prepares to join parts for Artemis II core stage

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Technicians are preparing to connect two major parts of the Space Launch System rocket's Artemis II core stage. On Jan. 30, technicians moved the largest part of the stage, the 130-foot liquid hydrogen tank, to the vertical assembly area at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility, in New Orleans, where it will be prepared for joining with the 66-foot forward assembly.

The forward assembly comprised of the joined forward skirt, intertank, and liquid oxygen tank completed construction and was transported to the final assembly area inside the factory Jan. 10. Technicians will move the liquid hydrogen tank back to this final assembly where Boeing, the lead core stage contractor, will join the two structures. This will complete construction of most of the core stage that will launch the first crew on the Artemis II mission.

Only the engine section, the fifth piece of the stage, will need to be added to complete the core stage. The engine section is one of the most complex parts of the stage. It includes the main propulsion system that connects to the four RS-25 engines that are built by Aerojet Rocketdyne and are assembled and stored at their facility at NASA's Stennis Space Center, near Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. The engines will be the last items installed on the stage. During launch, more than 700,000 gallons of propellant flows from the core stage tanks to the engines that produce more than 2 million pounds of thrust to help launch the SLS rocket.

The core stage serves as the backbone of the rocket, supporting the weight of the payload, upper stage, and Orion crew vehicle, as well as the thrust of its four RS-25 engines and two five-segment solid rocket boosters attached to the engine and intertank sections. The Artemis II mission will help NASA prepare for later Artemis missions that will enable the first woman and first person of color to land on the Moon. Marshall manages the Space Launch System Program.



NASA photo by Jared Lyons

The SLS liquid hydrogen tank for the Artemis II mission is moved to Michoud's vertical assembly area Jan. 30.

Space agency does second RS-25 engine test of year

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA conducted its second RS-25 engine hot fire test of the new year Feb. 8 on the Fred Haise Test Stand at Stennis Space Center, near Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. The test was the third hot fire in the latest test series that began in mid-December.

NASA is testing RS-25 engines to help power the agency's Space Launch System rocket on future deep space missions. Four RS-25 engines will generate a combined 2 million pounds of thrust to power SLS's ascent. Each test in the current series is providing valuable operational data to NASA's lead contractor, Aerojet Rocketdyne, on a variety of new components manufactured with state-of-the-art fabrication techniques as the company begins production of new RS-25 engines.

The RS-25 engines for the first four SLS flights are upgraded space shuttle main engines and have completed certification testing. NASA will use the data from the current test series to enhance production of new RS-25 engines and components for use on subsequent SLS missions. The testing is part of NASA's and Aerojet Rocketdyne's effort to use advanced manufacturing methods to significantly reduce the cost and time needed to build new engines.

For the Feb. 3 test, engineers fired the RS-25 developmental engine for a full duration of about 8 1/2 minutes (500 seconds), the same amount of time the engines must operate to help send SLS to space. Operators also fired the engine up to 111% of its original power level, the same level needed during SLS launch.

SLS will be the world's most powerful rocket and the only one capable of sending the agency's Orion spacecraft, astronauts, and supplies to the Moon in a single mission. Initial SLS missions will send Orion to the Moon as part of NASA's Artemis program, including the Artemis I uncrewed test flight this year that will pave the way for future flights with astronauts to explore the lunar surface and prepare for missions to Mars. Artemis missions also will land the first woman and first person of color on the lunar surface. SLS and Orion, along with the commercial human landing system and the Gateway outpost in orbit around the Moon, are NASA's backbone for deep space exploration.

RS-25 tests at Stennis are conducted by a combined team of NASA, Aerojet Rocketdyne, and Syncom Space Services operators. Syncom Space Services is the prime contractor for Stennis facilities and operations.

Marshall manages the Space Launch System Program.



NASA photo

NASA conducts an RS-25 engine hot fire test Feb. 8 on the Fred Haise Test Stand at Stennis.

By the numbers: Jimi Hendrix songs

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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1. Purple Haze
2. Foxy Lady
3. All Along the Watchtower
4. Star Spangled Banner
5. Hey Joe
6. Voodoo Chile
7. Machine Gun
8. Ezy Rider
9. Freedom
10. Angel

Sports

Veterans bond through adversity, bowl to victory

By TIM HANSON

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

A Security Assistance Command employee joined other veterans to take top honors in the annual Military Bowling Championships. Team Turbo claimed first place in the Retired Military Division at the event in Las Vegas, Jan. 21.

The team consisted of three retired Air Force and three retired Army service members, including USASAC's liaison to U.S. Central Command Scott Huther.

Huther moved from Redstone Arsenal, where he was USASAC's branch chief for its AFRICOM Directorate, to Tampa, Florida, to serve as USASAC's liaison to U.S. Central Command. He said bowling has provided a way to maintain relationships and continue the camaraderie he experienced during his military service.

"I really enjoy bowling," Huther said. "You get to meet people, see friends and travel. My teammates and I became friends through bowling military championships while in the service."

Team Turbo's Paul Rumbaugh, Jerry Brewster, Dave Axon, Troy Kiser, Gary Livingston and Huther have taken that friendship and turned it into a winning combination, claiming the All-Events Championships four of the last six years at the annual Military Bowling Championships.

Success in the lanes isn't anything new for Huther. He was an All-Army champion in 1991, nine-time qualifier for the Team USA National Finals, and a member of the Alabama State Bowling Hall of Fame. He has bowled 30 perfect games, including back-to-back 300 games twice.

"I've had many bowling accomplishments over the years, but nothing compared to this year's military championships in Las Vegas," Huther said. "The scoreboard showed our team in second place of 102 teams with only two frames remaining in the tournament. We all knew what we needed to do in order to win and all six bowlers struck out. It wasn't until the last ball was thrown the scoreboard changed from second to first place and we knew Team Turbo was the 2022 military retired all-events champion."

Along with earning the all-events championship, Turbo's Axon walked away with the individual all-events crown.



From left, Team Turbo's Gary Livingston, Dave Axon, Paul Rumbaugh, Troy Kiser, Jerry Brewster and Scott Huther won the 2022 Military Retired All-Events Championship in Las Vegas, Jan. 21. The event hosted over 300 six-person teams and nearly 2,000 bowlers.

Courtesy photo

"Winning Team, Team All-Events and Individual All-Events put a warmth in my heart," Axon said. "Our adversity only led to strength! With all the accomplishments our team has had throughout the years, this one week's event showed how six people became one. This is one year I will never forget."

The adversity Axon spoke of for this year's championship was an emotional one for Team Turbo, with Rumbaugh recently losing his wife and Huther and Axon losing their mothers just days before the event.

"The Las Vegas military bowling

championship trip was something that my mother shared with me many times over the years," Huther said. "It was tough being there without her and was worse that I could not call her after we won to share the great news. Accomplishing this with great friends, who many had gone through recent tragedy will rank up with anything else I have ever accomplished in bowling."

Axon's mother was his inspiration, the reason he started bowling many years ago.

"It was very hard for me to compete, but each and every one of my teammates

provided comfort and the inspiration to carry on!" Axon said. "This made me stronger and more focused to win not only for my mom but for each and every one of my teammates."

Both Axon and Huther agreed that Team Turbo, who have been playing together for 15 years, are more than friends, but rather a bowling family.

Nearly 2,000 bowlers competed in this year's Military Bowling Championships across three categories: Active and DOD Civilians; Retired Military; and Senior Retired bowlers where each member must be at least 60 years old.

Deuce breaks loose for Redstone 8U team

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The Deuce was wild this game.

Roshann “Deuce” Brown scored 11 points in his Redstone 8-and-under team’s 23-18 win Thursday over Lakewood at the Youth Center. He had six rebounds and six steals.

“I think it’s good. And I saw some of my friends and I like the other team, too, and I like my team,” he said.

Carter Paulino added seven points, five rebounds and four steals for Redstone (8-1).

The score was tied 6-6 at halftime and 17-17 after three quarters. Brown put Redstone up 19-18 on his basket with 3:30 left.

“We played team defense the whole way,” Redstone coach Ronald Miller said. “We played together.”

Braedon Watkins and Arian Foster had seven points apiece for Lakewood (7-2).

“We let the game slip away from us,” Lakewood coach Ken Glasper said. “We played their game and not our game.”

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Roshann “Deuce” Brown finishes with 11 points, six rebounds and six steals in Redstone’s 23-18 win Thursday over Lakewood.



Your glory days in sports

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

What is the highlight of your athletic endeavors?

“I played football for the University of Alabama in 2012,” Dustin Adair, ePRISMS specialist for VanJoh Graphics in support of the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works master planning division, said. “I was in the Million Dollar Band before I walked on and played. I had a trumpet solo in the national championship two weeks before I walked on. Nick Saban was the coach and Kirby Smart was the defensive coordinator. I was on special teams and I played cornerback and dime back (in the defensive secondary). Because of the transfer rule, I ended up having to step away from the University of Alabama. I ended up finishing my degree at UAH. I played semipro football for a while (in Huntsville through 2014 for the Rocket City Titans).”

Adair, 33, from Huntsville, graduated from UAH in 2019 with a bachelor’s in business. He has worked at Redstone since January 2020. He and his wife of two and a half years, Abby, reside in Madison. “I still compete in CrossFit. I hunt a lot. I like to surf in the summer,” he said. “I’m a personal trainer as well.” Adair roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Dustin Adair, a contractor in support of the Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works, played football for the University of Alabama in 2012.

The night the air went out of the basketball

This was a double dose of misery. On Feb. 8 my alma mater Auburn, the top-ranked basketball team in the nation, lost at Arkansas. I had a bad feeling about that game beforehand. The Razorbacks are a good team and they were ready to pounce on us at home, 80-76 in overtime.

I didn't watch because I was covering a youth game at Redstone. When

driving home from the Youth Center, I heard the last few minutes of overtime on the radio.

But my beloved Los Angeles Lakers were starting their home game that night against the defending champion Milwaukee Bucks when I got home. I hoped the Lakers would win so I'd feel better.

Unfortunately, the Lakers went down

in flames 131-116. Oh, the humanity. My teams went 0-2 for the night. I turned off the television and went to bed since I had a scheduled meeting the next morning anyway.

They say it's better to talk about things that don't go your way. It's better to let your feelings out than to keep them inside. So, I'm writing two days after that disastrous night. The pain still

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

lingers.

Non-sports fans wouldn't understand.

Rivera's hot shooting sparks Redstone 10U Warriors

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Swish. Nothing but net. Japhet Rivera was making nearly all his shots. And these weren't layups or put-backs. These were 3-point baskets.

Rivera had all six of his 3-pointers in the first half. He cooled off after intermission but that didn't matter.

The point guard finished with 22 points as the Redstone 10-and-under Warriors beat Liberty 30-23 on Feb. 8 at the Youth Center. He also had seven steals and five rebounds.

"I just followed through my shot," Rivera said. "They were letting me be wide open to make all the threes."

He shot 8-of-17 from the floor and he was 6-of-11 from beyond the arc. "This is the best I've shot," Rivera said.

"He just had a good game tonight, a really good game," Redstone coach Greg Knight said. "I mean he was in a zone."

The Warriors (6-3-1) led 15-8 after one quarter, 21-14 at halftime and 28-17 after three quarters. Liberty did take an 8-6 lead midway through the first and closed with 18-14 midway in the second. Rivera's sixth 3-pointer capped the first half scoring.

"Good hustle. Good defense. Team basketball," Knight said. "All came toward culminating in the team getting a win."

Ben Rodriguez had seven rebounds and five points. Isaiah Gilbert had 10 rebounds and two blocks.

Liberty (1-10) was led by Colin Jamison with 10 points and five rebounds. Jacob Rass grabbed eight rebounds while Pedro Santos added seven boards.

"That was great," Grizzlies coach Kelvin Williams said. "That was the first game they didn't turn the scoreboard off. We only lost by what? Seven. Great game."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Redstone point guard Japhet Rivera brings the ball across midcourt while Liberty's Colin Jamison (13) closes in on defense.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Redstone's Isaiah Gilbert, left, battles Liberty's Jacob Rass for the opening tip.

Physical fitness tip of the week

By YOUNG REUMANN

MWR recreation specialist

February is Heart Health Month.

Here are some benefits of cardiovascular aerobic exercise: Lowers heart rate and blood pressure, strengthens the heart and lungs. Helps in weight loss. Did you know it also helps prevent cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and hyperlipidemia, anxiety and depression?

American College of Sports Medicine guidelines for cardiovascular exercise include: 3-5 days each week, 20-60 or more minutes per session. To make it easier, choose an exercise that fits your stamina and one you enjoy doing.

Please focus on your body's reaction during exercise.

Before physical activity, health experts always suggest that you talk to your doctor before you start an exercise program. If you have any questions, call Pagano Gym at 876-6701 or the Col. Stephen K. Scott Fitness Center at 955-6844.

MAJ Payne, can you explain this work sheet that was attached to your pop quiz?

Well CPT Bligh, the proctor told us to show how we got the answer!



Jim BoRoach
9 February 2022

Sports & Recreation

Bass/kayak tournament

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America will sponsor their annual Bob Vlasic Classic Bass/Kayak Tournament at Jackson County Park, May 12. Entry is \$30 for kayakers and \$60 for boaters and will launch at safe light 5:30 a.m., weigh in 2 p.m. There is a 100% payout. Places will be determined by number of entries and five fish total: (length) Kayak and (weight) Boat. There is also Big Fish (length) prize for Kayak, \$200; and Big Fish (weight) prize for Boat, \$400. A picnic will follow. For more information, call Kayak: Mitch Delk 755-0730 and Boater: Rich Arnold 842-9061.

Senior softball

Get into the swing of senior slow-pitch softball. They have three leagues beginning with the Rockets League for those 55 and older, the Recreation League for those 63 and older, and the Triads for 71 and up. All games will be played at Brahan Springs Park, fields 1 and 2. Practices will begin in late March, and their seasons will begin in late April. They play two games a week, ending around Labor Day. Players are needed. For information email Huntsville-srsoftball-info@googlegroups.com or call Becky Rollston of the Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center at 880-7081.

Conferences & Meetings

Sergeants major association

The Sergeants Major Association is meeting every third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room of Garrison headquarters building 4488 on Martin Road. If you are not able to attend in person, you can still attend 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.

Warrant officer association

The Redstone Arsenal Silver Chapter of the Warrant Officers Association continues to meet monthly at 11:30 a.m. on the second Wednesday via Zoom. They look forward to in-person meetings at the Redstone Lanes bowling center later this year. For a virtual meeting link, email retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mike Weist at mweist63@gmail.com.

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.

Blacks in government

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government has its general membership meeting the third Thursday of the month via Zoom at 7 p.m. BIG functions as a knowledgeable, problem-identifying and solving organization for civil servants. For more information email Mary Peoples at maryd6519@gmail.com.

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, will resume its meetings soon; time and place to be determined. All combat-wounded veterans are invited. For more information, call Leonard Robinson 337-8313.

Vietnam veterans

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1067, meets the second Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 237 on Drake Avenue. For information visit www.vietvethsv.org.

Miscellaneous Items

Men's ministry

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

Young citizen of month

Do you know a young citizen in grades 7-12 who has done something special and deserves recognition? Rocket City Broadcasting/Community Awareness for Youth conduct the Young Citizen of the Month award program. Each month's recipient will meet the Huntsville mayor and City Council members, receive a Huntsville Human Relations Commission certificate and other prize packages. Sponsors include Rocket City Broadcasting, Huntsville Utilities, Huntsville Optimist Club, Huntsville Police Department, CAFY and the Florida Institute of Technology Huntsville Site. To nominate a young citizen, visit mystar991.com or call Kenny Anderson 883-3993.

Black history festival

The 20th annual Black History Enrichment and Enlightenment is Saturday from

Rocket Announcements

1-5 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 607 Airport Road. This free event, sponsored by Rosie's International Festival Services Inc., will include performing arts groups, music and food. Award presentations will include Soldiers of the Year, Businesses Awards, and Family of the Year. For more information, call 429-8039.

Lifesaving class for Redstone

Redstone fire department offers a "Stop the Bleed" program which teaches how to use a tourniquet and stop major bleeding. Anyone on post is invited to take the class. "It's free. They get a certificate afterward, and they get a lifesaving skill," lead instructor Ian Voisine, fire captain/paramedic at Station 1 on Rideout Road, said. To schedule a free four-hour class, call Station 1 at 842-2584.

Merit award scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club will award educational merit awards in 2022 to eligible students who are affiliated with and acting as contributing members of the Redstone military and government civilian community. There are two types of scholarships to apply for this year: RSAMCC Merit Award, for members of the club and their dependents; and the Military Community Scholarship, where applicants do not need to be a member of the club. More information and the online application form can be found on the RSAMCC webpage, www.rsamcc.org/merit-awards. The deadline to apply is midnight Feb. 27. For information email rsamccmeritawards@gmail.com. RSAMCC is a 501c private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

Tax assistance center

Aviation and Missile Command's Commander Maj. Gen. Todd Royar took a moment to meet with and thank the volunteers who will be manning this year's Redstone Arsenal Tax Center. The tax assistance center is open through April from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 3439 on Honest John Road. Services are provided to the military community on a first-come, first-served basis, no appointments. Bring all tax documents, previous year's tax return, and completed intake form.

Comedy show/dinner

North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition will present "An Evening of Laughter with Jody Fuller" comedy show and dinner April 2 at The Summit. Tickets are \$50 per person, dinner included. Social starts at 5:30 p.m. and dinner/show at 6. Purchase tickets online at <https://conta.cc/3fE2KjL> or contact KC Bertling at 541-0450 or presidentcoalition@gmail.com.

Thrift Shop update

The Redstone Thrift Shop's shopping hours

are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursdays from noon to 4 p.m. They are open the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignment hours are Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from noon to 2 p.m. The shop always needs volunteers. For information call 881-6992.

Marksmanship clinic

The Revolutionary War Veterans Association's, Project Applesseed will conduct a ladies only two-day rifle marksmanship clinic and telling the history of what led up to and the events of April 19, 1775. The clinic will be in the South Huntsville area at Hobbs Island Shooting Range, 3682 Hobbs Island Road, from March 12-13. For more information or to register, go to <https://applesseedinfo.org>.

Health department ratings

The Madison County Health Department has released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for Jan. 31 through Feb. 4. The highest scores included Publix 1642 retail, 7129 Wall Triana Highway, Madison, 100; Publix 1642 produce, 7129 Wall Triana Highway, Madison, 100; PJ's Kitchen (commissary), 432 Bass Circle NW, 100; The POD Market, 4900 Meridian St., Normal, 100; Huntsville Burgers, 1395-A Enterprise Way, 100; Get Loaded (commissary), 1001 Ryland Pike Suite C, 100; Steak-Out Restaurants, 2105 Whitesburg Drive, 100; Ravenwood Meadery LLC, 2211 Seminole Drive SW, 100; Peculiar Preserves LLC, 2211 Seminole Drive, 100; Kid Towne Inc., 8490 Highway 72 West Suite 20, Madison, 100; Get Loaded (mobile), 1001 Ryland Pike Suite C, 100; ELCAT LLC doing business as Happy Tummy Pizza, 2211 Seminole Drive, 100; G's Gulled Cheese, 2216 Lewisburg Highway, Fayetteville, 100; Publix Super Market 1451 (seafood), 310 Pelham Ave. SW, 100; and Publix Super Market 1451 (meat), 310 Pelham Ave. SW, 100. The lowest ratings included 88 Buffet doing business as Heli Enterprises Inc., 6125 University Drive, 85; Umiya 1 Inc. doing business as Triangle Grocery, 9501 Moores Mill Road, New Market, 81; and Pine Grove Texaco, 7190 Wall Triana Highway, Madison, 71.

Adult reading challenge

Decatur Public Library presents the 10th annual Adult Reading Challenge "A Reading Season." The library invites adults who love to read or who love a good challenge to participate in the challenge. It is designed to expand your reading life and connect you with other book lovers through the Adult Reading Challenge Book Club. The challenge has three levels, so patrons can participate as much or as little as their time allows, while reading books they enjoy and engage with other readers to discuss what is read. More information can be found at www.myDPL.org/ARC, by visiting the Marketing and Outreach office at Decatur Public Library or calling 340-5780.