

Redstone supporters receive update, call to action

By MEGAN GULLY

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Redstone Arsenal's senior commander thanked a longstanding group of community leaders for their decades of support to the Arsenal and challenged them to use their influence to continue to help the installation prosper.

During a luncheon March 1 at The Summit, Lt. Gen. Donnie Walker hosted the Redstone Community Relations Committee, updating the group on current operations. It was the committee's first meeting since the pandemic began in March 2020.

"The world has changed tremendously since then; a lot has changed here at Redstone, too," Walker said. "Even with changes in leadership, facilities and infrastructure, Redstone Arsenal is driving forward. Influencing not only the economic well-being of the region but also its culture, its educational standards, its technology and innovation, and its quality of life."

The Redstone Community Relations Committee formed in the late 1950s to ensure favorable conditions for the future growth of Redstone Arsenal. In its early years, the committee worked on key issues such as race relations across Huntsville. In more recent years, the committee has supported Base Realignment and Closure moves that have grown Redstone Arsenal into a diverse federal center of excellence.

"I am here today to tell you about the great and exciting things happening behind our gates that have impacts around our world and ask for your continued support," Walker said. "With your assistance, we will move toward even more prosperity for our region."

He gave the committee specific initiatives they can support to strengthen the community and Redstone Arsenal, including support to the local medical system; continued momentum in building strong school systems from Pre-K through higher education; further development of quality of life opportunities; strengthening community partnerships; and help promoting Redstone's MWR facilities.



Photo by Kim Hanson

Redstone Senior Commander Lt. Gen. Donnie Walker hosts the Redstone Community Relations Committee for a luncheon March 1 at The Summit.

"We have made Redstone's MWR facilities available through the Redstone recreational badge," he said about the Golf Course, Bowling Center, Outdoor Recreation, bike paths and more. "These facilities are important to our Soldiers and families, and they're available to the community, as well. Our gates are open and we welcome members of the community."

The luncheon included updates from Bill Marks, Marshall Space Flight Center deputy director for center operations; Ambrosia Patterson, FBI Huntsville Strategy Team change and transition

program manager; Richard De Fatta, Space and Missile Defense Command deputy to the commanding general; and James Thomson, Future Vertical Life Cross Functional Team deputy. All touched on current operations and future initiatives.

During her presentation on the FBI's growth, Patterson shared a quote from FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate, "Huntsville is really the future of the FBI."

"That is absolutely true and it is all about technology, innovation, talent and resiliency," she said.



MILITARY

Summit sets the way ahead for Army prepositioned stocks.

PAGE 5



COMMUNITY

Redstone's circle of life includes diverse wildlife.

PAGE 19

FEDERAL
NASA testing engines for future missions.

PAGE 31



SPORTS

College club hockey teams compete in Rocket City.

PAGE 35



U.S. ARMY

Letter from the Senior Commander



Lt. Gen.
Donnie Walker

Team Redstone,

With so much going on around the globe today, I want to start by expressing my gratitude to you – our workforce. It is only through you that Redstone Arsenal is able to accomplish our worldwide missions. You have a real-world impact and your relevance cannot be understated.

This month particularly, as we observe Women's History Month, we join in celebrating the countless accomplishments and contributions women have made to our nation. Women's History Month honors and celebrates the struggles and achievements of American women throughout our history.

Women have been integral to Team Redstone from the very beginning. From serving on factory floors and production lines in World War II to holding some of the highest leadership positions across the installation today, women have always contributed to our success, and illuminate that our strength is through our diversity.

This month marks another very important event for our military and our country: National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29. It honors the more than 9 million U.S. military veterans who served on active duty in the Armed Forces from Nov. 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975. It gives our nation an opportunity to give Vietnam veterans a "thank you" many of them did not receive when they served.

This observance is personal to me, as my father was a Vietnam veteran. Whether you attend a Vietnam veteran's celebration or reflect privately, please join me in honoring the brave men and women who served and sacrificed on behalf of our nation.

Finally, Redstone leadership continues to monitor COVID-19 conditions daily. I encourage you to remain in close contact with your supervisor for updates to our status and for additional guidance.

Thanks for all you continue to do!

People First - Winning Matters - Army Strong!
- Lt. Gen. Flem B. "Donnie" Walker, Jr.

On this date in history: March 9

In 2011: Space Shuttle Discovery made its final landing after 39 flights.

In 1862: In the Civil War, the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia fought to a draw in the Battle of Hampton Roads, the first battle between two ironclad warships.

In 1847: The first large-scale amphibious assault in U.S. history was launched in the Siege of Veracruz during the Mexican-American War.

In 1842: The first documented discovery of gold in California occurred at Rancho San Francisco, six years before the California Gold Rush.

In 1841: The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the United States vs. The Amistad case that captive Africans who had seized control of the ship carrying them had been taken into slavery illegally.

Quote of the week

“If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman.”

– Margaret Thatcher

RedstoneRocket

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First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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What is your favorite time of the year?

“Summer,” Mack Buchanan, access control technician for Moseley Technical Services Inc. in support of ATF’s National Center for Explosives Training and Research, said. “When I was younger, after I graduated from Auburn, I taught tennis for five years. That’s really the reason. I basically lived outdoors for five years.”

Buchanan, 71, from Decatur, has worked at the center since 2011. He received his bachelor’s in visual art from Auburn in 1974. He and his wife of 39 years, Carol, reside in Decatur. His hobbies include artwork, collecting books and fly fishing. “I still keep up with tennis quite a bit,” he said. “I’m not able to play anymore because of my knees but I still follow it.” Buchanan roots for the Auburn Tigers.



Mack Buchanan

Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Why you joined the Army.

“Really just to serve my country,” Maj. Chris Carlstedt, assistant product manager for the UH-60V, Utility Helicopter Project Office, said. “I knew if I didn’t do something in the military, I’d come to regret it later on. And really just a way to give back to my country. I joined through OCS (officer candidate school) in 2010. I’ve been in almost 12 years. It’s been a great experience. I’ve gotten to travel. I’ve gotten to see the world and experience some things that a lot of my peers who have never been in the military will not get to experience.”

Carlstedt, 37, from Littleton, Colorado, resides in southeast Huntsville. He and his wife of 12 years, Meghan, have a son, Christopher, 7. Carlstedt enjoys hiking, camping, playing golf and reading. He roots for the Denver Broncos.



Maj. Chris Carlstedt

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Name: Kaela Lauren McGuire Hamby

Position: Chief of military construction branch, Garrison’s Directorate of Public Works

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be an interior designer. I always enjoyed visiting my stepfather, Arthur Cole. He’s an architect at work. Master Planning takes those same design concepts to a much larger scale.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2022?

As a new branch chief, I hope to continue growing our team as we support the installation’s future through construction and planning.

What is the best part about your job?

The best part about my job is the variety of projects and missions I encounter every day.

Who is your hero, and why?

I would have to say my mom is my hero (Yvonne Coleman McGuire of Huntsville). She was always a great example of a professional woman and wonderful mom.



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

If I could do anything, I would enjoy spending time with family and friends on a nice tropical location.

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

“Remember the joys of the past, enjoy the present and focus on the future.” It’s from my dad (retired Col. Paul McGuire of Owens Cross Roads).

What do you like to do to pass the time?

I enjoy spending time with my 3-year-old (Jack) at the park and cooking with my husband (Matthew). We live in Madison.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents Feb. 20-26:

Feb. 22: A Redstone police officer observed the driver of a vehicle traveling east on Martin Road who had been cited for driving while suspended. The National Crime Information Center confirmed the driver’s license was still suspended. A traffic stop was initiated and the driver again received a citation for driving while suspended. The vehicle was removed by a licensed driver.

Feb. 23: Redstone police responded to Gate 9 for a vehicle with a disoriented driver. Police observed the driver slurring words, displaying erratic behavior and an inability to answer questions. The individual had a strong odor of alcohol and admitted to recently consuming alcohol. The driver failed a standardized field sobriety test and was arrested for driving under the influence. Redstone Fire was notified and evaluated the individual who was later transported by Huntsville Emergency Medical Services Inc. to the Huntsville Hospital main emergency room for elevated blood sugar. The vehicle was inventoried and towed from the scene. The individual received citations for open container and DUI and remained in the care of Huntsville Hos-

pital. Investigation continues by Traffic Accident Investigations.

Feb. 25: At the Gate 9 Visitor Center, a background check stopped an individual who was seeking access to Redstone Arsenal for work. The National Crime Information Center confirmed multiple warrants from Madison County Sheriff’s Office, Morgan County Sheriff’s Office and Rogersville Police Department. Madison County Sheriff’s Office arrived and took custody of the individual for failure to appear on a charge of possession of marijuana second degree.

Feb. 26: Redstone police conducted a traffic stop on a speeding vehicle. The National Crime Information Center revealed the driver’s license was revoked. The individual received citations for speeding and driving while revoked. The vehicle was parked at the Gate 9 Visitor Center awaiting a licensed driver to retrieve it.

Citations included two for driving while license is suspended or revoked, one for failure to obey traffic control device, one for no driver’s license in possession, one for driving under the influence, one for failure to register vehicle, one for expired driver’s license, one for no proof of insurance, 14 for expired registration and 33 for speeding.

Know your laws: Patent-eligible subjects

By ANN DENNEN

Huntsville lawyer

Not all subject matter is patentable with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The baseline for patent-eligible subject matter is that the subject matter be utilitarian, be novel and be nonobvious. This brings into question what subject matter is not patentable with the USPTO.

There exists a foundation for determining patent eligible subject matter. Section 101 of the Patent Act limits patent-eligible subject matter to:

Processes, including a new use of a known process, machine, manufacture, composition of matter or mater.

- Machines.
- Articles of manufacture.
- Compositions of matter.
- Improvements to the aforementioned.

The Supreme Court has carved out the following exceptions to patent-eligible subject matter to include the following: laws of nature; natural phenomena; and abstract ideas.

The Supreme Court has decided that created several exceptions via case law. An exception exists for a patent that claims an abstract idea claimed as a computer-implemented invention. Further, an exception exists for a natural phenom-

enon or law or product of nature in the life-sciences arena.

The Supreme Court has set out framework for determining whether patent claims are directed toward patent-eligible subject matter, however it is often difficult to implement. The framework is as follows:

Determine if the claims are directed to a law of nature, natural phenomenon or abstract idea, which are considered “judicial exceptions.”

If the claims are directed to a judicial exception, determine if the claims include additional elements, considered individually and as an ordered combination, sufficient to ensure the claims recite significantly more than the judicial exception to patent-eligible subject matter. The Supreme Court described this step as a search for an inventive concept, which means a search for claim elements that are sufficient to ensure the claim amounts to significantly more than a patent on the judicial exception.

Note that the Supreme Court has not provided a precise definition of an abstract idea, and this framework proves difficult to implement. Thus, the Supreme Court has provided some guidelines on this initial framework. First, to be patent eligible, the claims are to be directed to an

inventive application of the judicial exception. Further, the framework is aimed at preventing a patent owner from preempting the use of any judicial exception.

Also, when evaluating the significance of additional claim elements, the evaluation does not require a rigorous analysis under section 102 (novelty), section 103 (nonobvious), and section 112 (definiteness of claim language) of the Patent Act. Furthermore, the claim does not recite something significantly more if the additional claims elements merely involve well-understood, routine, conventional activity and do no more than require a generic computer to perform generic computer functions that do not improve a computer’s function or effect an improvement in some technology or technical field.

The Federal Circuit Court, the court that hears all patent related appeals, continues to decide cases addressing patent subject matter eligibility for inventions relating to computer-implemented technology and life sciences. The Federal Circuit has noted that there is no overlap between the two steps of the Supreme Court’s patent eligibility analytical framework. Further, the Federal Circuit has note that there is currently no succinct, usable test, or definition of an abstract idea so courts



should examine claims previously considered in earlier cases as an aid to identifying an abstract idea.

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.

Pandemic experience teaches flexibility, adaptability

I, like everyone else, was excited to see no one wearing a mask during the State of Union Address, March 1. But, unlike everyone else, I didn’t get my hopes up that we were going to be ditching our masks on post last week.

Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor issued a statement on Friday that read: “CDC guidance is using new metrics, and communities are classified as either low, medium, or high risk. They’re classified based on the number of new COVID-19 cases and hospital admissions per 100,000 people, and the percent of hospital beds occupied by COVID-19 patients. As of today (March 3), Madison County is in the high category. The directive from the DOD is clear: until you reach medium and low, we are to be in masks. While we wait for Department of the Army executive orders, we will always take direction from the senior commander regardless of what community level we are at. Just so I am clear on this, the commander can be more restrictive (if they so choose); while the CDC data is to be used as a guide, it is the senior commander’s decision (at every Army installation) to un-

Snippets

By Jonathan Stinson

Assistant editor

mask (or not), and when.”

Nevertheless, that doesn’t take away from what a milestone it was to see people surrounding the President of the United States of America without a mask and watch as he worked the crowd afterward shaking hands and giving hugs.

Sitting in my living room in Huntsville, Alabama, it looked like there was an end in sight to the pandemic we’ve been suffering from for almost two years.

If you look at the local numbers, even though Madison County is still in the high category based on the CDC’s new guidance, you can see that the numbers are trending downward in Alabama and Madison County.

Look, I’ve lived in Alabama my whole life, so I’m used to trailing the rest of the country in everything but football. Patience

is not a new concept to me.

The silver lining to waiting for the numbers to drop is it gives us time to reflect on some of the things we should keep around before completely moving on from this part of history.

For starters, I like how people were forced to stay home when they were sick, even when it wasn’t COVID. Personally, there were times this was difficult for me to live by because I don’t normally take sick days. But I did learn during one particular illness that I actually recovered quicker by taking a couple days off than my standard M.O. of just dealing with it and trudging on. Also, I’ve become much more germ-conscious and I appreciate people keeping their crud at the house.

Secondly, we should retain the use of the technology we used during the pandemic, especially on the communication side of things. As a whole, we were forced to learn new ways to interact with everyone and there were some real positives that came out of learning process. We’ve learned how to stay in contact with one another without the need to be in the same place. In a lot of

ways this has made many tasks easier to accomplish because you don’t have to kill an afternoon in a meeting when a simple phone call or webchat will do.

Furthermore, the adaptations we’ve made to allow for telework shouldn’t be thrown away. I’m not a proponent for 100% telework options, at least not in my sector of the business world, but allowing the occasional flexibility for people to do so has more positives than negatives if it’s done within reason. Sometimes it makes sense, sometimes it doesn’t. When it comes to telework I started from “there’s never a reason to telework” and now I’ve come to see some of the benefits of it.

That’s a big step for me because I usually don’t change my mind after I make a hasty decision on something. Instead, I just dig my heels in.

So maybe the last thing we, or at least I, should keep from the COVID-19 pandemic is the flexibility and adaptability I’ve cultivated over the past two years. I’ve been told personal growth is a necessity.

Military

Summit sets way ahead for Army prepositioned stocks



Army photo by Maj. Allan Lagguit

A line of military Heavy Equipment Transport line-haul trucks is staged at Coleman work site in Mannheim, Germany. Each truck is hauling equipment and vehicles, such as M1 Abrams main battle tanks as seen here, to Grafenwoehr Training Area in Germany. There the vehicles and equipment pieces will be issued to the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division deploying to Germany from Fort Stewart, Ga.

By WILL KING

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Leaders and experts from across the Army met for the Army Prepositioned Stocks Summit March 1-3 at Army Materiel Command headquarters and virtually.

The summit was hosted by AMC in coordination with co-chairs from the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, G-3/5/7, and Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, G-4. The purpose of the summit was to provide deliberate analysis and guidance while synchronizing APS decisions and operations with other key Army processes.

“APS is a critical component of the mobility triad (with sealift and airlift) – it’s a game changer,” Lt. Gen. Donnie Walker, AMC deputy commander, said. “We have to think of APS differently than we have in the past.”

Outputs from the summit will help inform discussions at other planning and strategy development and implementation forums, including the Army Mod-

ernization and Equipping Conference, and align APS modernization and infrastructure funding requests with Army priorities.

APS are strategically placed sets of equipment that are ready for Soldiers to draw and move out. APS reduces the strategic lift requirements for deploying units by providing the theater-specific combat equipment required to respond rapidly, speeding troops to the frontlines.

More than just tanks and artillery pieces, APS includes combat sustainment and enablers such as Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance. Managed by AMC through Army Sustainment Command, the Army maintains five APS sets aligned with a geographic combatant command and one multi-apportioned set afloat.

The Army is employing a 21st-century APS strategy to ensure the right equipment is postured in the right regions for rapid employment. The Army’s APS Strategy is the way ahead for how the Army can achieve a Multi-Domain Op-

erations-capable APS with the full range of capabilities to effectively support the joint force across the continuum of competition, crisis and conflict.

Through several lines of effort, the Army APS Strategy focuses on the employment, exercising and equipping of APS sets worldwide. A more responsive, resilient and flexible APS will enable commanders to compete, deter and win.

The Army prioritizes ensuring APS sites around the world and afloat are located, sized, configured and ready to be issued for training, or during crisis or conflict. Part of the Army APS Strategy is using APS in competition in support of exercises and deployments of regionally allocated forces, not just as a war reserve.

Last year, the 405th Army Field Support Brigade repositioned thousands of pieces of equipment in Europe to support commanders in the European and African theaters. In the Indo-Pacific, the 402nd AFSB is downloading, exercising and maintaining equipment from APS afloat, demonstrating its ability to proj-

ect and sustain combat power across the theater.

In support of Soldiers from the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division deploying from Georgia to Germany to assure NATO allies and partners in Europe, the 405th AFSB activated its APS sites to outfit the brigade with hundreds of pieces of equipment. This includes tracked vehicles such as the M1 Abrams main battle tank and M2 Bradley fighting vehicle, Joint Light Tactical Vehicles, Paladins, generators, Palletized Load Systems and Load Handling Systems, Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Trucks, and more.

Speaking to defense reporters in February, Gen. Ed Daly, AMC commander, emphasized that APS is postured and ready to support operations worldwide.

“Army Prepositioned Stocks throughout the world right now, whether it’s Europe, the Pacific, Central Command or afloat, are ready. They’re ready to be issued and they’re ready to respond to crisis or conflict,” Daly said.

Black Hawk delivery lifts Croatia security capabilities

By TIM HANSON

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

The United States delivered two UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters at Zagreb Airport, Feb. 4. The arrival of the U.S. Black Hawk weapon system was part of the 2018 Croatia Vertical Lift program.

Communication, Navigation and Radar Systems were included in a total package approach to improve Croatia's ability to move personnel and supplies, as well as increase the country's defense capabilities and military preparedness in support of NATO.

"With the procurement of Black Hawk helicopters, the Republic of Croatia, as a reliable and credible NATO member, shows its commitment to replacing existing helicopters of eastern production and transferring to western technology," Croatian Minister of Defense Mario Banozic said.

The Security Assistance Enterprise synchronizes and integrates capabilities to meet Army goals in the competitive environment with an advanced focus on speed and agility.

"Allies and partners are a top priority for both the Department of Defense and Army. This delivery of helicopters will improve Croatia's capability to deter regional threats and strengthen its homeland defense," Security Assistance Command Director of Washington Field Office David Dornblaser said. "Additionally, using the same aircraft and maintenance procedures increases interoperability on future, combined missions."

The Black Hawk provides capabilities across a range of possible missions, from special operations to tactical troop

transport to aeromedical evacuation.

"Croatia has earned a reputation as a committed and capable NATO ally, and the introduction of Black Hawks will further boost the capacities of the Croatian armed forces," U.S. Charge d'Affaires Mark Flemming said. "We are working together every day to build the tools that our countries need to help ensure regional security and to support the strength of NATO more broadly."

The Republic of Croatia's incorporation of U.S. Black Hawk helicopters builds upon previous and ongoing military cooperation between the two countries.

"It is my pleasure to attend the arrival of the first two UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters, which are the donation of our strategic partner, the United States of America. I thank the United States government for this donation. It represents evidence of strong, friendly and allied relations, which are progressing every year," Banozic said.

Defense partnership between the United States and Croatia remains a cornerstone of the U.S.-Croatia relationship, with U.S. military assistance to Croatia including training, equipment, infrastructure construction, and specialized military education. Additionally, an offer of 84 Bradley M2A2 Infantry Fighting Vehicles was made in December 2021.

"Delivery of the Black Hawk helicopters culminates another successful partnership resulting from USASAC's ongoing mission to increase military capabilities of countries that share similar regional security goals with the U.S.," Dornblaser said.



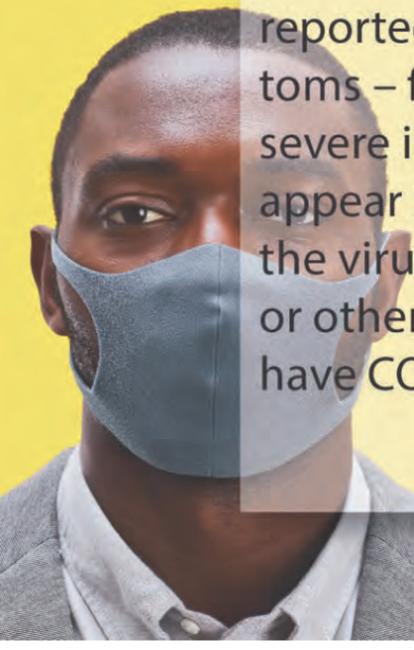
Courtesy photo

Two Black Hawk helicopters were loaded and transported to Croatia, Feb. 4. The delivery was part of the 2018 Croatia Vertical Lift program and will increase the country's defense capabilities and military preparedness in support of NATO.

Since Croatia joined the NATO Alliance, the U.S. and Croatian Soldiers have served shoulder-to-shoulder from Afghanistan to Poland to Kosovo.

COVID-19 FAQs

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

A close-up photograph of a Black man wearing a light blue surgical face mask. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera. The background is a solid yellow color.

Answer: “People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. If you have fever, cough, or other symptoms, you might have COVID-19.”

– source CDC

AMC chief of staff receives second star

By SAMANTHA TYLER

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

Army Materiel Command's chief of staff pinned on his second star in front of loved ones and colleagues both in-person and virtually during a ceremony Thursday at AMC headquarters.

Gen. Ed Daly, commander of AMC, promoted Maj. Gen. Walt Duzzny, describing him as a humble Soldier with a global perspective who has taken many challenging assignments in stride.

"It's great to have you at AMC, it's great to be able to promote you and it's great to see you continue to progress in the United States Army in this great profession of arms as a leader," Daly said. "And again, it's no surprise based on your potential and what we already know about you."

Duzzny comes from a military family, with his father, brother and son each serving. His Army story began 32 years ago as a ROTC cadet at Ohio State University. After commissioning, he served as a rifle platoon leader in 3-502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield and participated in combat operations during Operation Desert Storm.

His next assignment was as a ranger platoon leader and training officer for 1-75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. As his career progressed, he transferred to the Army Reserve in 2000. He served as chief of the Special Operations Command's crisis action team and with the Combined Joint Special



Photo by Douglas Brewster

Army Materiel Command Commander Gen. Ed Daly administers the Oath of Office to AMC Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Walt Duzzny during a promotion ceremony Thursday. Duzzny pinned on his second star during the ceremony.

Operations Task Force in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

"When you talk about pedigree, when you talk about ilk, when you talk about experience, we're promoting

the right individual today," Daly said.

The continued hard work was noticed as he pinned on his first star as the commander of the 1st Brigade, Atlantic Training Division, 75th Training Command. His general officer assignments ranged from serving as the deputy commander of U.S. Army North and the director of its Army Reserve Engagement Cell, to U.S. Northern Command senior representative to serving with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Federal Emergency Management Agency. His missions ranged across border, hurricane and pandemic response.

"Most of the missions, as you know, require an unbelievable set of skills and complexity, and Walt did it magnificently," Daly said.

After pinning on his second star, Duzzny credited both his family and those he served with for his success.

"I have had a number of people ask me over the past week or so, 'How does it feel,'" he said. "The only two words that really come to my mind are blessed and humbled, humbled by the opportunity and the privilege to get to continue to serve."

Duzzny joined AMC in August 2021 after serving as the commander of the 78th Training Division (Operations). He said that as a Soldier with experience in maneuver and infantry, he was familiar with AMC; but after seven months with the command, he has a new perspective on its impact to the Army as a whole.

"We cannot be successful without AMC behind us, to get the Army to where it needs to be, with what it needs to have prepared for whatever mission that we are told to execute," Duzzny said.

Soldier/civilian/family readiness briefs

By Army News Service and Defense Department websites

Contract award announcements

ALTUS LLC, Darlington, Maryland, was awarded a \$17,859,258 firm-fixed-price contract for Army Oil Analysis Program laboratory management, operation and training. Bids were solicited via the Internet with two received. Work will be performed at Redstone Arsenal with an estimated completion date of Aug. 24, 2025. Fiscal 2022 operation and maintenance, Army funds in the amount of \$17,859,258 were obligated at the time of the award. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal is the contracting activity.

APTIM Federal Services LLC, Alexandria, Virginia, was awarded a \$7,874,854 modification to contract W912DY-20-F-0164 for recurring maintenance and minor repair of petroleum systems. Work will be performed in Birmingham and Montgomery; Avon Park, Eglin Air Force Base, Fort Walton, Homestead, Hurlburt Field, Tampa, and Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida; Biloxi, Columbus, Gulfport, Jackson, and Meridian, Mississippi; and Isla Verde, Puerto Rico; with an estimated completion date of March 7, 2023. Fiscal 2022 revolving funds in the amount

of \$7,874,854 were obligated at the time of the award. Corps of Engineers, Huntsville is the contracting activity.

Strategic alert reported amid Ukraine fighting

WASHINGTON – U.S. officials don't doubt reports that Russian President Vladimir Putin has placed Russia's nuclear deterrence forces on high alert, a senior defense official said at a press briefing Feb. 27.

"We have no reason to doubt the validity of these reports," the official said.

This is an unnecessary step for Putin to take because Russia has never been under threat from NATO and certainly not from Ukraine, the official said.

It is escalatory because it's potentially putting at play forces that could, if there's a miscalculation, make things much more dangerous, the official said.

"We remain confident in our ability to defend ourselves and our allies and our partners, and that includes in the strategic deterrent realm," the official said.

Regarding the situation in Ukraine, the official said that roughly two-thirds of Russian forces arrayed along the border are now inside Ukraine, an increase over the last 24 hours when roughly half of

those forces were inside Ukraine.

Ukrainians are putting up stiff resistance in the face of invading Russian forces, the official said, adding that no major cities inside Ukraine have yet been captured.

"We believe that their advance was slowed both by resistance from the Ukrainians, who have been quite creative in finding ways to attack columns, and, number two, by the fuel shortages and the sustainment issues that they have had," the official said.

"Logistics shortages have been particularly acute in their advance on Kharkiv," which is in northeast Ukraine, the official said.

Some Russian reconnaissance elements have been in Kyiv over the last two days, and there are reports that they are wearing Ukrainian military uniforms to disguise themselves, the official said. In some cases, they have been identified by locals and by

the Ukrainian military.

Russian forces, which are converging from the northeast and northwest, remain about 30 kilometers from the city center of Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, the official said.

In the south of Ukraine, Russian forces are moving northeast toward Mariupol and are now about 50 kilometers from the center of that city, the official said. They are also moving northwest toward the city of Kherson.

"Our assessment is that Mariupol is defended, and the Ukrainians will put up stiff resistance there," the official said.

The airspace over Ukraine is still contested, and that means that Ukrainians are still using their own aircraft and air and missile defense systems, which are believed to be still intact and still viable, although somewhat degraded, the official said.

'Purse and prayer' – Soldier inspired by mom's resilience

By KERENSA HOUSTON

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

After a five-year stint in the Marine Corps, Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Longoria aspired to make a life on the music scene in Nashville. It's a good thing for the Army that didn't work out.

Though his father served two tours in Vietnam, Longoria's mother was the impetus for his decision to serve. Raised in Corpus Christi, Texas, he was inspired by the woman who left Mexico at 14 and was issued a U.S. work visa to be a nanny.

"It really just came to a sense of service to the country that's been so good to her and my family – all the opportunities that have been given to me because they provided her the opportunity to succeed," he said. "She got her citizenship ... and would not accept the life that was presented in front of her. I wish somebody would write a song about this: I always call it 'a purse and a prayer' – that's all she had."

Longoria knew he wanted to be in the military to repay the debt of gratitude he said he owed this country, but saw himself more like Tom Cruise circa 1986 in "Top Gun."

"I really wanted to go to the Naval Academy and I had the work ethic but my aptitude just wasn't there. My scores were just above average – which was not going to be competitive, and I knew that," he said. "I even actually joined Navy (Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps) in high school halfway through my junior year. I was a baseball player (and) basketball player ... ROTC is not what you do – jocks just don't do that."

In reality, he enlisted in the Marine Corps as an avionics technician and began working toward a college degree. For two years after that, he tried his hand at being a civilian – 10 months in Nashville and the rest of the time working on aircraft in North Carolina.

"I can sing, I play guitar, but I can't write and that really put me at a disadvantage because there's a lot of people who can sing and play guitar," he said. "I couldn't distinguish myself."

Back in North Carolina, a retired sergeant major suggested that he join the Army as a warrant officer instead.

"I knew nothing about that," he said. "Six months later, there I was going to Warrant Officer Candidate School and learning how to 'talk Army.'" That sealed Longoria's fate.



Courtesy photo

Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Longoria shows off a red snapper he caught deep-sea fishing in Destin, Fla., in 2021. He works for Aviation and Missile Command as a test pilot and government flight representative with Aviation Center Logistics Command.

After completing all the requisite training, he spent a few years in Korea as an aviation warrant officer. While there, he and his wife adopted a little girl who was the same age as a daughter Longoria had from a previous relationship.

Apart from deployments, most of the remainder of Longoria's two-decade career was spent at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and Fort Rucker.

Now working for Aviation and Missile Command as a test pilot and government flight representative with Aviation Center Logistics Command, Longoria describes himself as "the guy the information goes through."

"I ensure that the aircraft are presented in a way that the school house can accomplish their mission – on time and on target," he explained. "I routinely have meetings with the school house whenever they have needs or concerns ... and I'm also still a guest instructor pilot for evaluations for just about any school I'm qualified for ... I'm qualified to do all (of that) so I can still keep flying as well as doing maintenance here."

The Army Aviation Center of Excellence touts its mission to train, educate and develop Army aviation professionals and integrate indispensable aviation capabilities across warfighting functions in support of commanders and Soldiers



Photo by Kerensa Houston

Chief Warrant Officer 5 David Longoria points out the seals applied to bolts for corrosion resistance and explains their function at Knox Army Airfield at Fort Rucker, Feb. 23. He will retire this year after more than 20 years of service.

on the ground. It's where Army aviation begins. ACLC supports AACE by providing the full spectrum of maintenance, supply and contractor oversight to guarantee availability for all aviation training requirements.

So, although Longoria didn't see himself doing this exact thing in the Army, he said he's glad things have worked out this way.

From his current role as a maintenance officer with ACLC to being an instructor pilot, flight platoon leader and standardization officer to his time in 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, Longoria has seen and done just about all an aviation warrant officer can in the Army.

"I didn't know what I didn't know," he said. "And now that I do know, I like working here on Fort Rucker because I enjoy presenting an opportunity and seeing these young students grow," he said. "One of the things I participate in is every time a class is graduating ... we (have a time) where guys from different walks of Army life will sit down and talk with the warrant officers and lieutenants and I'll give them my take on what a warrant officer is supposed to do when they get (to their units) and what lieutenants are supposed to do when they get to where they're going and that's really rewarding

to see them grow."

Not only does he mentor junior pilots, Longoria also strives to be a positive role model to his family.

"I try to be an example to not only my immediate family but also (to my) nieces and nephews and my goddaughter. I just want to be a good example for them," he said.

As he prepares to retire later this year, Longoria said he has a great appreciation for the opportunity to play a role in the future of Army aviation. And while the short-timer said it's a bit too early to know what his post-Army career will be, he envisions doing something akin to what he does now.

"I still see myself going back and teaching (in initial rotary wing)," he said. "I remember when I got in that aircraft for the very first time. I'd never been in a helicopter and we picked up and I couldn't take that smile off. I'm like, 'This is ridiculous. I can't stop smiling,' ... so I hope to see that same smile and that same look on their faces."

As he prepares to transition into the next phase of his life, he'll continue to deep-sea fish off his 23-foot boat and making custom fishing rods.

And who knows? He may still write that song after all; a purse and a prayer brought him pretty far.

Senior enlisted Soldier inspires JROTC cadets

By **TERRI STOVER**

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

The military is full of traditions, pageantry, and ceremony, to include the military ball. These traditions start as early as the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps in high school.

On Feb. 26 the Grissom High JROTC program held their military ball, an event that had been postponed the year before due to COVID restrictions. Most

of the cadets donned their dress military uniforms, complete with bow ties, and brought a guest to help celebrate their time in the award-winning program.

Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Rice, command sergeant major at the Security Assistance Command, gave the keynote address at the ball, encouraging students to serve no matter the career path they choose.

“The lessons you have learned through your Junior ROTC involvement will pre-

pare you for real life,” Rice said. “These are building blocks that will take you into the rest of your life.”

First year cadet Rebecca Bernico is not certain she will choose to join the military, but she does understand what JROTC can provide for her future choices. “I joined the program to build confidence and leadership skills. These are good for any career path, not just for going into the Army,” she said.

Rice has represented USASAC at numerous events and is adept at connecting with any audience. However, he also participated in JROTC in high school and shared some of his experience as a young



Photo by Terri Stover

Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Rice, left, of the Security Assistance Command, and Grissom High JROTC instructor Jose Valentin, a retired colonel, greet cadets at the school's JROTC military ball.

cadet with the 160 students.

“I remember my pants not fitting, the shoes being too small, the way other students looked at me at the bus stop,” he said. Rice used his JROTC experience to propel him into a military career that has spanned 33 years.

See Cadets on page 14

Cadets

Continued from page **12**

“You have an advantage over many of your fellow students in that you are learning important life skills through your JROTC program. Yes, even pull-ups, hiking through mud and dirt, and walking in cadence can be turned into life skills,” Rice said. “You are learning that at times you will have to walk to a rhythm that is not your own, but someone else’s.”

Grissom’s JROTC program has been designated an Honor Unit of Distinction with a nationally accredited curriculum. To be awarded a HUD, a school program has demonstrated exceptional performance in all areas of the program operation. The JROTC program must score from 90-100% on the annual unit report, and 95-100% on the JROTC Program of Accreditation.

The students planned the evening from selecting the venue to the menu, but also

worked to include several military traditions in the agenda. The seniors were recognized and walked through a saber ceremony. There was a traditional receiving line, which observed safe COVID prevention guidelines. Of course, the colors were presented and retired at the ball, along with an invocation and one cadet sang the national anthem.

“I have met so many veterans who started their military career in JROTC in high school, have served for several years as an active-duty member, and then gone onto careers in different fields,” Rice said. “Your service will not end when you take off the uniform. You will continue to serve your families, your communities, and your nation by making the right choices, participating in patriotic observances, and carrying out your civic duties.”

Instructors for Grissom’s JROTC program include retired Command Sgt. Maj. Cedric Moore, and retired Col. Jose Valentin, who retired from USASAC after his more than 30-year career.

Individuals, teams recognized for value engineering

By LISA HUNTER

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

The commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, recognized innovation and collaboration at this year's Value Engineering/ Army Working Capital Fund Investment Program awards ceremony Feb. 25.

Value engineering is used to analyze supplies, services, buildings and systems to achieve the best result, speed delivery, and enhance the performance of the equipment and services provided to U.S. forces, while reducing costs.

The VE awards recognize Team Redstone employees' efforts that resulted in cost savings or cost avoidances, quality improvements or efficiencies to the Department of Defense. In fiscal 2021, the Team Redstone VE program claimed \$213 million in savings and cost avoidances on 78 completed VE projects.

"We consistently field requests from outside organizations for training examples, policies, lessons learned and success stories," said Tom Reynolds, Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center value engineering and life cycle cost reduction manager. "A common theme (in these awards) is a highly motivated, well-trained and dedicated workforce that not only delivers materiel to our warfighters, but also raised, defined and resolved issues using VE and other effective methodologies to resolve issues – mostly without Soldiers even knowing there's an issue."

While each award was initiated by an individual and led by an individual, it took a group of people to coordinate to make this successful, Royar said during the ceremony.

"(Because of) the complexity of our weapons systems and complexity of what we do for the nation, each individual and organization rely on others to make sure they get the job done. It is a team effort and often those teams cross organizational boundaries," Royar said. "This is an opportunity to recognize some absolutely fantastic individuals and fantastic organizations who have done some fantastic work. Every one of these projects was initiated by an individual. They were not paid extra for it. They did not get time off for it. They did not get anything else besides a 'job well done.' It is their passion and motivation upon identifying an issue that ultimately makes a difference to the warfighter."

Plaques were presented to directors and program managers of the following organizations that exceeded their VE savings goal for fiscal 2021: AMCOM Logistics Center, Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation &

Missile Center, Corpus Christi Army Depot, Integrated Fires Mission Command Project Office, Strategic and Operational Rockets and Missiles Project Office, Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office and X-Band Radar Program Office.

Certificates were presented to the following VE coordinators for their respective organizations' participation and contribution toward the Team Redstone fiscal 2021 VE program: Richard Stedham, ALC; Patrick Kelley, DEVCOM AvMC; Katrick Jemison-Groce, IFMC; Alvin Gracie, STORM Project Office; Jordan White and Jennie Wilkinson, TAGM Project Office; Toni Hamilton-Datcher, THAAD Project Office; Rosalind Walker, UAS Project Office; and Stuart Rogers, XBR Project Office.

AWCF Investment Program certificates were presented to key Team Redstone personnel for their significant contributions to the program life cycle cost-reduction project in fiscal 2021: Gabriel "Wynn" Knowles, Apache Attack Helicopter Project Office, for the Radar Electronics Unit Circuit Card Assembly Project; Tim White, Aviation Ground Support Equipment Product Directorate, received certificates for both the Flexible Engine Diagnostic System Exhaust Tail Pipe Assembly Project and the FEDS Electric Starter Quick Disconnect Project; Christopher Cousins, Aviation Turbine Engine Project Office, for the CH47 Hydro-Mechanical Assembly Improvement Project; Jason Bardin, Cargo Helicopters Project Office, for the CH47 Swashplate TBO Extension Project; Stephanie Riley, Cargo Helicopters Project Office, for the Electronic Standby Instrument System Integration Project; Lisa Alexander, SHIELD Project Office, for both the Patriot Modular Integrated Digital Operator Control System Communication Interface Unit Project and the Avenger Fire Control Computer Redesign Project; and Barry Thrower, TAGM Project Office, for both the Improved Bradley Acquisition System's visible/near-infrared power supply circuit card assembly project and the TOW Boresight Prism Repair Project.

"Awards and savings are very important, but more important is the impact these projects have on our Soldiers' lives," Royar said. "As you know, the things we build are very, very expensive, but they're not luxury items. They are items that our Soldiers literally bet their lives and missions on every single day, in wartime and in peacetime. This year, completing all the projects we did had a tremendous impact on their lives and their ability to do the mission."



AMCOM photo

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, Aviation and Missile Command commander, presents an award at the Value Engineering/Army Working Capital Fund Investment Program Awards Ceremony Feb. 25. In fiscal 2021, the Team Redstone VE program claimed \$213 million in savings and cost avoidances on 78 completed VE projects.

DAU Corner

CONNECT Live!

Thursday, 03/10/2022

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, 03/15/2022

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.

CONNECT Live!

Thursday, 03/17/2022

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.

CON Certification Courses & Exam Webinar Series (Part 1)

Thursday, 03/17/2022

12:00 P.M. CST

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

You asked and we listened! DAU is pleased to present a three part series which will provide an overview of the new contracting certification courses and certification exam consisting of: CON 1100 Foundational Skills, CON 1200V Contract Pre-award, CON 1300V Contract Award, CON 1400 Contract Post-Award, CON 3900V Contracting Certification Exam Prep Course, and CON 3990V Contracting Certification Exam. Each session will consist of the Learning Asset Manager of the specific courses covered who will provide a summary of the course and answer any questions you may have.

Experimental test pilot named employee of the year

By **CHRISTY BARNETT**

Redstone Test Center Public Affairs

Bob Wagner, an experimental test pilot and 23-year Army veteran, has been selected as the Command Mission Personnel Employee of the Year for the Army Test and Evaluation Command.

Wagner serves as an experimental test pilot within the Redstone Test Center in the Aviation Flight Test Directorate's Attack and Reconnaissance Test Division. His duties include serving as a test pilot and test director during the planning, execution and reporting of various test programs pertaining to new or modified attack aircraft, to include supporting the evaluation of Future Vertical Lift prototypes in support of Army modernization.

He was selected for this honor because of his work supporting the ATEC mission during the first quarter, fiscal year 2021, from October to December 2020.

During this period, Wagner superbly led his team during the testing of the United Kingdom AH-64E Apache attack helicopter airworthiness program. He persevered through tremendous schedule adversity and demonstrated exceptional acumen while conducting challenging and complex test flight techniques. He also provided timely updates to the customer and leadership which allowed for quick resolution of technical and programmatic issues throughout the program. His efforts will directly result in the successful fielding of 50 AH-64E Apache aircraft to the United Kingdom.

As test director for this program, Wagner led a team of five flight test engineers and three experimental test pilots through arduous test maneuvers and a compressed test schedule.

"I am honored to have led this exceptional team through a challenging and rewarding flight test. This is truly a win for RTC," he said. "This award represents the dedication, passion, teamwork and commitment delivered by the many employees of RTC resulting in a thorough and safe flight test that will provide the most accurate information to the warfighter."

Wagner worked long hours and weekends to ensure the program was executed safely and with the correct amount of technical rigor. He also provided daily guidance to ensure aircraft instrumentation was operational, flight test maneuvers were executed correctly, and the collected data met the test objectives.

"Bob is a true professional with a long history of service both as a Soldier and a civilian," RTC Commander Col. Steven Braddom said. "His work here enabled the success of a diverse and technically complex major flight test effort supporting the fielding of aircraft to a critical U.S. ally. Bob is a great example of the selfless technical experts who serve every day across ATEC to ensure that U.S. and allied warfighters have the very best equipment."



Photo by Collin Magonigal

Bob Wagner, named Employee of the Year for the fiscal year 2021 by the Army Test and Evaluation Command, is an experimental test pilot at the Redstone Test Center.



Photo by Collin Magonigal

Redstone Test Center Commander Col. Steven Braddom presents Bob Wagner with the award naming him Employee of the Year for the Fiscal Year 2021 by the Army Test and Evaluation Command. Wagner is an experimental test pilot at RTC.

Strategic team members receive Army safety awards

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Two Space and Missile Defense Command team members have been recognized for keeping their fellow teammates safe.

Steven Moseley, facility operations manager with the SMDC Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer Construction Division; and Arthur Lampert, security specialist with the SMDC G34 Protection Division; were nominated by the SMDC Safety Office as individuals who have demonstrated exemplary leadership or made a significant contribution to Army readiness through risk management. They were selected by the Department of the Army Safety Office and both received a Director of Army Safety Risk Management Safety Award during a ceremony Thursday at the SMDC headquarters.

The Director of Army Safety Risk Management Award is a Department of the Army-level unit safety award.

“The command Safety Office was proud to nominate Mr. Steve Moseley and Mr. Art Lampert for the Director of Army Safety Risk Management Award,” Bobby Taylor, SMDC command safety manager, said. “These two individuals go above and beyond to ensure the safety of our workplaces and make significant contributions to the safety of their fellow employees. The safety of our workforce is essential

and we are committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for all of our employees.”

Lampert facilitates emergency operations within the command and with other emergency managers to navigate through potential security and communication obstacles to provide sufficient infrastructure needed for all SMDC employees to remain safe and secure during a tornado or severe weather event. His insight and guidance were instrumental in establishing the command’s Emergency Action Plan.

“It is very humbling to be submitted for and receive this award,” Lampert said. “Mitigating risk and ensuring business is conducted safely has always been a point of emphasis throughout my career. My military and civilian career have centered on Army law enforcement and security. My focus has always been to remain vigilant yet low-key, ensuring smooth daily operations while maintaining a safe and secure environment. Security operations should be transparent to the building occupants.

“Conducting daily operations and mission support in a safe common sense manner helps ensure people make it home at the end of the day. Personnel are an essential resource, and we need them back at work tomorrow. In ad-



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, left, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command; and Richard De Fatta, right, deputy to the SMDC commander, present Arthur Lampert, center left, security specialist with the SMDC G34 Protection Division; and Steven Moseley, center right, facility operations manager with the SMDC Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineer Construction Division; with a Director of Army Safety Risk Management Safety Award during a ceremony Thursday at SMDC’s headquarters.

dition, the organization’s overall mission is impacted if operations are not conducted as safely and securely as possible, given operational considerations.”

While leading the command’s facility operations team, which is supported by building managers, custodial staff, installation public works, and construction contractors in both

Huntsville and Colorado Springs, Colorado, Moseley ensures the headquarters facilities support command operations and provide a high quality, professional environment for the workforce.

“I am very honored and humbled to receive this award, I was not aware I had been submitted for it,” Moseley said. “Throughout both my Army and Army civilian career, safety has always been paramount. Especially now during the COVID pandemic, my team and I strive to ensure that all SMDC buildings remain clean at all times for the safety of the employees.”

The team’s efforts include executing sanitizing any building or portion of the building in which an employee who tested positive has occupied immediately upon notification.

“A special thanks to my team of contractors: Aaron Batz, Jeff Cowart, Julian Todd, Tyler Hinkle, Philip Patton, Jason Mylen and Braxton McGhee,” Moseley said. “They have all been in the buildings with me from day one of the COVID pandemic. Throughout these last two years, I would not have been able to keep the facilities in the operational state they are in without them.”

Community

Redstone's circle of life includes diverse wildlife

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

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The Rocket City may have its baseball Trash Pandas, but they're not the only game in town. Redstone Arsenal has its own furry masked varmints as well.

"We've had calls about raccoons in trash cans and dumpsters," Conservation Law Enforcement Officer Joe Wayland said. "We'd go out and get them and release them back out into the woods."

Wayland said it's this time of year when the installation's animal population is out and about. In other words, it's a busy time for him and supervisor Kelly Smith.

"You're going to see coyote pups, young skunks, raccoons, possums and fawns," Wayland said.

Wayland said there is a prevalent and diverse wildlife population on Redstone Arsenal ranging from the aforementioned critters to go along with bald eagles, bats, snakes (venomous and nonvenomous), bobcats, owls and even the occasional black bears and alligators.

"There aren't any cougars," he said, squashing reports of alleged sightings of cougars or mountain lions.

Wayland said the coyote population has been down due to control measures and monitoring. Wayland said he and Smith keep in contact with wildlife biologist Justin Pflueger regarding the animals and Pflueger coordinates with the state on the regulations, particularly during the hunting seasons.

In fact, turkey season for this area opens April 1 and ends May 4.

"Turkey season is going to be good," Wayland said. "Hunters are allowed four birds this year, instead of three but no decoys the first 10 days."

Wayland also said hunters help when that bear or other unexpected creatures are spotted.

"Hunters have our cell phone numbers," he said. "They'll call and let us know."



Courtesy photo

A fawn was found trapped under a vehicle parked on the post. This is the time of year when young wildlife will be out and about.



Courtesy photo

Conservation Officer Joe Wayland carries a wayward owl to release it into the wild.



Photo by Erin Elise

Joe Wayland, conservation officer, works with supervisor Kelly Smith to monitor Redstone's animal population.



Photo by Erin Elise

Conservation Officer Joe Wayland shows an update to turkey hunting regulations.



Courtesy photo

The cottonmouth is among several species of venomous snakes on Redstone Arsenal.

Scheduled event helps veterans move to civilian life

By BUD McLAUGHLIN

Staff writer

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If you're a veteran, transitioning military member or spouse, it's time for Your Next Mission.

"It's going to be a great event," said Ted Hacker, president and CEO of the American Freedom Foundation a co-sponsor of the event set for April 26.

Your Next Mission is part of the American Freedom Foundation's nationwide initiative to help our veterans, transitioning military service members and military spouses find meaningful employment and provide assistance in transitioning from military to civilian life.

"We've been in Huntsville two times a year – one event with AUSA and the other with Still Serving Veterans," Hacker said. "The AUSA event was canceled so I went to SSV and asked if they wanted to make this a really big event.

"After a week, we already have 15 companies and are expecting more."

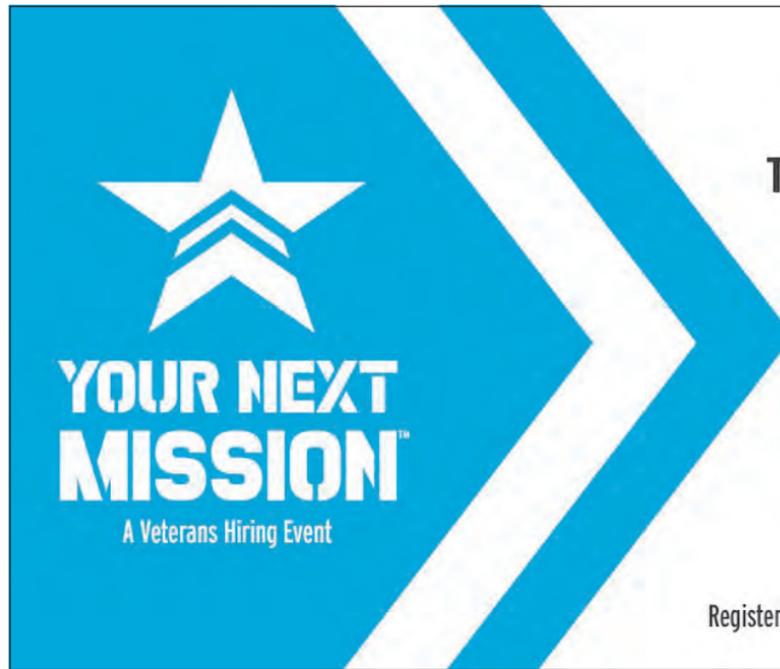
Among the companies are AAFES, IronMountain Solutions, Radiance Technologies, ERC and Intrepid. Your Next Mission is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Jackson Center on the Hudson Alpha campus in Cummings Research Park.

Hacker said it's a challenge to get the veterans and their spouses out to these events even though it's important to help them in their transition.

And there are jobs to be had.

"These companies are coming because they have jobs," he said. "It's not just a hiring event, it's also a networking event. The companies will be collecting resumes if they don't have openings right now."

For those who need their resumes updated or "translated," there will be resume review area



JACKSON CENTER
HUNTSVILLE, AL
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022
1000-1600

Presented by



Register now at huntsville2022.yournextmission.org

with HR professionals, presented by **Still Serving Veterans**.

"We can take some of that language (military acronyms) that is prevalent on military-based resumes and convert it to 'civilian,'" he said.

Hacker said candidates should dress for success (business or uniform) and "bring a lot of resumes and ready your elevator pitch."

For information, visit www.yournextmission.org and www.ssv.org.

Monthly town hall answers questions from community

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

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Redstone Arsenal will continue to be under masking guidelines until the numbers go down locally.

Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor made the announcement during Thursday's monthly Facebook Live virtual town hall meeting.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have released federal agencies in Washington – including the Department of Defense – from requiring masks be worn indoors. Facilities outside of the capital still must follow community guidelines.

“We’re in a high category in Madison County,” he said. “When we come out of masking, we will put (the information) out there.”

“We, like you, are anxious to get out of the masks.”

Mellor also answered several questions posted online.

Q: Why are there no storm shelters on

RSA?

A: This is something I’ve talked to senior command about. For workers on Redstone, (when tornadoes are expected) we like to release workers early. A lot of the big buildings have basements (for shelter). I recognize the issue and it is something I would like to fix. It is a matter of funding.

Q: I heard the indoor pool is open.

A: We hope to open the indoor pool by April 1 (if staffing is complete). We hope to have the next Town Hall from the indoor pool.

Q: When will the sauna and steam room open in the fitness center?

A: It is all dependent on when we remove masks. It’s a health issue.

Q: Will the housing community expand?

A: No, not yet. We are at a 96% occupancy rate. We are looking for the state to help build 10 additional homes. Please keep checking back with Hunt Homes.

“This is your chance to ask us questions,” he said. “If you would like us to bring someone on, please let us know.”



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez address the Redstone community at the monthly Facebook Live town hall last Thursday at the Java Cafe.

Welcome updates provided on job openings, specials

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

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“Live from the Java Cafe, it’s Facebook Live!”

Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor and Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez took the monthly Facebook Live town hall meeting on the road Thursday.

Well, it wasn’t exactly “on the road” but it was on location at the Pershing Welcome Center.

“There are a lot of great things here,” Jimenez said. “When you stop at the Welcome Center, they’ll be able to give you all you need (for information).”

This may be the first of other on-location town hall meetings. “I hope to have the next town hall at the indoor pool,” Mellor said.

Jimenez said the Exchange is still hiring and is offering starting pay of \$15 per hour plus benefits. To apply, visit www.applymyexchange.com.

Speaking of the Exchange, he said all restaurants are hosting \$2 off salads every Wednesday, “if you want to eat a little bit healthier.”

The Burger King on Lacrosse Drive is open, Jimenez said, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday; but it’s drive-thru only.

The Commissary has faced supply issues recently but it is slowly overcoming them, he said. “There are more chicken products now and Gatorade is back on the shelves.”

On the MWR side, Redstone Lanes is offering Friday Night Frenzy with special rates of \$25 between 4 and 8:30 p.m. Shoe rental is not included in the price. For information, call 876-6634.

Youth conditioning classes are available for kids ages 8-17. The cost is \$60 per person and class sizes are limited. For information, call 876-3704.

Redstone construction projects building momentum

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

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The covers on the traffic lights on Martin Road at the Garrison headquarters will soon be coming off.

Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor made the announcement during Thursday’s monthly Facebook Live town hall meeting.

“You’ll see the new stop-lights go active in a couple of weeks,” he said.

The lights will help the traffic flow for the new FBI campus under construction.

The new Corps of Engineers building inside Gate 9 is under construction and Mellor said of the 1.6 million square feet of available space, “We’re going to continue to build out there.”

Mellor touched on several other construction projects during the nearly hour-long event at the Java Cafe.

He said construction continues on the sand volleyball courts on Goss Road as well as restroom renovations at the sports field. The funding comes from Reform En-



Photo by Erin Elise

The traffic lights on Martin Road in front of the Garrison headquarters are expected to go active in a couple of weeks.

ergy Money, Mellor said, thanks to energy conservation efforts by the installation.

The jogging trail is being redone as well as continuing improvements at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area by the river, “particularly the picnic area,” the colonel said.

Veteran makes difference by preserving war's history

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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It's like a job but Keith Goudy doesn't get paid for preserving the history of his fellow Vietnam veterans.

He devotes four to eight hours daily to his Facebook groups. He is the founder and president of the Vietnam War History Foundation which administers three Facebook groups: VietnamWarHistoryOrg, Vietnam Veteran Wall of Honor memorial, and Vietnam War Book/Film Club.

VietnamWarHistoryOrg, which he said is the largest historical based Facebook group on Vietnam War history, has 42,000 members. Joss Huot is its lead administrator. The other two groups have 5,000 members apiece.

Goudy, who resides in Marana, Arizona, became one of the early administrators of the history Facebook group in 2014 after it was started in 2012 by Erik Villard, an historian for the U.S. Army Center for Military History. Goudy had a history background because he was a summer worker for Jackson Hole History Museum in Jackson, Wyoming, from 2013-16.

"I fell in love with history," he said.

Around 2015, Goudy started the Vietnam Veteran Wall of Honor memorial Facebook group. This is so family members and others can post their remembrances of Vietnam veterans who have died since the war.

"My focus is that people will post about folks that died after the war," he said.

Many Gold Star families have joined the memorial group. Goudy said he finds it gratifying when he receives feedback from these survivors of veterans.

"When I get a personal note from a son or daughter, understanding what their dad went through, that's worth a lot," he said.

The Vietnam War Book/Film Club Facebook group is for people to post book reviews, discuss films and promote their books with links for the sales.

Goudy's foundation enforces the Facebook groups' prospective rules for membership: no cursing, no swearing, no politics, no racial slurs. The history group is strictly for Vietnam War history from 1955-75. The memorial group is for remembrances of veterans who have died since the war. The book/film group is for book reviews, film discussions and book promotions.

Since 2018 Goudy has also served with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund on their project to acquire a photo for all 58,281 names on The Wall.

"I call it Operation Missing Photos," Goudy said. "I give them four names each week. We put it on the Vietnam Memorial Fund Facebook page. And someone will see it and then they'll send in the photo to us.

"When I started, I think there were over 3,000 (missing photos). Right now, we're under 20. My part is just trying to get the word out. I think I've had an impact.



Courtesy photo

Keith Goudy is the founder and president of the Vietnam War History Foundation.

I'm real proud. I think I've made a difference on this."

Jan Scruggs is founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, a nonprofit which dedicated the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in November 1982 in Washington, D.C. Goudy, who formerly lived in Ohio and then Colorado, has visited at least 15 times and tries to return every five years for the anniversary.

Goudy, 71, was born and raised in Moundsville, West Virginia. When the birthday lottery for the draft happened in December 1969, his birthday came up under 60.

By the end of March 1970, he was in basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He stayed at Fort Knox for advanced individual training for clerical school since he had two years of typing in high school.

After AIT, he had 30 days leave and by late August 1970 he was in South Vietnam. He was put on a C-130, after processing in, and flown to An Khe base camp. The 4th Infantry Division left Pleiku and officially moved to An Khe in 1970. After three days of in-country training, the Soldiers received their duties.

Since he typed well as a "71 Bravo" clerk/typist, Goudy was sent to work at the 4th Infantry Division supply office as one of their two clerk/typists.

The 4th Infantry Division decided to go home in December 1970. Goudy was transferred to the Da Nang Support Command and assigned to their Inspector General office as the lone clerk/typist. He extended his yearlong tour two months so he could receive an early-out and not have to do any stateside duty. He left Vietnam in October 1971 and was discharged from the Army.

"Anytime a clerk/typist would see action was if your



Courtesy photo

Keith Goudy visits the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., in November 2018. He helps with the effort to acquire photos for all 58,281 names on The Wall.

Vietnam revisited Part 360 in series

base was overrun," he said laughing when asked if he saw combat.

Goudy, who has a bachelor's in sociology from West Liberty State University in 1977, retired in May 2009 from the disability agency for the state of Ohio after three decades of service. He volunteered at the Nevada Veterans Home in Boulder City, Nevada, before moving to Colorado and then to Arizona. He and his wife of 44 years, Nancy, moved from Estes Park, Colorado, to Marana, Arizona, in March 2021. Marana is just north of Tucson.

He transferred to Tucson Chapter 106 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. Goudy has signed up to volunteer with the Tucson Stand-down Day, for homeless veterans, on March 16.

His hobbies include photography, hiking and riding his bicycle.

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

"I think they've done a pretty good job," he said. "I'm happy."

Anyone interested in helping with his foundation's website is asked to email soldierfourlife@gmail.com.

Editor's note: This is the 360th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Army Emergency Relief helps those who serve U.S.

Army Community Service

Since Army Emergency Relief was founded in 1942, \$2 billion in funds have been disbursed to 4 million Soldiers. Over half of those funds have been disbursed since 9/11.

In 2021 alone, roughly 20,000 active and retired Soldiers received \$44 million. What is more, dependent children and spouses received \$15 million in educational scholarships.

At the local level, \$72,452 in AER funds were disbursed at Redstone Arsenal in 2021.

To raise awareness of the AER mission, Army Community Service and the Garrison leadership held their AER campaign kickoff March 8. The annual campaign ends in May, but donations are accepted throughout the year.

It is important to note that AER is 100% funded by donations. If you would like to donate, reach out to your unit representative. If you do not have a unit representative, you

may visit www.armyemergencyrelief.org/campaign/ to donate, selecting Redstone Arsenal as your section. To appoint a unit representative, call Capt. Hunter Wilson, AER campaign coordinator, at 842-7090.

If you are an active-duty Soldier, Reservist/AGR on active orders, retiree, or survivor experiencing a financial emergency, please do not hesitate to call Army Community Service at 876-5397 for an AER application. If you are experiencing an after-hours emergency or reside 50 miles outside of Redstone Arsenal, the American Red Cross will coordinate your AER application at 877-272-7737.

For spouses or dependent children interested in an AER educational scholarship, visit www.armyemergencyrelief.org/scholarships/.

As your financial readiness program manager, I oversee the AER program at Redstone Arsenal. It is AER's goal that the assistance provided solve the presenting problem. In some instances, however, financial counseling will become the instrument of change.

To ensure the same financial issues do not resurface, I provide another layer of care via financial behavior modification, including budget counseling, debt management techniques, and comprehensive financial education to improve your relationship with money. Whether you are eligible for AER assistance or not, I look forward to working with you to decrease financial shortfalls and increase emergency savings and overall money-management confidence. You can reach me at 876-5397 to set up an appointment.

Editor's note: Olivia Pierce, a licensed professional counselor, is the financial readiness program manager at Army Community Service.



AER provides **financial assistance** to Soldiers

Donate today to give a hand up to Soldiers in need

AER was created for times like this

Give.ArmyEmergencyRelief.org

One book, two books, three books, more books



Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor reads “Green Eggs and Ham” by Dr. Seuss during a live reading event on Read Across America Day at the Goss Road Child Development Center.

Photos by JONATHAN STINSON
Assistant editor

The annual Read Across America effort drew participants from throughout



Misty Glover, from the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, reads “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” by Dr. Seuss during a taping session for Redstone’s Read Across America effort.

Redstone Arsenal who were videotaped reading their favorite Dr. Seuss books. Thirty-five videos were sent to the local school systems.

Health professionals explore increase in drug abuse

By REBECCA SALLEE

Staff writer

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When the COVID-19 pandemic struck in 2020, everyone had to handle a huge lifestyle change. Some people turned to drugs.

Such was the topic of an “Addiction Town Hall” on Facebook Live last week.

Sponsored by Partnership for a Drug-Free Community, the Thursday town hall featured a panel of four, including two mental health and addiction professionals, a paramedic and chief operations officer for Huntsville Emergency Medical Services Inc., and a recovering addict who now works as a peer support specialist.

Laura Edwards, the recovering addict, introduced herself as “someone who’s been there, done that.”

Carl Wilkerson, an addiction and mental health professional, served as the moderator of the town hall, which was more like a conversation between the panelists.

All suggested that opioid usage and

overdoses increased in Madison County during the pandemic, and that users need a safe and judgment-free zone to deal with their problems.

“There has definitely been an increase in the need for mental health and substance abuse services,” said Lucy Douglas, a mental health and substance abuse counselor. “People have been experiencing more stress and crisis” and “want to numb.”

Paramedic Dea Calce said one way to measure the increase in overdoses during the pandemic is by counting the number of times HEMSI had to administer Narcan, a prescription medicine used to treat opioid overdose emergencies.

In 2019, the agency administered Narcan to 41 people per month. In 2021, the number rose to 79 per month.

“We believe the pandemic played a big part in that,” Calce said, adding that three people overdosed and received Narcan that very day, and “not all may survive.”

The panel noted that overdoses seem to “ebb and flow” week by week.

That often means “there’s a new shipment in town,” Calce said. “We’ll have



Courtesy photo

Four panelists discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic affected an increase in drug use in Madison County at an “Addiction Town Hall” held Thursday.

four or five overdose calls back-to-back.”

Wilkerson said when word gets out there’s a strong drug in town that has led to deaths, “it promotes users to seek the drug.”

Douglas agreed. “The fact that somebody died says that was a good product,” she said, noting that just as diabetics may not follow proper diets and can still get treatment, addicts need a safe place

to find help for their problems.

“It’s the elephant in the room. It’s not going away,” she said. “We have to be willing to have this conversation and create a safe place.”

Mental health issues such as depression and anxiety often result in drug use, so people need easy access to counseling, therapy and medicine.

Although there are no easy answers, the panel said it’s critical for doctors, when prescribing opioids, to warn patients how addictive the drugs can be.

Doctors, pharmaceutical companies and the community at large should bear responsibility for managing the crisis.

Partnership for a Drug-Free Community’s Recovery Resource Hub offers people a free assessment for all to determine the level of care they need and provides them with options for treatment. The assessment is free, as are some treatment services.

For more information on the Recovery Resource Hub, call Wendy Reeves, Partnership’s executive director, at 539-7339, or email wendy@thedrugfreepartnership.org.

MWR prices expected to increase in March

From combined reports

When the government increased the minimum wage to \$15 per hour effective Feb. 3, the impact was felt throughout the Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

This translates to an estimated 35% increase in personnel expenses, and that number is expected to be much higher as the effect to benefits (insurance, retirement, etc.) is further analyzed.

What this means to MWR customers is potential price increases beginning in March.

"It will affect anything that has any costs related to it," Derrick Gould, the MWR director, said. "It won't affect the gyms or library which don't have associated fees."

Those impacted include post restaurant prices, golf fees, bowling fees, the Java Cafe, Challenger Bingo, and Outdoor Recreation. Some fees have already gone up; others will increase by June 1.

Ed Nunn, chief of business operations division for Morale, Welfare and Recre-

ation, said all his activities are reviewing their prices to make determinations within 30 days.

As a Non-Appropriated Fund activity, MWR is required to be self-sustaining like any business in the local community and must generate additional revenue to offset the added expenses that result from the federal minimum wage increase.

"Therefore, effective sometime in March, many of our prices will be revised to ensure that we are properly positioned to sustain operations," Nunn said.

"This decision was not taken lightly and is not in any way meant to increase profit. In truth, they will only serve to cover the added costs resulting from the federal minimum wage increase."

Space agency revs up engine testing for future missions



NASA photo

NASA conducts an RS-25 engine hot fire test Feb. 24 on the Fred Haise Test Stand at Stennis Space Center.

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA powered up its third RS-25 engine hot fire test of the new year Feb. 24 on the Fred Haise Test Stand at Stennis Space Center. Operators fired the engine past recent testing at the 111% power level up to 113% for a period of time.

NASA is testing RS-25 engines to help power the agency's Space Launch System rocket on future deep space missions. Initial SLS missions will send the agency's Orion spacecraft to the Moon as part of NASA's Artemis program. Work is underway inside the Vehicle Assembly Building at NASA's Kennedy Space Center to prepare the first SLS for the upcoming launch of the uncrewed Artemis I mission, which will pave the way for future flights with astronauts to explore the lunar surface and prepare for missions to Mars. Artemis missions will land the first woman and first person of color on the lunar surface.

SLS will be the world's most powerful rocket and the only one capable of sending Orion, astronauts, and supplies to the Moon in a single mission. Four RS-25 engines, firing simultaneously, will generate a combined 2 million pounds of thrust to help power SLS's ascent. The RS-25 engines for the first four SLS flights are upgraded

space shuttle main engines and have completed certification testing. RS-25 engines for subsequent missions will fire at 111% of their original power level to help launch SLS. Testing at 113% power level at Stennis demonstrates a margin of safety for operating the engine at the higher thrust.

Each engine test in the current series at Stennis provides valuable operational data to NASA's lead contractor, Aerojet Rocketdyne, on new components manufactured with state-of-the-art fabrication techniques as the company begins production on new RS-25 engines. The testing is part of NASA and Aerojet Rocketdyne's effort to use advanced manufacturing methods, significantly reducing the cost and time needed to build new engines. For NASA's Feb. 24 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. SLS, Orion, commercial human landing systems, and 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.

Burt becomes special assistant to Marshall director

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Rick Burt has been reassigned to the position of special assistant to the director of Marshall Space Flight Center.

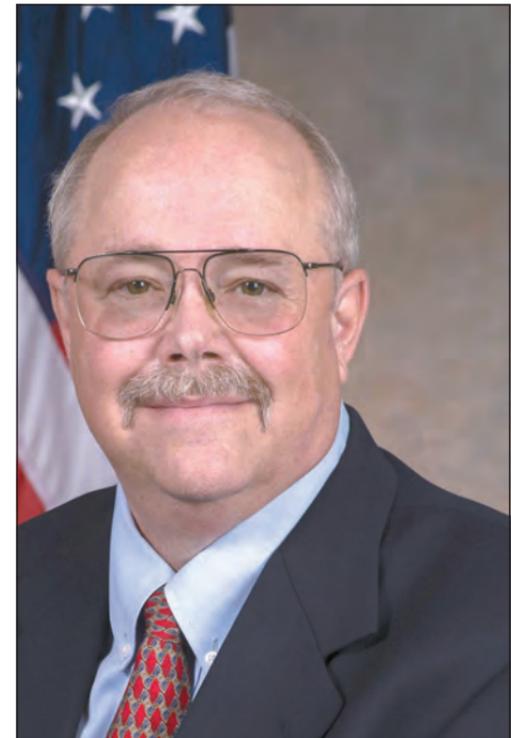
Burt will oversee Marshall's Future of Work implementation, guiding the evolution of workforce operations to balance on-site work, telework, and hybrid operations. He will help determine the best methods to accomplish the mission and provide continued flexibility in

where and when work is performed. Burt will steer the center's practices, guidance, technology, and infrastructure changes, as well as cultural norms as team members transition to increased on-site work, focusing on equity and inclusive access, training, and team building regardless of work location. He will also incorporate new ways of doing business, including recruitment and retention of the workforce to enable the execution of critical missions.

Burt will also continue to lead Marshall's Valued Voices initiative and assist Director Jody Singer in the selection of a new deputy director to ensure a smooth and timely transition.

Throughout his 32-year NASA career, Burt has worked in multiple technical management and leadership positions. He has made significant contributions to NASA's space flight programs, including the Space Shuttle Program, Constellation Program, and Space Launch System Program. Since his appointment to the Senior Executive Service in 2006, he has worked in several executive leadership roles, including manager of the Ares I First Stage, director of the Test Laboratory, and SLS chief safety officer.

Prior to becoming deputy director, Burt was director of the Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate since 2016. Before his NASA career, he worked for the Tennessee Valley Authority for 12 years in numerous leadership positions in its nuclear power program. In total, Burt has 44 years of continuous federal service.



Rick Burt

Space Launch System manager applies teamwork, vision

By GINA HANNAH

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Large endeavors are not accomplished alone. John Honeycutt, program manager of NASA's Space Launch System rocket at Marshall Space Flight Center, often compares building his own house to leading his team that has built the world's most powerful rocket, which will return astronauts to the Moon on the Artemis missions.

"To build a good house and a Moon rocket, you must first build good relationships," Honeycutt said. "When I built my house, I did a lot of the work myself, but I subcontracted a lot of it out, too. For the contractors that worked on my house, it helped to have a strong relationship with them."

He used this same principle to build the team that has taken the SLS rocket from design to production, and now to the upcoming launch of the first Artemis mission. Over the years, the SLS team has involved 1,100 suppliers in 48 states, including Alabama where Honeycutt grew up. His father was a mechanical engineer who was a metals expert for the Army and Marshall.

Honeycutt followed in his father's footsteps, earning a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Through much of his college life, he worked various jobs, including managing a small grocery store, fixing cars, managing a gas station, and working in a mom and pop hardware store in nearby Madison. That mix of jobs along with his education gave him two important skills that he still uses to manage one of NASA's most important programs: mechanical engineering know-how and people skills from working with the public.

At his first job with Rockwell International, Honeycutt worked on environmental and structural testing as part of developing the International Space Station, as well as the main propulsion system, external tank, and launch support for the Space Shuttle Program.

"The job gave me a broad base of experience and taught me the importance and the rigor required to design and test hardware for human spaceflight," he said. "It instilled in me the attention to detail required to design large, complicated systems that must operate to keep crews safe and make bold space missions successful."

Honeycutt brought this philosophy with him when he joined NASA nine years later. He was manager for the space shuttle's external tank, and he worked in many SLS positions before being named SLS program manager in October 2015. He described the rocket's early days of development as challenging, not just in designing and building the hardware, but also building the systems, facilities, and talent to evolve the program from a focus on design and development to a production and operations environment.

"The Space Launch System was the first big rocket to undergo the design and review process since the shuttle days," Honeycutt said. "You had new faces and new players, probably more so than experienced people. Even though we had some proven hardware from the shuttle, that hardware presented some unique challenges because now it had work on a different rocket for a totally different types of missions beyond low-Earth orbit. It wasn't just a plug-and-play."

It is not just building the parts of the rocket that is challenging. The SLS team collaborates with the Orion Program and Exploration Ground Systems Program to get the rocket ready to launch, an endeavor that involves stacking the boosters and core stage on the mobile launcher, connecting the upper stage with Orion, and ensuring all systems are "go for launch." Like the often-invisible work required to make a house a livable home, the systems must all work together.

"There's a huge integration piece to make the Artemis missions successful that involves not only hardware and software, but also, perhaps most importantly, people and processes. As the program has evolved, we've built a strong leadership team," Honeycutt said. "We've got everybody pushing in the same direction toward launch of the first Artemis mission to the Moon, which is what we want. You don't get there without building strong relationships from the very beginning. The payoff is seeing that rocket soar off the pad and launch a new era of deep space exploration."

Editor's note: Gina Hannah, an LSINC employee, supports SLS Strategic Communications.



NASA photo

Space Launch System Program Manager John Honeycutt and Orion Program Manager Catherine Koerner get a look at the integrated SLS rocket and Orion spacecraft stacked for the first time in the Vehicle Assembly Building at Kennedy. More than 1,000 companies from 50 states helped build SLS and Orion that will launch for the first time on the Artemis I uncrewed flight test. This mission will be followed by increasingly more complex missions.

Sports

Sarge builds college club hockey in South

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Fans at both hockey rinks rooted for college club teams. Some wore the schools' colors.

This was the scene for the College Hockey South tournament held Friday through Sunday at the Huntsville Ice Sports Center. Eight teams competed.

College Hockey South, formerly called the SECHC, is the brainchild of retired Master Sgt. Sarge Day of Huntsville.

"I started this organization in 2008 when we were the SECHC," Day, the commissioner emeritus who handles the hockey operations, said. "And then we recently did a rebrand to be more inclusive of our 16 team members because they're not all SEC (Southeastern Conference) teams.

"So, our top four teams after this (past) weekend advance to nationals in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and that's the 18th of March. We're excited to be here in the Hockey Capital of the South."

The Collegiate Hockey Federation national tournament is March 18-23 at Ice Line Quad Rinks in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Georgia, Florida Atlantic, Alabama, Auburn, South Carolina and Georgia Tech will represent College Hockey South in competing for the Federation Cup, according to Mark Purowitz, chairman of the CHF.

Day retired in December 2005 after 30 years in uniform, combining active duty and Reserve. He worked at Redstone from 2007-18 as an operations technician with the Army medical department recruiting battalion before retiring again as a civilian.

"Now I'm enjoying life running this hockey conference," Day said. He also works with the Trash Pandas minor league baseball team in their ticket sales and showing people to their seats upstairs at Toyota Field in Madison.

Georgia beat Florida Atlantic 4-2 in Sunday's final for the Kenneth "Sarge" Day Championship Cup. Alabama beat Florida 4-3 for third place.

"That was quite an honor when they put my name on that trophy," Day said. "Such an honor."

After Saturday's 2-1 semifinal loss to Florida Atlantic, Alabama coach Greg Dreveny learned that World War II veterans Major Wooten, 105, and Arthur Hullet, 95, were honored in pregame ceremonies. He told his players on the bus and returned with two autographed sticks which everybody had signed for both Alabama fans.

"It was just a great experience for the



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Sarge Day, commissioner emeritus of College Hockey South, stands next to the trophy named in his honor, the Kenneth "Sarge" Day Championship Cup.

guys that was off the ice to be able to recognize the war veterans who had given so much for us," Dreveny said. "That was a great experience for everybody."

Georgia center Jackson Katz, a senior from Milwaukee, made three goals, including an empty netter in the final second, against FAU in the final. He was named the tournament MVP.

"I think it's very humbling knowing that all the hard work you put in pays off," Katz said.

Ice Dawgs goalie Nick Newbold, a junior from Bourne, Massachusetts, made 38 saves for the win.

"I think just waking up today I was just totally amped and ready," Newbold said. "We've been waiting for this tournament all year long. And we just wanted to take our opportunity to capitalize and bring home the trophy."

Georgia (25-4-1) coach John Camp recalled the goals set by the team during their training camp held Labor Day weekend in Huntsville.

"We set our mission for the year at training camp right here in Huntsville," Camp said. "We wanted to win our division. We wanted to win the conference. We wanted to have the lowest scores against average, play to our systems. And kick ass and take names. And our motto today actually came from the (Navy) Seals, 'Not today.' If anything bad happens, not today. We're going to come through this."

The teams included Georgia, Florida Atlantic, Clemson, Georgia Tech, Alabama, Florida, Middle Tennessee State and Auburn.

Here are the results:

Friday: Georgia 5, Auburn 3; FAU 7, MTSU 1; Alabama 9, Georgia Tech, 5;



Photo by Skip Vaughn

The Georgia team members celebrate winning the College Hockey South tournament championship Sunday by beating Florida Atlantic 4-2.

and Florida 8, Clemson 4.

Saturday: FAU 2, Alabama 1; Georgia 6, Florida 4; Georgia Tech 4, Clemson 3 for fifth place; Auburn 7, MTSU 1 for

seventh place.

Sunday: Alabama 4, Florida 3 for third place; Georgia 4, FAU 2 for the championship.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Georgia's Nate Michaelson (3) scores against Auburn in Friday's opening round of the College Hockey South tournament at the Huntsville Ice Sports Center. His goal at 15:07 in the second period put the Ice Dawgs up 3-0 and they went on to win 5-3.

Youth baseball teams ready to swing into action

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

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Batter up! Baseball season is here.

Justin Higginbotham, assistant youth sports director, said official registration is over for players ages 5 to 13, but parents are still welcome to inquire about space available.

Little League baseball is offered on post at three age levels: T-ball, for ages 5 to 6; coach-pitch, for 7 and 8; and baseball for 9 to 13.

All are co-ed teams with opportunities for both girls and boys, Higginbotham said.

Practice started March 8 at the four-field sports facility on Goss Road. Times are determined by coaches, but are typically held between 5 and 6 p.m., Higginbotham said.

The cost is \$60 and includes everything players need with exception of a personal baseball glove. Uniforms, bats,

balls and helmets are provided, he said.

Baseball games will be held in April and May against players the same age in leagues with the city of Huntsville, so roughly half of them will be played on post and half will be played at various city parks.

Light refreshments including drinks, packaged chips and candy will be sold at games on the Arsenal, Higginbotham said.

Registration is underway for “Future Stars,” an introduction to baseball for children ages 3 and 4.

“It will be (held) indoors,” Higginbotham said, adding that this division is “a developmental class.”

Future Stars includes scrimmages but no games and no referees. It begins April 9 and lasts through May 14. The \$25 fee includes a T-shirt.

For more information about registration or space available, call Parent Central Services at 876-3704. For program information, call 313-3699.

World events hit hard, grab attention

It's hard to stay focused these days on sports.

That's a difficult admission for me. I've been an avid sports fan for as long as I can remember.

Baseball was my first love. I rooted for my hometown Philadelphia Phillies throughout the spring and summer as a child.

I rooted for the other Philadelphia teams, too – the Eagles in the NFL and the 76ers in the NBA. I didn't get into hockey until years later as a sportswriter in Huntsville's hockey capital of the South.

I cheer for my alma mater Auburn. I

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn

Rocket editor

pulled for the Cubs and then the Braves. I rooted for the Titans and the Lakers.

But these days I'm watching the news more than my usual sports networks.

World events have put sports into perspective.

Huntsville golf tournament gains new commitment

By Huntsville Championship golf tournament

The Huntsville Championship has announced a sponsorship commitment from Engel & Völkers, who will serve as the presenting sponsor of the SkyDeck hospitality venue on the 18th fairway. Weekly or daily tickets to the Engel & Völkers SkyDeck are now available for purchase for the 2022 tournament. The Huntsville Championship returns to The Ledges for its second year, April 28 through May 1.

The Engel & Völkers SkyDeck offers an exclusive shared hospitality experience on course with complimentary food and beverage service. Located on the 18th fairway and in close proximity to the main entrance, the Engel & Völkers SkyDeck provides a prime viewing opportunity on the tournament's closing hole.

"As a global luxury real estate brand, this partnership is a natural fit, and we look forward to welcoming professional golfers to the Huntsville Championship," said Tonya Thomas, license partner of Engel & Völkers Huntsville. "We hope that many fans will join us in the Engel

& Völkers SkyDeck next to the beautiful clubhouse at The Ledges. It's such a privilege to call Huntsville home and to be part of this growing, vibrant city."

Engel & Völkers represents one of the newest commitments for this year's Huntsville Championship. Through the support of the tournament, sponsors are able to play a critical role in the financial giveback to the philanthropic partner, Community Foundation of Greater

Huntsville. In 2021, the tournament was proud to donate \$25,500 to the Community Foundation

in order to support various charitable organizations and programs throughout the Huntsville community.

Huntsville is one of 26 international cities to host a Korn Ferry Tour stop on the 2022 schedule.

In 2013, the Korn Ferry Tour became The Path to the PGA Tour, with all 50 available PGA Tour cards coming through the regular season and the Korn Ferry Tour Finals. Notable PGA Tour players who started on the Korn Ferry Tour include major champions Justin Thomas, Jasn Day, Bubba Watson and Zach Johnson.

Your glory days in sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

How do you stay in shape?

"I come to the gym at least three times a week at a minimum. My primary thing is the elliptical," Eliga Walker, a retired command sergeant major who subsequently retired as an Army civilian, said. "It assists in burning the calories. I've been doing this ever since I retired from the military (in 2006) unable to run. Working out makes you feel better after you do a good workout. I maintain my weight because of my eating habits. I would like to lose about 15 pounds. I'm 222 right now."

Walker, 62, from Hickman, Kentucky, retired from the military after 31 years, including one year in the Marine Corps. He retired Jan. 31 from the Army acquisition workforce as a human resource assistant in the Civilian Human Resources Agency after 13 years. Walker enjoys playing the guitar, training his dogs and going to Pagano Gym. He roots for the Dallas Cowboys.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Eliga Walker, a retired command sergeant major, uses the elliptical at Pagano Gym.

MAJ Payne, are you feeling OK?
Your head looks like a basketball!



Just got a touch of March
Madness! A heavy dose of
ESPN should
clear it
right up!



Jim BoRoeh
2 March 2022

Sports & Recreation

Ladies golf association

The Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association will have a welcome sign-in brunch this morning at 10 at the Links clubhouse. Anyone interested in joining the group for the season scheduled from March until the end of September is invited. A brunch will be served. For more information, call Kathleen Stirling 874-4249.

Adult baseball league

North Alabama Adult Wood Bat baseball league is seeking additional players and teams for the 2022 season. There are age divisions for players starting at 25 including a division that has several players over 80. Games use college and high school umpires played on local high school and college fields. The season starts about the time school lets out for the summer and ends in late August. Huntsville will host a Labor Day weekend tournament open to several age groups. In the offseason Huntsville teams travel to Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee and Missouri to play in various tournaments. The tournament in Florida is played at the Red Sox and Twins spring training complexes. There are two organizations supporting North Alabama adult baseball. Phil Ellis is the contact for the Men's Senior Baseball league for the 25-plus and 40-plus divisions at <https://msblnational.com>. Wayne Harris is the contact for the Roy Hobbs Adult Baseball 40-plus and 60-plus divisions at <https://royhobbs.com/>.

Benefit golf tournament

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club will hold its second annual Pineapple Open on April 22 at the Links. Early bird registration ends March 15 and saves each participant \$20. General registration ends April 15. It's a Four Man Scramble, \$90 per person which includes green fees, cart, continental breakfast and lunch, along with a swag bag. For more information, visit rsamcc.org/fundraising.

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 infor-

Rocket Announcements

mation 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

Intermediate civilian education class

Registration is open for a resident Intermediate Civilian Education System class scheduled April 4-22 at Toftoy Hall. The course is open to any GS 10-12 (and equivalents) within 50 miles of Redstone Arsenal. Applicants must be complete with CES Foundation and Intermediate CES Phase 1. Apply at www.atrrs.army.mil/CHRTAS. For more information, contact the CES manager at thomas.v.olszowy.civ@army.mil.

Army family action plan

The Army Family Action Plan provides a platform to voice quality of life issues, feedback, ideas and suggestions. It's the best way to let Army leadership know about what works, what doesn't, and how you think problems can be resolved. Through AFAP, active and Reserve component Soldiers, Army civilians, retirees, survivors and family members have a powerful tool to help identify issues and concerns and shape the standard of living for their Army community. Issues may be submitted through the Issue Management System online at www.armyfamilywebportal.com or by calling Army Community Service at 876-5397. For help submitting issues online or for more information, call Stephanie Young of ACS at 876-6661 or email stephanie.l.young42.civ@army.mil.

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 Broad-

casting/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.

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://contact3fe2kjil> or contact KC Bertling at 541-0450 or presidentcoalition@gmail.com.

Thrift Shop job position

The Redstone Thrift Shop is looking to hire an assistant manager for a six-month trial period. This position requires knowledge in retail sales, data entry and organizational skills. Excellent computer skills, including Microsoft Office with software and hardware troubleshooting abilities. The assistant manager will work with volunteers and paid staff. He or she must have good interpersonal skills, be dependable and enthusiastic with a positive attitude; must be able to multitask; will oversee donations, consignments and must be able to lift up to 25 pounds. Post access is preferred. Work hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday and 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. the first Saturday of the month excluding holiday weekends. Resumes are accepted at rsamanager@knology.net. Apply by close of business today. For more information, call Sophie Gentry 881-6992 or email rsamanager@knology.net. The Thrift Shop is a non-profit organization on Redstone Arsenal; it is however not affiliated with Redstone or the Army. This is not a government job.