

Redstone Rocket

www.theredstonerocket.com

March 16, 2022

Vol. 71 No. 11

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PERSONNEL AT REDSTONE ARSENAL, AL

Army Emergency Relief campaign underway

By BUD McLAUGHLIN

Staff writer

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“We Take Care of Our Own” is an anthem written by Bruce Springsteen.

Though the song is written about the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, its words and emotions are reflected in the annual Army Emergency Relief giving campaign “80 years helping the U.S. Army take care of its own.”

The 2022 effort kicked off March 8 with a \$100,000 goal; the campaign ends May 31.

“I’m glad to have the opportunity to participate in the opening kickoff,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said. “Last year, we handed out \$58,000; we also gave out about \$47,000 in grants and loans.”

Soldiers taking care of their own has been AER’s tradition since 1942. Team Redstone each year supports this mission of helping Soldiers and their families in times of emergency needs.

At last week’s kickoff event, Mellor, Capt. Hunter Wilson, 1st Sgt. Erika Vargas and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez participated in signing the first allotment checks.

“It will take a concerted effort to get this done,” Mellor said. “We need volunteers of every unit to contact every Soldier out there.”

“It’s all about Soldiers helping Soldiers.”



Photo by Erin Elise

From left, AER Campaign Coordinator Capt. Hunter Wilson, Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor, and Financial Readiness Program Manager Olivia Pierce attend the kickoff of the Army Emergency Relief annual fundraising campaign.



Photo by Erin Elise

“It’s all about Soldiers helping Soldiers,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor says at the AER kickoff March 8 in the Pershing Welcome Center.



Photo by Erin Elise

Signing their AER allotment checks, from left, are Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor, AER Campaign Coordinator Capt. Hunter Wilson, 1st Sgt. Erika Vargas and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez.



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Bloggers don't have license to deceive the public

I get surveyed a lot. It's probably because I responded to a survey back in 1998 and once they know they've got a sucker, they never let you go.

The latest one was from Poynter about the current state of journalism. It had several questions but two of them stuck out to me. The first was do you think people trust the media? The second asked if journalists should be licensed.

It was a multiple-choice survey, so there was no nuance to your answer. The surveyors simply wanted you to pick the answer closest to your views.

I answered no to the first question and yes to the second. Now, let me get into the nuance.

When you ask someone if they trust the media, you really need to define who you're talking about when you say media.

The Rocket is part of a media organization. You have the local TV stations that are a part of the media when I think media. There are your national outlets like The New York Times, CNN and Fox News. But today there are so many blogs and websites that take on the roles of traditional media companies, that you must include them too. Some of those have a sole purpose of generating clicks and care very little about facts. And too

Snippets

By Jonathan Stinson

Assistant editor

often, some of those larger outlets pick up stories from the smaller blogs and do very little independent fact-checking, which causes problems.

So, when I evaluated the question as a whole, my answer was obviously no, I don't trust the media. I regularly go down a rabbit hole tracking stories I read from national outlets to see where the original reporting came from.

But what if the question was phrased differently: "Do you trust the media not to lie to you?"

For the most part, I do. While there are some, and since I do my homework, I know who the usual offenders are, I don't know of any media companies with an established legacy who makes it a point to intentionally lie to their readers or viewers just to drive traffic.

That doesn't mean I think the media gets every story right, it just means I don't think they are intentionally trying to deceive me.

Basically, I don't distrust the media

because of its motives. Instead my distrust comes from simply knowing that humans mess up. So, I take a few extra steps to try to make up for the human element in reporting. Journalism is a practice.

On its face, my second answer seems like a member of the working press is advocating for the limitations of free speech.

Spoiler alert, I'm not. People should be free to say what they want to whom-ever they feel needs to hear it.

I do believe, however, once you start making money for the dissemination of your information, that places a different responsibility on your shoulders.

Before the Internet if you wanted to reach the masses there were barriers. You either had to buy a press and spend millions to distribute a newspaper or buy a really big antenna and start a radio sta-

tion or a television station.

The natural barrier created by the significant financial investment required to start a news operation meant that the people who did it had something to lose, thus they were a little more cautious when it came to getting things right.

Those checks and balances no longer exist.

So, while I don't think journalists need a licensing authority, there needs to be something that differentiates a professional from some random guy living in his mom's basement.

Right now, the only thing that differentiates me from that guy is I have something to lose if I act in a reckless manner, but the problem is I think most people just assume someone who publishes for public consumption has something to lose. The fact is they don't and that makes them dangerous.

On this date in history: March 16

In 2021: Eight people were killed and one injured in a trio of shootings at spas in and near Atlanta. A suspect was arrested the same day.

In 2014: Crimea voted in a controversial referendum to secede from Ukraine to join Russia.

In 1945: The Battle of Iwo Jima ended, but small pockets of Japanese resistance persisted.

In 1935: Adolf Hitler ordered Germany to rearm herself in violation of the Treaty of Versailles. Conscription was reintroduced to form the Wehrmacht.

In 1926: Robert Goddard launched the first liquid-fueled rocket, at Auburn, Massachusetts.

Quote of the week

“Champions keep playing until they get it right.”

— Billie Jean King

RedstoneRocket

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

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

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

Email: samuel.c.vaughn2.civ@mail.mil

Email classified ads to rocketads@theredstonerocket.com

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

Rocket articles are available at:
<http://www.theredstonerocket.com>

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First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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What do you think of your job?

"Redstone is a great place to work, and I really like the (fire) department here," Daniel Royer, firefighter/EMT at Station 2 on Vincent Drive, said.

Royer, 36, from New Orleans, became a Redstone firefighter in June 2021. He has been a firefighter since December 2003. He worked for Dyncorp as a firefighter at Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands from May 2019 to May 2021. He was a firefighter at the Naval Air Station New Orleans in 2017-19. The Madison resident served in the Air Force from 2003-07 and left as a senior airman. He likes watching sports and he roots for the New Orleans Saints and the LSU Tigers.



Daniel Royer

Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Why you joined the Army.

"I joined the Army to start my law enforcement career earlier," Sgt. Jordan Chop, administrative NCO-in-charge at Headquarters & Headquarters Company, Aviation and Missile Command, said. "I joined in 2013 as a military police officer. I was stationed at Fort Polk (Louisiana) and Yongsan, Korea, and then came to Redstone in 2020. It's been nine years of greatness. The people, the units and leadership have been fantastic – especially AMCOM."

Chop, 27, from Huntsville, will receive her bachelor's in investigative forensics in May from the University of Maryland-Global Campus. She graduated from Bob Jones High in 2012. "I like to listen to crime podcasts," she said. The Huntsville resident roots for the Auburn Tigers and the Atlanta Braves.



Sgt. Jordan Chop

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Name: Shelby Johnson

Position: Project manager/technical manager, Software, Simulation, System Engineering and Integration, Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center

What did you want to be when you grew up?

An engineer. When I was a little bitty boy, I wanted to be a pilot. When I was a child growing up in St. Louis, going to and from school, I would see the F-4 Phantoms taking off and landing right over our school. However, I was tracked into engineering from all the math and science classes I took in high school.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2022?

I would like to lead my team into the next phase of the program we're working on.

What is the best part about your job?

Working with 22 brilliant engineers and computer scientists.

Who is your hero, and why?

Two people: my father and my maternal grandfather. They taught me every aspect of manhood, including being a gentleman, strong work ethic and be-



ing able to empathize.

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

Stop this war in the Ukraine.

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

"Love God and love your fellow man." That comes from several folks. It comes from pastors, teachers, my parents, many people. That's the same thing I've been hearing over and over again.

What do you like to do to pass the time?

I like to read any and everything I can find. I love to read and educate myself.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents March 13-19:

Crimes against persons, two.

Crimes against property, zero.

Traffic offenses (speed/registration/license/other), 14.

Driving while intoxicated, one.

Weapons violations, two.

Other violations, five.

Know your laws: Copyright protection for software

By ANN DENNEN

Huntsville lawyer

The United States Copyright Act defines computer software as a set of statements or instructions used to control, directly or indirectly, a computer to bring about a certain result. The set of program instructions may be fixed in electronic, print, or other medium and are often in computer-readable source code and machine-readable object code. Users typically only see a graphical user interface generated by the software.

Copyrights relate to original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression. In this regard, a copyright attaches to software source code as a literary work if the software is fixed in a tangible medium of expressions, such as in print or in a computer hard drive or other electronic, magnetic or optical medium.

Notably, computer code is expressive and functional. Thus, deciding which computer features are eligible for copyright protection is often more difficult than determining more traditional copyrightable subject matter. In this regard, the Copyright Act excludes from protection ideas, processes, systems and methods of operation. Therefore, courts often have the tedious job of parsing the idea-versus-expression dichotomy when determining what is protectable in software.

When determining what is protectable, a court considers the program's literal elements and nonliteral elements. Literal elements including the following: source code, and object code.

Further, the court considers the program's nonliteral elements listed:

- The program as an integrated whole.

- The program's individual features or components, such as its modules, subroutines and macros; module substructure (the nesting of one module within another); control flow (the sequence in which modules perform their tasks); files; data flow (the sequence in which data moves through the program and is operated on by the modules); or user interface (data input formats and other non-graphical, internal code that enables the user and computer to communicate with one another, as distinguished from the visible graphical user interface).

In determining whether a computer program is protectible under Copyright Law, a court typically applies one of three tests, including:

- Abstraction-Filtration-Comparison: Under the AFC test, the court first determines the main purpose of the software, the program structure or architecture, modules, algorithms and data structures, source code, and object code. Based on these categories, the court excludes the non-copyrightable elements, including ideas, procedures, processes, systems, methods of operation, concepts, principles discoveries, facts, information and data, common, standard, or stock programming practices, features dictated by external constraints, e.g., compliance, and third-party or public domain contributions.

- Method of Operation: Under the MO test functional computer program features, such as methods of operation, procedures, systems, and other subject matter are excluded and are ineligible for copyright protection regardless of expression.

- Inherent Necessity: Under the IN test if subject matter is unnecessary to the function of the computer program's purpose or function is expressive and eligible



for copyright protection.

Of the three tests described, most courts use the Abstraction-Filtration-Comparison test described above.

Editor's note: The opinions in this column do not constitute legal advice nor do they establish an attorney-client relationship. If you have questions concerning the issues discussed, contact an attorney of your choice. No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Soldier/civilian/family readiness briefs

By Army News Service and Defense Department websites

Contract award announcements

Intrepid LLC, Huntsville, was awarded a \$17,998,870 modification to contract W9113M-18-F-0012 to support program operations, system engineering, system tests, system software engineering, system logistics, and product office and user assessments. Bids were solicited via the Internet with one received. Work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of July 18, 2023. Army Contracting Command, Redstone is the contracting activity.

Airspace above Ukraine contested

Ten days into Russia's illegal invasion of neighboring Ukraine, the airspace above Ukraine remains contested, as Ukrainian pilots continue to defend their country, a senior Defense Department official said March 6.

"In the airspace, we continue to observe that the airspace over Ukraine is contested," the official said in statement. "Ukrainian air and missile defenses remain effective and in use. The Ukrainian military continues to fly aircraft and to employ air defense assets."

The Ukrainian military has also released videos of Russian military aircraft that have been shot down, though the official said that the U.S. Defense Department is not in a position to either confirm the validity of those videos or refute them.

"Both sides have taken losses to both aircraft and missile defense inventories," the official said. "We are not going to speak to numbers. We assess that both sides still possess a majority of their air defense systems and capabilities."

While the official did say that since the invasion began Feb. 24, the Defense Department believes Russian forces have launched approximately 600 missiles of various types. At the same time, the department is unable to corroborate reports of the use of cluster munitions or thermobaric weapons by the Russians, the official said.

On the ground, the official said, the U.S. Defense Department has observed limited changes in the past day

"Russian forces continued efforts to advance and isolate Kyiv, Kharkiv and Chernihiv across the north and east are being met with strong Ukrainian resistance," the official said, adding that leading Russian elements remain outside these city centers and the Russian convoy continues to be stalled.

In the far south of Ukraine, the official said, the DOD has observed fighting near Kherson, on the Dnieper River, and near Mykolaiv – a location for major shipbuilding operations – on the Pivdennyi Buh, or "Southern Bug," river.

In Mariupol on the Sea of Azov in southern Ukraine and just 30 miles from the Russian border, the official said DOD has observed continued fighting and efforts by the Russians to encircle the city.

"There continue to be reports of widespread utility outages," the official said, to include both water and electricity.

Military

Missiles update focuses on sustainment, readiness

By KERENSA HOUSTON

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

The Aviation and Missile Command hosted its annual 101 for Missiles March 1-2 and it arguably could not have come at a more relevant time.

AMCOM and the Army missile community come together annually to discuss support to warfighters around the world. Approximately 100 attendees participated in the hybrid event that was primarily virtual.

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, AMCOM commander, provided opening remarks in a hybrid forum to nearly 100 attendees March 1 from Bob Jones Auditorium. Attendance was up from the 80 who registered in 2021.

“We all see what’s going on currently in the news today – no surprise. If you read open source, there’s a lot of discussion on missiles, a lot of discussions on air superiority, a lot of discussion about contested air defense capabilities that are out there,” he said. “Consequently, there are some implications that I think we have inside of large-scale combat operations that make a difference on the sustainment.”

The AMCOM commander outlined potential sustainment implications of large-scale combat operations.

Units go to combat with what they have so they must take care of the equipment they have. “We cannot treat our equipment as the rental car fleet – and I’m not saying that you do,” Royar said. “Every part counts; every dollar counts.”

There may be condensed reception, staging, onward movement and integration period. “We have to be good from Day One,” he said. He referenced how often units show up at combat training center rotations or other field exercises only to discover equipment deficiencies or outdated software, then are forced to scramble to get field service representatives to help fix the issue. “If we have to go into large-scale operations, the quantity of those folks ... will be outpaced by the number of units



Photo by Lisa Hunter

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, commander of Aviation and Missile Command, gives opening remarks at AMCOM 101 for Missiles March 1 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

asking.” Operational tempo may require frequent movement for some of the mobile systems. “You’re going to be moving a lot and moving often, which means that your (preventive maintenance checks and services) – becomes ever so more critical ... because none of us can afford to have the broken-down vehicle that was critical to the fight not make it from X to Y because you need that capability there. PMCS does not happen by accident – you’ve got to train,” Royar said.

There may be contested supply lines. “We have a lot

of things, a lot of pieces and parts that are moving; the enemy will always get a vote, which means that if we do not troubleshoot wisely, we are not only maybe asking for the wrong thing or asking for it twice – that puts an additional stress on the supply lines,” Royar said. “So we want to make sure that our team is as good as they possibly can be in troubleshooting to make sure that when something does break – and things will – that we’re asking for the exact right part to make sure that we do it in a way not only to minimize the downtime but also reduce the stress on those supply lines.”

AMCOM Missile Maintenance Officer Chief Warrant 5 Araceli Rial provided a System of Systems readiness reporting update overview of and facilitated a demonstration of the capability. The SoS was designed to address reporting problems that have been specific to air defense, but it could be used on a larger scale in the future.

“We’ve been talking a lot about sustainment and readiness and capturing readiness,” Rial said. “A lot of that has to do with the mechanisms: Do we have the right mechanisms in place to do that? Does the Soldier have the right mechanisms to capture this information?”

Part of that exploration, Rial said, was searching for those areas that are a challenge.

“In the air defense, community, readiness reporting was problematic and for you maintainers that are out there, I don’t have to tell you that process,” she said. “You live it every single day; the manual reporting, the swivel-chair entry – that’s a real thing to you.”

An offline system is currently used that requires Soldiers to manually input data for daily reporting, it isn’t an Armywide system.

A couple years ago AMCOM spearheaded an effort to tackle the issue.

“Over time, we were able to come up with something that is a capability with a single point of entry from the Soldier at near-real time. So that way, the visibility is stretched across the entire enterprise, not just (in one system),” Rial said.

In addition to AMCOM leaders, attendees heard from Space and Missile Defense Command Commander Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler; Maj. Gen. Robert Rascher, program executive officer for missiles and space; Cross Functional Team Chief of Staff Col. Michael Hartley; and Letterkenny Army Depot Commander Col. Rick Allbritton.

“This is an amazing team strengthening forum between AMCOM and (air and missile defense) enterprise to ensure the continued readiness of the (Army integrated air and missile defense) enterprise and Soldiers defending our great nation,” Command Sgt. Maj. Finis Dodson, SMDC command sergeant major, said.

“As the senior Army ammunition logistician in the Pacific theater, the overview briefs provided by each of the strategic partners, AMD CFT and LEAD were invaluable in that the information presented during each session provided insight into the existing and emergent strike and missile defense capabilities, as well as the roles and activities of the Army organic and commercial industry base partners,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Zachary Keough, Army Pacific G-4 Munitions Directorate.



Photo by Lisa Hunter

The two-day forum, which has been virtual since the onset of the pandemic, is held annually and is an opportunity for players across the missile defense enterprise to share information.

Huntsville native becomes senior executive, joins MDA

By Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs

After almost 30 years in government contracting, Huntsville native John Mayes was selected for Senior Executive Service and joined the Missile Defense Agency in December 2021. Mayes is MDA's newest director for contracting, managing a portfolio that averages between \$8-10 billion annually.

"I've always been impressed by MDA, seeing its impact in the acquisition and defense communities and knowing its reputation as a high-standard, professional organization," Mayes said.

In this new role, Mayes is responsible for all aspects of contract strategy, execution, and administration for highly-complex research and development, pre-production, production, sustainment and services related to programs that are integrated into a single missile defense system.

"The contracting team is already doing great things," he said, "so my goal is to capitalize on the successes already in place and focus on the development of people, drive measurable efficiencies in the acquisition and contract execution process, enhance the use of automation for better management and data driven decisions, and build cohesive and collaborative relationships among the overall acquisition team and our industry partners."

Prior to joining MDA, Mayes served as the deputy executive director for the Army Contracting Command-Redstone where he assisted with operations and oversight of a diverse contract execution mission averaging over \$20 billion annually and supporting more than 50 acquisition category programs. Other positions at ACC-Redstone included associate director for missile and space sys-



John Mayes

tems and logistics, preceded by chief of program strategies where he managed the advisory and assistance services program known as EXPRESS. He also served for almost six years as the chief of contracting for the Corps of Engineers' largest contracting office at the Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

Mayes holds a bachelor's degree in management of technology from Athens State University, a master's in acquisition management from the University of Management and Technology in Arlington, Virginia, and a Certificate of Leadership from the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business.

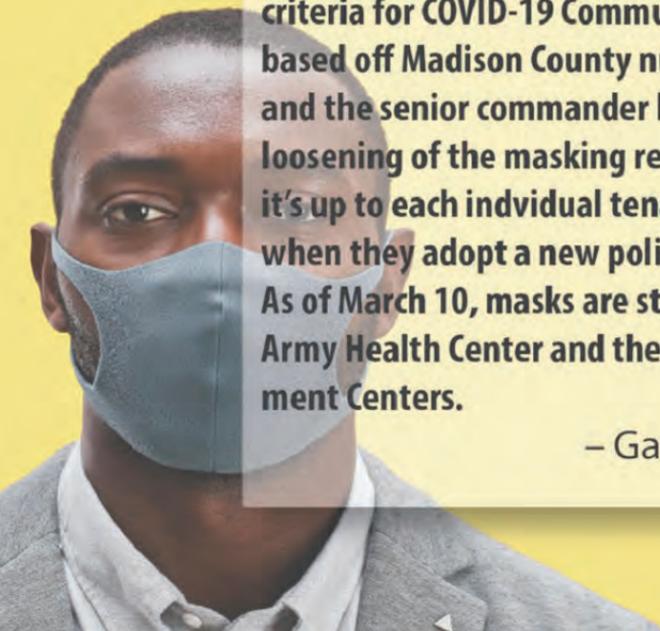
He is Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Level III certified in contracting and holds secondary certifications in program management and facilities engineering. Mayes is a member of the Acquisition Corps and the National Contract Management Association.

COVID-19 FAQs

Do you have to wear a mask on post?

Answer: It depends. Redstone Arsenal meets the criteria for COVID-19 Community Level – Medium based off Madison County numbers from the CDC, and the senior commander has approved the loosening of the masking requirement. However, it's up to each individual tenant to decide if or when they adopt a new policy for their commands. As of March 10, masks are still required at Fox Army Health Center and the post's Child Development Centers.

– Garrison Public Affairs



Masks become optional, no longer mandatory

By **JONATHAN STINSON**

Assistant editor

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Workers arrived at Garrison headquarters Thursday morning to find the masking requirement, which has been in place for most of the pandemic, had been lifted.

Signs on the entrances that used to read “Face covering required in this facility! Regardless of vaccination status” had been changed to “Facemasks are optional.”

“Redstone Arsenal meets the criteria for COVID-19 Community Level-Medium based off Madison County numbers as reported today by the CDC. At this time, indoor masking is not required for DOD personnel or visitors,” Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said in an

email to the Garrison’s workforce.

Under COVID-19 Community Level-Medium, unvaccinated individuals are still required to test before entering the workplace and masks are still required at Fox Army Health Center and the post’s Child Development Centers.

“Masking is still an option for those who choose to wear a mask for their protection,” Mellor said in an email. “Individuals who have symptoms are expected to follow the current precautions and not come into the workplace until cleared with their supervisor. Social distancing with 6-feet of space between individuals is still recommended.”

Those outside of the Garrison are encouraged to check with their supervisors to learn exactly what the masking procedures are for their locations.

Teamwork returns deployed helicopters to training fleet

By KERENSA HOUSTON

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

Day or night, in sunshine or thunderstorms, Aviation Center Logistics Command teams out of Fort Rucker did what had to be done to unload aircraft arriving from combat zones for reset.

Reset is the Army's process of bringing equipment back up to operating standard following deployments and before being returned to their home units – or, in this case, to the home of Army aviation.

The Army tasked the Aviation and Missile Command Aviation Field Maintenance Directorate to plan and execute Special Technical Inspection and Repair activities for induction, repair and return of helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft.

And with that, the reset program began.

“Our mission here at the ACLC was (that) all of the aircraft were going to be delivered to Fort Rucker initially until funding, manpower and slots became available and then we would start sending the aircraft to the reset facilities,” said Jack Martin, Knox Army Airfield manager and contracting officer representative.

“Previously, all aircraft returning from the (U.S. Central Command area of responsibility) were reset but, with current fiscal constraints, now aircraft are scored using the conditions-based decision support tool and prioritized accordingly,” Neil West, AMCOM AFMD associate director, said. “The CBDST scores aircraft based on six factors – utilization, environment, flight/operational, age, facilities and operations tempo – to determine which aircraft need maintenance the soonest.

“This maintenance action is a complete serviceability inspection and repair with a thorough cleaning of the airframe and dynamic components and completion of all phase inspections. With the level of disassembly required, an airframe condition evaluation is completed and airframe faults are corrected. Application of all available technology upgrades occur simultaneously.”

The Chinooks arrived one or two at a time between June and July 2020 at the Dothan Regional Airport via Air Force C-5



Army photo

A CH-47 Chinook helicopter is offloaded from an Air Force C-17 cargo plane at Dothan Regional Airport, June 28, 2020.

and C-17 cargo aircraft.

The ultimate goal was to integrate the Chinooks into the training fleet at Fort Rucker.

Though the aircraft weren't deemed unsafe to fly, given the wear and tear Chinooks in the training fleet endure with student pilots, Martin said they wouldn't have been able to sustain the operational tempo of the mission at Fort Rucker.

“That's why it was determined (to) go ahead and reset all these aircraft before we put them into the fleet,” he explained. “The initial idea had been (to) just put them together and fly them here but, as we started inspecting the aircraft, there was significant airframe damage or structural problems with the aircraft and it just didn't make sense to do that. So that's why they all got reset at Campbell or Bragg.”

“You never knew when the aircraft was actually going to land,” Martin said. “You can track it – there's a tracker that the airports uses but it's not perfect so sometimes they divert for customs or to get fuel somewhere – all the things that you don't know about.”

Sometimes the crews of 15 or so had to wait four or five hours for the aircraft

to arrive.

“The fun part here is our contract maintenance team are old school; they don't have a lot of brand-new mechanics that are retired from the Army so they're not familiar with offloading off of strategic Air Force aircraft. We had our Soldiers and our recently retired Soldiers that have a lot of experience offloading,” Martin said. “So as much as we have separation between the government side and the contract side, this is the one time that all disappeared because the contractor didn't fully understand how to offload aircraft and our guys and their guys just got together and they just did a big team effort. It was it was really kind of neat to watch.

“We had thunderstorms, we had sideways rain – it must have been 106 or 108 degrees (once). Then there's the normal South Alabama 100% humidity and everybody is just soaking wet and everybody's just working, though – they were just getting it done.”

And get it done they did. Because the Air Force had to adhere to schedules, inclement weather was not a reason to delay the offloading process. Once the cargo planes touched down, a stopwatch of sorts began so the offload and refueling could take place and get the crew to the next leg of the mission.

Aircraft were removed from the cargo planes using cable, tow bars and momentum from the downward slope of the ramp and pulled to a special hangar until transportation can be arranged to reset facilities at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, or Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Certain parts of the helicopters are removed during transport so they fit on the cargo planes. Once the Chinooks land and are offloaded, they are often left in a state of disassembly so they fit on the trailer beds that transport them to the reset facilities. The loads must be narrow enough to fit on roads, bridges and such. ACLC teams also had to be confident the trailers were sturdy enough to sustain the load for the duration of the road trip.

Two were sent to Fort Campbell immediately, while others sat in a hangar at Fort Rucker until funding allowed them to be shipped for reset. In total four went to Kentucky and the other two went to North Carolina.

By September 2020, all six helicopters had been sent for reset and were complete within 4 1/2 to five months. Instructor pilots or test pilots were then sent to reset sites to fly the Chinooks back to Fort Rucker where they were integrated into the training fleet of 44 aircraft.



Army photo

A CH-47 Chinook helicopter sits on a trailer at Dothan Regional Airport, Aug. 6, 2020.

Calibration supervisor has passion for finding solutions

By KERENSA HOUSTON

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

Gary Davenport has supported the federal government for nearly two decades – most of it as a civilian.

Like many who chose to serve, Davenport enlisted in the Army after 9/11 and served for four years as an electronics technician and set off on a path that would take him to the Aviation and Missile Command.

Not only is he a veteran with a great sense of humor, but his wife was in the Navy and both their fathers served in the Marine Corps.

As a calibrator in the Army, Davenport worked on computers to automate testing procedures and noticed an issue that caused overheating issues.

“I devised a method to temporarily repair the defect in the field rather than having to send all computers back to the manufacturer/government contractor for refit,” said the native of Oregon City, Oregon – though he said doesn’t get to go there anymore. “The contractor was impressed with my design and gave me a job when I left the Army. After a few years as a contractor, I was converted to federal service and have been working diligently to serve where I can.”

After exploring the origins of his federal service, it’s no wonder Davenport made his way to Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity where he is now the chief of the Evaluation and Assessment Division.

“Though I had no idea I would be doing this work, I feel like every job I had in the past prepared me to be the best I could at this one,” Davenport said.

And he is absolutely an MVP in his field. So much so that he was at the helm of developing the career map for Wage Grade 3378 precision measurement equipment calibrators who support the Army.

According to USATA Enterprise Support Director David Hargett, Davenport’s supervisor, the implementation of the 3378 Series Competency Map Davenport built provides a standardized framework and career-enhancing information that did not previously exist for nearly 300 Army civilians who fall in that field.

“The competency map outlines the leadership, functional and core competencies as well as academic training and certification objectives for the successful career development of this unique job series,” Hargett noted.

“I love being part of the big picture,” Davenport said. “I’m honored to work for my country and wake up every day thrilled that I have the opportunity to make a differ-

“I devised a method to temporarily repair the defect in the field rather than having to send all computers back to the manufacturer/government contractor for refit. The contractor was impressed with my design and gave me a job when I left the Army. After a few years as a contractor, I was converted to federal service and have been working diligently to serve where I can.”

Gary Davenport

ence for my country and warfighters.”

The Evaluation and Assessment Division of USATA has the mammoth responsibility of certifying the Army’s test equipment and ensuring it meets or exceeds Army mandates.

“This test equipment is used to optimize field-level equipment, improving communication capabilities, weapon accuracy and survivability,” Davenport explained. “The organization as a whole is a force multiplier, providing opportunities and capabilities for our warriors to excel in every way.”

One could say what he describes as “a relentless will to succeed” and his love of “finding a solution where none seems to exist” have served him, USATA, the Army and the warfighter well. It’s what drives him.

Though he has several guiding principles, Davenport said there’s one that resonates to his very inner being.

“At one point in time – many years ago now – several back-and-forth emails and phone calls ensued to get a particular pressure gauge into the system so our technicians would have the authorization and guidance to calibrate it,” he said. “Near the conclusion of our (conversation) with the fielding agency, someone muttered into the phone, ‘All this for a gauge.’”

“That’s right! All this for a gauge,” Davenport said he retorted. “We are going to get this right regardless of the perceived benefit. That gauge might be attached to a pressurized line which is attached to the air output valve of an environmentally enclosed room. That gauge might



Courtesy photo

Gary Davenport is the chief of the Evaluation and Assessment Division in the Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity.

signal when the air is at the correct pressure to ensure the safety of the team when in the room. You’re right, we’re doing all this for a gauge – and we will do it all again tomorrow.”

If that account doesn’t reveal Davenport’s character and work ethic, nothing will.

“I feel like I’ve well surpassed any goals I could have had for myself,” he said. “I have a fantastic team; each one is great at their job and it makes my job very easy.”

Javelin

Continued from page **11**

command launch unit adds another 15 pounds, making it extremely portable for the two-Soldier crew, but it can also be used by a single Soldier, if necessary.

The Javelin has a range of some 2½ miles and reaches a height of 490 feet before descending on a sharp angle toward its target.

“The Javelin, where it’s effective is: ‘I see it; I shoot; then I can run away, reload, and get ready for another one’ – and that weapon is most likely going to

hit the target,” Marine Col. James Frey, a senior military fellow at the Center for a New American Security think tank in Washington, D.C., told taskandpurpose.com. “By the time the enemy sees you, you’ve moved from your position.”

Some \$13.5 billion has been earmarked for aid to Ukraine in a \$1.5 trillion federal spending package. Early this month, President Joe Biden authorized a \$350 million package of weapons that included Javelins.

Meanwhile, the state’s No. 1 cheerleader, Gov. Kay Ivey, bragged on the weapon in a recent Tweet: “We want the last thing Putin ever reads to be ‘Made in Alabama.’”



Courtesy photo

Support to veterans

North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition provides funding support to Disabled American Veterans, Huntsville Chapter 26, for its veterans' projects. From left are Adelaide Cape, president of du Midi Woman's Club; KC Bertling, president of the Veterans Coalition; retired Lt. Col. Audrey Ransom, senior vice commander of DAV Huntsville Chapter 26; and Bill Koch, executive vice president of the Veterans Coalition.

St. Javelin makes impact on Ukraine's war spirit



Courtesy photo

Christian Borys, a Ukrainian-Canadian marketer and former journalist who worked in Ukraine from 2014-18, saw a meme of St. Javelin and decided to print it as a sticker.

By BUD McLAUGHLIN

Staff writer

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The Javelin missile, managed by the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, has been called a “godsend” for Ukraine in its war with Russia.

In fact, the Ukraine people – of whom 90% are Christians – have beatified the Alabama-made anti-tank weapon.

There is a meme that has gone viral of an image of Mary Magdalene holding a Javelin missile launcher. She is being portrayed as the icon of Ukraine's war spirit.

Garbed in military green, Mary is shown with a blue halo with the Ukraine golden trident.

Meet St. Javelin.

And the image is being reproduced on shirts, hoodies, caps and stickers to raise money to help Ukraine.

“I saw a meme of St. Javelin that a military buddy who also focused on Ukraine was sharing, and I decided I wanted to print it as a sticker,” said Christian Borys, a Ukrainian-Canadian marketer and former journalist who worked in Ukraine from 2014-18. “I asked one of my company's designers who lives in Ukraine to make the design ready for sticker print, and I put it up on Instagram to see if anyone else likes it.

“I got a few people saying they wanted it and so I put up a simple website (www.saintjavelin.com) to sell it.”

And what happened next was more than Borys, who worked in tech at Shopify, could believe.

“I spent 2014-2018 reporting on the conflict from Ukraine and living there,” said Borys, who reported for



Courtesy photo

The St. Javelin meme represents an image of Mary Magdalene holding a Javelin missile launcher. Portrayed as the icon of Ukraine's war spirit, it has gone viral.

the BBC, CBC and al Jazeera. “So, when I understood what was about to happen, I wanted to do something, any little thing. I never imagined it would be this.

“We just crossed \$1 million; we've sold to over 60 countries.”

Keeping up with the orders and with the reports from Ukraine has left Borys little free time to comprehend St. Javelin's impact.

“Honestly, I just work all the time so I haven't had a moment to really step back and reflect on what this is and what we've done,” he said. “I'm just trying to keep it going because now people want us to expand it into other things.”

Borys said 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the products – which include stickers, apparel and other

merchandise – will be donated to Help Us Help, a registered Canadian charity focused on humanitarian aid and educational projects in Ukraine.

“Help Us Help has been working in Ukraine for 30 years,” he said. “I trust them wholeheartedly to make the most of this.”

And, unfortunately, Ukraine will continue to need help in the years to come.

“I think everyone has to keep in mind that what we're seeing in Ukraine now is the first part of war,” Borys said. “The next part, the cleanup, will take decades and billions of dollars after such a tragic level of destruction.

“Not to mention, the lives lost and ruined that can never be repaired or replaced.”



Photo by Carrie David Campbell

Engineer retires

Christine Stewart, engineer at Space and Missile Defense Command Technical Center, receives the Superior Civilian Service Award from Ben Kerstiens, director, Research Directorate, during a ceremony Feb. 28. She retires with nearly 38 years of service.

Community

Recreational badge puts people on trail to fun, fitness

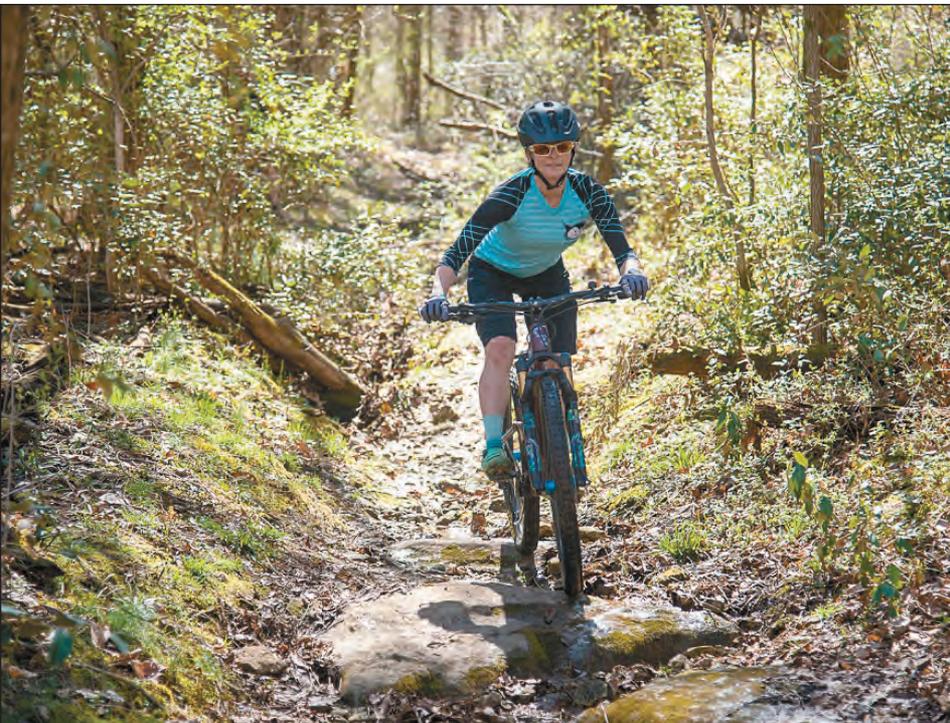


Photo by Erin Elise

Erin McMahon rides the Claymore Trail on Redstone Arsenal.

REBECCA SALLEE

Staff writer

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Redstone Arsenal boasts some of the best bike trails in the region, and they aren't just for people who live or work on post.

Anyone who completes the paperwork and passes a background test is eligible to receive a recreational badge that allows access to the Arsenal and use of its bike trails and other outdoor recreational facilities.

Brian Reinwald, chief of physical security at Redstone, said the process is quick, easy and free.

One, stop by the Visitors Center at Gate 9 on Rideout Road.

Two, receive a document listing rules and regulations that must be followed on post, including requirements for helmets and reflective vests.

Three, complete an application for a recreational badge, which also gives permission for a background check.

The background check looks at the applicant's criminal history and driving record, Reinwald said. Anyone who has been convicted of a felony or who has a questionable record, such as repeat DUI offenses, will likely be denied access to the Arsenal.

The entire process can be done while you wait, depending on how busy the Visitors Center is at any given time, Reinwald said.

"It generally takes about five to six minutes," he said. "They can go there, we can do everything. If they pass the background check, they can have access that day."

The recreational badge is a card similar in size and appearance to a Civilian Access Card, and includes the user's photograph.

Access can be made to the Arsenal with the recreational badge at Gate 9 on Rideout Road or at Gate 8 on Goss Road.

Tom Pyburn, director of sports, fitness and aquatics at the Arsenal, said recreational card holders can access the many bicycle trails on post and the seven-mile greenway trail.

Bike riders can also ride on the roads themselves, with less traffic and more safety offered on the weekends.



Photo by Erin Elise

Mountain biker Jeff Lane rides on the Fox Connector trail on Redstone Arsenal.

Maps of the Arsenal's bike trails, which indicate their levels of difficulty, can be found at Redstone.armymwr.com.

Erin McMahon, vice president of the Huntsville Area Mountain Bike Riders (HAMR) and a Lower Tier Interceptor configuration management analyst at the SHIELD (Short and Intermediate Effectors for Layer Defense) Project Office, said the bike trails offer something for everyone.

"There are some easier trails for newer riders, plus a few technical downhill trails, and a lot in between," she said. "The convenience from my workplace can't be better, either."

Recreational badge holders can also use Redstone's Disc Golf Course and its two boat launches on the Tennessee River, Pyburn noted.

Stephanie Stone, marketing manager for Morale, Welfare and Recreation, said recreational badge holders can also use such facilities as Redstone Lanes bowling center, Links golf course, and Flying Activity with access to flying lessons.

The recreation badge also allows card holders access to some restaurants on post, including the Java Cafe, Greek Gyros Express, and The Summit at Redstone and gives them easy access to special events on post.

Army photo

Security assistance talk

Brig. Gen. Garrick Harmon, Security Assistance Command's commander, discusses the Army's security assistance and foreign military sales program with Republic of North Macedonia State Secretary in the Ministry of Defence Dragan Nikolic, and Army of the Republic of Macedonia Director of the General Staff, Maj. Gen. Zoran Mileski, during a visit to Redstone Arsenal. USASAC serves as the "Army's Face to the World" to U.S. ally and partner militaries, and works to build their capabilities, enhance interoperability and strengthen relationships.



'I am proud to have served our country'

Barker was among last enlistees with the Women's Army Corps

By AYUMI DAVIS

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

At 18 Diane Barker was planning her future, but her family didn't have enough money to send her to college. She knew three things for certain: she wanted to travel, she was good at troubleshooting calculators and she knew she definitely didn't want to work at Drug Fair, a local drugstore.

"I just knew that if I didn't do something to get some education or skill that I would wind up doing nothing and hanging around the house," Barker said. "So, I wanted more."

Thus, in an easy, quick decision, Barker signed up for early enlistment and entered the Women's Army Corps on Nov. 16, 1976. In store for her was something beyond WAC, though.

On July 1, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation that would eventually create WAC. The women Soldiers took on positions such as weather forecasters, radio mechanics, cryptographers, control tower specialists and medical technicians.

Like other WAC Soldiers, Barker's class trained at Fort McClellan in Anniston. Her mother taught her to shoot with a .22 rifle when she was young. Training was lots of fun and she aced marksmanship with an M16 rifle, Barker said. She ended up qualifying as an expert.

Even though she enlisted with WAC, she never served with the corps. In fact, the day she graduated from training in January 1977, she and her class became enlisted members of the Army. They were the last WAC class to graduate from Fort McClellan.

"We graduated with our Pallas Athene (put on the U.S. brass insignia)," Barker said. "Then, they told us that we were no longer Women's Army Corps, that we were then enlisted members of the military service in the Army."

WAC was officially disbanded in 1978 when President Jimmy Carter signed Public Law 95-485, integrating women into the Army.

"It's part of history," Barker said recalling the moment she found out she was part of the last WAC class. "I was very proud because I do think that men and women should be treated equally. I think it had more prestige for us to be enlisted members. I felt like that's the way it should go."

WAC was most prominent in World War II. When men physically fought in battlefields across Europe, behind the scenes were women in the WAC disseminating, translating, analyzing and purveying vital information that helped successfully run the operation.

After World War II, Army leaders supported the integration of WAC within its ranks. The Women's Armed Service Integration Act, introduced by U.S. Rep. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine and passed in June 1948, permitted women to serve as members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force, but they were still a separate entity. Members of WAC went on to serve throughout the occupation era, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Barker began her nearly five years of military service repairing and maintaining cable TV systems. Then she maintained and repaired teletypes, a printing device that looked like a typewriter that sent and received telephonic signals.

She reenlisted after her initial three-year commitment, but she had to receive a compassionate reassignment to Maryland to be close to her mother, who was sick. At Fort



Photo by Carrie David Campbell

Diane Barker is a command wireless account manager and telecommunications specialist at the Space and Missile Defense Command. She was part of the last class of the Women's Army Corps at Fort McClellan.

Detrick, Maryland, she was Soldier of the Month twice at the East Coast Telecommunications Center, as well as post Soldier of the Month.

She finally received orders to go to her dream assignment in South Korea, but she had to leave the Army before her commitment ended because of her mother's illness.

"The doctor advised me, 'If you go, you're going to say goodbye to your mom before you go,'" Barker said.

After leaving the Army, she found a job at a company that made surveillance equipment. The skills she acquired in this job and in the Army shaped her career in telecommunications.

Barker works as a command wireless account manager and telecommunications specialist at the Space and Missile Defense Command. She has worked in this position 16 years. She looks back fondly on her experience with the Army as a Soldier and now as a civilian.

"I am proud to have served our country. I feel like, now, I still serve. I loved the camaraderie," Barker said. "I love it."

Editor's note: Before WAC existed, it was the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. U.S. Rep Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts introduced the bill in May 1941. Rogers said that American women should receive all the rights and benefits provided to Soldiers if they choose to serve in support of the Army. WAAC was created on May 15, 1941, with Oveta Culp Hobby established as its first director. The corps was developed "for the purpose of making available to the national defense the knowledge, skill and special training of women of the nation." Rogers also introduced the bill to change WAAC to WAC. March is Women's History Month.



Courtesy photo

In January 1977, Diane Barker graduates from basic training. She served five years in the Army, working and repairing cable TV systems and teletypes.

Communicate with tact, diplomacy, professionalism

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

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No matter who you are or where you are in your career, one thing is certain: effective communication is critical to your success.

That's why everyone who works at the Garrison is invited and encouraged to attend an April 14 class on the topic of "Communicating with Tact, Diplomacy and Professionalism."

Participants can choose to attend one of two three-hour sessions, one from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and another from 1 to 4 p.m., or watch one of the classes online via Teams, said Angelique Solomon, organizational research specialist at the Garrison.

This class is being conducted by Cortel Improvement LLC, a management consulting and training organization, as part of the Workforce Development Initiative, Directorate of Human Resources, in keeping with the IMCOM Human Capital Management Plan, Solomon said.

The program's mission is to use existing resources and tools to facilitate and promote professional development of the Garrison workforce.

Through the program, employees are given opportunities to attend free and centrally-funded training, including Career Programs (CPs), Civilian Education System, Army E-Learning (Skillport), CHRTAS, DPMAP, IDP, Lunch and Learns, and virtual and in-person events such as the upcoming communications class.

The class will be held at Garrison headquarters building 4488, room A315.

A link for the Teams meeting and registration email will be provided at a later time, Solomon said.

For more information, call Solomon at 876-3017.

COMMUNICATING WITH TACT, DIPLOMACY, AND PROFESSIONALISM

CORTELL IMPROVEMENT, LLC.

MODULE 1: Learning How to Manage One's Emotional Intelligence: Learning to understand one's emotions and the triggers that can sabotage begin with the process of remaining calm, even when faced with difficult circumstances

- Understand the clear connection between emotional intelligence and career success
- Describe the useful competencies of emotional intelligence
- Use timely techniques to remain calm and professional under pressure

MODULE 2: Communicate Like a Pro by Asserting Confidence and Respect: Through use of Win-Win Communication strategies, say what needs to be said while never offending others

- Use strong interpersonal skills to magnify personal power and career development
- Recognize the importance of tone and the correct intent
- Discover positive trigger words that will enhance connection with others

MODULE 3: Reframe/Reset Past Interactions that Have Become Barriers: Use highly-effective, yet simple, psychological tools to override the barriers of the past

- Understand the "Who-How" Factor and how it could cloud your judgement
- Reframe when needing to separate the message from the messenger
- When navigating difficult situations, learn how to win over others by focusing on their needs

MODULE 4: Gain Self Awareness of Tact & Diplomacy –

What it Sounds Like: By using the most tactful lead-in phrases with both email and in-person, gain credibility at every turn

- Use actual scripts to build on strategies to enhance trust and relationships
- Avoid the most-common email faux pas by following a simple guide
- Learn how to quickly neutralize tense situations while gaining buy-in from others

DIRECTORATE OF HUMAN
RESOURCES

WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

14 APRIL 2022
(2 sessions)

0830 -1130 & 1300-1600

In person & via MTeams

Bldg 4488, Room A315

MS TEAMS LINK AND REGISTRATION
EMAIL WILL BE PROVIDE AT A
LATER TIME



Photo Booth By Skip Vaughn

What is your favorite pastime?



"Listening to podcasts. I use Spotify. I started doing this about seven years ago. I do it because I get to hear a lot of people talk on a lot of different subjects. It helps me learn about things that I wouldn't usually get exposed to." – Brandon Williams, mechanical engineer for CCI Construction in support of the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works, engineering division

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Redstone celebrates Women's History Month



Lisa Jox

By TERRI STOVER

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

March brings many things to celebrate, like weather getting warmer, spring break for students, and National Women's History Month.

Team Redstone will observe this monthlong celebration with a video of Lisa Jox, the assistant commander for corporate operations, Naval Supply Systems Command. She is a Senior Executive Service member at the Department of the Navy, in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

The Security Assistance Command is the host of the 2022 Women's History Month observance. One of the USA-SAC satellite offices is located in Pennsylvania, near the Naval Supply Systems Command. Working in collaboration with the Navy, USASAC is pleased to showcase Jox and her many accomplishments in her over 30-year career.

Jox is a leader in the Naval enterprise

human capital management field. She has managed the worldwide HR operations, leading a staff of over 1,000. Other functions within the Navy included delivering Department of Navy civilian HR policies, to include implementation strategies and assessment of those policies.

Early in her career she worked at the U.S. Naval Academy in civilian HR. While at the USNA, Jox served as a key team member on special assignment as-

sisting the standup of U.S. Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany in 2007.

This video became available this week for all of Team Redstone. Contact your Public Affairs Office for more information or go to Security Assistance Command Facebook.

National Women's History Month is an honorary observance of March in the U.S., as designated in 1987 by Congress, in recognition of women's many accomplishments.



Photo by Erin Elise

In operation soon

The Garrison is preparing to turn on the traffic signals at the Martin/Dodd and Dodd/Fowler intersections. The signals will be in flashing mode for two weeks and then they will be fully activated, according to the Directorate of Public Works. Both intersections are scheduled to start 14-day flash mode March 21 and go fully operational April 4.

Vietnam veterans day celebrated nationally March 29

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The United States is still expressing its appreciation to the American men and women who fought in Vietnam. But this has become more challenging.

The veterans are getting older, and the pandemic has taken its toll.

March 29 is National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Before the pandemic, Huntsville's Chapter 1067 of the Vietnam Veterans of America would mark the observance with an annual welcome home celebration. The onset of COVID-19 in spring 2020 changed the world.

"Initially we were not going to have any kind of event because of the pandemic," Charlie Miller, Chapter 1067 president, said of the plans for this year's observance. "We decided to have a scaled-down version to recognize those guys who passed away during the pandemic."

The scaled-down event, with welcome remarks but no scheduled speakers, is slated for 10 a.m. to noon at the Huntsville Madison County Veterans Memorial, 200 Monroe St.

At least 34 of the chapter's members have died during the pandemic, according to Miller.

Vietnam revisited Part 361 in series

With 650 members, Chapter 1067 is the largest chapter in Alabama and ranks ninth nationally. Vietnam Veterans of America, based in Silver Springs, Maryland, has 85,000 members and 650 chapters.

The Daughters of the American Revolution will hold a tribute to Vietnam veterans March 29 from 2-3 p.m. at the public library downtown. Sue Shaver is regent for the Twickenham Town Chapter, NSDAR.

"Patriotism is one of the three missions of the Daughters of the American Revolution," Dorla Evans, volunteer information specialist for Twickenham Town Chapter, NSDAR, said. "Most of us have loved ones who personally made sacrifices for the war or we made those sacrifices ourselves. We wish to ensure that those sacrifices are not forgotten."

Editor's note: This is the 361st in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.



Vietnam veterans' lapel pin

DAU Corner

COR Office Hours

Tuesday, 03/22/2022
10:45 A.M. CST

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

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

Cyber Resilient Weapon Systems Body of Knowledge (CRWS-BoK) Portal

Thursday, 03/23/2022
09:00 A.M. CST

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

The Resilient Systems (RS) directorate in the Strategic Technology Protection and Exploitation Office, under the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, launched the Cyber Resilient Weapons Systems Body of Knowledge (CRWS-BoK) Portal on May 6, 2021. The RS directorate, under the leadership of Director Melinda Reed, continues to guide portal updates and has worked closely with users to solicit feedback and implement improvements through the release of several version iterations since the initial version launch, with the most recent update on February 9, 2022.

CONNECT Live!

Thursday, 03/24/2022
10:30 A.M. CST

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

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

COR Office Hours

Tuesday, 03/29/2022
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.

Federal

Marshall women engineering NASA's return to moon



NASA photo by Charles Beason

Five women at Marshall Space Flight Center are engineering NASA's return to the Moon with flight software that will control the rocket for Artemis missions. From left, Shawna Broussard, Shaun Phillips, Linda Brewster, Deanna Whitehead, and Marlyn Terek stand in front of a solid rocket booster that was used in NASA's space shuttle era.

By WAYNE SMITH

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

In honor of Women's History Month, NASA celebrates the many contributions women have made to the nation, world, and beyond, including five women at Marshall Space Flight Center who developed flight software that will control the rocket for Artemis missions to the Moon.

These engineers developed and tested Space Launch System software that will tell the rocket how to operate for the first eight minutes of the Artemis I mission during its launch and ascent to orbit. Their work continues Marshall's legacy of propelling NASA exploration through engineering.

The engineers include Linda Brewster, Avionics and Software Test Facility branch chief; Shawna Broussard, an engineer who also works in the avionics test facility; Shaun Phillips, SLS flight soft-

ware project lead; Marlyn Terek, Software Development branch chief and former flight software design team lead; and Deanna Whitehead, Flight and Ground Software and Simulation Division chief.

Under Artemis, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, establishing a long-term human presence. The agency will also use innovative technologies to explore more of the lunar surface than ever before and prepare to send astronauts to Mars.

Brewster manages the Integrated Avionics Test Facility where thousands of simulated SLS flights have been flown to test the flight software along with the avionics and flight computers that are critical to launch success. She remembers watching Apollo flights as a child and NASA landing men on the Moon and welcomes the opportunity to work on a mission that will return NASA to the Moon, laying the foundation for future missions to Mars.

"Being a part of the SLS mission and landing the first woman on the Moon is a childhood dream come true," Brewster said.

The team implemented and tested required capabilities for the software. The software's development and testing included the successful Green Run test of SLS in March 2021. Each test enables the engineers to learn more about the system and what modifications are needed. Testing has verified more than 1,000 requirements for the system.

Once testing and any needed modifications are completed, the software is loaded on the rocket's computers, with the flight software team actively supporting integration and testing. Three flight computers will control the rocket from before launch through core stage disposal.

Getting the SLS off the ground involves many steps. Marshall's integrated avionics test facility has enabled early

integration not only across the avionics hardware and the flight software, but also with other the systems crucial to a successful launch, such as the Exploration Ground Systems needed for ground processing and launch, the Orion spacecraft, and several others.

"By designing, developing, verifying, and validating the flight software, our team is ensuring the crew including the first woman is taken to the Moon safely and reliably," Whitehead said. "When Artemis I launches successfully, I'll be overjoyed for having been among the women who contributed to the mission and optimistic about the potential to influence our future female leaders."

The SLS will first fly on Artemis I, an uncrewed, multiweek mission around the Moon and back.

Editor's note: Wayne Smith, a Media Fusion employee, supports Marshall's Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Marshall leaders confident as launch preparations continue

By WAYNE SMITH

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

As launch day nears for Artemis I, leaders at Marshall Space Flight Center remain confident in laying the foundation for the next generation of space exploration.

Marshall Director Jody Singer and other center leaders met with media members March 4 during Artemis Media Day at building 4205 to discuss the upcoming launch and all the work Marshall is doing for NASA's future Artemis missions. Subject matter experts from across Marshall also discussed how their organizations are supporting Artemis with everything from advanced life support systems to cutting edge technology development.

Singer expressed her confidence in the team working on the Artemis missions to "rewrite the next chapter of history." She said Marshall is ready to continue leading the way in space exploration.

"Everything we do here, from Artemis work to science to technology development, is because we have a determined team of people making it happen," Singer said. "All the things you have to live,

work, breathe, and design, that's where Marshall Space Flight Center will continue to be a critical part in making it happen."

The Artemis I launch of the Space Launch System rocket and Orion spacecraft is planned for May, with the agency also looking at June, from Kennedy Space Center. Initial rollout for wet dress rehearsal for the SLS and Artemis I mission is scheduled for March 17.

"We are now focused on rolling out to the pad and successfully completing multiple tests, including the wet dress rehearsal," said John Honeycutt, program manager of the SLS rocket at Marshall. "I'm tremendously confident – and our confidence level will only go up based on what we learn from the tests."

Once the wet dress rehearsal is complete, the rocket will roll back into the Vehicle Assembly Building at Kennedy for final preparations before returning to the launch pad. Singer said engineers will examine the hardware and learn from going through the rehearsal.

"We test to understand this vehicle before we put humans on it, before we take that first flight," Singer said. "We want to make sure we identify any issues; we fix



NASA photo by Mick Speer

Marshall Director Jody Singer and SLS Program Manager John Honeycutt provide SLS updates during Artemis Media Day on March 4.

them and then we're ready to fly. The wet dress is very critical toward being able to set a true launch date and our readiness to be able to roll back to the pad."

Singer and Honeycutt discussed Marshall contributions toward the first Artemis launch, including building and designing the SLS rocket. Michoud Assembly Facility Deputy Director Hansel

Gill discussed the facility's role in manufacturing and assembling critical hardware components for the rocket.

Other Marshall leaders briefed media members on leading out the sail development for NEA Scout, contributing to Orion including the Launch Abort System, and secondary CubeSat payloads. Tours highlighted Marshall work in nuclear thermal propulsion and the SLS Avionics Lab. Marshall will also contribute to future Artemis missions with the Human Landing System Program and engineering support.

Through the Artemis Generation, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, using innovative technologies to explore more of the lunar surface than ever before. The agency plans to collaborate with commercial and international partners and establish the first long-term presence on the Moon. From there, NASA will use what it learns on and around the Moon to take the next giant leap: sending the first astronauts to Mars.

Editor's note: Wayne Smith, a Media Fusion employee, supports Marshall's Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Manager devising rocket to bring home Mars samples

By RICK SMITH

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Right now, some 188 million miles separate the red clay of Alabama from the dusty red surface of planet Mars. But groundbreaking flight hardware developed at Marshall Space Flight Center will soon close that distance.

The new hardware is an integral component of the Mars Sample Return campaign, a historic endeavor that will, for the first time, retrieve and deliver samples of that faraway alien terrain for intensive study in laboratories on Earth. A strategic partnership of NASA and the European Space Agency, Mars Sample Return also will bring us closer to human exploration missions to Mars.

Angie Jackman – who has spent more than 35 years leading some of the agency's most advanced propulsion and engineering projects, state-of-the-art rocket development programs, and complex space science missions – is the Mars Ascent Vehicle project manager at Marshall.

Set to be the first rocket to launch from the surface of another planet, the vehicle will play a key role in the Mars Sample Return mission, launching to Mars orbit the samples gathered by the Perseverance rover from the ancient crater floor it's now exploring. The samples will be transferred in orbit over Mars to ESA's Earth Return Orbiter.

Jackman's team includes structural, thermal, mechanical, systems, and propulsion engineers, as well as analysts and technologists – a diverse team of Marshall and NASA veterans alongside innovative newcomers – all of them deeply familiar with the vital intersection between flight hardware and scientific progress.

"Ask any engineer on the team, and they'll tell you the science fascinates them," Jackman said. "Engineers ask 'How?' Scientists ask 'Why?' Ultimately, that deeper imperative drives us all – the pride in helping to advance our collective knowledge, to increase our ability to safely navigate our world, and to better understand our place in the cosmos."

The Marshall team is partnering with Lockheed Martin Space of Littleton, Colorado, which is building the integrated Mars Ascent Vehicle system and designing and developing the rocket's ground support equipment, and Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation of Elkton, Maryland, which leads development of the ascent vehicle's propulsion system.

"Together we are working to transform the Mars Ascent Vehicle from a drawing-board concept to an executable project," Jackman said. "We went through exhaustive design iterations to reduce vehicle mass, ensure automated launch capability, and accurately achieve the orbit necessary to rendezvous with the Earth Return Orbiter and transfer samples for flight back to Earth."

Combining launch vehicle reliability with the lightweight mass and storage requirements of a complex science payload taps strengths NASA has exhibited across numerous past science and exploration missions. Marshall has solved complex, technical spaceflight challenges for more than 60 years, from the groundbreaking Apollo missions and the space shuttle program to NASA's Space Launch System, the powerful new rocket set to launch missions that will bring the first woman and first person of color to the Moon.

Like most career aerospace managers, Jackman gleans best practices from decades of NASA precedents and lessons learned, but always challenges her team to push against conventional wisdom, to seek fresh alternatives that transcend traditional thinking.

"In this competitive, cost-conscious era, we have to work smarter, faster, and more efficiently," she said. "Anybody can build a big, sturdy bridge, but it takes a disciplined engineering team to build one on schedule and precisely strong enough to do the job. This project taps every aspect of Marshall's expertise in propulsion, spaceflight systems, and science. I am so proud of our team. We got this."

NASA's Mars Sample Return mission will revolutionize understanding of the Red Planet by returning samples for study using the most sophisticated instruments around the world. These samples are thought to be the best opportunity to reveal Mars' early evolution and potential for life. The mission will fulfill a solar system exploration goal as identified by the National Academy of Sciences.

Editor's note: Rick Smith, a Manufacturing Technical Solutions employee, supports Marshall's Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.



NASA graphic

An illustration showing the NASA Mars Ascent Vehicle in powered flight.



NASA photo by Emmett Given

Angie Jackman, Mars Ascent Vehicle project manager at Marshall, holds an example of one of the regolith sample tubes to be returned to Earth for study.

By the numbers: The best of Chicago

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

1. 25 or 6 to 4
2. Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?
3. Saturday in the Park
4. If You Leave Me Now
5. You're the Inspiration
6. Beginnings
7. Feelin' Stronger Every Day
8. Just You And Me
9. Make Me Smile
10. Old Days
11. I'm A Man
12. Colour My World
13. Free
14. Hard to Say I'm Sorry
15. Questions 67 and 68



Sports

Kelly brings All-Army pedigree to senior softball league



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Gray team's cleanup hitter William Kelly gets three hits with two doubles and drives in five runs in a 16-14 win over green, June 7 on field 2 at Brahan Spring Park.

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

William Kelly is ready for his second year in the 55-and-over Rockets league in Huntsville Senior Softball.

The retired sergeant first class played shortstop and outfield last year but plans to just play outfield this year. At the plate, he hit about 25 home runs for the gray team.

"I just want to have as much fun as I had last year," Kelly said. "As we got together, I saw the competitive side of a lot of people. And then I saw the recreational side. You can't win every game. We had fun, cracked some jokes and win, lose or draw we were still able to play the game."

After each game last year at Brahan Spring Park, his mantra leaving the field was "It's just a game."

His mindset hasn't changed. "I'm just out there to have fun, get some cuts in, hit a few balls," he said.

Kelly, 59, of Huntsville, was a standout athlete throughout his Army career and he wants to start back playing travel ball. He played All-Army softball from 1990-99.

He retired from the military in 2001 after more than 22 years.

He was stationed at Redstone from 1981-85, again from November 1989 to May 1991, returned in 1998 and retired here in 2001 as a senior instructor at the Ordnance school. Kelly worked as an Army civilian from 2009 to 2019 and he retired at Fort Lee, Virginia.

The Westmoreland County, Virginia, native came back to make the Rocket City his home. He volunteers as an assistant coach with the Lee High School softball team.

"I love to fish," he said. "And I like to eat."

His son, Jeff, 32, is a senior airman in the Air Force Reserve who serves as an information technology specialist at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida.

The Rockets league season starts April 4. They will play a 35-game schedule from April to mid-September at Brahan Spring Park. Games will be held on Monday and Thursday nights at 6 and 7:30 at fields 1 and 2.

Kelly batted cleanup last year for the gray team but he doesn't know which of the six teams he'll play for this year. He and four other members of the gray team were former military.

"I had the greatest teammates on the face of the Earth last year," Kelly said. "We had a great time because even though we lost by runs, we won in camaraderie."

Sports world goes mad in March

This is the time of year when our football-crazed state talks about another sport.

It's March Madness time.

We are particularly engrossed this year because of the basketball success of the Southeastern Conference. The SEC, known for its football prowess, has strong teams in hoops, too. These include Auburn, Kentucky, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas A&M, Florida, Alabama and LSU.

I'm stoked about my alma mater, Au-

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

burn. The Tigers even spent some time ranked No. 1.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if an SEC team won the national title, particularly if they're wearing orange and blue?

Go Tigers!

Trash Pandas warming up for baseball season



File photo by Cristina Byrne/Rocket City Trash Pandas

Winning pitcher Christopher Molina had a career-high 11 strikeouts in eight scoreless innings as the Rocket City Trash Pandas beat the Pensacola Blue Wahoos, 4-0, on Sept. 15 at Toyota Field in Madison.

By Rocket City Trash Pandas

MADISON – The Rocket City Trash Pandas announce several new additions to the fan experience for the 2022 Trash Pandas season, presented by Booz Allen Hamilton. The changes include a new bar in the outfield, a Mojo Speed Pitching Cage, extended netting, and more.

Booz Allen Hamilton joins the Trash Pandas as a presenting sponsor for the 2022 season. They will host a number of community events at Toyota Field during the season. Their logo will be on display on the field in foul territory near the Trash Pandas dugout, and they are sponsoring the postgame fireworks for Opening Night at Toyota Field on April 12.

“We are thrilled to be a part of Trash Panda nation,” Kristina Barbee, principal for Booz Allen Hamilton, Huntsville, said. “For almost two decades, Booz Allen has been deeply rooted in the Huntsville community, proudly supporting local projects and organizations.”

Since 2003, Booz Allen has been providing a broad range of technology and engineering services to the Huntsville area while heavily investing in philanthropic partnerships across the Tennessee Valley region.

“The atmosphere here is incredibly energetic and fun and we’re excited to be part of that spirit,” Barbee said. “We look forward to a successful baseball season.”

In the outfield, fans will have the opportunity to show off their pitching arms at a new Mojo Speed Pitch Cage. For a small fee, fans can have their pitch clocked by throwing at a realistic catcher, with accuracy a key for success on the mound.

New in 2022 will be a bar in center field near the bullpens which will feature craft beers and signature Trash Pandas cocktails. That comes as part of the 360 experience, which is designed to provide a full experience around the concourse with a variety of food and drink options to allow fans to best enjoy everything Toyota Field has to offer on game day.

The protective netting at Toyota Field has been extended throughout the ballpark to help enhance fan safety. The original netting behind both dugouts and home plate has been raised 10 feet to a height of 35 feet. New netting has been added down both baselines and will taper down toward the foul poles to a height of about 12 feet.

“Fan safety is our number one priority at Toyota Field,” Trash Pandas General Manager Garrett Fahrman said. “Our new protective netting will provide a safer atmosphere for everyone to watch the game without sacrificing the close-up views of the action that fans have grown to love.”

For suite and club level guests, a New Era merchandise kiosk will be open near the press box during Trash Pandas games to give fans an opportunity to purchase caps and merchandise beyond the Junkyard Team Store.

For fans of stats, a new Hawk-Eye system has been installed at Toyota Field and will give the Trash Pandas information about what happens during the game such as the speed of a pitch, the distance of a home run, the height of a batted ball, and more.

Editor’s note: The Rocket City Trash Pandas are a minor league baseball team of the Double-A South and the Double-A affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels.

Your glory days in sports

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

How do you stay in shape?

“Going to the gym. Moreso cardio. I don’t like to do so much weightlifting,” Pagano Gym user Randee Hinson-McCrary said. “I’ve been doing this since about 2016. This builds my confidence, maintains my shape. And it’s just good overall health-wise.”

Hinson-McCrary, 23, from Fort Pierce, Florida, resides in Madison. Her guardian is Rawn Pearcey of Huntsville, who retired after 20 years in the Army. Hinson-McCrary graduated from the University of Alabama in 2020 with a bachelor’s in criminal justice. “I like to read, and I like to go out to eat. I’m very diverse in my palate,” she said. She roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Randee Hinson-McCrary uses the treadmill at Pagano Gym twice a week.

April is both Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month



**For
Sexual Assault Awareness
and Child Abuse Prevention
Month**

April 1 • 3467 Vincent Drive
(ChildWise building)

5K Run

6:30 am - Sign-in
6:45 am - Opening Remarks
7:00 am - Run starts
8:00 am - Run ends

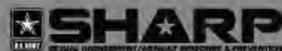
1 Mile Walk

Not a runner?
There will be a course
for a 1 mile walk.

No pre-registration required

For more information

contact your Garrison SARC Coordinator at 256-808-9501
or the Family Advocacy Program Manager at 256-842-8706



Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

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. 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 tournament rescheduled

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America has rescheduled their annual Bob Vlasic Classic Bass/Kayak Tournament at Jackson County Park. The new date is April 23. 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.

See Announcements on page 45

SGT Mann, call the Pentagon.
I'm gonna need a 30 minute
extension on that deadline!

Hey! Someone left
a box of cupcakes
in the break room!

Sir, I'm
already on it!



Jim Forch
9 Mar 22

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.

Speakers club

Interested in improving your speaking or presentation skills? If so, MSFC Spaced Out Speakers are here to assist. The club meets each Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. virtually. For more information, email claudinette.purifoy-fears.civ@army.mil or call 651-3621.

Warrant officer association

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

Veterans of foreign wars

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

Blacks in government

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government has its general membership meeting the third Thursday

of the month via Zoom at 7 p.m. BIG functions as a knowledgeable, problem-identifying and solving organization for civil servants. For more information email Mary Peoples at maryd6519@gmail.com.

Marine Corps league

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

Purple Heart chapter

Military Order of the Purple Heart, George A. Rauh Chapter 2201, will resume its meetings soon; time and place to be determined. All combat-wounded veterans are invited. For more information, call Leonard Robinson 337-8313.

Vietnam veterans

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

Miscellaneous Items**Intermediate civilian education**

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

Rocket Announcements

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.

Military and civilians club

Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club will have a "Blooming with Burritt" luncheon, April 12 at The Summit. You're invited to "come bloom with us and learn what's to come this spring at Burritt (on the Mountain)." Vendor shopping begins at 10:30 a.m., and the lunch and program is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$18. RSVP by noon April 8. For more information, visit rsamcc.org.

Men's ministry

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

Young citizen of month

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

Tax assistance center

Redstone Arsenal Tax 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. Tax forms are prepared free of charge to the military community on a first-come, first-served basis, no appointments. Bring all tax documents, previous year's tax return, and completed intake form.

Comedy show/dinner

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

contact KC Bertling at 541-0450 or presidentcoalition@gmail.com.

Military service displays

Decatur Public Library is honoring military service with displays through March 28. "A History in Postcards" is located in the main seating area of the library. "Morgan County & Beyond" is at the display cases in the main area. For more information, visit www.myDPL.org/military.

Charity car show

Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners 17th annual charity car show is June 4 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cabela's parking lot, 7090 Cabela Drive. Events are open to all cars, bikes and trucks. There will be trophies and plaques along with games and prizes, silent auction, food and drinks, and a 50/50 drawing. Proceeds will benefit veterans charities. This is a rain-or-shine show with a prize package from Cabela's.

Wreaths Across America event

The Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit, sponsored by the Maple Hill, Rainbolt and Huntsville Chapters of Daughters of the American Revolution, will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Cabela's parking lot, 7090 Cabela Drive NW. This free event is open to the public.

Health department ratings

The Madison County Health Department has released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for Feb. 28 through March 4. The highest scores included Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary lunchroom, 3112 Meridian St., 100; Flight Plan Wine and Tapas Inc., 2710-A Carl T. Jones Drive, 100; Dollar General 10566, 12879 Memorial Parkway SW, 100; Tenders Inc., 815 Madison St., 100; Grandi Vini LLC, Research Park Wine Merchants, 6125 University Drive NW, 100; AFC Sushi at Publix 1726, 417 John Henry Way, Madison, 100; Northside Coffee, 109 Northside Square, 100; and AFC Sushi at Publix 1451, 310 Pelham Ave. SW, 100. The lowest scores included Raceway 53, 3806 Highway 53, 84; HANR LLC doing business as Budgetel Inns and Suites, 2201 North Memorial Parkway, 80; and Big Shakes Hot Chicken & Fish, 4925 University Drive, Suite 1, 74.