

April focuses on assault awareness, prevention



**ENGAGE.
SUPPORT.**

SAAPM
Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month
www.armyresilience.army.mil
DoD Safe Helpline: 877-995-5247

**PREVENTION
STARTS WITH YOU**



By KARI HAWKINS

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

As the Army once again recognizes April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, its policy and processes for working through sexual harassment and sexual assault within its workforce are evolving to reflect lessons learned during the past 10 years.

Those lessons come down to two focus areas: prevention and victim support. The Army is reshaping the Sexual Harassment and Assault Response Program to improve prevention efforts, and to better support victims with the treatment and resources needed to overcome.

Much of the change in SHARP will be evident in the programs offered at the installation level and will be emphasized during Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. At Redstone Arsenal, where Army Materiel Command is headquartered, SHARP coordinators are planning a series of events in April, including a 5K run, a virtual walk and a survivor program, to emphasize the importance of sexual harassment/assault prevention throughout the year.

“We’ve come a long way as an Army from those early days of SHARP training,” AMC Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Walter Duzzny said. “But then as well as now, we can’t overemphasize the importance of Army values. If our Soldiers and civilians truly embrace and live up to the Army values every day, we won’t

“This is a social issue, not a Soldier issue. We need to look at the problem as a whole affecting the entire workforce.”

Maureen Trainor
AMC’s Sexual Assault
Response Coordinator

have a problem with sexual harassment or assault in the Army. Respect, honor, integrity – these are values that ensure all our employees are treated with dignity.”

SHARP has been a required element of Army training for both Soldiers and civilians since 2012.

“We are all starting from a point of understanding. We have all had some type of SHARP training in the past,” Duzzny said. “Sexual harassment and sexual assault still exist even with the best efforts of training, awareness and resources ... We do not want this happening in our ranks and we must take all steps necessary to prevent it. If it does happen, we need to have the right types of reporting options, resources and expertise to be able to assist victims and commanders as they navigate through the aftermath of an incident.”

For that reason, this year’s prevention month theme – “Prevention Starts with You” – is most meaningful, Duzzny said,

as it reinforces the Army’s focus on prevention.

“We must collaborate to have strong teams that stand against behaviors that destroy trust,” he said. “We have zero tolerance because sexual harassment and sexual assault negatively impact Soldier readiness and unit readiness.”

Bystander prevention – the act of stepping in to bring a stop to sexual harassment or sexual assault prior to it occurring or as it is occurring – is the most effective way to protect a potential victim, said AMC’s Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Maureen Trainor.

“By the time we react to sexual harassment or sexual assault, it’s too late,” she said. “We need to get in front of this problem and the only way to do that is for people to be able to recognize it is happening and then to have the training to be able to step in and make it stop.”

Trainor advocates for bystanders to follow the 3 “Ds” of intervening: Direct – point out the threatening or inappropriate behavior in a safe, respectful manner; Distract – draw the victim away from the situation or divert the attention of the attacker; and Delegate – find someone else who can help intervene.

It is also easier to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault when people feel they can talk about it, she said.

“If that one person can come forward to tell their story it brings to light that others can, too. It brings power to a

See Assault on page 8



MILITARY

Strategic deputy commander shares update with industry.

PAGE 5



COMMUNITY

Earth Day promotes preserving resources.

PAGE 15

FEDERAL

Space science manager excited about missions.

PAGE 25



SPORTS

Senior softball hitters connect at practice.

PAGE 29

RocketViews

Today's world can't handle April Fools' pranks

April Fools' Day is right around the corner and while no one is too sure where the practice of practical jokes on April 1 started, it seems most people blame the French.

That's good enough for me. I need to focus my ire for poorly thought out, overcomplicated, poor attempts at humor somewhere.

The problem is most people just aren't funny, and when you couple that with society's inability to discern the truth of what they read on the Internet these days, it is a recipe for disaster.

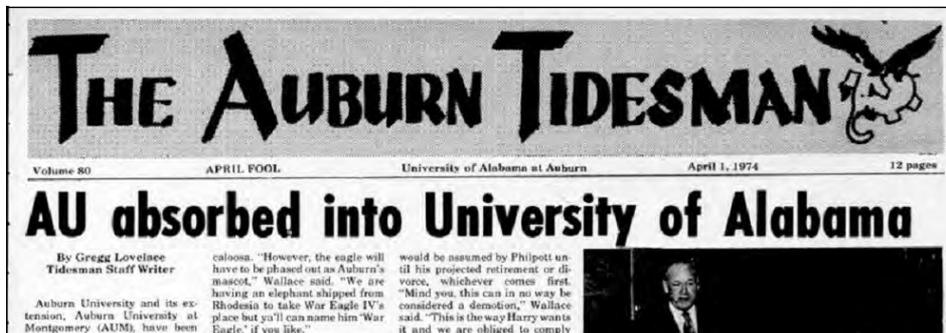
The Army learned this in 2016 when they published a story on Army.mil that claimed scientists had successfully teleported Soldiers. You know, as in Star Trek.

The original link to the story doesn't exist anymore and returns a 404 Page Not Found error.

Despite that and the story ending with an editor's note that read: "The article above is entirely fictional," it is still being cited to this day as proof that teleportation technology exists.

The way I see it, the Army made two strategic errors with the way they set up their joke.

First, they gave general population too much credit when it comes to media literacy.



Second, and this is probably the worst mistake they made, they placed an editor's note at the bottom of a story foolishly believing that people read more than a headline and two sentences.

My ego isn't even inflated enough to think that a large number of people make past the first few lines of this column each week. I greatly appreciate those of you who do, but y'all are in the minority.

There was a time when publishers could get away with April Fools' editions that didn't lead to years of conspiracy theories and public outrage. Of course that era predates the Internet, but the smaller scale of exposure enjoyed back in those days led to gems like the 1974 edition of The Auburn Tidesman.

Any Auburn alum out there knows that the college's paper is called The Au-

burn Plainsman, so when the new flag shown up on newsstands you could imagine people wondering what was going on.

At the top of the front page was a story that detailed the merging of the University of Alabama, the state's premier institution of higher learning, and Auburn. The new school would from henceforth be called the University of Alabama at Auburn.

Now, I'm not saying that Auburn students are more gullible than anyone else – I mean I'm writing it, but I'm not saying it – but according to then student current staff writer, Bud McLaughlin, this edition of the paper caused quite a stir.

But what it didn't do was lead to the continual spread of misinformation and conspiracy theories like things that happen today.

Back then, there was no chance of CNN or some other major outlet picking up the story to fill their 24-hour news hole. Of course, CNN wasn't around in 1974, but you get my point.

Today, though a joke can spread and be reported as fact in a matter of hours. Its reach can go from 10,000 people who

Snippets
By Jonathan Stinson
Assistant editor

have the context to understand it's a joke to 10 million other people who don't and who will accept it as fact.

That can have real world consequences. Let's jump back to 2016, which for whatever reason seems to be peak April Fools' Day at its worst.

For its prank in 2016, Google introduced the mic drop button, which when pressed sent your email with a gif of a minion dropping a mic and then disabled all replies.

One guy had accidentally hit the mic drop button when he sent in some articles to his editor. The editor sent back some corrections that needed to be made and took offense to the mic drop.

Since the replies were turned off the corrections never got made and since the editor was probably in a worse mood than usual thanks to the minion, the dude got canned.

There's got to be more to that story, if it is actually true. I mean I feel like a quick phone call would've cleared all of that up. Personally, I've never fired anyone for ignoring me. Of course, I do tend to make myself hard to ignore when I need something.

But people don't make phone calls anymore. They don't check sources anymore. And all of that is why just about every year for the past decade I've had to be a curmudgeon and douse the plans of some new reporter who has the best idea for a prank ever.

Quote of the week

“Nothing is impossible. The word itself says ‘I'm possible!’”
– Audrey Hepburn

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>

Rocket Staff

Editor-in-chief: Col. Glenn Mellor, Garrison commander
Director of Public Affairs: Kavanaugh Breazeale
Editor: Skip Vaughn
Assistant editor: Jonathan Stinson
Staff writers: Bud McLaughlin, Rebecca Sallee
Staff photographer: Erin Elise
Copy Editor/Design: Kelley Lane
General Manager: French Salter
Advertising Sales: Donna Counts, 256-714-7152, or donna.counts@theredstonerocket.com

The Redstone Rocket is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by Tennessee Valley Media

Co., Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army. Opinions expressed by writers herein are their own and are not to be considered an expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication, to include inserts and supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army or the civilian publisher TN Valley Media, of the products or services advertised within this publication.

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

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

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

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

First responder spotlight

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

What is the best thing about spring?

“Just the sign that summer is right around the corner and we can get away from all this cold weather,” Josh Elmore, firefighter/EMT at Station 2 on Vincent Drive, said.

Elmore, 33, from Harpersville, Mississippi, has been a Redstone firefighter four years. He served in the Marine Corps from 2010-14 and left as a corporal. The Athens resident and his wife of 13 years, Kristen, have five children – three boys and two girls.

“My main hobby would be spending time with family when I’m away from here,” he said, “because they grow up fast.”

He roots for CrossFit athlete Dan Futral.



Josh Elmore

Tell us about ...

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

Why you joined the Army.

“I had been a construction contractor and always felt like I should serve in the service but didn’t know where or when,” Staff Sgt. Paul White, a section NCO for an Army organization at Redstone, said. “And we were at church and the pastor was talking about in the Old Testament when King David issued a decree that the young men when they got married should take a year off from their military service and focus on their family. At the time, my wife and I had been married 13 years and I figured my year was up. I enlisted in 2009. It’s been an ups-and-down ride but overall it’s been good. The experience has allowed me to be in and experience other parts of the world. And I’ve got friends all over the world now.”

White, 45, from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, arrived at Redstone at the end of October 2021. This is his second time stationed here. The Union Grove resident and his wife of 25 years, Susanne, have seven children – four boys and three girls – and two grandchildren. He likes to ride mountain bikes, hunt, hike and camp. White also enjoys working on his 1967 International Harvester pickup truck. He likes country music and classic rock.



Staff Sgt. Paul White

Getting to know you

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

Name: Lee Ogletree

Position: Government information specialist, Garrison Human Resources Directorate administrative services division

What did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a professional musician. I played drums through high school. And after scholarship opportunities, I decided that I didn’t want to pursue being a professional musician by going through college due to all the other types of percussion and bands you had to be in if you got the scholarship. I then realized that playing professionally required a lot more luck than education.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2022?

Become a more patient person in all that I do.

What is the best part about your job?

Enjoying learning more about the mail process. I’m currently the official mail manager.

Who is your hero, and why?

My high school band director (Wayne Washam at Arab High School). He



took more of an interest in me and knew how to motivate me to be the best at what I did.

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

Tour Italy. Because of the interesting architecture, the food and just the all-around beauty that I see pictures of.

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

“Always have something else you can do or you can fall back on.” That’s from my paternal grandfather.

What do you like to do to pass the time?

I enjoy attending concerts and watching college football, especially the Alabama Crimson Tide.

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents March 19-25:

Crimes against authority, two
Drug crimes, zero
Crimes against persons, zero
Crimes against property, one

Fraud crimes, zero
Traffic accidents, two
Weapons violations, zero
Fish & game violations, zero
Traffic violations (speeding, failure to stop/yield, no driver’s license/insurance/registration), 30

On this date in history: March 30

In 1982: The STS-3 mission of the Space Shuttle program concluded with the landing of Columbia at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

In 1981: President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest outside a Washington, D.C., hotel by John Hinckley Jr.; three others were wounded in the same incident.

In 1972: The Easter Offensive began after North Vietnamese forces crossed into the Demilitarized Zone of South Vietnam.

In 1867: Alaska was purchased from Russia for \$7.2 million, about 2-cent/acre, by U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward.

Know your laws: Software copyright registration

By ANN DENNEN

Huntsville lawyer

A copyright is a valuable type of intellectual property for protecting various works of authorship, such as software. A software owner does not need any of the following to enjoy the benefits of having a copyright: publication; affixation of a copyright notice; registration; or deposition of copies of the software with the Copyright Office.

While not required, however, registering software allows the software owner to express additional rights:

- To sue an infringer for copyright infringement
- To recover statutory damages and attorneys' fees
- To use the registration as prima facie evidence of the copyright's validity
- To stop importation of infringing material if the registration is recorded with the Copyright Office.

The registration application process is quick and user-friendly. To register a copyright with the Library of Congress, the registrant first navigates to www.copyright.gov/registration. For software registration, the registrant identifies the type of work as a "literary work." Other information will also be entered at this time including software title, author, copyright claimant, a contact for the registration, and a certification of the registration. Once the application is complete, the registrant supplies a deposit requirement.

For software, the deposit requirement can be perplexing for first-time applicants. However, the deposit requirements can be simplified to include the following:

- The first and last 25 pages of source code, with trade secrets redactions
- The first and last 10 pages of source code, with no trade secret redactions

• The first and last 25 pages of object code plus any ten or more consecutive pages of source code with no trade secret redactions

• For programs of 50 pages or less in length, the entire source code trade secret redactions.

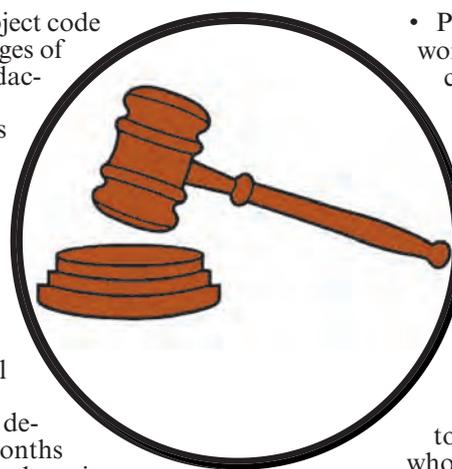
Notably, if portions of the software deposit are redacted, the redacted portions must be proportionately less than the remaining material. Furthermore, of the remaining material, there must be an appreciable amount of the original code still present.

The Copyright Act mandates a deposit for software within three months after the software is published. The deposit should include two complete copies of the best edition of the software that has been published in the U.S. Software is considered "published" if it is made available to the public on an unrestricted basis. The software should be made available to the public by sale, license, loan, rental or other transfer to an unrestricted group of users.

Distribution is often in the form of object code, while the program's source code is left unpublished. Thus, there is no mandate for a source code deposit with the Copyright Office.

Once the software has been registered, the owner of the registration enjoys exclusive rights of:

- Reproduction
- Modification, adaptation and the preparation of other derivative works
- Distribution, including by license, sale or rental



- Public display and performance of works generated by the software, including screen displays, graphics, and other audio, visual and audiovisual content.

Ownership of the software's copyright is important for a registrant to exercise exclusive rights. Copyright owners of the software are typically a team of programmers who created the software. Thus the registrant must secure ownership rights from each programmer in the software.

Notably, copyright ownership automatically vests in the programmers who create the software, unless the work is considered a work-for-hire.

Under the Copyright Act's "Work-Made-For-Hire" provisions, a natural or legal person who does not create a work is considered the work's author if he or she is either: (1) The creator's employer, for whom the employee has created the work within the scope of her employment; or (2) A party that has specially commissioned the work under a written agreement with the work's creator, acknowledging that the work is being made for hire.

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

Venturi LLC, Huntsville, is being awarded a competitive firm-fixed-price General Services Administration federal supply schedule contract order. The total value of this contract is \$42,789,607. Under this follow-on contract, the contractor will provide operational support for the safe, efficient, and expeditious deployment and sustainment of Missile Defense System assets, primarily consisting of preparing, handling, loading, securing, transporting, unloading, and erecting live missile launch vehicles, and maintaining highly specialized missile launch hardware and support equipment. The work will be performed primarily in Huntsville; Fort Belvoir, Virginia; and Colorado Springs, Colorado. The performance period is March 2022 through March 2027. This contract was competitively procured via publication on the government-wide Point of Entry website with two proposals received.

Fiscal 2021-22 research, development, test and evaluation funds in the amount of \$2,069,480; and fiscal 2022 operations and maintenance funds in the amount of \$29,287 are being obligated on this award. The Missile Defense Agency, Huntsville, is the contracting activity.

QuantiTech LLC, Huntsville, was awarded a \$10,791,239 modification to contract W31P4Q-16-A-0010 for programmatic support for the Utility Helicopter Project Office. Work will be performed in Huntsville with an estimated completion date of Nov. 30. Fiscal 2010 Foreign Military Sales (Australia, Austria, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand and Turkey) funds; fiscal 2022 operation and maintenance funds; fiscal 2022 other procurement, Army funds; and fiscal 2022 research, development, test and evaluation, Army funds in the amount of \$10,791,239 were obligated at the time of the award. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, is the contracting activity.

Army aims to boost inclusivity in recruiting

WASHINGTON – While growing up in the south Houston suburb of League City, Texas, Staff Sgt. Rocky Spells attended a high school with few minorities.

Raised by a single parent in a predominantly white community, Spells wanted to learn more about her African American ancestry. So, she enrolled in the historically black Spelman College in downtown Atlanta, where she graduated with a biology degree in 2014.

Then Spells wanted to join the medical field but suffered from financial struggles. She saw enlisting in the Army as an opportunity to advance her career while also meeting her financial goals.

"I knew I wanted to be a part of an organization that valued and respected me as a woman, as an African American, and as a future mother and wife," she said during a media panel March 10, where Spells and Army recruiting leadership discussed how the service has made strides to bring more diversity into its ranks.

Seven years later, Spells now serves the Army as a licensed practical nurse and currently mentors potential recruits as a career counselor at Elizabeth City Recruiting Station, North Carolina. Her husband commissioned to become a registered nurse in the Army, and the couple recently welcomed a newborn daughter. She said that she found acceptance in the Army's ranks and her peers welcomed her regardless of her race or ethnicity.

To help recruit more minorities and women within its ranks like Spells, Army Recruiting Command formed the Diversity Outreach Inclusion Team, or DOIT last year. Spells, as part of the 25-member special duty squad, has spread her life story through social media videos and has spoken at various recruiting events.

Military

Strategic deputy commander shares update with industry

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

The Space and Missile Defense Command's senior civilian spoke to community and industry leaders on the command's contract requirements.

Richard De Fatta, deputy to the SMDC commander, spoke virtually along with other Team Redstone leaders at the Advance Planning Briefing for Industry at the Bob Jones Auditorium, March 22. The briefings, which were hosted March 22-24, assist industry, research and academic partners to plan and prepare for future requirements with government contracts.

APBI includes briefings on programs that will be issuing solicitations for competitive bids within approximately three to five years. APBI is unclassified and open to all interested contractors, large and small businesses, and academia as well as other government stakeholders.

De Fatta said APBI is a great opportunity for the command, along with the rest of Redstone Arsenal's defense activities, to engage directly with industry to support the warfighter. He added that this has been difficult to do for the past couple of years due to the pandemic environment and the high degree of telework.

"It is important that we communicate changes in our operational environment, our modernization initiatives, and our science and technology priorities," De Fatta said. "We are normally in a well-integrated government and industry environment, and need to take seriously every event where we can both give input to our industry partners and likewise, receive feedback to understand their concerns and seek advice from an outside perspective."

De Fatta said APBI is an important venue and serves to initiate conversation between the government and industry teams here that actively partner with the common goal of supporting the warfighter.

"This is achieved by enabling industry to understand our priorities and challenges and for the government to understand the impacts our decisions make on their ability to provide capabilities we need now and into the future," he said. "Just like our warfighting formations and doctrine, industry needs to be able to evolve and adapt to changes in the environment."

SMDC provides industry with command requirements information throughout the year and frequent engagements, allowing industry to make informed business decisions and provide quality proposals, by posting its Virtual Industry Exchange Forecast Industry Report quarterly on the command's public website at www.smdc.army.mil/.

Sheri Baskins, SMDC G-8 Contract Support Division chief, said the command is committed to transparency on its forecasted future opportunities and the Fiscal Year 2022 Team Redstone APBI is a large event that provides industry with an early vision of planned and potential government acquisition actions over the next several years.

"SMDC can leverage this opportunity with industry to collaborate, network and explore prospects for strategic partnership," Baskins said. "SMDC's participation in the APBI will continue to ensure our success in supporting the warfighter. This year's theme is 'Government - Industry Partnering to Support Large Scale Combat Operations' and is quite appropriate considering the state of world affairs and current conflicts. The theme aligns nicely with SMDC's complex mission to develop and provide current and future global space, missile defense and high altitude capabilities to the Army, joint force, our allies and partners to enable multi-domain combat effects; enhance deterrence, assurance and detection of strategic attacks; and protect the nation."

Baskins said De Fatta put his personal stamp and unique perspective on his presentation and added some new points of interest to industry including a discussion on the "Facts of Life" state of current affairs, the upcoming SMDC Technical Center Space and Directed Energy Technology Complex under construction, as well as space and missile defense areas of interest.

She added that Mary Birdsong, director of the SMDC Office of Small Business Programs, will be presenting separately during the small business segment, which also includes a match-making session to facilitate large and small businesses teaming opportunities.

"In these challenging times of reduced and decreasing budgets, it is vital that the taxpayer, warfighter, Army and nation get the biggest bang for its defense buck by numerous means including focusing on needs vs. wants, encouraging innovation by



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Richard De Fatta, deputy to the commander of Space and Missile Defense Command, speaks virtually, along with other Team Redstone leaders, at the Advance Planning Briefing for Industry at the Bob Jones Auditorium, March 22. The briefings, held March 22-24, assist industry, research and academic partners to plan and prepare for future requirements with government contracts.

industry, and instituting a true partnership mindset," Baskins said. "Participation in events such as APBI promotes better government and industry communication and provides them an early glimpse of potential forecasted requirements. This aids industry efforts in making informed business decisions about which acquisitions to pursue and determine the best strategy for developing winning proposals resulting in good contracts that meet both parties' goals. This is a win-win for government and industry."

Baskins said she couldn't talk about industry exchanges without mentioning SMDC's own virtual communication tool, the Virtual Industry Exchange/Forecast Industry Report that the command launched in the summer of 2020. She added that VIE/FIR is posted on the SMDC public website quarterly providing up to date information on requirements across the command.

"SMDC uses this platform and numerous other venues such as APBI to demonstrate its continued commitment for meaningful exchanges and to provide industry with potential opportunities as early as possible for their planning purposes," Baskins said.

Recruiting brigade joins Redstone outreach for children

By **DEVYN GUILLEBEAUX**

2nd Recruiting Brigade Public Affairs

The Army's primary focus is not only to ensure the health of our country's national security and its people, but also focusses on developing ways to give back to the communities that support them. To help, the Army coordinates engagements nationwide to allow the public to see and interact with its Army and allow them to access several assets the Army can provide.

Administrators from Redstone Arsenal found their own way to reach their community by involving themselves in a nationwide event. This particular event was a sure way to grasp the community's attention by focusing on an important group of individuals: its children.

More than 30 senior leaders, Soldiers and civilians volunteered to participate in Team Redstone Dr. Seuss: Read Across America, an event created to celebrate reading and the late Dr. Seuss' birthday, with several students in local school districts.

"Reading is very essential for children," Jo Anita Miley, Garrison public affairs specialist, said. "Having senior

leaders read to them is a great way to encourage a good habit."

Redstone Arsenal's tenant organizations chose a senior leader to record a video, reading one or two Dr. Seuss books of their choice. Each video was sent to local school districts, in Madison and Huntsville, to show to their students.

"We wanted to find more ways on how to participate in the community," Miley said. "We also wanted to show the community that our Soldiers are more than Soldiers but people too, and they care about the well-being and growth of our children."

Among those leaders was Maj. Jared Martin, executive officer for the 2nd Recruiting Brigade. He chose to pay homage to the late Dr. Seuss by reading two of the most popular Dr. Seuss stories. His choice: Green Eggs and Ham, and Fox in Socks.

"We read to our kids every night," Martin said. "I've probably read Green Eggs and Ham or Fox in Socks 1,000 times."

Not only does Read Across America commemorate one of the most famous children's authors it is a campaign estab-



Courtesy photo

Maj. Jared Martin, executive officer for 2nd Recruiting Brigade, reads Green Eggs and Ham on a video posted for Read Across America.

lished to encourage kids to read books, which plays a role in developing who they are as a person. According to the National Day Calendar, the program also works toward improving overall education in children.

"We feel like reading is very important," Martin said. "I want to encourage children to take every opportunity to explore what your library has to offer and don't be afraid to check out new and different books."

Materiel enterprise gains recruits through hiring fair

By KARI HAWKINS

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

In the month since Army Materiel Command participated in civilian recruiting efforts at the virtual BEYA Career Fair, students and professionals are continuing to accept entry-level job offers that open the door to government career opportunities.

To date, AMC has issued 163 tentative job offers as one of the leading government agencies at the BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference and its career fair, Feb. 18-19. BEYA – equally Black Engineer of the Year Awards and Becoming Everything You Are – is an annual event providing job seekers with three days of learning, networking, celebrating excellence and showcasing career opportunities primarily in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math. The event provides government agencies and private industry access to a diverse pool of professionals.

“BEYA and similar events allow the Department of Defense and government organizations to recruit for a wide variety of skill sets and occupations at a single, very focused event,” Max Wyche, AMC’s deputy chief of staff for Human Resources (G-1), said. “Students and professionals are there to seek employment opportunities in addition to receiving mentoring and professional development.”

AMC and its 10 major subordinate commands combined efforts in AMC’s virtual booth to recruit students and professionals primarily in the STEM fields. Joining AMC headquarters were the: Aviation and Missile Command, Army Contracting Command, Army Sustainment Command, Communications-Electronics Command, Installation Management Command, Joint Munitions Command, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, Security Assistance Command and Financial Management Command.

Three years ago, AMC had limited hiring at BEYA. Under AMC Commander Gen. Ed Daly’s guidance, the organization has become a leader in federal employment at BEYA.

“We are continuing with job offers and letters of intent,” Daly said. “Last year, we ended up onboarding 70 to 80 new employees through BEYA. This year we’ve more than doubled that.

“We are in a fight for great talent. This is not an annual event anymore. We are taking a recruiting initiative approach and committed every day of the year to get the best and the brightest in our workforce.”

Daly’s efforts at bringing the commanders of AMC’s major subordinate commands together to ensure success at BEYA had an impact on both the job seekers and the hiring organizations, said Paula Taylor, director of AMC’s Office of Diversity and Leadership.

“Senior leadership commitment and involvement led to the success we had this year,” Taylor said. “Gen. Daly challenged the MSC commanders and they answered the challenge. The result was a high level of interest in AMC and the gaining of a diverse group of new employees who will bring talent and capabilities to the AMC mission.”

In addition, the Army’s Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and Civilian Human Resources Agency were fully engaged to expedite hiring during BEYA, and the Army Civilian Career Management Activity provided support. They were part of a team of more than 250 people AMC-wide who “collaborated and successfully coordinated AMC efforts for BEYA 2022,” said Norberto Soto Fuentes, a program manager in AMC’s Office of Diversity and Leadership. “It took great leadership from all stakeholders to advance our outreach mission and to make BEYA a successful hiring event.”

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

Daly and AMC senior leaders are committed to not only recruiting and retaining top talent but also ensuring AMC has a diverse workforce at all levels, Wyche said.

As an Army senior leader, Wyche had a mentoring role within the BEYA conference, spending time on a virtual platform talking to job seekers and answering their questions, all focused on career opportunities within AMC and the federal government.

“The students and professionals I talked with were very mature and focused. They were really interested in learning more about our organization, and the DOD and Army missions,” Wyche said. “The challenge of an Army organization that has a

U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND

**DEFEND YOUR NATION
AS AN ARMY CIVILIAN**

VIRTUAL BEYA HIRING EVENT
FEBRUARY 18-19, 2022
10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. EST

CAREER FIELDS INCLUDE:

- » Budget Management
- » Computer Science
- » Contract Management
- » Depot Operations
- » Engineering
- » Equipment Management
- » Financial Management
- » Human Resources
- » Information Technology
- » Inventory Management
- » Logistics
- » Packaging
- » Production Control Management
- » Public Affairs
- » Quality Assurance
- » Various Student Trainee Positions

HIRING ON THE SPOT!
OVER 230+
POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

Visit the AMC Virtual Booth: <https://beyastem.vfairs.com/> AMC.ARMY.MIL

AMC graphic

The Army Materiel Command advertisement for the BEYA Career Fair attracted hundreds of applicants through its use on social media. It was instrumental in the success of the 2022 hiring event.

large civilian presence is to provide a greater level of understanding of what we do, where we are located and what our workforce requirements are. The mentoring session allowed us to develop that understanding among job seekers.”

Two years ago, COVID-19 presented a challenge to BEYA, causing the mentoring and hiring conference to develop virtual recruiting initiatives. Now, looking back, Wyche and other leaders agree COVID-19 provided an opportunity to expand the conference geographically to find the right talent.

“The Virtual STEM City concept really facilitated remote participation and increased diversity,” he said. “Competing for a job virtually doesn’t require students and professionals to travel to Washington, D.C., to physically attend a career fair. It also allows for year-round recruiting.”

While BEYA is an exceptional recruiting tool for AMC, Wyche said it also allows a closer look both for the hiring managers who want to ensure qualified candidates are the right fit for the organization and for job seekers who want to work for an organization where they can achieve career success and satisfaction.

“The primary outcome for participants is to find the opportunity that they believe fits their knowledge, skills and interests,” he said. “They are going to spend a significant portion of their time and energy on their occupation and career. It is very important they connect with the right organization to which they can contribute to the mission, grow professionally and gain an overall sense of fulfillment.”

Assault

Continued from page 1

victim, and the more victims who share their stories the better prepared other people can be to keep themselves from being in similar situations,” Trainor said.

Although the problem with sexual harassment and sexual assault in the Army is most often reported within Soldiers ranks, it is also occurring with the civilian workforce.

“This is a social issue, not a Soldier issue. We need to look at the problem as a whole affecting the entire workforce,” Trainor said. “Each of us can work towards prevention by knowing who is in our foxhole, who is working in our office and what is going on with the people

around us. It’s one thing for supervisors to know their employee’s names, and something else to actually know about them and know what’s going on with them.”

Events taking place on Redstone Arsenal in observance of April as SAAPM month include:

5K Run in recognition of April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, and Child Abuse Prevention Month, Friday, April 1, 6:30 a.m. sign in with opening ceremony at 6:45 a.m. and the race beginning at 7, ChildWise Building, 3467 Vincent Drive. No pre-registration is required. Hosted by the Garrison SHARP Program. Info: Garrison SARC coordinator, 808-9501, or Family Advocacy program manager, 842-8706.

“Virtual Walk That Will End In Rome, Italy” – April 1-26. The virtual walk ends

the day before Worldwide Denim Day, with participants recording their steps toward the end goal of walking to Rome. Worldwide Denim Day, recognized on April 27, grew out of a 1998 Italian Supreme Court decision that overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing tight jeans at the time of the rape. The decision created a worldwide uproar and, soon after, people angry with the verdict were wearing denim as an international symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes and myths surrounding sexual assault. To help walk virtually 5,300 miles to Rome, register at <https://hqamc.aep.army.mil/gstaff/amcpe/bwd/w/Lists/Wellness%20Classes/Current%20Courses.aspx>. Additional guidance will be forwarded once registration is completed. Hosted by AMC SHARP Program.

Virtual Survivor Story with Heath Phillips – While deployed on a Navy ship, Phillips became a victim of repeated sexual assaults. He will share his story of survival and advocacy in an April 28 virtual presentation from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Army 365 Teams. For more information, email neila.m.lawrence@civ@army.mil.

Teal Tuesdays – Every Tuesday in April, Redstone employees are asked to wear teal to show their support for prevention month.

Wednesday Walk for Wellness – Every Wednesday in April at 10 a.m., employees are encouraged to meet at the entrance to AMC headquarters to walk around the building in a group to show their support for prevention month.



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Career of merit

Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command, presents Col. Richard Wright, director of the SMD Center of Excellence Air & Missile Defense Integration Division, with the Legion of Merit during Wright’s retirement ceremony March 18. Wright retires with more than 33 years of service.



Courtesy photo

Security enterprise visit

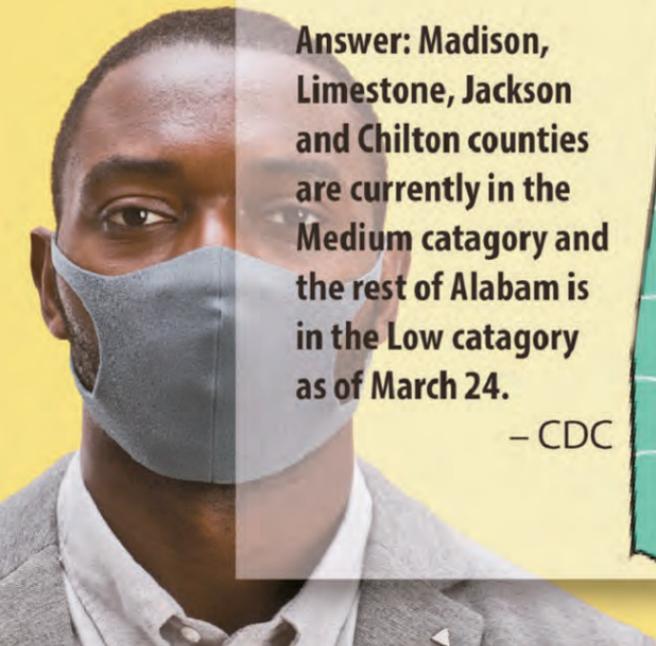
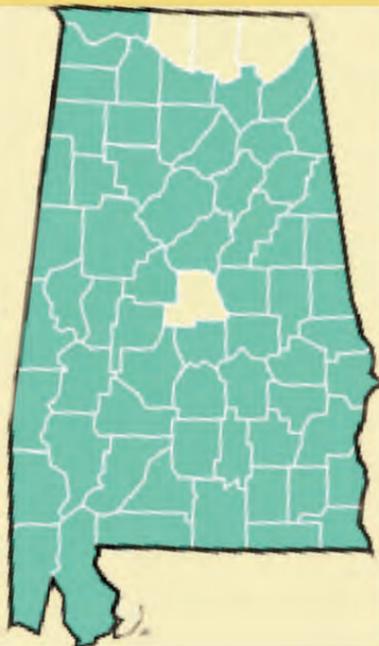
Security Assistance Command’s Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Rice speaks with troops and leaders at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., March 17. Rice discussed ways to maximize security assistance during partner and allied participation at Army combat training centers. “Allies and partner participation in CTCs and the sharing of observations, insights, and lessons learned not only create a shared understanding of tactics, techniques and procedures, but it is essential to strategic readiness, deterrence of adversarial aggression, and overall collective readiness of our forces,” Rice said. During his two-day visit to the NTC, Rice visited the Gen. Robert W. Cone Heritage Museum, where he has been recognized for his former service to the 916th Sustainment Brigade, the main logistical and aviation support for the training center. NTC is an Army major training area in the Mojave Desert. Its mission is to provide tough, realistic joint and combined arms training for units prior to their deployment overseas. During weeks-long intensive training at the NTC, units prepare for their “worst day ever” in combat, interacting with role-player terrorist cells, insurgents, criminal networks, civilian authorities and military forces.

COVID-19 FAQs

What are the current COVID Community levels according to the CDC?

Answer: Madison, Limestone, Jackson and Chilton counties are currently in the Medium category and the rest of Alabama is in the Low category as of March 24.

– CDC



National Guard supports clean sweep at test center

By **CHRISTY BARNETT**

Redstone Test Center Public Affairs

For the fourth year in a row, in support of Operation Clean Sweep, the Redstone Test Center, in collaboration with the Alabama National Guard and the Defense Logistics Agency, successfully divested hundreds of thousands of dollars in property.

Operation Clean Sweep is in continued support of the Army Materiel Command Directed Divestiture. Soldiers from the 1103rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion provided support for the mission.

The RTC Logistics Division property branch lead Darren Floyd coordinated with the ARNG planning to divest of property within RTC. After testing is completed, the equipment that is no longer needed is turned over to Anniston Army Depot for disposal. This action will help ensure RTC can turn in unneeded property after test completion.

“This collaboration with the Alabama National Guard is a phenomenal way for multiple organizations to collaborate in support of our missions. RTC has the opportunity to efficiently divest of property, while allowing the ARNG to conduct real world missions in Alabama,” RTC Commander Col. Steven Braddom said.

This mission included the divestiture of approximately 50 tons of unneeded property, consisting of 31 pallets and 1,000 pieces of excess equipment totaling more than \$500,000 in value. The 1670th Transportation Company provided four flatbed trucks and trailers and 14 people to assist in the transport and turn in to Anniston Army Depot.

Previous support missions with the 1103rd CSSB included the fiscal 2021 divestiture of 700 pieces of equipment, weighing 137 tons, utilizing 13 flatbed trucks and 45 people totaling \$12 million; and the fiscal 2020 divestiture of 668 line items, including 59 pallets and 670 pieces of equipment weighing 178 tons utilizing 16 flatbed trucks, trailers and 34 people totaling \$20 million.



Photo by Christy Barnett

Redstone Test Center Commander Col. Steven Braddom presents Soldiers from the 1103rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion coins in recognition for their support of Operation Clean Sweep. Over the past four years, Operation Clean sweep has allowed RTC to successfully divest of millions of dollars in property to Anniston Army Depot.

Senior experimental developer retires from test center

By Redstone Test Center Public Affairs

After dozens of nationally recognized awards in his field and decades of innovative work at the Redstone Test Center, Ken LeSueur is retiring from government service.

LeSueur has been supporting the warfighter for 36 years. During that time, he has been recognized numerous times for his critical contributions to RTC's test and evaluation mission. Since 2009, LeSueur has served as the senior technologist in the Modeling and Simulation Division of RTC's Environmental and Component Test Directorate. He was charged with creating and fostering the promulgation of ingenious methods to create operationally realistic environments that utilize live, virtual, and constructive simulation and stimulation of systems under test.

"Dr. LeSueur has a long history of providing superior technology for the U.S. Army," Modeling and Simulation Division Chief Steve Nine said. "He has been a tester for 36 years and an experimental developer for more than 20 years, starting out in the Hardware-in-the-Loop technology area."

In 2020, LeSueur added another prestigious award to his impressive list of accolades when the National Defense Industrial Association selected him as the winner of its Army Government Civilian Tester of the Year Award. A year later, the International Test and Evaluation Association honored LeSueur with its highest honor, the Allen R. Matthews Award, a lifetime achievement award in recognition of his distinguished career.

"Ken has amazing vision, and that will be his legacy," Col. Steven Braddom said during a ceremony honoring LeSueur. "He has been able to take technology and his technical excellence and use that to show leadership at RTC and in the Army how we can adapt to the future. We have to be prepared for the new challenges, and Ken has led the way in doing that. We are doing more than just developing test capability, we're also shifting the Army's thinking."

LeSueur's vast technical knowledge enabled the Army to develop a proven process for distributed testing while also advancing the adaptation of modeling and simulation techniques.



Photo by Preston Benson

Ken LeSueur speaks during a ceremony honoring his 36 years of service as he retires from the Redstone Test Center.

See Retires on page 14



Photo by Preston Benson

Retiring senior experimental developer Ken LeSueur is joined by his family. From left are Shae Ferguson, Marnie LeSueur and Summer LeSueur.

Retires

Continued from page 12

Such expertise has been a defining characteristic of LeSueur's career. He has served the Army as a member of the test and evaluation community since 1986 when he started as an intern at the Laser & Optical Test Branch of the Missile Command Test and Evaluation Directorate.

"Three things my parents taught me and my siblings: place God first, don't be afraid of hard work, and never compromise your integrity or character," LeSueur said. "We had no excuse not to succeed given the parents we were

blessed with."

Having an exceptionally distinguished career of government service that has spanned decades and is defined by technical excellence and trailblazing leadership, LeSueur has left an indelible mark across the full spectrum of Army aviation, missile and sensor systems. According to Nine, it's a mark that will be felt for years to come.

"His unchallenged technical acumen and unwavering dedication to duty have consistently earned the respect of subordinates, peers, and superiors alike," Nine said. "His experience, gained over many years of service on multiple projects, is invaluable in training the next generation."

Community

Earth Day promotes preserving natural resources

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Unlike things we buy in the store, natural resources don't have a warranty plan. If we don't take care of them, they'll eventually be lost forever.

The annual observance of Earth Day, April 22 underscores the importance of preserving natural resources.

"It's important for us to focus on preserving our natural resources because they are limited," Valerie Mason, environmental engineer in the installation compliance branch, environmental management division in the Garrison's Directorate of Public Works, said.

"And the Army has some of the largest tracts of intact natural resources so it's a good opportunity to preserve them. We have a good responsibility to take care of our natural resources."

In the years before the pandemic, the Garrison would celebrate Earth Day by bringing groups of schoolchildren to Redstone for a day of outdoor activities near the Path to Nature. There would be guest speakers, wildlife presentations and more.

"But with COVID, this is the third year in a row we've had to cancel it," Mason said.

Redstone helps preserve resources through a recycling program. "We recycle white office paper, corrugated cardboard, toner cartridges, used motor oil, scrap metal, antifreeze, concrete and asphalt," Mason said.



The gray bat, *Myotis grisescens*, can be found on Redstone Arsenal.

Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Next to a penny, this shows the diminutive size of the Alabama cave shrimp, *Palaemonias alabamiae*, which can be found on post.



Courtesy photo

Price's potato-bean, *Apios priceana*, is also present at Redstone.

Workers adjust to new norm for doing their jobs

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

bud.mclaughlin@theredstonerocket.com

For the past two years, teleworking has been the norm for nearly one-fourth of the U.S. workforce.

Our dens, kitchens and dining rooms became our home offices.

Going to work meant going from one room to another instead of leaving the house, getting in the car and driving to the workplace.

However, workers seemed to take to this new “lifestyle” with some 90% saying the best reason for teleworking is less commuting which gives them more free time at home.

But teleworking does have its drawbacks. Supervisors and workers said social interaction and collaboration can suffer personally and professionally.

The interpersonal relationships are not met by Zoom, Skype, Teams and other online meeting programs. Workers can see each other and chat, but video screens just don’t provide the human contact that is needed.

Working from home can also lead to loneliness and, possibly, depression for some workers who long for and need social interaction.

And there’s another drawback – some workers just don’t have the discipline to perform their jobs outside of an office.

Working from home has distractions and without self-discipline it’s hard for some to put their mind to work and concentrate on their jobs.

Marianne Higgins, a government contractor in Huntsville, said it’s “discipline by environment.”

“Some people work well outside the office environment and have a strong

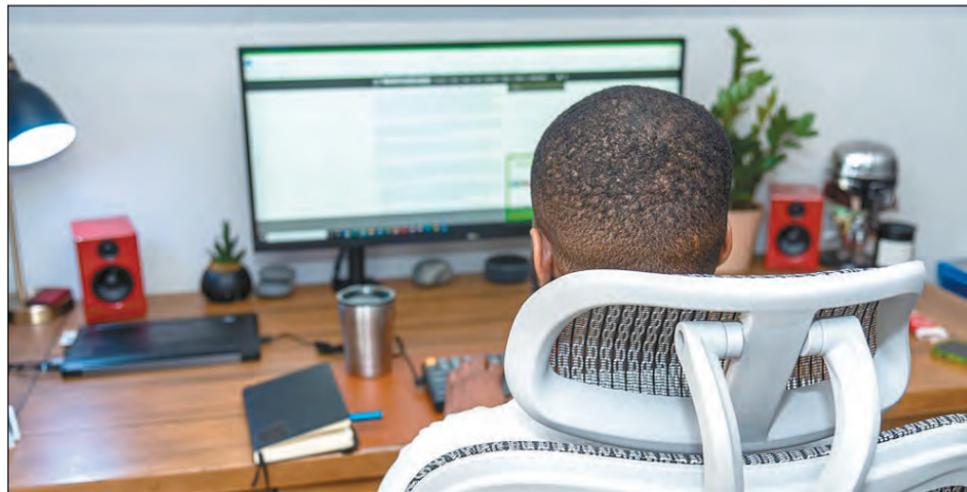


Photo by Erin Elise

Nearly 1 in 4 workers teleworked last year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

self-discipline,” she said. “But others, they need the office atmosphere, the social aspect and camaraderie and competition, to provide the discipline.

“I don’t necessarily mean the manager or director watching over them, but knowing they’re keeping up with or ahead of their co-workers helps provide the motivation and discipline.”

The Garrison is on situational tele-

work. Each director decides if the workers need to be in the office or can work from home for various reasons. These can be on a case-by-case basis, as well, in each directorate.

In the meantime, employers, supervisors and workers continue to adjust to this relatively new way to put in a day’s work in a healthy and productive way.

Garrison honors seven workers for service

Photos by SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

The Garrison's virtual all hands meeting Thursday began with a recognition ceremony for workers receiving various awards.

"It's an outstanding day for me as a commander when I get to recognize people who are doing a great job," Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor said.

The honorees included:

- John Ross, Directorate of Operations, received a Senior Executive Service letter and a Garrison Commanders Coin.

- Fred Bagnall, Directorate of Public Works, received a length of service certificate and pin for 45 years of government service.

- Daniel Royer, Michael Statton and Matt Tribble, Directorate of Operations, each received the Installation Management Command Garrison Star 4th Quarter 2021 and an on-the-spot \$250 cash award.

- Aviance Oden, Safety Office, received a Commanders Coin and a Service Culture Award.

- Kenneth Smith, Directorate of Operations, received a Commanders Coin and a Service Culture Award.



John Ross receives a Senior Executive Service letter and a Garrison Commanders Coin from Col. Glenn Mellor.



Fred Bagnall is recognized for 45 years of government service.



Aviance Oden is recognized with a Commanders Coin and a Service Culture Award.



From left, Matt Tribble, Michael Statton and Daniel Royer, of the Directorate of Operations, receive awards from Garrison Commander Col. Glenn Mellor.



Kenneth Smith receives a Commanders Coin and a Service Culture Award.

Army nurse saw full range of wounds in Vietnam War

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

After serving as an Army nurse in Vietnam and then traveling throughout the country in the nursing profession, Cindy Mason Young decided to retire in 2011.

"We've moved all over the country and I always could find a job as a nurse. But I'm 74 now and I don't need that anymore," Cindy Mason Young, of McAllen, Texas, said.

But traveling was her impetus for joining the Army Nurse Corps when she graduated from the M.B. Johnson School of Nursing in her hometown Elyria, Ohio, in 1968. She wanted to get away.

"I wanted to see the world. I wanted to leave my hometown," she said. "Joining the Army was a way of getting out in the world."

"I went to nursing school in my hometown, and I knew if I stayed there I'd be there my whole life."

She had basic training – which for nurses was paperwork and learning the Army system – from September-November 1968 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. She accepted a direct commission as a second lieutenant. She turned 21 in basic training and said she was not afraid of being assigned to Vietnam during the war.

"Well actually it was a draw. I was intrigued by the idea of taking care of wounded," Young said. "It seemed like it would be a good experience. I was ready for a challenge."

In her basic training class, the administrators assembled the 400 nurses and 200 doctors and told them what they could expect. The administrators frankly said that if their recruiters had told them they were not going to Vietnam, it was a lie and most of them would be going to war.

Vietnam revisited Part 363 in series

Many of her classmates were upset and angered at that news. But not Young. "No, I told you, I was up for a challenge," she said.

Her first assignment was to Letterman General Hospital at Presidio of San Francisco. She worked in the neurosurgery intensive care unit. She enjoyed the assignment – being away from home with money for shopping in San Francisco. "It was a girl's dream," she said. But three and a half months later, she got her orders to Vietnam.

The 21-year-old second lieutenant was assigned to the 24th Evacuation Hospital in Long Binh from March 1969 to March 1970. The rookie nurse got assigned to the only neurosurgical unit in Vietnam. Not only did they see head and spinal cord injuries, but also amputations from explosions and many other serious wounds.

"We saw everything – absolutely everything," Young said. Like every other nurse in Vietnam, they worked 12 hours a day, six days a week. There was no place to go on the days off, except maybe the post exchange. There were 10-12 registered nurses and 12-15 medics.

"You could not be a medic unless you had six months in the field. These guys were a hell of a group of men," Young said.

She learned on the job. She asked questions. Her co-workers were eager to help. "It was in everybody's best interest to make sure new nurses were oriented to what they were expected to do," Young said. A particular type of electric bed, called a Stryker frame, was used to treat patients who had spinal cord injuries. It



Courtesy photo

Cindy Mason Young, who served in the Army from 1968-75, retired as a nurse in 2011 in McAllen, Texas.

sandwiched the patient between layers so he could be safely turned every two hours to prevent bed sores. "I saw as many as eight Stryker frames in Ward 5 at one time," Young said.

"It was a lot of emotion," she said of the year. "But mostly it was about growing up as a woman, growing up as a nurse. I saw things I've never seen since."

She remembers sitting down at one point and looking at the logbook which tracked the patient information from the start of her tour. "Ward 5 had a 10% death rate which was pretty good considering the severity of the injuries we had then," she said.

Of the more than 58,000 Americans who died in the Vietnam War, eight were female Army nurses like her. She received an Army Commendation Medal and a unit citation.

Young served in the Army from 1968-75 and left active duty as a captain. She became a major before leaving the Georgia National Guard. Her last duty station was Fort McPherson, Georgia, from 1970-75. Her subsequent nursing career took her to two hospitals in Atlanta, a hospital in Brunswick, Georgia, and the University of New Mexico Hospital in Albuquerque. She has lived in McAllen, Texas, for more than 20 years. She worked at three hospitals there and finished her career as a Hospice nurse from 2010-11. She received a bachelor's in health sciences from the College of St. Francis, in Joliet, Illinois, in 1995.



Courtesy photo

In March 1969, Cindy Mason Young was a 21-year-old second lieutenant assigned to the 24th Evacuation Hospital in Long Binh.

She and her husband of 50 years, Doug, 78, met in 1969 in Vietnam where he served two tours. In 2005 they started returning to Vietnam annually. Young taught a medical terminology class there each spring until 2010 under a program called the English Language Institute China. She and Doug have two adopted Vietnamese daughters, both of whom earned their master's and pursued doctorates.

The Youngs have a son, Keith, who resides in Orlando, Florida. Their adopted daughter Trang Phan has a doctorate from the University of Houston and works as a professor at Fresno State University. Their other adopted daughter Ai Nhan Ngo is a doctoral student at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. They have five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Young enjoys quilting and she is writing a cookbook. Doug has written two books about Vietnam, and he enjoys photography.

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

"Well, you can't get out from under the fact that we're in a war right now," Young said. "And the last few wars we were in haven't turned out so well."

Editor's note: This is the 363rd in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Photo Booth

By Skip Vaughn

What is your favorite pastime?



"I'm a single mom so I really enjoy spending time with my son (Joshua), he's 11. And one of the things that we enjoy doing together is bowling. He's very competitive." – **Sherry Major, Army Community Service specialist who manages the Survivor Outreach Services and Employment Readiness programs**

Communicate with tact, diplomacy, professionalism

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

rebecca.sallee@theredstonerocket.com

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.

The class is being conducted by Cortell Improvement LLC, a management consulting and training organization, as part of the Workforce Development Initiative, Di-

rectorate 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**



Historic relic from Hiroshima found in discarded box

Editor's note: Last week we published a story on the preservation of an eyewitness account of when the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. This week we tell how that account was found.

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

bud.mclaughlin@theredstonerocket.com

One person's junk is another person's treasure is an old adage that seems to

come to fruition daily.

A few years ago, someone's junk turned out to be a treasure of historic proportions, as in World War II historic, much to the pleasure of Madison resident John Siddons.

Siddons had a friend who bought a storage unit business, at Siddons' recommendation. But little did they know what this business venture would deliver.

"We were very good chums," said Siddons, a native of Birmingham, England.

"He was interested in making an investment in properties and I recommended he buy storage companies.

"One of the storage units was filled with junk. But it included rain-soaked box that had a photograph album, Japanese money, a Japanese flag and a document. My friend showed it to me.

"By jingo, this is absolutely amazing," I said."

The document turned out to be the 8½ page, hand-typed eyewitness account of the atomic bomb dropping on Hiroshima in 1945.

Siddons said the photographs were not salvageable but his friend passed along the flag, money and document to him. And then Siddons tried to find the owners of the unit, but "I got nowhere."

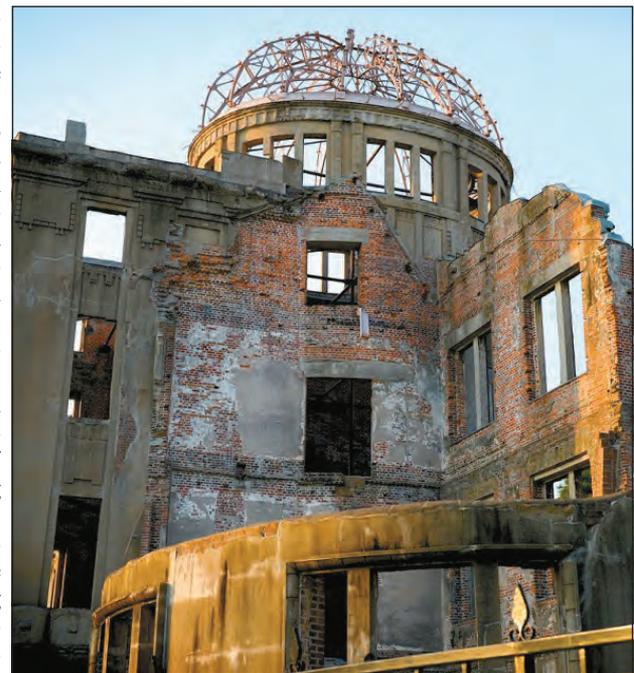
He passed the items to Darrell Ames, a church friend and the public affairs officer for the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space. Ames, who is a history buff, is transcribing the document, which is in a fragile condition, to preserve it.

"This is a typical kind of story of treasure abandoned in a storage unit," Siddons said.

Siddons said his family moved here from Fort Myers, Florida, after Hurricane Irma damaged his property – not his house or garage, but 70 Australian pines.

"These big, tall (60 feet in height), wonderful trees just collapsed onto our land," he said.

Another reason was they "wanted to



Air Force photo

Gombaku Domu, or the Atom-Bomb Dome, a designated World Heritage Site, is the remnant of a building which withstood the atomic bomb the U.S. dropped on Hiroshima.

see seasons again, before we kicked the bucket."

And a third reason was their son was studying engineering.

"We had friends from Maryland, an English couple," Siddons said. "They asked 'Have you ever heard of a place called Rocket City?'"

"We hadn't, so we visited and fell in love with Madison."

He said living here was a far cry, too, from England. "We came to America in '93, we were getting away from fog and (high) taxes."

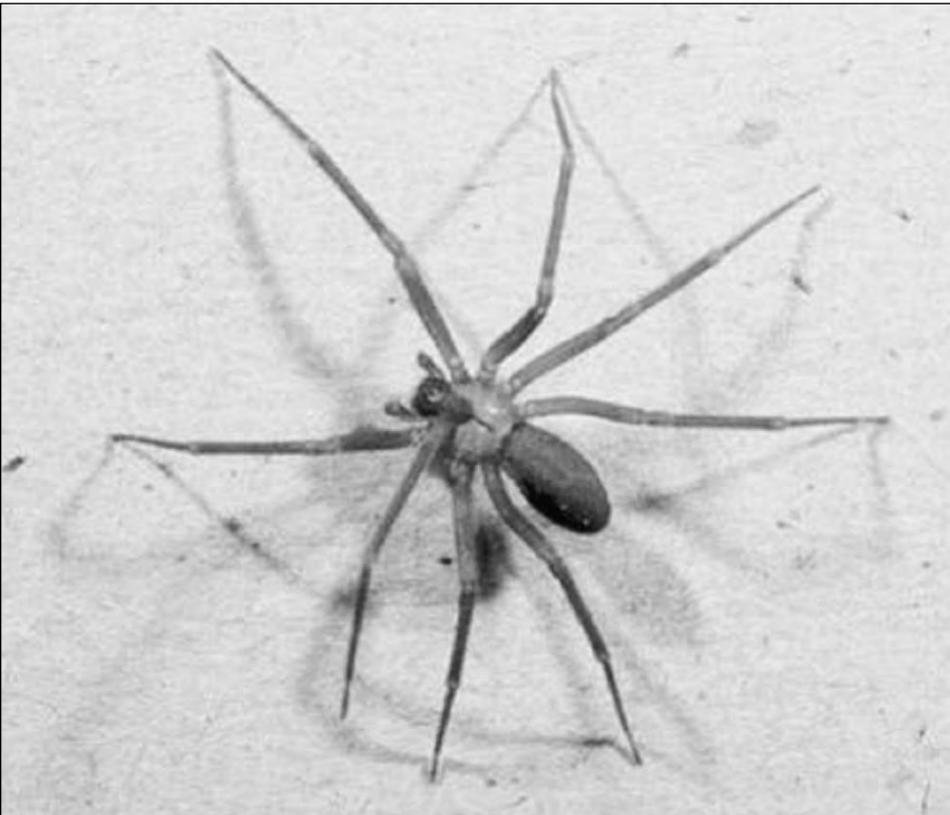
He said he and his wife have since become American citizens (and maintaining their British citizenship) and are enjoying the seasons – and treasuring them.

Remember to stay safe in spring by managing risks



Courtesy photo

A brown recluse bite can cause necrosis, sometimes requiring surgery.



Courtesy photo

The brown recluse spider is common in our area.

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

rebecca.sallee@theredstonerocket.com

Spring has sprung, but along with the warmer weather and the beauty of nature's new growth come hazards.

So says Mike Moore, Garrison safety director, whose recent "Safety Gram" outlined a number of tips for spring safety both at home and at work.

For starters, even though we have already "sprung forward" with our clocks, it's a good time to replace batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Even if you push the test button and confirm a battery is still working, Moore recommends a change.

"Fresh batteries are always a good thing," he said.

Cleaning the lint from your clothes dryer is another important chore that often goes ignored, Moore said, adding that it's a serious fire hazard.

"That lint gets built up inside. Clothes are not drying well. You just don't want any buildup at all," he said.

Check your fire extinguisher to be sure the needle indicator shows "in the green," meaning it is in good working order.

Check all of your electrical cords to see if they are frayed or worn and if so, replace them.

And when using electrical cords that run across walkways, be sure to cover them with a "cord cover" so no one trips and falls over them.

Because so many people are ready to tidy up their houses and yards, spring is prime time for an increase in accidents using cleaning products, gasoline and ladders, Moore said.

"Ladders seem really simple," but they are the cause of thousands of accidents every year, he said.

"A lot of adults fall on ladders," Moore said, reminding us to use the buddy system and have someone hold a ladder at the bottom when another person is climbing up.

It's also recommended to use "three points of contact" on the ladder at all times: two feet on the ladder rung and one hand on its side.

The first use of lawn tools including mowers and other gadgets may involve the first use of gasoline to power them, but Moore urges us to do so outside, not in the garage.

Gasoline fumes are dangerous and spills happen easily. "Use fuel outdoors," Moore said.

Wear safety glasses, hard-toed shoes and long pants – not shorts and flip-flops – when mowing or using a weed-eater to avoid being injured by flying rocks, wood chips or other debris.

Be sure toxic cleaning substances and yard poisons are out of reach of small children and locked, if at their height level, Moore said.

When it comes to safety at work, decluttering is as important in the office as it is at home.

Clutter either place "is an accident waiting to happen," Moore said. "If you have excess stuff or trash, please get rid of it and get rid of it safely."

Last but not least, whether at home or at work, be aware of the presence of brown recluse spiders, who love to live anywhere it's dark, from behind a soda machine to inside a rarely used cardboard box.

In recent years, at least two people at Redstone Arsenal have been bitten by a brown recluse and required surgery.

A bite from this spider "can cause necrosis. Your skin starts to rot out," Moore said. "If you give them the habitat to live in, they're more than happy to stick around."

Moore sends "Safety Grams" by email multiple times throughout the year to remind us of things that may seem like common sense, but bear repeating.

"Safety is really managing risks," he said.

Dive into training for potential lifeguard jobs

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

rebecca.sallee@theredstonerocket.com

Summer lifeguard jobs are available at Redstone Arsenal, where a three-day certification class to train and qualify candidates is being offered April 7-9.

Devin Atkinson, aquatics manager, said the class is open to anyone who wants to be a lifeguard, whether at the Arsenal or elsewhere. The fee is \$200.

Sponsored by the American Red Cross, the class is typically held at least once a year at Redstone, and more often, if staffing needs require it.

Atkinson said he currently has 10 lifeguards on staff and is projecting a need for at least 35 lifeguards to operate the Aquatics Center, which will reopen April 4 after a two-year closure. The pool closed initially due to COVID-19, then remained closed due to a lack of funding, Atkinson said.

Redstone's outdoor Goss Road Pool will open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, and most lifeguards hired on post will work at both locations.

The certification class is open to anyone age 15 and older. (The flyer that accompanies today's story indicates that participants must be 16, but Atkinson said 15-year-olds will be accepted.)

On day one, participants must pass a prerequisite swimming course comprised of the following:

- Completion of a breaststroke or freestyle 300-yard swim.
- Retrieval of a 10-pound brick from a seven-foot section of water followed by a 25-yard swim with the brick above water, within one minute and 40 seconds.
- Successfully treading water for two minutes without the use of hands.

The certification class will take place on Thursday, April 7, and Friday, April 8, from 5 to 9 p.m., and on Saturday, April 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants must also pass an online portion of the course and a written test upon completion of the hands-on training, Atkinson said.

He expects about 12 students to take the class but said if more sign up, a second instructor will be added to accommodate them.

Atkinson started lifeguarding at Redstone Arsenal in 2014 and became the lead lifeguard the same year. In 2019, he was promoted to assistant manager of the Aquatics Center, and then was named manager just before the center's closure in early 2020.

He worked for a time as aquatics activities coordinator at the Huntsville Aquatic Center before returning to his job on post March 3.

Lifeguard starting pay is \$15 per hour

and all jobs are "flex positions" with opportunities to work up to 40 hours per week; however, benefits are not provided. Most guards will alternate between the indoor and outdoor pools through summer, Atkinson said.

He recommends the job for most teenagers and young people in school because it's "not too strenuous" and allows time for completion of schoolwork.

"Lifeguarding is a great job to learn responsibility, take initiative and learn first aid and CPR skills," he said.

Participation in the certification class does not guarantee employment on post, Atkinson noted. Once certified, applicants must apply for the Redstone openings at usajobs.gov.

For more information on the class or how to access the Arsenal to participate, call Atkinson at 313-1200.



American Red Cross
Lifeguard Certification Classes
at the Redstone Aquatics Center

\$200.00
Per student
Fee must be paid on first day of class after initial skill test is complete. No refunds.

April 7 - 9
April 7 - 8: 5pm - 9pm
April 9: 8am - 4pm

Requirements:
You must attend ALL sessions.
Must be able to complete the pre-course skill test involving:
• 300 yd. non-stop swim, either breast stroke or freestyle.
• A 10 lbs. brick retrieval from a 7 ft. depth, followed by a 25 yd. swim with the brick above water.
• Treading water for 2 minutes.

Registration available at the Redstone Aquatics Center
256-313-1200

Open to ages 16 and older

Limited availability
(Please note, certification does not guarantee a position. You would need to apply through usajobs.gov once you have your certification.)

MWR U.S. ARMY SPORTS FITNESS AQUATICS

Redstone track is fit for Army Combat Fitness Test

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

bud.mclaughlin@theredstonerocket.com

The Army has launched a revised Army Combat Fitness Test with age- and gender-grouped standards and a 2.5-mile walk, effective this Friday. And Redstone Arsenal's renovated track is the perfect place to train for the new alternate aerobic event.

The asphalt track on Patton Road is lined but not finished. However, it will be sufficient for testing.

"It needs to be surfaced with a rubberized material," Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez said. "When they apply the new surface, it'll need a couple of days to cure. So, they're waiting for good weather.

"It is good to use, now."

The facility also includes a storage building and artificial turf for exercises.

"The building houses ACFT equipment," Jimenez said. "Deadlift equipment, sleds, balls; things they'll need for testing."

The Army said the revised test is based

on feedback from Soldiers, an independent study, a review of nearly 630,000 ACFT scores, and more than three years of analysis.

Soldiers will begin taking diagnostic tests in April and regular scoring will begin in October, giving active-duty Soldiers six months to train, the Army said. Scores for National Guard and Reserve begin next April, giving those Soldiers a year to train.

Another change in the testing is the elimination of the leg-tuck exercise; it is being replaced by the plank as the sole core-strength event. The change was made when test data showed the plank is a more accurate measure of core strength.

"The leg tuck was not an accurate predictor of core strength for all Soldiers, as it requires a minimum prerequisite upper body strength that made it impossible to measure core strength across all Soldiers commensurately," the Army said. "We are using the plank as the sole exercise to assess core strength, using recognized standards from the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Navy as a baseline and modi-



Photo by Erin Elise

The renovated track is on Patton Road, near the Gray Road intersection.

fying the scales based on Army requirements."

The Army said the 2.5-mile walk was added "to support Soldiers who are physically unable to perform the other alternate events and for those in locations without the equipment or facilities needed for the alternate row, bike or swim events."

Jimenez said units who want to train with the equipment should contact Capt. Hunter Wilson or 1st Sgt. Erika Vargas



Photo by Erin Elise

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Juan Jimenez stands by the storage building at the track.

with Headquarters & Headquarters Company, Aviation and Missile Command.

The Army has released an ACFT training guide and an app with training plans and exercises. The ACFT YouTube page also has videos of exercises to help prepare for the ACFT. Information is available at <https://atn.army.mil/prt#acft> and www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/h2facft.

Science/technology manager excited about exploration

By DANIEL BOYETTE

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

As manager of the Science and Technology Office at Marshall Space Flight Center, David Burns is presented often with new ideas and concepts. When it comes to getting input from those around him, he feels that a variety of viewpoints is essential.

To illustrate his point, Burns gave a hypothetical example of being in a meeting where an important decision needs to be made, and all the attendees look the same, have the same experiences, live in the same neighborhood, and even graduated from the same school.

"It would be impossible to do any critical thinking," he said. "One of attendees would make a recommendation, and everyone else would say, 'Great idea! I could not have come up with a better idea myself!' Diversity and inclusion are absolutely critical to any good decision-making process."

Burns believes such diversity and inclusion efforts are vital in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields, or STEM, as NASA builds its future workforce.

"If you want to get the benefits of diversity and inclusion, then you need equity and accessibility," he said. "STEM investments are very limited, so we need to make the best possible decisions on where to make these investments. Diversity and inclusion are absolutely key to these decisions."

Question: What excites you most about the future of space science and exploration?

Burns: We plan to be surprised with science and exploration. The Imaging X-Ray Polarimetry Explorer mission was selected based on its anticipated discoveries. However, there is always the possibility of unexpected findings that far outweigh the expected ones. The James Webb Space Telescope, which Marshall also contributed to, will see far into our universe and unlock amazing mysteries. The Hubble and Chandra observatories literally changed our understanding of physics; I can't wait to see what we will learn from IXPE and Webb. Exploration is a fundamental part of being human, and ultimately it is moving humans to cool places, such as the Moon and Mars, to do science that ties it together for me.

Question: Prior to coming to NASA, you had a long career in the Air Force, worked in the private sector and with Missile Defense Agency. What drew you here?

Burns: I was born in Carbon Hill, Alabama, and was 7 years old during Apollo 11. My family did not own a TV, so my dad had us sit in the back of our station wagon during the mission to listen to the radio. We even ate our meals in the car. Looking up at the Moon, while hearing American voices – it was during the Cold War – walking on it, was profound. I joined to military when I was 17 to pay for school and serve our country. To some degree, I feel like I spent all of my life working toward a career in NASA.

Question: Your office pursues partnerships with industry and government agencies. Can you give an example of a past or present partnership and how it benefited both parties?

Burns: Our additive manufacturing projects, where we are fabricating large nozzles to be used for rocket propulsion, is an excellent example. John Vickers, senior leader for Advanced and In-Space Manufacturing Capabilities, John Fikes, project manager in the Space Technology Development Branch, and team have been very successful in developing these additive manufacturing processes. Some folks may recall it by the name of L-CUSP, and it has evolved into work under the names RAMPTT and LLAMA. These projects are supported by a partnership we have with Auburn University and multiple industry partners.

Question: During your time in the Air Force, you had an assignment overseas. What was that experience like?

Burns: I was the technical director for the European Office of Aerospace Research and Development. I was based in London, but spent many months in Russia, Ukraine, Romania, and the Baltics. The Ukrainian people are some of the nicest, smartest, and hardest working people that you will ever meet.

Question: What activities do you enjoy during your time away from work?

Burns: Recently, I was asked to serve as an advisor for a science fiction TV series



David Burns

produced in Toronto. Since this is a part-time "outside of NASA" activity, I needed my supervisor's approval. I really enjoy thinking about how science and technology will advance, and how these advances impact society. The series' goal is to tell a story, not document technology advances over the next 200 years. So, each time I identify an issue to the writers, I make sure I offer a few alternative ways to still tell the story. Two hundred years is a long way in the future, and some of the things we think are impossible today may be possible then.

Editor's note: Daniel Boyette, an LSINC employee and the Marshall Star editor, supports Marshall's Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Schaeffer named center communications director

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

Marty Schaeffer has been named center communications director for Marshall Space Flight Center. She will lead the communications team and manage all center internal and external communications and engagement activities.

Beginning in 2020, Schaeffer worked as the deputy director of public affairs for the Air Force Special Operations Command, where she directed, developed, and planned written, digital, and visual video content. She was also a member of the Diversity and Inclusion and Strategic Engagements Working Group for Command.

Previously, Schaeffer was director of Production and Engagement for the Headquarters Marine Corps Communication Directorate, where she directed and managed all visual information products, messaging, and engagement to support the corps' communications objectives.

Schaeffer also spent time as director of public affairs for NATO Special Operations Component Command/Special Operations Joint Task Force-Afghanistan, director of public affairs and chief of mission support for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and as a visual information specialist and analyst for the Department of the Air Force.



Marty Schaeffer

She has received the NATO Medal, Special Act Award, and the Department of the Army Superior Civilian Service Award. She also oversaw production of the 2019 and 2020 Emmy Award-winning Marine Corps birthday message videos.

Schaeffer earned both a bachelor's and associate degree in liberal studies from Excelsior College in Albany, New York. She also completed a Public Affairs Qualification course and Joint Senior Public Affairs course from Defense Information School at Fort Meade in Maryland.

NASA photo by Michael DeMocker

Rocket parts unite

NASA joined the Space Launch System rocket's core stage forward assembly with the 130-foot liquid hydrogen tank for the Artemis II mission March 18 at the agency's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans. This completes assembly of four of the five large structures

that make up the core stage that will help send the first astronauts to lunar orbit on Artemis II. The 66-foot forward assembly consists of the forward skirt, liquid oxygen tank, and the intertank, which were mated earlier. Engineers inserted 360 bolts to connect the forward assembly to the liquid hydrogen tank to make up the bulk of the stage. Only the engine section, which is currently being outfitted and includes the main propulsion systems that connect to the four RS-25 engines, remains to be added to form the final core stage. All parts of the core stage are manufactured by NASA and Boeing, the core stage lead contractor at Michoud. The team is building core stages for three Artemis missions. The first core stage is stacked with the rest of the SLS rocket, which will launch the Artemis I mission to the Moon this year. Together with its twin solid rocket boosters, the core stage will produce 8.8 million pounds of thrust to send NASA's Orion spacecraft, astronauts, and supplies beyond Earth's orbit to the Moon. The SLS rocket and Orion form the foundation for Artemis missions and future deep space exploration.



Mega moon rocket, spacecraft roll out to launch pad

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

NASA's Space Launch System rocket with the Orion spacecraft atop arrived at Launch Pad 39B at the agency's Kennedy Space Center, Florida, on March 18 in preparation for a final test before its Artemis I Moon mission.

The uncrewed flight test will pave the way for missions to land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon under Artemis, and the rocket rolled to the pad for a final test before launch.

"From this sacred and historical place, humanity will soon embark on a new era of exploration," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said. "Artemis I will demonstrate NASA's commitment and capacity to extend humanity's presence on the Moon – and beyond."

Stacked on the mobile launcher and mounted on the crawler-transporter for a journey from the Vehicle Assembly Building to Launch Pad 39B, it took 10 hours and 28 minutes for SLS and Orion to reach the launch pad 4 miles away. The trip began at 4:47 p.m. on March 17, and the 322-foot tall, 3.5-million-pound rocket and spacecraft arrived at the pad

at 3:15 a.m. on March 18.

The upcoming final test, known as the wet dress rehearsal, will run the Artemis I launch team through operations to load propellant into the rocket's tanks, conduct a full launch countdown, demonstrate the ability to recycle the countdown clock, and also drain the tanks to practice the timelines and procedures the team will use for launch.

"Rolling out of the Vehicle Assembly Building is an iconic moment for this rocket and spacecraft, and this is a key milestone for NASA," said Tom Whitmeyer, deputy associate administrator for Common Exploration Systems Development at NASA Headquarters. "Now at the pad for the first time, we will use the integrated systems to practice the launch countdown and load the rocket with the propellants it needs to send Orion on a lunar journey in preparation for launch."

Before the test, SLS, Orion, and the associated ground systems will undergo checkouts at the pad. After the rehearsal, NASA will review data from the test before setting a specific target launch date for the upcoming Artemis I launch. The

integrated rocket and spacecraft will roll back to the Vehicle Assembly Building several days after the test to remove sensors used during the rehearsal, charge system batteries, stow late-load cargo, and run final checkouts. Orion and SLS will then roll to the launch pad for a final time about a week before launch.

With Artemis, NASA will establish long-term exploration at the Moon in preparation for human missions to Mars. SLS and NASA's Orion spacecraft, along with the human landing system and the Gateway in orbit around the Moon, are NASA's foundation for deep space exploration.

Marshall Space Flight Center manages the SLS Program. Marshall teams designed, developed, built, and tested hardware for the rocket.

"The Space Launch System rollout to the pad was not only a thrilling site and an important milestone, but it was also the culmination of hard work by the SLS and Marshall team," John Honeycutt, SLS program manager, said. "We are ready to complete the wet dress rehearsal test and launch the Artemis mission to the Moon."



NASA photo by Alyssa Lee

NASA's SLS rocket with the Orion spacecraft aboard rolls to the launch pad at Kennedy on March 17.

Sports

Senior softball players connect at batting practice

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Whack! The ball sails majestically over the rightfield fence. But no one is keeping score. After all, we're talking about practice. About 20 players participated in preseason batting practice March 21 for the 55-and-over Rockets league in Huntsville Senior Softball. They took turns at the plate on field 2 in Brahan Spring Park.

Among them was Ragnar Opiniano, 58, the Redstone fire chief. He played outfield for the green team last year.

"All for fun, right?" he said laughing when asked his thoughts entering this season. "As long as we're all healthy."

Mark "Cubbie" Hoffman, 66, is back for his fourth year. The first baseman played last year for the maroon team which won the summer championship.

"I'm excited about the rule changes and the draft," Hoffman, who bats and throws left, said. "Chance to play with some new guys."

The six teams are scheduled to hold a draft today to fill their rosters. The season is slated to start April 4.

Eddie Johnson, 67, is player/coach for the navy blue team. He played third base last year for the maroon.

"I hope the league's just real even – very competitive all across the six teams," Johnson said. "That's my hope."

Rick Anthis, 59, enters his second year. He's back as player/coach for the gray team.

"Excited for the draft first of all, and several new players," Anthis said. "I'm probably going to play second base and pitch some, too. Just depends on who I'm going to get for my pitchers. And I'll probably be outfield as well."

In his fourth year, Chris Maggio returns as player/coach for the maroon. He served as last year's league director but he said he's happy to relinquish that role to Gary



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Eddie Johnson is player/coach for the navy blue team this year.

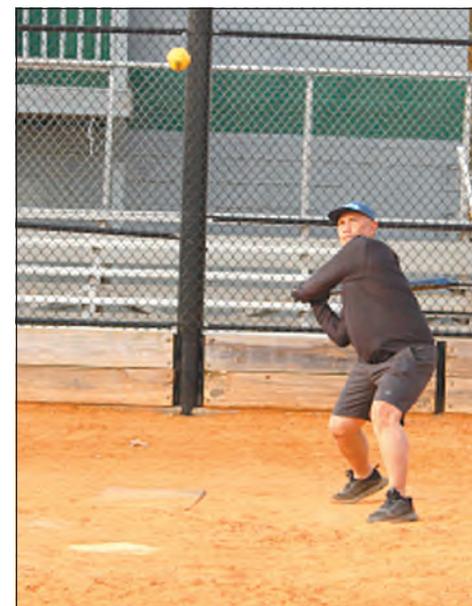


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Ragnar Opiniano, the Redstone fire chief, prepares to swing during batting practice.

Wilkison, who previously directed the league 12 years ago (2010-11).

"I think (the league is) very promising," Maggio, 59, said. "We've got a lot of new players – good players. And I think it's going to be a good draft. I think it's going to be evenly matched. I'm just looking forward to it really. I'm looking forward to a good league."

"I'm probably going to play third and pitch, too, but it depends on the draft. Going to be a lot of good players available."

The league's six coaches include: maroon, Chris Maggio; navy blue, Eddie Johnson; green, Tim Lawter; royal blue, Bob Thomson; red, Kirk Wickizer; and gray, Rick Anthis.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Jackie Dollar pitches batting practice March 21 on field 2 in Brahan Spring Park.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Mark "Cubbie" Hoffman connects from the left side of the plate.

Ah spring, an old man's fancy turns to baseball

Walking from the Garrison building toward my parked car the other day, I enjoyed the sunshine and 70 degrees.

I pictured myself sitting in the right-field bleachers at Wrigley Field watching a Cubs game. My mind quickly returned to reality so I could look both ways before crossing the street to get to my car. I saw some guy walking toward the building. I remembered a famous quote from the legendary Ernie Banks and it seemed so appropriate on this glorious spring day.

“Let’s play two,” I said to the guy as we passed each other. He smiled. He knew what I meant.

This would be a great day for a baseball doubleheader.

I’m ready now for spring sports – base-

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

ball, softball, golf, track and field. My beloved alma mater Auburn got blown out of March Madness by the Miami Hurricanes. My Los Angeles Lakers are limping through what’s left of the NBA season. I haven’t really gotten into watching hockey this year.

So the final frontier for an all-around sports fan like me is major league baseball. I’m glad they resolved their labor disputes which threatened the season. Let the games begin.

Your glory days in sports

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

*How do you
stay in shape?*

“Diet and exercise,” Scotty Long, housing management specialist in the Garrison Housing Office, said. “I go to the gym probably three times a week. I’ve just been doing it about a month. It’s just made me feel better, it takes away joint pain.”

Long, 50, from Elkmont, resides in Thatch. He and his wife of 25 years, Teresa, have three daughters. Long likes to hunt and watch college football. He roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Scotty Long works out in the Garrison fitness center.

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/kayak tournament

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Army Aviation Association of America's annual Bob Vlasic Classic Bass/Kayak Tournament is April 23 at Jackson County Park. 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 Boat-er: Rich Arnold 842-9061.

Bicycle rider training

The Spring City Cycling Club will kick off its 19th annual Ride A Metric training series May 7. This training series will help participants progress from neighborhood or casual riders to cyclists who are confident about riding on the road. This program is intended to prepare riders for the SCCC All You Can Eat Metric Century (100 kilometers) on Sept. 17 but is also a development program for those who wish to ride shorter distances on the road. The signup meeting is April 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Blevings Bicycle shop, 8402 Whitesburg Drive. For more information contact Geanine Lehmann 655-6385, gean31356@aol.com; Leah Tracy 509-5217, leah_tracy@yahoo.com; or Don Watt 690-2210, megawatt73@aol.com; or visit the club website www.springcity.org/ram.

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 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.

Huntsville Championship golf

Active and retired military are invited for tournament week at the Huntsville Championship, April 28 through May 1 at the Ledges. Complimentary tickets are provided to active and retired military, National Guard, Reserve, veterans and first responders plus one guest. With a valid ID, a free ticket can be picked up at the tournament main entrance. The Huntsville Championship Military Clinic will be held April 25 from 9-11 a.m. at the Links at Redstone. The clinic will include Korn Ferry Tour professionals demonstrating shots, providing instruction and taking part in a question & answer. For information visit huntsvillechampionship.com.

See Announcements on page 34



Photo by Tim Hanson

Visitors from Down Under

Security Assistance Command Deputy Commander Myra Gray discusses security assistance procurement and sustainment requirements with members of an Australian delegation during a visit March 21. In attendance were the Australian Army's Brig. Gen. Haydn Kohl, the director of general explosive materiel in the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group; Australian Navy Commodore Nigel Smith, director of general guided weapons and explosive ordnance enterprise in the Joint Capabilities Group; and Tony Walsh, acting minister counsellor for defense materiel. USASAC executes the Army's foreign military sales program, a critical component of U.S. foreign policy. The command's FMS program builds partner capacity, supports combatant command strategies, and strengthens global partnerships in support of U.S. national security.

Courtesy photo

Chamber leadership

Jeff Gronberg, left, who served as the 2021 board chairman of the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber, passes the gavel to the chamber's 2022 board chair, Greg Brown. During the chamber's 86th annual membership meeting Thursday at the Von Braun Center North Hall, Gronberg presented the Distinguished Service Award to Joe Newberry, president and CEO of Redstone Federal Credit Union. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor the chamber bestows to a deserving volunteer in the Huntsville/Madison County community.



By the numbers: Greatest baseball hits

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

1. Centerfield (John Fogerty, 1985)
2. Talkin' Baseball (Willie, Mickey & The Duke), (Terry Cashman, 1981)
3. Take Me Out to the Ball Game (Jack Norworth, Albert Von Tilzer, 1908)
4. Did You See Jackie Robinson Hit That Ball (Buddy Johnson, 1949)
5. It's a Beautiful Day for a Ball Game (The Harry Simeone, 1990)
6. Joltin' Joe DiMaggio (Les Brown Orchestra, 1941)
7. (Love Is Like a) Baseball Game, (The Intruders, 1968)
8. Cheap Seats (Alabama, 1993)
9. Say Hey (The Willie Mays Song), (The Treniers, 1989)
10. Dock Ellis (S.F. Seals, 1993)
11. Catfish (Bob Dylan, 1991)
12. Right Field (Peter, Paul and Mary, 1987)

Rocket Announcements

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.

Science/engineering symposium

Students are encouraged to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math or STEAM. The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville Inc., in partnership with the Greater Huntsville Chapter of the Links Inc., National Society of Black Engineers Professionals North Alabama Chapter, and National Coalition of 100 Black Women (Huntsville) are hosting the 2022 STEAMposium, April 9. The theme this year is "STEAMposium, A Passport to the Future," and it will serve as a platform to educate and expose participants to the various opportunities within the STEAM career fields. Exciting programs are planned for teens and their parents. Sponsorship would assist in funding STEAM related activities and programming needs. For more information, call Gregory Lunn (703) 638-5169 or Bettina Moore (770) 861-4112 or email secretary@100bmgogh.com or LinksSTEAMposium@gmail.com. To register visit www.100bmgogh.com/.

Lance/MLRS veterans reunion

Veterans of the Lance missile and Multiple Launch Rocket System will have their 14th reunion on Oct. 7-9 at the Marriott Hotel Westover Hills SeaWorld in San Antonio. The 15th reunion is tentatively planned for Huntsville in April 6-9, 2023. Seating is limited – first come, first serve – for the 2023 reunion. For more information, call retired Sgt. 1st Class John Williams (210) 209-2000.

Meeting professionals

Rocket City Alabama Chapter of Society of Government Meeting Professionals will celebrate Global Meetings Industry Day, April 7 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Suites Hotel Lounge, 6000 Memorial Parkway SW. Tickets are \$10. For information visit rocketcity-alabamachapter.org.

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.

Federally employed women virtual training

Federally Employed Women, Southeast Region will have its 2022 Virtual Regional Training Program, May 20 from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 for members, \$45 for nonmembers. This is hosted by Federally Employed Women, North Alabama Chapter. For more information, email FEWNorthAL@gmail.com. Registration is underway at www.eventbrite.com/e/217109900557.

Purple Heart chapter

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

Vietnam veterans

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

Miscellaneous Items

Intermediate civilian education class

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

Army family action plan

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

Military and civilians club

Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club will have a "Blooming with Burrirt" luncheon, April 12 at The Summit. You're invited to "come bloom with us and learn what's to come this spring at Burrirt (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.

Thrift Shop update

The Redstone Thrift Shop is updating its consignment days/times. Its new consignment day is Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon. The hours for consignment are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursdays from noon-2 p.m. Also, with spring here and all the

spring cleaning underway they welcome all your donations 24/7 in the back of their building in their donation box. They have new items coming in daily, so make a visit. The shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, always needs volunteers. For information call 881-6992.

Comedy show/dinner

North Alabama Veterans and Fra-

Rocket Announcements

ternal Organizations Coalition will present "An Evening of Laughter with Jody Fuller" comedy show and dinner Saturday 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://contact3fE2KjL> or contact KC Bertling at 541-0450 or presidentcoalition@gmail.com.

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.

Health department ratings

The Madison County Health Department has released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for March 14-18. The highest scores included Sheanigans Comedy Theatre Inc., 2650 Leeman Ferry Road, 100; Publix Super

Market 598 (Bakery), 8000 Madison Boulevard, Madison, 100; P and G Soul Food-mobile food service, 7190 Wall Triana Highway, Madison, 100; Krans Inc. doing business as Subway 12348, 6212-A Old Madison Pike, 100; Millie's Cuisine, 147 Castle Drive, Madison, 100; Grandmother's House, 3980 Old Highway 431 South, Owens Cross Roads, 100; Dr. Carpenter's Catering & Events, 5491 Main Drive, New Hope, 100; Tazikis Mediterranean Cafe at Teledyne Brown, 300 Sparkman Drive NW, 100; Madison Taproom Inc., 7407 Highway 72 West, Madison, 100; The Garden Cafe & Grille, 8375 Highway 72 West, Madison, 100; Kinder Care Learning Center 08607, 351 Old Highway 431 Owens Cross Roads, 100; Ironrod Holdings Inc. doing business as Donatos Pizza, 248 Dunlop Boulevard, 100; Walmart 6878 (Deli), 14595 Highway 231/431 North, Hazel Green, 100; and Sam's Club 8107 (Retail), 2235 National Boulevard SW, 100. The lowest scores included Taqueria Los Tres Riales (mobile unit), 2723 Clinton Ave., 85; Governors Food Mart LLC, 3521 Governors Drive, 85; Mini Mart 2, 4302 University Drive, 79; and Los Mariachis, 2121-A Whitesburg Drive, 70.

