

## D-Day veteran recalls momentous day

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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Ed Gamble will never forget June 6, 1944, D-Day, because he was there.

The then 21-year-old from Lacey's Spring was a corporal in the 819th Engineers taking part in the landing of U.S. troops on the beaches of Normandy, France.

"Well, I remember getting on the beach. Getting off an LST (landing ship, tank) on the beach. Getting on the beach, crawling up that sandy beach," he recalled in the living room of his southeast Huntsville home. "It was like sundown, getting dark. And what I remember most about that was stepping on a (dead) body. I don't know who it was, German or American."

He recalls walking at daylight and stopping at a peach orchard where he

dug a hole for protection. Next thing he knew, a tank was coming around the corner behind some bushes. He didn't know whether it was friend or foe.

"It turned out to be ours. There was a beautiful star on that tank. I knew it was ours," he said. "And that was about it."

He remembers seeing a farmhouse with three or four bodies, Americans and Germans, lying on the front yard. And that first day, the infantry shot a German who was perched in a tree near the engineers. "He fell right behind me," Gamble said.

During the initial landing, Gamble heard plenty of shooting, particularly from American ships firing large shells onto the beach. He and the other engineers were continuously on the move.

"Our purpose for landing was to build emergency landing strips," Gamble said. "And we did that all the while up until we got to Berlin, one after another. Always within a mile of the front line, sometimes we were the front line ourselves building emergency landing strips for P-47 Thunderbolts. And there were other planes, too. We had some Spitfires come in from England, to refuel and maybe shot-up and sort of in a bad way."

He was drafted after graduating from New Hope High School and he entered the Army Jan. 15, 1943. He had basic training at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana. Gamble was awarded the Distinguished Unit Badge, four Bronze Stars and one arrowhead for the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Medal. He left the service Dec. 14, 1945.

Gamble went to work for the Alabama employment office in Huntsville as an interviewer. In May 1948, he joined the Redstone personnel office as an interviewer. He retired from

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Photo by Skip Vaughn  
**Ed Gamble of Huntsville lost his dog tags on D-Day, June 6, 1944, and was surprised to receive them in the mail after a French fisherman found them in the sands of Normandy 71 years later.**



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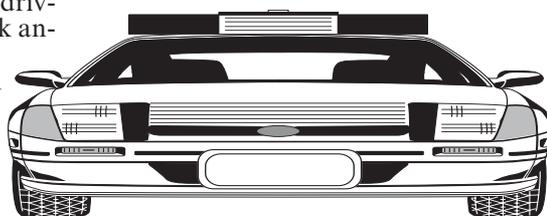
## Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents from May 17-23:

- May 17: A traffic accident occurred in the Commissary parking lot.
- May 19: Another accident occurred in the Commissary parking lot.
- May 19: A vehicle containing three foreign individuals approached Gate 9 requesting directions to an area off-post. None of the occupants had any identification. Their fingerprints were faxed to the FBI, resulting with a want on one of the individuals from Immigration and Customs Enforcement. ICE was contacted but declined to take custody. The three were escorted off the installation and the vehicle was later removed by a licensed driver.
- May 19: A driver entering Gate 9 was unable to produce his license. A National Crime Information Center check revealed his license had been revoked. He received a citation and the vehicle was removed by a licensed driver.
- May 20: An accident occurred at Rideout and Goss roads when a driver struck a vehicle that had stopped for traffic.
- May 20: A truck driver requested access through the truck lane at Gate 1 but was unable to produce his license. An NCIC check revealed his license was suspended and he had a felony warrant from Madison. He was arrested and received a citation for driving with a suspended license before being released to Madison authorities.
- May 21: On Rideout Road, a driver veered out of his lane and struck another vehicle.
- May 21: An accident occurred at Rideout and Goss roads when a driver struck a vehicle that had stopped for an emergency vehicle.
- May 22: Police arrested an individual with a knife for domes-

tic violence at an installation quarters. The individual received a mandatory court citation and was escorted from the installation.

- May 22: A driver entering Gate 9 was unable to produce his license. An NCIC check revealed his license was suspended. He received a citation and the vehicle was removed by a licensed driver.
- May 22: Police arrested an individual for criminal mischief when he became involved in a verbal altercation with another individual at the Easter Posey Recreation Area and broke a window on the individual's travel trailer.
- May 22: A driver entering Gate 1 was unable to produce his license. An NCIC check revealed his license was suspended and he had a warrant from Priceville. He was arrested and received a citation for the suspended license before being released to Priceville authorities.
- May 23: An individual entering Gate 8 was unable to produce any identification. An NCIC check revealed a warrant from Madison. He was arrested; and during a subsequent search, marijuana was discovered in one of his pockets. He received a citation for possession of a controlled substance before being released to Madison authorities.
- Traffic citations issued included 77 for speeding, 6 improper lane change, 4 expired registration, 4 suspended/revoked driver's license and 2 for violation of a traffic control device.



## Getting to know you

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

[katie.skelley@theredstonerocket.com](mailto:katie.skelley@theredstonerocket.com)

**Name:** Bryan Bacon

**Position:** Photojournalist for the Redstone Rocket

**Where do you call home?**  
Huntsville, Alabama

**What do you like about your job?**

My job gives me the ability to photographically stop a moment in time that captures a story and invokes an emotion by sharing my perspective to detail.

**What are your goals – personal or professional?**

I want to continually strive in achieving my goals and to find a balance between my personal and professional life where each is fully achieved.

**What do you do in your spare time?**

I enjoy playing music, photography, traveling and spending time with my family.

**What is on your bucket list?**

To enjoy life every day, not take things for granted and avoid kicking it along the way.



## Quote of the week

‘Summer afternoon – summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.’

— Henry James

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# Recent drinking water results found anomaly

By TERRI STOVER

Garrison Public Affairs

During recent drinking water testing at a Sparkman Building Complex sampling location, the Garrison found water exceeding a single state standard criteria. Multiple retests could not duplicate this result. All follow on results were within acceptable levels. Redstone Arsenal preventive medicine and occupational health officials have asserted that the water continues to be safe to drink.

For additional information or questions call Eugene Daniels of the Garrison Environmental Management Division at 955-7591 or by email [eugene.daniels4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:eugene.daniels4.civ@mail.mil).

# Haloacetic acids exceed state standard for test

*Public notice from state of Alabama*

The Garrison water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor Redstone Arsenal's drinking water for the presence of specific contaminants on a regular basis. The testing results we received in February and April for building 5300 Sparkman Circle showed that the Garrison water system exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). To meet the HAA5 standard, our quarterly test results over the past year must average less than 0.060 mg/L (or 60 parts per billion) at each test location.

The HAA5 test results we received for the first quarter of 2015 at building 5300 Sparkman Circle were very high (131.2 ppb). The high results at building 5300 caused the Garrison water system to exceed the average annual maximum contaminant level during the first and second quarters of 2015. These average annual results at this location are shown in the table below.

Location	Period	Level (ppb)
5300 Sparkman Circle	January - March 2015	72
5300 Sparkman Circle	April - June 2015	70

The aforementioned MCL violation is not an immediate health risk. If it had been, we would have notified you immediately. However, some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. If you have specific health concerns, please consult your health care professional.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink the water at the aforementioned location, especially those who may not have received this notice. You may also post a copy of this notice in a public place or distributing copies by email.

Due to the high results, this MCL violation may be reflected in building 5300 HAA5 annual average for the rest of 2015. We will continue to monitoring your drinking water and let you know if this high result returns.

If you have any questions concerning this violation or monitoring requirements, call Eugene Daniels, drinking water act compliance manager, at 955-7591 or email [eugene.daniels4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:eugene.daniels4.civ@mail.mil).

**Comment:** Why is there no diesel available at the post service stations for purchase?

**Response:** Although diesel and E-85 are offered at some exchanges, we currently do not have enough demand at Redstone Arsenal to justify the expense of adding diesel tanks and dispensers. If demographics change and Redstone's diesel fuel usage becomes more prominent in our area, we will consider offering it at our gasoline stations.



*Tell us about your experience. Put it on ICE at [ice.disa.mil](mailto:ice.disa.mil). For more information or questions about the Garrison ICE Program, call Donna Johnson at 876-2924.*

**Garrison Command Sgt. Maj.  
Bob Lehtonen**

## On this date in history: June 3

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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**In 1861:** In the Battle of Philippi, also called the Philippi Races, Union forces rout Confederate troops in Barbour County, Virginia, now West Virginia, in the first land battle of the Civil War.

**In 1916:** The National Defense Act is signed into law, increasing the size of the U.S. National Guard by 450,000 men.

**In 1940:** The Battle of Dunkirk ends with a German victory and with Allied forces in full retreat.

**In 1962:** At the Paris Orly Airport, an Air France Boeing 707 overruns the runway and explodes when the crew attempts to abort takeoff, killing 130.

**In 1965:** Gemini 4, the first multi-day space mission by a NASA crew, is launched. Crew member Ed White performs the first American spacewalk.

**In 1973:** A Soviet supersonic Tupolev Tu-144 crashes near Goussainville, France, killing 14, in the first crash of a supersonic passenger aircraft.

**In 1982:** The Israeli ambassador to the United Kingdom, Shlomo Argov, is shot on a London street. He survives but is permanently paralyzed.

**In 1989:** The government of China sends troops to force protesters out of Tiananmen Square after seven weeks of occupation.

# Community Health Promotion Council corner

*Make connection  
with work family*

By the Spiritual Resiliency Working Group

Connection to others is a critical component of resilience. Research shows that a resilient person is one who has an abiding, caring relationship(s) and is more willing to seek and accept help and/or encouragement when faced with challenges and adversity. This perspective crosses over into all aspects of our lives – even work as we deal with deadlines, stress and rebalancing!

As we face these challenges, the best way to enjoy your job more is to have a buddy or best friend at work. Having a buddy or close friend at work isn't an excuse to gossip; it's really a key to managing stress and consistently choosing healthy behaviors. A good buddy will help keep your blood pressure low and the pounds off, but it has to be one with whom you share similar goals. Plus, having a friend there will help you be more productive at work (which will also lower stress). Research has found that we're more productive at work and don't miss as much time when we have a buddy or best friend at work. Why? We feel that obligation, that accountability to the buddy – and we enjoy our work more.

Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness, or CSF2, has several resources and tools to help members of the Army family enhance their resilience and build performance. To learn more, visit <https://armyfit.army.mil> or contact your local Master Resilience Trainer. Individuals must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System in order to register an account.

Source: CSF2



Photo by Michelle Miller

## VIP visit

Security Assistance Command's commander Maj. Gen. Mark McDonald greets Army Materiel Command's Lt. Gen. Larry Wyche, AMC deputy commander and Redstone Arsenal senior commander, during a visit to USASAC headquarters May 26. The visit included a command overview and Foreign Military Sales update on current USASAC operations. USASAC is a major subordinate command of AMC.



## D-Day

Continued from page 1

Redstone May 31, 1990.

Seventy-one years after D-Day, a French fisherman with a metal detector found Gamble's dog tags in the sands of Normandy. In April he mailed them to Gamble with a letter recalling how his grandmother was 6 at the time of the D-Day invasion.

"It was surprising to get (the dog tags) back," Gamble, 92, said.

He and his second wife, Jane, have been married nearly 38 years. She worked

at Redstone from 1980 until 2006 when she retired from the Aviation and Missile Command's Resource Management, manpower section.

Gamble's son, Ed Jr., died May 20. Two daughters, Drenda King and Elizabeth Butler, reside in Huntsville. Gamble has five grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. The family also includes Jane's two daughters, Leise Dare of Boston and Kellie Dennis of Marietta, Georgia, and two grandsons.

"It's been 71 years ago," he said of D-Day. "I'd like to remember it as bad as it was. I'm glad that I did it. I had a small hand in winning the war."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

World War II veteran Ed Gamble and his wife, Jane, are both retired from Redstone Arsenal.

# Lifesaving course offered for Soldiers, civilians

*Free CPR class starts monthly*

By **KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY**

Staff writer

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According to the American Heart Association, 70 percent of Americans do not know how to administer CPR.

The Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Protection Division is working to decrease that number for Team Redstone with their new free, monthly cardiopulmonary resuscitation course. Led by Capt. Joshua Hosack, the class will be held every fourth Thursday at the Fire Prevention Office, building 3545 on Kingfisher Road.

“Our biggest goal is to push community CPR,” Hosack said. “There is a lot of science that says that early defibrillation and CPR improves the chances of

survival for a person in cardiac arrest.”

Fire department members Ed Herbst, Jerry Levrette, Dea Calce, Justin Barber, Thomas Williams and Caleb Stewart will assist Hosack in teaching the monthly course. Hosack said the seven instructors have combined decades of experience in CPR training.

Each class will last around four to five hours and students need to wear comfortable clothes because the class will involve physical compressions. The course that will be taught is the Heartsaver CPR AED class; and upon completion of the class students will receive an American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR AED course completion card that will be valid for two years.

While June and July classes are already at full capacity, Hosack said slots are still available in the August and future 2015 monthly sessions. At this time the course is only open to Soldiers and Department of Defense civilian employees.

To schedule a CPR class, email Hosack at [joshua.r.hosack.civ@mail.mil](mailto:joshua.r.hosack.civ@mail.mil).



Photo by Katie Davis Skelley

**Capt. Joshua Hosack is leading the Directorate of Emergency Services Fire Protection Division's new free monthly CPR courses.**

## Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation events

The Garrison's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation provided the following list of upcoming events:

### Bowling hours

Redstone Lanes is operating with summer hours: Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 10 p.m.; and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m.

### Family fishing day

The Free Family Fishing Day event is Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at the Easter Posey Recreation Area on Shields Road. Everyone is invited to this fishing outing and cookout. Outdoor Recreation will provide free worms while supplies last. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. You can fish there all day. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 876-6854 or 876-4868.

### Arts and crafts

Explore your creative side at the June M. Hughes Arts & Crafts Center, building 3615 on Vincent Drive. Try your hand at something new or increase your skills. The center offers a variety of classes each month. For more information, call the center at 876-7951 or email [artscrafts@sp.redstone.army.mil](mailto:artscrafts@sp.redstone.army.mil) or [nancy.l.green31.naf@mail.mil](mailto:nancy.l.green31.naf@mail.mil).

### Leisure travel

Planning a summer getaway? Leisure Travel can help. Appointment hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 313-0090 to

schedule an appointment.

### The Summit catering

The Summit is your one stop shop for weddings and special events. It offers on site and off site catering, and multiple event locations. Call 450-9227 or 842-9600.

### Card game

Looking for a place to play Texas hold 'em? Look no further. The Firehouse Pub holds weekly Texas hold 'em games every Friday. The pub opens at 3 p.m. with play beginning at 5:30. There is a \$10 buy-in fee and a \$10 re-up fee. Prizes are awarded to the top three finishers at the end of the night. For more information, call the Firehouse Pub at 842-0748.

### Trip to Tunica

Toni Terrell's Trip to Tunica is June 13. Register for \$50 for this bus trip which includes grab-n-go breakfast, free Toni tees, discounted lunch at the Gold Strike Casino and \$5 free play. Departure is 8 a.m. from the Gate 9 Visitor Center, with return around midnight. For more information, call 876-4531.

## In this section...

**POOLS MAKE A SPLASH**

**SPIRITUAL LIVING AT REDSTONE**

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# Pools make a splash

Photos by **BRYAN BACON**

Staff photographer

FMWR celebrated the opening of the outdoor pools Memorial Day weekend with a big splash. Pool 1, located at Vincent Park, is open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Pool 3, building 126 on Goss Road, is open Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday 1 to 6 p.m. Pool passes are available for purchase at the outdoor pools, as well as the Aquatics Center. The outdoor pools will remain open through Labor Day weekend.



**Sophie Dow, 6, goes down the water-slide at Pool 1.**



**Sophie Dow and Kai Davis enjoy the water fountain at Pool 1.**



**Michael Cleveland jumps off the high dive.**



**Swimmers prepare to take the plunge at Pool 1.**



Courtesy photo

## Relay for cause

The American Society Military Comptrollers, Redstone Arsenal Chapter, participated in the Relay for Life on May 2 at the Madison City Schools Stadium. More than \$1,000 was raised by ASMC which exceeded its goal. Funds will be presented to the American Cancer Society for cancer awareness and a cure. Relay for Life participants include, from left, Cheryl Anderson, Sandra Jackson, Dana Wilbanks, Sally Common, Templena Stanley, Carrie Gilmore and Harold Gilmore.

Courtesy photo

## Veterans support

VFW Post 5162 commander David Ladner presents a Forever Friends Sponsorship check to KC Bertling, founder of the Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation. This contributes toward the foundation's 10th annual luncheon honoring Korean War veterans July 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit. For more information about the luncheon, call Bertling at 541-0450, email [KCBertling@yahoo.com](mailto:KCBertling@yahoo.com) or visit [www.legacy4koreanwarveterans.org](http://www.legacy4koreanwarveterans.org).



# Spiritual living at Redstone

## Chaplain shares life's philosophy

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) PAIGE HEARD  
ACC/ECC chaplain

Every person sees the world in a unique way; no person sees it exactly the same way. We also interact in the world individually, in our own way. Some of us are consciously aware of our approach to life and for others it appears to them that life just happens.

Well, I choose to intentionally approach the world in a certain way. I call this approach my "philosophy of life." It does change a little from time to time, but the basic theme will always be the same – CARE. I will care for those with whom I work, play and live with. I hope I will continuously be concerned about the spiritual, emotional and physical condition of those around me. I do realize that self-preservation and self-centeredness can consume me if I allow my eyes and heart to move away from my philosophy. I must keep my eyes on the goal – CARE.

Let me breakdown the acronym CARE. First, "C" stands for compassion. The main mission found in Isaiah 61 is mine, too.

"The Spirit of God, the master, is on me because God anointed me. He sent me to preach good news to the poor, heal the heartbroken, announce freedom to all captives, pardon all prisoners. God sent me to announce the year of grace – a celebration of God's destruction of our enemies – and to comfort all who mourn, to care for the needs of all who mourn in Zion, give them bouquets of roses instead of ashes, messages of joy instead of news of doom, a praising heart instead of a languid spirit." (MSG)

I believe that I am called by God to offer his freedom through his compassion for all. Compassion speaks louder than any words can ever speak.

Secondly, "A" is for attitude. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." I always need to keep my attitude in check. It is the one thing that gets the best of me. Unfortunately, a negative attitude rears its ugly head on more occasions than I want to admit.

A person's attitude affects how people respond to him. I'll ask myself, "Does my attitude make me approachable?" "Is my attitude loving and accepting?" In Philippians 4:4, the apostle Paul expresses the attitude that I so desire to exhibit. "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say rejoice!" (NKJV) Paul writes this advice to the church of Philippi while he was

## Bicentennial Chapel Weekend Schedule

**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 5 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m.

**Protestant  
Sunday School**  
9:30 a.m.

**Protestant Sunday Worship  
Service 11 a.m.**



## Commentary

*Opinions contained in the Spiritual Column are that of the writer and do not represent the opinions of the Army, command, Redstone Rocket staff or civilian enterprise printer.*

confined under house arrest. We learn from him that we cannot allow our circumstances to dictate for us our attitude or approach toward life.

The third letter in CARE is "R" which stands for relationships. Right relationships are important. I believe that God created us to be in relationship with him and others. I hope to guide people into a deeper relationship with God through sermons that I preach, Bible studies that I lead and one-on-one encounters that take place. Not only do I want people to develop their relationship with God, but also with others around them. We should create venues for community, for relationships to form and grow.

Lastly, "E" stands for encouragement. We all need encouragement, but we typically don't freely give it out. I know that it does not naturally come from me. As much as I need to give it out, I need it myself to keep going. An unknown author wrote these truthful words about encouragement, "A word of encouragement during a failure is worth more than an hour of praise after success." Who have you encouraged today? A few words of encouragement may change a person's day.

I conclude my philosophy of life with this charge from the apostle Paul, "So, friends, take a firm stand, feet on the ground and head high. Keep a tight grip on what you were taught, whether in personal conversation or by our letter. May Jesus himself and God our Father, who

**See Spiritual on page 10**



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Circular pattern

**1st Lt. Garland Green, of the Mississippi Army National Guard, jogs around the Patton Road track. The pilot flies AH-64D Apache helicopters as a contractor at the Redstone Test Center. He belongs to Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment.**

## Spiritual

Continued from page 9

reached out in love and surprised you with gifts of unending help and confidence, put a fresh heart in you, invigorate your work, enliven your speech.” 2 Thesalonians 2:15-17 (MSG)

May we see the world through the caring eyes of our Heavenly Father. CARE for one another.

### Military Sunday

Indian Creek P.B. Church will hold its fifth annual Military Sunday on June 7 at 380 Indian Creek Road, Huntsville. Military guests, including active duty and retired, will be recognized at both the 8 and 11 a.m. services. Tokens will be provided as a gesture of appreciation. Everyone is suggested to wear patriotic colors. For more information, call Renee Kelly 656-4300 or Cynthia Hughes 617-0740.

### Protestant women’s ministry

Protestant Women of the Chapel meets on Thursdays at Bicentennial Chapel. The group gathers at 9:30 a.m. for fun, fellowship, refreshments, Bible studies, free child care and home-school programs. For more information about the Bible study and upcoming

fellowship opportunities, check out the PWOC Facebook page at [facebook.com/PWOCRSA](https://facebook.com/PWOCRSA). Questions can be emailed to [pwocrsa@gmail.com](mailto:pwocrsa@gmail.com).

### Women’s Bible study

Every Wednesday morning, beginning at 9:30, a non-denominational women’s Bible study is held at the Bicentennial Chapel. The Bible study, taught by Barbara Neidermeyer, begins with fellowship and prayer time followed by the Bible study and concluding with sharing time.

### Men’s ministry

Men’s Ministry, “addressing the needs of men and planting seeds for spiritual growth in Christ Jesus,” meets on a Saturday each month – for exact date, call Harry Hobbs at 425-5307 – at 9 a.m. at the Links.

### Weekly Mass

The weekday Mass at Bicentennial Chapel is at noon every Tuesday through Friday, and on Holy Days of Obligation at 6 p.m. (or as announced). Vigil Mass is on Saturdays at 5 p.m.

*Editor’s note: For more information about what goes on at Bicentennial Chapel, call 876-6874 or email [james.c.stratton5.civ@mail.mil](mailto:james.c.stratton5.civ@mail.mil).*

# Aviation heritage fly-in lands in Meridianville



Saturday's aircraft display draws a crowd to Madison County Executive Airport.

Photos by SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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MERIDIANVILLE – Save Our Flying Heritage, a veterans organization devoted to preserving military aviation's contribution to the armed forces and educating the public about aviation's role, sponsored a fly-in and static display Saturday at the Madison County Executive Airport. Numerous fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft



Forrest Britton, 8, son of Gregg and Brook Britton of Hazel Green, sits at the controls of a UH-72A Lakota.

were flown in for display. Aviation Heritage Fly-in 2015 helped commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.



Damian and Amy Moorehead of Harvest attend the free event with their son Asher, 2. Damian is a co-op student from Calhoun Community College working as a management analyst at the Army Materiel Command.

## In this section...

ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND BAND IN CONCERT SEASON

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# Army Materiel Command Band in concert season

The Army Materiel Command Band is participating in the annual Madison Music Camp over the next two weeks at James Clemens High School. Education outreach complements the band's mission as members strive to teach by their musical and professional example. The Arsenal Brass and Woodwind Quintets will showcase their talent and engage students and educators during this summer program.

To request educational support, a band clinician, or for links to Army Music Master Classes, check out the band's website at [www.amc.army.mil/amc/band.html](http://www.amc.army.mil/amc/band.html).



The Big Bang Brass Band will perform for the Redstone Arsenal workforce at a Summer Time Barbecue in the Von Braun III courtyard today at 11 a.m., and at 9 a.m. Tuesday at the Col. Carroll Hudson Recreation Area for PEO Missiles and Space's family day.

The Big Bang Brass Band will also be playing at Madison's annual summer Gazebo Concert Series at the Village Green Gazebo at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in downtown Madison.

The Arsenal Brass Quintet will perform at the "Have Lunch with a Vet" event at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Tut Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville.

## Tell us about ...

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

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

### *Your plans for the summer.*

"I am going to spend as much time as I can in Kentucky with my family," said Heather Hendren, an auditor with the Army Audit Agency. "And hopefully take my mom (Cindy) to the beach for the first time. And (go to) lots of concerts."

Hendren is from Cub Run in central Kentucky around the Mammoth Cave area.



**Heather Hendren**

# Career hits crescendo with next movement

*Band leader destined for School of Music*

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

Staff writer

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The artist Jean Debuffet once said, “Unless one says goodbye to what one loves, and unless one travels to completely new territories, one can expect merely a long wearing away of oneself and an eventual extinction.”

The life of the Soldier leads to many hellos and goodbyes, and the Army Materiel Command Band is preparing to say farewell to one of their leaders this month. Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Packard, senior teams leader for the band, is departing for his new position as director of operations for the Army School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia.

“It is hard to leave, but when you know things are going well, it is easier,” Packard said. “The Soldiers here will be hard to leave because they are good people, as well as good Soldiers. It has been great performing with them.”

After 16 years in the Army, Packard is no stranger to pulling up stakes but he said this assignment is one he will particularly miss.

“The biggest thing that I will miss is the interconnectivity with the community, the command and the band,” he said. “It has been unique here (compared) to any other place I have been. The placement of the band within the command is amazing. They are 100 percent supportive of what we do and that hasn’t always been that way at the other places I have been. Everyone realizes that we have a common effort and we work together to get it done. I am going to miss that a lot with AMC.”

The feeling is mutual for the band and its leadership.

“I’ve known Sgt. 1st Class Packard since 2003 and all this time he has been a true noncommissioned officer – and kept the mission, Soldiers and their families first,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jesse Pascua, commander and bandmaster of the AMC Band. “We wish him well as he moves on to the School of Music.”

It could be said that Packard, a trumpet player, is continuing the family business. The son of a professional trumpet player, Packard grew up in the hills of East Tennessee. As a young boy, one day he picked up one of his father’s trumpets and thus began a lifelong love of music and performance. His original career plans were to become a music teacher but after attending Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, Tennessee, playing won out over instructing. He was still looking for his vocation when his wife Misty, herself an Army brat, suggested becoming an Army musician.

After six months at the school that he will soon return to in a much different capacity, Packard embarked on a career that would take him around the world – one assignment to paradise, in Hawaii, and another to a war zone, in Iraq.

The role of the military band is unique for musicians, as providing more than just entertainment, often they provide solace and the uplifting of spirit. Packard said his time in Iraq was a very meaningful assignment for him in this respect.

*“The biggest compliment that you can give me as a leader is ‘everything is going better now that you left.’ That is not an insult to me, that is a good thing. If you come to tell me things are worse then that is bad to me. That means I did not teach the next guy to step into my shoes and keep getting better. I want you to come tell me that things are great because that is the way it is supposed to be.”*

Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Packard



Photo by Bryan Bacon

**After three years at Redstone, Army Materiel Command band senior teams leader Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Packard is headed to the Army School of Music in Norfolk, Va.**

“Other (non-military) acts go (overseas) but they only go to the places that are the safest to go,” he said. “They won’t go places where they can get shot at, but we do because we are Soldiers. We can play for the troops on the front lines and help them with their day-to-day morale. That was really awesome to be able to do that when I was deployed.”

While at Redstone, Packard still had plenty of opportunity to perform in addition to his leadership responsibilities. One particular highlight for him was being a part of the band’s brass combo, the Big Bang Brass Band, or as they are commonly known, B4. Although the Packards are excited about their next adventure, they will miss their home in Hazel Green and the peacefulness of country living. The larger metropolitan area of Norfolk will take some adjustment, although he said the close proximity to the beach would help ease the adjustment to city life.

Though they are saying farewell for now, the couple hope to eventually return to Tennessee to retire and they have purchased land in nearby Lynchburg. And Packard said he looks forward to seeing his AMC bandmates as they rotate through the School of Music for training.

“The biggest compliment that you can give me as a leader is ‘everything is going better now that you left,’” he said. “That is not an insult to me, that is a good thing. If you come to tell me things are worse then that is bad to me. That means I did not teach the next guy to step into my shoes and keep getting better. I want you to come tell me that things are great because that is the way it is supposed to be.”

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# Downed helicopter's crew chief counts his blessings

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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In 1976 Skip Parker and his platoon sergeant were sitting in the Rod and Gun Club at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, where they were stationed with the 10th Special Forces. They noticed another Soldier staring at them while sitting at the end of the bar.

Finally the Soldier came over, tapped Parker on the shoulder and identified himself. Parker was happy to pay for a drink for Sgt. 1st Class Rowdy Yates.

"I'm looking at the guy face-to-face that saved my damn life," Parker said.

Yates was the Soldier who rescued crew chief Parker from a Huey helicopter which was shot down on May 17, 1971, in Vietnam. Spc. 5 Parker and the other door gunner, Spc. 4 Gary Alcorn, survived. The pilot, Warrant Officer 1 David Soyland, and copilot, Warrant Officer 1 Dale Pearce, were killed.

Parker's assault helicopter, from Charlie Company, 158th Aviation Battalion, was assigned to extract a reconnaissance team which drew heavy fire

from a Viet Cong force. His gunship encountered heavy fire upon arrival. The helicopter banked to the right and was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade which severed the tail boom, causing an immediate crash. The helicopter impacted on its right side on a slope, sliding downhill until it stopped at the bottom of the slope.

"It was the next afternoon when I woke up," recalled Parker, now a training leader in the Utility Helicopters Project Office within the Program Executive Office for Aviation. "So from the time we went in to the next afternoon, I have no idea what the hell happened."

When he awakened, Parker found himself lying against the helicopter's bulkhead. "I was damn lucky," he said. He tried to stand but couldn't because his left leg and right ankle were broken. There was no one else around the helicopter.

"It was about midafternoon when I heard an American voice," Parker said. "And it was a Special Operations team that came in to pick up whatever was left."

The Soldier, who he later learned was Yates, hooked him up to a so-called stabo rig and extracted him. Parker was medically evacuated to the hospital at Fort Devens where he would stay for nine months. Next he was assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. The Army gave him the option of re-enlisting as a

Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Retired Sgt. Maj. Skip Parker, whose helicopter was shot down in May 1971 in Vietnam, is a training leader in the Utility Helicopters Project Office within the Program Executive Office for Aviation.**

**See Veteran on page 15**

# Veteran

Continued from page 14

tank driver or an infantryman. So, Parker left the service. After nearly a year, he joined the Army again and spent the next three decades as a Soldier. He retired in May 2000 as a sergeant major at Redstone with 30 years of service.

The Claremont, New Hampshire, native initially joined the Army in June 1969 after graduating from high school. He was 19 when he arrived in Vietnam in January 1971. The first of two times he was shot down occurred that March during an operation into Laos called Lam Som 719. Charlie Company, also called Phoenix, was assigned to insert South Vietnamese troops into the country. Parker's helicopter drew heavy fire from the ground, took a round to its belly and began leaking fuel. The aircraft landed in a clearing and Parker's crew was on the ground about 10 minutes before safely evacuated by a command and control helicopter.

"And we got the hell out of there," Parker said. His war would end two months later when Yates medically evacuated him. Parker saw him for the last time in 1988 in Hawaii.

Asked to sum up his five-month tour in Vietnam, Parker laughed and said, "It was a very unique experience."

He started taking college classes at Fort Devens. Parker got an associate degree in 1988 and a bachelor's in 1992, both in St. Louis from Columbia College. After the Army's aviation moved

from St. Louis to Redstone Arsenal under base realignment and closure in the late 1990s, Parker earned a master's in 1999 from Florida Institute of Technology.

Parker, 64, worked for a contractor after his military retirement in 2000 and became an Army civilian in 2009. He likes to fish, garden and "go RV-ing."

He and his wife, Gail, who reside in Hazel Green, have a son, David, two daughters Dasha and Brandie and eight grandchildren.

Parker, who plans to attend Charlie Company's reunion Aug. 7-9 in Omaha, Nebraska, said he appreciates this nation's commemoration of the 50th year since the Vietnam War.

"I think it's great that they really showed some respect of what happened to individuals that went to that war," he said. "A good majority of people that went there – I'd say the bulk of them – were all draftees. And the way they were treated when they got home was a nightmare."

*Editor's note: This is the 21st in a series of articles about veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.*

## Vietnam revisited Part 21 in series



Courtesy photo

**The then Spc. 5 Skip Parker, 19, a member of Charlie Company, 158th Aviation Battalion, relaxes in his hooch in 1971 at Camp Evans, south of the Quang Tri Province.**



Photo by Denise DeMonia of PEO Aviation

## Master aviator retires

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Gregory Koch, right, accepts the Certificate of Retirement from Col. Chris Mills, former product manager for armed reconnaissance helicopter, during Koch's retirement ceremony May 27. Koch, a master aviator, is a designated OH-58D and Bell 407 maintenance test pilot evaluator with more than 3,500 flight hours. He is retiring after 25 years of service. Koch also received the Meritorious Service Medal, a certificate of appreciation from the president and the U.S. flag.



Photo by Carrie E. David, SMDC/ARSTRAT

## Superior service

Donovan Etheridge, chief, Business Management Office, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents Yvonne Crutcher, staff action specialist, with the Superior Civilian Service Award during her retirement May 27. Crutcher retires with 35 years of service.

Courtesy photo

## Retired leader remembered

Dr. Delia Black, who retired as chief of the then Missile Command's civilian training and career management program, died May 23 in Huntsville Hospital after an extended illness. She was 79. She served on the Redstone Federal Credit Union's board of directors from 1980 until February of this year.



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# Mobile native takes reins of flight test directorate

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

On any given day, they might have up to 50 tests going on up to eight different types of aircraft at as many as six locations.

The 400 members of the Redstone Test Center's Aviation Flight Test Directorate paused Friday for a change of command ceremony in the AFTD hangar at Redstone Airfield.

Maj. Cornelius Allen, a Mobile native, succeeded Lt. Col. Richard Bratt as the directorate's commander. Bratt will join the Program Executive Office for Aviation as the product director for CH-47 modifications.

"Excellent leadership opportunity," Allen, 38, said of assuming command. "It's very important to Army aviation."

RTC commander Col. Patrick Mason served as host for the ceremony. He praised Bratt's leadership for the past three years and welcomed Allen to the organization.

Bratt is "a true servant leader and has demonstrated that time and again," Mason said. "Rich, it's been an absolute honor to serve with you."

Allen entered the Army after graduating and receiving his ROTC commission from Tuskegee University in 1999.

**See Allen on page 20**

*"His talents and experience are the perfect fit at this time to move the organization forward."*

**Col. Patrick Mason**



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Maj. Cornelius Allen assumes command of the Redstone Test Center's Aviation Flight Test Directorate during Friday's ceremony in the AFTD hangar.**

# Good job, mate: Australia program manager honored

By USASAC Public Affairs

The Army Materiel Command security assistance enterprise is about building relationships with partner countries.

Ryan Nichols, of the Security Assistance Command, knows this firsthand. He supported the foreign military sale of Chinooks (CH-47F) as an Aviation and Missile Command security assistance management division country program manager for Australia before becoming a USASAC manager for seven Europe Regional Command nations in February.

Nichols acknowledged that while his position at USASAC may have a broader focus, the mission is part of the larger enterprise and remains the same – providing security assistance to build partner capacity and strengthen global relationships.

Nichols, who has served as a logistics management specialist and an international program manager for the Australian CH-47 program, said he was amazed at the coordination and detailed team effort it took to develop the case.

Throughout his tenure as the logistics lead, he was in charge of the government furnished equipment for AMCOM and the Communications-Electronics Command.

“During the execution phase of the project, the SAMD team grew from one person to three people,” Nichols said. “Each member of the team had their

specified functional areas, program management, logistics, finance and engineering.”

Nichols was also in charge of the program management for the Transport Flight Proficiency Simulator visual database and hardware delivery.

He said the case turned out to be one of Australia’s largest purchases, totaling approximately \$354 million in foreign military sale dollars.

The CH-47 is the Army’s primary heavy troop and supply transport aircraft. It was originally fielded in the Vietnam War and has since undergone a series of modernizations to increase lift and reliability in various combat environments.

Nichols said the letter of request for the case was received in 2009 and the letter of offer and acceptance was signed in March 2010. He credited the case’s success to a lot of team effort, “not just from the U.S. government side, but AMCOM as well as the Security Assistance Management Division (SAMD), CH-47 PM (program manager), CE-

**See Manager on page 22**

Photo by Michelle Voeller

**USASAC’s Ryan Nichols received the Army Civilian Achievement Medal for superior performance during his tenure as the Aviation and Missile Command security assistance management division country program manager for the foreign military sale of Chinooks (CH-47F) to Australia.**



# Allen

Continued from page 18

“His talents and experience are the perfect fit at this time to move the or-

ganization forward,” Mason said.

Bratt said the past three years of leading the directorate team have been wonderful. “It was an honor and privilege to serve as the AFTD commander,” he said.



Photo by Wally O'Steen

**Members of the official party at the ceremony include, from front to back, the directorate's incoming commander Maj. Cornelius Allen, Redstone Test Center commander Col. Patrick Mason and the directorate's outgoing commander Lt. Col. Richard Bratt.**

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Courtesy photo

## Propulsion pioneer remembered

Holm Hinrichs, who retired after 39 years at Redstone Arsenal in testing and evaluation of missile systems and propulsion, has died at 92. A memorial service will be held Friday morning at 11 at Laughlin Service Funeral Home with visitation at 10. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery.



Photo by Carrie E. David, SMDC/ARSTRAT

## Senior program analyst

Thomas Webber, director, Space and Strategic Systems Directorate, Technical Center, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents Doris Ingram, senior program analyst, with the Meritorious Civilian Service Award during her retirement May 26. Ingram retires with 32 years of service.



Photo by Adriane Foss

## Pausing to remember

Maj. Gen. Mark McDonald, commander of the Security Assistance Command, speaks during a Memorial Day ceremony at the Roselawn Cemetery in Decatur. He spoke of Decatur's proud support of the armed forces and encouraged attendees to never forget the sacrifices of America's fallen. "It was not their deaths that made them heroes, but they were heroes the moment they decided to wear the uniform," he said.

## Manager

Continued from page 19

COM, USASAC and the team of Australian foreign liaison officers."

In early 2014, Nichols became the AMCOM international program manager for the Australian FMS case. He managed a team of three people and oversaw all aspects of the FMS case to ensure all of Australia's needs were being met. Nichols left the program to accept a job at USASAC in February, one month before the first CH-47F was delivered to Australia. He said he worked with more than 40 members of Australia, including seven local FLOs and members of the Australian project office.

"I enjoyed working with the Australians; they are great and very reasonable people," Nichols said. "I consider all of the Australians I worked with on these projects, my friends to this very day.

"It was a great program, and it would not have been nearly as successful without my AMCOM SAMD colleagues, the Australian FLOs and the assistance from my CH-47 program integrator."

Nichols was awarded an Army Civilian Achievement Medal for his support of the program.

With that professional accomplishment under his belt, Nichols said he is not slowing down. At USASAC he now oversees a broad range of materiel and equipment requirements for Armenia, Austria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Russia.

"The biggest challenge for me is going from managing one country, with one program, to seven countries with all varying weapon programs," he said.

He said it's a learning curve, but one that he welcomes. Nichols said the joy of it is discovering something new every day.



Courtesy photo

**A Transport Flight Proficiency Simulator is offloaded in Australia. The Chinook (Ch-47F) foreign military sale is the largest in Australia's history, totaling approximately \$354 million.**

# Army's software centers converge to share ideas



By **NIKKI MONTGOMERY**  
AMRDEC Public Affairs

The Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center held an inaugural technical exchange meeting May 20-21 to address shared challenges and review solutions within the software engineering community.

Leaders of the Army's software engineering centers gathered at the AMRDEC Software Engineering Directorate, as well as via video teleconference.

"AMRDEC volunteered to host the first meeting in Huntsville to initiate this coalition and foster strategic discussions among the Army software centers' leadership," Bill Colson, director of Systems Simulation, Software and Integration, said.

"The intent is to rotate the meeting among the Army's centers allowing the leadership from the various locations the opportunity to better understand each center's capabilities. We believe this will foster collaboration, better leveraging each center to benefit the Army overall."

The forum created an environment for software engineering directors and their deputies to discuss matters such as human capital strategy, cybersecurity and partnership opportunities.

David Castellano, acting director of the Armament Research Development and Engineering Center, shared his outlook on the difficulties of human capital within the government realm.

"The need for software engineers is outpacing the United States ability to generate professionals in the field," Castellano said. "Because of this demand, we run the risk of outsourcing business to foreign partnerships. It is key that we keep this in mind as a joint community and figure out how to build an enduring capability to meet our challenges."

Developing a healthy balance of in-house government civilians and out-of-house contracting support and foreign partnerships is one of several areas the leadership team recognized as needing improvement.

"The future of our Army technologies will become increasingly dependent on software," Colson said. "This brings unique challenges with complex systems integration of software and hardware in our future advanced weapon systems. The AMRDEC SED and all of the Army's software centers will continue to be a critical enabler in ensuring we develop, acquire and sustain our Army's software dependent technologies in the future."

In addition to AMRDEC and ARDEC, the two-day event included software-centric subordinate commands of the Army Materiel Command including the Communications-Electronics Research Development and Engineering Center, the Communications-Electronics Command and the Tank Automotive Research Development and Engineering Center.

"This initial meeting of the software center leadership was a definite success," Colson said. "We identified multiple areas of opportunity to build on that potentially will lead to improved efficiencies and enhance the effectiveness of all of our mission areas. We are looking forward to the next opportunity to meet."

AMRDEC photo

**Larry Muzzelo, director of CECOM Software Engineering Center, leads discussion at the Army Software Centers Technical Exchange Meeting on May 20.**



Photo by Dr. (Lt.) Teng K. Ooi, U.S. Naval Academy/NAVAIR Reserve Program

## Graduation day

The Class of 2015 Naval Academy midshipmen celebrate their graduation and commissioning with a hat toss to bid farewell to fellow students May 22 at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Maryland. Upon graduation, the more than 1,000 midshipmen earn a bachelor's of science degree, are commissioned as ensigns in the Navy or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps, and serve a minimum of five years.

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# Benefits of serving in Army worth calculating

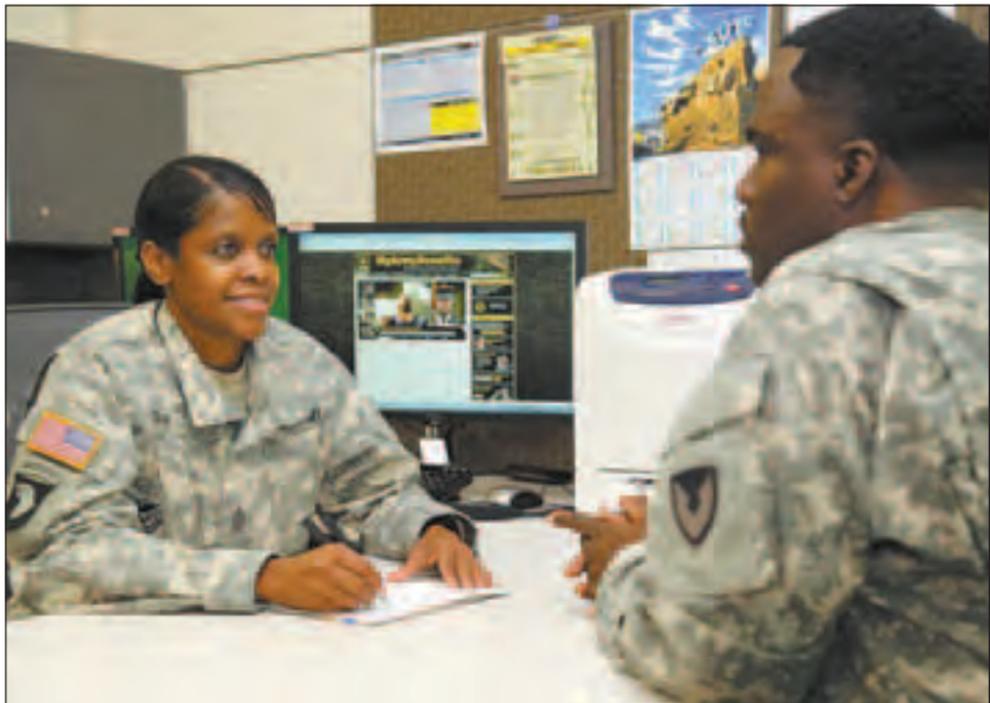


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Michael Zuk

**Sgt. Maj. Willene Orr provides career counseling for Soldiers and serves as an adviser on retention issues to Army Materiel Command leadership.**

**By Sgt. Maj. WILLENE ORR**  
AMC career counselor

One of our nation's most valuable resources are its Soldiers and their families. One of the Army Materiel Command commanding general's top priorities is to "Sustain a ready and resilient workforce and develop adaptive leaders." One way in which this is accomplished is to ensure our Soldiers are aware and educated on the many benefits and incentives the Army has available.

It is no secret that the Army provides numerous incentives, benefits and programs for our Soldiers. The saying "Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier ... A Soldier for Life" resonates with both active, reserve and retired Soldiers. The Army provides several benefits to ensure our Soldiers remain Soldiers for life regardless of the capacity they are currently serving. Two of the many benefits afforded to our Soldiers, both officers and enlisted personnel, are "MyArmyBenefits" and the "Transfer of Post-9/11 GI Bill Education Benefits."

The "MyArmyBenefits" is an official Army benefits website. This site has a wealth of information ranging from benefit calculators, surviving family member

benefits, Veterans Employment Center, and federal, state and territory benefits to name a few. One special feature on the site is the "benefit calculator." Individuals can forecast their retirement benefits, calculate estimates of survivor and survivor education benefits, or browse over 150 fact sheets of benefit eligibility and highlights. Also, special information is provided on the site for severely injured Soldiers and their families and for surviving family members of fallen Soldiers. One important note to make mention is Soldiers must register their CAC or attain a DS Logon to access the "MyArmyBenefits" site at <http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil/>.

Another great benefit afforded to Soldiers is the "Transfer of Post-9/11 GI Bill Education Benefits" also referred to as TEB. The transferability option under the Post-9/11 GI Bill allows service members to transfer all or some unused benefits to their spouse or dependent children. The Department of Defense determines whether benefits may be transferred. Eligible Soldiers may transfer all 36 months or a portion of their unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. This opportunity is afforded to any member of the armed forces, active duty or Selected Reserve, officer or

**See Benefits on page 31**

# Laser capability takes bomb disposal to new level



Redstone Test Center photo

**The Recovery of Airbase Denied by Ordnance is a standoff capability that provides operators the ability to clear unexploded ordnance from the safety of a MRAP.**

By **CARLOTTA MANEICE**  
*AMRDEC Public Affairs*

Improvised explosive devices, makeshift bombs, mines and other unexploded explosive ordnance are a threat to service members in the Middle East. Previously, when the military wanted to disable a bomb, highly trained bomb disposal specialists wore body armor protective suits or used robots to render an area safe.

Today with the assistance of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center's Prototype Integration Facility, Air Combat Command and the Redstone Test Center, the Air Force has an alternative option – Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles with laser technology.

The Recovery of Airbase Denied by Ordnance is a standoff capability that provides operators the ability to clear unexploded ordnance from the safety of a MRAP. The PIF was selected to integrate the Air Forces Central Command's RADBO's laser, Interrogator Arm, console and other features into the Category I Cougar MRAP.

"Building the RADBO prototype was right in the wheelhouse of what the PIF is set up to do," Steven Colvin, PIF project manager, said. "We were able to assemble a strong team of mechanical, electrical and design engineers to solve the problems, fabricators and integrators to build the prototype and technical writers to document the installation, operation and maintenance of the system."

"We may see hundreds to thousands of small unexploded ordnance items on a runway or airfield but the RADBO will allow us to reduce the time it takes to get an airfield operational," said Marshall "Doc" Dutton, Air Force EOD modernization program manager of the Air Force Civil Engineer Center at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. "Currently if a runway gets hit it can take days to weeks to get cleared. With the RADBO, runways can be cleared and operational at a much quicker pace."

**See Laser on page 33**

# Dempsey emphasizes trust at West Point graduation

By JIM GARAMONE

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WEST POINT, N.Y. – The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff reversed the first-salute tradition for new officers during the Class of 2015's U.S. Military Academy commencement May 23.

Military tradition is that newly commissioned officers give a dollar to the noncommissioned officers, or NCOs, who render them their first salute. But on May 23, Gen. Martin Dempsey gave each of the 994 new second lieutenants an autographed dollar bill to signify his trust in them.

It was a fitting tribute from one end of “the Long Gray Line” to the other. Dempsey, the military's highest-ranking officer, graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1974. He retires later this year.

According to a Defense Department handbook titled “The Armed Forces Officer,” the first-salute tradition goes back to the founding of the Army during the Revolutionary War. At that time, officers paid NCOs to mentor them as they learned the profession of a Soldier.

Giving an NCO a dollar for the first salute is a throwback to that tradition. It generally is given to an NCO, who influenced and prepared an officer for command. It is a symbolic passing of the torch by the NCO, who transitions from mentor to subordinate. Another thread in the tradition says new officers “buy” their first salute and then earn all others through their duty per-

formance.

The first salute “is symbolic of the respect and trust that exist between leader and led within our profession,” Dempsey said. “In return, you will give the individual, who salutes you a dollar, indicating that they can count on you to earn their trust, not just today, but every day throughout your career.”

Dempsey's first salute 41 years ago was from Master Sgt. Bernie Henderson, an NCO in the Military Academy's department of military instruction. Dempsey had met him during training on Fort Knox, Kentucky, and throughout his cadet career, the sergeant was someone he could turn to when he had questions about how to relate to the NCO Corps.

“He took my first salute,” the general told the graduates. “I signed a dollar bill and handed it to him. We went our separate ways.”

About a year ago, Dempsey said, he got a package in the mail containing a framed dollar bill that he had signed and a note that read, “Dear Gen. Dempsey, I told you I would return this to you when you made general. Sorry it took me so long to send it back to you. Sincerely, Bernie Henderson.”

“That was his way of letting me know I had earned his trust,” the general said. “Among the many awards and citations I've received throughout my career, it is one of my most treasured possessions.”

Dempsey told the graduates that he wanted to deliver one important message to them: “We trust you.”

“We trust you to win our nation's wars, to be lead-



DoD photo by D. Myles Cullen

**Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, delivers the commencement address May 23 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.**

ers of character and competence and consequence,” he said. “We trust you to leave our profession better than you found it.

“As I shake your hand on this stage today,” he continued, “I'll give you each a dollar bill that I've signed. In the years ahead, as you confront the challenges ahead, I hope you remember not who gave it to you, but what it means.”

# Soldiers use forensics to identify IED threats

By DAVID VERGUN

Army News Service



Photo by Sgt. Brendan Mackie

**Afghan Border Police and Soldiers with the 630th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company examine a crater near Yaro Kalay, Afghanistan.**

WASHINGTON – As operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have demonstrated, the enemy is adept at making inexpensive improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, and modifying them over time to become even more lethal.

“For us to adapt to those threats, we must be able to identify and assess what those IEDs or weapons are and how they’re being used against us,” said Dr. Jay Ehr Gott, a research engineer with the Engineer Research and Development Center, or ERDC, Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg, Mississippi. He spoke at the Pentagon on Lab Day.

To identify the threat in the past, experts from ERDC reaction teams or the Joint IED Defeat Organization, known as JIEDDO, traveled to the location to examine the craters left behind by improvised explosive devices or holes in vehicles made by projectiles. The forensics work, incidentally, is termed CALDERA+, which stands for Crater Algorithm Design for Explosive Charge Analysis.

However, when doing forensic weapons signature research, time is of the essence. Soldiers on-site where or near when the event occurred would have a much better chance of getting evidence before it becomes contaminated by weather or human activity. Ehr Gott compared the task to “CSI,” or crime scene investigations.

So, ERDC, in collaboration with JIEDDO, the Army Research Lab and National Ground Intelligence Center, came up with a plan to provide training and equipment to frontline Soldiers – particularly explosives ordnance personnel – to do the forensics.

ERDC published a “Post-Blast Crater Collection and Analysis Guide” that offers easy-to-understand techniques to expedite crater analysis. A three-day training course fortifies the guide.

**See Forensics on page 32**

# Missile defense project meets milestone

By PEO Missiles and Space Public Affairs

White Sands Missile Range, N.M. – Integrated Air and Missile Defense project management officials had a successful intercept flight test against a Tactical Ballistic Missile surrogate target using a Patriot Guidance Enhanced Missile-Tactical missile Thursday.

The test demonstrated a dramatic change in how current air and missile defense systems will operate in the future with a netted System-of-Systems architecture. The test demonstrated the ability to conduct an engagement over an Integrated Fire Control Network using the IAMD Battle Command System.

The Patriot-as-a-Target TBM surrogate flew a TBM trajectory against an asset defended by an IAMD task force comprised of a Battalion Engagement Operations Center, a non-located Battery EOC with a Patriot radar, and a remotely controlled IFCN Relay connected to two adapted Patriot Launchers operating on an IFCN. The two adapted Patriot launchers were equipped with GEM-T missiles to intercept the threatening TBM surrogate.

The IAMD System of Systems represents a shift from a traditional system-centric weapon systems to a component-based approach. IAMD provides for the full, net-centric, plug- and-fight integration of existing and future AMD forces and systems.

IAMD supports integration at the system component level – launchers and sensors – into a SoS network, which enables the architecture to use full combat capabilities.

IAMD provides for the movement of critical information/decision aids from AMD sensors and weapons to the right decision-maker, at the right time, to support AMD mission objectives. The IBCS EOC provides the common mission command capability, while the Plug- and-Fight kits, including the IFCN, provide fire-control connectivity to enable distributed operations.

IAMD is managed by the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, while



Graphic by PEO Missiles and Space, Integrated Air and Missile Defense Project Office

Northrop Grumman, Falls Church, Virginia, is the prime contractor and Raytheon is responsible for the adaptation of the Patriot components.

# Facilities Reduction Program \$48M contract awarded

By Engineering and Support Center,  
Huntsville Public Affairs

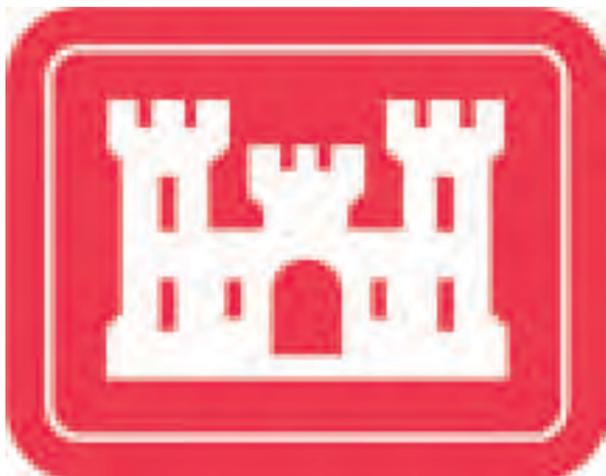
Ten businesses have been awarded a Multiple Award Task Order, Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity contract with a program-based capacity of \$48 million to support Midwest facilities reduction demolition projects by the Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

The five-year ordering period includes a base year and four one-year optional years. The MATOC establishes a pool of contractors eligible to bid on future projects.

To date, no task orders have been awarded. Work to be performed includes demolition, debris management and disposition, facilities abatement and hazardous material removal, and site maintenance and cleanup.

The Facilities Reduction Program manages four regional MATOCs with a \$48 million capacity per region for a total of \$196 million. These regional MATOCs utilize an improved acquisition strategy with standardized contract language to ensure employment of industry best practices, thus reducing costs and improving recycling and waste stream reduction.

Under the contract awarded May 11, the following four small and six large businesses will be awarded task orders to provide a range of efforts to include demolition services, and



specific structure removal at various Army and other Department of Defense bases in the Midwest United States. Specific work to be performed is defined at the task order level.

ADS Trinity, LLC doing business as Atlanta Demolition of Chamblee, Georgia; All Phase Services Inc., Delray Beach, Florida; ARS Aleut Remediation, North Augusta, South Carolina.; North Wind Construction Services, Knoxville, Tennessee; Bhate Environmental Associates Inc., Birmingham, Alabama; Central Environment Inc., Las Vegas, Nevada.; Charter Environmental Inc., Boston, Massachusetts; Envirocon Inc., Missoula, Montana.; Environmental Remediation Services Inc., Schenectady, New York and Northstar Federal Services Inc., Richland, Virginia will share the contract over the five-year duration of the contract.

## Benefits

Continued from page 26

enlisted who is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and meet certain criteria. One of the criteria is they must have at least six years of service in the armed forces (active duty and/or the Selected Reserve) on the date of approval and must agree to serve four additional years from the date of election. In addition, another important note is all transfer requests must be submitted and approved while the member is in the armed forces. It must be completed prior to separation or retirement from the military. Additional information on the TEB can be found at [www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911\\_transfer.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_transfer.asp).

I am proud to serve our warriors of the Army Materiel Command and Team Redstone to ensure they remain Army Strong! As the 38th chief of staff of the Army said, "Our Army will continue to be the best-equipped, best-trained and best-led force in the world. The strength of our nation is our Army; the strength of our Army is our Soldiers; the strength of our Soldiers is our families. This is what makes us Army Strong."

# Forensics

Continued from page 29

The training includes taking measurements and photos of the crater's geometry, as well as obtaining and analyzing soil samples. The way it's done is standardized so that the data are valid, reliable and results can be replicated for later testing in the lab, Ehrgott said.

When ERDC receives the data, engineers can deconstruct the so-called scene of the crime and determine the type of weapon or IED used and the power of them, he said.

For example, some IEDs are made up of artillery shells, some are made with common ingredients like fertilizer, some are explosively formed projectiles which focus energy on the underbelly of vehicles, and dirty bombs might include a substance like chlorine with the blast material.

Over time, ERDC and its collaborating partners have amassed a database of threats by type, time and location. The database has informed commanders of the evolving threats, Ehrgott said.

With this knowledge, commanders can "adjust mission planning, improve tactics, techniques and procedures and evaluate effects on our protective systems," he said.

In addition to crater analysis, Soldiers are trained to identify enemy projectiles by examining the characteristics of holes to armor and vehicles, he said. Each weapon used produces a distinct signature or fingerprint.

ERDC's lab fires a variety of rounds at test plates to produce a template library of signatures.

Finally, measurements of the chemical and metallurgic properties of the projectile where it penetrated the material are taken to cross-validate the identity of the weapon used, he said.

All of this research and fieldwork has attracted the attention and interest of other agencies.

In addition to the Army; the other services, law-enforcement agencies across the country and investigation units, like the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, are incorporating most of the post-blast collection and analysis techniques into their training curriculum, Ehrgott said.

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*"For us to adapt to those threats, we must be able to identify and assess what those IEDs or weapons are and how they're being used against us."*

**Dr. Jay Ehrgott**

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# Laser

Continued from page **27**

RADBO's laser can detonate bombs up to 300 meters and the PIF's integrated Interrogator Arm and Manipulator Claw can pull 50 pounds of debris up from cracks and underneath rubble. Infrared cameras, driver vehicle enhanced capabilities and two alternators were installed to provide over 1,100 amps of power.

"The biggest challenge for the PIF was the integration and mechanical maneuvering of adding a second alternator," Colvin said. "The stock alternator was only 570 amps and we needed more to power the laser. After modifying the nose of the Cougar MRAP and shifting the fan and radiator forward we were able to install an additional alternator and double our power."

Another non-combat use of the RADBO is the ability for immediate range clearance allowing fighter pilots to use the range immediately after a live ordnance drop training exercise. Since ranges can be cleared immediately for repeated use, this capability has the potential to save lives on the battlefield.

"The PIF and the test center support have been superb," Dutton said. "We anticipate producing 14 more RADBO after the developmental testing phase to support the AFCENT command. We look forward to partnering with the PIF in the future."

Current testing on the RADBO includes munitions testing, hot and cold storage and electromagnetic interference. Developmental testing will conclude in July at RTC but additional tests will continue with airmen at Tyndall Air Force Base in September.

*"We may see hundreds to thousands of small unexploded ordnance items on a runway or airfield but the RADBO will allow us to reduce the time it takes to get an airfield operational."*

**Marshall "Doc" Dutton**



Photo by Carrie E. David (SMDC/ARSTRAT)

## Division chief retires

**Retired Col. Lorenzo Mack, senior Air and Missile Defense integrator, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, pins the Meritorious Civilian Service Award onto Deborah Heidt, chief, Mission Support Division, during her retirement Thursday. Heidt retires with 28 years of service.**

# Odierno: End-strength issue still unsettled

By C. TODD LOPEZ  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- When the Army's chief of staff retires this August, he said one thing he will be leaving for his successor is the unfinished business of how big the Army will be and how it will be appropriated.

"I thought by now we would have had that resolved," said Odierno, adding that uncertainty about the final size of the Army has brought "angst to our Soldiers."

Odierno spoke May 28 during a media roundtable with the Defense Writers Group in Washington, D.C.

The final end strength of the Army - the total number of Soldiers that will be allowed to serve - is still "up in the air," Odierno said. It is "based on what happens with the Congress and the president as they continue to wrestle what the budget would be."

He predicts the issue will still be a concern for the new chief of staff for two to three years to come.

The general said that while popular consensus might hold that the Army is now at rest because it is largely out of Iraq and Afghanistan - the opposite is true. The Army has 143,000 Soldiers forward-stationed and deployed throughout the world today, he said.

Odierno told journalists that continued cuts to defense must stop, "with the world the way it is today ... this is not the right time. We've taken enough out of defense. Let's stop and move forward."

Continued cuts will damage the Army's modernization efforts and readiness into the next decade, the general said.

"If we don't get the dollars and continue down the road of sequestration, it's going to affect readiness," he said. "It's going to put us in a readiness hole for five years. It's going to put us in a modernization hole for 10 years. And our ability to continue to meet the current mission is

going to be challenged."

Security issues, such as the city of Ramadi being taken last week by the Islamic State - and Iraqi security forces fleeing instead of fighting - persist in Iraq. Just five years ago, the general had been optimistic about the future of the country.

"The violence in Iraq was at the lowest levels it had ever been. We saw the economics were starting to grow. Oil was being exported at a higher rate. I felt very good. I thought we were on the right track. But then again, the political piece of it has not taken. They have not been able to overcome the mistrust they have between sects."

The general said that mistrust and conflict between Sunni and Shia, for instance, represents the kind of fractures in Iraqi society that demand a leader strong enough to pull them together to create a stable country.

That continued mistrust, he said, continues to degrade the success that had been achieved in Iraq early on.

"It is incredibly disappointing to me, personally, what I have watched happen," he said. "I felt in, September 2010, when I left, that we were on the right track. And I really believed at that time, that in five years, that Iraq would be doing very well. But frankly they have fallen apart."

The general said he does not support sending combat formations to provide security to the country - a task he said the Iraqis themselves are best suited for. He did say additional advisers would be OK, if those on the ground who are observing the mission of those advisers were to say that additional advisers are needed.

"Right now they feel we are OK with the numbers we have," he said. "If they



Photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Cortez

**Army chief of staff Gen. Ray Odierno speaks to Soldiers, assigned to Task Force 2-10th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, at the Joint Readiness Training Center, La., April 22.**

felt we need to increase that, I'd be supportive."

Odierno also said that he believes that "embedded advisers," which means U.S. Soldiers embedded with Iraqi combat units, could increase the effectiveness of those units - and make the U.S. effort there more successful.

"That puts us at much more risk," he said. "We have not made that decision yet, and I don't think that Gen. Austin (Gen. Lloyd Austin, commander of U.S. Central Command) has asked for that capability."

The Army has said it plans to purchase 49,099 joint light tactical vehicles, or JLTVs, and Odierno said the Army has "not walked away" from that commitment.

He said the JLTV is a vehicle the Army absolutely needs, that it includes enough space for Soldiers and communications gear, and that it provides adequate protection for occupants.

"I feel really good about what we've done with the JLTV," he said. "I think the way we've developed the requirements, the way it is moving forward, is a really important step for us. I think as we move forward it will be a central piece of the Army."

Odierno also said the Army might be looking for an ultra-light vehicle that will help move airborne Soldiers, who land as part of forcible entry operations.

Such a vehicle is being evaluated now on Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The Army might also be looking for a light reconnaissance vehicle, as well as "mobile-protected firepower" in light, medium and heavy versions. He also mentioned vertical lift, an infantry fighting vehicle, and "a lighter, tank-like vehicle."

Using the Army Operating Concept, or AOC, as a guide, the general said, the Army has been reviewing 20 war fighting challenges and has identified "where the gaps and seams are" in terms of capability.

The effort is more holistic than it has been in the past, he said. The Army is looking across all branches and centers of excellence, rather than at functional "stovepipes."

"I think we are coming up with much better solutions. I think what you are going to see here, one of the things I am proud of is, we have established this AOC, we've looked at these 20 war fighting challenges, and I think now we can ease the way forward on how we start identifying near-term, mid-term and long-term gaps that we can now invest in."

In terms of future modernization and acquisition, Odierno criticized the Army's previous concepts of acquisition, saying that the service had always looked for the best right up front.

"I think one of the problems we've had in the past is that we tried to build a perfect vehicle," he said. "The requirements are so high, and they were difficult to meet, and it ended up being over budget and sometimes we found we couldn't meet them."

Now, he said, he believes that program development might "leave room for improvement" in new systems and that the Army tries to "become iterative in development of a program."

He suggested a new system, where the first iteration of a new system might meet 80 percent of what the Army wants. Later iterations would reach a goal of 90 percent, and then 100 percent.

"That 80 percent is much better than what we have today," he said. "And it's easier to attain."

# Moe earns top gun from free-throw line



Photo by Skip Vaughn

John Schocke warms up for the AER free-throw shootout May 26 in Pagano Gym. Chris Smith, left, awaits his turn.

## Army/NASA softball league standings

Here are the standings for the 2015 Marshall Athletic Recreational Services Softball Club after last week:

### Division A

	Won	Loss	Tie
Got the Runs	4	0	0
Ballistic			
Bombers	3	1	0
We Dem Boyz	2	2	0
RTC	1	2	0
Fly-Outs	1	3	0
Hit Circus	0	3	0

### Division B

	Won	Loss	Tie
Fireballs	4	0	0
Hat Trick Sports	3	1	0
The Other Team	2	1	1
TBE			
Integrators	2	1	1
Unmanned & Unafraid	2	2	0
NASA Meet			

Balls	1	2	0
Renegades	1	2	0
Wyle	1	3	0
Hit to Kill	1	3	0
Space Balls	1	3	0

### Division C

	Won	Loss	Tie
Misfits	4	0	0
Rotorheads	4	0	0
Ice Cold			
Pitchers	3	1	0
Yulista	2	1	0
Space Cowboys	2	2	0
Bit Players	2	2	0
Judgment Day	2	2	0
One Hit			
Wonders	2	2	0
Hits w Mits			
DTS	2	3	0
Sons of Pitches	1	3	0
LEC NERDS	0	4	0
Redstone			
Rebels	0	4	0

*He sinks 20 in two minutes to capture AER shootout*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Mark Moe hadn't competed in the annual AER free-throw shootout the past few years and he hadn't even touched a basketball the past two.

But he played all sports while growing up as an Army brat. So, he was well-prepared for the 2015 Army Emergency Relief Free-Throw Shootout on May 26 at Pagano Gym.

Moe sank 20 free throws in the two-minute time limit to win the first-place trophy. He also received a plaque for the most money raised in pledges per basket. Moe raised \$527 of the event's \$1,041 total for AER.

"Most importantly all of us did it to help Soldiers and their families," said Moe, the supportability and sustainment director in the Aviation and Missile Command's Logistics Center. "And that's what AER is all about."

Even with his absence the past few years, this was the third time Moe had competed in the shootout. He outshot the other four competitors, including defending champion John Schocke.

"Luck – pure luck," Moe said of his victory.

Growing up in an Army family he played football, basketball, baseball – "you name it, we played it," he said.

Joe Magee, missile branch chief in the Readiness Directorate within the AMCOM Logistics Center, finished second with 18 made free throws. Schocke was third with 13, Chris Smith placed fourth with 10 and John Jensen was fifth with six.

"I just tried to get my rhythm down. I couldn't get it," Magee said.

Mollie Holder, automation team lead in the Readiness Directorate, led the fundraising event. "I thank you so much for your support for this," she told the crowd.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**Mark Moe took first place in the shootout and also received a plaque for raising the most money in pledges per basket. In the background is second place finisher Joe Magee.**

## In this section...

**SOLDIER SPRINTS HER WAY ONTO ARMY TEAM**

**PAGE 37**



# 240<sup>TH</sup> ARMY BIRTHDAY

240 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE NATION

3RD ANNUAL  
TEAM REDSTONE

# RUN WALK

## JUNE 12

### EXCHANGE PARKING LOT

Meet at Exchange Parking Lot at 0600

Celebration Starts at 0630.

You can walk or run with the option of joining us for a 5K or a 2.5K event.

Individuals are welcome to run in formation or on their own.

The Run will be led in Army formation.

This is a celebration and not a timed event.

No Registration or sign up in advance required.

Open to the Redstone Community Including spouses and children



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL PAGANO GYM AT 876-6701 OR 876-2943.

# Soldier sprints her way onto Army team

By SHANNON COLLINS

*DoD News, Defense Media Activity*

EL PASO, Texas -- As the sun beats down, a Soldier placed her right foot in the block and got ready for the burst of energy she would need to sprint her way to a medal win during the Army Trials for the DoD Warrior Games.

Sgt. 1st Class Sam Goldenstein, a radiology technician with the 325th Combat Support Hospital in Independence, Missouri, took a gold medal in the women's 400-meter and a silver medal in the women's 1500-meter, 200-meter and 100-meter. She also took a silver medal in women's upright cycling during trials at Fort Bliss, Texas, March 29 to April 2. For her, adaptive sports give her a chance to transition from being a distance runner to a sprinter and to being a cyclist.

"I used to be a distance runner," she said. "I used to love to do half marathons. The Army Ten-Miler was one of my favorite races. The doctors told me to quit running. I always identified as being a runner. I would always go running. I miss it, but the Warrior Transition Unit, or WTU, pointed me to cycling, and now I absolutely love it now, and I honestly wouldn't have tried it. Cycling is great exercise and keeps my pain down."

Over her 12 years in the Reserve, Goldenstein has developed a hip impingement and has grade-four arthritis. She requires hip replacements. She said it can be challenging, but she is more focused on being competitive.

"I'm a 33-year-old female," she said. "I thought my competition days were over, but when I found out about Warrior Games and the Army Trials, I was like, 'Wow, I can actually be competitive again.' When I ran, I never ran for personal records. I never thought I could be competitive again after I lost the running and especially after picking up a new sport at my age. Now I've actually hired a coach. I'm going into my first racing season this year and will see how that goes. It's shown me that I can still do this, no matter what my disability is. It's never over."

**See Sprinter on page 38**



Photo by EJ Hersom

**Sgt. 1st Class Sam Goldenstein runs to a gold medal in the women's 400-meter and a silver medal in the women's 1500-meter, 200-meter and 100-meter during Army Trials at Fort Bliss, Texas, March 29 to April 2.**

# Sprinter

Continued from page 37

Goldenstein is also the adaptive sports site coordinator at Fort Leonard Wood and encourages other wounded warriors to participate in adaptive sports and to try out for future Army Trials and the Veteran Affairs' Valor Games. She uses one of her own teammates at the Army Trials as an example.

Staff Sgt. Cory Davis, an avionics mechanic who served for 21 years, after six weeks of training with Goldenstein, went to the Valor Games in October with a team from Fort Leonard Wood and medaled in shooting. He also did well in archery, though he had never shot a bow before.

"It gave him the confidence and excitement to come back and continue that sport," she said. "He won a gold medal here at the Army Trials in shooting."

Davis said Goldenstein helped him in his recovery.

"Sam's great," he said. "When I first got to the WTU, the adaptive sports program was pretty much non-existent. When my wife came to visit, she lit into the staff because most of my days, I spent in my room doing nothing. I was getting pretty depressed. Next thing I know, Sam comes in and says, 'Cory, what do you want to do?' She suggested archery and shooting. She just motivated me and right off the bat, we had Valor Games. She's been great. She's really inspired me to do more. She listens to us and gets us involved. She tries hard to make it as much fun as she can. Every time I see her, I smile."

Goldenstein said she was inspired to join the Army because it was a family tradition.

"My dad was in the Army, and my sister was in the Reserves, and at 21, I thought, 'The Army could be very beneficial for me, and I could help serve my country.' With everything stirring up in Iraq at the time, I really wanted to go do something for these guys. I may not be on the front line, but I can help them in the hospital," she said.

Goldenstein will continue her service and her competitive nature as she trains for competition for the 2015 Department of Defense Warrior Games on Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, June 19-28. Last year, she took a silver medal in wom-

en's upright cycling, a silver medal in the women's 1500-meter and 400-meter and a bronze medal in the 200-meter at the Warrior Games.

Throughout the games, wounded, ill and injured service members and veterans from the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard will compete in track and field, shooting, swimming, cycling, archery, wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball.

Goldenstein said the most important aspect of the 2015 DoD Warrior Games is the camaraderie.

"We forge friendships, and we use each other to help us with our disabilities and because of camaraderie, it helps us heal," she said. "I wish we could take more than just 40 people on the team. But even at the Army Trials here, with those who don't make the team, they still have a piece of that camaraderie and friendship here. It's crucial in their healing process."

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*"I'm a 33-year-old female. I thought my competition days were over, but when I found out about Warrior Games and the Army Trials, I was like, 'Wow, I can actually be competitive again.' When I ran, I never ran for personal records. I never thought I could be competitive again after I lost the running and especially after picking up a new sport at my age. Now I've actually hired a coach. I'm going into my first racing season this year and will see how that goes. It's shown me that I can still do this, no matter what my disability is. It's never over."*

**Sgt. 1st Class Sam Goldenstein**

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## Sports&Recreation

### Senior softball

Get into the swing of Senior Slow Pitch Softball. There are three leagues: age 55-plus, 63-plus and 72-plus. To sign up for 55-plus, call Steve Myers 715-0560 or (443) 540-7989. The other league contacts include: 63-plus, John Corcetti 497-6756; and 72-plus, Greg Bogue 534-4091.

### Memorial golf classic

The Wayne Gardner Memorial Golf Classic is Friday at the Hampton Cove River Course on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Shotgun start is 8 a.m. The \$85 per person cost includes greens fee, cart fee, range balls, hamburger cookout and a gift bag. Play for trophies, prizes and a \$5,000 cruise from Cruise One for a hole-in-one on the designated par 3. Space is limited. RSVP at [www.tnwops.com/golfclassic](http://www.tnwops.com/golfclassic).

### Youth football/cheerleading

Madison Youth Football and Cheer-Knights registration continues through July 18 online at [www.MadisonYFC.org](http://www.MadisonYFC.org). On-site registration at Dublin Park Recreation Center will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday regular price and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 18 with late fee. For more information, call 289-1398.

### Screaming Eagles golf scramble

All are invited to join the second annual Screaming Eagles Golf Tournament on July 24 at the Links. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. and a shotgun start at 8:30. The cost for a team of four players is \$260, or \$65 per individual player. Cost includes cart, green fees, breakfast and lunch. Mulligans and power drive are \$20 per player. Proceeds from the event will help the North Alabama Screaming Eagles chapter of the 101st Airborne Division Association support past, present and future Screaming Eagles. To register, email Jeff Wishik at [jwishik@yahoo.com](mailto:jwishik@yahoo.com) or Phil Thompson at [NASECsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:NASECsecretary@gmail.com).

### Basketball camp

J Smith Hoops presents the eighth annual J Smith All-American Basketball Camp, for ages 6-15 (boys and girls), on July 6-9 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Columbia High School. The cost is \$115. For more information, visit [www.jsmithhoops.com](http://www.jsmithhoops.com).

### Men's recreational baseball

Huntsville men's recreational baseball club, the Southern Senior Baseball League, is looking for new players for the upcoming season. They're recruiting players in their early 40s for the Veterans Division and 53 years and up for the Masters Division. Weekly spring training practices are underway. The 20-game season runs from June through August with two games played per week (one weeknight and one Sunday afternoon or evening game). Games are played in the Huntsville/Decatur area. For more information, call Bill McArdle 876-9867 or 651-9447 or email [joinssbl@comcast.net](mailto:joinssbl@comcast.net).

## Conferences&Meetings

### Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at The Summit. Breakfast is available at the club. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For information call president John Perry 922-9300, ext. 214, or vice president Ivory Whitaker 313-0865/2066.

## RocketAnnouncements

### Toastmaster clubs

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Research Park Club 4838, which meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sentar offices, 315 Wynn Drive, Suite 1. For information call Marva Morse 430-0860. The Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 11:30-12:30 at building 4488, room D-107. For information call Claudinette Purifoy 955-9422. The Redstone Toastmasters Club 1932 meets Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Christian Church, 171 Indian Creek Road. For information call Dan Cutshall 684-2359. The Confidentially Speaking Toastmasters Club 1422738 meets the first and third Thursday at noon at building 4545; potential members must have access to Redstone Arsenal. For information call Shelton Torbert 313-7134 or Larry Davis 604-9339.

### Adjutant general association

The Rocket City Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association holds a monthly meeting every second Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Java Café, Pershing Welcome Center, building 3434 off Honest John Road. The AGCRA meetings are open to all military and civilian Human Resource professionals in the commuting area. You can join the Rocket City AGCRA at [www.AGCRA.com](http://www.AGCRA.com). For information call Chenita Henderson 450-5880 or email [chenita.l.henderson.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:chenita.l.henderson.ctr@mail.mil).

### Councilman public meeting

Huntsville City Councilman Bill Kling holds a community Town Meeting at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of each month in meeting Room A in the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library on St. Clair Avenue. Huntsville government issues, complaints, road repair needs and other issues are discussed. Everyone who works at or lives on the Arsenal is welcome.

### Special Forces chapter

North Alabama Chapter 92 of the Special Forces Association will meet at 11 a.m. Saturday at Bill Dansby's Team House, 901 Silver Creek Road, Prospect, Tennessee. Chapter members, Special Forces qualified and personnel who served with or contributed in a unique and definable way to Special Forces units are welcome to attend. RSVP by June 1. Visit [www.chapter92sfa.com/](http://www.chapter92sfa.com/).

### Amateur radio operators

The Marshall Amateur Radio Club, under the call sign of WA4NZZ, conducts a monthly meeting every first Thursday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at building 4622, on the NASA side of Redstone Arsenal just off of

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Centaur Street where all the antennas are located. For more information, visit [wa4nzd.wordpress.com/](http://wa4nzd.wordpress.com/) or email [stephen.j.duncheskie.civ@mail.mil](mailto:stephen.j.duncheskie.civ@mail.mil).

## Field artillery group

The North Alabama Chapter of the Field Artillery Association meets at the Firehouse Pub at 5 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month. "Please add this meeting to your calendars as a recurring meeting each month and join us," a prepared release said. "These gatherings are a lot of fun and are great opportunities to meet with fellow Redlegs in the North Alabama/RSA community."

## Women in defense

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense will hold a Breakfast and Annual Meeting event Oct. 1 from 7:30-9 a.m. at The Westin, Bridge Street. Laura DeSimone, Missile Defense Agency director of acquisition, is the keynote speaker. Registration details will be posted soon.

## Historical society

Join the Huntsville/Madison County Historical Society on June 14 at 2 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library. Huntsville Police K-9 Unit supervisor Sgt. Joe Jenkins and Officer Cory Upton will bring Gunner, a specially trained member of the K-9 unit, who will show off unique training exercises. They will share the history of this unit as well as some hilarious stories of how HPD's four-legged officers have captured local criminals. This meeting of the Huntsville/Madison County Historical Society is free and open to the public. For more information, call Jacque Reeves 509-3940.

## Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, will hold its annual Officer Induction Ceremony at 11:30 a.m. June 11 in The Summit's Bob Howell room. The event will be led by AMCOM deputy commander Cathy Dickens. RSVP by Friday. For ticket information, call Raquel Ayres 842-0009, Lisa Lowry 876-7086 or Debbie O'Neal 723-2314. Tickets are \$13 for members, \$14 nonmembers.

## Space society

The Huntsville Alabama L5 Society, or HAL5, a chapter of the National Space Society, will hold its monthly program Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library auditorium. Dr. Renee Weber, research scientist at Marshall Space Flight Center and InSight Science co-investigator, will present "Planetary Seismology: What's shakin' in the Solar System." The event is free and open to the public. A social will follow at the IHOP on University Drive.

## Vietnam veterans

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1067, meets the second Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Civitan Care building, 3053 Leeman Ferry Road. For information call first vice president and membership chairman Richard Knight 722-3027 or visit [www.vietvetshv.org](http://www.vietvetshv.org).

## Warrant officers association

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officers Association holds its monthly meeting the second Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Redstone Lanes bowling center, meeting room 1. Come join the meeting and have lunch. For more information, visit [www.redstonewarrants.com](http://www.redstonewarrants.com).

## Miscellaneous Items

## Education center

The Redstone Army Education Center's mission is to plan, prepare

and implement ACES educational programs and services to support the professional career and personal goals for Soldiers, family members, Department of Army civilians and veterans. The center provides education counseling and academic advisement, GoArmyEd Support, career/academic goal counseling, group briefings, basic academic skills counseling, test administering and interpretations, Army personnel tests (SIFT, TABE, AFCT), defense language tests, military testing credit evaluation, financial aid information and veterans benefits information. Visit the center at building 3495, Toftoy Hall, on the corner of Patton and Aerobee roads or call 876-9761.

## NASA surplus

NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales website. Go to [www.gsaauctions.gov](http://www.gsaauctions.gov), search by state of Alabama, and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-1774.

## Motorcycle safety training

Motorcycle training is mandatory for all active Soldiers who desire to ride a motorcycle regardless of riding it on or off Redstone Arsenal. Soldier motorcycle riders are required to take the Basic Riders Course prior to operating a motorcycle. The BRC is a one-time requirement. All Soldier motorcycle riders will be required to complete advanced motorcycle training consisting of either the experienced riders course or the military sport bike riders course within 12 months following completion of the BRC. The BRC and ERC are provided on Redstone for Soldiers on a monthly or as needed basis (except during winter months). Scheduled classes include the BRC on June 18-19 and the ERC on June 20, according to the Garrison Safety Office. Classes are provided at no cost to active duty military. Military will not be charged leave to attend training. Soldiers may take the civilian equivalents in lieu of the Army provided ERC or MSRC, at no expense to the government, within 12 months following completion of the BRC. The civilian equivalents include the Basic Riders Course II, synonymous with the ERC, and the Advanced Riders Course, synonymous with the MSRC. Soldier motorcycle riders are encouraged to take advanced motorcycle training optimally 60 days after the BRC but must complete training within 12 months. For more information, call Keith Coates of the Garrison Safety Office 876-3383.

## Acquisition course opportunities

Defense Acquisition University South has available seats for classes. To see the complete list to include the DAU South offerings in Huntsville, visit [icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/tabnav.aspx](http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/tabnav.aspx), and click on the blue "Low Fill Classes" link on the right side of the page. Additional training course information can be accessed by clicking on the link for the particular training course. For general inquiries, call Jacqueline Fontenot 922-8752 or email [jacqueline.fontenot@dau.mil](mailto:jacqueline.fontenot@dau.mil).

## Automated configuration management

MEARS is a web-based, government-off-the-shelf application that automates the Configuration Management and CDRL process and is managed at Redstone Arsenal. For more information, contact MEARS program manager John Rogers at [john.a.rogers.civ@mail.mil](mailto:john.a.rogers.civ@mail.mil) and 876-8834.

## Housing services

The mission of Housing Services Office is to provide: assistance to customers with all of their housing needs, guidance and assistance pertaining to all aspects of relocation, mediating disputes, re-financing, and providing guidance on local housing needs. If you can access the Arsenal, they would be happy to assist you – incoming and departing military personnel, retirees, government civilian workers and government contractors. For more information call Minnie Rhoden, of the Hous-

ing Services Office, Directorate of Public Works, at 876-6666 or email minnie.s.rhoden.civ@mail.mil.

### Redstone Thrift Shop

Spring cleaning? Let the Thrift Shop help you. They take donations and give out tax receipts or you can consign and make some extra cash. If you have an ID card, badge, civilian or contractor you can consign with them. If you would like more information, stop by or call. The shop is always looking for volunteers, so stop by. If you are interested in consigning, visit and pick up a packet. The shop goes by color coded tickets and changes them weekly; it also has a 50-percent-off section. The shop, building 3209 off Hercules Road, is located behind the One Stop. The phone number is 881-6992. Business hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday from 9-5 and the first Saturday of the month from 10-2. Consignments hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9-11:45 a.m. unless otherwise stated on the No-List machine. Call the No-List number 881-6915 Mondays after 3 p.m. to see what they are not taking for that week and any announcements for the shop. Donations are welcome anytime. After hours please leave items in the gray box under the pavilion or as close to the door as possible.

### Youth program at Naval Academy

Applications for the 2015 Naval Academy's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, or STEM, Summer Program are now available at [www.usna.edu/admissions/STEM](http://www.usna.edu/admissions/STEM). Session dates include June 1-6 for rising ninth graders; June 8-13 for rising 10th graders; and June 15-19 for rising 11th graders. This annual summer program is designed to expose young people to STEM concepts and technologies and to encourage ninth-11th graders to pursue a course of study in engineering and technology throughout high school, college and beyond. Students participate in project-based modules using a hands-on, real-world approach to solving design and analysis problems at the Naval Academy's world-class laboratory facilities. This unique learning environment promotes engineering "habits of mind" such as critical thinking, optimization, innovation, creativity and teamwork. It exposes students to a problem-based environment outside the traditional classroom.

### Korean War veterans

Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation will hold its 10th annual luncheon honoring Korean War veterans July 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Summit. The guest speaker is Gen. Dennis Via, commander of the Army Materiel Command. Lunch is free to Korean War veterans. Cost is \$20 per person for all others. For more information, call KC Bertling 541-0450, email [samnkc@knology.net](mailto:samnkc@knology.net) or visit [www.legacy4koreanwar-veterans.org](http://www.legacy4koreanwar-veterans.org).

### Overseas deployments

Use your experience and expertise to support Department of Defense

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operations overseas by volunteering to deploy as a member of the U.S. Central Command's Civilian Expeditionary Workforce. The CENTCOM CEW allows current DoD civilian employees to use their initiative, capabilities, experience, skill and knowledge in support of the DoD in accomplishing its mission overseas. Employees interested in applying their expertise in a challenging, austere and unique environment can volunteer for positions supporting the U.S. military in the CENTCOM Area of Responsibility. Deployable civilians are needed to fill critical vacancies in Afghanistan and other locations within the CENTCOM AOR. Volunteering to deploy provides an extraordinary opportunity to exercise your talents and expertise while directly supporting operations in support our National Security objectives. Department of the Army employees should submit the endorsement of their command leadership along with an application and their resume to the Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel CEW team. Full details of the Army application process are available on the CPOL.Army.Mil CEW homepage at <http://cpol.army.mil/library/mobil/>.

### Airborne chapter

The North Alabama Screaming Eagles Chapter invites past, present and future members of the 101st Airborne Division and their families to join its ranks. It provides current and former 101st Screaming Eagles in North Alabama an opportunity to assemble and socialize, recognizing and honoring their service to the Army and the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) throughout the ages. For information, email [NASECSecretary@gmail.com](mailto:NASECSecretary@gmail.com), [springlarry1@gmail.com](mailto:springlarry1@gmail.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/groups/NorthAlabamaScreamingEaglesChapter/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthAlabamaScreamingEaglesChapter/).

### Food service job openings

Redstone's Army & Air Force Exchange Service is recruiting for food service workers for Church's Chicken, Burger King, Subway and Charley's. If you are interested, visit [www.applymyexchange.com](http://www.applymyexchange.com) to view current job opportunities. You can apply to Continuous Food Job Vacancy Announcement, VA-0887FOOD-0315. For more information, call Sherylyn L. McSwain, HR manager, 650-5928.

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## **Computer classes**

Would you like to improve your proficiency with the 2013 versions of Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Word? Army Community Service offers free self-paced classes that are packed with information covering the new features of Office 2013. The classes are ideal for any individual looking to enhance their computer skill set. Classes are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Each class has at least three sessions which will take three hours each to complete. Call to schedule a class at 876-5397.

## **Rescue mission banquet**

The Downtown Rescue Mission is celebrating their 40th anniversary and you're invited. The mission is a nonprofit organization serving the homeless of northern Alabama. It anticipates 400 guests for its 40th anniversary banquet June 11. Proceeds from this event will support the life changing resources that the Downtown Rescue Mission provides for men, women and children. Register for tickets today by calling Tonia Beverly 713-4343 or emailing [tonia@downtownrescuemission.org](mailto:tonia@downtownrescuemission.org). As this ministry continues to grow, they also seek volunteer drivers to deliver food to those in need. For more information, call Corey Buckner 713-4316 or email [corey@downtownrescuemission.org](mailto:corey@downtownrescuemission.org).

## **Military police reunion**

There will be a Fort McClellan reunion for Military Police and civilian employees that were previously assigned to the Provost Marshal Office, 111th MP Company, Fort McClellan MP Company, Company A 701st MP Battalion, 209th Battalion and affiliates of the USAMPS or Training Brigade. The reunion is June 13 in Anniston near the post. There will be a post tour at 1 p.m. leaving the old Provost Marshal Office parking lot; a reunion dinner at 5 at Heroes followed by a meet and greet from 6-6:30, presentation/honors from 6:30-7 and concluding with a free concert/dance featuring The Tim McDonald Band from Nashville at 7. Cost for the reunion is \$20 for singles/\$30 for couples and should be paid by May 30 by check to Yellow Rose Production, Attn: 1361 Dry Hollow Road, Anniston, AL 36207 or paypal to [gailwhite256@bellsouth.net](mailto:gailwhite256@bellsouth.net). For more information call Gail White 236-5201, 225-1727 or 624-8761.

## **Youth talent showcase**

The 2015 Madison County's Got Talent Showcase will take place during the 2015 Community Awareness for Youth event Aug. 1 at John Hunt Park, 2180 Airport Road. Youth ages 12-18 are invited to participate by showcasing their talents through singing, dancing, spoken word, comedy and other forms. Awards will be given in several categories. For registration information, call Daniel Kasambira 468-1801, Kenny Anderson 883-3993 or go to [www.cafyhuntsville.com](http://www.cafyhuntsville.com). A limited number of free backpacks with school supplies will be available to early attendees. There will also be free food, door prizes, and the talent show from 1-2:30 p.m. There will be community resource information, inflatables, and many more ways for children and youth to have fun and to connect with organizations that will help them develop their academic and career lives.

## **Therapy pet fundraiser**

The annual Dog Days of Summer event benefiting Therapy Partners will be held July 31 from 6:30-9 p.m. at the home of Christine and Mike Wicks. Enjoy live music, a silent auction and food – all to benefit Therapy Partners and their owner-and-pet teams who work as a therapeutic tool for several organizations in the Huntsville community. The cost is \$75 per person. For tickets or sponsorship, call Anne Sentell 881-5700.

## **Lifesaving training**

Beginning in June, the Garrison's Fire and Emergency Services will offer Heartsaver CPR and AED training for all Team Redstone Department of Defense civilians and military employees as well as local Guard and Reserve units. The free training class will be held the last Thursday of each month from 8 a.m. until noon at the Fire and Emergency Services Training Center, building 3545. The first class

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is scheduled June 25. The class covers cardiopulmonary resuscitation and AED use with adults, children and infants. There is space for up to 18 students per class. To register email Capt. Josh Hosack at [joshua.r.hosack.civ@mail.mil](mailto:joshua.r.hosack.civ@mail.mil) or firefighter Edward Herbster at [edward.m.herbster.civ@mail.mil](mailto:edward.m.herbster.civ@mail.mil).

## Car show benefit

It's time to mark your calendars and get the word out about this great upcoming event. The 11th annual Charity Car Show, sponsored by Vets with Vettes and Corvette Owners, will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Milton Frank Stadium parking lot. Registration closes at 11:30 a.m. There will be trophies for best paint, best motor, best wheels, best motorcycle, best truck, best in show and plaques from the show sponsors. Registration is \$25, with all proceeds benefiting veterans organizations, Semper Fi Community Task Force and Survivor Outreach Services. The grand door prize is \$500, among other cash door prizes. Dash plaques will go to the first 100 entries. For more information, visit [www.vetswithvettes.us](http://www.vetswithvettes.us).

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**TOXINS...**  
**...TICK OFF**  
**TURTLES**



**Keep storm drains clean  
for those downstream!**

**Keep Redstone Arsenal water streams free of pollutants.  
For more information call the Garrison Environmental Office,  
Storm Water Program manager at 955-8501.**

# Rocket Announcements

## St. Louis reunion

In the late 1990s as a result of the end of the Cold War, a major military base was closed in north St. Louis. Some employees were offered the option of relocating to Huntsville or other facilities around the nation, others retired or looked for work locally. So what happened to these 8,000 lives? Employees, friends and relatives of the 1960-90s Army Aviation and Troop Commands – PEOs, DFA, UNCLE, FMS, SOS and DMIS – stationed 4300 Goodfellow Boulevard in St. Louis, Missouri, are invited to a reunion. Activities include a picnic at Shelter 3, Blanchette Park, 1900 Randolph Street, St. Charles, Missouri, on Sept. 10 at 11 a.m. Bring lawn chairs and a dessert to pass if you want. Tickets are \$15 by Aug. 1, or \$25 after that date. Make checks payable to Avscom Reunion; and mail to 1108 St. Charles Ave., St. Charles, MO 63301. All monies must be received by Sept. 1. Include an email address if available. For more information, contact Steve Bossomo on Facebook, call Gary Nenninger 704-9683 or email Pat Guy at [pguysmile@yahoo.com](mailto:pguysmile@yahoo.com).

## Eat Wings fundraiser

The Rocket City Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association will hold its monthly Eat Wings, Raise Funds Day on June 24 from 11 a.m. until midnight at Buffalo Wild Wings, Madison Square Mall, 5901 University Drive. Buffalo Wild Wings will donate to AGCRA 15 percent from the Raise Funds Ticket proceeds of all pre-taxed food sales. Funds from this event will be donated to the Rose of Sharon Soup Kitchen. For tickets contact Charlie Hardin Jr. 450-5734, at [charlie.hardin.civ@mail.mil](mailto:charlie.hardin.civ@mail.mil), and Chenita Henderson 450-5880, at [chenita.l.henderson.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:chenita.l.henderson.ctr@mail.mil).

## Test flight advisory

Redstone Test Center will be conducting developmental tests in the vicinity of Gate 9 and Research Park through early June. You can expect to see helicopters performing low-level flight maneuvers around Gate 9 and Research Park. This activity will not interfere with gate traffic or travel on any roadways.

## Downtown ghost walk

The Huntsville Ghost Walk will begin another chilling season Saturday. All walking tours begin at Harrison Brothers Hardware Store, 124 South Side Square, at 6 p.m. You choose one of four guided tours through the Twickenham District, the Old Town District or the Downtown District. The Spooks and Spokes Bicycle Tour will be held June 20, July 4 and Aug. 15. Riders must be over 12, and provide bicycle and helmet. Hear stories from Huntsville's haunted past and learn why the spirits remain. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Tours are every Saturday, June through October. See [www.huntsvilleghostwalk.com](http://www.huntsvilleghostwalk.com) or call 509-3940 for more information.

## Dance camp

A summer dance technique camp is July 8-10 at the UAH University Fitness Center. For information and registration, visit [www.dancetech-camp.weebly.com](http://www.dancetech-camp.weebly.com).

