

Redstone Rocket

www.theredstonerocket.com

June 17, 2015 Vol. 64 No. 24 PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PERSONNEL AT REDSTONE ARSENAL, AL

Runners/walkers celebrate Army's 240th birthday

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Under an overcast sky, groups assembled early Friday morning in the Exchange parking lot to celebrate the Army's 240th year.

This was Team Redstone's third annual Army Birthday Run/Walk.

"Good morning, Team Redstone," Gen. Dennis Via, commander of the Army Materiel Command, told the Soldiers and civilians gathered in unit formations. "Today we celebrate the Army's 240th birthday. Hooah."

He said this marks 240 years of selfless service to the nation and the extraordinary service and sacrifice of Soldiers, civilians and family members.

"Let's have a great celebration of the Army's 240th birthday," he said before leading the walkers and runners who covered either a 5K or 2.5K course.

Among the estimated 350 participants was Robert Smith, an international program management specialist at the Security Assistance Management Directorate, Aviation and Missile Command.

"The Army's been good to me so I thought I'd come out and run it," said Smith, who served more than five years in uniform before getting out as a staff sergeant in 1983 at Redstone. He has been working for the Army since 1984.

"I'm a cancer survivor," he said. "After I



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Gen. Dennis Via, commander of the Army Materiel Command, leads Friday's third annual Team Redstone Army Birthday Run/Walk. To his right is AMC Command Sgt. Maj. James Sims.

got out, I came to work for them and I've been working for them since."

Rebekah Gerhardt, 13, daughter of Marine Gunnery Sgt. Jesse and Kristina Gerhardt of Redstone Arsenal, was among the participating family members.

"This is cool, really cool," she said. "I'm

glad people are getting together to do this. It's unique."

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Luis Reyes of AMC's Logistics Support Activity, in the Army 32 years, has participated in this event both of his years at Redstone.

"I love it every year," Reyes said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

People assemble Friday morning in the Exchange parking lot for the Army Birthday Run/Walk.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Soldiers from the Program Executive Office for Aviation receive a greeting from AMC commander Gen. Dennis Via before the event. At center is Col. Jeff Hager, the Apache attack helicopter project manager; and at far right is Brig. Gen. Bob Marion, the program executive officer for aviation.



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Patriotic colors wave in Flag Day program.

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Like father, like son: safety in bloodline.

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Dedication honors quartermaster Soldier.

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WIN OR LOSE

Softball team practices for armed forces games.

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Army secretary McHugh announces step down

By Army News Service

Army secretary John McHugh has announced that he will resign effective Nov. 1, in which he hopes will afford ample opportunity for a smooth transition.

McHugh has been in discussions with both the defense secretary and the deputy defense secretary, and expressed his desire several weeks ago to depart as Army secretary. McHugh expressed his gratitude to the president and his appreciation to the defense secretary, most importantly, the men and women of the Army for the tremendous honor to serve as secretary for these many years.

“Secretary McHugh has been a tremendous public servant for decades, and he has helped lead the Army through a period of challenge and change,” defense secretary Ash Carter said. “There will be much time in the coming months to appropriately



John McHugh

celebrate his many accomplishments, but for now, I will just say that every Soldier is better off because of his hard work and vision, and so is the country.”

On this date in history: June 17

By SKIP VAUGHN

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In 1631: Mumtaz Mahal dies during childbirth. Her husband, Mughal emperor Shah Jahan I, will spend the next 17 years building her mausoleum, the Taj Mahal.

In 1775: During the Revolutionary War, colonists inflict heavy casualties on British forces while losing the Battle of Bunker Hill.

In 1885: The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor.

In 1940: The British Army's 11th Hussars assault and take Fort Capuzzo in Libya, Africa, from Italian forces during World War II.

In 1944: Iceland declares independence from Denmark and becomes a republic.

In 1972: Five White House operatives are arrested for burgling the offices of the Democratic National Committee, in an attempt by some members of the Republican Party to illegally wiretap the opposition. This becomes known as the Watergate scandal.

In 1985: STS-51-G Space Shuttle Discovery launches carrying Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the first Arab and first Muslim in space, as a payload specialist.

RedstoneRocket

The Redstone Rocket is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in the Redstone Rocket through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 4488 Room A-248, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898.

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

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

Email: usarmy.redstone.imcom.mbx.cmdinfo@mail.mil
Email classified ads to rocketads@theredstonerocket.com

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

Rocket articles are available at:
<http://www.theredstonerocket.com>
<http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil>

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The Redstone Rocket is published in the interest of the personnel at Redstone Arsenal, by Tennessee Valley Printing Co., Inc., a private firm in no way connected

Getting to know you

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

Staff writer

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Name: Alan Fearnis

Position: Contract specialist, Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center

Where do you call home?

Huntsville, Alabama

What do you like about your job?

I appreciate that its high purpose invites a high level of excellence. I also enjoy taking others and myself to promising places, which at first looked far away.

What are your goals - personal, professional or both?

I want to do what I'm supposed to do and I want to lift others.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Take walks with my wife, work outdoors and play.

What is on your bucket list?

I'd like to write three books on largely different subjects: work, self-imposed barriers for success and exercise. I'd also like to speak at middle and high schools around the area to give practical advice and hope to youths living in assorted levels of fear about their futures.



Quote of the week

‘This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.’

— Elmer Davis

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

Photo by Sofia Bledsoe, PEO Aviation

Army birthday cake

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office celebrates the Army's 240th birthday with a cake cutting ceremony in the UAS Project Office conference room. Traditionally, the youngest and oldest Soldier present cut the cake, signifying the development of the Army since June 14, 1775. Cutting the cake are, from left, Maj. Thomas Jagielski (oldest Soldier present), assistant product manager for the One System Remote Video Terminal; Col. Courtney Cote, UAS project manager; and Cadet Cory James Anderson, soon to be in his junior year at West Point. The saber used to cut the cake belonged to Anderson's father who graduated from West Point in 1981.



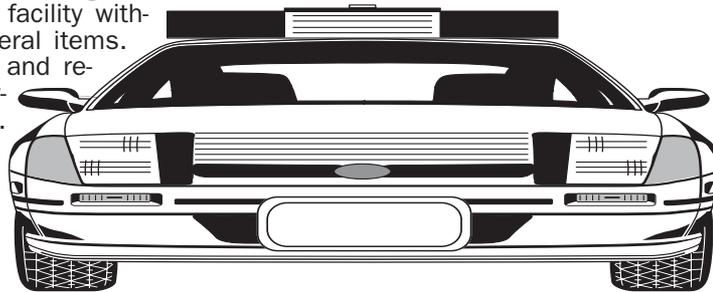
Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents May 31 through June 6:

- June 1: A National Crime Information Center check of a contractor requesting access at the Visitor Center revealed a warrant from Marshall County. The individual was arrested and released to Marshall authorities.
- June 1: In a traffic accident at Patton and Neal roads, a driver struck the rear of a vehicle that was stopped for a traffic light.
- June 2: Guards suspected a driver at Gate 9 was possibly intoxicated. Police responded and conducted a series of field sobriety checks, which the driver failed. He was arrested, cited for drunken driving and later released when his blood alcohol level reached an acceptable level.
- June 3: Police received a report that a parked vehicle was damaged near Jungerman Road.
- June 4: A traffic accident occurred in the Exchange parking lot when a driver backed into an oncoming vehicle.
- June 4: Police responded to a shoplifting at the Exchange, when a woman exited the facility without paying for several items. She was arrested and released after receiving a court citation.
- June 5: A traffic accident occurred on Patton Road when a driver backed in the lane

of traffic striking another vehicle.

- June 5: A traffic accident occurred in the Exchange parking lot when a driver backed into an oncoming vehicle.
- June 5: Police responded to Gate 10 when it was revealed someone requesting access had a warrant from Limestone County. The individual was arrested and released to Limestone authorities.
- June 5: Police received a report that a parked vehicle was damaged in the parking lot of 4400.
- Police responded to Gate 8 when it was revealed an individual requesting access had a warrant from Madison County. He was arrested and released to Madison authorities.
- June 6: A driver entering Gate 9 could not produce his driver's license. An NCIC check revealed the license had been revoked. He was issued a citation and the vehicle got removed by a licensed driver.
- Traffic citations issued included 5 for speeding, 4 improper turns, 1 suspended/revoked driver's license, 1 expired registration, 1 no driver's license and 1 driving under the influence.



Comment: I work in building 3561 on Army TACMS Road, with the speed limit being 25 mph along the road. Employees have to cross the street from the parking lot to the building each day. Individual drivers do not adhere to neither the speed limit nor the crosswalk on a daily basis. What is Police Operations going to do about the safety of the employees on Redstone? It is not only POVs, but GOVs are not stopping at the crosswalk when personnel need to cross the road and are also speeding down the road, increasing the likelihood of an accident at the crosswalk.



Response: We would like to thank you for expressing your concern over traffic safety in the area of building 3561. We are addressing your concerns and you should notice an increase in law enforcement presence in that area. Law enforcement will be checking for violations on the part of both drivers and pedestrians.

Tell us about your experience. Put it on ICE at 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

Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Your favorite thing about Armed Forces Celebration Week.

"An Armed Forces Celebration Week is recognition of service members and their families for the sacrifices they've made over this last decade of combat operations," Chief Warrant Officer 2 Matthew Felter, the government flight representative for AMRDEC's Prototype Integration Facility, said. "It's just the remembering of what service members and their families sacrifice on behalf of their country. I never tire of people saying thanks for your service. Not that it's required but it does mean a lot. It makes you feel good."

Felter, 38, a native of Anchorage, Alaska, has been in the Army nearly 20 years. He is a two-time Iraq veteran, 2005-06 and 2010-11.



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Matthew Felter

Community Health Promotion Council corner

Tips offered for family fitness and nutrition

By **HEATHER HOUGH**
Fox Army Health Center

This month the Community Health Promotion Council's theme is "Family Fitness and Nutrition." Our goal is to provide you with information that will help you build a more fit and nutritious family lifestyle. As the dietitian at Fox Army Health Center, this is a topic I talk about frequently with families and, as a parent, is near and dear to my heart. If you are like me, you may feel motivated to make changes, but lack the ideas to make these changes more realistic. My goal today is to give you some practical tips for increasing physical activity and make healthier food choices as a family.

Let's start with physical activity. Did you know that children need one hour of physical activity per day? This daily recommendation is more than the amount recommended for adults, although we would both benefit from even more. This activity, just like activity for adults, should range from moderate to vigorous. What is moderate and vigorous physical activity, one might ask. Moderate activity is activity that gets you breathing hard like brisk walking, hiking or dancing, while vigorous activity means activities that will have you breaking a sweat like running, basketball or soccer. Lots of things keep both adults and children sedentary these days such as jobs,

school, homework or screen time. It is up to us as parents to be role models for an active lifestyle to our children.

Here are two simple tips for getting families more active:

- Limit your family screen time to two hours or less per day. This includes television, computer and videogames. By keeping televisions and screens out of both parent's and children's bedrooms, this can help decrease screen time, and, potentially, may help improve sleep.

- Make activity a part of your family routine. Schedule a family walk after dinner or a family game of catch or Frisbee. When outdoors is not an option, plan for indoor activities. This could be as simple as dancing to music or playing a game that gets everyone off the couch. A game of Twister anyone? Need some game ideas? Set up an indoor obstacle course, keep a balloon up in the air as long as you can or lead your family in some group exercises. The top five anywhere exercises are kneeling pushups, planks, squats, jumping jacks and running in place. These exercises require little space for performance, and can be easily modified for various fitness levels. For example, you might consider starting with wall pushups before moving to kneeling pushups or walking/marching in place instead of running in place.

What about our diet? Similar to physical activity, food choices play an important role in the fight against obesity. Eating healthy can be a difficult task these days, especially with the massive amount of information telling us what

Redstone Arsenal
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Community Health Promotion Council

is healthy and what is not. Look at your and your family's eating habits, and try to identify one or two areas that could be modified. Start small as you begin to make changes. For example, you could look at your drinking habits. Look for easy ways to increase everyone's water intake and decrease the intake of sugary beverages such as sweet tea, soda, juice drinks and juice. Get everyone a water bottle to make carrying water to school and work easier. You could even let everyone personalize their water bottle as a fun, family activity. Chill water with fresh fruit pieces (berries, melon or citrus fruits) or cucumbers to give it a low calorie flavor infusion. If you are looking for something with a little more punch, make your own fizzy beverage by mixing smaller amounts of juice with sparkling water. This will help decrease calories from juice, as well.

Here are a few simple tips for increasing healthy eating as a family:

- Involve your kids by having them pick out foods, pick out a recipe, accompany you to the store, and/or prepare the food e.g. washing, seasoning and cutting with child safe tools and in the presence of an adult.

- Discuss health benefits of the foods you are trying to incorporate. This can be an effective tool for those picky eaters, as well. For example, vitamin A is a key nutrient for building the immune system and supporting the work of the lungs, heart, kidneys and other organs. It is found in green, yellow and orange vegetables such as carrots, sweet potatoes, broccoli and squash. It is also in fruits such as cantaloupe, apricots and mangos. As you discuss these sources

with your children, you can look for fun, new recipes to prepare a food they may not have tried such as squash. Get them involved in picking out a squash at the grocery store and preparing it at home.

- Now that everyone is involved in the kitchen, eat together as a family. This gives you a chance to model good behavior such as trying new food items and eating smaller portions.

- Work on decreasing your portions as a family. To help with this, discontinue your membership to the "clean your plate club" or switch out large dinner plates for smaller plates. Start with smaller portions, and go back for seconds if you or your children are still hungry. Portion foods out in the kitchen, and leave the extras there, away from the dinner table, to allow for reflection on actual hunger before getting another helping.

- Look for ways to add more vegetables to meals and snacks. For example, you can add spinach, sprouts and tomatoes to sandwiches or wraps. Mix black or pinto beans into ground beef for tacos. Add broccoli, squash or zucchini to pasta sauce or dishes. Vegetables are higher in fiber and can help you feel fuller.

Eating well and moving more are habits we will need throughout our whole lives. As you embark on the journey of changing your lifestyle, bring your family along. By developing these habits together, they will be easier to continue doing and will set your children up for healthy habits later in life. Do you need more inspiration for healthy eating, recipes or physical activity? Check out the following websites for more ideas: www.letsmove.gov, www.letsgo.org and www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org.

Photo by Sean Higgins of PEO Aviation

Congressional orientation

Rep. Martha Roby of the 2nd District of Alabama and Lt. Col. David Cheney, product manager for the Lakota Helicopter, stand in front of a UH-72A Lakota helicopter at Columbus, Miss. Roby received an orientation flight to demonstrate the Lakota's capabilities during her visit to the Airbus facility. She got a firsthand look at how the Army's new fleet of training helicopters are made at the plant.



Team Redstone community members receive update

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Garrison commander Col. Bill Marks hosted the Team Redstone Town Hall Thursday at FMWR headquarters, providing a forum for Garrison, Arsenal, Commissary and Exchange leaders to update members of the community on what's going on within their organization, as well as answer general questions and gather feedback.

Marks encouraged attendees to use the ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation) site – ice.disa.mil – to provide both positive and negative feedback to the Garrison all year-round. Marks reads all comments received through the system.

“We are the best installation on the planet because of the staff we have assembled here and the genuine care and compassion they bring to work every single morning and every day,” he said. “They want to fix something, they want to help somebody, they want to provide a service and they’re always looking to see how they can improve their processes. Send the good ones, too. Feedback is a gift. Even if you just want to vent, send that too, because it gives me an idea of how we’re doing.”

The next Town Hall is slated for Aug. 11 at FMWR headquarters, building 1500.



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Team Redstone workers attend the community forum at FMWR headquarters.



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Garrison commander Col. Bill Marks answers questions during the Team Redstone Town Hall held Thursday.

Courtesy photo

Ribs champion

AMRDEC's Randy Cannon's team, Serial Grillers, won first place in ribs at the Memphis in May World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest.



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Missiles and space families have their day of recreation



Photo by Tammy Hollingsworth, PEO Missiles and Space

Attendees at the PEO Missiles and Space Family Day visit the OH-58D helicopter static display.

By PEO Missiles and Space Public Affairs

More than 750 employees and their families participated in the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space Family Day activities June 9 at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area.

The event included activities for both young and old, including face painting, corn hole toss, water bottle rockets, rubber band slingshot rocket, bounce houses and more.

Onsite displays included Air Defense Airspace Management System cell shelter, High-Mobility Artillery Rocket System, Patriot launcher, OH-58D with Hellfire missile, various missile and rocket displays, Avenger system, Stinger trainer, Homeland Defense Security Van and the TOW Improved Target Acquisition System. Visitors were also treated to Javelin test fires.

The AMC Band's Rock Band provided music throughout the day's activities.



Photo by Chris Geisel, PEO Missiles and Space

"Justice League" is among several bounce houses provided for enjoyment.



Photo by Cathy Webster, Joint Attack Munitions Project Office

Geneva Salter, creates a work of art on Bonnie-Anne Tillman, daughter of Mark Tillman, JAMS Project Office.



Photo by Cathy Webster, Joint Attack Munitions Project Office

Kevin Connelly, assistant product manager for Army Small Guided Munitions, JAMS Project Office, provides the finer points of rubber band slingshot rocket firing.

Army Materiel Command Band in concert season

The AMC concert band plays its “Made in America” show during an Armed Forces Week Celebration at 6:30 p.m. Monday in Huntsville’s Big Spring Park. The public is invited to bring lawn chairs and enjoy fireworks after the concert.

The Yellhammer Brass Quintet will perform during the change of responsibility ceremony for the Garrison command sergeant major at 11 a.m. Friday in Bob Jones Auditorium.

The Big Bang Brass Band performs at the Bridge Street Summer Concert Series at 6 p.m. Saturday at Huntsville’s Bridge Street Town Centre.

Staff Sgt. Michael Scarlett will sing the national anthem during AUSA/military appreciation night at the Alabama Hammers indoor football game at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Von Braun Center.

The AMC Marching Band will march in the Rocket City Pride Parade at 4:30 p.m. Sunday in downtown Huntsville.

The Arsenal Brass Quintet performs at the proclamation signing ceremony



kicking off the Huntsville/Madison County Armed Forces Celebration Week at 9 a.m. Monday at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Huntsville.

Sonic Fusion performs in the Guntersville Concert Series at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in downtown Guntersville.

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:

Youth swim lessons

Youth swim lessons are open to age 4 and up. Lessons are held at the Pool 3, building 126, on Goss Road. Register at Pool 3 from Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Registration must be done in person. For more information, call 313-1200.

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.

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 or 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.

Free Movie Friday

The next Free Movie Friday will be June 26 at 6 p.m. at Heiser Hall. The movie is "The Gambler," rated R.

Youth Golf Camp

CYSS Sports and Fitness and The Links are hosting a Youth Golf Camp for ages 8-17, July 6-10, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at The Links. Basic golf instruction will be provided by PGA professionals; golf clubs provided as needed. Cost is \$70. Register at CYSS Parent Central Services. For program information call 313-3699.

Spiritual living at Redstone

The Lord is my shepherd

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) GARY PAYNE
Garrison chaplain

There are some passages in the Bible that seem to have more life. Not many people find a lot of spiritual nourishment reading the genealogies – so and so begat so and so. ... While they have their purpose, other passages resonate with us more.

Psalm 23 is one of those passages. It has been a favorite of God's people for over 3,000 years. Yet, though we may hear someone read it, we may not realize why it provides so much comfort. So, I would like to share some thoughts from this masterpiece.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." What is it that you really want in this life? Prestige? Money? Popularity? Some of the richest people in the world don't have any of this. There are those who know God Almighty as their shepherd. They don't need anything else.

"He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters." Sheep cannot survive on their own. The shepherd takes them to where they can get plenty to eat. The shepherd knows that sheep get scared when they see and hear running water. So, the shepherd leads them by quiet waters. They get what the need, and more. "He refreshes my soul."

"He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake." Just look at the book of Proverbs. It's not about rule-keeping. It's about living well and to your greatest potential. Instead of going on a downward spiral of self-destruction, it's about making good choices.

"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." King David, who wrote this psalm, uses his rod as a weapon. He even kills a lion and another time a bear. He rescues his sheep and takes care of its wounds. The staff can be a weapon, too – however the staff is for guiding the sheep. Those who know the shepherd knows he protects. He guides us through the valley to the green valley and still water.

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." If you have an enemy, do you know what would really aggravate him? If God gives you the celebrity treatment – right in front of him! God does that.

"You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." When the Jewish people of David's time wanted to show real hospitality, they brought out the expensive oil. It put out a nice fragrance. And when they rubbed it on their foreheads, their faces would glisten in the light. Don't you know that your face will shine in God's presence?

"Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." The house of

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.

the Lord – the temple where God's people gather to worship the good shepherd. Now and forever.

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. Questions can be emailed to pwocrsa@gmail.com.

Women's Bible study

Every Wednesday morning, beginning at 9:30, a non-denominational women's Bible study is held at 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.

Weekday 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.

Grand old flag flies high at ceremony in her honor



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Retired Col. Tom Brown salutes the flag at Saturday's event. Brown, living historian with the First Patriot Support Group, portrays Lt. Col. Raymond R. Ranson, deputy commander of Army Pacific Command, Headquarters Group, during the Fourth of July 1960 ceremony at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, when the 50-star flag was raised after Hawaii became the 50th state.



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Members of the Army Materiel Command Band perform Saturday during the Flag Day celebration downtown.



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Garrison commander Col. Bill Marks speaks on the significance of Flag Day and the Army birthday, both celebrated June 14.

community Flag Day celebration, sponsored by Huntsville Elks Lodge 1648, at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial downtown.

"It's to commemorate the birth of our nation's flag," master of ceremonies Wayne Tucker, chairman of the Flag Day event, said.

Speakers included Garrison commander Col. Bill Marks, Huntsville mayor's office representative Beverly Lowe, Madison mayor's office representative Tommy Overcash and Elks esteemed leading knight James Simmons. Retired Col. Tom Brown, living historian with the First Patriot Support Group, portrayed Lt. Col. Raymond R. Ranson, who served as deputy commander of Army Pacific Command, Headquarters Group, at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, during the Fourth of July 1960 ceremony when the 50-star flag was raised after Hawaii became the 50th state.

"On June 14, we celebrate both Flag Day and the Army's birthday. That makes Flag Day extra special to me and to our Army," Marks said. "For 240 years the United States Army has protected this great nation, its citizens and our way of life.

"As we celebrate this special day, I would like to call to your attention some extraordinary people – the Soldiers of the United States Army, the men and women of the armed forces and their families," Marks said. "They have endured tremendous hardship over the past 14 years, spending far more time in harm's way than at home.

"Many of our Soldiers and service members did not return. Their brave spouses held their families together in their absence. Their children grew up missing a parent.

"Our nation owes a huge debt of gratitude to the one-half of one percent of our population who realized that the freedom we enjoy comes with a cost. These brave men and

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By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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She wore 13 stars in 1777 during the Revolutionary War. She wore 15 stars during the War of 1812. Twenty-seven stars during the Mexican War in 1846-48. Forty-five stars during the Spanish-American War in 1899-1902. Forty-eight stars during World War I, World War II and Korea. And 50 stars during Vietnam and in Iraq and Afghanistan to present day.

The American flag was waving again Saturday for the third annual

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women who have sacrificed much deserve our lasting respect.”

Mickey Neeley sang “America the Beautiful,” the “Star-Spangled Banner” and “God Bless America.” The 64-year-old Harvest resident and vending company owner has been a member of Elks Lodge 1648 since April.

His sister Edith Scott sat in one of the folding chairs in the audience along with her grandson Jamin Brake, 8.

“I thought it was great, I really did,” Scott said after the ceremony. “Kind of emotional.”

The 85 attendees also included Harvest resident Robert Calloway with his wife, Joan, and their son Ryan, 19.

“We just kind of happened to be in the area. But we knew it was Flag Day,” Calloway said. “We saw the celebration and wanted to participate. Love our country and love our flag.”

“I think it was very well put together. And I appreciate people coming out on a hot day to do something like this.”

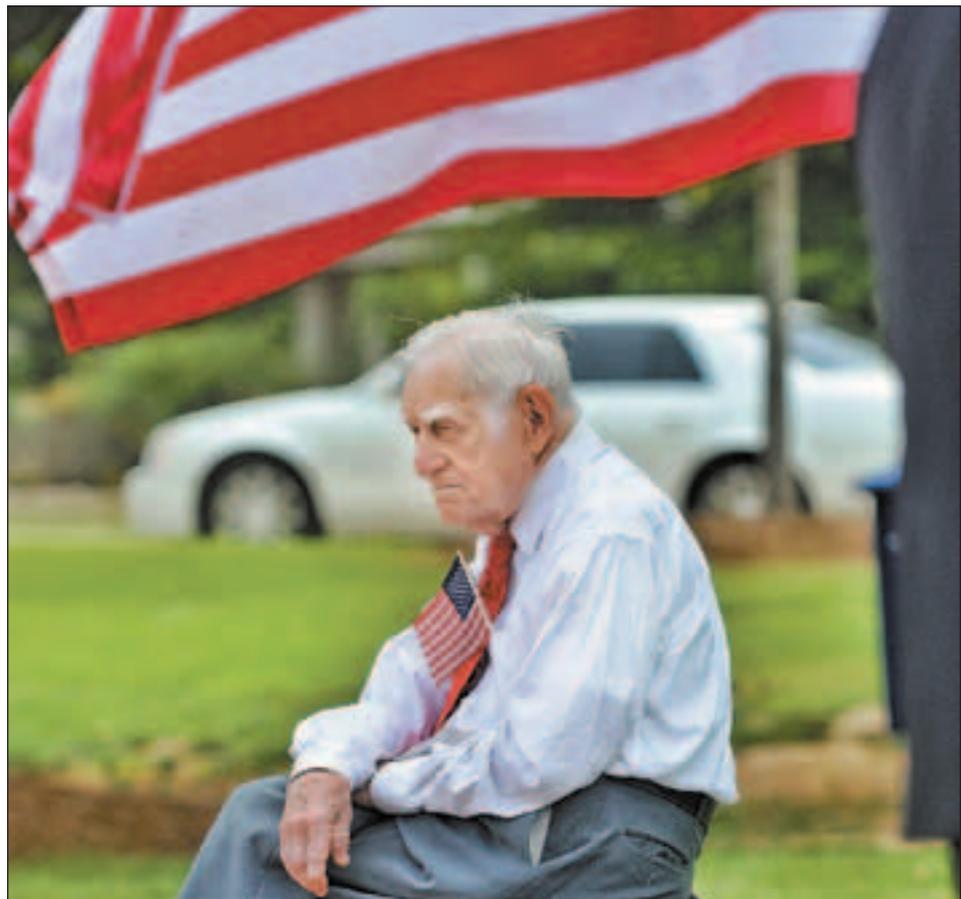


Photo by Bryan Bacon

Miniature flags are placed in the veterans sidewalk by a couple attending Saturday's event.

Photo by Bryan Bacon

Robert E. Jones, who flew B-17s during World War II, attends the Flag Day celebration at the Huntsville/Madison County Veterans Memorial.



Chief technology officer enlightens space community

By JASON CUTSHAW

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's chief technology officer addressed members of the local space community about the command's role in space and how it supports the war fighter.

Dr. Steven Pierce, SMDC/ARSTRAT CTO, spoke at a National Space Club-Huntsville Chapter breakfast June 9 about how professionals and industries in the surrounding community are supporting space operations.

"Good morning, and thank you for inviting me to speak to the National Space Club this morning," Pierce said. "This is an important event because of what binds this group of attendees together; a love for space, a major factor in the technological and economic engine that drives this town, and more importantly, a critical enabler to our war fighter. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support for space enablers in the Department of Defense."

The National Space Club is a nonprofit organization originally founded on Oct. 4, 1957, as the National Rocket Club to stimulate the exchange of ideas and information about rocketry and astronautics, and to promote the recognition of United States achievements in space. It provides scholarships and internships to students, and encourages educational space based activities.

The Huntsville chapter was founded in 1985 to further the aims locally of the National Space Club.

"We have these meetings to educate the community on space and space exploration," said Bob DaLee, National Space Club-Huntsville Chapter chairman. "The Space Club is everything space and we try to have a balance of NASA, industry and DoD, and Dr. Pierce was fantastic. We really enjoyed having him here and he did a great job."

"The Space Club is here and active in Huntsville. We like to reach out into the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education programs from col-

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Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Dr. Steven Pierce, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command chief technology officer, speaks at a National Space Club-Huntsville Chapter breakfast June 9 about how professionals and industries in the surrounding community are supporting Department of Defense space operations.

Army celebrates 240 years of selfless service to nation



Photo by AMC Public Affairs

Army Materiel Command's commander Gen. Dennis Via and Command Sgt. Maj. James Sims participate in the formal cake cutting during the AUSA Redstone-Huntsville Chapter's Army birthday dinner celebration Saturday.

By **CHERISH T. GILMORE**

AMC Public Affairs

After 240 years, our Army has only gotten stronger, faster and more technologically proficient with age, said Army Materiel Command's top officer during an Army birthday dinner.

Gen. Dennis Via, AMC commander, served as the keynote speaker at the Army's 240th birthday dinner Saturday hosted by the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Around the world, the Army stands at nearly 490,000 Soldiers on active duty, nearly 350,000 in the National Guard and another 198,000 in the Reserves.

"We are more than a million strong," Via said. Under his watch the Army Materiel Command is busy gathering equipment and preparing to ship it home.

"It's a monumental logistics effort, performed in an incredibly complex and dangerous environment," Via said. "Laid end to end, the containers and vehicles would stretch from the White House in Washington, D.C. to Daytona Beach, Florida."

Via's message to the audience also centered on this year's Army birthday theme of selfless service.

"Selfless service is not only an Army Value; it is a founding principle that helped form, sustain and motivate our Army from the moment of its birth," Via said.

To demonstrate this principle, he reflect-

ed on the recent ceremony posthumously awarding the Medal of Honor to two Soldiers who fought in World War I: Sgt. William Shemin and Pvt. Henry Johnson.

Shemin left the cover of his platoon's trench and crossed open space, repeatedly exposing himself to heavy machine gun fire to rescue wounded Soldiers. Shemin also took command of the platoon and displayed great initiative under fire until he was wounded.

Johnson and a fellow Soldier were ambushed by almost a dozen German soldiers. While under fire and despite being wounded, he fought back and prevented his fellow Soldier from being captured.

"Those are only two stories of two Soldiers who fought long ago, but their example lives on today in the ranks of our Army, and it can be observed wherever our Soldiers are deployed," Via said.

Currently, approximately 122,000 Soldiers are deployed or forward stationed around the world.

"In only three short months our Army will conclude its 14th straight year of combat operations since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001," Via said. "Since that terrible morning our Soldiers have fought bravely, and their families have sacrificed greatly and through it all you've been there with them, supporting them every step along the way."

In conclusion, Via thanked the audience for their continued support and tireless commitment to Soldiers and their families.

Countdown starts for space, missile defense symposium

By **AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON**

Staff writer

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Registration is now open for the 2015 Space & Missile Defense Symposium, “Integrated Air, Space and Missile Defense in 2025 and Beyond,” at the Von Braun Center Aug. 10-13. The symposium, in its 18th year, will bring together key players in government and industry, as well as international partners. There is no cost for government employees to attend; lunch and dinner registration must be purchased separately. To register, or for more information, visit smdsymposium.org.

“It’s a great opportunity for networking across government and industry,” said retired Army Lt. Gen. Bill Phillips, industry chair for the symposium. “Folks who employ these systems are also going to get an education about what’s going on, and the challenges associated with it. It’s a great opportunity not only for the Redstone Arsenal community, but the public can also learn about what we’re doing here in Huntsville – some very important work that’s protecting our nation every day.”

Approximately 250 companies, both large and small, are expected to participate, with an anticipated total attendance of around 3,000. The symposium includes a technology track, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Education Forum, Defense Acquisition University program, Geospatial Intelligence workshop and Warriors to the Workforce Career Fair, in addition to many esteemed speakers, panels and exhibits.

“We have an agenda that’s filled with high caliber speakers and panels that will be of great interest to a wide audience,” Phillips said.

The exhibit hall, which is free and open to the public, is already sold out to capacity.

“STEM is so important for our nation,” Phillips said. “We’re going to have some special events that are going to occur that are going to focus on STEM within the exhibit hall itself, and that’s so important for our nation and the future of industry.”

New this year, attendees can participate in the Missile Defense Agency’s Wargame, which Phillips expects will be a big draw. The Wargame is open to all who register, but they must complete an additional registration for the Wargame event. Space is limited and will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

“In this event, we expect some very innovative ideas to come out and for experts to learn about tactics, techniques and procedures – that’s something that should be of importance to others,” Phillips said.

In addition, the National Defense Industrial Association will also host a small business conference Aug. 13, the last day of the symposium.

“(Small businesses) are at the heart of our defense industrial base,” Phillips said. “Of all the innovative ideas that come through industry, the overwhelming majority of those start with small businesses.”

Despite the impact sequestration has had on funding for conferences and other events within the Department of Defense, attendees can expect the SMD Symposium to be bigger and better than ever. Boeing is the titanium sponsor of the event.

“We weathered the storm,” Phillips said. “This is going to be an extraordinary event for the city of Huntsville and the space and missile defense industry.”

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lege all the way down to kindergarten. We just want people to know the Space Club is here working hard in the community to get the word out on everything space.”

Pierce talked about Lt. Gen. David Mann, SMDC commander, who along with his Title 10 responsibility, Mann is also the Army Service Component commander for U.S. Strategic Command. He explained how Mann is leading space and missile defense operations and coordinating Army forces in support of USSTRATCOM missions.

“Recently, the chief of staff of the Army gave Lt. Gen. Mann the responsibility of integrating and synchronizing air and missile defense for the Army,” Pierce said. “As a result, he has led the air defense and the missile defense senior level leadership in developing an updated integrated air and missile defense vision and waypoint. What is truly amazing is that Lt. Gen. Mann executes all of this with a fairly small organization of 4,000 highly professional active duty, reserve and National Guard military and government civil servants, as well a very responsive community of industry experts.”

Pierce spoke about small satellites that are receiving increasing attention, specifically CubeSats or nanosatellites, and also the SMDC units that are using space assets in defense of the nation.

“I spoke with Brig. Gen. Gregory Bowen recently,” Pierce said. “Gen. Bowen is the SMDC deputy commanding general for operations and under his command is the 100th Missile Defense Brigade, commanded by Col. Tim Lawson, which has the critical mission of ground-based midcourse defense. They like to say they are 300 Soldiers protecting 300 million American citizens.”

“The other unit under his command is the 1st Space Brigade, commanded by Col. Tom James. Brig. Gen. Bowen commented that space is critical in enabling tactical war fighters have overmatch against adversaries. In his words,

he never wants to fight a fair fight. Space enables us to overwhelm the enemy with superior command and control, precision fires, communications on the move and assured quality intelligence.”

Pierce also talked about how other nations are making major advances in exploiting cyberspace and how some have already exercised this capability to attack cyberspace infrastructures.

He explained how the Army has indications that several state nations, as well as state actors, are building the ability to electronically attack ground stations that provide the linkages to space capability.

“We in the business of supporting the war fighter need to determine how to protect space as well as how to fight through the temporary loss or degradation of space depended capabilities,” Pierce said. “Space capabilities enable our ability to operate within the decision cycle of the enemy and fight with overwhelming force. The bottom line is that the Army is the biggest user of space products. Space plays a vital role in giving the joint war fighter overmatch capability. It is critical in enabling our troops to fight with overwhelming force. We do not want our troops to fight a fair fight, we want our troops to completely overmatch any adversary they encounter.”

“Thank you for this opportunity to provide some insight from the SMDC perspective. But most important, thank you for your enthusiasm for the space domain, a domain critical to the Army’s success in current and increasingly important to success in future conflicts.”

“We have these meetings to educate the community on space and space exploration. The Space Club is everything space and we try to have a balance of NASA, industry and DoD, and Dr. Pierce was fantastic. We really enjoyed having him here and he did a great job.”

Bob DaLee

Like father, like son: safety in bloodline

By AMY GUCKEEN TOLSON

Staff writer

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Safety runs in the Butler family genes. For the past 40 years, Donnie Butler, an occupational safety and health specialist for the Corps of Engineers, has devoted his livelihood to the protection of others. Following in his father's footsteps, his son Brad has joined him.

"Safety is in our blood," Donnie said.

It wasn't always so for Brad, who once upon a time had dreams of joining the Ski Patrol in Montana. But once he took a job in his dad's career field, working in a foundry environment before eventually working his way to his current job as a contractor for Marshall Engineering Technicians and Trades Support Services on Redstone Arsenal, Brad began to understand more about the career that's gotten his father out of bed every morning for the past four decades.

"I didn't really have a clear understanding initially of what dad did," Brad said. "I just knew he was in safety. I found myself fascinated by the chemistry side of safety. It can be life or death."

When on the job, Brad doesn't just preach safety, he explains why it's important to practice it, a philosophy also employed by his father.

"The secret is to telling them why, and not

just telling them, 'You've got to,'" Donnie said. "No one comes on job thinking, 'I'm not going to be safe today. I'm going to get killed today.' They think that safety is inherent; everybody is going to be safe. That's where being in this profession you're able to contribute to the whole job."

Brad agreed.

"You feed them the information they need, you train them and you watch them apply that," Brad said.

It's a calling that flows into the Butlers' personal lives as well. Just this year Donnie pulled over while driving down Highway 72 to alert utilities workers that they weren't following proper safety protocol, and one worker was at risk of having the hole he was working in cave in on him. During the winter weather, Brad stopped a family at Bridge Street Town Centre from walking under an awning where ice had built up and was in danger of dropping on the mother and her children. For his actions, he received recognition from the director of safety and mission assurance for NASA.

"That's the payoff," Brad said. "It's not to go out and say, 'Wear earplugs,' it's those moments where you caught something, you identified a potentially life or limb situation."

While Brad has earned the title of safety professional on his own, it's still nice for him to know that when a situation arises his father is just a phone call away.



Photo by Bryan Bacon

Brad Butler, right, who works in safety as a contractor for Marshall Engineering Technicians and Trades Support Services, followed his father Donnie's footsteps into a career in safety. Donnie is an occupational safety and health specialist for the Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center.

"It's been great to have him as a resource," Brad said. "From my experience, you're going to have questions. Safety is a very broad word – there's all different types. The best

benefit is to be able to pick up that phone and call him. He's always made himself available and I know that his advice is in my best interest. That's a resource I can't ever payback."

Gray departs AMC for new position at AMCOM



Photo by Doug Brewster

Dr. Myra Gray receives well-wishes from AMC commander Gen. Dennis Via as AMC Command Sgt. Maj. James Sims waits to bid her farewell after a recognition ceremony at the organization's headquarters June 9.

By AMC Public Affairs

Dr. Myra Gray has left Army Materiel Command headquarters with recognition from the organization's top leader for her strategic integration work that helped set the course for the organization since its transition to Huntsville.

Gray, a member of the Army's Senior Executive Service, is now the executive director of the Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, which falls under the Aviation and Missile Command, a subordinate command of AMC.

AMC commander Gen. Dennis Via told a roomful of Gray's friends and colleagues gathered at AMC headquarters June 9 that Gray had helped shape the direction of the command. Via said the former deputy for strategic integration had refined AMC's mission, objectives and vision while aligning the command's overall intent with the Department of the Army, and extending

those lines of effort to the major subordinate commands.

"She quickly established herself as one of the organization's most respected and capable senior leaders since she came onboard in October 2010," Via said. "She is dedicated to change and to seeing a project through."

He presented Gray with the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and a four-star note.

Gray said she was humbled by the recognition and commended the headquarters staff for always keeping its eye on the mission.

"In many organizations, it's so easy to feel buried and get disconnected," she said. "Not here. Everything we do is for the war fighter."

Her time at the headquarters, Gray said, made an enormous impression.

"Five years is not enough – it would take a lifetime to understand AMC's impact on the war fighter and the world," Gray said.

But what she does leave with, she said, is an appreciation for how rich, deep and intense the organization is. "We would not have an Army without AMC."

After five years there, Gray said she leaves as a different person.

"I have a great appreciation for all of my colleagues," she said, calling them unsung heroes. "I have overwhelming gratitude for how enhanced I feel for what I've gained."

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Marine radio operator makes stand on deadly hill

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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On March 3, 1969, on Hill 484 in Vietnam, Marine Cpl. Cleveland King Jr. became more than the chief radio operator. He became the leader because there was no one left in charge.

Bullets were flying all around him. Many of his fellow Marines were dead. Their mission was to seize that hill and hold it, but they were under attack from a North Vietnamese army regiment and they were outnumbered and outgunned.

Fourteen of the Marines, including King, made it up that hill. People all around them were dead; and the Marines couldn't shoot because the enemy was between them and their people.

"And they threw everything they had at us," King recalled. "And we did what we could do. Our commanding officer was shot. This was where I took over the unit, making the decisions, making the calls."

He had nearly completed his year-

long tour in Vietnam and it was like the enemy intended this to be his final firefight in more ways than one. "And we were at the point where I could actually see the enemy coming up on us," he said.

They threw two grenades at him; and fortunately neither exploded. King got up and everywhere he ran, bullets were all around him.

"But something happened, and I don't know what," King said, wiping away tears from the memory of that early morning firefight. "It had to be the Lord to give us the wisdom on how to get out of there."

He got on the radio and called their units for support. And the response was that his landing zone was too "hot," so they couldn't land to get his Marines. "I forgot about radio talk (etiquette) then," King said, managing a laugh.

But then there was an Army helicopter. And the Soldiers told King over the radio that "if you can live long enough we'll get you out of there."

That's when King – in his words – became John Wayne and Audie Mur-

Vietnam revisited

Part 23 in series

phy. He stood on the hill waving and shouting as bullets flew past him. He helped the injured Marines to the helicopter. He was the last to leave the hill.

As the Army helicopters carried him and the others to safety, King looked down on Hill 484 and could see the Viet Cong troops "coming up that hill like ants."

"The only thing I could say was God we made it. We made it," he said.

Years later King, who was born in Georgia and grew up in Ohio, would receive the honors he deserved for his heroism that day and during his tour 1968-69. He received the Silver Star with combat "V" for valor, Bronze Star with combat "V," Purple Heart with three gold stars, Combat Action

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

Cleveland King Jr. shows some of the awards he received for his Vietnam service with the Marines. From left are the Bronze Star, Silver Star and the Purple Heart with three gold stars.

Huntsville Center presents Engineer Day awards

By DEBRA VALINE

Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville Public Affairs

The Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville conducts an Engineer Day awards ceremony each year to recognize the organization's best. The awards ceremony is part of an all-day event that also recognizes the Army's birthday June 14 and the beginning of the Corps of Engineers June 16.

This year's event June 5 at Monte Sano State Park included awards, food trucks, board games, softball and volleyball tournaments, horseshoes, face painting, culinary herbs and many other activities, all organized by the Huntsville Center Activities Association and the many volunteers needed to plan and execute the day.

Individual and team awards presented in 12 categories were:

- Employee of the Year: Teresa Peterson-Evans, Internal Review
- Commander's Leadership Award: Terri Llewellyn, Installation Support
- Innovator of the Year: HNC Quality and Performance Improvement Team made up of Alden Neva, Quality Manager; Nicole Boone, Small Business; Kevin Coats, Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise; Linda Cook, Security Office; Fermin Feria, Logistics; Lisa Gayman, Office of Counsel; Carolyn Harris, Business Management Office; Audra Hessler, Resource Management; Gary Hettler, Safety Office; Nicholas League, Management Review; Warren LeMay, Medical Facilities Center of Expertise and Standardization; Plyler McManus, Ordnance and Explosives Directorate; Angela Morton, Equal Employment Opportunity Office; LuAnn Poniatowski, formerly with Internal Review; Laura Beth Quick, Installation Support; Diana Rodenas, Contracting Directorate; George Sledge, Chemical Demilitarization Directorate; Debra Valine, Public Affairs; and Todd Wood, Engineering Directorate.

- Contracting Professional of the Year: Sarah Schlapman, Contracting Directorate
- Resource Management Professional of the Year: Eric South
- Engineer of the Year: David Braidich, Medical Facilities Center of Expertise

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Photo by Julia Bobick

Children decorated their own "hard hats" during the Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Engineer Day awards ceremony and picnic June 5 at Monte Sano State Park.

SMDC command surgeon office serves community

By JASON CUTSHAW

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

With all that goes on at the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, people sometimes forget they can still call the doctor.

The SMDC/ARSTRAT Command Surgeon's office has important roles both inside and outside the command as the commanding general's sounding board on all medical issues within the command.

"We have Soldiers stationed everywhere in the world," said Col. William Baxter, SMDC command surgeon. "These Soldiers are so dispersed one of our main tenets is 'The sun never sets on SMDC.' In each dispersed area, our service members traditionally get care from their local military treatment facility in that area of operation. At times, there are medical events or issues which can affect the mission and mission success. This is when I primarily get involved in assessing the situation, making recommendations, and help in solving any problems.

"Here are three examples. First, our Soldiers in Colorado Springs, Colorado, are actually stationed on Peterson Air Force Base. Some of these Soldiers were having complications and delays in having their periodic



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Col. William Baxter, left, command surgeon, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, performs his duties as a flight surgeon at Fox Army Health Center.

health assessments entered into the system. The solution required liaison with the Air Force personnel, Army Soldier Readiness Processing personnel, and the Region Medical Readiness coordinator.

"Second, on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, the Space and Missile Defense Command has many research and space monitoring mission requirements. This is a



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Abigail Ricks, left, Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Readiness and Resilience coordinator, talks to members of Team Redstone about the Army's Ready and Resilient campaign.

small island and the weather is brutal on all buildings. In summary, Kwajalein's hospital is old and beyond repair. SMDC has been a part of a global team of excellent personnel from U.S. Army Medical Command, Installation Management Command and Pacific Regional Medical Command in trying to show how a new facility is mandatory.

"Third, personnel at Fort Greely, Alaska, for a temporary time did not have after hours health care due to a retiring local physician," Baxter added. "Coordination between SMDC and MEDCOM has led to the building and staffing of a brand new health clinic which is due to open in February."

SMDC's Office of the Command Surgeon was established in 2010. There were four people in the office in 2010 and now it is down to two. The command gets a new surgeon approximately every two years and Baxter is the third command surgeon. Also serving in the office is Abigail Ricks, SMDC Readiness and Resilience coordinator.

Inside the command, Baxter develops training plans, provides advice and staff assistance to the commanding general. He ensures Soldiers are mission ready for deployment from a medical readiness point of view as well as ensuring periodic health assessments are complete.

"I advise the commanding general on all topics medical," Baxter said. "We provide compassionate medical advice and serve to ensure medical access for active duty and family members in some of the most remote locations in the world. This can be from emerging threats such as Ebola virus disease

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King

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Ribbon with two gold stars, Navy Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze campaign stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Meritorious Mast, and Rifle Marksman Badge.

Born in Oconee, Georgia, he grew up in Youngstown, Ohio, from age 10 until four years ago when he moved to Huntsville. He dropped out of Youngstown State and joined the Marines in 1967 and he left as a corporal in May 1969. He chose the Marines over the other military branches because he liked the uniform.

King was a 19-year-old private first class when he went to Vietnam in 1968 with Charlie Company, 4th Division, 1st Marine. He was the main radio operator for the four squads. Most of their fighting took place near the Demilitarized Zone.

“Vietnam was like a place – to look at it, it was beautiful,” King, 67, said. “But when you actually get in firefights, you get in woods (where) you can’t even see the sky sometimes because the trees were so thick above you. It was hot, rainy.”

King was wounded on three separate occasions from shrapnel from rocket propelled grenades. But he was always able to return to the fight. He was wounded on his back, right arm and right hand.

“Every time we went into the bush we didn’t necessarily engage in a firefight,” King said. “But when we did, it was like pure D hell. You couldn’t see what you were shooting at. You couldn’t see where the rounds were coming from. It was only instinct and the buddy system.”

But every day wasn’t a fighting day in Vietnam. He and his fellow Marines found time for fun. One day King saw a young Marine he recognized from his Ohio hometown. “And I thought if I had my way, I would send him back home and I would stay. Because he does not know what he got into,” King recalled.

Both survived the war. And eventually both went on to work at the Delphi Factory, a subsidiary of General Motors, in Cortland, Ohio. King worked there 32 years until retiring in 2007. He and his second wife, Libby Ann, an Alabama native, moved to Huntsville in 2011. Combined they have nine children and 26 grandchildren. This includes King’s five children and 10 grandchildren with his first wife, Penny.

In November 2012 King was honored during the local community’s Heroes Week for wounded warriors. He was the guest speaker at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball held by Kilo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines. Many of the Marines whose lives he saved that fateful day in 1969 on Hill 484, and their family members, have called him to share their emotional thanks.

“I know my story was real,” King, who walks with the aid of a cane, said. “And it took me 40-something years to talk about it.”

He appreciates this nation’s commemoration of 50 years since the Vietnam War.

“I think it’s great,” he said. “The guys that were over there, some people think they’re unsung heroes. They all need to get what they deserve. They earned that and more from this country.

“Sometimes when things seem to be their worst, God has a way of making them their best – our best.”

Editor’s note: This is the 23rd in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

*“But something happened, and I don’t know what.
It had to be the Lord to give us the wisdom on
how to get out of there.”*

Cleveland King Jr.

Surgeon

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and MERS from across the world. But it can also be locally. I participate in the Community Health Promotion Council which is sponsored by Redstone Arsenal.”

The command surgeon’s office also promotes the Army triad of getting quality sleep, engaging in activities and improving nutrition to all SMDC personnel. The office also fulfills Army requirements for its Readiness and Resiliency campaign.

“As the only medical officer in SMDC, I provide medical liaison to not only Redstone Arsenal organizations and Fox Army Health Center, but also Army commands, Army service component commands and direct reporting units,” Baxter said. “I work closely with Command Safety to ensure all command functions such as Organization Day, have medical representation for health risk assessment and amelioration.

“Soldiers, family members and Department of the Army civilians can come by and I welcome all. I am happy to discuss all topics both medical and non-medical. If we do talk medical, I can provide insights into most disease processes and lab results. I can provide suggestions on questions to ask your primary provider.

“I cannot assume care of any person for two main reasons,” Baxter added. “First, I am an anesthesiologist and not a primary provider. Second, I do not have a reliably present clinic nor medical staff to support a clinic in regards to traditional Joint Commission standards.”

Outside of SMDC, Baxter engages in flight surgeon duties at Fox Army Health Center. He meets flight surgeon requirements of four hours per month of flight time at Reagan Test Center. He also attends Team Redstone activities and participates in command sponsored activities such as Survivor Outreach Services and Army Space Professionals Association.

“I got to Fox Army Health Center for many reasons,” Baxter said. “First, all physicians need credentialing. On Redstone Arsenal, FAHC provides this. Second, as a flight surgeon, Fox allows me to practice flight medicine in their facility. Third, I have developed professional contacts there and working with them routinely keeps those relationships current.

“Yes, practicing medicine at Fox keeps me proficient, but it also allows good interaction and relationships amongst professional colleagues and commands,” he added.

The Command Surgeon’s Office also has oversight of SMDC’s role in the Army’s Ready and Resilient campaign or R2C.

“The Comprehensive Soldier and Fam-

ily Fitness program falls under the Ready and Resilient campaign and I am the lead for that,” Ricks said. “These initiatives are the result of the Army’s desire to bring about an enduring cultural change.

“A big emphasis of this campaign is that it is aimed at improving readiness and resilience of the total Army. That includes active duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers, civilians and families. The Army family has endured many challenges over the past years and there are clearly more to come.”

Ricks majored in psychology and completed her bachelor of science at Athens State University. She started working for the command as a summer hire and has been at the command for 11 years. She also participated in a course at the University of Pennsylvania in order to become a level-1 master resilience trainer.

“I have played a role in the office from the beginning,” she said. “Helping stand up a new office has been a challenge as well as an invaluable learning experience. Falling into this assignment straight out of my internship was one of those ‘sink or swim’ experiences. My role has evolved with the needs of the office.”

Ricks said the Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness, or CSF2, program is part of the Army’s overall R2C. She reiterated what Baxter said about their involvement outside of the command and talked about how Redstone Arsenal is standing up a Community Health Promotion Council, or CHPC, and how the Command Surgeon’s Office has been involved along with the other organizations on the installation.

“I am passionate about both of these and believe they can be avenues of positive change for individuals, teams and entire organizations,” Ricks said. “In spite of my passion, when using the correct terminology, such as CSF2, R2C or CHPC, to discuss these initiatives, I see people’s eyes glaze over. It’s easy to get bogged down by the lengthy acronyms and miss the overall purpose of what we are trying to accomplish.

“CSF2 is based in positive psychology,”

she added. “As part of the CSF2 curriculum, I teach people how to build resilience skills and performance enhancement skills that have practical application. These skills can be used to improve the quality of professional and personal interactions and build better internal strategies for approaching life in general. CSF2 is a holistic approach that seeks to positively impact the five dimensions of strength: physical, emotional, social, spiritual and family. The program is for all Soldiers, their families and Department of the Army civilians.”

Ricks emphasized that Active Constructive Responding is one of the skills covered in resilience training.

“When a person chooses to share their good news with you there are four possible ways you could respond, and only one of those will promote trust and connection in that relationship,” Ricks said. “Wouldn’t you want to know about this so you could choose the one that builds up your relationships and avoid the other three options that cause damage. This is just one example of the skills covered and there are a total of 14 skills. This training makes for a great team building opportunity.”

Ricks and Baxter both talked about what they have enjoyed most about being at SMDC and supporting the space Soldiers and civilians who dedicate their lives to defending the nation.

“This is a definite broadening assignment for me,” Baxter said. “As a physician, we get (so) busy with patient care and running health facilities that we sometimes lose sight of how expansive our Army really is. I have really enjoyed learning and participating in the inner workings of this war fighter command. This assignment’s unique challenges has made me a better officer with a more strategic point of view.

“Working with this leadership and seeing the constant concern regarding quality of life issues and health care access reaffirms my knowledge that the Soldiers and families, both retirees and civilians, are indeed well-cared for within this command.”

Courtesy photo

Naval Academy graduate

Christopher Brahm of Huntsville has successfully completed four years of challenging academic, physical and professional military training, graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy on May 22 with a bachelor's in ocean engineering and a commission as a Navy ensign. He is the son of Lesa and Steve Brahm, both of whom work in the local defense industry, and a graduate of Grissom High School.



Experience runs deep for public affairs professional

*Veteran retiring after
40-plus years service*

By KARI HAWKINS

AMCOM Public Affairs

With a mix of experience and opportunity, Art Forster has enjoyed a public affairs career that has taken him around the world to support both military and private industry leaders, given him plenty of challenges to test his capabilities, and left him with lots of stories of overcoming media situations and building community relationships.

It's been a career of blessings for Forster.

Now, the seasoned public affairs professional who serves as the director of Public and Congressional Affairs for the Army Contracting Command and who has a combined 42 years of public affairs work in the Air Force and the federal government along with a stint with private industry, has decided retirement is the next step in a life defined by a legacy of public service.

"This has been a great life, a great career, and I have been blessed in so many ways," Forster said. "A good part of it has been luck to be in the right place at the right time working for the right people. It's all worked for me."

Although the first in his family to choose the public affairs profession, both Forster's father and father-in-law were career Air Force men who were combat-decorated World War II veterans. Both of his sons have served in the Army, one as an artillery officer at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the other currently as an Army doctor with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Vicenza, Italy. Forster, a retired Air Force colonel, is a decorated Vietnam War veteran and the recipient of several military and civilian honors, including the Aviation/



Courtesy photo

Art Forster and his wife, Janet, have moved 17 times during their 44-year marriage. The Vietnam veteran's public affairs career with the Air Force, in private industry and then as a civil servant has taken him all over the world. He will retire June 29 at the Army Contracting Command.

See Forster on page 27

Forster

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Space Writers' Association Public Affairs Officer of the Year and, recently, a Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Award from the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Forster's retirement ceremony will be June 29 at 2 p.m. at the Army Contracting Command, 106 Wynn Drive, with ACC commander Maj. Gen. Ted Harrison officiating. It will be especially meaningful for him to end his career at Redstone Arsenal, which is home to a community of about 45 public affairs professionals.

"I think we have a good system of working together here at Redstone," he said. "We support individual commands in individual offices, but we come together as a team to support all of Team Redstone."

Forster's career began in 1967 after earning distinguished military graduate honors at Florida State and commissioning as an Air Force second lieutenant.

Following an assignment in Vietnam, Forster married his wife Janet, and attended graduate school at the University of Denver, compliments of the Air Force.

"After three years of service, I basically made it a commitment to make public affairs my career. Since then, I have served at every level of public af-

fairs from the wing level all the way up to the Pentagon and the Department of Defense," he said.

His career included assignments in public affairs at such places as Barksdale, Peterson and Maxwell Air Force bases as well as with the Office of Public Affairs for the Secretary of the Air Force at the Pentagon. His assignment with the 306th Bombardment Wing (a B-52 bomber and KC-135 tanker unit) at McCoy Air Force Base in Florida is particularly memorable because of the tragic crash of a B-52 in a populated area of Orlando in March 1972.

Forster has especially enjoyed mentoring and encouraging his staff members, and giving them the tools to move on to new opportunities.

"I have always encouraged my folks to look for different opportunities and not stay in one job or organization for their entire career," he said. "They need to broaden their perspective to be a more rounded, experienced practitioner. They need to make themselves competitive by gaining new experiences that will make them more valuable at their next job. They should look for jobs where they can lead and work with senior leaders. It's very rewarding and satisfying."

Earning the trust and confidence of senior leaders is vital to being an effective public affairs specialist.

"Even if you have the right answer, if the answer is not received as being credible by leaders, then the answer will not be heard or accepted," he said.

In retirement, Forster and his wife hope to travel to visit their sons' families in Europe, which include five granddaughters. He hopes to improve his golf game, take in a few more football games at his alma mater Florida State, and do community volunteer work.

"This has been a great life, a great career, and I have been blessed in so many ways. A good part of it has been luck to be in the right place at the right time working for the right people. It's all worked for me."

Art Forster

Engineers

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and Standardization

- Administration Support Employee of the Year: Rachel Ray, Engineering Directorate

- Volunteer of the Year: Lequita Byrd-Craig, Contracting Directorate

- Project Manager of the Year: Lynn Daniels, Installation Support

- Program Manager of the Year: Steve Goolsby, Installation Support

- Project Delivery Team of the Year: International Operations, which included

Ordnance and Explosives Directorate employees Plyler McManus, Keith Angles,

Bob Britton, Kirk Baumann, Bruce Raily,

Chase Hamley, Pam Draper, Mary Lou Blackburn, Carol Beane, Rhonda

Marbury, Shannon Robbins, Anna Nebelsick,

Darlene Davenport, Bill Sargent, Mike Fields, Brian McComas, Wayne

Galloway, Frances Reilly, Ken Barnett,

Troy Orender and Greg Parsons; Nick Stolte,

Environmental and Munitions Center of Expertise; Contracting Directorate employees Suzanne Wear, John

Cominotto, Monty Spicer, David Shores,

Dustin Ray, Bruce Whisenant, David Horvath and Charles Pregeant; Margaret Simmons and Nancy Vaughn, Office of Counsel; Donzia King-Clark, Resource Management; and Jerry Haley, Installation Support.

- Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees: William Strong

In addition to the Engineer Day awards, several commanders' awards were presented.

- Geordelle Charles, Contracting Directorate, received a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment; and a letter signed by Amanda Simpson, Office of Energy Initiatives.

- Amro Habib, Chemical Demilitarization Directorate, received a letter signed by Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, USACE commander and chief of engineers.

- Sheron Belcher, Engineering Directorate, received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service signed by Lloyd Caldwell, headquarters USACE.

- Todd Watts, Engineering Directorate, received an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service signed by Lloyd Caldwell, headquarters USACE.

- Richard Himebrook, Contracting Directorate, signed by Maj. Gen. Richard Stevens, deputy commander of USACE.

- Six employees received Command-



Photo by Julia Bobick

Mary Vaughn, daughter of Nancy Vaughn in the Huntsville Center's Office of Counsel, meets "Elsa" at the Engineer Day awards ceremony and picnic June 5. "Harry Potter" also was available for photographs.

er's Awards for Civilian Service signed by Col. Robert Ruch, Huntsville Center commander: Eric South and Regina Segars, Resource Management; Tammy

Cinnamon, Engineering Directorate; and Miguel Jose Lang, Mike Trull, Shelly Barnes and Felicia McBride, Contracting Directorate.

Dedication honors quartermaster Soldier

By LISA SIMUNACI

AMC Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. – A building that sees thousands of Soldiers in training as they enter the world of Army logistics is now named for a man who left a lasting impression.

The 262nd Quartermaster Battalion headquarters building now bears the name of retired Col. Alexander D. Davis, better known around the installation as “Big Al,” who died unexpectedly in 2013.

Army Materiel Command’s top leader Gen. Dennis Via, who first met Davis during his ROTC days at Virginia State University, spoke at the dedication ceremony June 5, addressing a large crowd of family and friends.

“I watched his example of leadership, service and commitment on full display,” Via said, as he recalled meeting Davis as he entered the ROTC program when Via was a senior.

They shared a fraternal bond in Kappa Alpha Psi and crossed paths during their careers.

Before the dedication plaque was unveiled, Via noted the inscription that read, “Lifeline for Life.”

“He coined those words as the battalion’s motto many years ago,” Via said of Davis. “But I could easily see it as his personal motto of a lifetime of heartfelt service to his fellow Soldiers. As we remember him today and every day, I know the 262nd headquarters building will stand for many years as a tribute to his great legacy.”

Maj. Gen. Gwen Bingham, commander of the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, also recalled her service and friendship with Davis as she spoke at the dedication.

“It’s fitting that the battalion headquarters be dedicated to this giant of a man, well-known throughout Fort Lee as a leader, a mentor and a friend,” Bingham said. “Colonel Davis served as executive officer and commander of this very battalion during his distinguished Army career and truly embodied the motto of this organization – Lifeline to Victory, Lifeline for Life.”

Davis, who was the distinguished military graduate, received his commission after earning his bachelor’s in marketing from Virginia State University. He also earned a master’s in human resource management from Chapman University and in strategic studies from the Army War College. He served in a variety of multifunctional logistics assignments, both stateside and overseas and deployed to Iraq in 2005. He retired in 2010 and worked as an Army civilian as director of operations and training management at Fort Lee.

His wife, Karen, daughters Alexis and Aaren, and mother, Dorothy attended the



Photo by Keith Desbois, CASCOM Public Affairs

Gen. Dennis Via, commander of the Army Materiel Command, joins Maj. Gen. Gwen Bingham, commander of the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command; Brig. Gen. Ronald Kirklín, quartermaster general and Quartermaster School commandant; and family members of retired Col. Alexander D. Davis in unveiling a plaque during a building dedication in Davis’ name June 5. The 262nd Quartermaster Battalion headquarters was named Davis Hall in memory of his dedication and service to the Quartermaster Corps.

ceremony.

Karen Davis thanked those in attendance and those who made the dedication possible.

She said her husband had plenty of nicknames, but he didn’t become “Big Al,” until he became a captain. “He was a person who was always happy, upbeat, loved friends around and cherished the time he could give to anyone, any time.”

U.S.-Japan missile flight test deemed successful

By Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs

The Technical Research and Development Institute, Japan Ministry of Defense, and the Missile Defense Agency, in cooperation with the Navy, have announced the successful completion of a Standard Missile-3 Block IIA flight test from the Point Mugu Sea Range, San Nicolas Island, California.

This test, designated SM-3 Block IIA Cooperative Development Controlled Test Vehicle-01, was the first live fire

MDA photo

The June 6 test, designated SM-3 Block IIA Cooperative Development Controlled Test Vehicle-01, was the first live fire of the SM-3 Block IIA.

of the SM-3 Block IIA. On June 6 the missile successfully demonstrated flyout through nosecone deployment and third stage flight. No intercept was planned, and no target missile was launched.

Program officials will evaluate system performance based upon telemetry and other data obtained during the test.

The SM-3 Cooperative Development

project is the joint U.S.-Japan development of a 21-inch diameter variant of the SM-3 missile, designated Block IIA, to defeat medium- and intermediate-range ballistic missiles. Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense is the naval component of the Ballistic Missile Defense System. The MDA and the Navy cooperatively manage the Aegis BMD program.

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**BATES TAKES REINS OF MEDICAL RECRUITING COMPANY
LEADER BRINGS SHARP MESSAGE TO HUNTSVILLE CENTER
FOREIGN MILITARY SALES FUELED BY COLLABORATION
AWARD-WINNING APP BOOSTS UNMANNED TRAINING
AMCOM SOLDIERS HAVE LEADERSHIP CHANGE**

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Bates takes reins of medical recruiting company

By 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion Public Affairs

ATLANTA – During a change of command ceremony June 2 within borrowed facilities at Fort Gillem, Capt. Tyron Sutton relinquished command of the Atlanta Medical Recruiting Battalion Company to Capt. Lebaron Bates.

Sutton had commanded the company and its seven medical recruiting centers and one chaplain recruiting team for the past two years. The chaplain recruiting team is a recent addition to the company.

The new company commander, Bates, most recently served at Eisenhower Army Medical Center as a Troop Command executive officer and commander of C Company. His total Army experience, however, covers nearly a decade and a half of distinguished enlisted service supporting Army Medicine prior to his commissioning in 2008.

During the ceremony, Bates thanked his new boss, Lt. Col. Nancy Parson, 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion commander, for the opportunity to lead the Soldiers of the Atlanta MRC.

“Thank you, Col. Parson, for allowing me the opportunity to lead this great company,” Bates said, addressing the as-

sembly of Soldiers, Army civilians and family members. “I will not let you, nor them, down.”

After thanking his predecessor and acknowledging his new first sergeant, Bates thanked his family followed by an uplifting word to the recruiters.

“All of you are great at what you do,” Bates said. “I’m honored to be your commander and will always put the mission first.”

According to Parson, who is an Army nurse, Bates’ mission as the new company commander will be to lead the effort to find qualified medical professionals – dentists, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, optometrists and many other specialties – who have the desire to lead others and advance in their careers. They will also be charged with sharing their knowledge and expertise in order to help take care of Soldiers and family members.

She added that there are many opportunities to join the Army Medical department full time and even part time in the Army Reserves, further adding that there are scholarships available for medical, dental, veterinarian and optometry programs.

The area covered by the medical re-



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Nancy Parson passes the Atlanta Medical Recruiting Company colors to Capt. Lebaron Bates during a ceremony June 2. Bates assumed command of the company from Capt. Tyron Sutton, far right. Atlanta MRC 1st Sgt. Latonua Hawkins is at center, rear, flanked by Staff Sgt. Branden Enich to her left.

cruiters includes Atlanta and far more, stretching across South Carolina, most of Georgia, all of Alabama, western

Florida and a small area of Mississippi.

The Atlanta Company has headquarters offices in nearby Morrow.

Senior leader brings sharp message to Huntsville Center

Army puts priority on prevention of sexual harassment, assault

By JO ANITA MILEY

Engineering and Support Center,
Huntsville Public Affairs

Learning how to recognize sexual harassment or sexual assault is often uncomfortable for employees attending mandatory annual training. But the training is presented that way to get your attention and bring awareness to a very serious issue in the Army.

June 9-12, Huntsville Center employees received the required annual face-to-face Sexual Harassment/Assault Response Prevention or SHARP refresher training.

James Braxton, director, Office of Diversity and Leadership at headquarters Army Corps of Engineers, came to the Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville to provide information about sexual assault and sexual harassment and educate center employees on how to prevent sexual violence. Angela Morton, chief of the center's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, and Stephanie Caldwell, equal employment specialist, were also available to answer questions and provide information.



Photo by Jo Anita Miley

James Braxton, director of the Office of Diversity and Leadership at headquarters Army Corps of Engineers, conducts Sexual Harassment/Assault Response Prevention training for Huntsville Center employees June 9.

Braxton said the overarching goal for the Sexual Harassment/Assault Prevention and Response Program is to reduce the stigma of reporting and increase prevention, investigation and prosecution capabilities while ensuring protection of sexual assault survivors from retaliation and threats. It is the Army's policy to use training, education and awareness to prevent sexual harassment/assault; promote sensitive handling of victims; offer

victim assistance and counseling; and provide timely and thorough investigation of all reported incidents.

"I realize this is not a favorite subject for everyone, and it's a difficult task to administer the training. However, it's a very important subject that Army has put as one of its top 10 priorities," Braxton said. "This training is about changing the culture and the behavior within the federal government. I really need to know how you feel about this subject and how we interact. What is harassment to you? The way someone looks at you, talks to you, etc. It can also be the person sitting near you hears and spreads to others. Sexual assault is a serious crime that has no place in the Army, and will not be condoned or tolerated.

Braxton said sometimes it's a challenge to equate training built for Soldiers and the civilian workforce to the corps workforce. That's why his office is working extra hard to relate the program to them and get buy-in. The SHARP program's mission is to reduce, with an aim toward eliminating, sexual offenses within the Army. SHARP training is focused on awareness and prevention.

"This was one of the best experiences I've ever had with receiving this training," Nicole Boone, Small Business Office small business specialist, said. "I liked the platform and how

the presenter didn't rely on slides and made it very interactive. He engaged us and got feedback from us throughout the training so he definitely got his point across. It was also good to hear about third party issues and how someone else can report an offense. We're mindful about our own actions but don't often think about how others perceive what we do. Understanding this dynamic and how it can impact our organization is very important. Lastly, he shared his own personal experiences. This was a plus for me."

Braxton also stressed the importance of victims seeking help from the appropriate sources. Whether in a large or small organization, sometimes privacy may become an issue. This is why victims who may feel uncomfortable reporting an incident through various Huntsville Center channels can seek help from other non-military resources. He stressed the importance that an individual seek help from a resource they feel comfortable with.

"So we want to make every resource possible available to victims," Braxton said. "We are working to support survivors and prevent sexual violence. One of the biggest mistakes many organizations make is they move the person who has been harassed or assaulted and make things worse. We have to stop victimizing the victim."

Foreign military sales fueled by collaboration

By **KIM GILLESPIE**
USASAC Public Affairs

The Security Assistance Command held an Army Materiel Command Security Assistance Enterprise Senior Leader Huddle June 2-3 that was attended by Vice Adm. Joe Rixey, director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, and deputy assistant secretary of the Army for defense, exports and cooperation Ann Cataldo.

Other organizations represented ranged from the Corps of Engineers, Training and Doctrine Command, Medical Materiel Agency, AMC G-3/4 Organic Industrial Base and the life cycle management commands' security assistance management directorates and Army Contracting Command, to the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, and USASAC's subordinate organizations, the Office of the Program Manager for the Saudi Arabian National Guard and the Security Assistance Training Management Organization.

USASAC commander Maj. Gen. Mark McDonald kicked-off the meeting with the theme, "Maintaining our performance edge while confronting the challenges ... and influencing our future," and resulting in some key objectives such as: Understanding the current operational environment of security assistance and foreign military sales; appreciating the various challenges facing the AMC security assistance enterprise; and understanding the strategic focus of the combatant commands and Army service component commands.

McDonald explained that hosting the huddle enabled face-to-face collaboration and information exchange among the enterprise members, and that was really what USASAC's role in the AMC security assistance enterprise is all about.

"USASAC executes the FMS process for DoD and Army, and that means we must ensure all the organizations involved clearly understand the issues and challenges, and have a chance to brainstorm and offer solutions – which is what this huddle is all about," he said.

Rixey echoed the need for collaboration by noting that he only had only five slides, and that the information provided was meant to generate discussion. But Rixey did point to facts showing how important the Army's role is to security assistance efforts.

"In terms of sales, and new letters of offer and acceptance, the Army is accounting for about 50 percent of the total," he noted.

Rixey emphasized that the FMS process works, but when someone says something



is wrong with it, the problem needs to be clearly articulated and addressed.

"Vision 2020 is focused on us doing our job better," he said.

Rixey cited customer visibility in FMS as essential, and added, "Expectation management is 90 percent of the job." Rixey summarized the pillars of FMS with four words: "Quality, timeliness, transparency and interoperability."

Cataldo also emphasized "continuous improvement to serve our customer." She explained recent initiatives that included a Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management presentation for security cooperation officers, or SCOs, called "Speed Dating the Army." The presentation was designed to help the officers better understand the role they play in FMS, how the Army FMS process works and learn Army capabilities and make contacts.

The huddle used the topic of FMS forecasting for breakout groups to collaborate on initiatives that can provide more consistency and accuracy for FMS forecasting. A more accurate barometer of sales and types of equipment/services being requested can help improve workload planning, resource management/allocation and program management.

"This is particularly important at the (AMC's) SAMD level, which is providing the commodity or service," Dave Dornblaser, USASAC's Washington Field Office director, said.

Cataldo, in her closing remarks, urged USASAC to continue to host these AMC enterprise events, "And continue to involve DSCA and DASA-DEC, because by being here and by getting involved we can help."

McDonald was clearly pleased with the success of the gathering, remarking that with the Army now seeing more than 50 percent of DoD's FMS, it can't just try, but must maintain the performance edge – and that can only be accomplished through teamwork venues like the huddle.

Award-winning app boosts unmanned aircraft training

By **SOPIA BLEDSOE**

PEO Aviation Public Affairs

Unmanned aircraft systems operators now have the option to train anywhere, anytime and in real time without having to sit in a classroom or be co-located with the other UAS operator.

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, together with their industry partners at Camber Corporation based out of Huntsville, have developed an application that eliminates the need for UAS operators to train at the pace of a scheduled training event. They now also have the ability to conduct collective training from different locations.

Dubbed Eagle Eye, the new device agnostic training app allows Soldiers to conduct individual or collective training from anywhere in the world using their personal computer, laptop, tablet or smart phone. The team recently won the Inter-service/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference award for Best Serious Game in the Mobile Category and the coveted People's Choice Award.

Last year the team won for Best New Mobile App Game and was the People's Choice Award winner.

"The game is comprised of doctrinal material, which then serves as a basis for a three-stage game," said Maj. Adam Samiof, assistant product manager for Shadow Tactical UAS. He explained that initially, users of the app learn about reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition based from Army manuals. "One of the advantages of this game is it is available whenever a Soldier wants to train and hone his or her skills. A Soldier doesn't have to wait for a scheduled training event in the future to train on this particular topic."

The idea for the game originated from PM UAS's engagements with the schoolhouse and with units in the field where Samiof said Soldiers were asking for this type of training technology. "We always want to know where additional training resources are needed and promote aviation rigor as UAS continues to be added to aviation formations," he said.

Jeremy Reddoch, operations manager for Camber Corporation, said the team's focus over the last two years has been on creating training applications with like technology, such as iPhones with iPhones or PCs with other PCs. "Now, with technology improving, Soldiers can play the training application with other players using different technology devices," Reddoch said. "And since you are not bound to the classroom, Soldiers can hone their training skills while they're sitting in a bunk waiting for their next assignment."

Speaking from his experience as a former Soldier and UAS operator, James Thompson, now the project lead for Camber, said there were periods of time when he was not able to fly and train with the aircraft whenever he was in garrison. "I wish we had this training technology back then – something that you can still do while you're waiting to conduct that tactical training," Thompson said. "This is the kind of stuff we were looking for, that we wished we had three or four years ago. Now the Soldiers are getting it."

The application is in use at the 2-13th Aviation Regiment, the schoolhouse for UAS training at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Much of this past year's efforts were geared toward institutional training at the schoolhouse, Samiof said. "The IMI and game have also been uploaded to the Army's gaming website, enabling anyone with CAC privileges to access the content and download for training."

Samiof and his team are pursuing a new effort with multiplayer, manned-unmanned teaming gaming, incorporating the different roles from Gray Eagle, Apache, Shadow UAS and the One System Remote Video Terminal to link the different players together in one virtual environment.

"Our prime focus for this year's efforts is on manned-unmanned teaming or MUMT," Samiof said. The team is using the same combination of doctrinal material with a gaming feature to reinforce the content. "We are trying to see if we can produce a multiplayer game which would allow unmanned and manned users to play the same game at the same time and practice their TTPs (tactics, techniques and procedures) in this venue," Samiof said. "MUMT is one of the most exciting force multipliers talked about by our Army today and the quicker we master its application, the further advantage we will have over our adversaries."

Today's generation of Soldiers are gamers, and UAS Project Office's goal is to push the limits and move the technologies to the next level instead of relying on legacy type of training. "How to train today's 18 to 20-year-old UAS operators who are used to and have been exposed to this type of environment on a daily basis – this is what we've been hired to do to help the Army," said Duane Crawford, one of the team members and program manager for Camber.



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Project Office, along with their team members from Camber, won the 2015 I/ITSEC award for Best Serious Game in the Mobile Category and the coveted People's Choice Award. Holding the two trophies are, from left, Jeremy Reddoch, Camber operations manager; Duane Crawford, Camber program manager; Maj. Adam Samiof, assistant product manager for Shadow Tactical UAS; and James Thompson, Camber project lead.

The app is also capable of a multiplayer environment, which means Soldiers can add more players at any given time of the training scenario. If additional players came on at a later time, the app would simply create a second environment. "You select the role that you want, you get up to speed on what the current situation is, and then you start," Reddoch said. "You just have to communicate what you want or plan to do."

The IMI and game took 12 months to develop, according to Samiof. Multiple members of the program office participated during the development, and Camber personnel were the lead developers. "All team members have a significant amount of military service as the basis of their knowledge and expertise," Samiof said. "Our goal was to provide the Soldier different options to accomplish their training mission."

Samiof envisions the expanded use of immersive technology as the future for training, and would encompass virtual reality and holographic technologies. "Right now we use computers/tablets to enable the Soldier to interact with their environment," he said. "In the future, with more affordable virtual reality devices (e.g. Oculus), the Soldier will be completely immersed in this virtual environment. This will remove some of the physical requirements for training areas and training devices. Without the need for bulky TADSS, a Soldier could put their virtual reality device on in any setting and be able to interact with that virtual environment."

Put simply, there would be no need for an aircraft to practice maintenance tasks. The aircraft would be virtual.

Other platforms can also benefit from the app, Samiof said, since the doctrinal material which serves as the basis for the lessons before the game is the same for manned aviation. "The only detractor is that the game uses a UAS as the airframe for demonstrating the principles learned previously," he said.

The repeat of the wins solidifies that the team is moving its training in the right direction, according to Reddoch. "It is pretty amazing to see how much technology has evolved from when we won GORDEE to now with Eagle Eye," Reddoch said. In just one year, Reddoch said the technology alone probably increased by about 500 percent. "What we're able to bring to the war fighter in terms of enhanced graphics and training, enhanced visual feedback and after action report – all dramatically increased."

This is the second straight year the team has submitted and won at I/ITSEC for these two categories.

AMCOM Soldiers have leadership change

By KARI HAWKINS

AMCOM Public Affairs

Significant Army career milestones don't always come with pomp and circumstance, especially not in the life of a junior officer.

So, when Capt. Christopher Colbert, outgoing commander of the Aviation and Missile Command's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, was honored June 9 during a change of command ceremony complete with comments from the Aviation and Missile Command's chief of staff Col. Sheila Bryant, music by the Army Materiel Command's Arsenal Brass Quintet and the national anthem sung by AMCOM employee Sonya Mapp, his parting comments reflected his appreciation.

"I'm kind of sad this has to be farewell," Colbert said. "Not many captains get to thank a band for their performance at his change of command. The Arsenal Brass Quintet brings instant legitimacy to this ceremony. Not many captains get the national anthem sung at their ceremony. To (AMCOM) Protocol, I say thank you for putting this ceremony together."

Colbert's tenure at HHC was "marked by excellence and an honest interest with Soldiers in our predominately civilian workforce," AMCOM chief of staff Bryant said. "You are reliable, trustworthy, dedicated, humble. Thanks for a job well-done."

As a newly commissioned officer 10 years ago, Colbert gave himself three goals – to do the right thing always, to do the right thing to the best of his ability and to never quit. The employees he worked with at AMCOM – their integrity and professionalism – continues to motivate him to reach for those goals.

"During the time I've been here, my best has gotten a little bit better," Colbert said. "The integrity I've seen here is just contagious. It's made me a better Soldier, a better officer and a better leader. ... Thank you for what you do on a daily basis. It will not only keep me doing my job, but it will also let me continue to do what I love – training Soldiers and flying helicopters."

Colbert also mentioned his wife, Abby, who as Dr. Abigail Raez served as an Army flight surgeon before leaving military service to be a mom to their two young sons, Connor and Joey. She also serves as an emergency room physician.

"She has sacrificed a lot for me to be where I am in the Army today," Colbert said.

The Colbert family will be moving on to Montgomery, where Colbert will attend the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base before going on to his next assignment.

Prior to the change of command ceremony, Colbert was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal by AMCOM commander Richardson.

"I couldn't imagine doing this job (as HHC commander) when just about everybody outranks you," said Richardson, referring to the numerous high-ranking officers whose assignment at Redstone Arsenal causes them to be part of AMCOM HHC's responsibility for all Soldier personnel services, including Army physical fitness testing, and all in-processing and out-processing services.

New HHC commander Maj. Curt Schultheis, who previously worked for the Army Contracting Command/Expeditionary Contracting Command, also enjoyed the ceremony that welcomed him to AMCOM. He and his wife Janna and their two young daughters "look forward to this next chapter in our lives. ... Thank you for this tremendous welcome to this outstanding organization."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Aviation and Missile Command employee Cvelyne McCaulley gives 3-year-old Nola a hug of greeting as Maj. Curt Schultheis, his wife Janna and their two young daughters are welcomed to the AMCOM family June 9.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

The Aviation and Missile Command's Maj. Gen. Jim Richardson, right, thanks Capt. Christopher Colbert for his service as the commander of AMCOM's Headquarters and Headquarters Company. Richardson presented him with the Meritorious Service Medal.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Incoming Aviation and Missile Command Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander Maj. Curt Schultheis, left, accepts the AMCOM HHC guidon from AMCOM chief of staff Col. Sheila Bryant as outgoing AMCOM HHC commander Capt. Christopher Colbert looks on. Assisting with the ceremonies are 1st Sgt. Joseph Thomas, behind the flag, and Staff Sgt. Brody Raser, right. Colbert leaves for Montgomery to attend the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base.

Win or Lose

Team Redstone warms up for softball showcase

Photos by **BRYAN BACON**
Staff photographer

Team Redstone leaders hit the softball diamond Thursday in preparation for their faceoff against the Team Huntsville/Madison County team during the Armed Forces Celebration Week softball games.

The fourth annual softball games for Armed Forces Celebration Week are June 26 at the Metro Kiwanis Sportsplex. Team Redstone will play Team Huntsville/Madison County at 5 p.m. The Association of the U.S. Army team will face the Huntsville Senior All-Stars at 7.



Above: Garrison commander Col. Bill Marks makes a catch during practice.



Retired Maj. Gen. Lynn Collyar practices his throwing in the infield.



Col. Jerry Jones, of the Army Contracting Command, fields the ball.



At left: Chris Colster, Garrison public affairs specialist, reaches back for a long throw.



Above: Kris McBride, outgoing AUSA local chapter president, makes a hit.



At left: Sam Scruggs, of the board of directors for Redstone-Huntsville Chapter AUSA, makes a play at third base.



Ben Jennings, retired Huntsville police officer, practices his hitting with the team.

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Teledyne Brown team on track for three-peat

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The TBE Integrators look like real contenders for their third straight Division B title.

Teledyne Brown Engineering's team beat the Renegades 14-4 on June 9 at the NASA softball field to improve to 4-1-1.

"Just constant hitting and good defense," player/coach Austen Young said.

Derek Calvert had two triples, one walk and scored a run. Young went 3-for-4 with two doubles and scored three runs. Randy Gentner also went 3-for-4 with three runs. John Geiger went 4-for-4 with three runs. Clif Jones pitched the six-inning win.

Trace Turner had three hits with a double and one run for the Renegades (1-4). Bryan Chambers added two hits and drove in a run. Dan Mullane had a hit and scored but took the loss in the circle.

"I think we just got off to a slow start," Renegades right center Preston Cupp said. "They were getting in a lot of hits. We had a couple of plays we'd like to have back. We just couldn't get our bats going either. We'll bounce back next week."

NASA Meet Balls 22, Wyle 10: Nick Haas went 4-for-4 with a two-run homer and a double in this Division B nightcap.

Player/coach Eric Best added two triples and a single for the NASA Meet Balls (4-2). Aaron Mair pitched the full seven innings with two strikeouts.

"We were hitting great, hitting in the gaps," Best said. "Defense was tight, very few errors. We just came out to win and we did, and (to) have some fun. We did. Had a good time."

George Robertson went 2-for-3 with a three-run homer for Wyle (2-4). Brad Neeley added two hits with a solo shot.

"We played good all-around," Wyle coach Jonathan Hillis said. "Made a lot of errors but of course we were playing a good-hitting team. They were just putting it where we weren't. But overall we're just having a fun time in the league this year."

The game was tied 5-5 after two innings. But the NASA Meet Balls scored three runs apiece in the top of the third and fourth for an 11-5 lead. Wyle trimmed it to 11-7 entering the sixth but could draw no closer.

Alissa Fisher went the distance and took the loss in the circle.

"She's only pitched two games this season," Hillis said. "And she's been really valuable to the team this year because we lost one of our pitchers."

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Wyle pitcher Alissa Fisher goes the full seven innings in a loss to the NASA Meet Balls.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TBE Integrators third baseman Garrett Williams fields a grounder during last week's win over the Renegades.



Got the Runs get bats going in big rally

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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After falling behind early in last week's game, Got the Runs showed why they're unbeaten and the two-time defending champion in Division A.

They rode one of their patented big innings to a 19-9 win over RTC on Thursday at the NASA softball field. It was another challenge and another challenge met.

"We had the bats warm up after the first couple of innings," catcher Jason Marske said. "We were definitely not swinging the first couple of innings."

Got the Runs (6-0) trailed 4-2 after the one inning and 7-3 after three. But they erupted for nine runs on 10 hits in the top of the fourth.

"It took a while to warm up the bats but once we got hitting we came alive," player/coach Jay Hollenbeck said. "And once again we played defense and waited for the bats to catch up. And the guys and gal did a great job running out hits because a lot of them fell that weren't expected."

Travis Garrett went 3-for-4 with a triple, double, three runs-batted-in and three runs scored. He also played solid defense at shortstop. Tommy Young and Kyle Jeter added three hits apiece. David Whitener, Hollenbeck and Hollenbeck's wife Reagan added two hits apiece. Left-hander Paul Prichard pitched the six-inning win, added an RBI single and scored two runs.

Rod Hambrick went 3-for-3 with two RBIs and a run for RTC (1-4). Doug Tucker, Quenton Hawk and Brad Thompson had two hits apiece. Connor Brown took the loss.

"You've got to score more than nine runs to win a softball game slow-pitch," RTC player/coach Glenn Capps said.

"We lost but we're a classy team. RTC is a classy team," he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Got the Runs (6-0)

	AB	R	H	RBI
D. Whitener	4	3	2	3
T. Garrett	4	3	3	3
T. Young	5	3	3	1
J. Hollenbeck	3	1	2	2
P. Prichard	3	2	1	1
A. Mair	3	1	1	1
B. Roberson	3	1	1	1
R. Hollenbeck	4	1	2	0
K. Jeter	4	1	3	2
J. Marske	4	1	1	0
E. Best	3	2	1	0
Totals	40	19	20	14

RTC (1-4)

	AB	R	H	RBI
G. Capps	3	1	0	0
R. Hambrick	3	1	3	2
J. Branch	3	2	1	0

Winning pitcher Paul Prichard gets a run-scoring single for Got the Runs during their nine-run fourth inning against RTC.

D. Tucker	3	1	2	3
Q. Hawk	3	1	2	2
D. Funderburg	2	0	0	0
B. Thompson	3	0	2	1
S. Deerman	3	0	0	0
E. Widell	3	0	1	0
M. Matoushek	3	0	1	0
R. Lee	3	1	0	0
J. Mills	2	1	1	1
C. Brown	1	1	1	0
Totals	35	9	14	9

											R	H	E
Got the Runs	2	0	1	9	4	3	-	19	20	2			
RTC	4	0	3	0	2	0	-	9	14	4			

Nerds play well-rounded game for first victory

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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The skies cleared and the Nerds had a good night after all.

After an afternoon rain shower, the LEC Nerds softball team beat Hits with Mits DTS 14-11 on June 8 at Linton Field. It was the Nerds first win of the season in Division C.

"Some good fielding and some hot bats," Nerds pitcher/coach Jimmy Karigan said. "Got the first win out of the way. Hopefully there's more to come."

Josh Austin went 3-for-4 with an inside-the-park home run and a double for the Nerds (1-5). Jerod Pate had two hits with a double and scored twice. Dayla Pate, Jerod's wife, played solid defense in right field.

Steve Funderburk went 3-for-3 with a double and three runs for Hits with Mits (2-5). Player/coach Jason Marske doubled and scored twice. Jeff Kuner took the loss in the circle.

"We played a good game," Marske said. "Just did not keep the bats going like we needed to. And in the field, we let some drop in front of us."

Misfits 15, Yulista 0: The Misfits let their players try different positions in the field but had the same result. They won again in Division C.

"We just played where we wanted to play," player/coach Alyse Taylor said. "We changed up positions and had a good time. We tried something new – played players out of their normal positions."

Her husband, Zach, started in the outfield, moved to first base, catcher and then pitched the fourth and final inning. He had two singles and a walk. And on the mound, he recorded a strikeout for the Misfits (6-0).

"Despite where we played, we do stress player development in all positions," Zach Taylor said. "And tonight we played with the utmost efficiency."

Josh Austin hit an inside-the-park two-run homer. Mike Drylie went 3-for-3 with a walk and scored three runs. Jeremy Davis pitched the first two innings for the win.

Richard Harville had a double for Yulista (2-3). Whitney Dorning took the loss in the circle.

"We were a little short-staffed today," Yulista player/coach Mark Cole said. "We only played with nine because we wanted to keep it local to the organization. But we had a lot of fun, played hard. Look forward to the next one."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LEC Nerds pitcher/coach Jimmy Karigan scores the third of four runs in the top of the fourth inning against Hits with Mits DTS. The Nerds won 14-11.



Army/NASA softball league standings

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

Division A

	Won	Loss	Tie
Got the Runs	6	0	0
Ballistic Bombers	5	1	0
We Dem Boyz	2	3	1
Fly-Outs	1	4	1
RTC	1	4	0
Hit Circus	1	4	0

Division B

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

	Won	Loss	Tie
Unmanned & Unafraid	3	3	0
Wyle	2	4	0
Spaceballs	2	4	0
Renegades	1	4	0
Hit to Kill	1	4	0

Division C

	Won	Loss	Tie
Misfits	6	0	0
Rotorheads	6	0	0
Space Cowboys	4	2	0
Bit Players	4	2	0
One Hit Wonders	4	2	0
Ice Cold Pitchers	3	3	0
Yulista	2	3	0
Sons of Pitches	2	4	0
Judgment Day	2	4	0
Hits w Mits DTS	2	5	0
LEC Nerds	1	5	0
Redstone Rebels	0	6	0



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Hits with Mits DTS right fielder Rachael Gray bats during the game June 8 at Linton Field.

Exchange announces Fourth of July holiday hours

	Friday 3rd of July 2015	Saturday 4th of July 2015
Main Store	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Concession		
Alteration Shop	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Closed
Barber Shop	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Closed
Barber Shop at VBC	Closed	Closed
Barber Shop Sparkman Center Bldg. 5302	Closed	Closed
Flower Shop	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	Closed
GNC	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Dry Cleaner, PX Bldg.3220	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Closed
Dry Cleaner MDC Bldg. 5224	Closed	Closed
Dry Cleaner Sparkman Center Bldg. 5302	Closed	Closed
Dry Cleaner AMC, Bldg. 4400	Closed	Closed
Nail Shop	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	Closed
Firestone	7 a.m.-6 p.m.	
Express Bldg. 3234 Goss Rd	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Express Bldg. 5215 Martin Rd	Closed	Closed
Optical Store	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Closed
Optometrist Dr. Van Hartman	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Closed
Beauty Shop	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Closed
Food Court		
Church's Chicken	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.	Closed
Charley's	Closed	Closed
American Eatery	Closed	Closed
Burger King	10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.	Closed
Burger King Martin Road, Bldg.5215	Closed	Closed
Subway Martin Martin Road, Bldg.5215	Closed	Closed
Subway Food Court, Bldg. 3220	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Café (Fox)	Closed	Closed
HR	Closed	Closed

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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.

Football officials camp

North Alabama Football Officials, in conjunction with the Huntsville Sports Commission, will hold the 2015 Football Officials State Camp in August. NAFOA is conducting several fundraising activities to support the state camp. The primary fundraiser is a golf tournament at Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Hampton Cove on Saturday. Cost is \$85 per golfer (includes lunch and prizes) for Four Player Scramble, with mulligans available at the course. Shotgun start is 8 a.m. with check-in by 7:30. The tournament is open to the first 36 teams to pay. Make checks payable to Huntsville Sports Commission. Mail checks and registration to: NAFOA Golf, 14224 Hunter Road, Harvest, AL 35749. For more information, contact Almon Majors at almonmajors@att.net, phone 426-0775, or David Terry at dterry2882@gmail.com, phone 429-8166.

Golf fundraiser

The Fixed Wing Project Office will hold its fourth annual charity golf tournament July 9 at the Links. The tournament will honor Army Emergency Relief again this year. Sign-in begins at 7 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8. The cost is \$45 for members of the Links and \$65 for non-members. The fee includes green fees, a cart, range balls, breakfast and lunch. There will also be team, skill and door prizes given away. To register email Shawn Powell at shawn.b.powell.ctr@mail.mil or Kim Proctor at kimberly.e.proctor.ctr@mail.mil.

Tennis club on post

Are you looking to play singles tennis with fellow members of the Redstone community? Did you know there is a singles tennis ladder that does just that? The MARS Tennis Club plays on a nearby set of tennis courts located at NASA (membership required). A doubles round robin is also available. For more information, email Robert Ruff at rmrcoach@yahoo.com.

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. Open to the public. 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 or Phil Thompson at 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.

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.

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. For information call Chenita Henderson 450-5880 or email 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.

Resource managers

The National Contract Management Association, Huntsville, will hold its monthly luncheon Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Redstone Federal Credit Union conference room on Wynn Drive. Steven Feldman, attorney adviser at the Corps of Engineers, will speak on “Distinguishing Clarifications and Discussions in Competitive Negotiated Procurements: Cracking the Code on FAR 15.306.” Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers. For information call (248) 802-9148.

Amateur radio operators

The Marshall Amateur Radio Club, under the call sign of WA4NZD, 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 Centaur Street where all the antennas are located. For more information, visit wa4nzd.wordpress.com/ or email 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.”

Federally employed women

The North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will continue its series “Women Networking” on June 24 at 11:30 a.m. at Redstone Lanes. “You may want to come a little early if you plan on purchasing lunch before the event starts,” a release said. The networking event will address Profiles of Women at Team Redstone agencies presented by agency EEO representatives and Q&As on affirmative employment initiatives for women. Federal agencies are required to report on the status and representation of women in their annual EEO reports filed each year with the EEO Commission. For more information call Barbara Watson 955-9755 or Tilantine Benjamin 313-9288.

Women in defense

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense will hold a Breakfast

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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.

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.vietvetshsv.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.

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, mili-

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Listen here! Are you or aren't you assigned to my Headquarters as the Lawyer?

Sir, I can't confirm or deny that. I will apply billable hours towards answering your query!



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tary 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.gsauctions.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,



Photo by 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion Public Affairs

Retiring at battalion

Maj. Felicia Williams, right, executive officer for the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion, presents Sgt. 1st Class Sharla McCrory with a certificate of retirement Friday at Toftoy Hall. McCrory served as the battalion's senior master trainer since August 2012, supporting three medical recruiting companies and 17 medical recruiting centers across the Southeast, capping off a distinguished career of 25 years.

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 update

A "Summer Acquisition Update" will be held Sept. 9 at the Defense Acquisition University-South campus. Co-sponsored by DAU-South and the South Chapter of the DAU Alumni Association, the theme for the update is: Better Buying Power initiatives 3.0. Participants will benefit from several sessions that span the AT&L spectrum focused primarily on the BBP initiatives. Registration will open at the beginning of July. For inquiries and suggestions for potential topics, email HSV.Acquisition.Update@dau.mil.

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 icatatalog.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.

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 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 Housing 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.

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 samnk@knology.net or visit www.legacy4koreanwarveterans.org.

Overseas deployments

Use your experience and expertise to support Department of Defense 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.

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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 of 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, springlarry1@gmail.com or visit 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 to view current job opportunities. You can apply to Continuous Food Job Vacancy Announcement, VA-0887FOOD-0315. For more information, call Shereyn L. McSwain, HR manager, 650-5928.

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.

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.cafy-huntsville.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

The Garrison's Fire and Emergency Services offers 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

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Emergency Services Training Center, building 3545. The first class 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 or firefighter Edward Herbster at edward.m.herbster.civ@mail.mil.

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.

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, and Chenita Henderson 450-5880, at chenita.l.henderson.ctr@mail.mil.

Dance camp

A summer dance technique camp is July 8-10 at the UAH University Fitness Center. For information and registration, visit www.dancetechcamp.weebly.com.

Victory Day celebration

A Victory Day Celebration, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, will be held Aug. 10 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Davidson Center at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. "An Outpouring of Thanks From a Grateful Nation" is sponsored by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

ID/CAC cards section

Because of the Fourth of July holiday, delays are possible July 2 and July 6 at the Identification/Common Access Cards section at the One Stop. Some of the workers will be on leave those days. "So the process might be a little slower during that time," Glen Reese, Military Personnel Division chief at the Garrison, said. There will be regular hours both days, 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments should be made online. For more information, call 842-2413. The section is in the One Stop building 3494 on Honest John Road.

Physicist pioneer remembered

Howard J. Foster Day will be held Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Ronald E. McNair Junior High School, 3221 Mastin Lake Road. Dr. Howard Jerry Foster, chairman of the department of physics and mathematics at Alabama A&M University, died Jan. 23, 1973. Noted physicist Dr. Stephen McGuire will be the keynote speaker. Other participants include Lewis Wooten, who serves as the Space Launch System avionics element manager. The host for this inaugural event is 4SIGHT.

Tuskegee alumni picnic

Calling all alumni, students and future students along with their families to the annual Tuskegee Alumni picnic. Hosted by the Huntsville-Decatur Tuskegee Alumni Club, the event is July 18 from 1-5 p.m. at Bishop Farms Club House off Bishop Road. There will be food, fun, games and fellowship. For more information, call Ochieng Campbell 457-8694.

Newcomer orientation

The next Team Redstone Newcomers and New Employee Orientation for civilian employees, Soldiers and military family members is July 28 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Summit. Participants will receive training to orient them to federal employment and the installation, which will include: Garrison deputy commander and CPAC director remarks, Army Community Service, RSIC, IHG Army Hotels, Housing Service Office, FMWR, Fox Army Health Center, Legal/JAG, Security, Management/Employee Relations, Redstone Federal Credit Union, Employee Unions, Classification/Staffing, Benefits, Payroll, Voting Assistance, Worker's Compensation, Training and Workforce Development, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Safety. For more information call Jessie McCray 313-0714 or Mary Breeden 876-5397. To obtain a space in this course, you must register in TIP by July 28 at tip.redstone.army.mil/.

AMCOM organization day

July 17 is the date set for AMCOM's Organization Day at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area. AMCOM employees are encouraged to bring their families to this fun event. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with an opening ceremony, and will include board games, horseshoes and cornhole games, Bingo, activities for children, entertainment, softball and soccer tournaments, food trucks and a cakewalk. An AMCOM Org Day 5K Run will be held at the Col. Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area on July 14 with winners announced at the org day. To register for the run, email Michael Bateman at michael.d.bateman.ctr@mail.mil. AMCOM Org Day tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from AMCOM Org Day representatives in Aviation and Missile Command organizations. Children age 3 and under are admitted free.

Fixed Wing industry day

The Fixed Wing Project Office will hold an Industry Day on July 8. Pre-registration is required by June 24. For more details, see the FedBizOpps.Gov announcement solicitation number "2015FIXEDWINGINDUSTRYDAY." Sign-in begins at 7:45 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium where Fixed Wing briefings will take place. Meetings with FWPO personnel will be held at the Fixed Wing Project Office in the afternoon. The event is open to all industry and government agencies interested in Army Fixed Wing. To schedule an appointment, email Shawn Powell at shawn.b.powell.ctr@mail.mil or Kim Proctor at kimberly.e.proctor.ctr@mail.mil. All requests for appointments must be received by June 24.