

Barrie becomes Army's aviation acquisition officer

By MICHELLE MILLER

Program Executive Office for Aviation

A change in leadership has taken place at the Program Executive Office for Aviation.

Brig. Gen. Robert Barrie assumed the charter and became the 13th program executive officer for the organization during a private ceremony July 1 at the PEO Aviation headquarters. Pat Mason, who served as PEO since January, will return to his former role as deputy PEO.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology's Bruce Jette virtually presided over the ceremony via video and lauded Mason's accomplishments as PEO.

"Pat Mason effectively managed an annual budget of eight billion dollars, led a global workforce of 3,000 military, civilian and contractor professionals, and was responsible for more than 60 programs and the largest number of FMS (foreign military sales) cases in the entire Department of Defense," Jette said.

Prior to joining PEO Aviation in 2017 as deputy PEO, Mason was chief of staff for the Aviation Development Directorate at the then Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center and was also the director of Redstone Test Center.

"Serving as a program executive officer requires a special blend of skills, especially in today's environment," Jette said. "The job requires strong leadership, sound business judgment, effective communication skills, integrity and technical expertise."

In assuming the responsibilities as the PEO, Barrie will be the Army's aviation acquisition officer responsible for purchasing and managing the life cycle of the Army's aviation weapon systems and equipment. He will oversee 10 project offices including: Apache Helicopters, Aviation Mission Systems & Architecture, Cargo Helicopters, Utility Helicopters, Improved Turbine Engine, Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft, Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Fixed Wing Aircraft and Multi-National Aviation Special Projects.

"Rob Barrie is an accomplished officer who has held several high profile and challenging assignments," Jette said. "He not only understands aviation well, he also understands my world, having served with distinction as my chief of staff."

"Barrie's top level knowledge of acquisition, coupled with his valuable experience will enable him to continue PEO Aviation's tradition of strong and effective leadership."

Recent restrictions on travel and large group gatherings due to the coronavirus pandemic prevented a widely attended ceremony by family, friends and the PEO Aviation workforce. However, Barrie's wife and children, as well as Mason and his wife, were present to witness the event. An invocation was virtually delivered by Barrie's brother, Jason, who lives in Montana.

"On behalf of the entire team at PEO Aviation, I humbly accept the responsibility and will do everything in my power to honor that trust that you have put in me and our workforce."



Photo by Michelle Miller

Brig. Gen. Robert Barrie gives remarks after accepting the charter for the Program Executive Office for Aviation during a virtual ceremony July 1.

Barrie said on accepting the charter.

"To our aviation enterprise, to our fellow Redstone Arsenal teammates, we commit and pledge to continue collaboration and work with you towards delivering capability to our Soldiers," Barrie said. "And we look forward to continuing what you have seen from PEO Aviation – it will be a seamless transition as we go forward."

Barrie, who was promoted to brigadier general June 2, was the deputy PEO under Mason after serving as the military deputy for the organization. He has served in various assignments throughout PEO Aviation, to include the assistant project manager for the UH-60M product office, as executive officer to the PEO, and as the project manager for Cargo Helicopters.

Established in 1987, PEO Aviation's top priority is reducing the burden on our Soldiers with a mission focus to design, develop, deliver and support advanced aviation capabilities for operational commanders and our allies. PEO Aviation's workforce is made up of military, civilian and contractors specializing in acquisition, logistics and technical fields, to include 1,300 people deployed throughout the world supporting combatant command requirements.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Veterans center paves way for transition to civilian life.

PAGE 5



MILITARY SCENE

Former leader in Saudi Arabia emphasizes communication.

PAGE 19



WIN OR LOSE

Classic replay: Walk-off homer decides 1941 All-Star Game.

PAGE 29

RocketViews

Thin arguments against masks don't carry weight

I wasn't surprised by the order from Madison County that mandates that people wear a mask in public, but I was slightly confused by the reaction to it.

Some applauded the move, and then some didn't. Let's address that.

The flood of "evidence" that proved masks didn't work came flying from all corners of the Internet. First, the affirmation of a confirmation bias is not the same as a fact. I've read plenty of these "articles," and they never have any facts in them. Instead, they suggest that the truth is being hidden, which plays to a confirmation bias for many, and then couple that with whatever "truth" they want to "prove."

I've never written a sentence with so many air-quotes, but I'm at a loss of words for ways to adequately describe just how thin these arguments are.

It's a tried and true formula. If you can get someone to agree with your previous statement then they are more likely to agree with your next statement.

Snippets
By Jonathan Stinson
Assistant editor

Second, if people were half as smart in real life as they were online, we'd have a vaccine by now. We'd have a lot of things by now.

And after you waded through the links to articles you got to the diatribes on freedom that were so free they didn't have any periods, commas or even exclamation points to hinder the freedom of the words being sprawled forth onto the screen.

If you want to talk about a real problem in America, let's talk about the general inability for many to articulate an argument that truly delivers the message they're trying to convey.

Back to the rants, the general consensus of these were that they'd wear a mask

"over their dead body because they'd rather die free."

Seems a little dramatic, and they missed the fact that it was their dead body that people are trying to avoid. Once you're dead, nobody really cares if you wear a mask or not. It's a moot point.

When did freedom become so fragile that it could be restrained and contained by a 3-ounce mask?

The argument that contends that a cloth covering my nose is suffocating my individual liberty seems a little thin.

Maybe it's the oxygen deprivation from wearing a mask, but I don't think taking a small – albeit slightly annoying – step of covering my face when I'm in public means that I've surrendered the

autonomy that's been gifted to me by the U.S. Constitution.

Speaking of the Constitution, our freedoms are clearly defined within its pages. We don't have vague, unfettered freedoms as Americans, we have specific ones. They're written down.

Finally, everybody is all big and bad until you get stuck on a ventilator.

I just find it hard to complain, with a straight face, about wearing a mask while other people are having air forced down their throats, into their lungs and sucked out again, just to be given a fighting chance at living.

I'm happy to wear a mask if it gives someone else a fighting chance to survive this pandemic.

For my TL;DR crowd: Wear a mask.

Quote of the week

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

– Mahatma Gandhi

Send your letters to editor

The Redstone Rocket invites your signed letters to the editor and your commentaries. Unsigned letters will not be published. Send your letters and commentaries to Skip.vahgn@theredstonerocket.com.

On this date in history: July 15

In 1975: Apollo-Soyuz Test Project featured the dual launch of an Apollo spacecraft and a Soyuz spacecraft on the first joint Soviet-United States human-crewed flight. It was both the last launch of an Apollo spacecraft, and the Saturn family of rockets.

In 1966: The United States and South Vietnam began Operation Hastings to push the North Vietnamese out of the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone.

In 1927: Eighty-nine protesters were killed by the Austrian police in Vienna.

In 1916: In Seattle, Washington, William Boeing and George Conrad Westervelt incorporated Pacific Aero Products (later renamed Boeing).

In 1870: Georgia became the last of the former Confederate states to be readmitted to the Union.

In 1815: At the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars, Napoleon Bonaparte surrendered aboard HMS Bellerophon.

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First responder spotlight

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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How do you handle stress?

"The way I handle stress is by staying physically active. Working out," Matt Tribble, a firefighter/emergency medical technician at Fire Station 1 on Rideout Road, said. "Capitalizing on my time off with my family and doing things that are fun. Being outside. Sports. Boating. Love to go fishing, hunting, all that. The stressful moments come in spurts because there can be relaxing time and then out of nowhere we get a call. We have to go from zero to 100. But being away from family days at a time is stressful enough in itself."

Tribble, 28, from Lester which is in west Limestone, became a Redstone firefighter/EMT in July 2019. He resides in Elkmont with his wife of eight years, Dani, and their son, Rhett, 4. Tribble enjoys hunting, fishing, family time and swimming. "We like to go on hikes," he said. He roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Matt Tribble

Crimes, accidents & other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division, provided the following list of reported incidents June 28 through July 4:

June 29: Redstone police responded to Gate 8 for a suspicious person. A check through the National Crime Information Center revealed the individual had two warrants with the Huntsville Police Department for driving while license revoked and failure to appear for driving while license revoked. The individual was apprehended on the warrants and released to the custody of a

Huntsville police officer.

July 1: A two-vehicle accident occurred on Vincent Drive. The investigation revealed vehicles 1 and 2 were exiting the parking lot onto Vincent when vehicle 1 struck vehicle 2. Both vehicles had functional damages. The driver of vehicle 1 was cited for following too closely.

Citations included one for failure to register vehicle, one for following too closely, one for expired tags and 10 for speeding.

Final Salute

Here is a list of Tennessee Valley veterans who have died recently. The Redstone Rocket salutes them for their service.

Retired Air Force Col. Leo M. "Mike" Terrill died July 6 in Mesa, Arizona, after becoming sick with the coronavirus. He was 83.

The Vietnam veteran served 22 years in uniform. As a civilian, Terrill formerly worked in public affairs for the Missile Defense Agency at Redstone.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Carolyn, and their four adult children.

Editor's note: If you know a veteran who has passed away, email their information to jonathan.stinson@theredstonerocket.com to be included in the next Final Salute.

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Name: Dave Stone

Position: Lead materials engineer, Systems Readiness Directorate, Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center

What did you want to be when you grew up?

A pilot and an engineer.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2020?

Stay healthy and sane.

Who is your hero, and why?

Dad. He's an incredible engineer and taught me a lot about life.

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

If you ask a surgeon how to fix something, the answer will usually be surgery, so make sure you ask for help from a variety of different people.

What do you like to do for fun, to pass the time, during this time of



social distancing or just in general?


I started walking my dog daily to 1) get out of the house and 2) get some physical activity in since my normal workout opportunities were closed. The dog loves it.

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Know your laws: Minors' right to contract

Prior to September 2019, with exceptions, an unemancipated minor was permitted to only enter into a voidable contract. Additionally, an unemancipated minor was permitted to enter into a binding contract for the reasonable value of necessities.

However, effective Sept. 1, 2019, Alabama Act 2019-447, House Bill 349, provides that an unemancipated minor who is 18 and of sound mind, notwithstanding his or her minority, may enter into a binding contract as may be exercised by an individual of full legal age and provides that the minor, by reason of his or her minority, may not rescind, avoid, or repudiate the contract or rescind, avoid or repudiate any exercise of a right or privilege under the contract.

Maj. Jimmine Haigler, military law attorney at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, has researched Act 2019-447, House Bill 349.

The law states that “an unemancipated minor who is 18 years old and of sound mind, notwithstanding his or her minority, may enter into a binding contract as may be exercised by an individual of full legal age. The minor, by reason of his or her minority, may not rescind, avoid, or repudiate the contract or rescind, avoid or repudiate any exercise of a right or privilege under the contract.”

In summary: Act 2019-447, House Bill 349, provides the juvenile court with jurisdiction over individuals who are under 19 and before the court for any of the following: a child in need of supervision matter; commitment to the State Department of Mental Health; or for a proceeding where it is alleged that the



rights of the individual are improperly denied or infringed in proceedings resulting in suspension, expulsion, or exclusion from a public school; provides that a person under 19 who is on track to graduate from public school may not be denied admission to the school solely on account of his or her age; authorizes unemancipated

minors who are 18 to enter into binding contracts; and requires the Department of Human Resources to provide services to an individual under 19 who is in need of protective services when the individual does not qualify for adult protective services.

Editor's note: Maj. Jimmine Haigler, military law attorney at the 2nd Recruiting Brigade, did the research and provided the content for this article.

Tell us about ...

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Your chosen profession of engineering

“I am self-employed and have had the pleasure of working with several wonderful defense industry companies over the years in my consulting journey,” business consultant Rachel Moss said. “I have been able to employ past experiences working for both small and large defense and aerospace businesses, running a woman-owned small business, and a passion for continuous improvement in this role. My goal is to help my clients grow and perform at their absolute best and achieve mutual success for themselves and their customers. I genuinely enjoy helping facilitate victories.

“Ultimately, I chose an engineering career primarily because I knew it would challenge me and keep me from boredom and that has turned out to be quite true. I watched my father do his engineering work as I grew up and always found it interesting. He was focused on optimizing his company's processes and I always liked the idea that I could help businesses be better just like him. I also always enjoyed figuring out how things worked – tinkering with things, taking them apart and putting them back together (they didn't always go back the same way, ha). Everything is a system of processes and can be improved upon. I particularly love utilizing engineering concepts to connect and integrate the people side of the equation with the process/production side.

“There were still not many women in engineering when I got my degree, but I never felt that my being female was an issue in any way and especially not a hindrance. There were a few naysayers, like a high school guidance counselor, who felt I should pursue a more ‘gender appropriate career path.’ I am thankful I gave this no credence and followed my heart and interests! Today, I still work with Auburn University to help recruit, retain, and reward women in the engineering field, including through mentoring.”

Moss, from Kingsport, Tennessee, has done almost six years of consulting based in Huntsville but she has worked throughout the country in this role – even in Mexico. She graduated from Auburn with a bachelor's in industrial and systems engineering in 1996 and an executive MBA in 2011.

She and her husband of four years, Brian, reside in Huntsville. She said they have “a houseful of furry children, all rescues from various locations. Our latest is a 7-week-old gray tabby kitten who adopted us on a recent camping trip in Mississippi.”

Moss enjoys the outdoors, travel, hiking, camping, backpacking, canoeing/kayaking, scuba diving, cooking and lifelong learning. She said she has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, been shark diving in Honduras, “jumped out of a perfectly good plane, and have run in the Sahara Desert.” She said she is learning to play the harmonica, “much to my husband's chagrin.” Moss roots for the Auburn Tigers.



Rachel Moss



DAU Events

Adaptive Acquisition Framework: Acquisition Pathway briefing w/Q&A

Tuesday, July 21, 2020: 11:00 a.m. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events/>

Workforce Digital Readiness-DAU Webcast: Think Differently Series

Wednesday, July 22, 2020: 11:30 a.m. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events/>

Digital Readiness: Systems Engineering Transformation

Thursday, July 23, 2020: 11:30 a.m. CDT <https://www.dau.edu/events/>

Mission Assistance

DAU is continuing to offer a number of its on demand Mission Assistance products and services through virtual delivery modes. In most cases, we can adapt our mission assistance workshops, team training, and consulting products and services to virtual formats as necessary to ensure your learning needs are met. We stand ready to support you! Contact us at MissionAssistance@dau.edu

All DAU classes have moved online until further notice

ONLINE ONLY <https://www.dau.edu/News/Coronavirus-Course-Impacts>

If you are registered for a class, you will receive instructions for attending the class using WebEx. The online schedule may vary from the original; you may withdraw if your work schedule or computer resources will not support remote attendance.

Veterans center paves way for transition to civilian life



Photo by Eric Schultz

LaShara Perry, a veterans outreach program specialist, is ready to help at the Huntsville Vet Center.

By **WENDY REEVES**

Staff writer

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Meet LaShara Perry. If you're a veteran or active duty Soldier in need of mental health counseling, she can help.

As a veterans outreach program specialist, Perry is the point of contact for new patients at the Huntsville Vet Center, located at 415 Church St. in downtown Huntsville. The center is for veterans and any active duty Soldier who has been deployed to hazardous or combat areas.

"This is another option besides going to the Veterans Affairs clinic and it is completely confidential," she said.

Whether it's relationship trouble or a new transition from military to civilian life, the Huntsville Vet Center can help.

"I'm a veteran and we understand completely how different it can be to lose the structure and organization of the military," Perry said. "We understand because we've been through it and we want to help others get through it as much as we can."

The Huntsville Vet Center falls under the umbrella of the Veterans Affairs Hospital.

"There are four VA facilities within Huntsville alone," she said. "So, we just wanted to remind people that we are here, this is what we do and who we help."

The main focus at the Huntsville Vet Center is making sure that Soldiers make the transition to civilian life seamlessly.

"There can be hiccups and bumps along the road no matter what, but we can help provide tips and strategies to make it go as smoothly as possible," she said.

Services offered also include employment education and referrals to a network of providers for benefits.

"We offer counseling in a number of areas including individual, familial, marriage, substance abuse, employment, and military sexual trauma, as well as offering counseling in a group setting for those associated with the Vietnam era or classify themselves as women veterans," she said. "We may not deal with claims and benefits specifically, but we are able to reach out and refer individuals to the contacts we've established within the community to find the best point of contact for those services."

There are eligibility requirements that must be met in order to qualify for treatment at the Huntsville Vet Center, but Perry will discuss the specifics with you prior to scheduling an appointment.

COVID-19 has forced virtual appointments, she said, but some in-person appointments are allowed by request with adequate protection face mask protection and social distancing measures. The best way to reach Perry is by calling 205-777-2287.

Army Community Service doing virtual assistance

From staff reports

Army Community Service is continuing to serve the community during the pandemic.

"We are open but most services are being provided virtually," Jeannie Johnston, ACS division chief, said.

If someone needs an appointment, they can call 876-5739, leave a message and someone will return their call within 24 hours.

Here are numbers to call for specific needs:

- Domestic violence victim advocate 24/7: call 508-6613.
- Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention, or SHARP, 24/7: call 924-0795
- Army Emergency Relief requests: call the American Red Cross at 877-272-7337
- Military and family life counselor: call 226-7317.

"All other requests can be left on the main number for a response back," Johnston said. "We are not taking walk-ins at this time but will make every effort to provide the same level of services pre-COVID in a more safe way. If a face-to-face appointment is needed, patrons will need to follow safety precautions by maintaining a 6-foot distance or wearing a face mask."

In this section...

HELP AVAILABLE TO ADDRESS PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS	PAGE 6
FACE MASKS RECOMMENDED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY	PAGE 7
HELICOPTER PILOT AT PEACE WITH HIS SERVICE IN WAR	PAGE 8
FOX PHARMACY UPDATES PROCEDURES PROCESS	PAGE 9
FREE WEBINARS FOCUS ON WORK ENVIRONMENT	PAGE 10
WORKERS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE	PAGE 13
ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL WINS CULINARY COMPETITION	PAGE 15

Help available to address public speaking skills

By **ONTARIO HICKS** and **LISA OWENS**

Toastmasters International

Are you a person that pauses when called upon to speak or give a briefing? Do you recognize saying the words ah, um, so, and other fillers during your speech presentations?

Toastmasters may be the organization for you. Public speaking is a trait all of us can use in our everyday lives, but many of us never train ourselves to develop this skill.

Redstone Arsenal is known for its innovations, adept skills in science, contracting, logistics, and even space operations. Public speaking is consistent throughout Redstone Arsenal at countless venues and there are numerous public speaking training events occurring throughout the post.

Toastmasters International has four Toastmasters clubs on Redstone Arsenal that focus on developing organizational, public speaking and leadership skills. Henry David Thoreau said, "You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one." Toastmaster International is a hammer and forge that anyone can use for self-improvement and to enhance their public speaking skills.

Premier Providers meets at headquarters Army Materiel Command twice a month, and this club has achieved Toastmasters' highest distinctive award "Presidents Distinguished" consecutively since the club was chartered in June 2016. This honor was achieved because Premier Providers focuses on individual self-improvement which in turn produces extraordinary speakers and leaders. The club lives through its motto "Producing prolific speaker's one speech at a time." The members and leaders commit their time and embrace the challenge of rendering speeches at club meetings to improve individual communications skills which helps them to thrive at their jobs and within their communities. Premier Providers club members pride themselves on helping each member become their better selves through con-

structive critiques in a friendly environment.

This year, Premier Providers club birthed three extraordinary members that not only served in the club officer roles, but took on additional roles within District 77. Rontario Hicks served as a Division-F director responsible for three areas, 11 clubs and a total of approximately 170 members that span clubs from Foley, Alabama, to

Laurel, Mississippi. Lisa Owens served as the Area 13 director responsible for four clubs and a total of approximately 50 members. Casmere Taylor served as the Area 15 director responsible for four clubs and a total of approximately 50 members and he is responsible for charting Oakwood University's toastmaster club "Oakwood Ambassadors" this year.

Premier Providers club members have also competed in speech contest and returned with the following achievement awards: Jesse Barber received the first place Table Topics Speech Award at the Area 13, Division-A, and District 77 speech contest in April. Sheena Hicks received the first place Humorous Speech Award and Lisa Owens received the first place International Speech Award at the Area 13 speech contest in March 2019.

Premier Providers club is looking forward to another great year because two of the members will be serving at the district level as the district club growth director, one of the three highest positions within District 77 which covers Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. And the other member will be serving as the Division-A director which oversees five areas, 19 clubs and approximately 240 members within the Tennessee Valley. Premier Providers produces talent in speech and in leadership through their mentoring and coaching approach.

Change equals self-improvement. You can push yourself to places you haven't been before. Ask yourself what will you do today to better yourself for tomorrow? If you want to change your public speaking skills or work on your leadership skills within an inviting environment, Premier Providers Toastmaster Club or any Toastmaster club on Redstone Arsenal is available to you. Come out for a visit anytime.



Face masks recommended throughout the county

By JONATHAN STINSON

Assistant editor

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Everybody in Madison County should be wearing a mask according to a health order that took effect July 7, but don't expect much to change on post.

"The mask policy that Madison County instituted recently is almost identical to what has been the standing policy on Redstone for quite some time now," Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith said. "For members of our workforce, that means nothing changes when it comes to wearing cloth face coverings while on the installation."

The Madison County order requires masks inside all businesses or venues open to the general public like stores, bars, restaurants, etc., which is similar to what is already taking place on Redstone.

"Leadership has been quite clear with our workforce from the beginning that they should always have a mask on their person while on the installation and wear it when they are unable to maintain 6 feet of physical separation," Smith said. "This is as much about personal re-

"Leadership has been quite clear with our workforce from the beginning that they should always have a mask on their person while on the installation and wear it when they are unable to maintain 6 feet of physical separation."

Garrison Commander Col. Kelsey Smith

sponsibility as it is about policy requirements when it comes to ensuring we each do the right thing to protect ourselves, our neighbors, and ensuring we are able to continue execution of our critical mission sets in support of the Soldier and our nation."

The installation also requires masks in all the common-use facilities where employees are likely to encounter groups larger than 10 people like the Exchange, Commissary and gas stations.

"And each tenant organization is identifying and communicating to their workforce what additional steps must be taken within their organizations to create a safe work environment. Inside our fence, the health and safety of our work-

force is non-negotiable," Smith added.

Outside the gates, the order makes masks required when you call an Uber, Lyft or use any other transportation services available to the general public, or if you're outside at a gathering of 10 or more people and you can't maintain 6 feet of separation.

The order did outline a few exceptions like children under the age of 2 don't have to wear a mask.

You don't have to wear a mask when eating or drinking, but you do have to cover your face when interacting with food service personnel or other customers not with your dining party.

Nor do you have to wear a mask when having a medical exam and a medical

professional tells you to remove it, when you need to remove it while getting a haircut and for other personal safety reasons where it might pose a risk like "working on ladders or at a height," while wearing "other respiratory protection," "engaging in heavy physical exertion," or "operating heavy equipment."

The order also allows places of worship to "use their discretion" when establishing policies governing the use of masks and allows private clubs and gatherings not to require facemasks.

It also addresses children and directs childcare establishments and schools to develop its own policies about masks that follow guidance from public health authorities and the state's board of education.

"Parents, guardians and caregivers are responsible for ensuring proper masking of children over the age of 2 years when in public places," the order reads. "They must also ensure that the face-covering does to pose a choking hazard for children and can be safely worn without obstructing a child's ability to breathe."

A copy of the order can be found at www.madisoncountyal.gov/home/showdocument?id=7119.

Helicopter pilot at peace with his service in war

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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His wife could be heard in the background correcting facts from his military career that eluded his memory after so many years.

"She's got a better memory than I do," Vietnam veteran Joe Stevens said laughing.

Stevens is happily "retired and retired" in Huntsville after his Army career and subsequent career in the defense industry. He retired as a chief warrant officer 4 at Fort Drum, New York, in 1992 with nearly 25 years of service. He moved to Huntsville in 1997 when the Army's aviation function transferred from St. Louis. He was the office manager for Dynamics Research Corporation when he retired in 2012.

The New York native was a helicopter pilot in Vietnam from March 1969 to March 1970. He arrived as a 22-year-old warrant officer and he left after about 800 combat flying hours.

"Very interesting," Stevens said of his tour. "I learned more from flying combat troops in 1st Cav than I did in any other assignment."

He was initially assigned to Bravo Company, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, at Dau Tieng. The combat

Vietnam revisited Part 278 in series

was intense and he spent his six months with the unit as a helicopter co-pilot. "The 1st Cav had some interesting training techniques," Stevens said. Basically they gave him a map and expected him to know where he was and where he was flying at all times.

"For me it was a great assignment. We saw a lot more combat and a lot more bullets flying around than I did in any other unit," he said.

Six months later, he had a rest-and-recovery break and returned in mid-September to join the 68th Assault Helicopter Company in Bien Hoa. With his experience, he became the pilot in command. He spent the first month transporting South Vietnamese combat troops in a Huey helicopter. He spent the last five months of his tour with a gunship platoon. He flew the UH-1C Huey to provide cover for combat troop insertions into landing zones.

Stevens remembers doing this combat troop insertions where he would pick up a member of the Navy Sea, Air and Land, or SEAL, team and drop him off in the swamps and retrieve him 30 days later.



Courtesy photo

Retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Joe Stevens and his wife, Debby, a retired registered nurse, have been married 50 years.

"I don't know how they can do that a month at a time," he said of living in the swamp on a guerrilla mission. "They always appreciated a cold beer (afterward)."

During one of these retrieval flights, an armored panel on the helicopter malfunctioned and nearly caused the helicopter to crash. Stevens said that was the closest call he had during his year at war. But he did recall seeing enemy rounds go through the cockpit several times with the 1st Cav.

Stevens received 31 Air Medals for his year in Vietnam. In 1977 he received his 32nd Air Medal for his role in medically evacuating a Soldier injured on a training mission in Alaska.

He grew up in Beaver Falls, New York, about 30 miles east of Fort Drum where his Army career would end. After two years at Maryville College in Tennessee, he decided the college experience wasn't for him.

"I knew once I left college, it was only a matter of time (before military service)," he said. "I had already decided flight school was what I wanted to do."

Stevens finished flight school at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia, in early February 1969 and graduated as a warrant officer, helicopter maintenance officer and test pilot. A month later he went to Vietnam.



Courtesy photo

A New York native, Joe Stevens was a 22-year-old warrant officer in Vietnam from 1969-70.

"I loved my time in the Army," he said. "I loved being a maintenance officer working on helicopters, trying to figure out maintenance problems. They were always a pain in the butt and a challenge."

Stevens, 74, and his wife of 50 years, Debby, reside in southeast Huntsville. They have two sons, Jay and John, who reside in the St. Louis area; and four grandchildren.

He is rated 30% disabled by Veterans Affairs for his diabetes, from exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam, and his bad knees. He belongs to the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association and he works on their website. He enjoys fishing and he maintains the swimming pool at his home. He and Debby, a retired registered nurse, planned their 15th cruise this spring to celebrate their 50th anniversary but their trip got canceled because of the pandemic.

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

"I don't have any issues with it," he said. "It's nice that guys can tell their stories. Some guys don't like talking about it. I've never had any hangups with it."

Editor's note: This is the 278th in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Fox pharmacy updates procedures process



Fox Army Health Center has changed some of its procedures in response to an increased demand due to COVID-19.

Fox leadership encouraged patients to avoid peak times when visiting the pharmacy, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily and Fridays, and announced three new kiosk options. Those options are fill a prescription, pick up and patient.

The fill a prescription option will not issue a ticket, but instead direct you to proceed directly to window No. 10.

The pick-up option is for those who have had a prescription filled ahead of time and the patient option is for people who were seen that day at Fox and need to get medications filled.

Fox also issued the following guidance:

The pharmacy's hours of operations currently are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; closed weekends and federal holidays.

No ticket is required to request/dropoff prescriptions for filling. Proceed to window No. 10 to make your request. Patients are not allowed to wait inside the lobby while prescriptions are filled. Prescriptions requested by noon will be ready the next day. Prescriptions requested after noon will be ready in two business days. Upon your return to collect your prescrip-

tion, pull a pick-up ticket at the kiosk.

If your doctor has sent a prescription electronically to the pharmacy, either from a Fox doctor or civilian doctor, call the pharmacy to initiate the filling process at 955-8888; when prompted to enter the four digit extension, enter 1701 and follow the directions on the voicemail to include patient's full name, sponsor's last four digits of their social security number, patient's date of birth and a telephone number in case there is an issue processing your request. You will not receive a return call unless there is an issue with your request. Prescriptions requested by noon will be ready the next day. Prescriptions requested after noon will be ready in two business days. Upon your return to collect your prescription, pull a pick-up ticket at the kiosk.

If your doctor sent in a prescription electronically, either from a Fox doctor or civilian doctor, and you did not call the pharmacy ahead of time to have it filled, go to window No. 10 to make your request. Upon your return to collect your prescription, pull a pick-up ticket at the kiosk.

Refills called in on the automated refill line, or by using the online system, will inform you when your prescription will be ready for pick up. Pull a pick-up ticket at the kiosk. Fox will dispense your medication when your number is called.

Free webinars focus on today's work environment

By KATIE DAVIS SKELLEY

Staff writer/Social media

katie.skelley@theredstonerocket.com

Returning to work: what will that look like?

Although COVID-19 case numbers continue to rise, at some point Team Redstone employees will transition back to the office. While those dates are not set – and that uncertainty in itself is stressful – it is still on employees' minds.

The Employee Assistance Program is offering a webinar July 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to address those concerns and offer some guidance on how employees can navigate returning to the office setting after teleworking at home. "Healthy Living and Working" will be a monthly series with each month's topic addressing real-time issues.

"It's what is on everyone's mind: when am I coming back and how am I coming back?" EAP Coordinator Carolyn White said. "There is a lot of uncertainty around that. Unfortunately, we won't be able to say, 'This is when your organization is bringing you (back to the office) but we can target how to mentally prepare, how to emotionally prepare, what are conversations you can start having, what are questions to ask, what are ways that you can start thinking

about preparing your family. ... Sometimes having that preparation eases some of the anxiety."

White and fellow EAP Coordinator Wanda Gilbert will facilitate the webinar which will be readily available to any Department of Defense employee utilizing a work laptop. It is meant to be a type of "lunch and learn" series and will last approximately 45 minutes. White said they were cognizant that employees are busy and they wanted to offer the information in "bite size" packages, but also in a way that the employees would know what resources were available to them in the future if needed.

The August topic will be another one that is causing uncertainty in the lives of working parents – the return to school this fall and what that will look like. White said their main goal is to help Team Redstone employees and their families navigate the tough decisions they might have to make – whether it be a return to school, a return to on-site work or other challenges such as developing healthy habits or taking care of older relatives.

"We want to be a place where the workforce can turn to," White said.

For more information about the webinar, call White at 316-6098 or Gilbert at 285-7840.



Team Redstone Employee Assistance Program presents:

Healthy Living & Working 2020 Monthly Webinar Series

July Topic: Returning to the Workplace

**LEARN STRATEGIES TO PREPARE MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY FOR
RETURNING TO THE WORKPLACE IN TODAY'S CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT**

Presented by: Carolyn White, LCSW, CEAP

US Army – Redstone Arsenal Employee Assistance Program Coordinator

**Tuesday July 21, 2020 @
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM (CST)**

**FREE series
No registration necessary**

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EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (256) 316-6098
US ARMY - REDSTONE ARSENAL (256) 285-7840

Workers recognized for installation service excellence

Photos by JONATHAN STINSON
Assistant editor

Garrison Deputy Commander Robb Myers presented awards for service excellence July 1 at the Garrison's all-hands meeting.



Kathleen Bestor receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for exceptional service and performance of duty during June 2009 through July 2020 while assigned as a management and program analyst specialist, Directorate of Operations. During this period, Bestor displayed outstanding initiative, technical knowledge, and professionalism that resulted in the execution of many programs in support of Garrison services to the Soldiers, family members, retirees, and civilians living and working on Redstone Arsenal.



Steven Delcore receives the Civilian Service Achievement Medal for demonstrated service excellence for his support during the pandemic. During this difficult and challenging period, Delcore epitomized the IMCOM value of service by serving as a watch officer in the Installation Emergency Operations Center while continuing to perform other primary duties including oversight of the Army photo services, while overseeing several important contracts.



Frank Leon receives a Service Culture Award for demonstrated service excellence for his support during the pandemic. Leon epitomized the IMCOM values of service by volunteering to serve in the Installation Emergency Operations Center.



Rickey Hammond, from the Directorate of Public Works, is recognized as the Garrison Star of 2nd Quarter 2020 in the supervisory category.



Charlie Carter, from the Safety and Risk Management Office, is recognized as the Garrison Star of the Quarter for 2nd Quarter, nonsupervisor.

Alabama high school wins culinary competition

By EMILY CLAY

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

It takes complicated math and amazing feats of technical engineering to get astronauts into space, but more than rocket science goes into keeping the astronauts on the International Space Station fed and healthy. Maintaining a healthy diet of food that holds up well in microgravity is also important, and it helps if the food tastes good.

To add variety to astronaut diets, NASA's HUNCH – High school students United with NASA to Create Hardware – program created a culinary competition several years ago to involve high school students in the creation of new recipes to feed astronauts on the station. The program also teaches students that a wide range of skills are needed for space travel and are not just limited to science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields.

The culinary program has grown to be one of the most popular programs that HUNCH offers, but that was not always the case. “It started small,” Bob Zeek, HUNCH co-founder and project resource manager at Marshall Space Flight Center, said. “We probably had seven schools participate the first year.”

Fifty-four schools now compete in the culinary competition, which features two stages: a regional competition and a final cookoff at NASA's Johnson Space



Photo by Lucy Prince

From left, Hewitt-Trussville High School HUNCH team members Lucy Prince, Kailey Love, Madeline Curd, and Abigail Mitchell participate in the HUNCH Culinary regional competition at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in February.

See Competition on page 16

Competition

Continued from page 15

Center, judged by Johnson Food Lab personnel. The students are evaluated on a final paper, a video and their entrée – based on food preparation, recipe, whether it will work in microgravity, and whether it meets astronaut nutritional standards.

“We appreciate what they do because we get a tangible product,” Zeek said.

The final competition underwent changes this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic spiking between regionals and finals. Finalists adapted to new requirements, such as a greater emphasis put on their video and final paper.

A team from Hewitt-Trussville High School in Trussville overcame those unique circumstances to win the competition. The Hewitt-Trussville team – Madeline Curd, Lucy Prince, Kailey Love, and Abigail Mitchell, led by chef Anna Hallman – competed in regionals in February at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center.

Prepared with this year’s theme of ethnic dishes, Hewitt-Trussville’s winning recipe was Moroccan chicken tagine. “We thought Moroccan food would be a really good choice because a lot of people haven’t had it,” Love said. “We had a good feeling from the beginning.”

This year, HUNCH culinary program manager Allison Westover developed new partnerships with the American Culinary Federation in St. Augustine,

Florida, and Sullivan University in Louisville, Kentucky. Each student on a top-10 team receives a \$12,000 scholarship to Sullivan. All students on the winning team receive full-tuition scholarships to Sullivan, and their school’s culinary or science program receives a \$2,000 prize from the American Culinary Federation.

The winning dish is processed by Johnson’s Food Lab and sent to the space station. That outcome was Prince’s favorite part of the competition. “It was a cool experience, overall, to know that the food we made is for NASA and could end up going to space,” she said.

HUNCH’s goal is to empower and inspire students through a project-based learning program and by providing opportunities to students to play an active role in the space program. It started in 2003 with two schools in Alabama and one in Houston. Now, 277 schools in 44 states are participating in six focus areas – design and prototyping, software, hardware, sewn flight articles, video and media, and culinary arts. The program has produced more than 600 items for flight or training for the space station program – representing approximately 20,000 individual flight parts – with nearly 500 parts flown to the space station or delivered for flight.

Editor’s note: Emily Clay, a NASA intern, is supporting the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications this summer.

Photo by Madeline Curd

The winning team members from Hewitt-Trussville High School hold with their dish, Moroccan chicken tagine.



MilitaryScene

Ex-leader in Saudi embraces flexibility, communication

By JEROME MAPP

Security Assistance Command

RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA. – When Col. John DiGiambattista became the 23rd program manager of the Office of the Program Manager-Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program in June 2019, he knew that being open to change and maintaining a focus on communication would be vital to the mission.

DiGiambattista handed over leadership of OPM-SANG to Col. John White on July 1 during a dual virtual ceremony at the Security Assistance Command headquarters at Redstone Arsenal and at the OPM-SANG Command Group headquarters. He will be assigned to the headquarters Army G3/5/7 (Operations, Plans, and Training) at the Pentagon.

“I knew that we would be working day to day with our Saudi partners on the delivery of foreign military sales, and training and enabling them to accomplish their missions,” DiGiambattista said. “This is a changing environment, so you have to be open to change, open to learning. You have to learn the specifics about the Saudi National Guard and how they do their job. You also have to learn about FMS (foreign military sales). The more you learn, the more you understand the art of what is possible.”

DiGiambattista looked at this assignment as another mission entrusted to him by his Army superiors. He said that the yearlong challenge of leading OPM-SANG is another aspect of his career, some of which was spent leading Soldiers in battle as a brigade commander. He said that the relatively short tour-of-duty simply meant that he had to hit the ground running.

“The Army puts Soldiers in unfamiliar situations and issues complex tasks all the time. This (OPM-SANG) is just another one those complex tasks,” DiGiambattista said. “If you are given the job for one year, it’s a mission that you accomplish. Like everything else in the Army, the task for a leader is to quickly build understanding, generate and translate that understanding into a vision, and move the team forward. It’s about building continuity. If the Army sends us here for one year, then we’ve got to make the most of that one year.”

DiGiambattista said that some of his challenges were understanding the environment for OPM-SANG on multiple levels, correctly executing FMS sales cases, and ensuring that OPM-SANG was positioned to leverage the organization’s capabilities to provide the Ministry of the National Guard



Photo by Jerome Mapp

Col. John DiGiambattista, right, former program manager of the Office of the Program Manager-Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program, confers with Prince (Maj. Gen.) Nayif Bin Majid Al Saud, chief, Directorate of Education and Training, Ministry of the Riyadh.

with the best capability, training and equipment available. He believes that the only way for OPM-SANG’s continued success is to anticipate and meet the needs of the MNG.

“Our Saudi partners are dealing with situations that are revolutionary, such as the conflict in Yemen and the (ongoing) rising tension with Iran. As the Saudis adapt to the changing conditions in the region, OPM-SANG has to adapt to the changing needs and conditions of the National Guard,” DiGiambattista said. “Ensuring that we understand what we change (to meet those needs) and how we change is a challenge.”

DiGiambattista, who spent a few years on foreign battlefields, said there are very few places where we put Americans on the road that are as dangerous as driving around Riyadh, Jeddah or Hofuf. He admitted that thinking about the safety of OPM-SANG Soldiers and civilians doing the simple act of driving on the Saudi roadways was enough to keep him awake at night.

“How do we implement protections? How do we ensure safety? These were some of things that kept me awake at night,” he said.

DiGiambattista said that maintaining the OPM-SANG mission in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic has been a challenge that required creative leadership in order to minimize risks to personnel, while maintaining that relationship with our Saudi partners.

“One of my concerns was how do we minimize risks to our personnel – those folks who meet with the Saudis and those

who don’t – and how do we simultaneously contain the health risks while we maintain the partnership,” he said. “All the complexities of COVID-19 and the complexities of our partnership were difficult to manage, but the OPM-SANG team did a tremendous job overall in managing this. OPM-SANG’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic was phenomenal.”

DiGiambattista praised the manner in which team members reached out and connected with one another in spite of the required social-distancing and mask-wearing that became the new normal around Eskan Village.

“We had team members who pitched in and volunteered to assist in relocating personnel to villas, who supported the (outdoor) fitness center, who supported the golf driving range. Our team continued to reach out to their Saudi partners (through telephone calls) to maintain that connection,” he said.

DiGiambattista looked back with pride at a number of accomplishments during his service as program manager. Some of those accomplishments will likely have long-term positive effects throughout Saudi Arabia and the region.

“A number of things came together between 2019 and 2020 that reflected the phenomenal efforts of our OPM-SANG team in every place where they work. The opening of the National Guard Command and General Staff College, modeled on the CGSC at Fort Leavenworth, and the excellent level of instructors in place there reflects the excellence work of the Maneuver (Division) team. It was a decade worth of work that came together in the fall of 2019,” DiGiambattista noted.

He pointed to the completion of the \$250 million Dirab Airbase last fall, including the state-of-the-art Aviation Institute that is slated to project the airbase as the Aviation Center of Excellence for the Middle East. The sprawling facility was modeled after the Army’s Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker, the Army Aviation Branch’s training and development center that educates military, civilian, and international students in aviation warfare doctrine and helps those students develop leadership skills that will serve them in the aviation

community.

DiGiambattista praised the OPM-SANG Technical Affairs team of engineers who oversaw the contract and management of construction of Dirab airbase. As OPM-SANG was opening the CGSC for the SANG, Dirab was being delivered to the Saudis. He praised the Technical Affairs and Aviation divisions for their efforts in completing this five-year job.

“It’s one thing to say we’re going to give you foreign military sales – whether it’s an airplane, a LAV (light armored vehicle), or a weapon. But it’s a whole different thing to say we’re going to give you an aviation program, we’re going to teach you how to fly the aircraft, and we’re going to build you the airfield to fly it on,” he said. “The facility at Dirab is an amazing feat of construction.”

DiGiambattista praised the Maneuver Division, whose Soldiers evaluated and rewrote the LAV-AG gunnery procedures. He also thanked the G4 Division for successfully executing the operations and maintenance contract, and he praised the G3 team for expediting the in-processing of more than 200 contractors and coordinating their entry to Eskan Village.

DiGiambattista said the Soldiers and civilians are committed to what they do at OPM-SANG. “We have a great team. The professionals at OPM-SANG at every level are fully committed to the Army values and to their National Guard counterparts. Given the right focus, they’re going to get the job done every time.”

While he does not know the future of OPM-SANG, he knows that remaining open to change is one way to deal with what comes next.

“I’m not sure what the future looks like, but I am sure that OPM-SANG is prepared to deal with what comes next. We have a G5 team that is prepared to look ahead and set the conditions for change,” DiGiambattista said. “We’ve also had the conversation at multiple levels in our organization regarding change – asking the question: ‘how do we do that?’

“Whereas we don’t have a crystal ball, the dialogue is what is most important. OPM-SANG leadership is committed to transparent communications so we can be prepared for the future.”

In this section...

BY THE NUMBERS

SPACE STATION CREW CONDUCT LANDMARK SPACEWALKS
STRATEGIC TEST TEAM BRINGS ZOMBIE TARGET TO LIFE
AVIATION, MISSILE ENTERPRISE COUNTS ON ANALYST

PAGE 22

PAGE 23

PAGE 24

PAGE 26



Photo by Julie Brown, RCCTO

High-level visitor

Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy visited Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville on July 1, including a stop at the new headquarters building of the Army Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office. The RCCTO, led by Director Lt. Gen. L. Neil Thurgood, right, and Deputy Director Marcia Holmes, left, is responsible for delivering rapid prototypes with residual combat capability to Soldiers in the areas of hypersonics, directed energy and other emerging technologies.



NASA photos

Payload operations directors

From left, Jason Briggs, Chris Buckley and Nick Kopp are the latest payload operations directors certified by the Payload and Mission Operations Division at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. Payload operations directors are real-time flight controllers for the International Space Station. They manage and direct the 24/7 operations of scientific payloads aboard the space station from the Payload Operations Integration Center at Marshall. The payload operations director is the single point of authority to the space station flight director at NASA's Johnson Space Center for all of NASA's payload operations.

Rocket Pet of the Week

Rico

This is Rico and he belongs to Sylvia Nelson.

"This is Rico born in Weinheim, Germany. He traveled from Germany to La Porte, Indiana, back to Kaiserslautern, Germany, and after seven years to Huntsville, Alabama. Rico is 12 years old. He loves to roam around his big yard and enjoys the Huntsville weather on the patio! He never misses the attention of his human family."



Redstone**Rocket**
www.theredstonerocket.com

359439-1

By the numbers: The Eiffel Tower

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

1887 the year construction started on Jan. 28 of the wrought-iron lattice tower on the Champ de Mars in Paris, France. It is named after engineer Gustave Eiffel whose company designed and built the tower.

1889 the year the tower was completed on March 31.

1,063 feet, the tower's height.

10,100 tons, the tower's weight.

1999 the year my family visited the tower and rode the lift to its top. It is possible to climb to the top, but there are 1,665 steps. Most people take the lift.

2 elevators in the Eiffel Tower. One elevator travels a total distance of 64,001 miles or 103,000 kilometers a year. This is two and a half times the circumference of the Earth.



Photo by Katie Davis Skelley

Space station crew conduct landmark spacewalks

By NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center

On June 26 and July 1, NASA astronauts Chris Cassidy and Bob Behnken conducted a pair of extended spacewalks outside the International Space Station to replace the orbital science facility's aging batteries and route cable along the station's spine-like truss structure.

The July 1 spacewalk lasted six hours and one minute. During the excursion, Cassidy and Behnken routed power and Ethernet cables to prepare to equip the station with a new external wireless communications system – including an enhanced, high-definition camera and increased helmet camera coverage for future spacewalks.

They also successfully continued work to upgrade batteries that power portions of the station's enormous solar arrays. An ongoing effort since 2017, the battery replacement project is expected to provide improved power capacity for a variety of in-orbit operations. It will be completed during two dedicated spacewalks later in July, which will be scheduled once NASA has assessed the station's upgraded power status.

During the June 26 spacewalk, which lasted six hours and seven minutes, Cassidy and Behnken kicked off the final round of solar array power upgrades. They installed new lithium-ion batteries and adapters, which arrived on the station in early June via a Japanese cargo flight.

The batteries store power generated by the station's solar arrays to provide power to the science labs and experiments – aided and overseen by Payload Operations Integration Center personnel at Marshall Space Flight Center – even when the station is out of direct sunlight, circling behind Earth during orbital night.

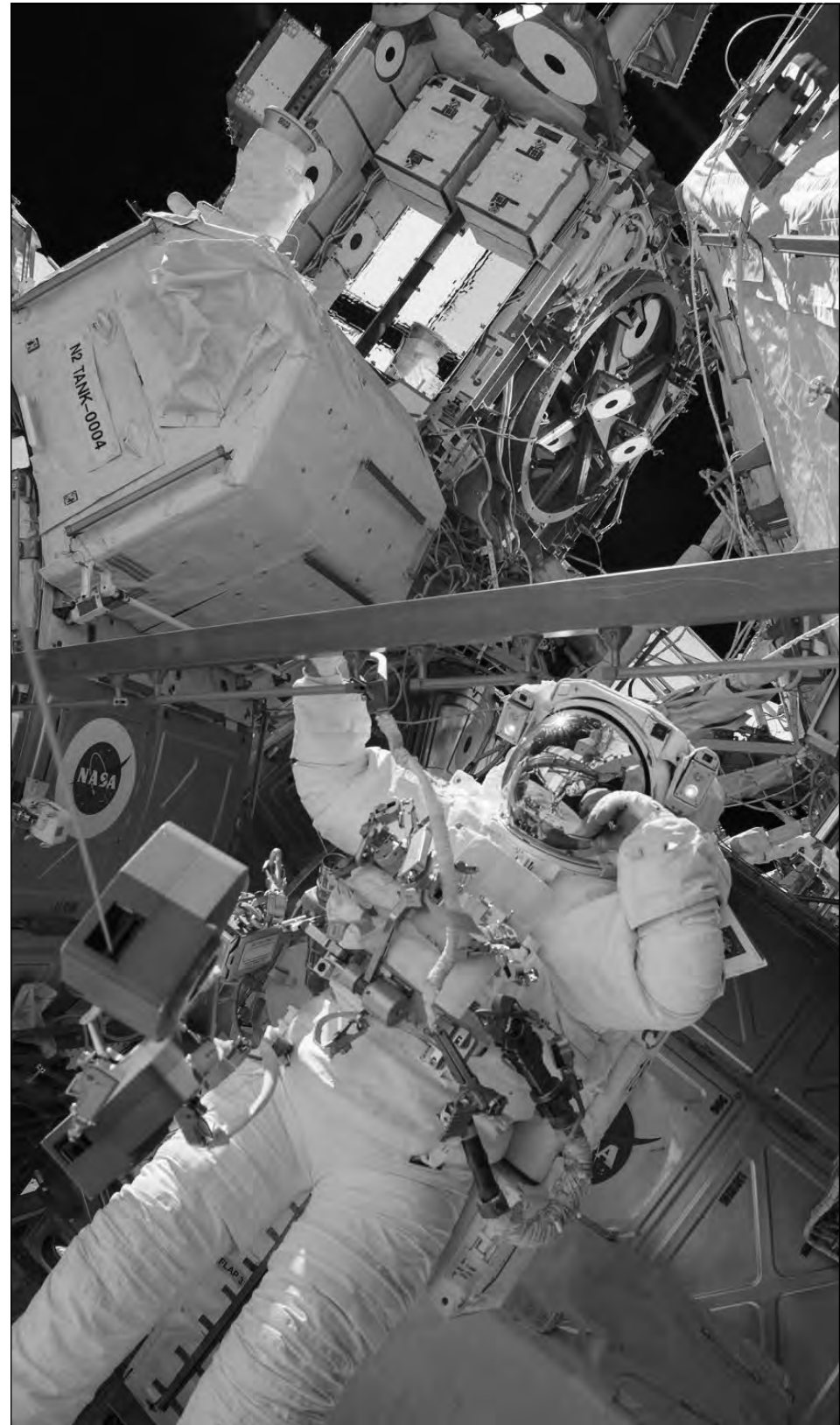
The latest spacewalk on July 1 marked the eighth excursion each for Cassidy and Behnken. Cassidy has logged a total of 43 hours and 22 minutes on spacewalks. Behnken's total is 49 hours and 41 minutes. To date, station crew members have conducted 229 spacewalks in support of facility assembly and maintenance. Collectively, spacewalkers have spent 60 days and 34 minutes working outside the station.

Cassidy is commander of the Expedition 63 crew, which also includes NASA flight engineer Doug Hurley, and Russian cosmonauts Anatoly Ivanishin and Ivan Vagner.



NASA photo

NASA astronauts Chris Cassidy, top, and Bob Behnken run pre-spacewalk checks on their suits inside the space station's Quest airlock.



NASA photo

Astronaut Bob Behnken works during the July 1 spacewalk to swap an aging nickel-hydrogen battery for a new lithium-ion battery set to power a portion of the station's solar arrays.

Strategic test team brings Zombie target to life

By JASON CUTSHAW

Space and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

All one Army team needed to be successful was a Zombie.

The Space and Missile Defense Command Technical Center's Targets Division launched a Pathfinder Zombie target from White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, June 25 for a foreign military sales customer. Preliminary reviews show that the Pathfinder Zombie test was successful with the target launching exactly on time and flying within predictions and requirements.

"We had a very successful test," Meeda Bosse, the target test director for the Targets Division during the launch, said. "With every launch we have, we update models and incorporate lessons learned. It is very rewarding as a team to see our process improve with every launch. From ground support all the way to missile flight, each launch is better than the last. With each test we will continue to improve, giving the customer an efficient low-cost target."

The Pathfinder Zombie is a threat representative single-stage, short-range ballistic missile target that can be used for U.S. weapon system and foreign military sales testing. The first Pathfinder Zombie launch was successfully accomplished at White Sands Missile Range in December 2016, but this recent test was the first time it was used as a target for an intercept by an air and missile defense system.

Bosse said the Zombie program takes old demilitarized Army hardware and gives it a new life as a target. She said the Targets Division uses that hardware at the end of its service life and rebuilds them to make a cost-efficient target missile utilizing state-of-the-art, proven flight qualified components. She said this allows for systems to test at a much lower cost than they would be able to otherwise and it saves the Army and taxpayers money.

"The launch of any Zombie target is important to SMDC and the Army because it offers the ability to test at a much lower cost," Bosse said. "These targets save the Army money, while still allowing them to test system readiness. This ensures that we can provide the warfighter with the best systems possible."

She said the test changed dates several times and that the team integrated this missile almost a year before launch, only to have the test get delayed.

"I believe this test is a great example of the flexibility and reactivity of our team," Bosse said. "The team took an unknown situation and reacted to provide a good target that met the needs of the customer. Our goal with a low cost target is to allow the warfighter to test more frequently. This allows them to have the best system possible in the field."

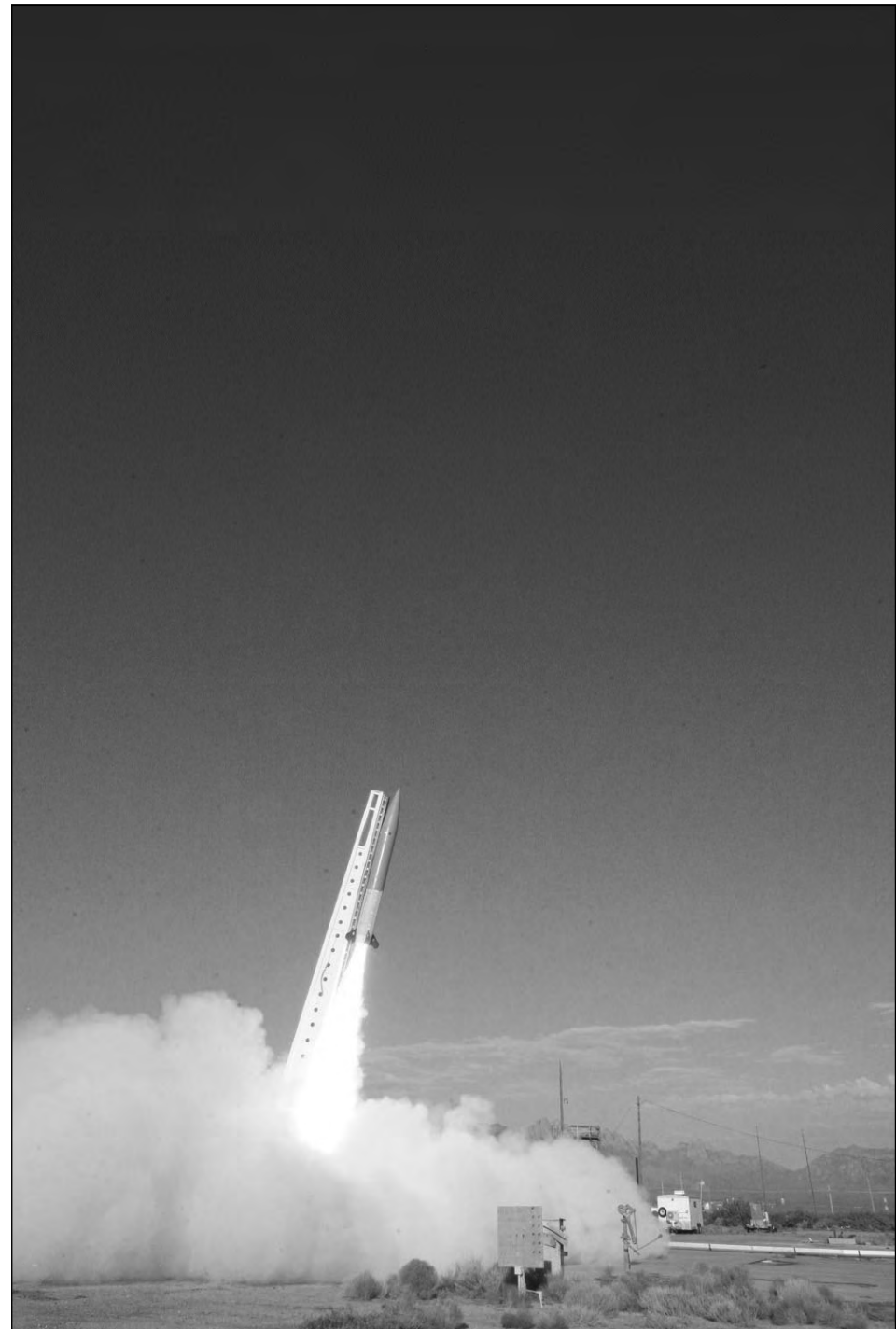
One team member said the White Sands range supported them and treated the team well.

"The White Sands Missile Range team that supports the SMDC Zombie team always provides great support," Cain Crouch, Targets Division aerospace engineer, said. "The WSMR personnel are experts in their respective fields, and that is demonstrated every time we go to WSMR. Their team has supported us for years and have always gone above and beyond to help SMDC. WSMR is a great government organization to work with, and the Zombie team would not be successful without the support we receive from WSMR."

Crouch said the team accomplished the mission despite various difficulties.

"It sounds cliché, but we have the best team I've ever worked with," Crouch said. "Our government and contractor team persevered through ever-changing test dates and a global pandemic to get this missile launched. COVID-19 has created a challenging work environment, but the entire team was professional and flexible as we learned to incorporate disinfecting processes, personal protective equipment and social distancing guidelines into our processes. We were able to complete our mission and maintain the health of our entire team. That is a testament to our team's commitment to our mission."

Kevin Creekmore, director of the Test Directorate, hailed the team's success in demonstrating that Zombie targets allow Army missile defense systems to verify new system capabilities in realistic flight tests for both developmental testing and operational testing.



Army photo

The Space and Missile Defense Command Technical Center's Targets Division launch a Pathfinder Zombie target at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., June 25 for a foreign military sales customer.

"The success of this target launch shows the resilience and flexibility of the team," Creekmore said. "After multiple schedule delays and during a historic pandemic, we were able to adapt to reduced manning and many new processes to ensure the safety of the team to launch on time and meet all performance requirements. The entire government and contractor team worked extremely hard to achieve mission success for the warfighter."



NASA photo

Rocket panels

Technicians at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center have moved panels for the Artemis II Orion stage adapter to a large robotic welding machine. Three panels were built by AMRO Fabricating Corp. in South El Monte, Calif., and shipped to Marshall, where engineers and technicians from NASA are joining them using a sophisticated friction-stir welding process to form the Orion stage adapter. This critical part of NASA's Space Launch System rocket will send the Artemis II crew into lunar orbit. AMRO also built panels for the Artemis II launch vehicle stage adapter, which is currently being built at Marshall, and the SLS core stage and Orion crew module built at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility. All panels were joined with the same friction-stir welding process. The Artemis I Orion stage adapter, also built at Marshall, has been delivered to NASA's Kennedy Space Center, where it will be stacked with the rest of the SLS rocket components. The adapter connects the Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage – the rocket's upper stage that sends the Orion spacecraft to the Moon – to Orion. The Orion stage adapter has space for small payloads; on Artemis I it will transport 13 small satellites to deep space, where they can study everything from asteroids to the Moon and radiation.

Aviation, missile enterprise counts on budget analyst

By GINA BALTRUSCH

Aviation and Missile Command Public Affairs

For Anissa Nash, an Aviation and Missile Command budget analyst, life revolves around numbers.

Nash joined AMCOM's Resource Management Division (G-8) in September 2018. She works in the Appropriated Funds Division, Budget Execution Branch, providing financial management services throughout the command and executing approximately \$1.8 million in AMCOM direct resources.

"We're the bill payers for the organization," she explained. "We work with our assigned customers, making sure that the right category of funds are available for the purchases they need to make, and that those payments are made at the right time.

"I think Budget Execution Branch is unique and interesting, because we get to see some of everything – travel funding, purchase card transactions, funds transmittal and contract actions. I like dealing with data and solving problems. From day to day, there are always different problems to solve."

Nash coordinates and reconciles funding for AMCOM's Command Group, Secretary to the General Staff and G-8 requirements.

"Without her ability to work across agency and organizational boundaries, AMCOM would fail in execution of Army Materiel Command allocated resources," Scottie Smith, Budget Execution Branch chief, said. "Nash's expertise and commitment to excellence led to

her selection as one of AMCOM's Most Valuable Players in September 2019."

Nash, who hails from Port Arthur, Texas, got her start with numbers and budgets in 1986 when she joined the Army as a financial management technician.

"At first, I just joined for the college money and was going to do one enlistment, then get out," she said. "But I loved it, and 22 years later, I retired as a first sergeant."

Nash hasn't always work with numbers. With a bachelor's in social science and a master's in management and leadership, her first job as a federal civilian in 2009 put those skills to good use as an outreach services coordinator for Army Community Service in Heidelberg, Germany.

"I supported the family members of fallen Soldiers," she said. "I felt I was doing a lot of good, helping people connect with survivor services. It was a unique experience, and pretty intense at times, but I wouldn't trade that experience for the world."

Nash's love for numbers seems to extend beyond paperwork to include people. She and her husband, Charles Nash Jr., a retired command sergeant major, have a combined family of six children, ages 12 to 35. Their youngest was born while they were stationed in Germany.

After returning to the United States in 2011, Nash found her way back to the world of accounting and finance. She worked for the Government Accountability Office, then the U.S. Corps of Engineers, before joining



Courtesy photo

Anissa Nash, an Aviation and Missile Command budget analyst, teleworks from home June 2, practicing social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic.

AMCOM's G-8 team.

"I really enjoy what I do for AMCOM and the people I work with," Nash said. "I'm proud to be a part of AMCOM's overall mission to support the warfighter by providing top-notch customer service. It's nice when you can go to work and love what you do, because then it doesn't really feel like work."



Photo by R. Chad Braden, CCDC AvMC

Researcher recognized

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, presents the Civilian Service Commendation Medal to Christopher Hodges, deputy director for airworthiness at the Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center, July 8. Hodges was recognized for superbly leading the technical team that recently wrote the foundational Army Aviation Policy for Advanced Manufactured Aircraft Parts, Components and Support Products.

Rocket Pet of the Week

Koa

This is Koa and he belongs to Kristy Stewart.

"Koa is a 10-month-old German Shepherd. He loves walks and running around with the kids.

He learned to sit and shake in four tries. He is a mama's boy -- where I go, he goes. His favorite treats are sardines and hotdogs. He also likes to sleep with his head under the bed or under the table. Very energetic."



Redstone**Rocket**
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Classic replay: Williams' walk-off decides 1941 thriller

From combined reports

There have been memorable major league All-Star Games through history but the 1941 Midsummer Classic ranks among the best.

The legendary Boston Red Sox slugger Ted Williams provided the heroics when the American League rallied past the National League, 7-5 on July 8, 1941. The venue was Briggs Stadium in Detroit, home of the Detroit Tigers of the American League.

Williams would finish the season with a milestone .406 batting average. He had led the majors with 145 runs batted in as a rookie two years prior.

His average stood at .405 when he suited up for his second Midsummer Classic. But he and his AL teammates trailed 5-3 in the bottom of the ninth. The AL all-stars loaded the bases for Joe DiMaggio – who would compile a 56-game hit streak that year. DiMaggio beat out a double-play grounder to keep the rally alive. That set the stage for Williams.

The NL led 5-4 with two outs and Joe Gordon and DiMaggio of the New York Yankees on base. Williams, the Splendid Splinter, belted a fastball from Cubs pitcher Claude Passeau into the right-field stands for a walk-off homer, one of the most famous in All-Star Game history. This was the ninth edition of the Midsummer Classic.

The American League's dramatic comeback overshadowed two home runs hit by Pittsburgh Pirates shortstop Arky Vaughan, which had given the NL 3-2 and 5-2 leads in the seventh and eighth innings, respectively.



Visions of sports again dancing in our head

This is like Christmas in July for us avid sports fans.

Finally we get to unwrap the presents we've been waiting for since March. That month our beloved sports world came to a screeching halt because of the coronavirus pandemic. But now we can sleep with visions of baseballs and basketballs dancing in our head.

Major league baseball has announced plans to open a 60-game season on July 23 and 24. The National Basketball Association plans to restart its season July 30. Under the NBA plan, 22 teams will play eight additional regular season games to determine playoff seeding, and 16 teams will enter a conventional postseason tournament.

Forgive me if I take a break from writing to briefly dance around my house in the midst of my third month of working from home. Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus bearing gifts for distressed sports fans throughout the world.

We know our Summer Santa's on his way and he's bringing lots of games and excitement to save the day.

And every mother's child is going to spy to see if empty seats without crowd noise will be able to fly.

Baseball is back. And so is basketball. We expect football will be gift wrapped and delivered in time for fall and winter.

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

In this section...

YOUR GLORY DAYS IN SPORTS

PAGE 30

Your glory days in sports

By **SKIP VAUGHN**

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

What is the highlight of your athletic endeavors?

“I played a lot of football,” Redstone retiree Henry “Hank” Rone said. “I was selected to the 8th Army All-Stars, that’s the teams in the Far East. In 1966 I was playing with the 7th Division Bayonet in Korea. I was selected as the head official in the USAREUR boxing championships in 1969, ’70 and ’71.

“In ’77 I coached a boxing team representing Europe in the All-Army championships at Fort Bragg (North Carolina). And I was selected to officiate the All-Army boxing championships in Augsburg, Germany. I was an international licensed boxing official in Europe. I represented VII Corps in the USAREUR racquetball championships in Munich, Germany, in 1976; me and a guy named Lewis

Washington. I refereed and also worked closely with two world champion boxers – Bonecrusher Smith and Ray Mercer. Both of them started off as novice boxers over in Europe. I also worked with, in coaching basically and officiating, Kenny Adams. He was a boxer. He was the 1988 U.S. Olympic boxing coach. He’s still active in Las Vegas today. I talked to him about a month ago. He’s had 28 world champions to come out of his boxing stable out of Las Vegas. Alton Merckerson was the assistant coach to Kenny Adams in 1988. He currently resides in Clarks-ville, Tennessee. He coached Roy Jones Jr. in Jones’ entire career.”

Rone, 78, from Montgomery, retired in 1982 in Europe as a first sergeant after 22 years of service. He retired as an Army civilian at Redstone in 2001 from the then Logistics Support Activity. He retired as a logistics contractor in 2009 from SAIC. Rone resides in Madison with his wife of 48 years, Hannelore. They have a daughter, Tanya, of Harvest; a son, Henry II, of Madison; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Rone roots for the Auburn Tigers.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Henry “Hank” Rone, a Redstone retiree, finishes an afternoon of golf at the Links.

I've got on a clean shirt. I'm holding a healthy looking green drink. I've prepared a list of impossible to verify accomplishments. I'm ready for the weekly video teleconference!



PRESS START TO
ENTER THE VIDEO
CONFERENCE!

Jim BoRoCH
8 JULY 20

Rocket Announcements

Sports & Recreation

Cotton Row Run cancelled

Due to concerns for its runners, volunteers and spectators around the COVID-19 pandemic, the Huntsville Track Club has decided to cancel the 41st Cotton Row Run. Runners who wish to defer their registration to the May 31, 2021 race do not need do to anything. Runners who prefer a refund of their registration fee, should send an email to the race director, Donna Palumbo, at cottonrowrun@huntsvilletrackclub.org, by September 1, 2020. More information is available on the race facebook page, www.facebook.com/cottonrowrun.

Conferences & Meetings

Marine Corps league

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

Purple Heart chapter

Military Order of the Purple Heart, George A. Rauh Chapter 2201, meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 237 at 2900 Drake Ave. All combat-wounded veterans are invited. For more information, call Leonard Robinson 337-8313.

Lance reunion 2021

The 2021 Lance Missile and MLRS Veterans Homecoming Celebration is tentatively scheduled May 20-22 in Huntsville. The signup deadline is October. They will honor their Vietnam veterans at this event. For more information, call retired Sgt. 1st Class John Williams, the organizer, at 210-209-2000 or email jwilli9014@aol.com.

Rocket Announcements

Infantry division reunion

In Fox Lake, Illinois, the Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 99th annual reunion in Kansas City, Missouri, from Sept. 23-27, visit www.2ida.org/99th-annual-reunion/ or contact Bob Haynes at 2idahq@comcast.net and (224) 225-1202.

Small business contracting

A small business contracting conference and expo will be held Oct. 21 at the Von Braun Center. This event features key government contracting personnel, senior military leaders and industry professionals, matchmaking, contracting classes, networking for defense companies and trade show. The presenter is Contract Ready, based in Virginia Beach, Virginia; and the co-host is Alabama PTAC (Procurement Technical Assistance Center), from Birmingham. For information email Phil Kiver at pkiver@contractready.org.

Miscellaneous Items

Men's ministry

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

Young citizen of month

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

Family advocacy advice

Jeannie Johnston, Army Community Service division chief, recommends the following website for good information about coping during this difficult time: www.militaryonesource.mil/sp-l-news.

PS Magazine website

PS Magazine has received many questions lately like, "Where's the monthly magazine I used to read using a mobile app or at the LOGSA website? What happened to the cartoons? Where the heck do I read PS Magazine now?" The answer to each question is that PS Magazine now informs Army readiness using a fully online, mobile-friendly information portal. Its heritage to present timely and accurate preventive maintenance, supply and safety information directly to Soldiers remains the same, although without cartoons. Check out their new website at www.psmagazine.army.mil.

Thrift Shop closed

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thrift Shop is closed until further notice and cannot accept any donations. The management appreciates your understanding during these difficult times.

Korean War veterans, families

Local author KC Bertling is writing a book dedicated to the Korean War veterans to tell their stories from 1950-53. If you'd like to have your story to be published in a book titled "Our Forgotten War Heroes – the Korean War Veterans Stories," email KCBertling@yahoo.com or visit www.legacy4koreanwarveterans.org. The deadline to submit your story is Aug. 15 with two photos of the veteran (one from their younger days and one for current days). Contributors will receive a free signed copy when the book is published.

Korean War veteran's birthday

KC Bertling asks that you help honor Air Force Maj. Samuel P. Logan Jr., a B-29 bomber who served WWII and Korean War but never returned home. When he left for the Korean War in 1950, he was 30 and left behind a beautiful wife and two precious sons (2 and 4 years old then), and he was the only child of his parents. Aug. 27 will be Logan's 100th birthday. Bertling wants to collect cards, letters, emails as many as possible, and hand deliver them to Logan's two sons residing in Tennessee. Send cards and letters by Aug. 15 to: PO Box 8170, Huntsville, AL 35808.