

RedstoneRocket

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Leaders synchronize the equipping, modernization of units



Photo by Samantha Tyler

Army Materiel Command's Commander Gen. Ed Daly addresses Army leaders and experts during the Army Modernization and Equipping Conference, Dec. 13 at Redstone Arsenal.

By **SAMANTHA TYLER**

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

The Army is working to synchronize and integrate its force employment and modernization across the Total Army.

With the Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model, or ReARMM, in its initial operational capability, the Army's top leaders continue to strengthen its foundation and work together to best equip the force.

"If you were the commander of a unit at echelon, what would you like to have?" Army Materiel Command's Commander Gen. Ed Daly said during the December 2021 Army Modernization and Equipping Conference, or AMEC. "I think it's important to think about it from that

perspective."

In ReARMM, a unit transitions through modernization, training and mission phases, each lasting about eight months. In an optimal process, a unit would receive equipment and have the right people on hand as they enter the modernization phase, Daly said.

"If we do this right, these units hit the modernization window and they don't lose stride," he said.

During the AMEC, hundreds of Army leaders and experts met in person and virtually to synchronize equipment distributions and displacements in line with Army priorities and ReARMM phases. This forum provides the chance to review equipment fielding and modernization while resolving friction points.

"We as an Army have very high expectations for the AMEC," Daly said. "This is really foundational to what we are doing."

During the conference, Army leaders discussed the use of the Army Decision Support Tool. DST is the Army's materiel management tool that allows the Army to plan, execute and project distribution, redistribution and divestiture. The synchronization of distributions and displacement through DST is critical to building a ready and modern Army, said Lindsey Jones, a logistics management specialist in AMC's Lead Materiel Integration Division.

"DST allows the planning, coordinat-

See Modernization on page 6



MILITARY

Test center produces senior executive.

PAGE 5



COMMUNITY

School stems from need for advanced math, science.

PAGE 19



SPORTS

17U Redstone Rockets drop season opener.

PAGE 31



Letter from the Senior Commander



Lt. Gen.
Donnie Walker

Team Redstone,

Happy New Year! This month brings anticipation of new missions, new challenges and new goals for the year ahead, but one important thing stays the same: people remain Team Redstone's number one priority.

Redstone is a one-of-a-kind Army installation with a global impact, and it's our people that make it exceptional. Across the installation, more than 44,500 professionals working for more than 70 different organizations represent all races, genders and creeds. They are our greatest strength, and the strength of our people is in our diversity.

I encourage each of you to approach 2022 as a renewed opportunity to contribute to a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion in your workspace and across the community. Seek to better understand those around you, coming from a place of respect and knowing that we all have different backgrounds and experiences. We may not always agree, but collectively, we can build an inclusive culture where everyone feels safe and empowered to contribute to our mission success.

As we have already experienced this year, winter weather has the ability interrupt our daily routines. I assure you that Redstone leadership monitors conditions daily, and we will take precautions to ensure the safety of our workforce. Stay in touch with your supervisor and stay weather aware. This season also brings higher cases of COVID-19, the flu and other viruses. I encourage you to take the steps necessary to protect your health and the health of those around you. The health and safety of all of our team members is paramount.

Thank you for all you contribute to our missions worldwide and to our nation. Let's have a great 2022!

People First - Winning Matters - Army Strong!
- Lt. Gen. Flem B. "Donnie" Walker, Jr.

RocketViews

On this date in history: Jan. 12

In 1997: In the Space Shuttle program, Atlantis launched from the Kennedy Space Center on mission STS-81 to the Russian space station Mir, carrying astronaut Jerry M. Linenger for a four-month stay on board the station, replacing astronaut John E. Blaha.

In 1991: An act of the U.S. Congress authorized the use of American military force to drive Iraq out of Kuwait.

In 1969: The New York Jets of the American Football League defeated the Baltimore Colts of the National Football League, 16-7, to win Super Bowl III in what is considered to be one of the greatest upsets in sports history.

In 1962: Operation Chopper, the first American combat mission in the Vietnam War, took place.

In 1932: Hattie Caraway, from Arkansas, became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate.

Quote of the week

“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.

RedstoneRocket

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First responder spotlight

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

What are your goals for 2022?

"I'm going to start working on paying off my house," Shane Higginbotham, security officer with NASA Protective Services since 2019, said. "I'm going to start saving more money. I guess I'll go to the gym more."

Higginbotham, 23, from Mobile, served in the Army National Guard from 2016-22 and left as a specialist. He and his wife of one year, Hayleigh, reside in Harvest.

"I like to go to the gym, play video games and I like to draw sometimes," Higginbotham said. "I like to watch TV."

He roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide.



Shane Higginbotham

DAU Corner

Getting to know you

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

Name: Denice Harrington

Position: Store manager for Martin Road Express, Army & Air Force Exchange Service

What did you want to be when you grew up?

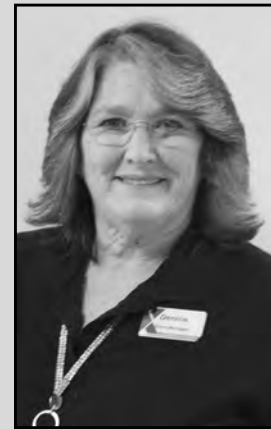
Strangely enough, a court reporter. That was my interest. Life happens. I guess it took me in another direction.

What do you hope to accomplish in 2022?

Just I'm hoping that '22 is better than '21. I'm just hoping to be successful here in my store actually and spend time with family when possible.

What is the best part about your job?

People. The customers and my co-workers make my day.



Who is your hero, and why?

My hero has always been my mother even though she's no longer with us (Jackie Barnwell of Union Grove, who died in 2007). She was a very strong person, strong yet compassionate. I always wanted to be just like her.

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

I'd probably spend it at an amusement park with my grandkids.

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

That too would be my mother. And it would be "Put family first."

What do you like to do to pass the time?

Grandkids. And I'm a concert-goer. Country music concerts. I'm a fan.

CONNECT Live!

Thursday, 01/13/2022
10:30 A.M. CST

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

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

COR Office Hours

Tuesday, 01/18/2022
10:45 A.M. CST
<https://www.dau.edu/events>

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

Microelectronics Series #3:

Digital Twinning

Wednesday, 01/19/2022
11:30 A.M. CST
<https://www.dau.edu/events>

This third of the four-webinar series will review the trends towards Digital Twins' application throughout the whole product life cycle, from pre-silicon development for verification and software development, system integration before fabrication, and product bring-up to applications all the way to the end-of-life of a product. We will introduce practical examples for the industry verticals Consumer, Hyperscale Computing, Mobile, 5G Communications, Aerospace & Defense, Automotive, Industrial and Health. We will touch on critical challenges like reusing data between different phases of development, the impact of model fidelity on use-models, and the connection of models at varying accuracy levels to find the optimal balance between performance and development efforts.

SAVE A DATE

February 23-24, 2022

DAU's Virtual Acquisition Update
South Region
Hosted Virtual Event

"Acquisition 2022:
Embracing the Digital Environment"

Event is open to
Government, Contractor,
and Industry Workforces

Registration information
coming soon!

Tell us about ...

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

Your career choice.

"It kind of chose me at first," Tod Goodman, budget officer for Garrison Resource Management, said. "The way I ended up in this career was when I first joined the Marine Corps. I was due to go into supply and we had somebody who couldn't ship, couldn't go, so we had an opening. I started out as a disburser which led to working as a comptroller. I've been in this field for 30-plus years. It's been an interesting experience."

Goodman, 54, from Overland Park, Kansas, served in the Marine Corps from October 1987 until March 2012 and retired as a gunnery sergeant. He has worked for the Garrison since October 2019. The Moulton resident and his wife of 16 years, Jane, have a combined four children – three boys and one girl – and a grandson. Goodman enjoys biking, hunting and woodworking. He roots for the Alabama Crimson Tide and the Kansas State Wildcats.



Tod Goodman

Know your laws: Strong brand builds trust

By ANN DENNEN

Huntsville lawyer

Branding is more than a company's trademark, e.g., logo or tagline. Customers decide whether to enter a relationship with a brand, and the company's actions define its brand.

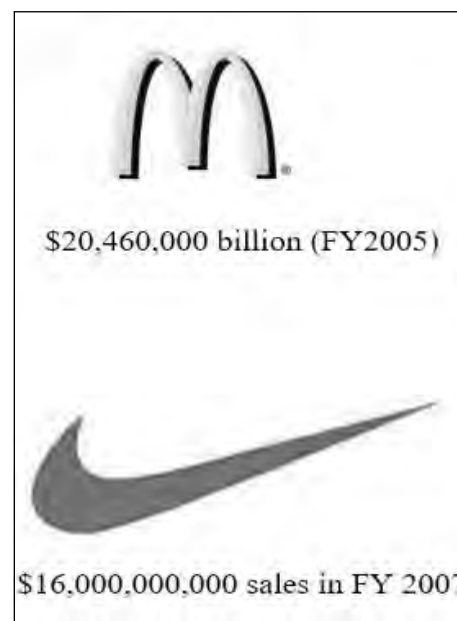
Branding encompasses the company's corporate philosophy. A corporate philosophy expresses the company's values. For example, Google's corporate philosophy encompasses the following truths:

- Focus on the user and all else will follow.
 - It is best to do one thing really well.
 - Fast is better than slow.
 - Democracy on the web works.
 - You do not need to be at your desk to need an answer.
 - You can make money without doing evil.
 - There is always more information out there.
 - The need for information crosses all borders.
 - You can be serious without a suit.
 - Great just is not good enough.
- Further, branding encompasses the

company's product or service. That is, product or service branding is associating a symbol, name and design with a product to create a recognizable identity for that item. Product branding may involve the use of focus groups and multiple iterations of designs.

Customer interactions are an important part of a company's branding strategy. A company that implements a customer interaction branding strategy devises a thorough plan to manage customer interactions. A consistent customer experience is important to creating loyal customers. Employee communication branding defines how the company communicates with its employees and is key in ensuring successful talent acquisition. Employee communication branding encompasses how the company treats its employees. Finally, advertising and marketing efforts is a branding means whereby the company promotes its product or service by promoting its brand.

Branding represents trust of a company's customers. A company's brand is its promise. That is, what does it promise and can it deliver consistently to its customers. Notably, a broken promise



is worse than no promise at all. As an example, JetBlue advertised that it was "bringing humanity back to air travel." This advertising campaign turned out to be a winner for JetBlue.

Strong brands exist when customers associate the brand with benefits. Further, in strong brands the company clearly links to its company values. Strong

brands build trust and value for customers and shareholders. David Aker, with Brand Asset Management, states that "strong brands lend immediate credibility to new product introductions. Seventy percent of customers want to use a brand to guide their purchase decision."

The business of branding has its benefits. Branding creates a real and marketable asset and creates a higher profit margin. Great branding accelerates cash flow, increases bonding and customer loyalty, and increases market share. Great branding can also limit the growth of a company's competitors. When a company focuses on its branding, it is in a better negotiating position with trade and other suppliers, facilitates higher product availability, and dealers order what customers explicitly request.

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

Kindness can grow food service industry

Here's some breaking news for you. There's a shortage of people working in the food service industry.

I'm kidding. You probably already knew that if you've eaten anywhere other than your home in the past six months.

There are some who think the cause of the shortage in workers are wages those workers receive for a day's work.

Don't get me wrong, money matters, but to simplify the problem facing those who work in food down to a number is a little short-sighted.

Right now you're probably thinking: what does this guy know about the food industry?

Well, I spent six or seven years in it prior to the current iteration of my career, and while I'm sure some things have changed, there are some that I'm absolutely positive have not.

In order to understand the mass exodus the industry has experienced, you have to also take a look at the environment those serving food are being asked to work in.

First, we're still in a pandemic. COVID-19 is still wreaking havoc on our everyday life. While everyone is trying to deal with the

Snippets

By Jonathan Stinson
Assistant editor

situation the best they can, we all need to remember that the most pressure brought on by COVID-19 is going to be felt in those sectors that rely on the general public to function.

For example, even though I deal with the public, it's easier for me to mitigate risks from COVID-19 via technology than it is for someone who has to physically be there to serve a physical product to the physical being, who is then going to consume it.

Secondly, and everybody can relate to this in a sense, but unless you've been there it's hard to describe the full force of the interactions that take place between someone serving food and someone eating it.

Being hungry is real, and when you work in food, especially fast food, nine times out

of 10 the person walking through the door is already on edge. And, being that hunger is a primal instinct that's directly correlated to our continued existence, the reaction when the slightest inconvenience threatens the nourishment of our bodies is exponentially amplified – and not in a good way.

This leads to a number of high-stress interactions that can mentally drain and depress a workforce that's already putting well over eight hours a day, if they want to make a living.

My prediction is you could raise the salaries of food industry personnel to the moon, but until you fix the public problem, you will still have shortages and a high rate of turnover. In other words, environment matters, too.

It's the relationship between money and environment that lead to the overall retention and recruitment of workers.

The problem is the solutions are more deep-rooted than just having a restaurant workers appreciation day, which seems to be the answer for any group that has historically been used and abused by the entity known

as the public.

What's troubling is that as a society we are more aware of these problematic interactions than we ever have been before – just google Karen videos and see what pops up – but despite that, there's been no real change in behavior on a large enough scale to make a difference.

And, I'm sorry if your name is Karen. I personally have nothing against any of the Karens I know. I did not pick the moniker, but at this point it's the quickest way to describe what I'm talking about.

I do have an idea for solutions though.

Require everyone to work a year or two in the food service or retail industry.

I mean even six months should be eye-opening enough to fundamentally change the way people treat other people in transactional situations.

Despite the fundamental change that one thing would have on society, it probably won't happen.

So, instead, maybe everyone can just try to remember to be 5% nicer to the people you deal with. That at least would be a start.

Military

Test center's Rob Stone becomes senior executive

By CHRISTY BARNETT

Redstone Test Center Public Affairs

The Army appointed a new member to its Senior Executive Service during a ceremony on Redstone Arsenal Dec. 3.

Rob Stone, executive director of White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, a subordinate command of the Army Test and Evaluation Command, took the oath of office during an SES induction ceremony hosted by Brig. Gen. Eric Little, commander of White Sands.

“Honestly, I don’t think I’ve met a leader in my 28 years who displays such a level of humility, while at the same time being completely comfortable and having the confidence to make a correction to anyone, at any time, if something is not right,” Little said. “And he does this in a fashion that makes the recipient of his counsel, understand, value, and truly appreciate that correction. It really is a gift.”

Since 2017, Stone served as the technical director and deputy commander of the Redstone Test Center, also a subordinate organization under ATEC.

Stone brings 35 years of experience in lifecycle test and evaluation to the senior civilian position at White Sands. His experience spans aviation and aviation systems, missiles, and sensor systems across the T&E domains of modeling and simulation, hardware in the loop, and open-air test.

“The Army identifies three attributes of leadership: character, presence and intellect,” Little said. “One could easily argue that intellect is probably the most important leadership attribute necessary to perform the SES duties of an executive director. I would not disagree with that. Anyone who knows Rob Stone clearly knows that he is a leader with superior intellect, and without question the right selection to serve our Army and our nation as a senior executive. What makes Rob special is that along with his intellectual talents, he is equally gifted with his character and his presence. In fact, I would go as far as saying character is his strongest attribute.”

Stone entered federal service in May 2000 with the Aviation Technical Test Center at Fort Rucker. He served as the lead engineer in the Data Processing Division and was responsible for experimental flight test data collection.

Much of Stone’s early work at ATTC paved the way for the capabilities currently in use for aviation flight test at Redstone Test Center. Stone later served in ATTC as the chief of the Integrated Systems Test Division and of the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Division.

Stone transitioned back to Redstone Arsenal in 2010 when ATTC and the Redstone Technical Test Center were combined to make Redstone Test Center as a part of base realignment and closure.

In September 2017, Stone was selected as the technical director and deputy commander of RTC with responsibilities for leading the full spectrum technical test mission in the areas of aviation, small missiles and weapon sensors. Additionally, he was responsible for managing the center’s test capability portfolio as well as technical and leadership development of a 1,300-person workforce for the center.

In April 2021, Stone was selected as the interim executive director of White Sands Missile Range. In this position, he supports all aspects of the commanding general’s roles as both White Sands senior mission commander and ATEC deputy commander for developmental testing.

Stone’s efforts on behalf of ATEC and Redstone Test Center have been instrumental in enhancing the test capabilities for new Army weapons systems.

Stone is a graduate of Auburn University with a bachelor’s in electrical engineering. He has been married to his wife Kay for 32 years, and they have three children.



Photo by Josh Nichols, RTC

Brig. Gen. Eric Little, commander of White Sands Missile Range, N.M., appoints Rob Stone to Senior Executive Service during a ceremony at Bob Jones Auditorium, Dec. 3. Stone is the executive director of White Sands.

Modernization

Continued from page 1

ing and projecting of equipping units over time and against ReARMM phases,” Jones said. “This tool provides the capability to visualize distributions and displacements in ReARMM windows, which is imperative to the success of ReARMM.”

In addition to tools like DST, Modernization Displacement and Repair Sites are continuing to allow units to turn in displaced equipment, unencumbering them and enabling them to accept modernized equipment.

Moving forward, AMC is looking to the next year, continuing to synchronize with other Army organizations to meet ReARMM’s full operational capability in January 2023.

Photo by Katie Nelson

Soldiers prepare a vehicle for turn-in at the Modernization, Displacement and Repair Site at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The MDRS is a single location dedicated to receive excess equipment from units. It is the one-stop-shop that receives, accounts for, repairs (if necessary), and conducts necessary onward transfers to gaining units, Army depots, or transfer to the Defense Logistics Agency for equipment disposition.





Courtesy photo

Wishes granted

Members of the Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, deliver pizzas to residents of the Tut Fann State Veterans Home to cap 2021. They expressed appreciation to Papa John's for the generosity and to Hughes Properties' Betty Hughes for the cordless shavers, sweatpants, socks and clocks from the resident wish list. From left are Derrick Vereen, Rhonda Sutton and Rae Kryc.

Soldier/civilian/family readiness briefs

By Army News Service and Defense Department websites

Contract award announcements

Torch Technologies Inc., Huntsville, was awarded a \$17,460,282 modification to contract W31P4Q-21-F-0038 for engineering services. Work locations and funding will be determined with each order, with an estimated completion date of Dec. 30. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, is the contracting activity.

Raytheon Integrated Defense System, Andover, Massachusetts, was awarded a \$13,961,181 modification to contract W31P4Q-15-C-0022 for basic operational capability hardware, software and support. Work will be performed in Tewksbury, Andover and Burlington, Massachusetts, with an estimated completion date of May 31, 2023. Fiscal 2022 foreign military sales (Poland) funds in the amount of \$6,840,979 were obligated at the time of the award. Army Contracting Command, Redstone Arsenal, is the contracting activity.

Inspectors general get new badge

WASHINGTON — Beginning this spring, Army inspectors general can wear a new identification badge to increase their visibility among Soldiers and Army civilians, the service announced.

The Inspector General Identification Badge, or IGIB, features a blue and gold design with the IG branch insignia at its center. The U.S. Army Institute of Foundry designed the badge and lapel pin based on inputs by the Army's Office of the Inspector General.

The badges give IGs greater visibility and showcases their services to the Army, as well as paying tribute to the role's rich history of the IG system. The only special duty governed by the secretary of the Army, inspectors general have served as the leading standard bearers of the largest military branch since 1777.

According to Inspector General Lt. Gen. Donna Martin, IGs serve as the “eyes, ears and conscience” of Army commanders.

“This badge makes them visible to people: our Soldiers, families, and civilians,” Sgt. Maj. Larry Orvis, the IG sergeant major, said. “We thought it was important

to look to our past for the design in order to highlight the historical value of IGs to Army readiness and its people since 1777.”

The Inspector General Identification Badge was designed by the U.S. Army Institute of Foundry designed the badge which pays tribute to the rich history of the IG system. It will be available at military clothing stores this spring.

The IGIB uses a modified design from the badges IGs wore in the early 1900s. IGs have historically worn identification badges until recent years. Current and former inspectors general will be authorized to wear the badge, which will be available at military clothing stores this coming spring. Wearing of the badge will be optional.

Inspectors general have served as impartial advisers while providing installation commanders with objective assessments on critical matters.

“(IGs) are impartial fact-finders and problem solvers who use policy and guidance to render assistance or provide answers,” Martin said. “Commanding generals also use IGs to objectively look at processes and systems before they become challenges.”

In 2019, the Office of the Inspector General performed an evaluation of the effectiveness of privatized housing within Army installations after an order from Army senior leaders. The office based the conclusions on data collected from more than 1,000 surveys and over 200 interviews with garrison commanders and housing employees.

Highly qualified applicants who hold the rank of captain and above, chief warrant officers 2 and above, sergeants first class and above, or civilians can apply to be inspectors general. Each applicant must be nominated by branch managers or their local commanding general.

Nominees must undergo a thorough screening process and will be required to complete a three-week course at The Inspector General School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. For more information, visit <https://tigs-online.ignet.army.mil/>.

“Today's inspectors general are chosen based on a track record of trustworthiness, superior conduct, and knowledge of Army regulations, policies, and procedures,” Martin said. “IG duty is a career-broadening experience that prepares officers, warrant officers and senior NCOs for more responsibility in future assignments.”

Electric lawn mowers cut greenhouse gas emissions



Courtesy photo

The Space and Missile Defense Command will begin using the Husqvarna's 550 Exact Positioning Operation System Autonomous Electric Lawn Mowers at the command's Redstone Arsenal headquarters as a part of the study beginning in 2022. The mowers are part of the command's Autonomous Electric Lawn Mower Pilot Study in support of the Army's goals to reduce greenhouse gas pollution by 50% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

By JASON CUTSHAW

*Space and Missile Defense Command
Public Affairs*

The Space and Missile Defense Command is working to cut down on greenhouse gas emissions on military bases by using autonomous electric lawn mowers.

The command's deputy chief of staff, engineer, Weldon Hill is leading the SMDC Autonomous Electric Lawn Mower Pilot Study in support of the Army's goals to reduce greenhouse gas pollution by 50% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

"Federal agencies were tasked to develop action plans and initiatives that address the adaptation and resilience to impacts of climate change," Hill said. "The first line of effort for the Army's strategy is to improve the force's energy capability and efficiency by reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

In spring and fall 2022, Husqvarna's 550 Exact Positioning Operation System Autonomous Electric Lawn Mowers will be used at the command's Redstone Arsenal headquarters as a part of the study.

"The autonomous electric mowers are programmed using GPS technology and bound to specific work areas," Hill said. "Mowers operate similarly to an autonomous indoor vacuum cleaner, like a Roomba, and travel at slow speeds. Built-in safety features enable the mowers to change direction when encountering an object or boundary, and blades will automatically stop if the mower is lifted up or turned over."

These mowers utilize satellite systems and a nearby reference station to automate its operations, eliminating the need for boundary wires, and is virtually silent, capable of operating 24/7/365, poses no indirect spill pollution risk, and produces no direct GHG emissions or particulate pollution. They are equipped with a tracking system, and their operation will be managed remotely by SMDC people.

Hill said while lawns, grasses and greenspace don't garner the same attention as

traditional transportation, the landscaping sector contributes greatly to climate change. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Americans use 800 million gallons of gasoline on lawn care annually and spill an additional 17 million gallons as well.

Small engines used in landscaping equipment produce twice as much pollution as personal vehicles: one hour of gas-powered lawnmower use is equivalent to driving a Toyota Camry from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, while one hour of gas-powered leaf blower use is equivalent to driving the same Camry 1,100 miles.

The initiative allows for an alternative approach to landscape management that uses cleaner and more reliable energy sources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. One of the mowers in the pilot study will be solar-powered, which will allow SMDC to increase its operational electrification by using renewable energy.

Hill said the study will provide measurable public and environmental benefits to Army people and contribute to SMDC's success in meeting climate change mitigation goals. The utilization of autonomous electric mowers for landscape management promotes environmental stewardship with innovative technology and is one of several initiatives DCSENG is proposing to integrate in SMDC operations to combat climate change.

"Health benefits would be expected for the workforce from the reduction of several types of local pollution such as noise, particulate and spills, and would contribute towards a productive place to work and live," Hill said.

According to Hill, using autonomous electric mowers will help the command reduce its reliance on controlled and finite resources, such as gas and diesel, with no degradation to the mission.

"The pilot study will analyze performance metrics to determine the feasibility of implementing autonomous electric mowers as a climate change initiative at command locations worldwide," Hill said.



Photo by Jason Cutshaw

Program analyst caps career

Patricia Falco, program analyst, Space and Missile Defense Command Technical Center's Concepts Analysis Division, retires after more than 26 years of government service. She receives the Civilian Service Commendation Medal from Ben Kerstiens, director of the Technical Center Research Directorate, during a ceremony Dec. 20.

Security enterprise worker's career spans globe

By RACHEL DELOACH

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

In 40 years of combined military and federal service – all within Army Materiel Command – Jacqueline Williams has visited 30 countries across the globe and served in supervisory roles at several Security Assistance Command regional directorates.

She is retiring after 40 years of government service.

The Detroit native joined the Michigan Army National Guard in 1977 as a means to attend college. After completing basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Williams attended advanced individual training at Fort Lee, Virginia, as a supply specialist, jumpstarting her military career.

Her journey to become an officer did not come without its challenges, however. In 1979 while attending officer candidate school at the Michigan Military Academy in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Williams said she experienced verbal abuse but did not let it interfere with her goal of becoming an officer.

“You can do anything you put your mind to, but you must stay focused and not get waylaid by the noise,” she said.

Following her commission as a second lieutenant in February 1981, Williams served in her first military assignment as executive officer for the Distribution and Transportation Division of the Materiel Management Directorate at the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command in Warren, Michigan.

During her time at TACOM, Williams leaned on the advice of her mentor Rosalind Barnes, a TACOM branch chief, who also knew what it was like to be a young woman in the Army.

“Rosalind Barnes took me under her wing when I was a lieutenant,” Williams said. “She had served years before me and endured even worse than what I had.”

Williams served at TACOM for three years until a freak accident abruptly ended her military career and initiated her transition to federal service.

“I decided to leave the Army because I had fallen down a flight of stairs while at TACOM and was undergoing physical therapy,” she said. “It turned out to be the best thing because if I had moved on with a military career, I would have missed out on several opportunities, including USASAC, the best kept secret in the Army.”

During the transition, it was Barnes who helped Williams with her application for federal service.

“Her advice was always ‘learn and know your job,’” Williams said. “Rosalind would remind me that knowledge and demonstrated capability is something no one can take away from you.”

Williams took that advice to USASAC, a command she would call home for 34 years of her 40 years of service.

Williams first came to USASAC in 1989 as a supply systems analyst in the Policy and Procedure Division when the command was stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After spending two years there, in January 1991, Williams was selected to serve on a special assignment with the Army executive agent for asset management in St. Louis.

A little over a year later, in March 1992, Williams was assigned to the Joint Logistics System Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where she held several program manager positions in the System De-



Courtesy photo

Jacqueline Williams is retiring as EUCOM/AFRICOM regional operations deputy director after 40 years of government service.

velopment Division, Corporate Integration Directorate and System Integration Division, Materiel Management Directorate.

After a six-year hiatus from USASAC, Williams returned to Fort Belvoir and served as the country program manager for Egypt Aviation, Mideast Africa Directorate, from 1997 to 2001.

In 2001, she was promoted to chief of Asia, Pacific and Americas Directorate and served in that role until 2004. In 2006 within the Asia, Pacific and Americas Directorate she became deputy director and served in that role until 2007 when she moved with USASAC to Redstone Arsenal following the base realignment and closure.

Once arriving at Redstone Arsenal, Williams took the role of deputy director of European Command and Africa Command Regional Operations Directorate – a role in which she held until retirement.

During her tenure at USASAC Williams took on additional assignments, to include deputy director for Central Command in 2014 and deputy director of Indo-Pacific Command and Southern Command in 2018.

Williams was led by 18 commanders and 19 colonels during her time at USASAC and at times, she was chosen to temporarily replace colonels when they moved on to their next assignments.

“When the USASAC command team needed someone to fill critical leadership positions, often replacing a colonel, it was an easy choice because we had Jackie Williams on the team,” said Robert Moore, former USASAC deputy to the commanding general who worked with Williams for almost 10 years.

“When we had a challenging employee that needed special attention, we tapped Jackie because there is no one better at balancing mission accomplishments and the welfare of employees and their families.”

For Williams, the most memorable part of working at USASAC was interacting with employees and meeting international partners over the years.



Courtesy photo

Originally from Detroit, Jacqueline Williams served as a Soldier before joining the Security Assistance Command.

“I would like to think that I have remained poised and professional during my interactions, but at times it was truly a challenge,” she said.

A challenge none but Williams herself could handle according to former USASAC Commander Gen. Del Turner who commanded USASAC from September 2011 until June 2014. According to Turner, Williams had the reputation of being the most experienced and capable of USASAC's senior civilian leaders and it showed in the ways she worked with the different agencies and countries in EUCOM/AFRICOM.

Turner said Williams was exceptional in leading all the different security assistance enterprise organizations (combatant commands, lifecycle management commands, program executive offices, embassy security cooperation offices, Army Contracting Command and many others) to ensure USASAC was fulfilling the Army's commitment to our international partners. Williams built a culture of cohesive teams that are highly trained, disciplined and fit.

“Jackie never demanded respect, she earned it every day,” Turner said. “Everyone, both within and outside of USASAC, respected her tremendously because she was easy to work with and always found solutions.”

Turner described Williams as competent, respected and selfless – the personification of what America expects of our senior civil servants.

“I was and am still proud to have served with Jackie Williams,” Turner said. “They say you are judged by the company you keep and I am very proud of the fact that I can associate my name with hers.”

Despite receiving numerous awards and recognitions from foreign governments and defense contractors, Williams said it is important to always be gentle and kind to others.

“Always be mindful of what you say and how you treat people,” Williams said. “At the end of the day, it is the people: family, friends, bosses, co-workers and the janitor, all contribute to our success.”

Security enterprise custodians keep positive environment



Photo by Rick Bumgardner

Phoenix Inc. employees Parris Woodard and Jarvis Scruggs work at the Security Assistance Command. Not shown is co-worker Alice Robinson.

By TERRI STOVER

Security Assistance Command Public Affairs

For almost two years, while the Security Assistance Command workforce has been on max telework, three individuals at USASAC have been tirelessly working to keep a clean and healthy environment.

The custodial crew at the Martin Road building have shown up every day. They wear protective gloves and masks, comfortable shoes, and most importantly, a smile.

Parris Woodard, Jarvis Scruggs, and Alice Robinson, who work for Phoenix Inc., continue to work their magic in the building. Most employees will tell you “sure the crew keeps the office spotless, but they always have a smile or a kind word to say.”

“I love life and all people,” Robinson, a 15-year employee of Phoenix, said. Her positive attitude helped her when the building was being set up in the beginning of the COVID pandemic. There were many unknowns to navigate, however, she relied on her faith to help get her through that time.

See Crew on page 18

Crew

Continued from page **17**

Woodard, who has been employed with Phoenix for three years, uses a quote by Madame C.J. Walker as her inspiration, “Don’t sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them.” That is the type of advice she shares with everyone she encounters.

Woodard has always been stationed at the USASAC building as a Phoenix employee, so she has seen the building fully staffed and a skeleton crew. “I do enjoy working at USASAC, the people are always nice and pleasant,” she said.

Scruggs, a 12-year Phoenix employee, is an aspiring poet and writer. He said he “enjoys being around good, positive people,” however, most USASAC employees will say that he is the one they look to for the same reason.

All three are feeling positive about the increase in the number of employees coming back to the building. As Scruggs said, “I take it day by day.”

The pandemic has been a strange time, sometimes with tensions high and solutions unknown. However, for the employees of USASAC who come into the building sporadically or fulltime, they can count on the custodial team to provide a smile, warm greeting and an encouraging word.

Now, with more weeks ahead of continued max teleworking, these important team members will remain the constant, pleasant, much needed fixtures at USASAC.

Community

School stems from need for advanced math, science



Courtesy photo

Emma Joly, far left, works with the ASMS Robotics team at the Alabama School of Math and Science.

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

Alabama School of Math and Science, in Mobile, is the state's only fully public and residential high school for sophomore, junior and senior students seeking advanced studies in math, science and the humanities.

The State Legislature founded ASMS in 1989 to better prepare Alabama's future leaders for science, technology, engineering and math careers.

When Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville Commander Col. Sebastien Joly and his wife Vanessa became a part of the Redstone community in 2018 they had a unique educational need and ASMS became their school of choice.

Vanessa said it was important for her and her husband to find the right school for their children.

"I'm an Alabama native and already knew about ASMS. When we found out that our next Army assignment would be in Alabama, we decided that we should look into ASMS for our daughter Emma," she said. "After a campus visit, we knew the school was the perfect place for her to complete her last three years of high school. ASMS challenged her academically as well as socially. Also, she was well-prepared for the academics and dorm life of her first semester at college."

The Joly family wanted a high school that also offered dormitory housing.

"Emma was independent and focused on her studies and wanted an opportunity to live and study away from home prior to attending college," Vanessa said. "She had an interest in math and science and had applied for admission to a STEM school back when we were living in Virginia. However, the school didn't have dormitory style living like ASMS does. We knew early on that being away from home wouldn't be an issue for her. She took advantage of the extracurricular activities at the school. ASMS also had a great support system – they even helped parents coordinate the students traveling home during the breaks."

"ASMS is a great opportunity for students in Alabama to reach their fullest academic potential," Sebastien said.

Emma began her studies at ASMC during her sophomore year of high school. She



Courtesy photo

Enjoying her graduation day at ASMS in Mobile is Emma Joly, daughter of Col. Sebastien and Vanessa Joly of Madison.

emphasized that ASMS definitely isn't a "one-size-fits-all" school.

"I really liked that the teachers at ASMS helped students pursue topics that the students were interested in studying," Emma said. "It gave me broader insight into what would be expected of me academically beyond high school and prepared me for success in college. I was able to pursue college level course work, conduct original research, and forge my own academic path that put my needs first."

When Emma graduated ASMS in May, she was one of the seven National Merit Finalists from her graduating class. Since ASMS classes are much smaller than larger schools, approximately 10% of the school's 2021 senior class were National Merit Finalists.

In August, Emma began her freshman year at Georgia Tech, one of the nation's top technological universities, where she is majoring in aerospace engineering.

The family attributes Emma's adjustment to college life largely to her experiences at ASMS.

ASMS Director of Admissions and Outreach Kenneth Robinson said Emma is a success story for the school. She is an example of how the school wants to ensure military connected children have access to a specialized math and science driven curriculum. He hopes other Redstone affiliated families will look at what the school offers to see if it's the right fit for their child.

Robinson wants to raise awareness that ASMS is now taking applications for admission at the school.

"We are still taking applications for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year and hopefully, some families will be motivated to apply," he said. "Priority consideration is given to those who get all their application material in by March 15, but interested families can still apply after that date. I'm willing to assist them with the enrollment process. I encourage any Redstone families (military or civilian) who have a high school student with an interest in math and science to contact me for more information about our school."

The Jolys reside in Madison with their son, Gabe, a sophomore at Bob Jones High School.

For more information on ASMS, call 251-441-2110 or email krobinson@asms.net.

Exchange makes changes for annual inventory



Photo by Erin Elise

Sue Prunty, customer experience associate at the Exchange, works the register for Dan Mills, a retired Navy chief yeoman, and his wife, Brenda.

By REBECCA SALLEE

Staff writer

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The Exchange will close one day and operate under reduced hours on other days, while its affiliate Express stores will also modify hours some days this month during annual inventory.

Sheila Enderle, general manager of the exchanges at the Arsenal and at Columbus, Mississippi, said hours will be reduced at the Goss Road Express store at building 3234 on Jan. 19, to 6 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The Exchange main store at 3200 Acton Drive and its neighboring food court facilities will reduce hours on Jan. 21, to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

And on Saturday, Jan. 22, the Exchange main store will be closed all day, with reduced hours at the food court.

Enderle said a full day of closure is necessary at the main Exchange because every item must be counted, and there is a shortage of staff to do the work.

When she says every item must be counted, she means “every single item,” from packs of chewing gum to pairs of shoes and everything in between.

Scanners are used to help with the process, but taking inventory is always a huge undertaking, Enderle said.

COVID-19 has added to the challenge, mainly because the Exchange is understaffed and has been for quite some time, she said.

“Hiring is the biggest challenge right now,” she said. “We are not getting any applications.”

Jobs at the Exchange offer competitive wages that vary depending on experience, plus a \$1,000 sign-on bonus, disability, health and dental insurance; a 401(k) retirement plan; and sick and vacation pay for employees who work a minimum of 20 hours.

Jobs with openings include those for food service workers, customer experience associates, laborers, stockers and custodial workers.

For more information or to apply, visit www.applymyexchange.com.

Redstone Arsenal Environmental Program Public Comment Period -

January 12, 2022 - February 14, 2022

Proposed Phase II Interim Measure at RSA-188

The U.S. Army Garrison at Redstone Arsenal is proposing a Phase II Interim Measure at RSA-188, Northern Burial Area/Burning Ground #3. The site is located in the southeastern portion of RSA near the installation boundary. A housing development with over 100 residences, a major transportation route, and numerous retail structures are located within 2 miles to the east of the site. RSA-188 consists of two nearby, but non-contiguous areas identified as the Northern Burial Area (NBA), and to the south, Burning Ground #3 (BG3).

BG3 was used for the burning of small quantities of chemicals and production wastes, munitions after testing, and munitions from Redstone Ordnance Plant operations. The Phase I Interim Measure Investigation indicates that site activities at BG3 resulted in munitions and explosives of concern remaining onsite that pose near-term unacceptable risks to site users that may engage in intrusive activities. The NBA was used both for burning and burial of wastes. The Phase I Interim Measure Investigation indicates the majority of material disposed of in the NBA is more consistent with general arsenal waste and is not munitions-related or specifically related to BG3. There are no contaminants in soil or groundwater that present a near-term risk, and thus, there is no need to address them as part of an interim measure.

RSA-188 is currently on an Interim Measures path in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) restoration process, as required by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management Hazardous Waste Facility Permit issued for Redstone Arsenal. The proposed path forward is to remove RSA-188 from the Permit Table VI.5 requiring an interim response action, and instead proceed to the next phase of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) process. In the next phase of the process, a RCRA facility investigation (RFI) will be conducted to further define the nature and extent of contamination remaining at RSA-188. At the current level of site use, the chosen path forward will meet the objectives for an interim measure to protect the public in the near-term. The protections currently in place protect the public and will remain until corrective measures can be performed. Although there are no near-term threats to groundwater which require interim measures, proceeding directly to the RFI will allow the Army to address MEC contamination and long-term threats to groundwater together in a shorter period of time. This would also allow the Army to consider beneficial future uses of the site in a shorter timeframe.

The Army will review and consider all comments received during the public comment period before finalizing the selection of the Interim Measure for the site. The detailed plans for the selected Interim Measure will be presented in an Interim Measures Work Plan and submitted to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management for acceptance and approval.

For more information or to send comments about the proposed Interim Measure at RSA-188, contact:

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Spiritual fitness grows ability to meet year's challenges

By KARI HAWKINS

Army Materiel Command Public Affairs

As the Army turns the corner into a new year, it remains focused on the health of its people, the human element essential to fulfilling its mission around the world.

When those people are not healthy, the mission suffers and so, too, does the Army. While the Army has long built people resiliency on physical and mental fitness, its more recent holistic approach to resiliency includes a third factor – spiritual fitness.

“Body, mind and spirit are the new watchwords of achieving holistic health and fitness in the Army for Soldiers and civilians, alike,” Army Materiel Command Chaplain (Col.) Kevin Guthrie said. “The Army recognizes that we need all three.”

While physical fitness is needed to endure and be ready for protracted combat situations and mental fitness to outsmart adversaries, spiritual fitness provides a foundation of security, well-being and safekeeping. Spiritual readiness is one of the five domains of the Army's Holistic Health and Fitness System, the others being physical, mental, sleep and nutritional.

“Separating spirituality from overall fitness, training and culture makes us vulnerable to degraded performance, lessens our inner reserves for problem solving and increases personal suffering,” Guthrie said.

Numerous psychological and genetic studies have indicated the presence of a “God gene” in human DNA, a theory presented by scientist Dean Hamer in his book, *The God Gene: How Faith is Hardwired into Our Genes*. The theory states that 30% of human spirituality is written into human DNA and brain circuitry, and studies show spirituality is a protective factor against depression by 60%, substance abuse by 80% and risk taking by 70%, Guthrie said.

But building spirituality isn't an individual exercise.

“Spirituality – for many, religion – is a shared culture of faith,” he said. “We need to be around others who share common spiritual beliefs so we can encourage each other.”

“Studies show we are at our weakest when we are alone, without support and our hope in life is simply not recharged to its fullest. Community gives us a team of people who understand our strengths and weaknesses and give us the encouragement we need to successfully surmount challenges.”

In the workplace, that sense of community is found in teams and teamwork, which give teammates the ability to recover quickly from difficulties, he said.

“Performance strengths such as persistence, tenacity, grit and determination for a higher purpose are fostered in an environment of a team that values building resilience together,” Guthrie said. “When we see weakened character strengths and virtues, decreased relational morality and loyalty, and fragility in coping with failure and disappointment, these are indicators that the team isn't focused on building resiliency needed to meet the mission.”

While physical and mental fitness can change and even decline with age, spiritual fitness “can be cultivated over time to actually become stronger as we mature,” Guthrie said.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

Just like the promise of new growth after a cold winter brings hope for warmer days, spiritual fitness gives people struggling with challenges hope for a brighter future. Army Materiel Command Chaplain (Col.) Kevin Guthrie said the Army recognizes spiritual fitness among the three top traits – the other being physical and mental fitness – to ensuring readiness and well-being among its Soldiers and civilian workforce.

He suggested the following “action items” for growing spiritual fitness:

Read and reflect to gain more knowledge about faith. Guthrie suggests selecting a daily reading from a faith-based book (the Bible for Christians, Tanakh for Jews, Koran for Muslims, Tripitaka for Buddhists and other spiritual books), and taking the time to connect with and reflect on the reading.

Connect with faith through prayer. “Prayer helps us develop skills like gratitude and compassions, and may be calming,” Guthrie said.

Self-reflect and focus on thoughts through meditation. “Life often puts us on a fast roller-coaster that obstructs us from clarity and purpose,” Guthrie said. “Just taking 10 minutes to meditate can be calming and help us to objectively focus on what is working in our lives and how we can change for the better. It's good to take time away from life's demands to reflect.”

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, numerous natural and man-made disasters, economic worries and personal struggles, it may seem natural to face 2022 with fear and in trepidation, Guthrie said. But spiritual resilience helps people change fear into positive action.

“Fear is a healthy guide to make us consider the worst possible scenarios and raise our anxiety so we will resolve threatening situations,” he said.

“Soldiers are trained to overcome hair-raising experiences with courage and power to accomplish mission objectives. We want our Soldiers and civilians to be courageous, but not necessarily fearless. But fear can become toxic when we fixate on it and are paralyzed by it. Winston Churchill said ‘Fear is a reaction. Courage is a decision.’ Faith in a higher power – in God – helps us to identify our fears, release control over them in faith and move forward.”

Even when people are spiritually resilient, disappointments and setbacks can challenge their sense of well-being. But with spiritual resilience, there is always hope that the best still lies ahead, he said.

“I think Mother Teresa said it best when she said ‘Peace begins with a smile,’” Guthrie said. “And, so a better 2022 begins with a smile.”

Give to Combined Federal Campaign by Jan. 15

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

Since 1961, the Combined Federal Campaign has been one of the largest and most successful giving campaigns in the federal workplace. It offers federal employees and retirees the opportunity to support the causes they care about by giving to their charity of choice from the thousands that participate.

The annual fundraising campaign began Oct. 15 and continues through Jan. 15.

Locally the effort is spearheaded by Maj. Jeffrey Crosbie, chairman, and Capt. Chad Evans, vice chair.

Consider donating to this worthy cause.

For information about contributing to CFC, email jeffrey.r.crosbie.mil@army.mil.



Learn to stop the bleeding to save a life

By **REBECCA SALLEE**

Staff writer

rebecca.sallee@theredstonerocket.com

If you ever find yourself at the scene of an accident and come across someone with a gushing wound, would you have a clue how to help?

Ian Voisine, fire captain and paramedic at Fire Station 1, wants to spread the word on how to “Stop the Bleed.”

He is leading a free four-hour class to anyone affiliated with Redstone Arsenal, to provide local information he obtained in a national campaign by the same name.

The class trains participants in the proper use of tourniquets and how to pack other wounds to stop bleeding as an immediate life-saving measure.

The national campaign started after a couple of tragedies in which bystanders with training were able to use such measures to save lives, Voisine said.

“Stop the Bleed started after the Vegas (mass) shooting, and the Boston (Marathon) bombing,” he said.

Thanks to the efforts of those on the scene and trained in the use of tourniquets – including many with military experience – people learned “how well tourniquets work.”

Voisine saw tourniquets work firsthand when he served as a Marine corporal and witnessed an aircraft crash in Iraq. He was working then in security, not as a medic, but he observed as others used tourniquets to



Photo by Jonathan Stinson

Fire captain Ian Voisine, manager of the Stop the Bleed program, demonstrates using a tourniquet on firefighter Keith Androvett. Voisine offers a class –which uses high-tech learning aids like the one on the left designed to simulate a gunshot wound – designed to teach people how to properly use a tourniquet during an emergency.

save lives.

Misinformation about tourniquets has been around for some time, Voisine said. For example, some people think tourniquets should only be used as a last resort, because “they think it means you’re going to lose

that limb.”

“It’s not true,” he said. “You want to stop all that bleeding. This is a course you can use every day.”

While professionally made tourniquets are ideal, many items can be used to fashion a tourniquet, such as a belt or clothing, “anything one and a half inches thick,” Voisine said.

He hoped to begin teaching Stop the Bleed classes in early 2020, but the pandemic delayed those plans. He is now ready to schedule classes upon request, and said participation is open to individuals and groups, including youth such as Scout troops.

The four-hour class is comprised of a Power Point slide show, lecture, hand-on use of tourniquets, and a test.

The “hands-on” portion of the class asks students to randomly put a tourniquet on themselves or a buddy.

“They’re not comfortable,” Voisine said. “I want people to know how tight a tourniquet is supposed to feel.”

Everyone who completes the class successfully will receive a certificate of completion good for two years.

“It’s a lot like CPR. The only difference is my class is free,” Voisine said.

Although Voisine is currently the only teacher on post, he is training other firefighters and paramedics and hopes eventually there will be multiple qualified instructors.

To schedule the class, call Voisine at 876-3437, or send an email to ian.t.voisine.civ@army.mil.

ID Card Section seeks volunteer receptionists

By JO ANITA MILEY

Garrison Public Affairs

There's a way to connect with the community and make it a better place – becoming a volunteer.

The Garrison Directorate of Human Resources Military Personnel Division is looking for volunteers to work as receptionists at the front desk of the ID Card Section in the One Stop building.

Ed Adams, human resources supervisor, said the team wants to provide optimum customer service to One Stop customers. Volunteers are sought to support the receptionist desk on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Part-time or full-time helpers are welcome. Each volunteer's schedule is flexible based on a mutual agreement between the volunteer, the volunteer coordinator and the volunteer program manager.

“These volunteers will assist in the continuous improvement of all ID Card Section programs,” Adams said. “Our ID Card Section services a large number of individuals. We are short staffed right now so having volunteers in place to support this need helps us avoid any changes to the level of service we provide to our customers. We have to get the word out about this opportunity.”

He emphasized that having volunteers as receptionists can have a huge impact on the Redstone community

“The receptionist is often the first person customers see when entering the building,” Adams said. “So the responsibilities of the volunteer positions include greeting customers at the desk and verifying the nature of their visit before distributing tickets, answering phones, taking messages, handling basic information requests, interacting with customers and referring them to correct departments within the One Stop, providing general assistance to program managers as needed. It's also helpful if volunteers possess a knowledge of basic office skills and have good verbal communication and listening skills. Some on-the-job training will be provided.

“We need volunteers in order to continue to provide our customers the best service possible. The organizational growth resulting from the volunteer's successful completion of a job will benefit our organization. Volunteers gain something as well. This opportunity allows them to further the development of their communication and organization skills and they gain proficiency in the use of office equipment. They can document their skills and performance on their resume. Also, by volunteering they are making an impact on the Redstone community and making it a better place.”

Individuals interested in this volunteer opportunity are asked to call the One Stop ID Card Section at 842-2413.

Feedback sought from Redstone housing residents

By **BUD McLAUGHLIN**

Staff writer

bud.mclaughlin@theredstonerocket.com

Attention Redstone Arsenal residents!
Here's your chance to be heard about your satisfaction with privatized Army housing (Hunt Military Communities).

Starting Jan. 11 and running until Feb. 24, residents are asked to take part in the annual survey. It's strictly confidential and takes just 10 minutes.

"We would like their feedback on what they like about the community," David Ugarte, resident service specialist for Redstone family housing, said. "We're always looking to enhance the residents' experience."

The survey, which will include an online link, will be emailed from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com to residents in privatized, government-owned and government-leased housing. Residents who have not received a survey should reply to armyhousingsurvey@celassociates.com.

Ugarte said past surveys have helped the company to grow and improve services.

"It was helpful to get that feedback," he said. "We've hired more maintenance technicians and have had a quicker turnaround on work orders."

In summer 2019, during the CEL survey timeframe, the Army even began joining in on inspections to better understand the residents' concerns and to see firsthand through the residents' eyes, Ugarte said.

"It helped out to have our Army partner involved then and still so today," he said.

And, to encourage participation in the survey, there will be prizes.

"During the time of the survey, there will be drawings for gift cards," Ugarte said. "The completed surveys are automatically entered into the drawing and a random survey will be pulled."

Redstone family housing holds events about one to three times a month, Ugarte said. There was a Sweets & Treats snack table at the office (302 Hughes Drive) on Jan. 11. There will be a furry version of the Sweets & Treats on Jan. 14 and there is a Pet of the Month contest Jan. 13-20

on the Facebook page: [Redstone Family Housing-Home | Facebook](#).

"Residents can stop by our office from 2-4 p.m. (Jan. 14) for dog and cat treats and toys," Ugarte said. "They can use the toys and treats in their Pet of the

Month pictures and post them."

Virtual bingo on Zoom is also planned from 5-7 p.m. Jan. 17. Residents will have a half-hour to sign in. An email was sent Jan. 10 with instructions on downloading the Zoom app and the link.

"I will host the Zoom meeting call," Ugarte said. "Prizes include gift baskets and coupons" from area stores and restaurants.

"This is our way to give back to the community."

Tenant Satisfaction Survey



Share your thoughts and feedback on how we are able to help create exceptional living experiences for you and your family!

The survey will be sent from
ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com
to the email address on file.

If you do not receive a survey link, you can contact the
above email address to receive a new survey link and passcode.

OMB Control Number: 0704-0553 OMB Expiration Date: 31 March 22

Decatur resident proud of serving in Marine Corps

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

Charlie “Howard” Williams always remembered what his uncle used to tell him: You might run me home but you’re not going to run me away from home.

That philosophy of defending your ground led to his decision to join the Marines during the Vietnam War.

“I felt good about defending my country, being able to,” Williams said. “I got put into position I could defend my country by going into the military. That’s what I was excited about. I was in that position.”

The Morgan County native didn’t go to Vietnam but he would have if ordered. He served from 1972-74 with the 3rd Light Antiaircraft Missile Battalion, based at Cherry Point, North Carolina. He was a missile launcher operator. They had temporary additional duty for more than six months aboard the USS Portland on maneuvers in the Atlantic. They docked at Rotterdam, Holland; Harstad, Norway; and at an Air Force base in Germany.

“I loved it,” Williams said of his two years in uniform. “It was exciting to me. And I’m proud.”

He was from Moulton Heights, a small community near Decatur. His mother died when he was 2. He was one of six children – three boys and three girls – raised by his paternal uncle.

Williams grew up fast – he had two children in high school. After graduating from West Morgan High in 1971, he attended Morristown College in Tennessee. But his basketball scholarship didn’t cover everything, and money was tight, so he dropped out and joined the Marines.

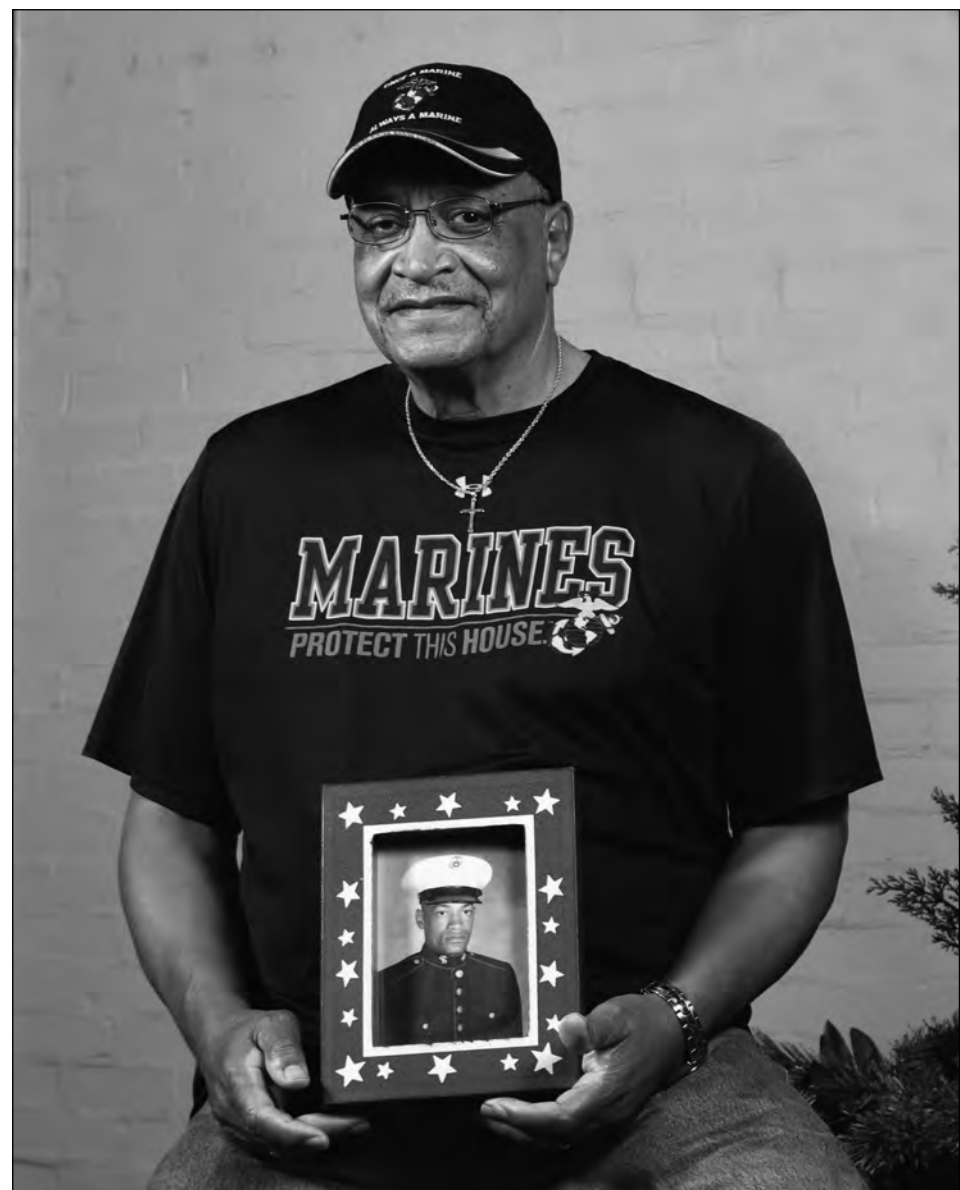
“After I left school, I just decided I’d join the military,” he said. “And I chose the Marine Corps because I knew more about it. I could talk to my brother about it.”

Larry “Cocoa” Williams, five years older, had served with the Marines in Okinawa and he died in November 2021. “It hurt me to my heart. He was a character,” Williams said.

Williams left the Marines as a lance corporal in 1974. He went to work in 1975 with Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, or 3M Company, in Decatur. After 37 years, he retired in 2013.

“And then I couldn’t stand just sitting around the house so I got a job with NARCOG,” he said. The Decatur resident drives a bus for NARCOG Transit, a government-funded system which provides low-cost transportation for the elderly and underprivileged.

He and his wife, Sylvia, have been married almost 45 years. He has six children, including five girls, and 14 grandchildren. At 69 he enjoys playing with his grandchildren and he attends King’s Memorial United Methodist Church in Decatur.



Courtesy photo by Jennifer Brown

Decatur resident Charlie “Howard” Williams served in the Marines from 1972-74.

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

“I think it’s deserved recognition because of what the U.S. was trying to do even though it didn’t get accomplished,” he said. “The United States is the best country in the world. It’s going to try to do the right thing. And if it doesn’t do the right thing, it’s still going to try. Nobody wants to go to war. And the Vietnam War was a prime example. Sometimes what you’re going for doesn’t get accomplished. But you’ve still got to try to get it done. Hindsight is 20/20.”

Editor’s note: This is the 352nd in a series of articles about Vietnam veterans as the United States commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Vietnam revisited
Part 352 in series

Photo Booth

By Skip Vaughn



What is your favorite pastime?

"Baseball. I love watching baseball. My favorite team is the Atlanta Braves by far." – **Nelson Smith, civil engineer in the engineering division, Garrison's Directorate of Public Works**

Sports

17U Redstone Rockets drop opener to International



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Redstone's Jaden Fletcher wins the opening tip against International's Joel Bowen (30).

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@theredstonerocket.com

The bigger they are, the better they rebound.

The 17-and-under International 69ers used their superior size to control the boards and edge the 17U Redstone Rockets, 35-33 in the season opener Saturday at the Youth Center.

Joel Bowen had 14 points, 10 rebounds and three assists for the 69ers. The 6-foot-3 center put his team up 33-31 with three minutes left and 35-31 a minute later.

"Our chemistry was really good today," Bowen, a sophomore at Huntsville High, said. "We worked as a team very well."

"I just listened to what my coaches told me today. I think I played with good effort. My team helped me a lot. It was the momentum."

The 69ers led 16-13 at halftime but trailed 31-25 with seven minutes left before taking control with a 10-0 run.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Point guard Jordan Tims directs the Redstone offense as International's William Collins defends.

Alec Huskey had 11 points and three steals. William Collins had nine rebounds and two assists.

International coach Jamie Duncan works at Redstone Arsenal in the Strategic and Operational Rockets and Missiles, or STORM, Project Office which is under the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space. He is the Precision Strike Missile deputy product director. Duncan is in his fourth year as a volunteer coach in the Huntsville recreational league and second at 17U.

"Man, we came together, focused on rebounds, shots down low and it really came down to our size," Duncan said. "Used our size to our advantage and ball movement."

Jordan Tims scored a game-high 18 points for the Rockets. Kendrick Jones had nine with a 3-pointer which put Redstone up 29-25 with nine minutes left. Jaden Fletcher had 10 rebounds and three steals.

The Rockets were outrebounded 34-27.

"We weren't ready," Redstone coach Marcus Tolbert said. "We weren't prepared. Definitely weren't prepared."

Jets become unlikely heroes in Super Bowl III

All things seemed possible in 1969.

Our family had just moved to Huntsville from my hometown Philadelphia. I was 13 years old and still an avid fan of all things Philly – the Phillies, the 76ers, the Eagles and yes Tastykake and cheesesteaks.

But that pro football season, I became a fan of the upstart New York Jets. They represented the American Football League that year in Super Bowl III against the heavily favored Baltimore Colts of the National Football League.

The Jets were led by a brash young quarterback named Joe Namath, who had played for Bear Bryant at Alabama.

None of the experts gave the Jets a chance against coach Don Shula's Colts. There was no way the New Yorkers from the fledgling AFL would topple the mighty Baltimore team from the established NFL. The Colts were favored by 19½ points.

Baltimore went 13-1 in the regular season and shut out the Cleveland Browns 34-0 in the NFL championship game. The Jets were 11-3 in the regular season and defeated the Oakland Raiders 27-23 in the AFL championship game.

But there was Namath making a bold prediction three days before the Super Bowl at the Miami Touchdown Club. Broadway Joe personally guaranteed his team's victory.

Y'all know what happened on Jan. 12, 1969, 53 years ago today. Namath and the Jets upset the mighty Colts, 16-7, at the Orange Bowl in Miami.

I was elated. If the Jets can do it, I can become a great athlete – I didn't. I can become a great cartoonist – I didn't. I can become successful in whatever I choose to do with my life – bingo.

From the sidelines

By Skip Vaughn

Rocket editor

Warrior athletes also served as inspirations

By DAVID VERGUN
DOD News

There are many American athletes who also served in the military. Many have inspirational stories. Here are two:

Garry Garber

Garry Garber served in the Army shortly after the end of World War II, enlisting at the age of 15. He lied about his age to enlist, which was not uncommon before the advent of computerized record keeping.

As a bantamweight boxer, Garber had won the Second Army Boxing Championship in 1948, 1949 and 1950. He then went on to become the 1952 and 1955 Eastern Intercollegiate champion and the 1954 National Intercollegiate champion.

In 1965 and 1967, Garber won the North American Bantamweight championship.

Out of the ring, Garber, who was the son of Mexican immigrant parents, wanted to volunteer to work with at-risk Latino youth. In that endeavor, he became a social worker and was a founding member of the Washington D.C.'s Row-



Garry Garber

ing Leaders program, where he worked as a drug- and delinquency-prevention counselor from 1956 to 1991.

Garber died in June 2020 at the age of 89, after a battle with COVID-19.

Bert Shepard

Bert Shepard was an Army aviator during World War II. On May 21, 1944, his luck ran out when his P-38 Lightning fighter was shot down over Germany.

He had been scheduled to pitch for his 55th Fighter Group's baseball team in England later that day.

The crash resulted in the amputation of his right leg below the knee. After surviving as a prisoner of war, Shepard returned stateside with baseball still on his mind. The Washington Senators picked him up, and he began his short pitching career with the team on Aug. 4, 1945.

Thanks in part to him, the Senators almost won the pennant that year.

After his only season with the Senators, Shepard toured the nation, visiting and inspiring fellow veterans who were also amputees. He toured the nation flying in his own airplane and put on shows, sprinting and playing basketball as part of his inspirational tours.

Shepard won the U.S. amputee golf championship in 1968 and in 1971.

In 1993, Shepard flew to Austria, where he met the Austrian doctor, Ladislaus Loidl, who had amputated his leg during the war and thereby saved his life.



Bert Shepard

Shepard died in 2008 at the age of 87.
Editor's note: Sports Heroes Who Served is a series that highlights the accomplishments of athletes who served in the U.S. military.

Your glory days in sports

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

How do you stay in shape?

"I have a group of friends to consistently work out with and push each other," Hunter Womack, product assurance specialist with the Close Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center, said. "We do a lot of weightlifting and cardio things. As a group we come to Col. Scott Fitness Center every day after work to keep ourselves in check. Our first day of working on the Arsenal was roughly middle of August of 2021. We started coming consistently around early September. The benefits of coming consistently would be increased relationships with each other and having other people to push ourselves to get better."

"Mentally I've noticed that I've been more motivated to work out with other people. And physically I've noticed increases in the amount of weight that I can lift."

Womack, 23, was born in Davenport, Iowa, and raised in an Army family. He graduated from Sparkman High School in 2016 and finished Auburn University in May 2021 with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering. He started working at Redstone on Aug. 16. The Madison resident enjoys motorcycle riding, hiking and weightlifting. Womack roots for the Auburn Tigers.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Hunter Womack lifts weights in the Col. Stephen K. Scott Fitness Center.

Physical fitness tip of the week

By **CARLA TOMANOVICH**

MWR recreation specialist

Incline dumbbell fly.

This exercise emphasizes the upper chest and anterior deltoids while the triceps stabilize the movement. Lie on a bench inclined at a 35-45 degree angle. Grab a pair of dumbbells and hold them high over the chest area, palms facing each other. Inhale as you slowly lower the arms out to the sides with a wide arc, arms slightly bent, until the dumbbells are parallel or just beyond parallel to the body. Then exhale as you bring the dumbbells back to the starting position along the same arc.



Carla Tomanovich

I can't do "ASAP" but I can
get it to you "WIFLDI," okay?

When I Feel Like Doing It!

CPT Bligh, what does
"WIFLDI" mean?

? ?

MAJ PAYNE

ASAP

Jim BoRoch
5 JANUARY 2022

Conferences&Meetings

Sergeants major association

The Sergeants Major Association is meeting every third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room of Garrison headquarters building 4488 on Martin Road. If you are not able to attend in person, you can still attend through Zoom. Attendees must download the Zoom app on either their home computer, laptop or mobile device to participate. Once you get into the Zoom app, you will see Meeting ID number. Type in 710 211-4188. Then you will see the "Join meeting" button. If you have problems getting into Zoom, call retired Sgt. Maj. Willene Orr (410) 533-2685.

Warrant officer association

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

Veterans of foreign wars

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

Blacks in government

Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks In Government has its general membership meeting the third Thursday of the month via Zoom at 7 p.m. BIG functions as a knowledgeable, problem-identifying and solving organization for civil servants. For more information email Mary Peoples at maryd6519@gmail.com.

Marine Corps league

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

Purple Heart chapter

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

Vietnam veterans

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

MiscellaneousItems

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.

ACS volunteers needed

Army Community Service seeks volunteers for its information and referral desk in the Pershing Welcome Center, building 3443 on Aerobee Road. Hours are 7:30 a.m.

RocketAnnouncements

to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. You get to build a rapport with the community. You're supporting Soldiers, family members and civilians. If interested call Stephanie Young 876-6661.

Lifesaving class for Redstone

Redstone fire department offers a "Stop the Bleed" program which teaches how to use a tourniquet and stop major bleeding. Anyone on post is invited to take the class. "It's free. They get a certificate afterward, and they get a lifesaving skill," lead instructor Ian Voisine, fire captain/paramedic at Station 1 on Rideout Road, said. To schedule a free four-hour class, call Station 1 at 842-2584.

Health department ratings

The Madison County Health Department has released its weekly food/lodging establishment ratings for Dec. 27-30. The highest scores included Taqueria Don Pan-chito mobile unit, 2537 Sparkman Drive, 100; One Group LLC doing business as Domino's (Von Braun Center), 700 Monroe St., 100; Murphy USA, 11610-A Memorial Parkway, 100; AFC Sushi at Kroger 677, 7090 University Drive, 100; Northwest YMCA, 4600 A Blue Spring Road, 100; and Pourhouse LLC-mobile food service, 3414 Governors Drive, 100. The lowest scores included JAI MADi Inc., The Corner Store, 3105 Drake Ave. SW, 83; Marathon, 4011 University Drive, 80; and IHOP Madison 3451 Inc., 8622 Highway 72 West, Madison, 75.

Merit award scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club will award educational merit awards in 2022 to eligible students who are affiliated with and acting as contributing members of the Redstone military and government civilian community. There are two types of scholarships to apply for this year: RSAMCC Merit Award, for members of the club and their dependents; and the Military Community Scholarship, where applicants do not need to be a member of the club. More information and the online application form can be found on the RSAMCC webpage, www.rsamcc.org/merit-awards. The deadline to apply is midnight Feb. 27. For information email rsamccmeritawards@gmail.com. RSAMCC is a 501c private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.