



Fort Detrick The Standard

A Sustainable Community of Excellence



Thanksgiving—Curbside Style



With Fort Detrick police officers directing traffic, volunteers dishing out Thanksgiving favorites, and volunteers delivering meals to cars, this year may have looked different, but Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Fort Detrick Chapel rose to the challenge to serve hundreds of people, safely, during a pandemic to keep this tradition going for another year.



DFMWR held its annual Thanksgiving Holiday Meal at Fort Detrick on Nov. 18, 2020, at the Community Activity Center. Volunteers managed to give out 360 meals in 90 minutes. That equates to one meal boxed, delivered, and distributed every 25 seconds. Volunteers from across the Installation, including U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, came together to serve up another successful year.

The Fort Detrick Chapel followed with their Thanksgiving Meal on Nov. 19, 2020. Over 40 volunteers put in 165 hours of service to prepare and deliver the 455 meals served curbside at the Chapel.

With grateful hearts, we thank the leadership that served, the hands that prepared, the police that managed traffic and the hardworking employees and volunteers that made both meals a tasty success.

Photos by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs and Chapel Staff

Fort Detrick Participates in Local Veteran's Day Parade

Brig. Gen. Mike Talley, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick and spouse, along with the Fort Detrick Color Guard, participated in the 88th annual City of Brunswick Veteran's Day Parade, Nov. 8, 2020. The city's salute to our veterans and active duty military is one of the oldest parades in the Nation.

Photo by Erick Barnes, USAG Public Affairs



FCPS Recognize Local Veterans in Annual Program

Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

Frederick County Public Schools held their annual Veterans Day Program on Nov. 12 at their central offices to recognize local veterans' contributions, especially those who continue to serve by working in FCPS.

Fort Detrick Garrison Commander Col. Dexter Nunnally participated by narrating the POW-MIA portion of the program that included an empty table set aside to remember our Armed Forces missing from our ranks and absent from these events. Col. Nunnally went on to describe the relevance of the table and the elements placed on it.

"A small table was set aside with a white table cloth, single rose, yellow ribbon, a slice of lemon, and a candle which occupied a place of dignity and respect, said Nunnally. This table set for one is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner. The tablecloth is symbolic of the purity of their intentions to respond to the Country's arms. The single red rose signifies the blood they shed and reminds us of the family and friends who keep the faith while awaiting their return. The yellow ribbon represents those who demand a final accounting of our comrades not among us today. The lemon reminds us of their bitter faith; when sprinted, the salt reminds us of the countless tears of families. The glass is inverted as they can't toast with us today, and the chair is empty because they are not here. The candle is reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home," recited Nunnally.

The program also recognized nominees for the 2020 Veteran in Education Award. All nominees are current FCPS employees

who are veterans with impressive military experience and contributions to the community.



Fort Detrick Garrison Commander, Col. Dexter Nunnally narrates the POW-MIA portion of the Frederick County Public Schools Veterans Day Program on Nov. 12, 2020. The annual program recognizes the contributions of local veterans especially those who continue to serve by working in the Frederick County Public Schools system.

Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

DETRICK KIDS' CORNER

Highlighting the amazing programs and kids at Fort Detrick

“Thankful for our Talents” Show at Fort Detrick CYS



Fort Detrick Child and Youth Services Sports held a “Thankful for Our Talents” show on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020, at the Youth Center gym. Children showcased their talents that they were thankful for this year. Acts included ballet, magic tricks, snowflake maker, cheerleaders, dancers and steppers. Each child received a thank you bag and note from staff, encouraging them to continue sharing their talents.

Photos Courtesy of FMWR

Recognizing Excellence



The Department of the Army and U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick Commander, Col. Dexter Nunnally presents Fort Detrick CYS Sports Directors Shanise Swanson (left photo) and Assistant Frederick Hill the 2020 CYS Team Award of Excellence based upon their dedication to providing quality programming while going above and beyond to keep participants and their family members involved.

Throughout COVID-19, the team at Fort Detrick found creative ways to safely keep children active and engaged through various activities both virtually and in small, in-person groups.

Photos courtesy of FMWR

USAMMDA's innovative "C-Arm" imaging device will help save lives

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity recently received the state-of-the-art "C-Arm" high-capacity radiographic and fluoroscopic unit, which is a mobile, self-contained X-ray machine that uses non-invasive real-time fluoroscopic imaging in the operating room during examination, diagnosis and surgery. This innovative system is used primarily to locate and treat vascular injuries, such as uncontrolled bleeding, during surgery, as well as in the removal of foreign bodies and to triage patients. The successful implementation of the C-Arm unit at military treatment facilities will help to reduce the fatality rate of Warfighters who have suffered vascular injuries.

Wendy Hagan, program manager for USAMMDA's Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems Project Management Office, currently oversees the cost, schedule and performance of the C-Arm effort. She is responsible for leading the C-Arm Working Group, which includes subject matter experts, clinicians, contractors and other personnel who work together to facilitate modernization of the device. In her role, Hagan facilitates the formation and evaluation of essential characteristics to ensure the C-Arm is tailored to meet the needs of the Warfighter, while safeguarding its sustainability in deployed scenarios through a comprehensive test and evaluation process.

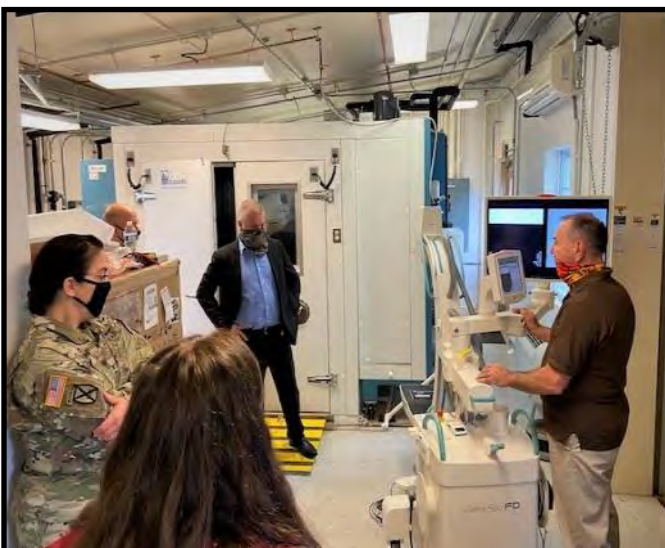
"USAMMDA's C-Arm machine has undergone environmental testing at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's Test Branch at Fort Detrick, Maryland, to evaluate

the durability of the unit and its components in hostile environments," Hagan explained. "Upon completion of the environmental testing requirements, the C-Arm was re-packaged and transported to Camp Bullis, Texas, to complete operational testing before initial procurement by military operational units."

Hagan and other WDMS PMO personnel are currently in San Antonio to oversee user testing of the C-Arm unit, and she said the process is going very well thus far. She anticipates testing will conclude by November 20, and her team does not foresee any issues that would prevent the C-Arm from passing all of the testing requirements.

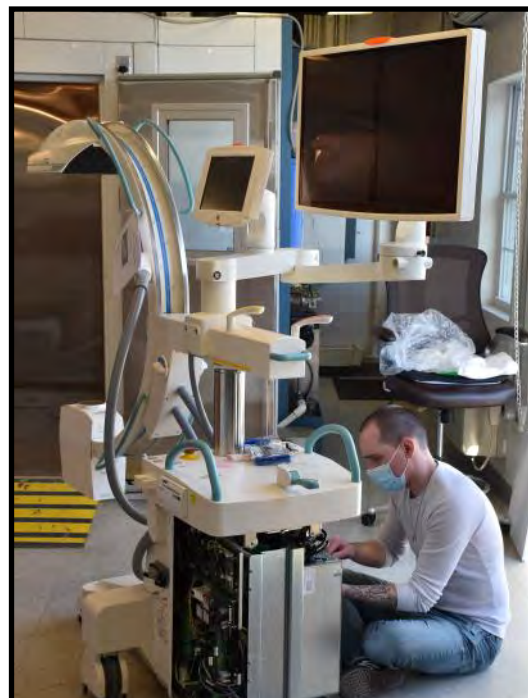
"This is the first C-Arm unit that we've received," said Hagan. "After operational and user testing is successfully completed in San Antonio, we will begin procuring additional units for our military forces, with the objective of acquiring 42 C-Arm units. We also will have an option for an additional 54 units in future procurements."

"We are very excited about the vast potential of the C-Arm's ability to save lives," she continued. "During our current war on terrorism, vascular injury is five times higher than in previous wars, resulting in 20 percent of battlefield injuries. This piece of medical equipment will help to reduce morbidity and mortality due to these injuries, which will also help to improve Soldier readiness."



Kenneth Hutchinson, senior biomedical engineer (radiology) at Tracy Defense Depot, provides an overview of the C-Arm system to USAMMDA leadership and staff, including Army Col. Gina E. Adam (left), USAMMDA commander, and Dr. Tyler Bennett (center), project manager, Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems Project Management Office, USAMMDA.

Photo by Army Cpt. Scott Wynocker, USAMMDA WDMS PMO



USAMMDA's new C-Arm device undergoes final assembly prior to environmental testing at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's Test Branch at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Annual Turkey Trot brings in over 800 pounds of food donations

The annual Fort Detrick Turkey Trot, a Thanksgiving tradition designed to gather food donations and help provide Thanksgiving meals to those in need, concluded Nov. 23, 2020. Facing the unique challenges presented by COVID-19, teams masked up and maintained a safe distance as they jogged (and walked) their way to another successful year of supporting our local communities. The team with the most participants was Company B, 4th LAR Battalion, 4th MARDIV. They also held the fastest time at 41:27.

The final weights for the donations were:

302d Signal: 72 lbs.

Garrison/Building 810: 49 lbs.

PX: 43 lbs.

USAMRIID: 239 lbs.

4th MARDIV: 208 lbs.

6th MLMC: 262 lbs.

Total weight: 873 lbs.

Photos by Sgt. Katherine Sherman, 6MLMC



FORT DETRICK HAZARDOUS WEATHER GUIDE

[Click here to view the Guide](#)

2020 Fort Detrick

Winter Weather Updates

The Public Affairs Office updates the following resources in the order listed:

Social Media: Facebook @DetrickUSAG and Twitter @DetrickUSAG

The Fort Detrick Weather Line: (301) 619-7611

Alert! Mass Warning and Notification System

Other Media Outlets: TV and Radio — Listed Below

Baltimore	Pennsylvania	Washington D.C.	Hagerstown	W. Va	Frederick
WBAL Ch. 11	WGAL NBC Ch. 8 (York)	WJLA ABC Ch. 7	WDVM NBC Ch. 25	WMRE AM 1550	WFMD AM 930
WMAR ABC 4	WCRH FM 90.5	Fox 5 D.C	WWEG FM 106.9	WKSJ FM 98.3	WFRE FM 99.9
WJZ Ch. 13	WGTY 107.7	NBC Ch. 4	WARK AM 1490		
WCAO AM 600	WGET 1320 AM	WUSA TV Ch. 9	WJEJ AM 1240		
WPOC FM 93.1	WWMD FM 101	WTOP AM 1500	WILD 96.7 FM		
		WWVZ FM 104.1			
		WRQX FM 107.3			

Retiree Appreciation Day at the Commissary



The Fort Detrick Commissary adjusted operations this year to recognize retirees. Typically an annual Retiree Appreciation Day event is held in person, but with the current COVID -19 environment, that was changed. Instead, Webco/OSC, a major supplier of goods to the worldwide Commissary system offered two fifty dollar gift cards to raffle winners. Over 200 Commissary customers competed in the raffle.

Raffle tickets were available to retirees at check-out counters during Thanksgiving week and the Fort Detrick Retiree Council Co-Chairs drew the winning tickets on November 28, 2020.

Winners were presented gift cards by Webco/OSC representative Mr. Boris Gregg.

Pictured from left to right: Mr. Boris Gregg, Webco/OSC representative; Winner 1st Sgt. (R) Debbie Orfe and winner Kay Markin, spouse of Master Sgt. (R) Doug Markin.

Photo compliments of the Fort Detrick Commissary

USAMMDA Team Members Join COVID-19 Joint Acquisition Task Force: Take on Strategic National Stockpile Readiness

By Ashley Force, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Earlier this year, when word started spreading about a distant and potentially deadly novel coronavirus, our country prepared for the worst. When the virus reached the United States, it spread rapidly. Yet, our hospitals were prepared with the medical supplies they needed to properly treat patients, at least in the beginning. However, after several months, our Nation was using up its Strategic National Stockpile at a rapid rate. The national stockpile includes critical items necessary to provide care to patients, such as medical supplies, personal protective equipment, and drugs, such as steroids and pain medicine.

With the national stockpile decreasing, in March 2020, the Department of Defense established the COVID-19 Joint Acquisition Task Force, or JATF, which was in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. According to the JATF website, which lists the program's mission and COVID-19 resources, the JATF was formed to support the acquisition execution of the DoD's COVID-19 response to interagency partners such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Health and Human Services and their requests for medical resources. The JATF team served as the single entry point to the DoD acquisition enterprise for interagency requests for assistance.

HHS partnered with personnel from within the DoD who have expertise in acquisition and contracting support. Program managers supporting the JATF oversaw seven different product groups to focus on replenishing critical supplies: ventilators, N95 masks, screening and diagnostics, personal protective equipment, pharmaceuticals, vaccine delivery, and continuous renal replacement therapy, known as CRRT.

The JATF was made up of about 80 personnel from within the DoD, many from the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and its various subordinate commands.

"The JATF's impact was defined by its ability to bring together the broad array of acquisition professionals from across DoD, and USAMRDC played an integral and irreplaceable role," said Stacy Cummings, Senior Executive Service, JATF lead, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Acquisition.

In the summer of 2020, the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity, a subordinate command of USAMRDC, had three team members supporting the JATF mission. These team members recount their experiences working to restock the medical supply shortage.

Jay Wang, product manager for USAMMDA's Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation Project Management Office, served as the product manager for the CRRT group and technical lead for the pharmaceuticals group from May to September 2020.

"The challenge was building an entire acquisition strategy and developing a requirement fast enough for the public," said Wang. "People's lives were on the line the longer they went without these products, and that was always on my mind."

Wang was well aware of what a mission like the JATF would entail. In 2014, he managed the Ebola drug and served as the subject matter expert on the DoD HHS Ebola team. Although he knew the JATF mission would be a challenge, he was eager to help the Nation restore potentially lifesaving medical supplies.

"Hats off to USAMMDA for encouraging product managers like me to support larger efforts like the JATF. USAMMDA understood that the bigger mission as a whole helps everyone," said Wang.

Wang oversees three programs at USAMMDA: the Air Medical Evacuation portfolio, the Transport Telemedicine Systems Medical Hands-free Unified Broadcast, and Interoperable Medical Automated Systems, all of which fall under USAMMDA's Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation Project Management Office.

Wang attributes his success in the JATF mission to his 13 years of acquisition training and experience within the DoD. He earned a Master's degree in program management from the Naval Postgraduate School in September 2019. The support provided to Wang by the DoD and USAMMDA has increased national security

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Current and former U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity personnel dedicated their acquisition expertise to the Joint Acquisition Task Force mission in the fight against COVID-19.

Pictured top left: Army Maj. Victor Zottig, branch chief for the Regulatory Business Support Office, Office of Regulated Activities, at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command.

Pictured top right: Army Maj. Janessa Moyer, director of Force Sustainment, U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency. Pictured bottom left: Jay Wang, product manager for USAMMDA's Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation Project Management Office.

Image courtesy of USAMMDA Public Affairs

through his ability to support the JATF mission. Wang is proud of all he accomplished during the JATF mission.

As product manager for the CRRT, Wang contributed to the rapid acquisition of dialysis systems and dialysis fluids to increase Strategic National Stockpile readiness and increase domestic production of critical medical capabilities to battle COVID-19. He completed market research for CRRT and reviewed over 80 clinical Good Manufacturing Practice companies. He helped develop the CRRT gap analysis and requirement for HHS to identify a possible up to six million liter gap of CRRT fluids. He developed the CRRT Acquisition Strategy. He also authored CRRT contracting documents for HHS Strategic National Stockpile to procure up to \$50 million worth of Vendor Managed Inventory of dialysis machines and fluids. Wang expanded his efforts from the CRRT group to pharmaceuticals. In this product group, he reviewed over 30 Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient white papers resulting in the review of four API proposals to make final recommendations to HHS to increase domestic production of APIs for awards exceeding \$150 million.

Another pharmaceutical review team lead was Major Janessa Moyer, director of Force Sustainment, U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency, who supported the JATF mission from July through September 2020.

"I was able to work with incredibly intelligent professionals that opened my eyes to different perspectives," said Moyer. "I found it to be not only interesting but also rewarding."

Moyer led a team of HHS professionals in actively managing and evaluating proposals from industry that outlined Key Starting Material capability both in scope and production rates. Key Starting Materials refer to the foundation, or to any substances of defined quality used in the production of pharmaceutical products. Her team reviewed over 30 proposals from industry outlining their production capabilities and capacity for Key Starting Materials required for domestic pharmaceutical production. In their evaluations, they recommended to HHS four full proposals that showed benefit to domestic Key Starting Material production capability and to increase

Continued on page 9

domestic production of Key Starting Materials for awards exceeding \$150 million.

"I appreciated the opportunity to contribute to such an important cause and help address the need for extended capacity and capability within our country," said Moyer.

Moyer has been serving on active duty for 12 years and is a medical logistician with three years of acquisition experience. During her time working for the JATF, Moyer transitioned from USAMMDA where she served as the product manager for the Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems' Medical Modernization PMO, to USAMMA where she serves as the director of Force Sustainment. She says chain of command support was critical in balancing the competing demands for her time and effort.

"I was supported in this endeavor by great leaders who afforded me the flexibility to work this mission along with my daily duties," said Moyer.

Maj. Victor Zottig, Branch Chief, Regulatory Business Support Office, USAMRDC Office of Regulated Activities, served as a pharmaceutical team lead for the JATF Final Drug Product Fill-Finish Evaluation team from July 15 to September 18, 2020. Zottig helped review and evaluate over 30 white papers from United States domestic pharmaceutical companies. The proposals recommended expanding their fill-finish capacity to produce the Final Drug Product in specific therapeutic areas in order to support the National Strategic Stockpile and COVID-19 response within 24 months.

"I was proud to play a small role in the overall pandemic response," said Zottig.

Zottig and his team organized and systematically evaluated each proposal independently based on their merit and the established evaluation criteria. The evaluations were consolidated and ranked to provide an overall presentation and recommendation to the JATF leadership. Zottig and his team completed two separate evaluation reviews labeled Spirals, in which the subsequent Spiral called for additional detail from the initial proposal review to go through a second evaluation process. In their evaluations, they recommended to HHS four full proposals to increase domestic production of pharmaceutical fill-finish capabilities, awards exceeding \$150 million.

"The dynamic Final Drug Product Fill-Finish Evaluation team was multi-disciplinary and composed of different Services and departments," said Zottig. "Working jointly with Navy, Air Force, Army, HHS, BARDA, and other organizations I typically do not work with on a daily basis was a unique opportunity and re-affirmed that this effort was a whole-of-government approach. The experience highlighted for me the DoD is well suited to work in a dedicated team environment in order to accomplish difficult jobs or tasks," said Zottig.

During his time supporting the JATF mission, Zottig was in the middle of transitioning from a product management role at USAMMDA to the USAMRDC Office of Regulated Activities.

"I felt honored that the command placed confidence in my ability to assume this role and level of responsibility on the JATF review team," said Zottig.

JATF leaders have recognized participating USAMRDC personnel as a tremendous team of professionals who prioritized the interest of the general public while carrying out their assignments.

"USAMRDC's support to the JATF was absolutely critical to the success of DoD's efforts as part of the interagency pandemic response," said Cummings. "Their subject matter experts are world-class professionals who bring together two very distinct skillsets, combining defense acquisition with medical technology and scientific expertise. This unique combination placed them center-stage in the intersection between the DoD acquisition enterprise and interagency health professionals, and enabled a successful conduit between the two."

In 2021, the JATF will transition from its current status to a more permanent operation. Next year, the JATF will be called the Defense Assisted Acquisition Cell and will operate under the Joint Rapid Acquisition Cell.

The JATF's whole-of-government approach, which utilized a variety of services and organizations, was fundamental to improving our Strategic National Stockpile. It is thanks to the individuals who applied their expertise from their daily responsibilities to contribute to the COVID-19 response that our Nation's medical resource shortage was addressed. Without question, there is no challenge too great for a united force dedicated to the greater good.

Annual Tree Lighting Goes Virtual

By Jenni Benson, USAG Public Affairs

The Fort Detrick annual tree lighting ceremony took place Dec. 2, on the Blue and Gray Field. While the Fort Detrick community could not gather around the tree this year, the spirit of the event was not lost on those who tuned in virtually.

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick commander, welcomed those watching online and encouraged us all to stay positive and remain hopeful during these trying times.

"We have a lot to be thankful for this year. It has definitely been a challenging time for the men and women who work on Fort Detrick every day, but because of the great leaders we have on Fort Detrick, the great people, and our great teammates, we have been able to forge through these challenging times in a great manner as teammates and as family," said Talley.

Talley asked the community to keep those in uniform and those away from their families in our thoughts. He also urged us to reach out to those who may be struggling.

"It's a challenging time, and we are all going to get through this together," ended Talley.

Talley then led the countdown to light the tree, officially kicking off the holiday season.

Another special treat was in store for the community as Santa, hitching a ride on a Fort Detrick Fire Truck, rode through the housing area, spreading cheer and good wishes.



The lighting of the Fort Detrick Holiday Tree kicks off the holiday season Dec. 2, 2020 on the Blue and Gray Field.

Courtesy Photo

Another Successful Fall Clean Up



Soldiers gather at various locations across Fort Detrick to pick up leaves and beautify the installation as part of the annual Fall clean up each November.

Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

Functional Fitness Room opens at Odom Fitness Center

By Erick Barnes, USAG Public Affairs

The Capt. Jennifer J. Shafer Odom Fitness Center here officially cut the ribbon and opened its new Functional Fitness Room, Nov. 3.

According to Rob Rodgers, chief of Community Recreation, the redesign and new dedicated space doubles the previous room's square footage, from approximately 800 to 1600 square feet, and provides an overall upgrade to the functional fitness area.

"The functional fitness area was modernized as it became critical to keep pace with standards for strength training and to support the fitness trends that come with the new Army Combat Fitness Test," said Rodgers.

The area includes a new six-station functional fitness rig, multi-

ple accessories, and new rubberized flooring.

"The functional fitness room at the Odom Fitness center is a great addition for our Service Members," said Fort Detrick's Garrison Command Sergeant Major Jason Gusman. "It adds another valuable resource to readiness. It also enables Soldiers to train in multiple functional exercises that relate to the Army Combat Fitness Test.

"People are our number one priority and when we invest in people, we invest in the overall future of the DoD."

The Odom Fitness Center remains open to authorized members of the Fort Detrick community, including Service Members, family members, DoD civilians, and retirees. Weekend access is through CAC scan only. For the most current hours of operation and information, call (301) 619-2498.



Rob Rodgers, chief of Community Recreation at Fort Detrick, is joined by Fort Detrick Garrison Commander Col. Dexter Nunnally and USAG Command Sergeant Major Jason Gusman for the ribbon cutting and official opening of the new Functional Fitness Room at Odom Fitness Center, Nov. 3, 2020. The redesign doubles the previous room's square footage, from approximately 800 to 1600 square feet, and provides an overall upgrade to the functional fitness area.

Photos by Erick Barnes, USAG Public Affairs

Congratulations SGT Nguyen and PFC Toure!

2020 NCO & SOLDIER OF THE YEAR



Photos by SSG Brenden A. Sherman, USAMRIID VIO

USAMRIID's 2020 Best Warrior Competition kicked off Oct. 19 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. and involved continuous operations over a 24-hour period. The competition included a variety of tasks, ranging from a 13.5-mile road march to an essay and exam, designed to challenge the NCOs and Soldiers both physically and mentally. Finally, competitors took part in the Board event with SGM Nubia Rivera, 1SG Jeffrey Walizer, MSG Todd Brenecki, MSG Michael Wachowicz, and MSG Carl Larcom asking various questions to test their military knowledge.

USAMRIID's winners, SGT Kent Nguyen and PFC Ibrahim Toure, were announced at a ceremony Oct. 21. Please extend a hearty congratulations to the winners and to all the USAMRIID competitors: SSG Brenden Sherman, SGT Kasondra Wallner, SPC Ivan Velez, SPC Benjamin Sullivan, and SPC Yatong Han.

RIID Strong!

You can view more photos of the competition here: [P:\VIS Info Shared\Best Soldier2020](#)

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BIODEFENSE SOLUTIONS TO PROTECT OUR NATION

Army distributes 1.6 million flu vaccines, reaffirms importance during COVID-19 fight

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

With the annual flu season now upon us, the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency is working to distribute nearly 1.6 million doses of influenza vaccine to protect Soldiers, their families and retirees.

USAMMA's Distribution Operations Center, or DOC, oversees the yearly distribution of the vaccine to active-duty and reserve Soldiers, as well as civilian staff and family members. The Army makes up the majority of doses ordered throughout the Department of Defense.

As of Oct. 28, roughly half of the Army's doses had been shipped, heading to destinations across the U.S. and abroad. DOC officials plan to have distribution completed by the end of November.

USAMMA is a direct reporting unit to Army Medical Logistics Command.

The agency's DOC provides coordination and tracking for select temperature sensitive medical products, like the flu vaccine. It also conducts training for logistical and medical units to ensure proper distribution and storage practices for those products.

Lt. Col. Todd Reeder, USAMMA's pharmacy consultant and DOC director, said there has been a significant push throughout the Army and DOD to raise awareness about the importance of getting a flu shot, especially this year due to influenza symptoms mimicking those of COVID-19.

"Having the flu shot will assist health care personnel in determining the possible cause of a patient's symptoms," he said.

Patients that go to the emergency room with flu-like symptoms will still be tested for both illnesses, but "the hope is that the severity of symptoms from the flu will be much less" with a vaccine and won't add to the symptoms of COVID-19 in the unlikely event a patient catches both, Reeder said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it's unclear to what extent SARS-CoV-2 – the scientific name of the novel coronavirus strain that causes the disease called COVID-19 – will circulate over the 2020-21 flu season.

In any case, the CDC said the flu vaccine can reduce the prevalence of flu-like illness. It can also reduce symptoms that might be confused with COVID-19.

"Prevention and reduction in the severity of influenza illness and reduction of outpatient illnesses, hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions through influenza vaccination also could alleviate stress on the U.S. health care system," the CDC said.



Col. John "Ryan" Bailey, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency, receives a flu shot during a mass vaccination clinic on Oct. 29 at Fort Detrick, Maryland. USAMMA's Distribution Operations Center, or DOC, oversees the yearly distribution of flu vaccine for the Army, supporting active-duty and reserve Soldiers, families, civilian employees and retirees.

U.S. Army photo by C.J. Lovelace

The DOD sets an annual goal of having at least 90% of all active-duty military members vaccinated by Jan. 15 each flu season, which generally begins in the fall and lasts until early spring.

While the virus circulates year-round, activity typically begins to increase in October and spikes between December and February, even though seasonal activity can last until May, according to the CDC.

Army flu vaccine distribution is a year-round job. DOC officials work closely with the Defense Health Agency and Defense Logistics Agency, which handles yearly procurement and shipping for the DOD.

The doses come in different forms to treat a wide variety of people, ranging from infants 6 months and older to folks over 65 years of age.

Most people will benefit from a flu vaccination. In most cases, according to the CDC, the risks associated with getting vaccinated are significantly lower than the benefits. The vaccine also has shown to make the flu milder, which may reduce the risk of more serious outcomes such as hospitalizations.

Annual Housing Satisfaction Survey Is Available to Residents of Fort Detrick Housing

By Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

The annual Department of Defense housing satisfaction survey began Dec. 2, 2020, and Fort Detrick housing residents are encouraged to participate. Each year, DoD, working through the military departments, surveys current residents of government-owned, government-leased, or privatized family housing and current residents of privatized unaccompanied housing.

The goal is to obtain feedback regarding resident living experiences and gain knowledge of residents' feelings about various housing operations and their home's physical structure. Resident input is critical to help inform us about what changes are needed and what services to sustain.

The RCI companies and the Army use results to shed light on the areas in housing operations that are successful or need improvement, identify trends and determine where funding could have the most effect on physical or service improvements based on resident-identified priorities.

Tenants who provided their email addresses to the housing office should receive an email from CEL (the survey provider) that provides a link to the confidential survey within three days of the launch. Tenants who did not provide email addresses or who do not receive the survey email within three days of the launch can contact the garrison housing office for survey-access information by calling (301) 619-3224 or emailing them at usarmy.detrick.usag.mbx.dpw-housing@mail.mil.

W. Jordan Gillis, assistant secretary of defense for sustainment and the Defense Department's chief housing officer, directed the survey in a memo dated Nov. 16, 2020, and encourages residents to share their views about their current housing, resident services, and community amenities. According to Gillis, "Resident feedback is important to help the department improve the quality of housing and customer care available to residents."

The survey results will help inform plans for near-term and future improvements to housing, resident services and community amenities. Gillis emphasized the importance of getting the perspectives of service members and families so the department can provide them with a better quality of life through improved housing and community services.

Once survey results are available, Fort Detrick Garrison Commander Col. Dexter Nunnally will discuss the findings with residents at housing town halls. The Command continues to keep housing improvements a top priority, recognizing there is still work to be done. Together with our partners, and with the help of residents, we will continue to improve.

Fort Detrick has secured funding for several water infrastructure projects to upgrade the installation's sewer lines and replace water lines to housing. Together these projects total 19.8 million dollars. At Forest Glen, we now have courtesy officers as residents and crime incidents are lowering. Leadership and partners implemented these changes because of the survey and discussion with residents. That is why completion of this survey is critical.

"Together we can make a difference. Tell us how we are doing. What are we getting right? And, where we need to improve. Housing excellence is our goal," said Nunnally.

Last year Fort Detrick residents residing in Army RCI Housing were sent surveys via email. Out of the 320 emails, 78 surveys came back, a response rate of 23.8 percent. The survey period was November 2019 to December 2019. This year we are hoping for a better response rate.

As leadership continues to make changes and improve housing, remember there are ways to provide regular feedback including, 24-hour hotlines, submitting ICE comments, RCI apps, and communicating with your housing specialists. When you receive the survey email, please consider completing the confidential survey so we can continue to improve.

For additional information related to housing concerns, visit the Fort Detrick Housing page at: <https://home.army.mil/detrick/index.php/my-fort/all-services/housing-services-office>

**OMB Control Number: 0704-0553; OMB Exp. Date: 03/31/2022*



Alan Morrison with the Fort Detrick Housing Office performs an inspection on a home prior to move in. Inspections take several hours are performed using an extensive checklist. Homes that fail inspections are not permitted to allow occupancy until they pass.

Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

JPM CBRN Medical TIGER TEAM Takes Bold Action to Support Pandemic Response

By Melissa Myers, JPM CBRN Medical Strategic Communications

It is difficult to remember a time when “coronavirus” was not a part of our day-to-day vocabulary. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic emerged from the shadows and threw the world into a tailspin, demanding ingenuity and resourcefulness as it pushed worldwide healthcare systems to their limits.

As nations quickly scrambled to adapt and respond to the global pandemic, the world’s supply of sampling kits, diagnostics systems, and ventilators quickly diminished. The U.S. Department of Defense, along with the rest of the world, acted immediately to try and obtain the supplies necessary to protect the two million U.S. warfighters dependent on their care, an unprecedented demand that also pushed an otherwise stable supply chain to its limits like never before.

By April, the widespread usage of sample collection kits to diagnose and treat individuals suspected of COVID-19 infection had all but exhausted inventory sources of test kit equipment. Help was needed, and on April 10, 2020, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command turned to the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense’s Joint Project Manager for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Medical (JPM CBRN Medical) for assistance.

The JPM CBRN Medical’s Deputy Joint Project Manager, Ms. Nicole Kilgore, quickly responded to the TRADOC’s demand signal by assembling a multi-organizational “TIGER TEAM” comprised of JPEO-CBRND JPM CBRN Medical team members, as well as

personnel from both the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command.

Tasked with the arduous mission of delivering more than 5,000 U.S. Food and Drug Administration -compliant sampling kits to six DOD locations in only 10 days, the race to deliver was on. It was up to the JPM CBRN Medical to determine how to best meet mission requirements, and the team’s resourcefulness in designing and developing new test kits did not go unnoticed.

As these multi-disciplined experts banded together to find a solution, it was clear that the current paradigm of what comprised a sampling kit must be discarded. Instead, the team opted to re-define the typical “swab and tube” standard, determined to design and assemble non-traditional kit components to achieve the mission. The new sampling kit would have to meet several non-negotiable FDA requirements, to include being safe to use on the individual and sterile, to ensure the accuracy of the diagnostic tests that would be using the samples. The sampling kit would also have to consist of a suitable sterile swab replacement, capped vial, and tube with transfer media; and the products from the sampling kit would have to be easily assembled on site by healthcare providers.

With all kit source components identified, it was just a matter of where to begin.

Inspiration sprang from the most unlikely of places as JPM CBRN Medical Chief Technical Officer, Dr. Kevin Wingerd, sat in his local dentist’s

chair awaiting a root canal. During the procedure, Dr. Wingerd noticed that his dental surgeon was using a dental Microbrush®, a common dental tool supplied in sterile packaging. Aside from a few minor dimensional differences, the dental Microbrushes® were almost identical to that of the now hard-to-find nasopharyngeal swabs being sought after worldwide for COVID-19 sampling kits.

“Aha!” Dr. Wingerd thought, “Why not repurpose this existing tool?” Reaching out to the dental Microbrush® supplier, the team was met with the unfortunate realization that the company would not have sufficient product ready in time to meet this initial 10-day delivery requirement.

The team had stumbled across a component solution that would not be forgotten in later months, but for now, they needed an immediate solution in order to deliver and meet the TRADOC mission; the hunt continued.

Dr. Wingerd and Assistant Product Manager, Mr. Camilo Morales, continued to search for a suitable replacement swab, and eventually decided to look “outside of the box” at EnvisionTEC, Inc., a leading global manufacturer of desktop and full-production 3D printers and materials. EnvisionTEC’s Envision One 3D printer was capable of providing an alternative 3D printed swab solution, and more importantly, could produce up to 2,400 swabs in only 24 hours. These 3D printed swabs could be paired with 3mL sterile saline and 15mL Falcon® tubes (another ‘repurposed’ product) and turned out to be just the solution the team was

Continued on page 16

looking for.

However, even with all test kit components identified, the TIGER TEAM's mission was still far from over.

Now that the right products were identified, it was time to engage the FDA to request permission to distribute these kits. The FDA has an important consumer protection role to ensure that the public receives safe and effective products. As there were critical supply shortages across the United States, the JPM CBRN Medical team was able to leverage assistance from the USAMRDC FDA sponsor's representative and Office of the Principal Assistant for Acquisition's Senior Clinical Advisor to request permission from the Army Office of the Surgeon General and the FDA to implement their proposed approach to this critical supply shortage. Within days, the FDA agreed that the kits could be distributed and used within the Department of Defense during the Public Health Emergency.

For this kit to be accepted and integrated into practice, it was also the team's responsibility to translate sample collection steps into an easily-understood, user-friendly manual; guaranteeing, as best possible, correct usage to deliver sterile and accurate sample results. The TIGER TEAM accepted the additional challenge. The team developed the instructional steps, worked out the "bugs," and ultimately provided a brand new user manual to accompany their redesigned COVID-19 nasopharyngeal test kit. JPM CBRN Medical Assistant Product Manager, Mr. Charles Paschal, led this effort; not only translating all instruction material for the manual itself, but also coordinating with an artist to draw the images that would accompany the written instructions in the finished product.

Finally, with all test kit components

identified and with the newly-completed user manual in tow, the remaining effort came down to logistics, and JPM CBRN Medical Director, Operations, Ms. Teresa Baal, led the effort, mastering the art of ordering and setting an urgency tone which moved orders forward through already-swamped businesses at an incredible speed. At the end of the day, the JPM CBRN Medical TIGER TEAM met the challenge; diligently identifying and gathering all test components, ensuring regulatory compliance, shipping to a contracted "kitting" company for assemblage, and delivering a solution to TRADOC training sites in only 10 days. This delivery supported screening in order to resume accession training for new Soldiers, ultimately supporting Army Readiness Priorities.

However, as much as we all wish that were the end of the story, the COVID-19 pandemic fight is far from over.

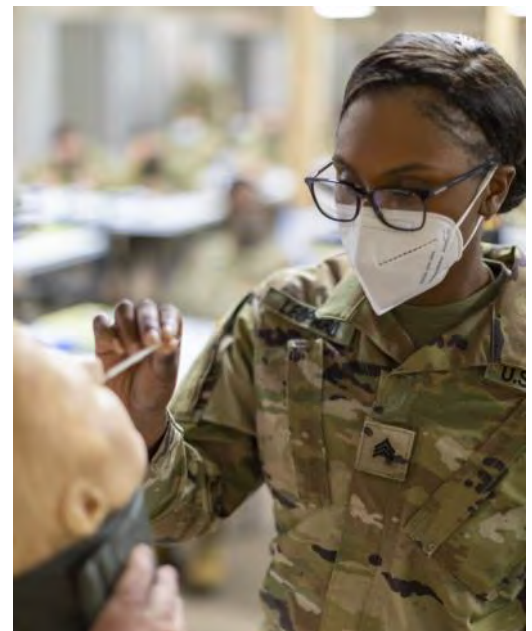
Scientific and medical experts continue to fight valiantly to find a treatment, a prophylactic, a vaccine, a solution to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sampling kits continue to be used up at an unrelenting pace, and it is clear that the demand for these kits will not be going away anytime soon. The JPM CBRN Medical team did win a battle back in April, but the war against COVID-19 goes on.

The JPM CBRN Medical has continued to support national pandemic response efforts, and team collaboration with Young Innovations, USA – the original dental Microbrush® supplier that the team looked to back in April – resulted in conversion of Young Innovations' previously-established Microbrush® production line into that of swab production. Current test kit shipments have evolved to include these adapted Microbrush®

nasopharyngeal swabs, which are recurrently provided to DOD MTFs by the thousands as part of JPM CBRN Medical COVID-19 sample test kits.

Thanks to the audacious efforts of the TIGER TEAM, the DOD has been allotted more time; more time to continue to build their own sampling kits and, most importantly, more time to become more self-reliant than ever before. The team's efforts in April set the stage, and today the DOD continues to expand upon those capabilities so they might never again have to depend on overseas or outside sources to provide critical materials.

"Our people drive the success of this organization," said Col. Ryan Eckmeier, JPM CBRN Medical. "The TIGER TEAM's unparalleled expertise, ingenuity, and passion to support our service members combined to address a serious gap. The unconventional approach used to rapidly deliver a critical element in direct support of the DOD's fight against the COVID-19 threat clearly demonstrates that solid teamwork is essential to face this pandemic, and that no one in this space can do it alone."



Courtesy photo

Be Careful What You Disposed Down the Drain



Fort Detrick maintains and operates its own wastewater treatment plant for treatment of sanitary waste (organic wastes from humans) originating from the installation. Sanitary waste generated on Fort Detrick is conveyed through a series of pipes to the plant for treatment. With this in mind we remind residents to only flush toilet paper. Fort Detrick encourages disinfecting your environment to prevent the spread of COVID-19, however never flush disinfecting wipes or other non-flushable items. Flushing only toilet paper helps ensure that the toilets, plumbing and sanitary sewer system will continue working properly.

Also, any chemicals disposed down the drain have the potential to harm the environment. Grease and solid material can clog pipes causing sewer disruptions and overflows and should not be placed in drains.

Cooking grease and oil can be disposed by placing the cooled material into a container with a re-sealable lid and chill overnight so any fat solidifies, then dispose as regular garbage. Thank you for your assistance.



AKA: Tree City

By Erickson Barnes, USAG Public Affairs

For the 18th consecutive year, Fort Detrick celebrated being named a Tree City USA community with a tree planting ceremony at the Nallin Pond Complex here.

Becky Wilson, Western Region Coordinator for Urban and Community Forestry, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, joined Fort Detrick's Garrison Deputy Commander Wilfred Plumley and Command Sergeant Major Jason Gusman, in planting the Willow Oak. The tree replaced one that had been removed due to decline.

According to Joseph Gortva, chief, Environmental Management Division USAG Directorate of Public Works, these projects ultimately benefit the entire community.

"The Nallin Pond Complex is a rallying point for retirements, going away reunions, and Garrison gatherings," Gortva said via email. "Trees will provide shade for pavilion activities and (provide) community access to the natural beauty provided by trees and wildlife."

Only 50 cities, towns and military installations in Maryland received the Arbor Day Foundation's award for 2020. They have achieved Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management: maintaining a tree board or department, having a community tree ordinance, spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and celebrating Arbor Day.

Fort Detrick first participated in a Tree City USA planting ceremony in 2003. The program has been working with communities across America since 1976; a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees.

In addition, this is the 23rd consecutive time Fort Detrick is eligible for the Green PLANT Award, which also recognizes communities that plant and care for trees. PLANT stands for "People Loving and Nurturing Trees."



Fort Detrick celebrates being named a Tree City USA community with a tree planting for the 18th consecutive year. (Courtesy Photos)

USAMRIID Scientist Receives Medal of Honor from French Military

By Caree Vander Linden, USAMRIID PAO

Maj. Jeffrey R. Kugelman, Ph.D., received the Medal of Honor from the French Military Health Service Nov. 11 at a ceremony at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes his outstanding service to French Armed Forces health protection and his contributions to strengthening international collaboration between the two nations.

Kugelman, who directs the Center for Genome Sciences at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md., spent 2.5 years as a Science and Technology attaché under an exchange program for scientists and engineers between the U.S. Department of Defense and the Department of Armed Forces in France.

"USAMRIID is proud of the impact that MAJ Kugelman's work made for an important NATO ally," said COL E. Darrin Cox, USAMRIID's commander. "We greatly appreciate this recognition by the government of France."

During his tenure from 2016-2018, Kugelman was assigned to the French National Reference Center for Arbovirus in Marseille, performing research for the Institut de Recherche Biomédicale des Armées and the French health services. He worked in their Biosafety Level 3 containment laboratory performing pathogen discovery and assisted with diagnostic testing during a 2016 outbreak of Zika virus.

Kugelman's expertise in setting up bioinformatics tools was essential for analyzing databases of diagnostic results containing more than 22,000 samples taken between 2013 and 2017. These efforts led to the characterization of outbreaks affecting French Armed Forces including Chikungunya, Dengue, West Nile, Zika, and fevers of unknown origin. He contributed to pathogen discovery efforts to identify the causative agent in more than 300 samples from French soldiers who had presented with fevers of unknown origin in the African theater of operations. He also identified genetic markers of persistence of the Chikungunya virus, which could lead to a better understanding of how the virus replicates and causes disease.

In addition, Kugelman served as a mentor to several students pursuing master's degrees, as well as a Ph.D. candidate in virology and biochemistry who will defend her thesis in Dec. 2020.

"The opportunity to exchange scientific views on

diseases affecting our armed forces, while building enduring relationships with my French colleagues and friends, will remain a defining point of my career and a treasured experience," Kugelman said. "It was an honor to serve."

The Medal of Honor of "Service de Santé des Armées" (SSA) was founded Aug. 30, 1962. Its purpose is to reward those who have contributed or lent their assistance to the Army Medical Service and who have particularly distinguished themselves by their service or devotion. Brigadier General Cyril Carcy, Defense Attaché of the Embassy of France, presented Kugelman with the SSA Medal of Honor (Bronze Echelon).

Kugelman is a Medical Service Corps officer who holds a Ph.D. in Pathobiology from The University of Texas at El Paso. During his first assignment to USAMRIID, he served as a Biodefense Scientist and Assistant Director of the Center for Genome Sciences. In 2014, he deployed to Liberia in support of Operation United Assistance, where he provided real-time sequencing identification of Ebola-virus infected human samples. In 2015, Kugelman served as a Medical Research and Materiel Command Liaison Officer to the Army G8 Office of Chemical and Biological Defense before being selected for the exchange program with France. In 2019, he rejoined USAMRIID in his current capacity.



Col. Raphael Grippi, French Health Liaison Officer for the Army Surgeon General, congratulates Maj. Jeffrey Kugelman of USAMRIID, who received the Medal of Honor from the French Military Health Service, Nov. 11, 2020.

Photo courtesy of the Embassy of France

At USAMRIID, Toure Embarks on a Powerful and Personal Journey

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

To hear PFC Ibrahim Toure tell it, winning the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases "Soldier of the Year" award was fairly simple: all he had to do was tackle a basic land navigation course, complete the Army Combat Fitness Test and then, among other events, endure a 13.5 mile ruck march – all over a two-day period at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

"It was challenging, but I was really prepared for it," says Toure, who claimed the award in late October. "When I came here, it was one of my goals."

Indeed, it's that kind of ambition that is quickly becoming Toure's hallmark. Professional victories aside, it is perhaps what Toure has already accomplished from a *personal* perspective that sets him apart from the rest of the team at USAMRIID. Born in the Ivory Coast, in Africa, Toure emigrated to the U.S. in 2016 in search of a different, better life. Now, at just 25 years old, he is – in so many ways – on top of the world.

"Life in Africa is not too easy," says Toure. "Coming to this country changed my life, so joining the Army [was] a way for me to pay back this country."

Toure's journey to USAMRDC began in New York, where he lived originally upon arriving in the U.S. He studied electrical engineering for two semesters at a local college before embarking on a far more personal journey; one that would eventually lead him to his local Army recruiting office.

Continued on page 20



PFC Ibrahim Toure (Photo Credit: USAMRIID Public Affairs)



PFC Ibrahim Toure (foreground) participates in an event as part of the USAMRIID "Soldier of the Year" Competition. (Photo Credit: USAMRIID Public Affairs)

Says Toure, “I lived with my family before I moved here, and they always told me that everything you do, you have to always try to make a difference. You always have to do your best to set you apart from your peers.”

That level of dedication – not only to personal but professional development – is on full display each day at USAMRIID, where Toure currently works in the Division of Medicine, Training, and Education. He is also currently enrolled in USAMRIID’s Medical Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties course, which is designed to prepare graduates to effectively manage casualties of chemical and biological agent exposure through a series of classroom, laboratory, and field exercises.

“I enjoy everybody here,” says Toure of the team at USAMRIID. “They’re very helpful. Every day is very exciting to come to work.”

For Toure, that excitement clearly translates into a desire for achievement. To even be considered for USAMRIID’s “Soldier of the Year” competition, for example, you first have to win USAMRIID’s “Soldier of the Month” award and then, after that, USAMRIID’s “Soldier of the Quarter” award. To that end – and to no one’s surprise – Toure says his next goal is to win the Army’s overall “Soldier of the Year” award, a competition slated to begin next year.

For Toure, it is that kind of mentality – the constant welcoming of new and diverse challenges – that brought him to this point in the first place. For him, the concepts of hard work and sacrifice always go hand-in-hand.

“Being in this country, I feel like my life has changed,” says Toure. “Now I am able to achieve all of my goals.”



*PFC Ibrahim Toure (second from left) displays his award for USAMRIID “Soldier of the Year” during a ceremony in October.
Photo Credit: USAMRIID Public Affairs*

6th MLMC's "Team 21" Set to Depart for Year-Long Deployment

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

Key members of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC) shared words of encouragement and wisdom at an afternoon deployment ceremony at Fort Detrick, Maryland, on Friday, December 4. In just a few days, eleven members of the 6th Medical Logistics Management Center (6th MLMC) are scheduled to deploy for a year-long tour of duty in Qatar, which is located in far southwest Asia.

"It's a bittersweet occasion, and it's not lost on anyone of us in the room," said Brigadier General Michael Talley, Commanding General, USAMRDC and Fort Detrick – himself a former Commander at the 6th MLMC – while addressing the assembled crowd during the ceremony in the Fort Detrick Auditorium. "What [this team is] doing has huge importance and major strategic influence, without a doubt."

"We stand ready as a team both mentally and physically to accomplish the mission while staying prepared enough to tackle the challenges that come our way," said Major Andrew Wilson, a member of the deployment team and U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center-Southwest Asia (USAMMC-SWA) Commander, during his own remarks.

Since 2002, the 6th MLMC – whose unique and express mission is to deploy and synchronize medical logistics operations in support of any variety of Army or Joint Forces specified missions – has deployed teams into southwest Asia in support of CENTCOM operations. According to USAMRDC leadership, the deployment team – which will represent the twenty-first rotation of 6th MLMC personnel to southwest Asia since USAMMC-SWA's inception – will deliver flu and COVID-19 vaccines in the region, among myriad other efforts.



Brig. Gen. Michael Talley, Commanding General, USAMRDC and Fort Detrick (fourth from left, back turned) offers words of encouragement to the 6th MLMC's "Team 21" during their deployment ceremony at Fort Detrick on Friday, December 4, 2020

Photo Credit: Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Army Medical Logistics Takes Lead for Military COVID-19 Vaccine Orders

By Ellen Crown, Army Medical Logistics Command

Medical logistics experts at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency have started receiving COVID-19 vaccine orders from throughout the Department of Defense, in anticipation of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's emergency use authorization of a vaccine or multiple vaccines.

USAMMA, a direct reporting unit to the Army Medical Logistics Command, is the lead for all services, working in collaboration with the Defense Health Agency's Immunization Health Care Division.

The USAMMA team is collecting COVID-19 vaccine orders from all service branches and submitting them to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. USAMMA will also track vaccine shipments from the vendor to each military site. If required, the team will also monitor the re-distribution of vaccines to additional sites throughout the military.

USAMMA Distribution Operations Center Deputy Director Liz Andrews said the vaccine will ship directly from the vendor to several military medical treatment facilities throughout the U.S. – where it will be used to immunize troops, as well as military beneficiaries – and bolster their immunity against the worldwide coronavirus pandemic.

There are known logistical challenges. For example, at least one of the vaccine candidates has to be kept at ultra-cold temperatures of -80°C.

Andrews said she and her team will not only track the vaccine's movements but also its temperature throughout shipment to ensure it arrives safe and ready for use.

"This is a challenging mission but also very exciting," Andrews said. "We are prepared to execute this mission and proud to be a part of Operation Warp Speed."

Operation Warp Speed, of which the Army's senior logistician Gen. Gus Perna is the chief operating officer, is a public-private partnership developed to deliver safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. In a Defense.gov press release, he said he is committed to streamlining processes that will allow manufacturing and distribution to deliver medical countermeasures at an unprecedented rate.

The USAMMA team is uniquely equipped for the mission because of their expertise in vaccine distribution and cold chain management. USAMMA currently serves as the service lead for ordering and

distribution of other military vaccines, such as anthrax and smallpox.

"The military hospitals are already used to working with us, so this made the process smoother for them as they were familiar to our systems and forms," Andrews explained.

Andrews also said the USAMMA Distribution Operations Center web development team also played a crucial role by swiftly adapting USAMMA's existing vaccine ordering system, so it could be used for COVID-19 vaccine order processing.

"This was a total team effort," added Andrews, "and we are just honored to be a part of this whole-of-government campaign."

AMLC, a subordinate command under the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, is known as the Army's home for medical logistics. The command's mission is to deliver medical materiel readiness through integrated medical materiel distribution, forward positioned stocks, centralized medical materiel management and data management to sustain health services for the operational Army units and Joint Forces in support of large-scale combat operations.



USAMMA's pharmacy consultant and Distribution Operations Center, or DOC, Director Lt. Col. Todd Reeder receives an update from DOC Deputy Director Liz Andrews on the progress of the COVID-19 ordering system on Dec. 4, as the team receives COVID-19 vaccine orders from throughout the Department of Defense. In anticipation of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's emergency use authorization of a vaccine or multiple vaccines, the USAMMA team is collecting COVID-19 vaccine orders from all service branches and submitting them to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

US Army photo by Ellen Crown, Released

Around Fort Detrick

In observance of the Christmas holiday, all visitor centers and gates EXCEPT Nallin Farm Gate at Fort Detrick and Brookville Gate at Forest Glen will be CLOSED the following days:

Thursday and Friday, 24-25 December 2020.

Vetting operations at Fort Detrick for all holidays will occur at Nallin Gate.

Nallin Farm Gate and Brookville Gate will be open 24/7

For updates and materials on COVID-19 visit:

<https://home.army.mil/detrick/index.php/covid-19-information>

2020 Combined Federal Campaign

The 2020 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) has begun and runs through 15 January 2021. Through CFC, you can truly make a difference by contributing to support your favorite charities.

To contribute to CFC please visit the Giving Portal:

<https://cbacfc.givecfc.org/>. Contributions can be made by payroll deduction or one-time contribution. If you have not contributed via the CFC's Giving Portal before, you may need to sign up for an account. This is a very user-friendly system; please follow the easy on screen prompts to complete your contribution.

Tax Assistance Update

The Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office (LAO) will assist active duty members of U.S. Armed Forces assigned to units located on or supported by Fort Detrick in preparing and electronic filing of both federal and state income tax returns for Tax Year 2020 beginning in January 2021. Members in grades O-3 and below, to include enlisted personnel and warrant officers, and their DEERS dependent spouses, are eligible for assistance by appointment only. The LAO will publish instructions for making appointments in the coming weeks.

All active-duty military members may prepare and file federal and state tax returns via Military OneSource at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-resource-center/miltax-military-tax-services>. Others, including military retirees, may self-prepare their federal and state returns using free commercial software available at the following IRS Website: <https://www.irs.gov/e-file-providers/efile-with-commercial-software>.

Auto Skills Center

Now Open

Cost: \$8 an hour for Lift Rental. Tools and oil disposal included. Bay rental by appointment only. All fees will be through credit card only. Max Capacity will be reduced to 6 patrons at a time, every other bay and two people per bay. Face Masks required at all times. Patrons and staff will clean and sanitize each tool used

and clean all touch points

Hours of operation are as follows:

Wednesday-Saturday – 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

Sunday - noon—8 p.m.

(Closed Monday & Tuesday)

For information please call (301) 619-2759

Holiday closures and reduced hours across the Installation

Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office at 521 Fraim Street.

December 23-25 - No appointments

December 28-29 - Open for telephonic appointments 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 1 -4 p.m. (regular hours).

December 30, 2020 – Jan. 1, 2021- New Years - No appointments;

January 4, 2021 - Open for telephonic appointments during regular hours.

*Note that on December 23 and December 30, the voicemail line will be periodically checked to ascertain if there are any emergencies (e.g. Advance Health Care Directives) that cannot wait until the following Monday.

FMWR DECEMBER FACILITY CLOSURES

December 24, 2020

NAF Support Division - CLOSED

Army Community Services, Fort Detrick – OPEN 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Army Emergency Relief, Bethesda – CLOSED

Child and Youth Services, OPEN

Child Development Center, Fort Detrick – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

School Age Center/Middle School & Teen, Fort Detrick – 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Parent Central Services – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Youth Sports & Fitness – 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Child Development Center, Forest Glen – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Community Recreation

Auto Skills Center – CLOSED

Equipment Checkout Center – CLOSED

RV Storage Lots – CLOSED

Leisure Travel Services – CLOSED

Nallin Pond Recreation Area – Dawn to Dusk

Forest Glen Fitness Center – CLOSED

Community Activity Center – CLOSED

Odom Fitness Center – OPEN: 8-10 a.m., 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., and 2 -4 p.m.

Indoor Pool - OPEN: 8-10 a.m., 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., and 2-4 p.m.

Pet Kennel – OPEN: 7 a.m. - noon

December 25, 2020, Christmas Day – all facilities will be closed

Around Fort Detrick

December 31, 2020

NAF Support Division - CLOSED

Army Community Services, Fort Detrick – OPEN 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Army Emergency Relief, Bethesda – CLOSED

Child and Youth Services, OPEN

Child Development Center, Fort Detrick – 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.

School Age Center/Middle School & Teen, Fort Detrick – 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Parent Central Services – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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Indoor Pool - OPEN: 8-10 a.m., 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., and 2-4 p.m.

Pet Kennel – OPEN: 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Fort Detrick Commissary Holiday Schedule



December		
Sunday	12/20/2020	
Open		
Monday	12/21/2020	
Open		
Tuesday	12/22/2020	
Open		
Wednesday	12/23/2020	
Open		
Thursday	12/24/2020 (Christmas Eve)	Close at 4 p.m.
Friday	12/25/2020 (Christmas Day)	
Closed		
Saturday	12/26/2020	
Open		
January		
New Year's Eve	12/31/2020	
Open		
New Year's Day	01/01/2021	
Closed		
Day after New Year's Day	01/02/2021	
Open		
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday		
Closed	01/18/2021	

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY CHILDREN



The Scholarships for Military Children Program is now open and accepting applications for the 2021 school year.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications will be submitted online only.

Apply at www.militaryscholar.org



Scholarship program of Fisher House Foundation



COVID COACH



COVID Coach is a **free, easy-to-use mobile application** created for everyone, including Veterans and Servicemembers, to support self-care and overall mental health during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. It was developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in 2020. The app connects you to resources to help you cope with stress, stay healthy, stay connected, and navigate parenting, caregiving, and working at home while social distancing or sheltering in place. COVID Coach is not meant to replace professional care related to COVID-19 or mental health conditions, such as PTSD.

LEARN ABOUT COPING DURING THE PANDEMIC

COVID Coach can support you with information to help you stay balanced, connected, safe, healthy, and sane.

- Learn about healthy behaviors to protect yourself during the pandemic
- Find tips to help you with remote working, parenting, and caregiving
- Explore indoor activities to do on your own, with a partner, or with children

MANAGE SELF-CARE AND WELL-BEING

Find tools to help you manage stress during the pandemic. You can also mark the activities that are your favorites and create your own tools.

- Practice relaxation and other stress-management exercises
- Track your mood, anxiety level, well-being, and stress symptoms over time to recognize patterns and figure out what works for you
- Create your own personal support network

SET PERSONAL GOALS AND TRACK GROWTH

Creating a goal for yourself—something you can do on a daily basis to help you take care of yourself—and tracking your growth is a helpful way to focus on the positive.

- Set personal goals, small things to help yourself, a family member, or a friend
- View graphs that show your growth over time
- Set reminders to visit the app each day and work toward your goals

GET SUPPORT

If you're in crisis, use COVID Coach to connect with people who can help. There are also resources available if you just want to talk. Add contact information for people you trust and reach out when you need support.





INSTALLATION SAFETY BULLETIN SB 20-12-01



Holiday Safety Tips

Holiday Light Safety

- Only use lights tested for safety and throw out sets with broken sockets or frayed wires.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house, walls or other firm support to protect from wind damage.
- Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Lights could short and start a fire.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.

Decoration Safety

- Keep your fresh Christmas tree well-watered and look for "Fire Resistant" label when buying an artificial tree.
- Place burning candles away from flammable items and blow them out before leaving the room.
- Place tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources as heated rooms dry trees out rapidly and can create fire hazards.

Toys

- Follow safety information on packages and choose toys that match your child's abilities.
- Get safety gear and ensure it is worn properly at all times and sized to fit.
- Keep small ball and toys parts away from children younger than age 3.



INSTALLATION SAFETY OFFICE
1520 FREEDMAN DRIVE SUITE 217
PHONE 301-619-7318
USARMY.DETRICK.USAG.LIST.ISMO@MAIL.MIL



TIP #1:

CHECK YOUR DEVICES

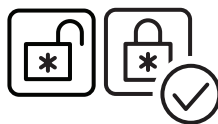
Before making any online purchases, make sure the device you're using to shop online is up-to-date. Next, take a look at your accounts and ask, do they each have strong passwords? And even better, if two-factor authentication is available, are you using it?



Protect your devices by keeping the **software up-to-date**. These include items like mobile phones, computers, and tablets, **but also appliances, electronics, and children's toys**.



Once you've purchased an internet connected device, **change the default password** and **use different and complex passwords** for each one. Consider using a password manager to help.



Check the devices privacy and security settings to make sure you understand how your information will be used and stored. Also make sure you're not sharing more information than you want or need to provide.



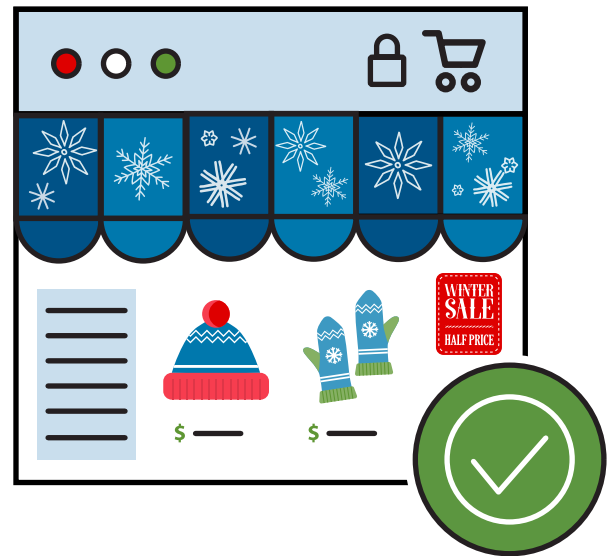
Enable automatic software updates where applicable, as running the latest version of software helps ensure the manufacturers are still supporting it and providing the latest patches for vulnerabilities.



TIP #2:

ONLY SHOP THROUGH TRUSTED SOURCES

Think about how you're searching online. Are you searching from home, on public Wi-Fi? How are you finding the deals? Are you clicking on links in emails? Going to trusted vendors? Clicking on ads on webpages? You wouldn't go into a store with boarded up windows and without signage, the same rules apply online. If it looks suspicious, something's probably not right.



Before providing any personal or financial information, **make sure that you are interacting with a reputable, established vendor.**



Some attackers may try to trick you by creating malicious websites that appear to be legitimate. **Always verify the legitimacy before supplying any information.** If you've never heard of it before, check twice before handing over your information.



Don't connect to unsecure public Wi-Fi, especially to do your banking or shopping.



Most of us receive emails from retailers about special offers during the holidays. **Cyber criminals will often send phishing emails**—designed to look like they're from retailers—that have malicious links or that ask for you to input your personal or financial information.



Don't click links or download attachments unless you're confident of where they came from. **If you're unsure if an email is legitimate, type the URL of the retailer or other company into your web browser** as opposed to clicking the link.



Never provide your password, or personal or financial information in response to an unsolicited email. Legitimate businesses will not email you asking for this information.



Make sure your information is being encrypted.

Many sites use secure sockets layer (SSL) to encrypt information. Indications that your information will be encrypted include a **URL that begins with "https:"** instead of "http:" and a padlock icon. If the padlock is closed, the information is encrypted.



TIP #3:

USE SAFE METHODS FOR PURCHASES

If you're going to make that purchase, what information are you handing over? Before providing personal or financial information, check the website's privacy policy. Make sure you understand how your information will be stored and used.



If you can, **use a credit card as opposed to a debit card.**

There are laws to limit your liability for fraudulent credit card charges, but you may not have the same level of protection for your debit cards. Additionally, because a debit card draws money directly from your bank account, unauthorized charges could leave you with insufficient funds to pay other bills.



Check your credit card and bank statements for any

fraudulent charges. Immediately notify your bank or financial institution and local law enforcement.



Be wary of emails requesting personal information.

Attackers may attempt to gather information by sending emails requesting that you confirm purchase or account information. Legitimate businesses will not solicit this type of information through email. Do not provide sensitive information through email.



If you receive a suspicious email that you think may be a phishing scam, **you can report it at** <https://www.us-cert.gov/report-phishing>.

- If you believe your personal or financial information has been stolen, report it right away to your local police and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). There's information on the FTC website, <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>, about how to report.
- Immediately change your passwords, use complex passwords, and use a different one for each account. A password manager can help you do this.



**Prevent Drug & Alcohol
Problems**

Support Suicide Awareness

Reduce Stigma

Living Your Best Life

PERSONAL READINESS

10:00am-11:00am

Virtual, MS Teams LIVE

TO JOIN
the training, CLICK the link
date you want to attend:
(Dates have been hyperlinked to MS Teams
Live event)

FY21-Quarter 2 Training Dates

[25 January 2021](#)

[22 February 2021](#)

[15 March 2021](#)

FY21-FINAL Quarter 1 Training Date [14 December 2020](#)



IAW AR 350-1: This training meets the requirement for Personal Readiness. POC is the Army Substance Abuse Program (301-619-1751/ashley.d.bush5.civ@mail.mil)



prime for life. 

Living Your Best Life

PRIME FOR LIFE

0800-1200/12 Hour course

Virtual, MS Teams LIVE



Prime For Life® empowers individuals to make informed low-risk choices about alcohol and drugs that will help them protect all they value and move them toward the life goals they want to achieve

Course Dates

QT 1: 27-29 OCT 2020

QT 2: 9-11 MAR 2021

QT 3: 11-13 MAY 2021

QT 4: 7-9 SEPT 2021

This course is FREE and available to all Service Members and DA Civilians and their family members! POC is the Army Substance Abuse Program (301-619-1751/ashley.d.bush5.civ@mail.mil)

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The Fort Detrick Education Center will host its first
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