



FORT DETRICK THE STANDARD

A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE



USAMRDC, Frederick County wrap successful Winter STEM course

By Amanda Gaynor, USAMRDC
Public Affairs Office

Advancements in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics are vital in expanding the immediate and long-term goals of both the Army and the U.S. Department of Defense. Making gains in these fields begins with teaching the next generation of students and young professionals, particularly those interested in STEM and affiliated concepts. To spur youth interest in STEM, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command recently partnered with Frederick County Public Schools and Frederick County Public Libraries to offer students a fun and interactive way to get involved in STEM, through the STEM mini-series.

The mini-series event, which began late last year and ran through early January, was a virtual, four-week program focusing on providing children with the necessary tools and means to learn and experiment with STEM concepts and ideas. Each week, a new STEM-focused activity kit was available for pick-up at participating libraries. Each kit was made available for one week, running from December 6, 2021, to January 2.

Each week, Service Members with both the Army and Air Force volun-

teered to demonstrate the kits to children and their families. Cpl. Robert Ozaeta, Tech Sgt Paul McKenzie, Tech Sgt Anthony Moss, and Master Sgt. Matt McDonald all supported the event.

"MRDC's STEM mini-series was an excellent opportunity for me, as an Airman, who throughout my career has been highly technical in my career field, to allow me to take part in a teamwork focused event that focus on creativity and bringing innovative methods to showcase the collaboration between the military and the STEM program students," said McDonald.

The kits included all the necessary supplies to complete the activity as well as an instruction sheet with a link to a video demonstration from a U.S. Army or Air Force volunteer. Through the kits, participants were able to explore the principles of solar energy, physics, microscopy and circuitry. Notably, the kits included projects related to the study of solar bugs, the building of Alka-Seltzer rockets, and the construction of copper circuits and foldscopes. The event not only brought together the community through learning, but also aided in the encouragement of young children to pursue a path in STEM. According to the National Science Board of the National Science Foundation, broadening par-



Cpl. Robert Ozaeta appears on-camera to tape a science experiment related to "solar bugs" as part of the STEM mini-series, which ran from late 2021 to early 2022.
(Video image courtesy: USAMRDC)

ticipation in STEM will ultimately lead to the expansion of STEM capabilities throughout the U.S. workforce, which will in turn further advance a number of Army and private workforce goals.

Following the successful completion of the STEM mini-series, USAMRDC looks forward to other projects to encourage young minds. Next on the STEM calendar will be the summer GEMS (or, Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science) program, which begins June 27 and is open to grades four through twelve. Throughout this program, students will further explore STEM concepts during a week-long program where they will be able to participate in hands-on experiments.

USAMRDC fusing Soldier care, technology for future fight

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC
Public Affairs Office

The Army's focus on wearable technology and its potential to improve the readiness and resiliency of the larger Force continues to shine a spotlight – now more than ever – on the efforts of the Medical Research and Development Command. After a several months of innovation in this area – in part spurred by the DOD's sprawling response to the COVID-19 pandemic – comes a new effort: the Optimizing the Human Weapon System program.

"This is a very novel effort for the command, and I think it will help inform a lot of future efforts," says Dr. Malena Rone, portfolio manager for Physiological Health and Performance at MRDC's Military Operational Medicine Research Program. "What makes OWHS so unique and important is that it focuses on the longitudinal data of the individual Service Member, which will allow us to look at performance in garrison or deployed environments over the course of many months."

In short, OWHS is designed to allow the Army to think, learn and analyze essential human performance and wellness data in an ecologically valid way. Developed as a partnership between MOMRP and the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center, the OWHS program uses a combination of both hardware (in the form of wearable sensors) and software (via smartphone-enabled daily check-ins) to generate information to help commanders and medical officers identify individual Service Members who may need additional care; both of which are key capabilities during potential and likely multi-domain combat operations, where sustained exposure to a variety of stressors is expected.

"This falls into line with some of our interests with wearables such as how, exactly, do you use wearable data collection opportunities to drive a better understanding of how people are doing, and how can it be used for performance?," says Cmdr. Christopher Steele, MOMRP director. "For us, this provides an additional readiness and wellness check." Outside of providing for extensive tracking and understanding the impacts of COVID-19 exposures on physical performance, a major component of the OWHS program is that it allows for a more in-depth analysis of sleep patterns, and how those patterns in turn both build performance and maintain readiness. For Steele, sleep is perhaps the most essential building block of cognitive and physical resiliency.

"Sometimes we don't even know what 'normal' looks like when we're sleep-deprived," he says. "So this is just a way to tell a Service Member, 'Hey, this is where you are, relative to where you've been.'"

Notably, OWHS aligns with a complementary DEVCOM project called the Measuring and Advancing Soldier Tactical Readiness and Effectiveness, or MASTR-E, program, which itself is a data-based research effort designed to deliver infantry units the capability to measure, predict and enhance human performance during close combat operations via the use of wearable biometric sensors. As part of the effort, OWHS recruited the Army's 10th Mountain Division to help field test specific equipment and procedures, including the ability to identify early cases of COVID-19. During initial testing efforts, which began in 2020, OWHS helped detect twenty cases of illnesses – including one case of COVID-19 prior to the onset of symptoms. Further, according to officials at DEVCOM, OWHS aided in identifying high-risk behaviors that likely prevented a suicide attempt. Extrapolate those numbers across hundreds of units and several years, and the value of such capabilities is apparent.



Soldiers participate in a Team Shooting Scenario during a field study held at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, in October, 2021, as part of the Measuring and Advancing Soldier Tactical Readiness and Effectiveness (or MASTR-E) program being led by the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Soldier Center (Photo by David Kamm, DEVCOM Soldier Center)

Free income tax assistance for O-3 and below, enlisted

By Brett C. Conyers, Legal Assistance Attorney

Eligible clients may now call the Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office to make an appointment for income tax assistance. Assistance is limited to clients assigned to units located at or supported by Fort Detrick who are enlisted personnel, warrant officers, and company grade officers (O-1 to O-3) on active duty and their DEERS dependent spouses. Field grade officers and above, and military retirees and their family members are not be eligible for income tax filing services.

Taxpayers will have until April 18, 2022 to file their 2021 return because of the Emancipation Day holiday in Washington, D.C. Taxpayers in Maine and Massachusetts will have until April 19, 2022 because of the Patriots' Day holiday in those states.

As a reminder, all active duty members have cost free tax filing software options provided via Military OneSource: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-resource-center/miltax-military-tax-services>. 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>. Self-guided software is available only for those whose adjusted gross income is \$73,000 or less.

The Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office will provide income tax services by appointment only. To make an appointment, call (301) 619-2221. Assistance will be provided each Wednesday. The Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office is located within the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at 521 Fraim Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland. Virtual appointments will be available at the election of the taxpayer.

The scope of available tax services has not changed.

The program is not designed for high income taxpayers or business owners. Assistance is limited to the preparation and electronic filing of both federal and state income tax returns that include subjects within the scope prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program those commonly encountered by military taxpayers. Other limitations are imposed by Army regulation. As in prior years, if any of the following "bright-line" limitations apply, clients who are otherwise eligible must seek assistance from a commercial preparer at their own expense:

You have a home business (other than a child care provider enrolled under the Child and Youth Services Program) and the income attributable to that home business gross income exceeds \$10,000 or you intend to deduct expenses for the business use of your home or your costs exceed \$10,000.

You have more than two rental properties or just one rental property that was purchased for the purpose of earning income.

You have more than 10 stock trades without a broker.

You qualify for the foreign earned income exclusion.

Eligible taxpayers must bring a completed IRS-required questionnaire (IRS Form 13614-C, In-take/Interview Sheet), a military identification card for the sponsor and spouse, and a social security card (or photocopy) for each person named on the return to receive assistance. The IRS Form 13614-C, In-take/Interview Sheet as well other helpful information designed to make the assistance a one-stop success will be available beginning in January 2022 from the Fort Detrick Tax Program webpage at <https://home.army.mil/detrick/index.php/my-fort/all-services/legal-assistance-office> and click on the Tax Assistance tab or scroll to the end if using a mobile device.

Fort Detrick Army Volunteer Corps Recognition Ceremony

In Observance of Army Volunteer Appreciation Week, Fort Detrick will host a recognition ceremony for our volunteers on April 14, 2022 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Community Activity Center, Building 1529.

The theme is "We Salute You: shining a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve."

Volunteers are the heartbeat of our communities and their support and contributions enrich the lives of many. For questions on volunteering, please reach out to the Fort Detrick Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator, Mrs. Taylor, by email at regina.y.taylor.civ@army.mil or by calling 301-400-0174.

Carr reflects on humble upbringing, improving lives for next generation

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Growing up poor in southern Louisiana, Col. Clayton Carr learned at a young age the importance of responsibility, hard work and empowering others.

It was a necessity for Carr, who was raised largely by his grandparents after his mother struggled with substance abuse issues and his father wasn't always around.

"My mom was just 15 when she had me ... and my dad was 18," Carr said. "Mom was always in and out of our lives. And I never really understood until I was older."

For Carr, those "older" years came fast.

Living in an overcrowded four-bedroom home with over a dozen family members, including his two younger siblings, Carr said he was barely a teenager – maybe 13 or 14 years old – when he learned how much his brothers, sisters, and cousins would need and look up to him.

He credits the example set by his grandparents for putting him on the right path, teaching him skills that he used around the house, like cooking, cleaning, gardening and working with his hands.

"I had to grow up fast," said Carr, who currently serves as assistant chief of staff for operations at U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command. "I always tried to be a good influence on my sisters and brothers."

As the Army recognizes February as Black History Month, Carr reflected on his challenging upbringing and how that helped shape him into the man he is today – a caring father, a loving husband, a mentor to others and a Soldier with over 25 years of service to his nation.

Today, more than 181,000 black Soldiers serve across the Army's three components, including active duty, reserves and National Guard. Their service helps the Army to leverage its greatest strength – diversity – as it brings together people of different backgrounds, culture and heritage.

"To me, Black History Month isn't just a month – it's the whole year," said Carr, who likened the efforts and life of Martin Luther King Jr. to that of Jesus Christ. "He knew the danger of what he was doing – not only his life but his family's lives – for something he believed in so much.

"That's why I say that people are more important than anything," he added. "That's why I've always put myself out there to make it better for others. You can't save everybody ... but the people you can save, it's worth it."

Sports to service

As Carr grew up, he developed a passion for sports, spe-



Col. Clayton Carr, right, with his family. Pictured, from left, are his daughter, LaKeesha, his son, Peerce, and his wife, Gwendolyn. (U.S. Army photo courtesy Col. Clayton Carr)

cifically football, and earned a reputation for outworking his opponents.

"I never lost a game before high school," he said.

His talents and hard work on and off the field resulted in a scholarship to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where the Ragin' Cajuns converted the high school line-backer and tight end to a strong safety.

Unfortunately, several injuries derailed his chances to play professionally, so he turned to another love – the military.

"I always loved the military because of my grandfather," Carr said. "He served in the Army during World War II."

Carr recalled stories from his grandfather, who talked about the ruthless nature of the Japanese during the war. They would tie themselves up in trees to surprise American troops and "you would have to just shoot and shoot until you killed them."

"It wasn't even a second thought," Carr said of joining the Army. "I went and joined, and went into the reserves" in 1989.

After going through basic training in 1990, the Gulf War broke out and Carr's infantry unit went to train at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and then Fort Hood, Texas. But before they got a chance to deploy to support the war effort, the conflict was over and the call was made to stand down, Carr said.

He went back to school to finish his degree, joining his younger brother, Robert, an ROTC cadet then and an Army colonel today, at Southern University in Baton Rouge,

Louisiana, where he earned a bachelor's in therapeutic recreation and leisure studies in 1995.

Rather than return to the Army Reserve, Carr decided to go into active-duty service. At 30 years of age, he received a waiver to earn commission into the Medical Service Corps.

"The rest is history from there," he said.

Carr's career has included a variety of medical logistics and supply roles for both operating and generating forces, primarily throughout the U.S. Central Command and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command areas of responsibility.

He has held several positions at Fort Detrick since 2009, including as deputy chief of staff for logistics at the former Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

Following a restructuring in 2019, the research, development and acquisition elements of MPMC realigned to U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command under U.S. Army Futures Command, while the logistics and sustainment operations went into the newly-formed AMLC under U.S. Army Materiel Command.

In 2014, he worked as director of Force Integration and Operations for the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency, a direct reporting unit to AMLC, where he forecasted equipment needs for all Army active duty, reserve and National Guard units in coordination with the Office of the Surgeon General and Army headquarters guidance.

After serving at the Armed Forces Radiobiological Research Institution at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland, Carr returned to Fort Detrick in 2020 to take on his current role at AMLC.



Col. Clayton Carr, center, helps cut a cake to celebrate the Army's 245th birthday in June 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Ellen Crown)



Col. Clayton Carr, left, presents a certificate of retirement to retired Master Sgt. Jean-Marie Sculfield during a June 2021 ceremony at Fort Detrick, Maryland. (U.S. Army photo by Ellen Crown)

'Best man I know'

To understand who Carr really is, look no further than his children. They described their father as kind, humble, funny and relatable, but also detail-oriented, understanding, reassuring and authentic in everything he does.

"That's one of the things he taught me," his son, Peerce, said. "No matter who the person is, try to be kind to them. You don't know what they're going through."

His daughter, LaKeesha, who was 17 when Carr married her mother, Gwendolyn, over 22 years ago, said she remains close with her biological father, but Carr "is the best man that I know."

"He is gentle, supportive, open, non-judgmental and he truly leads by example," she said. "He talks the talk and walks the walk."

LaKeesha, a senior program manager with the Washington, D.C. government, said her father has helped shape her ideals about what she would want in a future husband, instilling in her the importance of leadership and working for what she wants.

"Nothing worth having comes easy," she said. "That's just been like the moniker of my parents' lives. They've gone through things and showed me the fortitude and resilience and determination to create the life that they've created."

Along with LaKeesha and Peerce, Carr also helped raise another son, Brein, from a previous relationship.

Looking back on his childhood, Peerce, a junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia studying film and television production, remembers one specific interaction during his teen years with his father that still resonates with him today.

"He told me, 'I just want you to be a better man than me,'" Pearce recalled. "... He never meant it in a way where he wanted me to live up to a certain expectation. He meant it like be yourself, be kind, be a source of happiness.

"He said it in a way that he was here for me, every day, and that's exactly what he did," his son added. "He's always been patient with me ... and I think that's how he's helped me grow as a man and as a person in general."

Great role models

While his parents weren't always present, Carr said he had no shortage of great role models growing up – black, white, male and female – that helped shape his worldview and values he lives by today.

Both sets of grandparents provided direction and focus to his life as a youngster, while teachers, coaches and other adult figures reinforced his values of family, faith and always working to be a better person for both yourself and those around you.

They also helped him develop a drive to give back. Carr

said it's important, especially for today's youth, to know that "your past doesn't need to be your future."

Carr has lived that same mantra in raising his own children, as well as two young nephews for which he and his wife, also an Army veteran, are now legal guardians.

"I see myself in them," Carr said of the boys, ages 11 and 6, who come from similar circumstances as he did growing up. "I feel that if my wife and I didn't take them in, they wouldn't have a chance to make it."

Carr continues to take pride in his selfless service and giving back to the next generation.

"To me, all the things that everybody has done for me – because you never do it on your own – that's a reflection of you have to do something that's greater than yourself," he said.

"If I would have had to give my life for my country, I would've done that, easily," Carr added. "I know that's bigger than me. Even for my family, if I had to give my life to protect them, I would do that. That's what it's all about."

Public service 'hardwired' into AMLC's Security, EM lead

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Jeff Finlay was just a third-grader in 1974 when one of the worst tornado outbreaks in U.S. history brought death and destruction across 12 states, including his native Ohio.

There were over 100 tornadoes confirmed in less than 24 hours during the 1974 Super Outbreak, but none worse than the F-5 tornado that struck near-by Xenia, Ohio.

"It killed 35 people up there," said Finlay, who was born and raised in Cincinnati, about an hour southwest of Xenia. "I remember watching the news and seeing all these responders – firemen, policemen – and fast forward to who I am now, I've been that guy."

In the decades that followed, Finlay has accumulated over 35 years in various public safety roles over his career, including in fire service, law enforcement, emergency and incident



Jeff Finlay, who currently serves as chief of Security Operations and Emergency Management for U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command. (U.S. Army photo)

management, as well as experience in EMS, hazardous material response, technical rescue, search and rescue, and teaching numerous public safety courses for various state and federal

agencies.

"In Ohio, I cut my teeth on the natural disasters," he said. "We had a bunch of F-4 tornadoes. We deployed to a lot of stuff throughout the state, but also big events in the region, like in Kentucky and Indiana."

Finlay, who currently serves as chief of Security Operations and Emergency Management for U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, credits the influence of his grandfather and uncles – all serving in the Marine Corps, then later as police officers or firefighters – who left him "hardwired" to serve.

"What I really wanted to do was follow in their footsteps and join the Marine Corps," Finlay said, although his mother blocked that decision for the then-17-year-old as a result of the 1983 terrorist bombing of the U.S. embassy in Beirut.

"So instead of ducking bullets and

FINLAY, continued on Page 7

bombs, I got into the fire service and ran into burning buildings.”

Fourth-generation firefighter

To say public service runs in Finlay’s blood would be an understatement.

In keeping with the family tradition, he opted to enter the fire service as a fourth generation firefighter despite attending the University of Cincinnati to earn a degree in pre-med.

Even though he always did well in school academically, becoming a doctor or pursuing a medical career, Finlay said, was more of his mother’s dream.

“That was hard for her to swallow,” Finlay recalled.

“But I said, ‘look mom, grandpa, Uncle Bud and Uncle Bob, they’re not doctors. This is what we do.’”

Living in Cincinnati until the early 2000s, Finlay’s experience and certifications in the fire service, technical rescue and hazardous materials arenas earned him a spot on an elite federal-level response team known as Ohio Task Force 1, one of 28 federal urban search and rescue, or USAR, teams across the country.

The teams deploy as a Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, asset to support response and recovery efforts after large-scale disasters, including weather-related events, as well as non-emergency events, such as a U.S. visit by the Pope, the Olympics when held in the U.S. and large Homeland Security special events.

USAR teams specialize in various forms of search and

rescue operations, including structural collapse, trench and confined space rescue, high angle rope rescue, swift water rescue, heavy machinery and more.

His team in Ohio deployed to New York City in 2001 after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the Hurricane Katrina response in 2005, along with many other state, regional and federal level responses.

After relocating to Pennsylvania, he applied for a position on Pennsylvania Task Force 1, another FEMA USAR team. He was selected as a planning team manager, but

is also qualified to deploy as a safety officer, rescue specialist and hazardous materials specialist.

“When you deploy, you need to have a team that makes a plan based on the needs of the incident,” Finlay said. “It matters when it comes to how you respond.”

In 2007, Finlay also earned a position on two state-level incident management teams, or IMTs, in Pennsylvania. IMTs deploy at the county, state and federal level to both incidents and events to help incident commanders and emergency operations centers get their arms around an incident or event.

“They excel at bringing order to chaotic situations,” Finlay said.

For these teams, he has completed training in 23 different positions within the incident command structure and has earned FEMA credentials as a planning section chief, logistics section chief and safety officer. He has deployed throughout the re-

gion to incidents and events to serve in these capacities, and is currently earning his credentials as an incident commander and communications leader.



Jeff Finlay, who currently serves as chief of Security Operations and Emergency Management for U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, is pictured with one of his former K-9 working dogs. Kane, a Dutch Shepherd, was a human remains detection dog and was one of seven working dogs Finlay has trained and handled throughout his 35-plus year career in public safety. The two deployed at the request of law enforcement or fire departments to locate victims of house fires and structural collapse, or people who were presumed drowned. Kane was credited with numerous finds throughout his career. (U.S. Army photo courtesy Jeff Finlay)

Throughout his career, Finlay has been trained in dozens of disciplines throughout the fire, hazardous materials, technical rescue, incident management and other public safety areas, earning over 70 nationally-recognized credentials and certifications. His advanced-level certifications include: Fire Officer IV, Fire Instructor III, Fire Inspector III, Hazardous Materials Technician, Rescue Technician, Hazardous Materials Safety Officer, Technical Rescue Safety Officer, Incident Safety Officer and Paramedic.

'Finlay version' of teaching

Through his years of service, Finlay has amassed quite a bit of knowledge in his fields of expertise.

That has led to some opportunities to teach and share that information over the past 25 years across the country and abroad.

"It's rewarding," he said of teaching. "A lot of people do it for the money, but I'd do it for free if somebody needed me to. It's a way to give something back."

Over his career, Finlay has taught over 20 different national-level programs, some for major institutions like Michigan State Police, New York Police Department's emergency services unit, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, Washington D.C. Department of Health and others.

From incident safety, hazardous materials, technical rescue, incident planning, logistics and finance, he's done a little bit of everything. He instructs for the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, Pennsylvania State Department of Health, FEMA's Emergency Management Institute and National Fire Academy, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

It's also led to several opportunities to teach overseas in countries like Japan, Korea and Turkey.

Teaching, Finlay said, has allowed him to tap into his decades of experience, offering students more than just the basic program. He adds his own flavor and incorporates real-life experiences to make it more fun and engaging for students.

Finlay said it's become even more important considering the decline of volunteerism around the country, which is protected largely by volunteer fire companies.

"I call it the Finlay version – teaching beyond what is written in a curriculum," he said. "I think teaching from experience is more appealing to the student because if you can

take what you're teaching and you can tie it into a story, especially one that has that 'wow' factor, it's more impactful.

"It's not about what you know," Finlay added. "It's about how well you take that knowledge and pass it on to somebody else."

Staying active

Finlay first joined the federal service in 2009 as a civilian working as the chief of Safety, Security and Emergency Management for Defense Logistics Agency, the largest tenant organization at Tobyhanna Army Depot in Pennsylvania.

While there, Finlay also served on the special operations team with Tobyhanna Fire and Emergency Services, which, thanks to an agreement between commanders, utilized his expertise as a hazmat technician, rescue specialist and safety officer.

In January 2020, Finlay relocated to Fort Detrick to serve in his current role for the Army's premier medical logistics organization.

His safety and hazmat training was quickly put to work when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, resulting in a need for "clean teams" to help sanitize workspaces throughout the Defense Medical Logistics Center, or DMLC, building and protect the workforce.

Finlay leaned on his teaching background, developing and facilitating a course for participants from each branch's logistics arms collocated within the DMLC to carry out cleaning procedures.

"A lot of stuff I've learned public safety related to protection translates well to my current role," he said, also pointing to his physical security and antiterrorism training as crucial cogs to maintaining secure, safe operations.

For someone who has seemingly "done it all" in public safety, does it ever start to feel stale?

Finlay said no, and that's because he's always challenged and pushed himself to do more, learn more and share more.

"From a career standpoint, when I retire someday from the federal service, I know what I'll be doing," Finlay said. "I'm going to stay active and teach. It's no different if someone works for you and you want to train your replacement to be better than you.

"That's the kind of mindset I have."

A Day On, Not a Day Off: Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Lanessa Hill, Fort Detrick Public Affairs Office

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, observed on the third Monday of January each year, marks the birthday of the civil rights leader and activist. In 1994, Congress designated Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a national day of service. The theme of the day, "A Day On, Not a Day Off," encourages individuals to dedicate the day to community service in remembrance of Dr. King's remarkable legacy and to commit ourselves to instill his principles of unity and equity throughout the world. This day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated his life to equality and justice for every individual.

King's leadership and commitment to equality brought national attention to racism and civil rights abuses through multiple nonviolent movements in the late 1950s and '60s, and led to historic civil rights legislation designed to bring equality to African Americans.

Dr. King's call to attain a better tomorrow shaped American history and continues to challenge us today.

In 1955, Dr. King's leadership of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, a campaign by the Black population of Montgomery, Alabama, to force integration of the city's bus lines, led to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that racial segregation in transportation was unconstitutional.

In 1963, Dr. King was one of the driving forces behind the March for Jobs and Freedom, more commonly known as

the "March on Washington," where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to over a quarter-million people on the National Mall.

King inspired the nation to act on civil rights and challenged the nation to judge people not "by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

In 1964, at 35 years old, Martin Luther King, Jr. won the Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Nobel Peace Prize lecture, and "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" are profound orations and writings still impacting audiences today.

Nearly 50 years after his assassination in 1968, Dr. King's example still challenges the world to live up to the ideals enshrined in our founding documents – that all are created equal, endowed with unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated his life to a dream of equality, and the U.S. Army and Fort Detrick are committed to the ideals espoused by Dr. King, honoring his dedication to equity and inclusion on this national day of service.

Making time to volunteer for Martin Luther King Day of Service is a great way to engage with your community while honoring the legacy of Dr. King. Whether you plan to clean up a public space, mentor a young person, or assist those who are food insecure, what you do makes a difference.

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said



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News - Events - Training

In accordance with the Secretary of Defense directive dated July 28, 2021, Fort Detrick is now considered an area of SUBSTANTIAL TRANSMISSION of COVID-19; therefore, masks must be worn at all indoor locations while on Fort Detrick regardless of vaccine status.

For updates and materials on COVID-19 visit:

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

Fort Detrick Barber Shop closed until further notice

Due to staffing shortages, the Fort Detrick Barber Shop will temporarily close. Once these issues are resolved, the Barber Shop will reopen. Thank you for your patience.

COVID vaccines by appointment at Barquist

The Moderna COVID vaccine is available at the Barquist AHC on Thursday mornings by appointment only. Please call (301) 619-7175 to schedule your appointment.

Alternatively, vaccines are available to all military beneficiaries at any TRICARE participating pharmacy free of charge. Check with your local pharmacy for additional information.

Retirement Ceremonies

USAG Fort Detrick conducts Quarterly Retirement Ceremonies honoring retiring Service Members, and Civilian employees and their families. These ceremonies take place on the second Thursday of the second month of each quarter in the auditorium, Building 1520 at 10 a.m.

Any Military at Fort Detrick or in the local surrounding community or Civilian employees who wish to participate should contact Tom Yocklin with the Directorate of Operations by calling (301) 619-2503. The deadline for participants to be included is two weeks prior to the ceremony.

Spring Season is right around the corner at FMWR

Fort Detrick has an opportunity to partner with Little League Fredrick. We are looking for interested families of all ages for baseball and softball!

The season starts in April so act quickly to participate in this league! Please respond to John.m.seat.naf@army.mil

or call (301) 619-2538.

Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness Program will begin our spring soccer season March 2022 for children 3-12 years old.

We are hosting a soccer clinic and a parent meeting Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Location: CYS Sports Soccer field located beside the 949A Sultan Dr. PCS building. We will discuss season details and answer questions. The cost to participate is \$55. Teams will practice from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Practice will be held at the soccer field on Sultan drive. If you have any CYS Sports and Fitness Program questions, please call (301) 619-2538.

To register your athlete, please visit our Parent Central Services office located at 949-A Sultan drive or call (301) 619-7100.

Chapel News

Men's Prayer Breakfast & Bible Study

The Fort Detrick Chapel hosts a Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study the second Saturday of each month at the Chapel. Free breakfast served at 7 a.m. and Bible Study starts at 8 a.m.

Contact the Chapel at (301) 619-7371 for more information.

COVID 19 Test Kits available at the Commissary

The Commissary recently received a limited stock of COVID-19 test kits and they are available for purchase. The self-test kits provide results in 15 minutes. Please contact the Commissary directly for more information.

USAMMDA Says Farewell to Mark Brown after 37 Years of Civilian Service

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs Office

After nearly four decades of federal civilian service, a valued member of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity retired at the end of February. As an experienced mechanical engineer, Mark Brown served as supervisor of USAMMDA's Medical Prototype Development Laboratory at Fort Detrick. In this role, Brown may have held one of the most interesting jobs on post, tasked with managing a diverse range of high-tech projects from concept to completion. Under the direction of USAMMDA's Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation Project Management Office, Brown's MPDL team has helped to create numerous medical products and devices intended to save and support America's Warfighters throughout the world.

"The lab is made up of an integrated team of engineering technicians that work together to design, develop drawing packages, and rapidly prototype far-forward medical equipment in support of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's mission," explained Brown. "We focus on facility and equipment planning to ensure our highly skilled workforce has the resources it needs to complete the given assignment."

Over the years, Brown has helped to ensure his team's capability of rapidly prototyping medical devices in a wide range of scales and variety of materials. Further, his group has worked together to harden commercial-off-the-shelf components, equipment, and products for use in the field environment. Brown takes great pride in his team's collective contribution to a multitude of innovative products, some of which have been granted U.S. patents. These include far-forward medical devices as well as specialized test apparatus used by our nation's premier research laboratories. For the latter, the devices and products were designed specifically to adhere to unique requirements that cannot be obtained through items from the commercial market. Much of Brown's work over the years has centered on developing products that aid in the research and treatment of traumatic brain injury — which serves to highlight his faithful dedication to the health and welfare of our military men and women.

Having been with USAMMDA for the past 30 years, Brown feels he has been blessed to live and work in Maryland's Frederick County his entire life — and he certainly appreciates being so close to home. But as he recalls, his career began a bit further down the road.

"I started my civilian career at the Carderock Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center (formerly David W. Taylor Naval Ship Research and Development Center) in



Army Col. Gina E. Adam, USAMMDA commander, presents Mark Brown with a flag that was flown over USAMRDC headquarters, during his retirement ceremony at USAMMDA headquarters, February 25. Brown retired after 37 years of service as a federal civilian employee. (Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA)

April 1985," he said. "After about two years of commuting to the Washington, DC, area, I was fortunate enough to find a job closer to home, at the U.S. Army Biomedical Research and Development Laboratory, which was headquartered here at Fort Detrick."

"I worked with the USABRDL until 1992, when the facility was closed and the group I worked for (now known as the WHPE PMO) was transferred to USAMMDA," he continued. "I've been here ever since then. In total, I feel honored to have accumulated 37 years as a civilian, serving 30 of these years here at USAMMDA."

As a teenager, Brown continually was interested in working on anything of a mechanical nature, and working with all types of tools, both powered and manual. He enjoyed fixing things, and trying to understand how and why these things worked. Clearly, the machinist and mechanical engineering genes were instilled early on within Brown, and he remembers how he developed his education in the field, while growing up in the area around Fort Detrick.

"I was born and raised here in Frederick, the youngest of four children," said Brown. "My educational path was somewhat unconventional, as I didn't pursue college immediately after high school. However, the Frederick County Public School system offered a technical path at their (then) newly built Frederick County Career and Technology Center, better known as the CTC. During my time there, my desire to become a journeyman machinist really took hold of me."

BROWN, continued on Page 12

"After graduating high school, including three years of study at the CTC, I started my first full-time job at Frederick Manufacturing Company, as an apprentice machinist," he continued. "During my employment there, I completed the State of Maryland's four-year apprenticeship program to become a journeyman machinist. Later in my career, I attended college in the evenings, to pursue my interest in engineering."

Needless to say, Brown's dedication and perseverance eventually paid off — in spades. After earning an Associate of Science degree in engineering from Frederick Community College, he then transferred to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering — all the while working at his full-time position.

For those who know Brown, his success is not surprising. He is always on the positive side of an equation. In the simplest of terms, he is someone who helps make things happen — and this is most evident when he relates receiving a team award that he describes as a pinnacle in his career.

As part of USAMMDA's Medical Support Systems Project Management Office, Brown served as an integral member of the project team that developed the CASEVAC kit, which is a casualty evacuation package that facilitates the rapid conversion of a wide range of non-ambulance vehicles into medical evacuation vehicles in less than one minute. Neatly stored in the back of the vehicle, the CASEVAC kit's contents are used in transporting patients to life-saving treatment as well as for point-of-care first aid.

As a critical product that helped to save lives during both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the CASEVAC kit was heralded as significantly innovative, and the team that developed the kit was awarded the 2010 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal in the category of Safety, Security and International Affairs. Brown remains extremely proud to have been a part of this nine-member group, which was recognized for outstanding achievement during an awards recognition ceremony at the White House.

Typical of Brown, he always has preferred to work as part of a team — there is no "me" in "Brown" — and he always makes a point to praise his colleagues whenever possible.

"There are so many people I'd like to thank and acknowledge, but at the risk of leaving out anyone, I will just say I feel extremely blessed to have been associated with such a vast array of professionals. This includes leaders who took an interest in me personally, supporting

my endeavors whenever they could — promoting, encouraging and helping me through both the high points and the challenging times of life."

"And I'm so thankful to have experienced the support of my co-workers on a daily basis, while working as a team through a myriad of projects. In the end, my career has been enriched with so many people I now consider true friends."

Army Col. Gina E. Adam, USAMMDA commander, has worked with Brown for many years, and she appreciates his long-standing dedication to the organization's critical mission.

"Mark Brown is one of those quiet professionals whose dedication and consistency can constantly be relied upon," said Adam. "I believe he is one of those people that everyone knows to call. With his many accomplishments over the years, I can only imagine how often people called him to ask whether an idea was feasible and what ideas he might have to improve a product or design. His work has truly had an impact on battlefield medicine."

As he begins his new life in retirement, Brown plans on finishing a list of home improvement projects, while also scheduling some time for fishing and hiking in the open air of the Maryland countryside. Along with these activities, however, he said he is truly looking forward to spending more time with his family and friends, and dedicating some quiet time to learning more of God's scripture while enjoying His blessings — which certainly includes his wife, Tammy.

"I've been very happily married to my wonderful wife for nearly 40 years, and she is my inspiration," he said. "We have two beautiful daughters, both of whom are married, and we are blessed with four grandchildren. Now I will be able to spend much more time with all of them."

For many, Brown's retirement may be the definition of bittersweet. His USAMMDA teammates certainly wish him well with regard to this new chapter of his life, but the same group will be saddened by his departure. For nearly forty years, Mark Brown has been a "constant" to many: a constant ideal employee, a constant ideal co-worker, a constant ideal friend — always looking to build up others around him from a very sincere place in his heart.

"After all these years, I would like to end my career by saying thanks to all who make up this great workforce we call Fort Detrick — it truly has been a privilege and an honor to be associated with such an incredibly creative and professional team. I'll miss everyone."



LOCAL MEETING



Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

An OPEN AA Meeting is held every Tuesday at 11:45am—12:45pm. This is a literature meeting, including reading from the Big Book, the 12X12, As Bill Sees It and other AA literature. Meeting is virtual due to Covid, but normally held at the Fort Detrick Chapel.



***The Four Horsemen
Unity, Service, Recovery***

ZOOM ID: 82664566401
Password: 381092

POC is the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
301-619-4657. Chapel phone number is 301-619-7371.

FORT DETRICK RETIREE MUSTER

Diane Fox, CPA, Director of The Treasury For Fred County Government, Addressing Fred County Property Tax Credit For Military Retirees.

Info brief on New Veterans' Support Center in Frederick County - Fred Schumacher

*Thank You
for your Service!*

Date: 10 Mar 2022

Time: 1700 hrs

Location: AMVETS FREDERICK POST #2,
702 East South St, Frederick MD 21701
(across from the Fairgrounds)

NEED RSVP TO EARTHA earthadegannes@gmail.com
NLT – 2MAR with meal selection

Menu Options

- A. Chicken Breast w/ potatoes and vegetable
- B. Hamburger Steak w/potatoes and veg
- C. Chef Salad with ham, turkey, and asst dressing

Price of \$10.00 includes coffee, tea, tax and gratuity.

2022 Spring Research Festival

April 27-28, 2022

**Registration is open now
through April 6, 2022!**

The 2022
SRF will be a
virtual
event.

Registration is required for the following events:

- Poster Display
- Poster Blitz
- Young Investigator Symposium
- Judging

POSTERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE DEADLINE

**All attendees must register as a spectator
to view the event. Spectator registration
will remain open through the event but
pre-registration is recommended.**



Register online at:

<https://springresearchfestival.amedd.army.mil/>

Biomedical Science Annual Lecture

Comparing and Contrasting Viral Evolution
in Two Pandemics



March 21, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.
Whitaker Campus Commons AND Virtual



Featuring guest lecturer,
Mary Kearney '96, M.S.'01, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist/Head Translational
Research Section, HIV Dynamics &
Replication Program, NCI-Frederick

Scan our QR code, or visit **hood.edu/BMS**
to register for the event.



HOOD COLLEGE
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Please join the Fort Detrick Commissary for
Our Vietnam War Commemoration

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

1100 – 1300 hrs.

Guitar Songs of the 60's Era Provided by Frankie Jr, Bisek Rep

Cake, Vietnam Pins, and Vietnam Stickers

For all attendees Information table By MWR,NEX & HUMANA

