



FORT DETRICK THE STANDARD

A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE



Fort Detrick welcomes new Fire Chief

By Erickson Barnes, USAG PAO

New Fire Chief Robert Denney joined Fort Detrick's team Jan. 1, 2023, and has hit the ground running.

Denney, who has been with Army Fire since 2004, spent 16 years at Fort Drum in New York, and another three years at Letterkenny Army Depot in Pennsylvania before arriving here.

"Fort Drum was a FORSCOM (U.S. Army Forces Command) base with an Infantry Division. That was my initial Army Fire experience, working in an environment that was very Soldier oriented," said Denney. "When I went to Letterkenny, it was very interesting because the environment was so different. It was primarily civilians there, and that's when I really started to realize just how diverse the Army missions are from location to location."

"Coming to Fort Detrick, which has another unique Army mission, presents an exciting opportunity," he continued. "The variety of tenants here, with their own unique missions, and how fire interplays with and supports those missions is an exciting new challenge for me."

Supporting the unique organizations and missions on Fort Detrick isn't the only challenge Denney expects to face, though.

"We're also nestled right in the middle of a thriving and rapidly growing urban area," said Denney. "This is just a different environment for me, with a combination of elements that makes joining the team here exciting."

The Marine Corps veteran joined the military in the 1980s and said he has seen a change in how military installations interact with their surrounding communities from then to now.

"The military has transitioned away from installations being these separate entities and has embraced that we're actually a big part of these communities," said Denney. "The Army garrisons, in my time with Army Fire, have developed a better under-



New Fire Chief Robert Denney joined Fort Detrick's team Jan. 1, 2023. (Photo by Erickson Barnes, USAG Public Affairs)

standing of how important our role is in the community and really worked to build strong relationships between those on both sides of the fence. There has been a focus on partnering and being embedded in our communities.

"Here at Fort Detrick, particularly on the fire side, we are very involved with our surrounding community. We share a lot of resources, and quite frankly, that's necessary," said Denney. "This is the most close-knit community partnership I have personally experienced in Army Fire."

Denney added that he had already met with other Fire Chiefs from Frederick, and that the Mutual Aid Agreement between the post and city is in the process of being renewed. He noted there were no significant changes to the current agreement, and that

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Sesame Workshop Rolls Out Self-Care Content for Military Families

By Katie Lange , DOD News

Like many Americans, emotional well-being is something that many military families have said they're struggling with since the pandemic started, according to Sesame Workshop, which works with the Defense Department to bring information to military families through its websites and free apps.

In response to that, Sesame Workshop has launched new digital resources for military parents and children that offer simple strategies for mental health and self-care. The resources include videos demonstrating the importance of finding the little wins, being flexible with routines, meal planning and even learning how to be still and quiet.

"I know it's not always easy, and self-care doesn't always feel attainable," explained Sesame Workshop's Tara Wright, who's a mother of three and a military spouse. "But these resources can be a nice little reminder that taking care of yourself really does help your family, and it can also be done with your family. It doesn't have to be apart."

For instance, in one of the videos, Elmo's

mom, Mae, is frustrated when she's trying to make dinner. Elmo's dad is away with the National Guard, and Elmo really wants his mother to play with him. In that moment, Mae decides she's going to keep things simple and order a pizza, instead.

"She makes the choice right there: 'I don't I don't have to do it all,'" Wright said. "We know that every night can't be pizza night, but, in that particular moment, her act of self-care was setting aside a routine that was causing her a lot of stress and instead focusing on spending time with Elmo."

Wright, who's raising three boys under age 5 while her Marine Corps husband is on temporary duty, said she definitely finds the videos relatable. After all, while children will enjoy the videos for the Sesame Street connection, the underlying messages are really for the parents.

"These are definitely giving some modeling and encouragement to parents that it's okay to not be at our best all the time and that there are manageable, approachable things that we can do to feel a little bit better," Wright said. "My kids don't always understand why I feel frustrated ... but they do understand that I'm making the

choice to connect with them. I think that's what the kids will see in these videos and, especially, what parents will see."

Sesame Workshop has several other military-related resources, including those that can support families dealing with deployments, long-term caregiving, transition to civilian life, grief and more. A military spouse and mother of three named Alexis told Sesame Workshop that when her husband was away on temporary duty, it was hard for her to explain to her 3-year-old why he couldn't see his dad. The Sesame Workshop resources that focus on temporary duty really helped, Alexis said.

For a lot of the families, it's the examples of everyday situations that have resonated with them.

"I think military families—everybody thanks us for our service, but, so often, the day-to-day challenges are not really well understood," Wright said.

The Sesame Workshop resources are free to families and providers and are available in English and Spanish at the Sesame Street for Military Families website and online [here](#).

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keeping it current is a matter of compliance.

"We are renewing the agreement between Forest Glen and Montgomery County, as well," said Denney. "The same things can be said about that relationship. It is seamless. Our people are running calls with the county on a weekly basis.

"If we do have an incident at either Fort Detrick or Forest Glen, we and our community partners are prepared," he said.

The Chief also noted that community outreach within the gates of our installations will be a priority. When it comes to safety and fire prevention, he and his team will make sure everyone is informed and prepared.

"I like the old adage: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. This is home for a lot of Soldiers and their families, as well as civilians living on post," said Denney. "It is paramount we

reach out and partner with them on education and prevention."

Denney said another major factor in his department's success is working with the variety of tenant units on post, all with very different needs and missions.

"It's key that we really understand their primary concerns, and how best to support the needs of their missions and workforces," said Denney.

Chief Denney's enthusiasm for the job is undeniable, and he says he loves talking about all things fire if given the chance. So, give him the chance when you see him on post.

Finally, the new Chief joked that he just doesn't want to mess it up.

"There are some really great things going on here," he said.

"I've been spending a lot of time my first month here just getting to know everybody and know the team. But, it's clear to me we're at maybe even the next level of professionalism and performance of our mission here."

MRDC Best Medic Team Returns After Grueling, 'Intense' Event

By Ramin A. Khalili, MRDC Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's participants in the 2023 CSM Jack L. Clark, Jr. U.S. Army Best Medic Competition returned to their duty stations this week following a grueling four-day competition at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Capt. Logan Hunt and Spc. Juan Garcia returned to their respective positions after pitting their combined skillsets against more than 60 other competitors from across the Army.

Running from January 23-26, the competition was billed as an expansive and immersive event featuring a wide array of high-intensity tests designed to gauge participants' physical fitness and medical care capacity in a variety of environments. Hunt and Garcia each punched their tickets to Fort Polk after placing first and second, respectively, in the USAMRDC's own Best Medic Competition held late last year.

"It was certainly intense," said Hunt, who currently serves as the aide-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Tony McQueen, Commanding General of USAMRDC and Fort Detrick, following the event. "My main takeaway from the whole thing is that I learned how to control my emotions. You're thrown into these situations that you're not used to, and so emotional intelligence and how you deal with those situations can be a big key to your success."

In addition to the standard Army Combat Fitness Test and Army Combat Water Survival Test, the competition included a series of medical lanes, weapons qualification events, and obstacle courses; all of which were designed to be slightly more difficult versions of the events the participants tackled during previous qualification runs at their respective commands. New challenges added specifically for the event at Fort Polk included, among others, a repelling wall, a 16-mile ruck march and a mystery

event where competitors participated in a horizontal rope climb across a body of water, then crawled 100 meters across the ground, and were then tasked with sawing a railroad tie in half. The team then had to carry the wooden beam one mile to the event's finish line.

"I learned a lot about myself, about my own capabilities, what I could do – and what I need to work on," said Spc. Juan Garcia, who works in the Office of Medical Support and Oversight at MRDC's U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine. "I also learned a lot about working both as a team and with a team, too."

Notably, at the conclusion of the event, Garcia was recognized by Army leadership as one of several high-performing junior enlisted Soldiers for his efforts during the competition. Garcia joined the Army in November 2020, and began his assignment at USARIEM – his first-ever duty station – in April 2021.

"The world's most powerful and lethal Army must have the world's best medical instrument of power supporting it – and that medical instrument of power is Army Medicine," said Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, Surgeon General and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Command, during the event's award ceremony on January 27. "What I observed this week is the world's best medical force – bar none."

While the MRDC team did not place amongst the event's top ten finishers, both Hunt and Garcia are eager to apply the lessons learned during the competition to their own careers moving forward.

"I look at this as a teaching tool, as a personal challenge that I can, in turn, apply to a variety of professional situations," said Hunt.



USAMRDC teammates SPC Juan Garcia (left) and CPT Logan Hunt (right) participate in an event during the 2023 CSM Jack L. Clark, Jr. U.S. Army Best Medic Competition. (U.S. Army photo)



USAMRDC's CPT Logan Hunt participates in an obstacle course event during the 2023 CSM Jack L. Clark, Jr. U.S. Army Best Medic Competition at Fort Polk, Louisiana. (U.S. Army photo)

Honor, Patriotism: Black Americans in the US Army

By U.S. Army

Black Americans have left an indelible mark on history and on our society. America has never fought a war in which Black Americans did not serve proudly. But throughout most of American history, Black service members faced great adversity.

Contributions of Black Americans to the birth of our nation were largely unrecorded and soon forgotten. After the Revolutionary War, Black Americans were virtually excluded from the military forces until they volunteered to serve during the War of 1812. Despite their heroism, they were again barred from service until the Civil War, when the Emancipation Proclamation declared they could join the armed forces of the United States.

Although Black Americans fought with distinction in both World Wars, racism and segregation continued when they returned home. Accounts of this racism and physical violence against these veterans garnered national attention, and in 1948, President Harry Truman issued Executive Order 9981, which called for equality of treatment of the Armed Forces. Sanctioned segregation within the Army was no longer allowed.

The Army simply could not accomplish its missions without the skill and dedication of all of its members. We find our true strength in our ability to bring together people of different races, cultures and faiths who share common values like duty, honor, selfless service, loyalty and respect.

FEMALE BUFFALO SOLDIER SERVED IN DISGUISE

Cathay Williams, born a slave in 1844 and later freed during the Civil War, became the first documented black woman to enlist in the U.S. Army. Although the reasons surrounding her entry into the Army aren't well known, Williams was presumably looking to maintain her independence. By enlisting as William Cathay in the 38th U.S. Infantry, she did just that, and became part of history as the only female Buffalo Soldier.

AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK GENERAL

In 1940, Benjamin Oliver Davis Sr. became the first Black American general officer in the U.S. Army. Davis entered military service in 1898 as a temporary 1st lieutenant in the 8th United States Volunteer Infantry during the War with Spain. He was later discharged and enlisted in the Regular Army as a private in 1899, was promoted to corporal and squadron sergeant major before being commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1901.

In 1942, Davis was assigned to the European theater as an advisor to the Secretary of War's Committee on Negro Troop Policies. During his time in Europe, Davis proposed policies that illustrated troops of different races could serve together, leading towards integration. He ended his career as Assistant to the Inspector General, then assistant to the Secretary of the Army, before retiring in 1948.

WWII'S ALL-BLACK TANK BATTALION

In 1944, the 761st Tank Battalion — nicknamed the "Black Panthers" — arrived in Europe. The all-Black battalion endured a record 183 consecutive days in combat and liberated 30 towns on their mission into Germany.

A testament to their great ability, the Black Panthers spearheaded several of Gen. Patton's moves into enemy territory. Patton himself cheered them on, saying "Men, you're the first Negro tankers to ever fight in the American Army. I would never have asked for you if you weren't good. I have nothing but the best in my Army."

THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first Black military aviators, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps. The Airmen's success in escorting bombers during World War II is unmatched by any other fighter group — having one of the lowest loss records of all the escort fighter groups and being in constant demand for their services by the allied bomber units.

One of the last remaining Tuskegee Airmen, Brig. Gen. Charles Edward McGee (1919-2022), was a veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam. McGee's extensive

experience made him an accomplished public speaker, often taking time to talk to students. His formula for success, which he called the four P's — perception, preparation, performance and perseverance — is something every American could learn from.

"I FOUND MY PLACE. I FOUND DISCIPLINE, I FOUND STRUCTURE, I FOUND PEOPLE THAT WERE LIKE ME AND I LIKED. I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE ARMY THOSE FIRST FEW MONTHS IN ROTC, AND IT LASTED FOR THE NEXT 40-ODD YEARS..."

- Colin Powell, Secretary of State, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and four-star general U.S. Army, 1937-2021

Colin Powell was a distinguished Army officer who served two tours in Vietnam, and at the end of his military career was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993. Powell's acumen led him to become the 65th Secretary of State in President George W. Bush's administration.

Powell was the first Black American appointed to these posts and continues to be an inspiration for following generations of leaders.

PRESENT DAY

In 2020, Black Soldiers comprised approximately 21% of the active-duty Army, 15% of the Army National Guard and 21% of the Army Reserve. Black Americans serve in the Army at a rate that is higher than their representation in the U.S. population. The active-duty percentage of Black Soldiers has remained higher than the representation of Black Americans in the U.S. population since 2002, with peaks in 2002 and 2014. In 2020, the Black or African American population — 41.1 million — accounted for 12.4% of all people living in the United States, compared with 38.9 million and 12.6% in 2010.

To read more about Black Americans in the U.S. Army visit: Black Americans in the U.S. Army, go [here](#).

OVER 89 BLACK AMERICANS SERVING IN THE U.S. ARMY HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR.

Retired medic, war veteran, shares importance of diversity during Black History Month

By T. T. Parish, U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity

February is Black History Month, a time to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Black Americans to the U.S. Army and the Nation. Today, roughly 90,000 Black Americans serve on Active Duty in the U.S. Army, with an additional 39,000 who serve in the Army Reserves and 52,000 in the Army National Guard.

At the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity, Black Americans – Active-Duty Soldiers, Veterans, Army civilians and contractors – contribute each day to the mission of developing and delivering medical devices, technologies and treatments for America's Warfighters.

For Sgt. 1st Class Natasha Davis, U.S. Army, retired, Black History Month is a time to reflect on her career in service to the Nation, including 20 years in uniform and now as a Program Coordinator with USAMMDA's Warfighter Brain Health Project Management Office at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Davis, born in Germany, has a family history of Army Service. Her parents, Keith and Angela Davis, met while Soldiers stationed in Germany in the 1970s. After 20 years as an Army combat medic with deployments across the world – including Afghanistan in 2004 – as a mom and as a woman, Davis has a unique and authoritative perspective on the importance of high-

lighting and encouraging diversity in the ranks, starting with Black History Month.

"The significance of the struggle for racial and gender equality in politics, the economy, and social development is recognized during Black History Month," said Davis, who was born in Frankfurt but calls Columbia, South Carolina her hometown. "Black History Month serves as an opportunity to consider the numerous accomplishments of African Americans in the past. We must never let the significance of those who came before us wane as we advance toward equality, keeping in mind the significance of Black History Month, and paying tribute to all those who have fought for the dignity of all men and women."

Davis, who retired in 2017 after 20 years in service, originally joined the Army to carry on the family tradition of service and to take advantage of the benefits Army service offers. As an African American Veteran currently helping refine health care technologies, treatments and devices for the Joint-Forces, Davis has learned the importance of leadership by example and, also, the unifying strength a diverse force fosters.

"The Army taught me to be a servant leader," said Davis. "Having a diverse Army organization allows the USAMMDA to be valuable. A diverse force united in a common mission results in an organization that is stronger and more effective to the Warfighter they are serving."

For Davis, who carries a smile and a no-nonsense demeanor with her wherever she goes, teamwork is key to the mission of her WBH colleagues and USAMMDA as a whole. The key to teamwork is the understanding that diversity, in all its shapes and forms, is key to the mission focus and collaborative effort that drives her personal and professional lives.

"Diversity enables people from different backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to connect, enhancing the strength of the Army," she said. "In a team there are many people, and every person has an opinion and that adds value to the team. Remember that teamwork is not about one person. Keeping everyone involved fosters a spirit of teamwork. Diversity is not always about color. Diversity is where they are from, how they were brought up, and many other factors. There are so many people and cultures blended together [and that makes] USAMMDA a great place to work."

For more information about the incredible contributions African Americans have made – and continue to make – to the U.S. Army, visit: <https://www.army.mil/blackamericans/>.



Sgt. Natasha Davis during her time at Forward Operating Base Orgun-E, Paktika Province, Afghanistan, Oct. 2004. Today, Davis serves as Program Coordinator with the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity's Warfighter Brain Health Project Management Office at Fort Detrick, Md . (Photo Courtesy of Natasha Davis)

SJA's Kelly Bids Farewell to 'Hidden Gem' MRDC

By Ramin A. Khalili, MRDC Public Affairs

Jeremiah Kelly knows he sounds like a walking, talking cliché when he calls the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command his home, yet in his case that old bromide holds especially true. A local kid born and raised in Frederick, Kelly currently works chiefly as the head of MRDC's Regulatory Law Division in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, a position he alternately refers to as both "special" and "fulfilling." When he shuts off the light in his office for the final time on February 10, it will mark the end of a wildly successful 12-year run at MRDC.

"MRDC is a hidden gem," says Kelly, who is set to assume a position at a private legal firm in the coming weeks. "I am not kidding when I say that I have enjoyed every minute of supporting this mission."

The importance of that mission clearly took root at a young age. Kelly first started working at MRDC during his senior year at Frederick High School, when he began an internship with the Fort Detrick Environmental Office at the old U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research lab. From 1996 to 2001, he – in his own words – "helped clean fish tanks" at USACEHR while also working on the then-burgeoning Intelligent Aquatic Biomonitor System, which uses bluegill fish to help detect toxic substances in bodies of water. The iABS, which Kelly dutifully helped cart to several Environmental Protection Agency Superfund sites during his internship, would later go in to win a number of patents and, eventually, commercial licensing as well.

"It's hard to forget Jeremiah because he always had a lot of energy," says Mark Widder, a research biologist who worked with Jeremiah in the old USACEHR lab some 25 years ago. Widder started at MRDC himself in 1992 and remains at Fort Detrick to this day, still working as a key member of the fish lab several years after USACEHR was absorbed by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. "I remember that you'd give him a task for the week, and he'd try to get everything done in one day," says

Widder, remarking on Kelly's outsize work ethic. "Some things were done correctly, and others not so much – I had to remind him that not everything in science can be accomplished in a day, but I always appreciated his enthusiasm."

Says Kelly, chuckling in response, "I owe a lot of my love and affection to the command from working on that project."

Upon returning to MRDC in 2011 to work in the SJA office, Kelly channeled his energy into aiding the command's medical product development efforts; his position being responsible for guiding mature (and potentially beneficial) products through the various legal processes and milestones required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for review, clearance and approval. Through this position, he and his staff buttressed the command's lifesaving work both during and after the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in West Africa in 2014.

Kelly has also been integral to the passage and implementation of Public Law 115-92, a key legal statute which allows for enhanced engagement between the U.S. Department of Defense and the FDA. Notably, the measure grants expanded Emergency Use Authorization authority to the DOD. Perhaps more importantly however, it also established the Medical Product Acceleration Committee, a body which regularly reviews, along with FDA senior leadership, the DOD's highest medical product priorities for which the FDA's help is needed. The establishment of the MPAC is a substantial achievement that will continue to benefit the Warfighter by ensuring safe and effective medical products are approved, licensed or cleared by the FDA.

"Jeremiah's tireless efforts to organize the activities of both the DOD and FDA under PL 115-92 have established professional relationships most beneficial to both agencies and the Service Member," says Dr. Terry Rauch, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Readiness Policy and Oversight, who calls Kelly an "instrumental" force in developing the statutory framework found within Public Law 115-92.

"Jeremiah has been our go-to person for all things requiring insight or legal support with the FDA and with regulatory requirements," says Dawn Rosarius, the Principal Assistant for Acquisition at USAMRDC, who estimates she's worked with Kelly for nearly 15 years. "During the pandemic, he worked countless hours and responded to requests in minutes to ensure that all of DOD had safe and efficacious products. He was one of the first people to join the COVID Additive Manufacturing Working Group to ensure receipt of any medical materiel met FDA requirements so they could safely protect, diagnose or treat our military and their beneficiaries."

Indeed, the pandemic granted Kelly's team the opportunity to have an impact beyond just MRDC. As Chief Coordinating Counsel for the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense's Assisted Acquisition Legal Cell for Covid Response, Kelly and his team played a major role in executing \$83 billion dollars in pandemic medical



Jeremiah Kelly speaks to the crowd during a JPEO-CBRND award ceremony at USAMRICD on Jan. 27, 2023. (Photo by USAMRICD Public Affairs)

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research, development and acquisition funding.

"While the pandemic response was a team effort, it's true that every team needs a strong leader, and Jeremiah was the right person in the right place at the right time for this team," says Joseph Strawn, USAMRDC's Staff Judge Advocate, who works alongside Kelly in the SJA office. "The fact that he was in this office during the pandemic was a great benefit to the command and the country too, quite frankly."

Says Kelly on the work of his team during the pandemic, "They touched every vaccine, every diagnostic and every personal protective equipment contract over the last three years. That's the kind of contribution that is enduring, that will be remembered long after [the legal team] is no longer here."

Kelly's focus now, in the waning days of his tenure, is on friends and colleagues, the familiar faces he's spent the past several years with – nearly twenty years total at MRDC when you combine both stints at the command. For him, it all runs back to the same mission he was drawn to back in high school days.

"The idea that there's an integrated command that develops

products from bench-to-battlefield, from early-stage science and technology to advanced development, and then into FDA-approval and clearance, licensure and fielding – it's an incredibly powerful model that others emulate," says Kelly. "It's an incredible mission, and the MRDC team is incredibly good at it."

His affection for MRDC is so strong that Kelly is trying to ensure, even during his own departure, that the command's reputation for excellence lives on. According to Widder, Kelly recently went so far as to recommend a person to fill his old job at the fish lab: a student from one of the classes Kelly teaches at nearby Mount St. Mary's University. Notably, that person has since earned a contract research scientist position at the lab. It's the kind of ending only a guy like Jeremiah could deliver – certainly cyclical, almost perfect in a way. For him, it's all about doing right by the people who have done right by you for so long.

"It's bittersweet because you're leaving the people, and the people are what make MRDC so special," says Kelly. "But I have truly given everything I could to this job, and I can look back and be happy and proud of all the things we've accomplished as a team."

USAG Fort Detrick Employee of the Quarter



Jerry Johnson is awarded as USAG Employee of the Quarter for his dedicated service to the U.S. Army Garrison mission from October to December 2022. His selection as the Fort Detrick Employee of the Quarter reflects his outstanding performance while assigned as a Maintenance Mechanic, Directorate of Public Works. (Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG PAO)

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AMLC Human Resources leader draws on coaching experience to build teams

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

With just 4.3 seconds remaining in a tie game, Arkansas senior guard Makayla Daniels took the inbounds pass, quickly dribbled up the court and launched a last-second shot against conference rival Vanderbilt.

The shot banked off the backboard as time expired and went through the hoop, notching the 22-year-old's first buzzer-beater at any level in her 14-year basketball career.

In the stands, her father, Kenneth Daniels, said he had one of those "proud father" moments as he watched his daughter – a standout and three-time state champion at Frederick (Md.) High School – and her teammates celebrate the Jan. 17 win.

The incredible shot from deep three-point range was replayed over and over on several national television programs in the days that followed, including Good Morning America and earning the No. 1 spot on ESPN's SportsCenter Top 10 Plays.

"I secretly thought it may make SportsCenter, but never did I think about it being No. 1," Daniels said of his youngest daughter. "It was amazing to see her on the show. ... Her mother and I are very proud of what she's accomplished at a young age."

In his professional life, Daniels is a seasoned human resources administrator, currently working as interim G-1 director for U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command headquarters. Before joining the civilian workforce, he served 21 years in Army human resources roles, retiring in 2010 at the rank of sergeant first class.

While serving, he and his wife, Wynetta, also an Army veteran, raised three children. They enjoyed sports growing up, leading Daniels to take on various coaching roles over the years.

On the sidelines, he tried to teach and embody many of the same character-building principles – such as teamwork, ac-

countability, discipline and a strong work ethic – that come into play in his HR profession today as an Army Civilian.

"It's always been about instilling discipline, hard work ethic, teamwork and accountability, and that's what we've tried to put into Makayla and her siblings," Daniels said. "In anyone that you're coaching, you remind them it's not just about you. Even though you may be taking the shot, you needed somebody to get you that ball before you can shoot it."

At its core, the G-1 develops and implements effective policy and leads programs that build sustained personnel readiness in the Army's greatest asset – its people.

"With the G-1, we're responsible for getting the right people on the team in the right place at the right time, and putting people in position to succeed," he added. "Especially in medical logistics, somebody is depending on you to accomplish your mission."

AMLC, the Army's life cycle management command for medical materiel, has a global footprint with three direct reporting units that deliver integrated sustainment and data management to enable health services in support of operational Army units and joint forces worldwide.

Activated in 2019, the command continues to grow and change to fit the needs of the force, requiring an agile and strong human resources team to fill workforce needs and support Soldiers and civilians in their mission to protect and save lives.

Sgt. 1st Class Donald Hosea, military HR administrator for AMLC, said Daniels brings a wealth of experience to his job, exhibiting patience and an abundance of knowledge that he combines with a constant positive outlook regardless of situation.

Following his active-duty retirement, Daniels worked for 10 years as chief of the Military Personnel Division for the Fort Detrick Garrison. He joined AMLC in March 2021.

"He has done an excellent job over the roughly two years in his current position, despite the hurdles of an ever-changing field with an extremely high operational tempo," Hosea said of Daniels. "He established and maintained transparent communication with G-1 staff members and maintains a relaxed work environment based on trust and respect."

Daniels regularly solicits feedback from staff members, helping to keep them engaged in HR practices and focuses on the success of the AMLC team as a whole, Hosea said.

"Mr. Daniels uses every opportunity to coach the human resources team like a championship NBA team, providing direct feedback regarding effectiveness of our processes and communicates with his employees on a regular basis," Hosea added. "He's a great leader and asset to AMLC and our mission."



Kenneth Daniels is pictured with his daughter, Makayla, a guard for the University of Arkansas women's basketball team, and wife, Wynetta, in 2022. . (Photo courtesy of Kenneth Daniels)

USDA researchers at Fort Detrick love cacao beans

By Autumn Canaday, USDA ARS

There are a few chocolate-centric holidays on the calendar, but none where it's more traditional than Valentine's Day. Your fancy may lie with dark, milk, or white chocolate; perhaps a ganache or chocolate covered nut (or insect) will do the trick this year. Whatever your pleasure, chocolate candies are also a major market for U.S. agricultural commodities such as peanuts, almonds, milk, and sugar.

Last year, the National Confectioners Association reported that the chocolate industry saw a rise in chocolate consumption, with \$36.9 billion in 2021 U.S. confectionary sales. In light of this increasing demand for chocolate, many producers fear that increasing plant disease damage to the *Theobroma cacao* plant (the plant whose "cacao bean" seeds are really the source of chocolate) may reduce production to such an extent that there will not be enough chocolate to meet consumer demand.

The cacao plant has been threatened by numerous diseases caused by fungal, viral, and other pathogens that lead to the production of fewer pods or even death of infected plants. In the past few years, cacao mild mosaic virus (CaMMV) has been detected in the United States, Brazil, England, and Indonesia, and is considered an emerging disease on *Theobroma cacao*. Current USDA Agricultural Research Service research is helping to ensure that there are enough cacao plants for chocolate by developing tools to identify and prevent the transmission of emerging cacao plant diseases like CaMMV.

"Diseases such as CaMMV are not harmful to humans, but they can cause plants to produce fewer, or smaller, pods," said ARS researcher Alina Puig of the Foreign Disease & Weed Science

Research Unit in Frederick, MD. "The virus is not believed to affect the cacao pod's flavor, but it can cause a mosaic pattern on infected pods that leads to the production of abnormally small pods, as well as the loss of entire branches."

This means that the taste of our beloved chocolate is safe. However, it also means that if CaMMV continues to be an agricultural challenge, the cost of chocolate may increase or there simply may be less available. Preventing spread of the pathogen is the most effective way to combat this disease as there is no cure for *Theobroma cacao* plants infected with CaMMV.

Scientists needed to find another way to determine if plants are infected by the virus, because symptoms of CaMMV infection are not always visible to the naked eye. Dr. Puig worked with ARS researchers in Miami, FL, and the University of Arizona to develop a DNA test that can detect the CaMMV virus and stop infected plants from being transported to other areas. Once the DNA test detects the virus, infected plants are removed and

quarantined, and often used for further research.

Research currently shows that CaMMV is transmitted through graft propagation and mealybug insects. Prior to 2021, it was not known if the virus also could be transmitted through seeds, so seed-grown plants were not routinely screened for CaMMV infection. Since that time, research found CaMMV can be transmitted through seeds. ARS scientists are now investigating the rate of transmission and if seeds are a major pathway for disease spread.

Dr. Puig is working collaboratively with ARS research teams in Miami; Hilo, HI; Beltsville, MD; and within her ARS location in Frederick to continue CaMMV research. ARS researchers will also continue to develop CaMMV detection tools and investigate how plants become infected.



Research by the USDA ARS Foreign Disease & Weed Science Research Unit is helping to ensure that there are enough cacao plants for chocolate. (ARS photo by Peggy Greb)



**THESE
THREE DIGITS
COULD
SAVE A LIFE**

988 will serve as the new direct dial number for the National Suicide Prevention Helpline. The number will be available for use at national, state, and local levels.



  **Call, Text, Chat**

News - Events - Training

COVID-19

Masks and COVID-19 testing are not required to enter most facilities on Fort Detrick or Forest Glen Annex. Masks are still required inside the Barquist Army Health Clinic and the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic. Commanders/Directors may implement more rigorous workplace mandates to meet mission requirements.

For updates and materials on COVID-19 visit:

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

The Feb. 9, 2023 Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is cancelled. The next ceremony is scheduled for May 11, and the deadline for registration to participate is April 28.

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.

Military One Source provides tax software, support

The Defense Department offers MilTax software through Military OneSource. It's built to account for deployments, combat and training pay, housing and rentals, multistate filings, living OCONUS and more. If SM's have questions, they enlist free one-on-one help from MilTax experts: tax pros with special training in military-specific tax situations. Call or chat anytime 24/7 to schedule a consultation, or

get in person support at a Volunteer Income Tax Support Assistance office location.

Visit <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/taxes/miltax-military-tax-services/>, or contact your Fort Detrick Financial Readiness Team at (301) 619-3455 or usarmy.detrick.usag.mbx.acs-frp@army.mil.

FMWR News and Events

Visit www.detrick.armymwr.com, Instagram us at #DetrickMWR, and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DetrickMWR.

Fort Detrick Playgroup

The Friday playgroup on February 24, 2023, will be conducted at the play area in the Francis Scott Key Mall (5500 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick, MD 21703) from 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. This will be the last playgroup meeting until further notice.

Barquist Army Health Clinic News & Closures

- **March 2:** Fort Detrick ASBP Blood Drive.
- **March 17:** Barquist is operating on reduced hours due to staff training requirements – closed at 11:30 a.m.
- **March 27:** Barquist will 'Go Live' with MHS GENESIS.

ALL SERVICES WELCOME!

PLAY TO WIN.

Worldwide Online Tournaments

FIRST PLACE: APPLE iPad

SIGN UP NOW

navymwr.org/esports [twitch.tv/NavyMWR](https://www.twitch.tv/NavyMWR)

No Navy endorsement implied. Prizes provided by Navy MWR.

What is PWOC?

Protestant Women of The Chapel

Weekly Ladies Bible Study
Uplifting Discussions
Encouraging Friendships
Join Us! All are welcome

0930 Every Thursday
Fort Detrick Chapel



ARMED SERVICES BLOOD PROGRAM

ASBP BLOOD DRIVE at Ft. Detrick

March 2nd | 0900-1300

BLDG 1520, Auditorium

For appointments: militarydonor.com |
Code: FTDETRICK or
email: shawntel.c.trowell.civ@health.mil



MHS

Military Health System
health.mil

ASBP
Armed Services Blood Program
militaryblood.dod.mil

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM MHS GENESIS

Information for Barquist U.S. Army Health Clinic Beneficiaries

COMING TO BARQUIST MARCH 25, 2023

MHS GENESIS is the new electronic health record for the Military Health System (MHS). It integrates inpatient and outpatient electronic health records across all military hospitals and clinics worldwide. You will be able to access your health records from any military health facility from anywhere at anytime. Barquist will transition to MHS GENESIS March 25, 2023.

How does this affect your access to health care?

As we transition to the new electronic health record system, our providers and staff will need time to adjust to the new work flows, procedures, and processes. *To continue to provide you with safe, quality care during this transition, you may experience delays.*

During this time, you can expect to experience:

- Extended time with your Provider
- Increased wait times for Pharmacy services
- Reduced appointment availability
- Increased wait times for Lab & Radiology results

How will MHS GENESIS improve your overall experience?

MHS GENESIS allows you to securely access your electronic health records 24/7 and exchange messages with your military health care team *when and where it's convenient for your schedule*. It provides more efficient management of chronic, complex, and time-sensitive health conditions; provides automated, real-time clinical decision support for health care teams; and increases patient engagement capabilities that allow patients to communicate directly with providers.

How do I access the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal?

To access the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, visit <https://patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil> or scan the QR code.



What can I do within the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal?



- Manage primary care medical and dental appointments
- Review clinical notes, referrals, and lab and test results
- Request prescription renewals
- Exchange secure messages with your health care team
- Monitor health information and view your portal profile
- Complete a pre-visit, dental health history questionnaire online
- Look up high-quality, provider-approved health information related to health issues, lab results, and medications

Patient Support Numbers

- Appt. line: 301-619-7175
- Patient Advocate: 301-619-0976
- Nurse Advice Line: 800-874-2273



For more information, visit health.mil/MHSGENESIS

Saturday, March 18

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BRAIN AWARENESS DAY

Explore the exciting world
of neuroscience!

Join Department of Defense brain scientists,
researchers, clinicians, and museum educators
to enjoy interactive demonstrations and
exhibits about the brain.

All ages welcome.

- Learn about prevention and treatment of traumatic brain injury.
- Discover how your brain works.
- Explore STEM career paths.



This event is FREE.

Request ADA accommodations five business days in advance at
(301) 319-3303 or by email to: USArmy.Detrick.MEDCOM-
USAMRMC.List.Medical-Museum@health.mil



2500 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 319-3300 www.medicalmuseum.health.mil
@MedicalMuseum

USArmy.Detrick.MEDCOM-USAMRMC.List.Medical-Museum@health.mil

Brain Injury Awareness Month



SCIENCE CAFÉ

AT THE

NATIONAL
MUSEUM
OF HEALTH AND
MEDICINE

Thursday, March 23, 2023, 6-7 p.m. ET

Military TBI: The History, Impact, and Future

Traumatic brain injuries are known as the "signature wound" of the Global War on Terrorism. Over the last 20 years, the Department of Defense invested resources and manpower to study and treat service member TBIs, leading to the establishment of what is now the Defense Health Agency Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence. Join us to hear from Megan A. Lindberg and Elisabeth M. Moy Martin of TBICoE as they take a historical approach showcasing the evolution of TBI clinical care, starting with the American Civil War and leading up to the GWOT. They will also discuss congressional mandates directing and prioritizing research efforts to result in best practices from health care providers. Museum staff members will display related collections items prior to the start of the program.

Photo Credit: U.S. Army, Sgt. M. Austin Parker



2500 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 319-3300 www.medicalmuseum.health.mil

   @MedicalMuseum

USArmy.Detrack.MEDCOM-USAMRMC.List.Medical-Museum@health.mil



Est. 2017

Ft. Detrick Warrant Officer Association 18 Hole Golf Fundraiser

Please come out to support the Fort Detrick Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association. 25% of the Proceeds will go towards sponsorship of the Hagerstown YMCA Gator Swim Team



<https://www.teamunify.com/team/mdhygst/page/home>

**Friday, May 5, 2023
0815 – Start Time
Registration Begins @ 7am**

Mulligans – 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10

Power Shot – 1 for \$10

Over the Shoulder Throw – 1 for \$5

Value Pack – All for \$20

Mulligans – Basically get a do over shot at the tee box.

Power Shot – Shoot from next tee box up on PAR 5 only

Shoulder Throw – Over the back throw if you miss the green

Other “Fun”Raising Opportunities

50/50 Raffle – 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10

Winner Wins 50% of proceeds collected

Putt for Dough Raffle – 3 Balls for 10

Putts made get chance to win 50% of proceeds collected

Par 3 Free Birdie Raffle – 1 for \$5 or 3 Tickets for \$10

Each ticket get chance for automatic Birdie on Par 3

**Cheat
Codes For
Sale**

**COST: \$75 Per Person
includes:**

- 18 hole green fees, cart fees, and range balls
- Lunch
- Prizes: Winning teams, closest to pin, longest drive.
- \$2500 Hole in One



**Fun!
Fun!
Fun!**

To Register please contact one of the following WOA team members

- **CW5(R) Jesus Tulud**
910-779-5802
- **CW4(R) Reginald Burrus**
240-818-4415
- **CW4(R) Jorge Magana**
240-586-2679

Prizes

- 0700: Check-in**
- 0810: Opening Remarks, Safety & Game Rules Brief**
- 0815: Move to Each Hole — Shotgun Begins**
- 1300: Awards & Closing Remarks**

To date the Fort Detrick Warrant Officer Association has donated over \$7,000 to local community schools and community programs providing resources to towards goals of education, mentorship, and community service. We look forward to hosting you as this year's donation will go towards sponsorship of Hagerstown YMCA Swim Team.



**Event Registration and
Fundraising Purchase is
available online using
the following QR Code.**



Note: When making purchase online please select your appropriate skill level ticket so we will be able to assign you and/or your team to the appropriate flights.

You can also contact one of the POC on the front of this flyer or your local Chapter member to submit in person.

Team Captain Name: _____

Team Skill Level Beginner Novice Good

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Player #2 Name: _____

Player #3 Name: _____

Player #4 Name: _____



Glade Valley Golf Club

10502 Glade Rd,
Walkersville, MD

Friday, May 5, 2023
0815 – Start Time

***Ft. Detrick
Monocacy
Chapter
Warrant Officer
18 Hole
Golf Scramble
\$75***

**Registration NLT
28 April 23 is
required to
account for
Lunch count**

***Please submit your registration sheet to one of the POCs listed.
Thank you in advanced for your participation and support.
Monocacy Chapter – Warrant Officer Association***



NOW HIRING

CHILD AND YOUTH PROFESSIONALS
AT FORT DETRICK AND FOREST GLEN ANNEX
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

UPDATED INFO

**Ask about our
partnership with FCC
and Early Child
Education credits**

Duties



Maintain control of and accounts for whereabouts and safety of children and youth



Plan, coordinate, and conduct activities that meet the physical, social, emotional and cognitive needs of children.

**HEALTH INSURANCE, 401K,
NAF RETIREMENT, FLEXIBLE
SPENDING ACCOUNT
AND MUCH MORE!**

- \$1000 recruitment incentive for one year commitment and a \$3,000 recruitment incentive for two year commitment.
- Reduced child care fees
- \$18.88-\$22.76 per hour
- Part-time or Full-time

***Requires a high school diploma or GED**

For more information call

301-619-3266

Apply online at www.USAJOBBS.com
Search "Child and Youth", location Fort Detrick



#DetrickMWR
www.detrick.armymwr.com
www.facebook.com/DetrickMWR

Healthy Volunteers Needed!

RESEARCH STUDY PURPOSE: To study the physiological effects of sleep loss on human brain physiology

COMPENSATION: Up to \$10,821

REQUIREMENTS:

- 3-hour screening visit and 4-hour enrollment visit
- **15 days at-home** wearing a wrist activity monitor and completing 4-6 reaction time tests each day.
- **14 days continuously in the lab** with sleep restriction (5 hours per night)
- **20 days at-home** wearing a wrist activity monitor and completing 4-6 reaction time tests each day.
- **04 days continuously in the lab** with recovery sleep (8 hours per night)
- In lab phases include: performance testing each day, and multiple PET scans, MRI scans, and blood draws

Note: You must be ages 18-39, a non-smoker, and test negative for alcohol, nicotine, and illegal drugs. Men and women can participate. Women cannot be pregnant or breast-feeding. Active duty military and federal personnel must be off duty or on leave status during study activities. Compensation will be provided.



Walter Reed Army
Institute of Research
Soldier Health • World Health

STUDY LOCATION: WRAIR Sleep Research Center

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: Vincent Capaldi, M.D. & Samantha M. Riedy, Ph.D.

CALL 301-319-9287

Email: usarmy.detrick.medcom-wrair.mbx.sleep-research-center@health.mil

**WRAIR Sleep
Research Center
301-319-9287**

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