



Fort Detrick The Standard

A Sustainable Community of Excellence



Ludwig Sees Purpose, Perspective on Horizon as Retirement Arrives

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

The boxes are everywhere now in Dr. George Ludwig's office; on the floor, by the door, under the desk. Remnants of a 30-year career, he tells people who stop in to say goodbye. But buried deep within that trove of spreadsheets and purchase orders and manila folders are things like cause and purpose, too; the true motives of a journey that started long ago in Silver Spring, Maryland, and led – via pit stops in Colorado, New York, and a slew of other labs in cities across the country – to Fort Detrick, to the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

It's a journey that will end in just a few days' time.

"Science is like detective work," says Ludwig, who will step away from his role as the USAMRMC Principal Assistant for Research and Technology on May 31. "You build a case, you gather your facts, and then you make a statement."

If that's true, then Ludwig will leave his post as perhaps the most respected detective on the force; one who's been walking the beat since 1989 and who carries with him the accumulated perspective to prove it. Despite a role that makes him responsible for the direction of the USAMRMC's numerous efforts and general oversight of the collective research conducted at the command's worldwide system of laboratories, he's always preferred a more simplistic approach to the job, the people and his coworkers.

"Honestly, I'd say 95 percent of what I do is solving problems by bringing people together," says Ludwig. "I tell younger folks all the time that half of your life story is who you meet and how you develop relationships to get where you need to go."

"He's got a very fatherly approach to things," says Deputy Principal Assistant for Research and Technology Dr. Mark Dertzbaugh, a longtime friend and coworker of Ludwig's, and the man who will, for the interim at least, assume his responsibilities. "You can see he's got this very gentle, mentoring style. His motto has always been 'Family First.'"

That's an easy line to walk when so much of your family – and



U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Principal Assistant for Research and Technology Dr. George Ludwig is an outspoken proponent of maintaining positive professional relationships for the ultimate benefit of the Warfighter.

Photo by USAMRDC PAO

family history – is so close. After growing up in nearby Silver Spring, Maryland (as a self-described "science kid" who originally wanted to become a wildlife biologist), Ludwig attended the University of Maryland at College Park; the same place his sisters, his wife, and later his own children attended. From there, he would start out as a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases before becoming a civilian scientist who, among other achievements, was a member of the first team to isolate West Nile virus in North America from infected birds at the Bronx Zoo, in New York. Ludwig later helped develop monoclonal antibodies for a diagnostic test for West Nile Virus, an achievement which he refers to as one of the key moments of his profession-

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al development.

Says Ludwig, "The work I did in finding out and focusing on outbreak investigations was a real highlight of my career. It taught me how to bring multiple threads together to solve a problem, which is a key leadership skill."

And like all good leaders, he was sure to keep that network of "threads" – of top-notch problem solvers and other solution-oriented minds – intact for any help later down the road.

"George has a lot of contacts and connections," says Fort Detrick and USAMRMC Commanding General Barbara R. Holcomb. "So if I wanted to know something I could always ask him, 'who should we contact about this?' He had a huge network that was a real value-add to us."

In Ludwig's opinion, his efforts to bolster the profile of the USAMRMC network of labs are perhaps his most valuable contribution in a career full of them.

"One of the most important aspects of my leadership term here has been helping the Army understand how important the medical apparatus is," he says. "Because when you have a military that fights wars, there's going to be – there has to be – a medical input into that effort."

"George has always been a strong advocate for medical science and technology," says Dertzbaugh. "He's always taken a hands-on approach to all those issues, and he's further improved communications and relationships with key external stakeholders."

Says Dertzbaugh, "He's the kind of guy who would never, ever ask anyone to work on something he wouldn't do himself."

With praise like that, it must be hard, one imagines, to step away; especially when you know all the ways, means, and pro-

cesses required to succeed. And so the question almost asks itself: *What does a tireless worker do ... when there's no more work to be done?*

"Don't worry about me," says Ludwig with a laugh, "I will keep busy."

His retirement, he says, will be full. He will stay in Frederick with his wife and will not be taking any consulting roles or contracting positions. How ironic that in a part of the state where he previously did so much hiking and driving and – also – leading of local Scout troops that Ludwig now has his sights set on a more indoor-themed passion: woodworking.

"He's quite handy," says Dertzbaugh. "His last project was renovating his bathroom, which included making the vanity for the sink."

No doubt home remodeling will require more time than Ludwig has previously had up until now – and likely more boxes, too. Boxes of tools, of nails, of tape measures and saw blades. Infinitely more boxes than he's got stacked on his office floor ... behind the door ... under the desk.

Perhaps the only item that won't fit neatly in a banker's box strapped to a dolly is George Ludwig's genuine affection for his time at Fort Detrick, at USAMRMC, and the team he got to work with on a daily basis. That, he says, is the true value of a 30-year career.

"Who I will miss here most is the people," says Ludwig, looking around at a nearly-bare office one more time. "I want to thank everybody I've ever known and worked with here. Everyone – and I mean everyone – has always had the best interest of the Warfighter at heart."

Fort Detrick Vacation Bible School Roars with Excitement

Dozens of children pack the sanctuary each night during the Fort Detrick Chapel's annual summer Vacation Bible School program held June 24-28, 2019. Chapel volunteers' work tirelessly transformed the chapel into a safari to put on the weeklong program entitled "ROAR" teaching kids God's truth; "When life is wild, God is good." Each evening the children enjoy games, singing, crafts and bible lessons. The weeklong party culminates with the children and their family members enjoying an ice cream social.



Photos courtesy of the Fort Detrick Chapel

Saying Goodbye to Dr. Robert Miller

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Wrapping up a career that spans nearly four decades, Dr. Robert E. Miller will be retiring from the federal civilian workforce on June 30. Currently serving as a Senior Regulatory Affairs Advisor for the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's Office of Regulated Activities, Miller spent a majority of the past 24 years supporting the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity in various technical roles including Product Manager, Project Manager and Director of USAMMDA's former Division of Regulated Activities and Compliance.

I first met Miller in 2002, as we were co-workers employed by a local biotech company supporting the Department of Defense. I clearly remember his warmth and authenticity, and the deliberate way he chose his words. He asked me about my last name, as he recognized that it was of Brazilian origin, and told me that he had spent three years in Rio de Janeiro with his family, in support of the U.S. Army Medical Research Unit in Brazil. I was immediately struck by Miller's sincerity, and when I happened to see him again years later at Fort Detrick, I was pleased to discover neither the man nor his character had changed.

During our recent meeting, we talked much about his professional career, which includes his retirement from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel. Holding bachelor's and master's degrees in Microbiology, and a doctorate in Biology, one should not be surprised to learn that his resume includes numerous science-related directorships at both the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and USAMMDA, as well as a professorship with the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Yes, many who are familiar with Miller realize he is an accomplished professional; however, I wanted to discover more about this man with a smile as big as Texas. And speaking of the Lone Star State, it happens to be where Miller was born and raised, as the youngest of three brothers. He began detailing his life for me, and started with a childhood that he considers "wonderful" albeit "very uneventful."

"I grew up in Texas, and my father was a senior manager for Sears, so we moved five times before I was 12," he said. "At that point, however, my father left Sears and opened a high-end boys and students clothing store called the Stag Shop in Tyler, Texas. I worked in the store as a stock boy, and then as a salesman from junior high school all through college. During this time, my main activities included working at my father's small beef cattle farm, and in the summer, I would go swimming and sailing at Lake



Dawn Rosarius, principal assistant for acquisition, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, presents Dr. Robert Miller with the Superior Civilian Service Medal for his achievements while serving as senior regulatory affairs advisor for the Office of Regulated Activities, USAMRDC, and for his accomplishments while serving as director of the former Division of Regulated Activities and Compliance at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity. Photo by Ashley Force, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Tyler with family and friends."

Miller explained how he had always wanted to be a marine biologist, as he had been a life guard, Red Cross swimming instructor, and a certified scuba instructor during high school. However, a college professor changed Miller's mind – and his career path – during his sophomore year at Texas A&M University.

"I'll never forget the course I took from Dr. Wilbert Taber, who was a retired industrial microbiologist," he recalled. "We had several discussions about my career choice, and he let me know that only Jacques Cousteau and his family made any money in marine biology. He said that there were many wonderful opportunities in microbiology, so I switched my major to microbiology, and I never looked back."

Education was always very important in Miller's family, and he credits his parents as the ones who influenced him most and helped nurture his love of science. Despite a diagnosis of dyslexia in grade school – or perhaps because of this – Miller was extremely focused on his studies and always excelled academically. This accomplishment grows even more impressive after he explains how he met his wife during their high school years in Texas.

"My wife Cindy and I were

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actually high school sweethearts,” said Miller. “We were set up by a girl who worked at my family’s store, when I was a junior and my wife was a sophomore. Cindy had learned my schedule, and she arranged a time to ‘bump into me’ at school. We dated all through high school, and then I went to A&M and she went to Southern Methodist University, so we had a long-distance relationship for a time.

“We were engaged during my junior year in college,” he continued, “and she transferred to A&M. Then we married in 1976, after both of us had graduated.”

The ensuing years brought two sons to the couple, and two more graduate degrees for Miller — which goes back to the above comment regarding the impressiveness of his focus on academic excellence, in light of both marriage and children at an early age.

Upon completion of his doctorate from Tulane University in 1982, Miller joined the Army as part of the Medical Service Corps. He was assigned initially to WRAIR as a branch chief in the Division of Experimental Therapeutics, and returned for another assignment there as director of the Antimalarial in Vitro Drug Discovery Laboratory, beginning in 1992. Interestingly, Miller was involved early in the development of the antimalarial drug, Tafenoquine, which has been managed by USAMMDA since 1988. He led the in vitro testing of the drug while at WRAIR, and was “reunited” with the program when he came to USAMMDA’s Pharmaceutical Systems Division in 1995. Last fall, after nearly four decades of research and development, Tafenoquine was approved for use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and became the first FDA-approved prophylactic drug for malaria in more than 18 years.

Over the years, Miller has played a role in many of USAMMDA’s accomplishments, which includes pulling off the nearly impossible task of writing and filing an FDA Investigational New Drug application for French Freeze-dried Plasma in less than 30 days.

In fact, it was 23 days.

During a 2016 interview, Miller explained how he and his DRAC team, comprised of only six people, completed all of the required documentation for FDA submission in just over three weeks — from start to finish.

Recalling this conversation, Miller had said, “After our first meeting with the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, we were given only 30 days to write and file the IND [for French FDP], as well as to include the treatment protocol for it. But keep in mind, in a real-world scenario, it typically takes *three to*

six months to do all of this through human subjects research review and the FDA — and we only had 30 days.”

As for his answer regarding why this needed to happen so quickly, the response was concise.

“If our Soldiers needed it, there was no other option,” said Miller.

This simple reply may sum up both Miller’s character and his dedication to our Nation. Now, after more than 37 years of service — both in and out of uniform — he is looking forward to life in retirement, so he can spend more time with his wife, children and five grandchildren.

I was curious to know if retirement would include moving back to Texas, but Miller said that he and his wife are building a new home, south of Richmond, Virginia, so they can be closer to family.

“Our son and daughter-in-law live in Virginia with their three children, and we thought it would be a great place to settle down,” he explained. “It’s a lakeside community, and the home should be ready in early 2020, so we look forward to enjoying it with the family.”

While fishing may come to mind when thinking of a lake house, Miller said that’s not necessarily a top priority for him, as a hobby.

“Actually, I love digital photography,” he said. “My poor sons probably think I was born with a camera strapped to my eye! But I also like fresh water sailing and swimming, and my wife and I will do a lot of traveling. We already have plans for heading to Ireland and Scotland, as well as South Africa.”

It seems the road ahead will be quite pleasant for Miller, as there will be so much to enjoy. In light of this, who would he like to thank for helping him reach this point in his life?

“Who should I *not* thank?” he asked. “So many people have been so supportive of me over the years, especially my parents, and my wonderful high school sweetheart who became my wife. My two sons, who always kept me on my toes — even now — and their families. At work, it would be Dr. Ron Clawson, my primary mentor who let me pursue a path in regulatory affairs as well as acquisition — I really have to thank them all.”

Without question, there are quite a few people who must thank Miller as well — for his military service, his dedication to scientific research and his country, for his professionalism, his kindness, authenticity and compassion, for his service to USAMMDA.

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The list goes on and on.

Army Col. Ryan Bailey, USAMMDA commander, is among the many to offer congratulations and well wishes to Miller on his new life ahead.

“Dr. Miller served his country honorably for an amazing 37 years,” said Bailey. “Through his regulatory expertise, he contributed immensely to the mission of developing and delivering medical solutions for our Warfighters. It was an honor to serve with him.”

While he sadly says he will miss his USAMMDA regulatory family, Miller should feel very confident that he may be

missed even more. Although certainly deserved, Miller’s retirement will leave the organization with a void to fill. The knowledge he takes with him cannot easily be obtained, as those with nearly 40 years of specialized information regarding science and technology, FDA rules and regulations, Army and DOD acquisition, pharmaceuticals, etc. are few and far between.

Nevertheless, it’s time for the good doctor to travel the world, build a new home, spend time with his grandchildren, fill up photo albums, sail on the lake and relive some of his high school memories with his

lovely sweetheart on his arm — while the rest of us wait to do the same someday.

Enjoy your retirement, Sir, and rest assured of your hand in the success of the organization.

Finally, after nearly 40 years, it’s Miller time.

As a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, USAMMDA maintains a mission to develop and deliver quality medical capabilities to protect, treat and sustain the health of our Nation’s Service Members throughout the world.



Fort Detrick Night with the Frederick Keys

- August 22, 2019
- Game Starts at 7 p.m.
- \$2 Discounted Tickets for CAC and DoD ID Card Holders



Nationwide Test of the Emergency Broadcasting System

FEMA, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission and radio and television Emergency Alert System participants, will conduct a nationwide test of EAS beginning at 2:20 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

The test is expected to last approximately one minute.

Stay Safe and Drive Sober...Designate Before You Celebrate

As Soldiers finish the Fort Detrick Independence Day Run on June 27, 2019, they encounter a demonstration showing the importance of not driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Members of Fort Detrick's Emergency Services including fire and rescue, law enforcement, and two Fort Detrick Soldiers show the dangers and often somber reality of driving while intoxicated. Although this was an exercise, and the Soldiers were playing a role, some teared up because of the stark reality that this fate could happen to anyone, at any time. One bad decision to drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol can change a person's life forever or worse, take someone's life.

Now is the perfect time as we enjoy summer events and celebrations with picnics, BBQs, pool parties, boating and trips to the beach, to remind ourselves, our friends and family members, the importance of driving sober.

Enjoy your summer and remember to designate before you celebrate! Stay safe and drive sober!

buzzed
driving is
drunk
driving
designate a sober driver



Photos by Jenni Benson, USAG Public Affairs

Command Cyber Readiness Inspection the Computer Network Defense Directives—July 2019

The Computer Network Defense Directives make up 30 percent of the CCRI grade. The CND portion of the CCRI are orders from high level governmental cyber commands. The U.S. Cyber Command and Joint Force Headquarters - Department of Defense Information Network plans, coordinates, integrates, synchronizes, and conducts activities to: direct the operations and defense of specified Department of Defense information networks and; prepare to and when directed, conduct full-spectrum military cyberspace operations in order to enable actions in all domains, and ensure US/Allied freedom of action in cyberspace and deny the same to our adversaries. The method used to do this is by issuing CND Directives such as, but not limited to: Warning Orders, Tasking Orders, Operations Orders, General Administrative Orders and Fragmentary Orders. Currently the CCRI tracks six CND directives that have multi-faceted requirements. The scoring is either compliant, partial compliant, and non-compliant.

Attention to Orders! 14 July 2019 the Fort Detrick Local Area Network Enterprise Center will be on the glide path for the CCRI

Next month: Is the individual user part of the CCRI?

Army Child and Youth Services Celebrates 40 Years of Its 'Journey to Excellence'

By Susan A. Merkner, U.S. Army Installation Management Command

The U.S. Army has provided care for children and youth since 1980, through the years growing into a nationally acclaimed model for quality childcare while supporting Soldier and Family readiness.

Child and Youth Services, a program of the Installation Management Command's G9 Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation division, will celebrate its 40th birthday in April 2020. With the theme "Journey to Excellence," the observance kicks off this summer with historical notes and special events.

CYS staff will provide garrisons with historical key messages highlighting core programs, such as child development programs, school age centers, Family childcare and youth services. Garrisons will plan local events and activities to support the observance.

For the past 40 years, Army CYS has played a key role in reducing the conflict between parental responsibilities and unit mission requirements. The program follows a four-pronged operation strategy that is based on quality care, affordability for patrons, availability and accountability.

In addition to the CDCs, other core CYS programs include Parent Central, an information network; referrals for community-based, off-post childcare; school-age programs, such as before- and after-school care, camps and summer care; middle school and teen programs; and sports and fitness programs.

For Families with a deployed Soldier, CYS also assists with respite and on-site childcare, discounted fees, and tutoring and homework assistance.

Other programs developed by CYS include School Support Services, Strong Beginnings pre-K program, Army Fee Assistance, Ready and Resilient Teens, financial management training, standardized menus and others.

CYS worldwide now encompasses 12,000 employees and 205,000 children. In June 2018, CYS accreditation rates were 98 percent, compared to the national private-sector rate of 10 percent.

CYS Chief Suzanne King said the mission is critical. "We will continue to do great things and be a role model for childcare," she said.

The CYS tagline, "Support for Army Families Found Here," reflects the program's mission: To integrate and deliver base support to reduce the conflict between parental responsibilities and unit mission requirements and enable combat readiness for a globally responsive Army.

The Army recognizes the evolving needs of Families.

When Army childcare began in 1980, the first four-year classes with female students were graduating from the service academies. As women entered the workforce in greater numbers and as an all-volunteer Army included more married than single Soldiers, CYS has adapted and added programs to assist Families, and plans to continue working to meet their future needs.

The 40th birthday celebration will culminate in April 2020 in conjunction with the annual observance of Month of the Military Child. During that month three events are held: the Young Lives, Big Stories contest, an art and writing competition for military children; Operation Megaphone lock-ins for middle school and high school students, and Purple Up for Military Kids, an awareness program that encourages people to wear purple to show their support for military children.



A youngster uses the sink in an Army day care center in this undated U.S. Army photo. Photo Credit: U.S. Army

USAMMDA Bids Farewell to Commander Col. Ryan Bailey

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

"From an early age, I always knew I wanted to serve in the military," said Army Col. John Ryan Bailey, who will be leaving the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity after serving as the organization's commander since June 2017.

Upon its Change of Command ceremony on June 26, the USAMMDA team will bid a fond farewell to Bailey. The organization witnessed much success with its medical products and devices during his tenure, and he also helped expertly guide his staff through one of the most substantial realignments in the Army's history. Bailey's next assignment will be the completion of a master's degree in strategic studies from the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy in Washington D.C., after which he will return to Fort Detrick in 2020 to serve as commander of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency.

"USAMMDA is great because of the great people throughout the organization," said Bailey. "We have an important mission, and we certainly promote success through our amazing teamwork here. Despite facing some historic changes, both within our organization and throughout the Army, we continue to remain resilient to ensure we take care of our mission to develop and deliver medical solutions to our Warfighters."

Under Bailey's leadership, USAMMDA achieved Emergency Use Authorization for freeze-dried plasma, three U.S. Food and Drug Administration medical product approvals, and one medical device clearance. As part of USAMMDA's Warfighter Brain Health Project Management Office portfolio, the Laboratory Assay for Traumatic Brain Injury program is one of the groundbreaking efforts that received FDA approval under Bailey. Remarkably, the LATBI device stands as the first-ever blood-based test for the evaluation of mild TBI, and serves as a turning point in revolutionizing clinical practice for brain injury.

Within the Warfighter Protection and Acute Care PMO drugs and vaccines portfolio, Tafenoquine is the first new FDA-approved anti-malarial drug in 18 years. Filling a critical capability gap that will keep troops ready to fight, Tafenoquine is a safe and effective weekly drug to prevent malaria, which remains the number one infectious disease threat to U.S. Service Members deployed overseas. Further, this important drug offers protection against the potentially fatal disease for both the military and civilian populations.

Without question, from his time at USAMMDA, Bailey can add quite a bit to his resume.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Bailey spent his high school and college years in Georgia, and calls Marietta, Georgia, his hometown. He graduated from North Georgia College with a bachelor's degree in business administration (marketing), and earned an MBA in supply chain management from the Naval

Postgraduate School, Monterey, California. He has received numerous military awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters. In addition, he is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit.

Bailey comes from a long line of military veterans, as his grandfather served in the U.S. Navy, while a number of his uncles served our nation as well. He detailed his military pathway, which began with an ROTC scholarship that led to his eventual commission as a Medical Service Corps officer.

"I've had the opportunity to serve in operational units, on staffs, and on deployments, and I really gained a passion for acquisition," he explained. "After I achieved my level-three certification in program management, I started to focus heavily on acquisition-related positions, and that led me here to USAMMDA two years ago."

"I am truly honored to have been selected to command USAMMDA, and I'm proud to have played a role in its great mission and history," he added.

Next year, Bailey will return to Fort Detrick to serve as the commander of USAMMA, where he once managed strategic-level acquisition programs. He is very familiar with the organization, and this past year he helped to welcome a large number of its staff to USAMMDA during an organizational realignment that increased its product development portfolio. Under his command, USAMMDA has not only grown in numbers, but it has been acknowledged for the excellence of its people as well.

"During my time here, I'm happy that I was able to help recognize our great staff members through various federal and military awards, including two Army Wolf Pack awards, a Logician of the Year award, and a Service to America finalist, with the winner being announced this fall," said Bailey. "I'm also proud that we were recertified this year for the Army Safety Health Management System Safety Star award! All of these things made it such a great environment for everyone here, and especially for me as the commander of such a fantastic team — I couldn't have asked for a better situation!"

Although Bailey said that his USAMMDA experience will certainly be memorable, the commander was asked to describe his *most* memorable assignment. He paused for a moment, and then offered a very interesting — and enlightening — response.

"I'd have to say that my most memorable assignments are the ones where I deployed, such as to Iraq and a temporary duty assignment to Afghanistan," explained Bailey. "Being as close to the edge of the battlefield as a medical person can get, you real-

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ly understand the true nature of the threat, and how we save lives.

I now know that it truly takes everyone — from the people at the ‘end of the spear’ all the way back to the USAMRDC [U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command] and USAMMDA, and all of the other organizations back here — to be successful.

“But being there, and being in it, is truly among my most memorable experiences in the Army,” he continued. “It may not have been my most enjoyable, but these were certainly the most memorable. It’s something that I will never forget.”

Just recently, the length of an assignment to command USAMMDA was increased from two to three years, and Bailey explained that he would have stayed another year in the position if it had not affected the other opportunities that will allow him to serve in different ways. As he is approaching three decades of military service, Bailey is carefully considering what the future may hold for him, in terms of new challenges.

“After my assignment as commander of USAMMA, which begins next year, I will be very close to my 30-year retirement point, so we’ll have to see what new chapter will unfold for me at that time — but I’m certainly open to anything,” he said.

Bailey and his family love to travel, and they enjoy hiking and mountain biking, and other types of outdoor activities such as

playing golf and watching baseball, football and soccer. The commander also likes to cook, and he displayed this fine trait during USAMMDA’s annual Chili Cook-off event. Although he may not have won the title, Bailey’s unique dishes always placed high in the competition — and he admits that he will miss these social events a great deal.

He quickly reiterated that he truly will miss the people, the programs, and the great mission of USAMMDA.

“It’s a very special place with a very special calling,” he said. “It’s hard to find this anywhere else.”

Yes, Bailey will miss the organization, but he will be missed as well. This is the one thing about military assignments that can never be avoided: the bonds that are formed are destined to be broken at the end of a tour. That’s just the way it is.

However, if you lead well, and are well led, the memories of that assignment will last forever.

It’s probably safe to say that, in this case, this will prove to be true for Bailey as well.

As a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, USAMMDA maintains a mission to develop and deliver quality medical capabilities to protect, treat and sustain the health of our Nation’s Service Members throughout the world.



Friends, family and staff members gather in front of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command headquarters to honor Army Col. John "Ryan" Bailey, commander of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity, as he is recognized for his accomplishments while serving as USAMMDA commander for the past two years.

Photo by Carey Phillips, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Same Goal, Same Mission: Town Hall Marks USAMRMC Redesignation to USAMRDC

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

Army leaders redesignated the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command as the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command during a town hall at Fort Detrick, Maryland, on May 31.

During remarks to assembled attendees, USAMRDC and Fort Detrick Commanding General Maj. Gen. Barbara R. Holcomb made clear the mission of the command would remain the same despite the name change.

"This is a very exciting opportunity," said Holcomb. "But we also need to continue all those same relationships we've had in the past as we look towards innovation and developing new technology."

The early portion of the event touched briefly on the command's 60-year history of joint Warfighter support, including the people and achievements that have contributed to the success of the command. The development of Tafenoquine –which is, notably, the first FDA-approved prophylactic drug for malaria in more than two decades– along with the discovery of the first human antibodies that work against all Ebola viruses and, also, the continued refinement of a freeze dried plasma product all took place at USAMRMC.

"Tomorrow is the start of the future," said Holcomb, referencing the first full day of USAMRDC's alignment under Army Futures Command, "and so I'd like to ask that each of you help out in welcoming new staff, new people, and in taking on new responsibilities as we attempt to serve that future."

Organizationally, MRDC will align under the new Army Futures Command, which was inaugurated late last year as part of an overall effort to spread modernization across the force. The new motto of the AFC – "Forge the Future"– reflects this effort and desire. Following the town hall, Soldiers applied their new AFC shoulder patches in a symbolic show of identification with the new command.

"I'm really proud of the work you've done in the past and the work you're doing now," said Holcomb to the assembled attendees, "I want remind each of you to keep pushing forward."



Soldiers with the newly-redesignated U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command apply patches signifying their alignment under Army Futures Command.

Photo by Lori B. Salvatore, USAMRDC Public Affairs



ibvi INDUSTRIES
FOR THE BLIND AND
VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Fort Detrick Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Ability One Base Supply Center celebrates being selected the top BSC in the entire Nation and its 10th Anniversary with an event on June 11, 2019 on Fort Detrick, Maryland. The celebration highlights the staff's many achievements since opening its doors 10 years ago.

The event concluded with a customer appreciation luncheon and product displays.

Photo by Jenni Benson, USAG Public Affairs

Selective Course Grooms, Guides Civilian Impact on DOD Mission

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

When Eva Rosvold finally figured it out –the lesson, the point, the big takeaway– she was miles away from the classroom. Instead, she was standing outside in the Massachusetts sun, donating items for a service project with her classmates.

“Some of the work was hard,” she says now, sitting in her office at Fort Detrick, “but you get to be a really close-knit group as a result.”

And that, for all intents-and-purposes, is the point. Following a lengthy four-month immersion program, Rosvold is now a graduate of the Defense Civilian Emerging Leader Program; a professional development course designed to groom select civilian employees to both grow and support the DOD mission.

“The course really gave me a chance to find myself,” says Rosvold, currently an Acquisition Workforce Development Manager for the Army Medical Department. “And you learn that when it comes to being a leader, what’s going on with you doesn’t just affect you, personally, it also affects your whole team.”

Held annually at the DOD Executive Management Training Center in Southbridge, Massachusetts, DCELP bills itself as the premier DOD leadership development program for GS-07 through GS-12 employees. Consisting of four individual one-week training sessions, DCELP combines participant writing and briefing projects with both knowledge transfer activities and individual coaching to create a foundation for leadership development.

For senior staff across the DOD, graduation from the course is seen as both confirmation of a selectee’s accumulated capabilities and a tacit request for greater responsibility.

“Overall, it is important for all our team members to grow and

improve upon their leadership skills,” says Dawn Rosarius, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command’s Principal assistant for acquisition. “In Eva’s case, she now has new tools to inspire and support AMEDD civilians and officers to obtain and maintain their acquisition certifications.”

Adds Rosarius, “Eva also leads as a peer and a subordinate daily, and has already shown the desire to use her new skills to help her colleagues.”

For Rosvold’s part, she attributes the manifestation of those skills to DCELP’s focus on concepts geared towards understanding oneself as well as the organization in which they operate. Leading from a place of vulnerability is, likewise, also spotlighted as a key skill.

“I think about daily communications,” she says. “Small, simple things. Like maybe email isn’t always the best way to talk to someone, and sometimes a personal conversation is best.”

It’s that personal touch that can sometimes speak louder than keystrokes or random notes taped to cubicle walls. For Rosvold, that personal touch –and the ensuing need to create like-minded partnerships– led to extracurricular efforts with her DCELP classmates; like community teambuilding projects helping local charities.

In her eyes, the difference between simply managing staff and acting as a true leader is palpable ... and powerful, too.

“I think the course has given me a little more confidence,” she says. “Leadership is not just a title, it is being authentic.”

Additional information on the Defense Civilian Emerging Leader Program (DCELP) can be found at <https://www.dcpas.osd.mil/CTD/Training>.



Eva Rosvold, second row, fourth from left, graduates with her Defense Civilian Emerging Leader Program class in Southbridge, Massachusetts, in June 2019.

Photo by DCELP Staff

USAMMDA Celebrates Arrival of New Commander

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Before a large audience gathered within the Fort Detrick Auditorium, the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity held a Change of Command ceremony to welcome Army Col. Gina E. Adam as USAMMDA's fourteenth commander and the first woman to lead the organization, June 26. Responsibility of the command was transferred from Army Col. John Ryan Bailey, who has led USAMMDA for the past two years.

Army Maj. Gen. Barbara R. Holcomb, commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick, officiated the formal ceremony, which was witnessed by family, friends, Service Members and other distinguished guests. As part of a longstanding military ritual, Holcomb played a key role in passing the USAMMDA flag from the outgoing to the incoming commander.

Beginning with a reflection on Bailey's time as commander, Holcomb addressed the audience.

"If I could choose only one word to describe this past year for USAMMDA, I would choose the word change – and I'm sure that Ryan would be one of the first people to agree with me," she said. "Supporting USAMMDA's mission was a great feat alone, but doing it while simultaneously realigning with USAMMA [U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency] put him to the test. To Ryan's credit, he is a complete professional who is open to change and willing to adjust any process to meet the mission."

Holcomb continued her praise of Bailey by commenting on his effective leadership style.

"...Ryan authentically cares," she said. "He made the happiness and success of staff, in regard to their particular roles and responsibilities, a priority. ... Thank you for being such a strong advocate for the USAMMDA mission over the last two years."

Holcomb then shifted her focus to Adam, stating, "We are fortunate to have an incoming commander who is no



The U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity held a Change of Command ceremony at the Fort Detrick auditorium, June 26, 2019. As part of traditional protocol, incoming USAMMDA commander, Army Col. Gina E. Adam, receives the USAMMDA guidon from Army Maj. Gen. Barbara R. Holcomb, commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick.

Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

stranger to the USAMRDC and our mission."

"Gina has proven herself to be a problem solver, team builder, and change agent," said Holcomb. "...She pays great attention to detail and uses this trait to connect with her staff — learning about their job descriptions, as well as their lives."

"Her accomplishments and attributes, combined with 19 years of active-duty experience, show why Gina is the perfect person to take charge of USAMMDA. ... Not only is USAMMDA gaining a great strategic commander, but in Gina, they will have a results-oriented commander who cares about the mission and the team."

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At the conclusion of Holcomb's comments, Bailey approached the podium to offer encouragement to his former team, and to the new commander leading the USAMMDA mission.

"I am truly honored to have been given the responsibility to command USAMMDA, and these past two years have been truly amazing," he said. "The time spent in command has been fun, exciting, stressful — some days exhilarating and some days frustrating — but honestly, my time here has been less about me and more about the organization, the great mission, the challenges, the successes, and the tremendous people of USAMMDA. And that's really what it comes down to — our people."

Bailey continued by highlighting the changes to the organization, the success of its project management teams, and the dedication of the USAMMDA staff.

"Yes, it truly is challenging work, but it is great work," he said. "I'm very proud to be part of this special mission!"

"Gina, you are certainly the right leader to take USAMMDA to the next level, especially since you served here and understand the organization's unique mission. I wish you Godspeed and much success."

As Bailey stepped down from the podium, Adam quickly followed and was greeted by a round of applause. Her enthusiasm was evident, and the commander was visibly moved by the welcome. She began her speech by thanking those in attendance, and those involved in the planning and preparation of the ceremony.

"It is my honor and privilege to be selected to serve as the commander of USAMMDA," said Adam. "Major General Holcomb, I appreciate your support and confidence in my leadership skills and abilities, and I truly welcome the opportunity to serve the USAMRDC in this new position.

"Colonel Bailey, thank you for the phenomenal job you have done over the past two years, and for the guidance you have recently provided to me during our transition," she added. "I am so pleased to join this great team, which has a long history of developing

and delivering quality medical capabilities to protect, treat, and sustain the health and welfare of our Nation's Service Members."

Most recently, Adam served as director of the USAMRDC's Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center, where she led the organization in its mission to bring innovative telehealth solutions to both Warfighters and the Military Health System. Holding a doctoral degree in cognitive neuroscience, Adam has served the Army as a research psychologist, and has been involved in numerous military medical studies during her nearly twenty years of active-duty service.

Her past assignments include tours with the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Fort Rucker, Alabama, the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine in Natick, Massachusetts, and USAMMDA. First joining the USAMMDA team in 2011, Adam served as deputy project manager for the Neurotrauma and Psychological Health Project Management Office, where she helped to oversee research programs for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury.

In addition to her doctoral degree, Adam holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, and has served as the command psychologist at the National Defense University, where she developed programs in resilience. Also, she has served as assistant professor of behavioral science at the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy in Washington D.C., where she taught Strategic Leadership, Industry Analytics and Industry Studies.

During a recent interview, Adam said that she grew up in the country, outside of a small town in eastern Pennsylvania. Her childhood in that particular part of the state may have influenced her love of the outdoors, which includes activities such as hiking, biking, camping and cross-country skiing. She is very familiar with Fort Detrick, and the surrounding area of Frederick, from her previous assignments on post. Adam said she enjoys dining at the city's wide variety of restaurants, and cycling along the "beautiful country roads" of Frederick County.

While in high school, Adam's path led her into the Army, as she was offered a college scholarship through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, or ROTC, program. After learning she could serve on active duty as a research psychologist, Adam realized the possibilities of a long-term military career, which she has since grown to love.

"I stumbled into the Army as a teenager, looking for a way ahead — I stayed because I found a place where I felt I belonged," said Adam. "I am grateful to the Army family — the extraordinary peers, Soldiers, Civilians, and contractors I've worked with throughout my career — you are the reason I am standing here today. Early in my career, I never thought I'd be a commander of an Army unit, and now here I am, certainly due to many great colleagues and mentors, some of whom are here today. Thank you so much for your support.

"And finally, I am proud to be reunited with the USAMMDA family," she continued. "I served with you a few years ago, and like any family, you've grown. I'm excited to see your progress, with many new programs and projects, and I'm happy to be with you once again as we chart our path ahead. I look forward to our years together, and I will do my utmost to support you and our important mission to care for our Warfighters."

As a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, USAMMDA maintains a mission to develop and deliver quality medical capabilities to protect, treat and sustain the health of our nation's Service Members throughout the world.

USACEHR Legacy, Impact Secure as Move to WRAIR Starts in Earnest

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

When the sun first rises over the eastern edge of Fort Detrick each morning, the light always falls the same way; first hitting the guard booths at Veteran's Gate before enveloping Blue and Gray Field and then, eventually, everything else. But even on the brightest of days, it always takes a little while longer for the sun to find the U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research, the tiny program tucked into an unassuming red brick building near the center of post.

The irony is not lost on the USACEHR staff.

"It's one of those things," says David Trader, a research biologist and executive officer who's been at USACEHR since 2002, "we do a lot of great work and not a lot of people know about us."

In most other situations they'd be hard to miss. They are, after all, an organization that combines high-profile partnerships with entities like Harvard University, NASA and SpaceX along with an over-arching mission focused on the protection of Soldiers from mission-related environmental health threats. And yet just as the program starts to gain greater national attention for their work, they're set to move to a different –and far larger– stage. On July 15, USACEHR was deactivated and then absorbed by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research as part of an Army-wide reorganization effort.

As a result, many of the remaining staffers at Fort Detrick now view the next several weeks as part of a long, slow and bitter-sweet goodbye.

"We've always been a small but mighty program," says Capt. Matthew Kobe, a two-year USACEHR veteran who works on finding biomarkers that will help diagnose injuries in Soldiers more quickly. "So while the move is sad from a team and friendship standpoint, it has to happen to fulfill the mission of the Army."

As is common in so many of the research programs housed at Fort Detrick, the people behind the acronym are just as integral to the final product as the mission itself. Existing in one form or another since its birth in 1972 as the U.S. Army Medical Bioengineering Research and Development Laboratory, USACEHR has evolved to its current state by consistently supplying cutting-edge research with a bent towards the development of knowledge products; and has rested over the course of the recent past as a subcommand of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. Notable efforts from USACEHR include the development of a fish biomonitoring system to determine toxicity levels in water bodies, and launching mice into orbit to study the impact of microgravity on bone density. For staffers, the constant among those varied projects was –and still is– a commitment to the twin tenets of collaboration and communication.



Research Biologist David Trader and Maj. Derese Getnet pack and file key documents as part of the effort to prepare for the deactivation of USACEHR on July 15, 2019.

Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

"The best part of working in such a small office was always the talking and sharing," says USACEHR Laboratory Chief Dr. Aarti Gautam. "Instead of emailing we would just walk into somebody's office, and we'd end up getting more information that way."

Says Kobe in agreement, "We really are a tight-knit community."

Both Kobe and Gautam represent the twin pathways now facing the remaining personnel at USACEHR; a number that has dropped precipitously from a one-time high of 60 people to, now, a little more than 20 total staffers. Kobe will stay at Fort Detrick and transfer to another program on the installation, while Gautam will be part of the large contingent slated to follow all active and funded current research projects to WRAIR's campus in Silver Spring, Maryland.

"I have full confidence in the USACEHR and WRAIR teams who are working diligently to ensure a seamless transition and integration of those projects aligned with WRAIR's research portfolio," said WRAIR Commander Col. Deydre S. Teyhen in a statement regarding her excitement over the move. "We embrace these new programs and the experienced staff who will expand our ability to develop new products to protect and enhance the Nation's top weapon's system - the U.S. Soldier."

Yet that excitement is tempered –for now, at least– with a hint of melancholy from the folks at USACEHR.

"It's just a sad feeling leaving the people," says Gautam. "Friendship-wise this has been a wonderful place to work."

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As for Trader, a civilian employee with 15 years of experience at USACEHR, he's been tasked with, in so many words, turning off the lights. He'll help transition the program to WRAIR and then, eventually, head down there himself, memories in tow.

"We always punched above our weight when it came to impact," he says of USACEHR. "So much of the work we did was foundational, in that a lot of the research we did was then used by other programs."

And in the end, perhaps that's the greatest takeaway for the outgoing crew at USACEHR: that nearly a half-century worth of effort is still there, still funded, and just as important as it's ever been, even if the mailing address is changed slightly. After all, when your achievements are as plain as day, perhaps it really doesn't matter where you work ... or even whether the sunlight finds you or not.

Says Trader, "Going from a small lab to a big lab, it's going to be bittersweet, but we're Army scientists at the core, and if the Army needs it, then we're going to do what the Army needs."

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE SUMMER



As another school year closes at Whittier Elementary in Frederick, Maryland, students gather at the school entrance while Soldiers from Fort Detrick lower the school's U.S. Flag on June 19, 2019.

After school awards were presented, 302d Signal Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Aubrey Russell Jr. revved the kids up for summer vacation, leading them in shouts of excitement and calling out loud "HOOAH's" to finish off the year. The color guard then lowered the flag and students were released to finish out their day.

The raising and lowering of the U.S. flag at Whittier Elementary School is an annual tradition.

Photos by Jenni Benson, USAG Public Affairs

USAMMDA Tafenoquine Team Wins Army Wolf Pack Award

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity's Tafenoquine Integrated Product Team was recognized as the winner of the Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award for the first quarter fiscal year 2019 during a ceremony held at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command Headquarters, Fort Detrick, Maryland, June 25. The award was presented by Lt. Gen. Nadja Y. West, U.S. Army Surgeon General and commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Command.

The antimalarial drug Tafenoquine, or TQ, stands as the first U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved prophylactic drug for malaria in more than 18 years. Transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes, malaria remains the top infectious disease threat to U.S. Service Members deployed overseas.

In her recent announcement of the new Wolf Pack awardee, West hailed the TQ IPT as a "dynamic team" that "epitomizes the highest standards of the Army and Army Medicine."

"The contributions of the [TQ] IPT provided critical support at a crucial time period during Tafenoquine's development," West stated. "The team's diligence to foster Tafenoquine through complex logistics systems, ensures that this critical drug makes it into the hands of the Warfighter. These col-

lective efforts resulted in the DOD filling a critical capability gap by providing a highly safe and effective weekly drug to prevent malaria, thereby keeping troops on the line and protecting the Warfighter against this debilitating and often fatal disease."

Unlike current preventives used by the military, TQ is only required to be taken weekly (after a three-day loading dose) versus daily, and it is effective against all species and stages of the malaria parasite. The availability of this new drug will result in a measurable improvement in compliance and effectiveness in the prevention of malaria in U.S. forces deployed to malaria-endemic areas throughout the world.

The Wolf Pack Award, established by the U.S. Army Surgeon General and Army Medical Department Civilian Corps Chief, recognizes exceptional teamwork by an integrated group of military and civilian team members focused on excellence in support of Army Medicine. Without question, the development of TQ has involved numerous groups over the past 40 years.

Consisting of 23 members, both military and civilian, the TQ IPT has worked closely with its industry partner since 2014 to obtain FDA approval of the drug, which was first discovered in 1978 within the Experimental Therapeutics branch at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, a subordinate laboratory of the U.S. Army Medical Research

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Members of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity Tafenoquine Integrated Product Team receive the Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award for the first quarter fiscal year 2019 during a ceremony held at the Fort Detrick auditorium, June 25, 2019. From left to right: Army Maj. Victor Zottig, Army Maj. Katherine Carr, Sharon Maloid, Dr. Moshe Shmuklarsky, John Clarke, Judy Holian, Kathy Simpson, Dr. Selva Murugesan, and Army Col. Ryan Bailey, former USAMMDA commander.

Photo by Lori B. Salvatore, USAMRDC Public Affairs

and Development Command. One decade later, TQ was transitioned to USAMMDA's Pharmaceutical Systems Project Management Office (now the Warfighter Protection and Acute Care PMO) where it has since been managed.

The FDA approval of TQ marks the culmination of a full-scale military medical development effort that includes various organizations. Among these are the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Science in Thailand, the U.S. Army Medical Research Unit – Kenya (now the U.S. Army Medical Research Directorate – Africa), the Naval Medical Research Unit-3 (Egypt/Ghana), the Army Malaria Institute of the Australian Department of Defence, WRAIR, USAMMDA, and its industry partner for production of the drug, 60° Pharmaceuticals, LLC.

Maj. Victor Zottig, WPAC PMO product manager for the TQ effort, has been involved with the program since November 2016. He is very familiar with the overall efficacy of this critical drug, and its importance in protecting both military and civilian populations against the effects of malaria.

"When I became the IPT chair and product manager for Tafenoquine in 2017, there was already a highly dedicated team of professionals with the necessary experience and commitment working toward the unified goal of obtaining FDA approval for this important drug," said Zottig.

"Within a short timeframe, the IPT completed an impressive amount of work in collaboration with our commercial partner to realize approval of TQ for the prevention of malaria by the FDA," he continued. "This is a tremendous achievement for everyone involved in this long, dedicated effort toward the global protection of Service Members and civilian personnel against malaria.

"We feel Tafenoquine offers improved comprehensive protective coverage against malaria over the current standard of care, due to its weekly dosing regimen and its activity against all of the lifecycle stages and species of malaria that infect humans, with no geographic limitations."

During a recent event held to recognize the FDA approval of TQ, Maj. Gen. Barbara R. Holcomb, commanding general of the USAMRDC and Fort Detrick, praised the efforts of those involved in the development of the drug, as she said, "Whether you worked on Tafenoquine for a day, a year, or your entire career, your contributions helped gain approval for the first FDA-approved malaria drug in over 18 years. This is not just a military achievement, but a significant achievement for world health."

"This new and powerful drug represents a significant milestone in the global fight against malaria, and it will have a tremendous impact on this devastating disease worldwide," said Holcomb.

Col. Ryan Bailey, who has served as the commander of USAMMDA for the past two years, recognized both the Tafenoquine team and USAMMDA's higher headquarters, for their work in the successful development and FDA approval of the antimalarial drug.

"The recent approval of Tafenoquine highlights the true value of the USAMRDC's lifecycle management mission," said Bailey. "Our collective work helped to bring a completely new product from early research to medical product development, clinical trial testing, collaboration with our commercial partner, and FDA approval — and now this important drug is moving towards production and ultimate fielding."

"It took the dedication of a great team to accomplish this, and that is truly the spirit of the Wolf Pack Award," he added. "This drug certainly will make a positive difference in protecting our Soldiers against malaria."

As a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, USAMMDA maintains a mission to develop and deliver quality medical capabilities to protect, treat and sustain the health of our Nation's Service Members throughout the world.



Army Lt. Gen. Nadja Y. West, Army Surgeon General and commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Command, presents the Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award for the first quarter fiscal year 2019 to Army. Maj. Victor Zottig, Tafenoquine product manager for the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity's Warfighter Protection and Acute Care Project Management Office. Zottig accepted the award on behalf of the Tafenoquine Integrated Product Team, for which he serves as the IPT chairperson.

Photo by Lori Salvatore, USAMRDC Public Affairs

Fort Detrick Police Department

August 6
5 p.m.

Detrick Homes
6000 Ditto Ave.



Cook-Out,
Moon Bounce,
Games, Displays
and Fun!

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****National Night Out at Forest Glen will take place August 13 from 5-8 p.m.
at the Glen Haven Apartments****



Graduating Interns Reflect on Their “Once in a Lifetime” Year at USAMMDA



Program Management–Acquisition interns from the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity take one last picture in front of the USAMMDA building before heading to their graduation ceremony. Pictured left to right: Army Maj. Garrion Jackson, Army Capt. Gerrod Gomez, Army Capt. (P) Brandy Gainsley, Army Maj. Dana Love, and Army Maj. Jonathan Williams.

Photo by Ashley Force, USAMMDA Public Affairs

By Ashley Force, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Five experienced Army officers with incredibly different backgrounds met each other through one commonality – their passion for Army Acquisition. Maj. Garrion Jackson, Maj. Dana Love, Maj. Jonathan Williams, Capt. (promotable) Brandy Gainsley, and Capt. Gerrod Gomez, all joined the Program Management–Acquisition Internship Program in 2018 to learn more about how the Army works behind the scenes. They have spent the last year shadowing product managers at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity and the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Command. This is the second time USAMMDA has hosted interns.

“USAMMDA is a center of gravity for medical acquisition in support of the Army’s mission. The PM–AIP is an opportunity to invest in the future of our young officers, and

hopefully, they aspire to bigger and greater leadership positions within the medical acquisition community,” said Col. Ryan Bailey, USAMMDA commander.

As graduation approaches, the interns reflected on their year of hands-on learning.

“It’s been a lot of temporary duty assignments, a lot of seeing things, and just an invaluable educational experience,” said Love. “When we leave the internship, we will really be bringing a breadth of knowledge to the green-suit experience.”

The PM–AIP falls under the Long-term Health Education and Training program within the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School. The program allows Medical Service Officers to get a taste of Army Acquisition, particularly

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in program management. Through this program, the interns become level two certified in program management. PM–AIP requires them to spend one year completing all institutional Defense Acquisition University requirements, while completing on-the-job training supporting product cost, schedule and performance. After the interns complete their year at USAMMDA, they must complete two years of utilization. Afterward, they will be level three certified in program management.

“I’ve always been on the side of receiving medical equipment; now, I’m on the procurement side. As a Warfighter, my experience and my comeback tours have paid immense dividends in what we do here,” said Williams. “When it comes down to procuring certain items, I have the experience of how it’s actually implemented or used on the battlefield.”

Working at USAMMDA exposed each intern to the bigger Army Medicine picture. The organization assigned them to Project Management Offices and provided guidance while they assisted in the procurement of medical products.

“I was assigned to the Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation Project Management Office,” said Gomez. “Since I have an IT background, they positioned me into a spot where we work with a lot of IT to see future technology that is in the works—seeing patient care in that light has been very exciting.”

Throughout their time at USAMMDA, the interns attended several courses across the United States, like the Army Acquisition Professional Course in Huntsville, Alabama. During that course, the interns had a chance to bond for two months as they became immersed in all things acquisition. They learned about identifying the Army Medical risks and gaps while visiting the Capabilities Development & Integration Directorate in San Antonio, Texas. They spent a day at the Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, learning about how USAMMDA works with the Defense Logistics Agency to provide medical supplies and equipment to the Warfighter. They have seen how a Program Executive Office runs at the PEO for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, and visited the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology at the Pentagon.

These lessons only added to the various experiences the interns already had under their belts. Before beginning her internship, Gainsley spent two years with the Special Operations Command in Korea. Throughout her time as an intern, she has worked for USAMMDA’s Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems PMO and recommends this program to any Soldier interested in joining.

“It sets you up for success as you transition from the military to the civilian side. Not only did I learn in the institutional training and on the job, but I also learned from my fellow interns and some of their assignments and experiences. I relied on them for things I haven’t seen,” said Gainsley.

As commander and also the 8X Medical Acquisition consultant for the Army Surgeon General, Bailey said he looks forward to the graduation ceremony, where he can formally congratulate the interns on their hard work this year.

“I tell many young officers that this is another tool in their tool kit,” said Bailey. “Knowing how the Army invests its resources to deliver materiel solutions to the Warfighter is critical and important, and it gives them additional skills and abilities that will serve them well throughout their career.”

After graduating the PM–AIP, Gainsley will be heading to Commanding General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Gomez will be working with USAMMDA as a product manager; Love will also continue at USAMMDA. Williams will be moving to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, and he sees himself doing more program management work in the future. Jackson will be moving to Orlando after graduation to work with PEO STRI.

“Our group is going to graduate, go out there, and do great things. We’ll take everything we learned during PM–AIP, and always keep the end-user in mind,” said Jackson.

With one year of Army Acquisition guidance, forming strong friendships, and experiencing countless immeasurable lessons, these five Army officers will move forward with bright futures ahead of them. The USAMMDA and USAMMA teams have set the interns on a path for a successful future, making a great impact on the lives of Soldiers.

USAMRIID Announces Top Soldier, NCO for 2019

Congratulations to Sgt. Quedale Phinazee and Spc. Nathaniel Sanchez, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, for taking top honors in the Institute's Best Warrior Competition held at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, in April 2019.

Sgt. Phinazee was injured and is unable to compete at the next level, so Sgt. Sabrina Rodriguez, runner-up in the NCO category, will take his place.

Other USAMRIID competitors were Sgt. Irma Blanco, Sgt. Erikka Johnson, and Spc. Jared Crumpler. All performed an array of tasks and challenges, including an Army Physical Fitness Test, Obstacle Course, Voice and Radio Communication, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Response, First Aid, Casualty Evaluation, Weapons and Range Operations, and Land Navigation, followed by a written essay and an oral board.

Both Sgt. Rodriguez and Spc. Sanchez moved on to compete at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command level.

Photos courtesy of USAMRIID



Sgt. Sabrina Rodriguez



Spc. Nathaniel Sanchez

USAMRIID Hosts Special Screening of "The Hot Zone" by National Geographic TV

By Caree Vander Linden, USAMRIID Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases hosted an exclusive screening of "The Hot Zone" May 22, 2019 at the Fort Detrick auditorium, an event that was part entertainment, part USAMRIID reunion.

Created by National Geographic Television, the six-part series was inspired by the Richard Preston bestseller chronicling the first emergence of the Ebola virus in the U.S. That outbreak occurred among nonhuman primates in a Reston, Virginia commercial facility in 1989.

At the time, Col. Nancy Jaax was chief of USAMRIID's veterinary pathology division and her husband, Col. Jerry Jaax, headed the Institute's veterinary medicine division. USAMRIID played a key role in identifying the virus and containing the outbreak in the primate facility.



Following a screening of the first episode, attended by about 150 people, Dr. John Dye of USAMRIID hosted a panel discussion featuring Nancy and Jerry Jaax and National Geographic executive producers Kelly Souders and Brian Peterson.

Pictured (L-R): Col. (R) Jerry Jaax, Col. (R) Nancy Jaax, Dr. John Dye, Brian Peterson, and Kelly Souders.

Photo by John W. Braun, Jr., USAMRIID VIO

USAMRDC Passes Torch in Moving Change of Command Ceremony

By Ramin A. Khalili and Staff, USAMRDC Public Affairs

On July 24, 2019 the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command hosted a Change of Command ceremony at Fort Detrick, Maryland as Maj. Gen. Barbara R. Holcomb relinquished command to Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley during an event officiated by Gen. John M. Murray, commanding general of the U.S. Army Futures Command.

Speaking at the beginning of the ceremony, Murray made clear his affection for the USAMRDC and, further, his understanding of the importance of the overall mission of military medicine.

“The MRDC has an amazing history,” said Murray. “While most Americans will never truly understand and appreciate what you’ve done and what you continue to do, the impact of this command, today and throughout history, has been felt worldwide.”

Murray added words of support for both Holcomb and Talley, as both now steer into different parts of their respective lives: Holcomb moving into retirement and Talley stepping to the forefront of the military’s lead medical research and development organization.

“To keep up with both the pace of change and the great reputation of this command requires determined and exceptional leadership, and this is exactly what Maj. Gen. Holcomb has provided,” said Murray. “Barb and her team, in no small part, have changed the world.”

Holcomb was next to step up to the podium, and her opening comments regarding her dedication to the USAMRDC were met with applause.

Reflecting on her three-year assignment, she said, “The MRMC, now MRDC, really has been the best job that I’ve had in my career - it’s the best job in the Army. It’s been professionally challenging, and professionally rewarding.”

Notable advancements under the USAMRDC banner during Holcomb’s tenure include U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of the anti-malarial drug Tafenoquine and emergency-use authorization for the application of freeze-dried plasma on the battlefield. In addition, the USAMRDC made substantial strides in the areas of unmanned and vertical lift technology during that time; with both areas being integral to the application of the type of cutting-edge medical technology likely required for success in next-generation combat zones. Regardless, Holcomb, who served as Commanding General of both USAMRDC and Fort Detrick as well as Chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps over the past three years, offered welcome advice to Talley.

“Strap in, and enjoy the ride,” she said. “It’s turbulent at times, so let the staff be your ground control. They are the experts and professionals - they are passionate about the mission of saving lives and serving our Nation.”

Talley steps into the USAMRDC leadership role from his most recent assignment at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, as Deputy Commanding General for the Regional Health Command–Atlantic. A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Talley has notably led Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and civilian personnel across a military career that stretches back to 1983 and includes a slew of high-profile operational and logistical postings.



Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick, addresses the audience during the Change of Command ceremony, 24 July 2019.

Photo Leticia G. Hopkins, USAMRDC Public Affairs

“It’s a great day to be a Soldier-scientist at the center of the medical research and development universe,” said Talley. “General Murray, thank you for your kind words, and thank you for having the confidence and trust in me to lead the men and women of this great organization during this exciting and challenging time in our history.”

In his remarks to the crowd, Talley struck a tone of genuine, unbridled excitement, and spoke at length about his desire to tackle the looming obstacles facing the future of military medicine.

“I look forward to the tremendous challenges in front of us, as the Army undergoes its largest reorganization since 1973.” Talley continued, “The MRDC will remain committed to rapidly and responsibly developing, delivering and sustaining medical capabilities for the Warfighter, so that we remain the most powerful military in the world.”

Talley concluded his remarks by thanking the many people who have helped him reach this point in his career, specifically noting his parents.

“My mother, Joan, and my late father, Retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant Louie Talley, are not here today, but I wish to thank them publically for affording me and my brother and sisters a life of privilege - not in a monetary sense, but as it pertains to values, discipline and hard work ethic,” he said. “Thanks to them, the Army Values were easy to adopt, because those values are what they instilled in us all of our lives.”

Fort Detrick Welcomes New Garrison Commander



Col. Dexter Nunnally receives the Installation Management Command flag from Davis D. Tindoll, Jr., Installation Management Command sustainment director, accepting responsibility as the new garrison commander of Fort Detrick during a change of command ceremony on July 11, 2019.

Photo by Siegfried Bruner, Directorate of Operations

By Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

The Fort Detrick community welcomed a new garrison commander during a change of command ceremony July 11 at the Fort Detrick auditorium. The ceremony is a time honored Army tradition where former garrison commander, Col. Scott Halter, relinquished command to Col. Dexter Nunnally. The reviewing officer for the event was Davis D. Tindoll, Jr., sustainment director, Installation Management Command.

Halter served as garrison commander for two years and will move to Huntsville, Alabama to serve at IMCOM as Tindoll's deputy. Reflecting on his time at Fort Detrick, Halter shared that the Frederick Community, its leaders and the people have made Frederick one of his favorite duty stations. "This is an incredible place to live, work and raise a family and in my 23 years in the Army and 15 moves, I can say hands down that this community, the Frederick community, is the best home in the Army."

Known for his calm demeanor and genuine concern for people, Halter's final advice to the employees and Soldiers of Fort Detrick is to look out for each other.

"My advice is to always take care of the people you are charged with serving and serving with," he said.

Nunnally is excited for this new adventure and the opportunity to serve at Fort Detrick and as a self-proclaimed history buff is looking forward to exploring the rich history this area has to offer.

"Fort Detrick was my first choice," said Nunnally. "I competed among 200 other applicants and was ecstatic to learn I was selected."

Echoing Halter's sentiments, Nunnally reiterated the importance of people. "It's all about caring. If that is not there then a Garrison command will not be successful. Our mission is to support the local community and the families that are here so that our Soldiers who are supporting the national security mission can do their jobs." He continued, "I look forward to working with the Garrison, the tenants and the local community to make sure that we are successful in taking care of our families and making sure that the mission is successful."

In and Around Fort Detrick

USAG Fort Detrick on Social Media

You can follow USAG Fort Detrick on social media for daily updates and information. On Facebook go to: www.facebook.com/DetrickUSAG and "Like" us or follow us on Twitter: @DetrickUSAG.

As a reminder, all social media sites must be registered with Army. For more information, contact the Public Affairs Office.

The Fort Detrick Weeklies can now be found on the Fort Detrick homepage <https://home.army.mil/detrick/> under "Weeklies" and "Announcements." For a complete list of upcoming FMWR events, visit the Fort Detrick FMWR website: <http://detrick.armymwr.com/us/detrick/>.

The Civilian Welfare Council Crab Feed

Friday, August 23

\$30 per person for Federal Civilians and guests.

Middletown Amvets

408 W Green Street, Middletown, MD

Doors open at 5:30 p.m./Food Served at 6 p.m./Event ends at 8 p.m.

Ticket deadline is August 9, 2019

See Your CWC Rep for tickets!

*Adults Only/Cash Bar

Limit 200 – seats may not be held after 5:45 p.m.

Use of tickets by personnel other than Fort Detrick Civilians and guests is prohibited. Each person attending, including guest, must present a ticket (all food to be consumed on premises)

NO REFUNDS



– 11 a.m.

Call (301) 319-6443 if you would like to attend.

Attention: Federal Health Benefit Employees (FEHB) Approaching Retirement and others who are planning ahead...

You are invited to attend a Pre-Retirement/Medicare Education Seminar. Do you have questions about how your FEHB plan works in retirement? Would you like to learn more about how Medicare coordinates with your FEHB coverage? These topics and many more will be discussed at this very informative seminar. A BCBS representative will be here to conduct this Medicare Education seminar and review important rules and regulations of your FEHB coverage. Members enrolled in ANY ONE of the FEHB plans will benefit from this seminar.

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Time: 9:30am – 11:30am

Where: 549 Sultan St – NCI at Frederick Conference Center

Antiterrorism Awareness Month starts

August 1, 2019

AT month marks the Army's ninth annual observance of Antiterrorism Awareness. Fort Detrick's AT awareness campaign will feature articles in the Fort Detrick weeklies and on social media. It will also consist of AT awareness displays in the Bal-four Beatty Community Center at the National Night Out event, the Commissary, and the Post Exchange with additional information tables and briefs conducted by unit AT POCs.

The purpose of Antiterrorism Awareness Month is to instill Army-wide heightened awareness and vigilance to protect Army communities from acts of terrorism.

Why is it important to the Army? Awareness of terrorist threats and an understanding of unit-level and personal protective measures remain paramount. Each person, military, DoD Civilian, contractor, family member and visitor is a part of security as a sensor to report suspicious activity when noticed.

Each week in August we will focus on a different area including - how to recognize and report suspicious activity, training, Cyber Security, insider threat indicators, drones and tenant and community AT awareness.

Right Arm Night

August 16

3-6 p.m.

Community Activities Center, Building 1529. For additional information, call (301) 619-4079

Fort Detrick Pet Lodging and Doggie Day-care

Building 121 Hamilton Street (off Porter Street)

For information on fees and availability, call (301) 619-3950.

RV Storage

More Space is coming to the Fort Detrick RV Storage Lot. Contact (301) 619-2266 for more information.

Upcoming 2019 Personal Readiness Trainings

IAW AR350-1 meets the one hour Personal Readiness

Requirement, formally ASAP and ACE Suicide Prevention.

POC is the Army Substance Abuse Program (301) 619-1751.

Aug. 21/Sept. 10

1520 Building, Classroom 6

10-11 a.m.

Space may be limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fire Extinguisher Training Classes (FOREST GLEN)

Forest Glen Fire Department – Station 54, Building 609

Classes held on Tuesday, Sept. 24 from 10