



Fort Detrick The Standard

A Sustainable Community of Excellence



Army Surgeon General Presents Keynote Speech at Fort Detrick Black History Month Celebration

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Army Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, The Surgeon General, served as guest speaker for the 2020 Black History Month celebration held at the Fort Detrick, Maryland, community auditorium, February 20. Sponsored by the 6th Medical Logistics Management Center, the event drew a large crowd, for both the main presentation and the authentic tasting session that followed.

After a rousing “huddle session” to kick off the celebration, Army Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley,

Commanding General, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick, addressed the crowd before welcoming Dingle to the podium.

“The power of the Army, the power of the DOD, and the power here at Fort Detrick — having those diverse backgrounds, those diverse ideas, it’s certainly what gives us combat power and makes us the greatest military in the world,” said Talley.

“That’s why we come together at these observances,” he continued, “not only to learn, but to incorporate,

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Army Lt. Gen. R. Scott Dingle, The Surgeon General, served as guest speaker for the 2020 Black History Month celebration held at the Fort Detrick, Maryland, community auditorium, February 20.

Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

infuse and harness that great power within the military.”

Talley then provided a brief history of Dingle’s military and family background, emphasizing his family’s history of military service.

“He has been breaking ground ever since he’s been in the Army,” said Talley. “Now, as we’re going through perhaps the greatest transformation in decades, throughout the military but particularly in Army Medicine, there’s no better leader, certainly, to forge the future.”

Stepping to the middle of the floor, Dingle began by reciting the theme of the day’s event, “Honoring the past, and securing the future,” and said that “we often walk past the past every day” without stopping to consider its value.

He then related the story of LeRoy Battle, a Tuskegee Airman he met years ago at Morgan State University, the alma mater of both men. Dingle recounted how he eventually realized the legacy of Battle, and how the Airman spoke of having to “stick together” with his fellow Soldiers “to complete the mission” during World War II.

“LeRoy Battle shared with me the mantra of the Tuskegee Airmen: ‘Stay focused, Stick to it, and Get it done!’” he told the audience. “And as he said this to me, (I realized) here was history right before me. We stand on the history of legends that have gone before us, that have brought change.”

Dingle’s words were both powerful and poignant, as he spoke of numerous African American military units and personnel that served as the “first wave” of the movement towards racial equality in America. He spoke of Army Lt. Jackie Robinson, well known for his athletic ability but lesser known for his military service. Years before Rosa Parks made history in

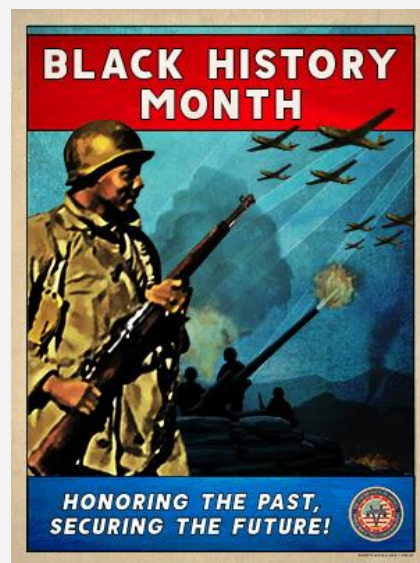
refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, Robinson did the same on a bus at Fort Benning, Georgia, despite the probability of a court-martial charge, said Dingle.

As he continued, many in the room were visibly moved and clearly engaged in the historical accounts being offered.

“In spite of what you may go through as Soldiers, as parents, as children, as leaders, as civilians, life is going to happen — opposition is going to happen,” said Dingle. “The thing that we can take from these African American Soldiers who served their nation with the ‘Duty, Honor, and Country’ that General MacArthur talked about — we must remember the mantra that we must stay focused, that we must stick to it, that we must get it done.”

“Martin Luther King said it best,” he continued. “He said, ‘We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there *is* such a thing as being too late.’”

After a short pause, Dingle added, “I challenge you, don’t be late! I challenge you to stay focused, stick to it, and get it done. Because you – we – have a role in securing the future.”



‘Right Arm Night’ event at Fort Detrick ‘builds a team of teams’

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Sgt. Maj. Stacey Varga smiled as she talked about the strong turnout at Fort Detrick’s “Right Arm Night” event on Jan. 24.

“This is probably one of our highest turnouts for Right Arm Night,” she said. “Everybody’s cross-talking and there’s lots of good conversation happening. It’s really a great turnout.”

The quarterly installation-wide event was the first sponsored by U.S. Army Medical Logistics Command, a new major subordinate command under Army Materiel Command.

An old Army tradition of fellowship and camaraderie, dozens of Soldiers and civilian employees across several Fort Detrick units attended the gathering at the Community Activities Center on post.

“I think it’s a really good tradition to bring everyone together,” said Capt. Kevin Fitzpatrick, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 21st Signal Brigade. “It’s nice that you can relax and get away from the office environment for a little while.”

Right Arm Nights encourage leaders to join with those standing to their right – the ones helping them get through their daily missions – as a way to build relationships while mixing and mingling with other leaders who, too, have brought their battle buddies.

“It’s a great legacy and tradition,” said Capt. Ryan Howell, headquarters aide-de-camp for Army Medical Research and Development Command.

Varga said the “big family event” helps bring together members of various military and Department of Defense agencies on the installation for an evening of socialization, food and fun after a long work week.

The top enlisted Soldier with the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency, a direct-reporting unit of AMLC, Varga also was quick to express appreciation for not just her military and DOD colleagues, but also the civilians and contractors that support the AMLC and broader Army missions.

“We can’t do our mission without them,” she said.

USAMMA Commander Col. Timothy D. Walsh opened the event with a few remarks, followed by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, commanding general of USAMRDC and Fort Detrick, who urged attendees to have some fun and enjoy themselves.

“Feel free to let your hair down, if you have any,” laughed Talley, who shaves his head.

With upbeat music playing in the background, groups of Soldiers and civilians snacked on some chicken wings provided by Fort Detrick’s Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation, while others played card games at their tables.

Laughter, cheers and spirited chatter at times took over the room, often following the conclusion of a hotly contested game.

Many gathered around the buffet food and drink stations or the ping pong table, where teams duked it out in the main community center room. In the adjacent game room, the sharp thud of foosballs bouncing off the game table walls could be heard as players manipulated the controls.

Taking a break from chatting with other Soldiers, Howell credited Fort Detrick’s tradition of hosting an installation-wide event as a great platform to build relationships and cohesiveness across the different units and commands.

“This one, especially, builds a team of teams,” he said. “I see different units here all interacting together.”



Soldiers and civilian employees play a card game during Fort Detrick’s “Right Arm Night” on Jan. 24, 2020 at the Community Activities Center. The quarterly installation-wide event was the first sponsored by Army Medical Logistics Command, a new major subordinate command under Army Materiel Command.

Photo by C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Fort Detrick Contractor Donates Hair for Cancer Patient Wigs

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

After retiring from the U.S. Navy in 2014, Fernando Trujillo quit cutting his hair.

"I just decided to let it grow; one less expense," he said. "In the military, I pretty much had to get my haircut every two weeks to stay within regulations."

For the Fort Detrick defense contractor, who regularly let his hair grow prior to his 24-year Navy career, nearly six years of growth resulted in his long dark locks hanging all the way down to his waist.

Trujillo, 49, said he decided to cut his hair after his younger brother, a New Mexico National Guardsman, asked him to participate in his upcoming promotion ceremony.

But rather than simply hack it off, Trujillo, a survivor of salivary gland

cancer, wanted to do something for others going through the scary prospect of debilitating treatments – that is when he decided to donate his hair to help cancer patients.

Trujillo, who worked as a biomedical engineering consultant for the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency for a year before transitioning into a new role in January at the Defense Health Agency, searched around and settled on a nonprofit organization called Hair We Share.

"I looked at their website and they said they would take light gray hair," he said. "So I sent an email and told them I had over 20 inches of hair to donate."

Trujillo, a native of New Mexico who resides in Thurmont, Maryland, made an appointment to get his hair cut on Jan. 18 at Ladies and Gents Downtown Hair Co. in Frederick, Maryland.

He walked out with seven locks of hair, each 28 inches long.

"I've lost some friends and family over the years and also had some acquaintances that have had battles with cancer who lost their hair going through radiation," he said when asked why he wanted to donate. "I figured my hair would be something that someone could benefit from."

Michael Duggan, a senior biomedical equipment specialist and co-worker of Trujillo's during his time with USAMMA, described his former colleague as "a kind and compassionate person" who thinks of others before himself.

"Fernando is the kind of person that would give you the shirt off his back when you are in need," Duggan said.

Trujillo's own bout with cancer started in March 2012 after he noticed a little

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Fernando Trujillo, a Defense Health Agency contractor at Fort Detrick and survivor of salivary gland cancer, had 28 inches of his hair cut off Jan. 18, 2020 at Ladies and Gents Downtown Hair Co. in Frederick, Maryland. Trujillo donated the seven locks of his hair to a nonprofit organization called Hair We Share, which makes wigs for cancer patients.

Photos courtesy of Fernando Trujillo

bump on the roof of his mouth. After a biopsy, doctors delivered the bad news.

He had cancer.

"Your heart just kind of drops and you have that bad feeling, like 'damn, how bad is it?'" Trujillo recalled. "The first thing the doctor did was try to calm me down and let me know that everything should be fine. It was just a matter of how much they were going to have to cut out."

About two weeks later, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon successfully removed a gumball-sized tumor – about 10 millimeters in diameter – from Trujillo's palate.

"The doctor was really good about letting me know what was going on," he said. "Then I had to wear a mouth guard for about a month."

During the recovery process, Trujillo said he lost about 20 pounds because he couldn't eat regular foods.

"I never ate so much pumpkin soup in my life," he laughed. "You really can't eat meat. I had a lot of protein drinks."

Trujillo has been in remission ever since. Biopsies after six months, one year and two years have all come back clean.

Despite some sensitivity at the surgical site, Trujillo's life has pretty much returned to normal. That feeling of normalcy was a motivating factor behind his decision to donate his hair.

Trujillo said a wig can go a long way to helping a patient maintain their dignity during a difficult cancer treatment, allowing them to "blend in" and not draw attention to their condition.

"It's more about not drawing attention from people who constantly ask questions and feel sorry for you," Trujillo said. "Hopefully that little bit will be able to help them retain a little dignity out of the whole situation they are facing."



2020 GEMS



Gains in the Education of Mathematics and Science Summer STEM program

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Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6
June 29 – July 2	July 6–9	July 13–16	July 27–30	August 3–6	August 10–13

GEMS at Fort Detrick brings local students into the cutting-edge world of U.S. Army Research and Development. Designed for 4th through 11th grade students of all academic abilities in the 2019-2020 school calendar, GEMS promises a hands-on experience that will excite. Students will choose from a variety of classes in which they can build robots, dissect squids, learn how to suture, code computer games, solve a murder mystery, and even analyze their own DNA.

Courses are 4 days long and all programs are completely free of charge to students and families. A stipend of \$125 will be awarded to those who participate to offset the cost of transportation.

New Ebola Vaccine a Win for USAMRDC, Global Health

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

Ask Amy Shurtleff, Ph.D., about her work on the Ebola virus and she'll use relatively understated terms like "collaborative" and "efficacy." Dig a little deeper, however, and her excitement eventually reveals itself. Sitting in her office at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's (USAMRDC) U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), she speaks with the kind of enthusiasm that can only come, one imagines, from witnessing a major scientific achievement in real time.

"It's nice to be on the end where you can actually see your team's work make it to the finish line," she says.

Shurtleff's team at USAMRIID crossed that so-called finish line in late 2019 – just days before Christmas, actually – when the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first vaccine to prevent the deadly Ebola virus disease (EVD). For Shurtleff, a principal investigator on the effort, the achievement marks the end of a six-year scientific journey. For the larger USAMRDC and its cadre of scientists, it represents a victory more than fifteen years in the making.

"It's a fun experience," says Shurtleff, "because you get this great sense of all these people moving in the same direction to try and accomplish something – and it's really not just driven by the scientists."

But indeed the lab is where everything truly begins. Through research efforts jointly funded over the years by a slew of agencies – including the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's (DTRA) Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense, the Joint Project Manager for Medical Countermeasure Systems (JPM-MCS), and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

partners – the team at USAMRIID played a key role in developing and testing the initial product (now marketed under the trade name *Ervebo*), and conducted a series of preclinical trials in animals. Data from those studies highlighted the vaccine's ability to elicit a robust immune response and, ultimately, to protect against Ebola virus infection. From there, the USAMRDC's Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) was tapped to conduct Phase 1 clinical trials to show the safety and immunogenicity of the product in humans. Along the way, the accumulated data was evaluated with – and then transmitted to – corporate partner and Investigational New Drug (IND) sponsor Merck & Co., Inc., who ultimately initiated the regulatory approval process for *Ervebo*.

"For USAMRIID to be a part of the military team taking a product from discovery to human patients is a huge win," says USAMRIID research scientist John Dye, Ph.D., "and would be impossible without the combined efforts of both institutes."

"Approval of this vaccine by the FDA represents another important milestone in the global response to Ebola virus disease and stands as a tremendous accomplishment by a unique global partnership," says

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Dr. Amy Shurtleff (right) works in a Biosafety Level 4 (BSL-4) laboratory at U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). BSL-4, the highest level of biological containment, is used to safely study highly hazardous viruses like Ebola. Photo courtesy of USAMRIID

Dr. Roger Perlmutter, President of Merck Research Laboratories, echoing Dye's sentiment.

But while the years-long effort to bring *Ervebo* to market can be summarized relatively quickly – from the vantage point of the finish line, at least – the global impact is, thankfully, much more difficult to condense. While EVD has been on the global health radar since the 1970s, an outbreak in several West African countries from 2014 to 2016 resulted in more than 11,000 deaths, thereby renewing international awareness in the process of vaccine development. The World Health Organization (WHO) began using V920 – or, the precursor to *Ervebo* – as an investigational vaccine in 2018 to stem that epidemic tide, with the resulting positive returns now, just a few short years later, setting the stage for even greater benefits on the U.S. home front.



Photo of Ervebo in its investigational form as V920, seen here prior to official licensure by the FDA on December 19, 2019.

Photo courtesy of Merck

"If we are asked to send [U.S. Service Members] into an endemic area or potentially into an outbreak, having a vaccine to offer these brave Soldiers and their families is paramount," says Dye. "We need to protect them, so they can protect us."

Says Shurtleff, "The FDA approval is so important for us in terms of Americans, of United States citizens, for those of us who are pushing forward something for a military countermeasure."

Those words, in the end, may mark the best example yet of Shurtleff's slow-burn excitement; a nod towards the impact that her work – and, by extension, the collaborative work performed by WRAIR and Merck as well – will have on the U.S. Warfighter. For both her and the USAMRDC at large, it's the kind of team victory that encourages everyone involved to push further, faster, and more headstrong into the future of medicine.

"It's nice to look up from the lab bench and see the impact out there in the global public health arena," says Shurtleff. "I am certainly looking forward to that feeling, to that sense of accomplishment, again."

Army Bugler's Love of Music Plays on After Career with West Point Band

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Despite most recently working as a budget analyst, Clay Beard has always preferred notes over numbers.

"I'm a musician. That's how I self-identify," Beard said. "I know my job is basically accounting, but I don't think of myself as an accountant. I'm a musician with a day gig."

Prior to joining the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency at Fort Detrick in October 2011, Beard aligned his "day gig" with his passion for music as a member of the prestigious West Point Band for over 28 years.

During his time as a bugler for the nation's oldest band and oldest active unit at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., Beard performed before many large patriotic crowds – some including a couple U.S. presidents – and even a handful of venues around the globe.

The 62-year-old Hagerstown, Md. native, who retired at the rank of Sergeant Major before joining USAMMA as a civilian employee, recalled international trips to Tokyo and Berlin, but his most memorable career highlights came stateside.

One instance happened in January 1991, when the band played the halftime show at an NFL playoff game in Buffalo, N.Y.

It was during the first Gulf War and Beard said they "had no idea what kind of reception" they would get from the crowd of 80,000 people.

He was happily surprised.

"To hear 80,000 people sing God Bless America full-throated while you're playing, it was like in the teens and I didn't feel cold at all," he said. "It was really an overwhelming experience. I never heard that kind of response."

Beard played with the band at Carnegie Hall in New York, as well as with the New York Pops and Boston Pops orchestras for holiday performances.

The Boston Pops concert on July 4, 2002, specifically, brought out an estimated 300,000 people, "plus the viewership of the A&E Network at the time," Beard said.

"I don't know how to describe it," he said. "It's kind of just like this sea of people, where you don't even really see the people. You just kind of pull in and do your job."

Beard's love affair with music dates back to his childhood years in Washington County Public Schools. The first instrument he got his hands on was his great-grandfather's cornet, a brass instrument similar to a trumpet.

"I didn't know how to play it ... but when I got to fourth grade, I knew wanted to play the trumpet," he said.

Music quickly became a focal point in Beard's life, but after graduating from South Hagerstown High School, he decided to pursue a career in mathematics.

"It's hard to find work that's steady," he said. "And especially as a musician, something that has benefits."

That was until a friend who attended Shepherd College in West Virginia convinced him to look into majoring in music education there. Beard decided to make the jump and graduated in 1980.

"It's the kind of decision an 18-year-old makes, changing from math to music, but it turned out okay," Beard laughed. "I left Shepherd as a good musician, but not really a good trumpet player."

That all changed after a few months of lessons from renowned trombone player and brass instructor Donald S. Reinhardt at the suggestion of Harry Wacker, the music director at Smithsburg High School when Beard was doing his student teaching there during college.

"Within two or three months of going to him, you wouldn't have recognized me," he said. "In multiple ways, that student teaching ... changed my life, really."

As a more polished player, Beard gained enough confidence to try out for the band after learning about an opening in the band of roughly 75 members at the time.



Clay Beard, center left, a former U.S. Army bugler who performed with the West Point Band for over 28 years, is pictured in an official promotional photo in 1997.

(Photo courtesy of Clay Beard)

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In this undated photo, Clay Beard, foreground, performs with the West Point Band at the Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, Ky.

Photo courtesy Clay Beard

In addition to the full marching band, West Point also featured three smaller components – a field music group of bugles and drums, nicknamed the “Hellcats” by cadets, as well as jazz and concert groups – when Beard joined following his audition in 1982.

Less than a year later, he entered basic training at age 26 and never looked back.

Beard said he always enjoyed playing patriotic tunes for the military because of what it means for the Soldiers, but also the country as a whole.

“I call it a force multiplier,” he said. “If you’re doing it right, the audience goes away feeling more patriotic. They go away feeling good about the military and their country.”

Today, Beard, a resident of Frederick, Md., continues to play on his own time. He performs with the Hagerstown Municipal Band, Gettysburg Big Band, Market Street Big Band and East Coast Stroke, among other groups around the area.

He also can be found around Fort Detrick playing bugle at events for Army Medical Logistics Command and USAMMA, now a direct-reporting unit under AMLC.

Reflecting on his nearly three-decade career, Beard said funeral support for Soldiers and their families was one of the highest honors of his job, even though the most solemn.

He estimated he performed taps for approximately 2,000 services while at West Point.

Beard added that he will always miss the great people he met along the way and the world-class musicians that joined

him for the ride.

Watching a nationally televised performance after his retirement triggered a “wow” moment for the humble and soft-spoken Beard – appreciating how rewarding the entire experience was, but also realizing he was good enough to be there.

“When I’m sitting back and watching that, I’m thinking ‘I was in that? Geez, they sound great and I was a part of that?’” he said. “It was like an out-of-body experience.”



Clay Beard, a former U.S. Army bugler and member of the West Point Band for over 28 years, also performs with the Hagerstown Municipal Band. He retired from the Army at the rank of Sergeant Major in 2011.

Photo courtesy Clay Beard

USAMMDA Hosts Army Hospital Center Conversion Summit

From Combat Support Hospitals to the Hospital Center configuration

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity held its 2020 Army Hospital Center Conversion Summit at Fort Detrick, Maryland, January 21. Nearly 200 attendees gathered in the post's community auditorium to participate in a wide variety of discussion topics focused on the requirements, equipment, personnel and logistical aspects surrounding the ongoing conversion of Army Combat Support Hospitals to Hospital Centers, both within and outside of the United States.

Army Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick, welcomed the participants and provided the opening remarks for the day's events.

"I really appreciate everyone coming out to continue the great partnership that we have here with Army Medicine," said Talley. ... "It's very important that we get together like this, as a community."

"I would ask that you take this one-day conference, and roll up your sleeves," he said later. "Let's be productive and let's be constructive, but more importantly, let's think about how we can ensure that we're able to save lives on the battlefield."

During his speech, the commanding general reviewed the priorities of the summit, along with the Army's initiatives and challenges with regard to its battlefield Role-of-Care medical program. As he wrapped up his welcome, Talley emphasized the positive results that can come from confronting challenges.

"Lessons learned, lots of lessons learned, collaboratively — where we can all come back together and drive change, to get the best solutions — that's what this day is all about," he said.

Immediately following this, Army Col. Gina E. Adam, commander of USAMMDA, introduced the project management teams and conference participants, and provided a brief overview of the focus and agenda for the summit.

"As General Talley mentioned, the organizational change from the Combat Support Hospital to the Hospital Center has been a major effort for all of us," said Adam. "But as usual with change, not everything has gone perfectly. So, with that, today is about coming together to continue to improve upon our conversion effort and our capabilities for the Warfighter."

"I know this meeting has really been successful in the



Nearly 200 attendees from across the Army gathered at Fort Detrick, Maryland, for the 2020 Army Hospital Center Conversion Summit hosted by the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity, January 21. Discussion topics were focused on the ongoing conversion of Army Combat Support Hospitals to Hospital Centers, both within and outside of the United States.

Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

past," she added. "So, I hope this is going to be a mutually beneficial day — to learn the status of where we are, where we're going with this initiative, and how we can better assist you with getting the items that you need."

Coordinated by USAMMDA's Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems Project Management Office, the day-long meeting featured speakers from across the Army, including the Medical Capability Development & Integration Directorate, Fielded Force & Integration Directorate, and USAMMDA's Warfighter Health, Performance and Evacuation PMO, as well as senior leaders from the Army's 531st Hospital Center, 131st Field Hospital, and Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, Regional Training Site.

Near the end of the morning session, the audience was given a demonstration of the Army Medical Command's Hospital Center AutoDISE Toolbox. AutoDISE is a state-of-the-art software program created specifically to assist in the design and layout of the new Hospital Center configuration as well as predict power and fuel consumption. As an upgrade over the legacy Combat Support Hospital design, this new tool allows Army units to construct a visual footprint of the proposed Hospital Center, taking into account the square footage and topography of the allotted space. Users plot the specific information into the software program to see what the structure will look like in final form.

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Army Maj. Janessa Moyer, WDMS PMO Medical Modernization product manager, is tasked with oversight of the Hospital Center conversion program, which began in 2016. Moyer said the project is now more than 50 percent complete, and should be finalized in 2022.

“The Hospital Center Conversion summit is a great forum to bring together all of our stakeholders across the enterprise, to discuss some of the lessons learned and best practices, with regard to employment of the new modular Hospital Center configuration,” said Moyer.

“Our PMO team has been in charge of this conversion project since 2018, while we were under the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency,” she continued. “Now that we’ve transitioned under USAMMDA, we are using this event to explain the new organizational structure to our customers.”

Moyer was pleased at the large turnout for the conference, which included two general officers and personnel from the U.S. Army Forces Command, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, U.S. Army Medical Command, and the U.S. Army Health Readiness Center of Excellence, among others.

The summit’s afternoon portion featured three successive panel discussions aimed at providing information on the topics of Army Class VIII equipment, Class VII equipment, and Personnel and Organizational Structure. These sessions produced a lively exchange of information between the audience and panel members, with valuable insight coming from both groups.

“For the panel sessions, we were pleased to have key stakeholders from the operational side with us to discuss issues, challenges, best practices and lessons learned,” said Moyer. “These include commanders of Hospital Center entities who have performed numerous exercises with their units, so they were able to provide unique insight regarding the various discussion topics.”

“Our planning team researched many of the common concerns prior to the summit, so we could identify specific stakeholders who have experienced some of the challenges and constraints with the design, and we asked them to participate in the panel discussions to help address these issues,” she added.

Moyer went on to commend the entire conference planning team for its dedication and efforts to ensure a successful meeting this year.

“Our Medical Modernization team worked hard to make sure the commanders are confident in their organizational structure, and that the key issues they face are highlighted up to every partner who may have a hand in correcting or improving the system, for the evolution of future contingency issues,” she said.

Moyer confirmed the summit will continue to be held annually, for stakeholder collaboration and discussion, as the remaining number of Army Hospital Centers are converted as planned. She continued by saying this type of forum provides a great platform for making proper adjustments to the system, as everyone is able to work together openly to determine the best course of action going forward.



Members of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity’s Warfighter Deployed Medical Systems Project Management Office and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command worked together to coordinate the 2020 Army Hospital Center Conversion Summit held at Fort Detrick, Maryland, January 21, 2020. From left to right: Army Capt. Scott Wynocker, Marie Cochran, Sage Norton, Stephen Matthews, Army Col. Gina E. Adam, USAMMDA commander, Rene Smith, Lindsay Longobardi, Michelle Ehlert, Army Maj. Janessa Moyer, Timothy Hales, and Juston Donadieu.

Photo by Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

Employee Spotlight

The Fort Detrick Directorate of Operations, Emergency Services Division recently celebrated the promotion of several employees. Join us in recognizing and thanking them for their achievements and for their commitment to Fort Detrick, the U.S. Army and our Nation . Courtesy Photos



Brendan Beaton was promoted from Firefighter/ EMT to Lieutenant on Jan. 19, 2020. Beaton has been a Firefighter for 28 years and part of the Fort Detrick team for 9.5 years. Lieutenant Beaton also volunteers United Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 3 in Frederick County serving as the Assistant Chief of Operations.



Joe Hatcher was promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on Jan. 19, 2020. Hatcher has been a Firefighter for four years and part of the Fort Detrick team for 13 years. Hatcher recently retired as a 1st Sgt. with the Maryland National Guard and actively serves as a Lieutenant with the Back Creek Valley Volunteer Fire Department in Ganotown, West Virginia.



Jeffrey S. Miller Sr. was promoted from Captain to Supervisory Captain on Oct. 13, 2019. Miller has been a Firefighter for 21 years and part of the Fort Detrick team for 11 years. Miller enjoys spending time with his four children during his time off.

Employee Spotlight

The Fort Detrick Directorate of Operations, Emergency Services Division recently celebrated the promotion of several employees. Join us in recognizing and thanking them for their achievements and for their commitment to Fort Detrick, the U.S. Army and our Nation . Courtesy Photos



Richard Ennis was promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on Jan. 5, 2020. Ennis has been a Firefighter and with Fort Detrick for 13 years.



Marquis Beavers was promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on Jan. 5, 2020. Beavers has been a Firefighter for 13 years and with Fort Detrick for 11 years. Beavers also serves as Treasurer for the local union.



Matt Spencer was promoted from Firefighter to Fire Inspector on Nov. 10, 2019. Spencer has been a Firefighter for 15 years and part of the Fort Detrick team for four and a half years. Prior to coming to Fort Detrick, Spencer served with the Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the NIH Fire Departments.



Brandon Martin was promoted from Captain to Station Captain on Oct. 13, 2019. Martin has been a Firefighter for 19 years and part of the Fort Detrick team for 10 years. Martin also served in the U.S. Airforce for four years.

AMC, IMCOM want to make every installation "Number One Choice"

By Joshua Ford, IMCOM

When U.S. Army Installation Management Command became a subordinate command to U.S. Army Materiel Command in March 2019, AMC nearly doubled its size, bringing in more than 75 installations and growing its workforce to more than 190,000 Soldiers and Civilians. This expanded the four-star command's mission focus to include delivering critical base support and quality of life services that enable readiness on Army installations around the globe.

Nearly one year after this merger, Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, visited San Antonio for his third quarterly update with IMCOM leadership at IMCOM Headquarters, here, Feb. 18. All the topics discussed pointed at making all Army installations a place every Soldier and Family would want to live and work.

"It's our job to determine what it's going to take to make every installation a Soldier's and Family's number one choice," said Perna during the update. "If we operationalize this as our mindset, it will be the key that keeps our Soldiers in our Army. We need to lead this change."

Since the last quarterly update in November, IMCOM has continued to improve quality of life for Soldiers and Families in four priority areas: housing, child care, PCS moves, and spouse employment.

IMCOM and AMC are also leading the integration and development of an Army wide facilities investment strategy that focuses on quality of life through 2030, applies funding to installations in support of modernization, and aligns responsibility, authority and resources to execute Army priorities. The strategy will fix all barracks (permanent party, training and transient training), child development and youth centers on all installations, and improve power projection at seven locations.

"We're setting new standards in execution with these initiatives. It's about innovation and expanding the realm of possibilities," said Perna.

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram, who took command of IMCOM in January, told Perna and the other assembled leaders that IMCOM is doing these things to rebuild trust. He went on to add that "IMCOM is working these problems hard now in order to move us out of the tactical quicksand and into deep operations where we can really make positive strategic impacts that will sustain the trust we are rebuilding now."

In full agreement, Perna added "garrison commanders need to focus on the things that will gain trust with our customers."

Gabram emphasized to the group the "power of the patch." This refers to the AMC patch, symbolizing the 190,000 teammates across the globe all working together to solve Army problems. IMCOM and other commands within AMC are driving to the same end state, where every installation has the infrastructure, services, quality of life, training areas and power projection capabilities to make it a Soldier and their Family's number one choice to live.

"This is new muscle memory, and if we get it right, we can do anything," Perna said regarding the work IMCOM is doing to improve quality of life for Soldiers and Families. "Press!"



General Gus Perna (center), commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, receives his second-quarterly update from U.S. Army Installation Management Command and Lt. Gen Douglas Gabram (left of Perna), commanding general, IMCOM, Feb. 18 at IMCOM Headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. The theme of the guidance given included improving the quality of life for Soldiers and Families at every Army installation. "It's our job to determine what it's going to take to make every installation a Soldier's and Family's number one choice," said Perna during the update. "If we operationalize this as our mindset, it will be the key that keeps our Soldiers in our Army. We need to lead this change."

Photo credit: Joshua Ford, IMCOM

Army Emergency Relief Begins Annual Fundraising Campaign – “A Hand Up for Soldiers”



Army Emergency Relief will kick off their 2020 campaign with a focus on offering “A Hand Up for Soldiers.” The campaign runs from March 1 through May 15 with the goal of creating greater awareness of AER’s programs as well as providing Soldiers the opportunity to donate to their fellow Soldiers. Fort Detrick will have a local kickoff run in conjunction with the Sexual Harassment Assault Response Prevention program on March 26 at 6:30 am at the Blue and Gray Field.

“The assistance we provide Soldiers in need is the primary focus of the Army’s Annual AER Campaign, as well as ensuring that 100 percent of Soldiers are fully informed on the programs and benefits of AER.” said AER’s Director, retired Army Lt. Gen. Raymond Mason. “AER’s zero-interest loans and grants help Soldiers when they face difficult financial situations remain focused on their mission. I encourage every Soldier to be part of the Army’s Legacy of Caring and offer your Battle Buddy ‘A Hand Up’!”

Army Emergency Relief is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families. Since it was founded in 1942, AER has provided assistance to more than 4 million Active and

Retired Soldiers and their Families. Last year AER provided \$70 million in assistance to 40,000 Soldiers and their Families. That includes more than \$10 million in full Grants to Soldiers and \$9 million in scholarship grants to Spouses and dependents. Additional donation information is available at: <https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org/donate/>.

Soldiers, Active or Retired, in need of AER assistance can contact their unit Chain of Command, contact the Fort Detrick AER office at (301) 619-3455, or contact one of their partner organizations. AER has reciprocal agreements in place with the other military aid societies. This allows Soldiers to apply for AER assistance at any Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard installation with a military aid office. The American Red Cross call center (877) 272-7337 can also help Soldiers apply for AER assistance if no transportation is available, or if there is no convenient military installation. Additional program information is available at: <https://www.armyemergencyrelief.org>.

Access to Fort Detrick Gets Easier With Survivor Access Card

By Liz Dague, Army Community Services

After mounting frustration by surviving family members regarding access to certain Army installations, the Army decided to make a change.

As a result of a complaint lodged through the Army Family Action Plan, the Army has decided to introduce the “Survivor Access Card” in an effort to make entrance to installations easier for survivors of those who died while serving our Nation.

The new policy applies to all garrisons with either an Army Community Service or a Survivor Outreach Services Office that is currently inaccessible to surviving family members who don’t have a proper

DOD identification card. The SOS Coordinator in the Defense Casualty Information Processing System will verify survivors for eligibility. Eligible surviving family members who meet the criteria to receive the Gold Star lapel button or next of kin lapel button, including widow/widower, parent, child, step-child, child through adoption, brother, half-brother, sister and half-sister can obtain the Survivor Access Badge.

“The Survivor Outreach Services Program is designed to support surviving family members who have lost their loved ones, are often in a state of shock, and don’t know where to turn,” said Liz Dague, Fort Detrick Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator. “We don’t want them to experience additional frustration just trying to get on post.”

Continued on page 16

The Survivor Access Card does not provide any additional benefits or entitlements not already authorized to the surviving family members and is not eligible for use under the Trusted Traveler Program.

In short, the card creates simpler, quicker access to Post for surviving family members who do not currently have a DOD identification card. Surviving family members who already have a military identification card granting installation access –such as a DD form 1173 or Common Access Card– are not eligible to receive a “Survivor Access Card.”

“We need to be the rock for our survivors and support them in any way we can,” said Dague. “This includes seamless entry to Fort Detrick. If we make getting on to the installation easier for them, the whole experience will be better.”

To assist with workforce education regarding the change, Dague personally trained Fort Detrick gate guards and first responders on Post on how to spot the new cards.

Said Dague, “I work with a lot of families and I needed everyone who provides that first face-to-face interaction with our families to know what the badge looks like, understand what it represents, and treat the survivor with the dignity and respect they deserve.”

The Fort Detrick SOS Support Program cares for approximately 215 survivors in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

In early February, a letter was mailed to all survivors notifying them of their eligibility and encouraging registration for the “Survivor Access Card.” Survivor Outreach Service car decals are also available through the SOS Coordinator which authorizes the user to park in designated spaces throughout the installation.

The SOS Coordinator will work closely with surviving family members requesting the badge, including verifying eligibility, assisting with the completion of vetting forms, and providing SOS parking decals. For more information, please contact Ms. Elizabeth Dague, Fort Detrick Survivor Outreach Service Coordinator, at (301) 619-6364.

The Army’s Survivor Outreach Services program provides dedicated and comprehensive support services to eligible Gold Star and next of kin family members. The SOS program has a network of civilians serving as advocates for survivors.

Please visit your local garrison’s Survivor Outreach Services survey to let us know how we can serve you better by visiting: https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=card&sp=143814&s=438&dep=*DoD

What's Cooking with BOSS?



10 members of the Fort Detrick Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program trade in their ACUs for aprons for a night at the Kitchen Studio Cooking School in Frederick, Maryland on Feb. 24, 2020 for an Asian Fusion themed cooking class. Soldiers were taught kitchen and knife safety as well as how to cook two appetizers, two main dishes, a side dish and dessert.

Photos courtesy of BOSS



Fort Detrick

STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Aniyah Henry-Rivers, a fourth grader on the Fort Detrick Diamondbacks 3rd - 4th grade girls basketball team, is one of the top scorers in the Fort Detrick Youth Sports Program. Aniyah serves as a team captain, once scored 25 points in a game, and further plays a major leadership role both on-and-off the court. She shares her love of basketball by working with younger players to offer guidance and additionally assists in skill development. Despite being an elementary school student, Aniyah has participated in volunteer opportunities with older children on middle school teams, and continues to maintain good grades. She is highly respected by her peers. Aniyah continues to serve as a great representative of our Garrison throughout Frederick County, and will continue to represent Fort Detrick in the spring as she prepares for another season on the basketball court. Let's make sure to congratulate Aniyah for being the Student Athlete of the Month for February 2020, and encourage her to keep up the great work!

Courtesy Photo

CYBERSECURITY: Protecting Internal Communications

By Charles Collins, Fort Detrick Network Enterprise Center

A cybersecurity inspection effort is coming to Fort Detrick in July. In preparation for this inspection, please review all current protocols and procedures implemented to protect internal communication on the Installation. We must work together as team to protect internal communication at Fort Detrick.

According to the U.S. Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER), Soldiers, civilians, and contractors are the first line of defense in these efforts, with each assuming a vital role in ensuring Mission accomplishment. ARCYBER further encourages every employee to remember that they are individually responsible for keeping both Soldiers and systems safe, and that they are additionally accountable for everything they do in cyberspace.

"Be sure to practice these procedures every day," says ARCYBER messaging, "not just as we prepare for an inspection."

ARCYBER encourages the following best practices:

- Never leave your Common Access Card (CAC) in your computer if you are out of the line-of-sight of your computer.
- Do not open suspicious emails, as they may contain viruses or other malware that could cause harm to your computer and/or network.
- Do not share passwords or PIN numbers with other people.
- Do not share sensitive or classified information over an unsecured or unclassified network.

Cyberspace operations are critical to our Nation and the Army's Mission and success. Cybersecurity is a 24/7 responsibility. By dedicating ourselves to increased online security, we help stay Army Strong.



Public Notice

Proposed Demolition of Building 190, Fort Detrick Boiler Plant U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick Frederick, Maryland

All Interested Parties: The U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick (Fort Detrick) is proposing to demolish the Boiler Plant, Building 190 at Fort Detrick located in Frederick, Maryland, and is reviewing this action in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Boiler Plant was constructed in 1952 and is eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP). It is understood by Ft. Detrick that the demolition of the Boiler Plant is an "adverse effect" to a historic property; however, no other potential reuse of the building is viable.

Currently, the structural integrity of the building is failing. Using the building as a centralized steam plant is economically unfeasible and inefficient which results in excess air emissions to the detriment of the environment. Fort Detrick has examined whether the building could be adaptively reused for other purposes, and it was determined that the building was unsuitable for any other function that supports the mission of the military. The Boiler Plant was permanently closed August 25, 2018. Once the building has been demolished, the area will be converted into green space to meet Maryland's Department of Environment compliance requirements for necessary storm water management and water quality credits.

To mitigate the loss of the historic property, Fort Detrick is working with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (MDSHPO) to determine what mitigation actions would be appropriate. The mitigations agreed to will be recorded in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that the Fort Detrick Garrison Commander and the (MDSHPO) shall sign.

This Public Notice is being sent out to organizations and individuals that could have an interest in consulting on this undertaking. Please submit comments and/or questions within 30 days of the date of this notice to: Joseph Gortva by phone at 301-619-3196 or by email at joseph.j.gortva.civ@mail.mil.

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/>.

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USAG- DETRICK NETCALL

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am Colonel Dexter Nunnally, Fort Detrick Garrison Commander. I will periodically post NETCALLs to inform you of important, time sensitive matters within our community, I ask your assistance in communicating the information to neighbors and friends. My sixth NETCALL follows.

Garrison Commander NETCALL#6

Subject: DFMWR Changes Starting April 1, 2020

In an effort to reduce the Directorate of Family Morale Welfare and Recreation operating deficit, several changes will become effective April 1, 2020:

- DFMWR will no longer have a food program. This means Café Too in building 1520 will close and catering will end. The CAC is still available for rental and outside food options are now permitted.
- The fitness centers at Fort Detrick and Forest Glen Annex will see a reduction in manned hours. Employees can now register their CAC and have access 24/7. The policy will be updated and all authorized patrons/sponsors may bring in their dependents or, one non-DOD guest per visit.
- RV storage and equipment rental fees will increase. By regulation we need to be within 25% of like services offered in the local community. Even with this increase we remain the best cost option for Detrick Soldiers, families, civilians and retirees.
- We will begin to charge Indoor pool fees after Labor Day, similar to the outdoor pool. Lap swim remains free for AD military during PT hours (0630-0800 and 1130-1300).
- I appreciate everyone's understanding and continued support of DFMWR during this necessary transition. In an effort to remain transparent a question and answer session will occur on March 6 in the auditorium at 11 a.m.



February 3, 2020

Join Col. Nunnally for a Question and Answer Session regarding the FMWR Changes on March 6, 2020 in the Fort Detrick Auditorium at 11 a.m. To submit your questions ahead of time, please email the Public Affairs Office at usarmy.detrick.usag.mbx.pao@mail.mil.