

Soldier Uses Army Values to Mentor Young Football Players

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Football coach Gary Freeman Jr. was running late for practice one day and showed up wearing his Army uniform.

That's when Freeman said it truly sank in for his players that he not only serves his community as a volunteer coach, but also his country as a Soldier.

"My players do have questions about the Army when they see me in uniform," Freeman said, who is a major. "I believe I am able to put a positive light on how the Army can be a mechanism to both serve your country and support your family and their activities."

Freeman, a Virginia native and former outside linebacker in his collegiate days at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia took on the "coach" title when he was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

His sons -- Jayden, 12, and Tysen, 8 -- started out playing flag football, soccer and other sports through their local YMCA. That's when the call went out for volunteer coaches.

Freeman answered that call and then kept with it when he reported to Fort Detrick, Maryland where he serves as deputy chief of staff for Plans, Programming, Analysis and Evaluation at Army Medical Logistics Command.

Freeman volunteers with the Glade Valley Athletic Association in Walkersville, Maryland which offers 11 organized sports for kids from kindergarten through eighth grade.

Freeman said he's enjoyed getting to know the athletes and their families, while watching the youngsters grow and improve on the field. He said he has also used the opportunity to share his Army story.

Discipline, hard work and sacrifice have been central parts of Freeman's message to his players.

As a Soldier, he lives by those values, including last year when he



Maj. Gary Freeman Jr., who serves as a volunteer coach for a local youth football team, is pictured at Army Medical Logistics Command headquarters at Fort Detrick, Maryland on Jan. 10, 2020.

Photo by Ellen Crown, Army Medical Logistics Command

left for nine weeks in support of a military exercise. In his time away, Freeman missed his sons' first few practices and a handful of games.

"Before I left, I explained to them the sacrifices I had to make by being in the military," he said. "I think they understand that ... And I think that you can tell when you're starting to wear on them positively and they understand and appreciate it."

Ryon Mazzocco, head coach of his sons' team and a family friend, said it was a "wow" moment for the kids when they began seeing him as more than just a football coach.

"A lot of the kids did know he was in the Army from his talks," Mazzocco said, "but I don't think they fully realized it until he was running late and had to show up in his uniform, which I thought was great.

"Many of them did thank him for his service, including us coaches."

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Fort Detrick Housing Update

By Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

A year-and-a-half has passed since efforts began to improve housing both here at Fort Detrick and across the wider Army overall. We continue to make progress on a number of fronts.

During a Housing Summit from Jan. 14-16 at Army Materiel Command headquarters in Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, Gen. Gus Perna, AMC Commander, assured attendees that improving housing conditions continued to be a top priority for both himself and Army leadership. It continues to be a priority for leadership at Fort Detrick as well.

"We are absolutely committed to provide safe and secure housing on every installation and making every installation an installation of choice for our Soldiers and families" said Perna. "The summit is another step in our commitment to hold ourselves and privatized housing companies accountable to provide a high-quality standard of living and to earn back the trust of our housing residents."

Since our last housing update article in Sept. 2019, we have continued to address issues with our partners at Balfour Beatty Communities. In December 2019, Garrison Commander Col. Dexter Nunnally sent a letter to BBC leadership highlighting four continuing concerns from housing residents: work order processing, maintenance inspections between occupancy periods, pest control, and preventative maintenance. In response, and following a meeting with two senior BBC executives, a plan has been developed to address ongoing concerns.

Further, Nunnally also met with Montgomery County (MD) Executive Marc Elrich in December 2019 to discuss military housing in his county and overall residential concerns. As a result, Elrich is developing a series of actionable items in order to assist us.

Fort Detrick leadership continues to address resident dissatisfaction from Glen Haven in Silver Spring, Maryland, during weekly conference calls with BBC.

Notably, and as a result of the aforementioned meetings, the following efforts have been implemented:

 BBC is addressing understaffing issues at Glen Haven Apartments, and is currently in the process of hiring additional, licensed technicians. They are further training staff on policies and customer service expectations. Once

- fully staffed, BBC expects to see improvements on work order submissions that include pest control and preventative maintenance.
- Recently, BBC entered into a contract with Valet Living
 Doorstep trash pickup services, which will provide trash
 removal to all apartment residents from Sunday Thursday.
 All trash placed inside approved waste containers will be disposed of by Valet Living Doorstep during these times.
- Through a Courtesy Officers Program, police officers with Montgomery County are now living in Glen Haven Apartments and performing duties to deter crime.
- Resident stickers for automobiles are now available to identify which vehicles are owned by residents and which are not. This idea was implemented following a resident suggestion.
- Rodent pest control can now be marked as urgent when submitting work orders. Pest control companies will add to their service agreements the term "emergency response" to work orders and will respond within 24 hours. Buildings are currently being treated for pests on a rotational schedule and units are treated after a tenant moves out.
- With regards to clarifying communication methods, BBC is working on translation services for Spanish-speaking residents for all announcements and general resident information.
- BBC will be sending out a monthly reminder about recent changes in the work order process to residents.
- At both Fort Detrick and Glen Haven, residents will soon be able to learn the maintenance history of large appliances like heating and air conditioning units and water heaters by scanning bar codes that will be placed on the units themselves.

Fort Detrick continues to make progress by providing open lines of communication with both residents and BBC, and is further committed to making ongoing structural and service improvements to provide safe and secure housing for those living at Fort Detrick and Glen Haven.

The next town hall at Fort Detrick is scheduled for Feb. 10. The next town hall event at Glen Haven is scheduled for Feb. 12. This is a team effort, and hearing from residents about concerns and issues while living in Army housing is vital to making lasting change. Thank you for your patience, support, and feedback.

Free Income Tax Assistance for Military Personnel and Families

By Brett C. Conyers, Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Attorney

The Fort Detrick Tax Center opened in Building 521 on Monday, January 27 and will remain open until April 15 to assist active and retired members of the armed forces, including mobilized reservists and their families, with filing both federal and state income tax returns. However, the scope of services is limited to those tax subjects most commonly encountered by low- to moderate-income taxpayers.

The Tax Center is an IRS-designated Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site managed by the Consolidated Legal Office with the support of commanders as a personal readiness and quality-of-life program. Commanders have detailed three Soldiers to the CLO to staff the Tax Center on a full-time basis. An experienced civilian volunteer will be part of the team as well. If you are interested in volunteering, contact the Army Community Service at (301) 619-3171.



Eligible taxpayers must bring a completed IRS-required questionnaire (IRS Form 13614-C, In-take/Interview Sheet), a military identification card for the sponsor and spouse, and a social security card (or photocopy) for each person named on the return to receive assistance. To download the IRS Form 13614-C, In-take/Interview Sheet as well as view other helpful information designed to make your visit a one-stop success, visit our webpage at https://home.army.mil/detrick/index.php/my-fort/all-services/legal-assistance-office and click on the Tax Assistance Center Tab.

If you have not visited a military tax center before, here are some reasons to do so. First, services are free. We estimate we saved the average Tax Center client more than \$450 in commercial fees last season. Second, you receive quality assistance.

The IRS limits the scope of services in the Tax Center. This year assistance may be further limited due to a reduction in the number of Soldiers detailed to the Tax Center. Assistance with a subject that exceeds the training and certification level of preparers may be given by appointment with the attorney in the Fort Detrick Legal Assistance Office.

There are "bright-line" limitations that, if any apply, means your assistance exceeds the scope of both the VITA program *and* the Army's Legal Assistance Program. Clients who are otherwise eligible must seek assistance from a paid preparer if:

- You have a home business (other than a childcare provider enrolled under the Child and Youth Services Program) and
 your gross income exceeds \$10,000 or you intend to deduct expenses for the business use of your home or your costs
 exceed \$10,000.
- You have more than two rental properties or just one rental property that was purchased for the purpose of earning income.
- You have more than 10 stock trades without a broker.
- You qualify for the foreign earned income exclusion.

The Tax Center is located in the CLO, 521 Fraim Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland. To receive assistance call (301) 619-1040 and make an appointment 9—12 a.m. and 1—4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday and 1—4 p.m. on Thursdays. If you have any questions, you may also contact the Legal Assistance Office at (301) 619-2221.

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram assumes command of IMCOM

By 121Brittany Nelson, IMCOM Public Affairs

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram assumed command of U.S. Army Installation Management Command Jan. 22 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general of Army Materiel Command, promoted Gabram in a private ceremony prior to the assumption of command.

Gabram assumed command from Maj. Gen. Timothy McGuire who has served as acting commanding general since August 2019.

Perna thanked McGuire for his work as interim commander. McGuire will now return to his role as Deputy Commanding General of IMCOM.

"Maj. Gen. McGuire, your leadership belongs in a book as an example for all of us," said Perna. "Over the past five months you have demonstrated personal, moral and physical courage. You are a remarkable leader and it is my honor to serve with you every day."

Perna went on to describe his confidence in Gabram as IMCOM's next CG.

"Lt. Gen. Gabram is a great Army leader, and IMCOM is a great Army team," said Perna. "I feel confident that general Gabram will take IMCOM's work to the next level. My one-word piece of advice to him during the passing of the colors was 'press'."

Perna pointed out the Chief of Staff of the Army's number one priority is people. "The chief believes that if we take care of Soldiers, Families and Civilians, our Army will remain strong for the long term. IMCOM is the quarterback of that solution."

Perna continued, "In his new role, Gabram will lead the organization responsible for the safety, care and morale of over 1 million Soldiers and their Families. This is one of the Army's most sacred responsibilities."

Speaking directly to the IMCOM workforce, Perna stated. "You are the unsung heroes of our Army. Because of you, our Families feel protected and safe as their loved ones deploy to war. Thank you for your professionalism and selfless service."

During Gabram's opportunity to speak, he mentioned the importance of success at home and down range.

"I have been privileged to lead Soldiers in combat many times," said Gabram. "I know that if we fail to get it right at



Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram (left) assumes command of the Installation Management Command Jan. 22 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. (Photo Credit: Ms. Brittany Nelson (IMCOM)

our installations, we could get it wrong in combat, and this will not happen."

He also mentioned he is prepared to take command and support all the command does to help the Army.

"I look forward to taking on our mission of serving and supporting Soldiers, Civilians and Families and strengthening the readiness of our Army," said Gabram.

Before assuming command, Gabram was the director for Test at the Missile Defense Agency at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. He was responsible for planning, programming, budgeting, staffing and managing a comprehensive Ballistic Missile Defense System test program to field an integrated and effective capability to the Warfighter.

Before that he served as the commanding general for U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command.

As part of the Army Installation Management Reform Initiative, in January 2019 the Secretary of the Army made the decision to realign IMCOM to Army Materiel Command as a Major Subordinate Command with an effective date of March 1, 2019. This move improves how the Army integrates and delivers base support, services and facilities to enhance readiness and the well-being of Soldiers, Families and Civilians.

Army Medical Logistics Leader Delivers Joy During Holidays

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Nearly a year ago, Todd Bishop pulled into his garage and tears of joy welled up in his eyes.

Dressed in a red Santa Claus suit trimmed with silver fur and gold brocade fabric, Bishop had just returned from his neighbor's house where he surprised a couple of children with gifts and holiday cheer.

"Those kids were just jumping out of their skin," said Bishop, a retired Army officer who now serves as the director of the Business Support Office at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency. "It just brought so much joy."

That was the moment that Bishop realized he would become "Santa Todd" each year.

"Seeing how much joy Santa brought that family brought so much joy to me," he said. "Everything about that experience was joy. That really resonated with me."

Bishop's path to the role as Santa was unexpected. In April 2018, he started growing out his salt-and-pepper beard. Bishop said his wife, Michelle liked it so he continued to grow it out.

Little did he know that a trip back to South Carolina later that year for a gathering at his alma mater, The Citadel, would lead to a "life-changing" event. It was there Bishop ran into an old classmate, Max Kuhns, or "Santa Max," who has been playing the iconic Christmas character for years.

"And his wife, Mindie, who I had just met, her first question to me was: 'Have you ever played Santa before?'"

The question caught him off guard.

"I was like, 'no, playing Santa has never even been on my radar,'" Bishop said. "Her very next statement to me was: 'I'm making you a suit."

And to Bishop's surprise, she did create a beautiful custom suit that he now wears proudly as he donates his time to various charities, including Gold in Fight, a foundation dedicated to serving families in need due to hardships caused by pediatric cancer.

"I could tell his excitement right away," said Mikel Griffith, founder and president of Gold in Fight. "In the world we live today, it's nice to know there are people who want to help and give back. ... We're so appreciative of that."

Bishop does not charge money or collect donations. Instead, he is focused on donating his time to good causes.

This year, he is booked for several breakfast and dinner with Santa events, as well as a bowling with Santa event supporting the Fort Meade Exceptional Family Member program. He also donated his time to the U.S. Marine Corps program Toys for Tots.

Then, on the final weekend before Christmas, Bishop said he plans to participate when Gold in Fight delivers presents to the homes of the families they are supporting.

"Just the thought of seeing the joy that we will bring to these kids who are struggling with cancer ... it actually chokes me up just thinking about it," he said.

Bishop, who has kept his focus on fitness from his Army days, describes his version of Santa as a "more modern" twist on the traditional St. Nicholas – no big round belly or "ho, ho, ho" exclamations.

The beard, however, is still 100% real. He recalls the first child he interacted with actually tested his "beard authenticity."

"She asked, 'is that real?" Bishop laughed. "I just leaned down and she pulled on it."

With a great big smile she exclaimed, "It is real!"



"Santa Todd" and his wife, Michelle, are pictured with Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan. Photo courtesy Todd Bishop

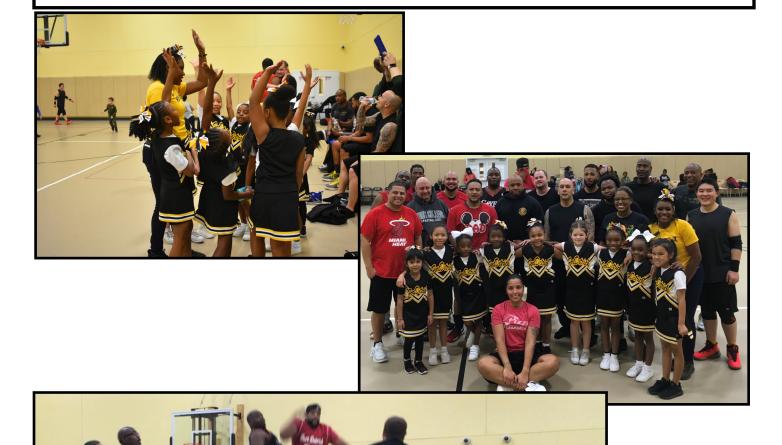
Kids Cheer on Parents and Coaches during Game

By Shanise Swanson, FMWR CYS Sports & Fitness Director

Fort Detrick Youth Sports hosted its seasonal Parent/Coach game January 17 in the Youth Center gym. The parents and coaches played while the children in the program cheered them on. The game, held every season, allows parents an opportunity to bond with the coaches and gain insight on the sport their children play. Parents and coaches collectively mentor and lead the children in the sports program making this event a highlight for all who participate. The game consisted of two-20 minute halves and a halftime performance by the Detrick Divas, the post cheerleaders. This year the red team came out on top with wins in both games.



Photos by Gabriel Maher the CYS Fitness Specialist



Fort Detrick STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Fort Detrick Student of the Month: Elijah Steele

Elijah Steele is an excelling student athlete who is currently playing basketball for the Fort Detrick 7th/8th grade basketball team. Elijah attends both practice and MWR CYS sports study hall regularly to ensure he excels in both sports and school.

Elijah has maintained straight A's since the 3rd grade and is currently an Accelerated Honors student at Monocacy Middle School. Elijah has participated in the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's Gaines In the Education of Mathematics and Science program for 3 years. His most recent academic accomplishment was being selected to participate in the National Youth Leadership Forum, "Explore STEM", based upon academic achievement, demonstrated leadership ability, and interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. Elijah has played a major role on the 7th/8th grade boys team by showing leadership and good sportsmanship with his high energy all over the court.

Congratulations Elijah and keep up the great work!

Employee Spotlight

Ashley Bush, ASAP drug-testing coordinator admires the coin given to her by Fort Detrick U.S. Army Garrison Commander, Col. Dexter Nunnally as he shakes the hand of acting ASAP Manager, Ms. Sheri Schaefer, recognizing the team for the positive response to Bush's Personal Readiness presentation on Jan. 22, 2020.

The next ASAP Personal Readiness training is scheduled for February 5, at 10 a.m. in the Fort Detrick Auditorium.

Photo by Command Sgt. Maj. Marcos Muñoz, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Detrick



6th Medical Logistics Management Center Hosts Deployment Ceremony

By Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

The 6th Medical Logistics Management Center at Fort Detrick, Maryland hosted a Deployment Ceremony on Jan. 6, in the Fort Detrick Auditorium.

Led by Lt. Col. William Tudor, director, U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center- Southwest Asia, Team 20 of 6MLMC will soon be on the ground in Qatar to provide medical logistics support.

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick commander reassured family members that the team was trained, prepared and needed.

"The 6MLMC is a one of a kind unit, not only in just the Army but the entire Department of Defense," said Talley. "There is no other deployable Medical Logistics Management Center that sets up all of the classic, the medical logistics, from supply to the medical maintenance."

The ceremony included formally changing the shoulder sleeve insignia, also known as the unit patch, for members of Team 20 representing the transition of assignment from 44th Medical Brigade to

the 3rd Medical Command, currently commanded by Col. Richard Bailey.

Since 2002, the 6MLMC has deployed teams into Southwest Asia in support of U.S. Central Command operations. In January of 2003, the USAMMC-SWA was established to execute the Single Integrated Medical Logistics Manager Mission for the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Since that time, USAMMC-SWA has developed into the theater lead agent for medical materiel in support of CENTCOM, and includes a professional team of Army active and reserve Soldiers, Air Force Airmen, contractors, and medical maintenance augmentees from the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency.

With over 300 joint and interagency customers, USAMMC-SWA has directly supported Operations Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Enduring Freedom and continues to support Operation Inherent Resolve, Spartan Shield, Freedom's Sentinel and numerous other named and unnamed operations.



Members of Team 20, 6th Medical Logistics Management Center stand ready as part of a deployment ceremony at Fort Detrick January 6, 2020 as Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick commander provides words of encouragement to family members and those deploying. Team 20 is deploying to Qatar to provide medical logistics.

CHECK: Hand-to-Hand Combat Training Complete

By Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

For a straight week in December, eight soldiers from Fort Detrick met in the 53rd Signal Battalion's combatives room to learn basic grappling techniques (armed and unarmed) and reacting to enemy contact in close quarters as part of the Modern Army Combatives Program Course facilitated by U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases and Alpha Company 53rd.

"The mission statement of the Modern Army Combatives Program is to train leaders and Soldiers in close quarters combatives in order to instill the Warrior Ethos and prepare Soldiers in hand-to-hand combat," said Sgt. Benjamin Joiner, primary instructor for the course.

The Army Combatives Program enhances unit combat readiness by building Soldiers' personal courage, confidence, and resiliency as well as their situational responsiveness to close quarter threats in the operational environment.

According to the Modern Army Combatives website, the MACP started in 1995 with the 2nd Ranger Battalion and has spread around the Army. It has been incorporated into the new TC 3-25.150 and Basic Combatives is one of the Forty Warrior Core Tasks of the Warrior Ethos initiative.

The week ended with a presentation of certificates for completing the 40-hour course.



Soldiers from Fort Detrick hold their certificates of completion for the Modern Army Combatives Course. The 40-hour course prepares Soldiers to defeat the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

Pictured in back row from left to right: Col. Dexter Nunnally, Sgt. 1st Class Jason P. Muncy, Spc. Hypaitia B. Rauch, Spc. Timothy I. Gibson, Sgt. Max A. Montantes, Spc. Jacob E. Hill, Command Sgt. Maj. Marcos Muñoz

Front Row: Primary Instructor Sgt. Benjamin C. Joiner, Spc. Joshua O. Sanders, Spc. Kasonra M. Wallner, Assistant Instructor Spc. Jared M. Crumpler.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Coleman Mallicoat, Alpha Co 53rd

Army, FDA Discuss 3D Printing at Workshop

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

When a medical device breaks down on a U.S. Army unit deployed to a remote part of the world, the closest repair parts could be thousands of miles away.

Even when parts are readily available, the shipping process – sometimes into hostile environments – could take days or even weeks, if it's logistically feasible at all.

As the Army embraces advanced manufacturing in its modernization strategies, medical logisticians are looking to 3D printing as a potential solution to this challenge.

"The medical industry is one of the fastest innovators in the defense industrial base, so the AMLC is used to working with industrial partners constantly pushing the state of the art," said Jack Rosarius, director of Medical Maintenance Management Directorate within the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Agency, a direct reporting unit to Army Medical Logistics Command.

Specifically for medical devices, 3D printing technology – also known as additive manufacturing – may enable the Army to develop repair parts that extend the life cycle of equipment and ensure they are ready for use when and where Soldiers need them.

While the technology offers numerous new uses and potential advantages, it also poses regulatory challenges and warrants safety considerations still under review by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

On Dec. 9, 2019, AMLC hosted a military-specific workshop at Fort Detrick with FDA leaders on the topic to seek guidance on current policies, concept regulations and potential stumbling blocks as it explores manufacturing its own repair parts and other 3D-printed items.

Representatives from Army Materiel Command, the U.S. Air Force and the Defense Health Agency also took part in the discussion.

'Really excited'

USAMMA started piloting additive manufacturing in 2015 in partnership with its equipment program managers. Rosarius said a heightened top-down focus from Army senior leadership has only helped to push the 3D printing movement forward.

"I'm really excited about the opportunities," said USAMMA Commander Col. Timothy D. Walsh, who also serves as deputy commander of AMLC. "It's an exciting time to be a part of Army medicine."

The 3D printing process involves building a threedimensional object using a computer-aided design model by adding material layer by layer, which is why it's called additive manufacturing.



Col. Timothy D. Walsh speaks during a workshop on additive manufacturing hosted by Army Medical Logistics Command at Fort Detrick, Maryland The military-focused workshop on Dec. 9, 2019 was attended by U.S. Food and Drug Administration leaders and other federal agencies. Also pictured is Heather L. Agler, senior program manager for the FDA. (Photo by C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs)

The process differs from conventional machining, casting or forging, in which material is removed from a stock item or poured into a mold and shaped to form a product.

Through 3D printing, medical devices can be produced using a range of media, including metals, plastics, hydrogels or even biological materials. Most printing systems do this by dividing or slicing a digital design file in two-dimensional layers, then building each layer on top of the previous layer.

According to the FDA, medical companies began embracing additive manufacturing to create devices that were previously impossible to make, personalized to the patient or both.

'Gray areas'

While the technology has unlocked new production possibilities, it also has prompted the FDA to explore conceptual regulations to safeguard patients and institute performance requirements.

"The FDA is very focused on what the risk is and how to mitigate it" with 3D-printed medical products, said Matthew A. Di Prima, materials engineer for the agency.

Heather L. Agler, a senior program manager for the FDA, said the technology has created new "gray areas," specifically when it comes to military production and uses.

Patient safety, however, remains the overarching issue under consideration by federal regulators.

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Army's commitment

During the workshop, AMLC officials gave an overview of the Army's Advanced Manufacturing Directive and briefed the FDA on efforts to date.

USAMMA has made successful use of 3D printing to produce some obsolete repair parts already, like an impeller for a medical sink or a locking pin for a vaporizer used on an anesthesia machine.

Many more are in various stages of development or design.

"The Advanced Manufacturing Directive demonstrates the Army's commitment to getting this right, so we're positioned for multi-domain operations and large-scale combat operations," Rosarius said. "The medical

maintenance community is excited about expanding the ways we can support patient care downrange."

Di Prima highlighted different additive manufacturing usecases, in addition to current agency policy considerations for manufacturers.

The group also worked through different Army-specific scenarios to identify possible snags for ongoing or future efforts, as well as several action items for further discussion.

"We're happy to participate," Agler said. "The military is always thinking forward. It's good to be able to learn ... and very important that we continue to work together to make sure you have the right things available when they are needed."

Lt. Col. Sandi K. Parriott Reaches Pinnacle of Army Excellence

By Jeffrey Soares, USAMMDA Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity has announced that Army Lt. Col. Sandi K. Parriott has received the U.S. Army Medical Department's 9A Proficiency Designator, which recognizes "the highest level of professional achievement within each AMEDD Corps' specialty." Parriott is a member of the Army Veterinary Corps and earned her proficiency certificate in the dual areas of Veterinary Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Preventative Medicine.

Joining the USAMMDA team earlier this year, Parriott arrived from the 30th Medical Brigade in Germany where she served as director, Force Health Protection, and



command veterinarian. She currently serves as director for USAMMDA's Force Health Protection Division, which is tasked with providing an urgent treatment, diagnostic or prophylactic capability against high consequence threats in accordance with federal regulations and Department of Defense instructions.

This new assignment marks Parriott's return to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, as she served at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research early in her military career.

"I started out as a vet in private practice for 10 years before I joined the Army," Parriott explained. "After I received my doctorate in parasitology, I went to WRAIR as the division veterinarian for experimental therapeutics, where I oversaw various animal models for all of its protocols."

"I moved from WRAIR to the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense," she continued, "then I took command of a public health district at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, for over three years before heading to the 30th Medical Brigade, and now I'm happy to be here at USAMMDA."

Earlier this month, Parriott received her certificate of proficiency from Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, commanding general of the USAMRDC and Fort Detrick, during his tour

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Army Brig. Gen. Michael J. Talley, commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command and Fort Detrick, presents a Certificate of Achievement to Army Lt. Col. Sandi K. Parriott during his recent visit to the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity. Parriott received the U.S. Army Medical Department's 9A Proficiency Designator in the dual areas of Veterinary Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Preventative Medicine.

(Photo by Ashley Force, USAMMDA Public Affairs)

of the USAMMDA facility. In presenting Parriott with her certificate, Talley praised the Soldier for her service to her country and her dedication to excellence within her chosen career field. He continued by acknowledging the difficulty in achieving the 9A Proficiency Designator, stating that only the top one percent of Army Medicine professionals reach this unique plateau.

In her role as director of the FHP Division, Parriott oversees military medical activities that include the critical FDA-approval of Emergency Use Authorizations, Expanded Access Investigational New Drug Protocols, and Individual Patient Expanded Access to help treat and save the lives of military and civilian patients throughout the world.

"At the 30th Medical Brigade, I was handling the operational side of FHP, but here at USAMMDA, I'm involved in the strategic aspects of it," said Parriott. "My job is to get critical products to our Warfighters as quickly as possible, and these include investigational products such as vaccines, prophylactics, treatments and devices, which are still undergoing advanced development."

"Once these products have enough safety and efficacy data, we're able to field them to our troops, early and as needed," she added.

Per the AMEDD Medical Service Corps Awards and Recognition webpage, "Officers selected for this ['A' Proficiency Designator] honor are leaders in their specialty and have made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge in their particular field through extensive publication and active national professional organization membership. These professionals have worked hard and dedicated a significant amount of time to become a distinct asset to the AMEDD, both as an officer and an expert in their field. They are considered eminently qualified to chair a department, division, or service; have attained full professional status; and have obtained national prominence in their field."

Army Col. Gina Adam, USAMMDA commander, congratulated Parriott for her professional accomplishments, stating, "Individuals who earn this designation are essentially recognized twice: first by the person who recognized their achievements and nominated them, and then by the board that reviews all of the nominations and makes the selections. I'm pleased to highlight Lt. Col. Parriott's qualities as an officer and medical professional — her professional excellence serves as an outstanding example for junior officers throughout the Army Medical Department."

Without question, Parriott is very proud of her career achievements thus far, and this new addition to her resume brings a smile to her face.

"Earning the 9A Proficiency Designator is the pinnacle of my career, both personally and professionally," said Parriott. "It's probably the highest honor I could achieve from my peers, and having Brig. Gen. Talley present the certificate to me was very special — I'll certainly never forget that day."

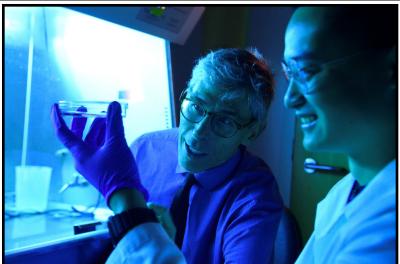
USAMRDC Funds Novel Cell Therapy for Amputees

By Ramin A. Khalili, USAMRDC Public Affairs

It only takes a few seconds into a conversation with Dr. Luis Garza to feel the gravitational pull. The energetic Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland, speaks with such infectious verve that you'd think he's on stage at a rock concert or coaching the local football team to victory. Instead, he's got his sights set on the health of the U.S. Soldier – specifically, the human body's largest organ.

"Can we change the properties of human skin?" says Garza, the leader of the university's Veteran Amputee Skin Regeneration Program, asking a simple yet potentially revolutionary question. "That's what we wanted to know."

For Garza, those efforts are focused specifically on Soldiers who wear prosthetics as a result of injuries sustained in combat. In particular, he says, Soldiers injured by the types of improvised explosive devices used in recent conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq face a greater burden when it comes to physical recovery. Many amputees



Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Associate Professor Dr. Luis Garza (left), the leader of the university's Veteran Amputee Skin Regeneration Program, speaks with a colleague during a laboratory session in October 2019.

Photo courtesy Will Kirk, Johns Hopkins University

Continued on page 13

Cell	Therapy	continued	from	naae	12

complain the skin at their stump site – or, the site where the prosthesis is physically attached to the body – breaks down and feels generally uncomfortable, which ultimately leads to some Soldiers simply not wearing their prosthetic at all.

"The skin at the stump site is not meant to bear the weight of a prosthetic," says Garza. "So what we wanted to do was to imbue qualities like pressure resistance and friction resistance to the stump site."

To put it more simply, Garza and his team wanted to find a way to make skin – namely the skin found at a given stump site – tougher and stronger. To do that, they looked at the properties of skin found on the palms of human hands and the soles of human feet; skin that doesn't break so much as it adapts to its workload. The ultimate goal, according to Garza, was to find a way for amputees to develop a callous at their stump site as opposed to an ulcer; a change that would likely allow them to wear their prosthetics comfortably.

"To do this," says Garza, "we essentially take stem cells from the palm of a hand or the sole of a foot, grow them in a lab here at Johns Hopkins, test them for quality control, and then inject them back into an amputee at the stump site."

So far, Garza's work – which is funded in part by the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command's Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program – has shown positive returns following testing efforts on a group of more than two dozen patients who do not wear prostheses; the group chosen in order to develop best practices and to gain baseline data. Garza himself states the procedure shows strong evidence of being effective.

"After the stem cell injection, the skin at the stump site feels firmer," says Garza, noting that, when placed under a microscope, the top layer of skin cells at an injected site appears both longer and stronger. "These are powerful indicators that the skin is changing," he says.

Predictably, Garza's excitement at such a development is contagious – especially amongst his partners at the USAMRDC's Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program.

"CRM has supported Dr. Garza's elegant solution to a very burdensome problem from the very early stages of development through our Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine consortia," says CRMRP Director Tony Gover. "It is extremely gratifying for us to watch a product progress towards clinical use that will have such a significant impact on our Wounded Warriors."

With regards to the latter, Garza's team has already received a grant from CRMRP to conduct a multi-site study on this particular cell therapy, with full regulatory approval expected soon. Test sites are set to include the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Maryland, Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas, and Naval Medical Center San Diego in California, and Garza is currently recruiting patients to take part in the effort.

"For me, it's a humbling experience to be involved with something like this," he says. "It's something that affects you at the gut – the deepest level."

Garza will likely take those experiences – and his accumulated data, too – and publish a paper within the next year to formalize his results and, also, to reach a larger audience. When that time comes, there's little doubt those people will also be awed by both his cutting-edge research and, of course, his trademark infectious energy – all on behalf of the Warfighter.

Says Garza, "It's been very inspirational to me, this research. I mean, what's a better effort than to help people who have given so much?"

- - -

If you would like to take part in the research effort described above, please contact Dr. Luis Garza's research team at ctrep@jhmi.edu to get enrolled.

What's Happening at the Fort Detrick Commissary



U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Nathan Steffes or "Santa" with Company B, 4th LAR Battalion at Fort Detrick visits the Fort Detrick Commissary to greet children from the Child Development Center Dec. 13, 2019.

Photo by Pierre "AJ" Angeles, Fort Detrick Commissary

Homemade Potato Soup Contest

Feb 8, 2020
Set up from 10-11 a.m.
Judging occurs 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
To register contact AJ Pierre by calling (301) 619-2436

John Liton, an injured Vietnam War veteran, was the first shopper under the new Veterans Insurance Health Program, with his spouse Linda, to shop at the Fort Detrick Commissary at the beginning of 2020.

Pictured left to right: Dan Catalano, Fort Detrick Commissary, John Liton (center) and Linda Liton.

*The National Defense Authorization Act of 2019, Section 621, provides expanded access to military installations for specific Veterans and caregivers so they may utilize certain morale, welfare and recreation privileges (MWR) to include base exchanges and commissaries beginning January 1, 2020.

Photo by AJ Pierre, Fort Detrick Commissary





Representatives from the Fort Detrick Commissary and the Frederick Community Action Agency prepare donations for the Frederick County Food Bank.

The Fort Detrick Commissary has partnered with the Frederick Community Action Agency for four years providing excess food which is inspected by a Military Food Inspector to the food bank each week.

Photo by Jenni Benson, USAG Public Affairs

Army Staff Sergeant Embraces Physical Fitness, Wins First Bodybuilding Event

By C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Army Staff Sgt. Rick Lash makes physical fitness part of his daily routine.

About two years ago, he got more serious about it in his off-duty time and started working his way into the world of competitive bodybuilding.

In just his second competition, Lash's commitment – early mornings, long hours in the gym and strict dieting – paid off in a big way, earning him a clean sweep at a National Physique Committee show on Nov. 9, 2019.

Lash, 36, a native of Venice Beach, California took first-place in his class, his division and then won the coveted Best in Show award at the Northern USA Championships in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

"I literally couldn't win anymore," he laughed. "I didn't even know there was a Best in Show. I had my eyes on just getting nationally qualified; second or above. But obviously I trained to win the overall."

Lash, an operations noncommissioned officer who tracks, develops and implements different training programs for the Army Medical Logistics Command at Fort Detrick in Frederick, Maryland has wasted little time basking in the glory of his first

Less than a week later, he was already back in the gym and starting work to bulk up even as he prepares to deploy in January. It will be his third tour overseas, following stints in Iraq and South Korea earlier in his 17-year career.

After completing his deployment Lash is eyeing a couple dates in 2021 to make his national bodybuilding competition debut.

"It'll give me a good solid year to focus on the offseason, which is where you get all your gains," Lash said. "You focus on all your development and then you shred down for your contest."

One of Lash's workout partners and fellow competitor, Army Staff Sgt. Charmond "Deon" Magee said Lash

has shown a great work ethic and improvement in such a short period of time.

"He continues to grow, do the right things, and maintain discipline and dedication to the gym," Magee said. "He's a standout amongst a lot of people."

Lash credits the Army for developing his love of physical fitness, and it's been a big help in preparing for the new Army Combat Fitness Test that better aligns fitness with combat readiness for all Soldiers.

"It's a lot more grueling and more daunting than what the last test was for sure," Lash said. "It's total functional fitness, which is kind of what we do as bodybuilders."

The new standards incorporate six events – up from three in the current test – and is set to become the official Army physical test of record by October 2020.

The six events include the deadlift, standing power throw, hand-release pushup with arm extensions, sprint-drag-carry, leg tuck and two-mile run.

Magee, who won the overall men's physique title at the 2018 NPC Baltimore Gladiator Championships,

stressed the importance of Soldier fitness in any situation.

"It's very, very important," he said. "One fit Soldier out of six is not enough. If you have a group of six fit Soldiers that work together, it's better because they have mental strength and can handle the physical demand, so the team will function better."

Lash said he did very well in his first unofficial go at the new test and has continued to improve his PT scores as a result of his pursuit of his bodybuilding goals. "That's really helped me shine a little bit," he said of his focus on fitness and bodybuilding. "And as a result of that, it's made me more mentally clear, more focused, obviously in better physical condition, and that helped in every aspect of my life this year."

Lash also credits his recent selection for promotion to Sergeant First Class to his continued commitment to improving his body and fitness levels.

"It helps you find a discipline and maintain that discipline that we learn in the Army as far as food dieting and hitting your exercises every day," he said. "It makes you a better-rounded Soldier overall."

Lash, who has parlayed his venture into a consulting business called Team Lash Aesthetic Bodybuilding, said he most enjoys the sport because it is a "never-ending modification process" for the body.

While he admits there is no such thing as the "perfect" physique, Lash said he loves the pursuit.

"I'm extremely thankful (for the Army) because now I have goals outside of the Army that I can pursue after I retire, and hopefully become a professional bodybuilder and help promote the Army," he said.



Army Staff Sgt. Rick Lash wasted no time getting back into the gym after winning his first bodybuilding title on Nov. 9, 2019. Here, Lash performs a deadlift during a workout less than a week after the competition, his second overall. The deadlift is one of six events in the new Army Combat Fitness Test for all Soldiers.

Photo by C.J. Lovelace, AMLC Public Affairs

Army Housing Summit Set to Forge Path Forward in Housing Reinvestment

By Kari Hawkins, AMC

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. -- Nearly a year after assuming responsibility for all Army housing, Army Materiel Command will host a comprehensive review of the sweeping reforms and improvements made across the enterprise to ensure Soldiers and families have access to high quality on-post housing.

During a Housing Summit set for Jan. 14-16 at AMC Headquarters at Redstone Arsenal, representatives of the Army's seven privatized housing companies and Army leaders from 34 installations will review strategies and programs to provide the best options for Soldiers, Civilians and their families.

"We are absolutely committed to provide safe and secure housing on every installation, and making every installation an installation of choice for our Soldiers and families" said Gen. Gus Perna, commander of Army Materiel Command. "The summit is another step in our commitment to hold ourselves and privatized housing companies accountable to provide a high-quality standard of living and to earn back the trust of our housing residents."

Since March 2019, the Army and AMC have set conditions for improvements, beginning with visits to 100 percent of housing units, the establishment of 24/7 housing hotlines at every installation, and quarterly town halls hosted by installation leadership. In July 2019, more than 25,000 residents provided input through the Resident Satisfaction Survey that gave the Army insight into housing experiences and further pinpointed issues that needed to be addressed. In addition, an Army Inspector General report yielded feedback to improve housing.

"The steps we took in the spring and summer of 2019 improved our visibility of the housing landscape and allowed us to lay out a way ahead for course correction," Perna said.

Other significant initiatives in 2019 included:

- Hiring more than 100 additional staff at installation housing offices to provide quality assurance and control checks on work being done in homes, with the goal to have 100% of homes between occupancies, 100% of Life, Health and Safety work orders and 5% of all work orders checked;
- Revising the incentive fee structure with the housing companies to better account for resident and installation leadership feedback;
- Providing full access for Garrison commanders to housing work orders so they can execute the quality control measures needed to ensure issues are properly fixed the first time;
- Creating mobile apps as an additional method for residents to submit and track work orders;

- Establishing a Housing Environmental Health Response Registry through the Army Medical Command to address housing health or safety concerns;
- Senior Army leaders meeting regularly with RCI company executives to review housing properties and provide oversight.

The Army also joined the Air Force and Navy to develop a Resident Bill of Rights, expected to be signed later this month that will empower service members and their families to hold housing providers accountable.

While these initiatives have yielded progress and improvements, Perna said it will take time to rebuild relationships with housing residents and develop a strategy to ensure quality reinvestment.

The Housing Summit will provide a forum for Army leaders and RCI companies to work together on determining the best way to re-invest more than \$500 million in funds from the companies and for the Army to develop a holistic investment strategy for Army-owned housing and barracks that will prioritize resources across installations.

During the summit, Army leaders will review the current status of housing with representatives of RCI companies BBC, Hunt, Michaels, LendLease, Corvias, Lincoln and Clark. The seven companies have all signed 50-year agreements to maintain, manage and lease more than 87,000 houses at 44 U.S. and overseas installations, and re-invest in those properties to maintain safety and quality.

"We still have much work to do, and rest assured this is a continuing priority with Army senior leaders. We are in this for the long haul," Perna said. "We remain steadfast in holding ourselves and privatized housing companies accountable to provide safe and secure housing on our installations. We are investing in long-term planning for future oversight, and enacting a set of policies and programs that will improve residents' quality of life. At the end of the 50-year contracts, our expectation is that our housing units are in significantly better condition than they were at the beginning of the contracts, and better than they are today."

Social Media Security Guidance

By Installation Management Command

As the tensions around the world rise, our Service members, Families, civilian workers and friends may become targets of online threats, monitoring, bullying and spoofing. There are a lot of unscrupulous people and organizations waiting to take advantage of someone to gain access to financial accounts, information or to create fear or mistrust. Please be extra careful who you friend, what you post and who is following you on social media.

Below are some easy things you can do to help protect your privacy and security.

- 1. If someone you don't know wants to be your friend, check their profile and find out who they are. If you don't see a reason they should want to know you, deny the request.
- 2. Review your settings and decide if you want everyone in the world to know your business or just those you select or those who are your friends.
- 3. Don't post anything that may compromise a military mission, such as a unit's location, their mission, key dates and times, routes and methods of movement. Remember you can either help protect our deployed forces or you can be a threat to them.
- 4. Educate your family and friends about cyber security and why it's important.
- 5. If you see suspicious activity, are threatened, harassed, or your social media accounts get hacked, please contact the social media platform, law enforcement, Fort Detrick Anti-Terrorism Officer, and/or your Service Member's command and report it, as the saying goes, "Bad things happen when good people do nothing.

The Department of Defense's, "IDENTITY AWARENESS, PROTECTION, AND MANAGEMENT GUIDE," at the link below is a useful and easy to understand tool to help you become aware of what you can do to protect your online privacy and security.

https://www.arcyber.army.mil/Portals/34/Fact%20Sheets/
DoD Identity Awareness Protection Management Guide March2019.pdf?ver=2019-06-24-174833-227

This site gives good guidelines for Soldiers, families, leaders and supervisors. https://www.army.mil/socialmedia/soldiers

OLD FARM GATE CLOSURES

The weekend of **February 1-2, 2020** Old Farm Gate and a portion of Doughten Drive in the area of Old Farm Gate, will be closed until 11 a.m. due to an ongoing construction project. Old Farm Gate will open at 11 a.m. for normal operations on both days.

In addition, Old Farm Gate will be closed **February 15 -17, 2020** for further construction on the barrier project. On Tuesday February 18, 2020, Old Farm Gate will open at 6 a.m. for normal operations.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience as we continue to ensure the safety of the installation.

Fort Detrick Considers Resumption of Incinerator Operations

Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

Fort Detrick hosted an elective public sensing meeting at Governor Thomas Johnson High School Jan. 21, in an effort to inform the local community of the steps necessary to resume incineration of medical waste at Fort Detrick and solicit concerns for consideration in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment.

An Environmental Assessment will assess potential environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic effects of on-post incineration of medical waste generated at Fort Detrick. The EA will be conducted according to the process outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act.

Two years ago, Fort Detrick operated two on-site hospital/medical/infectious waste incinerators. The Garrison Commander at the time halted incinerator operations to ensure Fort Detrick met regulatory compliance. Fort Detrick currently transports medical waste to a privately owned incineration facility that complies with regulatory requirements. Resumption of on-site disposal operations at Fort Detrick would allow the Army to retain full control of the waste disposal process from generation through proper disposal.

Once a draft EA report is available the public will have 30 days to submit comments. The draft document will be available to view on the Fort Detrick website and a notice will be announced in the Frederick News-Post. The process also requires another public meeting to inform the community and solicit comments on the draft.

All substantive public comments on the draft EA will be addressed in the Final Environmental Assessment. No decision on any actions regarding implementation will be made until after the completion of the EA and careful consideration of issues of concern and reasonable alternative actions identified by the public, appropriate government agencies, and subject matter experts. If it is determined that the Proposed Action will not have significant environmental impacts, a Finding of No Significant Impact will be issued. Then the FONSI announces the decision made based, in part, on received public input.

The entire process is expected to last 10 months.



Joe Gortva, chief, Environmental Management Division, explains the process of medical waste incineration and disposal to members of the community during a public sensing session held by Fort Detrick at Governor Thomas Johnson High School on Jan. 21, 2020.

Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

Equal Employment Opportunity Counselors Course Is A Success



Fort Detrick U.S. Army Garrison Commander, Col. Dexter Nunnally provides opening remarks to students during the Equal Employment Opportunity Counselors Course at Fort Detrick Jan. 27, 2020. The course trains employees to serve as EEO counselors in a collateral duty capacity.

Photo by Lanessa Hill, USAG Public Affairs

By Jonnie Buchanan, EEO

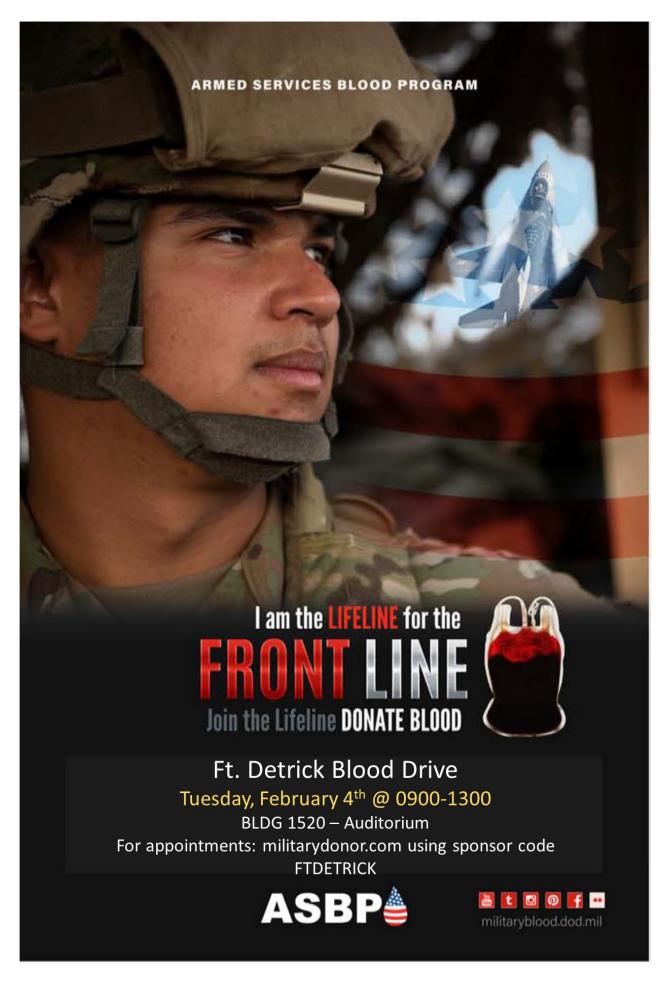
The Fort Detrick Equal Employment Opportunity Office held a training the last week of January for employees interested in serving as collateral-duty EEO counselors. EEO collateral duty counselors play an important role in helping to resolve EEO complaints on an informal basis and supporting the EEO mission.

EEO counselors are volunteers serving in a collateral-duty capacity. They perform their EEO duties in addition to their primary duties and responsibilities. EEO counselors are an integral part of the EEO process and are critical to our success.

Staff who attended the course completed 36 hours of mandatory training and testing and are required to receive at least 24 hours of continuing EEO Counselor training each fiscal year to maintain certification.

EEO counselors are critical to the credibility and efficiency of the EEO program. EEO counselors conduct inquiries into complaints of discrimination and work to resolve complaints at the lowest possible level. Every federal civilian employee plays a role in the success of the Equal Employment Opportunity Program and serving as a DA certified collateral duty counselor is just one way--an important way--of contributing to the Army EEO program's success.

The training course included an overview of the EEO counseling process: EEO Laws and Regulations, Roles and Responsibilities of an EEO Counselor, EEO Complaint Process, EEO Counseling Process, Overview of Alternative Dispute Resolution, Theories of Discrimination, Effective Communication Skills for EEO Counselors, Terminating EEO Counseling, Review of the Practical Development of Issues through role-playing, and writing Counselor Reports.





Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO only use outside.

HOME HEATING EQUIPMENT

Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.

FACTS

- ! A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 nonfire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine calls per hour.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



5520 Research Park Dr. Ste. 150 Baltimore, MD 21228

Fort Detrick MD 21702



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1000

DEC 2 0 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing Advisory for Military Members

It has come to the attention of the DoD that some direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing companies are encouraging DoD personnel to purchase genetic ancestry and health information through the offering of military discounts or other incentives. These DTC genetic tests are largely unregulated and could expose personal and genetic information, and potentially create unintended security consequences and increased risk to the joint force and mission.

Exposing sensitive genetic information to outside parties poses personal and operational risks to Service members. DTC genetic tests that provide health information have varying levels of validity, and many are not reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration before they are offered, meaning they may be sold without independent analysis to verify the claims of the seller. Possible inaccuracies pose more risk to DoD military personnel than the public due to Service member requirements to disclose medical information that affects readiness (see DoD Instruction 6025.19, "Individual Medical Readiness"). Testing outside the Military Health System is unlikely to include a clear description of this risk.

Moreover, there is increased concern in the scientific community that outside parties are exploiting the use of genetic data for questionable purposes, including mass surveillance and the ability to track individuals without their authorization or awareness.

Until notified otherwise, DoD military personnel are advised to refrain from the purchase and/or use of DTC genetic services.

Joseph D. Kernan

Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence

ames N. Stewart

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for

Personnel and Readiness

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: https://detrick.armymwr.com/us/detrick/.

GATE CLOSURE – Federal Holiday

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

February 17, 2020

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

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

In case of emergency: DIAL 911

If you have a Fire or EMS emergency on Fort Detrick to include smell of smoke, odor of natural gas, etc. DIAL 911. DO NOT CALL the fire station directly this will delay our response to such incidents. All calls must be routed and recorded through the 911 system.

In the event of an emergency and to reduce response time, please call 911 directly.



Upcoming Old Farm Gate Closures

The weekend of **February 1-2** Old Farm Gate and a portion of Doughten Drive in the area of Old Farm Gate, will be closed until 11 a.m. due to an ongoing construction project. Old Farm Gate will open at 11 a.m. for normal operations on both days.

In addition, Old Farm Gate will be closed **February 15 -17** for further construction on the barrier project. On Tuesday February 18, 2020, Old Farm Gate will open at 6 a.m. for normal operations.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience as we continue to ensure the safety of the installation.

USAG Security Office Upcoming Closures

Jan. 31, 2020 Feb. 5-7, 2020 Sorry for the inconvenience, services will

resume Feb. 10, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Fort Detrick Blood Drive

Tuesday, Feb. 4
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Building 1520 Auditorium
For appointments visit: https://www.militarydonor.com/ using sponsor code FTDETRICK.

Presidents Day Installation Run

Feb. 13
6:30 am
Blue and Grey Field
This run is open to the entire Fort Detrick
Community and family members. We
hope to see everyone there.

Fort Detrick Housing Town Hall

Feb. 10 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Balfour Beatty Community Center, 6000 Ditto Ave. Fort Detrick This town hall is open to all residents of Fort Detrick housing and barracks.

Updates and ways to improve housing will discussed.

Glen Haven Housing Town Hall

Feb. 12
6 p.m.
Glen Haven Apartment/Townhomes
Community Center
1200 McMahon Rd. Wheaton MD
This town hall is open to all residents of
Glen Haven. Updates and to improve
housing will discussed.

CYS Sports and Fitness Needs Volunteer Coaches

If you love sports and working with youth contact our CYS staff to find out how you can be a part of the coaching staff. You must by 18 or older to apply. For more information call 301-619-2538

The Fort Detrick Leisure Travel Office is Moving

Effective Feb. 3, 2020 – Leisure Travel Services will be co-located with Parent Central Services in building 949A Sultan Drive.

New Facility Hours: Monday – Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information, call (301) 619-2892/7100