

# JMC CHRISTENS 299

## INSIDE

### 4 Launching interest in science and math

*STEM Career Day in Davenport, Iowa, gives students look into science-related career fields.*

### 5 Civilian education refocused

*Civilian education reform attracts attention from AMC civilian executive deputy.*

### 12 Celebrating Earth Day

*April 22 is designated Earth Day. Find out how JMC celebrated.*



U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati

**New Mission** (left to right) Alex Evdokimoff, project manager, Norris Industries; Lt. Col. Stephen Bales, Louisville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Congressman Phil Hare; Brig. Gen. Larry Wyche, commander, Joint Munitions Command; Mike Close, Alacran Contracting, LLC.

## JMC Public Affairs News Release

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- On April 9, the Joint Munitions Command broke ground on a \$19 million project at Building 299 here. The ceremony marked the first step toward bringing a new industrial mission here from Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant in Riverbank, Calif. Dignitaries who spoke at the ceremony included Congressman Phil Hare from Illinois' 17th District and Brig. Gen. Larry Wyche from JMC.

"Today we take the first step towards bringing a unique manufacturing

capability to this wonderful installation," said Hare.

A portion of Building 299 is being remodeled in order to begin manufacturing deep-drawn steel cartridge cases for Stryker and Navy gun ammunition at the Arsenal. They will also be able to produce brass cartridge cases for Navy, artillery, and tank shells.

"Each day, we keep in our minds the Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who need our products," said Wyche.

The steps involved in moving this

mission include refurbishing the building, moving the specialized equipment, testing the system, and then producing the cartridges.

Approximately 170,000 square feet of space must be renovated to accommodate the 4,500 ton hydraulic presses that create the cartridge cases. To house these presses, the roof must be raised 20 feet and a 15-foot pit dug into the floor. Other improvements include installing offices and restrooms. Building renovations are being conducted by Alacran/O&S Joint Venture and coor-

# COMMENTARY



Living the  
Lean Life...

## The joys of green belt class

By Darryl Howlett  
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- After writing more than 10 Lean Six Sigma stories for the Joint Munitions Command, and editing many more, I was excited to finally take on a green belt training class.

I had waited more than 18 months to get into the class. And now the time had finally arrived.

I attended the first week of JMC's green belt class the week of April 13-17 on the Rock Island Arsenal.

Monday proved a whirlwind of introductions, agenda setting and role playing. The Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve and Control simulation really showed me and the class how a process can be totally screwed up.

The scenario called for satisfying a customer's request, even though we didn't know what the customer wanted. In this process, I was both the obligation manager and obligation clerk. However, in processing paperwork for the customer, I couldn't put my paperwork as the obligation clerk into the inbox/outbox for the obligation manager. I had to wait for a mail carrier to put it in the box even though I was RIGHT THERE. Like I said, totally screwed up.

The process really opened the classes' eyes, especially since we were a one Sigma process, and nowhere near a six Sigma. (Six Sigma is 3.4 defects per million objects. We were in the neighborhood of 690,000 defects per million objects. And that might be generous.)

The class also gained a better understanding of their proposed project charters and determined if it was too complex, too simple, or just right.

Tuesday introduced the voice of the customer. Going back to the scenario, our company had an opportunity to find out exactly what the customer wanted. And let me tell you, please ask detailed questions. If you do not ask the right question, you will not get the right answer.

Around this time the term "non-value added" was brought into play. Several of my classmates took issue with the phrase, or more specifically, issue that the phrase was applied to their field of work. However, the phrase was used in the scenario, not to describe the people as being "non-value added." Tell that to those classmates. They argued their case the entire week.

By the third day, the dreaded mathematical formulas and equations started to show themselves.

Within minutes flashbacks of my ninth grade Algebra class, 11th grade trigonometry class, and my college Algebra class came back to frightening levels.

"Breathe, Darryl. It's going to be okay," I tried to reassure myself.

After our instructors, Pat McIllece and Cindy Mediger went over the formulas again and again, I felt more comfortable.

After getting through some of the basic mathematical equations I felt like Charlie from the CBS crime drama, "Numbers."

Later that evening while at church, I said a short prayer.

*"Lord, thank you for numbers that solve our problems, Lean Six Sigma is the way to go, Help me pass this test on Friday, So that with standard deviation and data collection, I will forever be in the continuous improvement know"*

Thursday we tackled the scenario again and everyone did much better. The afternoon was dedicated toward reviewing the information during the week and preparing for

THE TEST on Friday.

By Friday morning, I was fairly confident I would pass the test. However, it can still be nerve-racking.

As I took the test, I started to get greedy. Not only did I want to pass the test, I wanted a perfect score. Math deals in absolutes, and I wanted 100 percent. Unfortunately, with a slip of a wrong answer and a mischievous grin from Master Black Belt candidate Steve Tutt, a perfect score it was not. Hey 95 on any test can't be all bad.

So now here comes the hard part: launching my green belt project and preparing for week 2 of green belt class.

To be continued...<sup>JMC</sup>

**The Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command *Bullet'n*** is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of *The Bullet'n* are unofficial and are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the Joint Munitions & Lethality Life Cycle Management Command, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, or any other U.S. government agency.

The editorial content of *The Bullet'n* is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office at Joint Munitions Command headquarters.

Contributions to *The Bullet'n* are welcome; contact information follows:

E-mail address: darryl.howlett@us.army.mil.  
Postal address: *The Bullet'n*, ATTN: AMSJM-PA,  
1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill. 61299-6000.  
Phone: (309) 782-1514, DSN 793-4516.  
Datafax: (309) 782-3935, DSN 793-3935.

Brig. Gen. Larry Wyche  
Commanding General

Steve Abney  
Chief, Public Affairs Office, JMC

Peter Rowland  
Chief, Public Affairs Office, Picatinny Arsenal

Darryl G. Howlett  
Editor

Rikeshia Davidson  
Assistant Editor



# Picatinny honors non- commissioned officers



U.S. Army Photos courtesy of Erin Usawicz

**The Year of the NCO** A portion of the 74 non-commissioned officers recite the NCO Creed during the Picatinny, N.J., ceremony April 4. The Soldiers, who came to Picatinny from New York and New Jersey, represented the National Guard, Army Reserve and active-duty.

## Picatinny Arsenal News Release

PICATINNY ARSENAL, N.J. -- Picatinny Arsenal hosted a special ceremony April 4 for more than 70 area Soldiers in honor of non-commissioned officers.

In all, 74 Soldiers from New York and New Jersey were recognized and inducted into the elite group of military professionals.

The non-commissioned ranks ranged from corporal to sergeant major of the Army.

NCOs are called the “backbone of the Army” because an NCO can be found at the front of every Army mission.

During a ceremony attended by nearly 125 guests, the Soldiers were sworn into the NCO Corps and announced their allegiance to uphold the charges appointed to them by their

superiors.

Each NCO was then given a copy of the NCO doctrine signed by Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth O. Preston, a copy of the book “The Strongest Tribe” by Bing West, and a military coin commemorating the occasion.

“I am not sure if this is the first of its kind, but ... I have never heard of a combined Army National Guard, Army Reserve and U.S. Army active-duty NCO induction,” said event organizer 1st Sgt. Paul Wilcock, an Armament Research Development and Engineering Center NCO. “It was fantastic to receive so much support from local units of all the Army services.”

Several local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War posts, along with the Fraternal Order of Police and the Picatinny chapter of the Associa-

tion of the United States Army, helped make the day possible with their generous contributions.

U. S. Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen presented the NCOs with their certificates, thanking each Soldier for his or her service. Additionally, members of the New Jersey National Guard received personal thank-you letters from N.J. Governor Jon Corzine.

Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command Sgt. Maj. Larry C. Taylor officiated, his last ceremony prior to his retirement last month.

NCOs train and lead junior Soldiers in any given mission or military occupational skill. They often are looked upon as “big brothers” by enlisted Soldiers and provide advice and guidance on professional and personal matters. <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sup>C</sup>

Scott Community College student Charles Klug launches a statapult, as teammate Christopher Mbakwe of Rivermont Collegiate looks on during STEM Career Day held at Scott Community College, Bettendorf, Iowa, on April 14. Members of the Joint Munitions Command's Lean Six Sigma Program Office led the hands-on experiment to help get local high school and college students interested in science, technology, engineering and math.



U.S. Army photo by Rebecca Montgomery

## Reaching talented youth stems from community effort

**By Rebecca Montgomery**  
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- Launching wiffle balls to collect and analyze data may not sound like a serious engineering experiment, but Joint Munitions Command personnel showed students how it can have real world applications at the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Career Day held at Scott Community College, Davenport, Iowa, on April 14.

Members of the JMC's Lean Six Sigma Program Office led a hands-on statapult experiment at the career day to help get local high school and college students interested in science, technology, engineering and math.

Walt Songaila, Lean Six Sigma deployment director at JMC, explained

that the statapult exercise shows how science and engineering are applied.

"This is just a model but you could see how these same types of engineering principles and computer modeling would be used for fire control, tanks, mortars and in manufacturing environments," he said.

A statapult, a wooden catapult-like device, has several settings so users can manipulate the travel of the arm with pins and rubber band tension; this controls how far the ball shoots, Songaila said.

Twelve teams of students -- made up of shooters, measurers and recorders -- enthusiastically tackled the experiment.

Balls flew through the air landing on aluminum foil strips taped to the

floor. Students were all business as they marked the balls' indentations, measured and recorded the distances of the eight predetermined settings with three shots per setting.

Excitement mounted during the second round as each team marked its target zones and launched three more balls based on computer analysis of their previous shots.

Team members grinned when the balls landed in the end zone and groaned when they missed.

During the final round, the top two teams held a shoot off, with the winning team getting two out of three shots into the zone.

"This is a lot of fun," said Tam Pham, a Davenport West High School

*"Future Scientists" continued on page 11*

## "WE HAVE TO GROW OUR CIVILIANS"

From AUSA News



FORT BELVOIR, Va. -- The civilian executive deputy to the commanding general of the Army Materiel Command shared ideas on the value of the civilian education system and the need for Department of the Army civilians

to change with the changing environment with more than 400 attendees at a special symposium at the Army Management Staff College.

Kathryn Condon, speaking at the Fort Belvoir, Va., institution in late January, said, "We don't do as good a job in training our civilians to be leaders" as the Army does with its officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers.

She said civilians needed to develop the skill sets to lead and know "to ask: Why?"

Adding, "You're going to have to have that training" and be willing to move in many cases.

"I lateraled a lot ... to get the experience" to be promoted to higher positions and avoid being pigeonholed. "For most civilians, you get niched as a comptroller, a 'personnelist'."

Because so many senior positions, such as hers are being moved from the uniformed side of the Army to the civilian side, to meet the needs of continuing operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, "You can't be a one-trick pony anymore."

Condon noted that many senior civilian positions were being filled by retired military. "We have to grow, grow our civilians," and the civilian education system is a way to do that.

Ray Horoho, director of the civilian development office, said expectations and roles of civilians in the Army are changing rapidly. He said the evolving education system is designed to prepare them "for the next job and not come back to the old job."

Educating civilians does differ from the education systems for Soldiers, NCOs, warrants and officers. "We're not looking to replicate [permanent change of station] movement every 24 months."

There is a need "in finding balance to allow civilians to diversify."

Jim Warner, president of the Army Civilian University, said, "There is a tension between the needs of the organization and the individual," and a tension between meeting short-term

goals and longer-term goals.

As an example of change in AMC, Condon said base realignment and closure [BRAC] "in our command it is 12,000 spaces. That's change." Adding, "It gives us a way to restructure the work force."

One of the other large changes facing Department of the Army civilians is the still evolving personnel system.

Brad Bunn, program executive officer for the National Security Personnel System, said the program, now in its third year, was "designed to be more than a pay for performance," but one that centered on performance management. "It's results-oriented."

But to do that, he said it was necessary to train leaders and supervisors on how to manage under such a system, and that is taking time.

It also meant educating employees that the system was fair, a point reinforced by reviews of NSPS by the Government Accountability Office, Congressional Budget Office and Congressional Research Service.

"We need to de-mystify" the pay pool system and panels.

It has "never been more important to have managers and employees understand performance managed" compensation because "fairly substantial portions of pay decisions are based on performance" for the 200,000 defense civilian employees [73,000 Department of the Army civilians] under NSPS.

What the future holds for the civilian personnel system is not clear, he said.

Two-hundred and forty-five thousand defense employees covered under union contracts are not in NSPS, nor are the 180,000 wage grade employees.

"One of the issues we're going to deal with in the new administration," Bunn said.

Warner added, "Things are changing faster than we're adapting."

Looking ahead, "You are the shoulders on which we put a very heavy responsibility," Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, commander of the Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, added. <sup>J.M.C.</sup>

## Civilian Education System

**Part one of this three part series will explain the importance of the civilian education system and why the system requires further examination to remain successful.**

**Kathryn Condon**  
Civilian Executive Deputy

Civilian Executive Deputy to Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commander Army Materiel Command - Ft. Belvoir, Va.

**Brad Bunn**  
Program Executive Officer  
National Security Personnel System

**Jim Warner**  
President  
Army Civilian University

**Lt. Gen. William Caldwell**  
Commander  
Combined Arms Center -  
Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

### NSPS Numbers to Know:

**3** Years in existence --  
National Security Personnel System

**180,000** Wage grade employees--  
Uncovered by NSPS

**245,000** DoD employees covered  
by Union contracts--  
But not covered by NSPS



U.S. Army photo courtesy of Tooele Army Depot

# In Utah, Tooele commander one to watch

**Utah's Best** Col. Yolanda C. Dennis-Lowman, commander, Tooele Army Depot was among 30 women in Utah recognized by *Utah Business* for excellence.

**By Kathy Anderson**  
**Tooele Army Depot Public Affairs**

TOOELE, Utah -- With dedication for excellence and a competitive fire, today's businesswomen are making waves across the Beehive State.

The 10th Annual Women's Business Day Luncheon was held in Salt Lake City, Utah on April 23. Thirty professional women of Utah were chosen to receive this high level award, sponsored by *Utah Business*.

Each of this year's 30 Women to Watch brings something unique and inspiring to Utah's business scene. Spanning industries, job titles and education, these women have a passion for their work – a passion that has bettered their companies and their communities.

Col. Yolanda C. Dennis-Lowman, commander, Tooele Army Depot was among the top 30 professional women recognized.

As commander of the Tooele Army Depot, Dennis-Lowman leads approximately 500 employees and is responsible for the receipt, storage and issue of ammunition for not just the Army, but all services. Also, the engineering, design and fabrication of Ammunition Peculiar Equipment (APE). The continuous improvement culture results in increased

efficiency and reduced times.

This, in combination the dedication and versatility of the workforce, positions the depot for new challenges and an expanded mission.

"My challenges are pretty much the same that you would find in any organization of this size...personnel issues, remaining competitive within our market and expanding our workbase. I overcome these challenges by involving my senior leaders in every aspect of the decision making process. In doing so, they are stakeholders and bear some ownership in the outcomes," Dennis-Lowman stated.

Leadership and accountability are without a doubt the most important skills she mentioned.

Tooele's existing mission provides core capabilities in logistics and engineering which translate into readiness, responsiveness and speed for other applications. Continuous improvement culture results in increased efficiency and reduced cycle times.

This, in combination with the dedication and versatility of the workforce, positions the depot for new challenges and an expanded mission.<sup>JM</sup><sub>C</sub>

# Colleagues couldn't be happier with new transportation chief

By Darryl Howlett  
JMC Public Affairs



Al Rus

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill.—The person responsible for a smooth transportation of ammunition has a new face.

Allen Rus, chief, transportation, within the

Munitions Readiness Logistics Directorate of Joint Munitions Command, is now leading the directorate.

The office is responsible for the safe and secure transportation of ammunition from the ammunition plants and depots to sea and aerial ports for export movement as well as distribution to continental U.S. sites for military unit training and mobilization.

Rus replaced Rick Nesbitt, who is now the civilian executive assistant at Tooele Army Depot, Tooele, Utah.

"I filled in for (Nesbitt) a couple of times for extended periods of time due to long-term TDY and medical issues. That time gave me an opportunity to fill in for him on a number of projects that normally I would not have been involved in," Rus said.

At the helm since Feb. 15, Rus has worked for JMC since November 1985. Rus is also a graduate of the ammunition specialist career program from the Defense Ammunition Center, when it was located at the Savanna Army Depot, Savanna, Ill.

Before being selected as transpor-

tation chief, Rus served the last two years as a team leader for the container management and exercise program team within transportation.

Maintaining a positive relationship with U.S. Transportation Command-Surface Deployment and Distribution Command and Military Sealift Command is an important aspect in making the transportation logistics process work, according to Rus.

SDDC and Military Sealift Command are subordinates of TRANSCOM, representing the Army and Navy's transportation commands.

"One of the things that has been beneficial is I have a lot of hands-on experience dealing with other agencies such as TRANSCOM, SDDC and MSC," he said.

"I've also had the opportunity to learn from Rick. He had a broad logistics background and he delegated a lot of responsibility to the team leaders and showed faith in their abilities."

Rus is excited in leading an office of 24 people through the next stage of transportation policies and issues.

"We're working on a number of policy issues in coordination with SDDC and TRANSCOM as well as Lean Six Sigma process improvements. In addition, our export movements team has been very active and the transport of Foreign Military Sales commodities is increasing," he said.

Wood packaging material represents an issue affecting the international transportation community.

"All of the services are facing this issue. Wood that is used for our pallets and boxing of ammunition must be heat treated before being exported into a different country," he said.

According to the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, increased concerns about an invasive species, the pinewood nematode—a microscopic eelworm, led the countries into trying to regulate wood packing material.

Kathy George-Reading, director of Logistics Integration at JMC said Rus is well qualified to take the command's transportation vision further.

"I couldn't be happier about the selection of Al Rus as the new Transportation Division Chief within the Logistics Integration Directorate," she said.

"Al brings many years of transportation experience to the job as well as a wealth of ammunition logistics knowledge. Al's singular focus is getting the warfighters what they need, when they need it, and Al is well poised to continue our tradition of providing exceptional logistics support." <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sub>C</sub>

#### TRANSCOM:

- Develops the Joint Deployment and Distribution-Enterprise globally projecting strategic national security capabilities
- Accurately senses the operating environment
- Provides end-to-end distribution process visibility
- Responsive support of joint, U.S. government, Secretary of Defense-approved multinational and non-governmental logistical requirements



*Spotlight on*

# Lean Six Sigma

Do you want to know more about the green belt experience?

See page 2 and "Living the Lean Life" for a first-hand account of green belt class.

**By Justine Barati**  
**JMC Public Affairs**

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill.-- One of the Joint Munitions Command's own is now the first employee not in the Lean Six Sigma office to earn a black belt while working on a project.

Jim Rohler of the Logistics Integration Directorate in JMC led a project focused on stockpiles of non-issuable ammunition now cleared out of vital storage space.

His team designed a computer program that better manages Condition Code "E" (non-issuable) ammunition stockpile. According to Rohler, the program provides item managers and their team leaders with an understanding of the extent of the stockpile at eight depots and the tools to make decisions on how to reduce the tonnage of that non-issuable ammunition.

"The project focused on minimizing explosive ammunition in the B14 account at eight specified depots," he said.

This new computer tool allows item managers to focus on the non-issuable items. Before this system, they had to search several databases and there was no clear system to identify the non-issuable ammunition.

According to Rohler, this new program with its database tables and user-friendly systems provides item managers with an effective way to access the data.

"The inspiration for this program came from item managers quickly and easily moving large portions of their assigned lots from the B14 to the B5A. This reduced inspection costs and increased savings in the inventory processes of these lots of ammunition," said Rohler.

A testament to the success of the computer program is the fact that both leadership and item managers envision extending many of the features of the automated tool to follow-on projects. <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sub>C</sub>

## Ammunition stockpile project leads to Lean Six Sigma first

# Recognition

After more than 25 years, Sgt. Maj. James E. Taylor has retired. His final assignment included assuming the duties of sergeant major of the Joint Munitions Command in November 2006.

Taylor served in every leadership position from squad leader to command sergeant major. From Germany to Kentucky and Washington to Bosnia, Taylor's service spanned several countries.

Awarded many times, a few of his accomplishments include: the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal and National Defense Service Medal (with Bronze Star).

Taylor leaves JMC but continues his educational pursuits--he is currently studying Procurement and Acquisitions Management. <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sub>C</sub>



U.S. Army photos

**Service** (bottom left) Sgt. Maj. James E. Taylor is seen during the change of command ceremony for current commander of Joint Munitions Command, Brig. Gen. Larry Wyche. (right) Taylor makes an appearance at the closure of Kansas Army Ammunition Plant.

**299** *continued from page 1*

dinated by the Louisville District of the Corps of Engineers.

"Yesterday, representatives from Rock Island Arsenal, BRAC, Alacran/O&S Joint Venture and the Corps met for the 100 percent design review. Today, we move forward toward a construction start with expected completion April 17, 2010," said Lt. Col. Stephen Bales, deputy commander for the Louisville District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"Alacran/O&S is committed to providing the Rock Island Arsenal, the Louisville Corps of Engineers, and especially NI Industries with a quality construction project and looks forward to beginning the work," said Mike

Close, vice president of federal business development for the contractor conducting the renovation project, Alacran Contracting, LLC.

The Arsenal is receiving this mission under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law recommendation number 151. This work is currently being done at Riverbank. Norris Industries operates the Riverbank plant for the Army. Riverbank will close in 2010 and production will begin at here in 2012. Norris Industries will continue to operate the cartridge case line here, and they will have approximately 40-50 employees involved in the production. <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sub>C</sub>

# Joint Munitions Command aids in North Dakota flood fight

## JMC Public Affairs News Release

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – The Joint Munitions Command assisted the North Dakota National Guard’s flood-fighting efforts during the recent flooding.

Ice jam flooding is a serious threat to citizens living near the Missouri and Red Rivers in North Dakota. Ice jams back up water like a dam. One way to remove the barriers is by blowing them up.

The Guard was activated to assist with flood fighting. They decided to use explosives to remove ice jams on the Missouri River. The explosives were provided by JMC.

The Guard then asked JMC to provide more explosives to replenish their supply. Sgt. Maj. Robert Schuchard of the Guard contacted JMC requesting thousands of blocks of C4 and thousands of feet of detonation cord on March 26.

Glenda Bender, the transportation officer at Tooele Army Depot in Tooele, Utah, determined that Tooele could deliver the needed explosives in the 18-hour timeframe requested by the Guard.

The explosives were used to break up additional ice jams on the Red River.

“Employees at Tooele pulled, packed, and shipped the explosives in three hours, which is really fast,” said Lance McRae, a logistics management specialist for JMC.

“The items were in the unit’s hands less than 24 hours after they were requested, even though Tooele is 1,200 miles away,” he said. <sup>J</sup><sub>M</sub><sub>C</sub>



Photo courtesy of Department of Defense Imagery

**A Joint Effort** Members of the local community, Army and Navy personnel help North Dakota residents battle flooding of the Missouri and Red Rivers. JMC assisted in the effort by way of Tooele Army Depot employees packing and shipping explosives to the area.

**1ask.com**

**3 parkrec.nd.gov**

**2 JMC Fact Sheet**

**4 nd.water.usgs.gov.**

<sup>1</sup>**C4** —One variety of plastic explosive, the basic idea of plastic explosives or plastic bonded explosives is to combine explosive chemicals with a plastic binder material. Only a detonator or blasting cap activates the chemical reaction.

<sup>2</sup>**Tooele Army Depot** — Located in Tooele, Utah, the depot is a storage site for war reserve and training ammunition. Also, serves as the National Inventory Control Point for ammunition peculiar equipment, developing, fabricating, modifying, storing and distributing such equipment to all services and other customers.

<sup>3</sup>**Red River** — The Red, frequently called the Red River of the North to distinguish it from Texas’ Red River, forms the border between North Dakota and Minnesota. This river starts at the confluence of the Bois de Sioux and Ottetail rivers at Wahpeton, and flows north to Lake Winnepeg in Canada.

<sup>4</sup>**Missouri River** — The largest river in North Dakota and accounts for 80 percent of the total mean streamflow in the state. The Missouri River Basin is comprised of seven major subbasins and drains about 34,000 square miles or about 48 percent of the North Dakota’s total area.

# Crane partners to solve problem, earns Defense Value Engineering recognition



Col. Charles Kibben, commander, Crane Army Ammunition Activity

## Crane Army Ammunition Activity News Release

CRANE, Ind. – Crane Army Ammunition Activity won both the fiscal year 2008 Department of Defense Value Engineering Achievement Award and the Army Materiel Command Installation Award for its joint Army-Navy work on the decoy flare rebuild project.

In the project, engineers developed a new method to rework private industry manufactured MJU-32/B and 38/B decoy flares which had previously proven defective during testing.

According to Crane Army Supervisory Program Manager Mark Benstin, the Navy's flare design agent at Crane determined the failure

was due to oxidized igniter magnesium.

Crane Army suggested reworking the flares by replacing the igniter and foil wrap (the flares would otherwise be scrapped).

The cost for doing this was estimated to be roughly \$30 per unit versus \$60 or so for a new unit. Based on the test results, the Navy's countermeasure item manager wanted to pursue reworking. Crane Army developed a rework process. Private industry used Crane Army's rework process to successfully correct defective flares.

Benstin also said Crane Army reworked approximately 50,000 flares to date, and are funded to rework another 50,000 units. He said, "Overall this program will save the government between \$10 to \$15 million throughout its life. It will also help reduce hexane emissions, which is a hazardous air pollutant."

According to DoD, value engineering is a systematic process of function analysis to identify actions that reduce cost, increase quality, and improve mission capabilities across the entire spectrum of DoD systems, processes, and organizations.

The Department of

Defense Value Engineering Program continues to be an incentive for government and our industry partners to improve the joint value proposition by promoting innovation and creativity.

The award represents Crane Army's commitment toward continuous improvement. CAAA Value Engineering Program Manager Deb Byers said, "When people think of continuous improvement they tend to only think of Lean Six Sigma, but

value engineering is another important area where a command can see cost savings and avoidance. This award recognizes the hard work of so many people at Crane to ensure we are doing things the best way possible."

## Future scientists

continued from page 4

student, who plans to study bio medical engineering.

Jimmy Black of Davenport North High School agreed. "I'm planning to go into engineering, and this has been a good experience."

Songaila noted the decline in the number of engineering students in the United States and the importance of developing them in this country.

"We're trying to show the kids that real people work at the Arsenal, and we do some exciting work. The work we do is for the betterment of the U.S.," he said.

Pat McIllece, Tad Holburn and Kathy Linderman of the JMC also coached the students on the statapult

experiment.

Ann Lawler, math department coordinator, Scott Community College, Bettendorf, Iowa, and coordinator of the day's events said that Eastern Iowa Community College District and St. Ambrose University partnered on a National Science Foundation grant to increase the number of STEM majors in the area.

She said that 150 students from Davenport North, Davenport West, Davenport Central, Muscatine, and Rivermont Collegiate high schools and Scott and Muscatine Community Colleges attended STEM Career Day.

JMC

# Earth Day 2009



U.S. Army photo courtesy of Lake City Army Ammunition Plant

**Familiar Additions** Lake City Army Ammunition Plant observed Earth Day as an opportunity to help preserve the environment. Alliant Techsystems (ATK) and government employees, including Lt. Col. Christopher L. Day, commander, and Karen Davies, ATK Vice President and General Manager, gathered in the south field of the installation to help plant over 30 different native Missouri prairie plants and seeds. Jennifer Wickersheim, head of the ATK Green Team, began the event by sharing the history of Earth Day, followed by employees taking great pride in having the opportunity to participate in shoveling grassy areas to plant the prairie plants and seeds.

## JMC Installations Celebrating

*Virginia:* Radford Army Ammunition Plant

*Missouri:* Lake City Army Ammunition Plant

**Leaving His Mark** Col. Jon Drushal, commander of Radford Army Ammunition Plant plants a Cypress tree in honor of Earth Day. Drushal follows the RFAAP tradition of commander's planting trees from their native state in recognition of Earth Day.



U.S. Army photo courtesy of Radford Army Ammunition Plant

## The Impact of Earth Day

The success of cleaning up the environment has been in constant effect since the first celebration of Earth Day in 1970.

1976 -- President Gerald Ford signs the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce environmental and human health risks.

1980 -- Congress creates Superfund to clean up hazardous waste sites.

1988 -- Congress bans ocean dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste.

1990 -- Congress pass the Clean Air Act Amendments, requiring states to demonstrate progress in improving air quality.

1996 --Public drinking water suppliers are required to inform customers about chemicals and microbes in their water, and funding is made available to upgrade water treatment plants.

2000 -- EPA establishes regulations requiring more than 90 percent cleaner heavy duty highway diesel engines and fuel.

2003 -- Clear Skies legislation and alternative regulations are proposed to create a cap and trade system to reduce SO2 emissions by 70 percent and NOx emissions by 65 percent below current levels.

2008 -- EPA issues new rules requiring home improvement to follow work practice standards to reduce potential exposure to lead during renovations.

# H1N1 – personal responsibility is key to prevention

From the blog of  
Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker

By now you have all heard of the H1N1 Influenza, the most recent influenza outbreak, and may be wondering if getting sick is inevitable – it's not. There are precautions you and your family can take to stay healthy, but personal responsibility is key – personal responsibility can make the difference between getting sick and staying healthy.

Fortunately, your role in this effort is simple. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizers; avoid contact with people who may be ill; and you Type A people – stay home if you are sick, don't bring your germs to the office and potentially expose your friends and colleagues to this potentially debilitating virus.

**Other things you can do include:**

- *Cough and sneeze into disposable tissues.*
- *Throw these tissues away into a plastic bag. Limit your exposure to the dirty tissues.*
- *People who have the flu should use separate eating utensils that are washed in hot soapy water after each meal.*
- *Don't share objects like remote controls or pens.*
- *Disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched like door knobs, remote controls, light switches and toilet handles.*
- *An effective disinfectant can be made using ¼ cup of household bleach and 1 gallon of cold water.*
- *If someone in your house is sick you*

*should also stay at home. Don't go to work or school until they no longer feel sick.*

Another point I want to make is that I realize you are all being bombarded with information about H1N1 from all fronts, and I've heard from some people that the repeated use of clinical terms such as, *endemic, epidemic and pandemic* can be confusing.

An **endemic** is when a disease exists permanently in a particular region or population. For instance, malaria is a constant worry in parts of Africa.

An **epidemic** is when there are a large number of cases, and a **pandemic** is when there are multiple sites around the world with large numbers of cases.

The CDC is currently calling this an epidemic, and both military and civilian experts around the world are monitoring this closely.

I'll continue to stay in touch with you on this topic and provide updates as they occur. Meanwhile, please make a personal commitment to exercise preventive measures to keep you and your family healthy

If you think you have flu contact your health care provider. He or she will be able to determine if you need testing or treatment. If you experience any of the following warning signs seek emergency medical care right away:

**For children:**

- *Fast breathing or having difficulty to breathe*
- *Bluish skin color*

- *Not drinking enough fluids and not urinating as often*
- *Not waking up or being able to interact with others*
- *Being so irritable that they do not want to be held*
- *Flu symptoms that improve but then return with a worse cough and fever*
- *Fever with a rash*

**For adults:**

- *Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath*
- *Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen*
- *Sudden dizziness*
- *Confusion*
- *Severe or persistent vomiting*
- *Flu symptoms that improve but then return with a worse cough and fever*

For more information check your local installation hotline or go to [www.dod.mil/pandemicflu](http://www.dod.mil/pandemicflu) or [www.cdc.gov/](http://www.cdc.gov/)

For JMC news anytime,  
log on to:  
[www.jmc.army.mil](http://www.jmc.army.mil)