



## HONORING THE FALLEN

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# THE PICATINNY VOICE



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## SECARMY: Establish foundation for future when funding is good

BY ED LOPEZ

Picatinny Arsenal Public Affairs

Although recent funding for the Department of the Army has been good, future funding levels are uncertain, which means the Army has to establish firm priorities while it has the opportunity, Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper told employees at Picatinny Arsenal during a visit on Oct. 26.

“We’ve had three good years of funding and I think we have to use this time well,” said Esper, who used the comparison of fixing a roof when the sun is shining.

“I want to do everything I can now, to position the Army, to get AFC (Army Futures Command) stood up, to get the CFTs (cross functional teams) working, to give you all the money in S&T (science and technology) to do what you need to do,” Esper said. If budget levels should fall “those priority programs will get the money first.”

Early in his talk, Esper extended praise and thanks to U.S. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations.

“I feel very privileged to be joined today by someone who you all know well, somebody who has represented you in Congress for many, many years, who has done an exceptional job,” Esper said.

“His focus on Capitol Hill was always taking care of our Soldiers, taking care of our veterans, and making sure our nation was protected.”

Frelinghuysen, whose 11th Congressional District includes Picatinny Arsenal, announced earlier this year that he would not seek reelection.

“We have a vision, we have modernization priorities that we are sticking to. We have made big changes to allocate money to ensure we can fund those priorities.”

“It’s been an honor for me, the last 24 years, to represent, to look after, the great work here at Picatinny Arsenal,” Frelinghuysen said to the appreciative audience.

During his visit, Esper was briefed on projects and technologies at Picatinny, which is the Joint Center of Excellence for Guns and Ammunition, providing products and services to all branches of the U.S. military.

### VISION FOR THE FUTURE

“Great things are happening in the Army these days, wonderful things,” Esper said. “We have a vision, we have modernization priorities that we are sticking to. We have made big changes to allocate money to ensure we can fund those priorities. We’re working hard with Congress. Congress has been fantastic to get us now three good years of funding, and this year on time.”

While Esper expressed satisfaction with current funding, he also noted the importance of the people who help to shape the future of Army capabilities.

“But it’s due to folks like you, hard-working DA (Department of the Army) civilians who are putting a lot of muscle and brainpower behind our S&T (science and



Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper spoke to members of the Picatinny Arsenal workforce during a visit on Aug. 26. Esper said congressional funding has been good in recent years, so it is important to establish the foundation for the Army’s future now since future funding is unpredictable.

technology) enterprise. So I’m very excited about where we’re going.”

### LEVERAGING PICATINNY’S EXPERTISE

The Army Secretary also noted the contributions that Picatinny Arsenal has made over the years and the role it is expected to play in developing military capabilities.

“Thank you for what you do, thank you for Picatinny. You guys have a wonderful history, a rich history.”

As Secretary of the Army, Esper has statutory responsibility for all matters relating to the U.S. Army, to include the recruitment, organization, training, equipping, and care of 1.4 million active duty, National Guard, Reserve Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and their families.

Esper is a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and received his commission in the Infantry.

Upon completion of Ranger and Pathfinder training, he served in the Regular Army for over a decade, including service in the 1990-1991 Gulf War with the 101st Airborne Division.

He later commanded an airborne rifle company in Europe.

Following active duty, he served in both the Virginia and District of Columbia National Guard, and Army Reserve before retiring in 2007.

Esper was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on Nov. 15, 2017, and sworn in as the 23rd Secretary of the U.S. Army on Nov. 20, 2017.

# ARDEC receives workplace health award

BY TIMOTHY RIDER

Picatinny Arsenal  
Public Affairs

John F. Hedderich, director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, accepted an American Heart Association Silver Award Level recognition for the Workplace Health Achievement index survey.

Peter Carey, senior director American Heart Association, presented Hedderich with the award at a ceremony in Building 93 on Oct. 29.

ARDEC applies the AHA Health Achievement Index Survey, which is used by more than 700 business and academic organizations throughout the country, to benchmark its employee wellness program.

The AHA index measures leadership, organizational policies, environment, communications, programs, engagement, partnerships and reporting outcomes.

It also provides tools to capture generalized employee data and analysis in order to provide feedback to ARDEC related to the overall culture of organizational health.

Based on its performance in the AHA survey,



From left to right: Matthew Stracco, Human Capital Management Office; Pota Kriptos, Chief, Human Capital Management Office; Peter Carey, Senior Director American Heart Association; John F. Hedderich, director, ARDEC; Col. Kelly Laughlin, ARDEC military deputy; and Peter O'Neill, ARDEC Associate Director.

ARDEC achieved the Silver level, an improvement from the Bronze level it achieved in 2017. Improvement is one of the key goals of ARDEC's wellness program.

ARDEC applies a holistic approach to wellness designed to foster all facets of the individual—the mind, body and soul, according to ARDEC Wellness Coordinator Matthew Stracco.

Components of ARDEC's well-being initiative include wellness, resilience, suicide prevention, domestic violence prevention and substance abuse prevention.

The ARDEC Wellness Program has included

speakers on topics such as healthy eating, cold and flu season, breast cancer awareness and programs to address tobacco cessation and weight loss.

### HOLISTIC HEALTH

The ARDEC Wellness Program also offers stress management workshops which are focused on educating participants about the signs and symptoms of stress, while teaching the tools and techniques to more effectively manage stress.

Also available was the Individual Health Readiness (IHR) level 1-3 classes, which teach participants

how to create a realistic and sustainable individual wellness plan.

"I am extremely proud of the way the program has evolved since 2014," Hedderich said.

"Every year we are reaching more people and collecting more resources to post on our web page (<https://picac2w5.pica.army.mil/picaweb/ardec/humancapital/wellness.htm>).

"The goal has always been to take care of our people, so we can be at our best and better support the warfighter."



## TRICKY TRAY DINNER

Picatinny Arsenal Military & Civilian's Club (PMCC) held its Annual Tricky Tray Dinner on October 25.

A selection of baskets were also available to all Picatinny employees during lunch hours at Choices on Oct. 24-25.

Pictured above, club members Stephanie LaFontaine and Joann Riley select the winner of the Nabisco basketball backboard, donated by the Picatinny Arsenal Commissary.

More than 200 local businesses donated their items or time, including the band Acoustic Brew, which provided live music at the dinner event.

This year's Tricky Tray, which is a combination of a raffle and an auction, contained over 300 items and had a profit of close to \$10,000. All proceeds will go directly back into the Picatinny and local military communities.

Past donor recipients have been Picatinny Community Day, Women in Defense Take Your Child to Work Day, the Northern New Jersey Veterans cemetery, ARDEC Team Awards, Forge Fitness, and the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Club Food Pantry. PMCC takes donation requests each year beginning in February.

## THE PICATINNY VOICE

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### Editor's Note

The editorial policy of The Picatinny Voice is to accept letters to the editor and commentaries. Submissions must be signed or received via email through your own account to be considered for publication. **The Picatinny Voice reserves the right to select, reject or edit letters and articles to meet space constraints, achieve clarity or for suitability considerations.**

# Domestic violence often misunderstood, riddled with myths

BY ED LOPEZ

Picatinny Arsenal Public Affairs

The term domestic violence may evoke images of bruises and black eyes, but the scope of domestic violence is broader and extends into many types of relationships where a pattern of behaviors is used to establish and maintain control.

The meaning of domestic violence can extend to financial control, sexual abuse, verbal and psychological abuse, said Stephanie Klotz, who is with the Jersey Battered Women's Service or JBWS, a local domestic violence agency for Morris County.

Klotz, one of the speakers at the Second Annual Domestic Violence Prevention Stand-Down Event on Oct. 9 at Picatinny Arsenal, said domestic violence isn't restricted to married couples, but can include couples who are dating, homosexual partners, or mistreatment of siblings and elderly parents.

"If there is a dynamic of using these tools to gain power and control, then that's what we are talking about today," said Klotz.

"No one deserves to be abused, and anytime a DOD family member suffers abuse, the military's readiness is affected," Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Samuel Morgan said in his opening remarks. "We believe everyone plays a role in upholding the military values and standards that support safe, healthy relationships in the military community."

Event host John F. Hedderich, director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, said it was important to monitor your own behavior, which may seem harmless at the time but could become progressively more serious over time.

"Maybe these things start out with a few harsh words, some kidding around, a little bit of abusive talk in front of other people," Hedderich said. "It's always good to do a spot check on how you're behaving. That sets the tone, that sets the climate."

One misconception about domestic violence is that it is caused by alcohol and substance abuse. "It might get worse during these situations but they're not the cause," said Klotz, "because we can get someone clean and sober and they're still abusive to their partner."

Other myths are that domestic violence is caused by stress, only affects low-income families, doesn't exist in same-sex relationships, or is rooted in anger management. But anger management issues could be shown in many settings, such as reacting to a bad job review, Klotz said.

"Over 50 percent of people who use force against their partner are charming, well-liked, and present themselves like the greatest person that you might ever meet," Klotz said, cautioning that outer appearances can be deceiving.

"It's normal people with normal lives who are engaging in these behaviors because they have been taught that they should have power and control in their relationships," she added.

Another common misconception is that victims of domestic violence remain in the relationship because they suffer from low self-esteem.



Stephanie Klotz, with the Jersey Battered Women's Service in Morris County, talks about the myths of domestic violence during the Second Annual Domestic Violence Prevention Stand-Down Event on Oct. 9. Picatinny Arsenal Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Samuel Morgan said everyone plays a role in upholding the military values and standards that support safe, healthy relationships in the military community.

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**"Fifty-seven percent of domestic homicides occur after the victim has left. You're actually more at danger if you just leave. You're more at risk because it's about power and control."**

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"Anyone of any background, with the highest self-esteem, can find themselves in this type of relationship because it's slow and insidious," Klotz said. "The more enmeshed you get in that relationship, the more it escalates and the harder it is to leave."

Asking why someone is still in an abusive relationship is not the right question, said Klotz, who suggested instead, "Why is that person abusing their partner? Isn't that the real issue? We're blaming the victim for what's happening to them when it's not their fault."

Just walking away from a relationship isn't always as simple as it may seem. Even if someone leaves safely, there may be children in the relationship, so there is still an issue of negotiating co-parenting with the other party, Klotz said.

Other barriers to leaving could be finances, family religion or cultural upbringing. Often, a person may not know what options are available, such as social agencies, even if they want to leave a relationship.

Another critical factor is simply fear. "Fifty-seven percent of domestic homicides occur after the victim has left," Klotz said. "You're actually more at danger if you just leave. You're more at risk because it's about power and control."

Klotz said someone who leaves is saying, "I'm taking the power back," which can trigger a violent reaction by the person who previously held the power.

The stand-down event featured a video about a real-life situation in which a woman named Susan was able to get help because an attentive and caring boss observed signs of abuse, kept a record of her interactions with Susan, and supported Susan without judging her.

"Had Susan not been employed, she might not be alive today," Klotz said, adding that courts tend to treat domestic violence as a case of "he said, she said."

Therefore, records kept by any outside observer can help verify a pattern of abuse.

"An outside observer can look at all incidents over months and months," Klotz said. "The boss helped to support her (Susan) to get free. It was not first time her boss had talked to her, and she didn't judge her for not leaving. She stayed with her until she was ready."

"We need people in the community who can also know what's going on, so that they can be a branch to help them (domestic violence victims) get connected to services," Klotz said.

Incidents of domestic violence tend to be underreported, possibly less than half, Klotz said.

In 2016, there were, 63,420 incidents of domestic violence in New Jersey and 2,017 incidents in Morris County. Eighty-five percent of victims are female.

# Computer simulations prepare police department for real-life scenarios

BY ERIC KOWAL

Picatinny Arsenal Public Affairs

In a time when the news cycles are filled with headlines about school or mass shootings, police officers need to train to respond quickly and effectively for a variety of potential events.

Not only do law enforcement officials need to train, they need to do it often enough to retain the skills they absorb with each training session.

The Picatinny Arsenal Police Department (PAPD) uses a concept that the U.S. Army adopted several years ago, "train as you fight."

Simply put, "train as you fight," means that you would not go into the heat of battle without proper intensive training for real-world combat situations. Thus, U.S. Army units implemented

consistent training to help Soldiers focus and prepare for challenges they may encounter. This means constant drill and exercise.

The PAPD has acquired a simulation system for weapons training that allows law enforcement to practice a wide range of scenarios that can unfold in different ways, depending on how the user reacts.

"This is a form of continuing education for the officers," said Sgt. Michael Turner, lead police officer and active shooter combat operator with the PAPD.

The training system, produced by a company named Meggitt, can put officers in realistic situations that require split-second decisions. It can also be used for general marksmanship training and qualification purposes. Officers can work

on breaching and tactical entries, or negotiating to diffuse a situation.

The scenarios range from a traffic stop, to responding a call about domestic violence, workplace violence, and more.

Donald Meyer, acting PAPD police chief, envisions the possible use of the system by outside agencies as a mutual aid benefit to partners.

"Since our law enforcement partners off the post provide us mutual aid, if needed, it would benefit both Picatinny PD and our partners to train together on the simulator," Meyer said. "Training on this system will give everyone involved an idea of how we work together."

Essentially, the Meggitt system looks like a large video game simulation. But its purpose and role in law enforcement training and preparation are anything but fiction. The officers' weapons are real, but no live ammunition is used in the training. Instead, rounds are counted and disbursed electronically with each trigger-pull, just as they would be in a video game.

The current arsenal includes the M4 Carbine, M9 Pistol and shotgun.

The 8'x12' screen displays the scenario to which officers respond. Everything is controlled by and hooked up to a portable computer system, which allows up to 20 weapons to be registered to one system, and up to four weapons to be assigned to each student.

Judgment training uses high-definition video scenarios to produce dynamic escalation and de-escalation, or use-of-force training. This requires the user to observe



The Meggitt training system provides simulations that can put officers in realistic situations that require split-second decisions. It can also be used for general marksmanship training and qualification purposes.

and react to verbal cues, facial expressions and overall body language to quickly assess a situation and interact with individuals using proper verbal commands. The scenarios incorporate whole-task training that facilitates the transfer of skills learned during simulations into real-world situations.

Patrolman Brandon Convery, a former police officer in Clifton, is currently serving as a military police officer in the U.S. Army National Guard. He worked two years as security guard at Picatinny before transitioning over to become a patrolman with the PAPD. Convery is one of several officers currently certified to operate the Meggitt system.

"I can control the entire scenario based on how an officer responds or reacts. The same scenario can have a dozen different outcomes. If the officer is not responding with the correct verbal commands, things can escalate quickly," Convery said.

Other real life "injects" can be placed into the training for even more life-like training. The weapons can jam without warning, forcing the officer to react they would in real life. An officer may need to reload his weapon, or run into bystanders or hostages. Nothing is certain.

"If my weapon jams, that instantly changes the dynamic," said Patrolman Luke Lyons, a Marine Corps veteran now working for the PAPD.

As if the scenarios were not challenging enough, Convery and his team can turn up the heat. They can use a paintball gun to fire back at the responding officers, adding to the sense of

reality.

The entire simulation is recorded on cameras. The captured footage can later be replayed for evaluation or training purposes. The results, such as how many rounds were fired and hit/missed, are also calculated and available immediately after scenario. An analysis of the officer's trigger pull and squeeze can also be used to analyze how a situation was handled.

"Traffic stops are very dangerous for officers," Lyons said. "Conducting training here, internally, helps take the edge off. Training can help keep officers safe, so they can go home to their families every night."



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# Soldiers who captured Vietnam valor on film return to Pentagon

Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- Much of the excellent photography and motion pictures of the Vietnam War were captured by the troops themselves, not just by the civilian news media, said former Army Capt. William D. San Hamel.

Teams of two servicemen -- a still photographer and a cinematographer -- were given wide latitude to tell the stories of the Soldiers, and that usually meant going to where the fighting was most intense, said Hamel. He was in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969, at the Department of the Army Special Photographic Office, where he acted as a producer and director for the Soldiers of DASPO.

Hamel and other Soldiers assigned to DASPO spoke about their Vietnam experiences Nov. 2 at the Pentagon and displayed some of their work.

The Soldiers were not just given a lot of freedom to tell their stories through pictures, they also were allowed to go wherever they wanted and had priority seating on military aircraft, vehicles and boats as well, Hamel said.

"We were highly mobile, unencumbered by red tape, had top secret clearances, special passports, the best equipment and top-notch personnel," he said.

Hamel explained how DASPO came into being.

In 1962, Vietnam was just a blip on President John F. Kennedy's radar screen, he said.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Curtis LeMay used to go to Joint Chiefs of Staff meetings with the president armed with slides and film footage of Vietnam, impressing and

dazzling him and everyone, Hamel said.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George H. Decker didn't have such visuals and he didn't like to be outshone by LeMay, so he put the plan in place to create DASPO and to fill it with an elite group of professional Soldiers.

DASPO lasted throughout most of the rest of the war, its colors furled in 1974.

While DASPO was created to gather photographic intelligence for Army commanders and senior leaders, a great deal of the pictures and films also found their way to the civilian news media and elsewhere, Hamel said.

The Army would actually hold auctions where the news media would bid on the photos and footage, he said. Unfortunately, the Soldiers who risked their lives to produce it usually received no credit and sometimes the media took the credit themselves.

And risk their lives they did. Two of them, Spc. 4 Kermit Yoho and Sgt. Charles "Rick" Rein, were killed in action, Hamel said.

Former Spc. 5 Carl C. Hanson, who served in Vietnam in 1967, said "we'd go into ... territory until we ran out of film or until the battle was over."

Hanson said that the Soldiers of DASPO never knew where their products might show up and are still surprised today to suddenly see their work appear, in his case, as the covers of two books and in three national museums.

Former Spc. 5 Theodore "Ted" Acheson arrived in Vietnam Feb. 11, 1968, just days after the Tet Offensive began.



Pfc. Fred L. Greenleaf leads from the front at Cat Lai, South Vietnam in 1967. Photo by Spc. 4 Robert C. Lafoon'

He was wounded during a firefight near the city of Hue.

A cinematographer, Acheson said he shot 16mm film in 10- to 12-second segments. That was standard practice.

To operate the camera required him to expose his upper body from whatever cover and concealment he could find. "As I filmed the action I could hear bullets whizzing past me," he said. "That happened a lot."

On May 6, 1968, during a firefight near La Chu, Acheson filmed a squad of Soldiers destroying a series of enemy bunkers.

One of the Soldiers he filmed, Spc. 4 Robert Martin Patterson, received a Medal of Honor for his actions that day.



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# Archives reveal fascinating portrait of Maj. Deane Conklin

BY JEFF RANU

ARDEC Historian

The centennial of the armistice that ended World War I will be on Nov. 11, a fitting occasion to explore the career of a remarkable Soldier whose story emerges from the historical archives.

Maj. Deane Conklin's military career spanned both world wars, with specifics contained in a box tucked away in an upright cabinet.

Opening the box, the portrait of an Army major stared up at me, but his uniform did not fit the time frame of the ribbon inside the box.

He was wearing a World War II-era uniform, but the medals and ribbons on the perimeter of the frame told their own story. A World War I Victory Medal, an Army of Occupation of Germany Medal, a Service Cross that I could not immediately identify, a New York State 1917-19 Service Medal, and the Purple Heart.

Deane Conklin was born on February 24, 1894, in New York City. He enlisted in the Army after war was declared in April 1917. He was promoted to corporal in November 1917 and to sergeant in March 1918.

He departed for France in April 1918 as part of the American Expeditionary Force with the 305th Field Artillery – 161st Infantry, 41st Division.

On July 1, 1918, Conklin was discharged from the United States Army. He was, on the same day, commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant.

On October 3, 1918, Conklin received orders to report without delay to headquarters of the 4th Infantry Division, where he received orders to take command of a platoon in Co. A 47th Infantry.

This company was to conduct an assault as part of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, which was the last major operation of the World War I, lasting from late September until Armistice on Nov. 11.

The plan was to pivot northeast, with Verdun as the hinge pin, and push the Germans back to the Meuse River. From October 4 -12, the 4th Division initiated a series of attacks along the German line and captured several towns

Elements of the 4th Division continued to conduct patrolling missions North of Brioules along the Meuse River from October 14-18. According to the Purple Heart citation in the archive, Conklin was wounded during one of these patrols on Oct. 15, 1918.

An artifact in the archive tells of an unfortunate clerical mistake that coincided with Conklin's combat wounds. A letter he received from home on August 12 was stamped "Deceased – Statistical Division," and returned to sender.

Fortunately, he was actually recovering in Base Hospital #56, Allerey, France. I can only speculate how terrifying it must have been for a family member to receive the returned "deceased" stamped letter.

A series of post cards from Conklin to his sister, "Reg," followed for the next few months to reassure the family that he is in fact alive and well.

The first such post card was sent from Nice on Nov. 10, 1918. "I surely made no mistake when I selected this place for my sick leave. This is the most delightful place in all the world. I bet NYC is running wild this day and believe me you should see this place. – Brother Deane."

News of the Armistice planned for Nov. 11 reached New York on Nov. 7, prompting an impromptu tickertape celebration a few days early.

December 1918 was an eventful month for Conklin, spending a week in Paris in transit from Nice, back to the hospital in Allerey.

The timing was advantageous, as a series of postcards sent back home to "Reg" document the experience of seeing President Wilson's visit to France. "It was really wonderful the manner the French people received the President and the real American smile won the day."

Once the eventful week in Paris was at an end, Conklin found himself back in Allerey in the hospital on Christmas.

Orders arrived on Feb. 11, 1919 to report to headquarters of the 355th Infantry, to resume duty as part of the Army of Occupation. Deane would experience an unusual assignment in Trier, Germany.

Part of the unique set of papers included in Lt. Conklin's belongings in the archive, is a set of instructions for the Sergeant in charge of Stables.

The next month of service put Conklin in charge of the 355th Infantry's section of the 89th Division's equestrian team. He was responsible for ensuring the team had the resources they needed to prepare for the 7th Army Corps Horse Show in April 1919. Several members of the 355th Infantry team were among the top three finishers in



Deane Conklin, pictured in uniform during World War I, also served in World War II. He lived in Newton, New Jersey, at the time of his death in 1979.

several events.

A year in Europe now in April 1919, being part of the Army of Occupation, seems to have taken a toll on morale. The desire to return home becomes apparent in the post cards to Reg. "Let's trust and hope I do return soon, for I surely am homesick for 484 – and you all and the day cannot arrive any too soon. Love to all, Brother Deane."

He did not have to wait long. A letter home to his mother, written on May 14, states that he left Germany on May 9 on a train consisting of 48 cars and 2 engines, and expected to arrive at port and "leave here Friday on the S.S. Leviathan."

Conklin enthusiastically writes that he will probably arrive home before the letter he was writing. A meal card for the officer's mess hall aboard the Leviathan is among the archive materials.

The Leviathan arrived in Hoboken, New Jersey, on May 1919. Lt Conklin was then transferred to Camp Upton, New York, where he awaited to be discharged. This was not the end of Deane Conklin's military career, however.

Upon discharge, he requested a commission in the Regular Army, now that he was no longer part of the American Expeditionary Force and desired to stay in the Army. His first item of business was a request to be transferred from Camp Upton to the Port of Embarkation in Hoboken, to be assigned to the Finance Service.

The state of New York awarded Conklin the Conspicuous Service Cross for, "receiving citation from the headquarters of a brigade or higher military unit, or shall have received the Purple Heart since the sixth day of April, nineteen hundred and seventeen."

Deane married his wife, Beatrice, in 1919, shortly after returning home. It must have been soon after landing, since his request for appointment in the Regular Army lists "married" status.

Post-war service included five years with Co. L, 7th Regt NY National Guard, and served as 1st Lieutenant in the US Army Reserve Corps, 1922 – 1937.

Conklin was 47 when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and the United States

**Continued on next page**



Deane Conklin is pictured with medals that he received during his career. The historical archives at Picatinny Arsenal contain detailed records of his various assignments and career highlights.

entered World War II.

He enlisted with Co. D, 1st Bn. NJ State Guard, was discharged as a corporal in January 1943, and was once again commissioned a 2nd Lt., and promoted to 1st Lt. on July 23, 1943.

He assumed command of the Dumont Armory in August 1943, and immediately set to the task of recruiting capable personnel to man the Armory.

He writes, "Patriotism of the home front has never been proven lax, but there is now a need for a large number of trained personnel in the ranks of the guardsmen. Your State guardsmen are ready in time of need to protect your families, homes, and property."

Conklin requested volunteers to enlist for one year. Training consisted of two hours every Tuesday evening on the use of sub-machine guns and shotguns, chemical warfare, and infantry drill.

He saw to the training of his men, as well as his own training. Conklin trained at the Second Service Command Tactical School

in Hackettstown during October 1943.

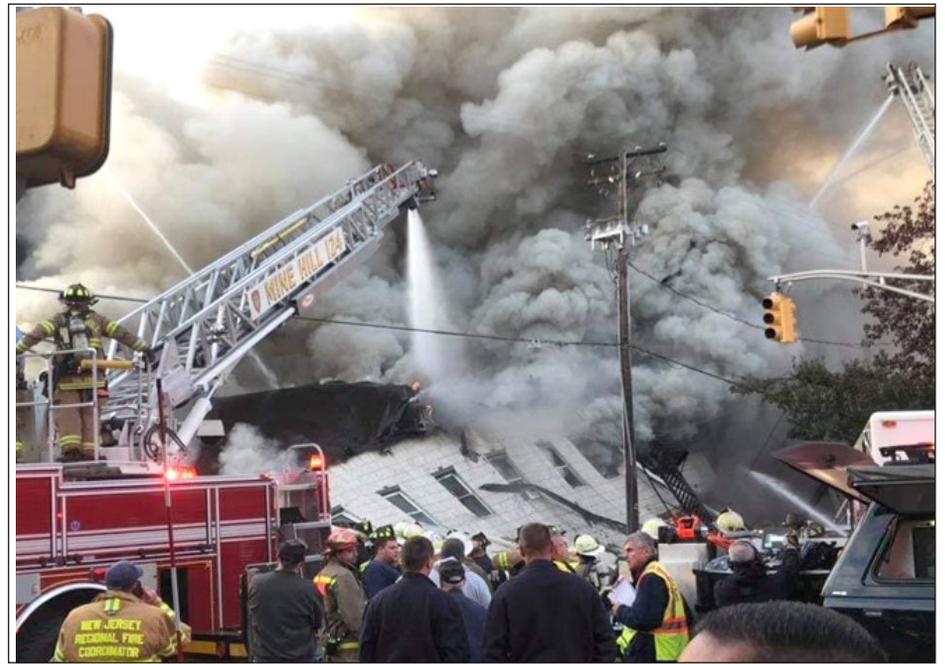
(The ARDEC historian is researching the possibility that this training initiated contact with officers at Picatinny Arsenal.)

A promotion to captain followed in December 1943, and he served as commander of Dumont Armory for the duration of the Second World War.

Conklin's military career officially ended in 1948, when he was discharged with the rank of major. The last record in the archive shows that he was a resident of Newton, New Jersey, when he died in 1979.

There is no indication of how his effects came into the possession of the historian archive, but his proximity to the Arsenal in Newton may have been a factor.

What is evident, a century after his service in the World War I, is his commitment to serving this country in two world wars, in a career spanning most of his adult life. His story is worth telling and remembering on this centennial of the Armistice.



## PAFD HELPS BATTLE MASSIVE FIRE

The Picatinny Arsenal Fire Department assisted with putting out a massive 7-alarm fire in Dover on Monday, Oct. 22.

Four buildings collapsed as a result of the fire.

Fortunately, there were no reported injuries. Officials said they were able to evacuate everyone safely.

However, about 100 people were displaced from their homes and six businesses destroyed.

One of the PAFD fire trucks suffered some minor damage but all personnel are safe and accounted for with no injuries.

The PAFD responded to the mutual aid request for assistance at 3:30 p.m. PAFD continued supporting the Dover Fire Department through the night and throughout the next day. Crews rotated every 10-12 hours until the fire was completely extinguished and clean up was well under way.

After conducting a systematic fire

investigation, consisting of interviews, photo documentation, fire scene processing and the examination of heat, smoke, and fire patterns, fire investigators concluded that the cause of this fire is undetermined.

The fire is not deemed suspicious at this time. The area of origin for this fire was located on the first floor of 19 West Blackwell Street.

All natural and incendiary causes have been ruled out. The fire investigation is complete, however the overall investigation remains ongoing.

The investigation into the origin and cause of the fire was conducted jointly by the Dover Police Department, Dover Fire Prevention Bureau, Morris County Prosecutor's Office Fire/Environmental Unit, Morris County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Investigation Unit, Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE), and the NJ Division of Fire Safety Fire Marshal's Office.

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## November Safety Corner

The top 10 violations seen by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in fiscal year 2018 are:

1. Fall Protection: General Requirements: 1926.501, with 7,720 violations.
2. Hazard Communication: 1910.1200, with 4,552 violations.
3. Scaffolds: General Requirements: 1926.451, with 3,336 violations.
4. Respiratory Protection: 1910.134, with 3,118 violations.
5. Lockout/Tagout: 1910.147, with 2,944 violations.
6. Ladders: 1926.1053, with 2,812 violations.
7. Powered Industrial Trucks: 1910.178, with 2,294 violations.
8. Fall Protection: Training Requirements: 1926.503, with 1,982 violations.
9. Machine Guarding: 1926.212, with 1,972 violations.
10. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment: Eye and Face Protection: 1926.102, with 1,536 violations.

### Picatinny Arsenal Winter Ball

Meadow Wood Manor, 461 NJ-10, Randolph  
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## Medics train to prevent 'lethal triad'

Army News Service  
 FORT RILEY, Kan. -- On today's battlefield, Soldiers can be tens to hundreds of miles from a medical treatment facility. If injured, they rely on the ability of their medics to get them safely to higher-level care.

"The best way that it's been described as is: the self-aid buys you seconds; Combat Life Saver buys you minutes; the medics buy you hours and the doctor can give you days," said Command Sgt. Maj. Uriah Popp, Womack Army Medical Center senior noncommissioned officer, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. "We have to be able to sustain life from the point of entry through evacuation or delayed evacuation to get you to a surgeon to be able to have the patient survive the situation or the wounds to get them surgical intervention."

Popp was present as the Soldiers in the first course of Prolonged Field Care worked their culminating event Oct. 26 at Fort Riley's Medical Simulation Training Center.

The weeklong program

enhanced the knowledge already learned from Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to provide medics with the ability to use equipment found in an aid station like ventilators, suction and whole blood drawing equipment, said Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Denning, noncommissioned officer in charge, Medical Simulation Training Center, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity.

"A lot of the concepts they receive here will help them in any scenario that they are in," Denning said. "A lot of it's based on the type of equipment they will have. But out in the field, they understand the lethal triad and how they need to set up and prepare their casualty to be received by an aid station."

The priority for the medics to learn was controlling patients from entering what they refer to as the "lethal triad."

"(The) lethal triad is a combination of coagulopathy, acidosis and hypothermia," Denning said. "That's going to lead to a quick



First Infantry Division medics assess a casualty during the Prolonged Field Care Procedure class at the Medical Simulation Training Center Oct. 26. The week-long course taught medics how to treat a casualty for an extended period of time due to lack of air support to evacuate the casualty.

fatality, which we are trying to prevent."

Popp said there was an Army identified gap for prolonged field care due to a loss of air superiority or evacuation platforms.

"A lot of the work for this course was done through Special Operations Prolonged Field Care working group," Popp said. "So, essentially what we did was take some components of the Special Operation Medic Course combined with the research and recommended protocols, procedures from the Prolonged Field Care working group and then current clinical practice guidelines for prolonged field care through whole blood administration ... One of the things that we are working to, [with] the goals of the Military Health System, is to decrease morbidity and mortality on the battlefield."

Popp said of the Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom deaths through 2011, nearly 25 percent were deemed potentially survivable.

"So, it's like 964 patients deaths could have been prevented through proper

intervention at either point of entry through the medic level," Popp said.

Since its inception in 2015, the program has been implemented at most of the direct reporting units of I Corps and the 18th Airborne Corps, and it is currently expanding through III Corps, Popp said.

"Prolonged field care, by definition, is holding a patient past the doctrinal timeline of two to four hours for priority patients," Popp said. "What it really gets after is mitigating the lethal triad. That's what's important, that's what's going to kill the patient. If you don't mitigate that, it decreases the prognosis of the patient."

Fort Riley is one of the first locations within III Corps to receive this training, according to Denning.

"We are one of the facilities, one of the duty stations, who are getting a jump on it," he said. "We are trying to provide the 1st [Infantry Division] Soldiers with the knowledge they need when they get ready to deploy. I'm very proud and happy to be a part of it."



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or come to our General Membership Meeting held in Bldg. 323 on the second Tuesday of every month.

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

The Picatinny Hispanic Heritage Month Luncheon was held Oct. 15 at "Noches de Columbia in Randolph. The theme of Hispanic Heritage Month this year was "Hispanics: One Endless Voice to Enhance Our Traditions."



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# Students put STEM skills to use during Pumpkin Slinging contest

BY TIMOTHY RIDER

Picatinny Arsenal Public Affairs

Sussex County Technical School students launched a pumpkin 136.7 meters to take top prize in a battle between high schools over which team could sling pumpkins farthest into Lake Picatinny in the third annual iteration of the Pumpkin Slinging Contest.

The Sussex school students edged out Madison High School's 134.5-meter launch in the third round of the contest.

More than 100 northern New Jersey students from eight schools matched engineering wits in a competition between the various catapult, trebuchet or launcher creations positioned in a parking lot in front of the lake.

Also participating in this year's competition were Dover Middle School, Essex High School, Livingston High School, Morris Knolls High School, Morristown High School and West Orange High School.

Last year, Sussex County Technical School was disqualified for safety reasons, said student team member Chance Tempe. This year, Tempe's teammates brought the same frame from last year competition but with modifications to make it more stable. Also, they outfitted the frame with a lighter, stronger arm made of metal instead of wood.

"It was very refreshing to apply what we do in the shop to more of a field environment," said Tempe.

The pumpkin slinging contest allows participants to use science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in a fun and competitive way. By building catapults to sling pumpkins, participants use physics and mathematics skills such as linear kinematics, projectile motion, trigonometry, and engineering physics.

"What this represents is the benefit of science and engineering and applying it in the real world situations," said Picatinny Arsenal Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Alfred Abramson,

The pumpkin slinging competition is one of many activities that are part of Picatinny's STEM Educational Outreach Program. Nearly 200 Picatinny scientists and engineers have volunteered to support STEM education. That support includes over 1,000 classroom visits, staffing over 100 educational field trips to Picatinny Arsenal's working laboratories, assisting nearly 800 teachers, and inspiring 50,000 students in over 400 schools.

The STEM program supports public and private schools, colleges and universities with no-cost assistance, professional development training, new instructional equipment and monetary and advisory support to student robotics teams.

They also offer engineer mentors, sponsorship of student competitions, and opportunities to visit scientists and engineers in their laboratories, where students get a first-hand look at how professionals rise to meet STEM challenges.

Skills learned in the course of pumpkin slinging competition may someday lead some student participants to contribute to U.S. defense needs at the Arsenal or make STEM contributions to society, said Shah Dabiri, director of Picatinny STEM outreach.



## Fallen service member memorial held Oct. 20

New Jersey service members who have died in support of overseas contingency operations since Sept. 11, 2001, were honored at this year's annual New Jersey Fallen Service Member Tree Memorial Ceremony on Oct. 20.

It marked the fourth ceremony since its inception in 2007 in which no new service members were honored from the previous calendar year, as no New Jersey service members were killed in action in 2014, 2015, 2016, or 2017.

The ceremony is part of an annual tradition at Picatinny Arsenal where a red oak tree is planted as a memorial to the individual service member, and a plaque is placed at the base of each tree. The red oak is the official state tree of New Jersey. In total, 174 red oak trees are now planted in the memorial.

Brig. Gen. Alfred F. Abramson, Picatinny Arsenal Commanding General, reminded families and ceremony attendees about the significance of 9/11.

"I know that for all of us here today, and in fact all Americans, September 11, 2001 forever changed our world. September 11 has changed the way we live yesterday, shapes the way we live today, and does and will influence how we will live tomorrow."

As part of honoring all of the fallen New Jersey service members, the ceremony included a reading of all their names, followed by a 21-gun salute, and a bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace" and "Taps," musical pieces that are typically played at military ceremonies to honor fallen service members.

"To the families, no words, no ceremonies, no plaques, no trees, or amount of tears will ever replace your loss. But what we can do is pay our respects and honor those that have given so much for so many," Abramson said.

After the ceremony ended, families and loved ones were transported to the location where the trees are planted in honor of their fallen service members.



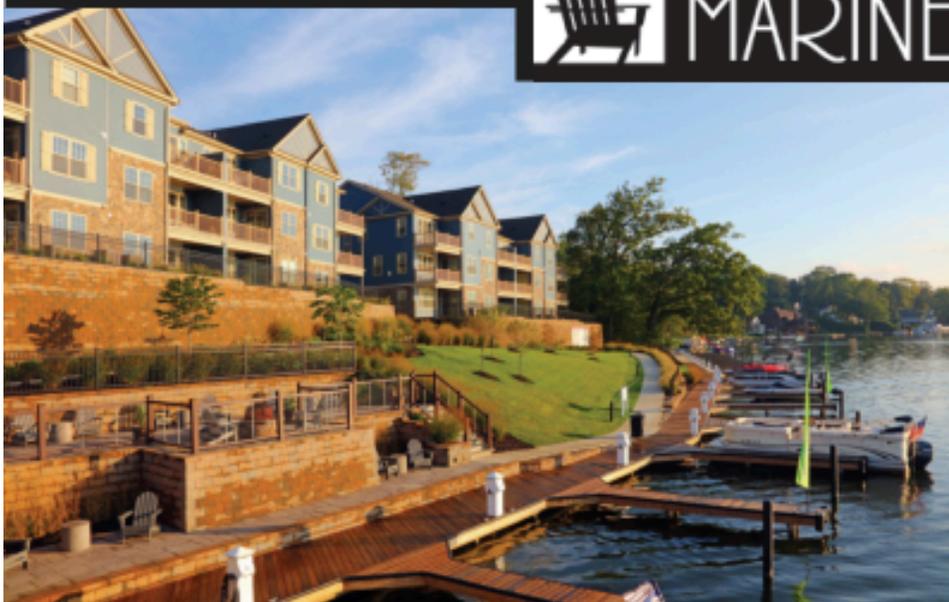
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