

**December 2009 Newsletter**

**New Sponsors**

The work of the Army Alliance is financially underwritten by grants, special events and generous sponsors. We are pleased to welcome the following new sponsors of the Army Alliance:

- Bowhead Science and Technology
- Freedom Federal Credit Union
- Link Solutions
- Logistics Management Institute
- Motile Robotics
- Raytheon
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**Army Alliance Welcomes New Board Member**

The Army Alliance is pleased to welcome Mr. Mike Geppi, vice president of M&T Bank, to its Board of Directors.

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## Army Alliance Participates in Discussions On Important Regional Issues

The Army Alliance is recognized as an important resource across the state. Organizations seek out the Alliance's input on a number of issues that are facing our region, such as workforce planning, transportation and education. Your Army Alliance is engaged in many of the region's important meetings and planning venues and is working closely with leaders at the county, state and national level. Just in the last few months, the Army Alliance participated in:

- Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) annual meeting in August
- Joint Senate/House BRAC Committee Meeting in October
- The Regional Rail Summit in October
- The Northeast Maryland Higher Education Summit in October
- The Fort Meade Alliance's Annual Dinner in November
- Maryland Military Installation Council in November
- Baltimore Metropolitan Council Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Breakfast at AACC in November

- The Fort Detrick Alliance Annual Dinner in December
- The Third Annual Education Forum sponsored by Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) and the Fort Meade Alliance in December

Army Alliance participation ranges from information gathering to active presentation, discussion and analysis of regional issues. It is the Army Alliance's mission and goal to ensure that our stakeholders are both informed of and represented in decisions that impact our communities of interest.

### MACo Meeting

The Army Alliance participated in the Annual Meeting of the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) in August. For the third year, the Army Alliance sponsored a BRAC panel discussion and this year's topic was on workforce development. Throughout the four-day meeting, the Army Alliance was able to hold several successful meetings with state decision-makers, such as Christian Johansson, Secretary of Business & Economic Development, and Beverly Swaim-Staley, Director of Maryland Department of Transportation. The Army Alliance also co-sponsored a Maryland Military Alliances booth with the Fort Meade Alliance, the Fort Detrick Alliance, the Southern Maryland Navy Alliance, and the Indian Head Alliance. MACo has proven to be a very valuable vehicle for getting our messages out on APG, BRAC and related issues of regional importance.



The Army Alliance co-sponsored a Maryland Military Alliances booth at the MACo meeting in August.

## Changes in Leadership at APG

Research Development Engineering Command has a new leader. Major General Nickolas G. Justice assumed command of the 17,000-person organization December 4 at a change of command ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. MG Justice, formerly the Program Executive Officer for the Army's Command, Control and Communications-Tactical at Fort Monmouth, NJ, replaces the retiring MG Paul Izzo.

In other recent ceremonies, Major General Randolph P. Strong took command of Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) on June 23, COL Orlando W. Ortiz became the US Army APG Garrison Commander on July 10, and Colonel David J. Kryszak took command of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Dental Clinic Command on Sept. 10.



Incoming RDECOM Commanding General MG Justice receives the command colors from Army Materiel Command General Ann Dunwoody at the change of command ceremony. U.S. Army photo by David McNally.

## BRAC News

- CECOM Commander MG Randolph P. Strong plans to plant his flag at APG during the Fall of 2010. In the meantime, C4ISR personnel are continuing to move into temporary offices at Edgewood. When construction is complete these personnel will relocate into the new \$857 Million C4ISR complex at the Aberdeen area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, the construction of which is running ahead of schedule.
- So far, 1,400 Ft. Monmouth staff have moved to APG and another 600 will be in place by the end of January 2010. An additional 4,000 jobs will be transitioned to APG by January 2011 and another 2,500 jobs will come by the end of that year. It is now expected that approximately 60-70% of employees will relocate with their jobs.
- As of the end of September, about 500 soldiers of the Ordnance Center and School had moved to Ft. Lee, VA. The organization projects that about 75% of the Ordnance Museum will be moved by the end of Fiscal Year 2010. Reflagging will take place during Ordnance Week in May 2011. Final people and museum moves will take place by August 2011.
- The Army Environmental Command move is in process. So far, about 13 employees have moved and 26 more are moving during this fiscal year. In Fiscal Year 2011, 27 more employees will move.
- The GATE Project, an enhanced use lease facility, is underway with the first building already fully leased. A groundbreaking for the facility was held December 14 and attended by Congressman Ruppertsburger.
- The groundbreaking for the U.S. Army Research Laboratory-Vehicle Technology Directorate (ARL-VTD) facility took place September 3. The 35,930 square-foot project will accommodate the lab's mechanics and propulsion branches. Walbridge-Adinger of Detroit, MI, received a \$14.7 Million contract to construct the facility, which is expected to be complete by April 2011.
- On Sept. 10, construction started on the new headquarters for the US Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC). Foulger-Pratt Contracting, of Rockville, MD received a \$49.5 Million contract to build the facility. This facility is planned to be rated at the gold-level Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and completed by June 2011.
- The US Army Medical Research Institute for Chemical Defense (MRICD) broke ground this Fall on a new \$430 Million laboratory complex expected to be completed in 2013. This 526,255 square-foot facility will replace existing labs at MRICD, in which scientists conduct basic and applied research in the pharmacology, physiology, toxicology, pathology and biochemistry of chemical agents and medical countermeasures.
- The Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical Biological Defense held a groundbreaking for its new \$22.28 Million facility under construction at the Edgewood area. Plans are to consolidate 360 professionals from offices in Virginia and Texas in this 75,000 square-foot building.



Artist rendering of the new C4ISR headquarters at APG. Illustration by Jacobs Engineering.



The U.S. Army Research Laboratory breaks ground on its new Vehicle Technology Directorate facility. Photo by Douglas LaFon, ARL.



Artist rendering of the new MRICD laboratory complex at Edgewood.

## Army Alliance Initiatives

The Army Alliance is committed to improving the delivery of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education for Maryland students and looks for ways to support STEM education locally. In November the Army Alliance partnered with the Harford County Office of Economic Development, the Susquehanna Workforce Network Office, and the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council to provide students of Harford County Public Schools a view of the types of jobs available at Aberdeen Proving Ground. About 125 students, parents, teachers and administrators attended this event at Bel Air High School. Many local contract firms and government agencies were represented and students had the chance to talk with hiring officials and employees at those organizations.

The Army Alliance is working with RDECOM to assess **STEM internship program needs and opportunities** within the APG community. The Army Alliance also plans to support the Harford County Public Schools as the system develops its county-wide STEM Education Strategic Plan in early 2010.

The Army Alliance sponsored the Susquehanna Workforce Network's recent **Virtual Job Fair**, a regional workforce recruiting effort that allowed job seekers to connect directly to employers through the internet from December 10-20, 2009. This event was focused on jobs in acquisition, engineering and technology professions. Instantaneous job applications and job-specific profiles were processed through a designated website, 24 hours a day.

**Cecil County Night** in Annapolis will take place on Thursday, January 14, 2010. This is a great opportunity for state legislators to meet the people of Cecil County and get a better understanding of the county's issues. January 21, 2010, will be **Harford County Night** in Annapolis. The Army Alliance will have a presence in Annapolis at both of these events.

The Alliance was asked to compile **data on higher education/training requirements** for area industry over the next 5-10 years. This information will be provided to universities and colleges in the region so they can better plan their service offerings for the growing APG community.