



**Pine Bluff
Arsenal
24/7 SHARP
Hotline
870-209-4093**

PBA Safety Glance



Safety Element for fiscal year 2023
Lost Day Case Rate: 0.54
Award Goal: 0.57

***Lost time injuries for fiscal year 2023 is three. There is zero lost time injuries for September 2023.**

***Recordable injuries for fiscal year 2023 is six. Recordable injuries is zero for September 2023.**

***Pine Bluff Arsenal days without a lost time injury is 134.**

***Pine Bluff Arsenal days without a recordable injury is 134.**

***Estimated hours worked without a lost time injury: 429,129.**



JMC inducts seven into Ammo Hall of Fame

By Matthew Wheaton
Joint Munitions Command

The U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command welcomed seven honorees into its Ammunition Hall of Fame in its 10th induction ceremony Sept. 12.

The JMC Ammunition Hall of Fame honors professionals who have made significant and lasting contributions to the ammunition mission. All nominees must have retired or separated from the ammunition community at least two years prior to consideration. The program focuses on the enduring impacts of each individual's efforts regardless of their title or rank.

Col. Ronnie Anderson Jr., JMC's commander, led the ceremony. He praised the efforts of those who have paved the path towards change, modernization, and transformation required to supply ammunition.

"The accomplishments of today's inductees were crucial to making the ammunition enterprise successful and ready for the future," Anderson said. "As many of you know, the challenge to modernize our capabilities, technology, and business processes continues to further our mission to provide ammunition. It is individuals like you who have shown us the effort and inno-

vation required to meet the supply and demand needs of our warfighters and allies."

The Ammunition HOF was established in 2011, under the command of Gen. (Ret.) Gustave Perna, who is one of the seven new members selected for induction this year. Perna is recognized for his overarching leadership of the ammunition industrial base as Army Materiel Command's Commanding General, and for his execution of the mission during Operation Iraqi Freedom, while serving as Commanding General of JMC.

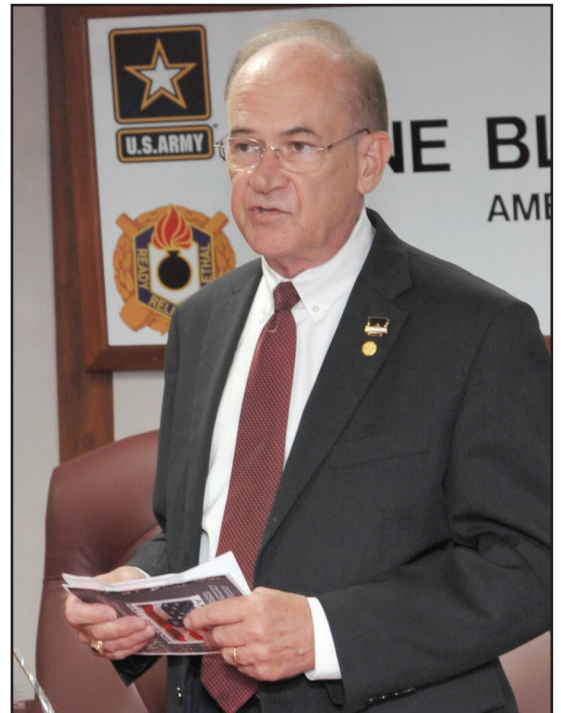
"I remember our first ceremony led by Gen. Perna when we unveiled the first Ammunition Hall of Fame display with the first set of inductees, and I'm proud to see the program induct its 66th member this year," said Keri Pleasant, JMC historian and administrator of the Ammunition HOF.

"Each year's inductees have been proud to continue on their legacy within the program."

Another former JMC Commanding General, Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Larry Wyche, was also inducted for his accomplishments to modernize production and energy projects to enhance munitions readiness. Under his command, he

See AHOF Page 3

From left to right, Col. Ronnie Anderson Jr., Commander of U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command, Lisa Swanson, Rickey Peer, Cindy Lenger, and JMC's Command Sgt. Maj., Christopher Reaves, pose for a portrait after the Ammunition Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Sept. 12. Swanson, Peer, and Lenger, along with Gen. Gustave Perna, Ret., Lt. Gen. Larry Wyche, Ret., Larry Wright, and Sgt. Maj. Clayton Merritt, Ret., were selected for the Ammo HOF's latest class. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY SHAWN ELDRIDGE, JMC



Larry Wright, former Deputy to the Commander of Pine Bluff Arsenal, talks about being accepted into the JMC Ammunition Hall of Fame during a VTC broadcast live during the ceremony at JMC Headquarters Sept. 12. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY HUGH MORGAN



Right Today

Accomplishing the mission "right today" simply means complying with regulations, policies, plans, work instructions, SOPs, and other requirements. We will not compromise the quality of products that will be used by our Warfighters and when we make these products, we will minimize impact on the environment and we will ensure no one gets hurt in the process.

Better Tomorrow

"Better tomorrow" means that every day, we will make improvements. Every time we start a manufacturing or administrative process, it should be more efficient and more environmentally friendly than it was before. Every day should be safer than the last one.

Commander's Column

Happy (Fiscal) New Year!

In the United States, October 1st marks the beginning of the new fiscal year within our government. The federal government's fiscal year runs from the first day of October of one calendar year through the last day of September of the next. However, it hasn't always been this way.

Beginning in the early 1920s, the President began to assume more prominence in setting the federal budget. The Budget and Accounting Act of 1921 gave the President overall responsibility for budget planning by requiring him to submit an annual, comprehensive budget proposal to the Congress; this act also expanded the President's control over budgetary information by establishing the Bureau of the Budget (renamed the Office of Management and Budget in 1971).

By contrast, the Congress lacked institutional capacity to establish and enforce budgetary priorities, coordinate actions on spending and revenue legislation, or develop budgetary and economic information independently of the executive branch.

Conflict between the legislative and executive branches reached a high point during the summer of 1974, when members of Congress objected to President Richard Nixon's threats to withhold Congressional appropriations for programs inconsistent with his policies (a process known as impoundment).

The dispute led to the enactment of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 in July 1974. The act established the federal government's fiscal year. The Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act made the change to allow Congress more time to agree upon a budget each year.

The 1974 act reasserted the Congress's constitutional control over the budget by establishing new procedures for controlling impoundments and by instituting a formal process through which the Congress could develop, coordinate,



Col. Collin K. Keenan

and enforce its own budgetary priorities independently of the President. In addition, the law created new legislative institutions to implement the new Congressional budget process: the House and Senate Budget Committees to oversee execution of the budget process and the Congressional Budget Office to provide the Budget Committees and the Congress with objective, impartial information about budgetary and economic issues.

The Congressional Budget Office began operations on February 24, 1975, when Alice Rivlin was appointed its first Director.

This small history lesson reminds us of the "new season" which is upon us. As we transition into Fiscal Year

2024 on October 1st, let's take inventory of ourselves and our organization. It's a great time to clean up our workspaces, reflect on priorities within our directorates, and think of ways we can improve as individuals and members of teams. I would like our entire workforce to ask yourselves a few questions.

First, what personal and professional goals do you have as you transition into the new fiscal year? Do you need to place greater emphasis on workplace safety and/or safety at home? Are you placing adequate focus on your family and maintaining a solid work life balance? What is your current level of fitness, and do you have a sound dietary plan? Are you saving for your future and planning for the upcoming fiscal year?

As you transition into FY24 please remember, YOU are Pine Bluff Arsenal! We succeed each fiscal year because of duties and responsibilities filled by our FIRST-CLASS Workforce! PEOPLE are our #1 priority!

*Be All You Can Be!
41st Commander PBA*

Arsenal Sentinel

Col. Collin K. Keenan, Commander
Roch Byrne, Deputy to the Commander
Cheryl Avery, Public Affairs Officer
Rachel Selby, Sentinel Editor/Social Media
Hugh Morgan, Photographer
Kevin Wilson, Webmaster

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Colonel's Picks

Oct. 15



San Francisco 49ers
Score:

VS



Cleveland Browns
Score:

Oct. 15



Tennessee Titans
Score:

VS



Baltimore Ravens
Score:

Oct. 21



UAPB Golden Lions
Score:

VS



Alcorn State Braves
Score:

Oct. 22



Pittsburgh Steelers
Score:

VS



Los Angeles Rams
Score:

TIEBREAKER

Oct. 21



Arkansas Razorbacks
Score:

VS



Mississippi State Bulldogs
Score:

*Pick the winner of each game. Circle your pick.

*Put what you think will be the final scores for each team for each game. **Put your name/email and contact number on the sheet!**

*Submit your winners by **October 10 by 4:15 p.m.** to the Commander's Office in Bldg. 10-020. There will be a box for you to place your sheets. *Tie breaker – Score of

Arkansas Razorback vs Mississippi State game – Oct. 21
Winners will be printed in the October Arsenal Sentinel on Oct 26.

Helping Our Neighbors



Pine Bluff Arsenal Commander Col. Collin K. Keenan presents a certificate of appreciation to Pine Bluff Fire and Emergency Services Chief Shawn Howell during a ceremony Sept. 5 at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. The certificate was presented for outstanding collaborative efforts with the Arsenal's Fire and Emergency Services during a confined space recovery operation Aug. 7. The Pine Bluff Fire Department presented certificates to Arsenal Deputy Fire Chief Paul Wade, Firefighter Michael Harrington and Firefighter Charles Burrow for their assistance during the emergency recovery. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY HUGH MORGAN

Colonel's Picks

The September Winner is....
Tina Cranford, Commander's Office.

Hails and Farewells

Hails

Justin H. Wilson, Heavy Mobile Equipment Repair Inspector (MVO), has joined the Directorate of Public Works.



AHOF from Page 1

executed \$74 million in American Resource Recovery Act projects and ensured implementation of the Logistics Modernization Program while executing wartime support.

Larry Wright was inducted for contributions over 37 years of service during critical periods of war and transition at Pine Bluff Arsenal in Arkansas. Through his efforts, the Arsenal finished the storage, destruction, and closure of the chemical weapons demilitarization mission in 2010. In 2015, his foresight brought the chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear textile manufacturing mission to the Arsenal.

Lisa Swanson was inducted for her 34 years of service where she rose from data clerk to Director of Munitions Readiness at JMC. Her enthusiasm and positive leadership guided the Army and command, while she tackled the challenge to improve and automate reporting measurements for munitions readiness with the creation of the Munitions Readiness Report. The report was leveraged to the highest levels of the Army for critical decision-making.

Cindy Lenger was inducted for her 32 years of service, as she impacted the management and distribution of munitions for the Army and Joint Services. Performing materiel management operations at JMC, she applied critical changes across the logistics spectrum to include acquisition, production, inventory management, stock control, and transportation. She spearheaded the Central Ammunition Management program to revolutionize ammunition dis-

tribution by assessing training, test, and mobilization requirements against stocks on hand and reduced delivery time with a 99 percent success rate.

Rickey Peer was inducted for his 38 years of federal service, where he managed demilitarization to decrease excess and obsolete munitions, and reduced storage inefficiencies and inspection costs for the Army. He established the Project Management Office for Ammo Depot Automation issues to respond to depot initiatives to reduce the cost of ownership.

He leveraged Automatic Identification Technologies efficiencies from wholesale level to retail level activities. He also established and led the Minority College Relations Program to increase workplace diversity.


Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Clayton Merritt was the final inductee recognized as the first ammunition sergeant major in special operations who coordinated worldwide operational ammunition support and developed future contingency operations. He assisted national-level ammunition oper-




ations by developing a web-based Ordnance Management System for accountability and real-time worldwide asset visibility. His partnership within the enterprise resulted in the first automated spent brass sorter.

“Collectively, your efforts advanced munitions development, modernized the industrial base, and changed the business operations required to execute our mission,” Anderson said to the new inductees. “You delivered munitions support in the most critical times of war and aided in bringing new items and capabilities to fruition to advance lethality on the battlefield.”

Story on Larry Wright's AHOF induction will be published in October 2023 Arsenal Sentinel.



Army Civilian Corps Creed



I am an **ARMY CIVILIAN**—a member of the Army team.

I am dedicated to our Army, Soldiers, and Civilians.

I will **ALWAYS** support the mission.

I provide leadership, stability, and continuity during war and peace.

I support and defend the Constitution of the United States and consider it an honor to serve our Nation and our Army.

I live the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

I am an **ARMY CIVILIAN**.

Online Conduct

Think.Type.Post

“Army Professionals, by our solemn oath, voluntarily incur an extraordinary moral obligation to uphold the Army Values, which apply to all aspects of our life.

Although our lives are changed by the Internet and social media in general, the standards of our conduct have not.

Online misconduct is misconduct - wherever, whenever, and however it occurs. Whether in the form of online harassment, assault, bullying, hazing, stalking, discrimination, retaliation, improper relationships, or any other type of misconduct, we hold ourselves and others accountable.

Trustworthy Army Professionals do not tol-

erate double standards; anything that is unacceptable to say or do in person is also unacceptable to write or post online.

When using electronic communication, members of the Army Team should apply “Think, Type, Post.”

“Think” about what message/information is being communicated and who could potentially view it; “Type” messages or convey information that is consistent with the Army Values; and “Post” if the message/information is responsible and demonstrates dignity and respect for others.

Remember whenever online - “Think, Type, Post.”

M14 grenade production starts after nine-year hiatus

By Rachel Selby

Pine Bluff Arsenal's Directorate of Ammunition Operations is once again making AN-M14 Thermate Grenades. This item has been historically made here, with drawings dating back to the 1960s, and production through the early 1990s. It was redesigned in the 2011 timeframe, and the last production run of these grenades was in 2014.

"There are always challenges when there are gaps in production runs like this, but this is the world we live in now with ammunition production," said Don Scifres, AO director. "Realistically, the AN-M14 will probably never be an item with an annual requirement due to the way it is used. We are fortunate enough to have some of the same people here the last time it ran."

Scifres said there is continuity with having a lot of the same engineers, technicians, operators, leaders, and supervisors, like himself, being here since the last time the product was made.

"This grenade is part of our portfolio, and we are proud to have it in there," he said. "It isn't a smoke item, but smoke is not all we do in Ammunition Operations. The Arsenal has a history going back to World War II with incendiary items, and this grenade is the only incendiary item we are currently still making for the Warfighter."

Thermate hand grenades are typically used by the military in the partial destruction and disabling of equipment and artillery pieces. Thermate grenades can damage, immobilize, or destroy vehicles, weapons systems, shelters, or munitions. When the grenades are deployed, the thermate mix is converted to molten iron, burning at approximately 4,000 degrees Fahrenheit. This mixture, which produces its own oxygen and will burn under water, will fuse together the metallic parts of any object it encounters.

The Arsenal's Directorate of Engineering and Technology have made several updates to the line.

"We developed a better supply chain of materials," said Gary Jafar, E&T chemist.

"It is becoming increasingly more difficult for the government to buy chemicals. We have been quite successful in procuring these items from here in the United States. This is a big thing. We do a lot of testing to validate using certain materials."

Jafar said the production has also been streamlined since 2011 to the point where the mix can be made in a shorter amount of time.

"It used to take 24 to 36 hours to produce the mix. Pretty much an overnight process," he said. "Now, because we produce part of the mix in house, we can use it as it is made. It takes approximately an hour and a half to produce the mix now. We have identified critical components that need to be tested, and our burn times are very consistent from batch to batch."

Michael Michael, project engineer with E&T, said changing out certain things on the line has been beneficial, and environmentally friendly. "We took the barium and lead out of the product. The operators had to tweak the mixture a little bit, so it gave the same performance characteristics," he said. "It still does the exact same thing."

Controls on the production line were also changed out. "E&T had a project prior to the current production run to make needed updates on the grenade line after the last production run in 2014," said Scifres. "The legacy Air Logic control for the pallets and pressing stations were changed to PLC control, and this has helped our efficiency greatly during the current production campaign."

All the testing for the M14 is done here on the Arsenal.

"First Article Tests, lot acceptance, end of the line samples, mix samples and moisture samples are all done here," said Michael. "LATs are done throughout the production cycle. Different things are lot determining. This can change when fuses, bodies, or lids are changed out. You try to get as many items in a lot as you can, so you aren't wasting your viable production assets



Photo left, ammunitions production worker Cadiryus White puts the AN-M14 cans in clam shell molds at the beginning of the production line. These molds fit tight around the grenade cans so it creates a funnel when the mix is added. The mix is then pressed into the cans.

Photo below, Gordon White, AO engineering technician, stands at the top of grenade can press machine, as Randy Haynes, explosive operator, works the machine. White's job has been a critical part of the start up of the line.

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY RACHEL SELBY



AN-M14 grenades, after they have been stenciled, stand ready to be placed in cans at the end of the production line. Thermate grenades can damage, immobilize, or destroy vehicles, weapons systems, shelters, or munitions. When the grenades are deployed, the thermate mix is converted to molten iron, burning at approximately 4,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

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EAP Corner

Be kind to your mind: Live drug free

Courtesy of Pine Bluff Arsenal Employee Assistance Program

The National Family Partnership was established in 1980, and is a national leader in drug prevention, education, and advocacy. Its mission is to lead our nation's families and communities in nurturing the full potential of healthy, drug-free youth.

Each year, the National Family Partnership sponsors the Red Ribbon Week Theme Contest.

The theme contest invites millions of Americans across the country to submit a unique slogan that captures the essence and mission of the campaign. This year them is "Be Kind to Your Mind-Live Drug Free".

NFP organized the first Nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign in response to the murder of Drug Enforcement Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena who was tortured and killed in Mexico in 1985. After his murder, parents, and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the destruction caused by drugs in America.

In addition to the Red Ribbon Campaign®, NFP sponsors the Lock Your Meds® Campaign to prevent prescription drug abuse. Red Ribbon Week takes place each year from October 23-31.

Being kind to your mind should always be your priority. All drugs have some kind of effect on your mental health. They can affect the way you see and experience things, your mood, and your behavior. Drugs alter our current brain development and hinders further growth (*Sapp, 2023*).

Many drugs have harmful neurological effects that impact the brain's ability to function and maintain its health. Whether the drugs cause seizure, stroke, or have direct effects on the cells in the brain, the results can have lasting effects on a person's health and quality of life.

If you or a loved one has abused drugs or alcohol for a long period of time, suffered from drug-induced seizures, experienced overdoses, or suspects there may be some brain damage, there are several different warning signs to watch out for.

If you suspect something is wrong or you are experiencing some of these problems, you should always seek medical help.

1. **Delayed reactions** – Delayed reaction times can be a sign that there is a problem with brain function. Examples could include taking a long time to recognize you're touching something hot or raising your hands to block your face after something has already hit you.

2. **Severe memory problems** – Things like memory lapses or blackouts should not be a regular occurrence. If they are, it's time to seek medical attention and investigate the potential role of drugs and alcohol on the problem.

3. **Hallucinations** – If a person is hallucinating while they are sober, it could be caused by frequent or long-term drug abuse. Many medical conditions can also cause hallucinations (including schizophrenia, which is common among drug users), so it's important to see a doctor if you are sensing objects, people, tastes, smells, or bodily movements that aren't real.

4. **Sudden lack of coordination** – Everyone trips or falls occasionally, but if a person is suddenly experiencing a loss of physical coordination, it could be a sign that the brain is not func-

NAME _____ OFF SYM _____

Be Kind to Your Mind-Live Drug Free

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MIND DRUGS SCHIZOPHRENIA ADDICTION BRAIN	HALLUCINATION COORDINATION NEUROLOGICAL HEALTHY	MEMORY ALCOHOL SOBER MENTAL
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tioning properly. Examples of coordination problems could be frequent falls or difficulty grabbing and holding on to things.

5. **Problem thinking** – Being unable to think clearly, not being able to plan, or having difficulties making decisions

and performing daily tasks can make life very difficult. This could be a signal that something is not right, and your brain is struggling to perform its job (*Briarwood, 2019*).

If you use drugs and alcohol in this way, you may be experiencing addiction. Be Kind

to Your Mind is about making positive choices to be happy and healthy.

The Employee Assistance Office staff are here to help. Our office is located at Building 13-040, and our phone number is 870-540-3094. The Care line number is 870-556-0116.

OCTOBER IS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

BE A LIGHT, TOGETHER WE CAN FIGHT

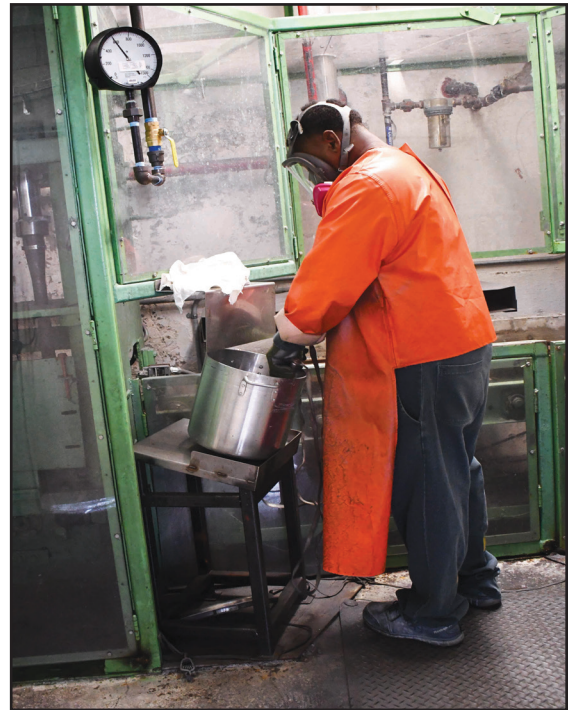
STEM Fair



Pine Bluff Arsenal Deputy to the Commander Roch Byrne and Director of Chemical and Biological Defense Operations John Burkhead, attended a STEM Fair at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville the last week in September. Information about the Arsenal was shared with students in STEM fields during the event. U.S. ARMY PHOTO



Pine Bluff Arsenal Commander Col. Collin K. Keenan presents a Civilian Service Commendation Medal to Rachel Selby for demonstrating professional competence and dedication that directly contributed to the successful publication of the *Arsenal Sentinel*, earning third place in the 2022 U.S. Army Materiel Command Level, David G. Harris Public Affairs Competition Award in the Category A: Printed Publication. While competing against publications with larger staffs and greater resources, the *Arsenal Sentinel* is the only JMC-Printed Publication to place and win an award this year. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY HUGH MORGAN



Top photo, ammunition production operator Eric Jones works in one of the fill stations on the AN-M14 production line. For safety, Jones wears personal protective equipment such as a mask due to the dust created by the mix.

Bottom photo, AN-M14 grenades are placed in cans during the fill and press operations, and then boxed in wooden crates. U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY RACHEL SELBY

M14 from Page 4

on testing. We are keeping them with this current run at approximately 10,000 per lot."

According to Allen Huff, AO Production Chief, M14 production will conclude in October with approximately 72,000 grenades being made. "Thirty-five production operators work on this line. However, if you add in the mix operators, other engineers, quality personnel and others, it comes to about 45 people."

The Arsenal is always interested in making other ammunition and incendiary products if the opportunity presents itself.

"The production personnel in Ammunition Operations are skilled in working across the different items from hand grenades to 155MM projectiles," said Scifres. "The project managers at Combat Close Systems and Combat Ammunition Systems (both under the Joint Program Executive Office for Armaments and Ammunition) understand the importance of maintaining the skills needed to produce these different items."

Health Clinic Corner

COVID-19 Q&A

By Maj. Nina Rodriguez, M.D., MPH
Pine Bluff Arsenal Health Clinic

You've likely seen or heard of increasing COVID-19 cases in the past few months with a new subvariant circulating from the omicron family nicknamed Pirola (BA.2.86), so reviewing COVID-19 guidelines, vaccine updates, and common questions seems like a good idea.

What to do if I develop symptoms that could be COVID-19?

1. Stay at home and get tested.
2. Notify supervisor/chain of command as appropriate for current position.

***Watch For:

- Fever (100.4°F or greater)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache

IF you test Positive:

1. Notify supervisor. The supervisor is to fill out the PBA

385 form and notify the PBA Occupational Health Clinic (PBA OHC).

2. Isolate for 5 days; day 0 is the date of positive test OR the day of symptom onset.

3. Wear a well-fitted mask around others through day 10 and monitor for symptoms.

May Return to Work IF:

1. No fever in the past 24 hours without fever-reducing medication (i.e., Tylenol, ibuprofen).

2. All other symptoms are resolved or have significantly improved.

IF you test Negative, you May Return to Work IF:

1. Negative testing, consistent with CDC testing guidelines; see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>.

2. No fever in the past 24 hours without fever-reducing medications.

3. All other symptoms are resolved or have significantly improved.

2023-2024 mRNA COVID-19 vaccines

As of September 12, 2023, the FDA, and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) have approved

two updated vaccination formulas from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, which more closely target the lineage of the Omicron variants. Everyone 6 months and older is recommended to get this vaccine to protect against serious illness.

Can I still get previous COVID-19 Shot?

No. Since the new formula was approved, the previous bivalent COVID-19 booster shot is no longer authorized.

Where to get the shot?

The vaccines are covered by insurance and the updated COVID-19 booster shots should be available to the public by the end of September. The PBA OHC does not have specific dates to receive the updated COVID-19 vaccines or Flu shots, so the best option currently is to go through your healthcare provider or local pharmacy.

Can I get the flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster at the same time?

Yes.

REFERENCES:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/whats-new/covid-19-variant.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>



Army Emergency Relief
Soldiers Helping Soldiers

AER is a private nonprofit organization incorporated in 1942 by the Secretary of War and the Army Chief of Staff. AER's mission is to provide emergency financial assistance to Soldiers and their Families.

Since it was established, AER has provided more than \$1.8 billion to 3.7 million Soldiers and their Families. On average, each year AER provides more than \$61 million to over 40,000 Soldiers and their Families.

Who is Eligible for Assistance?

- Active Duty Soldiers, single or married, and their eligible Dependents
- Army National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers on continuous Active Duty (Title 10, USC) for more than 30 consecutive days and their eligible Dependents
- Soldiers Retired from Active Duty for longevity or physical disability, and their eligible Dependents
- Army National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers who retired and are receiving DFAS Retired Pay, and their eligible Dependents
- Surviving spouses and orphans of Soldiers who died while on Active Duty or after they retired

What Kind of Assistance can we provide?

- An Interest free loan
- A grant if repayment of loan will cause undue hardship
- A combination loan/grant

How can AER Help Me?

Assistance with:

- Rent
- Temporary Lodging (Homeless)
- Mortgage
- Initial Rent & Deposit
- Basic Furniture
- Appliance Repair/Replacement
- Utilities
- Emergency Travel
- Cranial Helmets

- PCS Travel (AD Only)
- Welcome Home Travel
- Non-Medical Attendant (NMA Travel)
- Invitational Travel Order (ITO)-Soldier Hospitalized
- Safe Travel Due to Domestic Violence
- Food
- Disaster-Evacuation
- Disaster Assistance-Recovery/Sustainment
- Disruption in Pay (Government Shutdown)
- Vehicle Fuel or Public Transportation Expenses
- Child Car Seats
- Vehicle Repairs/Maintenance
- Replacement Vehicle
- Monthly Vehicle Payments
- Vehicle Insurance Payment or Deductible
- Medical Care
- Special Medical Needs
- Dental Care
- Home Repairs or Insurance Deductible
- Funeral Expenses
- Immigration, Visa & Passport Fees
- Spouse Re-Licensing & Recertification Fees (PCS only)
- Clothing
- Homeschool and Remote Education
- Pet Transportation
- Career Skills Support Program
- Infant Formula Shipping Costs

For information on how to receive assistance please contact Tiffany Penister, Army Emergency Relief Officer at 870-540-3588 or Laura Brown, Assistant Army Emergency Relief Officer at 870-540-3030.



Members of the Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce Leadership Pine Bluff 2023 Class listen as Allen Huff with Pine Bluff Arsenal's Directorate of Ammunition Operations, talks about an M14 production. The class also toured the textile production line during their visit Sept. 21. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY HUGH MORGAN

Suicide Awareness Walk



Pine Bluff Arsenal's Employee Assistance Program/Army Substance Abuse Awareness Program Office hosted an annual Suicide Awareness Walk Sept. 9, at the Jefferson Regional Medical Center Wellness Center. Pictured above are members of the EAP staff, including Kevin Bradley, Pat Jenkins and Brandi Parks, as well as walking participants. There were more than 80 participants in this year's walk, with major support coming from the Watson Chapel Army JROTC, the local community, and the Arsenal Workforce. The guest speaker for the walk was North Ellison, who shared a personal story. The aim of the walk is to shift public perception, spread hope, and share vital information to people affected by suicide. This year's theme correlated to the Army's theme, "You Are a Light in Somebody's Life," highlighting the critical role that relationships and interpersonal connections with family, friends, and the community play in suicide prevention. U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY EAP

JMC provides blank ammo to VFW posts

By David Spiva
VFW Magazine

VFW Post honor guards conducting three-volley salutes at funerals for veterans and service members has been a time-honored tradition practiced since the organization's founding in 1899. While many know VFW Posts honor guards use firearms to salute their dearly departed fellow veterans, most may not know where those firearms and ammunition blanks come from.

The Army-Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command, which is in Warren, Mich., issues ammunition blanks it receives from the Joint Munitions Command,

located in Rock Island, Ill. The command then sends the ammunition free of charge to VFW posts across the country. Without those donations, many veterans would not receive military honors after their passing.

Former VFW Administrative Operations Director Johnathan Duncan said that the relationship VFW has with the Army's Joint Munitions Command and the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command is one VFW cherishes.

"It is a valuable one to not only the VFW but to those families who are able to have VFW honor guards at the funerals of those who gave so

much to this country," Duncan said.

Matthew Wheaton, a spokesman for the Joint Munitions Command, said that in 2022 the command supplied three million rounds of ceremonial ammunition across the United States to several veterans' organizations, including VFW.

Providing ammunition for ceremonies is a traditional mission for JMC. Since the end of World War II, the Army has supplied ceremonial ammunition to veterans' organizations for the purpose of military honors, according to a press release.

Pine Bluff Arsenal
Family & Morale, Welfare and Recreation Presents:

Name of Group or Organization: _____
 POC name: _____
 POC contact phone: _____
 POC contact email: _____

PLEASE be there a little before 5:30 to set your table up!

For information: Call Billy Ray Ashcraft (870)540-3779
 Or April Parker (870)540-3602





Pine Bluff Arsenal Commander Col. Collin K. Keenan, PBA Deputy to the Commander Roch Byrne, Arey Surratt, PBA Chief of Operations (Directorate of Business Operations and Planning), and Director of Resource Management Danielle Graves, meet with Ed Flinn, Director of Advance Manufacturing for the Rock Island Arsenal-Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center (JMTC) during a visit Aug. 30. A meeting was held with JMTC Commander Col. David G. Guida, and reviews of record best practices in such areas as plant maintenance were conducted by Flinn and David Kent, Business Development Specialist with JMTC. The official party also reviewed progress of fabricated items for Pine Bluff Arsenal's production and toured JMTC facilities. U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JMTC PAO

As new IG, Burnley looks to help AMC

By Alyssa Crockett

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The new Inspector General of Army Materiel Command and Redstone Arsenal knew he wanted to be a Soldier from watching his dad's many years of service to the nation.

"My sister would say it was engrained in me since a young age," Col. Todd Burnley recalled. "I knew I was going to join the military."

Burnley grew up in Mineral Wells, Texas. His father was a helicopter pilot stationed at Fort Wolters and the younger Burnley was inspired by his dad's service. As a strong swimmer coming out of high school, Burnley received an athletic scholarship to attend the University of Miami in Florida.

After two years at Miami, he transferred to the University of Florida. After graduating from UF in 1993, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army artillery branch.

For eight years, Burnley served in a variety of assignments, ranging from battalion fire support officer, executive officer, instructor and battery



Col. Todd Burnley

commander.

After a break in service, he transitioned to the Army reserve for two years, and eventually went back to active duty, this time coming back as a logistics officer and served in different assignments within the AMC enterprise. These include commander of Tooele Army Depot, Utah, and the Chief of Staff, Joint Munitions Command at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.

Now, Burnley has a new role and is excited to take on IG duties.

"I loved the transition from logistics to now being the IG. They are similar in the sense that in both fields you're think-

ing your way through issues and problem sets and there are many ways to accomplish the mission," he said.

As an extension of the eyes, ears, voice and conscience of the AMC commanding general, the IG office conducts inspections, investigations, teaching and training.

"We [the IG] want to be able to gain an understanding about a certain topic, explain the standard, bring attention to why something is the way it is, so that it can be resolved or altered. What we do help makes the Army better," he said.

The IG helps AMC as well as the Soldiers, family members, civilians and retirees around the installation. For assistance, you can contact the IG at usarmy.redstone.us-armc.list.amcig-ia-personnel@army.mil or (256) 842-3114.

"This is truly a rewarding job. It's gratifying to implement changes and finding out why a place could be lacking resources and finding recommendations to help fix those issues. If you're ever confused about where to go or need assistance with anything, please reach out to us," Burnley said.

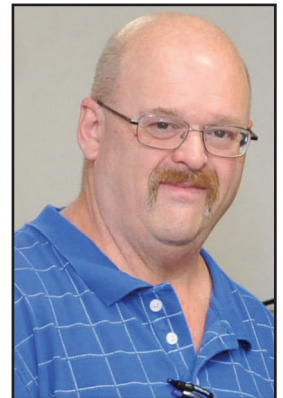
Health Clinic Recognitions



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY HUGH MORGAN

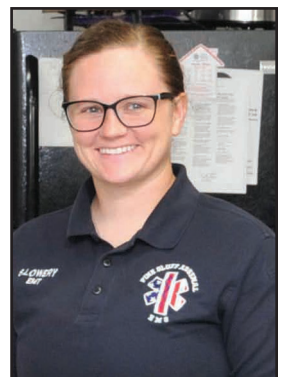
Meredith Thurgood was recognized for her 16 years of dedicated service to the Pine Bluff Arsenal Health Clinic, as an Occupational Health Technician. Her selfless service is exemplary, and Thurgood always goes above and beyond to ensure the well-being and safety of PBA's employees.

William Yates was recognized for his exceptional service to Pine Bluff Arsenal for almost 20 years in a multitude of domains, including Security, Medical, as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and now in Industrial Hygiene.



Shane Pruitt was recognized for his initiative in professional development within the medical field, as well as his leadership skills since having onboarded as a Paramedic at Pine Bluff Arsenal one year ago.

Samantha Lowery was recognized for being a team player in filling in for mission-critical gaps due to staffing shortages over the past three years as a Pine Bluff Arsenal Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and her efforts and flexibility to ensure mission success.



Pine Bluff Arsenal Family & Morale, Welfare and Recreation Presents:



FALL FESTIVAL 2023

Thursday, October 26
5:30—7:30
PBA Fields on Sibert Road
Rain date: Monday, October 30

DUNK—A—COL!!

From 6:00-7:00

Pine Bluff Arsenal's fearless leader, COL KEENAN, will be in the dunk booth!

Each throw will "cost" one child-friendly, non-perishable food item! Items will be donated to the local food pantry!

Item ideas: pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, pop tarts....

- Frito Pies, Nachos, Drinks for sale!
- Inflatables!
- Games!
- Pumpkin Patch!
- Fire Truck and Ambulance for kids!
- Hay Ride w/ PBA Fire Dept!
- Face Painting!
- Free Cotton Candy and Popcorn!
- Candy for kids in costume!
- Tables to "trick or treat" at!
- Photo Booth!

OPEN TO ALL PBA FAMILIES!!

.....
**PLEASE SIGN IN AT THE SIGN IN TABLE!!
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND HAVE A BLAST!!**

For information: Call Billy Ray Ashcraft (870)540-3779
Or April Parker (870)540-3602

