



THE INSIDER

FRONTLINES

JUNE 2010

USAID SECURITY OFFICERS, EMPLOYEE, SAVE A LIFE

By Michael Del Moro

A man who collapsed in the basement locker room of the Ronald Reagan Building was revived by USAID security officers and an Agency employee using an emergency defibrillator, June 8.

Security officer Zandro Walker was first on the scene after the victim collapsed on the floor. He immediately called to his colleague, Maj. Willie F. Cason, who was elsewhere in the locker room, for assistance.

The locker room is used by the security officers to change into their uniforms, as well as by Agency employees, particularly those who bike to work.

"I noticed a gentleman lying on the ground and I really couldn't tell if he was conscious until I assessed the situation at hand and saw that he didn't have vital signs," said Walker. "He was really faint."

Cason contacted the Security Operations Center and the health unit located within the building as well as emergency responders.

"At the time when he did initially go down, he appeared to be breathing," said Cason.

As Walker and Cason administered CPR, Douglas Ball,

director of USAID's Office of Regional Sustainable Development in the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, was in the locker room, having biked to work. As the officers stayed with the victim, Ball rushed to the second floor to get an automatic external defibrillator (AED) unit.

When Ball returned with the unit, the man's skin had become "deathly pale" and his lips had turned blue. Ball, who had prior AED training, began to administer the defibrillator.

"The amazing thing about these machines is that they'll diagnose whether or not it's really a heart attack," Ball said. "When you open the machine it starts talking to you. Even if you haven't had any training, it'll walk you through what to do, but with the training, you're able to take shortcuts and just get right to it."

For the next 15 minutes, Ball and the officers followed the

vocal instructions from the machine, providing one electric shock to the victim and administering CPR. From time to time, the machine would reassess the victim's status.

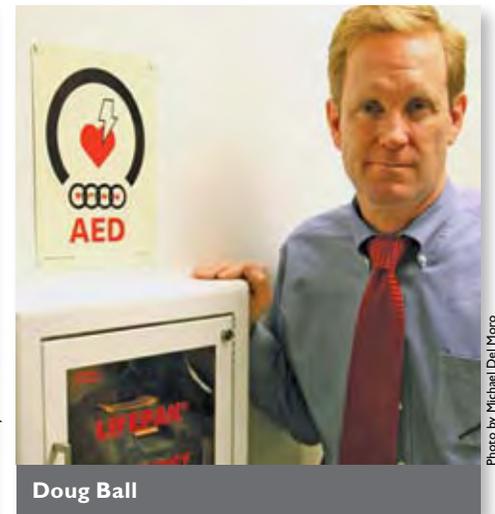
While the heart-beat was completely irregular at first hook up, by the time paramedics arrived on the scene, the victim's condition had improved and he was safely transported to George Washington Hospital.

"This was a real team effort and these guys deserve tremendous credit," said Ball, referring to Walker, Cason, and fellow officers Capt. Anthony Royal and Sgt. Curtis Tucker, who helped in administering CPR. "These guys have been well trained in CPR."

"I wanted to make sure that I was doing it properly and just going over what I've learned. And we did well," Walker said.



Zandro Walker



Doug Ball

"I feel that I did my best and hopefully the outcome is great."

"I've asked around and not many people know these [defibrillators] exist. They're not sure where they are, so I think it would be great if we can get more people trained up on where they are and how they use them," Ball said, adding that he hopes to see another AED unit in the basement, which, because of the bike locker room, he considers a likely area for people to have heart attacks.

"People shouldn't be intimidated by it...there's a Good Samaritan Act that covers people

who are trying to save lives. That's one of the things they teach you in the course is you don't have to worry about the liability of it," he said. "It would be a really good thing to get more people aware that these exist and get more people into the training."

The identity and status of the man who collapsed are undisclosed due to privacy reasons.

For information on procedures during a medical emergency in the Ronald Reagan Building, including use of the AED, visit: http://inside.usaid.gov/M/AS/FMD/OSH/medical_emergencies.htm. ★

Tracy Blackburn Wins Federal 100 Award for GLAAS

By Brittany Jackson

Tracy Blackburn, project manager of USAID's Global Acquisition and Assistance System (GLAAS), was among this year's Federal 100 award winners—an honor recognizing top performing government and industry professionals in federal information technology.



Tracy Blackburn was among this year's winners of the Federal 100 awards.

"It was a complete surprise," said Blackburn, who was nominated for her role in spearheading the global launch of GLAAS, a web-based system for managing the estimated \$13 billion in contracts and grants that USAID awards annually.

GLAAS is the Agency's first complete, centralized system of its kind for acquisition (contracts) and assistance (grants and cooperative agreements) awards, Blackburn said.

Last year, under Blackburn's leadership, GLAAS was launched in more than 30 USAID missions worldwide,

with more than 800 people using the new system.

"It's not as simple as it sounds," Blackburn said. Her toughest challenge is implementing the system in the remote geographic locations where USAID operates with limited technical infrastructure to support GLAAS.

"In her role as program manager for GLAAS, Tracy has helped to increase the transparency, accountability, disclosure, and accessibility of Agency spending of public funds—in

see **BLACKBURN** on page 2 ▶

WHERE IN THE WORLD...

IN MEMORIAM

MARCH 14, 2010 – APRIL 10, 2010

PROMOTED

Abdallah N. H. Ahmed
Payroll Operations Specialist

Avis Brown
Administrative Officer

Paul Burford
Contract Specialist

Corrie R. Butler
Administrative Officer

La Quinthia B. Carroll
Auditor

Joyce Clerge
Contract Specialist

Earl W. Gast
Deputy Assistant
Administrator

Anthea C. Hazell
Program Specialist

Constantine P. Koulouris
Management & Program
Analyst

Jennifer Justine LaVoie
Contract Specialist

Kenneth E. Matthews
Program Specialist

Stephanie L. Minor
Administrative Specialist

Ami Morgan
Program Analyst

Ohjin Pak
Accountant

Nalini L. Persaud
Auditer

George Alvin Rowland
Country Coordinator

Michael R. Schraft
General Development Officer

Leslie G. Vaughn
Administrative Officer

REASSIGNED

Donald P. Chisholm
COMP/NE/OJT to Afghanistan/
OD

Beth E. Cypser
O/S LANG TRNG to
Ecuador/D

John M. Eyres
COMP/NE/OJT to Tanzania/JOS

Benjamin Garrett
Afghanistan/OEG to COMP/FS/
REASSIGN

David I. Hoffman
COMP/NE/OJT to Pakistan/
PDO

Audrey K. Lee
COMP/NE/OJT to Afghanistan/
OD

Katherine L. Liesegang
Haiti/HRD to COMP/FS/
REASSIGN

Herman Zaks Lubin
COMP/NE/OJT to El Salvador/
S01

Nathan T. Martinez
COMP/NE/OJT to Bangladesh/
JOS

Scott C. McNiven
COMP/NE/OJT to Afghanistan/
OD

Arthur Muchajer
M/OAA/GH to M/OAA/DCHA

Meghan Nalbo
COMP/NE/OJT to Bangladesh/
JOS

Norma Jean Parker
COMP/DETAIL/SUP to
Nicaragua/D

Jeremiah Joseph Perry Jr.
HR/ELR to M/AS/OD

Kendra Phillips

India/PHN to COMP/FS/
REASSIGN

Matthew D. Russell

COMP/NE/OJT to Uganda/
JOS

Michael D. Teske

COMP/NE/OJT to
Philippines/JOS

Luis Velazquez

COMP/NE/OJT to El
Salvador/S01

Paul E. Weisenfeld

COMP/FS/REASSIGN to
AA/LAC

RETIRED

David M. Boyce

Catherine M. Brawner

Adele Helene Liskov

Deborah E. Mendelson

MOVED ON

Shawn A. Bardwell

Charles Habis

Elizabeth Irene Hart

Elizabeth Ransom Jerke

Robyn C. Kerr

Tamara McDaniel

Robyn E. Melzig

Sarah E. Moten

Deepika B. Pralat

Robert Raab

Dustin Roasa

Laszlo F. Sagi

Robert C. Simpson

Katherine Stover

John P. Lewis, 89, died May 19 in Montgomery, N.J. Lewis was an economic adviser to three presidents, largely on the subject of foreign aid. He was named by President John F. Kennedy to the Council of Economic Advisers in 1962. In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him as USAID's mission director in India. Under President Jimmy Carter, Lewis was chairman of the development assistance committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. From 1969 to 1974, Lewis was dean of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Affairs at Princeton and remained on the faculty until 1991. Lewis earned a master's degree in public administration from Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., and a doctorate in political economy and government from Harvard University. He served in the Navy during World War II.

Maurice J. Williams, 89, died May 10 in Bethesda, Md. Williams began his government career as an international economist with the State Department and the CIA in the 1950s, where he organized relief efforts in the Near East and South Asia. He was director of USAID's programs in Iran and Pakistan from 1963 to 1967, and was promoted to deputy director of the Agency from 1970 to 1974. During Williams' tenure with USAID, he managed relief programs around the world, including Peru, the Philippines, newly independent Bangladesh, and six drought-stricken West African countries. When an earthquake devastated much of Managua, Nicaragua, in December 1972, President

Richard Nixon sent Williams to administer American aid efforts there. Williams worked closely with President Nixon and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger as chief negotiator, addressing diplomats at the 1973 Paris Peace Accords and laying out the administration's plans to end the Vietnam War. His negotiations with the North Vietnamese led to the release of U.S. prisoners of war and he represented Secretary Kissinger during postwar aid talks with North Vietnam. He expanded his efforts to address global crises from 1974 to 1978 with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris. From 1978 to 1986, Williams served as executive director of the now-defunct World Food Council in Rome, an agency of the United Nations. After retiring in 1986, he taught at Johns Hopkins University and Eckerd College, wrote books, and offered his expertise as a consultant. He received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern University after the war and earned a master's degree in economics from the University of Chicago in 1949. Williams was a U.S. Army captain during World War II, stationed in London from 1943 to 1946. ★

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perfect alignment with USAID's mission and the president's initiatives," said Drew Luten, senior deputy assistant administrator for management who nominated Blackburn for the award.

Blackburn and the other 2010 awardees were honored at a black tie gala at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C., March 22.

"I was excited. It was surreal," she said. "I was very grateful and humbled to be even thought of in that manner." She added that "none of this could be done without the dedicated GLAAS project team, past and present, that support this effort."

By June 2011, GLAAS is expected to be fully deployed in the remainder of USAID's worldwide missions.

The Federal 100 awards are sponsored by Federal Computer Week magazine and the 1105 Government Information Group. ★

SEMINARS AT THE PRESS CLUB

USAID is hosting a summer seminar series at the National Press Club to explore topics of interest to the development community. The weekly event is open to the public.

PLACE: The National Press Club
529 14th St., N.W., 13th floor

DATES: Each Thursday from July 8 to Aug. 5

TIME: 9:30 – 11 a.m.

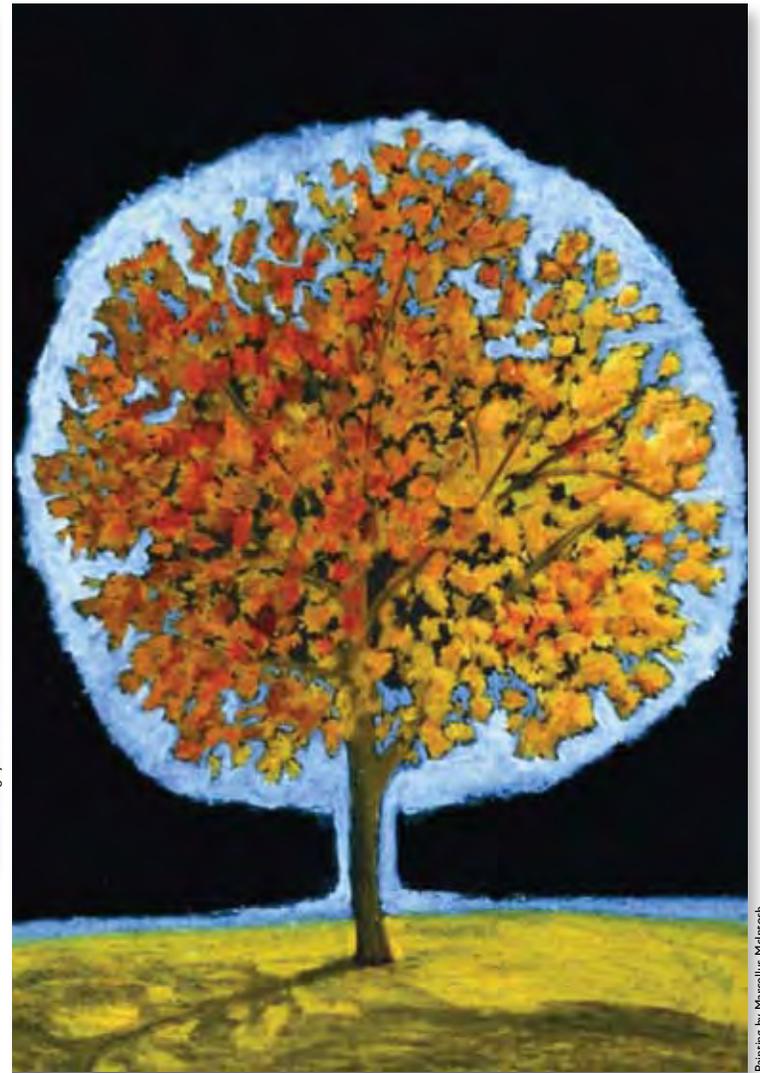
SEMINARS:

- ▶ **JULY 8:** M4D: How mobile phones are transforming global development
 - ▶ **JULY 15:** Food security, climate change, water, and health: How can integration better solve complex problems?
 - ▶ **JULY 22:** Neglected opportunities: investment climate, rights to assets, and women's untapped economic potential
 - ▶ **JULY 29:** Combating Trafficking in Persons: fighting slavery in a globalized world
 - ▶ **AUGUST 5:** Public engagement in international disaster assistance
- For additional information, contact Celida Malone at (202) 712-0779.



Her Smile

Painting by Marcellus McIntosh



Tree

Painting by Marcellus McIntosh

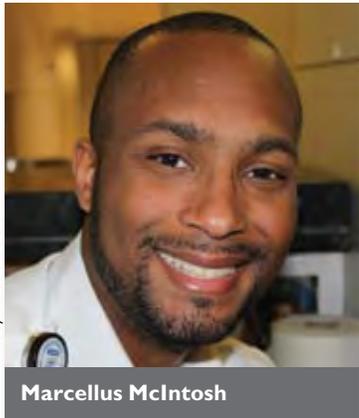


Photo by Michael Del Moro

Marcellus McIntosh

Pushing Forward and Moving Outward: An Artist's Passion

As for the focus of his work, McIntosh said "it's more of a spiritual transformation."

Since he was 4 years old, one USAID security officer has dreamed of being an artist. Today, he is a successful painter with his own website and portfolio.

Marcellus McIntosh, known to his colleagues as "Mac," said he considers art his primary motivation in life.

"When it really comes down to it, my art is number one for me and I'd really love to do more of it," McIntosh said.

"By the time I was six years old, I started drawing detailed images of anything, things I could create or things I would actually see and could draw," he said. "In the beginning, I was uncertain because people would tell me I couldn't make a career out of art. It was kind of disheartening because I thought maybe I really couldn't do anything with it."

Ignoring this pessimism, McIntosh attended Maryland College of Art and Design for two years where he won several competitive

awards before working in graphic design for Hecht's, Hargrove Inc., and other companies. In 2001 though, after losing his job, he began to question his future in art.

"I was laid off for about nine months and I was down and out and I didn't know what to do so I was doing some drawings but I wasn't thinking much of it," he said.

At that point, McIntosh's brother provided some guidance and pushed him to choose his passion. "I said I want to do my art full time. So that's when I started really pushing," McIntosh said.

It was not until 2007, however, that McIntosh began displaying his work publicly when he became a contributing artist for the Diplomatic Courier magazine.

Being a full-time security officer, McIntosh has struggled to allot the necessary time to his work, but this has not stopped him from putting together several art showings at galleries in the area and selling many works over the past three years.

As for the focus of his work, McIntosh said "it's more of a spiritual transformation." Typically, the figures he paints and draws have no faces. "You just see the forms," he said. "They stretch outward in all directions and I always believed that the spirit is like that. I believe that we try to push forward and move outward so that we can understand more about ourselves and also each other."

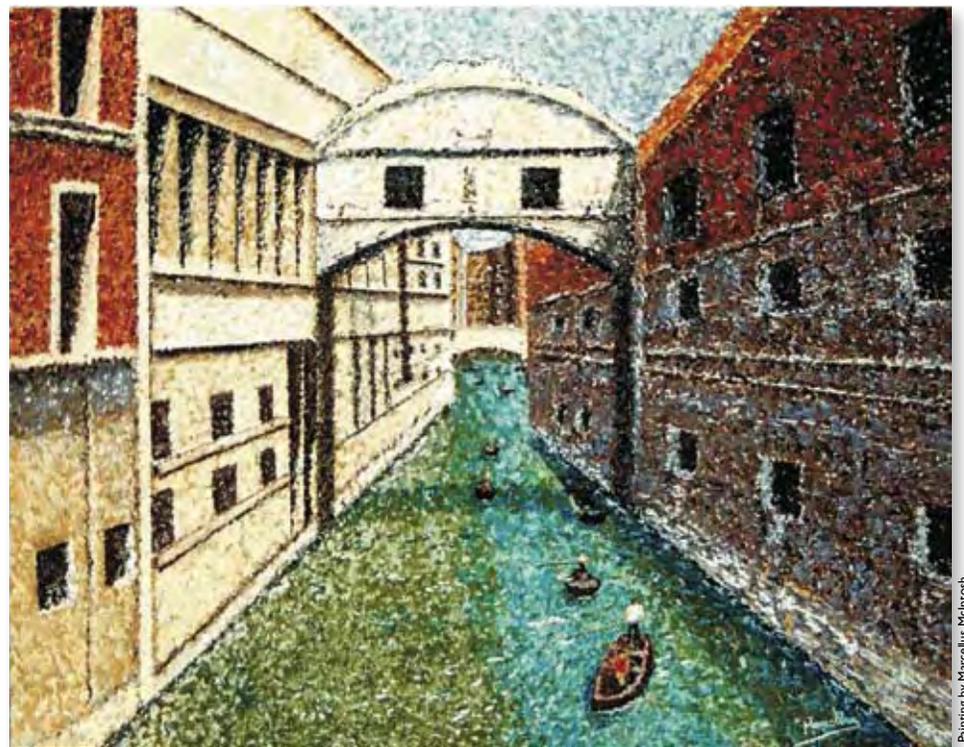
Previous show venues have included the

Washington House and the Hilton Hotel in Alexandria, Va. Last year, he donated one of his paintings for auction at the Ambassadors Ball, a fundraising event for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Currently, McIntosh is expecting another showing in late November in conjunction

with a local photographer, Daniela Carcani. He plans to revamp his website over the summer and continue working on two new pastel pieces.

The location of McIntosh's upcoming show has not yet been determined. His art can be viewed at his website at www.artbymarcellus.com. ★ — M.D.



Trip Away

Painting by Marcellus McIntosh

IN-HOUSE NEWS



Chris Kosnik

◀ Chris Kosnik will be based in Washington but jumpstarting new agricultural programs in Haiti, which is still recovering from the Jan. 12 earthquake.

“We have a busy procurement season going on, trying to renew our programs,” said Kosnik, acting land resources management team leader in the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade. Seven of his colleagues are on the ground in Haiti providing assistance and streamlining programs.

“A lot of our work is focused on global climate change and food security initiatives,” he said.

Outside of his work at USAID, Kosnik hopes to explore Yellowstone National Park and plans to take his family to the Tetons.

Kosnik also commented on the Agency’s future, expressing a desire for a more expedient appointment of head positions. “I think we’re still curious to see when we finally get our political appointees in place and what will happen to our offices,” said Kosnik, adding that international events such as Haiti, the war in Afghanistan, and the Gulf oil spill have slowed the confirmation process. ★



Eve Luppert

▲ Eve Luppert, a consultant in the Office of Human Resources, will spend the summer streamlining hiring processes and said she has enjoyed her first year at the Agency.

“I love the mission. I’ve never been prouder to work anywhere. I think that the directions about bringing in innovation and refreshing points of view is exciting and fun,” Luppert said. “It’s an opportunity no matter what your position is, from janitor to payroll clerk. We’re all helping the world and I think that’s really fabulous.”

As for her personal summer plans, Luppert expects to take a traditional vacation to Idaho to do some “real” camping.

“I’m hoping to get away and go to Priest Lake, Idaho, with my family. It’s way up in the panhandle of Idaho,” she said, adding that her family has been going to the lake for five generations. ★

SUMMER PLANS 2010



Mary Williams

▲ Mary Williams

“I want to go to the farmer’s market on Fridays to get the fresh vegetables, help out the growers, and see what’s new,” said EGAT’s Mary Williams.

Williams said she is looking forward to meeting the new administrator and observing changes within the Agency “just to see the new Agency heads unfold and see the new bureaus unfold and compare how it’s working now to when I came here in 2002.”

Williams and her family will be vacationing in Virginia Beach and Delaware this summer. She is also optimistic about the future of the Agency.

“I will stay optimistic. That helps to make things happen,” she said, though she did advocate for some computer upgrades and more intra-agency collaboration. ★



Asa Piyaka

◀ Asa Piyaka

“I have a lot of outdoor plans,” said Asa Piyaka, a disaster operations specialist in the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

Piyaka, who has been competing in triathlons for four years, will be entering the D.C. triathlon on June 29 and hopes to race at a “higher level” this time around. He is also planning several weekends of camping and hiking on Assateague Island in Maryland and the mountains of West Virginia.

Piyaka and his wife will head to Peru for two weeks trekking in Cordillera de Huayhuash in the Andes. He will also go to Kenya, a trip that his job requires twice annually to administer development and humanitarian aid in central and eastern Africa.

In addition to his knowledge of Thai, Spanish, Italian, and basic Swahili, Piyaka intends to pick up some Chinese this summer.

“I think that the Agency is moving in a positive direction. There’s a lot of new young energy coming in. I see a lot of new energy. I think the establishment of a policy bureau is a good step and we’ll see how it plays out,” Piyaka said. ★