# TRIDENT K-9 WARRIORS:

## September 11
## 7:30 p.m. Fowler Hall

### Book signing to follow

MY TALE FROM THE TRAINING GROUND TO THE BATTLEFIELD WITH ELITE NAVY SEAL CANINES

**TRIDENT K-9 WARRIORS**

MIKE RITLAND WITH GARY BROZEK
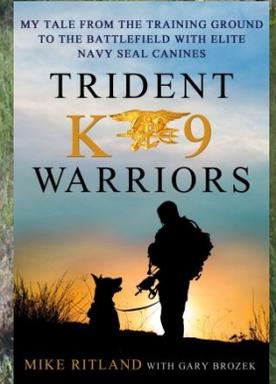
Fewer than 1% of all working dogs have what it takes to contribute to the success of our nation's elite combat units. Mike Ritland explains the fascinating aspects of the animals he selects, the traits they must have in common with the Navy SEALs themselves, and the process they go through to prepare for work in the most extreme environments. Though fiercely aggressive and athletic, these dogs actually integrate themselves into a platoon, form close bonds with their handlers and team members, and show unwavering devotion to their duty through pain, injury and fear. Ritland shares stories of remarkable exploits, including those of Poncho, a creature so athletic that he was able to catch up to and apprehended an insurgent speeding off on a moped, and Samson, who discovered an IED so intricately buried it would have killed scores of U.S. and coalition forces had it not been detected.

As a Navy SEAL during a combat deployment in Iraq, Mike Ritland saw a military working dog in action and instantly knew he'd found his true calling. Ritland started his own company training and supplying dogs for the SEAL teams, U.S. Government, and Department of Defense. Knowing that fewer than 1% of all working dogs had what it takes to contribute to the success of our nation's elite combat units, he began searching the globe for animals who fit this specific profile. The results were a revelation: highly trained working dogs capable of handling both detection and apprehension work in the most extreme environments and the tensest of battlefield conditions. Now, Ritland will share some of the stories from his book, *Trident K-9 Warriors* — who they are, how they are trained and the extreme missions they undertake saving countless lives, asking for little in the way of reward.

## For more information
www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/dls | Cindy Ream: cream@purdue.edu | 765-494-0015

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