Missie Ranger

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September 2019

WSMR honors first responders and those lost on Sept. 11



The White Sands Missile Range Directorate of Emergency Services Honor Guard place a wreath

on a stand during a remembrance ceremony at the Post Chapel as a tribute to those lost on Sept. 11, 2001. From left: Lt. Kevin J. Mower, and Lt. Michael De La Paz.

By Vanessa Flores WSMR Public Affairs

On Sept. 11, 2001, the Twin Towers in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a field in Pennsylvania

faced devastating terrorist attacks

That morning Americans across the country knew their lives would never be the same. Now. 18 years later, we are still living in the aftermath of the attack

To honor the first responders and victims our country lost that day, White Sands Missile Range held a ceremony on Sept. 11 at the Main Post Chapel.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY VANESSA FLORES

responders that were lost on Sept. 11 2001.

In the backdrop of the ceremony, were photos of the firefighters and police officers who gave their lives saving others.

"Where were you when the world stopped turning on that clear September day? That day our country was in despair, and the unknowns were unbearable," said guest speaker, Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Parker. "At the same time, it was a day where

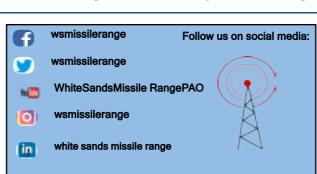
acts of heroism and courage transpired with so many putting their lives in danger. Ultimately, unifying our country in a way, we could have never imagined."

SEE HONOR ON PAGE 4



Movies and Community Calendar

Back Page





"Be Prepared, Not Scared"

Page 7

Announcements



Community Event



Against Domestic Violence

October 3, 2019 @ 9:00am at the Track Ladies: Put yourself in HIS boots Men: Put yourself in HER shoes

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Second Front —

White Sands STEM summer interns present final projects

By Miriam U. Rodriguez Missile Ranger Editor

Students in the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) internship program at White Sands Missile Range presented their projects to White Sands Missile Range leaders during a final project out brief Aug. 7 as part of the 10-week 2019 OSD-TRMC STEM Internship Program.

This year's STEM intern program included students from New Mexico State University, the University of Texas El Paso and other area schools.

Francis Check, a student at New Mexico State University, presented his project on Case Animation. As part of his project Check used mixed media to develop a 3D virtual map of WSMR. Through the use of mixed media tools and guidance from his mentor, he was able to create a detailed open map of WSMR.

"This could potentially bring a cost savings to WSMR by replacing WSMR helicopter tours," Check said.

Check said being a part of the program was very beneficial and he gained experience.

Patti Holguin-Lucero, Director of Operations and Compliance with TRAX International and supporting TRMC as the STEM Project Lead for all designated STEM



Students in the Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics internship program at White Sands Missile Range pose for a photo at the Frontier Club with WSMR Commander Col. David Trybula, 6th from right, and Patti Holquin-Lucero, project lead, right, following a luncheon on the day of their final presentations.

Internship sites in the reboot computer systems Southwest and West Coast, said TRMC has built a database of the interns' projects; which are of great interest to TRMC and said there are engineers on site who will keep working on the projects and determine how and when some of the projects worked on are integrated into the range's mission.

Erika Najera, a University of Texas El Paso student, presented her project on Command and Control Architecture Expansion.

Najera's project involved using a Java application to shut down and using secured systems.

According to Najera the program would reduce the number of people and time it takes to shut down and reboot computers each day resulting in a potential cost savings.

Later in the day during a closing luncheon WSMR Commander Col. David Trybula thanked TRAX International for making this a meaningful event for the 7th year in a row and thanked Holguin-Lucero for leading the program.

He also acknowledged that the particular student projects come from

the different organizations, such as the Center for Countermeasures. the Air Force, the Navy and other WSMR directorates

Trybula also thanked the mentors for their assistance. "I can't thank you enough for what you have done on personally making this meaningful for the interns."

His advice to interns was to make sure they document the networks they have made so they can reach out to them as they start their careers.

"Make sure you invest in those and maintain those relationships," he said. "I really appreciate

the difference you have made in a short summer and look forward to the impact that (your work) is going to have."

Also speaking was Denise De La Cruz. with OSD Test Resource Management Center. De La Cruz, who serves as the STEM Initiatives Lead and as the Test and Evaluation Range Oversight at TRMC, shared with the interns that her career started as an engineering intern at Fort Huachuca making sure test sites had plenty of port-a-potties.

"After that it got much better and I had a chance to learn about the data collection aspect of testing." De La Cruz said.

De La Cruz said she also learned there are really two paths you can take as a government engineer. The first is to stay on the technical track and become a subject matter expert. The second is to work towards an MBA and go into management. Which is what she did.

"I really enjoyed working hands on in communications systems but I wanted to move up. It was one of the best decisions of my career."

De La Cruz encouraged interns to branch out and maybe do a rotation somewhere else. **

Honor

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Within his speech, Parker shared the courageous story of Ronald P. Bucca, one of the first to respond to the tower attacks.

At the time, he was a New York City Fire Department Marshal, before that he was an Army Special Forces Soldier. He served in the Army for 29 years.

"Ronald may have been one of the first to sacrifice his life for those in danger. However, many others have lost their lives due to the aftermath of 9/11," said Parker.

"Almost two decades later, we still have to say goodbye to the heroes who have been suffering from 9/11 related illnesses."

Parker highlighted that people are still dealing with the consequences of the attacks.

He shared the story of Luis Alvarez, who testified to Congress on June 11 this year about the extension of health benefits for the Sept. 11 first responders. He lost his battle with cancer a few weeks after his testimony, at the end of June.

Alvarez also served in the military as a Marine and at the time of the attacks worked for the New York Police Department.

Unified in their duties on Sept. 11, the ceremony was a blend of firefighter and police ceremonious traditions.

The Directorate of Emergency Services Honor Guard, consisting of representatives from both the Fire Department and Police Division participated in the ceremony. Their duties included the placing of the wreath between symbolically displayed uniforms representing the firefighters and police officers who

died during the attacks.

As a tribute to the fallen police officers, there was a 'Final Call' over the police department radios during the ceremony. This traditional ceremony is for officers whose lives are lost in the line of duty. Radios are the primary method of communication for police: they start and end their shifts with it. During their shifts, they use it to communicate with one another and their dispatchers.

The tribute for the fallen firefighters was a 'Ringing of the Bell.' At this ceremony, there were three bell rings, three times. The bell is significant to a firefighter; it indicates the beginning of the shift and summons them to fight a fire. When a fire goes out, the sound of the bell goes off again, signifying the end of an emergency to firefighters. 💠



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY VANESSA FLORES

Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Robert L. Parker was the guest speaker at a ceremony held Sept. 11 in honor of those lost Sept. 11, 2001.



WSMR Army Community Services Bldg, 250, Rock Island Ave.

RSVP by September 1, 2019 to Candice.r.devoe2.civ@mail.mill

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WSMR, NM 88002

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RSVP



Local swimmer prepares to compete in Australia at INAS 2019 games

By Vanessa Flores WSMR Public Affairs

Competitive swimmer, Andres Hernandez, 28, the son of a WSMR employee, is set to participate in the upcoming International Federation for Athletes with Intellectual Impairments (INAS) Global Games 2019 in Brisbane, Australia.

The INAS Global Games begin on Oct. 13.

Making splashes in the Down syndrome community is what Andres does best, through sports, dancing, and other activities. Swimming since he was four years old, Andres is no stranger to competing on a worldwide stage – outside the U.S. he has competed in Italy, Mexico, and Canada.

Ignacio Hernandez, a White Sands Missile Range engineer, is Andres' father and biggest supporter. His life revolves around Andres and his swimming career.

Each swim meet has its unique process so athletes may compete. Preparing for meets with paperwork, record keeping, planning, and ensuring Andres is happy with what he is doing is Hernandez' passion.

Participating in the Global Games is distinct: the swim times and criteria to participate are competitive to qualify.

Similar to the Olympics, the Global Games occur every four years. It is the largest competition for high-perfor-



Competitive swimmer, Andres Hernandez, the son of WSMR employee Ignacio Hernandez, will compete in the International Federation for Athletes with Intellectual Impairments Global Games 2019 in Brisbane, Australia.

mance athletes with intellectual impairment. Over 1,000 athletes are expected to compete in Brisbane this year.

"To compete in the INAS Global Games you start by letting them know your intent of participation," said Hernandez. "Then you must send proof that your athlete has met the required times at U.S. swimming sanctioned meets. Based on that, then the athlete qualifies to compete."

While training for competition as prestigious as this, Andres swims two to four hours a day and still has energy afterward. His team trains in long course and short course, which means swimming 50 and

25 meters respectively.

As the day approaches, Andres is refining his techniques for events like the medley relay. where each team member swims a different stroke. He is waiting to find out which stroke he will swim when they compete, either the backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, or freestyle. His trainers will make the decision based on his time and where he excels.

He also adheres to regular swimming regulations – judges do not give anyone special treatment, although he competes against people from all walks of life, not only those with Down syndrome.

People find inspira-

tion in Andres' accomplishments. Hernandez' advice to parents of people with Down syndrome is to find strength in their abilities.

"Give your child time to experiment. Ask them what they like to do. Then, do what you can to make them better at it," said Hernandez. "There are so many things Andres has done because we never doubted him. We always think he might be able to do it, and when he tries it, he does so well he astonishes us."

Andres was in the band and on the swim team in high school. At a young age, he learned the art of Ballet Folklorico and was recently in the Viva El Paso cast. He also com-

petes in track and field for the Special Olympics. Despite having a speech impediment, he easily gets people's attention and communicates to the world in different ways primarily through his actions and kindness.

Beating the odds from the moment he was born, Andres keeps surprising everyone. At age two, he was diagnosed with a heart murmur and needed open-heart surgery. Right before he was set to get the operation, doctors checked him out one more time and realized he no longer needed the surgery. His heart healed.

"Andres has shown us that you are not supposed to worry about what you

- Making splashes in the Down syndrome community is what Andres does best, through sports, dancing, and other activities. Swimming since he was four years old. -

can't do. You are better off if you concentrate on the things you can do," said Hernandez. "Seeing Andres does not make me sad because of his condition, I feel proud because he shows me every day that you should work on whatever vou have in your hands and do as best as vou can."

Andres has a positive attitude and is a beacon for those around him. His work ethic and enthusiasm for life put things in perspective for his family. Hernandez says everyone who learns about his son's life is impressed with everything he has accomplished. Now, that he is competing at a global level, his family hopes that more people get motivated by his story and see positive things happening in this world. *

Bill Agee to be inducted into WSMR Hall Of Fame

By Jim Eckles Historical Foundation

Mathematician Bill Agee will be the 55th inductee into the White Sands Missile Range Hall of Fame on Oct. 22. Unlike many other Hall of Fame members, Agee's contributions are mostly invisible to the White Sands workforce. missile range customers and the public. Yet, almost all open-air test missions at White Sands are still being made better because of the mathematical foundation Agee laid down in his more than 50-year association with WSMR.

Agee was born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1936. He attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physics in 1956. Later that year, he came to what was then White Sands Proving Ground as an intern in the Simulation Branch.

As his contributions to the White Sands mission multiplied, Agee advanced. Finally, in 1992 he was promoted to the supervisory mathematician position, GS-14, in Mathematical Services. He retired in 2004 but continued his association with WSMR until 2012 as a consultant for software and algorithm development.

Agee is being recognized for his continuous work to improve the information or data that is collected during a test. That data is vital for



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MIRIAM U. RODRIGUEZ

Bill Agee will be inducted into the WSMR Hall of Fame on Oct. 22

many reasons.

For starters, the safety of the test depends on precise and accurate "real-time" information on every object flying through the missile range's airspace. Since the airspace box over White Sands is not all that large, in a test where a missile is traveling at supersonic speeds to kill another missile, also flying at supersonic speed, there isn't much room for error. If one of these vehicles makes an unplanned turn, it could easily leave the evacuated airspace and speed into public space.

For safety reasons, these tests are conducted miles and miles from the nearest human. It is impossible for a White Sands safety officer to see the test firsthand and perceive that there is a problem, let alone intervene if necessary. Safety personnel depend on

computer generated displays that show the officer where the objects are in three-dimensional space with only a fraction of a second of delay. Also, the computer calculates where each object is headed if they stay on their present course.

Most of these displays depend on information from the many missile range radars. Bill Agee stepped in to make that data more precise, as error-free as possible, since the atmosphere can bend the radar's waves. If not corrected when processed, the displays can give a location that is not real or true. That is not good when you are working in the safety world. Agee wrote algorithms that "smooth" the data and eliminate the error so safety officials can respond to only real conditions.

The system has been around for decades, but because of contributions like those of Bill Agee, the missile range has been able to claim that no one in the public has ever been harmed by a missile failure.

Another use of this real-time data is in pointing other instruments like cameras with large telescopes for recording events. Finding a small, high-flying item in the big blue sky can be difficult especially if the camera operator is looking through a spotting scope. His field of view is so small it is virtually impossible to find the missile and get the camera locked on.

With corrected data, the missile range's computers can automatically and accurately point cameras so the operators don't have to search the whole sky. This ensures the data is captured and the test not wasted.

Agee did the same

data that is done after the test. Sure, missile program directors want to know if they hit the target but they also want to know how the missile got there. If the missile flew in a big arcing circle instead of a straight line, the program wants to know that. In the posttest analysis, they want to see the position of the missile at a plethora of points on its flight to make sure it operated as designed.

This information can be derived from radar data but optical data from film and video can be much more accurate. Again, however, the atmosphere can bend the reflected light from the object and the recording cameras might give a false location at any single point. Once more, Agee wrote the necessary algorithms to correct for this.

Ultimately, providing this precise test data is what keeps America's sons and daughters safe. It gives them the advantage in a conflict because they can be sure our military services have fielded the very best equipment – weapons that will perform exactly as they were designed.

In his time at White Sands Agee wrote more than 23 technical articles about these processes. In 1984 he was presented a commendation for Meritorious Performance of Duty because it was determined that four of his articles "contributed im-

thing for the analysis of measurably to the success" of a single program's testing at WSMR.

> Over the years, Agee was invited to host technical symposia at conferences around the country and to speak on technical topics. In recent years his work has benefited the testing of such current systems as the Army Tactical Missile System, the Army's Multiple Launch Rocket System, the Army Patriot Missile System, the Navy's Standard Missile and the Air Force's Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile.

> Agee's passion for the usefulness of applied mathematics and its power has made him a rock star in the field. He has been an inspiration to several generations of young engineers, mathematicians and physical scientists - mentoring many at the missile range. He is generous with his advice and has a reputation for incisive and positive criticism.

Bill lives in Las Cruces with his wife Betty. They have three children, William, Deborah and Darlene.

The ceremony to induct Agee into the Hall of Fame will be held during a luncheon at the White Sands Frontier Club on Oct. 22.

The luncheon begins at 11 a.m. For reservations and information about costs and access, contact Lee Boudreaux at the missile range Protocol Office, 575-678-1038 / 1028. 💠

In an emergency, learn to be "Prepared, Not Scared"

By Vanessa Flores WSMR Public Affairs

Preparing families and communities for disasters and emergency planning is critical for the FEMA sponsored National Preparedness Month.

Annually in September, the agency campaigns to get emergency action information to the public.

The theme this year is, Prepared Not, Scared.

The severe weather September brings, coupled with the anniversary of one of the most significant terrorist disasters, makes this time of the year ideal in reminding people to prepare for the unexpected.

"At WSMR, we should be preparing for the disasters, natural and manmade, that are local to us." said McDonald Jacob, installation emergency manager.

"For example, wildfires, this is one of the disasters that can be caused based on our location and the environmental factors of the area we live in"

Wildfires are just one of the disasters that can impact the installation. Other natural disasters include high winds, flooding, ice, and snow.

An emergency can be personal as well, such as a pipe bursting causing a flood in your house, and making it inhabitable.

There are also manmade disasters, including foreign and domestic terrorism.

"Terrorism is al-



Week 1: Sept 1-7 Save Early for Disaster Costs

Week 2: Sept 8-14 Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

Week 3: Sept 15-21 Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Week 4: Sept 22-30 Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

ways in the back of our minds," said Jacob. "Active shooter incidents are almost a daily occurrence across the country these days, which is why we are having an active shooter scenario in October for our full scale exercise as part of our annual exercise evaluation program."

Despite the type of disaster, all of them have one thing in common; they are unpredictable.

This is why people should take the lessons and information learned in September and apply them all year long.

WSMR follows four basic Army tenants for emergency preparedness and encourages everyone to make an emergency plan, build an emergency kit, stay informed, and get involved with vour community.

"Make sure you have an emergency kit. You should have supplies for at least 72 hours," said Jacob. "It's good to have it last longer because you can be out of your home for a longer period of time"

The basics to include in an emergency kit is food, water, medications, a communication source, and supplies for young children or pets as needed.

The reality is for some disasters; people may not get emergency relief within 72 hours, meaning

that kit may have to sustain a family for longer than expected.

For downloadable publications and training on lily in the early 1940s. preparedness, please visit the following links:

https://www.ready.gov/ september

https://www.ready.gov/ publications

https://www.ready.gov/ training *

WSMR will hold an Active Shooter Exercise in October

Trinity Site Open House

WSMR Public Affairs

White Sands Missile Range will open Trinity Site to the public for the second of two annual open houses, Oct. 5.

Trinity Site is where the world's first atomic bomb was tested at 5:29:45 a.m. Mountain War Time July 16, 1945.

The open house is free and no reservations are required. At the site visitors can take a quarter-mile walk to ground zero where a small obelisk marks the exact spot where the bomb was detonated. Historical photos are mounted on the fence surrounding the area.

While at the site, visitors can also ride a missile range shuttle bus two miles from ground zero to the Schmidt/McDonald Ranch House. The ranch house is where the scientists assembled the plutonium core of the bomb. Visitors will also be able to experience what life was like for a ranch fam-

The simplest way to get to Trinity Site is to en-

ter White Sands Missile Range through its Stallion Range Center gate. Stallion gate is five miles south of U.S. Highway 380. The turn-off is 12 miles east of San Antonio, New Mexico, and 53 miles west of Carrizozo, New Mexico. The nearest city to make hotel reservations is Socorro. New Mexico. The Stallion Gate is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors arriving at the gate between those hours will be allowed to drive unescorted the 17 miles to Trinity Site. The road is paved and marked. The site closes promptly at 3:30 p.m.

Media who would like to visit the open house must register by calling the Public Affairs Office at 575-678-1134.

For more information on the open house please visit the Trinity Site website at: https://www.wsmr. army.mil/Trinity/Pages/ Home.aspx.

White Sands Missile Range is DoD's largest. fully-instrumented, open air range.

Missile Ranger Submission Policy

Submissions to the Missile Ranger are accepted anytime for publication in the following issue, space permitting.

All submissions will be edited for style, content and propriety. Submissions must include a point of contact identified by first and last name and a telephone number for that point of contact.

Submissions can be made by e-mail to the following usarmy.wsmr.atec.list.ranger@mail. mil; also in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1782; or call (575) 678-2716.

Community Calendar

Community Calendar submissions are compiled by the Public Affairs Office. Any WSMR organization wishing to publicize an event on this calendar should submit information to usarmy.wsmr.atec.list.ranger@mail.mil.

Frontier Club Lunch Specials

Monday, Sept. 16

Frontier Club - Tostadas carnitas

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Frontier Club - Chicken mole

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Frontier Club - Crab stuffed mushrooms

Thursday, Sept. 19

Frontier Club - Frito pie

Friday, Sept. 20

Frontier Club - Portabella tacos

Monday, Sept. 23

Frontier Club - Sushi

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Frontier Club - Spanish paella

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Frontier Club - Green chile chicken alfredo

Thursday, Sept. 26

Frontier Club - Japanese curry chicken

Friday, Sept. 27

Frontier Club - Philly cheese eggroll

Monday, Sept. 30

Frontier Club - TBD

Tuesday, Oct. 1

Frontier Club - TBD

Wednesday, Oct. 2

Frontier Club - TBD

Thursday, Oct. 3

Frontier Club - TBD

Friday, Oct. 4

Frontier Club - TBD

Closed Saturday and Sunday

September

- Sept. 19 Rancher's Day
- Sept. 23 Volunteer Fair 11 a.m. at ACS



Frequently Called Numbers

Aquatic Center 678-1068

Army Community Service 678-6767

Arts and Crafts Center 678-5321

Auto Crafts Center 678-5800

Bell Gym 678-3374

Bowling Center 678-3465

CDS 678-2059

Community Center 678-4134

Commissary 678-2313

Frontier Club 678-2055

Library 678-5820

McAfee Army Health Clinic 674-3500

Museum 678-2250

Post Chapel 678-2615

Post Office 541-7429

Outdoor Recreation 678-1713

White Sands Schools 674-1241

Youth Services/SAS 678-4140

IHG Army Hotel, WSMR 678-1838/4559