



Guard ready as 2019
hurricane season kicks off ■ 14A



Team Bliss, BBC hold
second quarterly town hall ■ 1B

Thursday, June 13, 2019

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>> WELCOME HOME DEATH DEALERS!

Master Sgt. Alejandro Licea / 1st Armored Division

Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment "Death Dealers," 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team reunite with their families during a homecoming ceremony Friday at the Silas L. Copeland Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group on Fort Bliss. The unit returned home following a nine-month deployment to South Korea. Turn to 4A to see more pictures.



Elyssa Vondra / U.S. Army

Soldiers take part in the Army's Marksmanship Master Trainer Course at Fort Jackson, S.C., May 23. "The purpose of the course is to develop master trainers ... not necessarily better shooters, but better trainers," said Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Ruopp, with the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson's G3 Future Operations office.

Boot camp marksmanship qual difficulty to increase

By Elyssa Vondra | U.S. Army

FORT JACKSON, S.C. – With changes to Basic Combat Training marksmanship qualifiers upcoming, Fort Jackson has taken drill sergeants and a few other Soldiers out to the ranges for the last four-and-a-half weeks to improve their coaching skills.

For the second year, the installation is hosting Fort Benning, Georgia, instructors to teach a five-week Marksmanship Master Trainer Course.

The course addresses changes to the BCT weapon qualifier, planned for implementation in 2020, which will add more targets, shooting positions and a heightened time crunch to the testing, while reducing direction from leadership.

"I think it just makes it more realistic because there are no timeouts in real life," said Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Thornton, an infantry Soldier and course chief instructor from Fort Benning. The enemy never gives an opposing force the chance to reload or helps with cues, so Soldiers "need to be prepared to operate their weapon systems like their life depended on it."

The 29 participating Soldiers paired up and took turns practicing their instructional skills on one another in the field.

"The purpose of the course is to develop master trainers ... not necessarily better shooters, but better trainers," said Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Ruopp, with the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson's G3 Future Operations office.

Still, instructor Staff Sgt. Zach Bunch said he has seen enormous progress in the class's shooting abilities.

"Four weeks ago, we probably had four or five students that ... had never even shot a pistol before, or even held one in the Army," Bunch said. "Now they're out here doing higher-level stuff than most people in the Army do with their pistol."

Students have worked on basic marksmanship skills and short-and-medium range shooting techniques, training with both rifles and pistols.

The hope is that students leave with "the growth mindset," understand-

See MARKSMANSHIP Page 2A

'Ready First' gets an A

1st SBCT to become 1st ABCT June 20, infantry battalions to reflag

By David Burge | Special for Fort Bliss Bugle

For the past nine months, Fort Bliss' 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team has been busy laying the foundation for its conversion to a fully armored brigade.

The "Ready First" Brigade has been concentrating on individual fundamentals to stay sharp with its Soldier skills, turned in its Stryker vehicles and equipment, and is now ready to take the next big step in its transition. The brigade will hold a conversion ceremony at 9 a.m. June 20 at the brigade's parade field, 21200 Bayonet Ave.

"Really, this event signifies that we are moving into a new phase, our reception and training on our new ABCT equipment," said Maj. Brendan Wadsworth, the brigade's executive officer.

During the ceremony, the brigade will officially change its name from the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team to 1st Armored Bri-



Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Sanders / 1st AD

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment prepare Stryker vehicles at the Fort Bliss railyard for shipment on April 23. These Strykers were the last of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team's Stryker Infantry Vehicles to be shipped as the brigade prepares to convert into an Armored brigade combat team officially on June 20.

gade Combat Team. The brigade will also reflag two of its battalions from infantry units to armored units.

The 3rd Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment

(Rifles) will become 4th Battalion, 70th Armored Regiment (Thunderbolts), and the 4th Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment (Buffaloes)

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FORT BLISS

Friday



Partly cloudy
Hi 98, Lo 75

Saturday



Partly cloudy
Hi 95, Lo 73

Sunday



Partly cloudy
Hi 97, Lo 69

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El Paso Soldier graduates as first female Cannon Crewmember

By **Spc. Christina Clardy** | U.S. Army Reserve

An El Paso-based Texas Army National Guard Soldier from C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery Regiment, 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 36th Infantry Division graduated as the first female Cannon Crewmember (13B) from the Wisconsin Military Academy at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, May 21.



Spc. Jessica Sanchez

Texas Army National Guard Spc. Jessica Sanchez graduated from the academy as the 13B class Distinguished Honor Graduate after completing the 21-day course to become military occupational specialty qualified as an artillery Cannon Crewmember.

“I’m really excited and very proud to

have graduated from this course, and even more so to be selected as the Distinguished Honor Graduate,” said Sanchez. “The academy was great and the instructors were truly dedicated to training us to the highest level.”

The course is divided into two phases: classroom training and field training, as outlined by the course description provided by the academy. During the first phase, the Soldiers learn methods of calculating targets, radio communications, and radio control and set up. The second phase trains Soldiers on how to safely handle ammunition, howitzer placement and targeting, load and unload howitzers, set fuses and prepare charges. The final test of the course is three days of live-fire exercises to practice live fire missions and prove their proficiency in using the weapon system.

“My favorite part was the live-fire exercises,” said Sanchez. “I got to be a gunner during one of the days and was responsible for emplacing the howitzer on the azimuth of fire. Another day I was the Ammunition Team Chief, which means I called out incoming fire missions to the gunlines.”

According to Sanchez, the class primarily trained on the M777 howitzer, which is a towed, 155 mm artillery system, but the most difficult part was the ammunition

move. “We had to individually move 20 artillery rounds up into a truck and then back down in less than 15 minutes,” she explained. “Each 155 mm round weighs 98 pounds, so moving these large rounds was really physically exhausting.”

In addition to being the first female to graduate the MOSQ 13B Course at the Wisconsin Military Academy, Sanchez is now the first reclassified MOSQ female Cannon Crewmember in the 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Texas Army National Guard.

“My instructors told me that one of the many reasons I was selected as the DHG for my class was due to my infectious motivation,” Sanchez claimed proudly. “They said they could hear my motivation across the entire gunline and they noticed that my classmates were catching on to my motivation. I want to bring that kind of energy and passion back home to my unit here in El Paso, Texas.”

Sanchez has recently reenlisted for another six years and said she has made it her mission to become the first female crew chief in her battery and the 56th IBCT.

MARKSMANSHIP *Continued from Page 1A*

ing that there are “newer, better ways to do things,” Thornton said. They can take that knowledge back to their units “so that the Army as a whole becomes more proficient at marksmanship.”

That is important, because “the Army’s doctrine is changing, and marksmanship as a whole is changing,” he explained.

To become Soldiers, trainees currently must qualify with an assigned weapon, hitting at least 23 of 40 presented targets from three positions. Instructors tell them when to change their magazines and provides other logistical details.

“It’s not very realistic. It’s very canned ... we’re basically telling the trainees what to do,” Ruopp said.

That will no longer be the case after the changes take effect. Soldiers-to-be will have to navigate the challenges on their own.

After receiving a briefing, they will flow through the tasks of the test without guidance or pause.

It’s all about “being more hands-off,” Ruopp said.

To add to the challenge, as many as four targets, rather than the current maximum of two, will appear simultaneously, for a limited time only, with the addition of a barrier, and there will be four positions to shoot from compared to the current three.

Army test synthetic training environment platforms

By **Joe Lacdan** | Army.mil

FORT MEADE, Md. – Soon Soldiers worldwide could have a wealth of training options at their home station or armory – on a virtual platform.

The Army recently conducted user assessments of its “One World Terrain” technology, a key component of the synthetic training environment that will allow Soldiers to train virtually in 3D on battlefields around the world from home station or deployed locations.

Soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley, Kansas, helped assess the 3D terrain database which will be used on the Army’s training simulation platforms. They also tested a new training management tool and training simulation software that will tie the different simulation platforms together to portray an evolving scenario for all users involved in mission rehearsals.

Soldier feedback will help shape development of the synthetic training environment, said members of the STE Cross-Functional Team.

“From our perspective, we’re very encouraged on where we are and what we’ve been able to accomplish in the 18 months since the CFT was formed,” said Maj. Gen. Maria Gervais, director of the Synthetic Training Environment CFT, now headquartered near the University of Central Florida campus in Orlando.

The synthetic training environment will blend a combination of live, virtual and constructive training together seamlessly, Gervais said.

The Army expects to award contracts next month to further develop STE platforms, she said. Army Futures Command will use the Other Transaction Authority, or OTA, to expedite acquisition and fielding of the technologies, she said.

The idea is for One World Terrain to be used by all the different training simulation platforms, including reconfigurable collective trainers currently in development, she explained. Over the past year, her team has been assessing prototypes for aircraft, armored vehicles and infantry weapons systems trainers.

In April, Soldiers at Fort Carson, Colorado, tested a platform for aviation training called the Reconfigurable Virtual Collective Trainer-Air, or RVCT-A.

M2 Bradley and Stryker crews have been testing another prototype — the Reconfigurable Virtual Collective Trainer-Ground, or RVCT-G, at Fort Riley, Kansas. In addition to replicating the range of the Army’s ground vehicles, the RVCT-G also supports dismounted Soldier training.

Putting the platforms together in a synthetic training environment will give Soldiers a realistic, composite training environment where exercises can be performed at any installation or training range, she said. The CFT hopes to rapidly expand the Army’s virtual training simulations capabilities from company to battalion levels and even up to Army component commands.

Soldiers have been giving CFT members



Courtesy photo

A Soldier uses the Reconfigurable Virtual Collective Trainer-Ground, or RVCT-G at Fort Riley, Kansas. The Army is developing a synthetic training environment which will allow Soldiers to train in any location using virtual, 3D terrain.

“We want to make sure that we’re providing a capability that Soldiers will see as value added in the execution of their mission.”

>> Maj. Gen. Maria Gervais

feedback on how the systems meet their needs and what aspects of the training needs improvement.

“We want to make sure that we’re providing a capability that Soldiers will see as value added in the execution of their mission,” Gervais said. “To me, the most exciting part is they are now taking ownership of this. Once those Soldiers on the ground and the units and the leaders on the ground know it’s value added to their mission, they are going to use this.”

The One World Terrain prototype is a database that will bring a 3D representation of global training scenarios for each of the service’s simulation trainers. It will be accessible across the U.S. military’s training platforms. Gervais said the Army expects to meet initial operating capability requirements by the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2021 and full operational capability sometime in fiscal 2023.

By the time the service achieves FOC for One World Terrain, it plans to also support training in the synthetic training environment across each of its six warfighting functions: mission command, movement and maneuvering, intelligence, fires, sustainment and protection. Gervais said that four-to-five

installations will use the STE capability in fiscal 2021 and then it will expand.

Three Army divisions and 24 Marine Corps battalions have already started using the One World Terrain capability. The Army’s National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, has used OWT as well as one third of U.S. Special Forces units. The 7th Special Forces Group from Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, used One World Terrain while flying drones at the NTC.

“The One World Terrain allows them to go anywhere in the world and conduct that training,” said Kevin Hellman, capabilities developer for the Synthetic Training Environment CFT. “Add the Training Management Tool, and you now get to connect what (training goals) you planned for and actually get to measure that against what you actually did, and that’s a huge part of being able to collect that information and provide that information back to the Soldier not only objectively but also with their trainers so that they have the objective and the subjective information together.”

Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division are among the first to use the Squad Advanced Marksmanship Trainer, an interim system being fielded at several installations that allows units to operate the M249 light machine gun, M4 carbine rifle and the M9 Beretta pistol in virtual training sessions.

“The 10th Mountain Light Fighters School actually looked at this capability and immediately saw that it was an improvement over their engagement skill trainer,” Gervais said. “They were using it in their actual program of instruction to train others and now have quickly incorporated that into program of instructions, because they understand the value and how that’s going to increase lethality.”

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WARNING

Leaving Dogs in a Hot Car KILLS!

Never leave a dog unattended in a vehicle! Heatstroke and death can occur within minutes.



Pacific Pathways 2.0
to bolster presence in the theater ■ 13A

Unit Briefs

Lower Beaumont traffic disruptions expected: Trucks may cause traffic disruptions in Lower Beaumont until late November, according to the Fort Bliss Department of Public Works, as part of a cleanup project to haul debris from former WBAMC Lower Beaumont buildings, incinerator, arroyo, and WBAMC landfill areas to an off-site, licensed landfill. Road closures are not expected, but the work could include noise and dust. The work will be scheduled Mondays through Saturdays, 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Old Ironsides ACP changes: Old Ironsides access control point will no longer be operational on federal holidays, Saturdays, or Sundays. Anyone transiting the post can do so using MSG Pena ACP (open 24/7) and CSM Barreras ACP (open 24/7).

TARP training: Fort Bliss offers Threat Awareness Reporting Program training at the SAC on East Fort Bliss on the second Tuesday of the month, or at Stayton Theater on West Fort Bliss on every third Thursday of the month. This training will be offered in these locations through September. 568-4604



‘Bulldog’ brigade assaults through the breach

By Maj. Anthony Glas | 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division Public Affairs

Doing routine things routinely and striving to master the fundamentals is critical for all military units to be prepared to support any contingency when required.

Soldiers with 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment and 2nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team “Bulldog,” 1st Armored Division (Rotation-



Soldiers with 2nd Brigade Engineer Battalion, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team “Bulldog,” 1st Armored Division (Rotational), 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-US Combined Division, mark lanes for the assault force to maneuver through the obstacle breach point during the Bulldog Brigade Breach Live Demonstration at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex in the Republic of Korea May 9. The Bulldog Brigade Breach Live Demonstration is a validation process to test the brigade’s operational capability during contingency operations, interoperability with ROK Army Allies, and readiness in accordance with Army-wide standards.

al), 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-U.S. Combined Division; and the 128th Infantry Battalion (ROK Army), conducted a combined arms breach exercise at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex, South Korea, May 9.

“A combined arms breach is a battalion-level operation,” said Capt. Christopher Mathews, commander of Co. A, 1st Bn., 77th Arm. Regt. “As the breach company, we support our engineers as they perform the breach, and we are in standby to perform the breach ourselves in case something happens to one of the engineer vehicles. Once our local support by fire is set, my breach platoon, along with the engineers, will identify the edge of the breach, and breach the obstacle, allowing my assault platoon to move through the breach and assault the objective.”

Preparation for the Bulldog Combined Arms Breach live demonstration began Feb. 4 with each participating unit rehearsing the basics of combined arms maneuvers and the fundamentals of breaching tactics prior to the live demonstration.

“We’re working on the fundamentals of breaching, Suppress, Obscure, Secure, Reduce, and Assault, for the combined arms breach (leader professional development demonstration),” said Sgt. 1st Class Brendon Domingo, a platoon sergeant with Co. B, 2nd BEB. “We remove obstacles so the assault force coming through behind us has safe passage (to get through) to accomplish the mission.”

Exercising systems and procedures to bypass obstacles within an area of operations provides Bulldog brigade and ROK Army elements freedom of maneuver across the peninsula to rapidly deploy forces expeditiously in response to any contingency.



Photos by Sgt. Alon Humphrey / 3rd ABCT, 1st AD, PA

An M1A2 Abrams crew with Company A, 1st Bn., 77th Armor Regiment, 3rd ABCT, 1st AD, 2nd ID/ROK-US Combined Division, maneuvers to establish a support by fire position during the Bulldog Brigade Breach Live Demonstration at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex in South Korea May 9.

“If you want to breach a tank ditch, clear a minefield, we go in first and we get it done,” said Pfc. Samantha Bolognia, an Assault Breacher Vehicle (ABV) operator with Co. A, 2nd BEB. “Each MICLIC (M58 Mine Clearing Line Charge) tub has 1800 pounds of C-4 (explosives) we can use to clear obstacles in our path, then we will go through and proof everything, fill in the tack ditch, and do what’s needed to be done. To put it simply, the rest of the battalion or the brigade wouldn’t be getting through (the obstacle) if we didn’t do what we do.”

“As the breach company, we support our engineers as they perform the breach, and we are in standby to perform the breach ourselves in case something happens to one of the engineer vehicles.”

>> Capt. Christopher Mathews

REFLAG Continued from Page 1A

will become the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment (Iron Dukes).

“As we have gone on this conversion journey, this is when we really start to ramp up the training portion as an armored brigade combat team,” said Wadsworth.

Last September, the Army announced that Fort Bliss’ 1st Brigade would convert to becoming the Army’s 16th armored brigade. The move will also make the 1st Armored Division fully armored for the first time since it was headquartered in Germany.

Since that announcement, the brigade did a final rotation as a Stryker formation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, in September and October of last year.

Over a period of two months this spring, the brigade also turned in more than 300 Stryker vehicles and about 1,000 pieces of other equipment to be refitted and reused by the Army at other installations.

Starting in July, Ready First, which will retain its historic nickname, will start receiving nearly 600 armored vehicles, including Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Paladin self-propelled artillery systems and Joint Light Tactical Vehicles.

That will kick off more than a year of training on the new equipment — including plenty of time out in the field, Wadsworth said. That training will culminate with an



Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Sanders / 1st AD PA

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment prepare Stryker vehicles at the Fort Bliss railyard for shipment on April 23. These Strykers were the last of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team’s Stryker Infantry Vehicles to be shipped as the brigade prepares to convert into an Armored brigade combat team officially on June 20.

NTC rotation tentatively scheduled for January 2021. After that, the converted brigade will be considered ready to deploy, he added.

The conversion is part of the Army’s efforts to position itself to be ready to meet future threats.

Concurrently, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, out of Fort Carson, Colorado, will convert from an infantry brigade to a Stryker brigade. The Army decided that Fort Bliss and the 1st Armored Division were the perfect fit for its newest armored formation, Wadsworth said.

“Fort Bliss specifically offers a lot of opportunities for armored formations, based on the size of the training area and the unique facilities that support armored brigade combat teams here,” Wadsworth said. “We are providing a capability for the Army by converting toward how the Army wants to orient itself for the future.”

During the conversion ceremony and other events to be held next week, the 1st SBCT will be celebrating its history while looking toward to its next chapter, said Maj. Brett Lea, the brigade’s public affairs officer.

Veterans from the brigade’s past, current and new formations will join in the festivities.

“The theme for the week is ‘Then, Now and Always,’” Lea said. “That reflects that the brigade has been around in one form or another for almost 80 years.”

Before the conversion ceremony at 8:15 a.m. June 20, the brigade will dedicate a new memorial to fallen Soldiers of Ready First. It will be located at the static tank display in front of the Ready First Headquarters.



HOME SWEET HOME

Photos by Master Sgt. Alejandro Licea / 1st AD

(Top) Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment "Death Dealers," 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team march inside the Silas L. Copeland Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group area Friday during a homecoming ceremony at Fort Bliss. The unit returned home after a successful nine-month rotation to South Korea.

(Left) A young boy in a T-Rex costume waits for his father Friday evening at the Silas L. Copeland Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group during a homecoming ceremony for Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment "Death Dealers," 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team.

(Right) Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment "Death Dealers," 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team reunite with their families during a homecoming ceremony Friday at the Silas L. Copeland Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group on Fort Bliss.



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Army public health experts offer training tips to tackle the Army 10-miler

By Doug Hol | army.mil

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — Signing up for a 10-mile run can be intimidating whether you are an experienced runner or a novice. Fortunately, the Army Public Health Center offers some expert advice and training tips to help every runner prepare for the upcoming Army 10-miler in October.

“You can do it,” said Maj. Timothy Benedict, an APHC physical therapist who specializes in injury prevention. “Come up with a progression plan and be confident that many people just like you have far exceeded what they thought was possible. The human body is incredibly resilient.”

Training for the Army 10-miler starts with incorporating the Performance Triad into your training routine, said Benedict. P3 focuses on sleep, activity and nutrition intertwined to enhance every runner’s performance.

Sleep is critical for performance and is needed to rejuvenate, said Benedict. Focus each night with seven to eight hours of sleep and keep a regular sleep schedule with a consistent bed and wake-up time.

Activity is the next tenant of P3 and Benedict says a three-to-five month progressive training schedule is plenty of time to prepare for the 10-miler. Benedict developed a training schedule adapted from the Runner’s World Big Book of Marathon and Half-marathon Training, with a 20-week or 10-week progression.

“To help with motivation, think about signing up with a local running group or convince a friend to join you,” he said.

Benedict, who is also an experienced distance runner and 10-miler veteran, says inexperienced runners should give themselves at least 12 weeks of training to give their bodies time to adapt to the distance and also allow them to vary their mileage, reducing mileage every fourth week.

A good training regimen will include three-to-four runs per week, said Benedict. A “long” run, a “medium” run, and interval training.

“Incorporate strength training and gradually increase your mileage for your weekly long run, and ramp back down for a relatively easy run every fourth week or so.”

How long is long? Both the 10-week and

20-week recommended training schedules start with a shorter 2-4 mile run during the week followed by a longer run on weekends, progressing from 2-8 miles and back down to 3 miles on easy weeks.

“Your long runs should be at a one-to-two minute slower pace per mile than your short run pace to build up your endurance,” said Benedict. “This applies even if you are walking up hills and running on the flats and downhills.”

To avoid injuries while training, APHC Kinesiologist Tyson Grier recommends comfortable running shoes and said overuse injuries can be avoided by incorporating sprint training or high intensity interval training during the week to offset weekly distance running.

“Interval training is running fast for one to four minutes, then recover at a light jog for an equal amount of time,” said Grier. “You can use mailboxes or telephone poles as your intervals.”

Grier suggests adding one or two days of strength training to the training plan and one or two additional runs per week in between, with an easy pace and at low distances.

Benedict also recommends using tempo runs for training. A tempo run is a pace a runner can maintain for an hour, not a runner’s fastest pace.

“Start with a warm up for five minutes and then transition to a faster run for five-to-10 minutes and slow down for five minutes,” said Benedict. “Gradually increase up to 25-to-30 minutes at the faster pace.”

Fueling is also a critical part of every runner’s training regimen, said Joanna Reagan, an APHC registered dietitian nutritionist. Nutrition is the third tenet of the performance triad with target goals of building a healthy plate with lean proteins, fruits, vegetables, whole grains and dairy at each meal. Aim to make half of each plate fruits and vegetables each meal and choose water over sugary beverages.

“Eat a light breakfast before your long run,” said Reagan. “Focus on mostly carbs and some protein about 30 minutes before you run. Pick foods that are easily digestible.”

Some examples of good pre-long run fuel include a bagel with peanut butter, a banana, and an energy bar, or a bowl of cold cereal or

oatmeal with a cup of milk, said Reagan.

“If you’ll be out for more than an hour, a sports drink or hydration drink mix will help to replenish electrolytes and provide around 6-8 percent carbohydrate,” she said. “Practice with different brands to determine the best tolerance for you. Don’t try anything new on race day.”

Good hydration is also important. Reagan recommends not overhydrating the morning before a long run so “you don’t have to look for a pit stop along the way.”

Experts recommend drinking 16-24 ounces of fluid before each workout or race.

“On long-run days, plan to either carry water with you in a water bottle or plan a route that you can loop back to your car or home so you can pick up water and snacks,” said Reagan. “Make sure you are drinking water along the way.”

Benedict also recommends planning both a good warm-up and recovery or cool down with every run.

“A dynamic warm-up means slow, controlled movements that increase blood flow to the muscles and joints you will be using during your workout,” said Benedict. “For instance: jogging in place, slow squats or lunges, or Army Physical Readiness Test preparation drills. Your warm-up does not need to last more than five-to-10 minutes.”

For the cool down, Benedict recommends walking for 10 minutes to slow down the heart rate and help prevent soreness. This is also a good time to perform some stretches.

“Hold your stretches for about 30 seconds each” said Benedict. “You should feel gentle tension while stretching, no need to push through anything stronger.”

Nutrition is also an important part of recovery.

“Plan to have a snack of about 250 calories containing carbohydrates and protein within 30 minutes after finishing your run,” said Reagan. “It’s important to replenish your glycogen stores. Low fat chocolate milk is always a good choice as it has protein and carbohydrates.”

Benedict says picking the right running shoes and clothing is also a must for every runner.

“Ideally your shoes should be worn in for a



Graham Snodgrass / U.S. Army

Capt. Zachary Schroeder, the HHC commander at Army Public Health Center, gets in a distance run May 23 as part of his training for the October Army 10-miler. APHC experts recommend incorporating the Performance Triad of sleep, activity and nutrition into any training routine.

couple of months before the race,” said Grier. “Practice wearing the right amount of clothes during training. Many runners heat up more when racing and will wear less clothing on race day. It also depends on the weather conditions, so check the weather forecast before training and on race day.”

The key to good training is not giving up, said Benedict.

“Don’t get discouraged if you have a hard week or two,” said Benedict. “It’s not a crime to walk at times. Your body will adapt and become more efficient at running. Just take it slow and give it time.”

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Joint hypersonic weapon tests to start next year

By Sean Kimmons | Army News Service

HONOLULU — The first joint flight test of a future hypersonic weapon will take place next year, followed by tests every six months until the weapon is fielded by fiscal year 2023, the chief of Army’s hypersonic program said last month.

Under the joint venture, the Army is responsible for producing the weapon’s common glide body, which will also be used by the Air Force and Navy.

In fiscal year 2022, Soldiers are expected to fire a hypersonic glide body from a transporter erector launcher, said Lt. Gen. Neil Thurgood, director of the Army’s new Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office, which includes the hypersonic project office.

“It is the first shoot ever off of the transporter erector launcher,” he said May 23 at the Land Forces Symposium, hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army. “It will be done by Soldiers.”

Prior to that test, the system will be fielded to a unit without the live rounds for training purposes in late fiscal year 2021.

Soldiers will practice command and control of the system as well as loading and offloading canisters, similar to those on Patriot and Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, systems.

“The reason we’re going to do that is because we need them to start training,” he said. “So, when we get to the first (live round) shot a year later, they’ll actually know what it looks like.”

The Army plans to field the system to a battery. That unit, which Thurgood said could include a part of the Multi-Domain Task Force that is currently being piloted and headed by a field artillery brigade, will receive four launchers with two rounds each.

The launchers, which are about 30 feet long, will be transported by four heavy expanded mobility tactical trucks, or HEMTTs, and trailers.

“That is what we’re fielding,” he said. “That is the outcome of an experimental prototype unit with residual combat capability.”

The command and control system will be the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System 7.0, which is now available to artillerymen.

“We’re using a kit we have because the Soldiers know how to use it already and there’s already a school set up to use that,” he said.

With near-peer competitors developing their own hypersonic capabilities, the Army plans to counter them with about \$1.2 billion on experimental prototyping through fiscal year 2024.

Thurgood’s office officially received the glide body mission in March.

“We’ve been in a full-out sprint since then and I personally just love it,” he said. “I think it’s very exciting.”

The glide body program is currently at the Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico.

“My job is to transition out of the labs into a commercial industry base,” the general said,

Bryan Bacon / U.S. Army

Lt. Gen. Neil Thurgood, director of the Army’s new Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office, which includes the hypersonic project office. The first joint flight test of a future hypersonic weapon will take place next year, followed by tests every six months until the weapon is fielded by fiscal year 2023, Thurgood said May 23, while at the Land Forces Pacific Symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command

A flight test of the Advanced Hypersonic Weapon concept in November 2011. The Army has since combined programs with the Air Force and Navy to develop a joint hypersonic weapon, which will undergo its first flight test next year.

“and we’re on the path to do that right now.”

His office brings together scientists and acquisition experts to expedite its programs, which also include directed energy and space technologies.

“By doing that I create a bridge from the science and technology community to the prototyping community to the program of record community,” he said.

The office is also authorized its own contracting authority and milestone decision authority to speed up projects.

“So for a certain dollar figure I don’t have to go outside my command to make that decision,” he said. “I can do all that in-house, which is a huge advantage.”

The goal is to get prototypes, even if it’s a 70 percent solution, he said, for Soldiers to test before fielding across the service.

“We need to get this equipment in the hands of Soldiers quickly to learn,” he said, “and then give the Army a decision point.”

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Photos by Candis Olmstead / U.S. Army
Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry Regiment, depart from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, May 30, to Fort Bliss, where they will complete mobilization for their deployment to Kosovo.



Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers of 1st Bn., 297th Inf. Regt., depart from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, May 30, to Fort Bliss, where they will complete mobilization for their deployment to Kosovo.



Alaska Army National Guard Pfc. Ben Godfrey, 1st Bn., 297th Inf. Regt., waits for the unit to depart from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, May 30, to Fort Bliss.

Alaska National Guardsmen mobilize at Fort Bliss

By Pfc. Grace Nechanicky | 134th Public Affairs Detachment

Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry Regiment, 38th Troop Command, are at Fort Bliss to train and prepare for an upcoming deployment to Kosovo in support of NATO’s Kosovo Force.

The battalion is staying in Texas to complete mobilization that began last September. They are primarily participating in administrative, medical and personnel in-processing. After mobilization, they will fly directly to Europe for their deployment.

Half of the unit departed for Fort Bliss on the morning of May 29, followed by the second half the next morning.

During the training leading up to the unit’s departure, the Soldiers took part in a capstone training. They participated in multiple events, such as the urban training complex at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, where they simulated multiple scenarios, such as unexploded ordnance and urgent medical situations requiring immediate attention from combat medic specialists. Soldiers from the Wyoming National Guard participated in the training as well.

The unit had its deployment ceremony at JBER May 5, where Alaska Army National Guard Col. Joel Gilbert, the 38th Troop Command commander spoke on behalf of the Kosovo Force that the unit will support while overseas.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the KFOR mission, which began in June 1999.

The NATO mission in Kosovo is primarily to guarantee a safe and secure environment, and freedom of movement for all citizens of Kosovo, as mandated by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

In carrying out its mission, NATO cooperates and assists the United Nations, the European Union and other international actors, as

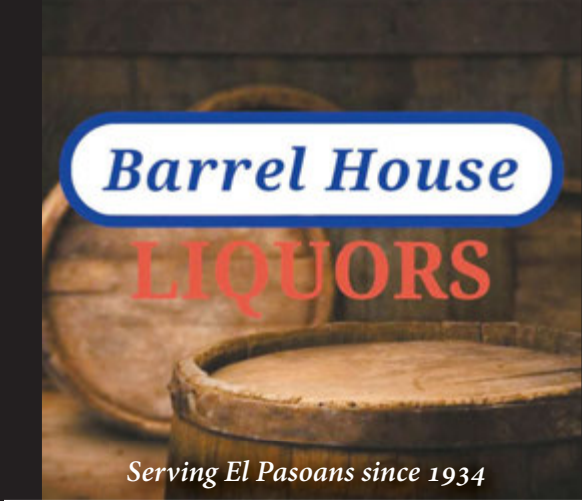


Alaska Army National Guard Sgt. Trenton Buning, 1st Bn., 297th Inf. Regt., stands in line to board the military contracted aircraft and depart from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, May 30, to Fort Bliss.

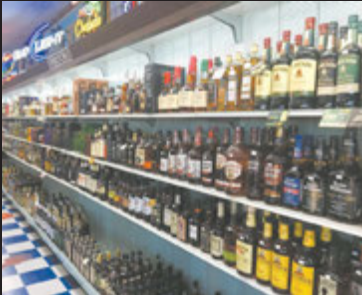
appropriate, to support the development of a stable and peaceful Kosovo.

According to NATO’s website, the objectives of KFOR are currently to deter renewed hostility threats against Kosovo by Yugoslav and Serb forces; establish a secure environment and ensure public safety and order; demilitarize the Kosovo Liberation Army; support the international humanitarian effort; and coordinate with, and support, the international civil presence.

The KFOR operation is supported by approximately 4,000 troops provided by 28 countries, according to the NATO website.



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Sgt. LaShic Patterson / 1st Sqdn., 2nd Cav. Regt.
Spc. Joshua Remy, a Soldier from 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, pins a sling around a patient's shoulder as part of a medical evacuation rehearsal during Saber Guardian 2019 at Varpalota, Hungary, June 3. Soldiers from 1-2 Cavalry are currently supporting SG19, an exercise co-led by the Romanian Land Forces and U.S. Army Europe that is taking place June 3-24 at various locations in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. SG19 is designed to improve the integration of multinational combat forces.

1-2 CAV medics perform at SG19

By Sgt. LaShic Patterson | 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment
VÁRPALOTA, Hungary – In the U.S. Army, there are two common messages every Soldier must know how to prepare and use: call for fire and the nine-line medical evacuation request.

Army medics from the 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment demonstrated the latter as part of a simulated medical evacuation rehearsal during Saber Guardian 2019, an exercise co-led by the Romanian Land Forces and U.S. Army Europe, at Várpalota, Hungary, June 3. SG19 is a part of the summer 2019 series of exercises to improve interoperability and readiness, taking place June 3-24 at various locations in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania.

“Medical evacuation, especially air MEDEVAC, like any tactical military movement, becomes exponentially complex when integrating allied and partnered forces and requires diligent rehearsals to get right,” said Maj. Gordon Mok, the regimental surgeon with Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd Cav. Regt. “Hungary has an advanced trauma care system, and it is essential for us to build on this relationship and intraoperative understanding with our host nation’s medical system to effectively utilize that resource as a medical force multiplier.”

Supporting SG19, 1-2 Cavalry medics captured the real-life urgency of transporting a patient from Role 1 to Role 3 care during the rehearsal. Spc. Myko Coker, an infantry Soldier and driver assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1-2 Cavalry, volunteered to be the patient during the simulated MEDEVAC rehearsal.

“I simulated injuries as if he had a dislocation in his shoulder, so we splinted his shoulder up with a cravat,” said Spc. Joshua Remy, a combat medical specialist and driver for Medical Platoon, HHT, 1-2 Cavalry.

“He’s got lacerations to his head, so I wrapped it with some kerlix. We don’t do a lot of pressure dressing on here because it’ll crush down his skull. He had bleeding to his left leg, so I applied a tourniquet.”

While nonmedical Soldiers who take the Combat Lifesaver Course to learn basic techniques to provide first aid and trauma care to Soldiers in the event of unavailability of certified medics, the Army relies heavily on the advanced training of the medics in life-

or-death situations.
“He also had a gunshot wound to his lower pelvis, so we put inguinal dressing to keep pressure on that,” said Remy. “This inguinal dressing is only taught to medics; that’s a little too advanced for CLS.”

After initial care, Coker was transported by Army medical personnel to the next phase of Role 1 care where a nine-line MEDEVAC was reported. The medics at the next stage conducted further assessments, to include drawing blood, checking the patient’s pulse and blood pressure, applying a neck brace to prevent further injury and making updates to the patient’s casualty card.

Once completed, the patient was transported to a Stryker M1133 medical evacuation vehicle with Sgt. Christian Cortez, a combat medical specialist and health care noncommissioned officer with HHT, 1-2 Cavalry.

“Once he comes into the MEV, the whole point there is reassessing everything that’s been done up until we get to the next line of care, which in this case, we’re taking him to a bird to go to Role 2 and Role 3,” said Cortez. “The whole way through, I’m making sure his interventions are still keeping blood contained, making sure the medications we are giving him are working, he’s still alert, his vitals aren’t crashing, just basically keeping him alive until we get to a higher echelon and can pass him off to get him to surgery or whatever he needs.”

The Soldiers transported Coker from the Stryker MEV to the UH-60 Blackhawk where a team of flight medics with 12th Combat Aviation Brigade secured the patient and transported him to the Split-Based Operations Military Hospital in Budapest, Hungary. With contracted linguists to provide assistance with any language barriers between U.S. Army medics and local Hungarian medics, the SBO provides occupancy that doubles the surgical and trauma capability of a home station.

“Having U.S. MEDEVAC on station helps reassure ground commanders that their Soldiers will receive the best enroute care in the world,” said Capt. Kevin Zuniga, an aviation officer with the 12th CAB. “Conducting rehearsals with host nation medical assets helps build confidence for all parties that the processes we’ve developed will work during real world incidents.”

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Sgt. Alvin Reeves / U.S. Army
U.S. and Thai soldiers conduct urban operations training in Phitsanulok, Thailand, Feb. 13, during Cobra Gold, an annual multinational exercise in Thailand. More Soldiers will be forward deployed longer in the Indo-Pacific region next year, as part of a new Pacific Pathways effort to allow units to build stronger partnerships.



Pvt. Lawrence Broadnax / U.S. Army
Lt. Gen. Gary Volesky, commander of I Corps, second from the right, and other Army leaders participate in a panel discussion during the Land Forces Pacific Symposium, in Honolulu, May 21. Volesky said more Soldiers will be forward deployed longer in the Indo-Pacific region next year as part of a new Pacific Pathways effort to allow units to build stronger partnership

Pacific Pathways 2.0 to bolster presence in Indo-Pacific

By Sean Kimmons | Army News Service

HONOLULU – More Soldiers will be forward deployed longer in the Indo-Pacific region next year as part of a new Pacific Pathways effort to allow units to build stronger partnerships and readiness.

Called Pacific Pathways 2.0, the program will place units in partner nations for up to six months at a time, much longer than the previous weeks-long exercises.

Soldiers recently tested the new strategy by staying four months in Thailand, Philippines and Palau.

Launched in 2014, Pathways is a U.S. Army Pacific-led initiative that has units conduct several stops in the region and train with foreign militaries during an expeditionary-style deployment.

The extended presence of units in the theater will provide the Indo-Pacific Command commander options for contingencies, such as humanitarian assistance or even conflict.

“What we were doing originally was just going to countries for exercise purposes,” said Lt. Gen. Gary Volesky, commander of I Corps. “Pathways 2.0, starting next year, we’re going to put U.S. forces in the Pacific for 10 months of the year.”

In Pathways, units are using a hub-and-spoke approach during deployments to increase visibility in the region. Countries next year will include Thailand, Philippines and Australia.

“We’re looking at three real hubs where we would go to the countries that have more capacity and then spoke off of those,” Volesky said May 21 at the Land Forces Pacific Symposium, hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army.

The new construct also deploys a two-star command and control node in the hub nation, in which a commander can quickly plug into and assist in a contingency operation.

“It’s not so much an exercise for the division headquarters as it is a mission,” said Maj. Gen. Ronald Clark, commander of the 25th Infantry Division.

Based in the Philippines at the time, the node provided a redundant capability so Clark’s headquarters could train in a division-level live fire exercise in Hawaii in April.

“We’re able to do that while we’re exercising Pathways,” he said. “So, if something had happened in the Philippines or elsewhere, we could have unplugged and jumped right into that C2 node.”

The I Corps’ campaign plan for Pathways also includes area of operations specific to certain formations. For instance, the 25th ID is AO Lightning and 7th ID is AO Bayonet.

“We’ll have habitual relationships with the same countries and the same series of exercises,” Clark said.

The longer presence allows units to train in countries rarely engaged by the Army. About 200 Soldiers from I Corps, for example, trained in Palau in April for the first time in 37 years.

“As we start to build more visibility in the region for a longer term, I think that’s going to help ‘get after it,’” Volesky said.

While the region is mostly water, leaders said Pathways still plays a critical role in the region where seven of the 10 largest armies in the world are located.

About 106,000 Soldiers are assigned or allocated to USARPAC and each year the command conducts around 200 engagements with 34 countries.

“Although we consider this is a joint theater, the land component is absolutely important and paramount for our allies and partners,” Clark said, adding the Army needs to remain engaged with them. “Make no mistake about it, relationships matter. Because it’s too late to build relationships at the start of a crisis.”



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Keegan Barber / U.S. Army
At age 18, Herman Zeitchik was among the 4th Infantry Division Soldiers who landed at Utah Beach early on the morning of June 6, 1944. He helped liberate Paris, hold back the Nazis at the Battle of the Bulge, and free starving prisoners at the Dachau Concentration Camp. Herman is a Knight in the French Legion of Honor. He is married to the love of his life and has two daughters.

GIs remember D-Day, 75 years later

By Gary Sheftick | Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — As the sun rose on Utah Beach June 6, 1944, the explosions were deafening.

“There was all kinds of fire coming down on us,” said Herman Zeitchik, who served with the 42nd Field Artillery Battalion, 4th Infantry Division. Then a corporal, he was hunkered down in a landing craft with about 30 other Soldiers.

When the ramp went down, the first few to step off ended up in deep water and their heavy rucksacks pulled them under. Some Soldiers drowned, Zeitchik said.

He was about the 10th to step off the ramp and found himself in shoulder-deep water, struggling to get ashore and keep his carbine dry. His holstered .45-caliber pistol was underwater.

“I dragged one GI ashore,” Zeitchik said. The Soldier had stumbled on the uneven sand and gone down. Zeitchik grabbed hold of his rucksack and pulled him up.

Posts had been placed in the water near the shore and Germans had fastened dynamite to them. As groups of GIs waded toward these posts, the Germans watched from defensive positions and pushed down their plungers. The detonations bloodied the water.

“I was one of the lucky ones,” Zeitchik said. “I got on the beach as fast as I could.”

Howitzers reach shore

As bullets whizzed past him, Zeitchik looked for any cover he could find. “I did my best to get into some kind of cutout on the beach,” he explained.

He raised his head from the depression and looked around, but could not recognize anyone. The entire beach was massed confusion. All the helmets looked the same, he said.

It took him a while to locate other members of his platoon. Finally, he hooked up with his first sergeant and lieutenant.

Zeitchik told his lieutenant he never had the chance to fire his pistol in training and was hesitant to pull the trigger now since the weapon was waterlogged.

“I don’t know whether it will fire or not,” he told his lieutenant.

The lieutenant curtly said, “Give it to me!” “I gave it to him and he started shooting at the Germans.”

The Germans were firing from foxholes and well-prepared defensive positions.

“They were lucky,” Zeitchik said.

But not for long. Soon other members of Zeitchik’s unit drove three-quarter-ton trucks ashore pulling 105 mm howitzers.

Zeitchik helped ready one of the howitzers and they began firing at the German defensive positions.

Engineers disembar

Meanwhile, Pvt. John Nelson with the 1st Engineer Special Brigade was approaching the beach in a Higgins boat. As other Soldiers went down the front of the landing craft’s ramp, Nelson was anxious and stepped off

See D-DAY Page 13A

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Guard ready as 2019 hurricane season kicks off

By Sgt. 1st Class Jon Soucy | National Guard Bureau

ARLINGTON, Va. – The National Guard has been busy responding to recent tornadoes and flooding in the Midwest, as well as other areas, but stands ready for this year’s “hurricane season” that began June 1.

“These are catastrophic weather events that we take very seriously,” said Air Force Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Burkett, the vice director of domestic operations at the National Guard Bureau. “We stand ready to respond if so called.”

The season runs through Nov. 30, when conditions are ideal for hurricane formation in the North Atlantic area. Last year’s hurricane season saw Guard members respond in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence, which struck the Carolinas in September, and Hurricane Michael, a Category 5 storm that made landfall in October near Panama City, Florida. National Guard forces responded to 71 natural disasters last fiscal year.

“Last year we had a lot of things going on,” said Burkett of the storm response, adding that lessons learned from the response to those storms -- and Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, and Erma in 2017 -- have been incorporated into plans this year to allow for quicker and more fluid response operations.

“We have worked hard over the last year to develop and refine our internal processes,” said Burkett.

That includes identifying beforehand what units and resources would be drawn upon to respond from outside an affected region or state.

“We’ve already forecasted who is going to support and how they’re going to support based on availability of forces that we have currently,” Burkett said.

Identifying those elements early on also means plans can be easily augmented to meet the needs of the specific response effort.

“These are the requirements we think we’re going to need,” said Burkett of the process. “We can identify shortfalls in advance. We can look at that and say what we can do to support.”

The approach, said Burkett, is based on lessons learned and anticipation.

“We’re doing very predictive force planning on this through how we can support each other very effectively and very quickly if a disaster happens,” he said.

Part of that planning and response readiness comes in the form of the All-Hazards Playbook, a checklist of sorts that identifies initial actions NGB staff would take in the event of a hurricane or other large-scale disaster.

“It provides a guide and initial first actions for our staff to do and helps decision making,” said Burkett, adding the



Staff Sgt. Mark Scovell / Texas Army National Guard
A South Carolina National Guard Soldier with Task Force Palmetto helps clear a road in the vicinity of Cayey, Puerto Rico, in 2017. The Soldiers were working in conjunction with the 190th Engineer Battalion of the Puerto Rico National Guard to clear debris in the wake of Hurricane Maria and subsequent rainstorms.

playbook allows staff to respond quickly to get Guard resources and assets to where they’re needed most. It also ensures the timely arrival of those assets.

“What we don’t want to do is overwhelm [those responding in the affected area] with a bunch of resources they really don’t need, and we don’t want to overwhelm them with a lot of stuff on a timeline that doesn’t fit with what they’re trying to do,” said Burkett.

The Guard can easily move those assets through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, a mutual aid system that allows Guard elements in one state to support response operations in another.

“Through EMAC, we can start flowing resources and forces into the response [effort] and support it that way,” said Burkett. “At the National Guard Bureau, our role is to understand what is going on and help facilitate these transactions, and do it in a timely manner so they arrive on time and when they’re needed.”

Guard elements in states most likely to get hit by a hurricane have also been preparing by running through training exercises and other internal checks.

“That is absolutely fundamental to a good response,” said Burkett. “That just doesn’t happen magically.”

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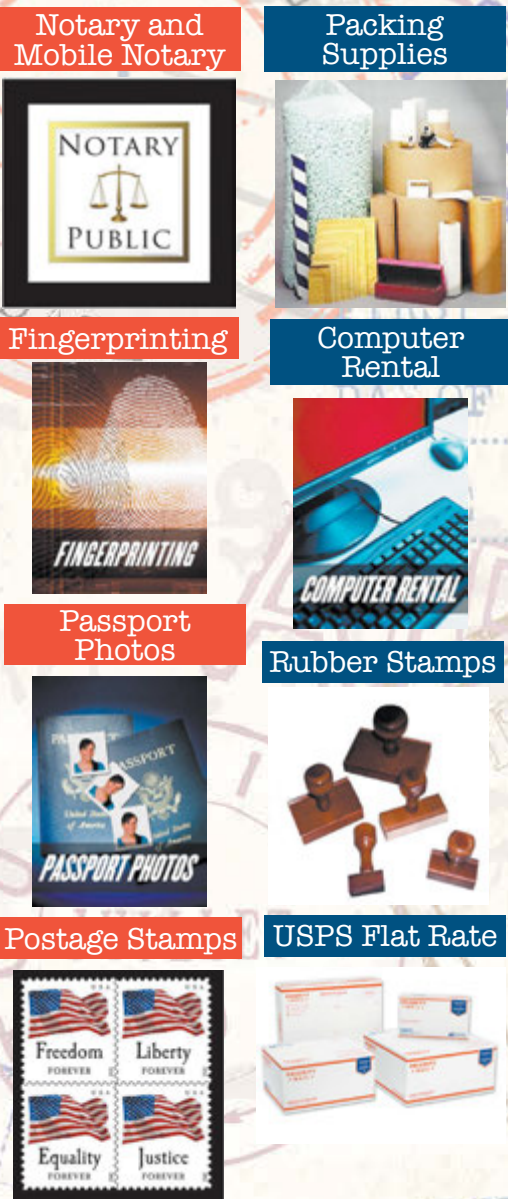
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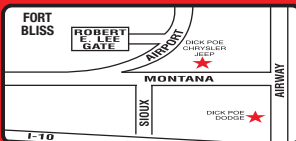
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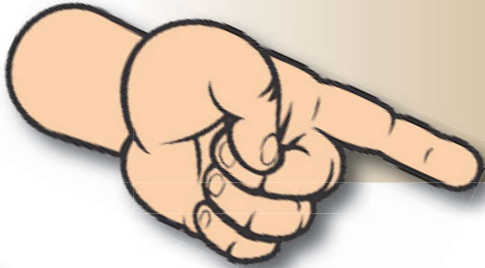
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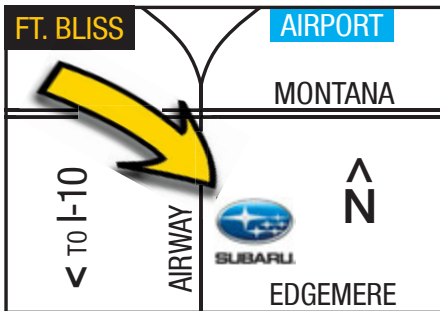
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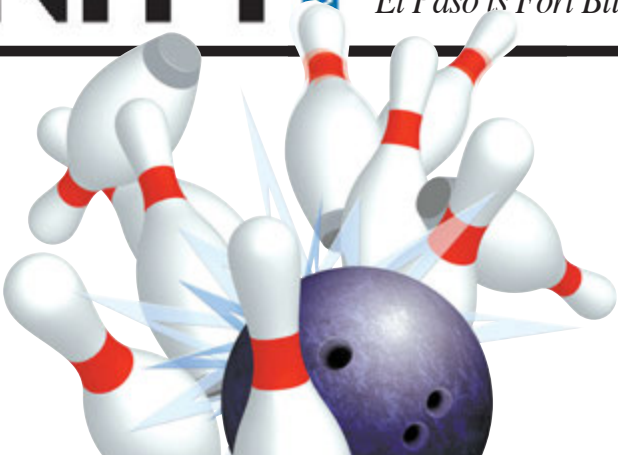


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Things to do:

'Viva El Paso!' opening weekend: El Paso Community Foundation and El Paso Live present the 42nd season of the summertime outdoor musical extravaganza with performances at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, beginning Friday through July 27, at McKelligon Canyon Amphitheatre, directed by Keith W. Townsend. June 29, and July 19-20 performances in Spanish. Tickets opening weekend are \$10, all other weeks' tickets are \$24 (\$16 ages 2-12, seniors 65+ and military with valid ID). All tickets available at Ticketmaster. "Viva! El Paso" depicts 400 years of the El Paso area's rich history. The show will combine many of the popular songs, dances and characters from the past, such as the iconic deer dance, with a new one. ElPasoLive.com

El Paso Chihuahuas: The city's AAA baseball team plays home games at Southwest University Park on Santa Fe Street in Downtown El Paso. Game times other than Sunday are 7:05 p.m. Sunday games are 6:05 p.m. Cost: \$11-\$30. Friday night they take on the New Orleans Baby Cakes, and Saturday through Tuesday the Oklahoma City Dodgers are in town. 533-BASE or EPCihuahuas.com

Alfresco! Fridays: The 17th season of free outdoor summer concerts are 6 p.m. Fridays, Convention Center Plaza. Presented by ElPasoLive. No outside food or beverages, or pets allowed. 534-0600, alfrescofridays.com or on Facebook.

Jeff Dunham: The master comedian and ventriloquist and his slightly demented posse of puppets performs his "Passively Aggressive" Tour at 5 p.m., Saturday at The Plaza Theatre. Cost: \$55-\$70. VIP packages are \$151. (Ticketmaster).

Vince Neil: The former Mötley Crüe frontman performs at 8 p.m. Saturday, at El Paso County Coliseum, 4100 E. Paisano. Neil was the voice of Mötley Crüe throughout the band's 35-year career, which included several stops at the Coliseum in the 1980s and 90s. Together, the iconic group produced a dozen gold and platinum albums, including its first nine in a row. Cost: \$30-\$80 (Ticketmaster).

Sun City PrideFest 2019: El Paso Sun City Pride's 12th anniversary festival is 2 p.m.-midnight June 22, parking lot near EPIC, 510 N. Stanton, in honor of LGBTQI Month, with performances to be announced. Cost: \$20. All ages event. (615) 603-2122 or epscp.org

Cool Canyon Nights: The 9th annual series of free outdoor summer concerts are 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at McKelligon Canyon, Amphitheatre, sponsored by WestStar Bank. Patio performance begins at 6 p.m. with headliner at 7 p.m. on the main stage. Admission is free, but space is limited. VIP tickets are \$10. elpasolive.com

State Line Music Series: El Pasoans Fighting Hunger and State Line Restaurant, presents the Rudolph Chevrolet-Honda-Mazda-VW outdoor concert series 8-10 p.m. Wednesdays. Free. 21+. All customers asked to bring non-perishable food donation or monetary donation for El Pasoans Fighting Hunger. 1222 Sunland Park Dr. 581-3371

Mission Trail Art Market: Area artisans and craftspeople display their fine arts and crafts for their 11th season 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month March-November in the historic Veterans Memorial Plaza in San Elizario, with arts and crafts, music, reenactments, food and more. Pets welcome. This season's kickoff event, happening Sunday, will include a car show 3-7 p.m., new Farmer's Market starting at 10 a.m., and live music from Mestizo Band 4-8 p.m. Free. 851-0093 or missiontrailartmarket.com

El Paso Locomotive FC: El Paso's professional soccer team hosts Las Vegas Lights FC at 7:30 p.m., June 22, at Southwest University Park. Cost: \$5-\$49. 235-GOAL, eplocomotivefc.com, or tickets@eplocomotivefc.com.

Aquapalooza: It will be all about water with FMWR at the annual Aquapalooza, June 22 from noon to 4 p.m. at Biggs Park. Kick off the summer with water games, inflatables and fun activities. Free. 588-8247

Monthly Art and a Movie night: The Art and Hobby Shop will host "Art and a movie" night July 12. The movie will be "The Goonies" with a pirate-themed ceramics craft. Open to all DoD ID card holders. Cost: \$15. 820 Marshall Rd. 568-5563



Photos by David Poe / USAG Fort Bliss PA

Brian Beauregard, the Balfour Beatty Communities project director at Fort Bliss, speaks with a resident following the town hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss June 6. "Housing remains a priority. It's a priority for the garrison and it's a priority for general Matlock, it's a priority for III Corps, all the way up to the Secretary of the Army and the chief of staff," said Col. Steve Murphy, the Bliss garrison commander. "We're working in accordance with their priorities to make sure we're addressing the situation at Fort Bliss. In terms of the Army, I am very confident that, together, BBC and the Army are making significant headway going forward."



Guests gather before the Team Bliss town hall meeting on RCI housing at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss June 6. The session was the second in a series of quarterly, Army-mandated town hall meetings on housing following the discovery of negligence in RCI housing practices in many locations across the Army and the DoD.



Jessica Holston, the BBC community manager at Fort Bliss, speaks with a resident following the town hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss June 6. "Housing remains a priority. It's a priority for the garrison and it's a priority for general Matlock, it's a priority for III Corps, all the way up to the Secretary of the Army and the chief of staff," said Col. Steve Murphy, the Bliss garrison commander.

Home team

Team Bliss, BBC hold second quarterly town hall meeting on RCI housing progress, work still to be done

By David Poe | USAG Fort Bliss PA

At Fort Bliss' first on-base housing town hall meeting February 28, Col. Steve Murphy, the Fort Bliss garrison commander, said Balfour Beatty Communities, Bliss' privatized housing partner, and the Army "would put their money where their mouths were" for residents amid discovered shortfalls in the wake of an Army secretary-directed review of all RCI housing across the force.

Now, more than three months later, BBC and Team Bliss held their second quarterly town hall meeting on housing at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss June 6. The session, which was streamed on the installation's Facebook page, was held to update residents on what's been done, what's in place, and what's left to do in terms of improving customer satisfaction and the overall on-base housing experience at Bliss.

Hosted by Maj. Gen. Patrick Matlock, the 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss commanding general, who was in attendance with his senior enlisted adviser, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Cobb, the town hall was part of an Armywide initiative to inspect, document and remedy shortfalls in the RCI experience at respective installations.

BBC employees Brian Beauregard, the project director at Bliss, and Jessica Holston, the BBC community manager, also participated in the town hall. Beauregard offered updates on BBC efforts, both at Bliss and at other installations. BBC manages almost 4,500 homes in 17 neighborhoods at Bliss. In all, BBC manages approximately 43,000 homes across the DoD.

Also, Army and civilian public health and public works experts from across Team Bliss and William Beaumont Army Medical Center were on hand for RCI housing questions and concerns.

Murphy started the night's presentation referring back to the Feb. 28 town hall, and how, soon after, BBC and Army leaders translated feedback from residents into 36 actionable items that fell into four focuses: Communication of standards and policies, Safety of RCI housing, Health, and Customer service focus.

Since the Feb. 28 town hall, following new budget allocations from the Army, almost a dozen new housing quality-focused employees have joined Team Bliss' Housing Division, an on-base quality assurance program continues to be enforced, and a 24/7 hotline for housing information was activated. Also, at the publishing stage, Murphy said a Matlock-directed initiative will soon see Bliss housing areas sponsored by O-6 level-led commands so that base leaders can have "an opportunity to see what's going on from the residents' perspectives and establish relationships with them."

At the town hall, Beauregard presented BBC's Rent-Cafe app, which is now accessible through their customer web portal, for easy customer tracking of maintenance requests. He also shared details on BBC's inter-organizational adjustments to better serve DoD families, including an increase in regional facility managers to eight, and focused customer service and technical training for staff members.

"We were not doing a good job at Fort Bliss, and across the Army, of quality assurance," said Murphy. "There are still some things we need to address — we're not 'batting a thousand,' but I believe we are approaching this with the rigor, professionalism, and dedication something like this deserves.

"Housing remains a priority. It's a priority for the garrison and it's a priority for general Matlock, it's a priority for III Corps, all the way up to the Secretary of the Army and the chief of staff. We're working in accordance with their priorities to make sure we're addressing the situation at Fort Bliss. In terms of the Army, I am very confident that, together, BBC and the Army are making significant headway going forward."

For more information, visit www.FortBlissFamilyHomes.com and <https://www.rci.army.mil>. The Fort Bliss housing hotline can be reached at 744-8903.

Proud to be an American

Naturalization ceremony held at Camp Humphreys

By Maria Gallegos | army.mil

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea – Seventy-eight active duty military service members and eight military spouses, from 13 different countries, pledged to officially become American citizens during a naturalization ceremony at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, May 22.

Col. Moon H. Kim, Army Garrison Humphreys chaplain, was the guest speaker at the event. He spoke of his own experiences of being naturalized and gave words of encouragement.

“After I received my U.S. citizenship in 2002, I became more motivated to serve the military,” he said. “I was not just serving the Army, I was serving the country as a U.S. citizen. This is a tremendous feeling. It is our duty to make positive contributions to the community and the nation we now call our home.”

The process of obtaining American citizenship can be lengthy, “but, the wait is well worth it,” said Pfc. Park Song Eun, a South Korean native, currently serving at Camp Carroll, near Daegu.

“This is a dream come true,” she said. “The process took over two years after I joined the military, but I am very excited and feel blessed to be here today. My family moved to the states 12 years ago, and during this time, I didn’t feel a sense of belonging until now. I can actually feel I am a part of a society and that means a lot to me.”

Pfc. Nioly Das, a native of Bangladesh, also gave his reason why this day was im-

portant to him.

“To me, receiving this certificate makes everything legal,” he said. “I see things that are not always right or legal, such as illegal marriages, but if I were to get married in the future – I can do it without any guilt and do it the right way.”

After the opening ceremony, Karen Karas, a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services field office director, administered the Oath of Allegiance to the United States and presented certificates to the recipients.

The room was filled with excitement and tears as the families and friends watched their loved ones receive their citizenship certificates.

Lee Jong Ok, father of Pfc. Namhum Lee (who received his U.S. citizenship), was one of the fam-

ily members in attendance. He didn’t speak English; however, his facial expressions showed how proud he was of his son.

“I’m so proud and happy for my son,” he said (translated by Pfc. Seaokwon Yoon, the family’s close friend). “I’ve been waiting for this day for a very long time and I’m so happy to be here with him, as he receives this great gift.”

Seventy-eight active duty military service members and eight military spouses, from 13 different countries, pledged to officially become American citizens during a naturalization ceremony at Camp Humphreys, South Korea May 22.

“This is a dream come true. The process took over two years after I joined the military, but I am very excited and feel blessed to be here today.”

>> Pfc. Park Song Eun



Photos by Kim Won Hyeong
Pfc. Namhum Lee, left, his father Lee Jong Ok, and Pfc. Seaokwon Yoon, right, pose after a naturalization ceremony at Camp Humphreys, South Korea May 22. Lee received his U.S. citizenship certificate during the ceremony.



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Amabilia Payen / WBAMC Public Affairs

Young dancers from Leilani and the Royal Islanders Polynesian Performance Group demonstrate a traditional dance known from the island of Samoa, May 30, during an equal opportunity observance at William Beaumont Army Medical Center for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

WBAMC holds Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Observance

By Amabilia Payen | William Beaumont Army Medical Center

William Beaumont Army Medical Center hosted an equal opportunity observance for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, May 30, in the clinical assembly room of the main hospital campus.

Each year, WBAMC recognizes AAPCI Month in May to bring awareness to the challenges faced by Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders and Native Hawaiians as they strive to live the American story. The theme for the event was focused on uniting the mission by engaging each other. Today, nearly 59,000 Soldiers who identify as Asian American/Pacific Islanders serve our country. Their contributions and achievements illustrate the diversity of the Army.

The annual event welcomed guest speaker Lt. Col. Richelle L. Goodin, deputy director of the practical nurse course, phase II, WBAMC. Goodin shared her experiences growing up as a Philippine native in America and how they shaped her to be the leader she is today.

“(Asian Americans) are hardworking, persistent, compassionate, dedicated and mission-oriented. They are the first in ensuring everyone is appreciated,” said Goodin. “My journey began almost four decades ago, to live through these experiences, learning how to adapt, and understand different cultures, and what an adventure.”

Goodin reminded the audience how Asian American and Pacific Islanders continue to

serve freely as active duty, reserve, National Guard, contractors, deployed and non-deployed, and DoD civilians.

“Aside from being immediate family they extend the boundary of family and will take care of others as a member of their family,” said Goodin. “They have a rich culture, many diverse in ethnicity and are free spirit thinkers. They have contributed, achieved and continue to accomplish tasks, projects and anything.”

The event also welcomed Leilani and the Royal Islanders Polynesian Performance Group. The performance group demonstrated Polynesian dances throughout Pacific Island traditions, taking the audience through a tour across the Asian Pacific through dance.

The event ended with certificates of appreciation to all who participated and a cake cutting ceremony that included a Polynesian menu at St. Martin’s Dining Facility.

The month of May is designated to recognize the achievements and valuable contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States in 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, by primarily Chinese immigrants.

Those of Asian American Pacific Islander descent make up over five percent of the total uniformed military force.

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Bowling for spouses: Spare some compassion

By Lisa Smith Molinari | www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com

Every summer, a fresh crop of newly-PCSeD military spouses emerge from housing like swarming termites in search of pulp. They follow other spouses to school, approach them in the commissary, and ring their doorbells, threatening to infiltrate their established social circles. Some see them as a threat, having forgotten that every spouse was once the new kid on the block.

Truth be told, I was a pestering new spouse many times over my 23 years as a Navy wife. After each move, I'd slowly transform from a strong, confident, responsible adult into a pathetic, insecure middle schooler, desperate for friends. After the first few weeks of living in the base hotel while waiting for housing, the novelty of our suitcase existence would wear off and loneliness would set in. I'd find myself chatting with the front desk clerk and the commissary baggers to combat my growing solitude. Once moved into housing, my daily routine would involve shamelessly scanning the neighborhood for potential friends while walking the dog, taking the trash out, and schlepping the kids to school. I'd make eye contact with those who looked approachable, and offer a friendly smile in an effort to initiate interaction.

But, women seemed to avert their eyes when I glanced at them. Moms pushed their strollers a little quicker when they noticed I was behind them. As I walked by the shared stairwell patios, groups of chatting ladies got a little quieter.

Inevitably, extreme desperation would

set in and I'd make rash choices. One summer after moving to Patch Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany, I hastily joined the Thursday Morning Spouses Bowling League and paid for a full year commitment, despite the fact that I'd never particularly enjoyed the sport.

I showed up on the first day to meet my team, Great Balls of Fire, thinking this would be casual and kitschy, and that I'd make some much-needed friends. But to these spouses, bowling was serious business, and I was soon intimidated.

When it was my turn, I nervously stepped onto the polished runway at the same time as a player from the opposing team, Lady Strikers. She glared at me, and I quickly realized my error and retreated to the scoring table. The irritated bowler restarted her approach, which involved her getting into a curious crouching position, then pouncing up to throw her ball just before the foul line. My team members told me that she'd been in the league for years, and this was her signature move.

When she was done, Crouching Tiger whispered to a woman at her table with a very high forehead, and they both looked in my direction. The Forehead got up and walked toward me. Intimidated by these kingpins of the military spouse community, I nearly soiled myself. Was I just being paranoid? They wouldn't want to scare a new spouse who is just trying to make new friends, would they?

"Are you the new person?" the Forehead asked sternly, peering down where I hunched



in a swing-out seat at the Formica table. "Uh-hu," I answered with a nervous smile. "Well, listen, my teammate sent me over to explain the rules," she said. My mind raced with humiliation and regret. Why had I committed to play in this league for an entire year? Would I ever fit in? Was it possible to make any real friends at this duty station? Despite my newcomer's jitters, I persevered and survived my year on the bowling league. In an effort to add a little levity to the humorless group, I even started a league diet group I called "Bowlers United To Take Off Kilograms Sensibly," or B.U.T.T.O.K.S.

for short. Not everyone was amused, but ultimate justice was served when our team's generous handicap earned us the second place cash prize in the season finals. The experience taught me that bowling didn't strike my fancy, but also, that new military spouses need companionship, not competition. Newbies will inevitably break the rules, throw gutter balls, and step on the foul lines, but the kingpins should spare a little compassion, and welcome all fellow spouses into their lane.





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Education Outreach Program offering students unique STEM opportunities

By Dawn Arden | USAG Fort Leonard Wood

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Many high school juniors spend the summer before their senior year with friends or classmates they may not see often following graduation. But, 18-year-old Andrew Kimmell spent last summer as an intern with the Army Education Outreach's Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program helping to develop technology to keep Soldiers safe.

The SEAP matches DoD scientists with qualifying high school students beginning as early as the 10th grade. The students receive a stipend according to experience and education level while providing the experience of conducting research in DoD laboratories.

Kimmell said his parents found the internship position and encouraged him to apply.

"Honestly, the internship was like nothing I had experienced before," Kimmell said. "Not only did I get to work with high-tech precision machines, but I had a staff of knowledgeable engineers and machinists to help me whenever I ran into a problem I couldn't solve myself. It was a snapshot of working with people in the STEM field that helped me make the final decision on what career path I should be following."

During his internship, Kimmell supported the Unmanned System Team of the Advanced Design and Manufacturing Business Unit at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

"Doing a job for the military was a great service that I got to provide, but I was mainly focused on getting it done and working on a problem that needed to be solved," Kimmell said. "Helping a design and manufacturing facility gave me an eye opening and prospective experience, and I'm glad that I got to serve my country in doing so."

The project, called Deep Purple, was introduced to Soldiers and tested during the 2018 Maneuver Support Sustainment Protection Integration Experiment, or MSSPIX, held at Fort Leonard Wood. It is also currently on display at the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School in the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence headquarters building.

"I think it's great that I got to work on a project that's being shown off as an example," Kimmell said. "You get a really gratifying feeling when you know that something you helped put together is satisfactory enough to be displayed like that."

Mark Colgan, the CCDC CBC lead electrical engineer and Unmanned Systems team leader, said the center has participated in various internship and apprenticeship programs over the



Courtesy photo
Andrew Kimmell works on an unmanned ground vehicle (Rover) during an Army Education Outreach Program internship at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md. The project is currently on display at the USACBRN School.

decades.

"These programs benefit everyone involved – the students are exposed to real-world challenges, mentors learn from the interactions, and colleagues are able to share their experiences," Colgan said.

Kimmell graduated from high school May 19 from Charleston High School in Charleston, Arkansas. He is scheduled to return to CCDC CBC this summer where will continue his work before attending the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville through the Air Force ROTC program where he will pursue a degree in computer science.

"Andrew led a multi-disciplinary approach to solving the challenge of autonomous navigation by an unmanned ground vehicle, which required teamwork, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and computer science skills," Colgan said. "We are excited for Andrew to return this summer to continue his work on the unmanned ground vehicle (Rover) and Array Configured of Remote Network Sensors payloads."

Kimmell said he hopes to see more students take advantage of the opportunities available through the AEOP.

AEOP offers internships at several locations across the country. Summer program applications open the November prior with a February deadline. Chosen applicants are notified beginning May 1 and the internship runs June through August. For more information on the Army Education Outreach Program, visit www.usaeop.com.

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Liturgical Service Sunday 10 a.m.

Hope Chapel
(2498 Ricker Road)
Crossroad Service Sunday 9 a.m.
Samoan Service Sunday 11:15 a.m.

1st Armored Division
(11272 Biggs St.)
Gospel Service Sunday 8:45 a.m.
Chapel Next Sunday 11:30 a.m.
Latter Day Saints Service Sunday 1 p.m.

USASMA Memorial Chapel
(11275 Biggs St.)
Traditional Service 10 a.m.

WBAMC Protestant Community
(5005 N Piedras Dr.)
Protestant Service Sunday 10 a.m.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Catholic Women of the Chapel
(Bldg. 2498 Hope Chapel)
Friday 8:45-11 a.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
(Bldg. 11272 1st AD Chapel)
Thursday 9-11:30 a.m.

Protestant Youth Group
(11275 Biggs St. 568-4334)
Sunday 5 p.m.

Sundays Free Dinner (6:30-7 p.m.)
5:30-6:30 p.m. Middle School
7-8 p.m. High School

Post-wide Bible Study
(Bldg. 11272 1st AD Chapel)
Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICES

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(1542 Sheridan Road)
Weekday Mass 11:35 a.m.
Wednesday Confession 10:35 a.m.
Saturday Confession 4 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8 a.m.
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
1st Friday of the Month - Adoration 1 p.m.

WBAMC Hospital Chapel
(5005 N. Piedras Dr.)
Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8 and 11:30 a.m.

German Chapel
(5312 Buffalo Soldier)
Sunday Mass 10 a.m. odd days

OTHER RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Jewish Chapel (Bldg. 1441)
Friday Shabbat Service 7 p.m.

Islamic Service (Bldg. 442)
Friday Jummuh 1:30 p.m.
Sunday Ta' Aleem 12:30-2 p.m.
Buddhist Service
(Bldg. 449 Pershing Road)
Thursday 6 p.m.
Intro to Nichiren Buddhism
2nd Tuesday 5 p.m.



Photos by Capt. Joselyn Sydnor / 653rd RSG
Army Reserve Sgt. Angie Gonzalez, Soldier Readiness Processing Center operations noncommissioned officer, briefs the 606th Engineer Detachment on the rules of the building and gives a short description of what to expect from the SRPC process.



Army Reserve Master Sgt. Jacqueline Ayala, Soldier Readiness Processing Center operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge, and Terrence Jolliff, SRPC plans officer, discuss building improvements. The SRPC operations section works closely with their enterprise partners to ensure quality customer service to mobilizing and demobilizing soldiers completing administrative and medical evaluations.

SRPC: Taking care of Soldiers

By Capt. Joselyn Sydnor | 653rd RSG

The Soldier Readiness and Possessing Center is typically the first stop for mobilizing Soldiers when they arrive at Fort Bliss. It’s also one of the first stops Soldiers make when they return to the states. Several entities occupy the building; the SRPC operations cell is one of them.

The operations section is made up of Fort Bliss Mobilization Brigade Soldiers who coordinate with their enterprise partners, providers, and medical support units to ensure quality customer service for mobilizing and demobilizing Soldiers.

“We’re just here to take care of the Soldiers and make sure they get the services they need,” said Capt. Kristina Souza, officer-in-charge of SRPC operations.

By the time Soldiers go through the medi-

cal portion of the SRPC process, they have already sat through two to three hours of informational briefs. They are then split into groups to process through the various sections of the building – medical, legal, and finance – to name a few. This is usually accompanied by time spent waiting to be seen at each section.

“We just try to make the process as easy and as smooth as possible,” said Sgt. Angie Gonzales, SRPC operations noncommissioned officer. “We try to accommodate everything [the Soldiers] need – including a computer lab.”

The operations section oversees and plans for the medical and administrative readiness of every Soldier and contractor that walk through the SRPC doors. They work hand-in-hand with medical providers and

staff, legal assistance staff, finance personnel, and outside agencies, such as the Soldier for Life Transition Assistance Program and Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, to make sure Soldiers have the support they need before and after they deploy or mobilize. They also ensure that programs like the Separation History Physical Exam, which essentially provides a physical for Veteran Affairs to ease the way for Soldiers receiving medical benefits, is not skipped or forgotten.

“We’re very fortunate that we have contractors and DA civilians who are experienced,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Lorraine Carnes, SRPC executive officer. “They have been valuable assets. Because they do so well in what they do, they help us dramatically.”

“We’re just here to take care of the Soldiers and make sure they get the services they need.”

>> Capt. Kristina Souza

Some issues are not easily fixed with teamwork alone. They are typical problems inherent in operating in older buildings with newer ones on the rise. But the team adjusts, coordinates with the FBMB facilities section for repairs, and continues the mission, all the while ensuring the comfort and care of their customers, their enterprise partners, and each other.



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Sports Briefs

Sand Volleyball tournament at Warrior Zone: The Monti Warrior Zone will host a sand volleyball tournament Friday, 4-10 p.m. Cost includes a t-shirt and one drink of your choice. Bring your friends and play against other competitors for the last tournament. Open to the public, ages 18+. Cost: \$15. 21171 Medic Ave. 741-3000

El Paso Chihuahuas: The city's AAA baseball team plays home games at Southwest University Park on Santa Fe Street in Downtown El Paso. Game times other than Sunday are 7:05 p.m. Sunday games are 6:05 p.m. Cost: \$11-\$30. Friday night they take on the New Orleans Baby Cakes, and Saturday through Tuesday the Oklahoma City Dodgers are in town. 533-BASE or EPChihuahuas.com

La Fe 5K: The 26th annual Father's Day Community Health 5K run and 5K walk are 7:30 a.m. Saturday at La Fe Cultural and Technology Center, 721 S. Ochoa (rear building) The 3.1-mile course goes through the historic Segundo Barrio neighborhood. All proceeds benefit La Fe's culture, education, arts, and community empowerment programming. Cost: \$20 through June 13 (\$25 Friday-Saturday). Discounts of \$5 available for teams of 10 or more and for active-duty military personnel (with valid ID at pickup). Free t-shirts for first 200 registered participants. Registration at raceadventuresunlimited.com. Walk-in registration is available at the La Fe Cultural and Technology Center 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday. Packet pickup is noon-6 p.m. Friday, at La Fe Cultural and Technology Center. 545-7190

Tennis Scramble: Held on the last Wednesday of every month. Cost: \$5 fee for non-ID card holders. Free for DoD ID card holders. The scramblers are held at the Tennis Club, 262 Club Road. 569-5448

BodyCombat®: BodyCombat is a high energy martial arts inspired workout that is totally non-contact. Punch & kick your way to fitness and burn up to 740 calories in a class. No experience needed. Learn moves from Karate, Taekwondo, Boxing, Muay Thai, Capoeira, and Kung Fu. Classes are Thursdays from 9-10 a.m. at Stout PFC through June. Cost: \$3 per class or \$35 for unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Hook a Soldier on Golf Clinic: Underwood Golf Complex will have their Hook a Soldier on Golf Clinic every first Saturday of the month now until September. Soldiers will learn the fundamentals of golf for free by PGA certified instructors. The clinic is from 10-11 a.m. Range balls and clubs provided. 568-1059

Hook a Spouse on Golf Clinic: Underwood Golf Complex will have their Hook a Spouse on Golf Clinic every second Wednesday of the month now until September. All spouses of active-duty Soldiers or retired military are welcome to learn the fundamentals of golf for free by PGA certified instructors. The clinic is from 9-10 a.m. Range balls and clubs provided. 568-1059

Group tennis class for beginners: Group tennis class for beginners will be held from 8:30-10 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday at Building 262 on Club Road. It is a very social and fun class to participate in. If you've never played tennis before it is a great way to be introduced to the sport. Tennis rackets will be provided. 569-5448

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Iowa Soldier finds passion for running

By Sgt. Tawny Schmidt | Iowa Army National Guard

JOHNSTON, Iowa – On a Saturday evening in 2013, Kimberly Hamner carried a load of laundry into her daughter's bedroom. As she set the laundry down, she noticed a stack of papers on the bed. Hamner peered at the papers. Confused by them, she took a picture with her phone and sent it to a family friend – a Marine Corps sergeant major.

His response on what the papers were triggered a flurry of emotions in Hamner. They meant, he said, that Hamner's youngest daughter, Ayryn Hamner-Ripperger, had enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard.

"I was freaking out," Hamner said. "The first thing you think of as a parent is deployment and stuff that goes on in the world."

At 21, Hamner-Ripperger didn't make this decision lightly. She considered joining the service after graduating high school in 2010, but decided to attend the Iowa Culinary Institute instead. After completing her degree, something about military service still pulled her, she said.

A friend, Meg Richardson, recalled a night when Hamner-Ripperger texted her, asking if she could come over and talk.

"She sat on my bed and I remember her pouring her heart out and battling with the decision to join the Army," Richardson said. "As she poured her heart out, I could see it's what she was meant to do."

Hamner-Ripperger made the decision to enlist not long after that conversation. It was a decision she made mostly on her own, and she said she wasn't sure how well her family would receive the news.

One weekend, after being released from drill with the Recruit Sustainment Program, she saw several missed calls and texts from her mom, asking about her decision to enlist. Fear gripped her at first, she said. However, after the conversation with her mother on the phone, it soon became obvious she had her full support. She later invited her father and stepmother to dinner to break the news.

"We're just so proud of her," said Tony Ripperger, her father. "She's dedicated to service and caring for people, and she's so strong-headed."

In addition to service and caring for people, enlisting also made Hamner-Ripperger realize something else: she's a runner.

"I realized I can actually run fast," she said. While serving with the Iowa Army Guard's 186th Military Police Company, she met one of her best friends and roommate, Desiree Followill.

Originally from New Jersey, Followill asked Hamner-Ripperger if she wanted to go to Brooklyn, New York, and run a half-marathon. It would be a first for both of them.

"Not really," Hamner-Ripperger said she recalled telling her friend. "But I did run out there because that's what she wanted, so I supported her. We had a pretty good running time for our first time running that far."

Although she ran track in high school, Hamner-Ripperger said she never had a passion for it. Even after enlisting, it was just one more thing she was required to do.

But in 2016, she ran another half-marathon



Sgt. Tawny Schmit / Iowa Army National Guard

Sgt. Ayryn Hamner-Ripperger, the administration and supply noncommissioned officer with the Iowa Army National Guard's 831st Engineer Company, stands at Camp Dodge, Iowa, with the race medals she has earned on her quest to run a half-marathon in all 50 states. Hamner-Ripperger is slated to finish her quest in October when she runs in South Dakota.

with Followill in Des Moines, Iowa and found she enjoyed running longer distances. She was also running more often to maintain her physical fitness level.

Eventually, her 17-minute two-mile runs turned into 15-minute runs and it clicked for her.

"I'm actually good at something that I can find passion in," she said. "It was something that fell into my lap."

Hamner-Ripperger ran another half-marathon in Arkansas in March 2018. It was there she discovered a group dedicated to running a half-marathon in each state. She talked with some of the members, and before she knew it, she signed up for another race in Kansas. That September, she got serious about her decision to run in every state, which led to creating a spreadsheet of possible races.

She listed the dates of races each state offered. As she selected races, she removed those dates as options from the remaining states.

Certain states, like Alaska and Montana, had fewer options, so those dates were selected first. If the location is under 10 hours away, she drives. Once she finds a race, she locates a hotel within a five-mile radius, taking packet pick-up locations into consideration.

Hamner-Ripperger said she also maintains a separate spreadsheet detailing her expenses. On average, trips that require air travel cost \$750, and driving trips cost about \$250.

"I already get enough grief from outsiders about spending money," Hamner-Ripperger said, "but I have had race trips cost me as little as \$50."

When possible, she does back-to-back races. "I did New Hampshire and Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island," Hamner-Ripperger said. "Next weekend I'm going to Maryland and Delaware. It's nice because it will have taken three weekends to do six states."

Hamner-Ripperger also has a specific routine she follows with each race.

She sleeps in her running clothes and wakes up 15 minutes before she has to leave for the race. She doesn't eat or drink before running — it makes her nauseous, she said.

She braids her long, brown hair into a ponytail and always wears her fitness-tracking watch with an aqua-colored band. She never listens to music and tries to talk with no one at the race.

Then, when the race starts, she sprints from the starting line and gets lost in a runner's high.

"Your mind goes all over," Hamner-Rip-

perger said. "I think about anything from what I'm gonna do afterward [to] my next race."

She said she also thinks about her stats in the race she's running.

"I like to calculate where I'm at, so that takes up a lot of my time," she said.

After she crosses the finish line, she said, she puts the race medal on and walks until she's not near anyone and collects herself for a few minutes, grabbing anything she can find to eat or drink. Then she goes back to socialize, often taking pictures with her fellow racers.

"You usually battle it out with somebody at the end of the race, so I'll usually find those people and talk to them," Hamner-Ripperger said. "If I stuck with somebody for the majority of the race, I'll make sure to find them, congratulate them and hear their story. We're all celebrating the same thing — we just did something that a lot of America can't."

There have been times, though, when Hamner-Ripperger has lost her own motivation.

In October, she experienced an issue with her knee locking up and said she was terrified she had seriously injured herself. At that time, a fellow Soldier coached her through foam rolling and stretching to alleviate the issue.

"My knees were bruised and tender from the rolling," Hamner-Ripperger said. "It was very scary because I had all these races already booked, but I powered through it."

And more recently, during her stop in Connecticut, she hit a wall. The course was extremely hilly and challenged nearly every runner, she said.

"I just stopped running and just kind of stood there, like oh my gosh, in pain, or just mentally not able to push forward," Hamner-Ripperger said. "That was my worst run since I started this journey."

The journey has also been enlightening, she said, adding one of her favorite races was in Newport, Rhode Island, where she ran along the coast, giving her new energy.

"It made me realize I'm seeing all these places in the country," Hamner-Ripperger said. "To be able to say that in 19 months, I've seen all 50 states when most people don't even see that in their lifetime, is amazing. I took it all in and was like 'alright, we're doing 'this.'"

Now a sergeant, Hamner-Ripperger serves as the administrative and supply noncommissioned officer with the Iowa Army Guard's 831st Engineer Company.

Her personality and drive have rubbed off on



>> RUN AND GUN

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jymyaka Braden / Department of Defense

All-Army women's basketball wins armed forces title

Soldiers from the All-Army women's basketball team play at Naval Station Mayport, Fla., Friday. The women topped Navy Saturday, 71-62, for the 2019 U.S. Armed Forces Sports women's basketball championship, which was held at NS Mayport through Saturday. The weeklong competition featured service members from across the DoD.

List of all scores:

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 2 Jun: | (M) NAVY 104 - USMC 98 (W) NAVY 86 - USMC 58 (M) ARMY 97 - USAF 84 (W) ARMY 88 - USAF 72 | (W) NAVY 80 - USMC 58 (M) NAVY 88 - USMC 77 |
| 3 Jun: | (M) NAVY 78 - ARMY 70 (W) NAVY 88 - ARMY 79 (M) USAF 82 - USMC 70 (W) USMC 77 - USAF 67 | 6 Jun: (W) USAF 65 - USMC 62 (M) USMC 92 - USAF 82 (W) ARMY 91 - NAVY 76 (M) NAVY 82 - ARMY 76 |
| 4 Jun: | (M) NAVY 89 - USAF 82 (W) NAVY 80 - USAF 47 (M) USMC 93 - ARMY 84 (W) ARMY 91 - USMC 67 | 7 Jun: (W) NAVY 77 - USAF 58 (M) USAF 88 - Navy 84 (W) ARMY 90 - USMC 60 (M) ARMY 68 - USMC 55 |
| 5 Jun: | (W) ARMY 97 - USAF 67 (M) ARMY 86 - USAF 83 (OT) | 8 Jun: (M) CONSOLATION: USAF 81 - USMC 74 (W) CONSOLATION: USAF 76 - USMC 70 (M) CHAMPIONSHIP: Navy 75 Army- 73 (W) CHAMPIONSHIP: Army 71 - Navy 62 |

WARRIOR Continued from Page 7B

others around her.

“She’s got the right mindset as an NCO,” said Warrant Officer Kelly Moeller, the human resources assistant with the 734th Regional Support Group, who Hamner-Ripperger works closely with. “She could be a private or a sergeant major and still have a huge influence on others. She’s going to do great things.”

With 39 states checked off and 11 to go, Hamner-Ripperger is slated to hit all 50 states in October when she runs in South Dakota. Her family and friends plan to be there to watch her cross the finish line.

But that’s not the end.

This month she qualified for the All-Guard Marathon Team, which should see her check off all 50 states again as she travels with the team.

Moeller said she’s sure Hamner-Ripperger’s attitude will keep the team motivated.

“I encourage her to keep her positive attitude and remain infectious,” Moeller said, “Because that’s exactly what she is. Her positivity is infectious.”

DWI Statistics for FY19

| Total DWIs | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|
| Unit | % of Bliss Population | % of Total DWI | DWIs |
| JMC | 0% | 0.00% | |
| 32ND AAMDC | 1% | 0.00% | |
| 11TH ADA BDE | 10% | 9.88% | 8 |
| JTF North | 0% | 0.00% | |
| 1/1 AD | 15% | 19.75% | 16 |
| 2/1 AD | 14% | 23.46% | 19 |
| 3/1 AD | 15% | 3.70% | 3 |
| 1AD CAB | 9% | 13.58% | 11 |
| 1AD DIVARTY | 1% | 7.41% | 6 |
| 1AD SUST BDE | 5% | 11.11% | 9 |
| 5th AR BDE/402ND | 1% | 0.00% | |
| 31ST CSH | 1% | 0.00% | |
| 93D MP | 3% | 2.47% | 2 |
| 204th MI | 1% | 1.23% | 1 |
| 86th ESB | 2% | 2.47% | 2 |
| 80th CA | 1% | 0.00% | |
| HHBN 1AD | 3% | 0.00% | |
| Garrison | 0% | 0.00% | |
| WBAMC | 4% | 4.94% | 4 |
| USASMA | 2% | 0.00% | |
| TOTALS | | | 81 |

Drug Statistics for FY19

| Total Drugs Offenses | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|
| Unit | % of Bliss Population | % of Total Drugs | Drugs (UA) | Drug Poss | Drug Distro | Total Drug Incidents |
| JMC | 0% | 0.00% | | | | 0 |
| 32ND AAMDC | 1% | 0.86% | 2 | | | 2 |
| 11TH ADA BDE | 10% | 12.07% | 24 | 4 | | 28 |
| JTF North | 0% | 0.00% | | | | 0 |
| 1/1 AD | 15% | 15.09% | 26 | 8 | 1 | 35 |
| 2/1 AD | 14% | 20.26% | 38 | 8 | 1 | 47 |
| 3/1 AD | 15% | 10.34% | 23 | 1 | | 24 |
| 1AD CAB | 9% | 8.62% | 18 | 2 | | 20 |
| 1AD DIVARTY | 1% | 13.36% | 29 | 2 | | 31 |
| 1AD SUST BDE | 5% | 10.78% | 17 | 7 | 1 | 25 |
| 5th AR BDE/402ND | 1% | 1.29% | 3 | | | 3 |
| 31ST CSH | 1% | 0.00% | | | | 0 |
| 93D MP | 3% | 0.43% | | 1 | | 1 |
| 204th MI | 1% | 0.00% | | | | 0 |
| 86th ESB | 2% | 4.74% | 9 | 2 | | 11 |
| 80th CA | 1% | 0.00% | | | | 0 |
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OFF DUTY >>

Off Duty is a compilation of military-affiliated information and events focused on the Soldier, their family members and veterans. Information should be 100 words or fewer and contain no editorializing. An informational brief that is not time-specific will not run for more than four weeks. Submissions are due no later than Friday for publication in the following week's paper. To learn more, call 568-4088.

Bliss Briefs

Lower Beaumont traffic disruptions expected: Trucks may cause traffic disruptions in Lower Beaumont until late November, according to the Fort Bliss Department of Public Works, as part of a cleanup project to haul debris from former WBAMC Lower Beaumont buildings, incinerator, arroyo, and WBAMC landfill areas to an off-site, licensed landfill. Road closures are not expected, but the work could include noise and dust. The work will be scheduled Mondays through Saturdays, 6:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Only five trucks a day will be used for the first few weeks with a gradual increase to 10 trucks a day

Old Ironsides ACP changes: Old Ironsides access control point will no longer be operational on federal holidays, Saturdays, or Sundays. Anyone transiting the post can do so using MSG Pena ACP (open 24/7) and CSM Barreras ACP (open 24/7).

TARP training: Fort Bliss offers Threat Awareness Reporting Program (TARP) training at two locations monthly. Get your learn on at the Soldier Activity Center on East Fort Bliss on the second Tuesday of the month, or at Stayton Theater on West Fort Bliss on every third Thursday of the month. This training will be offered in these locations through September. 568-4604

McGregor/FBTX ammo point closings: The McGregor Range/FBTX Ammunition Supply Point will be closed Monday through June 21; and Sept. 16-20. Issue documents can be submitted through TAMIS during the closures. 569-9528

Bible study: Fort Bliss post-wide Bible study takes place every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. at Bldg. 449-451, Pershing Road. Free dinner from 5:30 p.m. Childcare provided. 568-4334

ICE comments: Make your voice heard. Tell us exactly how we are doing. Good or bad: Bring it on. You may remain anonymous, if you choose to do so. Listing your contact information allows us to provide direct feedback. Fort Bliss has an outlet available, the Interactive Customer Evaluation program, fully functional again to all customers. Find it online at https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=435.

FMWR

Monthly Art and a Movie night: The Bliss FMWR Art and Hobby Shop will host "Art and a movie" night July 12. The movie will be "The Goonies" with a pirate-themed ceramics craft. Open to all DoD ID card holders. \$15. 820 Marshall Rd., West Fort Bliss. 568-5563

Free books for deploying troops: Deploying soon? Come to the Mickelsen Community Library and pick up a unit book kit. The book kits contain a selection of popular fiction and non-fiction paperback items. 2 Sheridan Rd (Under the NCOA), West Fort Bliss. Free. 568-1902

Auto Crafts facility-use orientation: The Fort Bliss FMWR Auto Craft Center offers mandatory safety orientations for their customers Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. This orientation is required before use of the facility for automotive do-it-yourself projects. DoD ID card holders only. 820 Marshall Rd., West Fort Bliss. Free. 568-7280

Go Youth

Aquapalooza: It will be all about water with FMWR at the annual Aquapalooza, June 22 from noon to 4 p.m. at Biggs Park. Kick off the summer with water games, inflatables, and fun activities. Free. 588-8247

Family Day at the Wall: The Soldier Activity Center holds "Family Day at the Wall" every Thursday, Friday and Saturday 12-6 p.m. How's the view from the top? Find out during Family Day at the Wall. The Soldier Activity Center is normally open to guests ages 18 and older, but on Family Day, the wall is open to all climbers age 6 and older. Climbing is available on a first-come, first-served basis. 20732 Constitution Ave., East Fort Bliss 744-1532

In-home Child Care from CYS: Family Child Care offers in-home providers for CYS-registered kids. For care information, or to receive an updated list of FCC providers, call 568-4198 or visit the office at 3503 Story Rd. Cost: \$5/hr. with \$10 deposit. Reservations required. 744-7879

School Age Book Club: The School Age Book Club is designated for children ages 7-12. A staff member will read for part of the time and the children will read aloud as well from 4-5 p.m. every Wednesday at Mickelsen Library. Activities and projects are completed at home, returned and shared at subsequent meetings. Occasional refreshments are provided. 568-6156

Story Time: It's Story Time! Stop by the Mickelsen Library every Tuesday from 10:15-11 a.m. or 11-11:45 a.m. as children ages 2 to 5 listen to stories read aloud. There will also be crafts, activities and refreshments available. Start children on the road to literacy. 568-6156

Child Range Orientation class: This is a one-hour child firearm safety course required for children ages 6-17 to accompany parents or guardians at Rod and Gun Club live fire ranges. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Open to the public. 568-5426

Teen Basic Automotive Maintenance Class: SKIESUnlimited will be hosting this event every second Saturday of the month. Students with their driver's licenses or permits will learn basics such as changing the oil to replacing a tire and more. When the class is completed, students will receive a safety card to work at Auto Crafts. Cost: \$25 per student, registration is required and can be done at SKIESUnlimited. 568-5544

Kids Golf for \$5: Join Underwood Golf Complex as children get to play golf for \$5 Monday through Friday. Children ages 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. It's open to children 16 and younger, they must walk, can only ride in a cart with a paying adult. 568-1059

Babysitting Course: Do you have a teen who wants to earn some extra money? Then, make sure they take advantage of the SKIESUnlimited Babysitting Course. This babysitting curriculum is designed to help middle school and teenage youth learn what it takes to be a responsible, caring, trustworthy and competent babysitter. Students will receive first aid and CPR training on a Saturday. The course is open to children ages 12 and older and costs \$10. 568-5544

SKIESUnlimited Folklorico Dance: Does your child like to dance and would like to learn more about the Mexican culture? Join SKIESUnlimited for their Folklorico Dance Class open for children ages 6-18 years old. Dance class is \$40 per month and held every Saturday from 12:15-2 p.m. Students participating in this course will learn a variety of traditional Latin American dance that emphasizes local folk culture with ballet characteristics - pointed toes and exaggerated movements. 568-5544

SKIESUnlimited: SkiesUnlimited offers a variety of fun and educational programs geared for children of all ages and talent levels. Music classes like piano, voice, guitar and drums are available. SKIES also has a variety of art, sports, driver's training and babysitting courses. Call our team today at 568-5544. All students must be enrolled with CYS Services Parent Central. 568-4374

Community

ROWC luncheon Tuesday: The Retired Officers' Wives' Club will meet for lunch on Tuesday, noon, at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. Members will honor their husbands. Cost: \$20 per person and reservations are required by noon Friday. Wives and widows of retired offi-

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Grace Presbyterian Church
8001 Magnetic St 79904

- *Save money on next year's curriculum by shopping from local homeschool families
- *Support homeschool families' home-based businesses
- *Register to be a vendor of used curriculum and/or home based business products
- *Reserved tables require a \$10 advanced payment and registration. See our event listing for more details.

Email: fortblisshomeschoolers@gmail.com for more details

cers from any branch of service are invited. Call Peg. 472-1979

Hampton University Alumni Round Up: The El Paso Alumni Chapter has monthly meetings held at noon in various locations close to Fort Bliss. Contact Warren E. Brown at 241-4672.

Purple Heart recipients sought: The Military Order of the Purple Heart El Paso Chapter 393 meets the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. at the 82nd Airborne Memorabilia Museum, 2608 Fort Blvd. Transitioning from the battlefield to the home front has never been more difficult, and volunteers make a difference in the lives of our men and women in uniform, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Stand with the MOPH Chapter 393 and honor the sacrifice of American veterans by continued commitment. Facebook @ MOPHChapter393

2ID Vets group seeks members: The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and their 98th annual reunion in Tucson, Ariz., Sept.18-22, contact Bob Haynes at 2idahq@comcast.net

Downtown Artist and Farmers Market: The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department's market for area artists and regionally grown agricultural products is 9 a.m. -1 p.m. each Saturday in the Union Plaza District along Anthony Street. 212-1780 or elpasoartsandculture.org

Be a mentor in the Sea Cadets: Calling adult volunteers to lead in the newly forming Navy Sea Cadets program, El Paso Unit. Must be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident, free of felony convictions, possess good moral character, a sound mind, and be capable of communicating USNSCC values to our cadets. No military background is required and you will be allowed to wear the Navy Sea Cadet uniform. For more information look up "El Paso Navy Sea Cadets" on Facebook, or e-mail epnavyseacads@outlook.com

Upper Valley Artists/Farmers Market: The artist and farmers market is 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays, at the Substation on Doniphan at Sunset. Free. Information on Facebook at Upper Valley Artist and Farmers Market.

Music Under the Stars: The 36th summer concert series sponsored presented by the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department is 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays. 800 S. San Marcial. Free. elpasolive.com or on Facebook at Music Under the Stars

Cool Canyon Nights: The 9th annual series of free outdoor summer concerts are 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at McKelligan Canyon, Amphitheatre. Patio performance begins at 6 p.m. with headliner at 7 p.m. on the main stage. June 13: Joe Barron Band. Free. elpasolive.com

Parks and Recreation concerts: El Paso Parks and Recreation presents a free outdoor concert of Mariachi music at 6 p.m. Saturday, Ponder Park, 7500 W.H. Burges. Bring lawn chairs and blankets, food and beverages (no alcohol). All locations are dog-friendly, but dogs must be on leash. 212-0092 or elpasotexas.gov/parks

Hearse and Classic Car Show/Shine: Calaveritas and El Paso Funeral Museum, 6111 S. Desert, host their first-ever, family-friendly hearse exhibit and classic car show and shine noon-6 p.m. Saturday, with free museum tours, food truck, local artists and vendors and more. Free. 209-0097, elpasofuneralmuseum.com

Raft the Rio Festival: Kiwanis Club of Las Cruces hosts the raft race at 10 a.m. Saturday, beginning at La Llorona Park beneath the Picacho Street bridge, in Las Cruces, N.M., and finishing at the Calle de Norte bridge in Mesilla. Cash prizes for first to finish, best use of recycled materials, least likely to finish, and most spirited crew. Theme is "Pirates of the Rio Grande." All crew members must have and wear a life jacket. Cost: \$35 day of event (for two sailors), \$5 each for additional crew members (must all be age 13 or older). kiwanis-lascruces.org, (410) 925-9126 or northcuttjb@comcast.net

Full Moon Nights: White Sands National

ANNOUNCEMENT

Debt collection notice:

This is a debt collection notice for **Staff Sgt. William A. Pribila**. All services under Pribila's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Pribila or for information regarding collections, call 1st Lt. Brian Nepogoda at 744-7750.

Federal District and Magistrate Court Trial Results

U.S. v. Julie Marie Mendez: On 8 May 2019, Julie Marie Mendez pled guilty to driving while intoxicated on Fort Bliss. Mendez was sentenced to nine months probation, including a requirement to participate in a substance abuse treatment program, abstinence from the use of alcohol and/all other intoxicants, prohibition on knowingly entering any bar/tavern, and a \$10 special assessment

U.S. v. Omar Eliborio Cano: On 31 May 2019, Spc. Omar Eliborio Cano pled guilty to driving while intoxicated on Fort Bliss. Cano was sentenced to nine months probation, including a requirement to participate in a substance abuse treatment program, abstinence from the use of alcohol and/all other intoxicants, prohibition on knowingly entering any bar/tavern, payment of \$4,658.75 restitution amount to the U.S. Army, and a \$10 special assessment.

Monument, 15 miles southwest of Alamogordo, N.M., on U.S. 70, presents a performance by 1st Armored Division Old Ironsides Band at 8:30 p.m. Friday, as part of its monthly full moon programs that run through October. Free. White Sands entrance fees \$10 per person; \$20 per vehicle; and \$15 per motorcycle. (575) 479-6124, ext. 236 or (575) 679-2599, ext. 232 or nps.gov/whsa

Spaceport America Cup: Experimental Sounding Rocket Association and the Spaceport America Crew hosts the world's largest International Intercollegiate Rocket Engineering Competition June 20-22, at Spaceport America, outside Truth or Consequences, N.M. Rocket teams come from all over the country and around the world. Gates open to the public 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: 4-day pass \$45 (\$50 with award ceremony) for age 17 and older. Adult one-day pass is \$12 per day. Children's passes are \$5 per day. spaceport-america.com.

Festival of Quilts: The Southern New Mexico Festival of Quilts is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. June 21-22, at the Otero County Fairgrounds in Alamogordo, N.M. Various quilt classes offered June 19-22. Cost: \$7 one-day; \$10 two-day. (575) 437-4880 or snmfq.com

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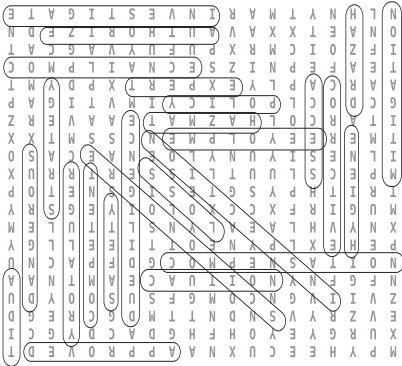
Two real tree cut of wood schnauzer paintings, \$40; XR Station by Teknik Get Fit for Xbox, Gamecube, PS2, \$375;

Juneteenth: Doña Ana County NAACP presents a multi-cultural celebration of Juneteenth at 6 p.m. June 21, at the Rio Grande Theatre, 211 N. Main, Las Cruces, N.M., featuring music by local musicians and choirs. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Free. (575) 541-2290 or riograndetheatre.org

El Paso Ice Cream Festival: El Paso Live hosts the El Paso Ice Cream Festival family event June 30, in Convention Center Plaza, downtown, with a variety of ice cream and other frozen treats, gelato, churro splits, snow cones, a toppings bar, live music, ice cream-inspired arts, contests, food trucks, and more. Tickets available at icecream-festep.com.

Fiesta Latina: A weekend of Latin cultures, rhythms, flavors and artisans from around the world June 21-23, at Old James Stadium at Western New Mexico University in Silver City, N.M. Cost: \$66 for all ticketed events. There will be a free Artisan Mercado, tequila tasting, lectures, workshops, and ongoing live entertainment all three days. Street dance featuring Calle 66 is 8-10 p.m. June 21. Cost: \$16. Little Joe y La Familia concert is 9 p.m. June 22. Cost: \$31 in advance; \$35 at the door. fiestalatina.org. (575) 538-6469

wood tree cut bear wall hanger, \$40; oriental white wall hangings, \$70; Pelco Master Power Supply WCS4-20B, \$75. 383-0767



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ADVERTORIAL

First Impressions of a New El Pasoan and Landing in the Right Place at the Right Time

By Livia Sappington

Just last year, I landed in El Paso purely by chance. Coming back from a few years at the other end of the world, Down Under, I was looking for a new beginning. Invited by a former client to help with his business, it seemed as good a place as any. I was surprised and quite pleased by the city I tumbled onto through happenstance.

If you are not from around here, you imagine El Paso as a small and dusty border town in the middle of nowhere with not much to offer to a former New Yorker who has seen many a place around the globe. You might envision this passage to Mexico as a prairie with horses and Main Street with the general store and saloon. A simple, uncomplicated world with cowboys and cowgirls with big hats, big hair, and good old-fashioned values.

Of course, I knew that it would be more modernized than that, and expected to see the huge supercenters with Walmart, Target, and Costco along complex highways.

What I did not expect was how lovely and charming Kern Place was; the beauty of Lost Dog Trail in the Northwest; the upscale urban development on the Eastside, and the relatively small but truly impressive Downton area. I was amazed by the growth, which is above the U.S. average per year; the pulse of the business community,

and the ambition of young entrepreneurs. Most of all, I was impressed by the welcoming warmth of the community. All of this was so positive and pleasing that I felt that there had to be a reason why my journey took me to this hidden treasure of a location; a diamond in the rough.

So when the business opportunity I came here to pursue did not work out, I decided to stay and make El Paso my home.

I joined a wonderful company that represents the old and new El Paso in every way. A minority owned and woman owned business with a long history in this bicultural and bilingual community.

RMPersonnel was born out of Rudolph Miles Customhouse Brokers Founded by Rudolph Miles, known by El Pasoans as Rudy Miles. He was a pioneer, a pillar of the community, and a veteran who in 1941 volunteered to serve in the Air Force and his expertise and talent landed him

in their finance office. Throughout his life, he was a supporter of the armed forces as well as the El Paso/Juarez region working hard to promote economic development between these sister cities.

Mr. Miles believed in hard work and had a strong faith in God. He held leadership positions in such organizations as the El Paso Downtown Rotary Club, the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso, and the El Paso Chamber of Commerce as well as many others. Rudy Miles has also started several successful ventures besides his customs business, many of which have been recognized as top Hispanic companies in the U.S. His strong work ethic and love of community and family was deeply instilled in his nine surviving children; Ceci Miles Mulvihill, President of RMPersonnel among them.

RMPersonnel was founded in 1990 and has grown into an organization serving employers and job seekers in El Paso by continuing the

tradition of supporting local organizations, businesses and communities. RMP today is one of the top employers in El Paso, employing up to 2000 workers per day. Their staff of 40 highly qualified Smart Team™ with 13 recruiters, Safety and HR experts, and Business Advisors do an amazing job of placing temporary workers fulfilling a variety of jobs as well as helping companies finding the right fit for supervisory, managerial, or even executive level positions. RMP is also a certified Professional Employer Organization that partners with businesses to reduce their costs and takes over payroll, claims, and benefits so they can focus on growth and expansion.

It is exciting to be part of such an organization that effects people's lives on the daily basis. We have dozens of new applicants visiting our offices each day, all of whom receive first class care and attention.

We are always looking to be more involved and have committed to spending more time and effort working with the Fort Bliss community helping military families finding temporary, permanent, full-time or part-part time jobs. With two offices in El Paso, one in Laredo, and one in San Antonio we are always ready to roll up our sleeves and work for you.

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A portrait of a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and a patterned yellow tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background behind him is a dark blue textured surface.

"All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise 'any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion or national origin, or any intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. The Bugle will not accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. All dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis."

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|---|--|---|--|
| <p>2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT STK# A15721</p>  <p>\$13,995 HOT AND READY</p> | <p>2015 TOYOTA CAMRY HYBRID, XLE, STK# A15724</p>  <p>\$15,995 LUXURY GAS SAVER</p> | <p>2016 TOYOTA PRIUS C STK# A15808</p>  <p>\$17,995 ONLY 3K MILES</p> | <p>2014 CHEVY CAMARO LT RS STK# A15603A</p>  <p>\$18,995 NOT A MISTAKE</p> |
| <p>2017 SUBARU OUTBACK 4X4, STK# A15723</p>  <p>\$23,995 WHY BUY NEW</p> | <p>2019 TOYOTA TUNDRA CREWMAX, 4X4</p>  <p>\$36,995 FOUR TO CHOOSE FROM</p> | | <p>2018 FORD TRANSIT-250 CARGO VAN</p>  <p>\$25,995 TWO TO CHOOSE FROM</p> |
| <p>2019 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE, STK# A15791</p>  <p>\$25,995 SUMMER FUN</p> | | | <p>2018 NISSAN ARMADA SV STK# A15801</p>  <p>\$26,995 HONEY OF A DEAL</p> |
| <p>2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED STK# A15577</p>  <p>\$27,995 HONEY OF A DEAL</p> | <p>2018 BMW 480i CONVERTIBLE, STK# A15785</p>  <p>\$28,995 WHY BUY NEW</p> | <p>2018 RAM 2500 SLT 4X4, DSL, CREWCAB, STK# A15732</p>  <p>\$45,995 WHAT A DEAL</p> | <p>2017 PORSCHE BOXTER CONVERTIBLE, STK# A15947</p>  <p>\$50,995 SAVE THOUSANDS</p> |

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|---------------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| A1545DA | 2013 HYUNDAI ACCENT | \$6,995 | 2627458 | 2008 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA | \$16,995 |
| A126658 | 2007 JEEP COMMANDER | \$8,995 | A15624 | 2017 NISSAN ALTIMA SV | \$16,995 |
| A15924A | 2010 CHRYSLER T&C | \$8,995 | A15608 | 2017 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT | \$16,995 |
| 26179A | 2008 MAZDA MX-5 MIATA | \$9,995 | A15654 | 2017 CHEVY MALIBU LT | \$16,995 |
| A15935 | 2017 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE ES | \$10,995 | A15724 | 2015 TOYOTA CAMRY HYBRID LE | \$16,995 |
| 260928 | 2016 MITSUBISHI LANCER | \$10,995 | A15755 | 2017 TOYOTA CAMRY XLE | \$16,995 |
| A15783 | 2017 NISSAN VERSA SV | \$11,995 | A15601 | 2017 FORD FUSION SE HYBRID | \$17,995 |
| 261648 | 2011 FORD EDGE SEL | \$11,995 | A15565 | 2017 DODGE JOURNEY SE | \$17,995 |
| 259328 | 2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT | \$12,995 | A15736 | 2018 NISSAN ALTIMA SV | \$17,995 |
| A15700A | 2011 TOYOTA SIENNA XLE VAN | \$12,995 | A15386A | 2018 FORD FUSION SE | \$18,995 |
| A15843A | 2012 MAZDA CX-9 | \$12,995 | A15598 | 2018 TOYOTA COROLLA SE | \$18,995 |
| 25923C | 2014 CHEVY MALIBU 2LT | \$12,995 | A15735 | 2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE | \$19,995 |
| 26013A | 2015 CHRYSLER T&C | \$12,995 | A15603A | 2014 CHEVY CAMARO LT R5 | \$19,995 |
| 26069A | 2013 HYUNDAI SANTA FE | \$13,995 | 26085A | 2015 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT UNLIMITED | \$21,995 |
| 25957A | 2015 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT | \$14,995 | 26034A | 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | \$22,995 |
| FIVE TO CHOOSE FROM | 2017 NISSAN SENTRA SV | \$14,995 | A15723 | 2017 SUBARU OUTBACK | \$24,995 |
| A15615 | 2015 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT | \$15,995 | 25989A | 2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON LIMITED | \$24,995 |
| A15581A | 2016 JEEP COMPASS SPORT | \$15,995 | A15791 | 2019 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE | \$26,995 |
| A15570 | 2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT | \$13,995 | A15429 | 2017 RAM 1500 LONESTAR | \$27,995 |
| A15568 | 2015 NISSAN ALTIMA SV | \$15,995 | A15785 | 2018 BMW 430i CONVERTIBLE | \$31,995 |
| 4827A | 2017 TOYOTA COROLLA LE | \$15,995 | A15733 | 2018 CADILLAC XT5 PREMIUM | \$36,995 |
| A15738 | 2019 TOYOTA COROLLA LE | \$15,995 | A15731, ONLY 4K MILES | 2018 RAM 2500 SIT | \$44,995 |

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| <p>2018 NISSAN VERSA SV</p>  <p>\$12,995 FIVE TO CHOOSE FROM</p> | <p>2018 CHEVY CAMARO LT CONVERTIBLE, STK# A15B32</p>  <p>\$22,995 MUST SEE</p> | <p>2018 BMW X2 XDRIVE 28i</p>  <p>\$33,995 TWO TO CHOOSE FROM</p> |
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