



Reserve NCO wins
USACAPOC(A) Best Warrior ■ 6A



Thursday, May 23, 2019

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>> WE SERVE TOGETHER

Patrick Loch / Minnesota National Guard

A Minnesota National Guard Soldier from the state's 147th Human Resources Company says one more goodbye at the Minneapolis--St. Paul International Airport before departing for Fort Bliss Sunday. A six-person team from the unit has mobilized and will train here before deploying to support Operation Freedom's Sentinel by providing, casualty liaison duties, personnel accountability and dozens of personnel services to maintain Soldier readiness theater-wide. To learn more about our installation, America's premier Power Projection Platform for Overseas Contingency Operations, visit our post's new web site at <https://home.army.mil/bliss/index.php>.



Patrick Ferraris / U.S. Army

Pvt. Kesley Darnell, a 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division Soldier, lets go of an air vehicle as it takes off during the systems fielding at Fort Bragg, N.C., May 2. Soldiers spent the week preparing for the flight exercise with classroom and hands-on training.

Soldiers train with Army's first personal Unmanned Aerial System

By Patrick Ferraris | U.S. Army

FORT BELVOIR, Va. – Imagine a battlefield where Soldiers have access to near-real time video transmitted back to them on a handheld device. Program Executive Office Soldier fielded the first personal Unmanned Aerial System in the U.S. Army to Soldiers of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, from April 29 to May 3, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Soldiers did more than just inventory and take possession of the system during the week-long fielding. The Soldiers were also trained via classroom instruction about the system's capabilities, its controls, and how to operate it.

Soldiers received hands on training of the system and flew the drone through various scenarios which culminated in an exercise that tested everything they learned throughout the week. It was all done in preparation for the BCT to take the system with them on their upcoming deployment, making this the first personal UAS to deploy at the squad level within a unit in the Army.

New Army technology like the Soldier Borne Sensors mitigates future losses of life and injuries by having a drone complete dangerous work that combat Soldiers would usually perform on their own, such as sending a fire team to gain reconnaissance information, or sending out dismounted Soldiers for route-clearance operations. PEO Soldier delivers systems and equipment like this to our Soldiers to ensure they remain decisive and dominant throughout the full spectrum of military operations.

The UAS is part of PEO Soldier's SBS program and it consists of multiple components; the ground control system, which is composed of a base station with hand controller and display unit, and two air Vehicles (one day and one night). The display acts as the main hub for Soldiers to interact with the system, while the air vehicles are small, highly-maneuverable airborne sensors with low visual and audio signatures that support pre-planned and on-the-fly reconnaissance missions.

"This system is something new that not a lot of Soldiers have touched or even seen before, so it's cool to test it out and push it to its limits before we take it with us on our deployment," said Sgt. Dalton Kruse, one of the operators being trained on the system. "Most of us have never flown a drone before, but this training gave us the confidence

Ready to remember

Fort Bliss Cemetery ready for Memorial Day, capping two-year beautification project

By David Burge | Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle
"All gave some; some gave all."

That phrase is widely attributed to Korean War veteran and Purple Heart recipient Howard William Osterkamp of Ohio.

The saying has come to describe what Memorial Day is all about – a time to remember and honor service members of all branches who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving our nation.

At Fort Bliss National Cemetery – located at 5200 Fred Wilson – Memorial Day and the entire holiday weekend are considered the most important time of the year.

The 22-person staff at the cemetery has been busy preparing the grounds, making it look as nice as possible ahead of the busy weekend, which will be capped off with the annual remembrance ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday.

Maj. Gen. Patrick Matlock, commanding general for the 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss, will be the keynote speaker.

"Memorial Day is a really special day where we honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving our great nation," said Jamie Porter, a retired Marine first



Staff Sgt. Felicia Jagdatt / 2nd ABCT, 1st AD PA

"Memorial Day is a really special day where we honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving our great nation," said Jamie Porter, director of Fort Bliss National Cemetery and a retired Marine first sergeant. "The Army comes out here and they fire their cannons. It is a really beautiful ceremony." The Department of Veterans Affairs facility will host the annual Memorial Day ceremony at 5200 Fred Wilson at 9 a.m. Monday.

sergeant who is the director of Fort Bliss National Cemetery.

"The Army comes out here and they fire their cannons," Porter added. "We do a full-blown ceremony. This is just a really special day when all that comes together. It is a really beautiful ceremony. If you haven't been out to

the ceremony, we would like to urge as many people to come on out and take part in it."

Porter expects about 1,500 people to attend the ceremony on Memorial Day and about 4,000 people to visit the cemetery during the

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FORT BLISS

Friday

Sunny
Hi 88, Lo 63

Saturday

Sunny, warm
Hi 91, Lo 67

Sunday

Mostly sunny
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Virtual health technology among capabilities tested during JWA 19

By **Flavia Hulsey** | Regional Health Command - Pacific

YAKIMA, Wash. – Members of the Regional Health Command-Pacific team recently executed virtual health capabilities testing with partner agencies during the U.S. Army’s largest annual joint-multinational live exercise.

The medical capabilities testing was a part of the Joint Warfighting Assessment 2019, or JWA 19, which took place April 23 to May 10 at Yakima Training Center and Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington. The event included medical providers, nurses and medics from RHC-P, Madigan Army Medical Center, Telemedical Research for Operational Support, the 250th Forward Surgical Team and other medical assets. The medical personnel were tasked with executing virtual health clinical training and also providing clinical proctors, technical staff and field connectivity that allowed clinical reach-back via video teleconference and image capture.

“Testing regional virtual health equipment in an operational environment allows the region and units to assess firsthand the value of virtual health and the ability to reach back to organic medical resources,” said Marisa Burgess-Suntheimer, director, Virtual Health, RHC-P.

Throughout RHC-P, virtual health technology is currently used to connect smaller, outlying clinics to major medical centers where specialists can virtually consult with staff on the ground.

Burgess-Suntheimer, who provided on-site



Flavia Hulsey / Regional Health Command - Pacific

Medical personnel from Regional Health Command-Pacific, Madigan Army Medical Center, Telemedical Research for Operational Support, the 250th Forward Surgical Team and other medical assets utilize virtual health capabilities to treat a simulated patient during the recent Joint Warfighting Assessment April 23 to May 10 in Yakima, Washington. Regional Health Command-Pacific tested several virtual health capabilities during JWA 19.

consultation during JWA 19, added that some of the technology was being tested by RHC-P in the field and operational environment for the first time.

“Utilizing VH during JWA demonstrated the ability of the teams to rapidly reach back beyond initial resuscitation and stabilization to a wider range of medical and nursing interventions,” she said.

One combat casualty care scenario tested during the assessment utilized Telehealth-In-A-Bag and a Transportable Exam Station for a simulated traumatic brain injury patient. This culminated in a simulated craniectomy performed by a non-neurosurgeon provider, tele-mentored on site by a Madigan trauma surgeon.

The inclusion of virtual health services represented just one of dozens of capabilities and

concepts being tested during JWA 19.

Sponsored by the U.S. Army Joint Modernization Command, JWA 19 is the U.S. Army’s largest annual joint-multinational live exercise in which the U.S. military and partner nations assess future warfighting concepts, capabilities and formations in a large-scale and realistic battlefield exercise.

The lessons learned will inform the development of the rapidly changing Army. For members of the military health team, it helped illuminate future opportunities for the use of virtual health in the field.

“Virtual health is the right thing to do in bringing specialty care forward to the operational side,” said Burgess-Suntheimer. “We still have work to do ... however, I believe the exercise allowed us to gain valuable information on how to move forward.”

SYSTEM *Continued from Page 1A*

and knowledge to use the system, making us more comfortable to use it while deployed. It was easy to pick up and fly, very user-friendly, and I can already tell that this system will benefit my unit downrange.”

The potential of having a personal UAS equipped to every squad gives them the ability to assess a situation from a cover and concealed position, mitigating the risk to the Soldier.

John Paul Kruszewski, lead engineer for the unmanned systems at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center, likens the system to a flying pair of binoculars.

“Using this system, Soldiers can understand their operational environment better so they can make better decisions and make these decisions quicker than ever. It makes Soldiers more effective while reducing their tactical risk.” The CCDC SC is dedicated to using science and technology to ensure America’s warfighters are optimized, protected, and lethal.

This means that the SBS provides a type of protection to Soldiers that they’ve never experienced before, and this protection is what Soldiers like Sgt. Ryan Subers, another operator of the system, values the most.

“I was really impressed with the system, its capabilities, and what it offers Soldiers in terms of risk reduction. This kind of technology will be a lifesaver for us because it takes us out of harm’s way while enhancing our ability to execute whatever combat mission we’re on. I’m very grateful for technology like this and to be a part of the first unit to use it.”

The initial fielding of the SBS paves the way for a system that will eventually equip every squad with an organic UAS in the future.

“It is the start of an era where every squad will have vision beyond their line of sight,” said Nathan Heslink, assistant program manager, SBS, PEO Soldier. “The squad will not have any dead space within its area of operations and this allows Soldiers to detect threats earlier than ever, meaning it is more likely Soldiers won’t be harmed during their missions.”

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rest of the weekend.

During the past two years, the cemetery has been undergoing a far-sweeping beautification program in which old trees, plants, shrubs and groundcover have been pulled and replaced with newer plants.

They have also added 22 new flagpole holders along the Avenue of the Flags inside the cemetery, bringing the total to nearly 300.

The goal is to improve the look of the 87-acre cemetery and make it more aesthetically pleasing, especially with more color, Porter said.

Last summer, the cemetery was awarded the Organizational Excellence Award or Shrine Award by the National Cemetery Administration, which is part of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

During a review, the cemetery rated “exceptional” in 68 out of 73 criteria.

Francisco Zappas, a cemetery caretaker, said the entire staff views Memorial Day as the most significant day of the year.

“Veterans Day is for all veterans, but Memorial Day is for the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Zappas, who is nicknamed “Superman” by cemetery staff. “Our whole staff is touched by this great significance.”

Zappas said the cemetery has made incredible strides during the past couple of years and compares its new landscaping to what you would see at a place like Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

Carlos Sanchez, a retired Marine sergeant major who works as a cemetery caretaker, said while Memorial Day is an important day, the cemetery and its staff try to honor veterans every day.

“That’s why I love this job,” Sanchez said. “We are task organized. We have standard operating procedures in everything we do. It is always black and white. It is all made to make this place as beautiful as possible.”

Suzanne Cooper is a program support assistant who has been at the cemetery for 25 years. She says Memorial Day means “freedom” to her.

“I love we put out all the flags,” she said. “You think about all the vets, the Soldiers, the Marines, the Airmen, who have all passed and helped put us here and give us what we want to do in life.”



Photos by Dave Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

The rostrum area is ready to host the annual Memorial Day ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday.



The Fort Bliss National Cemetery crew have been busy preparing for Memorial Day. Some key staff include, from left, Francisco Zappas, Suzanne Cooper, Director Jamie Porter and Carlos Sanchez.

Fort Bliss National Cemetery Memorial Day weekend events

- **Friday, 7 a.m.:** Veterans groups and Veterans Affairs employees will place about 300 flags along the Avenue of Flags inside of Fort Bliss National Cemetery.
- **Saturday, 8 a.m.:** Veterans organizations, scout organizations, other youth groups and volunteers will place about 43,000 flags on individual gravesites.
- **Monday:** Memorial Day ceremony. Maj. Gen. Patrick Matlock, commanding general for 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss, will be the guest speaker.

Front gate will close at 8 p.m. on Sunday and will reopen after the Memorial Day ceremony at about 10 a.m. Parking is available off Haan Road on Fort Bliss and across Fred Wilson Road from the cemetery on Sun Metro property. Golf cart service will be available at the cemetery for those who have difficulty walking to the rostrum area, where the ceremony will be held. Pedestrian gates will remain open.

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UNIT NEWS

Training is the oil that keeps the engine of our Army running



Holloman shooters
hit the road during range project ■ 9A

Unit Briefs

Housing Town Hall: Team Bliss invites you to the next Army housing Town Hall meeting June 6, 6-7:30 p.m. in the Austin Room at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. 11199 Sgt. E Churchill St.

Old Ironsides ACP changes: Beginning Saturday, 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 and CSM Barreras ACP.

TARP training: Fort Bliss offers Threat Awareness Reporting Program 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 every third Thursday of the month. 568-4604

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. Free.568-1902



'The O-5 Mafia'

Eight Army nurses impact WBAMC's history, future

By Marcy Sanchez
William Beaumont Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Almost twenty years ago, several Army nurses at William Beaumont Army Medical Center worked together on the surgical and medical wards and depended on each other to meet their missions.

Today, eight nurses who once donned gold bars now wear silver oak leaves on their chests and still depend on one another for mission success.

Lt. Cols. Marta Artiga, Lambert Cabales, Rich Clark, Sarah Huml, Greg Lara, Dahlia Pacheco, Jerry Rivera Santiago, and Perry Ruiz, who all worked at WBAMC in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Twenty years later this collection of Army nurses reflected on their careers, missions and the impact they had, and continue to have at WBAMC.

"They call us 'the mafia,' in a good way," said Clark, who is chief of the Information Management Division, as well as chief information officer and chief medical information officer at WBAMC. "Not only do we have a relationship between all of us, but we have a relationship to the organization."

"The O-5 Mafia" calls WBAMC home, where they learned nursing skills, selfless service, and the value of friendship.

Strong bonds developed with peers pre-

pared us for our Army careers, said Cabales, chief of Perioperative Nursing Services at WBAMC.

That preparation is evident as the Soldiers advanced their careers in the medical field, while continuing educations beyond their nursing degrees.

Artiga, the clinical nurse officer-in-charge of Same Day Surgery Services at WBAMC, started her journey in the Army National Guard before commissioning, and her first assignment as a nurse at WBAMC's ninth floor, or Medical Ward, in 1999.

"I think the beginning was very interesting because I wanted to be stationed in Texas so I asked the recruiter for Texas, they placed me at WBAMC," said Artiga, a native of El Salvador. "We all had a very tense time in the beginning, to a point where (the workload) built us up and peers listened to each other and took care of each other."

Following her tour at WBAMC, Artiga, who had previously deployed to Saudi Arabia, spent time around the world, eventually deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. But, it was a training deployment that cemented Artiga's appreciation for the Army and other Soldiers.

"My mother passed away while I was on deployment (to Iraq), so I didn't want to go



Marcy Sanchez / WBAMC PA

From left: Lt. Cols. Perry Ruiz, Dahlia Pacheco, Greg Lara, Rich Clark, Jerry Rivera Santiago, Sarah Huml, Marta Artiga, and Lambert Cabales, reunite as leaders of various nursing sections at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, two decades after serving together as second and first lieutenants in the same hospital. The group, known by some as the "O-5 Mafia," agree that their long-lasting friendships and the camaraderie they built have driven their careers as Army nurses.

back to El Salvador," said Artiga. "I got back with a sense of guilt of not being bedside with my mother."

Years after returning, Artiga took the opportunity to deploy on a training mission to Honduras, a neighboring country of El Salvador. Her mission was to prepare Honduran Armed Forces for deployment.

"It was very rewarding because I needed to close the loop in the country where I was born. The most important thing that I realized was I was going with my family (other

Soldiers)," said Artiga. "I think (my mother) would be proud and happy because we went to train Soldiers who were going to deploy to Iraq. It was very rewarding and about closing the loop with my family. After that I felt that the U.S. was the country I would definitely defend and protect."

Be sure to pick up next week's Fort Bliss Bugle for more of 'The O-5 Mafia' by Marcy Sanchez.

4-6 Infantry medics act fast to save teammate

By Sgt. Alon Humphrey |
3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st AD Public Affairs

Combat medics, trained to provide care at a moment's notice, demonstrated their technical competence as they performed lifesaving steps to a battle buddy clinging to life recently.

"I poked my head in (the room) and I saw him on his back," said Sgt. Justin Shove, a combat medic specialist with 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment "Regulars," 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division (Rotational).

Shove ran into his suite-mate's room and witnessed Cpl. Michael Decoeur, another 4-6 Infantry combat medic specialist, unconscious, eyes wide open, his skin turning blue and gasping for air at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Feb. 20. Decoeur was having a heart attack.

"His body was compensating for the fact that his heart stopped," said Shove.

Shove checked Decoeur's pulse and noticed his heart rate was weak, but steady. He contacted Sgt. Juan Ramos, a platoon sergeant, who called 911 to send emergency medical services to the barracks.

Shove then left the room and banged on

Sp. Joel Galavez's door, another 4-6 Infantry combat medic specialist, screaming his name, then returned to Decoeur's side to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Ramos soon arrived and the three medics provided CPR in shifts until EMS arrived at the scene.

"The EMS personnel kind of worked around us," said Ramos. "They could tell we knew what we were doing. We kept performing CPR until the emergency medical technicians had to take Decoeur to the hospital."

Decoeur was transferred to Hallym University Sacred Heart Hospital in Dongtan in critical condition. He was later medically evacuated to Tripler Hospital in Honolulu for advanced care and rehabilitation.

Decoeur's teammates credit constant training and the high state of readiness enforced throughout the brigade for their actions on that day.

"It was really no time to be scared," said Ramos. "We saw what we needed to do and luckily we had a positive outcome to where he has the best chance to make a full recovery."

Decoeur's status has since improved. "When your leadership says, 'you gain muscle memory by doing it over and over again,' it's true," said Ramos. "I was surprised at how fast it comes back to you when you are put in a situation that actually requires the knowledge."



>> BLUE TO ORANGE

Departing Secretary of the Air Force to head UTEP

Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett / Air Force Content Management

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson speaks with airmen during a farewell interview at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va., May 8. Wilson announced her resignation in March, having accepted the role as president of the University of Texas at El Paso. Her last day will be May 31.



Photos by Sgt. Alon Humphrey / 3rd ABCT, 1st AD PA
First Lt. Patrick Boisson, a 4th Battalion 6th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division Soldier, is evaluated as he applies buddy care to a teammate at Camp Hovey, South Korea recently.



Cpl. Yunil, Jeon, a KATUSA with Tango Security Force, 8th Army, receives the Army Achievement Medal for passing the Expert Infantryman Badge Testing phase "True Blue," meaning he passed each phase of EIB on his first attempt at Camp Hovey, South Korea, April 27. The concept of EIB testing lanes is to ensure EIB candidates can demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamentals related to warrior tasks.

Bulldogs host Expert Infantryman Badge qualification in the ROK

By Maj. Anthony Clas |
3rd ABCT, 1st AD (Rotational) Public Affairs

CAMP HOVEY, South Korea – Follow me! I am the infantry.

Sixty-one infantry Soldiers with 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team "Bulldogs", 1st Armored Division (Rotational) and other tenant units competed against themselves to earn the Expert Infantryman Badge recently.

Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 3rd ABCT, 1st AD (Rotational) led Expert Infantryman Badge train-up and certification April 1-27.

Sgt. William Powell, a 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment, 3rd ABCT, 1st AD (Rota-

tional) Soldier and an EIB candidate, said there was little room for error during the evaluation.

"It's challenging; constant attention to detail is an absolute necessity," said Powell. "Every day I stayed late (during train-up) to go over all of the details and it really paid off on testing day."

The Bulldog Brigade EIB certification was a combined effort, testing both U.S. Soldiers and Korean Augmentation to the U.S. Army Soldiers. Cpl. Yunil, Jeon, a KATUSA with Tango Security Force, 8th Army, was the only KATUSA to earn the badge this year and described his crucible.

"There was a lot of pressure as the rounds (phases) went by," said Yunil. "Other KATUSAs dropped out, some who I thought were better than me, and when they left they would leave pressure on my back by saying – 'Hey, you're the only KATUSA left,' but I think the pressure actually forced me to try harder."

Approximately 410 ROK and U.S. Army infantry Soldiers began the journey toward earning the highly-coveted EIB. Only 14 percent achieved their goal. Small-unit leadership at the platoon and squad level proved to be critical in preparing junior Soldiers for EIB testing.

"I'm a brand new private and didn't know a whole lot about weapons or medical, I learned a lot during this time," said Pvt. Robert Dryden, an infantry Soldier with 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment. "I was taught everything hands-on from my team leader and squad leader going into EIB."

Senior leadership from U.S. Forces Korea, 8th Army, 2nd Infantry Division/ROK-U.S. Combined Division, and 3rd ABCT, 1st AD presented Army Achievement Medals and challenge coins to twelve infantry Soldiers that "True Blued" EIB testing, meaning they passed each phase of testing on the first try.



>> GREEN TO BLUE

Air Force Staff Sgt. Christine Groening / 49th Wing PA

Senior Airman Kevin Turcois, an 849th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron dedicated crew chief, assists Army Brig. Gen. Gregory Brady, the White Sands Missile Range (N.M.) commander, into an F-16 Fighting Falcon April 19 at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. Brady visited Holloman to gain a better understanding of the base's overall mission here in the Borderland and beyond.

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Sun City Soldier

El Paso-based Reserve NCO wins USACAPOC(A) Best Warrior, will go to USAREC competition in June

By Maj. Saska Ball | USACAPOC(A) PA

FORT MCCOY, Wisc.— Every Spring, U.S. Army Reserve units across the globe – from company-level on up to division-level – host their own version of a Best Warrior Competition in order to find one enlisted Soldier and one noncommissioned officer to represent their command at the U.S. Army Reserve Command Best Warrior Competition.

This year’s U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne) Best Warrior Competition was held at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, April 26-30. In total, 16 Soldiers competed for those coveted two spots.

Best Warrior Competitions have become

an annual event. However, these 16 competitors were anything but “normal.” Some competitors were former Marines, some had just left the active-duty Army, and a couple were fresh out of basic training. Some were full-time college students, others were in law enforcement, a few were in the finance world, one was an insurance adjuster, and another a business owner. There were even a few who juggled the college and career life. They all had one thing in common—the goal to become the next USACAPOC(A) Best Warrior.

“I know it takes a lot of time to train for the Best Warrior,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Trotter, senior enlisted leader of USACAPOC(A). “It takes a lot of courage to come here and compete. It takes a lot of patience and time, and it takes being fearless.”

During the competition, hosted by the 353rd Civil Affairs Command, based out of Staten Island, New York, the Soldiers were tested on physically-demanding events, such as the Army Physical Fitness Test, an 800-meter swim, land navigation, a 10 kilometer ruck march, and an obstacle course.

“The ruck march was difficult and the terrain was not fun,” said Pvt. Connor Magee, a civil affairs specialist with the 1003rd Training Company, 1st Training Brigade, out of Garner, North Carolina. “It was sandy in some parts, a lot of uphill, and it was raining, so it was hard to get traction.”

They were also graded on their Army Warrior Tasks, Combat-Life Saving Skills and Squad Tactics.

“I know there’s some refinements I could have made in hindsight, but it’s part of the competition,” said Sgt. Nathan Kubinski, a civil affairs specialist from the 492nd Civil Affairs Battalion, located in Buckeye, Arizona. “You do what you can, work with what you got and move on to the next event,” he commented.

The competitors were tested on their



Photos by Maj. Saska Ball / USACAPOC(A) PA

Sgt. Vicente Torres Vázquez, an infantry Soldier with the 410th Civil Affairs Battalion, out of El Paso, relaxes after the ruck march April 29 at Fort McCoy, Wisc., as part of the USACAPOC(A) Best Warrior Competition.

marksmanship skills. They only had one shot to qualify on both the M4 and M9. Their ability to react quickly under stress and to engage targets in the confusion of simulated combat was assessed during a mystery event: the stress-fire.

“We wanted the Soldiers to think they could take it easy, rest, eat chow, and wait for the night fire,” said Master Sgt. Kenneth Buttrum, the 353rd Civil Affairs Command operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “We had them form up, put them through some front-back-go drills, released artillery simulators and smoke grenades so they’d have to react to incoming artillery and deal with limited visibility, all while screaming and yelling at the competitors to find a firing lane and return fire.”

To round-out the competition, the competitors’ responses were rated during a written exam, an essay, and finally, an Army Board in front of senior enlisted members of USACAPOC(A).

“Everyone here wants to be the Best Warrior” said Spc. Isaac Jones, an intelligence

analyst with the 301st Information Operations Battalion, 151st Theater Information Operations Group, from Fort Totten, New York. “We’re all competitive. All these guys are good competitors so it keeps us pushing to give everything in an event, even if we’re smoked.”

The winners will continue on to the US-ARC Best Warrior Competition, scheduled June 23-29, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Winners from that competition will go on to represent USARC at the Department of Army Best Warrior Competition.



Sgt. Vicente Torres Vázquez, accepts his award from the Senior Enlisted Leader of the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne), Command Sgt. Maj. Peter Trotter, April 30.

WINNERS

- Sgt. Vicente Torres Vázquez, an infantry Soldier with the 410th Civil Affairs Battalion, out of El Paso, was the winner of the NCO division.
- Pvt. Connor Magee, a civil affairs specialist with the 1003rd Training Company, based out of Garner, North Carolina, was the winner of the enlisted division.

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Thunder Soldiers conduct historic waterborne artillery exercise

By Mike Vrabel | Virginia National Guard

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Virginia National Guard Soldiers assigned to the Norfolk-based 1st Battalion, 111th Field Artillery Regiment, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team conducted a historic waterborne artillery live-fire exercise during Operation Gator, April 24-25, at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The exercise marked the first riverine artillery fire mission for the Army since the Vietnam era.

The Soldiers partnered with active duty Soldiers from the Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story-based 11th Transportation Battalion, 7th Transportation Brigade for the exercise. The teams met at the Mile Hammock Bay boat docks, with the 1-111th loading one M119A3 howitzer and two Humvees onto the 11th’s mechanized landing crafts before making the 90-minute boat ride up the Intracoastal Waterway to the designated fire point. That journey wasn’t as simple as just moving equipment and troops.

“With today’s weapons, the gun will actually track its location and know its direction at all times,” said Lt. Col. Shawn Talmadge, commander of the 1-111th, also known as the Thunder Battalion. “The gun had no issues initializing, finding its location, understanding where true north is. We went underway along the Intracoastal Waterway and the gun continued to track its GPS location and direction, which is a huge win.”

Once at the firing point, the LCM, or “Mike Boat,” carrying the howitzer was anchored against a mud flat to provide stability to the craft, while the support vessels staged a safe distance away. After a day of rehearsals, planning, and adjustments, the 1-111th began their live-fire missions the morning of April 25.

The unique setting provided some unusual challenges for the gun crew on board the LCM.

“Every time we shoot, we get a certain amount of recoil, called displacement. Being on the boat, we had to situate sandbags behind the tires as well as the spade,” said Staff



Mike Vrabel / Virginia National Guard

Virginia National Guard Soldiers assigned to the Norfolk-based 1st Battalion, 111th Field Artillery Regiment, 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team conduct waterborne artillery live-fire exercises during Operation GATOR April 24-25 at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Aboard mechanized landing craft operated by active duty Soldiers from the Joint Base Langley-Eustis-based 11th Transportation Battalion, 7th Transportation Brigade, the Thunder Soldiers received and carried out their fire missions from the Intracoastal Waterway running through Camp Lejeune along the Atlantic Ocean. It was the first waterborne artillery mission for the 111th since D-Day during World War II, nearly 75 years ago.

Sgt. Ryan Turner. “It’s definitely a challenge. What we’ve rigged up seems to work.”

Turner said any turbulence in the water can also impact their fire missions.

“We’ve blocked off each side of the channel so we don’t have any kind of traffic making wakes, which has helped out a lot,” said Turner. “It’s pretty calm today, and that helps as well.”

Those first shots made history as the first U.S. Army artillery fire missions from a landing craft since the Vietnam War. The 1-111th hopes it’s a capability that catches on.

“In Vietnam, this was a doctrine that was not only developed, but actually utilized and

employed,” said Talmadge. “Today is a proof of concept to say ‘Hey, we can still do this.’ We’ll provide information to the Fires Center of Excellence down at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey to start taking a look at this to determine if we need to develop new doctrine using today’s weapons.”

“Reaching back to veteran doctrine and utilizing it in today’s military environment, to be on the forefront of operational change, and to potentially affect how the Army fights is extraordinary,” added Lt. Col. Damien Bofardi, the 11th Transportation Battalion commander.

The historical significance of Operation Gator doesn’t end with Vietnam. For the 1-111th, it’s a first that dates back to World War II.

“I tell this story all the time. In a couple of months, it will be 75 years since D-Day,” said Talmadge. “What’s really unique - the gun that is on the LCM is from Bravo Battery, 1-111th Field Artillery Regiment. Technically, the last time this battalion had guns on a landing craft was D-Day.

“That talks about our incredible history of the men and women that served before us, and we’re just continuing the lineage of honorable service.”

Not to be lost in the historical significance of the mission is the growing partnership between the 1-111th and the 11th Transportation Bn., a unique bond between active duty and National Guard components.

“They’re out here in addition to all their extra training to help us demonstrate this,” said Talmadge. “It’s great training, and the relationship between the 11th Transportation and the 111th Field Artillery - we’re looking at this as a long-term partnership. This is just the tip of the iceberg.”

“I believe opportunities like this training mission are vitally important,” said Boffardi. “Being able to integrate active, reserve and National Guard forces and assets at the tactical level not only increases readiness, but it also expands the ability of a maneuver commander to integrate the capabilities on the battlefield.”

“We embrace every opportunity we get to train with reserve and National Guard units, knowing that we will certainly work together in any real-world contingency,” added Col. Beth Behn, commander of the 7th Transportation Brigade.

Representatives from the Camp Lejeune-based 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division and the Fort Sill-based Fires Center of Excellence were also on hand to observe the historic training.









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Airman 1st Class Quion Lowe / 49th Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Staff Sgt. Austin Limacher, the 49th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms assistant non-commissioned officer-in-charge, fires a weapon as David Wertz, a 49th Aerospace Medicine Squadron environmental health technician, checks how many decibels of sound the weapon creates May 14 at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. Wertz was testing the noise output of the weapon to ensure it is a safe level for training.

Holloman shooters hit the road during range project

By Airman 1st Class Quion Lowe |
49th Wing Public Affairs

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – Members from the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron and 49th Security Forces Squadron evaluated their Combat Arms Training and Maintenance backstop repair project May 14 at the CATM building on Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.

In response to safety concerns, airmen have been required to travel to a number of different New Mexico locations for weapons training, including Artesia, Cannon Air Force Base, and Kirtland Air Force Base. Even though the distance of these locations are farther than ideal, the short trips are still considered to be cost-efficient compared to the alternative of sending Holloman members to long-distance temporary duty assignments.

“\$200,000 was saved by not sending each shooter TDY,” said Tech. Sgt. Joseph Haller, the 49th SFS CATM noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “This amount was just the per diem and TDY expenses of the shooters. The instructors would have cost another \$75,000 for the entire time frame.”

While airmen have adjusted to these circumstances, the project manager, John Hamann, the 49th CES civil engineer, and other team members have been working hard with the CATM staff to get the facilities on base back in good condition.

The project cost \$654,385 and is two months ahead of schedule because of the 49th CES Operations Flight’s, Requirements

“The combat arms section strives to give the best training and support for the 49th Wing and all base agencies.”

>> Tech. Sgt. Joseph Haller

and Optimization Section.

This level of effort will aid in keeping the growing number of Holloman personnel trained.

“Holloman AFB trains on average 3,400 students each year,” said Haller. “This has been on the rise the past couple years as we have trained 3,564 this year and still have the remaining amount this year.”

Even though the work improving the CATM facilities is in the final stages, there are still some loose ends to tie-in for classes to reopen.

“There are a few more safety concerns that need to be met before the range can reopen,” said Haller. “If we can get everything done on schedule the range should be open within two weeks.”

Although the firing range is not yet open, the CATM staff is eager to continue helping maintain combat readiness for base personnel.

“The combat arms section strives to give the best training and support for the 49th Wing and all base agencies, including the four tenant units at Fort Bliss, Texas, we are responsible for,” said Haller.

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Photos by Senior Airman Kenneth Boyton

North Carolina-based airmen travelled to Fort Bliss to train on combat support wing proficiencies recently. During the exercise, airmen received training on tactfully moving, shooting and communicating, as well as how to provide Tactical Combat Casualty Care, and perimeter defense.



A 4th Fighter Wing airman participating in the Combat Support Wing exercise fires an M249 machine gun May 1 at Fort Bliss. The Seymour Johnson-based airmen trained on combat support wing tasks by participating in various exercises, such as flightline maintenance and operations, security, and other combat support functions.



Tech. Sgt. Maxine Mikulak, a 4th Security Forces Squadron flight sergeant, provides security during the 4th Fighter Squadron combat support wing exercise May 3 at Fort Bliss.



Airmen receive training on how to properly and safely set up a tent during the 4th Fighter Squadron combat support wing exercise April 29 at Fort Bliss. The CSW concept provides airmen with the training and ability to deliver dominant airpower more effectively and efficiently anywhere in the world.

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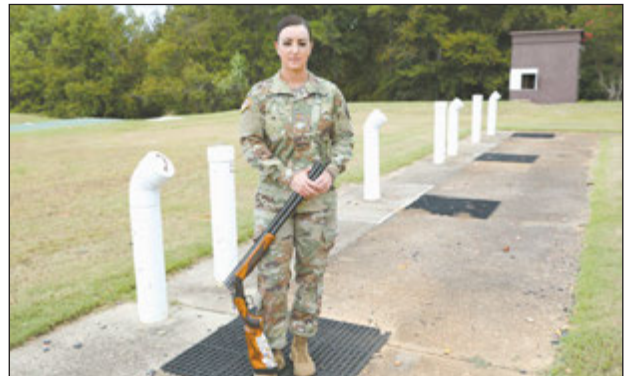
**YEARS OF
SERVICE TO
EL PASO AND
FT. BLISS**



Former Senator Dole
promoted to colonel ■ 2B



US Army Corps of Engineers
helping children in Vietnam ■ 3B



Sure shot Q & A
with Army Marksmanship Unit member ■ 7B

Things to do:

Silver City (N.M.) Blues Festival: The Silver City Blues Festival will take place Memorial Day Weekend in historic Silver City, N.M., located less than three hours northwest of El Paso and Fort Bliss. The festival will have something for everyone – from harmonica stars, young blues prodigies to local performers, and unique vendors. There are several new and returning attractions this year for the whole family to enjoy. Gough Park, Silver City, N.M. Free. www.SilverCityBluesFestival.org

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. Saturdays in the Union Plaza District along Anthony Street. 212-1780 or elpasoartsandculture.org

Neon Desert Music Festival: The 9th annual music festival will be 3 p.m.-midnight Saturday and Sunday, in Downtown El Paso, with headliners including Wiz Khalifa, Rezz, Steve Aoki and Tory Lanez. Saturday's lineup: Rezz, Miguel, Steve Aoki, Tory Lanez, Don Omar, Tyga, Dashboard Confessional, Shoreline Mafia, Arizona, Ximena Sariñana, Paul Well, Quin NFN, Clc, Ribo Ruckus, Pet People, Mii-jas, Verse, Roman Rouge, the Anhedonians and Dizz Brew. Sunday's line up: Wiz Khalifa, Young Thug, Kali Uchis, Gunna, Deorro, Tchami, Chicano Batman, LovelyTheBand, Sales, Bane's World, Inner Wave, Diamante Eléctrico, Holy Wave, Midnight Generation, The Murder Police, Adrian Stresow, Lavell Jones, Lunas, Juice and the Suds, Jordan Taylor, and Home-run Derby. Cost: \$99 (VIP packages \$259 and \$499). neondesert.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

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. May 23: Prime 80'Z Xperience. Cost: free but space is limited. VIP tickets are \$10. Information: elpasolive.com.

'Mamma Mia!': UTEP Dinner Theatre, in the UTEP Student Union West building, presents the hit musical inspired by the music of ABBA through Sunday. Showtime is 7 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; non-dinner matinees are Sunday 1:30 p.m., May 1 19. Cost: \$33.50-\$48.50 (Friday and Saturday dinner performances), and \$19.50 to \$29.50 no-dinner matinee performances (Ticketmaster). 747-6060 or utep.edu/udt

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.

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 missiontrailart-market.com

Las Cruces Wine Festival: The festival will be noon to 6 p.m. each day this weekend at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 12125 Robert Larson Blvd, Las Cruces, N.M. The Memorial Day Weekend festival offers wines by New Mexico wineries as well as specialty food and artisans. Wine may be purchased by the glass, bottle or case. No pets or coolers. Sponsored by New Mexico Wine; nmwine.com. Cost: \$20 (includes tasting glass and samples) in advance; \$25 at the gate; \$10 designated driver and non-drinker 16-20. Tickets at holdmyticket.com. Military discount available at the gate only; \$17, with valid DoD ID. VIP passes are \$40, available for Saturday only. Includes early access pass: (11 a.m.-noon) and souvenirs. NMWine.com

Yappy Hour: Enjoy the evening with your favorite four-legged friends May 23 from 6-8 p.m. at the Sam Adams Pub Patio. There'll be toys, treats and eats for your furry friends to enjoy! Dress up in your best poker attire! We will be having a best dressed contest, this is a chance to win a prize! We have Happy Hour specials throughout the night. Free. Open to the public. 568-6814

PLACES TO GO



The Valley of the Fires may seem barren at first glance, but it is teeming with plant and animal life. A short fully accessible nature trail brings you up close to the lava field.



Plants have found a way to sprout, grow and thrive in the harsh environment of the Valley of the Fires.



Photos by David Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Jose Saenz is an outdoor recreation planner for the BLM and oversees the Valley of the Fires. He is also an Army reservist with the 5th Armored Brigade at Fort Bliss.

Beyond the barracks: Time stands still at New Mexico's Valley of the Fires

By David Burge | Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

When you think of a lava field, the image of a harsh barren landscape – almost like a moon-scape – comes to mind.

But Valley of the Fires Recreation Area – outside of Carrizozo, New Mexico – is anything but barren.

The small, mile-long park provides an easy way to experience and learn about the Carrizozo Malpais lava flow, which dates back several thousand years. Malpais means “badlands” in Spanish, but this area is actually teeming with life.

“It has its own unique beauty to it,” said Jose Saenz, an outdoor recreation planner with the Bureau of Land Management and an Army reservist who trains at Fort Bliss once a month.

Valley of the Fires has been run by the BLM for about 25 years. Before that, it was a New Mexico state park.

The rest of the 127-square-mile lava flow is also on BLM land.

Valley of the Fires is about an hour north of Alamogordo or about two-and-a-half hours from El Paso, north on U.S. 54.

Besides the dramatic black lava rock, the park contains lots of vegetation – a variety of desert plants including cacti, yucca and flowers if you come during the right time of year. It even has a gnarled juniper tree that is estimated to be 400 years old.

If you are lucky, you might be able to see wildlife like oryx, foxes, lizards or even a golden eagle. A paved, fully accessible trail – that's about three-quarters of a mile long – winds through a portion of the lava flow. It's an easy hike that brings you up close to the lava fields and its strange, serene beauty.

You can go off trail to take photos or to do more extensive exploring. If you do plan to

hike through the lava beds, park officials recommend that you let them know your plans.

The lava beds were created about 3,000 to 5,000 years ago. During a period of about 40 years, lava escaped from the earth through vents leading to the surface. There was no major eruption or explosion associated with this formation, Saenz said.

It is one of the youngest lava fields created by lava vents in the nation, he added.

The lava mostly came from a hill now known as Little Black Peak, about 10 miles from the park on the other side of the lava bed, Saenz said.

In many ways, the park is a hidden gem, even for people who have lived in the area all their lives.

“They pass by and never stop,” said Saenz, who serves as a staff sergeant with the 5th Armored Brigade at Fort Bliss. “And then once in a while, someone will stop and say, ‘I never realized how beautiful it is. I have been living here “X” amount of years. I’ve heard of it and never experienced it.’”

David Briggs and his wife, Cheri, from Poolville, Texas, stopped by Valley of the Fires on their way to the north rim of the Grand Canyon and said they were amazed by what they discovered.

“It is just fantastic,” David said. “The geological features are what brought us here -- the lava flows. You are surrounded by mountains. It is just beautiful.”

The park also features a beautiful campground with spots for recreation vehicles and tents. Most of the campground is on a ridge-line overlooking the lava field, providing a dramatic vista.

The park also has two large day-use shelters that can be reserved.

Other amenities include a modern restroom and super clean shower area.

There is also a small visitors center that includes a bookstore.

To the east, you can see spectacular views of the Sacramento Mountains which can have a dusting of snow on them even into late spring.

Make plans

Location: Valley of the Fires Recreation Area is located four miles west of Carrizozo, N.M., off U.S. 380.

Directions: It is about an hour north of Alamogordo or about a 2 ½-hour drive from El Paso. To get there, take U.S. 54. Once you get to Carrizozo, take a left on U.S. 380. It is clearly marked on the left.

Cost: \$3 for an individual or \$5 per carload for day use. \$25 for group shelters. \$18 for RV camping sites with electrical and water hookups, \$12 for RV sites without hookups and \$7 for tent camping. Cash or checks are accepted.

Hours: Visitors center is open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily, except for federal holidays. The park stays open 24/7. If you arrive after hours, you can pay for day use or camping at two self-pay “Iron Rangers.”

Hiking: Paved hiking trail is fully accessible. If you plan to go off the trail for more extensive exploring, make sure you wear sturdy shoes and let park staff know about your plans.

Information: (575) 648-2241 or www.blm.gov/visit/valley-of-fires.

Decorated WWII veteran: Former Senator Dole promoted to colonel

By Sean Kimmons | Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Longtime politician Bob Dole, who was severely wounded in World War II by German gunfire, was honorably promoted to colonel May 16 in a private ceremony at the WWII Memorial.

Dole, 95, served as a captain in the 10th Mountain Division before pursuing a political career that included nearly 30 years as a U.S. senator for Kansas and the Republican presidential nominee in 1996.

Surrounded by the memorial’s pillars and arches, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley promoted Dole in front of a crowd of Dole’s friends and family and other Army leaders.

In its 244-year history, Milley noted, the Army has only honorably promoted three former officers. First, George Washington was promoted to general of the Armies, and then Lt. William Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition was promoted to captain.

Dole is the only living recipient of such an Army promotion.

“I’ve had a great life and this is sort of icing on the cake. It’s not that I have to be a colonel; I was happy being a captain and it pays the same,” Dole said jokingly.

While a student at the University of Kansas, a 19-year-old Dole volunteered for the Army Enlisted Reserve Corps in 1942. Six months later, he was called up to active duty and commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1944.

He later deployed to Europe where he served as a platoon leader fighting against Nazi Germans in the hills of Italy.

On April 14, 1945, Dole’s company launched an attack, but a stone wall and a field of landmines trapped them in an exposed area, according to an excerpt on his 1996 presidential campaign website.

As a German sniper began to fire on his unit, Dole selected a group of Soldiers to go with him to take out the sniper when his radioman was hit.

Dole, now on his stomach, pulled the wounded Soldier across the battlefield into a foxhole. Seconds later, an enemy shell exploded, ripping into his right shoulder, shattering his collarbone

and part of his spine while leaving his arm dangling.

“I lay face down in the dirt,” Dole said in the excerpt. “I could not see or move my arms. I thought they were missing.”

At first, Dole was paralyzed from the neck down and the Army sent him to a military hospital in Kansas so he could die near his home. Sensation slowly returned to his legs and left arm, but then he caught a fever of almost 109 degrees.

To save his life, doctors performed an emergency kidney operation.

“His war was over against the Nazis, but his fight was really just beginning,” Milley said.

It took nearly three years and nine operations for Dole to recover from his wounds, which left him without the use of his right arm and limited feeling in his left arm. He improvised ways to strengthen his arms, and even learned to write left-handed, according to the website.

Dole earned two Purple Heart medals and two Bronze Stars with valor and, in 1947, he was medically discharged from the Army as a captain.

“As we know, he persevered and healed and he went on to distinguish himself in the service of his country many, many times over in both the House of Representatives and the Senate,” Milley said.

Some of Dole’s legislative legacies, the general noted, include passing laws that made it easier for families to access food stamps, improvements to the Social Security program, extending the Voting Rights Act, and passing the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In April, President Donald Trump signed legislation to authorize Dole’s promotion after Army leadership was asked to review his service record and contributions to the nation’s defense.

Dole was also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in January 2018 for his service to the nation as a “Soldier, legislator and statesman.”

“Thank you all for being who you are and what you stand for,” Dole told the crowd, “and that you love America and you’re willing to fight for America, regardless of the consequences.”



Photos by Sean Kimmons / Army News Service
Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley, left, and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, right, present former Sen. Bob Dole a framed copy of the legislation to promote him to colonel during a ceremony at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., May 16. Dole was medically discharged as a captain after being severely wounded in WWII.



Dole, left, with his childhood friend, Bub Dawson, in 1944. Dole received an honorary promotion at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., May 16. Dole, who was medically discharged as a captain after being severely wounded in WWII, was promoted to colonel.

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US Army Corps of Engineers building bright futures for children in Vietnam

By Ana Allen | U.S. Army

XIN CAI, Vietnam – U.S. leaders officially turned over the keys to a brand new two-story kindergarten in northwest Vietnam, Ha Giang province, near the border of China, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 7. The 3,650 square-foot kindergarten boasts six classrooms and can hold up to 320 children.

Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation in Vietnam, U.S. Army Maj. Joshua Rodriguez, presided over the ceremony, highlighting the enduring partnership of the U.S. and Vietnam, as well as the strengthened alliance symbolized by the school’s construction.

“Since 2009, the U.S. government, through the Overseas Humanitarian Disaster Assistance and Civic Action Program, has helped to construct dual-use disaster shelters, management coordination centers, clinics, bridges, and schools like this one, in many towns and villages throughout Vietnam,” said Rodriguez. “These efforts are important to strengthening Vietnam’s education system as well its ability to respond when disaster strikes.

He added, “these collaborative projects also help advance our defense relationship and people-to-people ties, while bringing greater prosperity to Vietnam’s beautiful provincial regions.”

Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner, the Pacific Ocean Division commanding general, added his perspective, saying that Humanitarian Construction Projects are just one way the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers engages with partners in the Pacific.

“USACE works closely with U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, U.S. Army Pacific and our interagency partners at the State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development in support of water and environmental security, technical workshops, disaster risk management, subject matter expert exchanges and foreign military sales,” said Tickner.

Tickner also mentioned that taking a “whole of government” approach multiplies



Photos by Ana Allen / U.S. Army

U.S. leaders officially turned over the keys to a brand new two-story kindergarten in Ha Giang province, near the border of China, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 7 in Xin Cai, Vietnam.

U.S. efforts to support the development of strong, prosperous, and independent countries in the region, citing U.S. Indo-Pacific commander Adm. Phil Davidson’s attendance at a U.S. Navy-led ribbon cutting ceremony to unveil the Khanh Hoa dermatology Hospital in Cam Rahn, Vietnam.

“So whether it’s a Navy Facility Engineering Command project, or a USACE project, these engagements allow us to be a vital partner in building strong relationships and in strengthening Vietnam’s capacity,” said Tickner.

Col. Phillip Borders, the USACE Alaska District commander, who attended two ribbon-cutting ceremonies last year for USACE-led kindergarten construction projects in Kon Tum Province, said he’s seen firsthand the positive impacts that humanitarian assistance joint efforts have on community families, as well as the region at large.

“What makes this project so special is the immediate benefit this school has on the kids and community members,” said Borders. “We are getting to serve the youngest and most precious members of this beautiful

country in a way that provides multiple benefits. In addition to education, the school provides the only form of institutional daycare in this area, as well as an added component of healthcare. This is also a tangible expression of our commitment to Vietnam’s security, as well as the security of this region. It’s been incredibly meaningful to work with our partners to bring this to fruition.”

Xin Cai District Chairman Vang Huong also echoed similar sentiments.

“The school is an invaluable asset to the community, providing a safe, clean school for young students in this extremely rural area,” said Huong. “It also provides a central location for children and teachers who were previously forced to travel to numerous locations throughout the province, dividing the already severely-limited resources of this community.

Huong also added that the school serves as an emergency shelter, which is important, due to mudslides and heavy storm damage that tends to occur in the area. These weather trends, as well as other risks associated with the steep topography of the area, led the



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officially turned over the keys to a brand new two-story kindergarten in Ha Giang province, near the border of China, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 7 in Xin Cai, Vietnam.

team to construct a retaining wall to protect the kindergarten from potential landslide threats during heavy seasonal rains.

According to Clayton Harrison, USACE - Alaska District project manager and architect for the school, constructing the facility, which began in 2015, required the team to maneuver several hurdles.

“This is definitely one of the toughest environments to build in, given the rural area and mountainous geography,” said Harrison. “But we’ve been able to partner with local Vietnamese government and interagency leads to come up with long-lasting solutions. The structures are built to endure the harsh mountainous climate with minimum maintenance throughout their entire lifecycle.”

Since 2009, USACE has completed approximately 23 schools in Vietnam and has plans to construct more in the coming years.

Beyond Vietnam, USACE is partnering with nations throughout the Indo-Pacific to support various humanitarian assistance construction program projects, ranging from birthing centers, labs, nutrition centers and schools. There are currently 28 projects in various stages of, either acquisition, or design construction in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, in addition to Vietnam.

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The power of keeping calm

By Lisa Smith Molinari | www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com

The stump outside my house was the perfect place for chopping up earthworms. At least two feet in diameter, there was enough room across its ringed surface for me to sit and slice at the same time.

Despite what one might think, I was and I am a nonviolent person. But as a child, I believed that worm pieces regenerated. By cutting worms in half, I thought I was multiplying their population, thereby taking part in important zoological conservation work.

I had no idea I was actually committing mass murder.

My parents often scolded me when they found the holes I'd dug in our lawn to collect specimens. I may have even gotten a spanking. It was the 1970s after all.

So, one day when my father came home and found me chopping a new batch of worms on the stump, he wanted to know where I'd dug up our lawn this time. Proudly, I told him that our grass was unharmed, because I'd found my worms in the old lady's yard up the street!

He went inside our house, changed into his plaid polyester lounge pants and sweater vest, then came back to the stump. With a lit pipe protruding from his bushy mustache, my father considered his options. Normally, he was loud and a little scary, but this time he calmly announced, "Lisa, you're not supposed to dig holes in people's lawns. We will go to the old lady's house, and you will tell her what you did."

My memory of our walk up the street is patchy. I recall feeling a nervous burning in the pit of my stomach, and tunnel vision that made the old lady's house seem a million miles away. Her porch stairs multiplied as I ascended them. My father waited on the sidewalk.

I don't remember seeing the old lady open the door. But I will never forget the bone-crushing humiliation I felt while confessing my crime to her.

I went on to make plenty of bad choices in my youth, but I never dug up worms in

anyone's yard again. The punishment I received was simple, quiet, and highly effective.

In fact, looking back at mistakes I've made in my 52 years, the most vivid memories are of the quiet times when I was left to consider the gravity of my transgressions. When harshly accused, I recall the punishment, but can never quite remember what I'd done wrong in the first place. The heated emotions of intense moments seemed to drown out the underlying significance, leaving me feeling only sorry for myself.

One of the best lessons I learned as an adult happened when I was a new attorney. My client was one of a dozen defendants in a complicated products liability case. At the deposition of my client (my first deposition ever), I asked the roomful of older, male attorneys if I could question my client first, rather than waiting until the other lawyers asked their questions, as was customary. I was confident that the facts would clear my client of liability save everyone a lot of time. They all agreed.

The next day, my boss called me into his office. I had nothing but respect for this seasoned litigator, whom I had come to know as my mentor. I sat across the desk from him with my legal pad and pen, jotting down a list of new tasks as he spoke.

"Oh, and one last item, Lisa," he said calmly. "About yesterday. You know, when the other side wants information, they need to work for it. Don't make their job easier."

In that quiet moment, the clutter of my mind parted like the Red Sea, and I could clearly see my error: I had broken a cardinal rule of litigation procedure and felt an acute sense of shame. How could I be so stupid?

Much like the worm massacres of my youth, I certainly wouldn't make that mistake again while practicing law. The lesson was cemented in my mind permanently, never to be forgotten.

In today's world of angry rhetoric, violent attacks and knee-jerk reactions, sometimes it's the quiet voices that are best heard.



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>> 1-6 INFANTRY SOLDIER, FALLEN REMEMBERED AT FIELD OF HONOR

Stephanie Santos / USAG Fort Bliss PA

These words resonated through the quiet gathering of friends, families and community members during the Fort Bliss Field of Honor Ceremony Friday on West Fort Bliss. Guest speaker British Army Brig. Gen Leigh R. Tingey, deputy commanding general for maneuvers for the 1st Armored Division, spoke about the relentless dedication to service that defined the life of Spc. Avadon A. Chaves. Chaves was remembered on a bronze monument that displays the names of 1st Armored Division Soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice since Sept. 11, 2001. The California native was assigned to 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team. Chaves died Dec. 20, 2017, in Iraq. "He made the decision to serve and embodied everything the Army and the nation looks for in a Soldier," said Tingey. "Spc. Chaves was known for being a kind and loving family man. His selfless service is a lesson to us all."

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PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

Center Chapel
(Temporarily in Sage Hall)
(315 Pershing Road)
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 p.m.

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICES

St. Michael's Catholic Community
(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 Jummuḥ 1:30 p.m.
Sunday Ta' Aleem 12:30-2 p.m.

Buddhist Service
(Bldg. 449 Pershing Road)
Thursday 6:00 p.m.
Intro to Nichiren Buddhism
2nd Tuesday 5 p.m.

To lift or not to lift

By Chaplain (Capt.) Bryan Kimble | 1-37 Armor Regiment

Every now and then, someone will ask me why I lift, or more specifically, do powerlifting. Recently, that has come up due to my participation in 2019 Natural Athlete Strength Association Texas Championship and preparing for their 2019 summer nationals. As such, I am used to this frequent and common question. “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15, KJV). This is a multi-pronged answer and may take a moment to explain.



Chaplain (Capt.)
Bryan Kimble

Rewind to grade school when I saw Lou Ferrigno with green body paint walk through a brick wall on the 1978 TV show “The Incredible Hulk.” I wanted to be able to do that. So, I starting doing research at my school library. Yes, the first muscle I exercised was the one between my ears. In 1982, I started with home-made set of weights. My parents later bought me some.

At the start of my junior year in high school, Coach Jim Bennett noticed that I was a very frustrated youth and invited me to join the powerlifting team. Coach Bennett told me, “Come and take your frustrations out on the weights. You cannot hurt them. If you do hurt them, we’ll go on the road and make lots of money.” I accepted the challenge by him and Coach Fred Conley, placing at regionals and state both my junior and senior years.

Many may wrongly think that now I would say the rest is history.

From 1989 to 1995, I got involved in competitive bodybuilding (NPC, NABF, and NGA). A couple things brought me back. First was meeting Ed Coan, the powerlifting equivalent to basketball’s Michael Jordan. He told me, “I watched you today. You are not a bodybuilder. You enjoy the heavy weights too much.” This is same guy who once said, “When you start to treat the light weights like heavy weights, the heavy weights will go up a lot easier.”

The second thing was God convicting me on Biblical modesty. God had to teach me that my body didn’t belong to everyone but first to God and to my wife. My faithfulness to this guideline has been a great blessing to my life. And since I began to be obedient to this, God allowed me not just victories but also records and national rankings. He even allowed me to have the physique that I wanted when I was bodybuilding “Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” (Psalm 37:4, KJV).

Life has a way of putting obstacles and trials in our path. From 2010 to 2017, mine came in the form of migraines. The longest one lasted 39 weeks. Then June 2017, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center did permanent neurostimulator implant surgery to take care of them once and for all. I made the personal request to place the neurostimulator four inches higher [size of regulation belt] in my back due to wanting to return to powerlifting. They agreed.

With my last meet being August 2010, I went to compete this past March. I had nine years of rust and didn’t know how I would do. But I tried to stay faithful to God, His Word, and my training. And God richly blessed me with four first-place finishes, six state records, and becoming nationally ranked again.

One important lesson I try to impart on others is not to cheat, especially when it comes to performance-enhancing drugs. This is especially true if you are a Soldier trying to live up to the Army Value of integrity – integrity to yourself, your family, your unit, your country, and your God. God’s blessings will outlast any short term “rewards” from cheating. If you lack person integrity, remember this quote from Lou Ferrigno: “If you are going to try and hide something, sooner or later people are going to find out.” Are you looking for a great means of improving resiliency (physically, emotionally, and spiritually)?

Try drug-free powerlifting. It allows one to take negative stress and energy and turn it into something beneficial for overall health. Are you also willing to accept this challenge that was made to me in 1987?

A COMMITMENT
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When Jake Messier dropped out of college in his junior year to join the U.S. Marine Corps, he promised his dad that he would see the world and that he’d finish college.

Messier served as combat correspondent, traveling to 43 countries and covering stories about fellow servicemembers. During his last assignment in Tokyo, he made good on the second part of his promise too, completing a bachelor’s degree from UMUC.

At age 45, he founded Olderpreneur Coach, a consulting service for older entrepreneurs, and HEARD Strategy & Storytelling, a marketing firm that created jobs for furloughed employees during the recent government shutdown.

Celebrate National Military Appreciation Month with University of Maryland University College!
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Sports Briefs

Murph Challenge for Memorial Day: Join Group Fitness for their hero workout to honor the fallen this weekend. Named after Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy killed in action, June 28, 2005. The challenge will be one mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 squats and one mile run. (Sequential or rounds allowed, official timekeeping provided, weighted vest allowed, but not provided.) This is a weekend long event happening Friday-Monday with various time slots. Cost: \$20 744-5790

3-point shootout tournament: It will be trey-tastic at the 3-point Shootout Tournament Saturday 4-10 p.m. at the Monti Warrior Zone. Cost: \$15 per person, per tournament. Cost includes a t-shirt and one drink of your choice. Open to the public, 18+. 741-3000

El Paso Chihuahuas: The AAA baseball team hosts the Reno Aces Tonight and Friday at Southwest University Park on Santa Fe Street in Downtown El Paso. Game times will be 7 p.m. Cost: \$11-\$30. Information: 533-BASE or EPChihuahuas.com.

Sun City Splash & Dash: Race El Paso's new youth swim-run event for ages 7-15 will be 8 a.m., June 1, at Ascarate Pool and Park, 6900 Delta. For ages 7-10: 100 meter swim, 1k run. Ages 11-15: 200 meter swim, 2.25k run. Course is closed for the safety of all participants. Following the race, participants and their families are invited to swim and enjoy the morning at the family pool. Family pool party follows event. Cost: \$25. Ascarate Park entry fee: \$2 per vehicle. 256-1765. raceelpaso.com/splash-dash

UFC Fight Night: The Monti Warrior Zone will be fight central for UFC 238. June 8, 6 p.m. Drink specials throughout the night. 21171 Medic Ave. Free.741-3000

Sand Volleyball tournament at Warrior Zone: The Monti Warrior Zone and Bliss FMWR will host a sand volleyball tournament June 14, 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.15741-3000

King of the Clays Fun Shoot: The Sun City 4-H Club will host the fundraising shotgun sports competition 8 a.m.-5 p.m. June 1 at Fort Bliss Rod & Gun Club. Roy Johnson Lane, Building 3730. Cost: \$60. 491-3897 or suncity4hclub.com

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

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. 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. 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. A very social and fun class. It is a great way to be introduced to the sport. Tennis rackets will be provided. 569-5448

WASP: Water Agility Strength and Power is a high intensity circuit training that will leave you buzzing! This 60 minute workout incorporates all of the latest water fitness training techniques. Water shoes are strongly recommended. Classes are Fridays at Replica Pool. Cost: \$3 per class, \$25 for individual monthly pass or \$15 for ages 55+ monthly pass. 744-5800



Second Lt. Amber English poses with her competition shotgun at the Army Marksmanship Unit complex at Fort Benning, Ga., recently.



Second Lt. Amber English takes aim with her shotgun during competition recently.



Second Lt. Amber English, right, shows off her medal on the podium after a victory in competition in 2018. "Shooting has granted me the opportunity to represent the Army and my country on a different stage," English said in a Q&A with Defense.Gov recently. "I have been able to expand my worldview and appreciate what I have, as well as meet and make a lot of friends along the way."

Sure shot

Q&A with Army Marksmanship Unit's 2nd Lt. Amber English

By By Defense.gov

Every Soldier in the Army has to train and be proficient with their weapon. But 2nd Lt. Amber English, a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado, takes it to a whole new level.

What made you want to become a competitive shooter?

I came from a long family history with shooting, so after I decided to put my gymnastics career aside, it was kind of a natural thing to get into. I am the only one to compete in shotgun though, so that has been fun. I started a little later in shooting compared to a lot of my other competitors, but having an athletic background helped a lot ... and shooting hurt a lot less than gymnastics did.

Why leave the Olympic Training Center for the Army?

Although I loved my time spent at the Olympic Training Center, I always went back and forth with the idea of joining the Army. I traveled and trained with a lot of the guys who were already in the (Army Marksmanship Unit), so it was a good transition for me. Any time you can take a chance to broaden your horizons, you should try it. I'm very happy with the choice I made, and honestly wish I joined earlier.

What kind of training does it take to compete at your level?

It takes a lot of practice, and the ability to self-reflect. Needless to say, I've been shooting for a while, and I still learn something new every competition I go to. The self-reflection part makes it a little easier to take a step back and figure stuff out when you need to make adjustments to the game. When I first started shooting, I put in a lot of repeti-

“Just try it...It's easy to sit back and be complacent. There are so many avenues to learn now.”

>> 2nd Lt. Amber English

tion to help. But now I've tweaked that into more of quality versus quantity.

How would you encourage other women to do something like this as a competitor and maybe a Soldier?

Just try it! I think a lot of people go through life wondering or waiting for opportunities to arise instead of going out, getting out of their comfort zone and learning something new. It's easy to sit back and be complacent. There are so many avenues to learn now. All it takes is reaching out to someone who knows about it and some grit to give it a try. As for the Army, it was the best decision I've made, and I'm very happy I did it. It is a job with great benefits – for you and your family – and I have made lifelong friendships out of it.

What is your favorite hobby outside of shooting?

One thing I've gotten away from since joining the Army is working as a paramedic. I miss that fast-paced medical aspect, so I am working to potentially get involved in that again in my community. I grew up hunting and fishing in the Rocky Mountains, so I really enjoy outdoor adventures. I also love just hanging with friends on any patio.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is being able to share my experiences with kids and people. Shooting has granted me the opportunity to represent the Army and my country on a different stage. I have been able to expand my worldview and appreciate what I have, as well as meet and make a lot of friends along the way.

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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

Housing Town Hall June 6: Team Bliss invites you to the next Army housing Town Hall meeting June 6, 6-7:30 p.m. in the Austin Room at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. 11199 Sgt. E Churchill St.

Old Ironsides ACP changes: Beginning Saturday, 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 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 every third Thursday of the month. 568-4604

McGregor/FBIX ammo point closings: The McGregor Range/FBIX Ammunition Supply Point will be closed June 17-21; 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, Movie night: The Art and Hobby Shop will have a monthly "Art and a Movie" night June 7 and July 12. There will be different movies and crafts each month to enjoy. Scheduled events are "The Lego Movie" and emoji or unicorn themed ceramics, June 7; and "The Goonies" and pirate themed ceramics July 12. Open to all DOD ID card holders. Cost: \$15. 820 Marshall Rd. 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. 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 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. Free. 568-7280

Murph Challenge for Memorial Day: Join Group Fitness for their hero workout to honor the fallen this weekend. Named after Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy killed in action June 28, 2005. The challenge will be one mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 squats and one mile run. (Sequential or rounds allowed, official timekeeping provided, weighted vest allowed, but not provided.) This is a weekend long event happening Friday-Monday with various time slots. \$20 744-5790

Go Youth

In-home Saturday childcare 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. 568-6156

Parents Day Out Saturday childcare: Parents get ready to enjoy a relaxing day out because CYS will provide once-a-month Saturday child care! Saturday child care will be held at Milam CDC June 1 from 1-11 p.m. 744-7879

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. 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. All students, ages 15 and older, must be enrolled with Child Youth Services before registering for any SKIESUnlimited class. 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



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Family Day on the Wall

Date: May 23 2019, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Outdoor Recreation - 20732 Constitution, Central Fort Bliss Texas United States
Have you always wanted to try the climbing wall at the Soldier Activity Center?

If so, then make sure you come out every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday for Family Day on the Wall! This is the only time that kids 18 and under are allowed at the facility so make sure you take advantage!

All ages are welcome to participate, however children do need to meet certain height and weight requirements.

For more information call, 744-1532.

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. Cost: \$40 per month and held every Saturday from 12:15-2 p.m. 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. 568-5544 or 568-4374

Community

Free legal clinic: The El Paso Bar Association and El Paso Lawyers for Patriots will hold a free legal clinic for all veterans June 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join them for free legal consultations, referrals and presentations on the various resources available for veterans and active-duty military in the El Paso area. 10700 Gateway East. Bldg. A. Free. 532-7052, ngallego@elpasobar.com, facebook.com/elpasolawyersforpatriots

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. 2idahq@comcast.net

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. Facebook or e-mail epnavyseacadets@outlook.com

Concordia Cemetery Memorial Day: Concordia Cemetery Heritage Association will honor veterans of all wars buried at the historic cemetery at 10 a.m. Monday, May 27, in Concordia Cemetery's Buffalo Soldier Memorial, 3700 Yandell. Program will include Empty Table Memorial

and Buffalo Soldiers of the Southwest, along with remembrance of 270 veterans of 19th and 20th century wars. Free, 479-3779 or gloriacorde-ro2@msn.com

Alfresco! Fridays: Alfresco! Fridays, a free outdoor summer concert series, are at 6 p.m. Fridays, Convention Center Plaza. May 31: Dulce Mal (Reggae, Cumbia). 534-0600, alfrescofridays.com

Cool Canyon Nights: The 9th annual Cool Canyon Night series of free outdoor summer concerts are 6-9 p.m. Thursdays at McKelligon Canyon Amphitheatre, 6 p.m. with headliner at 7 p.m. May 23: Prime 80'Z Xperience. Free. VIP tickets are \$10. elpasolive.com

Billy the Kid Festival: San Elizario Historic Art District hosts the 10th annual Billy the Kid Festival from noon-9 p.m., May 31-June 2, in San Elizario. Free. 851-0093, billythekidfestival.com, or sanelizariohistoricdistrict.org

Las Cruces Wine Festival: Las Cruces Wine Festival is noon-6 p.m. May 25-27, at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, 12125 Robert Larson Blvd, Las Cruces. The festival offers wines by New Mexico wineries as well as specialty food and artisans. No pets or coolers. Cost: Military discount available at the gate only; \$17, with valid DoD ID. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the gate; \$10 designated driver and non-drinker 16-20. holdmyticket.com or nmwine.com

Mayfair: Cloudcroft's Mayfair, the 47th annual juried arts & crafts show is 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at Zenith Park, with new and returning art vendors showcasing sculpture, pottery, jewelry, paintings and more as well as live music, food and children's activities. Free. (575) 682-2733, 1-888-874-4447 or coolcloudcroft.com

Horizon City Chili Cook Off: Horizon City American Legion hosts its Chili Cook Off June 1,

ANNOUNCEMENT

Debt collection notices:

This is a debt collection notice for **PV2 Mamady K. Kaba**. All services under Kaba's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Kaba or for information regarding collections, call 2nd Lt. Brett Cullen at 410-960-3881.



MEMORIAL DAY FIELD MASS

will be celebrated on
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If anyone has a flag that was presented to them at a memorial service of a loved one and would like it flown at this event, please bring it to the cemetery office before the 22nd of May.

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at 1300 Horizon, in Horizon City. Turn in at 2 p.m. alhorizoncitytx598.org

Hype or Die Fest: El Paso DJ and producer Riot Ten headlines the Hype of Die Fest 7 p.m.-2 a.m. May 31, at Wet N' Wild Waterworld, 8804 S. Desert, Anthony, Texas. Cost: \$15 at wetwild.com or hypeordiefest.com

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

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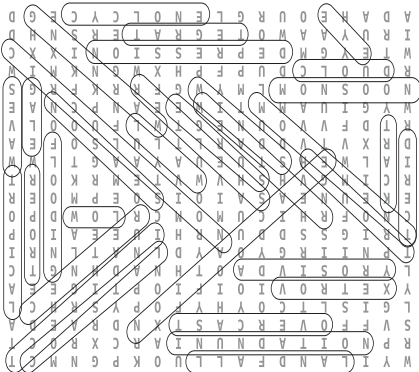
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(On-Post Housing: 1st wknd of the mo. only) |
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PUZZLE time

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to hurricanes. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 9 = m)

A. 21 14 6 11
Clue: Movement of the air

B. 19 12 25 8 9
Clue: Unsteady weather

C. 19 4 9 9 26 8
Clue: Hot season

D. 11 17 9 17 20 26
Clue: Broken or harmed

Answers: A. wind B. storm C. summer D. damage

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to hurricanes.

LAGE



Answer: Gale

Guess Who?

I am a model born in England on May 22, 1970. As a child, I studied ballet, and was discovered at age 15. During the 1980s and 1990s, I helped popularize the term "supermodel."

Answer: Naomi Campbell

HURRICANE WORD SEARCH

W Y I L A N D F A L L U O K P G N M C T
R P N O I T A D N U N I A R C X R O C T
S V F F O V E R C A S T X N D R A E D A
L G I S L T C O Y H Y F O P Y S R H C L
Y X E T R O V I O I F I O P T I G E E A
L Y R O S I V D A O T H N A D H N G T C
T P N I I R G Y O A Y D L N A T L N R I
T R I G S S D D U N R H I U E E A I O P
C N O F R H I C U M O M C R L O W D P O
E K E U N E A S A I O I S O E P M O E R
R C I M G V H S H V W V T E M R K O R T
I A L W E H S T U E U A Y A A G T L W W
D R X V T V D D A R L T L U L S O F E A
R T D F V V O U N E G T W L F U O O L V
W Y G I U A M M T I W E E A N P C N A E
N O O S N O M L M Y W G F R R K F R G S
R D U O L C D U P F P H X W G N K M I W
W T E Y G M D E P R E S S I O N I X X C
I R U Y A A W O T E G R A T E R S N H D
A D A H E O U R G L E N O L C Y C E G D

WORDS

ADVISORY
CENTER
CIRCULATION
CLOUD
COASTAL
CYCLONE
DEPRESSION
DIRECT
EVACUATION
EYE
FLOODING
GALE

INDIRECT
INUNDATION
LANDFALL
LOW
MONSOON
MOVEMENT
OVERCAST
REPORT
SEASON
SHELTER
SURGE
TARGET

TRACK
TROPICAL
TROUGH
VORTEX
WALL
WARNING
WAVES
WEATHER
WINDS

See answers on page 10B

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RENTALS

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2416 Escape Point\$1295
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9045 Coventry.....\$1175

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1206 Selden.....\$675

NORTHEAST

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10048 Kellogg.....\$850
5613 Wadsworth.....\$1000
11976 Mesquite lake ...\$1075
10001 Goliad.....\$1095
10905 Rogers Hornsby \$1100

5132 Paris.....\$1100

12045 Copper Mine\$1150
2605 Mountain\$1200

11429 Marcos Lucero ..\$1225

11860 Mesquite Rock ..\$1250
10728 Pleasant Sand ...\$1275

5453 Rick Husband.....\$1300
4904 Silver Ranch.....\$1400

11836 Mesquite Lake ..\$1350

10790 Aron.....\$1500
4312 Loma de Norte\$1800

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Military experience as a senior non-commissioned, warrant or commissioned officer with supervisory and instructor experience working in training or academic environment is most desired. Applicant should have 5 years of supervisory, counseling or teaching experience and be in good physical condition. Annual 10-month salary range from \$38,500 to \$45,000 based on education and experience. Excellent benefits available. Applications will be accepted at the NMMI Human Resources Office.

Send the completed application and a Letter of Interest to NMMI, Attn: Human Resources Office, 101 W College Blvd. Roswell, NM 88201. NMMI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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