

Thursday, March 7, 2019



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#### >> EL PASO'S OTHER MINERS

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal / 379th Air Expeditinary Wing

Pfc. Diamond Her, center, a 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th ADA Brigade unit supply specialist, and Air Force Master Sgt. Brett Sanchez, a 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield explosives response NCO-in-charge, conduct a ground survey during a joint decontamination exercise Feb. 22 at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. Army and Air Force participants from 1-43 ADA an the 379th ECES shared CBRNE and high yield explosives best practices, and tested their response proficiency during the training. The event was the conclusion of a four-phase training curriculum. For more on this story, turn to page 3A.

# Home Improvement

# Team Bliss hits housing head on during town hall

By David Poe | Fort Bliss Garrison PA

Backed by fellow Team Bliss senior leaders, Col. Steve Murphy, the Fort Bliss garrison commander, pledged continued action to a crowd of more than 200 at a housing town hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss Feb. 28.

Hosted by Maj. Gen. Patrick Matlock, the Fort Bliss and 1st Armored Division commanding general, the local Senior Commander Housing Town Hall meeting was held as part of an Army effort to address issues with the living conditions of Residential Communities Initiative housing, as well as government quarters, worldwide. RCI public-private military neighborhoods account for approximately 87,000 homes across the Army.

Army Inspector General personnel visited Bliss last week in regard to housing concerns here and Matlock and Murphy both said the local visitation schedule has been adjusted for



David Poe / Fort Bliss Garrison PA

Jessica Holston, center, community manager for Balfour Beatty Communities, the Fort Bliss Residential Communities Initiative contract partner, speaks with an Army family member at an open microphone at the Senior Commander Housing Town Hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss Feb. 28.

what the general called a "second round of visits" to best serve all families at Bliss.

Command teams returned to base housing neighborhoods Monday. While all housing cusing on 100-percent contact over this concentrated period.

Balfour Beatty Communities representa-

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# area visits are voluntary, commanders are fo-

Army's new parental leave program beneficial to whole family **6A** 

inside this issue

**Ohio Medal of Honor recipient:** From slavery to freedom **5B** 

**Molinari says:** 

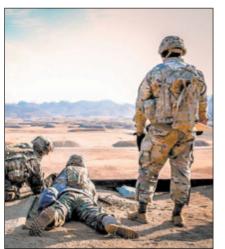
Quit stepping on my turf  $\blacksquare 8B$ 



**FORT BLISS** Hi 64, Lo 49



■ Unit News ......3A Community......1B Sports......11B ■ Off Duty ......13B Army Classifieds.....14B ■ Commercial Classifieds......15B ■ Puzzles ......**15B** 



Sgt. Alon Humphrey / 3rd ABCT, 1st AD Soldiers with 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, prepare to qualify on the M240 and M249 in South Korea, Jan.

# Army FY20 budget proposal realigns \$30 billion to modernization

By Devon L. Suits | Army News Service

WASHINGTON - The Army is slated to release its fiscal year 2020 budget request Tuesday, which will include the realignment of nearly \$30 billion over the next five years to improve readiness and better support the Army's six modernization priorities.

"We've been very consistent about where we're trying to take the Army ... by 2028," said Under Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy. "We are trying to enable the National Defense Strategy, and we have taken some pretty dramatic steps to get there."

The under secretary discussed the Army's upcoming budget request during the Association of the U.S. Army's Institute of Land Warfare breakfast series in Arlington, Virginia, Feb. 26.

While McCarthy didn't go into a lineby-line detail about the upcoming budget, he shared that the FY20 request will include, "\$8 billion in cost avoidance, and about \$22 billion in cuts or terminations."

Further, a portion of the request will help fund the science and technology community, supporting the "31 signature priorities" outlined in the FY18 and FY19 budgets.

Freeing up \$30 billion was no easy task. Last year, Secretary of the Army Mark T. Esper and Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley ordered a comprehensive review of the entire budget. Army senior leaders, staff officers, and major commanders from all three components participated in the process, he said.

"We ran through every program in the budget," McCarthy said. "They branded it 'night court,' because it had that shark tank [feel]. You went in there and you'd try to explain your program to the leadership. If it didn't survive – it was out."

"We need to be better with every dollar that taxpayers give us," he said, adding Esper and Milley are trying to change the "fundamental behavior of the Army."

After the budget proposal is released, Army leaders will engage with Congressional leaders to justify the request. However, with this year's shortened approval timeline, McCarthy acknowledges the challenge Congress will face in passing the FY20 budget.

Failing to pass a budget could result in



Photos by David Poe / Fort Bliss Garrison PA

Balfour Beatty Communities employees stand by to help residents fast-track resolutions to previous maintenance conflicts at the Senior Commander Housing Town Hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss Feb. 28. "We're with BBC to help them get the ball moving forward – that's what I get paid to do," Col. Steve Murphy, the Bliss garrison commander, said during the town hall. "If I'm in the audience (tonight), I've heard a lot of 'we're going to look into and we're going to follow up.' If you're in the audience, you're probably thinking 'put your money where your mouth is.' [BBC] has demonstrated a willingness to make some changes, but now I have to push the momentum to make those changes and make them stick over time."

#### **HOME** Continued from Page 1A

tives were on hand to not only field questions from the audience Feb. 28, but schedule work orders with guests and work out any previous service shortfalls. BBC manages almost 4,500 homes in 17 neighborhoods at Bliss. In all, BBC manages approximately 43,000 homes across the DOD.

Brian Beauregard, the BBC project director at Bliss, addressed the audience on several topics, including the industry-standard procedures taken year-round to identify lead-based paint concerns for families who live in the more than 900 homes at Bliss that were built prior to 1978.

Thursday's town hall also was held to ensure tenants know their rights in privatized housing, how to report housing issues, and what contingencies are in place if issues remains unresolved. Leaders also shared the Army's directed actions in relation to RCI housing reviews, as well as Team Bliss' plan to locally implement those actions.

Earlier this month, Army Secretary Dr. Mark Esper, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Milley and Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel Dailey travelled from the Pentagon to nearby Fort Meade, Maryland, to visit privatized Army housing and found "unacceptable" conditions there.

Army Under Secretary Ryan McCarthy also made a firsthand inspection of RCI homes at Fort Eustis, Virginia, and Fort Jackson, South Carolina, recently, to also find examples of substandard housing at both locations.

America's other military branches are taking similar measures to investigate publicprivate housing projects on DOD installations worldwide. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein joined Air Force Secre-



A guest monitors the Fort Bliss garrison Facebook page during the Senior Commander Housing Town Hall meeting at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss Feb. 28. The event was livecasted for those who couldn't make the event and offered opportunities to ask questions of the panel from the web.

tary Heather Wilson in a directive for a "100 percent review of the condition and safety of all military housing," which was due last week. Also, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Russell Smith mandated that all sailors will have an opportunity for a house visit by their commanders no later than April 15. The three services' leaders have also called for conversation on a "bill of rights" that would offer residents more legal protection against RCI partner companies when there is a conflict.

"We're with BBC to help them get the ball

moving forward - that's what I get paid to do," Murphy told the audience in closing

"We're going to have to prioritize some of these issues, but they're all important," he said. "It's on us to make the changes."

Feb. 28. "[BBC] has demonstrated a willingness to make some changes, but now I have to push the momentum to make those changes and make them stick over time. If I'm in the audience (tonight), I've heard a lot of 'we're going to look into and we're going to follow up.' If you're in the audience, you're probably thinking, 'put your money where your mouth is.'



**BUDGET** Continued from Page 1A

primed to hit at optimal levels?"

El Paso, Texas, communities.

mail or by fax.

Publisher/Commanding G

Maj. Gen. Patrick Matlock

1st AD and Fort Bliss

1st AD Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Crystal Boring

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Master Sgt. Alejandro Licea

**Command Sergeant Major** Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Cobb

the Army's agenda.

a series of continuing resolutions and alter

"Continuing resolutions breed mediocrity," he said. "You can't have predictability in an environment where you're getting an installment every three or six months. How [will] companies know if they're going to get paid or not? How can you get the system

The Army will need to work very hard with Congress during the posture hearings to get them the information they need, McCarthy said, so they can pass both the authorization and appropriation bills by Oct. 1.

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Garrison Command

Col. Steve Murphy

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#### >> AFGHANISTAN REENLISTMENT

Sgt. Ashton Hofmeister / 1st AD CAB

Sgt. Sarahi Garcia, a supply sergeant with 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade, reenlists for three more years of service while deployed in Afghanistan. Garcia was reenlisted by her officer-in-charge, Capt. Christopher Broderick, while her leaders and peers looked on.

# UNIT NEWS Training is the oil that keeps the engine of our Army running



1-37 Armored Regiment conducts platoon Gunnery Table XII ■ 9A

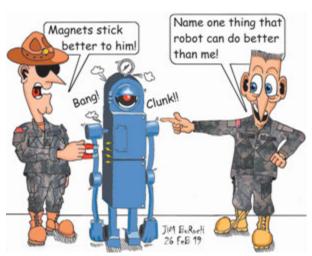
#### **Unit Briefs**

**Unit Book Kits:** Are you part of a unit who is going into the field or deploying soon? If so, stop by the Mickelsen Community Library and pick up book kits for free. Book kits contain a selection of popular fiction and non-fiction paperback items. 568-1902

Minue ACP / traffic advisory for March 8: Minue ACP and Liberty Ave. will be closed 5-10 a.m. Friday. Use Old Ironsides or SGM Barreras ACPs and use Torch St. as alternate routes to some East Fort Bliss areas. Minue ACP is due to return to its normal schedule when it reopens to outbound traffic at 4 p.m Friday afternoon.

Bliss Briefs Tax Center open: The Fort Bliss Tax Center is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturdays and training holidays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 2910 Cassidy Road. 568-

**Army Warrior Trials:** Wounded Warrior athletes will compete in adaptive sports March 7-15 at different Fort Bliss FMWR physical fitness centers. 744-1532





Air Force Master Sgt. Brett Sanchez, the 379th ECES emergency management CBRNE response NCO-in-charge, communicates with a radio alongside Pfc. Diamond Her, a 1-43 ADA, 11th ADA Bde. unit supply specialist, during a ground survey.



A Soldier dons MOPP gear during a joint decontamination exercise. Air Force and Army participants from the 379th ECES and the 1-43 ADA shared CBRNE best practices, and tested their response proficiency during the training. The event was the conclusion of a four-phase training curriculum.



Army 1st Lt. Christopher O'Sullivan, the 1-43 ADA executive officer, takes off MOPP gear during the exercise Feb. 22 at Al Udeid Air



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal / 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs
Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th ADA Brigade, perform Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, ld explosives decontamination techniques during a ground survey as part of a joint decontamination exercise Feb. 22 at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar.



Spc. Riley Sharp, a 1-43 ADA Patriot fire control enhanced operator and maintainer, practices dressing his teammate in Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear during the exercise.



Pvt. Mason Hage, left, a 1-43 ADA Patriot fire control enhanced operator and maintainer, helps Air Force Staff Sgt. Rikki Sechrist, a 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management CBRNE specialist, adjust MOPP gear during

# Joint training strengthens Army, Air Force collaboration

# 1-43 ADA troops train with Airmen in Qatar

By Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal | 379th Air Exp. Wing Public Affairs

L UDEID AIR BASE, Qatar - Airmen and Soldiers prac-Aticed Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high yield explosives training techniques and procedures Feb. 22 as part of a joint decontamination exercise.

The event was the conclusion of a four-phase curriculum. Participants from the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th ADA Brigade, shared CBRNE best practices and tested their response proficiency during the training.

"The goal of this is to build a relationship to know our capabilities and to train together since we're both doing the same kind of CBRNE mission," said Air Force Master Sgt. Julia Dandurand, 379th ECES emergency management flight chief. "We have equipment that the Army doesn't have, the Army has equipment that we don't have, and this puts our equipment familiarization into practice out in the field.'

Airmen and Soldiers worked together during tasks including Mission Oriented Protective Posture donning and doffing drills, ground survey, and decontamination familiarization.

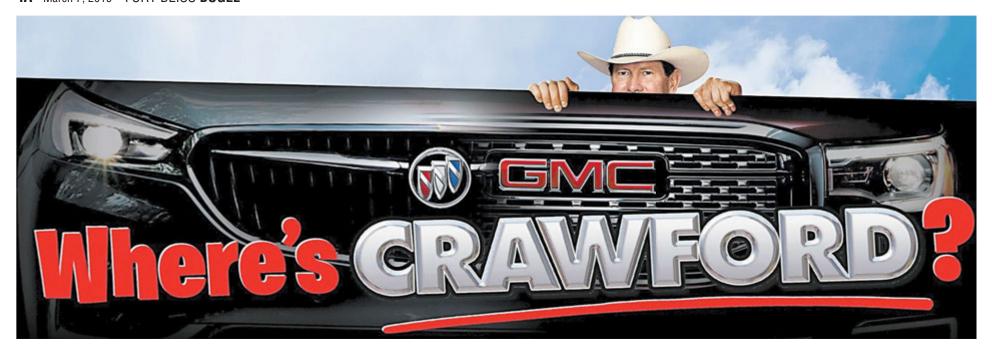
"The exercise is the culmination of everything we learned to-gether," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Karl Spindler, 379th ECES emer-gency management training NCO-in-charge. "Doing things like this, gearing up, [donning] the mask, going through surveys ...

The joint training provided both military branches an opportunity to share service specific processes. Airmen shared their experience in decontamination procedures and Soldiers showcased MOPP exchange techniques.

"I'm definitely walking away with more knowledge in the CBRNE area especially in decontamination," said Spc. Riley Sharp, a 1-43 ADA Patriot fire control enhanced operator and maintainer. "I'm definitely walking away with more friendships. I'm teaching people how to do their job better, they're teaching

me how to do my job better. That's really what it comes down to."

"Joint training is definitely beneficial specifically to equipment and our tactical techniques and procedures," said Dandurand. "We're trying to become a joint force where are procedures are the same as theirs so we're speaking the same language during a real-world situation. We're all here for the same reason. The more we know about each of the services the better we can produce, the quicker we can work, the easier our job actually





Photos by Sgt. Amber Smith / Office of the Secretary of Defense Public Affairs

U.S. Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan; Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford; the Under Secretary for Management for the Department of Homeland Security Claire M. Grady, and Air Force Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, commander of United States Northern Command, visit the Border during a trip to El Paso, Feb. 23.

# D: A/SD, CJCS visit US southern border

"We have amazing people down there doing a very, very difficult job," Acting **Defense Secretary Patrick** M. Shanahan said during an interview with reporters traveling with him. "One of the takeaways was they really have a difficult job to do and the other one was (the Defense Department) can really help. And the part of my responsibility is to translate that we can help into a real work statement."



By Jim Garamone | Defense.gov

WASHINGTON - Acting Defense Secretary Patrick M. Shanahan and Marine Corps Gen. Joe Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, journeyed to Texas Feb. 23-24 to get a feel for the situation on the Southwest border.

Shanahan and Dunford said they wanted to get information about the border directly from the people affected.

"We have amazing people down there doing a very, very difficult job," Shanahan said during an interview with reporters traveling with him. "One of the takeaways was they really have a difficult job to do and the other

one was (the Defense Department) can really help. And the part of my responsibility is to translate that we can help into a real work statement."

The U.S. officials on the border told the Defense secretary that barriers do work and should be part of the effort to strengthen the line with Mexico. "Any place where someone can cross the border and disappear within seconds or minutes, that's where you need barriers," Shanahan said.

Officials also discussed improving monitoring and detection and the smart deploy-

See BORDER Page 5A





Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, listens to a briefing on Border enforcement operations.



Dunford, center, listens to a briefing on border enforcement operations.



Patrick M. Shanahan, acting Secretary of Defense, Dunford, Claire M. Grady, under secretary for management for the Department of Homeland Security and Air Force Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy, commander of U.S. Northern Command, view the border region.

**BORDER** Continued from Page 4A

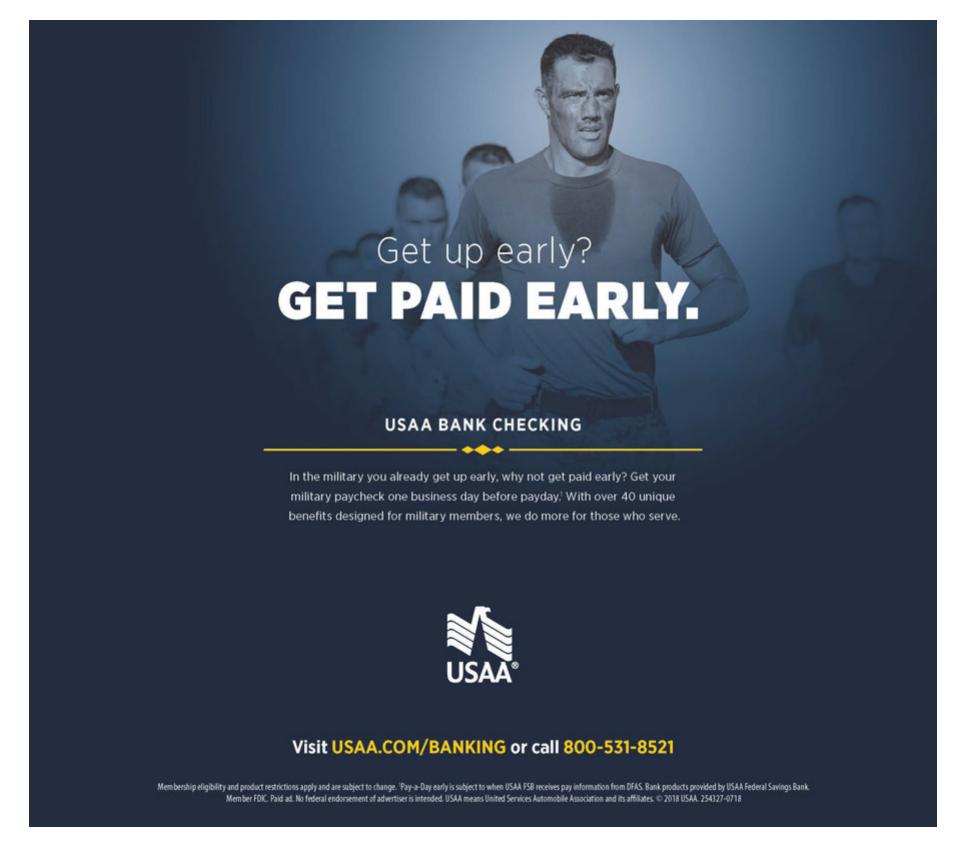
ment of resources.

The leaders will now look at what tasks the Department of Homeland Security can transfer to DOD so agents at the border can be more productive, he said. "And the place that they are most productive is on foot doing the apprehension," Shanahan said.

The acting secretary said he will sit down this week with the service secretaries to examine how they can contribute to the effort and he will produce an actionable plan.



Border Patrol agents monitor the area along the international border near El Paso, Feb. 23. "Any place where someone can cross the border and disappear within seconds or minutes, that's where you need barriers," Shanahan said.



# Army's new parental leave program beneficial to whole family

"Because she had a

C-section, it's good to

be off (work) to help

her out. I'm trying to

alleviate any of that

extra stress for her."

>> Christina Dixon-Moton

By Marcy Sanchez | WBAMC Public Affairs

A recent U.S. Army directive extended leave opportunities for primary and secondary caregivers, more than doubling the amount of leave days available after the birth or adoption of an eligible beneficiary.

The Army Military Parental Leave Program, authorized on Jan. 23, provides guidance on extending parental leave from 10-to-21 days for Soldiers designated as secondary caregivers, while primary caregivers are able to take up to six weeks of parental leave following the birth of the child.

For femalea, that may be added to the six weeks of maternity convalescent leave previously approved by the Army's Leaves and Passes policy, AR-600-8-10, should they choose to be designated as the primary caregiver.

"With new children in the family, that initial bonding time is really important, extending leave is crucial to get to know the family member and supporting the primary caregiver — especially if the primary caregiver delivered the baby," said Maj. Marimon Maskell, clinical nurs-

ing officer-in-charge, Labor and Delivery, Maternal Child Health, William Beaumont Army Medical Center. "That's a huge transition time frame for mom, that bonding period is very important and best to have it after childbirth."

The directive also provides a thorough definition for primary and secondary caregiver designations, timeframes to designate, and defines qualifying birth events or adoptions. By doing so, the directive also provides guidance for service members with children born outside of marriage.

"Usually, the primary caregiver is mom, but this policy definitely spells out families that are undergoing adoption or same-gender couples who have a baby," said Maskell, a mother of two. "As a mom, I think this is great, you can be at home spending time with your baby establishing a routine for your family, breast feed if that's what you choose."

Various studies demonstrate the positive impacts paternity leave has in both parents involvement in their newborn's life such as increased child care-taking activities nine months later. Additionally, studies credit parental leave with improvements in both maternal and infant sleep during the first six months postpartum.

For Christina Dixon-Moton, a civilian

employee at a child development center on Fort Bliss, the new leave program will allow her more time to recover and prepare her newborn daughter, Ella Rose, along with her husband, Pvt. Yolando Moton, for her return to work.

"(The program) helps a lot because I won't be able to cook

and clean (following a cesarean section), and will especially help with our other child because she's four and it would be extremely difficult to do these things," said Dixon-Moton, a native of Covington, Georgia. "I can't even put her in daycare until she's two months old, so having (dad) home will help."

"I'll be multitasking the next couple of weeks, taking care of mom, baby and our other daughter," said Moton, a cavalry scout with 4th Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. "Because she had a C-sec-



Marcy Sanchez / WBAMC PA

Pvt. Yolando Moton, a cavalry scout with 4th Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, smiles with wife, Christina Dixon-Moton, and newborn daughter, Ella Rose, during their postpartum stay at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, Feb. 26. A recent U.S. Army directive has extended leave opportunities for primary and secondary caregivers, more than doubling the amount of time off after the birth or adoption of an eligible beneficiary.

tion, it's good to be off (work) to help her out. I'm trying to alleviate any of that extra stress for her."

For the Motons, high school sweethearts who had their first child as civilians, the extended leave policy will provide some relief from the stressors which come with the birth of a child, something they weren't fortunate enough to have during their first born. Additionally, the extra time puts Moton at ease when thinking about returning from leave.

"The program will definitely help prepare me to go back to work," said Moton, 26, a native of Covington, Georgia. "It's just me and her here, we have no family, so we need to be prepared."

For primary caregivers who are the birth parents, the extra time will also assist with postpartum recovery, especially when it involves medical procedures such as a C-section

"Eight weeks is recommended (for women's bodies to recuperate after birth)," said Maskell. "It's also important for active duty moms to start exercising after eight weeks so it's not so much of a struggle going full blast physical training as soon as they come back to duty."

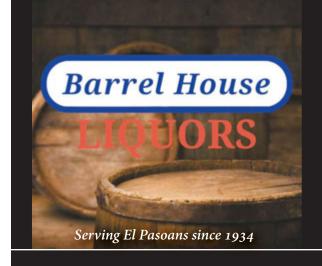
The leave directive is retroactive to Dec. 23, 2016, and will apply to all active-duty Soldiers, active guard, reserve-component and National Guard Soldiers who are on active order for a period in excess of 12 months.

"Because we're constantly training, most times I'm either in the desert somewhere, something like the new directive will help prepare Soldiers to get back to work, especially for Combat Arms Soldiers," said Moton. "My leadership personally has done a great job supporting, and that's awesome because it seems like the Army really cares."









#### The only locally owned & operated liquor store chain in El Paso

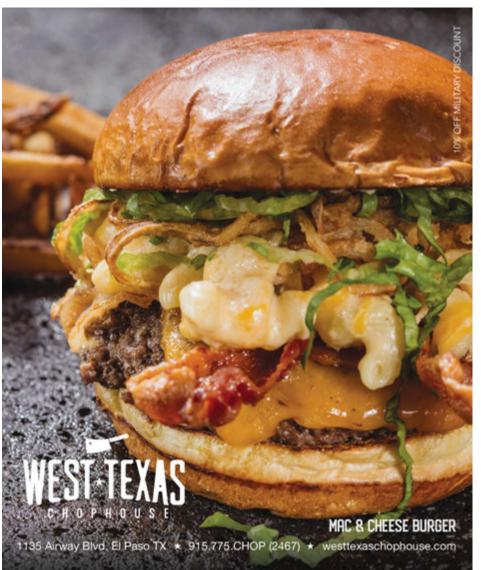






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# It's National Nutrition Month: What's eating you?

By Capt. Asia Nakakura | 4th Bn., 27th FA Regt.

Fad diets are a dime a dozen. Paleo, Keto, Adkins...and the list goes on. Should we be focusing on cutting out entire food groups or should we go back to the basics of food and nutri-

Instead of looking for a quick fix, focus on a well-balanced, nutritionally-sound diet that is within our calorie needs. American journalist Michael Pollan has put it best: "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly Plants.'

As a society, we have moved towards the quick and easy - processed, convenience foods. We need to take a step back and refocus on whole, minimally processed foods, or in other words, food in its real, unaltered

When foods are processed, they are stripped of beneficial nutrients like fiber, antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals. In addition, fats and sugars are added to extend the shelf life and appeal to our natural desire for fat, sugar, and salt.

We eat too much. Americans are fatter

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently found that 71.6 percent of adults 20 and older are overweight or obese. Plants are packed of all the good stuff, including fiber, antioxidants, polyphenols,

vitamins, and minerals. If fruits, vegetables, and whole grains are not a central part of your diet, how are you getting these essential nutri-

Am I telling you to just eat plants? Absolutely not. However, if you look at your current diet and realize that plant-based foods (fruits, vegetables, and whole grains)

are rare, a good goal might be to incorporate a serving or two of a fruit or vegetable

These small dietary changes can move us all toward healthier selves, reducing the risk of obesity and associated comorbidities. So this March for National Nutrition Month, make sure you "eat food, not too much, and mostly plants."

It is much harder to overdo eating minimally-processed foods, but a visit with a registered dietitian at William Beaumont Army Medical Center can also help you to figure out the right number of calories for you based on your weight and performance goals. You can reach the WBAMC Nutrition Clinic at 742-3521.



World Boxing Champion World Kickboxing Champion



### >> IRON SOLDIERS SALUTE **BG GALLIVAN DURING RETREAT**

Staff Sgt. Killo Gibson / 1st AD Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Patrick E. Matlock, the 1st AD and Fort Bliss commanding general, left, and Brig. Gen. James J. Gallivan, deputy commanding general-operations, render salutes during a Retreat ceremony Jan. 24. at Fort Bliss. While customary for the senior officer to formally end the duty day for troops, Matlock refused honors and insisted honors be given to Gallivan, the division commanding general for operations, during the ceremony.

Did you know...

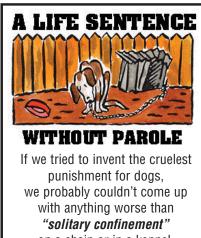
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Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, discussed his vision of reform, emphasizing the importance of keeping it aligned with the Army Chief of Staff's priority of "Readiness" and the Secretary of the Army's focus on modernization. He said the goal is to prepare the Army Materiel Enterprise for large-scale, multi-domain, ground combat operations.



Kevin Fleming / U.S. Army

Gen. Gustave F. Perna, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, talks about his current vision for reform during a quarterly update at U.S. Army Sustainment Command headquarters, Rock Island Arsenal, III., Feb. 26.

# AMC CG visits Sustainment Command, shares vision for reform

By Kevin Fleming | U.S. Army

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, III. - Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, discussed the synchronization of the Army Materiel Enterprise during a second-quarter update with leaders at the U.S. Army Sustainment Command, here, Feb. 26.

Over the past year, AMC has changed drastically, with reorganization efforts occurring in several major headquarters across AMC. The list of AMC's major subordinate commands has also changed significantly, including the realignment of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command under AMC effective last Friday.

"This shouldn't be news to anyone here, but big things have been happening in AMC," Perna said to ASC leadership.

Perna discussed his vision of reform, emphasizing the importance of keeping it aligned with the Army Chief of Staff's priority of "readiness" and the Secretary of the Army's focus on modernization. He said the goal is to prepare the Army Materiel Enterprise for large-scale, multi-domain, ground combat operations.

The update included a discussion about the way forward for several of ASC's missions and initiatives, including the command's role in helping to connect IMCOM with AMC.

"There will be more things occurring in collaboration with IMCOM," Perna said.

Helping to increase the mobility of brigade combat teams was another topic of the meeting.

Perna said the key to increasing BCT material readiness is for them to deploy with the necessary supplies and equipment defined on their Authorized Stockage Lists. Having enhanced the readiness of the BCTs by providing them with new mobile containers last year, Perna said ASC should move forward with organizing supplies to support the BCT's new internal capabilities in the field.

Perna also discussed his vision for Army Prepositioned Stocks in the case of rapid deployments.

With the correct and timely support from APS, "any unit going to war will cross the line of departure with all their essential items," he said.

Maj. Gen. Duane Gamble, commanding general, ASC, highlighted his efforts to better organize the command's Army Reserve Element. He said he wants the ASC-ARE to be an independently deployable unit instead of just a labor pool for the command.

Gamble said this ASC-driven reform effort will help increase material readiness in case of global conflict.

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# >> 1-37 ARMORED REGIMENT

conducts platoon Gunnery Table XII

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



Spc. Zackery Shivers, a cavalry scout, and Pvt. Dae'van Lexie, an infantry Soldier, both with 1st Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, count ammunition, which will be issued to the Bradley fighting vehicles during the gunnery at the Fort Bliss Training Complex in New Mexico, Feb. 22.



Spc. Alexander Torrenzio, a Bradley Fighting Vehicle driver, awaits orders from his tank commander to move toward his first firing position.



Sgt. Ryan Walton, an infantry Soldier, pulls security with his squad on one side of their objective, which in this case is the village in the Fort Bliss Training Area.



Pfc. James Lott, an infantry Soldier with 1st Bn., 35th AR, pulls security with his squad on one side of their objective.

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# From Baghdad to Best Warrior

Hussein Khairi had served shoulder-toshoulder with United States service members since 2005 when he worked as a translator in his native country, Iraq. Now, he is standing toe-to-toe with them, competing for the tite Texas Military Department's Best Warrior.

The Texas Military Department's Best Warrior Competition is a three-day contest that brings together members of the Texas Army National Guard, Air National Guard, and representatives from Texas' State Partnership Programs to compete for the title of Best Warrior Competition.

"Some people who knew you worked for the American saw you as a traitor," Khairi said. "The penalty for being a traitor in Iraq was death, and not just for you, but often your family as well."

Khairi, born in Baghdad, met American service members for the first time in 2003 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. After serving as a local interpreter for five years, Khairi received a Special Immigrant Visa through the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which allowed those who helped American forces at war a path to U.S. citizenship.

After immigrating to the U.S., Khairi again sought work with American forces and joined the Department of Defense as an interpreter, but this time as an American.

In 2016, Khairi joined the Texas National Guard and now works full-time for the Texas Military Department's Counter Drug Task Force in border security.

In both his full-time job and as a traditional Guard Soldier, Khairi brings the service invaluable skills that his leaders say come with his unique background.

"Having a diverse force, from all kinds of backgrounds, is essential to building a strong and effective force," said Sgt. Maj Jason Morrow, the 71st Troop Command operations sergeant major. "It's always inspiring to see someone like Khairi who takes risks to go after big opportunities and then really add to the organization when they get there."



Hussein Khairi had served shoulder-to-shoulder with U.S. service members since 2005 when he worked as a translator in his native country, Iraq. Now, he is standing toe-to-toe with them, competing for the tile Texas Military Department's Best Warrior.

To earn the title, Khairi, only in his third year of enlistment, will have to endure a grueling three days that tests his physical fitness, agility, strength, endurance, and knowledge, along with the other service members.

"I like to get outside my comfort zone," Khairi said. "I like to take on new challenges. I'm always trying to improve myself."

One of the more challenging events for Khairi, he predicted, would be the 12-mile road march. The march started pre-dawn and required competitors to carry a 35-pound backpack without assistance.

"One of my biggest strengths is that I never quit, I always keep trying," Khairi said

Although Khairi didn't cross the line first, he finished at a jog and in good spirits, saying he was just happy to be here, and given the opportunity to compete.

"It has been an honor to make it this far," Khairi said. "Even if I don't win I can go home proud of my accomplishment here."

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Que Pasa? ACS newcomers Fair ■ 4B



10th Mtn. Div. Soldiers finding resourceful ways to tackle training 
7B



Kicking it in South Korea 3rd ABCT troops get access to Taekwondo PT ■ 11B

# Things to Do:

Rockhound Roundup: The 54th annual roundup for rock and gem lovers is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. today through Sunday at the Southwest New Mexico Fairgrounds in Deming. Free. 575-544-9019, thegms@gmail.com,

Home and Garden Expo: The 19th annual Home and Garden Expo is this weekend at the El Paso Convention Center. Hours are 2-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Cost: \$7 (\$6 for age 65 and older; free for 16 and under and active and retired military and first responders with ID). 361-882- 2071 or elpasohomeandgarden.com

Mesilla Valley Stamp Show: The Mesilla Valley Stamp Show is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave., Las Cruces, N.M. Free. 575-202-1937 or

Camp Furlong Day and Cabalgata Binacional: The 103rd anniversary of Pancho Villa's raid in 1916 will be celebrated 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday at Pancho Villa State Park, Columbus, N.M., with guest speakers providing historical presentations and slideshows in the park's exhibit hall. 575-531-2711 or PanchoVillaStateParkFriendsGroup.org

El Paso RV Show: The show featuring one of the largest displays of RVs and campers is March 15-17 at the El Paso Convention Center, featuring the very latest makes and models of recreational vehicles from all the nation's top manufacturers. Hours are 1-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. Cost: \$8 (\$6 Good Sam members; free kids 12 and younger); available at the

Twilight Zone of Artistry show: Kaleidoscope Art Space presents the art show and market 7-11 p.m. March 15, at the German Pub, 9530 Viscount, with a vast array of the strange and unusual from art, performances and eats. Free; All ages welcome and pet friendly. 630-4867 or KaleidoscopeArtSpace@

Poppies Festival: The 13th annual Poppies Festival is 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 23, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain in Northeast El Paso (west of U.S. 54). Free. 755-4332 or archaeol-

Star City Tattoo and Arts Expo: More than 150 tattoo artists from across the nation will be on hand during the Star City Tattoo and Arts Expo, noon-10 p.m. March 22-24, at El Paso Convention Center. Cost: \$20 single day; \$45 weekend pass; free for age 12 and younger. 231-1100 or starcityexpo.com

El Paso Psychic Fair: The Psychic Fair is 11 a.m.-7 p.m. March 23-24, at Hawthorn Inn, 1700 Airway, at Boeing. Cost: \$5. 345-6245 or elpasopsychicfair.

Trinity Site Tour: The White Sands Missile Range Trinity Site semiannual tour to the site of the fi rst atom bomb explosion is April 7. Free. No reservations required. 575-678-1134 or wsmr.army.mil

Sun City Craft Beer Festival: The Downtown El Paso celebration of craft beer is April 21-22, at the El Paso Convention Center Plaza. Age 21 and older only. Cost: \$20, \$35 for both days. suncitycraftbeer-

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 Veteran's Memorial Plaza in San Elizario, with arts and crafts, music, reenactments, food and more. Pets welcome. This season's kickoff event March 17 includes a car show 3-7 p.m., new Farmer's Market starting at 10 a.m., and live music from Mestizo Band 4-8 p.m. Free. 851-0093 or missiontrailartmarket.com

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

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.

One World Water Lantern Festival: The premier water lantern festival is 4:30-9 p.m. March 30, at Ascarate Park 6900 Delta. Tickets: \$30 through March 15; \$35 March 16-29, and \$40 day of event; includes entry into festival area, floating water lantern, LED flashlight keychain, marker and wristband. waterlanternfestival.com/elpaso

# **WBAMC**

### becomes only laparoscopic surgery test site in region

By Marcy Sanchez | WBAMC Public Affairs

William Beaumont Army Medical Center was recently reaccredited as a testing site for The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons' Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery, the only medical facility to be designated as such in nearly a 400-mile

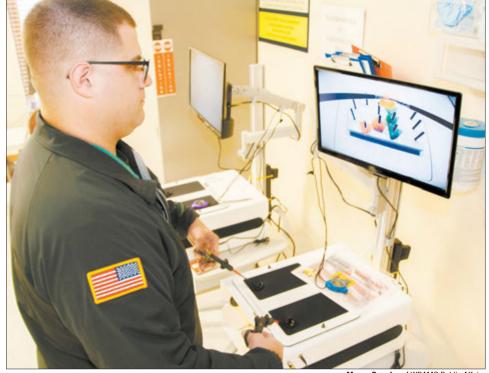
The designation allows Graduate Medical Education residents to complete required courses of study for GME programs at WBAMC and prepare for assignments elsewhere. Additionally, FLS aims to improve the quality of care for patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery while providing a validated tool to measure fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for laparoscopic surgery.

"The American Board of Surgery requires FLS certification for all graduating general surgery residents, so every graduating resident across the country needs to have FLS certification," said Lt. Col. Eric Ahnfeldt, chief of General Surgery Residency Program at WBAMC. "(Surgeons) can only get certified at an accredited FLS testing center. That accreditation process is pretty rigorous - they make sure the site has the right equipment, very specialized equipment, make sure the proctors are trained to administer the tests and the hands-on portion."

According to SAGES, hands-on testing includes evaluating dexterity and psychomotor skills through simulated laparoscopic manipulation including instrument navigation, coordination, and cutting or knot-tying. A total of five hands-on tasks must be completed within prescribed time limits, and with no errors.

Prior to the designation, general surgeons and residents in the El Paso area wishing to test for FLS would need to travel about 400 miles before reaching the next test center. Thanks to the WBAMC Simulation Center's efforts, not only do WBAMC Graduate Medical Education residents avoid a long trip but, through a memorandum of agreement, other local, non-military medical residents are afforded FLS opportunities at WBAMC as well.

"It's a great turnaround investment," said Ahnfeldt, who also championed FLS accreditation at WBAMC. "We send our residents



Capt. Derek Kirby, medical resident, General Surgery Program, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, practices laparoscopic techniques using pegs on a laparoscopic simulator at WBAMC's Simulation Center, Feb. 25. WBAMC was recently recognized as a Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery testing site, the only medical facility to be recognized as such in a 400 mile radius. This recognition will allow medical residents and physicians to attain the certification locally, a requirement for graduating general surgery

out every year and they go all over the country (specifically for FLS designation). Now we're able to train them here and are proud to be able to test them here."

"Laparoscopic Surgery has been an evolving technology for many years," said Dr. John Schriver, director of Graduate Medical Education at WBAMC. "The acceptance of minimally invasive surgery began a rapid advancement and technological improvement in the 1990's. Today it has become a standard of care for many procedures and is recognized as a surgical subspecialty."

The minimally invasive surgical technique has spread beyond general surgery to other specialties such as obstetrics and gynecology, becoming a requirement for those residents just last year.

"(FLS) establishes an additional objective measure that all U.S. surgery residents and obstetricians and gynecologists applying for primary specialty certification must meet," said Schriver. "The goal is to assure residents have an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of laparoscopic surgery in a consistent, scientifically-accepted format and to test cognitive, surgical decision-making and technical skills,

all with the goal of improving the quality of

The process for designation consisted of agreements with local health science centers and residency programs, to maximize the value the program will have in the Borderland.

"This is one of those many times that we came together as an institution to make something extraordinary occur," said Thomas Soto, simulation administrator, WBAMC Simulation Center.

According to Schriver, the six-year General Surgery Program admits four residents per year, with eight additional residents located in local residency programs. The FLS designation will allow those medical residents the opportunity to test locally, avoiding the time and expense of long travels to other testing sites.

"The FLS is also leading us to great partnerships with local hospitals for residents to use our simulators for their certification," said

The center was also recently recertified as a test center for the Fundamentals of Endoscopic Surgery, by SAGES, another prestigious designation for medical centers.

### >> SOLDIERCON

Miguel De Santiago / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

From left: Free Isabelo and Jeremy Lassner of Live Free Die Free Comics and Cillian Cubstead of Plot Twist Publishing share their super talents with the Fort Bliss community during the SoldierCon Cosplay Expo Feb. 16. "We need to appreciate all branches of the military because they're the ones on the frontline, they're the ones that put on the uniform and say, 'if something ever happens we'll protect you,' and so because of that we want to make sure that they know that they're appreciated," Isabelo said.



# >> TRUCK TOWN

Event brings heavy hardware from government, civilian agencies and businesses to Freedom Crossing at Fort Bliss

Photos by Miguel De Santiago / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle



El Paso Young Ghostbusters, a local youth counseling organization, show off their custom Ecto-Truck during the family-friendly event Truck Town at Fort Bliss Feb. 23.



The El Paso Chihuahuas' mascot, Chico, made a special appearance during Truck Town. The Chihuahuas are the minor league affiliate of Major League Baseball's San Diego Padres.







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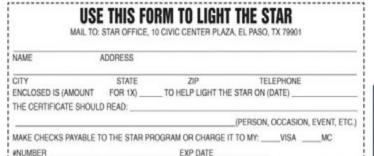






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FORT BLISS BUGLE • March 7, 2019 • 3B



David Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle
A period Army uniform is one of the highlights of
the museum at Fort Selden. The uniform is authentic except for the pants and boots — which
are replicas

# **Fort Selden**

By David Burge | Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

A little over an hour's drive from Fort Bliss and El Paso, you can visit a tranquil desert area that is full of U.S. Army and Southwest history.

Fort Selden Historic Site is located along Interstate 25, just 13 miles north of Las Cruces in Radium Springs, New Mexico.

If you've driven by on the way to Albuquerque or other spots in New Mexico, you have probably seen the sign. If you haven't stopped, you are missing out.

"It's like a hidden gem," said Leslie Bergloff, the regional manager for Southern New Mexico for New Mexico Historic Sites, a staterun public land historic initiative.

"If you want to find out about the people who lived on the frontier, how over time the area grew... you have to look at frontier forts and the impact they had in the development of the Southwest," Bergloff said.

The 25-acre site preserves the ruins of an old Army frontier outpost that was in operation from 1865 – shortly after the close of the Civil War – to 1891.

The site includes a half-mile trail through the ruins of the adobe fort. Fort Selden and Fort Union National Monument in Las Vegas, New Mexico, are considered the best examples of adobe forts in the state.

In the past two years, numbered interpretive signs have been added along the trail, creating a self-guided tour of the ruins.

The trail offers a stunning view of the ruins, the big New Mexico sky and the nearby Robledo Mountains.

The site also includes a small museum full of artifacts – like an Army uniform from the frontier period and a large collection of vintage glass bottles – that document life in the Army and in the 19th century in general.

One of the highlights is a statue of a Buffalo Soldier. Four units of the Buffalo Soldiers – segregated African-American units – were stationed at the fort at one time or another during its existence.

Bergloff said they have plans to upgrade the exhibits at the museum, to include offering more interpretation along the trail through the ruins and continuing with preservation efforts.

While the fort was only in operation for a few short years in the mid-to-late 19th century, the site has a long history.

The fort was built on high ground near a ford in the nearby Rio Grande. That made it an attractive gathering spot and camp site for centuries before that.

The Mogollon Native Americans lived in the area from about 400 A.D. to the 1300s. Conquistador Juan de Onate established a camp at the site in 1598 while creating the Camino Real – the famous trade route between Mexico City and Santa Fe. You can actually stand in part of the Camino Real while visiting Fort Selden.

"We want to tell the fort's story," Bergloff said. "But we also want to tell the story of the Camino Real. We want to tell the story of the Mogollon. We want to tell the whole history and even what happened to this area after the fort."

Park ranger Nathan Stone said the site offers a combination of history and scenic beauty and urges people who have never visited to stop by and experience Fort Selden and all of its history.

"If you have been here before, it will continue to change for the better," Stone said. "If you live around here, come out and visit every couple of years and see what you find."

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **MAKE PLANS**

LOCATION: Fort Selden is located 13 miles north of Las Cruces off Interstate 25. Take exit 19 off I-25.

HOURS: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

COST: \$5 for adults; free for children 16 and younger, Active Duty Military/families free from May 18-Labor Day

INFO: (575) 202-1638 or nmhistoricsites.org.

# Que Pasa? ACS Newcomers Fair highlights resources for military families and spouses

By Miguel De Santiago | Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Fort Bliss Army Community Service held its Que Pasa newcomers information fair Feb. 21 at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center on East Fort Bliss.

"It's a great opportunity for family members and Soldiers to come out and see what's in our community and look

into the different resources that we have," said Cher Poehlein, relocation and information and referral program manager at ACS.

More than 70 organizations and agencies from on-andoff post participated in the mid-day event that featured performances from various SKIESUnlimited programs and a blood drive by the Armed Services Blood Program. There was plenty information to be had via booths and information briefs, with topics ranging from family, medical and citizenship services.

Violet Bazan, an immigration services officer with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, said USCIS' main purpose at the event was to make sure the Fort Bliss community knows about the agency's availability on base.

She added they're available to answer questions about case statuses, how to apply or how to start the petition process on bringing parents or spouses over to the U.S.

We're here to help for whatever the Army community needs," Bazan said.

Poehlein said USCIS regularly visits the ACS building on West Fort Bliss Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. She said this service is available to all Soldiers and their families, as well as government civilians and NAF employees.

(915) 751-0123

Poehlein said the information fair reflected the main mission of ACS, which is to provide information on resources to the Fort Bliss community.

"Whatever they need to know about in the community - if we don't have the answer we'll know the resource that they can turn to or the website they can go to,"

Poehlein said.

Poehlein mentioned ACS also offers a variety of classes including Spanish, ESL, and Parenting.

"Army Community Service is like the social services for the military," Poehlein said. "We have many resources available to them."

Warrant Officer Keith Joell, a 1st Stryker Brigade Combat team, 1st Armored Division Soldier, said it's important to know what's going on in the community.

"Especially us being newcomers here, we just came here last month, so we had no idea what Fort Bliss and El Paso had to offer," Joell said. "So coming here and finding all the different departments, facilities and services - it's great to have different options."

While at the fair, Joell said he looked into medical and dental services and volunteer opportunities.

"It was a great experience and I'm glad there was a lot of options here -- pretty big turnout," Joell said.

Poehlein said this was the first time ACS has held a newcomers fair in February; she said a similar event is typically held in Au-

"It provides an opportunity for everybody who is here to interact and network with each other," Poehlein said.

(915) 504-6888



Immigration Services Officers Violet Bazan, left, and Maira Ramirez provided information on citizenship and naturalization services during the Army Community Service Que Pasa Newcomers Fair Feb.



Tabitha Bohn, the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center business manager, provided information on the center's services during the fair.



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# Ohio Medal of Honor recipient: From slavery to freedom

By Staff Sgt. Chad Menegay | Ohio National Guard Public Affairs

A 24-year-old farmer from greater Cincinnati enlisted into the Ohio Volunteer Militia, a precursor to the Ohio National Guard, on June 7, 1863, presumably, to fight the Confederacy under the banner of freedom.

For Powhatan Beaty, who grew up a slave in Richmond, Virginia, what would that fight for freedom mean, given that over 4 million of his fellow black Americans were still en-

It likely meant an end to 200 whiplashes in a day, the branding, the rattle of shackles and chains, the severance from family sold, the sexual assault of loved ones, the friends hanged or burned alive or shot by firing squad, the mutilations or the solitary confinement in a hot box.

For Powhatan Beaty, who stood 5 feet 7 inches tall and had a promising career as an actor and playwright ahead of him, what would that fight for freedom mean for his immediate future, given that over 620,000 men died and many more were wounded, some maimed for life, in the Civil War?

It likely meant carnage and maybe worse: the ground-shaking artillery barrages, the shattered bodies, the wound infections, the bone-sawing amputations, the nightmares of shell shock, the chills of yellow fever, the smallpox lesions, the dehydration, and the malnutrition.

Still, Beaty was both ready and there for his country, willing to answer the call in the face of war and its probable horrors.

'Soldiers like Beaty fought to end slavery; that was their prime motivation," said Anthony Gibbs, with the Ohio History Connection. "The second thing they were fighting for was citizenship. Even though they lived in a free state at that time, they still weren't allowed to vote in many places. They still were not allowed to take public office. They couldn't send their students to public schools and such. They believed that by fighting for President Lincoln and the Union that they could gain basic and full citizenship rights. The third thing is that they wanted to disprove this theory that they were somehow



Courtesy of the U.S. Library of Congress

Powhatan Beaty is one of the 13 African-American Soldiers who earned the Medal of Honor at the Battle of Chaffin's Farm in Virginia, Sept. 29, 1864. Most of the fighting at Chaffin's Farm was done by black troops, who sustained more than 50 percent casualties in the charge.

unequal because of their race, that they were somehow inferior.'

#### The Black Brigade

Beaty's service began in defense of Cincinnati, then the sixth-largest city in the U.S., from Confederate forces as part of the Black Brigade.

Cincinnati Mayor George Hatch ordered the police department to round up all nondisabled black males for work on the Northern Kentucky fortifications. Men were forced from their businesses and homes by bayonet and gunpoint on Sept. 2, 1862, to a mule pen on Plum Street in downtown Cincinnati.

"They didn't ask," Gibbs said. "It was in the middle of the night when they just ran up and opened doors and forced all the men to come out. That makes this story a little more negative than it should be because you had men who were willing and ready to serve and help protect their city, government, and families, but were forced out of their homes and gathered all together in a very negative way."

For the next 15 days, Beaty dug rifle pits and trenches, cleared forests, and constructed roads and forts.

Union Gen. Lew Wallace said, "when the history of Cincinnati during the past two weeks comes to be written up, it will be said that it was the spades (a then-popular derogatory term for black people) and not the guns that saved the city from attack by the Rebels."

#### **Battle of Chaffin's Farm**

Beaty then joined the Union Army as a private and was promoted to sergeant just two days later; he took charge of a squad of 47 other recruits.

"These Soldiers were living in a time where there's a general feeling that your race made you inferior, and they had to fight against that," Gibbs said.

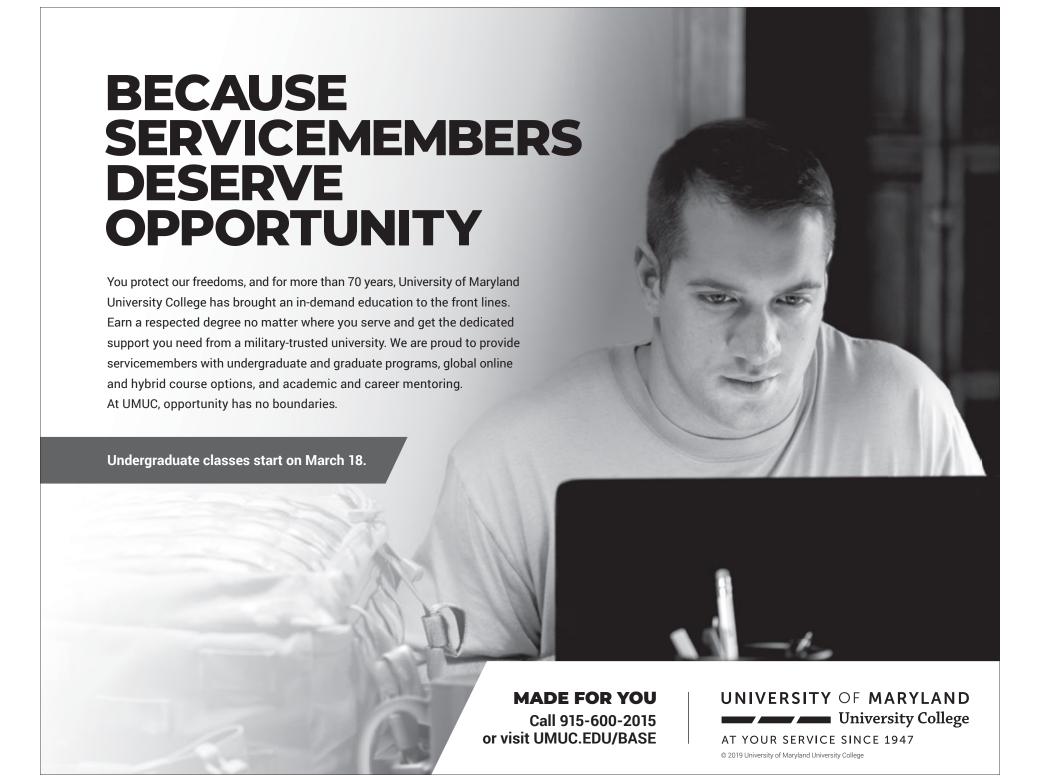
It took years for blacks to be allowed to join the battle for the Union, but eventually, they were afforded the opportunity, and, by the war's end, blacks made up 10 percent of the Union's fighting forces.

For Ohio, blacks were first given a chance to fight when Ohio Gov. David Tod asked the U.S. Department of War to form an African-American Ohio regiment. Permission was granted, and on June 17, 1863, Beaty and his squad became the first Soldiers of the 127th Ohio Volunteer Infantry in Delaware, Ohio, which was later reorganized as the 5th United States Colored Troops (USCT).

By the Battle of Chaffin's Farm in Virginia on Sept. 29, 1864, Beaty had climbed to the rank of first sergeant in Company G. His regiment was part of a division of black Soldiers assigned to attack the heart of Confederate defenses at New Market Heights.

The attack was met with extraordinary Confederate fire and was repelled. Company G's color bearer was killed during the retreat, so Beaty returned through 600 yards of enemy fire to recover the flag. The regiment had suffered severe casualties in the failed charge. Of Company G's eight officers and 83 enlisted men who entered the fight, only 16 enlisted men, including Beaty, survived the attack unwounded. With all officers killed or disabled, Beaty took command of the company and led it on a second charge toward the rebel lines. The second attack successfully pushed the Confederates from their fortified positions.

To read more about the legendary Powhatan Beaty, visit https://bit.ly/2Exncjz.



NEWS YOU CAN USE I

# Recovering your lost money

By Capt. Benjamin Bertran-Harris

Fort Bliss Legal Assistance Office

Five years ago I lived in an apartment with a great cable and internet subscription. Every month I paid what I owed, and every month I received good service. When I ended my lease, I called the company, paid my final bill and went on with my life. What I forgot after a couple years of living at that apartment, and this has probably happened to you, is that I had paid double when I began my subscription: half for deposit and half for that month's bill. I am supposed to get the deposit back, right? But how do I get my deposit when the company does not know where I live? Soldiers, welcome to the hidden world of lost and unclaimed property.

Unclaimed property can be many things: refunds, utility deposits, forgotten bank accounts, cashier's checks, dividends, and even things abandoned in a safety deposit box. When a company owes you money and cannot find you, your money is given either to the state where you lived or the state where the company is incorporated (typically Delaware, which is where a great number of companies are incorporated in the United States). Texas alone has returned more than \$3 billion dollars in unclaimed money to its owners. Additionally, according to one source, Texas has collected over \$2 million from militaryaddressed property alone! That does not even

include Soldiers who lived off-post!

If you have ever PCS'd, or moved from one location to another, then you should discover whether you have unclaimed property hidden deep within the government's coffers.

So how do you find this unclaimed property? Start your lost treasure hunt the old fashion way: Google it. Simply type into Google the magic words "unclaimed money in the state of (blank)." From there you will be given many routes to choose from: make sure you follow the link with a ".gov" at the end (not a ".com" website).

Selecting a ".gov" increases the likelihood of going to a legitimate, state-run website and helps you fend off treacherous thieves, known as "heir finder" companies, who want to act as a middle man and take a cut of your lost treasure.

Once at the appropriate site, start digging and enter in your last name and see if you, or even a relative, has hidden treasure waiting. Sometimes it takes three years for your property to be turned over to the state, so feel free to have an annual treasure hunt and find more of your money.

In the end, my name popped up, I submitted proof of identification, and received a whopping \$109.20. Nothing like a little extra cash to help me reflect on how much I enjoyed the NFL's Red Zone package half a decade ago!

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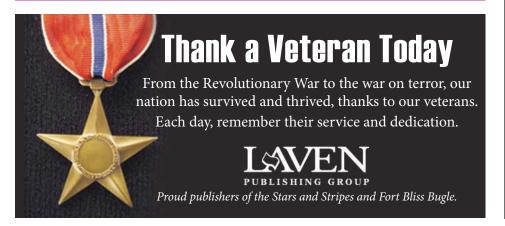






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### 10th Mtn. Div. Soldiers finding resourceful ways to tackle ACFT training

FORT DRUM, N.Y. - Dozens of Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division were pulling weighted sleds, running with kettlebells and cranking out deadlifts at the gym one recent frosty morning at Fort Drum.

This is nothing new or particularly eye-catching at Atkins Functional Fitness Facility where such activity is common, and patrons can rope climb, flip tires and row to their heart's content. What was different was their reason why.

As Soldiers from across the 10th Mountain Division (LI) condition themselves for the new Army Combat Fitness Test, many are finding the space at Atkins to be the best training grounds until the snow melts and temperatures rise above freezing.

"With our training schedule and deployments, we are trying to do what we can now so everyone can be successful on the ACFT," said Staff Sgt. Sergio Castillo, with Company B, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th MD. "Especially now with the winter weather, and (preparing for) our JRTC (Joint Readiness Training Center) rotation, that can be challenging."

Castillo said that Soldiers in each platoon of his company are receiving familiarization training on each of the ACFT events - the deadlift, power throw, hand-release pushups, sprint-drag-carry, leg tuck and two-mile run. They also will complete the full ACFT – not for record, but to inform their leadership about their performance percentages and areas for



Soldiers from 1st Bat., 87th IR, 1st Bgde. Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, Jan. 16.

The ACFT is slated to become the test of record in October 2020.

The 1-87 INF is among 62 battalions throughout the Army selected to participate in a yearlong pilot for the ACFT. Between March and October, selected units will take two notfor-record ACFTs, after which the entire Army will take two not-for-record ACFTs roughly six

When a mobile training team arrived at Fort Drum late last year, Castillo completed the Level III certification that allows him to oversee the ACFT, and train and certify others in his unit to administer and grade the test.

"Personally, I like the ACFT more than the APFT," he said. "Everything that is implemented in the ACFT we use in training and in combat. When I teach Soldiers, I want them to see how it all relates."

Castillo said that because the ACFT is more intense than the current Army Physical Fitness Test, he is seeing some Soldiers struggle early

on.
"That's because a lot of us don't train this way, and we don't usually focus on this type of workout during normal PT hours," he said. "With the APFT, we didn't have to."

The major difference between the ACFT and the APFT is that the new test requires Soldiers to complete more events – six – in a shorter amount of time. Some events require kettlebells and a weighted hex bar, whereas the APFT required only a Soldier's body weight. The ACFT targets every major muscle group in the body and aligns fitness with combat readiness in ways that the APFT can't assess.

"The sprint-drag-carry alone is taking a lot of guys out," he said. "This event is the peak of the ACFT, because by the time Soldiers get to this event they have already depleted a lot of energy in their legs, shoulders and chest, and they have that elevated heart rate.'

"We don't want to see any Soldiers passing out or getting hurt because they aren't prepared," he added.

Capt. Shana Lilley, 1-87 INF physical therapist, watched as Soldiers performed each event during a recent session at Atkins and advised them of any adjustments they could make to prevent injuries.

"The ACFT necessitates a shift in how we train," she said. "This includes our physical training, nutrition and mental skills.'

The current Army Physical Fitness Test grades Soldiers differently based on age and gender, which will not be the case with the

See TRAINING Page 8B

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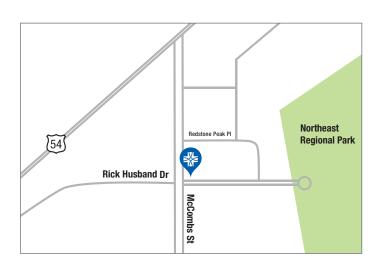


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# Quit stepping on my turf

By Lisa Smith Molinari | www.TheMeatandPotatoesofLife.com

The beauty of being a columnist is that I can write whatever I please.

That is, as long as every column is interesting, timely, unique, well-written, accurate, properly attributed, thoroughly researched, thought provoking, honest, inoffensive, witty, intelligent, and no more than 700 words.

Piece of cake, right?

Frankly, writing columns isn't easy. In fact, there are moments when I'd rather chew my own arm off than pen my weekly submission. But what makes column writing special is that, like editorial and commentary writers, columnists are called upon to give their opinions, while the rest of the media is unbiased.

Wait, did I just say "the media is unbiased?" That statement must be my attempt at wit, because it is impossible to take seriously.

In today's 24/7 media cycle, opinion has crept into every aspect of the news. Years ago,

reporters and anchors didn't reveal their personal biases. We huddled around our console televisions, transistor radios, and coffee-stained newspapers, unaware of the personal opinions of David Brinkley, Helen Thomas, Peter Jennings, Connie Chung, Seymour Hersh, Walter Cronkite, and Ted Koppel who reported raw facts. Allowing bias to creep into news reporting was once considered unethical. Opinion was reserved only for editorials, columns, and commentaries.

But nowadays, we accept that news anchors double as commentators, reporters are activists, and everyone in the media Tweets. All day, every day, one can turn on MSNBC for the left wing spin, and Fox News for the right wing perspective. Websites such as AdFontesMedia. com and MediaBiasFactCheck.com publish charts rating and categorizing media outlets by their ideological leanings. Arguably, no news organization offers neutral fact reporting anymore, and most lean left.

Award-winning journalist Lara Logan, who recently announced that she split with CBS where she had been a top "60 Minutes" correspondent since 2002, said in a February 15 interview, "The media everywhere is mostly liberal. But in this country, 85 percent of jour-

nalists are registered democrats." Logan acknowledged that her comments would amount to "career suicide," but published a piece last week stating that one-sided reporting has damaged the press' credibility.

Others agree with Logan's claims, like New York Times columnist David Leonhardt who said, "Most mainstream journalists do lean left," and Washington Post columnist Margaret Sullivan who said, "Impartiality is still a value worth defending in mainstream news coverage."

According to a recent poll in Columbia Journalism Review, less than half (42 percent) of democrats and only 10 percent of republicans believe that the media is unbiased. The majority of all respondents reported having "hardly any confidence at all" in the press.

Why won't the news media stick to the facts? Do they no longer trust the public to think for themselves? Have ethical standards in journalism changed? Will opinion-saturated news make editorials, columns, and commentary obsolete?

One-sided commentary in the news and social media "is making opinion journalism and opinion writers less interesting," said James Bennet, editorial page editor of the New York Times, in a lecture at Harvard University that I attended on February 26 titled "What's the Point of Publishing Opinion, Anyway?" Since Bennet took over the Times' editorial page in 2016, he has been criticized by his own newsroom for launching a "Diversification Project" and hiring conservative columnists Bret Stephens and Bari Weiss.

"Back in the day, there were rewards for being contrarian, but we have unfortunately moved toward radical conformity today," Bennet said about the news industry. "We need a sense of humility. To recommit to the fundamental tools of our trade."

The fact that the print news media industry has changed from an advertising-based business model to a subscription-based model "means the journalism needs to be good," Bennet said. He believes that readers want unbiased reporting of straight news and diversity of opinion because it encourages "the kind of debate we need in our society."

"Let people think for themselves," he said, and I agree. Readers, subscribe to publications that commit to objectivity. News media, stop stepping on opinion writers' turf. That way, columnists like me can get back to writing whatever I please.

#### TRAINING Continued from Page 7B

ACFT. Lilley said that the difference will challenge many Soldiers, but it is an important change for combat readiness.

"We have found that the Soldiers – regardless of rank and time in service – who have a higher fitness level and positive attitude toward the new test are thriving with the new standards," she said. "The Soldiers who have lower fitness levels and negative attitudes toward the test are more resistant to the change. Fortunately, many of our Soldiers have expressed positive feelings

toward the test since it is more challenging."

Lilley said that given the limitations of the current field training tempo and access to indoor facilities in inclement weather, it has been difficult to build a training program that completely encompasses the six-event test.

"But I think that Soldiers should still be able to pass this test," she said. "The events themselves are more challenging and more holistic than the previous test, but it is attainable. It will be more difficult to max, but anyone who wears the uniform should be able to pass this test."

For that reason, Castillo is using all of the resources available to get Soldiers ready, which includes 1-87 INF's Team APEX (Army Performance Experts) that consists of two strength and conditioning coaches, a physical therapist, an occupational therapist and a dietitian.

Lilley said that Soldiers have been working closely with Team APEX, but for the most part the NCOs within each company have taken the lead in ACFT training.

To learn more about the ACFT, visit https://www.army.mil/acft/.



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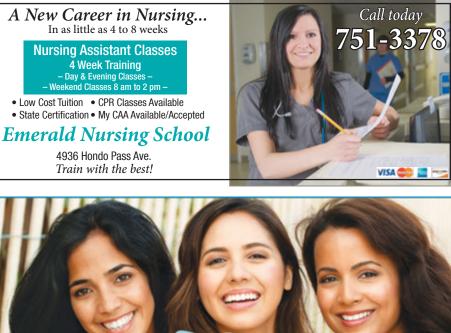
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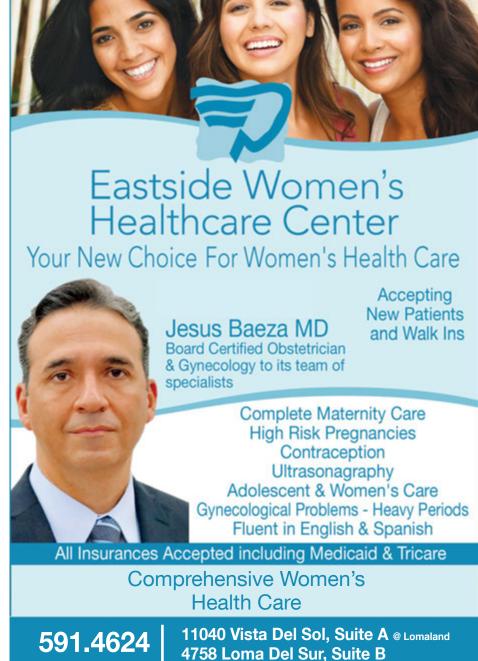


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## Becoming a leader worth following: Part III of VI

By Chaplain (Mai.) Kevin Mucher | USAG Fort Bliss

We all face our greatest leadership challenge every morning in the mirror and to become a leader worth following, we must learn to lead ourselves well.

Last week, I discussed two reasons why exceptional self-leadership is important-



Chaplain (Maj.) **Kevin Mucher** 

sustained influence and sustained performance. Knowing why something is important is meaningless unless we do something about it. So, this week I want to transition by offering three practical decisions leaders need to make when it comes to self-leadership. I will in-

troduce one of them this week and discuss the other two next week.

The most difficult one and perhaps the most important one is this: I will not lie to myself even when the truth makes me feel bad about myself.

Exceptional self-leadership requires us to be brutal with ourselves. The great philosopher Plato once said, "The life which is unexamined is not worth living." Many leaders lead unexamined lives. We have not carefully chiseled our life views by a personal search for truth and by obedience to God. Instead, we rush from task-to-task without taking tactical pauses to look at ourselves in the mirror and to reflect on life's larger meaning and purpose.

When asked, "How are you doing?" we respond with "Great!", "I'm fine," or I'm doing OK." Do we intentionally lie to others? Maybe we don't tell people how we are really doing because we don't think they really want the answer? Perhaps, we are lying to ourselves in an attempt to convince us that everything is fine when it is not? Are we really doing OK?

For some of us, we can answer with an affirmative "yes", but for many of us there are areas in our lives that are out of balance, decaying, or falling apart. Professionally, we may see ourselves as "most qualified" or one who "far exceeds the standards", but personally we are failing miserably in other areas of our lives where the "top block" matters

To lead ourselves well is like leading anyone else. If I am going to lead you well, I have to know your strengths and weaknesses and I have to be honest with you about the areas that you need to step up and do better

Well, to lead myself, the same is true. So, if I lie to myself to feel better about myself, I am doing a really poor self-evaluation and we know in organizational contexts if you don't do good evaluations, you just don't get the best out of the people that work with you or for you. You don't really lead a liar for very long, you fire a liar. Perhaps, some of us need to fire our old selves and hire that new version of ourselves that is willing to tell ourselves the honest truth.

Being honest with ourselves is difficult. Indeed if we are honest, the easiest person to deceive is the person in the mirror. God is well aware of this struggle and difficult task. That is why he gave us the Holy Scriptures and other people to help us be honest with ourselves. The author of the book of Hebrews writes, "The word of God is alive and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as to place where soul and spirit meet, to where joints and marrow come together. It judges the desires and thoughts of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12, GNT).

In other words, God's written word is like a mirror which helps us to see clearly our inner reflections and attitudes of our hearts. To see ourselves as we really are, we must acknowledge our inability to do so without God's help. The beginning of good selfleadership is brutal honesty with the person in the mirror. Being honest with ourselves is never comfortable, it's rarely easy, but it is absolutely essential. So I ask, "How are you doing today—really?"

The is part three of a six-part series.

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Sgt. 1st Class Kelvin Ringold / 13th Sust. Cmd. (Expeditionary)
Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, the III Corps and Fort Hood commanding general, presents Halliburton's Chief
of Human Resources and Executive VP of Administration Lawrence Pope with an award on behalf of
the Partnership for Youth Success program. Soldiers, leaders and community members attended a
ceremony at Halliburton corporate headquarters in Houston Feb. 27.

# Program 'PaYS' dividends for Soldiers

By Sgt. 1st Class Kelvin Ringold | 13th Sust. Cmd.(Expeditionary)

HOUSTON – There comes a time in a Soldier's military career when they hang up their boots and re-enter the civilian world. The Soldier for Life program helps prepare Soldiers for success after their time in service is over and the Partnership for Youth Success program helps link Soldiers with companies looking to hire them.

Soldiers, leaders and community members attended a ceremony at Halliburton corporate headquarters as they joined forces with the PaYS program Feb. 27.

The PaYS program began in 2000, and is a strategic partnership between the U.S. Army and a cross section of private industry, academia and businesses to include federal, state and local agencies.

"This program is a huge incentive for Soldiers," said Lt. Col. Damon Robins, commander, Houston Recruiting Battalion. "Soldiers pick two different programs in their enlistment contracts that they are guaranteed job interviews with the opportunity of possible employment after their service is up."

The event was held to welcome Halliburton as the newest participating member of the PaYS program and included a signing agreement between Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, the III Corps and Fort Hood commanding general, and Halliburton's Chief of Human Resources and Executive VP of Administration Lawrence Pope.

Halliburton joins a long, growing list of companies that continue to help form a strong bond with veterans as the PaYS program continues to help create opportunities for current and future Soldiers.

"This relationship is very important," said Robins. "The Soldiers that are enlisting in the Army they have something that is a bonus to them to know that there are people out there, partners and corporations, that will give them a chance, and we really appreciate it."

Addressing Halliburton, Funk expressed his gratitude towards the partnership and the importance of programs like this and the effect it has on Soldiers.

"This Soldier for Life program that you are entering into today is incredibly valuable because I believe the Soldiers of today are looking for a bright future when their service is up. Companies like Halliburton make that happen through a program like this where they give an opportunity to young men and women," said Funk.

Before signing the partnership agreement, Funk wanted Halliburton to know what Army Soldiers will bring to the corporate world.

"I guarantee you one thing," Funk said.
"Those young men and women who serve honorably and leave our service honorably will be dedicated professionals and they will have skill sets that you're looking for and they have the work ethic that you need."

With an already established veteran hiring culture, Pope explained why hiring military members is crucial for them.

"We need competent leaders, team players, creative thinkers and problem solvers who are accountable' disciplined and resilient," Pope said. "We find veterans can bring these qualities to our team."

For more information on the U.S. Army PaYS program, please visit www.armypays.







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# **Sports Briefs**

El Paso Senior Games: The City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's 36th annual games for those age 50+ runs through May 22 at various locations around El Paso. All participants have a chance to qualify for the Texas State Senior Games. Registration: \$15 for 2 events and tshirt, plus \$5 for each additional event; \$45 for all events. Includes t-shirt. 503-6544 or elpasotexas. gov/parks

Army Warrior Trials: Wounded Warrior athletes will compete in adaptive sports March 7-15 at different Fort Bliss FMWR physical fitness centers. Come out and support the competitors throughout the week. 744-1532

El Paso Locomotive FC: El Paso's professional soccer team's inaugural season opens 7:30 p.m. Saturday vs. OKC Energy FC at Southwest University Park. \$5-49. 235-GOAL, eplocomotivefc.com, or tickets@eplocomotivefc.

Chili Pepper Series: The 4-day series offers five events each day is Wednesday through Saturday, at La Llorona Park, 3440 W. Picacho, Las Cruces. Each day includes a 5K, 10K, half marathon, marathon and 50K run beginning at 7 a.m. Walkers welcome. The courses are multiple laps with one central food/aid station. Cost: 5k: \$30 by tomorrow, \$40 after; 10K: \$40/\$50; Half Marathon: \$110; Marathon: \$130; 50K: \$140. deadrunning.net.

Sun City Crit: The USA Crits cycling event is March 30, in Downtown El Paso. Crits are bicycle races, involving multiple laps on a short-circuit course. The Sun City Crit course runs along Main, Oregon, Overland and Stanton; starting line is at Mesa and Main. The event will feature categories ranging from juniors ages 9 and up, to pro cyclists, with a top prize of \$7,500 for both men and women pros. The categories include handcycle and recumbents for Project Hero. There will also be a 5K running race. Cost: \$20 -\$60. bikereg.com/destination-el-paso-criterium

Kick Ball Tourney: Eta lota Zeta Sorority hosts a fundraising kick ball tournament from 11 a.m.-p.m., March 31, at Franklin Park, 6050 Quail. Register at Eventbrite. (919) 961-8272 or Facebook at etaiotazeta.elpaso

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

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

Group tennis class for beginners: Group tennis class for beginners will be held from 8:30-10 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday at Building 262 on Club Road. It is a very social and fun class to participate in, 569-5448

POUND®: Are you guys ready to Sweat, Sculpt and Rock with POUND®? Using Ripstix®, lightly weighted drumsticks engineered specifically for exercising, POUND® transforms drumming into an incredibly effective way of working out in this exhilarating full-body workout that combines cardio, conditioning, and strength training with yoga and pilates-inspired movements. Cost: \$3 per class or \$35 for unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Indoor Cycling: Get back on the bike and push your endurance at Indoor Cycling. Classes are held at Soto and Stout PFC. Cost: \$3, or \$35 unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Iron Divas: This well-rounded class is designed to improve muscular strength and endurance. With no choreography to learn, you can focus on strength and cardio splits effectively. Classes are held at Soto and Stout PFC. Cost: \$3, or \$35 unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Body Pump: The original Les Mills barbell class will sculpt, tone and strengthen your entire body fast. Focusing on low weight loads and high repetition movements, you'll burn fat, gain strength and quickly produce lean body muscle. Class are held at Soto and Stout PFC. Cost: \$3, or \$35 unlimited monthly pass.

Deep Water: Get ready for Group Fitness' newest class, Deep Water! Using a flotation belt, deep water exercisers will jog, sprint in intervals, wall walk or do a variety of multidimensional movements. Classes are Wednesdays at the Aquatic Training Center. Cost: \$3 per class or \$35 for unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800



Photos by Pvt. Jared Kindlespire / 20th PAD

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stuart Meissen, an Eighth Army ammunitions supply officer, practices kicking with Moksuk Choe, the Taekwondo teacher at Zoeckler Gym at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Feb. 26. Meissen is a blue belt, symbolizing a maturing plant reaching for the sky.

# **Kicking it in South Korea**

# 3rd ABCT, 1st AD troops get access to Taekwondo PT while deployed

By Pvt. Jared Kindlespire | 20th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea -Linear movements of Karate, circular and kicking patterns of kung fu, and more than 50 different circular hand motions in Chinese martial arts. These are the characteristics of Taekwondo.

Soldiers on Camp Humphreys, South Korea, attend Taekwondo classes at the Zoeckler gym every Monday through Friday to further physical fitness, combatives skills and to connect with Korean culture.

Taekwondo was founded in 1955. The



Meissen, warms up on the punching bag before his Taekwondo class at Camp Humphrevs. South Korea, Feb. 26. Taekwondo is known as a striking fighting style and is not only a martial art but also a sport.

martial art is originally Korean and also several styles of other Asian martial arts com-

"Taekwondo is an empty-hand combat form that entails the use of the whole body.' said Donn F. Draeger and Robert W. Smith in their book "Comprehensive Asian Fighting Arts." "Tae' means 'to kick' or 'smash with the feet,' 'kwon' implies 'punching' or 'destroying with the hand or fist,' and 'do' means 'way' or 'method."

Taekwondo involves mostly striking moves, while also incorporating blocks for defense. It is most famous for its different types of kicks. This adds to service members' ability to be effective in hand-to-hand combat scenarios and builds the members' combat readiness.

Taekwondo classes help with increased flexibility, martial arts skill, and self-discipline, said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stuart Meissen, Eighth Army ammunition logistics

"It's another hour-to-two-hours of cardio added onto regular unit P.T.," said Meissen

Taekwondo teaches fighting techniques, Korean language, and culture including phrases such as "Sa Beom Nim" meaning "master," which aids in the Taekwondo class, and also phrases beneficial in everyday life, such as "An Young Ha Shim Neek-ka," meaning "Hello, how are you?" in addition to many other phrases.

When Meissen goes into the surrounding towns and museums, he sees things he can connect to his classes and can see the role Taekwondo has in Korean culture.

"Taekwondo is an empty-hand combat form that entails the use of the whole body."

>> Donn F. Draeger and Robert W. Smith



Meissen, warms up before his Taekwondo class at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Feb. 26.

### Soldier pushes to **Army Trials at Bliss**

### Events underway now through March 16

By MaryTherese Griffin | U.S. Army Warrior Care and Transition

ARLINGTON, Va. - For a tough guy like retired Staff Sgt. Adam Blow, the little ones in his life were the reason he joined the mili-

"I wanted my kids to look up to someone they could be proud of. I wasn't going to be a nobody," said Blow who also spent six years in the Navy before his Army career as a motor transport operator. Blow deployed a total of five times between the two services – leaving him with battle wounds even a tough guy can't hide.

While on a mission in Afghanistan in 2010, Blow and his team took an improvised explosive device blast that would leave him with a traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. Blow tried to work through his PTSD for years, but his symptoms only got worse.

"I was sent home to Fort Hood, Texas where I (went before the medical board) for PTSD and TBI in 2015," Blow said. The reality was a huge hit to a Soldier who wanted to serve his country and be a role model for his kids. The Mansfield, Texas native knew he had to find a way to persevere.

The world of adaptive sports was his new

"Adaptive sports has helped me redefine myself. It makes me feel like I still have a purpose," said Blow.

He has taken that purpose with him to Fort Bliss for the 2019 Army Trials, where he is competing for the chance to represent Team Army at the 2019 Department of Defense Warrior Games in Tampa, Florida.



Staff Sgt. Adam Blow takes a break on the slopes during a snowboarding trip.

At Army Trials, Blow will compete in cycling, rowing, shot put, track, sitting volleyball, and wheelchair basketball. He says the competition will be fierce, but fulfilling.

"I love competing with my fellow Soldiers and veterans. I feel as if I am still serving my country, but in a different manner this time,' he added.

His service to his country may be different, but he is still cognizant years later that those little ones, who are not so little any more, still need that same role model.

"I love the way my kids look up to me. They see that daddy is still pushing and striving to be better. I hope I am showing them no matter how bad things get, or how hard you fall, you get back up and keep pushing."



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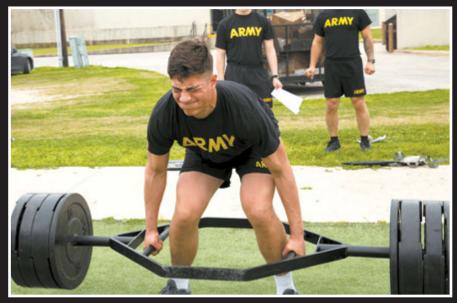


THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO UTEP CONNECT EXTENDED UNIVERSITY

# >> SUN CITY SOLDIER

El Paso Army Reserve Soldier pushes during Best Warrior

Photos by Ruth Medina-Villanueva / U.S. Army Reserve

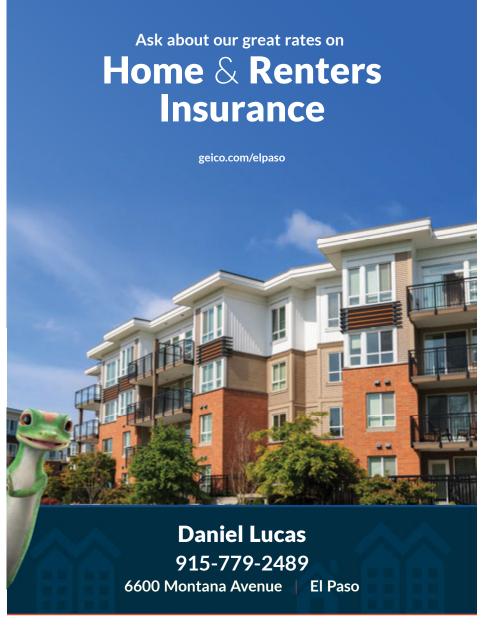


Pfc. Diego Ruelas, an Army Reserve Soldier from the 77th Quartermaster Group, 4th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), from El Paso, performs a hand-release pushup during the Army Combat Fitness Test, which was the mystery event for the 4th ESC's Best Warrior Competition at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio Friday. Saenz was among approximately 24 Army Reserve Soldiers icipating in this year's competition to claim the title of Best Warri



Pfc. Diego Ruelas, an Army Reserve Soldier from the 77th Quartermaster Group, 4th Sust. Cmd. (Expeditionary), from El Paso, performs a hand-release pushup during the Army Combat Fitness





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# OFF DUTY<sub>22</sub>

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**

Minue ACP / traffic advisory for March **8:** Minue ACP and Liberty Ave. will be closed 5-10 a.m. Friday. Use Old Ironsides or SGM Barreras ACPs and use Torch St. as alternate routes to some East Fort Bliss areas. Minue ACP is due to return to its normal schedule when it reopens to outbound traffic at 4 p.m Friday afternoon.

Bliss Briefs Tax Center open: The Fort Bliss Tax Center is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturdays and training holidays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 2910 Cassidy Road. 568-

Army Warrior Trials: Wounded Warrior athletes will compete in adaptive sports March 7-15 at different Fort Bliss FMWR physical fitness centers. 744-1532

Center Chapel 1 closed: Due to necessary construction/repair, the Traditional worship service at Center Chapel 1 (no change in time) is now being held at neighboring Sage Hall until May 1. 568-1519

McGregor/FBTX ammo point closings: The McGregor Range/FBTX Ammunition Supply Point will be closed March 18-22; June 17-21; and Sept. 16-20. Issue documents can be submitted through TAMIS during the closures. 569-

Army contracting public open house: The MICC Fort Bliss Contracting Office and the El Paso Procurement Technical Assistance Center invites you to the MICC Fort Bliss Acquisition Forecast Open House Forum April 4 to discuss anticipated contracting opportunities for Fiscal Year 2019. This forum is an opportunity for industry to learn about prime and subcontracting opportunities at Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Also, representatives from the following agencies will be in attendance: El Paso Small Business Administration, Albuqueraus Small Business Administration que Small Business Administration, Las Cruces Procurement Technical Assistance Center, General Services Administration, and FedBid. Registration is required. Free. 9-1 p.m. El Paso Community College Administrative Services Center, 9050 Viscount Blvd. Register at http://www.elpasococ-events.org/miccforecast before March 29.

**Attention new command spouses:** The Spouse Leadership Development Course is a new 40-hour course run by the Noncommissioned Officer Leadership Center of Excellence and United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. It will offer an introduction to a number of extremely important topics for those spouses who are entering into a command team at the battalion level. Lessons cover a wide range of topics from protocol and etiquette, Red Cross, Army Emergency Relief and public speaking. The first class will start in April. Contact Michelle Mebane

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. Online at https:// ice.disa.mil/ index. cfm?fa=site&site\_id=435.

#### **FMWR**

**Acrylic Painting Master Class Saturday:** Join the Art & Hobby Shop on a journey through the art and artistry of acrylic painting. You will

learn, many tips and techniques of acrylic painting from some of El Paso's finest artists. The next class is Saturday from 10 a.m. 3 p.m., on a pay as you go schedule. Cost: \$25 per lesson, includes instruction and materials. Open to DOD ID cardholders and their family members 15+.

**Pot of Gold Bingo:** Everyone who plays this Saturday and Wednesday can enter for a chance to win the gold! The winning name will be drawn during St. Paddy's night Bingo March 16 at the Centennial Club. The winner must be present to claim the prize. Bingo Bliss is every Wednesday and Saturday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Open to DOD ID card holders and their guests, age 18+. 744-8427

Unit Book Kits: Are you part of a unit who is going into the field or deploying soon? If so, stop by the Mickelsen Community Library and pick up рориlar fiction and non-fiction paperback items. 568-1902

**Auto Crafts Safety Orientation:** Auto Craft Centers offers safety orientation classes Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. This is a mandatory safety orientation for use of the facility for automotive do-it-yourself projects. Open to DoD ID cardholders only. 568-7280

Kick it at the Monti Warrior Zone: The Monti Warrior Zone is open Mondays through Sundays. There's lots to do with a fully stocked bar and snack bar, six pool tables, two mini-bowling lanes, Alienware, Playstation/Xbox gaming center, outdoor basketball, sand volleyball and more! Open to the public, ages 18+. 741-3000

#### 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

Folklorico Dance Saturdays: Join SKIESUnlimited for their Folklorico Dance Class open for ages 6–18 years old. Students participating in this course will learn a variety of traditional Latin American dances, as well as dances and culture of various regions of Mexico. Cost: \$40 per month, Saturdays 12:15-2 p.m. 568-5544

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

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, registration is required and can be done at SKIESUnlimited. All students, ages 15+, 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 only ride in a cart with a paying adult. 568-

Tennis Scramble: The Tennis Scramble is on the last Wednesday of every month. Cost: \$5 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

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

#### Community

April Trinity Site opening: On the first Saturday in April and October, the New Mexico Museum of Space History hosts a guided mo-torcoach tour to Trinity Site, where the world's first atomic bomb was detonated on July 16, 1945. This April, a new activity has been added the evening before to enhance the experience a Friday-night reception on the first floor of the museum with a special presentation by Museum Executive Director Chris Orwoll. Limited advance tickets are on sale now through the museum's marketing department or online. Cost: \$80, \$70 for museum members. 575-437-2840 ext. 41132 or visit nmspacemuseum.org

OCS Alumni Assoc. Reunion: Calling all branches, all classes 1941- present. There will be an OCS Alumni Association Reunion April 28. This is going to be a great time with the opening of Phase I of the OCS Heritage Center; the dedication of more bricks, payers, and class memorials; the induction of the 2019 The U.S. Army OCS Alumni Association Hall of Fame class; and the presentations of the Nett Award and the Patterson Award. Mini class reunions are welcome to celebrate with the national reunion. www.ocsalumni.org/ or ocsalumnireunion@gmail.com

MUJER 2019 Art Exhibit: In proud celebration of Women's Month, Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe invites you to join us on them March 15 for the opening reception of MUJER 2019 - a collection of the works of three of the US-Mexico Border's bold female visual artists. This year's exhibit includes works by El Paso and Ciudad Juárez visual artists Érica Marin, Jeanette Ramirez, Emily Pearl González, and Francella Salgado. The MUJER 2019 Art Exhibit will remain on display from 9 a.m.- 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, March 18 through April 19. 6 p.m. La Fe Culture and Technology Center 721 Ochoa St.-Rear Building. Free. 545-7190 or "Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe" on Facebook.

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

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

Facebook @MOPHChapter393

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

El Paso Senior Games: The City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department's 36th annual games for those age 50+ through May 22 at various locations around El Paso. All participants have a chance to qualify for the Texas State Senior Games. Registration: \$15 for 2 events and t-shirt, plus \$5 for each additional event; \$45 for all events. Includes t-shirt. 503-6544 or elpaso-

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

Memorial lapel pin: In recognition of their service and sacrifice, Vietnam Veterans can receive a special memorial lapel pin from the Army & Air Force Exchange Service March 29 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. Veterans should contact their local Exchange for details on the time and location of the pinning ceremony.

Arts showcase: The Borderland Rainbow Center will host the Borderland Queer Arts Showcase March 30, to give young performers a platform to showcase their art. The first place winners in each category: Drag and Live Singing will receive a prize of \$200. A panel of judges will select winners. Visual artists may also submit drawings, paintings, and photography for exhibit at the event. The Drag category is open to any drag performer under 25. The Live Singing category will be open to any young queer performers under the age of 25. martin@borderlandrainbow.org

Concert tour: Sofar Sounds brings intimate music performances to unique spaces around El Paso. Discover new artists and locations. Join us March 20 at 7 p.m. Cost: \$20. Limited tickets available. RSVP at www.sofarsounds.com/el-pa-

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **Debt collection notices:**

This is a debt collection notice for **Pfc. Tyree Ward**. All services under Ward's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Ward or for information regarding collections, call 1st Lt. Ryan Dau at 551-427-

This is a debt collection notice for Sgt. Farhad C. Meskoob. All services under Farhad's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Farhad or for information regarding collections, call 2nd Lt. Adam W. Turek at 951-212-9533

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House for rent: Santa Teresa. 3 bdrm/1.5 ba., fireplace, 2-car garage. Refrigerated air. 5769 Butte. \$875/mo. \$700 deposit. Text 740 4983.

Home for rent: Northeast. 2 bdrm/2 ba., plus office/baby room, fridge, stove, dishwasher, microwave and washer/dryer included. Large back yard with covered patio, separate workshop/garage and carport. \$850 per month plus deposit. Call or text 256-0803 or 309-7383.

#### **Vehicles**

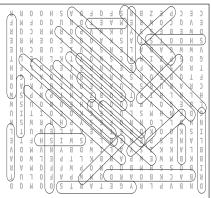
2014 Dodge Avenger. Very good condition, new tires. 85k miles. \$6,500 obo. 303-5749 or 487-8270

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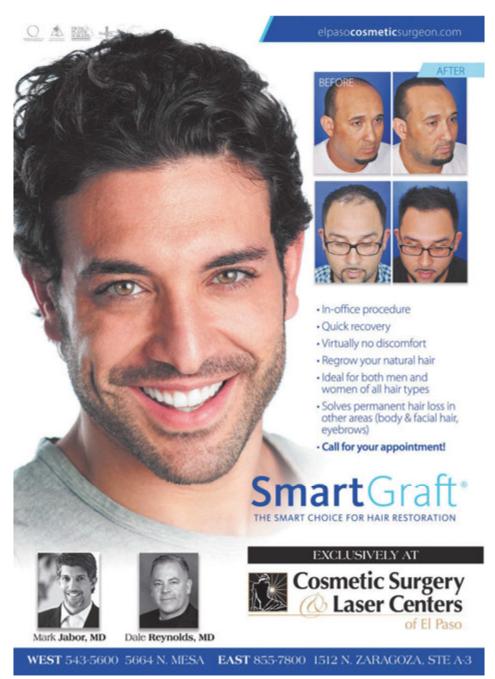
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V4T1 Unauthorized **D1T5** Unauthorized F10T1 Unauthorized J4T1 Unauthorized

J4T4 Unauthorized **L2T3** Unauthorized M3T1 Unauthorized **N2T3** Unauthorized **Q4T2** Unauthorized R1T2 Unauthorized

V2T3 Unauthorized

A7T2 Unauthorized

American Heart

# PUZZLEtime-

See answers on page 10B



Solve the code to discover words related to basketball. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 17 = e)

14 19 20 23 23 24 17

Clue: Bounce ball

8 6 6 5

Clue: Net

18 21 16 19 14 Clue: Block or protect

5 6 20 1 15 11 Clue: Score

# WORD SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to basketball. ANOEGR

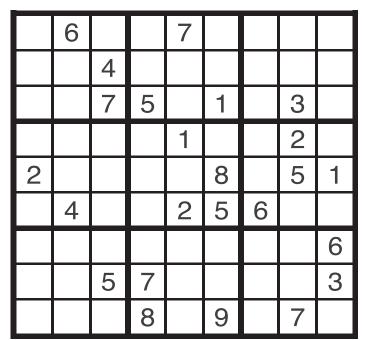
### Guess Who?

I am an actress born in New Jersey on March 8, 1961. Before I was famous, I worked as a sign language interpreter at a hospital However, drama appealed to me, and I would go on to win an Emmy award.

Апѕwer: Сатгуп Мапheim

Апѕиет: Отапве

D R В C 0 М Ι В S S В 0 0 Ρ 0 Н М 0 М W F В М W Ε W Ρ М В K Т P Ε W Α В L Z S Υ Α Ι W D В Υ М Α Ε S Ε N Ε В L S S D R Т Α Ε Α K Ε K N 0 N F Ε Υ Ρ G D N М S Ε C K 0 C 0 Т Ε L D Ε G V М 0 0 S D Н 0 Т Н L U В Z C Т L C C N R Τ 0 0 S R Ν G Т R S ٧ N Ε Ι Ε Н G C Т K S Ε C W В 0 W V Ρ 0 R C Ε V 0 R Ε Ε Τ D N U 0 F F W М Α Q В R F Q S D Α



#### **SUDOKU** - Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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**TECHNIQUE** 

TRAVEL

TURNOVER

ZONE

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