

Army approves tuition assistance increase, adjusts credentialing assistance program A7

# Trees for Troops brings holiday cheer



Photo by Eric Franklin, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

From left, Sgt. Tanner Sharkey and Spc. Michael Chrisafis, both with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, carry holiday trees during the Trees for Troops event Friday at Phantom Warrior Stadium at Fort Cavazos. The annual program provides farm-grown trees to Soldiers and their families.

BY ERIC FRANKLIN  
Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Soldiers and their families gathered to participate in the annual Trees for Troops giveaway Friday morning at Phantom Warrior Stadium at Fort Cavazos.

More than 600 farm-grown Christmas trees were distributed, offering a festive touch to the holiday season and a sense of home for Soldiers stationed far from loved ones. The event, organized by the Christmas Spirit Foundation with support from FedEx, brought

together Soldiers, volunteers and community members in a show of unity and holiday spirit. The trees were distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis to junior-enlisted Soldiers and their families followed by anyone with a Department of Defense ID, reinforcing the sense of care and connection within

the military community. For Tira Davis, a veteran and Fort Cavazos community member, the event has become a cherished part of the holiday season. Attending with her young daughter, Zia, 1, Tira shared how much the experience means to her family. “A lot of these Soldiers, they’re not

from here, and their families aren’t here,” she said. “So this little taste of home, it means a lot. It was very exciting. I liked that I got to take my daughter Zia; this is her second Christmas. Her first Christmas, she was a really small baby. Now she can

See [Trees](#), A6

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Sentinel, podcast breaks in production**  
Today’s edition of the Fort Cavazos Sentinel will be the last of the year. The next edition will be Jan. 9, 2025. Additionally, the Great Big Podcast is currently on a break until Jan. 6, 2025.

**Scholarship applications open**  
The Fort Cavazos Family Scholarship Fund will open scholarship applications Tuesday and run through Feb. 17, 2025. High school students and military spouses seeking undergraduate and/or graduate degrees are eligible to apply. Visit [fortcavazossscholarship.org](http://fortcavazossscholarship.org) for information on how to apply or more about the fund.

**AEC holds recruiting event**  
The Department of the Army Headquarters G-1 Army Expeditionary Civilian Workforce Directorate will host a deployment recruitment event 1-5 p.m. Jan. 8, 2025, in room A311 at the Copeland Soldier Service Center for DA civilians interested in learning more about the possibilities of volunteering to serve as an expeditionary civilian. AEC Program recruiters will be on hand to answer questions and offer assistance.

**DFMWR hosts Nature in Lights**  
Fort Cavazos Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is hosting Nature in Lights daily through Dec. 31 at Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area. It is open 5:30-11 p.m. and costs \$20 for a car, minivan or pickup truck; \$35 for limousines, 15-passenger vans or recreational vehicles, aka RVs; \$55 for a 24-passenger van; and \$80 for a 47-plus-passenger van or larger bus. People can also enjoy Santa’s Village at Live Oak Pavilion, Santa’s Depot near the marina and pony rides at BLORA Ranch, all 5:30-11 p.m. daily through Tuesday. Santa’s Depot costs \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 11 and under and is free for lap children. The ride costs \$5. For more information, visit [cavazos.armymwr.com/view-event/nature-lights/6600704/93405](http://cavazos.armymwr.com/view-event/nature-lights/6600704/93405).

**Veterans ride free in CenTex**  
The Central Texas Vet-Ride Program offers veterans, their spouses and dependents free transportation through The HOP for uses including medical appointments, government offices, grocery stores, school and shopping. For more information, visit [ctadvrc.org/programs/veterans/central-texas-vet-ride-program](http://ctadvrc.org/programs/veterans/central-texas-vet-ride-program).

## Visit highlights modernization, sustainment

BY ERIC FRANKLIN  
Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Fort Cavazos showcased its commitment to modernization and Soldier quality of life during a recent visit Dec. 10 by Brig. Gen. John Hinson, commanding general of U.S. Army Sustainment Command, highlighting sustainment and dining initiatives supporting Army readiness. “It was so great visiting the Soldiers and Civilians at 407th AFSB (Army Field Support Brigade),” Hinson said. “The brigade, partnered with 13th ACSC (Armored Corps Sustainment Command) and the III Armored Corps staff, are leading the way in both data analytics for materiel management across the divisions as well as food-service innovation.” Leaders at Fort Cavazos highlighted the installation’s efforts to enhance operations and quality of life for Soldiers and their

See [Visit](#), A6



Photo by Eric Franklin, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Sgt. Alexis Sobczak, 13th Armored Corps Sustainment Command, explains meal preparation to Brig. Gen. John Hinson, commanding general of U.S. Army Sustainment Command, Dec. 10 at the Iron Horse Dining Facility at Fort Cavazos.

## 11th Corps Sig Bde hosts Safety Stand-Down

BY CHRISTINE LUCIANO  
DPW Environmental



Photo by Christine Luciano, DPW Environmental

Dan Gomez, an environmental protection specialist with the Directorate of Public Works, conducts a spill demonstration to explain how Soldiers can respond, mitigate and cleanup spills effectively during the 11th Corps Signal Brigade Safety Stand-Down Dec. 6 at 11th CSB Headquarters at Fort Cavazos.

The 11th Corps Signal Brigade hosted a Safety Stand-Down day Dec. 6, gathering warfighters, leaders and partners to emphasize safety and awareness on a wide range of topics. From alcohol and substance abuse to fire safety and unexploded ordnance, or UXO, awareness, the event served as a comprehensive platform to educate warfighters and enhance readiness. “Soldiers depend on organizations that genuinely care and support them and their families,” said Harrison Riggins, occupational health and safety manager for 11th CSB. “The 11th Corps Signal Brigade commander and command sergeant major emphasizes that the well-being for their Soldiers and their families are essential to 11th CSB’s readiness, both on and off duty.” Col. James Sullivan, commander of the 11th CSB, addressed the formation of more than 400 Soldiers, setting the tone for the Safety Stand-Down day. Referencing his “fatal four,” Sullivan encouraged his Soldiers to reflect on their decisions and ask themselves critical questions. “My fatal four — you should not do things that are illegal, immoral, unethical or unsafe,” he said. “With the holidays, I know we are relaxed, and we are off our guard, which is good — we need that down time. But safety must always be on our mind as we move forward ... to keep you and your family safe.” The Safety Stand-Down highlighted a proactive approach to addressing challenges warfighters may encounter in their personal and

See [Stand-Down](#), A6



# Stay safe this holiday season

BY COL. GARRICK CRAMER  
CRDAMC Commander

Fort Cavazos families, earlier this year CRDAMC was recognized for delivering high-quality and safe medical care. In May 2024, the nationally recognized Leapfrog Group awarded CRDAMC the “A” Grade for providing safe, quality care — one of nine Military Treatment Facilities, or MTFs, in the Department of Defense awarded “A” Grade rating. The compassionate, safe and quality care at CRDAMC marches on.

In November, the Leapfrog Group awarded CRDAMC again with Grade A rating, one of 15 MTFs in the DOD designated the A Grade for the fall. We are privileged to serve you and will continue to



Garrick Cramer

be a trusted partner for your medical care. We are hiring! If you are a current healthcare worker or are looking to enter the healthcare field, we have great opportunities. We offer competitive pay, paid time off, medical and dental insurance, 401K and have a fantastic team! Go to [USAjobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov) and search “DHA” in the keyword box and “Fort Cavazos” in location. Flu season is here. The U.S. flu season is typically October through May every year, and the influenza vaccine is recommended every year for anyone 6 months of age and older. People at high risk for influenza complications include infants, young children, pregnant women, adults 65 and older, nursing home or long-term care facility residents and those with underlying health conditions. I encourage you to get the flu vaccine to protect

yourself and anyone you’re in contact with who could be immunocompromised. Check with your local pharmacy accepting TRICARE or your primary care clinic. As the holidays approach, our lives fill with joy, laughter and celebrations with loved ones. Please remember safety should remain a top priority. From travel plans and decorations to gatherings and gift giving, taking a few simple precautions can ensure the holidays remain merry and bright. Follow proper fire safety measures — make sure smoke detectors are working, fire extinguishers are on hand and don’t leave fires unattended. Please drink responsibly and have a designated driver. If you or a loved one need emergent mental health care, please seek professional help at CRDAMC, 988 (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) or the nearest emergency room. I wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday season. Care and Concern!

## GREAT PEOPLE AT THE GREAT PLACE



Photo by Sgt. Asher Atkinson, III Armored Corps Public Affairs

Spc. Karisma Tyson, supply specialist, Alpha Company, 303rd Intelligence Electronic Battalion, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, holds her Most Valuable Player and team trophies Nov. 13 at Fort Cavazos. Tyson was named MVP after she and the Fort Cavazos Lady Phantom Warriors won the championship game of the Veterans Day Classic Basketball Tournament Nov. 11 at Fort Worth, Texas.

BY SGT. ASHER ATKINSON  
III Armored Corps Public Affairs

Spc. Karisma Tyson, a supply specialist assigned to Alpha Company, 303rd Intelligence Electronic Battalion, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, was named the Most Valuable Player of the 2024 Military Basketball Association Veterans Day Classic Basketball Tournament for Fort Cavazos and the Lady Phantom Warriors basketball team Nov. 11 at Fort Worth, Texas. Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Tyson joined the Army in August 2020. She plays the position of shooting guard, power forward and center at a height of 5 feet, 11 inches. Tyson started playing basketball at 4 years old when her father took her outside to play. Her inspiration comes from watching her family members play basketball, who played at the college level. Tyson reflected on her experience playing basketball, being a service member and the importance of being a representative of the U.S. Army. “This one hits different,” Karisma explained. “This is with a completely different organization. This is with the Army. This is my first time trying out for an Army base team, and, on the first try, we win the championship, and this is the first veteran tournament that the MBA has involved females. It definitely meant a lot to us as a team, my coach and my sergeant major.”

The MBA Veteran’s Day Classic began in 2017 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, by then 1st Sgt. Angel Acevedo. The program moved to Fort

Worth, Texas, in 2023. It is a resiliency event that focuses on connecting both military and veterans to services they may need to assist them with their behavioral health, transition out of the service to civilian-sector jobs and spiritual and mental fitness. It is part of the MBA Tournament Series that takes place every year. This year, under the leadership of Acevedo, now WMBA commissioner and deputy MBA commissioner, the MBA featured its first women’s tournament in the series, with the Fort Cavazos Lady Phantom Warriors winning the inaugural tournament. “It is our hope that at every stage we present Volunteer Men’s Military Varsity Basketball, we are able to also share the stage with our Volunteer Women’s Military Varsity Basketball athletes,” said Mike Meyers, founder and commissioner of the MBA. “It is the commitment of myself and the WMBA commissioner to provide more opportunities for women to play.” Prior to playing in the tournament, Tyson meditates and prays to prepare herself mentally. When fighting the butterflies of performing basketball, she believes the best way to overcome is playing harder. She finds joy in witnessing all the hard work and effort put into practice with her fellow warriors come to fruition as they all play. When asked about the overall chemistry with her teammates, Tyson reflected and smiled, acknowledging how they hold each other accountable.

“On the outside, it may look like we may not like each other, but, on the inside, it’s because we know the standard in and out of uniform,” Tyson said. “When my point guard, Sgt. Sierra Brown (Medical Readiness Battalion, Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center) is telling me I need to be somewhere, I have a job to do. There is no talking back. Let’s get the job done for the greater good of the team.”

Tyson was grateful to be named MVP of the tournament. She firmly believes the leadership, hard work, effort and support from her teammates and coaches are what ultimately contributed to her and the team’s victory. During the games, she is constantly reminded there are no excuses and everyone has a key contribution to overall success. After celebrating in Fort Worth, the Lady Phantom Warriors team is now preparing for their regular season. Tyson explained the game plan is to stay healthy, get stronger, uphold the standard their coach sets for the team, execute and play hard. The WMBA will host its Finals and Championship Tournament in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 22-25, 2025.



Courtesy photo

In back left, Spc. Karisma Tyson, a supply specialist assigned to the Alpha Company, 303rd Intelligence Electronic Battalion, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, poses with her teammates, the Fort Cavazos Lady Phantom Warriors, for a photo with Angel Acevedo, founder and commissioner of the Women Military Basketball Association and Military Basketball Association deputy commissioner after winning the Veterans Day Classic Basketball Tournament Nov. 11 at Fort Worth, Texas.



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# 3rd Combat Weather Squadron increases agility through innovation, technology



Photos by Scott Darling, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

An aquatic environmental sensing drone returns to shore on Oct. 30 at Lake Belton at Belton, Texas. The 3rd Combat Weather Squadron is developing and experimenting with new weather detection and processing capabilities to infuse forward-edge environmental data into combat operations planning.

**BY CAPT. CHRISTIAN LITTLE**  
93rd AGOW Public affairs

As part of a new innovation cell, the 3rd Combat Weather Squadron is applying emerging technology to experiment with how environmental information can be collected and processed through the use of underwater drone technology, inexpensive 3D-printed weather sensors, environmental detection buoys and small-scale weather models assisted by artificial intelligence.

“We are preparing to operate in any phase of conflict supporting any joint force partner,” said Master Sgt. Michael Cobb, 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing A3 operations superintendent. “We don’t know where or when the next conflict will take place, so we need to continue to expand our capabilities and processes beyond what we have been doing to get where we need to go.”

Combat weather’s mission is to collect, analyze and integrate environmental data into multi-domain operations to provide decision-makers with timely and accurate information on how to best operate in any battlespace. This includes space weather and the effects on the electromagnetic spectrum, which impact how military technologies function. These weather professionals aim to maximize friendly battlefield capabilities while analyzing an adversary’s ability to conduct combat operations.

“We can provide data that decreases risk and provides commanders with a more holistic idea of what’s going on in the environment in order to make the most efficient and effective decisions for the conflict at hand,” said Maj. Justin Leo, 3rd CWS operations officer.

## PRIME sensors

The 3rd CWS has been developing 3D Printed Modular Environmental, or PRIME, sensors that cost less than \$500 each and collect various environmental parameters. The team anticipates these sensors can be dispersed throughout a battlefield to provide invaluable data necessary for large-scale combat operations supporting both tactical and resupply movements.

“We’re going to be able to put a ton of these out into the battlespace to give a commander much higher fidelity and higher-resolution weather data than we could with our

sensors that we only place at airfields,” explained Leo. “I see us increasing the density of sensors at the cost of accuracy. That may sound counterintuitive, but in a future conflict, I think we’re going to need a lot more agility, and it’s going to require a lot of sensors that will probably be less accurate but provide a much greater sight picture for the whole operating environment.”

These PRIME sensors could provide information to recommend routes for friendly forces to traverse hazardous terrain and enable unimpeded ground resupply and combat operations. The combat weather community is working toward packaging and moving the materials necessary for

translates to more informed battlefield decision-making.

“We should be able to make better decisions on how to move around the battlespace and provide the information necessary for commanders to make decisions,” Leo said. “We need to look at all avenues of asymmetrical battlefield advantage to stay ahead of the power curve.”

## AI and MI micro-scale weather models

Combat weather Airmen are posturing themselves to leverage advanced computer technology for micro-scale weather modeling. In anticipation of denied and degraded lines of communication in future conflicts, the 3rd CWS is working with industry to utilize their new PRIME sensors to run weather models in contested environments without a reach-back capability.

These micro models ingest local data and utilize AI and machine learning, or ML, to aggregate environmental data to fill in information gaps for a specific operating area, potentially allowing combat weather Airmen to continue providing environmental intelligence in technologically contested environments.

The goal of these models is to provide a real-time picture of the operating environment that is resistant to external adversary interference.

“We can help tailor the timing of an operation to maximize lethality or whatever the intended output is,” Leo said. “Then provide real-time weather data throughout an operation for commanders to be able to make decisions based on evolving conditions.”

In a future conflict, where air superiority may be temporary or nonexistent, operations can integrate weather prediction and intelligence to ensure combat effectiveness.

“We need to be able to maximize our periods of air superiority in future conflicts by providing commanders with very accurate, timely weather data,” Leo explained. “Allow us to show what we’re capable of because I think we are barely scratching the surface of what combat weather can provide.”

To achieve environmental decision-making advantages, the organization looks to its forces on the front lines to identify and solve potential future conflict challenges.

“As a wing, we encourage the warfighters at the tactical level to get after the problems they see with their own eyes,” Cobb said. “They are in the best position to develop solutions because they see the problem firsthand.”



Air Force 1st Lt. Alexander Kim and Tech. Sgt. Andrew Childress, 3rd Combat Weather Squadron, sets up equipment for aquatic environmental sensing drones Oct. 30 at Lake Belton at Belton, Texas.

building these PRIME sensors to the forward edge, enabling them to rapidly repair, replace and expand the sensing network without a cumbersome logistical tail.

## Underwater drones and environmental sensing buoys

To better support joint-force aquatic-based operations, the 3rd CWS is procuring and testing how underwater drones can be used to measure depth, drift rate, wave height, salinity and water temperature and how this information

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# Christmas Spirit Foundation donates over 600 trees



A donated Christmas tree features a handwritten note during the Trees for Troops event Friday at Phantom Warrior Stadium at Fort Cavazos.

Photo by Eric Franklin, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

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see and interact. It was very fun. It's something I might want to do every year, maybe make it into a tradition for her as she gets older."

The success of the event was made possible by dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to set the stage for a joyous day. Members of the Fort Cavazos Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program joined representatives from the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation to unload trees, set up decorations and provide a welcoming atmosphere with music, treats and hot beverages.

"We're really happy to be here," said Cpl. Amber Solis, the Fort Cavazos BOSS program secretary. "We've had this planned for about a month now, and I was counting down the days to get out here and do it. We've been out here pretty early, but we do it for everyone — for the smiles on the parents' and the children's faces.

"It's all about the community and coming together and being there for each other," Solis added. "That gives a sense of home."

Trees for Troops, which has delivered more than 300,000 trees to service members since its inception, continues to rely on donations, sponsorships and the hard work of volunteers. The trees delivered to Fort Cavazos were transported free of charge by FedEx.

Families picking up trees were encouraged to practice fire safety and use proper techniques for safely transporting their tree.

Visit [treesfortroops.org](http://treesfortroops.org) for more information about Trees for Troops.

## AFSBn-Cavazos displays progress in initiatives during ASC CG visit

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families during recent visits.

"These visits allowed us to showcase initiatives like the Cavazos Connector, Phantom Centralized Hub and food service action stations," said Lt. Col. Richard Martinez, commander of the Army Field Support Battalion-Cavazos. "We're constantly working to improve the lives of our Soldiers and families while advancing readiness and modernization goals."

At the Materiel Redistribution Site, leadership explored the site's critical role in the Army's modernization and sustainment strategy.

"Our ability to efficiently relieve units of equipment in a timely manner is our main mission and task," said Mike Gill, Materiel Redistribution Site division chief. "The 'Big M' in Materiel Redistribution Site reminds us that we exist to support units in executing modernization efforts."

The site plays a pivotal role in partnership with unit leaders, enabling seamless equipment divestiture processes that build trust and save time.

"We do our best to teach, coach and mentor anyone who walks through our doors," Gill said. "This is key to our success and ensures we're streamlining processes for Soldiers, knowing every minute of their day is precious."

As part of the Army's Rapid Removal of Excess initiative, Fort Cavazos will host a major divestiture event in summer 2025, further advancing modernization efforts.

"Army Field Support Battalion-Cavazos Rapid Removal of Excess will support III Armored Corps and 1st Cavalry Division units on Fort Cavazos," Gill said. "We are continually using lessons learned to refine best practices and ensure success."

Innovative dining initiatives were also in the spotlight during the leadership visits, with Fort Cavazos showcasing its efforts to combine nutrition, morale and modernization in Soldier support.

"My philosophy centers on prioritizing the well-being of every Soldier by ensuring access to nutritious, appealing and wholesome meal options," said Chontrelle Sturdivant, installation food program manager for AFSBn-Cavazos. "I believe in a dining experience that not only sustains but uplifts, combining culinary excellence with a commitment to health and satisfaction."

The program's unique features include the

254 Blend Coffee Bar, a dedicated space for quality coffee and connection; Phantom Fresh, a grab-and-go service providing made-to-order salads and sandwiches; Phantom Prep, an installation-wide meal prep program that has grown from serving 100 meals per pickup to over 300; and action stations, a campus-style food court offering diverse, customizable meal options.

"We must provide Soldiers options how and where they would like to eat," Hinson said. "Providing quality, nutritional meals through meal prep and grab-to-go services provides these options with a direct correlation to the high utilization rates for warrior restaurants across Fort Cavazos."

With over 20 years of experience in food services, Sturdivant highlighted Fort Cavazos' leadership in food service modernization, emphasizing its mission to promote Soldier health, fitness and readiness.

"Fort Cavazos is at the forefront of food service modernization, pioneering innovative concepts to enhance support for Soldiers," Sturdivant said. "These efforts reflect our mission to promote health, fitness and readiness."

Leaders emphasized the importance of fostering morale through welcoming dining environments.

"Creating environments that inspire and support morale is as important as the food itself," Sturdivant said. "By redesigning our dining spaces to reflect modern, inviting atmospheres, we strive to make every meal an integral part of the Soldier's daily experience, contributing to their overall well-being and readiness."

The program has also aligned with emerging trends and Soldier feedback, ensuring flexibility and inclusivity in its offerings.

"Our action stations feature customer-preferred selections comparable to the commercial food industry," Sturdivant said. "Phantom Fresh and Phantom Prep provide convenient, nutritious options tailored to our Soldiers' needs. We aim to enhance each dining experience and foster a sense of connection and care."

As Fort Cavazos continues to refine its sustainment and dining programs, the visit highlighted the installation's dedication to its mission.

"These efforts exemplify the Army's focus on readiness and quality of life," Martinez said. "By investing in our Soldiers and families, we're building a stronger, more agile force prepared for any mission."



Photo by Christine Luciano, DPW Environmental

Sgt. Tyler Champion and Sgt. Samuel Boyee, both with 11th Corps Signal Brigade, compete against each other in an obstacle course to see who is the first complete the recycle mission at the 11th CSB Safety Stand-Down Dec. 6 at 11th CSB Headquarters at Fort Cavazos.

## Stand-down emphasizes workplace safety, health

Stand-Down: Continued from A1

professional lives.

One key topic was alcohol and substance abuse awareness, with Addie Daniels and Ronnie Lary, prevention coordinators for Army Substance Abuse Program, who offered interactive sessions to educate Soldiers.

"ASAP is committed to leveraging training opportunities like these to empower Soldiers to 'own their limits,' practice responsible drinking and recognize the potential impacts of substance abuse on their lives and careers," Daniels said.

Lary recreated a realistic environment to demonstrate the impact of alcohol on actions and coordination. Mimicking a bar setting, Soldiers maneuvered through cones representing people, aiming to avoid any collisions.

"This hands-on activity illustrates how a simple task can be significantly impaired by substance misuse, helping Soldiers grasp the real-life consequences of their choices," he said.

Fire safety was another crucial topic, with the Fort Cavazos Fire Department delivering engaging demonstrations. From proper use of fire extinguishers to steps for properly frying a turkey, Soldiers gained practical tips to enhance safety in barracks and homes.

The Garrison Safety Office discussed UXO awareness, a topic vital for Soldiers in the training areas, highlighting the three Rs of UXOs — recognize, retreat and report.

"If you see something suspicious, don't touch it," said Dustin Shuffler, occupational health and safety specialist for the Garrison Safety Office. "Safely step back and report it to the authorities. The three Rs are simple but life-saving steps that can protect our Soldiers and their families from the dangers of UXOs."

Environmental stewardship also took center stage with discussions on spill response and recycling. Dan Gomez, an environmental protection specialist with the Directorate of Public Works, provided a demonstration to explain how Soldiers can respond spills, mitigation and cleanup. He also highlighted the correct use of absorbent pads for spills, proper disposal of these pads and the handling of dry sweep in motor pool areas.

"Providing spill-response training to Soldiers safeguards the environment and enhances their safety," Gomez said. "It strengthens the warfighters mission readiness by preparing them to use the correct protocols to manage spills effectively within their motor pool footprint."

To engage Soldiers and leaders in a fun, competitive way, Kyle Wallace, assistant manager for Fort Cavazos Recycle, challenged Soldiers to a mission that was simple yet impactful. Two teams competed against each other to see which team could be the first to have each member recycle one item while navigating an obstacle course.

"The obstacle course helps us to drive home the message that recycling is not only essential for our environment," Wallace said, "it also generates revenue that directly supports Soldier and family community events, while creating a stronger, more sustainable future for the warfighters and mission readiness."

As 11th CSB continues to prioritize safety, Riggins explained events like the Safety Stand-Down day serve as a reminder of the importance of education and collaboration.

"This event highlights the strength of partnerships across Fort Cavazos," Riggins said, "showcasing how installation agencies help 11th CSB foster a culture of safety, responsibility and preparedness."



Photo by Eric Franklin, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Linda Heuer, rail operations supervisor for the 407th Army Field Support Brigade, explains the critical role rail operations play in supporting Army readiness to Brig. Gen. John Hinson, commanding general of U.S. Army Sustainment Command, Dec. 10 at the Rail Operations Center at Fort Cavazos.



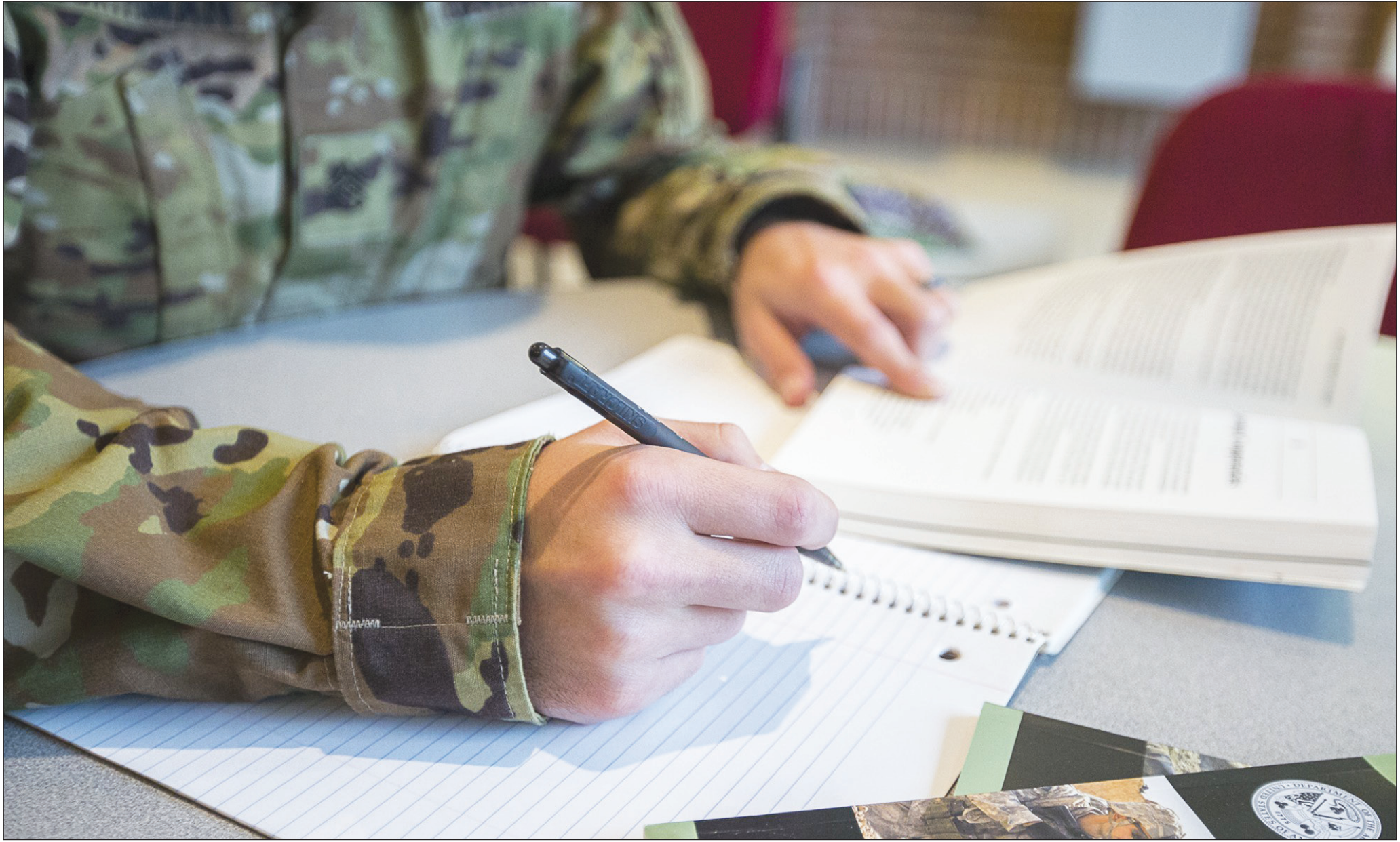


Photo by Nell King, JBM-HH Public Affairs

The Army announced policy updates Dec. 11 for the tuition assistance and credentialing assistance educational programs for active-duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers. The changes include increased semester-hour and dollar-amount caps for TA and a reduction in the dollar-amount cap for CA.

# Army approves tuition assistance increase, adjusts credentialing assistance program

*Editor's note: Soldiers with questions about tuition assistance, credentialing assistance and/or their education opportunities can attend an ArmyIgnitED brief at 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9 a.m. Fridays at the Soldier Development Center; speak with an education counselor at the Education Services Division 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. weekdays, call ESD at 254-287-4824 or listen to ESD's podcast "Conversations with Cav Counselors" on Spotify.*

**BY CHRISTOPHER HURD**  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army announced Dec. 11 policy updates to a pair of voluntary education programs for active-duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

The new guidance includes a \$500 increase and two semester-hour increase for tuition assistance and changes to the credentialing assistance program.

"The Army recognizes the value of the tuition assistance and credentialing assistance programs, both of which support our Soldiers' professional development and readiness levels," said Christine Traugott, policy manager for Soldier education and transition with the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

"The changes we are making to these programs will help ensure their long-term sustainability, will bring the Army into closer alignment with how other services execute voluntary education programs and will preserve the benefits for Soldiers who need them the most," she added.

The Army will implement these changes in two phases. The first was a message released to the force Dec. 11. The second will be an updated Army regulation, projected to be released in 2025.

**Phase 1 changes:**  
**Tuition assistance**

- Increase annual cap from \$4,000 to \$4,500.
- Increase semester hours from 16 to 18.
- Require Soldiers who are first-time users of TA to take

ArmyIgnitED training prior to requesting TA.

- Require Soldiers to use the decision support tool prior to requesting TA.

**Credentialing assistance**

- Decrease the annual cap from \$4,000 to \$2,000.
- Limit Soldiers to one credential a year and a max of three in 10 years.
- Require Soldiers to take associated credential exam or recoup the cost of the course work/training.
- Limit aviation credentials to \$1,000 per year for all Army components.
- Require Soldiers who are first-time users of CA to take ArmyIgnitED training prior to requesting CA.
- Require Soldiers to use the decision support tool prior to requesting CA.

**Phase 2 changes:**

- Suspend CA and TA for Soldiers with two recoupments (TA and CA combined) in a year.
- Preclude commissioned officers from using CA.
- Require command approval for TA and CA requests.

This policy update follows a review of both programs. Traugott said since its launch in 2020, the Army Credentialing Assistance Program has nearly doubled in cost every year.

"When you have a program increase exponentially over a four-year period, you are eventually going to blow your budget to the point where it won't be available to anyone," she explained.

She said the changes ensure the Army and the Soldiers get a

return on their investment.

According to the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, the average cost of a credential is \$1,700 while Soldiers take an average of 1.5 credentials a year. The Army anticipates the reduction in CA will have minimal impact on Soldiers, she added.

The increases in tuition assistance brings the Army in line with the Navy and the Air Force. It also allows Soldiers to take more classes each year, giving them an opportunity to earn a degree faster.

When applying for educational benefits, Soldiers need enough time left in service to complete the program they submit for. Active-duty officers and warrant officers above warrant officer two incur a two-year service obligation for tuition assistance, while reserve-component officers have a four-year obligation.

There is no service obligation when using credentialing assistance.

Requests for both programs must be submitted and approved before the course start date using ArmyIgnitED. The new policy guidance brings the service members' leadership into the approval chain to help streamline the process.

"(These programs) are a way for Soldiers to improve professionally and personally," Traugott said. "I think for both

TA and CA, they increase your skill set while you're in the Army and improve your employability when your time in service ends, whether that's after one enlistment term or an entire career."

“The Army recognizes the value of the tuition assistance and credentialing assistance programs, both of which support our Soldiers’ professional development and readiness levels.

– Christine Traugott, policy manager for Soldier education and transition

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Photos by Blair Dupre, Sentinel News Editor

Vintage Mill Antiques was our first stop on our antique hunt at Salado, Texas.

# Antique hunt turns into holiday fun

BY BLAIR DUPRE  
Sentinel News Editor

**SALADO, Texas** — Who would have known a mission to find a specific type of collectible figurine would have turned into a shopping day? Well, in a place like Salado, there is so much to be explored.

My friend Jessica and I decided to make a trip over to Salado to visit some antique shops in an effort to find some shoe figurines my mom has collected for many years. Niche, I know. However, the day turned from a search mission to a full-on shopping trip as we explored what Salado had to offer.

First, we stopped at Vintage Mill Antiques, where there were a huge amount of items to look through, though many of the displays were neat, making them easy for us to scan for any shoe figurines. We did find one, but it was one my mom already had, so we just continued to browse through the store. Though they didn't have what we were looking for, we enjoyed checking out some other items including the endless collections of unique salt and pepper shakers.

Next we visited the Salado Antique Mall, which also had an impressive amount of items to look through. From dishes to furniture, we were able to see it all. Once we made it about 80% through the store, I was losing hope we would find any of the shoe figurines we were searching for until I turned around and saw one sitting on a display behind the register. We quickly finished looking through the rest of the store and paid for my item before checking out two other antique stores, which, unfortunately, didn't have any of the figurines I was looking for.

During our search we noticed advertising for events going on around town celebrating the holidays, and our interest was piqued. We decided to stop by Wild Texas Cowgirl, a store in Salado that sells a variety of food goods including, salsa, jellies and

dessert and soup mixes, as well as novelty gifts, funny socks and cute kitchen towels. I was impressed by the amount of items available for purchase in the smaller space, and many of the food items were very interesting.

Near Wild Texas Cowgirl were a string of shops we stopped by that included SophistiKatz Bead Emporium and The Rose and Bee. Our favorite stop in this area was the Salado Olive Oil Company, where we were able to sample different infused olive oils. We were impressed by their selection and found a couple we really enjoyed.

We just scratched the surface, as there were other stores and restaurants we didn't have the time to visit. Those we did visit were offering tastings, free hot chocolate and more in celebration of the holidays, turning our previously singular mission of finding shoe figurines into a day of discovering part of Salado.

I was so glad that we were able to explore more of Salado than we had originally planned, and I highly recommend paying them a visit.



**ABOVE**, A set of cups and a punch bowl with a holiday theme sits on display at Vintage Mills Antiques at Salado, Texas. **RIGHT**, Many shops at Salado, Texas, were decked out in Christmas decor including candy cane columns and decorative window art.



**LEFT**, There were many antique cameras on sale at many of the antique stores we visited including this one at Vintage Mill Antiques at Salado, Texas. **ABOVE**, A set of Christmas ornaments sits on display at Vintage Mills Antiques. Many Christmas decorations and ornaments were on display throughout the antique stores we visited.





# BINGE or CRINGE

A review of some of the most popular series streaming on a variety of platforms

## ‘Vox Machina’ provides laughs, adventure, friendship

BY AYUMI DAVIS  
Sentinel Editor

Move over, Guardians of the Galaxy, because there’s a new favorite group in town who’s kicking butts and saving the lands all with an unhealthy amount of banter and antics.

“The Legend of Vox Machina” is an animated series based on the first campaign of the members of Critical Role, a group of friends who just so happen to be professional voice actors and get together to play “Dungeons and Dragons,” or DND.

Vox Machina (which is a Latin phrase that means “voice machine” — clever, right?) is a group of seven slightly morally grey heroes who are way past their last dime that gallivant around the land of Exandria looking for jobs to make money. When they find out the Sovereign Uriel is commissioning a group to find out what is destroying villages on the outskirts of the city of Emon, they are eager to step up. While the quest is taken to make a quick buck, the group soon finds itself unable to turn a blind eye to the evil they learn is beyond this mission.

The crew consists of Grog Strongjaw (Travis Willingham), a goliath barbarian; Keyleth of the Air Ashari (Marisha Ray), a half-elf druid; Percival de Rolo (Taliesin Jaffe), a human gunslinger; Pike Trickfoot (Ashley Johnson), a gnome cleric; Scanlan Shorthalt (Sam Riegel); a gnome bard; Vax’ildan, or Vax (Liam O’Brien), a half-elf rogue; and Vex’ahlia, or

Vex (Laura Bailey), another half-elf rogue and twin sister of Vax.

To start off, it’s so cool to think a campaign from DND could become such an awesome TV show. Matthew Mercer, the dungeon master, or game organizer, for Critical Role, is a genius for creating such a campaign with the rich history of the land, epic bad guys and lovable supporting characters. However, with any campaign, the players contribute a good part of the hilarity, action and loving moments, as they control their own actions.

The series has recently released its third season, and I cannot wait for the fourth. The humor is great with witty one liners, physical gags, panic in fights and scathing roasts from Vox Machina. And while the plot is rife with humor, it doesn’t detract from the more serious parts.

Battles with the motley crew are fast-paced, tense and creative with an arsenal of both normal and magical items, as well as abilities characters have. It’s cool to see Scanlan’s singing actually fuel his magic and Pike channeling her faith into shields and weapons. But while

it’s maybe not the most interesting ability, I particularly enjoy when Grog rages, as it’s so satisfying to see him easily overwhelm bad guys.

Despite their dysfunction, you can’t help but root for the Vox Machina because they’re so earnest when it comes to protecting people, funny and relatable. Whether it’s Scanlan freaking out during fights, Keyleth overcoming her anxiety and low self-esteem or Percy learning to rely on his friends, there’s moments in this fantastical adventure that can relate to real-world issues.

Each character in the group doesn’t outshine another; they each have a moment in the spotlight. The pacing in the series is pretty solid, and there’s never a dull moment.

Will Vox Machina save the world and, hopefully, earn some money along the way?

You’ll have to watch the adventure to find out.

“The Legend of Vox Machina” is definitely binge worthy. Watch all three seasons on Amazon Prime.

The series contains adult content, nudity, profanity and gore. Parental discretion is advised.



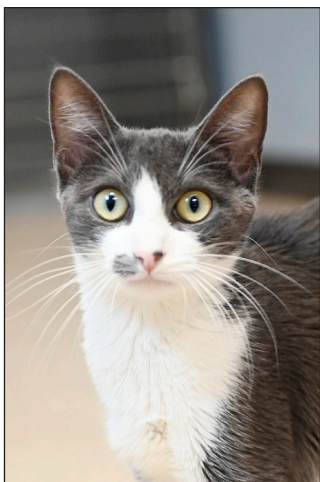
Graphic courtesy of Prime Video

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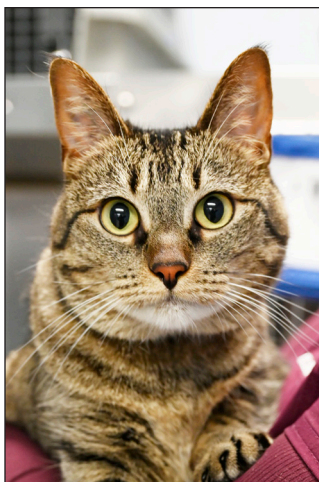
Thomas O'Malley

1-yr, 1-mo-old, domestic short hair, orange & white, male.



Chunk

3-yr-old, domestic short-haired tabby, gray, male.



Star

2-yr-old, domestic short-haired tabby, brown, female.



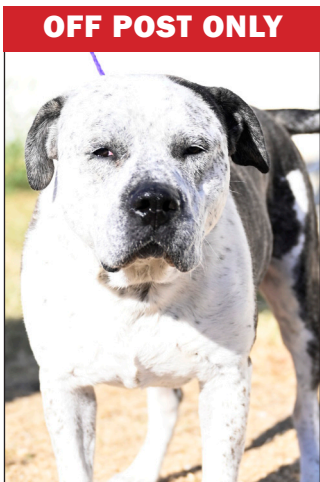
Jolly

1-yr, 1-mo-old, Labrador retriever mix, brown & white, male.



Oliver

1-yr-old, German shepherd mix, tan & brown, male.



Spencer

3-yr-old, pit bull mix, white & black, male.



Titus

4-yr-old, pit bull mix, tan & white, male.



Primrose

2-yr-old, Australian cattle dog mix, red & tricolor, female.



Spincer

5-yr-old, domestic short hair, gray & white, male.



Comet

2-yr-old, domestic short hair, black & white, male.



Garfield

3-yr-old, domestic short hair, orange, male.



# Army Chaplain Corps inducts newest family life chaplains



Photos by Shawn Davis, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Graduates of Cohort 24B join their instructors and leadership team for a group photo Friday at the Chaplain Family Life Training Center at Fort Cavazos.

**BY SHAWN DAVIS**  
Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Fort Cavazos had the honor of welcoming six of the newest senior Army chaplains into the Chaplain Corps Friday after an 18-month period spent devoting over 800 hours to marriage and family therapy counseling, clinical supervision, theological integration and special counseling training at the Chaplain Family Life Training Center.

The 18-month Family Life Chaplain Qualification Course is conducted in partnership between the Chaplain Family Life Training Center and the Texas A&M University-Central Texas, providing field-grade Army chaplains the opportunity to earn their master's degrees in counseling, qualifying them to train other chaplains as well as provide advanced counseling to Soldiers and families.

"They have been tremendous, a blessing to our center and our community," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Timothy Won, director of the Chaplain Family Life Training Center. "What an amazing group of chaplains."

The graduating chaplains of Class 24B include Chaplain (Maj.) Mike Basie, Chaplain (Maj.) Anthony Keim, Chaplain (Maj.) Mark R. Lee, Chaplain (Maj.) Danny Melin, Chaplain (Maj.) John Silvey and Chaplain (Capt.) John VandenHeuvel.

Army chaplains are charged with the duty to provide religious support and advisement to all service members who seek



Chap. (Maj.) Danny Melin spends time with his family before the Friday Family Life Chaplain Qualification Course graduation ceremony at the Chaplain Family Life Training Center here. Melin will serve as Garrison Family Life Chaplain at the Presidio of Monterey, California, providing leadership and guidance to chaplains and service members there.

it in their jurisdiction. Most of the senior chaplains graduating will serve as garrison chaplains across the United States.

Basie and VandenHeuvel will serve as Army command-level chaplains. They will train subordinate chaplains on providing guidance, mentorship and counseling to Soldiers and families. All are granted iron-clad confidentiality when they counsel ser-

vice members through adversity, grief and stress in the field, and use evidence-based pastoral counseling to promote hope, healing and growth to Soldiers.

Silvey, who is bound with his family for Fort Knox, Kentucky, started as a pastor at a small church in Zanesville, Ohio, before working his way to this day. He looks forward to adding to the community and

applying his experiences, both new and old, to his position as the garrison family life chaplain there.

"I came in (as a) direct commission," Silvey said. "I was a pastor on the civilian side — I started out in the National Guard, then came on active duty, then progressed until this point."

Direct commissioning, one of the four paths towards leadership in the Army, is a process where highly qualified and motivated candidates from the medical, cyber, law and chaplain job fields earn officer ranks up to colonel without going through the traditional training pathways to commission as an Army officer.

"It'll be a lot of responsibility," Silvey continued. "Fort Knox is a place that has a lot of senior leadership. HRC (U.S. Army Human Resources Command) is located there (along with) recruiting (U.S. Army Recruiting Command) ... I think it'll be a great opportunity."

Chaplain (Col.) Mark C. Lee, dean of the graduate school in the U.S. Army Institute for Religious Leadership made remarks.

"Henceforth, now you will begin the next chapter," he said. "You'll not only focus on being great therapists, but now you need to be great trainers and educators for the larger force. We need you to take all that you've learned and then now impart that to our Chaplain Corps — particularly those who are serving in the battalions, where they are going to be touching the lives of thousands of Soldiers and families."



## FORT CAVAZOS CHAPEL SERVICES



### CATHOLIC

**Sunday Mass**, 9 a.m., Main Chapel, [facebook.com/FrCavazosRomanCatholic](#)

**Noon Mass**, Monday through Friday, Main Chapel

**Confession after Mass or by appointment**, call 254-286-6749, Main Chapel

### PROTESTANT

**St. George Parish (Anglican, Lutheran, Episcopal)**, Sunday, 9 a.m., Old Post Chapel, [facebook.com/SaintGeorgeFortCavazos](#)

### SPANISH PROTESTANT

**Alcance**, Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Veterans OIF Chapel.

### GOSPEL CONGREGATION

**Gospel Service**, Sunday, 11 a.m., Memorial Chapel, [facebook.com/ComancheHappeningsNow](#)

### TRADITIONS

**Traditions Service**, Sunday, 10 a.m., Ironhorse Chapel, [facebook.com/groups/fhtpsw/](#)

### CHAPEL NEXT

**Contemporary Service**, Sunday, 11:15 a.m., Main Chapel, [facebook.com/FortCavazosChapelNext](#)

### OPEN TABLE

**All-Inclusive Christian Chapel**, [facebook.com/OpenTableChapel](#)

### WFC PROTESTANT

**Non-Denominational Protestant**, Sunday, 11:00 a.m., West Fort Cavazos Chapel

### JEWISH

**Shabbat Service**, Friday, 6 p.m., Lucky 16 Chapel

### MUSLIM

**Friday Jumma Prayers** at 1:30 p.m., 25th Street Chapel

### OPEN CIRCLE

**Camp Finlayson**, contact Linn Vodisek, [vodiseklinn@gmail.com](#)

### BUDDHIST

**Soku Gakkai International (SGI) Nichiren**, Online, contact Martin Bonner, 254-258-0844  
**Theravada**, Thursday, 10:00 a.m., Rugged Spirit Chapel, Contact Chap. Guan Zhen, 213-281-1927

### NORTH FORT CAVAZOS

Call 254-286-5223 for service schedule and Bible study

### ADDITIONAL SERVICES/STUDY

**Children in the Middle**, call 254-288-1913 to reserve, Family Life Chaplain Training Center  
**Men of Honor**, Contact Ken Wooten, 254-466-6254

**Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC)**, Tuesday, 9-11:30 a.m., Main Chapel, [facebook.com/FortCavazosPWOC](#)

**Mothering Bluebonnets**, [facebook.com/FortCavazosMotheringBluebonnets](#)

**Club Beyond-High School**, Contact Frank Ayala, [fayala@clubbeyond.org](#)

**Club Beyond-Middle School**, Contact Frank Ayala, [fayala@clubbeyond.org](#)

### Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m., bimonthly Thursday 5-7 p.m., Main Chapel. Facebook: Fort Cavazos CWOC (Catholic Women of the Chapel)

**Catholic Youth Ministry-Crusaders**, 8-12 grades, Contact Maria Fuavia, 573-842-8181

**Catholic Religious Education-CCE**, Wednesday, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Main Chapel, Contact Maria Fuava, 254-287-0241

**\* Holiday hours and events are posted on the Garrison Chaplain's Facebook page, [facebook.com/FortCavazosChaplain](#)\***

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# Spreading cheer: H-E-B hand-delivers cakes to Fort Cavazos



Photo by Scott Darling, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Fort Cavazos and local H-E-B leadership pose cut cakes Friday at Ill Armored Corps Headquarters at Fort Cavazos. H-E-B showed its appreciation for Fort Cavazos by delivering coconut cakes made from a secret family recipe to various offices across the installation as part of its Operation Appreciation program that supports service members, veterans and their families. "Every year we go around Fort Cavazos to recognize the service and dedication of the service members and thousands of civilians that support Fort Cavazos and make it The Great Place," said Graciela Velazquez, H-E-B Fort Cavazos area community coordinator. "Operation Appreciation is personal to me because my father served 20-plus years in the U.S. Army, and this allows me the opportunity to serve those who've dedicated and sacrificed so much to defend our freedoms like my dad."



Photo by Scott Darling, Fort Cavazos Public Affairs

Staff and leadership of Fort Cavazos Resource Management pose for a photo with a hand-delivered coconut cake from H-E-B Friday at Fort Cavazos.



Photo by Christine Luciano, DPW Environmental

Directorate of Public Works Operations and Maintenance Division personnel from West, Central and Specialty Shops, along with the DPW Roads and Grounds, the Business Team and local H-E-B leadership, pose for a picture with a hand-delivered coconut cake Friday at the DPW East Shop at Fort Cavazos.

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# Fort Cavazos honors fallen heroes during ceremony



Photos by Sgt. Tanner Dibble, 13th ACSC Public Affairs  
From left, Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, commanding general of III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos, and Command Sgt. Maj. John P. McDwyer, III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos command sergeant major, lay a wreath at the fallen Soldier battle cross memorial Nov. 30 at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Killeen, Texas.



Command Sgt. Maj. Amador Aguillen Jr., senior enlisted advisor of the 13th Armored Corps Sustainment Command, lays a wreath at a gravesite during a memorial ceremony Nov. 30 at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Killeen, Texas.



Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, commanding general of III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos, gives opening remarks at a memorial wreath laying ceremony Nov. 30 at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery at Killeen, Texas. This annual ceremony honors fallen veterans from across the armed forces by laying a wreath at each of their grave sites.

# 1st Cav Div Band performs holiday music in Poland



Photos by Staff Sgt. Darrell Stembridge, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs  
**TOP**, From left, Sgt. Maj. Leon Butler, Sgt. Robert Cook and Sgt. 1st Class Danielle Lomonof, members of the 1st Cavalry Division Lone Star Band, play during a Christmas performance Dec. 12 at the town square at Boleslawiec, Poland. **LEFT**, Troopers from the 1st Cav. Div. Lone Star Band pose for a group photo Dec. 12 at the town square at Boleslawiec, Poland. The 1st Cav. Div. Band performed as part of a Christmas concert event, allowing a moment to share traditional and modern American holiday music culture with the local community. **ABOVE**, Spc. Matthew Freeman, a trombone player with the 1st Cav. Div. Lone Star Band, plays a tune during a Christmas performance Dec. 12 at the town square at Boleslawiec, Poland.





Evalynn Hosea, 2, shows off her Daniel Tiger stuffed animal with the help of her mom, Sierra Hosea, an Army spouse, to Daniel Tiger during the meet-and-greet portion of Be My Neighbor Day Saturday at Abrams Physical Fitness Center at Fort Cavazos.

# Daniel Tiger, nonprofit delight children with fun, gift cards

BY SAMANTHA HARMS  
Command Information Chief

The Tom Ramsey Foundation, a nonprofit organization, partnered with Austin PBS to provide 1,000 Fort Cavazos children a day of entertainment with Daniel Tiger — the main character in “Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood,” an animated musical television series created by PBS KIDS — hands-on activities and a \$75 gift card to purchase a bicycle, or whatever else the family may need.

Saturday’s event, which took place at Abrams Physical Fitness Center, was the first on the installation since 2020 where The Tom Ramsey Foundation, which was previously known as the Celebration of Love, donated more than 1,000 bicycles. The organization chose to partner with Austin PBS to bring a different experience to the children on the installation.

“(This event) means a great deal to us,” said Tom Ramsey, chairman and founder of The Tom Ramsey Foundation. “What better way to come and celebrate our children at the end of the year. ... There’s no greater children that I can think of more than our military children to be blessed during the holidays.”

The event also gave Austin PBS an opportunity to showcase the resources available to the families of Fort Cavazos and how they choose to be a good neighbor.

“There are two intentions (of Austin PBS’

involvement),” explained Benjamin Kramer, chief education officer with Austin PBS. “One is to show the Fort Cavazos community that Austin PBS is their home station for PBS content. We want to be here and say, ‘We’re here and we’re part of your neighborhood just as much as you’re a part of ours.’

“The second intention, of course, is more specific to the event: to celebrate the holidays, to offer families things that they can do with their kids over the holidays and to bring the message of ‘Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood,’ that we are all good neighbors and that now is a great time of year to say thank you to the people in our lives,” Kramer continued. “... We know that military families lead complicated lives, and this is a way for us to come here and say, ‘We’re here for you. We hope you’re using our media. If you’re using our media, we hope your kids are learning from it.’”

After the meet and greet with Daniel Tiger, Evalynn Hosea, 2, couldn’t stop saying she met him. Sierra Hosea, an Army spouse and Evalynn’s mom, shared Evalynn loves Daniel Tiger, despite being a little scared to meet him.

It was interactions like that that made Ramsay feel the event was important.

“To know the sacrifice that our families make for us to have our freedom,” Ramsay said, “there’s no words that could mention that (importance), other than to come back here and serve and give back to our children.”



Cynthia Zuniga, a representative with Austin PBS, informs a family about one of the many hands-on activities at Be My Neighbor Day Saturday at Abrams Physical Fitness Center at Fort Cavazos.



**LEFT,** Military families enjoy Daniel Tiger’s show at Be My Neighbor Day Saturday at Abrams Physical Fitness Center at Fort Cavazos. The event was hosted by Austin PBS and The Tom Ramsey Foundation, with support from the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. **ABOVE,** Fort Cavazos families receive their gift cards from Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation team members, along with Soldiers with Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers Saturday at Abrams Physical Fitness Center at Fort Cavazos. Children received gift cards of \$75 from The Tom Ramsey Foundation with the intention of the children buying bikes.

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Quitting smoking was hard.  
**Screening for lung cancer is easy.**

If you smoked, you may still be at risk, but early detection could save your life.  
Get **SavedByTheScan.org**

**Monaghan Apartments, LLC**  
Quiet 1 bedroom  
**\$470-\$520**  
Electric, gas & water paid

1702 N. 2nd - Killeen  
254-526-4445

**VA Serves Veterans and Their Families**  
Explore VA Benefits | [VA.gov](http://VA.gov)

**THESE THREE DIGITS COULD SAVE A LIFE**

**988**  
SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

CALL 988 and Press 1 to reach the Military Crisis Line  
TEXT 838255  
CHAT [988lifeline.org/chat](http://988lifeline.org/chat)

U.S. ARMY

**LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

**AUTOMOTIVE**

FOR SALE: 1929 Ford roadster hot rod new motor/transmission radiator chromed accessories etc for sale/interesting trades or will trade down for Harley panhead.. local car near post Cavazos call for appointment to viewmark, Call (254) 370 7973.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

FOR SALE: Used machine shop anvil \$400. Georgetown. 512-970-0003.

FOR SALE: Frankoma Pottery, McCoy Pottery, Avon collection, Hotwheels. Collectibles: Dr. Killeen, TX 76542; First Month's Rent sports cards, albums, toys, pottery, racing

**EMPLOYMENT**

WANTED: Senior Lady in Need of honest, mature, dependable, responsible person to help with light household cleaning, Covid Tested 2x a month @ \$50.00 for four hours service. (254) 213-1830.

**REAL ESTATE**

FOR RENT: Single family residence, 410 Ali free. \$1,900 a month after. (757) 805-4611.

**WORD SLEUTH • CHECK OUT THESE WORDS**

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.  
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: A DOCTOR VISIT FOR A —

Bed check	Check off	Checklist	Hatcheck
Blank check	Check out	Cross-check	Paycheck
Body check	Check valve	Double check	Spot-check
Check mark	Check-in	Gut check	

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**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MLITI  
CLOLA  
SIYEFT  
CNCTAE

THE STUDENTS WERE EXPERIENCING SUCCESS WITH MULTIPLICATION, BUT ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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**FREE Classified ads**  
to Fort Cavazos personnel and retirees

**Fort Cavazos Sentinel Classifieds**  
ADVERTISING FORM

**LIMIT:** Three ads per person per week. Each ad will only run once.  
**DUTY/WORK** phone number will not be printed in advertisement.  
**DEADLINE:** Mondays at 5 P.M. before publication date.  
If you are retired military or retired DA civilian, include current employer and work phone number on the application.  
For more information, call **254-634-6666**.

The following advertising classification or categories **DO NOT QUALIFY AS FREE CLASSIFIED ADS:** residential or commercial real estate listed for sale or lease with a broker or agent; self-employment, such as childcare providers, food, jewelry, personal services, and messages; commercial business or money making ventures that are not personal property; group, organization, unit, or division garage sales, other than "Village-Wide" garage sales.

**We DO NOT ACCEPT** the following advertising classification or categories: gambling, alcohol ads that promote over indulgence; gentleman clubs; pawn shops, who do not fully disclose their terms; payday lending companies; tobacco ads of any kind; political ads; ads considered offensive or inappropriate for readers.

**PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo**

**ACROSS**

1 Goes fast  
7 PC key by Ctrl  
10 Entreaty  
14 Blueflins, e.g.  
19 Pop star  
20 "Doesn't thrill me"  
21 Stack messily  
22 Indigenous Alaskan  
23 Existence  
25 Direction in a play script?  
27 Slight in build  
28 They're used with brooms  
30 "Goodness!"  
31 See  
33 Grease-filled  
34 Big cat noise  
36 — Paese (cheese type)  
37 Equipment propped up against a wall?  
42 Dead-tired  
44 Iron — (rust)  
45 With  
31-Across, "Come on in!"  
46 Certain mature tadpole  
48 Oscar winner Jared  
49 ER skill

**DOWN**

50 Forty winks  
52 Steed riding a heavy motorcycle?  
55 Certain youth support group  
58 Decided on  
60 Get larger  
61 Get evicted?  
63 Soccer success  
64 Prefix with day or night  
67 "Farewell!"  
68 Autocratic, as old Russia  
70 Motored  
72 Narcs' agcy.  
73 — dixit (unproven assertion)  
76 Singer Diana inspects?  
79 One-pot meal  
80 Virtue  
81 Prefix with magnetic  
82 Sea that contains lots of ale?  
86 Lingerie top  
87 Mass. hours  
88 Magical glow  
89 Ski trail asset  
90 File a civil action against  
92 Myopic cartoon "Mr."  
94 Old-style office scribe

**GOING GREEN**

40 Drink slowly  
41 Apropos of  
43 Tilling tool  
47 Supermodel Banks  
50 Opposite of old, in Germany  
51 Actress Ortiz  
52 Dreadful things  
53 St. Francis of —  
54 Candy heart message about a hug  
56 Golf ball prop  
57 Fairness and impartiality  
58 Dollar divs.  
59 One listening to something  
62 Numbered hwy.  
63 Bygone telecom co.  
64 — Bay (Jamaican resort port)  
65 11-time NBA All-Star Allen  
66 Antique  
69 Former jet to the U.K.  
71 Singer  
74 Chapel seats  
75 River in a Stephen Foster tune  
77 Kid of the 1960s or '70s

78 Styled like  
79 Time period  
80 Kittens' cries  
82 Might be able to do it  
83 Defeat in a "don't-blink" contest  
84 More likely to wear polo shirts, maybe  
85 Certain mature tadpole  
86 Apiary insect  
90 Comforts  
91 Nouveau riche  
92 NYC bus org.  
93 Aspires to  
95 Like some angles  
97 Marsh birds  
98 Kiki, Ruby or Sandra  
99 Broccoli — (salad green)  
100 Skillful  
103 Dreamy sleep, in brief  
107 God of love  
108 Clutch  
109 Bandage  
111 Vaccination spots  
112 Sci-fi princess  
113 Tattle  
115 Soup legume  
116 Naughty kid  
118 Hush-hush U.S. org.

#2,225 Average time of solution: 67 minutes

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Wheel is larger. 2. Hat is different. 3. Steering wheel is moved. 4. Arm is raised. 5. Hair is different. 6. Golf club is missing.

**SLYLOCK FOX**

Two criminals, Cleo "Baby" Badger and Phil Gerbil, were arrested for robbing the coffee shop. They both claimed Reeky Rat told them the back door would be unlocked. When interrogated, Reeky asserted he'd never heard of those two. Why does Slylock doubt the rat?

THEY BOTH IMPLICATED YOU, REEKY! CLEO GERBIL WAS ADAMANT! - AND PHIL BADGER EVEN SAID HE'S WORKED WITH YOU BEFORE!

REEKY, YOU GIVE RODENTS A BAD NAME!

I SWEAR, I'VE NEVER EVEN MET A PHIL GERBIL OR CLEO BADGER! - HONEST!

**HOW TO DRAW Santa Claus**

**YOUR DRAWING**  
Today's terrific artist is Abrish, age 8

Submit your drawing to [www.slylockfox.com](http://www.slylockfox.com)

The world's largest coffee producer is ...  
a) China  
b) Peru  
c) Brazil  
d) Colombia

Answer -- c) Brazil produces around a third of the world's coffee supply.

**BY BOB WEBER JR.**

Spot six differences between these panels.

Answer -- Tree, cape, hat, scarf, sled and ear.

Have fun solving a new comic puzzle every day at [www.slylockfox.com](http://www.slylockfox.com)



# GARLYN 50<sup>TH</sup> SHELTON



2021 FORD F-150 XLT 4WD  
SUPERCREW 5.5' BOX  
**Now Only \$37,000**

**MOST Wonderful  
SALE OF  
THE YEAR**



2021 GMC SIERRA 1500  
CREW CAB SHORT BOX SLT  
**Now Only \$38,995**

ALL ELIGIBLE VEHICLES COME WITH



## LIFETIME POWERTRAIN PROTECTION

PLUS MUCH MUCH MORE  
AT NO CHARGE TO YOU!



### Advantage Benefits Include:

Loaner Vehicle, Shuttle Service,  
Lifetime Multi-Point and Safety Check,  
Roadside Service, Car Wash and Much, Much More

### DOWNLOAD OUR APP:

- Schedule Service
- Search Inventory
- Track History
- View Rewards & More
- iOS & Android



2011 FORD  
FOCUS 4DR SEDAN SEL  
STK#42854C  
**Sale Price \$9,999**



2018 NISSAN  
ROGUE AWD SV  
STK#31493A  
**Sale Price \$10,999**



2015 CHRYSLER  
200 4DR SEDAN S FWD  
STK#31514A  
**Sale Price \$11,499**



2016 VOLKSWAGEN  
TIGUAN 2WD 4DR AUTO SE  
STK#31551A  
**Sale Price \$11,999**



2017 MAZDA3  
5-DOOR TOURING AUTO  
STK#31467A  
**Sale Price \$12,499**



2015 FORD  
FUSION 4DR SEDAN SE FWD  
STK#31567A  
**Sale Price \$12,999**



2018 VOLKSWAGEN  
TIGUAN 2.0T SEL PREMIUM  
STK#61400A  
**Sale Price \$14,995**



2020 NISSAN  
VERSA SR CVT  
STK#55339A  
**Sale Price \$15,069**



2015 BUICK  
REGAL SEDAN TURBO FWD  
STK#55545A  
**Sale Price \$15,995**



2019 FORD  
FLEX LIMITED FWD  
STK#55441A  
**Sale Price \$16,995**



2019 VOLKSWAGEN  
TIGUAN 2.0T S FWD  
STK#C20026  
**Sale Price \$16,999**



2018 HONDA  
ACCORD SEDAN EX-L 2.0T  
STK#31429B  
**Sale Price \$17,499**



2022 KIA  
K5 LXS AUTO FWD  
STK#55407A  
**Sale Price \$17,995**



2015 CHEVROLET  
CAMARO 2DR CPE LT W/1LT  
STK#55407A  
**Sale Price \$17,995**



2016 HONDA  
CIVIC SEDAN EX-L CVT  
STK#70299A  
**Sale Price \$17,995**



2022 NISSAN  
ALTIMA 2.5 SV SEDAN  
STK#55354A  
**Sale Price \$18,299**



2020 TOYOTA  
CAMRY XSE AUTO  
STK#12701C  
**Sale Price \$18,453**



2021 TOYOTA  
COROLLA LE CVT  
STK#55264B  
**Sale Price \$18,995**



2019 MAZDA3  
FWD w/PREFERRED PKG  
STK#31589A  
**Sale Price \$19,199**



CERTIFIED 2023 NISSAN  
KICKS SV FWD  
STK#55540A  
**Sale Price \$19,995**



2024 MITSUBISHI  
MIRAGE G4 BLACK EDITION CVT  
STK#Z20152  
**Sale Price \$19,999**



CERTIFIED 2021 NISSAN  
ROGUE SPORT FWD S  
STK#55397A  
**Sale Price \$20,335**



2022 NISSAN  
KICKS SV FWD  
STK#Z20138  
**Sale Price \$20,800**



2020 VOLKSWAGEN  
JETTA GLI S DSG  
STK#61512A  
**Sale Price \$20,999**



2022 HYUNDAI  
VENUE SEL I/T  
STK#Z20156  
**Sale Price \$20,999**



2021 SUBARU  
CROSSTREK PREMIUM CVT  
STK#54871A  
**Sale Price \$21,995**



2023 NISSAN  
VERSA SR CVT  
STK#Z20132  
**Sale Price \$21,999**



2022 FORD  
ESCAPE SE FWD  
STK#13189A  
**Sale Price \$21,999**



2022 MAZDA  
CX-30 2.5 S SELECT PKG AWD  
STK#61286A  
**Sale Price \$22,169**



2019 NISSAN  
FRONTIER CREW CAB 4X2 SV  
STK#55463B  
**Sale Price \$22,316**



2021 HYUNDAI  
SONATA SEL PLUS 1.6T  
STK#55562A  
**Sale Price \$22,995**



CERTIFIED 2023 NISSAN  
ALTIMA 2.5 SV SEDAN  
STK#55369A  
**Sale Price \$23,963**



2023 HYUNDAI  
KONA SEL AUTO FWD  
STK#Z20158  
**Sale Price \$23,999**



2021 NISSAN  
ALTIMA 2.5 SV SEDAN  
STK#Z20157  
**Sale Price \$23,999**



CERTIFIED 2023 NISSAN  
ROGUE SV  
STK#55327A  
**Sale Price \$24,461**



2021 NISSAN  
MURANO FWD SL  
STK#55205A  
**Sale Price \$24,845**



CERTIFIED 2025 VOLKSWAGEN  
JETTA SE AUTO  
STK#61288A  
**Sale Price \$24,995**



2024 BUICK  
ENCORE GX SPORT TOURING  
STK#Z20155  
**Sale Price \$25,500**



2023 KIA  
K5 GT-LINE AUTO FWD  
STK#61050A  
**Sale Price \$25,995**



2022 NISSAN  
PATHFINDER S 2WD  
STK#31487A  
**Sale Price \$26,499**



2020 NISSAN  
TITAN 4X2 CREW CAB S  
STK#55596A  
**Sale Price \$26,995**



2022 MITSUBISHI  
OUTLANDER SEL FWD  
STK#Z20128  
**Sale Price \$27,500**



2023 DODGE  
CHARGER SXT RWD  
STK#Z20112  
**Sale Price \$27,900**



2019 NISSAN NV  
PASSENGER NV3500 HD SV V6  
STK#61306D  
**Sale Price \$28,071**



CERTIFIED 2022 NISSAN  
MURANO FWD PLATINUM  
STK#55628A  
**Sale Price \$28,995**



2021 BMW  
X3 SDRIVE30i SAV  
STK#31284A  
**Sale Price \$29,499**



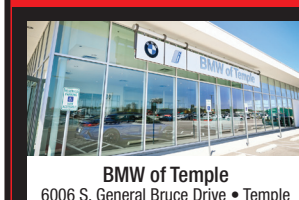
2022 JEEP  
CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK 4X4  
STK#Z20116  
**Sale Price \$29,999**



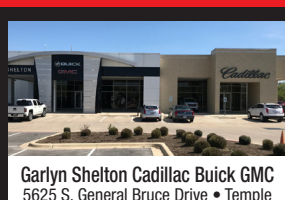
2023 MAZDA MX-5 MIATA  
GRAND TOURING MANUAL  
STK#55184A  
**Sale Price \$30,499**



2021 FORD  
EXPLORER XLT 4WD  
STK#Z20118  
**Sale Price \$30,900**



BMW of Temple  
6006 S. General Bruce Drive • Temple



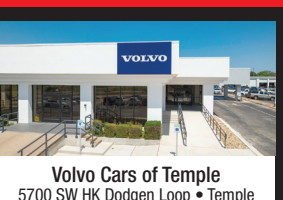
Garlyn Shelton Cadillac Buick GMC  
5625 S. General Bruce Drive • Temple



Garlyn Shelton Mazda  
5420 Midway Drive • Temple



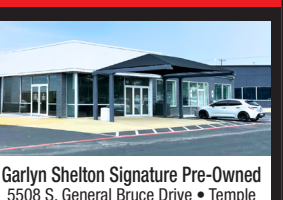
Garlyn Shelton Nissan  
5620 S. General Bruce Drive • Temple



Volvo Cars of Temple  
5700 SW HK Dodgen Loop • Temple



Garlyn Shelton Volkswagen  
5700 SW HK Dodgen Loop • Temple



Garlyn Shelton Signature Pre-Owned  
5508 S. General Bruce Drive • Temple

# GARLYN 50<sup>TH</sup> SHELTON



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