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# PHOENIX RISING

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## Scottsdale recruiters support Medal of Honor recipient Pat Brady



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – The Scottsdale Recruiting Center played an active role supporting Medal of Honor recipient, retired Maj. Gen. Pat Brady, during his appearance at the Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Show Auction, Jan. 19, WestWorld of Scottsdale.

The recruiting station was invited by Barrett-Jackson to represent the military and provide a color guard for Brady, who was the guest speaker at the event.

Brady was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1968 for his heroic actions in Vietnam, while commanding a UH-1 ambulance helicopter. (More on page 20 )



## From the Commander

**“We want to solidify the positive nature of military service and to provide extensive career choices for our youth.”**

**- Lt. Col Dave Clukey**

Phoenix Battalion ranked consistently within the top 15 Battalions in USAREC throughout the winter months and rose to number 11

overall; a high water mark for the Battalion, not achieved in over four years. The Battalion has much to be proud of as it increases emphasis on the Grad-Alpha market and continues to lead 5th Brigade and rank as one of top producers nationally within USAREC in the Senior Alpha market.

Phoenix Battalion sets the example in every measurable way and was the focus of a United States Army Recruiting Command (USAREC) Commanding General directed case study to illuminate community partnership tactics, techniques and procedures. The case study is used to educate all new senior leaders assigned to USAREC on community partnership and how to approach it responsibly and deliberately. Phoenix Battalion also influenced USAREC doctrine as part of the case study by providing definitions to account for three types of recruiting return on investment (ROI) generated from community activities and events consisting of: (1) Leads and enlistments, (2) access and (3) influence.

Of note, several members of the Phoenix were recently recognized for excellence and I would like to publically commend their excellence.



**Phoenix Battalion Represents the Army at Rugged Maniac, volunteers from the Battalion formed the “Army Team.”**



**Educators get a rare glimpse of Army life while attending the Educator tour at Fort Huachuca, AZ.**

CPT Eugene Lee, the Phoenix West Company Commander, was recently selected as a winner in the 2017 General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award Nomination board. The competition he faced, the Captains that he beat out were selected by the Commanding Generals of every Major Command (MACOM) in the Army and the best Company grade officers the Army has to offer. He will travel to Washington DC in June to be recognized by the Chief of Staff of the Army. Well done!

Additionally, the Phoenix Battalion Director of Public Affairs and Marketing, Mr. Alun Thomas won numerous categories under the annual TRADOC Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Communications Awards Competition. The Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Communications Awards Competition recognizes Soldiers and Department of the Army civilian employees for excellence in achieving the objectives of the Army Public Affairs Program. Mr. Thomas will receive a signed certificate from the TRADOC commanding general recognizing him for this exceptional accomplishment.

Phoenix Battalion has established itself as an organization of excellence within not just USAREC, but the Army due to the amazing people assigned to the unit. I am humbled and grateful to serve as a member of this great Team.

- Phoenix Rising



## From the CSM

### Phoenix Recruiting Battalion: "Closing Second Quarter"

- CSM Jose Gomez

Soldiers from the mighty Phoenix Recruiting Battalion continue to represent the Battalion in extraordinary challenges. First, SFC Degaetano, Station Commander from the Show Low Recruiting Station, was the first in the Phoenix Battalion to earn the permanent award of the Gold Recruiter Badge. Second, SFC Fry from the Superstition Recruiting Station and SSG Gumbs from the San Mateo Recruiting Station, both earned the Commanding General's .999 Club award for second quarter. These awards will be presented during the May Station Commander Quarterly Leader Development training.

The following Recruiting Stations achieved 100 percent or better on both the Regular Army and Army Reserve mission during the Second Quarter: Glendale RS, Good-year RS, Superstition RS, Show Low RS, Tempe RS, Farmington RS, Gallup RS, and Christown RS.

Second Quarter Board winners are as follows: Station Commander winner is SFC Knittel from the Ladera RS, Recruiter winner is SSG Evans from Scottsdale RS, and the Army Reserve Recruiter winner is SSG Bryson from the Black Canyon RS.



*Soldiers from the Glendale Recruiting Station along with the Brigade CSM, CSM Russell during visit to Phoenix.*

As we move into the third quarter, we need everyone to focus on the individual, station, and company requirements. We can not make our mission with less than 100 percent participation and dedication. I know we are working hard, but I am asking for everyone to put-in a full day's work everyday. I strongly believe and have full confidence we have the right team to accomplish this mission. I need each of you to believe and let's make history.

Thank each of you for your hard work in continuing to keep our Army strong and much thanks to your families for their support to this important mission we have been given.



*SGT Martinez from the Tempe Recruiting Station being presented a coin from USAREC Deputy Commanding General BG Vereen during visit.*



*Phoenix West Recruiting Company receive company of the quarter accolades at the BN SCQLD in Feb.*

## ***MSG Tobin award ceremony***



MSG Marvin Tobin, guidance counselor, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, was presented the meritorious service medal for his 27 years of service to the U.S. Army, during a ceremony, Dec. 6, at the battalion headquarters.

The entire battalion thanks MSG Tobin for his exceptional service to the Army and wishes him well on his journey as he starts the next chapter of his life.

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## ***Arizona School Board Association Conference***



Phoenix Central Recruiting Company participated in the Arizona School Board Association Annual Conference, Dec. 14, Biltmore Hotel, Phoenix.

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Browne, Scottsdale Recruiting Center, represented the company, and interacted with educators from throughout the state. This was a tremendous opportunity to spread the recruiting message and inform educators about the benefits of Army service, from education to job opportunities.

# ***Armed Forces Career Officers Day***

Photos from the 29th JROTC and Armed Forces Career Officer's Day, Nov. 21, McCormick Ranch Golf Club, Scottsdale. Attending on behalf of the Phoenix Recruiting Battalion was Lt. Col. Dave Clukey, battalion commander, Capt. Denard Honeysuckle, commander, Phoenix North Recruiting Company, and recruiters from Phoenix North.

The recruiters engaged dozens of JROTC Cadets from over 36 schools throughout Arizona, where they learned about the more than 150 job opportunities in the Army.



# Phoenix Battalion Annual Training Conference

Photos from the Phoenix Recruiting Battalion's Annual Training Conference, held 9-10 Dec., Renaissance Hotel, downtown Phoenix. The battalion held training for its recruiters, followed by a formal dinner and awards ceremony.



# ***Hispanic Phoenix native rises from poverty to OCS applicant***

Story by Alun Thomas, U.S. Army Recruiting BN-Phoenix

PHOENIX – Growing up as a young Hispanic child in Phoenix was often turbulent for Manuel Nevarez.

With a father he'd never met being absent, Nevarez struggled in poverty, as his mother worked relentlessly to provide for him.

It was a situation Nevarez swore he would overcome as an adult, determined to overcome the burden of his humble origins and prove he could succeed in life.

At the age of 23 Nevarez is well on his way to achieving his goals, having earned his bachelor's degree from Arizona State University in 2016, to be followed by his master's degree in May 2018.

With academic successes under his belt, Nevarez decided to follow in the footsteps of some of his family members and join the military, signing up for the U.S. Army and a slot at Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia.

Nevarez, who appeared before the OCS board, Jan. 5, at the Phoenix Recruiting Battalion Headquarters, said the journey to this point wasn't easy, with his humble beginnings keeping him grounded.

"I was born and raised in a single parent household ... I've never met my father," Nevarez said.

"It's always been just myself and my mother Maria. She did every-



***Manuel Nevarez (left), stands with Staff Sgt. Michael Sorum (right), recruiter, Tempe Recruiting Station, following an Officer Candidate Board, Jan. 5, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion Headquarters, Phoenix. Nevarez, 23, is hoping to become a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and enlisted through his recruiter Sorum at the Tempe station. (Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)***

thing for me. Unfortunately I didn't get to see her a lot because she was always working."

This meant her working up to two or three jobs at a time to make ends meet, Nevarez said, something which was complicated by his Mexican mother's undocumented status.

"I wanted to pay back the favor, for everything she struggled to provide me," Nevarez said with sincerity.

Nevarez dedicated himself to school and becoming the best student he could be, resulting in being top of his class at high school and receiving his degree in 2016.

It was around this time the notion of joining the military entered his

mind, having seen several of his cousins joining various branches and becoming successful.

"Some of my cousins – who are also first generation Americans – joined the military," he said. "One is in the Marines, two are in the Army and another joined the Navy. So the military wasn't completely new to my family, but I had decided to concentrate on school."

The thought lingered in the back of Nevarez's mind however, he said, having considered enlisting straight after completing high school.

"I did JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps), so I was ready to go. But I decided to continue my academics at university instead," Nevarez continued. "But even as I was finishing up my master's, I was still thinking about it. I'm still young, so why not?"

## ***Hispanic Phoenix native rises from poverty to OCS applicant (cont.)***

Nevarez went to the Tempe Recruiting Station, where he sat down with recruiter Staff Sgt. Michael Sorum and discussed the opportunities available to him, receiving exceptional help.

“He’s been wonderful. He’s guided me through the whole process, told me what to expect, what to do and made sure I have everything I need,” Nevarez said of Sorum. “He’s made the process stress free and taken a lot of the weight off my shoulders.”

Sorum said he was immediately impressed by Nevarez and expects him to perform well upon joining the Army.

“He’s extremely motivated and focused – he’s ready to become an officer,” Sorum said. “He came in the office, we discussed opportunities and he told me he wanted to be an officer. From then on I was committed to getting him there.”

Sorum said Nevarez possesses all the necessary traits to become an officer, something not easily found in people who apply to become one.

“Being an officer means having a sense of responsibility and you can always tell who has it and who doesn’t,” Sorum said. “From talking to Manuel for 20 minutes I knew he had what it takes.”

“He’s going to make a fine officer and I’ll be proud to welcome him to the Armor branch,” Sorum, a tanker, joked.

Nevarez’s Army journey isn’t slated to begin until after he completes his master’s degree in May, but he’s already mentally adjusting to the demands of basic training and OCS.

“I’m excited for the challenge of basic training because I’ve never gone through anything like it,” he said. “Recently I’ve really begun taking care of myself, my fitness and health. Since October I’ve dropped from 235 pounds to 195 and I’m working on losing more.”

Nevarez said he chose Ordnance, Infantry and Armor as his top picks for a branch, looking for something new to experience.

“Those types of jobs put you on the front lines and it’s something I want to experience,” Nevarez continued. “You’re more involved with your Soldiers and get to lead, encourage and influence them.”

Nevarez said he’s already thought about making the Army a career.

“It’s definitely tempting ... I could easily walk away and say ‘thank you for letting me serve’ after three years,” Nevarez said. “But right now I’m excited to start and I don’t see myself checking out anytime soon.”



***Manuel Nevarez reports to an Officer Candidate Board with a salute, Jan. 5, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion Headquarters, Phoenix. Nevarez, 23, is hoping to become a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and enlisted through the Tempe Recruiting Station. (Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)***

# **Phoenix recruiting commander briefs on leadership**

Story by Alun Thomas, U.S. Army Recruiting BN-Phoenix



***Lt. Col. Dave Clukey, commander, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, speaks to members of the Tempe Professional Development Network, Jan. 9, Tempe Center of the Arts, Tempe, Ariz. Clukey was invited to talk to a mixture of local education, law enforcement and government officials about his leadership experiences in the U.S. Army, which he has served in for 20 years. (U.S. Army Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)***

TEMPE, Ariz. – The Tempe Professional Development Network (TPDN) received a brief on leadership from Lt. Col. Dave Clukey commander, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, Jan. 9, Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe, Arizona.

Clukey was invited by Parrish Spisz, vice president, TPDN, to speak to local education, law enforcement and government officials, about his 20 years of leadership in the U.S. Army, the majority of it spent in Special Forces.

In discussing his experiences in special operations, Clukey said being an effective leader is critical, especially in smaller teams.

“Small unit leadership with just a small number of people, is far harder than trying to lead a large organization,” Clukey said. “In large organizations you generally have a robust, large staff to support you. With small unit leadership you have to screen people more closely, like our recruiting stations, which you see in strip malls all across the city.”

“Small unit leadership also requires the leader to be technically and tactically proficient, engaged and consistent; in small units the leader is exposed and his attitude and competence are consistently observed,” he continued.  
***(cont. next page)***

## ***Phoenix recruiting commander briefs on leadership (cont.)***

Discipline plays a key part in leading not just small units, but any team or organization, Clukey said.

“Discipline is important. It’s the process of doing things that make you feel uncomfortable,” Clukey said. “If you’re comfortable on a daily basis, then you’re not challenging yourself, you’re not growing and you aren’t getting out of your comfort zone. Part of that is discipline.”

“In the Army that could be getting out of bed in the morning to work out, or not waiting to complete a task until the last minute— consistently choosing to take the hard right over the easy wrong,” Clukey said. “There’s many different forms of this, but discipline is important as a leader. You have to follow through on things.”



Clukey then spoke about selflessness, which he said he has sought to perpetuate among his recruiters in Phoenix.

“A true leader focuses on what they have to do to make the team and organization better,” Clukey said. “You have to think about the collective team, understand it’s not about you, and determine how you can help achieve the mission.”

This type of selflessness also includes showing initiative, which is something each leader should be capable of, he explained.

“If you understand your boss’s intent and have a great idea on how to accomplish it, as long as it’s not illegal, immoral or unethical – then take the initiative,” Clukey said. “There’s millions of examples of people failing to take the initiative, and often in these instances the organization’s goals aren’t met or opportunities are lost. Conversely, there are many examples in history of people taking the initiative, assuming some calculated risk consistent with their supervisor’s intent, whose actions result in great success.”

“I tell my folks to take the initiative all the time – I encourage it,” he said.

A positive attitude also goes a long way to inspiring not just yourself, but others around you, Clukey said.

“If you tell yourself something’s going to be bad, it’s going to be bad,” Clukey said. “There’s two things in your life that you can control, that’s your attitude and health. Choosing to improve both will increase your quality of life.”

Never quitting or admitting defeat is a mindset which will ultimately lead to success, Clukey said.

“If you accept you can’t do something and let adversity get you down – you’re defeated,” he continued. “If you don’t accept it and you fight to overcome it, maintain a positive attitude, and work hard, you can achieve your goals.”

# **Phoenix Recruiting Battalion supports '12 Strong' premiere**

Story by Alun Thomas, U.S. Army Recruiting BN-Phoenix



*Retired Maj. Mark Nutsch (right) and retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Cal Spencer (center), answer questions from the audience, following the Arizona premiere of '12 Strong,' Jan. 8, Harkins Theaters, Scottsdale, Ariz. The film depicts Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha 595, who were the first unit to engage the Taliban in Afghanistan, during the initial 2001 invasion. Nutsch and Spencer are portrayed by Chris Hemsworth and Michael Shannon, respectively in the movie. Through close collaboration with the Special Operations Recruiting Battalion (SORB), 60 Phoenix Battalion Soldiers and civilians, and Community Partners attended the premiere. (U.S. Army Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)*

PHOENIX – The Phoenix Recruiting Battalion assisted the Special Operations Recruiting Battalion (SORB), for the Arizona premiere of upcoming war movie '12 Strong,' through several local events, Jan. 8.

Phoenix battalion facilitated a meeting between Special Forces leadership and Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers, at Glendale City Hall, where the movie was discussed in detail.

That evening, through close collaboration with SORB, 60 battalion Soldiers, Civilians and community partners, were given an opportunity to watch the premiere during an exclusive showing at Harkins Theaters, Scottsdale, Ariz.

'12 Strong' documents the story of Operational Detachment Alpha 595, the first Special Forces team deployed to Afghanistan after 9/11, and their engagements with the Taliban.

ODA 595 became known as the 'Horse Soldiers,' due to much of their mission being undertaken on horseback, while supported by a local Afghan warlord.

## **Phoenix Recruiting Battalion supports '12 Strong' premiere (cont.)**



*Sgt. Maj. Michael Bowman (left), 5th Special Forces Group, discusses his experiences in Afghanistan with Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers (right), Jan. 8, Glendale City Hall, Glendale, Ariz. Listening to the conversation is Staff Sgt. Kista DeGregorio (second left), public affairs specialist, 1st Special Forces Command, and Kari Silva, chief of staff, office of the mayor. Bowman was part of the promotional team for the upcoming war*

Bowman talked about the conditions he faced upon arrival in Afghanistan, which he said was a shock to his system, being straight out of the qualification course.

“I didn’t know what I was doing ... I’d only been in Special Forces for a week, so I was trying to figure out what my job was,” Bowman said. “Our Forward Operating Base had already been established and we had linked up with the Northern Alliance, who was the resistance to the Taliban.”

As part of the promotional team for ‘12 Strong,’ Bowman was also present at the premiere, which was also attended by real-life ODA 595 team members, retired Maj. Mark Nutsch and retired Chief Warrant Officer 5 Cal Spencer, played by actors Chris Hemsworth and Michael Shannon respectively.

Those attending from Phoenix battalion were able to participate in a question and answer session with Nutsch and Spencer at the conclusion of the movie.

Both talked about the mission undertaken by ODA 595 at length, with Spencer thanking those in attendance still serving.

“This movie is about all Special Forces teams that are still out there, doing this job and continuing to do this job all around the world,” Spencer said. “For all of you in the audience tonight that are still serving – thank you for your service. We absolutely appreciate it. We truly do.”

# **Anthem recruiter pays homage to beloved K-9 at memorial**

Story by Alun Thomas, U.S. Army Recruiting BN-Phoenix



*A photo of Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Smeltz, recruiter, Anthem Recruiting Station, Phoenix North Recruiting Company, and his late K-9 Aya, sits upon bricks dedicated to the pair, at the Anthem Veteran's Memorial, Feb. 1, Anthem, Ariz. For five years Smeltz had Aya as his faithful companion, after she was retired from the Army as a military working dog. (Courtesy Photo)*

ANTHEM, Ariz. – There isn't a day that goes by where Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Smeltz doesn't think of his late Army K-9 Aya.

For five years Smeltz, recruiter, Anthem Recruiting Station, Phoenix North Recruiting Company, had Aya as his faithful companion, after she was retired from the Army as a military working dog.

Such was the bond Smeltz shared with Aya, he was invited to place a brick in her memory, at the Anthem Veterans Memorial, Feb. 1,

making Aya the first K-9 to be recognized at the memorial.

It was a proud moment for Smeltz, from Amherst, Ohio, who said he first became owner of Aya in 2012, when his team leader was unable to take care of her.

"My team leader (Sgt. Zachery Lee) owned Aya. When she was retired he was still living in the barracks and was in no position to take her," Smeltz said. "So he asked me to take care of her for a few days. That ended up turning into five years."

Prior to owning Aya, Smeltz had been an engineer, specializing as a K-9 mine detection handler, where K-9's like Aya excelled.

"Aya did route clearance operations in Afghanistan. She went out with dismounted units to sweep the roadways on their patrols," Smeltz said. "She did six years in the Army and had two deployments to Afghanistan."

Aya was not an aggressive dog however, Smeltz added, with the training she (cont. next page)

## ***Anthem recruiter pays homage to beloved K-9 at memorial (cont.)***

and other similar dogs received, teaching them to be the exact opposite.

“The dogs I trained were non-aggressive dogs. They couldn’t be aggressive, because we were trying to find land mines,” he said. “We train them specifically to find odors. So there’s no bite training for our dogs. Literally they are a single purpose dog.”

Smeltz said he never had the opportunity to work with Aya on her deployments, being called to recruiting after three years in his chosen military occupational specialty.

“I never deployed as a K-9 handler. I had only been doing it for three years when I got called up to recruiting,” he continued.

Smeltz bought Aya to Arizona with him, where she gained attention at the Anthem Veteran’s Memorial, after appearing there with Smeltz in 2016.

“The first year I was here, I was approached to talk about the Global War on Terrorism at the memorial, so I bought Aya with me. That’s how I got involved with it,” Smeltz said. “The people who run the memorial bought a brick for myself and Aya. Anyone can have a brick there, but they thought it would be an honor for Aya to be the first dog to have one there.”

Besides himself and Aya, Smeltz said bricks were also placed for his brother Zachery, also a veteran, and his former team leader, Lee.

For Smeltz however, the prospect of replacing Aya is a distant one.

“Eventually I’ll replace her, but right now I just need some time in my life without a dog,” he said. “Aya set the bar so high that I need to find the right dog. I can’t replace her with just anything. It needs to be something special.”

The memories and times he spent with Aya will never be forgotten, Smeltz said, a truly once in a lifetime dog.

“It was an amazing experience. She was the most obedient and loyal dog I’ve ever had,” he smiled. “She was incredible, everyone loved her.”



## ***Phoenix Battalion supports PaYS signing ceremony***



***Lt. Col. Dave Clukey (left), commander, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, presents a Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) plaque to Windy Zachek (right), owner and chief executive officer, OakCraft Elegant Cabinetry, during a PaYS program partnership signing event, Feb. 21, OakCraft Headquarters, Peoria, Arizona. (Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)***

**Story by Alun Thomas, U.S. Army Recruiting BN-Phoenix**

PEORIA, Ariz. -- The Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program held a partnership signing agreement between the U.S. Army and OakCraft Elegant Cabinetry, Feb. 21, OakCraft Headquarters, Peoria, Arizona.

The event was attended by more than 40 people, including representatives from the Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, PaYS, OakCraft and the Peoria Police Department.

The agreement between Oakcraft and PaYS is part of a program designed to prepare, train and connect Soldiers to future employers.

The PaYS program ensures Soldiers are guaranteed a job interview with a PaYS partner of their choice after completing their Army Reserve training or first term of active duty service. The program provides employers with a pool of highly skilled, motivated and professional candidates from which they can fill their personnel needs.

Founded in 1982 in Phoenix, OakCraft has grown to become the largest cabinet manufacturer in the Southwestern United States. Oakcraft manufactures all of its cabinetry and wood products in a 110,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Peoria, Arizona.

This type of longevity and success makes OakCraft an ideal PaYS partner, said Lt. Col. Dave Clukey, commander, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, who praised OakCraft for their initiative in seeking qualified Army candidates.

## ***Phoenix Battalion supports PaYS signing ceremony (cont.)***



***Lt. Col. Dave Clukey (left), commander, Phoenix Recruiting Battalion, conducts an oath of enlistment ceremony to four Phoenix Future Soldiers, following a Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program partnership signing event agreement between the U.S. Army and OakCraft Elegant Cabinetry, Feb. 21, OakCraft Headquarters, Peoria, Arizona. (Photo by Alun Thomas, USAREC Public Affairs)***

“Each year 250,000 service members exit the military and re-enter civilian life,” Clukey said. “What OakCraft has now invested in, is an opportunity to tap into some of the hardest working leaders, team builders and community problem solvers in the world.”

The Army seeks resilient and fit people of character who represent the diversity of America, Clukey said, adding this is the pool of potential employees OakCraft will now have access to.

“These are candidates who have established a positive work ethic, have values, have entry to mid-level leadership skills, are tested free and clear of drugs and have honorably served or are serving their country,” Clukey said.

“Oakcraft can be proud of the fact they are directly helping young American’s who are willing to sacrifice their lives to protect our national security interests, freedom and way of life,” he said.

The partnership was also lauded by Windy Zachek, owner and chief executive officer, OakCraft, who said hiring experienced veterans will help further the company.

“We’re excited to join the Army’s recruiting mission through the PaYS program. Army and Army Reserve Soldiers will be provided the chance for a guaranteed job interview with OakCraft,” Zachek said. “It has always been a practice of OakCraft to employ veterans for the qualities and strength they gained serving our military.”

“Now with the partnership with PaYS, we have the opportunity to tap into a highly trained workforce,” she added.

# ***Carol Ray Farewell Ceremony***

The Phoenix Recruiting Battalion held a farewell ceremony for Carol Ray, Jan. 26, at the battalion headquarters in Phoenix.

Carol retired after 32 years of service to the Army as a civilian, the last 26 of those spent with the Phoenix Battalion as their Supervisory Logistics Management Specialist. She was joined for the ceremony by family members, including her husband Barry, and friends and co-workers from past and present.



# Scottsdale recruiters support Medal of Honor recipient Pat Brady



# Phoenix West Company



Team Honey Badger's race to 615 enlistments has officially hit the half-way mark! The Honey Badger team continued to perform and produce at a tempo that has gone unmatched and unparalleled. The second quarter of FY18 was filled with numerous public engagements and community events. We would like to showcase this quarter's effort by highlighting two amazing events: the NHRA show car and the Company's Mega Future Soldier event.



Phoenix West Recruiting Company Commander, CPT Lee, leads the formation run.



Below is a group photo of the 21 Future Soldiers and 10 Recruiters who attended the Company's second Mega Future Soldier Event in FY18 after running the Goodyear 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Heart and Sole 5K run.

Team Honey Badger and 21 Future Soldiers participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Heart and Sole 5K run on February 3. The run was a great opportunity to execute the Company's second quarter MFSE and engage our Future Soldiers and the community we serve. Captain Eugene Lee led the Company formation while our NCO's called cadence and kept the formation motivated all the way to the finish. This event generated four leads, two community partners and energized our Future Soldiers commitment to serve our great nation.



SFC Wiggins briefs RSK juniors on the intricacies of the TF Dragster.



The NHRA show car visit was the first time a national asset visited Raymond S. Kellis High School in Glendale.

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Glendale Recruiting Center and the Army's NHRA drag racing team engaged over 250 STEM students at Raymond Kellis High School. This event was an excellent opportunity to engage students and change the perception of a combat only force by exposing them to the numerous STEM opportunities within the Army. This engagement generated 83 leads, engaged 8 STEM classes and over 250 students.

# Tucson Company



Soldiers from the Tucson Recruiting Company were recently visited by the Battalion Command Team, LTC Clukey and CSM Gomez. During this visit, LTC Clukey and CSM Gomez met with each Recruiter and espoused the importance of accomplishing the mission.

LTC Clukey and CSM Gomez worked out with Recruiters from the Center Pointe Recruiting Station. They focused on functional fitness with a workout that included kettle bells. This demonstrated the importance of having daily physical exercises be included in everyone's schedule.

The Battalion Command Team then went to visit the Sierra Vista Recruiting Station. LTC Clukey informed the station of the multitude of sporting events that will recognize the Army Recruiters for their service. He also held a Q & A session on how the Battalion can assist the Recruiters with their mission. The next visit was with the Catalina Recruiting Station. CSM Gomez spoke with the Station Commander, SFC Kelly, about how to efficiently use his and his Recruiter's limited time. LTC Clukey spoke with the Recruiters on how to leverage community partners in assisting with the recruiting mission.

Finally, on the last day of the visit, the Battalion Command team visited Foothills Station and Casa Grande Station. LTC Clukey visited the Canyon del Oro High School and informed the principal, Ms. Bulleigh, on the many benefits associated with the military. Ms. Bulleigh agreed to give greater access to our Recruiters in order for them to reach more students. Finally, the Battalion Command Team met with the new Recruiters of the Casa Grande Station. LTC Clukey spoke about the importance of learning doctrine and applying these principles in attacking the mission.

Overall, this was a great visit by the Battalion Command team. They were able to spread their message to all the Recruiters located throughout the company and ensured everyone was 100% committed to the mission



LTC Clukey works out with Recruiters from the Center Pointe Recruiting Station



LTC Clukey speaks with Recruiters from the Catalina Recruiting Station



LTC Clukey spoke with Canyon del Oro High School Principal, Ms. Bulleigh, about Army benefits

# Phoenix North Company

Phoenix North Recruiting Company continues to recruit the highest qualified applicants for Army careers. Throughout January, February, and March, our recruiters have embedded themselves in local high schools and colleges, telling their Army story and creating new community partners for our profession.

Flagstaff Station hosted an Army band TAIR from Fort Huachuca at Page High School on 8 March 2018. The band director requested them to do a concert for 175 band and choir students. The six-man team demonstrated their musical range and described their typical duty day, with students participating in the musical portion. The event engendered interest among the Page Band and generated new community partners among Page faculty and staff.



The Fort Huachuca Army Band plays a concert for Page High School students

Flagstaff Station hosted an Army band TAIR from Fort Huachuca at Page High School on 8 March 2018. The band director requested them to do a concert for 175 band and choir students. The six-man team demonstrated their musical range and described their typical duty day, with students participating in the musical portion. The event engendered interest among the Page Band and generated new community partners among Page faculty and staff.

Paradise Valley hosted the Black Daggers skydiving performance team at Shadow Mountain High School. The team spent the day with students to speak to them about the Army. They spoke about opportunities and how it can help advance them to be able to become part of a team such as the Black Daggers. The local news also attended the event where they went live on TV and were able to contact thousands of individuals in the local area to speak about what they do.



Prescott Station with the WCAP wrestlers at the table setup



2QTR18 Top Combined Station: Paradise Valley



2QTR18 Top Reserve Station: Black Canyon



2QTR18 Top Recruiter: SSG Kirim

# Tempe Company



Tempe Titans continued to get after mission, cultivate relations with our community partners and make it happen throughout the second quarter of FY18! This quarter, we supported a variety of community and Future Soldier events, from hosting USAREC Deputy Commanding General Vereen during a tour of the East Valley Institute of Technology, to supporting the National Hot Rod Association at Wild Horse Raceway to challenging our Future Soldiers with nationally renowned fitness expert Coach Pain, Tempe Company's commitment to our community and dedication to mission success is indicative of our dedication to the Army's most vital mission of recruiting the best and brightest young Americans to serve as Soldiers in our nation's Army. Spring is right around the corner and we look forward to making our third quarter mission and ushering in baseball season with our friends and families. We have a great team of young leaders who are ready to take on the challenges of third quarter 2018!



**SGT Martinez provides instruction and guidance to Marcos De Niza High School Cadets**



**ISG Montano stands with Top Producing Queen Creek Recruiters (from left) SFC Clarence Wright, SSG Eric Kieselberg, SGT Ryan Mason, SSG William Lyons, SFC (SC) Chris Turner and SFC Wendy Zambrano**

On 3 February 2018, Tempe Station participated in back to back events while assisting Marcos De Niza High School Cadets in their JROTC competition and participating in the East Valley Institute of Technology career fair. Tempe Station Recruiters assisted the Marcos De Niza High School cadets through instructing them in basic tasks such as uniform presentation and drill and ceremony. Marcos De Niza competed against multiple high schools during the JROTC competition, and our Tempe Station Recruiters led them to conduct an outstanding performance. Tempe Station Recruiters also represented the US Army during the East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) fair. EVIT is Arizona's first joint technical education district that offers high school career and technical education programs to partner school districts. Our Recruiters represented the Army well and achieved 20 leads from the event. Marcos De Niza High School is one of our targeted high schools and yielded 12 contracts over the past FY. Tempe Company looks forward to strengthening our bonds with Marcos De Niza, East Valley Institute of Technology and our other targeted high schools throughout the Tempe Community.

# Albuquerque Company



On 9 March 2018 Albuquerque Recruiting Company celebrated the grand opening of their newly located Four-Hills (4P5E) Recruiting Station led by Station Commander SFC Fisher.

A ribbon cutting officiated the grand opening ceremony. Refreshments were also provided afterwards for the 4 community partners that attended.

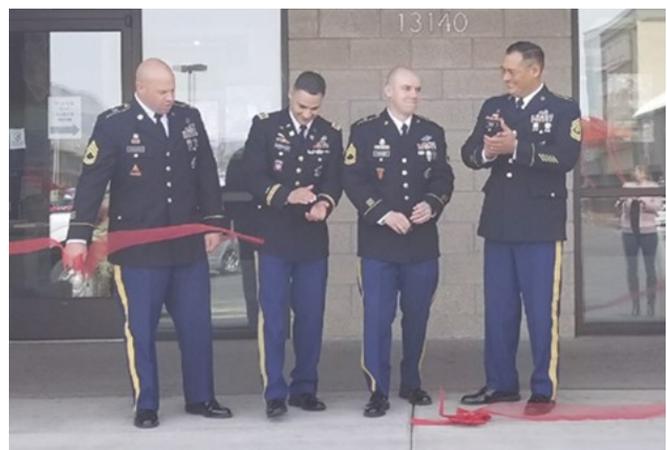
This new location will allow for the station to better take advantage of their 9,140 square mile area of responsibility which encompasses 8 high schools and 1 College.



CPT Dominguez, 1SG Basl, SFC Fisher, and Assistant Station Commander SFC Kolajack cut the ribbon



CPT Dominguez providing opening remarks



# ***Phoenix Central Company***

03 February 2018, the Phoenix Central Recruiting Company held a Mega Future Soldier Swear-In Ceremony at Grand Canyon University. The Future Soldiers were sworn in by LTC Dave Clukey prior to the start of the GCU basketball game against Chicago State University. Over 1,500 GCU Students and Alumni were present during the ceremony



On 24 February 2018, Christown Recruiting Station engaged the Arizona community at the Lowrider Magazine sanctioned Arizona Lowrider Super Show. A event that featured premier custom and classic cars, trucks, motorcycles and special interest exhibitors from across the western United States and beyond. The show included a car hop competition featuring top contenders in the industry. A no-cost event provided an opportunity to broaden the reach to the Hispanic Community in Arizona. Over 70% of attendees for the event were Hispanic.

