



Ranger Challenge
UNM ROTC wins competition ■ 10A



Honoring Sgt. de Avila
Family, community remember ■ 1B

Thursday, October 18, 2018

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NTC TRAINING

Pfc. Kevin Parker / Operations Group, National Training Center

Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, maneuver to their fighting positions during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., Oct. 1. For more on this story, see page 4A.

Fort Bliss prepares for cyber readiness inspection

By **NEC Cyber Security**
Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Fort Bliss is preparing for a Command Cyber Readiness Inspection, or CCRI, slated for Nov. 26 to Dec. 7. The U.S. Cyber Command will direct the CCRI and will assess the overall adherence of the Fort Bliss classified and unclassified networks to published standards and guidance.

Both networks are part of the Department of Defense Information Network, or DODIN.

The CCRI is a rigorous inspection of the networks and traditional security practices designed to validate the effectiveness of the protection mechanisms that safeguard the DODIN from cyber attacks and to ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of defense information data and services. During the CCRI, an inspection team will work with Fort Bliss cyber personnel at the Network Enterprise Center and senior installation command G6 and S6 elements.

Cyber security requires teamwork, and cyber vigilance in the workplace is everyone's responsibility. Inspectors will assess different areas of the networks and day-to-day employee workplace operations. This inspection will test everyone's daily routine. The CCRI results in an overall pass or fail grade based on a percentage score. A passing score will allow continued operation of the networks, while a failing score could lead to the disconnection of the networks from the DODIN.

The CCRI applies to all organizations on the installation, even contractor-operated facilities. The inspection team will assess the NEC and any installation organization with classified and unclassified network connectivity will also be subject to assessment. This includes any organization receiving network connectivity from the NEC, even if the NEC is not their main information technology service provider. U.S. Cyber Command reserves the right to inspect any organization physically connected to the DODIN on Fort Bliss.

Teamwork across the installation will be essential to the success of the CCRI. Two-way communication between the customer and the NEC will be a key factor to that success and is highly encouraged. Program Managed, or PM, and Program of Record, or POR, systems are part of the CCRI. All units are required to report their PM or POR systems to the NEC, which will make them known to the CCRI inspectors and submit them for inspection.

Security tips

Some helpful tips to keep in mind on a daily basis, not just for the upcoming inspection, include:

- Ensure all Common Access Cards, or CACs, and SIPRNET tokens are removed when stepping away from your computer. They must be with you at all times and can be no more than arm's length away.

- Do not download or store personal software, games, music or programs from the internet without obtaining formal NEC approval. Some downloaded files may contain viruses.

- Do not share your password or personal identification number, or PIN. Do not write down your password or PIN.

- Close all security containers whenever left unattended.

- Ensure all classified and unclassified computers, printers, digital senders and other information systems in your area are marked with the appropriate classification sticker.

- Check your shredder bags periodically. A best practice is to ensure that your shredd-

See **CYBER** Page 2A

Reflection on WWII service

'Operation Torch' veteran looking forward to 100th birthday

By **Master Sgt. Alex Licea**
1st Armored Division Public Affairs

ZANESVILLE, Ohio – Dale Jones might be 99 years old, but he shows no signs of slowing down.

He stays active and spends much of his time bowling, at church or helping his community near his home in the small town of Zanesville, Ohio, located 50 miles east of Columbus.

Jones is many things to his family and friends. He is a loving father, grandfather (or "Papa," as he is affectionately known), and proud citizen. He is also known by one more title, and it is quite visible on his trusty black ball cap. It reads: "World War II Veteran."

To really appreciate this man and the life he has lived, you have to sit down, put away your smartphone and just listen as he talks about his time in the military and serving in the war.

The pride and conviction of how he tells his story is evident as he sits in his chair with his military decorations framed nearby. His stories are something his family and friends continue to appreciate all these years later.

"Listening to my daddy tell his war and military stories is something I never get tired or bored from," said Shellie Hohl, Jones' daughter and one of his three children.

Jones enlisted into the U.S. Army in September 1940, a full year before American involvement in World War II. He originally wanted to join the U.S. Navy, but was not allowed to join for medical reasons.



Sgt. Dylan Grace / Ohio National Guard

Former Soldier Dale Jones poses with the medals he received during his service with the 1st Armored Division during World War II.

"I thumbed my way up to Cleveland and got my physical for the Navy," he said. "However, they said there was something wrong with my lower body."

This minor setback did not deter Jones, nor his motivation to serve his country in uniform. After enlisting, Jones completed basic train-

ing at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Soon after, he was stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey, serving as a support truck driver and mechanic.

In 1942, a young Pvt. Jones, now assigned to the 1st Armored Division, was shipped overseas and eventually ended up in Wales at

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WTB physical therapist awarded
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FORT BLISS

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COMMENTARY

Materiel enterprise stands ready to support

By Gen. Gus Perna
Army Materiel Command

As the commander of Army Materiel Command and the Army's senior logistician, I am laser focused on ensuring that you – our warfighters – have the equipment and supplies you need to achieve mission success.



I visited Fort Bliss Supply Support Activities (SSAs) this week to see firsthand how Army Materiel Command's efforts to improve the global supply chain are translating at the 1st Armored Divi-

sion and down to the individual troop level. I want you to have complete confidence that the global materiel enterprise stands ready.

As I told your leaders, I believe the SSA is the heartbeat of the division; if repair parts do not go out, equipment does not work and the division does not move. We have worked hard to reach our goal of 100 percent supply availability – having the correct repair parts readily available, so when your equipment breaks, you have what you need to get it back to fighting condition. We are also driving to reinvigorate logistics skills and right size unit equipment. In the past two years alone, we have moved nearly 600,000 pieces of equipment around the Army to get it to the right places. At the same time, we divested nearly one million pieces of equipment that our Army, with you, determined was excess – easing your burden of maintaining it and saving on the cost of sustaining it.

In strategic locations around the globe, we are upgrading Army Prepositioned Stocks with

the weapon systems and enablers that will allow you to draw and move out within 96 hours. These combat-ready sets, complete with the most modern command, communication, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment, will lighten the load for deploying units and increase your response time.

Like most things in the Army, achieving logistics and sustainment success counts on everyone rowing in the same direction. We know our next wars will not include the established Forward Operating Bases and contractor support to which we have become accustomed. After 17 years of counterinsurgency war, we must shift our focus to decisive action. This requires Soldiers to take back their role as maintainers. We need Soldiers to take pride and ownership in their equipment, spending time in motor pools and at railheads, learning and conducting proper maintenance, and logging the right data into the right systems. I was encouraged by the drive, initiative and innovation of the warrant

officers leading the 1st AD's SSAs during my visit with the "Old Ironsides."

One of our ongoing challenges is the ability to accurately see ourselves and our equipment across all components. We can overcome this with leaders enforcing, and Soldiers executing, the proper use of our logistics tools. Only through an accurate picture can we make the best decisions for you.

From Soldiers properly maintaining their own equipment, warrant officers who understand and push processes and sustainment leaders who can see across the materiel enterprise, our end state is to have the right equipment, in the right condition, at the right location, at the right time, to support the Soldier. Army Materiel Command's role across the force is support. Our goal – our responsibility – is to equip and sustain the greatest fighting force in the world. We are accountable to that end. We will work to be 100 percent efficient, but we must always be 100 percent effective.

VETERAN *Continued from Page 1A*

an Army depot moving jeeps onto transport ships. He recalls the large numbers of military equipment.

"You've never seen so much material in your life," said Jones.

There was a reason for the large quantity of military transportation and weaponry. The Allied forces were preparing for the invasion of North Africa in November 1942 to open up a second front in the war, in an operation that would come to be known as Operation Torch.

The operation was also the first major combined combat operation involving American and British forces in World War II.

Jones recalls the journey to Africa being a dangerous one. He was told that their route across the English Channel to the Mediterranean Sea toward Algeria was filled with mines and enemy submarines.

Jones' unit was part of the task force assigned to seize the port city of Algiers. As they reached the port, a few transportation ships were hit by enemy subs, leading to the death or injury of Allied service members.

"Just as we came into the mouth of the Mediterranean, one of our transport ships was sunk by a submarine," he said. "All of the nearby ships hurried to rescue the GIs in the water. I've never seen something like that in my life."

The fight for North Africa had begun.



Courtesy photo

Dale Jones, left, and a fellow Soldier on Anzio Beach, Italy during World War II in 1944. Jones served with the 1st Armored Division in the North African and Italian campaigns during the war.

Operation Torch

The operation began on Nov. 8, 1942, and it would end eight days later. The amphibious landing in the city of Algiers was one of three landing sites by three large task forces during the operation, including Casablanca in French Morocco and Oran in Algeria.

Jones recalls the ships pulled up to the harbor to let out as many Soldiers as possible in Algeria, but enemy resistance from the Vichy French forces met them.

However, the Allied forces would quickly gain footing in the battle and troops pushed inland, gaining control of the territory and securing a victory for the Allied forces.

Operation Torch was a significant moment in the war. The victory in French Morocco and Algeria discontinued the resistance of French forces in North Africa and eventually led to the French North African government joining the Allied war effort. Following the success of Operation Torch, elements of the 1st AD, along with additional U.S., British and Free French forces, were on the march to Axis-occupied Tunisia.

March to Italy

In February 1943, Jones and his unit found themselves in the Battle of Kasserine Pass, a two-mile wide gap located in the Atlas Mountains of west-central Tunisia. Their objective was to hold the line at Kasserine pass in an effort for U.S. and British forces to push the German and Italian forces west. Jones recalls the fighting was fierce, and the U.S. suffered many casualties.

"We got chewed up pretty bad, and we had to get help from the 2nd Armored Division," he said. "After the fighting, our job was to haul the German prisoners down to the prison camps."

Following the victory in the Tunisian Campaign in May 1943, Jones and his outfit traveled across the Mediterranean fighting through Sicily to Anzio Beach, Italy on their way to Rome. Elements of the 1st AD and other Allied forces fought their way up the mountains. Jones recalls his truck pulling a 105mm howitzer. The fighting was heavy during this period, with the Axis forces having control of much of the region.

"We were hauling gas, water, rations and ammunition up and down our supply lines during the fighting in Italy to help defeat the Germans," he said. "They would shell us all night so we had to dig underground and hide and try to sleep there. One night a delayed-fuse shell hit next to us and exploded under the ground, lifting us up and dropping us. We were lucky to be alive."

The heavy fighting continued all the way through the Po Valley to Rome throughout



Photos by Sgt. Dylan Grace / Ohio National Guard

Ninety-nine-year-old World War II veteran Dale Jones stands with his son Rick and his daughter Shellie in his home in Zanesville, Ohio. Dale settled there in 1956 following his service during World War II and raised his family.

1944. Eventually the region came under Allied control in May 1945 and Jones and his fellow Soldiers were once again tasked with transporting German prisoners of war following the surrender of the Axis forces in Italy.

Band of brothers

Jones comes from a very large family. In fact, he was one of seven brothers.

Servicing the nation was a sense of duty for all the Jones boys. Six of the Jones brothers served in the U.S. military during World War II: Dale, Vaughn, Francis, Glen, Bill and Harmon. Jones' other brother Joe was disqualified from military service due to medical reasons, but he served the nation in a different capacity as an instrument technician and inspector at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Columbus, Ohio, for many years.

Unfortunately, tragedy struck the Jones family when his youngest brother Glen, a Marine, was killed during the fighting in Okinawa, Japan. Jones learned of his brother's death when he returned home following completion of his service in June 1945. Glen was the only one to be killed in action during the war. To this day, Jones honors his brother's sacrifice with his cased flag, his Purple Heart and a picture of Glen near his favorite chair.

Life after service

During the end of the fight in Italy, an Army officer called Jones, ordering him to get on a plane to Naples. When he arrived

in Naples, he was told he would be going home.

"Those were the best words I had ever heard in my life," he said. "I thought I was going to France or to the Pacific."

Jones found his way back home to Ohio with just \$300 in his pocket following three years of serving in the war.

Jones eventually settled in Zanesville in 1956, had a family, and still lives mostly independent in the same house where he raised his family. Jones is set to celebrate his 100th birthday this November, and a local veterans' organization will be throwing him a party to mark the milestone. Many of his grandchildren have also followed in his footsteps by serving the nation in uniform.

Although Jones hung up his uniform decades ago, he still has fond memories of his time in service, and he is always willing to give advice to the next generation of Soldiers.

"When training in the field, always work as a team and not an individual," he said. "There is no time to hot dog anything, in the field or in the service."

Simple but sound advice from a simple yet extraordinary man.

Editor's note: Sgt. Dylan Grace from the Ohio National Guard contributed to this story.

CYBER *Continued from Page 1A*

der bag is no more than half-full. These checks can also spot issues with shredder functionality allowing you to catch a problem before it becomes a systemic issue.

– Ensure visitors are signed in if you work in a restricted area such as a secure room or open storage area. Remember to ask visitors if they have electronics and ask that they be secured outside of the restricted area. Use a DA Form 1999 to sign in visitors.

– Properly mark all removable media such as CDs and DVDs.

– If your office or building has a Protected Distribution System, or PDS, which is used to distribute the classified network, ensure the PDS is completely visible. The entire PDS of each building must be checked daily for signs of tampering.

A flyer is on everyone's computer desktop and it provides information and tips regarding the upcoming inspection. Direct questions to the points of contact in the flyer or the NEC Cyber Security Compliance Branch at 741-0808 or usarmy.bliss.106-sig-bde.mbx.nec-ia-office@mail.mil.



Did you know ...

• that your local Fort Bliss Financial Readiness team offers debt management classes?

• the next class is from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Oct. 26? Paying bills on time and avoiding late payments is an important part of debt management. It is never too late to achieve financial stability while establishing and maintaining an emergency savings fund.

Your Fort Bliss Financial Readiness team can assist you with budgeting and eliminating debt.

Remember we provide unit trainings. Interested?

Please contact your Fort Bliss Financial Readiness team at 569-8376 or visit us at the Army Community Service Center, 2494 Ricker Road, West Fort Bliss.

<https://bliss.armymwr.com/programs/financial-readiness-program>

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Photos are U.S. Army unless otherwise designated.

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Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Cobb

1st AD Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Crystal Boring
Master Sgt. Alejandro Licea

Garrison Commander
Col. Steve Murphy

Garrison Command Sergeant Major
Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Holschbach

Garrison Public Affairs Officer
Guy Volb

EDITORIAL STAFF

Managing Editor: Wendy Brown
Assistant Editor: David Poe

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UNIT NEWS

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

Unit Briefs



FB air defenders take
Patriot Master Gunner Course ■ 13A

Flag Retirement Ceremony: Do you have a flag that is worn out or too tattered? Then bring it over to the Old Fort Bliss Replica Nov. 3 to properly dispose of your flag. The ceremony will be all day and it is free. 588-8482

Tricare information: The William Beaumont Army Medical Center Health Benefits Office will host a Tricare Open Season informational town hall at 8:30 a.m. today in the Clinical Assembly Room in the main hospital, 5005 N. Piedras St., El Paso. Tricare beneficiaries will have an opportunity to address any and all open season questions and concerns. The office will also hold town halls at 8:30 a.m. Nov. 1 and Nov. 7.

Fort Bliss museum survey: The 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss Museum would like to know what you would like to see inside the museum. Which artifacts, stories and interactives would you like to see? Take a few minutes to fill out the short survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3X6X8HV>. The survey will be open through Oct. 31.



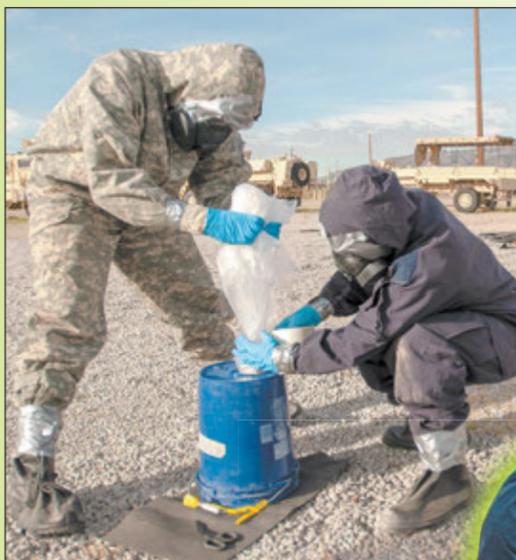
Photos by Sgt. Christopher Sarratori /24th Press Camp Headquarters

Spc. Corey Chapman, explosive ordnance disposal team member, 741st Ordnance Disposal Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), takes measurements of a fuze to help identify an unexploded ordnance item at Fort Bliss Oct. 11.

(Right) Sgt. Walter Pablo, explosive ordnance disposal team leader, attempts to remotely move a hazard while clearing a simulated cache at Fort Bliss Oct. 11.

(Below) Sgt. Joshua Gump, EOD team leader, prepares to transport a captured grenade from a simulated cache.

(Cutout) A Soldier measures radiation levels.



A 741st OD Co. (EOD) team packages a radiation hazard in a simulated radiological environment.



741st OD Co. holds EOD competition

By Sgt. Christopher Sarratori
24th Press Camp Headquarters

The sun edged over the horizon while teams from the 741st Ordnance Disposal Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) were busy responding to calls of improvised explosive devices, unexploded ordnance and chemical hazards. They had been awake since midnight, rudely awoken to put on their bomb suits and start the day. It would be another 20 hours before any of them got a chance to rest.

This wasn't a deployment, and all threats were simulated. This was the beginning of the final event of the 741st's Team of the Year Competition. The winning team's prize? Bragging rights and a chance to compete against other EOD teams from around the country.

The competition started Oct. 9 with a modified fitness test, and included a live demolition range, a board appearance, a ruck march and 24 continuous hours of EOD response to a variety of incidents.

"We are testing their competency in their EOD perishable skill sets that they use in both CONUS and overseas work," said 1st Sgt. Edward Swiger, 741st OD Co. (EOD) first sergeant. "We also included common skills testing to include basic Soldier tasks."

Tested skills ranged from employing various EOD specific tools, operating in a chemical or radiological environment, IED response, weapons cache response, rendering safe various UXO and identifying homemade explosives.

"This year is dedicated to Staff Sgt. Mark C. Wells," said Swiger. "I think it's important we honor and remember the lessons of our fallen. That's how we started as (a military occupational specialty) and that's how we continue to learn."

This is the first year the competition honored an EOD technician who was killed in combat.

Staff Sgt. Wells died March 5, 2011 of wounds sustained from an IED detonation while on a mission in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 45th Sustainment Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The two-man EOD Teams competed around-the-clock, often going with little-to-no sleep.

"It was four days of exhaustion," said this year's Team of the Year Team Leader Sgt. Joshua Gump, 741st OD Co (EOD). "To win it feels awesome; all of the other competitors were very smart. We all worked really hard for this."

Gump also said that the competition was a great way to test combat readiness under deployment conditions. He shares his victory with team member Spc. Alexander Campbell.

By the end of the competition, all the teams came away feeling like they had learned something.

"At this competition, we have teams running with uncertified Team Leaders. This is an opportunity for them to see what it's like to be in the hot seat. It's not something they'd get a chance to do at any other level Team of the Year competition," said Staff Sgt. David Wooldridge, 741st OD Co (EOD) team leader and observer-controller.





Where's CRAWFORD?



NTC continued

Soldiers assigned to the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, continued their training at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 this month. Decisive Action Rotations at the NTC ensure Army brigade combat teams remain versatile, responsive and consistently available for current and future contingencies. Not only did Soldiers engage opposing forces during their training at the center, they worked with close air support and practiced medical skills as well.

Pvt. Brooke Davis / Operations Group, NTC
A Soldier assigned to the 4th Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 1st AD, observes the movement of enemy elements during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., Sept. 28.

Sgt. Nathan Franco / Operations Group, National Training Center

A U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II assigned to 66th Weapons Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., stages at Bicycle Lake Army Airfield at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., Oct. 4. Multiple A-10 Thunderbolts arrived to provide close air support to 1st SBCT, 1st AD, during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01.



Spc. Lisa Orender / Operations Group, NTC

Soldiers assigned to 3rd Bn., 41st Inf. Regt., 1st SBCT, 1st AD, provide security while conducting a patrol during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 at the NTC, Fort Irwin, Calif., Oct. 4.



Spc. Michael Crews / Operations Group, NTC

Soldiers assigned to the 4th Bn., 17th Inf. Regt. 1st SBCT, 1st AD, provide medical aid to a wounded Soldier during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 at the NTC, Fort Irwin, Calif., Oct. 5.



Spc. Michael Crews / Operations Group, NTC

A Soldier assigned to 6th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st SBCT, 1st AD, scans his sector for enemy elements using an FGM-148 Javelin command launch unit during Decisive Action Rotation 19-01 at the NTC, Fort Irwin, Calif., Oct. 4.

CRAWFORD



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This is a summary of the features of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan. Before making a final decision, please read the Plan's Federal brochure (Standard and Basic Option: RI 71-005; FEP Blue Focus: RI 71-017). All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations and exclusions set forth in the Federal brochure.

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1. A Soldier assigned to 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, ground guides a Bradley Fighting Vehicle toward the ammunition distribution point during gunnery training at Doña Ana Range, N.M., Friday.

2. A Bradley Fighting Vehicle moves into position to shoot at Doña Ana Range, N.M., Friday.

3. Spc. Benedicto Cariaga carries M910 Target Practice Discarding Sabot Tracer rounds for the M242 Bushmaster 25mm Chain Gun on a Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

4. A Soldier looks out from a Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

5. Spc. Tatiana Dickerson, left, and Pfc. Travis Biafore, work on the mechanics of a Bradley Fighting Vehicle during gunnery training at Doña Ana Range, N.M., Friday.

6. A Bradley Fighting Vehicle crew waits to begin shooting at Doña Ana Range, N.M., Friday.

1-1 CAV goes live for TABLE IV GUNNERY TRAINING

Story and photos by WENDY BROWN | Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs

By Wendy Brown
Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs

DOÑA ANA RANGE, N.M. – One after the other, 16 gunners scanned the range for targets from the turrets of Bradley Fighting Vehicles. When one popped up, their eyes locked on it with one intention: to make a solid hit with the best means available.

In this case, that meant the M242 Bushmaster 25mm Chain Gun, loaded with M910 TPDS-T or M793 TP-T rounds, or the M240 machine gun, loaded with 7.62mm rounds.

This was Table IV gunnery training with Troop C, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, at Range 66B Friday. Sgt. 1st Class Ty Tyner, 1st Platoon platoon sergeant and troop Bradley master gunner, said the aim was to increase the troop's lethality.

"This is important because ultimately we are training to be able to fight wars, so this is the basics of learning how to operate your Bradley and work as a crew to efficiently use equipment to take it to the enemy," Tyner said.

Lt. Col. Jon Genge, commander, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. Regt., was on site for the training and said the unit's gunnery tables are designed to bring Soldiers basic, fundamental training that will make them profi-

cient for war.

"We're seeing if all the springs and all the levers, if they're all lubricated and they all work," Genge said. "We're seeing if you can make it actually get the 25mm rounds into the feed shoot up into the weapon."

Table IV is the first table where Soldiers use live rounds to prepare them for Table VI, their qualification table, Genge said, and the targets for Table IV are actually smaller than they are for Table VI.

The half-scale targets work well for training Soldiers to identify vehicles and targets, and Tyner designed it that way so Soldiers would be fully prepared for the rigors of Table VI, Genge said.

In addition, the training builds the troop's strength as a whole, said Capt. Kevin Graham, commander, Troop C, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. Regt.

"Along with our crew lethality, we're also building our maintenance processes to get (the troop's Bradleys) back up and operational. So that way when we go shoot in January, we can be successful," Graham said. "A lot of maintenance is happening."

First Lt. Greg Walker, Troop C executive officer, said the purpose of cavalry units such as 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. Regt. is to conduct reconnaissance so brigade leaders can develop well informed plans.

Bradley crews consist of a commander, driver and gunner, but they also carry cavalry scouts who can dismount and gather information, Walker said.

"The way it works is the Bradleys will pull up to what's called the 'stream line' and they'll start to gather information on what they see and engage if necessary," Walker said. "If not, depending on the type of reconnaissance we're performing, we'll push out the dismounts and the dismounts will go establish ops even further forward."

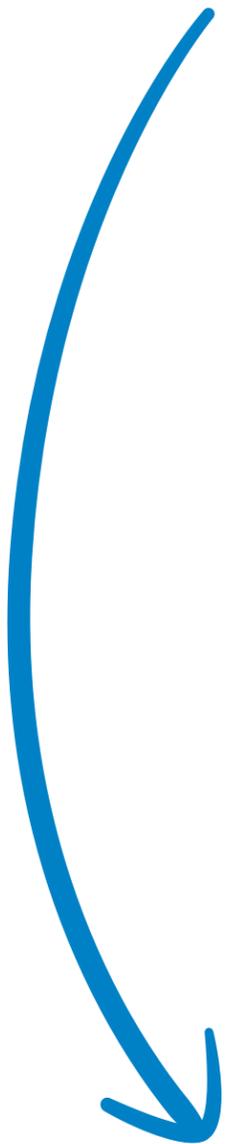
Spc. Gavin Tomeny, who has been assigned to Troop C for two years and has been through gunnery and deployments with the unit, said gunnery training allows Soldiers to work through unexpected issues.

"I think the biggest thing is getting the guys the hands-on experience with actually shooting the Bradleys and knowing how the weapon works, how the weapon shoots, knowing what happens and what they need to do when there is a malfunction," Tomeny said. "There are a lot of things that until you're actually in the middle of something, and it happens while you're trying to engage a target, (you don't know how to fix). You get a better learning experience from all that."



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I'm Feeling Lucky

WTB physical therapist awarded DOD's Spirit of Hope

By Marcy Sanchez
WBAMC Public Affairs

The Department of Defense awarded five individuals and one organization with the Spirit of Hope Award during an awards ceremony at the Pentagon Sept. 28. The award, named after the late comedian Bob Hope, is presented to an individual or organization selected by each branch of service as well as an honoree from the Office of the Secretary of Defense who characterize the values Hope embodied: duty, honor, courage, loyalty, commitment, integrity and selfless dedication.

Among the five individuals was Fort Bliss' own Louis Cortez, a physical therapist with the Fort Bliss Warrior Transition Battalion, who received the award from Col. Erik Rude, commander, William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

"Today's honorees embody that commitment, they embody that spirit, and they embody the best attributes of (Hope)," said Michael Rhodes, director of administration and management, Office of the Secretary of

Defense. "You serve those who protect this nation, you serve those who protect the freedoms we enjoy on a daily basis, so it is an honor to publicly thank and recognize these patriots for what they do for our nation to improve the lives of our troops."

Cortez, an El Paso native who studied physical therapy in the Netherlands, has worked alongside hundreds of wounded, ill and injured Soldiers with the WTB for the past three years. In that time, he's been providing Soldiers an innovative and individual-based approach to physical therapy, resulting in many making full recoveries from debilitating injuries and physical combat-related traumas.

"My mission is to help any ill or wounded Soldiers to recuperate or return to the fight, and if they can't, I help them recuperate as much as they can to become productive veterans," said Cortez. "I show them that they may not be the same person they were before but there's many more things they are able to do."

For almost a year-and-a-half, Cortez's commitment to Soldiers has helped one Soldier return to duty after suffering multiple injuries and surgeries to his shoulder, in addition to being diagnosed with asthma.

"(My unit) sent me to the Warrior Transition Battalion, and I met (Cortez) and from day one we started working on the shoulder, which only had about 2 to 3 percent range of motion," said Spc. Ricardo Cabrera-Murphy, a Soldier in transition with the WTB. "I couldn't even do anything (due to his injuries) not even wash myself; my wife had to help."

"When I got here that's when everything started changing, (the physical therapy team) started rebuilding me to get me back to where I was," said Cabrera-Murphy, a native of Carolina, Puerto Rico.

While doubting a successful recovery, Cabrera-Murphy and his family began to plan for his separation from the Army, despite his desire to continue service.

"After the first surgery I was still confident; after the second I thought 'that's it for



Photos by Marcy Sanchez / WBAMC Public Affairs

Louis Cortez, right, physical therapist, Fort Bliss Warrior Transition Battalion, assists Staff Sgt. Franklin Beardsley, a California National Guardsman assigned to the WTB while recovering from knee surgery, with proper form during the rehabilitative strength and conditioning program at the WTB Oct. 2. Cortez received the Spirit of Hope Award during an awards ceremony at the Pentagon Sept. 28.



Louis Cortez, physical therapist, Fort Bliss Warrior Transition Battalion, inspects bicycles before beginning maintenance at Fort Bliss Oct. 2. Cortez received the Spirit of Hope Award during an awards ceremony at the Pentagon Sept. 28.

me, I won't be able to go back to work," said Cabrera-Murphy. "As time went on, the shoulder got better and eventually got 85 percent range of motion. I passed my (physical fitness test) and got back in the fight."

Cabrera-Murphy credits Cortez and the Fort Bliss WTB for his return to the force, stating the command continuously emphasized proper recovery and determination.

"I'm so excited because if it wasn't for (Cortez), I wouldn't be going back to work," said Cabrera-Murphy. "(Cortez) is dedicated to the Soldiers, giving them that personal care and not letting anything get by him."

For Cortez, who has been practicing physical therapy for 20 years, the award was un-

expected and came as a surprise after he was selected, but he gives full credit to the Fort Bliss WTB and his coworkers who share a common objective: to make a difference.

"I think the whole WTB deserves recognition because we all do a great job and have a part in taking care of the Soldier," said Cortez. "This award was unexpected but what gives me the greatest pleasure in my job is making a difference in the Soldiers' lives and that's what's most important to me."

The Spirit of Hope Award was established in 1997 and has been presented to various service members, civilians, organizations and even celebrities such as Kelly Pickler, Toby Keith and Gary Sinise.



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Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets from Northern Arizona University on their team ruck march at the 2018 regional ROTC Ranger Challenge at Fort Bliss Saturday. The previous day, El Paso received almost an inch of rain, 40 times the average for an October day in the Sun City.

“It’s about having the grit, but also, do they have the skills that it takes?”

— Lt. Col. Jason Albright



1 An Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet tends to his feet following the team ruck march at the 2018 regional ROTC Ranger Challenge at Fort Bliss Saturday. Hosted by the battalion at the University of Texas at El Paso, the competition pitted regional ROTC teams against one another in the run-up to 5th ROTC Brigade's competition near San Antonio next month.



2 Army ROTC cadets from the University of New Mexico dig deep for their team ruck march at the 2018 regional ROTC Ranger Challenge at Fort Bliss Saturday. UNM won the competition and will continue to the 5th ROTC Brigade's challenge near San Antonio next month.



3 Rain-soaked Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets test out gear for the following day's ruck march.

RANGER UP

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DAVID POE
FORT BLISS GARRISON PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets await the official start time of their team ruck march at the 2018 regional ROTC Ranger Challenge at Fort Bliss Saturday.

UNM ROTC wins regional UTEP Ranger Challenge at Bliss

The University of New Mexico won the 2018 regional Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Ranger Challenge, hosted by the University of Texas at El Paso ROTC, at Fort Bliss Friday and Saturday. The Lobos topped ROTC teams from across the Southwest in the annual military skills competition and will represent them during 5th ROTC Brigade's competition at Camp Bullis Military Training Reservation, near San Antonio, in November.

The competition challenged teams made from 120 cadets from Southwest schools that also included: nearby New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico; the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, Texas Tech University, Embry-Riddle University,

Northern Arizona University and Grand Canyon University.

UTEP, NMSU and UNM's flagship campus at Albuquerque, New Mexico, commonly host the challenge due to their centralized locations in the region.

Despite a rain-adjusted schedule on Friday, a day that saw El Paso receive almost an inch of rain in a 24-hour period, 40 times the historical daily average for the Sun City in October, the challenge included events highlighted by buddy carries, night land navigation, improvised explosive device protocol scenarios, and a team marksmanship stress shoot Saturday morning, among other tasks.

Lt. Col. Jason Albright, the commander of the Fighting Miners battalion at UTEP, as well as a former battery commander at Fort Bliss, said he hoped the challenge offered the cadets an

opportunity to "build confidence within themselves, their teams and their equipment."

"It's realistic training for them," said Albright, a prior enlisted Soldier. "It's about pushing them out of their comfort zones – it's about testing the Soldier in a '360 sort of way.' It's about having the grit, but also, do they have the skills that it takes?"

If they can put a winning streak together, UNM can compete at Sandhurst, an annual international military skills competition held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, which is a goal for ROTC detachments nationwide.

Master Sgt. Adam Heywood, a UTEP senior military science instructor, the lead organizer for the event and a 23-year Army veteran, said despite all of the work involved with setting up the event and execution, he hoped the weekend was worthwhile for the cadets from a training standpoint.

"Obviously, safety is number one, but beyond that, all of the challenges are 'Skill Level One' tasks that we're teaching in our curriculum and they're getting to apply them in a live environment," he said. "These are the best-of-the-best physically and mentally. We hope they leave here with a better understanding of how a team works – that's the intent."



4 Rain-soaked Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets perform a buddy carry during the Commander's Challenge portion.



5 An Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet fires an M4 carbine.



6 Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets await the official start time of their team ruck march.

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Fort Bliss air defenders take Patriot Master Gunner Course

By Capt. Marion Jo Nederhoed
35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea – Air Defenders are gaining an overall understanding of how air defense is supposed to flow and how standards and doctrine are applied during a Patriot Master Gunner Course at Osan Airbase, South Korea.

The 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade is currently hosting the course with students a third of the way complete. The course is demanding and critical for air defenders worldwide and to the South Korean mission.

Air defenders from Fort Bliss; the 35th ADA, South Korea; the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Hawaii; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment, from Okinawa, Japan, are participating in the course through Nov. 14.

“This course has definitely made me more knowledgeable on tactics,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Moscatelli from Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment. “I have a better understanding of everything going on. I will be able to evaluate and provide training to other Soldiers.”

The students have just completed Air Battle Management Level Evaluation Process (level five of 16 levels of air battle management). The air defenders also recently completed training strategy briefs. The brief is a 12-month brief presented by small groups demonstrating how they will properly train and prepare their batteries for upcoming deployments.

Students in the course have been prepping for their briefs for four weeks, working on them after class in the evening and on the weekends. The briefs require time management and the proper resources to ensure that the plans are flawless.

“I now have a better understanding of the operation,” said Sgt. Thomas Manor from Battery C, 2nd Bn., 1st ADA Regt. “I

didn't have a good understanding of the big scale requirements. I now see things from a greater perspective and why things are done certain ways.”

The training strategy briefs help the air defenders to be able to provide their peers, commanders and Soldiers with a better knowledge base at every level to assist both Soldiers and commanders with their jobs. The brief covers a yearlong timeframe from “rest” all the way to “available” for the AF-ROGEN process.

Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Estrada, the Patriot master gunner instructor from 3rd Battalion, 6th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, said he is excited to see the course come back to the 35th ADA after two years. He was a student in the class in 2016 and has been able to take the knowledge that he learned, use it in the field and now bring it back to other students.

As part of the course the air defenders also conducted a block of instruction on Patriot missile reload. On Oct. 4, Battery D, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, demonstrated a Patriot missile reload for those attending the Patriot Master Gunner Course. As a master gunner, part of the training is to learn how to train and evaluate crews and this provided the opportunity to watch the crew team in action and discuss the operations they had just reviewed in class.

“I have a better understanding of everything going on. I will be able to evaluate and provide training to other Soldiers.”

>> Staff Sgt. Robert Moscatelli



Photos by Capt. Marion Jo Nederhoed / 35th ADA Bde.

Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Estrada, Patriot master gunner instructor, discusses Patriot missile reload with students Sgt. Thomas Manor, Staff Sgt. Robert Moscatelli and Staff Sgt. Chase Dehart at the Battery D, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, motor pool, Osan Air Base, South Korea, Oct. 4.



Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Estrada, Patriot master gunner instructor, discusses Patriot missile reload with students Sgt. Thomas Manor, Staff Sgt. Robert Moscatelli and Staff Sgt. Chase Dehart at the Battery D, 6th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, motor pool, Osan Air Base, South Korea, Oct. 4.

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Pfc. Matthew Marcellus / 24th Press Camp Headquarters

Soldiers with the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) hold their position during a live-fire portion of the Saber Junction 18 exercise at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, Sept. 12. The Army is testing a prototype for a new squad weapon.

Next generation squad weapon to be very capable, lethal, says Army chief of staff

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Several prototypes of a next-generation squad weapon were advanced forward for testing and a request for proposal was sent out, said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Mark A. Milley during a news conference at the Association of the U.S. Army’s Annual Meeting and Exposition Oct. 8.

Test firing of the weapon prototype indicates that it has an accurate range far in excess of any existing military rifle today, he said.

Additionally, it fires at speeds that far exceed the velocity of bullets today and it will penetrate any existing body armor or body armor expected to exist over the next 25 years, he added. This sophisticated weapon also has a sight system that integrates into Soldiers’ gear that incorporates the latest in information technology.

Producing such a highly capable weapon is clearly in the realm of the possible, Milley noted, after speaking with engineers designing the prototypes. Right

now, feedback from the prototypes looks like it will fire 6.8mm rounds.

Because the weapon is so capable and so sophisticated, “not surprisingly, we expect it to be expensive,” he said. “So we’re probably not going to field the entire Army with this weapon. We’ll prioritize to those Soldiers in all components who are in close combat quarters-type duties such as Infantry, Armor, Cavalry, Rangers, Special Forces, combat engineers.”

The Army is looking to buy somewhere in the range of 100,000 of these weapons initially and may expand that later on, he said. The Army hopes to have them out on the range at Fort Benning, Georgia, hopefully by next summer.

“We look forward to it. It’s exciting. But we don’t want to speak too much about its technical capabilities because our adversaries watch these things very closely, so we prefer to keep the technical details out of the news,” he said. “The bottom line is we’re committed to a new rifle and a new squad automatic weapon.”



1st Lt. Leland White / U.S. Army National Guard

A weapons squad of U.S. Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Cavalry Regiment and deployed in support of Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve fire two M240B machine guns during a live-fire training exercise near Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, Sept. 26. The Army is testing a prototype for a new squad weapon.

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Dining Facility Operations Schedule

October 2018



Area 1 (East Bliss) Bldg. 20626 Cold War St.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-F	0730-0900	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRN 0930-1300		SUP 1700-1830
HOL			

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DFAC (915) 744-7764/7767

Area 1A (Far East Bliss) Bldg. 21214 Bayonet Ave.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-F	0800-0930	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRN 0930-1300		SUP 1700-1830
HOL			

Area 2 (East Bliss) Bldg. 20226 Eagle St.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-F	0730-0900	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRN 0930-1300		SUP 1700-1830
HOL			

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Area 3 (East Bliss) Bldg. 11316 SSG Sims St.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-F	0730-0900	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRN 0930-1300		SUP 1700-1830
HOL			

BDE Food Service 744-4300
DFAC 741-3411/3413

Area 1 (West Bliss) Bldg. 906 Chaffee Rd.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-T-W-F	0500-0830	1130-1300	1700-1830
THU	0500-0830	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRK 0700-0830 LUN 1130-1300		DIN 1600-1730
HOL			

COR 568-0435
DFAC 568-9672/9719

McGregor Bldg. 9436 Vulcan Rd.

October 2018						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

	BRK	LUN	DIN
M-T-W-F	0600-0730	1130-1300	1700-1830
THU	0600-0730	1130-1300	1700-1830
WKND	BRK 0600-0730 LUN 1130-1300		DIN 1700-1830
HOL			

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NASA photos

Army astronauts Col. Andrew “Drew” Morgan and Lt. Col. Anne McClain, both from the astronaut class of 2013, prepare to be promoted while underwater following required training in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at the Sonny Carter Training Facility in Houston Sept. 27.

Army astronauts promoted while underwater

By Dottie K. White
SMDC/ARSTRAT

HOUSTON – The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command’s two Army astronauts received their new ranks in a unique way Sept. 27.

Army astronauts Col. Andrew “Drew” Morgan and Lt. Col. Anne McClain, both from the astronaut class of 2013, were promoted while underwater following required training in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at the Sonny Carter Training Facility.

The NBL is an astronaut training facility featuring a large indoor pool of water in which astronauts may perform simulated EVA tasks in preparation for upcoming missions. Trainees wear suits designed to provide neutral buoyancy to simulate the microgravity they would experience during spaceflight.

Lt. Gen. James Dickinson, commanding general, USASMDC/ARSTRAT, presided over the ceremony and administered the oath of office from the NBL control room, which was filled with family, friends and coworkers.

McClain, who was promoted first, said, “It truly is an honor to be in this suit in this pool working with this team, and it’s an honor to be a lieutenant colonel in the Army. Thank you for celebrating this major milestone with me.”

McClain, a Spokane, Washington native, earned a Bachelor of Science in mechanical/aeronautical engineering from West Point. A 2002 Marshall Scholar, McClain earned a Master of Science in aerospace engineering from the University of Bath in England, and a Master of Science in international relations from the University of Bristol in England. Also a senior Army aviator, she has more than 2,000 flight hours in 20 different aircraft. She is a rated pilot for the C-12 Huron (King Air), UH-60 Black Hawk and UH-72 Lakota, and instructor pilot for the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior.

She is assigned to launch Dec. 20 to serve aboard the International Space Station as a flight engineer for Expedition 58 and 59. McClain, along with her crewmates, David Saint-Jacques of the Canadian Space Agency and Oleg Kononenko of the Russian Space Agency Roscosmos, are scheduled to launch aboard the Soyuz MS-11 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan for a six-month rotation.

Morgan, who is currently training as McClain’s backup, is an emergency physician in the U.S. Army with subspecialty certification in primary care sports medicine. He is a graduate of West Point and of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. Prior to his selection to NASA’s 21st group of astronauts, Morgan served in elite special operations units worldwide. He is married with four children



Lt. Col. Anne McClain, an Army astronaut, NASA Detachment, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, receives the oath of office during an underwater promotion ceremony in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory in Houston Sept. 27.

and considers New Castle, Pennsylvania, his hometown.

Morgan is assigned to launch on Soyuz 59S in July 2019 and will serve aboard the International Space Station as a flight engineer for Expedition 60 and 61.

Following his promotion, Morgan thanked the NBL team and astronaut office for helping with the unique promotion experience.

“This isn’t something we typically do. I sincerely appreciate everybody. I appreciate all of the work the divers do down here. They are down here with me now,” Morgan said. “I can’t think of a better way to celebrate what will be my last promotion in the Army in a space suit with all of you surrounded by the people I love and respect, and to do it alongside Anne McClain, one of the finest officers I’ve ever met – congratulations to you as well.”

“I can’t list all of the mentors along the way who have shaped me into who I’ve become but there is one mentor – one friend that I just have to mention by name – my wife, Stacy. I could not have done it without her. I am a better person because of her – my wife of nearly 20 years. I love you very much, Stacy,” he continued.



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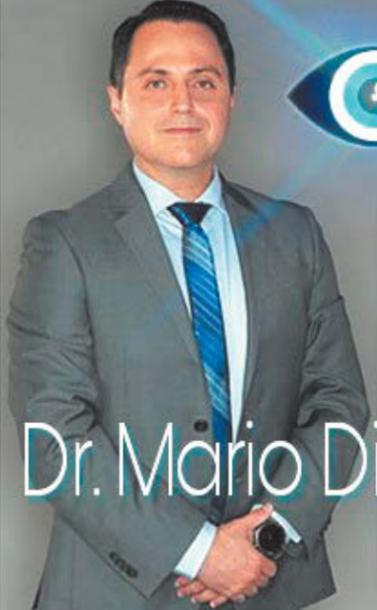
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Sgt. Christopher Hernandez / MaD Bde., DPTMS

Col. Javier Rivera, left, 210th Regional Support Group commander and commander of the Mobilization and Deployment Brigade/Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, discusses the MaD mission and future endeavors with Brig. Gen. David Elwell, incoming deputy commander of the 108th Training Command, during Elwell's visit to Fort Bliss Friday. Elwell is also slated to become the deputy commanding general of the Mobilization Force Generation Installation/Mobilization Support Force, following the 210th RSG's departure and replacement by the 653d RSG here April 2019. Commandeered by yearly rotating RSGs and operating in tandem with the 5th Armored Bde., the MaD Bde. supports units during pre- and post-mobilization for rotational, contingency and disaster response missions. Additionally, the MaD Bde. provides administrative support, sustainment capabilities and adheres to Department of Defense-mandated mobilization/demobilization guidelines.



Defense support of civil authorities

By U.S. Army Reserve

What is it?

Defense Support of Civil Authorities is a total force effort by all federal military forces – to include DOD civilians, contract personnel and Reserve component forces and assets. This effort is in response to domestic emergencies, to include homeland defense, homeland security, terrorist attacks, natural and man-made disasters and other events.

The 2018 National Defense Strategy codifies DSCA as a primary mission of the Department of Defense. Federal Law (Titles 10 and 32 USC) creates distinct mechanisms for local and state authorities to call upon Army

Reserve forces or resources.

What is the Army doing?

Army Reserve forces and capabilities can be packaged with appropriate command and staff structure to facilitate assistance to civil authorities and can be deployed immediately. Under Immediate Response Authority, the Army Reserve can also directly respond to requests from civil authorities when time does not permit approval from a higher authority.

Army Reserve capabilities support many vital domestic emergency and disaster response efforts, including medium and heavy lift helicopters for medical evacuation or search and rescue. Other support includes ground ambulance, combat support hospitals and specialized medical teams. Additionally, full-spectrum engineering support includes horizontal and vertical construction and portable bridges. Other important support functions are logistics, quartermaster, communications, security and mission command capabilities. Army Reserve provides all emergency preparedness liaison officers for the Army.

During the 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season, 2,253 Army Reserve Soldiers

mobilized from 40 units conducted response operations while working with Army active component, Army National Guard, and other services in the Total Force. In 2018, U.S. Army Reserve Command worked closely with Army Forces Command to provide any required assets to support National Guard or Army relief efforts.

What continued efforts does the Army have planned?

The Army Reserve stands ready to provide emergency support for DSCA operations with all of its forces and capabilities. The Army Reserve is also fully integrated into the standing Department of Defense task force positioned to respond to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear events.

Why is this important to the Army?

Providing timely and appropriate response to an incident remains one of the Army's key operational concepts. When disaster strikes, early access to the right response capabilities is extremely crucial. Army Reserve's Defense Support of Civil Authorities enhances overall mission readiness.

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DWI Statistics for FY18

Total DWIs			
Unit	% of Bliss Population	% of Total DWI	DWIs
JMC	0%	0.00%	
32ND AAMDC	1%	0.00%	
11TH ADA BDE	10%	8.26%	9
JTF North	0%	0.00%	
1/1 AD	15%	22.02%	24
2/1 AD	14%	11.93%	13
3/1 AD	15%	18.35%	20
1AD CAB	9%	12.84%	14
1AD DIVARTY	1%	8.26%	9
1AD SUST BDE	5%	7.34%	8
5th AR BDE/402ND	1%	0.92%	1
31ST CSH	1%	0.00%	
93D MP	3%	4.59%	5
204th MI	1%	0.00%	
86th ESB	2%	1.83%	2
80th CA	1%	0.00%	
HHBN 1AD	3%	0.92%	1
Garrison	0%	0.00%	
WBAMC	4%	2.75%	3
USASMA	2%	0.00%	
TOTALS			109

Drug Statistics for FY18

Total Drugs Offenses						
Unit	% of Bliss Population	% of Total Drugs	Drugs (UA)	Drug Poss	Drug Distro	Total Drug Incidents
JMC	0%	0.00%				0
32ND AAMDC	1%	0.00%				0
11TH ADA BDE	10%	10.38%	21	1		22
JTF North	0%	0.00%				0
1/1 AD	15%	21.70%	45	1		46
2/1 AD	14%	6.13%	11	2		13
3/1 AD	15%	16.51%	30	5		35
1AD CAB	9%	14.15%	23	6	1	30
1AD DIVARTY	1%	5.66%	11	1		12
1AD SUST BDE	5%	13.68%	25	4		29
5th AR BDE/402ND	1%	1.89%	4			4
31ST CSH	1%	1.42%	3			3
93D MP	3%	3.30%	7			7
204th MI	1%	0.47%		1		1
86th ESB	2%	3.30%	7			7
80th CA	1%	0.00%				0
HHBN 1AD	3%	0.00%				0
Garrison	0%	0.00%				0
WBAMC	4%	1.42%	2	1		3
USASMA	2%	0.00%				0
TOTALS			183	22	1	212

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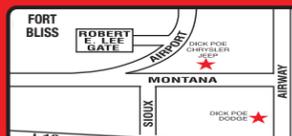
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11th ADA Bde. celebrates
Hispanic Heritage Month ■ 5B



WWII MP receives corps'
highest honor ■ 8B



WCAP Soldier wins
Ten-Miler, Tanui repeats as top female ■ 11B

Things to Do:

Massacre on Marshall Road: Get ready for the fright of your life. The Massacre on Marshall Road is back with a vengeance, and it's looking for willing souls to enter the abyss of ultimate terror. Warning: This is not recommended for the faint of heart. Cost: \$5; open to the public. The haunted house will be open from 6-10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in the month of October, and will be open Halloween night, Oct. 31, from 6 p.m.-midnight. The Massacre on Marshall Road is located at the Trading Post, 1717 Marshall Road. 588-8247

Paint N' Pour: The Library After Hours presents: Paint N' Pour a social painting class. Get together with friends and paint an acrylic masterpiece in a staff-led class from 6-8 p.m. Friday at the Mickelsen Community Library. This month's theme is "Spooky House." Cost: \$20, including supplies, instruction and one glass of wine. Wear appropriate clothing for painting. Space is limited, so hurry and reserve your spot. Payment is due when you place reservations; cash only. It is open to DOD ID cardholders, 21 and older. 568-1902

Halloween Right Arm Night: Enjoy a relaxing evening at Right Arm Night from 4-9 p.m. Friday at the Pershing Pub. The event will include free appetizers and drink specials. 781-6809

Day of the Dead Festival: Are you ready for the Day of the Dead Festival from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday at the Art and Hobby Shop? Come on over to pick your favorite Day of the Dead craft. You can choose from many ceramics to include a sugar skull box, spooky coffin or a sugar skull candy dish. If ceramics aren't your thing, then make a Day of the Dead Festival Top hat or flower crown. There will also be face painting, coloring pages, movies, snacks, paper-skull mask making and a photo booth. Bring the whole family. 568-5563

Tell Me a Story: This year's fall Tell Me a Story event is at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Old Fort Bliss Replica Cultural Center, 5054 Pershing Road. The featured book is "Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type," by Doreen Cronin. The Military Child education Coalition's Tell me a story: Making Connections and Finding Support Through Literature is an initiative created to empower military children ages 4-12 by using literature and their own stories. This free event requires registration. Reserve your space at <http://tmas-signin.questionpro.com>. The location code is "ELP." PtoP: ElPaso@militarychild.org

MYC Harvest Festival: Come out to the eighth annual Harvest Festival at the Milam Youth Center from 2-5 p.m. Saturday. The festival brings members of the community together to enjoy some spooky family fun. MYC students coordinate and handle the event. There will be a haunted house, face painting, cupcake decorating and games. To enter this spooky, fun place, admission is one canned food per person. Free candy is also available for the first 400 children. 744-2449

Las Cruces Country Music Festival: Dwight Yoakam, Randy Houser and Rick Trevino headline the 2018 festival Friday through Sunday along Main Street in historic downtown Las Cruces, New Mexico, with two stages of music, food vendors, western and apparel vendors, a kids corral with jump houses and other activities and a cash bar all three days. Festival gates open at 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday. VIP passes are \$150. Festival general admission for Friday or Saturday is \$35; \$10 Sunday; weekend passes are \$75. Children under 12 admitted free with paid adult ticket. Tickets at lccountryfest.com or eventbrite.com.

Ruidoso Oktoberfest: The 37th annual Lincoln County, New Mexico, version of the German tradition is Friday and Saturday at the Ruidoso Convention Center. German food, beer, wine, music, games, live music and folk dances will abound 5-11 p.m. Friday and noon-11 p.m. Saturday. Arts and crafts booths will be featured as well as a "Kinderhall." Featured entertainment: Familienmusik Doppler from Austria and two other bands. Proceeds benefit various Lincoln County charities. Admission: \$10 per day; \$16 for both days; \$6 for ages 13-17 and free for children 12 and under. An adult must accompany children and teens. (575) 257-6171 or OktoberfestRuidoso.com

Texas Hold 'em: Come out to the Monti Warrior Zone from 6-10 p.m. Wednesday and try your hand at Texas Hold 'em. Enjoy a night out with friends. Cost: \$15 and includes one drink of your choice. It's open to the public, ages 18 and older. The Monti Warrior Zone is at 21171 Medic Ave. 741-3000

'Bless Me, Ultima': Join the University of Texas at El Paso for "Bless Me, Ultima," Rudolfo Anaya's classic Chicano novel reworked for the stage. There will be 10 shows in October to start the 2018-2019 UTEP Theatre season. 747-5234

Honoring Sgt. de Avila

Family, community rally to remember Bowie HS Korean War MIA

By David Poe
Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs

At the site of the old Bowie High School in south-central El Paso, there was a monument dedicated to the approximately 300 Bowie alumni who fell during the Korean War. At the top of that list was the name Sgt. Arturo de Avila.

Shipped off to war in 1948, before he could cross the stage at Bowie, the young El Pasoan fell two years later while laying communication wire in Korea and has been declared Missing in Action ever since. Yet, his legacy endures.

Last year, niece Yolanda Schulze said she looked into a DOD program for families of MIA troops and that has opened doors to the tragically short life of a young uncle whom she never got to meet.

"He was a character," Schulze said with a smile as she may have imagined her mischievous and strong-hearted uncle "who always had them laughing." "His best friend made it home from Korea. He said he was a prankster – and he had a great smile. He one time gambled a friend's pay check and won a car from a lieutenant."

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has an update and annual government briefing program designed to keep family members informed of the U.S. government's worldwide mission to account for those still missing and to discuss in detail the latest information available about their specific cases. Speakers include senior officials, experts and scientists who work in the wide range of tasks associated with the POW/MIA mission.

"When they came to El Paso, I went," Schultz said. "It was an all-day deal. I then went up into McKelligon Canyon (in El Paso) and spoke to the Korean War veterans up there and I heard their stories, and they had me read books. I made friends with them and they remembered (de Avila's) siblings who went to Bowie High."

Doing a lot of formal and informal detective work to piece together what was out there about Uncle Arturo, she also went to Bowie. Now at a different campus than where many of her relatives roamed the halls, she said the school staff there gave her access to the yearbooks and she realized something simple, yet representative, of her uncle's short life.

"I found him in some books, but I didn't find a senior picture," she said sadly of the rite-of-passage a senior picture usually is. She later learned of a Texas program to recognize the sacrifices of certain veterans who were unable to attain their high school diplomas through traditional means. Texas Education Code §28.0251 provides for a school district to issue a high school diploma to anyone who received an "honorable" discharge from the service; was scheduled to graduate from high school after 1940 and before 1975 or after 1989; and had completed the sixth grade, but left school to serve in World War II; the Ko-



Photo courtesy Yolanda Schulze

Sgt. Arturo de Avila, middle, received orders to Korea.

rean War; the Vietnam War; the Persian Gulf War; the Iraq War; the war in Afghanistan; or other conflicts.

Instead of just mailing the diploma to de Avila's family, the El Paso Independent School District community wanted to formally award the credential and did so during homecoming week celebrations at Bowie last week. Schulze and cousin Rosa Berroteran represented Avila and the presentation, which also included a Texas state flag that was flown over the Texas State Capitol in Austin.

"They call (Korea) 'the forgotten war,'" Schulze said. "We can't forget them."

Long removed from this world, Sgt. Arturo de Avila was not there to receive his diploma as part of a homecoming celebration at Bowie the evening of Oct. 11, but the awarding of the diploma wasn't done in vain.

Schulze and Berroteran spent the evening reminiscing about their elders. Veterans in attendance may not have known de Avila, but maybe they too remembered friends gone to soon. Other people may have thought of the veterans in their own lives, living or dead.

The world didn't change because Arturo de Avila received his diploma, but the gesture may have served as a reminder to those he left behind and the country at large that fallen troops are more than just inscriptions on granite. They were people with hopes, and friends, and goals – and in Arturo's case, people with family who desire to learn more about who they themselves are, in part, based upon the history of those who came before them.

And maybe for the same reason, when they built the modern-day Bowie High School next to the Chamizal National Memorial, they took the monument with them. It now resides on campus for those who want to learn more about who they are based upon the history of those who came before them, and at the top of that list remains Sgt. Arturo de Avila – Bowie High School graduate.

"These were kids who were coming into their junior and senior years (of high school) and they died for their country," said Berroteran. "He didn't lose his humor and he wanted to help his fellow man. We didn't know them, but we can't forget them."



David Poe / Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs

Yolanda Schulze speaks on behalf of her uncle, who was killed during the Korean War and posthumously received his high school diploma, during a Bowie High School homecoming celebration in El Paso Oct. 11. "They call (Korea) 'the forgotten war,'" Schulze said. "We can't forget them."



Photo courtesy Yolanda Schulze

Sgt. Arturo de Avila.

Do stuff: Dripping Springs delightful in nearby Organs

By David Burge
Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Dripping Springs Natural Area is nestled up against the base of the Organ Mountains, just outside of Las Cruces.

It remains a hidden gem – even for many long-time Borderland residents. But it is an easy day trip from Fort Bliss and El Paso – just about an hour away from downtown.

The Bureau of Land Management had administered Dripping Springs for years, but it was incorporated into the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument when it was created by President Barack Obama in 2014.

Dripping Springs gets its name from a spring that drips water most of the year, even in this dry desert climate. The fall is the perfect time of year to make the trip and escape from the pressures of everyday life.

Temperatures are cooler, making it much nicer to do the main three-mile loop trail up to the springs, said ranger Rico Smith.

The fall also can bring some wet weather, which causes the springs to go from a mere drip on most days to flowing like a veritable desert oasis. Smith said the big attraction of Dripping Springs is its easy accessibility.

“You come in from town (Las Cruces) and just drive straight up the road,” Smith said. “There is nothing twisty, nothing windy. It’s not a long drive.”

The springs are at the far point of the loop hiking trail. Along the trail, there are plenty of opportunities to view desert cacti, flowers and other plants and if you are lucky, some wildlife, like deer.

Of course, in a high desert environment, you always need to be on the lookout for rattlesnakes, especially on warmer days. During the fall, the snakes rarely show themselves, though, Smith said.

Also, along the trail are three sets of ruins dating back to the 1800s – a tuberculosis sanatorium, a mountain camp and a livery stable.

Dripping Springs includes several other trails. The

one-mile La Cueva trail leads to a cave where an eccentric hermit once lived in the 1800s. The trail can be started at the picnic area or at the Dripping Springs visitors center.

A more strenuous two-mile hike heads out to Fillmore Canyon. There is the possibility of seeing a waterfall along this trail, but the area needs to get about a week’s worth of rain for it to flow, Smith said.

Still, the hike is worth it, even when the waterfall is not running, he said.

“As you are coming up (on the drive in), these mountains loom before you and they just get larger and larger,” Smith said. “As you get closer, you look to the left and there are the mountains. You look to the right, and there’s the mountains. By the time you arrive here, you are engulfed by this view of this beautiful mountain. I think that’s a big draw.”

Know before you go:

Hours: 7 a.m. to sunset seven days a week. Starting in November, hours shorten to 8 a.m. to sunset. The visitors center is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can pay the fee at the visitors center or one of the self-serve “iron rangers.”

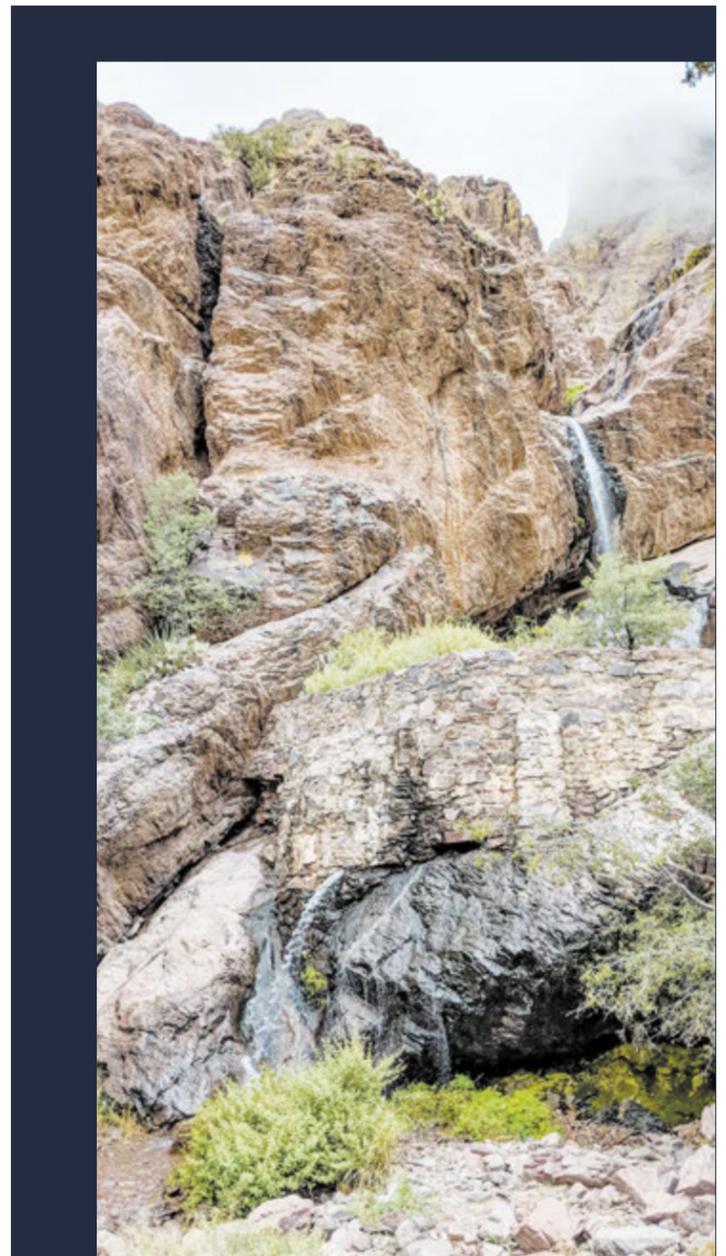
Location: From El Paso, head to Las Cruces. Take Interstate 10 to I-25 and exit at University Avenue. Take a right and go about 10 miles east to the base of the Organ Mountains.

Fee: There is a \$5 fee per carload. Only cash or checks are accepted.

Pets: Pets are allowed on the Dripping Springs Trail up to the Crawford Trail intersection. Pets are not allowed beyond that point. They must take the Crawford Trail. Dogs are allowed on the Fillmore and La Cueva trails. All dogs must be on a leash.

Tips: Bring plenty of water, even on cool days. Wear athletic or hiking shoes. A hat and long-sleeved shirts can help protect against the desert sun.

More information: Visitors center, (575) 343-2492; Bureau of Land Management, Las Cruces District Office, (575) 525-4300; and www.blm.gov/visit/dripping-springs-natural-area.



Photos by David Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle
The Organ Mountains provide a scenic getaway from life in El Paso and Fort Bliss.



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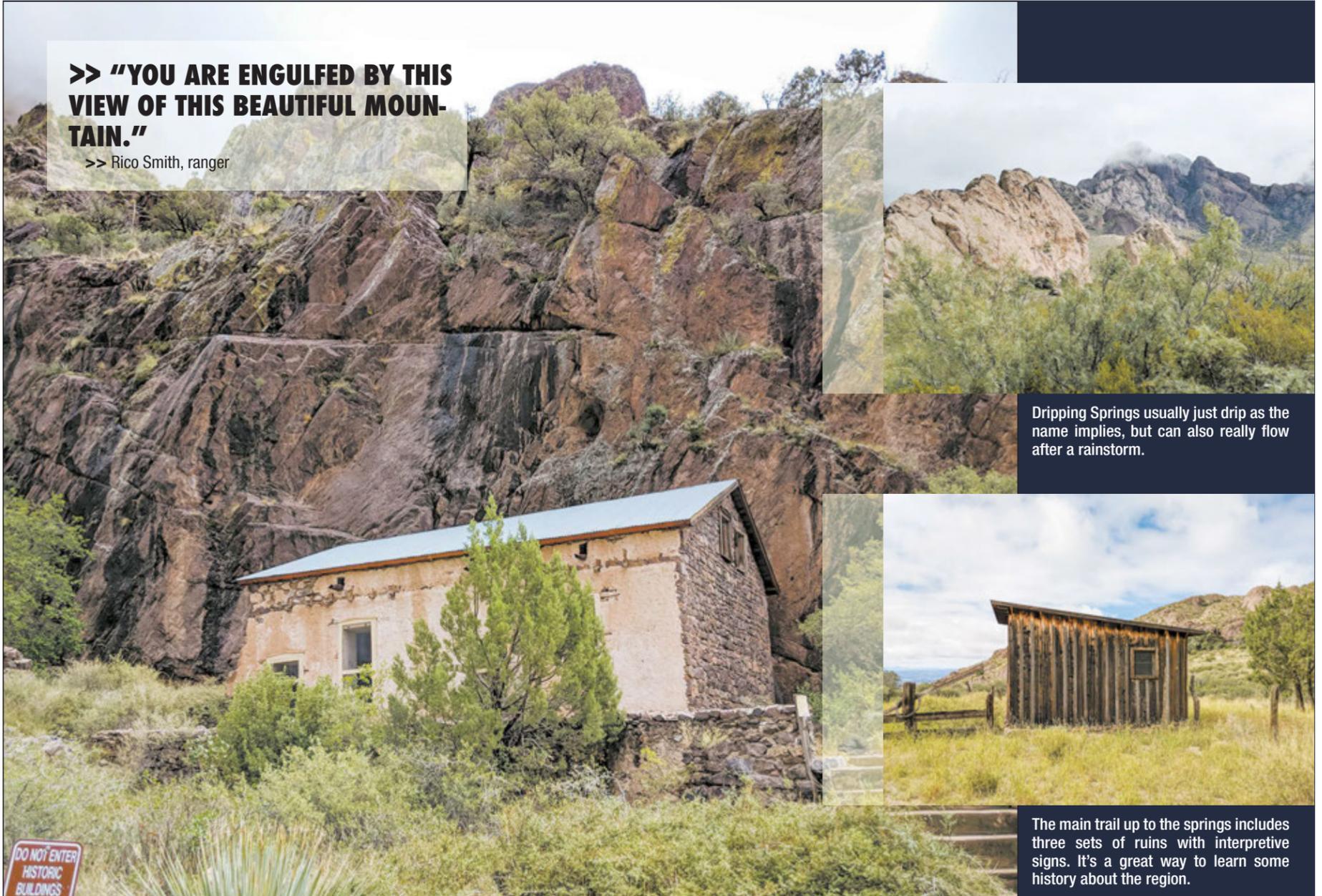
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>> Rico Smith, ranger



Dripping Springs usually just drip as the name implies, but can also really flow after a rainstorm.

The main trail up to the springs includes three sets of ruins with interpretive signs. It's a great way to learn some history about the region.

Ruins along the trail up to the springs provide a dramatic backdrop to the normally harsh desert landscape.

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How you finish is how you will be remembered

By Chaplain (Capt.) Arthur Argueta
501st BSB, 1st SBCT, 1st AD

I was flipping through one of my personal journals one day and came across this quote, "How you finish is how you will be remembered." I had forgotten to quote this in my journal, so I have no idea who said this, but it helped me change the way I live each day.



Chaplain (Capt.) Arthur Argueta

What often happens in life is that we as human beings usually try to ride off of one of our past accomplishments. If we were a stellar athlete in high school, we retell the story of a game-winning touchdown and how we made it to the championship. It may have been over 20 years ago but, "Man, those were the days!"

If we live out the rest of our days retelling that story, we won't be remembered as a great athlete, but as someone who could not stop reliving the past. Perhaps you failed at something in your life and you are now letting that failure keep you from doing great things in the future. Despite past successes or failures, there are two things I want to recommend to you about how you finish:

See failure as a good thing

Failure is often seen as a bad thing, but there are many people who have failed at something and yet they are not remembered as failures. Walt Disney failed many times, but he is now remembered as a pioneer of the American animation industry. His quote, "Keep moving forward," reminds us that failing is not a bad thing; it's how we learn. Pro basketball legend Michael Jordan was initially rejected from joining the varsity team in high school because he was only 5 feet 11 inches tall. He is now remembered as one of the greatest basketball players of all time.

Live with the end in mind

To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you're going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.
— Stephen Covey —

Many people can hardly wait for the New Year to arrive because they believe that when that clock strikes midnight, things will automatically or magically change. Well, they don't. If you end the year with financial problems, you are going to have those same problems going into the next year. If you lost your job at the end of the year, you will still be without that same job at midnight. If you want to end each season of your life doing great things, think about what you can do today to get you closer to that goal. This will take discipline and hard work.

Yes, sometimes it will mean saying "no" to yourself so that later you can reach your goal. The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 9:27, "I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave ..." If you want to max your Army Physical Fitness Test, you have to tell your body to "get up" on the weekends to work out. If you want to save more money, you have to tell yourself "no" to ordering out for meals and instead put yourself on a budget. What will you do today so that you can achieve your goals tomorrow?

By seeing failure as a good thing and living with end in mind, you will finish strong and be remembered for giving it your absolute best effort. Stop talking about past successes and stop seeing yourself as a failure. Personally, I want to finish each day strong, so I will be remembered for finishing strong throughout my life. This includes finishing strong with my family. So, finish strong!

Fort Bliss Religious Services



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RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

- Catholic Women of the Chapel** (Bldg. 11272) Friday 9-11 a.m.
- Protestant Women of the Chapel** (Bldg. 11272) Thursday 9-11:30 a.m.
- Protestant Youth Group** (2911 Cassidy Road, next to Stout PFC) 568-4334
Grades six through 12
Saturday 5-7 p.m.

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICES

- Chapel Two** (1542 Sheridan Road)
Weekday Mass 11:35 a.m.
Saturday Confession 4 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8 a.m.
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
- WBAMC Hospital Chapel** (5005 N Piedras Dr.)
Weekday Mass noon
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8:30 and 11:30 a.m.
- German Chapel** (5312 Buffalo Soldier)
Sunday Mass 10 a.m. odd days

OTHER RELIGIOUS SERVICES

- Jewish Chapel (Bldg. 1441)** Friday Shabbat Service 7 p.m.
- Islamic Service (Bldg. 442)** Friday Jummuh 12:30 MST, 1:30 p.m. DST
Sunday Ta'Aleem 12:30-2 p.m.
- Buddhist Service** (Bldg. 449, Religious Activities Center) Friday 5 p.m.
Meditation, Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.
- Introduction to Nichiren Buddhism** (Bldg. 449, Religious Activities Center) Friday, 6 p.m.

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PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

Center Chapel (315 Pershing Road)
Liturgical Service 10 a.m.

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

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

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

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



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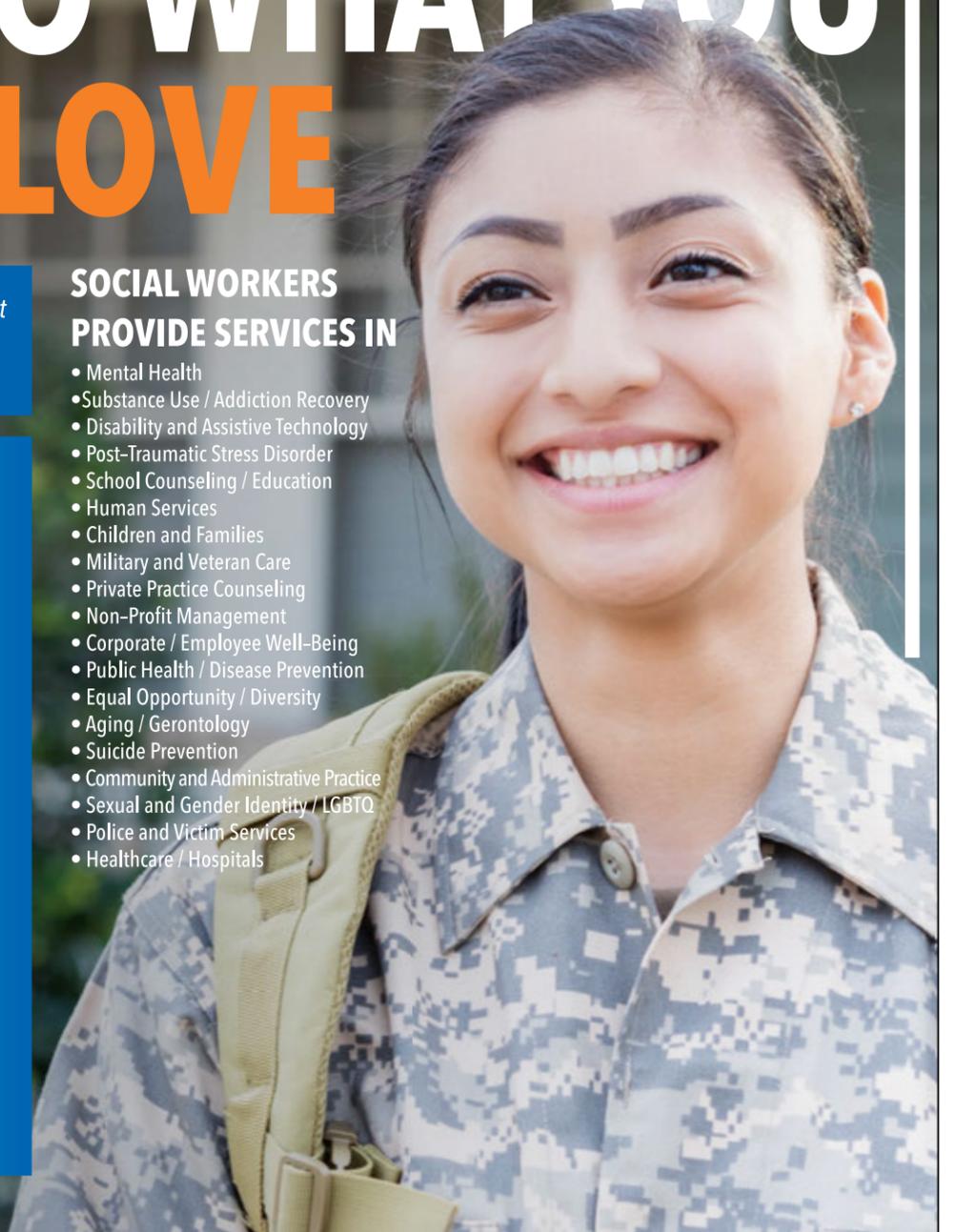
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Photos by Miguel De Santiago / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle
 First Lt. Derek Sanchez speaks about unity and tolerance in his speech at the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade's National Hispanic Heritage Month observance at Sage Hall on West Fort Bliss Friday.

11th ADA Brigade celebrates Hispanic heritage month

By Miguel de Santiago
 Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Soldiers from 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command celebrated National Hispanic Heritage Month Friday at Sage Hall on West Fort Bliss. The observance featured three guest speakers who all stressed the importance of unity.

The monthlong heritage celebration runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 to honor important dates in the history of Hispanic independence.

"What I wanted to convey in my speech is that it's about understanding people," said 1st Lt. Derek Sanchez of 1st Battalion, 43rd ADA Regiment, 11th ADA Bde. "When people understand each other, they're more likely to have empathy and that goes a long way."

Everyone listened closely as Sanchez, 1st Sgt. Rafael Garza and Sgt. 1st Class Tania Ikeda each shared their experiences as Hispanics in the Army and also talked about the importance of accepting each other despite different backgrounds or perceived assumptions.

Sanchez said cultural awareness and understanding, along with events like Friday's, help reduce the possibilities of Equal Opportunity violations within the armed forces.

"We've all had a different upbringing that's caused us to learn and act and do things differently, and so I think once we understand those, it would go a long way towards preventing those kinds of negative things around here," Sanchez said.

The event, which filled Sage Hall to capacity, gave attendees a brief historical overview of Hispanic people in the Army, a proclamation from President Donald Trump, and a video presentation featuring Hispanic Soldiers sharing their experiences.

"When people understand each other, they're more likely to have empathy and that goes a long way ... We've all had a different upbringing that's caused us to learn and act and do things differently, and so I think once we understand those, it would go a long way towards preventing those kinds of negative things around here."

>> 1st Lt. Derek Sanchez

"All these events are great for our Soldiers because they learn a lot and they grow into an organization where everybody gets along," said 1st Sgt. Gabriel Rodriguez of 2nd Bn., 43rd ADA, 11th ADA Bde.

After the last speaker and the singing of the Army Song, members of the 11th ADA Bde. served up a Hispanic-style buffet that included chicken tacos, ceviche and sweet bread.

"This highlights and brings everybody together but it's always important to continue to celebrate cultures and histories and traditions," said Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Valadez, Equal Opportunity adviser for the 11th ADA Bde.



Staff Sgt. Richard Lopez, left, and his fellow 11th ADA Bde. mates serve up a Hispanic-style buffet during the unit's National Hispanic Heritage Month observance at Sage Hall on West Fort Bliss Friday.

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Success, significance and Louise Bickford

By Lisa Smith Molinari
www.TheMeatandPotatoesofLife.com

A few of years ago, a friend sent me the link to an obituary she'd read in the Boston Globe over coffee that morning. I didn't know the woman who had died. Mrs. Louise Bickford was a complete stranger to me. However, my friend shared the article because Louise had been a military spouse, like me.

The obituary made no reference to an impressive career or professional achievements on Louise's part. It didn't mention awards for talents or proficiencies. No newsworthy contributions to society or attempts to change the world. Nothing that would measure up to traditional barometers of success.

But this seemingly unremarkable newsprint about a military spouse I never knew, somehow tapped into my psyche and left an indelible mark.

After reading the obit, my friend and I exchanged messages such as, "She did the New York Times crossword in pen. I can't even do it in pencil." And, "Wow, I can only hope that I leave that kind of legacy." And then my friend and I went back to our busy routines, leaving behind the shared tidbit about Mrs. Louise Bickford, the 85-year-old Army wife who died Dec. 9, 2015.

The only problem was, I couldn't forget.



Louise Bickford in Bedford, Mass., in 2014.

Photo courtesy of Anne Bickford

The 600-word description of Louise's life had seeped into my subconscious, surfacing when I needed to quell doubts about my place in the world. The memory of the obituary has become a mantric rumination that I conjure to soothe the deep-seeded fear that my life is insignificant or unimportant.

Even though the article didn't describe the kind of accomplishments that are normally deemed printworthy, the essay about Louise is a portrait of a life that truly mattered.

I've been thinking more about Louise lately. With my husband retired from the Navy and our last child off to college, I recently interviewed for my first out-of-the-house job since 1996. I've spent the last two decades

raising our three kids, moving, managing the household, volunteering and freelance writing from home. As I brace myself for rejection, I wonder, have I accomplished enough in life? Will this job save me from oblivion? Will my children be proud of me?

According to the obituary written by Louise's five children, Louise was born in 1930 and raised in a Pennsylvania coal mining town. The valedictorian of her high school class, she went on to get her teaching degree and to marry James Bickford, her husband of 40 years. "Jim's Army career took him, Louise and the five children plus pets to postings in France, California, Kentucky, Iran, Wisconsin, Virginia, Turkey, Florida and, finally,

Pennsylvania," the obit read, adding that Louise parented the kids alone during Jim's unaccompanied tours in Vietnam and Korea. It described her mother's "love of travel, curiosity about other cultures, organizational skills and pragmatic nature" that made her "well suited to her life as a military spouse."

After Jim retired from the Army, one might think he and Louise settled into a stable life without hardship. However, "a tragic accident left Jim a quadriplegic in 1976." Louise "spent the next 18 years as his primary caregiver until Jim's death in 1994." But she had always had a "great capacity to roll with the vicissitudes of life, accepting whatever difficulties life threw at her with humor, grace and style."

Louise spent the rest of her years "caring for her extensive brood," and pursuing her many passions. Her children proudly described her as a "multifaceted individual" who "taught swimming; was a substitute teacher; led Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops; ... did the NY Times crossword puzzle in pen; played the piano; sang in choruses; organized an international supper club; and was a gracious hostess her entire life."

They wrote, "Louise's life was grounded by family, from her early life until her death," and her family of five children, 12 grandchildren and a great grandchild "loved and admired" Louise for "her great wit, integrity, love of laughter and independent spirit."

Mrs. Louise Bickford had it right. Regardless of the pressure to live up to traditional measures of success, ultimately, a life grounded by family is a life well-lived.

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World War II MP receives corps' highest honor

By Sgt. Audrey Hayes
U.S. Army

MANASQUAN, N.J. – “I remember the night and the trip to Carentan. You’ll remember that no one was on the road, except for the five of us in the horse-drawn carriage. There is one thing that has stayed with me over the 40 years: It was the fact that we never knew each other’s names, nor did we ever see one another’s faces.”

That is an excerpt from a letter that Walter “Rookie” Pruikisma wrote about an event that took place a few nights after the mighty invasion of Normandy, France, during World War II.

He dubbed it his “Mission of Mercy,” when he volunteered to escort an injured French woman and her two children to a hospital, 12 miles through war-torn land, by horse and buggy.

Seventy-four years later, Pruikisma, now 95 years old, and a resident of Brick, New Jersey, was recognized – not only for his heroic acts that night, but also for his contribution as a military police Soldier during World War II.

On Saturday at the Manasquan First Presbyterian Church in Manasquan, New Jersey, Pruikisma received the Order of the Marechaussee medallion in Silver. Maj. Gen. Phillip M. Churn, the assistant to the chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff, Reserve Matters, presented him with the medallion, which is awarded by Military Police Regimental Association.



Sgt. Audrey Hayes / U.S. Army

Walter Pruikisma poses for a portrait after receiving The Military Police Regimental Association’s Order of the Marechaussee in Silver during an award ceremony in Manasquan, N.J., Saturday.

sociation.

The Marechaussee was established in 2000 and is the highest honor an MP can receive. It recognizes exceptional dedication and contribution to the MP Corps over an extended period of time.

Pruikisma was drafted into the Army in September 1943. The following February, he boarded a ship and sailed to Great Britain with his unit, Company D, 783rd Military Police Battalion.

Four days after D-Day, Co. D, along with

Company C from the 783rd, arrived on Utah Beach, Normandy, France. They were the first MPs on the battle-ridden shore. Their mission was to set up traffic control points, process prisoners of war and establish the Red Ball Express – a highway that was used to move an endless supply of cargo to Gen. Patton’s Army.

Pruikisma’s company set up its headquarters in Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, Normandy, and established a traffic control point. But it was two days later, June 12, 1944, when his most memorable event – the Mission of Mercy – occurred.

A local French boy came to his post late at night and asked an officer if someone could help him transport his mother to a hospital.

She was injured on D-Day, when a German Soldier threw a grenade into their home.

Pruikisma recalls the officer saying, “I’m not going to assign anyone for this mission. But, I will take volunteers.”

Pruikisma said he thought of his mother and how he would want someone to help her, so he volunteered. Then, Cecil Morris, another MP from his company, said he would go too, to help pull security during the trip.

At 1 a.m., Pruikisma, Morris and the French boy, along with his sister and injured mother, boarded a small two-wheeled, horse-drawn carriage and began their mission to the hospital in Carentan – 12 miles

See MP Page 9B

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MP Continued from Page B8

away and in no man's land. Pruikisma knew which direction Carentan was because he watched the glow of the city burning the night before.

"The only thing I could hear was the sound of the horse's hooves and iron wheels hitting the cobblestone," said Pruikisma. "The streets were completely empty."

When they reached the scorched town, Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division were watching from windows and doorways as the carriage rolled by, not stopping them to investigate where they were going.

When they reached the hospital, Pruikisma saw a church across the street. In front of the church building were two piles of dead German and American soldiers that reached five feet high.

They quickly jumped out of the carriage and rang a bell at the hospital. A pegged-leg French man hobbled to them and opened the gate.

Nurses, or perhaps nuns, Pruikisma said, received the injured French woman and were so thankful for his and Morris' service. After a couple of minutes, they got back on the carriage and headed back to their headquarters.

Just like that, it was over.

Although it was a sliver of time compared to the rest of his duration in the war, that mission remained his most memorable.

"You know, I never talked about any of this for nearly 40 years," said Pruikisma. "I left all that stuff on the boat."

Until one day, when he had an urge to know with whom he shared the lonely, dangerous road to Carentan.

"It was like a book, but without the last chapter," said Pruikisma.

He started to write letters inquiring about the injured French woman and the pegged-leg man. He sent one to a church in Saint-Marie-du-Mont and another to the town's mayor.

The newspaper of Saint-Marie-du-Mont published an advertisement with Pruikisma's inquiry about the family he helped, but no one responded.

A couple of years later, Pruikisma tried again. This time, he sent a letter to the mayor of Carentan. And, this time, the mayor replied. The letter included the names of the people he escorted to Carentan, 40 years prior.

Pruikisma and the daughter of the injured French woman – whose name he now knew as Madame Andree Tourraine – wrote letters to each other explaining what they remembered of the events that night.

"Upon learning your name, I finally feel like I began to read the last chapter and the story is coming to a completion," Pruikisma said in a letter to her.

Pruikisma wasn't officially recognized for his selfless service during the war until 2016. The French government awarded Pruikisma with the Legion of Honor, the country's highest recognition.

And now, two years later, the Military Police Regimental Association is bestowing their highest honor upon him as well.

"I'm proud to have served as an MP," said Pruikisma. "When I was in France and Belgium and Holland, it didn't matter what other (national) army I was working with. They knew I was authority when I had my MP brassard on."



Maj. Gen. Phillip M. Churn, the assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Army Reserve Matters, and Pruikisma embrace after Churn presented him with the Order of the Marechaussee in Silver Saturday.



A hat, with the words "Silver Star," sits on an attendee's knee.

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Courtesy photo

Major financial changes could affect your security clearance

By Tammy Fink and Saunci Barrett
Fort Leonard Wood ACS

WASHINGTON – As of July 27, the Department of Defense will continuously monitor individuals' security eligibility through the new Continuous Evaluation Program. This new policy mandates that individuals who hold a security clearance will be continuously evaluated to determine if they meet the requirements to maintain that clearance. The security clearance renewal due every six to 10 years is still in effect.

Since the start of this new policy, 1.1 million clearances have been enrolled and over 38,000 cases have been flagged. Most individuals who are associated with the Armed Forces, whether they are military, civilian or contractors, know the process for acquiring a security clearance involves a vigorous background investigation.

One aspect of the Continuous Evaluation, or CE, process is monitoring credit reports, financial records and public documents. No longer can you wait out the years in between renewals, making a few mistakes here or there with your finances. You must stay on top of your game 24/7, and keeping your finances in check is key.

At Financial Readiness, part of the Army's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, we assist service members and civilian employees in working through any financial issue that may cause their security clearances to be denied. All too often we see a roller coaster of financial instability and hardship. Generally, the financial well-being appears around the time a security clearance renewal is due, but then takes a downward turn to instability during the off years. This could be due to complacency – letting down your guard and not monitoring your finances like you should.

The best way to ensure your financial well-being is to have a healthy debt-to-income ratio, or DTI. To calculate your debt to income ratio, visit www.calculator.net/debt-ratio-calculator.html. Having a higher DTI ratio is one of the causes of financial instability.

Another cause of financial instability is due to individuals not checking their credit reports to ensure they are not victims of identity theft or to simply check for inaccurate information. With all of the data breaches in the past few years, now is the time to be concerned about protecting your identity from thieves. Here are a few things you can do to protect your credit.

Start by pulling your credit reports from www.annualcreditreport.com. Each credit bureau allows you to pull your credit report for free once a year. Do not pull all three reports at one time, but scatter them throughout the year. Once the report has been pulled, review it for inaccuracies and initiate disputes on any inaccurate information.

Lastly, to help keep thieves out of your credit file, there are two things you can do to protect yourself. First, stop all prescreened offers from coming to you via mail. These are the many balance transfers or life insurance offers you receive in the mail, also known as junk mail.

Simply go to www.optoutprescreen.com to either opt out via internet for five years or in writing for a lifetime. This will stop unwanted mail and unwanted individuals from looking into your credit profile, so they can offer you something you can easily research online.

Second, consider putting a freeze on your credit file. You may lift the freeze for short periods of time to extend credit for things like a home or automobile.

If you are an active-duty service member, you may place an "Active Duty" alert on your profile that requires a creditor to contact you first before following through with opening lines of credit in your name. The credit freeze is permanent until you lift it and an Active Duty alert is only good for one year; however, you can renew it every year.

Keep in mind, when it comes time to renewing your security clearance, you will want to unfreeze your credit file for a minimum of 30 days. If you forget, your security manager may contact you to remind you to lift it.

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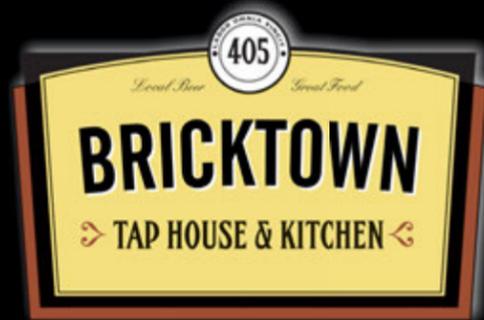
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Sports Briefs

Iron Soldier Sprint Triathlon: The 7th Annual Iron Soldier Sprint Triathlon is from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Joshua W. Soto Physical Fitness Center. Open to the public. Includes a 400-meter swim, a 15-mile bike ride and a 5K run. Sign up at raceroster.com or the Soto, Stout or Milam PFCs. 744-5798

Halloween Classic Basketball Tournament: We are looking for teams to participate in the 4th Annual Nathaniel A. LaCour Halloween Classic Basketball Tournament. The cost is \$250 for late registration through Saturday. Registration is required and can be done at the Soto, Stout and Milam Physical Fitness Centers until Saturday. The tournament is open to the public, active-duty, family members, DOD ID cardholders and civilians 18 and older. 744-5785

Cycle for Change: The Cycle for Change has quickly become a favorite of cycling enthusiasts because the weather is always perfect and the routes are traced along beautiful corn fields and pecan farms. Participants automatically enter into a drawing to win prizes and participation helps raise money to offer scholarships to survivors of domestic violence in El Paso County. Takes place at 8 a.m. Sunday at Gallegos Park, Canutillo, Texas. Cycle4change.org

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 5K Mud Run: The fundraising obstacle course mud run and youth entrepreneurship event is 8 a.m.-noon Nov. 3 at Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, 601 Tiwa. Cost: \$40 (\$20 ages 6-17). 771-2354 or Facebook at @ydspmudrun

R.E.D. 5K Remember Everyone Deployed: Join the Spartakya Foundation at El Paso Community College's main campus, 9750 Gateway Blvd. North, Nov. 11 for the recognition and run. 478-5563

Big Bend Rafting Trip: Join Outdoor Recreation Nov. 9-12 for the Big Bend Rafting Trip where you will have a fun-filled camping weekend visiting historic Fort Davis, rafting, kayaking, mountain biking and day hiking along the Rio Grande in Big Bend National Park. Space is limited and trips fill up quickly. Registration is open and required at the Soldier Activity Center, 20732 Constitution Ave. Cost: \$200. Open to the public, ages 14 and older. 744-1532

Strongman/Strongwoman Competition: Do you have what it takes to win? Compete in the 7th Annual Strongman/Woman Competition at 9 a.m. Nov. 17 at the Joshua W. Soto Physical Fitness Center. Events include a Log Press, Tire Flip, Truck Pull and Farmer's Walk. Cost: \$25 DOD ID cardholders and \$30 for all others. Registration required by Nov. 9. 744-5201

Turkey Shoot-Out Tournament: Come out for the Turkey Shoot-Out Tournament Nov. 17 at the Underwood Golf Complex. This is a four-person golf scramble tournament and it will start at 8:30 a.m. Cost: \$50, including green fees, cart fees, lunch and a turkey to take home. Entry deadline is Nov. 16. Sign up at the pro shop. Open to the public, 18 and older. 568-1059

Super Twilight Deal: Stop by every day at Underwood Golf Complex from 4-7 p.m. and receive a round of golf and a beverage of your choice for the Super Twilight Deal. The cost per person is \$14 for active-duty and \$18 for retired military, veterans and civilians. Special rates apply. 568-1059

Bataan Memorial Death March: Registration for the 30th Bataan Memorial Death March is open. The march will take in the rugged desert surrounding White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, March 17. The 26.2-mile course honors the Soldiers who defended the Philippines at the outbreak of World War II. <http://bataanmarch.com>

Family Day at the Wall: How's the view from the top? Find out during Family Day at the Wall. The Soldier Activity Center is normally open to guests ages 18 and older, but on Family Day, the wall is open to all climbers ages 6 and older. Climbing is from noon-6 p.m. every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. 744-1532

Tennis Scramble: Tennis Scramble is on the last Wednesday of every month. There is a \$5 fee for non-ID cardholders and is free for DOD ID cardholders. The scrambles are held at the Tennis Club, 262 Club Road. 569-5448

Group tennis class for beginners: A group tennis class for beginners is from 8:30-10 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday at Building 262 on Club Road, Fort Bliss. Learn about this exciting sport during a social and fun class. Tennis rackets provided. 569-5448



Photo by Joe Lacdan / U.S. Army

Sp. Susan Tanui crosses the finish line to become the first-place female finisher for the second straight year in the Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7. Tanui finished in 56:33, 17 seconds better than her 2017 time.

Soldier wins Army Ten-Miler in debut, Tanui repeats as top female finisher

By Joe Lacdan
 U.S. Army

WASHINGTON – Competing in his first Army Ten-Miler against 35,000 registered runners didn't faze Sp. Frankline Tonui. He and World Class Athlete Program teammate, Sgt. Evans Kirwa, led the pack for most of the race on a warm October Sunday morning Oct. 7.

Tonui actually trailed just behind Kirwa for much of the run, but as the pair reached the final stretch, he made a push and confidently raised his left hand in victory as he crossed the finish line. Tonui beat Kirwa by mere tenths-of-a-second to finish at 50 minutes, 23 seconds.

"Always you have to run smart," said Tonui, a 25-year-old 91D tactical power generation specialist from Fort Carson, Colorado, "because my teammates are all the best, so I was waiting for them to wear out. So the last 100 meters I kicked and was able to win."

Tonui, a former Division I Track and Field runner for the University of Arkansas, placed second nationally in

the 3,000-meter steeplechase in 2016. He faced a different type of challenge though in the Army Ten-Miler, which features a winding course that begins at the Pentagon and moves along the streets of Washington, D.C.

"I just thought he was ready to run a really good race," said All-Army team coach Col. Liam Collins. "He's just always been a tough competitor, good hard worker and he just knows how to put it up on race day."

Kirwa humbly conceded victory to his WCAP teammate but feels confident he has made strides toward both runners' ultimate goal: qualifying for the 2020 Olympics at next year's World Trials. Kirwa made a significant leap from his 2017 finish of eighth place, when he admittedly struggled with the wet and muggy conditions last year.

This year Kirwa was in front for the majority of the race before Tonui's final kick.

"I had led probably 90 percent of the race," Kirwa said. "I knew that somebody was going to kick cause I hadn't

seen him take the lead. We kicked with about 40 yards to go. He came ahead of me and I just had another gear and he had another gear."

Kirwa finished nearly a minute better than his last year's 50 minutes, 13 seconds. The native of Eldoret, Kenya, has his eye on larger goals though: returning to his peak running form in college. A 12-time NAIA All-American, Kirwa gave up running after enlisting in the Army in 2014. For four years, the sergeant focused on his military career as a UH-60 Black Hawk mechanic. He stayed in shape by playing recreational soccer at Fort Carson, Colorado. Then he reconnected with old friends who happened to be WCAP athletes.

He got the itch to run again. And shortly after, he joined the WCAP program.

"These are the guys I ran against in college – day in, day out," Kirwa said. "So when I came back, they motivated me."

Kirwa next plans to compete at the USA Track and Field National Club

See 10 MILER Page 12B



Photos by Joe Lacdan / U.S. Army

A runner crosses the finish line during the 2018 Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.

10 MILER *Continued from Page 11B*

Cross Country Championships Dec. 8 in Spokane, Washington.

Spc. Susan Tanui ran so far ahead of the other female leaders Sunday that she found motivation by pacing herself with male runners. She finished with a personal-best 56:33 – 17 seconds, better than her 2017 finish and 44 seconds ahead of the second-place female finisher, Julia Roman-Duval, of Columbia, Maryland.

Tanui placed first among female runners for the second straight year.

“It’s like running on a treadmill – it hooks you in a starting pace,” said Tanui, a 31-year old 68E dental specialist. “And that helps keep you moving. Some males would pass me, but at least I would find a pace that I am consistent with.”

Tanui, competing in her fourth Army Ten-Miler, has consistently improved in each race after finishing second in 2016. But she said she did

not see the biggest jump until she joined the WCAP program 18 months ago. The Kenyan native hopes to qualify for her first Olympic games in 2020.

“She’s made miraculous progress in the program,” Collins said.

The race has served as a reunion of sorts for Maj. Kelly Brown-Calway, a master’s candidate at the National Intelligence University in Washington. She completed her 10th Army Ten-Miler, finishing third overall among female runners. She said the race has reunited her with former cadets she trained while serving as former coach of the West Point marathon team. One of her former students, Cadet Third Class Chase Hogeboom, managed to finish ahead of her.

“I’m really proud of him,” Brown-Calway said. “He wasn’t sure if he wanted

to come to West Point and I showed him around. I got to coach him on the team and it’s been neat to see him grow.”

Brown-Calway estimates as many as 50 of her former cadets competed Sunday.

This year, Brown-Calway’s husband, Maj. Chris Calway, also competed in the race, as well as her brother-in-law, Capt. Matthew Buchanan, a Downing scholar at Duke University. And her father, Gen. Robert Brown, U.S. Army Pacific commander, cheered her on.

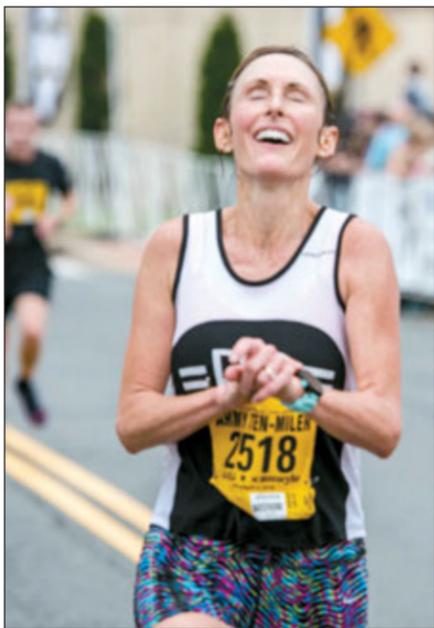
The Army Ten-Miler has grown into the third-largest 10-mile race in the world, featuring 650 running teams and both civilian and military competitors.

“I’ve gotten to see the evolution of the course,” Brown-Calway said. “The course has changed so much. I think this was the best year. The extra two long miles going over the Key Bridge instead of the Memorial Bridge was nice. I thought the whole route was fantastic this year.”

As expected, the WCAP athletes and All-Army team dominated the field Sunday.

The third-place overall finisher, Spc. Girma Mecheso, had just recently finished Initial Entry Training. The squad had to shuffle its lineup after three competitors were unable to compete in Washington due to injuries.

“What they wanted to do was come out here and run as a team, stay grouped together as long as possible,” said Collins, who also competed in the race. “And it really just came down to the end – who had the better kick and who had the guts to put it to the finish line first. We had a pack up front running together with a group of three for a while and there was a second pack running together, a group of four.”



A runner crosses the finish line during the 2018 Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.



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OFF DUTY

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

Bliss Briefs

Legal to close early for Halloween: The Fort Bliss Legal Assistance and Claims Offices, located on the first floor of Bldg. 113 on Pershing Road, will close at 3 p.m. Oct. 31 to facilitate early release of military for Halloween family activities and to promote safety by minimizing vehicular traffic prior to the commencement of post wide trick-or-treating.

Popcorn Fundraiser: Support Fort Bliss-based Boy Scout Troop 248 and Cub Scout Pack 58 during their annual popcorn fundraiser at the Fort Bliss Commissary, and the Cassidy, Luke and Old Ironsides Express shops Saturdays through Oct. 27. The scouts will also be selling door-to-door in housing. This fundraiser helps scouts earn their own way for summer camp and monthly activities throughout the year. If you have any questions about the fundraiser or the Scouting program, contact Scoutmaster Bob Sellers at 472-6790 or praisheim2000@juno.com.

Flag Retirement Ceremony: Do you have a flag that is worn-out or too tattered? Then bring them over to the Old Fort Bliss Replica Nov. 3 to properly dispose your flag. The ceremony will be all day and it is free. 588-8482

Tricare information: The William Beaumont Army Medical Center Health Benefits Office will host a Tricare Open Season informational town hall at 8:30 a.m. today in the Clinical Assembly Room in the main hospital, 5005 N. Piedras St., El Paso. The Clinical Assembly Room is on the first floor, near the bank. Seating is limited, so please come early. Tricare beneficiaries will have

an opportunity to address any and all open season questions and concerns. The office will also hold town halls at 8:30 a.m. Nov. 1 and Nov. 7.

Fort Bliss museum survey: The 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss Museum would like to know which artifacts, stories and interactives you would like to see inside the museum. Take a few minutes to fill out the short survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3X6X8HV>. You don't have to answer every question, but any information will help us in the redesign process. The survey will be open through Oct. 31.

Essay contest: First Armored Division, Fort Bliss and Division Artillery Equal Opportunity are hosting a "What does diversity mean to you?" essay contest for Fort Bliss Soldiers and civilians through Nov. 10. Submit your essay to usarmy.bliss1-ad.mbx.1adeo@mail.mil. 744-6760

Management workshops: Up your management skills through free Fort Bliss Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation workshops. Cathie Garner will hold a talk called "The Making of a Great Manager" from 9-11 a.m. Wednesday at the Family Resilience Center, 250 Club Road, Fort Bliss. 569-5493 or 569-6071

Management skills conference: Fort Bliss will hold a management skills conference on "Creating an Ideal Organizational Culture" with a panel discussion and workshop from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 16 at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. The guest speaker will be SES Diane Randon, deputy assistant chief of staff for Installation Management Headquarters. A panel discussion will also feature Col. Steve Murphy, commander, Fort Bliss Garrison; Col. Rashone Tate, commander, 49th Mission Support Group, Holloman AFB; Tony Lovett, Fort Bliss FMWR; Stephen Edmonds, deputy director, Fort Bliss Emergency Services; and Col. Karen Keith, commander, Fort Bliss DENTAC. 569-5493 or 569-6071

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

Soldier4Life: The Fort Bliss Soldier for Life-Retirement Services Office and various support agencies provide valuable information concerning military benefits, health care, veteran and survivor issues, local services available and much more. 569-6233

Changing stations: When changing stations, see In/Out Processing for permanent change of station clearing papers 10 business days before your PCS leave starts. Clearing papers are issued Monday-Friday 8:30-11:30 a.m. at In/Out Processing, Bldg. 505, Room 133A. Be in duty uniform with ID card and bring a copy of the following: completed installation PAC slip (see your S1 or levy brief packet for a copy); PCS orders; DA 31 (signed with control number); DD 93 (digitally signed) PSDR units only; SGLV (digitally signed), PSDR units only; and DA 137-1 unit clearance record. PSDR units include 1st AD, all BCTs, 1st AD STB, 1st AD CAB, 11th Bde., 204th MI, 212th FA, 31st CSH, 86th Sig. and 93rd MP. 568-2482, 568-2728, 568-3145, 568-6120, 568-7714 or 569-7348, 7369

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

FMWR

Lt. Dan Band: Gary Sinise & the Lt. Dan Band will perform with opening act Stolen Silver

ANNOUNCEMENT

Debt collection notice:

This is a debt collection notice for **Sgt. 1st Class Robert William Martin**. All services under Martin's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Robert William Martin or for information regarding collections, call Chief Warrant Officer 2 Casey Marlow at (910) 988-4814.



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at Biggs Park, 11388 Sgt. Maj. Blvd., 6 p.m. Sunday. Open to DOD ID cardholders and their guests. All ages are welcome. Food trucks will be onsite. No outside alcohol, glass or pets allowed at the park. Free. 568-2554

Day of the Dead Ceramics: Learn about the celebration of the Day of the Dead from 4:30-6 p.m. Oct. 25 at SKIESUnlimited. Children can paint Day of the Dead ceramic skulls, just in time for Halloween. Cost: \$20 per person; open to ages 8 and older. Students must be registered with CYS before enrolling in a SKIES program. 568-5544

Halloween Harvest Festival: It's a Halloween Harvest Festival from 5-9 p.m. Oct. 26 and 27 at the Old Fort Bliss Replica. Get into the Halloween spirit with the haunted pumpkin patch. Pumpkins are available on a first-come, first-served basis, with your \$5 donation. Limit two pumpkins per family. Children, come dressed in costumes for trick-or-treating, lawn games, rides, face painting and a fairy garden display. There will be a farmers' market with food and beverages for purchase. You don't want to miss the free shuttle ride to and from the Halloween Harvest Festival and Monster Bash. 588-8482

Floating Pumpkin Patch: This is definitely not your regular pumpkin patch. Come out for face painting fun and swim around the Aquatics Training Center at their annual Floating Pumpkin Patch from 4-6 p.m. Oct. 27. Participants will be able to get in the water, swim to choose a pumpkin. This event is only open to the first 100 DOD ID cardholders of all ages. Make sure to wear proper swim attire and leave your Halloween costumes at home. Limit two pumpkins per family and only swimmers are able to get a pumpkin. Swim fees do apply: \$1 for children ages 12 and younger, and \$2 for swimmers 13 and older. Active-duty and spectators are free. 741-5901

Halloween Boo-ling Party: Get ready to have a boo-ling good time from 1-4 p.m. Oct. 27 at Desert Strike Lanes for their annual Halloween Boo-ling party. There will be goodie bags and cake, while supplies last, and a costume contest for children ages 1 to 16. Party goers can also enjoy \$1.50 each for games, shoe rental, one topping pizza slice, hot dog, small soft drink and slushies from 1-4 p.m. and \$2 games from 6-10 p.m. 568-6272

Movies on the lawn: Join the Mickelsen Community Library for Movies on the Lawn Oct. 27 to watch "Hocus Pocus." This fun event is open to the entire family. Yes, that includes your four-legged family member; all dogs must be friendly. So, get dressed up in your favorite costume, grab a blanket or lawn chairs and get ready for a spooky movie on the lawn. The movie will begin around 7:45 p.m., depending on the sunlight. There will be soda and popcorn available for purchase for \$1 each, cash only. 568-6156

Monti Warrior Zone Costume Party: Looking for some Halloween fun? Come by the Monti Warrior Zone from 6-10 p.m. Oct. 31. There will be a costume contest, so come wearing your cute, scary or funny costumes to win prizes in different categories. 741-3000

Auto Crafts: The Auto Craft Center offers do-it-yourself safety orientation classes every Wednesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. This is a mandatory safety orientation for using the facility for automotive do-it-yourself projects. It is open to DOD ID cardholders only. 568-7280

Monti Warrior Zone: The Monti Warrior Zone is open Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fridays from 10 a.m.-midnight; Saturdays from noon-midnight and Sundays from noon-10 p.m. There's lots to do with a fully stocked bar and snack bar, six pool tables, two

mini-bowling lanes, Alienware, Playstation/Xbox gaming center, outdoor basketball, sand volleyball and more. Open to the public; ages 18 and older only. 741-3000

Pershing Pub: The Pershing Pub is a great place to gather at the end of a long week. Open every Friday at 4 p.m. (except training holidays). Come enjoy weekly drink specials and free snacks. 568-6272

Go Youth

Fairy Garden Display: Are you looking for a child-friendly free craft project this fall season? Here is your chance to show off your creative skills. Create a Fairy Garden and bring it to the Old Fort Bliss Replica no later than Monday. Gardens can be created from any container that can be easily transported and set up for display. Get creative and make it magic. All garden creations will be displayed during the Halloween Harvest Festival on Oct. 26 and 27 at the Old Fort Bliss Replica Center. 588-8482

Monster Bash: It's time for monstrous fun at Monster Bash Oct. 26 and 27. This year's theme is New Orleans style, "Monster Masquerade." Come dressed with horrifying masks, superhero masks or fairy tale masks and enjoy terrifying fun. There will be inflatables, fun activities, crafts and more. The free event wouldn't be complete without haunted houses. There's a Barely Scary for \$1, a Kinda Scary for \$2, and the Massacre on Marshall Road for \$3 discounted only during this event. Don't forget about the free shuttle rides taking you to and from Monster Bash and the Halloween Harvest Festival at Old Fort Bliss Replica. 588-8247

You Made the Grade: Fort Bliss students who excel in the classroom have a chance to receive \$5 Exchange gift cards every grading period during the 2018-19 school year and can enter a sweepstakes for a chance to win a \$2,000, \$1,500 or \$500 Exchange gift card. Send completed forms to: You Made the Grade, P.O. Box 227398, Dallas, TX 75222-7398.

Military Child of the Year: Operation Homefront, the national nonprofit that builds strong, stable and secure military families, is accepting nominations for the 2019 Military Child of the Year Awards, as well as applications for the 2019 Military Child of the Year Award for Innovation. Military Child of the Year is the nation's premier celebration of the achievements of military children. Nominations are open through Dec. 5, and all awards will be presented at a recognition gala April 18, 2019, in the nation's capital. To nominate a child, visit www.military-childoftheyear.org and click the nominations tab.

Babysitting: Earn some cash, help out and gain a life skill. If you are 12 or older, try out the SKIESUnlimited Babysitting Course. Find out what it takes to caringly, competently, trustworthy and responsibly babysit. First aid and CPR training will be held on a Saturday. Cost: \$10. Register today with SKIESUnlimited. 568-5544

Child range orientation: Bring out your 6-17-year olds for a one-hour child firearm safety course, so they may accompany parents or guardians at Rod and Gun Club live-fire ranges. Open to the public. 568-5426

Story Time: Stop by the Mickelsen Library every Tuesday from 10:15-11 a.m. or 11-11:45 a.m. as children ages 2-5 listen to stories read aloud. Crafts, activities and refreshments available. 568-615

School Age Book Club: Have fun at the School Age Book Club, designated for children ages 7-12. A staff member will read for part of the time, children will read aloud as well. 4-5



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SKIESUnlimited: SKIESUnlimited offers a variety of fun and educational programs geared for children of all ages and talent levels. Music classes like piano, voice, guitar and drums are available. SKIES also have a variety of art, sports, driver's training and babysitting courses. 568-5544, 568-4374 or www.bliss.armymwr.com

Community

Smoked & Scotch: El Paso Holocaust Museum & Study Center is excited to present its 4th Annual Flights and Bites Tasting Event: Smoked and Scotch at 6 p.m. Saturday. Join the organization for premiere scotch tastings, food catered by El Paso's favorite food trucks and more. Cost: \$50 per person. Must be 21 years or older. IDs are required for entry. www.elpasoholocaustmuseum.org or 351-0048

LGBTQ Journey: The LGBTQ "From the Cradle to the Grave" conference will celebrate and educate the LGBTQ community and its allies in El Paso. The conference will feature speakers and sessions provided by professionals who serve the LGBTQ community, as well as panels. Topics will include available legal, psychological, health and support services; how to become a more effective advocate; and legislative updates. The conference is from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at the Valle Verde Campus Annex of El Paso Community College, 919 Hunter Dr., El Paso. Free and open to the public.

MOAA monthly meeting: The Military Order of the World Wars, El Paso Chapter, will host its monthly luncheon at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Cattleman's Restaurant located in the northeast next to Cohen Stadium. The chapter will honor its deceased and perpetual members during the luncheon. Come early and reminisce with other members of the order. 755-4038

Junior Woman's Club: The Junior Woman's Club of El Paso will hold a general meeting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the clubhouse, 1400 North Mesa (parking across the street). Members will finalize plans for their fall fundraiser, the Spooktacular, Oct. 27 at the El Paso Coliseum, 4100 E. Paisano Dr., El Paso.

Tactical and Tech Day: Tactical and Tech Day is an annual event for industry partners to display their latest mission centric technologies, as well as a networking and educational opportunity that is free and open to all post personnel. It is from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. Visit https://ncsi-web.ungerboeck.com/reg/reg_p1_form.aspx?oc=10&ct=ATTENDEE&eventid=6899 to preregister.

USO movie night: Dress up for the Halloween USO movie night with a friendly "Lady Death: The Movie" at 6:30 p.m. Friday (note the date change), at the Biggs USO Center, 20727 Constitution Ave. Including film quiz, free snacks and beverages. For all ages, everybody is welcome. Free.

Spooktacular: The Junior Woman's Club of El Paso's 28th Annual indoor Halloween carnival is from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Oct. 27 at the El Paso County Coliseum, 4100 E. Paisano Dr., El Paso. Tickets: \$4-5. 274-1141 or Facebook @ElPaso.org

'From the Earth to the Moon': Learn more about science fiction and fact in this free Launch Pad Lecture at 9 a.m. Nov. 2 at the New Mexico Museum of Space History, Alamogordo, N.M. (575) 437-2840

'Young Frankenstein': The University of Texas at El Paso Dinner Theatre presents the Mel Brooks musical Young Frankenstein through Nov. 4, including Halloween night. 747-5234, 747-6060 or http://www.utep.edu/udt

Free legal clinic: The El Paso Bar Association and El Paso Lawyers for Patriots will hold a legal clinic for troops, vets and their family members at El Paso Community College, 19570 Gateway Blvd. North, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 3. 532-7052 or on Facebook at @elpasolawyersforPatriots

San Elizario parade: The Community of San Elizario is inviting all to attend its 22nd Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony Nov. 10 in historic San Elizario, Texas. The parade starts at 9 a.m. at Thompson and Socorro Roads and ends in front of the San Elizario Mission. The ceremonies will start at 10:30 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Plaza (La Plazita) in front of the mission. There will be food vendors and several organizations and businesses providing information to veterans and veterans' families, as well as to the public.

Craft fair: Calvary Chapel El Paso will hold its annual craft fair from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Nov. 17 at the chapel, 1771 N. Zaragoza, El Paso. Free to public. For vendors there is a \$25 fee for table rental. 855-4565

Giftwrap volunteers: Fort Bliss volunteer groups can show their holiday spirit and raise money this season by partnering with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service during its annual community gift-wrap program. 562-8851

Fee-free layaway: Fee-free layaway is back at the Fort Bliss Exchange in time for holiday shopping. The Exchange will waive the \$3 service fee for items \$25 or more, including toys and bikes, that are placed on layaway through Dec. 24.

Military Star sweepstakes: Shoppers who use their Military Star card from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31 are automatically entered in the fifth annual "Your Holiday Bill is on Us!" sweepstakes. You could be one of 40 shoppers to have credit statements to their card or one of five grand-prize winners to have their bill paid in full.

Sports nutrition: Fort Bliss Soldiers can visit the Exchange's new one-stop sports nutrition shop for everything they need to fuel their active lifestyle. The shop is inside the Fort Bliss Main Exchange.

Salad Wednesday: Every Salad Wednesday, Fort Bliss Exchange diners can take \$2 off any salad priced \$4 or more at participating Army & Air Force Exchange Service direct-operated restaurants.

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Furniture

1 push mower \$25, 1 King French Provincial headboard \$25, 1 full-size brown headboard \$20, 2 German oil landscapes \$50/ea. 751-5578
Brown twin bed with drawers, good condition. \$600. 490-3196

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House for rent: North East - 4 br/2ba, lr, game room, kitchen with appliances, enclosed yard. \$970/mo. 217-8356
House for rent: North East - 3 br/2ba. LR w/den, office, 1 car garage, A/C, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer. Fenced backyard, front landscaped, shed in backyard. 821-2925
House for rent: North East - 4 br/2ba, 2200 sq. ft. \$1000/mo Rutherford Dr. 751-5338

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