

The Outpost

U.S. ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND, YUMA, ARIZONA 85365

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Fatal Highway 95 pile-up closes road during YPG commuting hours

By Mark Schauer

A fatal multi-vehicle traffic accident at mile marker 36 on U.S. Highway 95 closed both lanes of the road for about

four hours on Feb. 25.

The accident occurred just after 3:00 P.M., shortly before the first vehicles of Yuma Proving Ground's (YPG)

SEE **PILE-UP/6**



A fatal multi-vehicle traffic accident at mile marker 36 on U.S. Highway 95 closed both lanes of the road for about four hours on Feb. 25. Several Yuma Proving Ground employees were stuck in traffic as the highway is the main route home for employees.

LOANED PHOTO



PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER

The Infantry Squad Vehicle is powered by a 2.8 liter turbo diesel engine with a six speed automatic transmission, the four-wheel drive vehicle carries up to a nine Soldier infantry unit and their heavy gear.

New Infantry Squad Vehicle tested at YPG

By Mark Schauer

There's a new vehicle turning heads on the range at U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), and it will likely begin arriving in Army

brigades in a matter of months.

It's the Infantry Squad Vehicle (ISV), and it promises to give Soldiers an opportunity to arrive to a

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CDC
welcomes
familiar
face/ Page 2



Employees
need
proximity
cards/Page 4



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WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Soldier spotlight

By Ana Henderson

Staff Sgt. Donovan Pulido is currently assigned as a Test Jumper/Inspector Tester and Air Delivery Non-Commissioned Officer at the Army Test and Evaluation Command, Airborne Test Force at U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground.

Pulido is originally from Riverside, California. He enlisted into the Army in May of 2012.

He's married to his wife Tania and they have a baby boy named Michael. In addition to spending time with his family Pulido enjoys playing soccer and camping.



LOANED PHOTOS



The Outpost

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YPG CDC welcomes new assistant director

By Theresa Robinson,
Child Development Director

The Child Development Center (CDC) team is extremely excited to announce the arrival of our new Assistant Director, Myra Hamilton.

Hamilton comes to Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) from the Dr. Kathryn Watson Child Development Learning Lab at Arizona Western College where she held an infant and toddler teaching position for over five years. She is no stranger to the CDC as she received most of her experience here.

"I am glad to return to the Yuma Proving Ground CDC. I worked here for 15 years since 1999. I was an Infant/Toddler Lead Teacher for more than half of my time here," Hamilton states.

Hamilton's prior experiences have equipped her with the perfect combination of what every center should have. She is well prepared and is very familiar with CDC and Army regulations. She will be assisting with the daily operations, events planning, patron questions/concerns, and several other duties, but most importantly ensuring that your child is well taken care of, safe and happy.

"I am privileged to come back and serve military children and families. It's a passion of mine to provide consistent and professional top notch care because of my personal experience in being an active duty



LOANED PHOTO

Myra Hamilton joined the Yuma Proving Ground Child Development Center team as the new Assistant Director.

family for 13 years. Child Development Centers provide stability and familiarity to military families, and are a place for children to call home during their many PCS moves," explains Hamilton.

Amanda Brooks, Child and Youth Services (CYS) Cook chimed in and shared, "I have known Mrs. Myra for over ten years. I met her when my youngest daughter started attending the CDC

toddler room. Mrs. Myra helped her overcome the challenge of being used to staying at home with me. She was so caring and knowledgeable, it made me feel comfortable to see that someone like her was around to keep an eye on my child's safety and ensure that she was happy and entertained while I was away. I believe that she will be an amazing asset to CYS with her knowledge and experience in childcare!"

Shannon Murphy, CYS Training and Curriculum Specialist adds, "I am happy to have her join our YPG team. Her dedication to working with children, their families, and our staff is one we welcome with open arms."

Having arrived in late February, she hit the ground running, and has already proven to be a great asset to our program.

Hamilton's tells the community, "Please don't hesitate to say, hello and introduce yourself to me if you see me around. I'm happy to serve you."


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COVID numbers plummet statewide

Arizona passes two million mark in vaccine doses administered

By Mark Schauer

Arizona entered a new and hopeful phase in the COVID-19 pandemic in early March, with new cases plummeting and vaccine deployment finally ramping up.

Statewide as of March 5, the number of COVID hospitalizations, intensive care patients, and patients on ventilators had declined to their lowest levels since early November.

Arizona State University reported fewer than 100 active COVID cases amongst its student body of over 40,000, and the University of Arizona reported a miniscule COVID positivity rate of 0.10% on its campus.

More than two million Arizona residents have had at least one dose of COVID vaccine, and nearly three quarters of a million are fully vaccinated. Statewide, it is reckoned that roughly half of the population has some COVID resistance either through vaccination or having battled the illness in the past year.

Additionally, the Food and Drug Administration approved a third COVID vaccine, manufactured by Johnson and Johnson, for use.

At U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), 300 vaccine doses had been administered to personnel by the post's health clinic, and 1,500 additional doses were expected to be delivered over the course of the next six weeks. YPG's workforce and residents waited anxiously for their turn to receive the vaccine, and wondered how the decision regarding who to administer the first precious doses to was made.

"We follow Department of the Army guidance," said Col. Patrick McFall, YPG Commander. "The Department of the Army has published a tiered-phase approach to issuing the COVID vaccine."

YPG is currently starting phase

1C, having already offered the voluntary vaccine to the post's first responders, medical personnel, food handlers, grocery workers, and other service workers who interact with high volumes of the public. Phase 1C includes eligible people ages 65 and up, younger people over the age of 16 who are at high risk, and key personnel.

"We're defining key personnel as those who cannot telework and those who are in tight quarters with someone else, which consists of quite a few people on this post," said McFall.

"The Department of Defense is trying to be as generous as possible in terms of getting the vaccine out to as many people as they possibly can within their footprint," said Maj. Jennifer Fiandt, Officer in Charge of the YPG Health Clinic. "We're giving it to contactors, we're giving it to Department of the Army civilians: even civilians who normally wouldn't be entitled to care through Tricare. Certainly anyone who is a Tricare family member or dependent will be able to get the vaccine as soon as the supply is available."

In late February, a panel of Army senior leaders that included Acting Undersecretary of the Army Christopher Lowman participated in a virtual town hall where they expressed the intention of eventually offering COVID vaccines to all personnel associated with the Army, including Department of the Army civilians and contractors. McFall likewise expressed his intent to ultimately make the vaccine available to all YPG personnel.

"When I say 'YPG Family,' I don't differentiate between anyone," said McFall. "The Army senior leaders' intent is to get the COVID vaccine to everybody on an Army installation. I believe in commander's intent, and



PHOTOS BY MARK SCHAUER

At U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, 300 vaccine doses had been administered to personnel by the post's health clinic, and 1,500 additional doses were expected to be delivered over the course of the next six weeks.

that is what I am working towards."

McFall emphasized that YPG and the Army are not requiring that those offered the vaccine take it.

"When it comes your time, we are going to offer it to you," he said. "Whether you choose to take it or not is your decision."

Observations shows that the most common side effects from COVID vaccines include injection site irritation, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, and fever. More people reportedly experienced these side effects after the second dose than after the first dose. Medical professionals say that these side effects are evidence of a healthy response to the vaccine and should not cause alarm.

Fiandt said her clinic personnel tolerated the side effects well, and that the severe risk COVID poses far exceeds the short-term discomfort the vaccine can produce.

"Out of our whole clinic, I think we had two people who ended up taking a sick day: most people were able to keep working," said Fiandt. "For myself personally, I had one day where I felt crummy and was curled up at my desk with a blanket with chills, but I was still able to work. Those side effects are nothing compared to getting COVID and all



of the risks and potential long-term effects it entails."

With vaccination rates increasing and after 11 months of daily mask compliance while on the job, some YPG personnel wondered if the mask mandate would be relaxed in the near future. According to health officials, it is still unknown whether a person immune to COVID through either vaccination or prior exposure to the illness can still transmit the virus to others.

"Are we going to get rid of masks?" Not right now," said McFall. "What if I'm vaccinated?" I understand, but we are still going to wear a mask. That's the guidance, that's what we're ordered to do, and in the Army we make sure we protect ourselves and follow lawful orders. We'll continue to follow CDC guidance until told differently."

McFall emphasized that the continued patience and cooperation of the YPG community will ultimately lead to the defeat of the pandemic.

"I promise you as we work through this, we will get out of it together," he said.

Is It Your Time to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

View the DoD Population Schema here:
www.defense.gov/portals/1/spotlight/2020/coronavirus/vaccine-availability/SCHEMA.pdf

Proximity gate access: employees need to get card activated

By Vince Avanzini,
Chief of Physical Security Branch

By now most everyone has heard or not of the new unmanned gate access. What is it? Why do we need it? Those I'm certain are the most important questions amongst many other. To put it simply the main reason U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG-YPG) is going to a new security system is to bolster our already robust security posture. The second reason is to replace aging outdated infrastructure which has been cannibalized for parts for many years, since parts for that system are no longer available or too costly to replace, a new system was purchased and installed. The old insert CAC Card and wait till someone pushes a button to open the gate no longer works. Based on guidance from senior leadership, the Physical Security Branch was asked to come up with a viable solution and we did. This has been five years in the making in order to meet strict Cybersecurity requirements to meet the risk management framework to ensure we had a robust system. This was accomplished and funding was procured to purchase and install 21st century proof access entrance to seven of our unmanned gates.

WHAT IS A PROXIMITY SYSTEM?

To put it simply it is a self-entry method. It requires a person to register their common access card (CAC) into the system at a registration station which allows them once at an unmanned gate to physically swipe their card and enter a personalized pin number into a keypad, which in turn opens the gate. If a person does not have a CAC then a proximity card "blank white card" will be issued for the same purpose, these proximity cards will generally only be issued to non-CAC holding contractors.

The locations currently reconfigured for Proximity Access are;

- 1) James D. Price School gate
- 2) Laguna Army Airfield gate
- 3) Air Delivery/Air Cargo gate
- 4) Kofa West, main gate, access control point
- 5) Kofa North Gate, 3rd Avenue and 6th Street
- 6) Kofa South Gate, 3rd Avenue adjacent Building (Bldg.) 3504
- 7) Kofa East Gate, Aberdeen and Firing Front

Entrance through these gates will require registration of your CAC or the issuance of a proximity card. There are several location that are set up to register CACs and get issued proximity cards. The registration process has been ongoing since November 2020. Registration is quick only takes approximately five minutes per person.

REGISTRATION STATIONS CURRENTLY OPERATING ARE;

- 1) **ID Card Section Bldg. 501 Howard Cantonment (Mon.-Thurs. 0700-1600) except holidays.** (Proximity registration has nothing to do with issuance of CAC or other forms of ID. We are merely using empty space in that building.) Registration is by approved roster only no walk-ins unless coordinated with this office. This location registers CAC and proximity cards.
- 2) **Kofa Firing Range Pass and ID office Bldg. 3537 (Mon.-Thurs. 0700-1600) except holidays.** This location is currently reserved for TRAX employees and KFR employees due to the vast number of personnel. This location also registers CACs and proximity cards.
- 3) **Visitor Control Center (VCC) Bldg. 2020 (Mon.-Thurs. 0700-1600) except holidays.** This location is only for registering incoming test/non-CAC holding contractors, amongst their normal visitor vetting procedures.

At some point when all USAG-YPG registration is complete, all other stations will be broken down and the VCC will become the only registration point for incoming new employees/Soldiers and test customers. Also for re-registration of newly issued CACs.

All directors/division heads and managers/supervisors of every



PHOTO BY ANA HENDERSON

To gain self-entry to unmanned gates, employees must first register their common access card into the system at a registration station. This consists of having their photo taken and choosing a pin. Regina DiMino sits as Physical Security Inspector David Woods prepares to take her photo.



The new self-entry method at unmanned gates allows the workforce to physically swipe their card and enter a personalized pin number into a keypad, which in turn opens the gate.

employee on USAG-YPG are aware of the process and have provided a name roster for scheduling registration and need for access through the different unmanned gates. Currently of the seven gates reconfigured only one is restricted access, that gate is Air Delivery/Air Cargo. Directors have already identified who has a need for access through that gate.

All the reconfigured gates with the exception of Air Delivery and Laguna Gate will remain status quo (in the up position) until registration is complete. Once complete the gates will be brought down and the only way through the gate will be with a registered CAC or proximity card along with 4, 6, or 8 digit pin code. This pin will be selected by the user at registration. Expectation is to go live sometimes in April or May 2021 depending on how well the registration process goes.

The priority for USAGYPG during registration is to get every Soldier, DOD civilian, contractor and sub-contractors registered so they can access cantonment areas and perform their work/test or mission. Dependents and family members will not need to register for these gates as they have no need for access except for specific approved purposes through James D. Price School gate. Request for access

through this or any other gate will have to filter through this office first on why they need access. All requests will be verified/approved through chain of command of spouse or senior leadership prior to granting access.

Visitors to USAGYPG for official business only will be registered and issued proximity cards at the VCC after they have been vetted. Those visitors that frequent USAGYPG on a daily basis for amenities, services, deliveries and visits to the museum will not be issued proximity cards they will follow normal access vetting.

The important thing to remember is that if you do not register your CAC or get issued a proximity card, you will no longer be able to get through these gates and no-one will be able to open them for you, unless for an emergency through the 911 center by a Police Patrol coming to open the gate for you, this will be based on availability of patrols and priority of calls.

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO USE YOUR CAC/PROXIMITY CARD AT THE GATES

Each gate has two readers/pin pads. One for vehicles and one for trucks.

CAC Cards: (This process can take from 5-15 seconds)

- 1) Place your CAC against the reader

Yuma Proving Ground's Equal Employment Office set up this display in the installation's main headquarters to highlight yearly observances.

PHOTO BY ANA HENDERSON



March is Women's History Month

Valiant women of the vote: refusing to be silenced

Submitted by Joeann Bailey,
Equal Employment
Opportunity Director

Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. It is celebrated during March in the United States (U.S.), the United Kingdom, and Australia, corresponding with International Women's Day on March 8, and during October in Canada, corresponding with the celebration of Persons Day on October 18.

THE IMPACT OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The years since the first Women's History Week and Women's History Month celebrations have seen significant milestones in the advancement of the rights and equality of women in the U.S.

For example, the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 prohibited employment discrimination against pregnant women. In 1980, Paula Hawkins of Florida became the first woman to be elected to the U.S. Senate without following her husband

or father in the position, and in 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor became the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 2009, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act gave pay discrimination victims, usually women, the right to file complaints against their employer with the government.

In 2016, Hilary Clinton secured the Democratic presidential nomination, becoming the first U.S. woman to lead the ticket of a major political party; and in 2020, a record number of women served in the U.S. Congress, including 105 in the House and 21 in the Senate.

On March 11, 2009, then President Barack Obama marked Women's History Month by signing an executive order creating the White House Council on Women and Girls requiring all federal agencies to account for the needs of women and girls in the policies and programs they create, and in the legislation they support. In signing the order, Obama stressed that the true purpose

of the government remains, as it was in 1789, "to ensure that in America, all things are still possible for all people."

IMCOM directors tour YPG



Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Commander Col. Patrick McFall met with Installation Management Command Readiness Director, Brenda Lee McCullough and her senior advisor Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dennison March 3 during their visit to YPG. YPG's Garrison now falls under McCullough's oversight.

Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Readiness Director, Brenda Lee McCullough, her senior advisor Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dennison and IMCOM Sustainment Director Davis Tindoll received a tour from YPG Garrison leadership. Garrison Manager Ronny James discussed expansion plans at the Travel Camp while Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Director Iselle Oquendo and Travel Camp Manager Teresa Day look on.

PHOTOS BY ANA HENDERSON



Educational Event

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PILE-UP

FROM PAGE 1

evening commute would normally begin to traverse the road.

On this day, however, YPG commuters had to take either Dome Valley Road, a meandering rural agricultural road with a 15 miles per hour speed limit in many places that eventually arrives at Interstate 8 well east of Yuma, or California Route S-24, another rural road heavily utilized by farm vehicles that ends west of Yuma. Some adventurous commuters risked driving on dirt roads that run parallel to agricultural canals, which resulted in one vehicle calling for assistance after losing the road and getting stuck in a ditch.

Prior to any of this, however, the YPG Police Department had been at the original accident site for well over one hour.

“We were the first people to respond,” said Donnie Lucas, YPG

Police Chief. “We had the closest ambulance, fire, and police services on this side of the county.”

One individual died at the scene, and another died of their injuries subsequent to being airlifted to a Phoenix hospital directly from the accident site.

“We render life-saving aid to people, both the fire department and the EMS that work in the fire department, and if necessary try to sustain life until another ambulance service is there,” said Lucas. “Our police maintain the traffic control and in essence try to make some logic out of the chaos involved in everything that is going on.”

Though some traffic in the early minutes of the accident were routed through the adjacent parking lot of the VFW Post #8242, the road was closed entirely in both directions in short order.

“Any time you have a fatality,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SKYLER POSTON

Many Yuma Proving Ground employees were stuck in traffic after the accident on Highway 95 on the afternoon of Feb. 25. Some exited their vehicles to help until YPG first responders arrived. Ultimately, two people died from their injuries.

the roadway is going to be shut down for hours,” said Lucas. “A traffic reconstructionist has to come out, a traffic analyst and homicide reconstructionist has to come out and take photographs: you have to be very careful and meticulous to make sure you are accurately determining the cause of death and how it happened. That takes a long time.”

Though the YPG Police turned the accident scene over to the Arizona Department of Public Safety upon their arrival, their response to traffic incidents wasn’t over.

“Our folks had to go down to the wash because people were cutting through on the canal road to get back to 95 that way,” said Lucas. “That is a dangerous road. When you’re having 35 or 40 cars trying to traverse a dirt road one right after another, it becomes a total nightmare out there.”

Aside from having the highest traffic volume of any two lane road in Arizona, the stretch of Highway 95 that runs from Avenue 9E to Aberdeen Road has multiple blind curves, and inconsistent shoulder width. The morning and evening commutes to and from the proving ground have long been dubbed the ‘YPG 500,’ an amusing sobriquet if not for the grim list of lives the road has claimed over the past

decades. In command surveys of YPG personnel, having to drive daily on Highway 95 is often cited as the worst aspect of being employed at the proving ground—one Army veteran who now works at YPG as a civilian said they found the experience more consistently frightening than multiple deployments to Iraq. The road is shared not only with farm vehicles working the adjacent fields, but also with winter visitors whose presence normally doubles Yuma’s population.

“On a standard day, there are about 3,000 vehicles traversing Highway 95 that are associated with this installation,” said Lucas. “That number increases depending on the test schedule.”

Construction to begin expanding the stretch from Avenue 9E to Rifle Range Road is set to begin this summer, but the site of the accident was several miles to the north of where the currently funded project will end. Completing Highway 95’s expansion to five lanes all the way to the Aberdeen Road entrance of YPG’s Kofa Firing Range will cost approximately \$80 million more than has been allocated to date.

“Highway 95 is historically one of the most dangerous highways in Arizona,” said Lucas. “It is the most dangerous two lane road in Arizona.”

DoD HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MODERNIZATION

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MHS GENESIS Patient Portal is a secure website which allows you to access your health information, schedule appointments, and exchange messages with your care team anytime and anywhere. It replaces TRICARE Online (TOI) and Secure Messaging for sites currently using MHS GENESIS. If your site does not use MHS GENESIS, you will continue using TOI and Secure Messaging to access your healthcare information.

MHS GENESIS PATIENT PORTAL ACCESS

To access the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, visit: patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil. Beneficiaries can log in to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal using their DS Logon. Premium Access (Level 2) is required to view the health record.

In preparation for the new MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, log in to milConnect and create your DS Logon. Beneficiaries with an existing DS Logon should upgrade their account to Premium Access. A link to the “My Access Center” is available via the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal landing page. There, patients receive instructions about how to obtain their DS Logon credentials.

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For questions regarding the DS Logon, visit: www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect or contact the Defense Manpower Data Center at (800) 538-9552.

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NEW ISV

FROM PAGE 1

fight faster, rested, and ready.

Powered by a 2.8 liter turbo diesel engine with a six speed automatic transmission, the four-wheel drive vehicle carries up to a nine Soldier infantry unit and their heavy gear. If it looks familiar, it is because the platform is based on a commercially-available vehicle.

“About 70% is common with the Chevy Colorado ZR2, and the rest is a mixture of commercial parts that you can modify and put onto the Chevy Colorado,” said Steve Herrick, product lead for Ground Mobility Vehicles. “About 90% of this can be bought on the commercial market.”

The ISV is meant to reduce the burden on infantry Soldiers weighed down by heavy gear and faced with rugged terrain. The fast and lean ISV can be air transported into locales within theater rapidly and efficiently.

“It provides an operationally relevant vehicle for a small tactical unit to be transported to a drop off point as quickly as possible in a mission-ready state,” said Sean Lamorena, test officer. “It’s intended to be transported by means of the infantry’s rotary or fixed wing aircraft platforms.”

“This vehicle is going to help Soldiers in the Infantry Brigade Combat Teams that currently walk everywhere,” added Herrick. “It’s made to be ‘a better boot,’ a capability that allows you to effectively change how you operate.”

Right now it’s being put through its paces across the more than 200 miles of rugged road courses at YPG to ensure it functions as it should wherever in the world it could be called on to serve.

“We’re performing reliability and maintainability (RAM) testing to support the evaluation in a desert environment,” said Lamorena. “We’re also doing two performance tests at the conclusion of RAM testing.”

Over the next few months, the ISV will traverse 5,000 miles across Yuma Test Center’s rugged ranges, including sand slope mobility tests that will see it tackle a sandy 30% grade—for perspective, the steepest grade on an interstate highway in the contiguous United States is 6%. Through much of the testing, the vehicle and its driver will be joined by plastic

dummies weighted with sand in the vehicle’s remaining seats.

“We up-weight the vehicle to its operational weight expectation,” said Isaac Rodriguez, team leader in the Combat Automotive Systems Division. “We also install a data acquisition system that monitors GPS and the vital signs of the vehicle.”

During testing, simulated missions take the vehicle across road courses featuring various terrain conditions, from paved to gravel, to punishing desert washboard that would severely rattle a vehicle without four wheel drive. As they traverse these roads, test vehicle operators continually verify performance of all the platform’s performance.

“Yuma provides the capability of extreme weather differences, as well as a desert terrain,” said Herrick. “We can’t get those things that Yuma provides at other testing locations. The distances travelled on the courses and the weather conditions really help here.”

The rising temperatures as spring approaches will also help the testing.

“We’ll take advantage of the hot temperatures to execute cooling performance of the vehicle,” said Rodriguez. “We’ll load the vehicle up and verify that it is able to maintain its proper operating temperatures.”

Though the vehicle is manufactured by General Motors and the company’s desert proving ground is co-located at YPG, there are currently no plans to utilize their road courses in tests of the ISV.

“We have the capability to do so, but based on the scope of testing for this vehicle it isn’t necessary,” said Rodriguez. “If the customer added a requirement that would need to be done at that facility, we would certainly entertain that idea.”

Eventually, the Army intends to field 59 ISVs to each brigade, beginning with brigades within the 82nd Airborne Division in May. The testing completed at YPG is an important element of the success of this rapid adoption and deployment of the vehicle.

“Yuma’s got a great history of being a prolific and great test facility for all Army platforms, let alone other Department of Defense items,” said Herrick. “We couldn’t be happier coming to Yuma.”



“About 70% is common with the Chevy Colorado ZR2, and the rest is a mixture of commercial parts that you can modify and put onto the Chevy Colorado,” said Steve Herrick, product lead for Ground Mobility Vehicles.



The Infantry Squad Vehicle is meant to reduce the burden on infantry Soldiers weighed down by heavy gear and faced with rugged terrain.



PHOTOS BY MARK SCHAUER
The fast and lean Infantry Squad Vehicle can be air transported into locales within theater rapidly and efficiently.

SAW Training Site

Monthly Safety Training

2021 Monthly Safety Training Site

Click on a PowerPoint below to open and review the training slides:

- 01 January Vehicle Inspections
- 02 February Range Safety



2021 Safety awareness training

By Jeni Williams, Occupational Health and Safety Specialist

As you know or may have heard, 2021 Safety Awareness training will be spread out through the year with a different topic being posted on SharePoint each month rather than being presented as in-person training in the Post Theatre.

The first safety topic starting off the year was 01 January Vehicle Inspections followed by February's topic 02 February Range Safety. The topic for March will be 03 March Driver Training. Each month's Safety Awareness training can be accessed on the intranet at:

<https://intranet.yuma.army.mil/cmd/Safety/SitePages/SAW%20Training%20Site.aspx>

After viewing the training use the drop down menu located below the training link under

"Acknowledgments," choose the training you have completed (i.e. 01 January Vehicle Inspections, 02 February Range Safety, etc.) and then click on the small square box just below the training title (your name and date will auto populate) then click "submit." The Safety Office will then send you a completed certificate that you will upload to ATTM at:

<https://aes.atec.army.mil/ATTM-Web/>

Once you are in ATTM scroll down to YPG - CY21 SAW Training (Month (i.e. January, etc.) and upload the certificate you received from the Safety Office. Complete the same steps for each training you complete in the coming months.

If you choose to do a group viewing of the monthly Safety Awareness training you will still be required to complete the "Acknowledgements" steps listed above to receive credit for the training.

The training information provided each month is guaranteed to be useful, relevant, and usually entertaining! So whether you are Army Test and Evaluation Command Mission, Garrison, Military Free Fall School, Medical Clinic, contractor or one of our other YPG tenants, this training is for YOU!

If you have any questions please contact Jeni Williams at 328-2323 or via email at jeni.m.williams2.civ@army.mil

Garrison safety office earns award



Director of Installation Safety, Ronald Van Why proudly holds the U.S. Army Safety Excellence Steamer Award, presented to YPG's Garrison by IMCOM Sustainment Director Davis Tindoll, for the extraordinary effort and dedication to creating a positive safety culture. This is the eighth award of this kind for Garrison.

PHOTO BY CASEY GARCIA

YPG exhibit displayed Downtown

Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) and Marine Corps Air Station Yuma teamed up to represent the Military in a window display in Downtown Yuma. YPG Heritage Center curator, Bill Heidner designed YPG's portion of the display. Swing by the Visit Yuma offices at 264 S. Main St. to see the exhibit first hand throughout the month of March.



PHOTO BY ANA HENDERSON

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Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Chaplain's Corner

Spiritually fit

By Chaplain Capt. Jeffrey Crispin

One of the unique things that the Chaplain is responsible for in a military organization is to encourage spiritual fitness. There are quite a few parallels between physical fitness and spiritual fitness, but I want to point out a few for you to consider.

Fitness is developed over time. We don't take a pill that makes us suddenly physically fit. Instead physical and spiritual fitness develop as we take one day at a time and continue over the entire duration of our lives. There are periods we might put in more effort than others and our fitness will reflect accordingly.

There are different fitness "types." In physical fitness, there are different types of fitness that we are probably familiar with: speed, power, balance, agility, stamina, etc. Some of these types come more naturally to one person than another. Often we like to focus on the ones that we think are more important when we work on our fitness. Very few people can be good at all the types of fitness, and those that are have often put in a lot of work and made sacrifices to attain that level of fitness. Spiritual fitness has multiple disciplines as well. Scripture reading and memorization, prayer, applying your spiritual and moral standards, concern for others demonstrated through giving – which could be time, or talents or things/money. Another spiritual discipline is fasting, a form of self-denial for a spiritual purpose. Participation in a regular worship activity in community with others of

the same faith is still another.

The last example for today is that physical fitness and spiritual fitness are participation based. I can watch lots of fitness videos or can know lots of good techniques about physical fitness. But that doesn't make me more physically fit. I can know or be related to physically fit people, but that fitness isn't transferred by association. In Basic Training, I had some really fit Drill Sergeants who would demonstrate technique and gave me lots of opportunities to practice. It was the participation in the techniques, it was utilizing the opportunities that Basic Training required that increased my fitness levels. Likewise, spiritual fitness isn't something that someone else can do for you. I can't delegate my APFT or now ACFT to my NCO for my score. The Religious Support Office a.k.a. Garrison Chaplains Office is here to help teach, coach and mentor your spiritual fitness. Connect with us about opportunities to develop you spiritual fitness or to get resources that can assist your growth.

The Chapel services are meeting in person again if you are looking to connect to an "in person" worship opportunity. Catholic Mass is at 0930 on Sunday mornings and Protestant Worship service is at 1100. Each is approximately an hour and "physically distanced" with each family having a pew to themselves with alternating rows blocked off and masks worn. You are invited to come and join a worship service that will help you grow in your spiritual fitness.

PROXIMITY

FROM PAGE 4

- (number pad) the side does not matter. You should hear an audible beep. The system is charging the chip on the card to read it.
- 2) The lights on top will flash red to yellow as it reads the chip.
 - 3) After the second beep, the light will alternate flashing from red to green. You can now remove the card. This is when you enter your pin. You have five seconds to enter your pin or you will be timed out and must repeat the process before the gate opens.
 - 4) If the light goes to blue or any other color, please try again. If there is a continued failure then something is wrong. Please return to the registration office to troubleshoot issue.

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(This process can take from 1-3 seconds)

- 1) Swipe your proximity card close to the reader (number pad) the side does not matter. You should hear an audible beep.
- 2) The lights on top will flash red to yellow as it senses the RFI antenna.
- 3) After the second beep, the light will alternate flashing from red to green. This is when you enter your pin. You have five seconds to enter your pin or you will be timed out and must repeat the process before the gate opens.
- 4) If the light goes to blue or any other color, please try again. If there is a continued failure then something is wrong. Please return to the registration office to troubleshoot issue.

Any issues or concerns please contact the Protection Division, Chief of Physical Security Branch Vince Avanzini at (928) 328-2216 or by e-mail at vincenzo.g.avanzini.civ@mail.mil

Students head back to on-site school



Sparky the Fire Dog and McGruff the Crime Dog greeted students with fist pumps, high-fives and a souvenir water bottle. Kids also enjoyed taking photos in front of the photo booth. The accessories props were attached to a pencil which the children kept.



PHOTOS BY ANA HENDERSON

Children arriving at James D. Price Elementary School at YPG were full of excitement morning on the morning of March 8, as they returned to school after months of virtual learning.

ATEC creates civilian Career website



U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) is located in Yuma, Arizona, but has 3 major locations:

Yuma Test Center (YTC) is located at Yuma, Arizona. YTC accommodates 360 flying days per year and provides 200 miles of robust, grueling mobility test courses with extreme desert temperatures to challenge personal and equipment in a realistic environment.

Tropic Regions Test Center (TRTC) has facilities in Hawaii, Panama and Republic of Suriname, a sovereign state on the northwestern Atlantic coast of South America. You will perform essential, real-world testing that cannot be duplicated in a test chamber.

Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) is located in Fort Greely, Alaska. CRTC is the only Department of Defense (DoD) natural environment test facility for military systems required to operate in cold weather regions.

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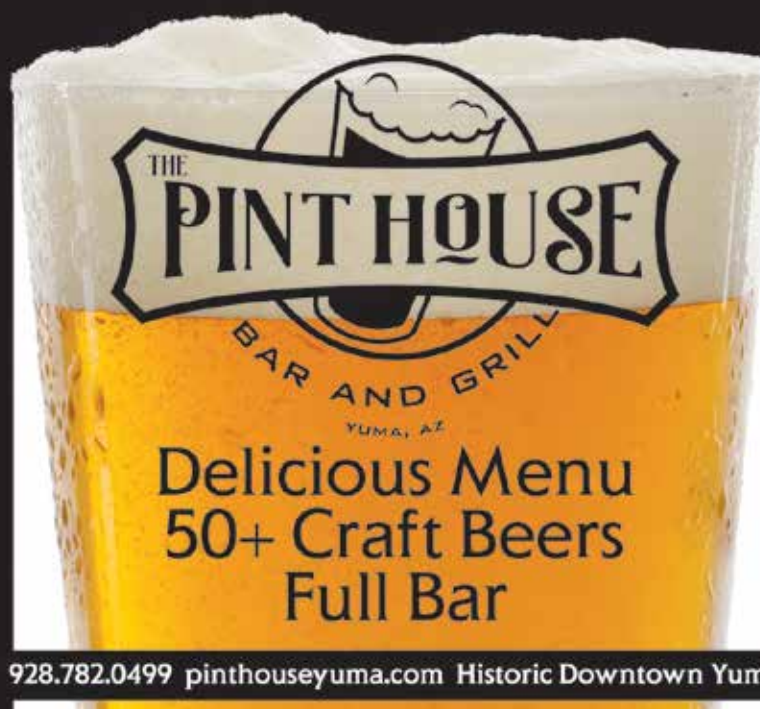


Free meals for all Price students!

Free grab-n-go meals for the YPG community ages 18 & under! 11:15-11:45 at the drop-off lane.



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Bringing awareness to teen dating violence



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ACS

During the month of February, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Garrison observed Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM). TDVAM is a month-long campaign dedicated to raising awareness about teen dating abuse and stopping abuse before it begins. The YPG Army Community Services team brought awareness by reaching out to members of the community and also those who serve the community and educating them on signs of teen dating violence.

Know your squad

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground provides a variety of resources.
Take a look at who you can turn to in a time of need.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)

Works towards maintaining a work environment free from unlawful discrimination; developing a workforce reflective of our nation's diversity; and institutionalizing EEO as part of the YPG. Contact the EEO team at (928) 328-2736.



PHOTO BY ANA HENDERSON

EEO Director Joeann Bailey and EEO Specialist Carolyn Lauzon.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

YPG's Chaplain is available for personal counseling by calling 928-328-3465. The Chaplain is bound by 100% confidentiality.



PHOTO BY ANA HENDERSON

Staff Sgt. Richardo Luna, Chaplain Maj. Jeffrey Crispin and Sgt. Justin Neubert.

FAMILIES OVER COMING UNDER STRESS (FOCUS)

The FOCUS program can help families learn skills to prevent conflict and stress, while enhancing family unit communication and cohesion. FOCUS training is confidential, free and available to active duty and activated guard and reserve service members and their families. FOCUS can be reached at 928-269-4288. Offices are located on MCAS and sessions with families can be held at YPG or through video tele-conferencing.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOCUS

(Left to right): Beth FitzGerald, Site Director; Tori Bourguignon, Resilience Trainer; Molly Mount, Services Coordinator.

YPG Commander and advocates visit Amberly's Place



PHOTOS BY ANA HENDERSON

YPG Commander Col. Patrick McFall, his wife Heidi, Amanda Gill wife of YPG Command Sergeant Major Herbert Gill, YPG's Sexual Assault Response Coordinator Arlene Gentry and YPG's Family Advocacy Program Manager Cathann Robinson took a tour of Amberly's Place on Feb. 4. The group had the opportunity to see what services Amberly's Place offers to victims of domestic, child, sexual, and elder abuse. The tour included different themed rooms which give victims a comfortable, safe place to wait. The group also saw the toy and clothing closets stocked with items from donors.