



WBAMC nurse anesthesia
students receive hands-on training ■ 3A

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>> SUMMER ENDS WITH A SPLASH

Fort Bliss Family and MWR Marketing

Summer 2019 came to a close Saturday when Fort Bliss families set sail in 30 boats during the annual Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Cardboard Regatta. Turn to page 1B to read more about the event.



Laura Buchta / army.mil

Gen. James C. McConville, chief of staff of the Army, speaks during a Military Equal Opportunity Symposium panel discussion at the Ritz-Carlton hotel in Arlington, Va., Aug. 14.

CSA: Prioritizing personnel starts with equal opportunity

By Joe Laddan | Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Speaking at a symposium designed to uphold equal opportunity standards in the service, the Army's new chief of staff re-asserted his emphasis on prioritizing people – Soldiers and civilians who comprise the Army's active-duty force, National Guard and Reserve units.

Gen. James C. McConville, days after taking over the service's top military position, appeared at the Military Equal Opportunity Policy and Training Symposium to highlight his No. 1 priority for the service: people.

McConville assumed the position of chief of staff of the Army from Gen. Mark A. Milley, the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

While readiness, along with modernization and reform, will continue to be high priorities under McConville, the foundation for those efforts begins with people and ensuring fair treatment for each member of the Army, he said.

"People are the ones that enable us," McConville said Aug. 14. "The strength of our Army is our people; that's our greatest weapons system."

The two-day symposium provides updates to policy and training for Army military Equal Opportunity professionals – where promising practices and successful techniques that directly impact Soldier readiness, climate and morale issues are honed.

Participants discussed the annual bullying and hazing report to Congress, proposed changes to policies and migration status of military Equal Opportunity complaints to the Integrated Case Reporting System database, MEO's system for fielding reports of incidents.

Spurgeon Moore, acting deputy assistant secretary of the Army for the Equity and Inclusion Agency, said the symposium goals include building cohesion and synergy while reinforcing standards.

The Army plans, he said, to re-establish the annual symposium at a time when senior leaders have pledged to eradicate harmful practices and behaviors from its ranks. MEO professionals serve as the principal advisors to commanders on identifying any unintentional or intentional discrimination or biases at each level of the Army.

"What we have is a function that is necessary to the readiness and success of the Army. Commanders must have trust, confidence and faith in the MEO professional to provide the pulse and temperature of their commands," Moore said. "MEO professionals are the fixers, mediators, ombudsman and leaders in-

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VA outreach heads west

New location to improve access to critical health services for veterans

By David Burge | Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

The El Paso VA Healthcare System is on a mission – a mission to improve access to critical health services while being more convenient for veterans.

To that end, the local Veterans Administration – in conjunction with contractor and developer Elevation Companies LLC of Denver – broke ground Aug. 21 on a new Westside Community Based Outreach Clinic at 1870 Northwestern Dr.

The new \$2.3 million clinic will be located near Loop 375 and Interstate 10 in northwest El Paso.

"The big picture is this: it is the first opportunity to really expand primary care for the El Paso market," said retired Col. Michael Amaral, the director of the El Paso VA Healthcare System. "It will also help with southern New Mexico."



Dave Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

A schematic of what the new west side clinic will look like was on display during the groundbreaking ceremony.

"Right now, we have a big challenge with our availability of primary care, as well as mental health care," Amaral said. "This is our first chance to expand that."

Based on a preliminary estimate, the El Paso

VA expects that demand for primary health-care services will increase by 30 percent and demand for mental health by 39 percent by fiscal year 2027, said Kraig White, who will be

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Team Bliss executes annual emergency exercise ■ 6A

What's the deal with spousal support? ■ 7A

Molinari: A mother by any other name ■ 5B

FORT BLISS

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Army overhauls small arms training with tougher standards, combat-like rigor

By Franklin Fisher | army.mil

FORT BENNING, Ga. – The U.S. Army has drawn up a sweeping overhaul of how it will train Soldiers in using small arms – rifles, pistols and automatic rifles – a revamp that adds tougher standards and combat-like rigor to training and testing marksmanship.

The combat-oriented revamp replaces a training system that dates to the Cold War era. It's geared toward ensuring that every Soldier – whether in a combat job or not – is trained from the start, to not only hit targets, but to have the other basic tactical-weapon skills needed for combat, according to officials with the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Those skills include Soldiers' ability to load, reload and otherwise handle their weapons just as they'd have to in the blur and stress of combat.



Markeith Horace / army.mil

Soldiers with C Troop, 2nd Squadron, 15th Cavalry Regiment, a one station unit training for cavalry scouts with the Maneuver Center of Excellence, zero their M4 carbines at Soto Range on Fort Benning, Ga., Aug. 21.

The overhaul is spelled out in a new marksmanship manual, "TC 3-20.40, Training and Qualification-Individual Weapons." Referred to informally as the "Dot-40," it is

more than 800 pages, contains four chapters and nine appendices.

"It's exactly what we would do in a combat environment, and I think it's just going

to build a much better shooter," said Command Sgt. Maj. Robert K. Fortenberry, who currently oversees the infantry school's marksmanship revamp project and is also the school's senior-enlisted leader.

The infantry school is part of Fort Benning's Army Maneuver Center of Excellence.

The Dot-40 applies to the entire Army – the active-duty force, including cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, as well as the Army Reserve and National Guard. It covers four categories of what the Army considers "individual" weapons: the rifle and carbine; pistol; the automatic rifle; and sniper rifles. It's meant as a standardized, one-stop shop for all Army units when training troops in individual weapons marksmanship.

It was developed at Fort Benning over a two-year span by staff of the MCoE's Directorate of Training and Doctrine, and by the infantry school, as well as nearly 200 marksmanship experts drawn from across the Army, including the Reserve and National Guard, officials said.

All units, regardless of type, will be held to the same tougher basic standards. All will have to train their Soldiers in the same skills, and ensure they schedule the same amount, type and frequency of marksmanship training mandated by the Dot-40.

"It was just time for a re-blue," said Fortenberry, using a term that refers to the re-bluing of firearms. "It's not to say that what we were doing in the past was wrong. We killed a lot of bad guys in Iraq and Afghanistan, and all over the world, with our current level of marksmanship training. So it's not that the old way of firing didn't teach you how to shoot. There was an opportunity to create a fundamental change in regards to marksmanship that more closely aligns with what was done and learned over the past 19 years of combat, making it to where it fits the entire Army as a collective, and makes a more proficient marksman."

To help foster proper understanding of the Dot-40, and to offer help to units in putting its requirements into action, members of the school's marksmanship team began traveling to Army posts and to speak with key audiences. Those include, among others, senior leaders who head divisions and brigades, as

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the clinic manager.

"With the ever-growing veteran population in El Paso, we are trying to open up our footprint so there is better access for veterans," White said.

Construction has already begun on the new 14,400-square-foot facility. The clinic is scheduled to be completed sometime in early 2020 with the VA expecting to see its first patients there by either April or May, Amaral said.

The new clinic will help alleviate overcrowding or "decompress" the main VA clinic, which is located in central El Paso next to William Beaumont Army Medical Center. It will be devoted to providing primary care to veterans who live on El Paso's growing west side of the city, in Southern New Mexico and elsewhere in the Borderland region.

The clinic will have the capability to serve about 5,000 veterans, White said. It will also include an audiology facility for veterans who need their hearing tested, a laboratory, physical therapy, prosthetics and telehealth, in which they will use technology to communicate with and provide health care services to veterans, said White, who is a registered nurse by trade.

They will be moving two primary care teams from the main clinic and adding three more primary care teams, he added.

A primary-care team consists of a provider – either a doctor or nurse practitioner; a registered nurse; a licensed vocational nurse; and a medical support assistant.

The new clinic will create a total of 61 new jobs.

"We want to increase access and take care of veterans who have taken care of us and take care of them closer to home," White



Dave Burge / Special to the Fort Bliss Bugle

Construction work has already begun on the El Paso VA's new Westside Community Based Outreach Clinic at 1870 Northwestern Drive.

said.

Amaral said that by moving two medical teams over to the new clinic, they will be freeing up space at the overcrowded main clinic and will be able to provide health care more efficiently there as well.

"I have told everyone since I have been here we have 10 pounds of marbles in a five-pound bag," said Amaral, who took over as director of the El Paso VA in November 2016.

Tom Foster, a principal with Elevation Companies LLC, said the new west side clinic will "be one of the most architecturally cutting edge that we have ever done."

"It will look really nice," Foster said.

The local VA is also in the process of building a new south-central VA Wellness Center at 5130 Gateway Boulevard East. The new \$16 million facility is expected to open later this year and will concentrate most of the local VA's mental health resources in one location.

"This is our first step in being able to expand primary care and mental health in our market," Amaral said. "I have been trying to do that for two and a half years."

PERSONNEL *Continued from Page 1A*

side the organization."

In order to combat harmful practices and behaviors, Soldiers must be willing to act when they see a fellow Soldier in need, or is not treated with dignity and respect, McConville said. The general lauded the recent efforts of Soldiers in their home communities and said that a similar mindset must be adopted toward unfair practices in our Army.

"If there's a boat going under, there's a Soldier jumping in to pull someone out," McConville said. "If there's a terrorist incident with someone with a weapon, Soldiers are running in to intervene and save lives. What we've got to do is create a culture with the same thing: when they see someone that's harming a Soldier, they step in – they intervene."

Giving Soldiers equal and fair treatment enables them to achieve their potential and tap into their skills and talents, McConville said.

Hidden gifts

In preparation for a deployment during the Iraq surge in 2007, McConville, then a brigadier general, took an unorthodox approach in assessing the skills of his Soldiers. He conducted surveys with National Guard troops under his command, asking them to write down their civilian professions on a spreadsheet.

When McConville looked at the document, he found a wealth of talent within his ranks. One sergeant owned his own engineering and design firm. A major in the unit also held a high-ranking position with the Texas Highway Department and used his expertise to help build roads during the deployment. The general said a pair of Soldiers from the Midwest understood the basics of farming to help build farms on the overseas tour.

"So we had all this talent that we didn't know was there that we [hadn't touched]," McConville said.

McConville said Soldiers should be placed in the right career fields based on experience and background. The Army's new talent management system, the Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army, will help transition the largest military service to better manage its vast talent pool by consistently evaluating Soldier skills from the active force, the Guard and the Reserve.

"What we want to do is start treating people like they're not interchangeable parts and start aligning them by their talents with the right jobs," McConville said.

Starting early

With about 120,000 new recruits joining the Army's ranks each year, properly indoctrinating Soldiers into the Army culture will be another area of emphasis.

McConville said assigning young recruits a squad leader or supervisor to properly en-

force Army values will help build cohesive units at the lowest levels. The culture change must begin during Soldiers' indoctrination into the operational Army, he said.

"Those sergeants are teaching them right from the beginning what right looks like," McConville said. "How they treat each other with dignity and respect, how they take care of each other. They're building cohesive units. The secret sauce of our Army is cohesive teams."

Sgt. Maj. Jason Enochs, equal opportunity sergeant major for Army Pacific Command, said MEO professionals are uniquely trained to assist those commanders in maximizing human potential to ensure all persons are measured by their merit, performance, and potential in support of readiness.

"Those young leaders build their cohesive teams by displaying the right characteristics to achieve better morale, greater commitment, and increased trust inside their squad," Enochs said.

McConville said younger millennials and Generation Z Soldiers boast a wealth of talent, but respond to motivation techniques differently than previous generations.

"They don't want to be treated just like another cog in the system," McConville said. "They're not a widget. They want to be recognized for what they bring to the table, what their talents are and they will stay with us."

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UNIT NEWS

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



Army develops cold spray technology to repair Bradley gun mounts ■ 9A



Army showcases new electronic warfare tech ■ 10A



Real-world scenarios WBAMC nurse anesthesia students receive hands-on training

By **Amabilia Payen** | William Beaumont Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Student registered nurse anesthetists at William Beaumont Army Medical Center received hands-on training on emergent operating room scenarios conducted by the hospital's simulation center staff, Aug. 2, in the El Paso Veterans Affairs Healthcare System surgical room.

The WBAMC simulation center is located in the main hospital, but the staff has the capability to move to other locations for training when necessary. The EPVAHS let the WBAMC staff borrow their surgical room for the day to do the simulated training.

The simulation staff used "Jeff," a robotic dummy with high-fidelity simulation technology that displays vital signs similar to a real patient. Jeff can be manipulated by the training staff to change his vital signs on the fly, thus changing the conditions of the surgical scenario. Jeff is commonly used to simulate low-or-high intensity scenario-based events, common in the operating room, which afford the students opportunities to use their newly-acquired skills in a controlled environment.

The goal was to ensure nurse anesthesia students had the knowledge and experience to save patient lives by becoming comfortable in using a step-by-step method.

"[Nurse] Anesthesia [students] will end up encountering some type of action that they have to do to address a critical situation in the patient's status while in the operating

room," said Thomas Soto, administrator for WBAMC's simulation center. "For example, they may encounter a difficult situation where there is something wrong with the patient's airway and they will have to do the right interventions."

Five nurse anesthesia students, all active-duty officers, were ready to take on the challenges that the simulation team had ready for them. After receiving a quick in-brief and being introduced to Jeff, the team began hooking him up to all the monitors normally used in an operating room.

Captain Petra Spencer volunteered to be team leader for the first simulated exercise. As he put Jeff to sleep for surgery his blood pressure dropped suddenly, and the monitors showed abnormal heart rates. After not getting a pulse, the student team jumped into action and began resuscitative procedures. The team started out slow, but then picked up the pace after encouragement from the simulation staff. When the exercise was over, each student understood what to do better for the next scenario.

More emergent scenarios were used for each remaining exercise, during which, each team member took turns calling the shots. Overall, it turned out to be a great experience, especially for Spencer who has encountered similar, real-life situations in the intensive care unit.

"In the real thing, there is a lot more adrenaline going and you get a flood of people,"

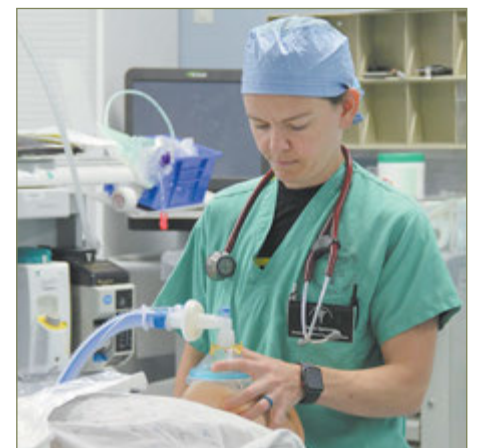


Photos by Amabilia Payen / WBAMC Public Affairs

After finding no pulse on "Jeff," a robotic dummy with high-fidelity simulation technology that displays vital signs similar to a real patient, Capt. Petra Spencer gives CPR while Capt. Brittany Staab, middle, reads the step-by-step resuscitative procedures and Capt. Savannah Hess, (left, provides oxygen. The student registered nurse anesthetists at William Beaumont Army Medical Center received hands-on training on emergent operating room scenarios conducted by the hospital's simulation center staff, Aug. 2, in the El Paso Veterans Affairs Healthcare System surgical room.

he said. "Doing that in an environment with my peers helps me learn from my mistakes because we help each other. At the end of our clinical days, we talk about what we did and share our lessons learned, and we pass on our experience. It's very helpful in a simulated environment to work together."

Spencer helps "Jeff" go to sleep for surgery during a training exercise using simulation technology for emergent-based scenarios that nurse anesthetists commonly run into during surgery.



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well as Soldiers, at what are known as leadership professional development sessions.

In creating the new approach, the Army wants to bring all Soldiers to a "baseline" set of marksmanship skills that go beyond what it takes to get a passing score during a qualification, a term for a graded shooting test at a firing range. The ability to hit their intended targets, though crucial, is only one part of the overall marksmanship skill set every Soldier should be equipped with, infantry school officials said. Marksmanship training should also train Soldiers on the other tasks they'd face in using their weapon in combat, they added.

The Dot-40 mandates a series of drills and tests that check whether Soldiers can rapidly load and reload as they'd have to under fire, work the bolt of their weapon, switch firing positions quickly – standing, kneeling, lying prone, firing from behind a barrier – while at the same time exercising critical thinking – making battlefield snap judgments as to which targets to shoot at in which order – and hitting them. All are elemental to being deemed actually proficient in Soldier marksmanship, officials said.

And it adds other new requirements: Soldiers must fire their weapons effectively in night-combat scenarios and in conditions that simulate chemical attack. Marksmanship training in which Soldiers fire from the

standing position, or while steadying their weapon against a barricade, is not new. But under the new methods, both will become part of the official, graded marksmanship test each Soldier must pass to be declared qualified for use of their weapon.

"You're employing your weapon system in a more tactical environment or scenario, versus the more traditional way of doing it," said Fortenberry. "And by doing so, it creates additional rigor, using all of the elements of critical thinking, sound judgment, adapting to change, all of those intangible attributes. "So, for the individual, it's a clear progression, to make them way more capable with their weapon system and all of the nuances that are part of marksmanship," he said.

Under the old method of marksmanship testing, Soldiers at the firing range would have magazines of ammunition neatly stacked in front of them, and would have to fire in a set progression that tested their aim, but not the other weapon-related skills they'd need in a firefight, officials said.

Soldiers being tested during the "course of fire" will be called upon to fire at multiple targets and will have to aim true and think fast. And they'll have to pull magazines from their combat gear – as in combat – rather than reaching to a conveniently placed stack.

"Four targets at a time will present themselves in this new course of fire," said Fortenberry. "There is a quad series that comes up. How do I engage that? No longer is it stacks

of 20 magazines here, stacks of 20 over here. Now you have tens. The magazines, now, cannot be pre-staged," he said. "They have to be in your kit. So you have to pull from your kit, versus stack two over here, two over here, everything looks perfect."

Also before the Dot-40, Soldiers were allowed to call for a time-out – an "alibi" in Army parlance – if their weapon was not working properly during the marksmanship test. The Dot-40 changes that, too.

"Alibis are gone," said Fortenberry. "Hey, Sarge! Got an alibi on lane three! Weapons malfunction!" There's no alibis anymore. You have to fix the malfunction," just as a Soldier would have to in combat."

If, however, a time-out were warranted, he said, leaders would be authorized to permit it but on a case-by-case basis.

Also mandated in the Dot-40 is use of indoor, electronic firing ranges as one of the methods to be used in teaching Soldiers to shoot. The electronic ranges, often called simulators in the Army, make marksmanship training more efficient and cheaper than relying solely on outdoor ranges. The simulators are equipped with a set of stations from which Soldiers fire their weapons at electronic screens that display targets. The electronic equipment captures precisely where each shot landed, and it shows details of how the Soldier held the weapon when firing. Such details greatly aid instructors in assessing whether the Soldiers are holding

their weapons properly and in coaching them toward becoming good shots.

Use of simulators for individual weapons training is also not new, but before the Dot-40, it was left to units' discretion as to whether they'd use them. The Dot-40 requires their use.

All units regardless of type will be held to the same new, tougher basic standards. All will have to train the same skills, and ensure they schedule the same amount, type and frequency of marksmanship training mandated by the Dot-40.

But besides being a means of new, higher standards that lead to greater weapons proficiency at the shooter level, the Dot-40 is also meant to help Soldiers Army-wide know exactly what's required of them.

Officials were concerned that the Army's small arms methods had long been spread among numerous manuals in a way that could work against a unit being able to conveniently pin down all they had to do to meet the Army's requirements consistently. The Dot-40 codifies the new methods in a single source for individual weapons, officials said.

The requirements outlined in the Dot-40 become part of the Army's broader, overarching "Integrated Weapons Training Strategy," which encompasses the Army's training methods for all categories of its weapons. The Army will give itself a year to have the new methods take effect, starting this October.



Photos by Capt. Lindsay Roman / 2nd ABCT, 1st AD

Sgt. Maj. Johnnie Bryant-Johnson speaks during a Women's Equality Day observance ceremony at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center at Fort Bliss, Aug. 21. Women's Equality Day celebrates the passing of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.



Soldiers and civilians watch as guest speaker Sgt. Maj. Johnnie Bryant-Johnson speaks during a Women's Equality Day observance ceremony at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center at Fort Bliss, Aug. 21. Women's Equality Day celebrates the passing of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote.

Women's Equality Day 2nd ABCT celebrates 'trail blazers' during observance ceremony

By Sgt. Michael L. West | 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division

Empowerment reigned at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center as a multitude of Soldiers, civilians, and German military forces, gathered for an observance ceremony for Women's Equality Day Aug. 21.

The ceremony host, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, provided a reverent environment, with all in attendance put at ease as the soothing jazz melodies from musicians filled the banquet hall.

"Today, the observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality – equality in pay, equality in work and equality in representation," said Col. Chad C. Chalfont, commander for 2nd ABCT, 1st AD, in his opening remarks. "We can clearly see the results of the fight for equality in every part of our society, as women sit at our nation's highest court, run for our highest political offices, and serve as leaders in our boardrooms, laboratories, schools, communities, government, and armed forces."

The ceremony's narrator, Spc. Kayla Thomas, a combat engineer with 2nd ABCT, 1st AD, presented the audience with historical information regarded during the day of observance. The event also included individual dedications to women's equality by three Pebble Hills High School students.

"Women's equality is my right and my freedom," said student Tatiana Powell. "Women are changing the world today. Still beating records in sports. Still saving innocent people from going to jail. Still teaching students to be great."

"For me," another student said. "Equality is working just as hard if not harder to accomplish what I want. I know I have the same opportunities as a man and I can accomplish anything a man can."

The 2nd ABCT commander welcomed guest speaker Sgt. Maj. Johnnie Bryant-Johnson, who opened her speech with a powerful attention getter.

"I come to you as one – one daughter, sister, woman, wife, mother and American Soldier – but, I stand before you as one of the 219,000 female service members serving our nation," said Bryant-Johnson.

She talked about how she enlisted in the Army in 1987; years before a third of the audience were born, which sparked laughter from the audience. She went on to talk about her experiences with voting.

"I voted because I was expected to," she exclaimed. "I didn't vote with the reverence that should have accompanied the act

itself. I took for granted my ability to have my voice heard."

She acknowledged the 'trailblazers' who created opportunities she had taken for granted, and she looked at all the faces in the audience and spoke words of fulfillment.

"I see the anticipation and expectation of those who will continue to blaze trails in the pursuit of equality – not only in the military, but in America."

Women's Equality Day is celebrated Aug. 26 in the United States to commemorate when the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was signed in 1920, prohibiting states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex.

"I come to you as one – one daughter, sister, woman, wife, mother and American Soldier – but, I stand before you as one of the 219,000 female service members serving our nation."

>> Sgt. Maj. Johnnie Bryant-Johnson

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Team Bliss executes annual emergency exercise

By Michelle L. Gordon | Fort Bliss Public Affairs

Emergency alerts went out in the early morning hours of Aug. 21 after a disgruntled Soldier drove directly into a PT formation on Fort Bliss, causing multiple fatalities.

The alerts were notional and the incident was not real, rather it was part of a full-scale exercise coordinated by the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to test Team Bliss' responses to possible real-world scenarios.

Fort Bliss Emergency Manager Addiel "Eddie" Castillo said the Installation Management Command observes installation full-scale exercises every other year and provides feedback. This year was an internal year, which means IMCOM was not present, so the players had to critique themselves. Castillo said some of that internal feedback happened real-time during the event, but most will be gathered later during an after action review.

"For instance," he said. "When the garrison commander stopped by the [emergency family assistance center] during the FSE, he asked about the reunification set-up, because if we had a situation like this in real life, we would not only need an EFAC, but we would also need a center for reunifying families — that was probably fresh



The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security tested Team Bliss' responses to possible real-world scenarios Aug. 21 during the annual full-scale exercise. The scenario involved a disgruntled Soldier driving directly into a PT formation on Fort Bliss, causing multiple fatalities.

in his mind because of what happened here in El Paso on Aug. 3."

Castillo said this year's exercise team had to meet five training objectives: prevent intelligence

assessment, response to casualty and fatality event, casualty and fatality management, emergency operations center management, and information management.

The exercise scenario and training objectives are created based on a combination of real-world events, areas identified for improvement during the prior year's exercise,

and guidance from the garrison commander.

"In the Army we have plans for everything, but you have to exercise them because you don't want to find out during a real-life incident that the plan doesn't work, or you don't know how to do your role," Castillo said. "Also, emergency exercises confirm that the functional partners are talking to each other and that their processes are actually working."

Community buy-in and patience are among the biggest challenges when it comes to full-scale exercises, according to Castillo. He said he tries to balance life with training, but he wants the community to understand that although disruptions are frustrating, they are an important part of emergency preparedness.

"The gates were backed up during the exercise, but there was an important reason for it and it shouldn't just be our emergency responders by themselves," he said. "It's an effort that should involve our whole community, because we do these exercises so we can better serve our community and be more resilient if an incident was to take place."

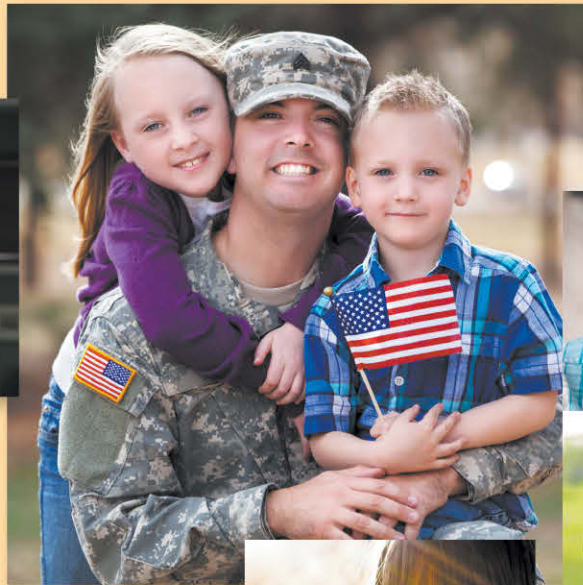
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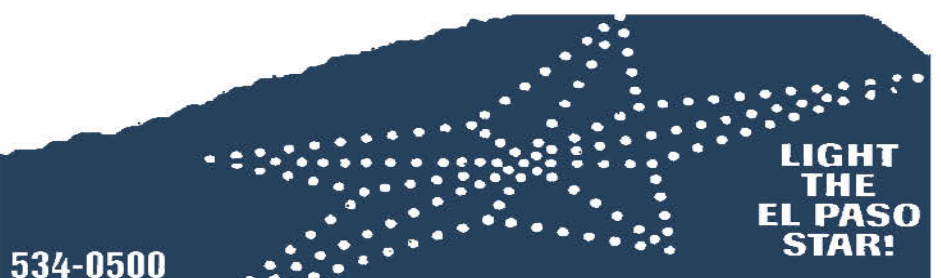
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What's the deal with spousal support?

By 1st Lt. Ingrid Babri | Fort Bliss Legal Assistance Office

It seems Soldiers know there's a financial obligation to support their spouses when there's a split, but the particulars get pretty muddy, so both Soldiers and spouses come to the Legal Assistance Office asking for help un-muddying the waters.

Army Regulation 608-99 sets forth the spousal support requirement, which is rooted in the idea that Soldiers are to take care of their families. AR 608-99 is designed to protect families during a separation and is meant to fill-in the gaps. Thus, AR 608-99 only applies in the absence of a court order or existing written agreement between spouses.

The support obligation begins when spouses stop living together. It doesn't matter which spouse moves out, whether it was voluntary, whether there was marital misconduct, or whether the spouse returns home to live with parents. It does matter, however, if the Soldier's family is residing in government housing. If the family remains in base housing, then the Soldier is not required to provide additional support. The next question is how much is owed. The answer is either 1) what the spouse and Soldier have agreed on, in writing; 2) the amount provided in a court order or; 3) a specific rate based on basic allowance for housing rates.

A spousal agreement can be a great option depending upon the circumstances. For instance, if spouses are economically independent, it might be in the family's best interest to agree on an amount less than the Army would impose. If taking this route, remember to make a signed, written agreement. If an agreement isn't possible, the Army imposes a monthly spousal support obligation, based on non-locality BAH rates. The rate is determined by rank, whether there are dependents, and whether the spouse is also in the military.

With all laws and regulations, there are usually exceptions, and AR 608-99 is no different. A Soldier may comply with his or

her support obligation by paying for particular housing expenses. These payments are considered "in-kind" payments and include rent, mortgage payments, and essential utility payments, such as gas, electricity, and water. Telephone and cable payments are specifically excluded

from consideration. If the amount paid in "in-kind" payments is less than the spousal support obligation, then the Soldier pays the spouse the difference.

Commanders do not have a duty to survey the ranks to ensure compliance with spousal support obligations. However, once a complaint of non-support is made to a commander, he or she must fully investigate it. The commander should determine whether there is an existing spousal agreement or a court order. If either exists, then the commander orders compliance with it. In the absence of either, then the commander orders compliance with the applicable non-locality BAH RCT rate. Commanders order compliance prospectively, meaning from the date of the complaint forward.

AR 608-99 lists several grounds for ending the spousal support obligation. The obligation terminates upon the effective date of a court order ending the marriage or the effective date of a financial agreement. In other situations, a battalion or higher level commander has discretion to end the obligation. For instance, a battalion commander can release the Soldier from the obligation when there is spousal abuse or when the income of the spouse exceeds the military pay of the Soldier.

Finally, under AR 608-99, the failure to obey a lawful order to pay spousal support is punishable under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice.

For more information, make an appointment to speak with a legal assistance attorney once a separation has occurred. The LAO is located on the first floor of Building 113 on Pershing Road and the appointment line is 568-4616.



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Army develops cold spray technology to repair Bradley gun mounts

By Argie Sarantinos-Perrin |
 Combat Capabilities Development Command

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – Repairing a 40-ton armored vehicle is a lot harder than having your car fixed at a neighborhood auto repair shop. Tactical armored vehicles require specialized repair procedures, which is very costly. What if repair-



U.S. Army

The 25mm gun mount supports the gun barrel on the M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle. When the mount begins to wear unevenly, the barrel becomes less stable. The Army is evaluating if a cold spray process can be used to repair the gun mount.



U.S. Army

Using the cold spray process, CCDC Army Research Laboratory restored the internal diameter of the gun mount exit throat to its original drawing dimensions, demonstrating the ability to return worn gun mounts back into service.

ing routine wear and tear on an Army vehicle was inexpensive and as easy as fixing your car?

With funding from the Army's Manufacturing Technology Program, a team of scientists and engineers from the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory, Ground Vehicle Systems Center and the Armaments Center, as well as Bradley Product Manager and Red River Army Depot worked together to develop a cold spray process to repair costly turret gun mounts on the Army's M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

"This project demonstrated the ability to apply new manufacturing technologies to bring components back into service that would otherwise be scrapped during depot maintenance operations," said Gehn Ferguson, CCDC ARL materials engineer.

The project began in 2017 when CCDC ARL visited RRAD to view the inspection process and access the wear on the Bradley turret gun mounts. RRAD, the primary depot responsible for the Bradley vehicle, inspects gun mounts for excessive wear. In subsequent months, CCDC ARL developed and demonstrated a process for repairing the gun mounts using cold spray. Prior to developing the cold spray process, worn gun mounts that were inspected and identified as non-repairable were disposed of.

"Cold spray is an emerging technology that will enable the Army to reclaim worn components that were previously replaced with new parts. This new technology reduces lifecycle cost and improves systems availability," Ferguson said.

While the cost of a new 25mm gun mount is more than \$25,000, a cold spray repair costs approximately \$1,000. Additionally, the cold spray process improves readiness by reducing the time that a Bradley is out of service while lessening the burden on the supply chain by reducing the necessity for stockpiling new gun mounts.



Jeremiah Woods / U.S. Army

An Army M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle stages out on a breaching range during a dry run of dismounted breach training conducted on a range in Poland in May. With funding from the Army's Manufacturing Technology Program, a team of scientists and engineers from the Army CCDC worked together to develop a cold spray process to repair costly turret gun mounts on the Army's M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

Cold spray is a process where micron-sized particles are accelerated in a high velocity gas stream through a nozzle and subsequently consolidated on a target surface. The accelerated particles impact and bond to the surface, resulting in a buildup of the sprayed material. Both the sprayed particles and the target surface remain solid during the process.

The Bradley turret gun mount was selected as a candidate for the cold spray repair process because CCDC ARL has extensive experience working with similar steels, and an established process to repair the worn gun mounts didn't exist. CCDC Armaments Center was responsible for designing and engineering the turret and CCDC ARL developed and demonstrated the cold spray repair procedure. The Tank--Automotive and Armaments Command is reviewing the repair and overhaul instructions currently under development. The team plans to repair four or five gun mounts within the next six months.

While the project initially began as a way to repair gun mounts, the material used in the cold spray process is much more durable, which suggests it could even be used to extend the life of new gun mounts.

Cold spray is also being evaluated for use with other applications, including the ability to repair corrosion on a combat vehicle surfaces and possibly to coat the interior of cannon barrels. For example, if the inside of a cannon barrel can be effectively coated with tantalum, which is a very durable material, its service life can be extended.

"As the command develops new weapon systems, there will be more opportunities to leverage the cold spray process to augment or repair components that may otherwise be labeled unusable. We're hoping this new manufacturing technology will lead to more success stories that will validate challenging requirements for improved readiness and reduce the lifecycle operation and sustainment costs of current and future tactical systems," Ferguson said.

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The Army is looking to incorporate the Electronic Warfare Planning and Management Tool in the military decision-making process. Capt. Sacarra Pusey, foreground, an electronic warfare officer hailing from Fort Polk, La., worked with the device in February in Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Army showcases new electronic warfare tech

By Devon L. Suits | Army News Service

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — The Army is advancing its ground-based precision navigation and timing, or PNT, technology to counter spoofing threats and improve operations in a multi-domain environment.

While GPS continues to be the “gold standard” for PNT capabilities, it can be disrupted from a number of frequency interferences such as weather, and man-made or natural terrain, said Col. Nick Kioutas, the PNT project manager.

Near-peer competitors have also demonstrated an ability to “spoof” current GPS technologies. Spoofing can generate position and timing inaccuracies on a battlefield, he said Friday at a media event hosted by Program Executive Office Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors, or PEO IEW&S.

The Army has taken a layered approach to ensure accurate position and timing data, he said. This approach includes the integration of non-radio frequency technologies on the battlefield, such as inertial-based navigation systems, chip-embedded atomic clocks, and Soldier-worn or vehicle-mounted odometers.

For example, industry officials are currently developing and testing a boot-sensor prototype that tracks a Soldier’s rate of movement, he said.

“It is like a pedometer,” Kioutas said. “If you knew you were walking at a certain pace and all of a sudden your system jumped a kilometer — you know you’re being spoofed.”

The Army also looks to secure access to alternative sources of PNT data through other GPS networks. Program officials have also considered the use of anti-jam antennas on vehicles to ensure access to GPS and PNT signals, Kioutas said.

“Our systems will integrate all these data sources to determine which one we can trust the most,” he said. “If our GPS is spoofed, we can look at our inertial navigation system [or other layered systems], and compare it to one of these alternative signals” to get accurate PNT data.

Electronic warfare

Along with improved PNT capabilities, PEO IEW&S is currently developing an Electronic Warfare Planning and Management Tool, or EWPMT, to manage and control electronic warfare assets in support of unified land operations.

Through the EWPMT, the Army can now visually synergize its EW attack, targeting, and surveillance capabilities to enable the maneuverability of forces. The tool also improves spectrum management operations and assists with the intelligence-gathering process.

Operators can streamline the process between the EWPMT and fires support, in addition to being able to configure their system to generate automated responses to a variety of signals or alerts, officials said.

Once an EWPMT system is triggered, the program will initiate its automated workflow, often distributing information throughout a tactical operations center. Depending on the engagement, operators can initiate a fire mission and provide tactical graphics for support.

“EWPMT is the commander’s primary tool to integrate multi-domain operations into their military decision-making process,” he added.

While still under development — EWPMT

increment one, capability drop three — is leveraging user feedback to allow EWPMT to support the electronic warfare officer’s techniques, tactics, and procedures, Marshall said. A pool of electronic warfare Soldiers and electromagnetic spectrum managers, or 25Es, from across the Army are involved in the program.

Instead of waiting for EW to become an official part of the targeting process, program officials are trying to get ahead of the curve to fulfill a future requirement, said Capt. Daniel J. Nicolosi, EWPMT assistant product manager.

Currently, EW operators “have nothing,” added Chief Warrant Officer 2 Will Flanagan, senior electronic warfare targeting officer, who is assigned to the operations group at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

As an operator, Flanagan is highly involved in the EWPMT’s ongoing developmental process.

“With the EWPMT in front of me, I can show the commander where we’re at, and what we can do,” he said. “This will give us that spot on the TOC floor. This is the first tool to allow us to do our jobs.”

Future iterations of the EWPMT program, officials said, will focus on pacing the threat’s capabilities within a disconnected, intermittent, and latent environment. In turn, the program will help refine the Army’s ability to conduct cyberspace electromagnetic activities in support of multi-domain operations and enable the Army to fight and win on a complex battlefield.

VMAX

For the EWPMT to be effective, it relies on fielded communications sensors and other EW transmission devices.

The Versatile Radio Observation and Direction, or VROD, Modular Adaptive Transmission system, known as VMAX, have already been fielded to meet mission requirements.

“VMAX is a lightweight man-portable electronics support and offensive electronic attack system. It is used to find, monitor, locate, and jam RF emitters in real time during tactical operations,” said Ken Gilliard, team lead of the Rapid System Applications Team, which falls under the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center, or CSISR.

“Its purpose is to create that advantage in the electromagnetic spectrum to provide Soldiers a window to maneuver on the battlefield,” he added.

When VMAX is operating in a support capability, operators can monitor the electromagnetic environment and determine what frequencies an adversary is operating on. Further, Soldiers can use multiple VMAX systems to geo-locate a signal, he said.

Similarly, if VMAX is supporting offensive EW capabilities, it can be used to jam or interfere with the signal within specific frequencies.

VMAX is a self-contained, battery-powered device, which weighs approximately 25-30 pounds, Gilliard said. Soldiers can tether VMAX to a vehicle, a building, or some air platforms. The device can be remotely operated and configured with a wide range of antennas to fulfill mission requirements.

The Army currently owns more than 200 VMAX nodes and 100 VROD nodes, he added. Majority of these devices are already deployed around the globe, many of them supporting operations in Europe and the Middle East.

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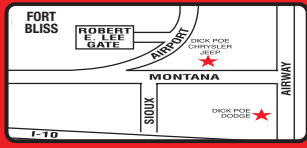
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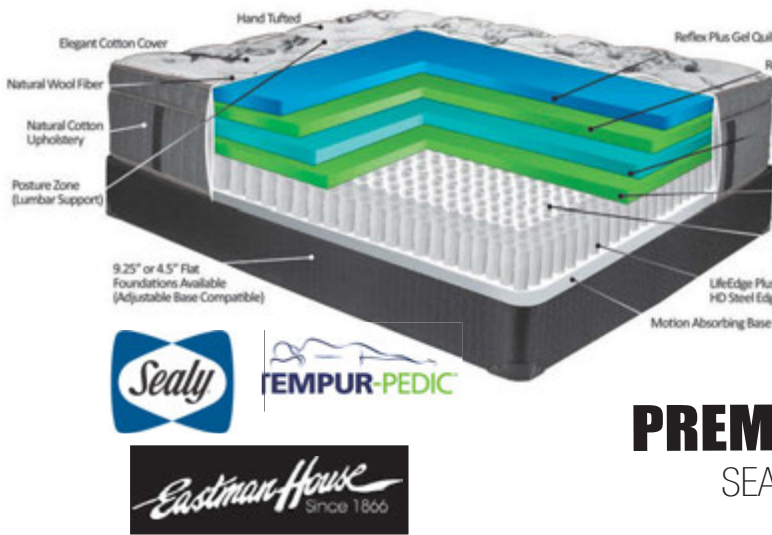
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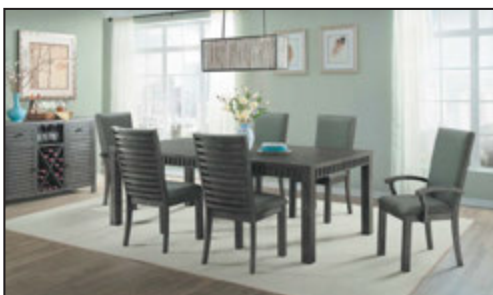
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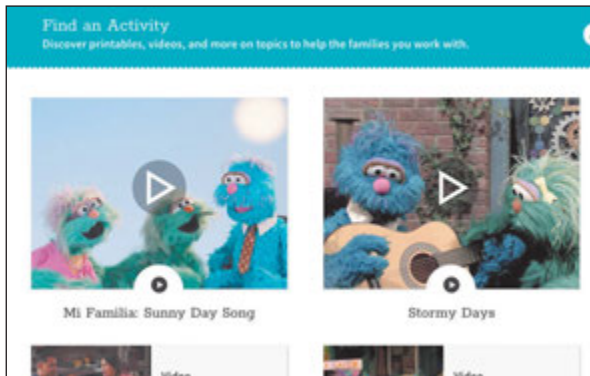
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Sesame Street helps military families with 'Caregiving' campaign ■ 2B



Por el camino
Outdoor Rec tours scenic Las Cruces ■ 4B



Burpee beast: ROTC cadet sets world record during fundraiser ■ 7B

Things to do:

City of El Paso End of Summer Party: Grab the cooler and celebrate the end of summer with the Sun City Friday, 10 a.m. Pavo Real Senior Center. 9311 Alameda. Free. 503-6544.

Alfresco! Fridays: Alfresco! Fridays are free outdoor summer concerts at the Convention Center Plaza downtown. No outside food or beverages, or pets allowed. 534-0600

Oktoberfest: Prosit! Head over to Biggs Park, 11388 Sgt. Maj. Blvd., for Oktoberfest, with authentic German beer, food, music and dance Sept 20-21. Music will be performed by Terry Cavanagh and the Alpine Express band, and Fort Bliss' own German Air Force Schuplatzer dancers will perform as well. Buy your tickets for Friday and Saturday evening events at eventbrite.com or Leisure Travel Services kiosks. Cost: \$25, free Sunday. 588-8247

'Disney's High School Musical': Kids-N-Co. closes its season with the musical based on Disney Channel's smash hit movie through this Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, 1340 Murchison. Shows are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets: \$7 (\$5 students, seniors, military), available at the door. 274-8797 or Facebook at El Paso Kids-n-Co

UTEP Minerpalooza: UTEP's 29th annual back-to-school bash and pep rally will roll on campus with headliner Drake Bell leading the way Friday, 6-11 p.m., UTEP campus. The family-friendly event will feature their fall sports teams, games, information booths and appearances by UTEP athletes, along with live entertainment, family activities and a beer and wine garden for 21+. Free. 747-5648, minerpalooza.com.

Downtown Farmer's Market: The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department's market for area artists and regionally-grown agricultural products happens weekly on Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Union Plaza, along Anthony St. 212-1780 or www.elpasosartsandculture.org

Marfa Lights Festival: The 33rd annual Marfa Lights Festival that pays tribute to Marfa's mysterious lights is Friday-Sunday around the Presidio County Courthouse in Marfa, Texas. Activities include food and crafts booths, a main street parade, contests, concerts and street dances in the Presidio Courthouse area.

Archaeological Society rummage sale: Calling all treasure hunters! El Paso Archaeological Society's annual fundraising sale is Saturday, 9 a.m., El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain. All unsold items from the sale will be dropped off to the Discovery Shop. Free. To make donations (including furniture or other large items), call (through Aug. 29) 449-9075 or nando79935@gmail.com.

Harvest Wine Fest: The New Mexico Wine Growers Association presents Harvest Wine Fest from noon-6 p.m. Friday-Sunday, at the Southern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, Las Cruces. Cost: \$30 for two people. Designated drivers and age 15-20; \$10; kids under 15. Military (with valid ID) and early bird general admission is \$17. holdmyticket.com. (575) 649-8994 nmwine.org

End of Summer Bash: Inn of the Mountain Gods in Mesalero, New Mexico hosts its End of Summer Bash 3-9 p.m., Sunday, with concessions, jumping balloons, live music on the lawn, fireworks at 9 p.m. Free 877-277-5677 or visit innofthemountain-gods.com

White Sands Hot Air Balloon/Music Festival: The White Sands Hot Air Balloon/Music Festival is Sept. 7-8. Music begins at 2 p.m. and balloon glow at 7 p.m. Sept. 8 launch is at White Sands National Monument. Cost: \$20 per carload or \$10 per person for walkers. (575) 437-6120 or alamogordo.com



Photos by Fort Bliss Family and MWR Marketing



Silly Senior Sailor shipmates Jim Salisbury and Paul Gernandt took home the "Biggest Splash" award during the 2019 Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Cardboard Regatta Aug. 24 at the Fort Bliss Community Pool.



Although creative, not all boats proved to be seaworthy during the 2019 FMWR Cardboard Regatta Aug. 24. The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers vessel capsized shortly after setting sail.

Create, sail and sink with style

Cardboard Regatta makes a splash

By Natalie M. Hinojos |
Fort Bliss FMWR Marketing

The 2019 Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Cardboard Regatta hit record-breaking attendance with more than 30 boats registered to compete during Saturday's event – all created with the intent of winning most creative, longest voyage or biggest shipwreck.

"Cardboard Regatta is one of our smaller events, however, we place a lot of emphasis on it because of what it means to the families who participate," said Michele Wiernicki, marketing manager of Fort Bliss Family and MWR. "We realize that families are working for weeks before-

hand spending quality time together preparing, and that is my favorite part of Cardboard Regatta. This event truly epitomizes each element of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation."

The event was open to people of all ages, there were three categories: adult and child (ages 5-9), youth (ages 10-17) and adults (ages 18 and older). All boats had two sailors – a captain and first mate, and each needed to remain in the boat at all times. There were top designs created by Soldiers and their families, single Soldiers and even senior citizens jumped in on the fun this year.

"We're still young fogeys, were not as old as some people may think we are," said Paul Gernandt, a Silly Senior Sailors teammate. "Let's put it this way, in a week I'll be 71 pushing 17. I left my walker at home though," he added with a laugh.

"We had a lot of leftover cardboard at home

and didn't know what to do with it," said Jim Salisbury, Gernandt's Silly Senior Sailors teammate. "We're gonna take home all the awards, best looking, fastest sailing and most trouble!"

Even though some of the designs were very creative, they still had to test the waters to see if they would make the longest voyage. Many designs sank from the start, but gave a dramatic scene as they sunk, while others paddled their way through. Participants were allowed to hop back in their boats to stay in the game.

"Cardboard Regatta is an amazing event that brings families together," said Edward Arriola, special events coordinator. "My favorite part of the event is seeing children smiling with excitement on their first voyage."

To see and download photos from the event, visit the Fort Bliss MWR album on Flickr, www.flickr.com/photos/blissmwr/albums.

Sesame Street helps military families with ‘Caregiving’ campaign

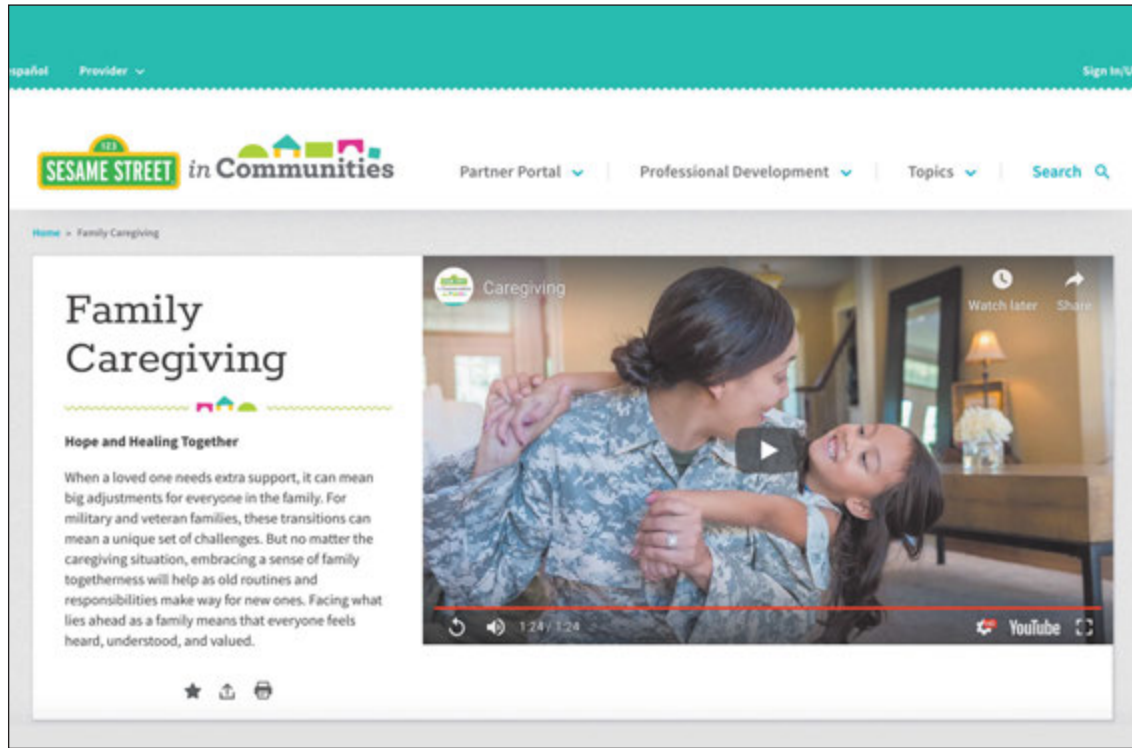
By Hart Communications

NEW YORK and SAN ANTONIO, Texas – When a parent or relative needs care during a long-term illness or injury, the whole family becomes part of the caregiving picture – even young children. In the United States, 3.4 million people with children provide care for a chronically ill, wounded, or injured veteran or military service member; another 4.5 million civilians with children also care for disabled, aging, or chronically-ill relatives.

Despite the growing number of families in caregiving roles, very few resources exist to help little ones understand the changes caregiving can bring to their day-to-day lives.

To help meet that need, Sesame Workshop and USAA, along with support from the Bob Woodruff Foundation, announced a new initiative Aug. 19 called Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving. The campaign provides resources to support military and veteran families as they care for a wounded, ill, or injured parent or relative.

“Coming home from a deployment with visible or invisible injuries is a huge challenge for any service member or veteran – especially those with young families,” said Sherrie Westin, president of Social Impact and Philanthropy at Sesame Workshop, the non-profit educational organization behind Sesame Street. “Even beyond the military community, the reality is that most of us will serve as caregivers at some point in our lives. With this initiative, we want every caregiving parent and child to



Graphic courtesy USAG Fort Bliss Public Affairs
Sesame Workshop and USAA, along with support from the Bob Woodruff Foundation, announced a new initiative Aug. 19 called Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving. The campaign provides resources to support military and veteran families as they care for a wounded, ill, or injured parent or relative.

know that they’re not alone, and that asking for help is always a brave thing to do.”

With a host of research-based resources – including videos starring the Sesame Street Muppets – Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving addresses the specific challenges of family-based care from a child’s perspective. The initiative was designed to help children understand: why their parent may look or act differently than “before;” how to safely express complicated or confusing feelings; how their parent’s illness or injury

can change over time; and how to describe their family’s new situation to themselves and others. For adults, the initiative offers guidance on “re-learning” how to parent while needing care or filling a new caregiver role.

The child-focused resources in Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving use the weather – something even very young children understand – as a metaphor to explain the ups and downs of caregiving and recovery. On “sunny days,” kids and parents feel confident, safe, and happy spending

time together. “Cloudy days” have small challenges related to the parent’s injury or recovery, like missing a planned outing. On “stormy days,” children may worry about the future and have trouble accepting the family’s new normal.

“USAA is here for military families through all of life’s major events,” said Stuart Parker, chief executive officer of USAA. “We are grateful to Sesame Workshop for creating resources that help kids and parents feel strong and supported in the everyday challenges they face.”

New resources in Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving include:

- Three videos starring Rosita – a familiar face from Sesame Street – along with her mother and her father, who uses a wheelchair after an injury.
- A music video that features footage of military and veteran families with an injured parent celebrating their “sunny days” together.
- An activity book called “My Sunny and Stormy Days,” designed for parents and children to complete together.
- A mobile game for children, playable across desktop and handheld devices, plus five printable activities.
- Two documentary-style videos for adults about parenting after an injury.
- A series of articles for parents about tackling children’s tough questions, asking for support, and embracing a sense of family togetherness as routines change.

“The Bob Woodruff Foundation is proud to work together with Sesame Workshop to serve military caregiving families, so those families have the support they need to thrive after service,” said Anne Marie Dougherty, chief executive officer of the Bob Woodruff Foundation. “Together, we can help children and their families navigate the challenges and find the joy in their family’s journey.”

The new Sesame Street for Military Families: Caregiving resources are free to families in English and Spanish at ssic.org/veteran-caregiving

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Photos by David Poe / USAG Fort Bliss
A guest follows along as Lt. Col. Warren Pittman, the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Bliss executive officer, briefs the group on the Fort Bliss mission sets on East Fort Bliss, Aug. 21.



Guests are briefed in an East Fort Bliss ready room by Lt. Col. Warren Pittman, the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Bliss executive officer, before being strapped into Chinook and Apache trainers on East Fort Bliss, Aug. 21.

USO, Team Bliss ‘take off’ East Fort Bliss provides supporters chance to virtually ‘fly Army’

By David Poe | USAG Fort Bliss

Cosme Saenz, a program manager with AT&T in El Paso, said he always wanted to go to Hawaii, so the Army at Fort Bliss flew him there in a Chinook – sort of – and even let him take the stick – sort of. The Army veteran was part of a USO-requested tour of the Chinook and Apache flight simulator systems, virtual structures located near Biggs Army Airfield on East Fort Bliss, Aug. 21.

The tour, led by the Bliss garrison Public Affairs Office, brought USO executives, supporters, and corporate partners onto the installation to get a small taste of Army life in order to better relate to the Soldiers they serve every day. The group was met and briefed by Lt. Col. Warren Pittman, the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Bliss executive officer, who touted El Paso and the Borderplex as a great place to train and mobilize, but also to call home at the end of the duty day.

“We can [train with] PATRIOT missiles here ... as well as offer high-altitude training – that’s hard to find at other Army installations,” he said. “And no offense to some of our other Army cities, I’ll take El Paso any day.”

After the welcome and the mission briefing, as well as a safety briefing before stepping into the simulation spaces, the guests were loaded into Chinook and Apache simulators and had turns in the virtual cockpits that are used to train 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade pilots and crews, as well as other local and visiting aviation units conducting training at Bliss.

While the simulators may offer aviation units a higher-state-of readiness due to the ability to “fly” 24-7, they also are budget

friendly; the Chinook simulators can be operated for less than \$500 an hour of flight time – almost one-twentieth of the cost of getting an actual Chinook airborne for that same hour.

The guests said they were impressed by the realism of the simulators that portrayed the Apache as a “sleek sports car,” and the Chinook as a “slow, lurking bus” that had more predictable movements.

Yolanda Castillo, the USO coordinator for El Paso, said she felt the tour was a great chance to proverbially walk in the boots of today’s Soldiers,

and the multi-million dollar helicopter aviation complex allowed her and the group to better appreciate that Soldiers, such as those from the Aviation Branch, are skilled specialists.

“It’s always good for us to learn and remember that Soldiers are amazingly talented and able – what better way than to see a bit of what it takes to get the mission accomplished,” she said. “They and their families deserve our support – I think the group got a taste of that today.”

If Saenz’s experience somewhere over Oahu – sort of – was any indication of the group’s opinion of the peek into Army life, the visit was a successful “flight.”

Now almost 15 years since he wore Army green, he said he was encouraged to now represent AT&T and offer what he can from his position in assisting Soldiers alongside the USO.

“We’re looking forward to seeing how we can help during their service and beyond,” he said.

“I’m impressed by how able the Army is today.”



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Photos by David Poe / USAG Fort Bliss

Located 50 miles from Fort Bliss, Las Cruces, N.M., located in the Mesilla Valley, offers sun and a slower pace in comparison to neighboring El Paso. Fort Bliss FMWR Outdoor Recreation organized a day trip to the southern New Mexico hub for Soldiers and beneficiaries Aug. 24.



A young market-goer takes in the antics of a street performer at the downtown farmer's market in Las Cruces, N.M., Aug. 24.

Por el camino

Outdoor Rec tours scenic Las Cruces, N.M.

By David Poe | USAG Fort Bliss

In 1881, gunslinger Billy the Kid was tried and convicted in Las Cruces, New Mexico, for the murder of Sheriff William Brady during the Lincoln County Wars. Sent back to Lincoln to hang, he escaped the noose, but not Sheriff Pat Garrett's revolver when he was killed by Garrett later that year, now almost 140 years ago.

Other than a gift shop on the corner of Calle de Guadalupe and Boutz Road in nearby Mesilla – the courthouse in those days – which contained the last cell Billy ever saw, there's not much for outlaws in Las Cruces anymore. Instead, there's a city of 100,000 that is part Borderland and part desert Southwest and is home to New Mexico State University.

Usually known for their outdoorsy-kayaking-biking-climbing trips, Fort Bliss FMWR's Outdoor Recreation division held their first leisurely tour in several years when they led Team Bliss to Las Cruces, Aug. 24.

Brian Arnold, the FMWR Outdoor Rec director said he believed helping get Soldiers and beneficiaries out and about, whether it was a quiet rock face somewhere in a national park, or to bustling Southwest town like Las Cruces, is important.

"It's about getting out and seeing and doing new things," he said, "there's so much to see and do – we want to help them get there."

Day-trippers started their day at the downtown Farmers and Crafts Market of Las Cruces. Located on a seven-block stretch of Main St., following months of extensive road construction, downtown now offers tight, tree-lined streets that offer a lot of shade to keep the morning temperatures cool for as long as possible. There's currently a resurgence of color as new businesses fill otherwise previ-

ously-dormant storefronts.

Guests were treated to local favorites like biscochito bakers whose celebratory, powdery shortbread cookies were featured on the Food Network, lively green and red chiles, and native art, but also enjoyed off-the-trail fun with street performer-led parrots who play dead on command, and young musicians equipped with everything from cellos to amps to earn some weekend cash.

After the morning stroll at the market, the vans headed for Mesilla. Located just over the city boundary on the South side, the Doña Ana County town has architecture that predates the Civil War as it was the capital of Confederate-held Arizona.

For all of its history and tourist attractions, Mesilla is also a lively municipality with its own police department, centers of worship

and culture, including a nightlife all its own as the gateway to the many pecan orchards that buoy Las Cruces south of town.

Before heading back to Bliss, the group ended at the La Viña Winery for a tasting.

Although wine grapes aren't native to the region, because of its sunny climate, southern New Mexico is thought to be a respected wine region as harvests start as early as August and run into the winter months, long after wineries in other parts of the country are under frost. There are many wineries from Las Cruces to Albuquerque, which lies two-and-a-half hours north, many of which are open to the public.

As the summer heat dies down, Outdoor Rec has a lot of events going on in September, starting with a trip over to Biggs Park for laser tag Sept. 6, and ending with a bike maintenance clinic in Sept. 26. To get on the next trip, stay informed by checking out <https://bliss.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation>.

"It's about getting out and seeing and doing new things. There's so much to see and do – we want to help them get there."

>> Brian Arnold

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A mother by any other name

By Lisa Smith Molinari | www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com

Why do we name our babies before they are born? Before we know their character traits, individual personalities, propensities and proficiencies?

Prior to marrying a man with a surname prone to misspellings and mispronunciations – Malarney, Mulineri, Marinara and Manicotti – my legal name was Lisa Smith. I never particularly identified with the name. It seemed common, fleetingly trendy, too milque toast for my unique persona. Lisa was the most popular baby name in 1966, the year of my birth, and according to census data, Smith has long been the most common surname in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. If that weren't enough to make me feel utterly ordinary, during college I had to be identified by my social security number because there was another Lisa Smith in my class.

The lack of panache in my birth name made me particularly susceptible to nicknames. My own mother, the person who picked my name in the first place, called me Dee Dee Dumpling during my early childhood. I never knew why, but perhaps she felt it was a better fit than my legal name. Even though the cutesy alliteration smacked of fat-shaming, I had to admit, it described me to a tee.

My brother's motivation for nicknaming me was less to describe than to humiliate. His standard was "Pig," but when my parents, who could no longer stand my incessant whining, forbade the insult, he cleverly reversed it to "Gip" and the whining continued. When the boy across the street and I were about seven, my brother found out that we were taking our shirts off and touching our bellies together. My brother seized the opportunity to assign me a "stripper" name – Bubbs MacGraw – and blackmailed me for years with the threat of telling our parents about my secret belly-touching rendezvous. After a family trip to Hawaii, my brother called me Lee Lae Lon, which sounded pleasant enough until he taught our entire bus to chant it on the way to school. His other epithets included Chunky Dinners, Chung King, Skunk and Skunkgrass, all demeaning

by design.

In middle school, I met another Lisa, and our friends referred to us as "La One" and "La Two." Of course, I was La Two, which played right into my inferiority complex. In high school, my best friend Patti Frankovich and I dreamed of life outside of our Western Pennsylvania working-class town, so we made up names that might imply affluent pedigrees. When we met boys while skiing or at the beach, Patti became Claire Taylor, and I, Brooke Townsend – just two Connecticut prep school girls on vacation. My discount department store wardrobe was probably a dead giveaway, but we enjoyed those moments of false refinement nonetheless.

During my first job out of law school, I was assigned to an engineering malpractice case involving a Pittsburgh sewage treatment facility. As the junior attorney, I had to attend depositions and document searches, which were done on site at the plant. Anyone driving near one of these facilities knows the foul stench of raw sewage that I had to subject myself to on a regular basis. It permeated my dry-clean-only suits, hair, briefcase and car. After a month or so of arriving back at the law firm feeling like I needed to be bathed in acid or set on fire, my colleagues gave me the unfortunate moniker, Sister Sludge.

A few years and many showers later, I met Francis, my future husband. He called me Sunflower while we were in that lovey-dovey stage when schmaltz knows no bounds. But after the reality of marriage, parenting and military life took hold, we were both too embarrassed to acknowledge the corny pet name from our initial courtship, preferring to go with the boring, but conveniently monosyllabic, Hon.

However, there is one name in my checked history that has always been a perfect fit. It's shared by more than two billion people, but somehow makes me feel special. I've been called Bubbs MacGraw, Chunky Dinners, Sister Sludge, Lisa Smith and every ill-fitting nickname in between, but I'm proud that three people in this world will forever call me "Mom."

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The stories that bind us

By Chaplain (Capt.) Scott A. Lovejoy | 2nd Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment

Recently, I've had several opportunities to reflect on the past. The first was an activity that the Latter-day Saint congregation on post held a few weeks back. It was branded as a "Family History Fiesta," where congregants and friends were invited to bring pictures of their ancestors, share stories, and present artifacts and heirlooms from these predecessors.

One congregant shared a story of his great-grandfather who fought in Gen. George Patton's famed 2nd Armored Division during World War II. Another shared courageous stories of her ancestor's trek across the western plains during 19th century westward migration.

A second recent experience that has allowed me to reflect on the stories of the past was a spiritual fitness event that battalion chaplains from 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division conducted at the El Paso Missions in Ysleta, Socorro, and San Elizario. As we were guided from mission to mission, we were exposed to a historical and religious history that indeed is rich and deep.

Both of these experiences have brought me to the same reflection: our forbearers did not allow material or temporal circumstances define who they were or what they were in fact able to accomplish. This realization, that resiliency – temporal or spiritual – is in

fact not a matter of external realities, but a deep-seated communal resolve to succeed, thrive and grow.

Being tied to these stories makes all the difference today. As we share the stories of those who came before us, whether it be the military lineage of our units, or the journals of our families, we have no choice but to be wedded to their legacy and strengthened by their examples.

In May 2013, the New York Times published an article entitled, "The Stories that Bind Us." In this article, researchers presented quantitative data arguing that children who knew basic facts about their parents and grandparents – the high schools they attended, how they met, their hometowns, the stories of illness or trial, the story of their own birth – were in fact more resilient and had better overall emotional health and happiness. Their conclusion was fairly simple, yet profound: "If you want a happier family, create, refine, and retell the story of your family's positive moments and your ability to bounce back from the difficult ones. That act alone may increase the odds that your family will thrive for many generations to come."

The stories that bind us come from a myriad of sources. Whether they be from scripture, from newspapers, from communal or religious histories, from military heraldries, or from the personal journals of extended families, it is my testimony and faith that our past will not only teach and guide us, but will be part of the basic bedrock of our personal foundations as we move into the exciting and unpredictable challenges and opportunities that only the future holds.

May God continue to bless you as you discover your own personal narratives and may He give you strength to incorporate those as you walk day-by-day.



Chaplain (Capt.) Scott Lovejoy

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CHAPEL ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic Women of the Chapel
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Friday 8:45-11 a.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
(11272 Biggs St., 1st AD Chapel)
Thursday 9-11:30 a.m.

Teen Connection – Teens of the Chapel
(6-12 grade)
(11272 Biggs St., 1st AD Chapel)
Saturday 6-9 p.m.

AWANA
(11272 Biggs St., 1st AD Chapel)
Wednesday 5-7 p.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

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

Hope Chapel

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

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

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

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

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICES

St. Michael's Catholic Community
(1542 Sheridan Road)
Weekday Mass 11:35 a.m.
Wednesday Confession 10:35 a.m.
Saturday Confession 4 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8 and 11 a.m.
1st Friday of the Month - Adoration 1 p.m.

WBAMC Hospital Chapel
(5005 N. Piedras Dr.)
Weekday Mass 12:05 p.m.
Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass 8 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 Oneg Shabbat 7 p.m.

Islamic Service
(Bldg. 442)
Friday Jummuh 1:30 p.m.
Sunday Ta' Aleem 12:30-2 p.m.

Buddhist Service
(Bldg. 449 Pershing Road)
Thursday 6 p.m.
Intro to Nichiren Buddhism
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Sports Briefs

Eagle in the Sun Triathlon: El Paso's only USA Triathlon-sanctioned multi-sport race, with a 400m swim, 12-mile bike ride, and 5K run is Sunday, 7 a.m. at the Ascarate Pool, 6900 Delta. raceelpaso.com/eagle-in-the-sun

UTEP Football: The Miners open the season against Houston Baptist at 6 p.m. Saturday, at Sun Bowl Stadium. Season tickets are \$60 (general admission). 544-5234 or visit utepathletics.com

Danny Ray Sanchez Memorial Run: Run with El Paso for the sixth-annual 5K run and 1-mile fun walk to benefit the Danny Ray Sanchez Memorial Fund. Saturday, Montwood High School, 12000 Montwood. Raceadventuresunlimited.com

BOSS glow soccer/frisbee: Join the Bliss Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program at the Monti Warrior Zone for a glow-in-the-dark fun night Sept. 7, 7-10 p.m. There will be glow-in-the-dark frisbees, soccer balls and more gear. Open to active-duty Soldiers. Transportation available. 21171 Medic Ave. Free. 892-5195

Oktoberfest Fun Triathlon: MWR is starting a new tradition this year, for Friday night only, it's the Oktoberfest Triathlon Sept. 20. Biggs Park. There'll be a keg toss, stein hoist, and bull ride. Winners will receive a trophy mug, crown hat, a seat at the throne and two tickets to Saturday night's event. Participants must have Friday night's ticket to be able to compete. Cost: \$25. bliss.armymwr.com or 588-8247.

Family Day at the Wall: The SAC is usually only open to 18+, but kids 6+ can climb for three sessions a week. Thursdays-Saturdays noon-6 p.m. 20732 Constitution Ave. 744-1532

Texas Concealed Handgun License class: The Fort Bliss Rod and Gun Club offers Texas license to carry classes from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. the first and third Saturday of every month. Cost: \$45-\$80 depending on membership status (Note: active-duty military license fees are free). The Rod and Gun Club rents guns for \$10. bliss.armymwr.com or 861-4789

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

H-O-R-S-E hoops tourney: The Monti Warrior Zone will host a HORSE tournament on their courts. Sept. 28, 6-10 p.m. 21171 Medic Ave. Cost: \$15 per person per tournament. Includes t-shirt and drink of choice. 741-3000

Kids golf for \$5: Kids 16 and younger can golf for a fiver Monday-Friday. Kids 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Does not include cart rental. 3200 Coe Ave. 568-1059

Group tennis class for beginners: Group tennis class for beginners will be held from 8:30-10 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday at Building 262 on Club Road. Tennis rackets will be provided. 569-5448

Texas Basic Hunters Education Class: Head over to Rod and Gun Club on the second Saturday of every month from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost: \$15. Registration required. 594-0159

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

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

Body Pump: The original Les Mills barbell class will sculpt, tone and strengthen your entire body fast. Focusing on low weight loads and high repetition movements, you'll burn fat, gain strength and quickly produce lean body muscle. Classes are held at Soto PFC Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9-10 a.m. and Tuesdays from 6-6:45 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person, or \$35 unlimited monthly pass. 744-5790

BodyCombat®: BodyCombat is a high energy martial arts inspired workout that is totally non-contact. Learn moves from Karate, Taekwondo, Boxing, Muay Thai, Capoeira, and Kung Fu. Classes at Soto and Stout PFC. Cost: \$3 per class or \$35 for an unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Total Gym: Classes improve function and produce transformational results for every fitness level and for all users. Provides dynamic movement which promotes: physical transformation, group synergies, and goal-related results and is fun to use. Classes at Milam PFC. 744-5800

Insanity: Based on the home DVD program of the same name. It is challenging, group-focused athletic training, cardio conditioning, and total-body strength drills, designed for people of all levels - no equipment needed, just determination. Classes are at Stout PFC. Cost: \$3 per class or \$35 for unlimited monthly pass. 744-5800

Yoga: A class consisting of poses and following transitions with a focus on core strength cardiovascular fitness flexibility, and an overall sense of well-being. We build upon basic yoga poses to target specific muscle groups while maintaining safe alignment to reduce the risk of injuries. Classes at Milam PFC. 744-5800

BURPEE BEAST

ROTC cadet sets world record during fundraiser

By Thomas Brading | Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — An Army cadet from Michigan State University recently set a Guinness World Record for the most chest-to-ground burpees completed in 12 hours, an effort that helped him raise more than \$7,800 for his non-profit group for wounded veterans.

Four thousand, six hundred and eighty-nine — that's the number of burpees Bryan Abell, a 23-year-old ROTC cadet, accomplished July 7 in his hometown of Milford, Michigan. His original goal was 4,500, the minimum number required by Guinness to set the record, but Abell kept going when there was time to spare.

Abell's drive to push forward is rooted in the Army's core values, he said. Before becoming an ROTC cadet his sophomore year, Abell originally enlisted as a National Guard infantryman in 2015, assigned to the 126th Infantry Regiment for the Michigan National Guard.

"If I wasn't in the military, I wouldn't have broken the record," he said. "The Army has taught me to be proud of what you're doing and to keep moving forward. I wanted to prove to myself that I could do it."

Abell not only proved it to himself, he proved it to the world.

Guinness officially certified his record shortly before he started Cadet Summer Training-Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky, last month. CST is a must-pass field training program for cadets and a stepping stone in becoming an officer in the Army.

Training for a world record

No stranger to physical activity, Abell is a veteran of multiple ultra-marathons, often running more than 50 miles through the winding wooded trails of Michigan's countryside.

At first, Abell planned to vie for the record of "most burpees in an hour," but after seeing nobody had accomplished the 12-hour record, he changed his mind.

After planning his record setting goal, Abell started a training regimen in his parents' backyard. He initiated training by doing more than 500 burpees a day



Photos by Reagan Zimmerman / army.mil

Cadet Bryan Abell, Michigan State University ROTC, conducts a burpee Aug. 16, at Fort Knox, Ky. Abell recently set the world record for most chest-to-ground burpees accomplished in 12 hours, accomplishing 4,689 burpees as part of an effort to raise money and awareness for wounded veterans.

and over time he increased his daily total to more than 1,500. During the six weeks he trained, Abell did nearly 33,000 total burpees.

A dirt hole, where Abell trained, formed in the grass of his parents' backyard. As the hole became deeper, it served as a testament to his will to set the world record. Although Abell was stronger with each passing day, his dad "wasn't very happy with the hole," he joked.

Today, the yard is back in the pristine condition his dad generally maintains it at, and the once deep, dirt hole has become a faded memory.

Burpees for a purpose

Milford, a Detroit suburb with a population of more than 6,000, was hand-picked by Abell as the location for the world record attempt. The reason was simple — Abell said "it was home," and he "just wanted to see it in the record books."

That said, the clerical tasks of setting a world record weren't as simple. Breaking a record can be a tedious job, he admitted, "It became pretty stressful. I didn't realize how much time would go into (filling out paperwork)."

In addition, with CST on the horizon, Abell needed to speed up the application and training process. Luckily, Guinness offered two options: 12-week review or a priority, five-day application review. Abell opted for the quicker option.

"I chose the priority option because I didn't have much time," Abell said. "I wanted to (attempt the record) before I came to advanced camp. The application came back within five days and basically from there, I had to set a date."

After establishing the application process, the next step was his favorite part: gunning for the record books.

"I just wanted to do the burpees," Abell joked.

With hometown pride, the day finally came. From 7:05 a.m. to 7:05 p.m., and only resting periodically, Abell averaged at least six to seven chest-to-ground burpees a minute.

"I could only rest for 20-30 seconds," said Abell, who also took short restroom breaks during the timed event.

In lieu of a witness from Guinness, Abell took a different route to provide proof of his record. He set up multiple cameras from different angles to watch his proper form, and he had six individuals working two-person, four-hour shifts while he contended for the world record at the Carls Family YMCA.

At least one of the witnesses, at any given time, was required to have a fitness-related certification.

The event was live streamed on social media from his non-profit organization's page, Stronger Warrior Foundation, where he also received donations.

A good cause

Stronger Warrior Foundation, officially incorporated in January, is a nonprofit Abell founded with his sister, Katelyn, during his sophomore year in college.

The siblings started "from the ground up," he said, and their main purpose is to help service members and veterans who have been wounded or have suffered disabilities from combat-related service.

The live streamed, half-day challenge raised more than \$1,300, with more donations generated after he set the world record.

Abell doesn't plan to give up his record anytime soon.

When asked what he'd do if someone does 5,000 chest-to-ground burpees and breaks it, he laughed and said, "Then I'd have to do 5,001."



Abell rests during a work out Aug. 16, at Fort Knox, Ky.



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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

WBAMC eye exams: Optometry Services at Mendoza and SFMC Clinics are open for routine eye exams for dependents and retirees enrolled in TRICARE Prime and Tricare For Life. If you have had a routine eye exam on the economy through TRICARE or other health insurance in the past year, please do not book an appointment until it is time for your next exam. If you would like to schedule an eye exam, call the Mendoza Optometry clinic at 742-2229 or SFMC at 742-2390.

Bliss Legal office closures: The Fort Bliss Legal Assistance and Claims Offices, located on the first floor of Bldg. 113 on Pershing Road, will be closed this afternoon for a unit function, and all-day Friday for the DONSA, and Monday for the federal holiday.

Traffic lights advisory: The traffic lights on Haan Road at the intersections of Haan and J.E.B. Stuart, Haan and Chaffee, and Haan and Carrington are switching to flashing amber for the east and westbound directions on Haan and flashing red for the north and southbound directions on the intersecting streets. The flashing hours will be 6 p.m.-5 a.m., seven days a week.

Directorate of Human Resources training holiday: The Directorate of Human Resources will have reduced operations Friday and will be closed Monday. For emergencies during closure, call 568-3093.

McGregor/FBTX ammo point closings: The McGregor Range/FBTX Ammunition Supply Point will be closed Sept. 16-20. Issue documents can be submitted through TAMIS during the closures. 569-9528

New traffic pattern at Old Ironsides gate: Bliss DES is adding an additional, temporary lane to alleviate congestion during peak hours 5-9 a.m., Monday-Friday. This change is intended to increase traffic and decrease wait times. 744-1551

Wednesday bible study: Join the Fort Bliss chaplain community for a weekly bible study. Free food served at 5:30 p.m. Child care provided. Bldg. 449-451 on Pershing Rd. 568-4334

Face-to-face TARP training: Fort Bliss offers Threat Awareness Reporting Program training at two locations monthly. Get your learn on at the SAC on the second Tuesday of the month, or at Stayton Theater on the third Thursday of the month. 568-4604

Let your voice be heard: Log on to the Interactive Customer Evaluation program to provide feedback for a wide array of services at Bliss. Submitters can remain anonymous or include their contact information for follow-up. https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=435

Lower Beaumont traffic disruptions: Ac-

ording to Bliss DPW, work trucks may cause disruptions at lower Beaumont, to include noise and dust, but no road closures, until late November. The work is part of a clean up project to haul debris to an off-site, licensed landfill. Work will occur Mondays through Saturdays between 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

FMWR

Doggy Swim Day: Adults 18+ will be able to bring their vaccinated pooches into the pool and there will be games and prizes to enjoy. Kids 5 and younger will not be permitted entry to the event. Proof of current vaccinations (Rabies and Parvo/Distemper) to be shown at time of entrance. Sept. 7, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community Pool. 251 Club Rd. Free. 568-2554

Make a mini garden: Join your friends at the Mickelsen Community Library to make a mini garden. This month they will be making a rock garden. Supplies provided, but guests are welcome to bring their own as well. Open to DoD ID card holders 8+. Parents must be present with minors. Sept. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. 2 Sheridan Rd. (Under NCOA). Free. 568-6156

Crochet with the Golden Girls: The Art & Hobby shop will be watching the classic sitcom, Golden Girls, and knitting it up. Basic supplies provided, but feel free to bring your own needles. Registration recommended and can be done at the neighboring Auto Crafts shop. Open to DoD ID card holders. Wednesdays 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 820 Marshall Rd. 568-5563

Auto Crafts orientation: The Fort Bliss FMWR Auto Craft Center offers mandatory safety orientations for their customers, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. This orientation is required before use of the facility for automotive do-it-yourself projects. DoD ID card holders only. 820 Marshall Rd. Free. 568-7280

BOSS Bash: Single Soldiers, this is your day to have fun! Come out to Biggs Park for this year's BOSS Bash. There'll be games, chances to win great prizes, food trucks, a mechanical bull, inflatables, music and drinks will be available for purchase. Free food will be available to the first 1,000 Soldiers who attend BOSS Bash. Sept. 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. East Fort Bliss. Cost: Free. 892-5195

Go Youth

CYS Saturday child care: Child and Youth Services will provide Saturday child care at the Milam Child Development Center on West Fort Bliss. Reservations required. Sept. 7, 1-11 p.m. Cost: \$5 an hour with a \$10 deposit. 744-7879 or 568-4198

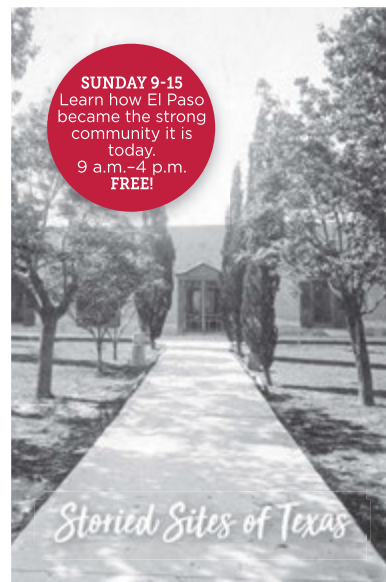
Oktoberfest child care: Ready to oom-pa-pa, but need a sitter? CYS has your back. Child care will be available at Milam Child Development Center. Children must be registered with CYS. Sept. 20-21 5-11 p.m. Cost: \$5 per hour, per child. Reservations required. 744-7879

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 to 5 listen to stories read aloud. There will also be crafts, activities and refreshments available. 568-6156

Kids' range/firearm safety class: This is a one-hour course required for children 6-17 to accompany parents or guardians at the Fort Bliss Rod and Gun Club live fire ranges. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. 3730 Roy Johnson Lane. Free. 568-5426

Community

Free TxDOT car safety check: TxDOT Traffic Safety is partnering with Whataburger and the El Paso Police Department to offer car seat checks at specific locations in September. Bring your children and their seats for installation pointers and other car seat safety tips. Sept. 6 - Wha-



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- SEPTEMBER 11 | FREE Victorian Sci-Fi Book Club 6 p.m. Tea and pastries provided
- SEPTEMBER 14, 28 | FREE Yoga • 10 a.m.
- SEPTEMBER 19 | Make-A-Thing Thursday: Water Marbling 10 a.m. • \$10

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When it comes to alcohol, it's easy to be fooled by appearances. But the fact is, an "innocent" 12 oz. mug of beer or a "harmless" 5 oz. glass of wine is as guilty of causing intoxication as a standard 1 1/4 oz. shot of hard liquor.

The most sobering fact of all, is that you don't have to drink to have a great time.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Debt collection notice:

This is a debt collection notice for **Sgt. 1st Class Wavie G. Shumate, Jr.** All services under Shumate's name should be put on hold. All those with debts to be collected under the name of Shumate, or for information regarding collections, call Capt. Joshua Anderson at 741-0536.



Hey ... you!
Yes you. I know you're looking at me.

My friends need your help! They need a home.

taburger, 650 Sunland Park Dr.; Sept. 21 - Whataburger, 1300 Airway Blvd.

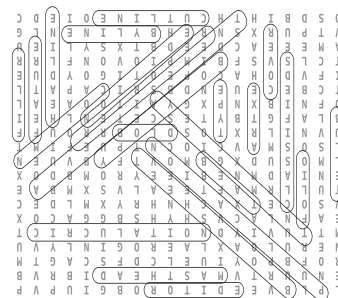
Walk the Line: Grab your partner and do-si-do to the Happiness Senior Center for a line dance party. Doors open at noon. Party hardy at this City of El Paso event from 1-3:30 p.m. Friday. Wellington Chew Senior Center. 4430 Maxwell. Cost: \$3. 212-0423

Rough Riders Turkey Run: The Rough Riders Motorcycle Club Hueco Chapter, will host its 15th annual run to fund Thanksgiving turkeys for the needy 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, from Barnett Harley Davidson to San Elizario. \$10. rough-riders-mc.com

Be a Sea Cadets mentor: Calling adult volunteers to lead in the Navy Sea Cadets program, El Paso Unit. epnavyseacadets@outlook.com or search "El Paso Navy Sea Cadets" on Facebook.

'Rolling Stones' Gem/Mineral Show: Grant County Rolling Stones Gem and Mineral

Society's 36th annual show is Saturday-Monday at the Grant County Veterans' Memorial Conference Center, 3031 U.S. 180 East in Silver City. Free. The show features dealers from around the Southwest with mineral specimens, jewelry, and arts crafted from rock and gems. (575) 654-4424 or rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com



DWI Statistics for FY19

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%	0.65%	2			2
11TH ADA BDE	10%	12.34%	33	5		38
JTF North	0%	0.00%				0
1/1 AD	15%	17.86%	40	14	1	55
2/1 AD	14%	19.81%	51	9	1	61
3/1 AD	15%	8.44%	25	1		26
1AD CAB	9%	7.79%	22	2		24
1AD DIVARTY	1%	12.34%	36	2		38
1AD SUST BDE	5%	12.34%	28	9	1	38
5th AR BDE/402ND	1%	1.62%	5			5
31ST CSH	1%	0.00%				0
93D MP	3%	0.65%	1	1		2
204th MI	1%	0.00%				0
86th ESB	2%	3.90%	10	2		12
80th CA	1%	0.00%				0
HHBN 1AD	3%	0.32%	1			1
Garrison	0%	0.65%	2			2
WBAMC	4%	0.97%	3			3
USASMA	2%	0.32%	1			1
TOTALS			260	45	3	308

Drug Statistics for FY19

Total DWIs			
Unit	% of Bliss Population	% of Total DWI	DWIs
JMC	0%	0.00%	
32ND AAMDC	1%	0.00%	
11TH ADA BDE	10%	11.40%	13
JTF North	0%	0.00%	
1/1 AD	15%	18.42%	21
2/1 AD	14%	22.81%	26
3/1 AD	15%	3.51%	4
1AD CAB	9%	11.40%	13
1AD DIVARTY	1%	7.89%	9
1AD SUST BDE	5%	12.28%	14
5th AR BDE/402ND	1%	0.88%	1
31ST CSH	1%	0.00%	
93D MP	3%	2.63%	3
204th MI	1%	0.88%	1
86th ESB	2%	2.63%	3
80th CA	1%	0.00%	
HHBN 1AD	3%	0.88%	1
Garrison	0%	0.00%	
WBAMC	4%	4.39%	5
USASMA	2%	0.00%	
TOTALS			114



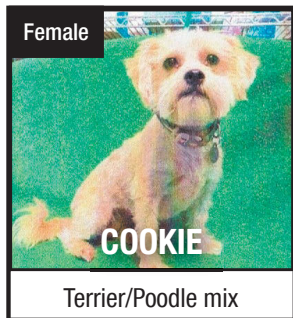
BENTLEY
Large mixed



BRODY
Medium mix



CHEWBACA
Small mix



COOKIE
Terrier/Poodle mix



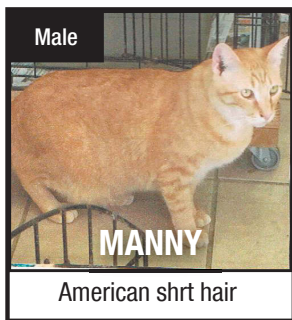
CRACKER
Medium mix



JACKSON
Large mix



TRIXIE
Domestic medium hair



MANNY
American shrt hair



BLACK VELVET
Domestic short hair

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El Paso volunteers keeping the spirit of shooting victims alive.

By: Livia Sappington



Once again, El Pasoans are showing the world their warmth and compassionate hearts when in crisis and helping those in need.

City Representative Henry Rivera of District 7 in collaboration with the Zaragoza Rotary Club of El Paso has organized a volunteer effort to help with the clean-up at the site of the horrific mass shooting at the Cielo Vista Walmart.

Volunteers gather every Friday morning at 6:30 am to pray, cry, and carefully remove wilted flowers from the memorial consisting of hundreds of memorabilia, including religious symbols, photographs, notes to victims and their families, rosary beads, and toys left to memorialize those whose lives were lost or forever changed by injury and devastating loss.

Zaragoza Rotary President and Founder Ofelia Mletzko describes the gatherings as profoundly emotional and inspirational with "not one eye dry".

The clean-up initiative commenced on Friday, August 17. The 35-40 volunteers each week represent the heart and soul of the community hurting and looking to find a way to ease the pain of our shaken and stunned city. They take several hours to make sure that the memorial is kept tidy and clean.

In addition, an amazing idea was born to keep the continuation of life in motion; another facet to ensure that some fragment of the lives lost will go on and continue to be part of our world.

In line with a project that was initiated by the Zaragoza Rotary Club for preservation and recycling that was launched June 1 of this year, the wilted flowers are collected, taken to the El Paso Zoo and then converted into compost that is used for fertilizer and feed other life forms.

Here are the details of how to volunteer if you wish to be part of this monumental healing process and show that you care:

CIELO VISTA WALMART MEMORIAL CLEAN-UP
Cielo Vista Walmart at Sunmount Drive/Edison Way
FRIDAYS AT 6:30 a.m.
915.212.0007 district#7@elpasotexas.gov



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Custodian
Socorro District
Full-time
Salary: \$8.50 per hour

Machine Operator
1st and 2nd shifts
East, West, Northeast Locations
Salary: \$7.25 to \$7.75

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2017 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT STK# P1916 \$25,995 2 TO CHOOSE FROM	2018 BMW 430I CONVERTIBLE \$28,995 STK# P1884 WHY BUY NEW		2018 TOYOTA TACOMA STK# P1946 \$26,995 NICE TRUCK
2018 DODGE CHARGER R/T , STK# P1926 \$26,995 WHY BUY NEW			2018 NISSAN FRONTIER STK# P1894 \$26,995 A LITTLE BEAUTY
2015 AUDI A5 CONVERTIBLE , STK# P1826 \$27,995 HOT SELLING IMPORT	2019 CHEVY COLORADO STK# P1904 \$27,995 WHY BUY NEW	2018 BMW 430XI CONVERTIBLE , STK# P1884 \$28,995 WON'T LAST	2017 FORD EXPEDITION PLATINUM , STK# T29515A \$45,995 BEYOND DESCRIPTION

2018 FORD FUSION HYBRID , STK # A15956 \$14,995 NOT A MISTAKE	2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT , STK# A15997 \$16,995 HONEY OF A DEAL	2018 FORD ESCAPE SE STK# A16023 \$16,995 PRICED TO SELL	2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT , STK # A15999 \$17,995 WAY TOO CHEAP
2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SPORT , STK# 26296A \$18,995 WHY BUY NEW	2018 BMW X2 X-DRIVE 28I \$26,995 TWO TO CHOOSE FROM WHY BUY NEW		2018 VW TIGUAN SEL STK# A16018 \$19,995 EQUIPPED RIGHT
2018 DODGE CHARGER RT , STK # A15969 \$23,995 FUN TO DRIVE			2017 JEEP WRANGLERS ALL HARD TOP \$25,995 SIX TO CHOOSE FROM
2019 DODGE CHALLENGER RT , STK# A16015 \$28,995 AWESOME RIDE	2018 FORD E350 SUPER DUTY CUTAWAY TRUCK , STK# A16150 \$36,995 WAY TOO CHEAP	2018 CHEVY SILVERADO K2500, DSL, 4X4 , STK# A15988 \$45,995 WAY TOO CHEAP	2017 PORSCHE BOXTER CONVERTIBLE , STK# A15947 \$44,995 SAVE THOUSANDS

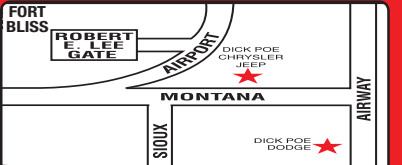
C9089B 2008 JEEP LIBERTY \$6,900	C9195A 2014 DODGE CHALLENGER \$15,995
T29238B 2004 INFINITI G35 \$6,995	P2039 2017 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN \$16,995
P2043 2013 FIAT 500 \$9,995	P1955A 2013 BUICK ENCLAVE \$16,995
T28738A 2015 HYUNDAI ELANTRA \$9,995	T29390A 2014 HYUNDAI SANTA FE \$16,995
T28705A 2013 CHEVY MALIBU \$9,995	P2027 2018 NISSAN ALTIMA \$16,995
P1942A 2012 CHRYSLER T&C \$9,995	T29382A 2016 CHRYSLER T&C \$17,995
T29089A 2015 CHEVY SONIC \$10,995	P2030 2018 TOYOTA COROLLA \$17,995
C9201A 2015 KIA SOUL PLUS \$11,995	P2055 2018 DODGE JOURNEY \$18,995
T28669B 2013 DODGE JOURNEY \$11,995	C9223A 2015 CHEVY TRAVERSE \$18,995
C9148B 2011 INFINITI G37 \$11,995	T29573A 2013 MERCEDES-BENZ GLK350 \$18,995
T29520B 2013 HONDA ODYSSEY \$11,995	P2033 2015 HONDA ACCORD \$18,995
P1806A 2015 FORD FOCUS \$11,995	P2053 2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4 \$19,995
P2051 2013 CHEVY EQUINOX \$12,995	P2029 2018 NISSAN ROGUE \$19,995
C9193A 2013 DODGE CHALLENGER \$12,995	P1997 2018 JEEP RENEGADE \$19,995
T29757A 2014 CHEVY CAMARO \$13,995	P2056 2019 NISSAN ALTIMA \$21,995
T29507A 2017 KIA SOUL \$13,995	T291770 2014 DODGE CHALLENGER R/T \$21,995
C9095B 2013 VOLVO S60 \$14,995	P2037 2018 CHEVY IMPALA \$21,995
C9201M 2014 FORD MUSTANG \$14,995	P2034 2019 CHEVY MALIBU \$21,995
P2052 2011 DODGE RAM 1500 4x4 \$15,995	C9218A 2015 DODGE CHARGER \$22,995
C9173B 2013 HONDA CIVIC Si \$15,995	T29443A 2019 HYUNDAI KONA \$22,995
T29492B 2012 RAM 1500 \$15,995	C9220A 2012 JEEP WRANGLER \$23,995
P1872A 2012 FORD EDGE \$15,995	P1975 2017 SUBARU OUTBACK \$23,995

26078A 2012 HYUNDAI ELANTRA GLS \$7,995	26037B 2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT \$15,995
A15934A 2014 FORD FOCUS SE \$8,995	26281A 2016 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT \$15,995
A16097 2017 FORD FIESTA S \$8,995	A15738 2019 TOYOTA COROLLA LE \$15,995
A16216 2013 FORD FOCUS SE \$10,995	A15778B 2014 CHRYSLER 300 \$15,995
26164B 2011 FORD EDGE SEL WAY TOO CHEAP \$10,995	A15929 2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT \$16,995
A15783 2017 NISSAN VERSA SV \$11,995	A15956 2018 FORD FUSION HYBRID \$16,995
A15802A 2016 NISSAN SENTRA SV \$11,995	A16118 2018 CHEVY CRUZE LT \$16,995
3A16102 2016 SCION IA \$12,995	A15624 2017 NISSAN ALTIMA SV \$16,995
A16135 2014 FORD FUSION SE HYBRID \$12,995	A15608 2017 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT \$16,995
A16021A 2016 CHEVY TRAX LS \$12,995	A15654 2017 CHEVY MALIBU LT \$16,995
A16227 2019 CHEVY SPARK LS \$12,995	A15109 2017 SUBARU IMPREZA PREMIUM \$16,995
26069A 2013 HYUNDAI SANTA FE \$13,995	A16113 2017 VW BEETLE 1.8 TURBO \$16,995
26260A 2016 HYUNDAI SONATA SPORT \$13,995	26441A 2015 FORD MUSTANG \$16,995
16103 2016 KIA RIOS \$13,995	26111A 2016 TOYOTA COROLLA S \$16,995
A16114 2018 NISSAN VERSA NOTE \$13,995	A16078 2016 KIA CADENZA LUXURY \$17,995
A16072A 2014 HONDA CIVIC EX \$13,995	FOUR TO CHOOSE FROM 2019 VW JETTA SE TURBO \$17,995
26143A 2014 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED \$14,995	A15598 2018 TOYOTA COROLLA SE \$18,995
A16017A 2016 JEEP COMPASS \$14,995	A15735 2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE \$19,995
25957A 2015 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT \$14,995	26034A 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE \$22,995
A16113 2017 VW BEETLE TURBO \$15,995	A15791 2019 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE \$26,995
26159A 2015 HONDA CROSSTOUR EX \$15,995	A15429 2017 RAM 1500 LONESTAR \$27,995
26383A 2011 CHEVY SUBURBAN \$15,995	

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