

# The Outpost

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

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## Ensuring the reliability of munitions



PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER

Whenever the United States military fires an artillery round, the reliability of that round was meticulously proven at YPG long before making it into the hands of Soldiers. Here gunners are preparing to load a projectile into the weapon system.

**By Mark Schauer**

Whenever the United States military fires an artillery round, the reliability of that round was meticulously proven at U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) long before making it into the hands of Soldiers.

Lot acceptance testing, the testing of a sample of fielded but newly produced munitions in real-world conditions to ensure reliability and effectiveness, is another important part of YPG's munitions and weapons mission.

Every component of a shell, from the round and casing to the primer and propellant, are tested at YPG. The velocity of the fired round is measured, as is the dispersion of the shell when it hits its target. Testers also look for residue in the gun tube, using a camera

aimed at the breech during the test and physically inspecting it after the round has been fired.

Accurately measuring this data on rounds that travel about one mile per second requires the assistance of some of the world's most sophisticated high-speed cameras and triggering equipment. YPG's scientific photographers have cameras capable of shooting 100,000 frames per second, though for this particular test they use only a small fraction of this impressive capability. As each round is in flight, workers back at the howitzer take readings from pressure gauges inside the gun barrel.

Lot acceptance testing comprises a large ratio of the post's Munitions and Weapons workload, but every such test is unique. Some even

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# YPG firefighter involved in head-on collision is improving

By Ana Henderson

The life of Yuma Proving Ground firefighter Andrew Swick was turned upside down while driving to Yuma for his shift on May 17 when he was in a head-on collision with a wrong way driver.

Since that day he's been fighting for his life. Swick suffered severe injuries in the accident and was flown to a trauma center in Phoenix where he remains in critical condition in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Swick suffered broken arms, hand, and facial fractures among other injuries.

Stefany Swick, his wife, has been keeping his friends and family updated via her Facebook page with videos.

Three days after the accident, Swick underwent surgery and was kept in a medically induced coma and breathing with the help of a ventilator. He was not able to have his wife by his side because of visitor restrictions due to the COVID-19

pandemic.

A week after accident on May 24, when Swick was awake and able to communicate his wife dropped off a new cell phone so they could communicate via Facetime. "The first thing he asked when he woke up is if anyone had talked to his chief," she said.

One thing Swick is not talking about is the accident. "He doesn't want to know anything about it, doesn't want to talk about it...I think it's a good thing he doesn't remember."

The next day, Swick underwent surgery for his arm and had a CT scan of his abdomen to check for any free fluid—fortunately, doctors did not find any.

More than a week after the accident Swick was still not able to eat because of his intestines and was only eating chips and water. "It broke my heart I can't be there to help and feed him" said his wife adding, "I want to

take care of him."

Less than two weeks after the accident Swick was finally able to eat. His first meal was apple juice, beef broth, and orange Jell-O. "That's a huge step," said his wife.

Every day his condition improves. He's started physical therapy, but is still in extreme pain because of the injuries to his abdomen. By the first week of June Swick was able to take a few steps down the hallway.

Swick is amazed and thankful for the improvement her husband has made. "Obviously I want him home today, but with the magnitude of his injuries he's just a miracle."

She thanks everyone for their emotional support. "Thank you so so much for staying up to date with him and his progress-- keep praying its working."



LOANED PHOTOS

The life of YPG firefighter Andrew Swick was turned upside down while driving to Yuma for his shift on May 17 when he was in a head-on collision with a wrong way driver. His wife has been keeping loved ones updated via Facebook. She still has not been able to visit him in person at the hospital due to COVID-19 restrictions.

After the accident a family friend started a Go Fund me account for the family and at last check they were just a few hundred dollars short of their goal.

"I did let him know about our Go Fund Me and how many people have given support and love. He was really shocked, surprised and proud. I told him, 'you have no idea how many people love you.'"

## THE OUTPOST

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# MUNITIONS

FROM PAGE 1

combine facets of developmental testing as rounds are upgraded. One recent case in point involved a test of the M795 High Explosive 155mm projectile that looked specifically at the munition's metal parts, which has a different process than other lot acceptance tests.

"We are looking for any metal parts separation or obturation," said Daniel Lopez, test officer. "We're also getting downrange observer data. We've changed some of the locations of our cameras to obtain higher quality footage of the muzzle exit."

"Normally we wouldn't do the metal parts test here," added Kermit Okamura, Munitions and

Weapons Division Chief. "They sent samples from the production facility because they didn't want to slow down production. We were able to piggyback on to our other test because the support elements are similar."

For decades, YPG has been at the forefront of artillery test and evaluation. This fact, combined with the proving ground's extensive institutional knowledge makes it an ideal test location for all facets of artillery development and sustainment.

"If this metal parts test achieves the results they want, they can start building that blend," said Okamura. "What we're testing today will eventually come back for lot acceptance testing of the full-up rounds."



PHOTOS BY MARK SCHAUER

Lot acceptance testing, the testing of a sample of fielded but newly produced munitions in real-world conditions to ensure reliability and effectiveness. Every component of a shell, from the round and casing to the primer and propellant, are tested at YPG.

## Chaplain's Corner

### Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged

By Chaplain Maj. Ronald Beltz

One of sport's best known personalities was notorious for being afraid to fly. Does anyone remember the name John Madden? Madden is a big, tough, former football player in the National Football League, a former Super Bowl-winning head coach with the Oakland Raiders, and a former color commentator for NFL telecasts. He is best known, perhaps, among younger football fans for his long-running Madden NFL video game series. And yet John Madden is deathly afraid of flying. Some of you will remember he had a specially outfitted private bus to carry him from coast to coast for football telecasts.

Someone once asked him why he is afraid to fly. Madden confided it was something that happened years ago at an airport. Airports used to have machines where you could buy flight insurance just before you boarded your plane.

Madden says that once while he was standing in line at the insurance policy machine, he noticed there were three pilots ahead of him waiting to buy insurance, as well.

Well, that would make me a little nervous too.

You may be perfectly at ease in the air, but all of us are afraid of something. It may be cancer, or if you are of a certain age, Alzheimer's. It may be losing your job or being deserted by your spouse. It may concern the safety of your children or simply looking silly in front of others. But all of us know what it is to be afraid.

As humorist Dave Barry once put it, "All of us are born with a set of instinctive fears--of falling, of the dark, of lobsters, of falling on lobsters in the dark . . ."

We live in a fearful age. During his 1933 Inaugural Address, President Franklin Roosevelt sought to calm a troubled America in the throes of a depression by saying, "There is nothing to fear but fear itself."

I wonder what Roosevelt would say today? Certainly there is enough to be afraid of besides fear: COVID 19, riots and looting, violence in the schools, random mass murders, terrorism, the growth of ISIS, the deterioration of our environment.

The Bible reminds us in Joshua 1:9: Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

## Yuma Proving Ground BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION PARADE

**YPG CYS will be holding a Birthday Parade for its YPG Residents on  
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# Technology brings workforce and YPG leadership closer

By Ana Henderson

Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) has a workforce of about 2,400. YPG Col. Ross Poppenberger has prided himself in consistently hosting quarterly town halls inside the YPG Theater to inform and interact with as many of those employees as possible. During the town halls Poppenberger would ask if anyone had questions and would get one or two people to speak up. Most employees sat quietly, but probably had a question or concern of their own.

When the COVID-19 pandemic made face-to-face contact risky, Poppenberger cancelled the upcoming town hall but still wanted to keep in communication with the workforce so he turned to another communication medium...video messages. Meeting with YPG Public Affairs Officer Mark Schauer and YPG leadership, the idea of video messages came about. "I thought it was an effective



Between YPG Commander Col. Ross Poppenberger, Command Sgt. Maj. Jamathon Nelson, Technical Director Larry Bracamonte and Acting Garrison Manager Ronnie James, the panel attempts to ease fears. The video messages were filmed at YPG's headquarters with Public Affairs Officer Mark Schauer asking the questions posed by the workforce.

PHOTO BY  
ANA HENDERSON

way to communicate effectively with our distributed workforce."

The unique things about these pre-recorded videos is that the workforce has the opportunity to ask questions in a pressure-free environment. Each Monday morning for the last eight weeks the YPG's public affairs office has reached out to the entire workforce via email requesting questions from them for their commander. The first week, the

workforce flooded the inbox with emailed questions.

"It told me that we did the right thing for the workforce and that this was an outstanding method to communicate with everybody," remarks Poppenberger.

Between Poppenberger, Command Sgt. Maj. Jamathon Nelson, Technical Director Larry Bracamonte and Acting Garrison Manager Ronnie James, the panel attempted to ease fears. "Every question that is asked is answered. We consolidate the questions in a little bit broader topics. If there is something that specifically needs to be addressed, we do that."

The video messages were filmed at YPG's headquarters with Schauer asking the question from the workforce and Visual Information Manager Riley Williams filming and editing the nearly 20 minute long videos. Poppenberger then sends an

email to the workforce along with a link to the video. The videos are also posted on social media.

Each following week the questions have come in smaller quantities, which Poppenberger says is a good sign.

"It says that we are mitigating fears, which I think is the biggest thing. We are over-communicating. We are informing the workforce. It says that our program is working and that the workforce is informed."

The work force has been very receptive to the video messages sending both Poppenberger and Public Affairs messages of appreciation. One of those messages came from Beth Davis: "I appreciate this video series and think that it would be a good tool to employ even after the pandemic is over. It would be very helpful in ensuring that important information is disseminated to all levels."

Poppenberger, along with YPG leaders has transitioned from recording videos weekly to every other week until July 8, when Poppenberger hands over command of YPG to Col. Patrick McFall.

Poppenberger leaves these words of wisdom to the workforce. "We are doing these videos to mitigate fear. Let's not let fear rule us, let's apply good, sound facts and logic to the decisions we make."

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# Yuma mayor visited Tropic Regions Test Center in 2019

By Mark Schauer

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) is used to hosting elected officials for visits.

Across the decades, virtually every sitting elected official in the various districts in and around YPG's Yuma Test Center has visited the place where their constituents test virtually every piece of equipment a Soldier is ever likely to use.

Of YPG's three constituent test centers, the most difficult for an American elected official to get an up close and personal look at capabilities is the Tropic Regions Test Center (TRTC).

Testing primarily in Central and South America, TRTC relies extensively on the goodwill of host nations like Panama and Suriname to conduct its vital test mission. The diversity of YPG's scope, with jurisdiction over all of the extreme weather testing in the Army, managed by people who primarily reside in Yuma intrigued Yuma mayor Douglas Nicholls for years.

"I love promoting Yuma," he said. "The more I understand about the community, whether it is the agriculture industry, border and water issues, or the military, helps me better understand what the Yuma community is involved in, nationally and internationally."

Coupled with this interest was Nicholls' deep respect for the military and those who serve.

"I'm in awe and fascinated by the commitment of our men and women in the

military and what they go through, and how we prepare them for deployment," said Nicholls. "To really understand that I love visiting YPG and MCAS-Yuma to get better insight into the choices they make for our country. That I'm grateful for them is an understatement."

When YPG commander Col. Ross Poppenberger offered to give him a tour of TRTC's operations during one of his own site visits, Nicholls jumped at the offer—even though it meant paying for his own travel and accommodation expenses from personal funds. He also had to acquire a visa and vaccinations for illnesses such as Yellow Fever prior to travel.

"Having an opportunity to experience what the testing environment is was something that I couldn't pass up," said Nicholls. "It was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience for me."

Nicholls' visit took him to facilities used by TRTC in both countries, and enabled him to get up close and personal with rugged jungle test sites used by the test center's personnel. Tropical wildlife abounded, from cayman and piranha to tree frogs and sloths. Unlike the other two YPG test centers, all of TRTC's testing is done on leased land and is heavily reliant on the goodwill of the host nations.

"I think it gave him an opportunity to see what goes on within the reach of the Yuma community," said Poppenberger. "He saw firsthand activities where

decisions made in Yuma affect areas in Panama and Suriname. I think there is good value in him having an understanding of that as he goes and gathers support for the Yuma community."

In all, Nicholls found the trip personally and professionally rewarding.

"As an engineer, I've always wanted to see the Panama Canal," said Nicholls. "For my job as mayor, it gives me a better understanding of what Yuma is involved in. For seven years I've talked about YPG having a tropical test center and a cold region test center, but they were just words. Now I have a better understanding of what tropical testing entails and how interconnected we are with those operations. Going there gave me a better understanding of what people in Yuma are involved in."

"It increases his awareness of what is important within Yuma and the value of taking care of these folks from a civic perspective," added Poppenberger. "His constituents work at YPG and provide significant value to the community and nation every day."

As for visiting YPG's facilities at Cold Regions Test Center in Alaska, Nicholls is open to doing so in the future.

"It absolutely shows the level of dedication our community leaders have toward YPG," said Poppenberger. "Not only is it a great professional relationship, I also appreciate the friendships that we've enhanced."



Tropic Regions Test Center Director Ernest Hugh meets with Yuma Mayor Douglas Nicholls and YPG Commander Col. Ross Poppenberger at one of YPG's testing centers in South America.



Nicholls found the trip personally and professionally rewarding "As an engineer, I've always wanted to see the Panama Canal," and as for his position of Mayor, "Now I have a better understanding of what tropical testing entails and how interconnected we are with those operations."



Because of the rough tropical terrain at the tropic regions test facilities off-road vehicles are needed to traverse the rugged terrain. The terrain is also the reason military vehicles are tested here among many other items.

LOANED PHOTOS



## A Closer Look with Casey

# Discovering YPG's rich natural diversity

By Casey Garcia

Lizards, snakes and scorpions OH MY! All of which I do my best to stay far away from. These critters terrify me so when I was asked to go out on a nighttime reptile survey I wasn't exactly thrilled however this was my assignment so I took a big straw and sucked it up for the team.

I met Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Wildlife Biologist, Daniel Steward at the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) office in town at 6:30 pm and we began our drive out to YPG. Steward explained that we would be looking for reptiles warming on the roads. I asked him with legitimate fear if I had to get out of the truck? Steward explained that he and AZGFD agent, Sky Arnett-Romero would begin the encounter and if safe would allow me to join

if and only if I felt comfortable. He explained that this was a very effective method to have a snake encounter because in the evening snakes move to the pavement to warm when the night air is cool. Steward and Arnett-Romero also had plans to check ponds to look for amphibians.

According to the Center for Biological Diversity there are more than 100 reptiles, 2,000 native plants, 60 mammals, and 350 birds that call the Sonoran Desert home. YPG and partners AZGFD are conducting what could be a two year long entire tax inventory in order to build a species list for YPG. They intend to ensure that these reptiles, plants, birds, and mammals not only survive here, but thrive. In order to effectively build this all-encompassing list Steward, and Sky Arnett-Romero must ensure

the animal's habitats remain intact.

During this nighttime survey Steward and Arnett-Romero checked various trap arrays that were equipped with sensors to track the creatures. The hike to the traps was not easy. The air pockets in the sand make hiking difficult in that area. They are vibrations caused by agitation and excess water which reduces the friction that normally occurs between sand particles. This means the sand begins to act more like a liquid than a solid so once the sand liquefies, it loses its strength and ability to support heavy objects, such as a person standing on its surface. Unfortunately the traps were empty, but we did see tracks evident of a lizard of some sort and a kangaroo rat.

The gravel roadway on the way to each of the water stops was busy and

full of small mammals. We spotted a few black tail jackrabbits from the vehicle along with a Desert pocket mouse that did not want to get out of our way so we stopped to say hello. The little thing was pretty cute. We also spotted a couple deer and a kangaroo rat.

Steward showed me the bat monitors that track bat sounds for the current bat study YPG is conducting. We also checked out the mosquito fish. Who knew there was a fish that ate mosquitos? I sure the heck didn't, and I am from Minnesota where the mosquito is the state bird.

Next we headed to look for amphibians. During the drive Steward had his eyes peeled explaining that if we are lucky we would see a Sonoran Desert Toad. When we got there we could immediately hear the calls of the toad. It was pretty impressive that



Daniel Steward is taking a look at the bat monitors that track bat sounds for the current bat study YPG is conducting.



Steward tracked a sound much like that of a cicada and reached into a tree and pulled out this very large grasshopper which immediately took to biting and secreting some sort of goo onto Steward's thumb.



Sonoran Desert Toads are one of the many creatures that live in YPG's backyard. They can be found hanging out in watering holes and have a distance call.





The survey crew spotted a few black tail jackrabbits sitting on the roadway which quickly ran away along with a Desert pocket mouse that did not move and allowed the team to take a closer look.



PHOTOS BY CASEY GARCIA

YPG Wildlife Department along with the Arizona Game and Fish Department are conducting a two year long entire tax inventory in order to build a species list for YPG. This stinkbug is one of the many animals they found during one night of checking on traps.

Steward and Arnett-Romero could track the call and find them almost immediately. When we walked up I could see the yellow eyes and for a split second I was scared again thinking maybe I had transported to wherever alligators or crocodiles live. I try tirelessly to get a good picture of the two toads that were showing off for us but just couldn't do it, but then right in front of my eyes was a toad strutting his stuff and not scared of anything and I got a few photos before he hopped and swam off to join his toad friends.

The final stop was another watering

hole where pronghorn sheep are usually spotted. With night vision binoculars Steward scanned the desert with nothing in sight, but he didn't give up. He brought out the black light and we went for a walk. He was scanning to see scorpions: they light up when a black light is shown upon them. There were no scorpions in sight however there was a loud kind of screeching noise coming from a tree. It sounded like a cicada. Steward tracked the sound and reached into a tree and pulled out this very large grasshopper which was none too happy to be held as it immediately

took to biting and secreting some sort of goo onto Steward's thumb.

A familiar sound came from our immediate left and we were on the hunt. After a few stops we found the creature making the sound and it was the group of Sonoran Desert Toads again only this time these toads immediately let us know we were interrupting something intimate or rather barbaric in my mind and we let them be. We walked to the opposite side of the watering hole and spread out. I found a lone toad that was under some branches in the water and wanted to get a better look

and picture of him. I crouched down and did my very best not to scare him away. I reverted back to my Marine Corps days and low crawled under some branches and through some stickers which I didn't feel at the time to get the best angle for a photo. This toad was AWESOME!

In that moment it all clicked just like the shutter to my camera. Our desert is amazing and I just wanted to explore more and more however our time was up. I was invited along for the next survey so stay tuned to see what our glorious Sonoran desert on YPG turns up next.



**HAPPY  
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# YPG fire department helps Price teacher host memorable promotion ceremony

By Ana Henderson

Most promotion ceremonies are pretty memorable but all very much the same. There is a lot of sitting, a lot of speeches...that was not the case for James D. Price Elementary School fifth graders who were greeted by fire trucks, sirens and their teacher all at their driveway.

Price School located at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) has a class of ten fifth graders who are moving on to a new school for the next school year and would not have that traditional promotion ceremony, "I was kind of sad for them" said their Teacher Ms. Rachel Curtis, "It should have been something they looked forward to especially for some of the students that will be moving to a different state. Going up to middle school is a whole different ball game from the close community they have at Price."

Like many parents and schools during this pandemic, Price's School Counselor, Ms. Rae Packard thought outside the box on a way to make graduation special. Packard reached out to the YPG Fire Department on behalf of the Price's principal and Ms. Curtis.

YPG is a very tightknit community so naturally Timothy Johnson, Assistant Chief of Training did not hesitate, "Our thoughts were definitely to do something special to recognize these children. We wanted to be able to support the school with in their request to do something special for our 5th grade students aboard YPG."

The fire department crew created a route around base housing after getting the addresses of the students and gave Ms. Curtis the truck dimension so she could create banners. On the day of the event it was time to hang the 12 foot long banner, balloons and streamers on the



fire truck.

"The fire department was great! I went in to help them hang the banner. They were like 'we got it'. I thought it was great, they were the ones decorating. I guess we'll have to call them next time we have a promotion and we are decorating," joked Curtis.

Firefighter Joseph Rochester says while decorating the fire engine is not something he imaged he would ever do it was a good time, "It was a privilege to do it to see the smile's on the kids."

Engineer Anthony Rios drove the fire engine and Rochester drove a smaller off highway vehicle following the engine with Ms. Curtis and YPG Archeologist, Erin Goslin who served as the photographer.

As the vehicles drove up the student's homes with sirens and horns blowing community members peeked out their windows and others came out to see what the commotion was about.

"At first it's kind of sad to think the kids won't get a graduation but this was a special time" says Rochester.

"It was a mixture of sadness



PHOTOS BY ERIN GOSLIN

Engineer Anthony Rios drove the fire engine and Firefighter Joseph Rochester drove a smaller off highway vehicle following the engine with Ms. Curtis and YPG Archeologist, Erin Goslin who served as the photographer. The men also helped decorate the fire engine.

The student's feelings were also mixed, "Some of them were kind of nervous like what is going on? Others were really excited, and I had one student that kind of teared up a little bit," says Curtis.

because I haven't got to spend time with them, but also happy. It was a mixture of feelings," remarked Curtis.

The student's feelings were also mixed, "Some of them were kind of nervous like what is going on? Others were really excited, and I had one student that kind of teared up a little bit," says Curtis.

The Firefighters stayed in the trucks while Ms. Curtis greeted her students and gave them a certificate. This

unconventional promotion ceremony was not only memorable but it's a testament of how the YPG family is always ready to help each other.

"The Firefighters were enthusiastic and felt privileged to be a part of something special" remarked Johnson, "Our roots in the community go pretty deep and our guys they love the job and working with our community."





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# Services in Yuma

To place your ad, call (928) 783-4433 • Monday-Friday 8-5  
or log on anytime to [ClassifiedsInYuma.com](http://ClassifiedsInYuma.com) 

Handyman	Painters	Painters	Pool Service	Roofers	Roofers
<b>A &amp; M HANDYMAN</b> A&M HANDYMAN Masonry, Carpentry, Cement, Remodeling, Painting, Plumbing, Roofing & More Just Ask! No job too small because I do them all. Allen Ainsworth Cell 928-257-9077 or Call 928-783-0306	<b>Yuma Painting</b> Interior & Exterior Paint, Stains, and Varnish Elasto / Meric • Roof Coating Drywall & Stucco Repair • Wall Paper & Acoustic Removal Jesse • 928-920-0827 Lic. • Bonded & Ins. ROC#133364	<b>GR Stamps Painting Service</b> Painting Interior / Exterior  928-329-4441 or Call Gary 928-271-9968 Licensed & Bonded for your Protection ROC 145570	<b>Yuma POOL SERVICE</b> SALES & SERVICE Offering pool restoration inspections, leak test, equipment & service First month <b>50% off</b> Call: 928-919-9450	<b>ROOFING SERVICE</b> <b>ALMODOVA ROOFING &amp; INSULATION</b> • Certified Tile Installer • Call Frankie Almodova 928-782-3002 / 928-257-0180 14797 S. Ave B Serving Yuma since 1962 AlmodovaRoofing.com ROC#268120 K-42 	 <b>COOL DOWN WITH POLYURETHANE FOAM ON YOUR ROOF!</b> The single most energy efficient thing you can do for your home. We also do all types of roof coatings! Call <b>928-782-2814</b>  Licensed, Bonded, Insured Roc#162010
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## Shootin' the Breeze

# You have new notifications

By David J. Horn

It's Saturday afternoon, day 68 of the historic 2020 COVID lockdown. While some of the businesses are starting to open up around Yuma, all my favorite places are still closed, so I'm still kind of stuck around the house.

So, like a lot of people in the same situation, since it's been a whole 30 minutes since I last checked my social media account, I think I'll log on to see what's happening in the world of my online friends.

Well, being it's late in the afternoon, it looks like people are still uploading the last of today's cat pictures. I have all these friends and relatives who haven't posted a picture of themselves for years, but they put dozens of pictures of their cat out there every day. For some of these folks, the only idea I have of what their house or yard must look like, is what's in the background of their cat pictures. I wonder if all those people posting pictures of their cat, realize...that I really don't care about their cat.

OK...being so close to dinner time, here come the food pictures! I have all these friends, that before they dig in, they stop and take a picture of what they've cooked up for dinner, and send that out to everybody. Three meals every day. Day, after day, after day. I've never visited the homes of a lot of these people, but I suspect that the inside walls of their houses must be covered with huge pictures of

bowls of their favorite homemade soup.

It's in the upcoming evening hours that things really seem to get heated up, as all the politicos really become unleashed. I have a

lot of friends on the left, and a lot of friends on the right, so I get bombarded from all directions with stuff ranging from slanted cartoons, to stuff I find quite offensive, to everything in between. The only

person who really drives me nuts doesn't do it because of the content, it's that he posts something every 30 seconds all... day...long. That guy really needs to get a life. A lot of people I know have "purged" their friends list of people that send stuff they don't agree with. I'm kind of the opposite. There's an election coming up in a few months, and I figure that the best way to survive all the deep fakes and offensive stuff headed my way, is to face it directly, to stay "hardened" to it all.

Oh...look at this. It's a picture of the son of an old friend of mine. The young man just graduated from college, having to do a virtual ceremony due to the shutdown. Wow...he looks great in his cap and gown. I really feel sorry for all the young people who had their graduations and some of the other most memorable events in life get cancelled due to this virus thing. Let's see here... [LIKE]. "CONGRATULATIONS JOE! WE ARE ALL VERY PROUD OF YOU!"



## Shop. Support. Volunteer.



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PLACE  
Thrift Shoppe



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196915



**Join Operation Homefront at the  
YPG Back2School Backpack & School Supply Event!**

**Saturday, 1 August 2020**

**1000-1100 • ACS Bldg. 309**

**Downstairs/Main Entrance**  
(North Side Facing Large Parking Lot)

**YPG Active Duty Children/Teens (Grades K-12)**  
Assigned to YPG (Living on/off YPG)

**Military ID Cards Must Be Presented for All Eligible Children/Teens**  
A parent must accompany child!

**Online Registration Required at:**  
[myOperationHomefront.org](http://myOperationHomefront.org)

Please No Early Birds!



Questions? Call ACS at (928) 328-2513





Until further notice, all MWR dining facilities will be open for call-in/carry-out orders only. All seating areas will remain closed for the duration of the emergency.

#### MWR DINING FACILITIES

Cactus Café	Closed
Coyote Lanes	(928) 328-2308
KFR Roadrunner	(928) 328-7500
ROC Garden Café	(928) 328-2598

#### OTHER AFFECTED ACTIVITIES/FACILITIES

Auto Skills	Closed
Post Library	Closed
Fitness Center	Closed
Coyote Lanes	No Bowling Call-in/Carry-out



## YPG Health Clinic Pharmacy Changes

**Clinic Phone:**  
**928-328-2666**

**Refill Phone:**  
**760-380-3127**

**Pharmacy Hours of Operation**  
**0800-1600**  
**Closed for Lunch**  
**1200-1300**

**301 C Street,  
Bldg. 990**  
**Howard Cantonment**  
**Yuma Proving Ground**

Please be aware that Yuma Proving Ground will be implementing medical screening at all access gates on 30 March. Please anticipate delays.

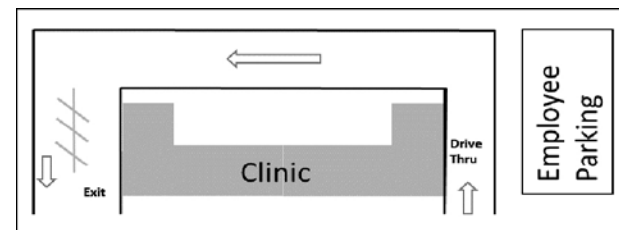
#### Pharmacy Operations During COVID-19 Pandemic

Pharmacy operations are being modified to allow for social distancing and minimize the spread of COVID-19.

- Starting 1 April, all routine medication pick-ups such as refills will be done outside of the clinic in a drive-through lane.
- Medication requests should be requested in advance so that they can be prepared and ready prior to pick-up.
- Controlled medications and injectable medications must now be scheduled as appointments.
- Transfers of multiple medications and non-formulary drug requests must be dropped off in advance and will be scheduled into virtual appointments. These requests will take 3-5 business days.
- Recommend dropping off paper prescriptions in advance as medications may need to be ordered.
- Call the clinic to request a renewal of an annual prescription. These requests will take 3-5 business days.

#### Drive Through Lane Ops:

- Enter the drive through lane on the far side of the clinic; typically our gated fire lane.
- Either press the call button or call the front desk at 928-328-2666.
- Please know which medications you need from the pharmacy.
- A medic will come outside and verify your ID and medications you are requesting.
- You will remain in your car while the medic takes your information inside to the pharmacy.
- The medic will return to your car with the medications in a paper bag.
- Continue driving around the clinic through the fire lane and exit through the parking lot on the other side.
- If there are any questions or delays, you may be asked to pull around the building and park.



## USAHC Yuma Proving Ground



Clinic phone number: (928) 328-2666

Hours of Operation:

Mon-Fri: 0730-1630 • LABS: 0730-1430 • X-RAY/IMMS/PHARM: 0730-1630

CLOSED FOR LUNCH: 1200-1300 • Federal/Training Holidays: CLOSED

Per new Defense Health Agency guidance regarding social distancing and COVID-19, routine care such as well child and adult physicals will now be deferred to a later date. All appointments will be triaged to determine if patient needs can be addressed virtually. Virtual appointments can be booked with the clinic directly at (928) 328-2666.



If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 please call the Army COVID-19 information hotline:  
**1-800-984-8523**

If you have a medical emergency, dial 911

