

The Outpost

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

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Project Convergence 21: Yuma Proving Ground supports NGCV testing

By Mark Schauer

Project Convergence, the Army's campaign of learning, has returned to U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), and is making history once again.

For the first time ever, every branch of the United States' armed forces are testing their sensor-to-sensor capabilities in tandem.

In addition to representation from all branches of the military, this year's iteration features all eight of the Army Futures Command's cross-functional teams (CFTs). There is also a dramatically larger Soldier presence.

Among these CFTs is the Next Generation Combat Vehicle (NGCV), which seeks to procure a variety of

SEE **NGCV** page 6



U.S. Army Pfc. Daniel Candales, assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, uses the tactical robotic controller to control the expeditionary modular autonomous vehicle as a practice exercise in preparation for Project Convergence at Yuma Proving Ground. During Project Convergence 21, Soldiers are experimenting with using the vehicle for semi-autonomous reconnaissance and re-supply. (Photo by Sgt. Marita Schwab)

Bridging the gap: Army weaves data fabric at Project Convergence 21

By Claire Heininger

If data is the ammunition of future warfare, data fabric is what will guide it to the target.

As the Army and Joint services experiment with more than 100 different technologies during the Project Convergence 21 (PC21) capstone experiment this fall, data fabric capabilities are playing a key role by bringing together multiple sources of data to enable better decision-making on the battlefield.

Faster, more informed decisions – made by

SEE **BRIDGING** page 7

Feeding the appetite for warfare
/Page 2



Ammunition and Armaments Division excels in inspection
/Page 3



YPG by day, hockey rink by night
/Page 8



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Feeding the appetite for warfare

By Brandon Mejia

As Project Convergence 2021 (PC 21) sits at the forefront of the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), the appetite for advanced warfare training isn't the only thing serving the Soldiers at the base.

A crew made up of just a few is pushing out more than 5,000 pounds of food each week to feed the stomachs of hundreds of Soldiers taking part in PC 21.

"I really have a good crew, and they are motivated," said Tony Williams, Business Manager at YPG's Cactus Café.

Williams is responsible for overseeing and assisting the crews tasked with preparing breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the Soldiers taking part in Project Convergence.

Like the Soldiers, the crew has a mission of their own to get the meals prepped and ready to serve around the clock each day. With such a high volume of mouths to feed, Williams temporarily closed the Cactus Café to focus on food preparation efforts for the Soldiers.



"It is a lot of food for just us, but it is easy, not too hard," said Edgar Garcia, as he prepares more than 20 pounds of rice for the evening meal for Soldiers working Project Convergence 2021. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)

"Their hours are stretched pretty thin, but they are handling it, no one is complaining," he said. "Everyone is doing their due diligence."

Thankfully the kitchen staff is able to utilize personnel from YPG's

other eating establishments, along with volunteers, to help push out the large quantity of food, Williams said.

"We have people who come in and 'pinch hit' for us and substitute, which is helping," Williams said. "It has been quite a mission, but I enjoy doing this."

Food preparations take about 2.5 hours per meal. Crews begin in the

wee hours of the morning to feed the Soldiers an early breakfast.

With four hands on deck, the cooks go through 16 cartons of eggs, 30 pounds of bacon, 20 pounds of sausage, more than 30 pounds of potatoes, and 36 cases of milk. That is just for breakfast.

Meanwhile, box lunches for during the week are also being prepared. On the weekend, crews prepare lunch for all of the Soldiers.

Dinner preparations begin as soon as breakfast wraps up.

Edgar Ramirez has been cooking for 14 years and is the cook responsible for dinner.

On the menu, Chicken Cordon Bleu. Ramirez along with two other cooks prepare 100 pounds of chicken, 20 pounds of rice, and 45 pounds of veggies.

"It is a lot of food for just us, but it is easy, not too hard," said Ramirez, who has never cooked for that many people. "I am good doing what I do, I love my job."

And at the end of the day the reward for Ramirez is seeing the Soldiers faces as they get to enjoy the meals he prepares.

"They love the food! I like to make happy faces," he said.

The Outpost

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Lead dinner cook, Edgar Garcia prepares more than 100 pounds of chicken and 20 pounds of rice to make Chicken Cordon Bleu for the Soldiers taking part in Project Convergence 2021.

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Ammunition and Armaments Division excels in inspection

By Ana Henderson

Yuma Test Center's (YTC) Ammunition and Armaments Division at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) recently scored a 97% on the Defense Ammunition Center Safety Review Program Inspection — the highest score to date among installations inspected within the Army.

In recognition of this achievement, Ground Combat Director Eddy Patchet submitted Ammunition and Armaments Division Chief Anthony Gingras, and Ammunition Branch Chief Samantha Howerton for a Civilian Service Achievement Medal.

During a surprise presentation in Gingras' office on Oct. 12 Patchet

said, "You don't pass a Defense Ammunition Center inspection like that fixing things 30 days before they arrive. It's indicative of the processes you have in place, the professionalism and the culture that has been passed down to all of the levels of leadership and the workforce about doing things right."

YTC Commander Lt. Col. Alicia Johnson added, "You go above and beyond of what's required of you. You take ownership. I want to say thank you on behalf of YPG and YTC for all your efforts to make sure we are always ready."

Gingras humbly gave credit to his team, "Our teams are phenomenal. The teamwork that we have and



YTC Commander Lt. Col. Alicia Johnson and Ground Combat Director Eddy Patchet awarded Ammunition and Armaments Division Chief Anthony Gingras (center) with the Civilian Service Achievement Medal in a surprise ceremony in his office on Oct. 12. (Photo by Ana Henderson)



the effort that we have towards the mission and trying to maintain the regulatory and all the requirements at a top notch level here. It really goes down to our newest employees

to our season employees."

YPG Commander Col. Patrick McFall formally recognized both Gingras and Howerton in a ceremony on Oct. 25.



Yuma Proving Ground Commander Col. Patrick McFall presented Ammunition and Armaments Division Chief Anthony Gingras and Ammunition Branch Chief Samantha Howerton the Civilian Service Achievement Medal on Oct. 25. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)

Explosives safety: Top priority at YPG



Senior Explosives Safety Specialist, Durred Francher (left) was recognized with a Civilian Service Achievement on Oct. 25 by Yuma Proving Ground Commander Col. Patrick McFall for his 98% compliance rate for the 56 individual explosives safety program elements. Francher contributed to the 97% total overall compliance score for the command during the recent Worldwide Department of Defense Munitions, Logistics/Surveillance/Explosives Safety Review Program inspection. (Photo by Brandon Mejia)

Garrison Employee Recognition Ceremony



**Civilian of
1st Quarter –
Civilian Service
Achievement
Medal
William C.
Session,
Lead Firefighter
assigned to
the Director of
Operations**

William C. Session was selected for the Civilian of the 1st Quarter for leading and mentoring a team of firefighters by building and implementing a new digital data tracking system for daily routine inspections. Sessions was also recognized for his volunteer efforts to support local charity organizations such as the Yuma Child Burn Survivor Foundation and the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. (Loaned photo)

**Civilian of
2nd Quarter –
Civilian Service
Achievement
Medal
Laurel A
Quickenton,
Customer
Support
Representative,
Yuma Proving
Ground Garrison**



Laurel Quickenton was selected for Civilian of 2nd Quarter for never allowing the Garrison Command to fall short of or to fail any mission and proving to be the consummate asset to installation management command. Quickenton was recognized for her exceptional professionalism, dedication to duty, performance standards, and technical competence. (Loaned photo)

YPG saguaro gets new home at Yuma Conservation Garden



In a joint effort between the Yuma Natural Resource Conservation District, The Arizona Association Conservation District, and Yuma Proving Ground, a Saguaro native to the Laguna Airfield was able to find a new home. The more than 30-year-old cactus weighs more than 1,000 lbs. and is being relocated to the Yuma Conservation Garden across from the Yuma International Airport. The removal process took about an hour and a half. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)



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Marine Corps veteran employed at YPG thwarts robbery attempt

By Brandon Mejia

The quick-thinking action and seasoned experience from a Marine Corps Veteran employed as a contractor at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) helped thwart an attempt to rob a Chevron employee at gun point in Yuma on Oct. 20, according to the Yuma County Sheriff's Office (YCSO).

James Kilcer said he visits the Chevron on North Frontage Road about three times a week before heading off to work at YPG. He had purchased a couple of Gatorades, energy drinks, and a snack that morning while talking with the clerk he has gotten to know over the years.

"I heard the door start opening forcefully and my 'Spidey senses' or whatever kind of tingling, and I turn around and saw they were coming in real quick," Kilcer said.

Surveillance video shows the moment three suspects wearing black with masks entered the Chevron. A .22 caliber handgun could be seen in the hands of the front man pointing in the direction of the clerk and Kilcer.



James Kilcer who previously served in the U.S. Marine Corps now serves as a contractor at the Yuma Proving Ground working in the Threat Systems Target Simulations shop. (Photo by Brandon Mejia)

With keys in one hand and a bag of goods in the other, Kilcer without hesitation dropped his keys, relied on his Marine Corps training, and went for the firearm.

"I was ready: I saw it coming,"

Kilcer said "The minute my hands closed around it, I never lost contact with the gun. And I pulled him down."

He held the suspect down until law enforcement arrived. The person arrested by deputies was a juvenile according to YCSO, and was charged with one count of armed robbery and one count of aggravated assault.

The two other suspects seen in the video fled the scene. Deputies arrested one of them, a juvenile, on Oct. 22.

While Kilcer's actions were heroic they shouldn't be repeated by just anyone thinking they can take down

an armed individual, according to Chief Donnie Lucas with the YPG Police Department.

"The law enforcement community advises non-trained civilians, non-combatant civilians who have not been through any law enforcement course or de-arming course or some military-type training, not to engage an armed gunman, or an armed suspect with a knife, or a machete, or any other weapon," he said. "In most cases it would be better if you complied with the request that they are making."

Kilcer served as a tactical air operations technician in the Marine Corps and was deployed to Afghanistan during his time in the military. He credits his actions to his Marine Corps basic training and mindset.

"Being in that mindset of if something happens, I will have to and will react appropriately," he said. "I was just ready."

"I really didn't know how fast I reacted." He said in response to watching himself in the video. "That is just insane."

YCSO: On Saturday, October 23, 2021, at approximately 10:00 PM, Yuma County Sheriff's Office Investigators arrested a third juvenile for the armed robbery that occurred at the Chevron located at 10747 S. Fortuna Road on October 20th.



While purchasing a few drinks and a snack before work on Oct. 20, James Kilcer (right) was confronted by an armed robbery suspect at a Chevron gas station in Yuma County. (Courtesy of Yuma County Sheriff's Office)

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NGCV

FROM PAGE 1

new combat vehicles and capabilities, including the ability to operate unmanned.

The scope and scale of the demonstration, involving experimentation with novel technologies that included multiple locations hosting autonomous vehicle testing simultaneously on YPG's vast desert ranges, meant far more extensive planning, site reconnaissance, and security planning prior to the event.

"We're supporting a wide variety of platforms out here," said Jacob Obradovich, NGCV Cross Functional Team Integrator. "Some of them have very minimal footprints, some are very large truck and trailer assemblies driving unmanned down the YPG roads. We're doing some unprecedented stuff."

"There are several gun positions that our Munitions and Weapons Division typically uses that we're utilizing for PC 21," he added.

"It really provides an organic, realistic mission-based approach to the scenarios that we are executing. Rather than having multiple disjointed efforts, it flows geographically in time and space."

The complexity of these realistic scenarios required months of pre-planning to ensure they were conducted safely.

"Our safety posture has been a big game changer," said Obradovich. "We did a lot of good strategic planning ahead of the game and worked with the tech sponsors and our partners at AFC to really identify a safe game plan that met the mission requirements."

YPG's large range and extremely isolated geographic location far away from any populated areas is a major advantage to conducting these realistic demonstrations safely. Nonetheless, the safety planning was still a complex operation.

"There are a slew of considerations you have to look at: what kind of safety systems are in place, and what is the maturity level of the safety systems that are built in? Where can you put these vehicles to minimize environmental and infrastructure damage if they don't behave like they are supposed to?"

During the actual period of experimentation in October and November, 60-hour work weeks were standard for many of the supporting YPG personnel, and some workers even exceeded that.

"Honestly, a 60-hour week seems shorter than a normal 40-hour week



U.S. Army Spc. Destiny Jones, navigates a Robotic Combat Vehicle during Project Convergence at Yuma Proving Ground. The Next Generation Combat Vehicle Cross-Function Team is experimenting with using the vehicle for semi-autonomous resupply, helping Soldiers get the materials they need on the battlefield. (Photo by Spc. Kayla Antsey)

just because of everything that is going on and all of the moving parts," said Cesar Ramirez, test officer. "It's for a short period of time, not the whole year, so I'm not concerned about getting burned out."

Despite all of the intensive planning prior to the event, inevitably there were unforeseen needs that occurred. YPG's extensive test infrastructure, experienced personnel, and institutional knowledge made filling these needs virtually seamless as they occurred.

"We do our best to try to accommodate spontaneous requirements, whether it is carpenters, gunners, observers, data collectors," said Ramirez. "There's a lot of convergence that has to occur, for lack of a better word."

The test personnel were also excited to work with a large contingent of Soldiers from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division that were on-site supporting the demonstration this year.

"It's a great opportunity for them to be able to use some of these new technologies and provide feedback to the developers, and a great opportunity for our personnel to see the end user," said Obradovich. "Sometimes you have to wait several years before a regularly-scheduled operational test event occurs to get

that kind of feedback, but here they have been able to get that valuable feedback early on in the development cycle."

"These Soldiers are out in the field and actually see how it is," added Ramirez. "It's good to have multiple perspectives."

The complex scenarios involving hundreds of Soldiers and test personnel have been carried out successfully and without injury.

"The execution that we've done to date is a testament to the ingenuity of our test officers," said Obradovich. "Their experience is coming through, especially working hand-in-hand with the systems' safety engineers to find ways to safely conduct the tests."

Obradovich adds that the effort's success also depended on extensive support from multiple organizations within YPG.

"All the different sections of YPG have contributed, whether it is the resource management folks getting funding squared away or the network enterprise folks supporting us way out in remote parts of the range: it's a major muscle movement for the organization as a whole. The organization has really come together to make this a success. It's a testament to our personnel's can-do attitude and dedication to the Warfighter and mission."



A group of Soldiers assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, fastens a piece of equipment onto the expeditionary modular autonomous vehicle, as a practice exercise in preparation for Project Convergence at Yuma Proving Ground. (Photo by Sgt. Marita Schwab)

commanders who can leverage data from multiple services, echelons and weapon systems platforms to choose the right effects – provide a competitive advantage over adversaries, Army leaders said.

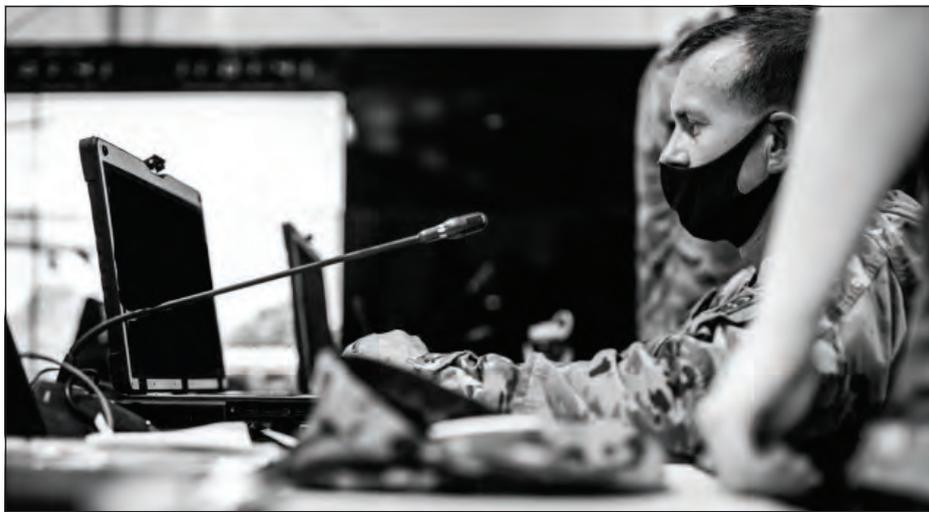
“Without data, we’re not in the fight,” said Lt. Gen. Jim Richardson, Deputy Commanding General for Army Futures Command (AFC), which manages Project Convergence. “Common platforms, shared applications and data fabric give the Joint force commander options [and support] the decision dominance necessary for the Joint force to achieve overmatch.”

The term “data fabric” refers to technology that weaves together numerous information sources and data formats from different systems, providing a common layer in order to improve interoperability and quickly route the right data to the operator who needs it. For the Army, a major focus of data fabric is to reduce digital barriers between warfighting functional systems such as fires, maneuver, air defense, or sustainment.

By overlaying these systems with common interfaces and standards, the data fabric mediates different file types and enables new messaging flows between systems to provide a better common operating picture and enable more detailed targeting. It also aggregates and enriches the pool of data available for artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) capabilities to aid in decision-making.

“The ‘swivel chair’ approach that we have today has to stop, and we need the data to train AI and ML to render better information to the commander,” said Brig. Gen. Jeth Rey, Director of the Army Network Cross-Functional Team, which is part of AFC. “Data fabric is critical to getting us there.”

At PC21, the Army is experimenting with several data fabric technologies in realistic operational scenarios to better understand their maturity



Paratroopers assigned to Headquarters and service company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division establish a communication strategy during the beginning of Project Convergence 21 at Yuma Proving Ground, October 7, 2021. Project Convergence 21 showcases the abilities of the Joint Force effort. (Photo by Pfc. Vincent Lelevel)

and potential. They include an open architecture data fabric capability developed by the Army science and technology community that focuses on improving data discovery, synchronization, and security, as well as variations developed by industry and Army Cyber Command.

The ongoing experimentation with these and other technologies will continue to inform and optimize the data fabric that the Army will field to operational units. The Army is planning an incremental data fabric fielding strategy as part of its network Capability Sets, which deliver integrated packages of network and mission command equipment with upgrades on a two-year cycle. The focal point for data fabric delivery – as part of the Army’s Command Post Computing Environment, the service’s primary computing environment under the common operating environment – is Capability Set 23, which begins fielding in Fiscal Year 2023. More advanced analytics and greater capacity will be added to the data fabric for Capability Set 25.

Looking beyond the Army, data management and sharing across the military services is a critical component of Joint All Domain Command and Control (JADC2), the initiative to modernize technologies and procedures to process information, make decisions and direct actions of the Joint force

across all warfighting domains, faster than the adversary. As a Joint experiment, PC21 gives the services an opportunity to better understand the multiple data standards and

architectures involved in current mission command and network transport systems, and how to evolve Joint communications for the future utilizing new technologies like data fabric, while maintaining backward compatibility.

“Bridging the gap between all the Joint systems is a lot of what the technology that’s out here [at Project Convergence] is doing, as everybody has developed mission command systems that fit their niche,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Reyes, information series technician with the 82nd Airborne Division, who is supporting network operations at PC21. “It’s going to be an iterative process – it’s not going to be a transformation – but the fact that the Joint force is putting in the effort and muscle and resources into making this happen is in itself a critical and transformative step.”



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YPG by day, hockey rink by night

By Ana Henderson

Hockey in Yuma might sound like an oxymoron.

How can one of the warmest places with endless sunshine support such a sport? Well, the City of Yuma has an inline hockey rink tucked away at Kennedy Park.

During Fall, the Yuma Youth Hockey League (YYHL) fills the rink with children ages five to 18. Four of the league's volunteer

coaches are employees at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). Ordinance Disposal Technician Justin Schaeffer is one of those coaches and was recently elected to serve as a board member. His family is heavily involved with nine of his children playing hockey.

"I like to pass on the love for the game to the younger generations," explained Schaeffer.

"There's nothing like the smile on the little ones faces when they score that first goal!" Schaeffer even garnered support of his friends who sponsored his team the IAM Strykers.

Chris Kline, who works in the Instrumentation Division echoes the sentiment, "My favorite part is when a kids scores his first goal and they



Ryan Tiaden, pictured with his son, coaches his son and his daughter's team. He spends four nights a week at the rink. (Photo by Ana Henderson)

come back to the bench and they have a smile on their face and it will not disappear for about three weeks."

This season is Kline's first time coaching his own team. The last two seasons he filled in when his son's team needed a coach. Coaches serve on a volunteer basis, and for YPG employees that's after their 10-hour work day.

"Somedays I will get in to work about 6:15 a.m. and not get home until 8 at night. There are long days but I don't mind. I love it," said Kline.

Air Delivery Systems Branch Chief Ryan Tiaden knows all about those long hours at the rink. He played ice hockey growing up in Minnesota and first got involved with coaching three years ago when his son was old enough. Now he's



Chris Kline (right, back row) has been involved with the Yuma hockey program for three seasons and loves the friendships his family has formed. (Loaned photo)

coaching his son and his daughter's team. He spends four nights a week at the rink.

"There's not a huge pool of people with hockey experience in Yuma and it was an opportunity for me to be involved," explained Tiaden.

His daughter loves having him involved and tells everyone her dad is the coach.

"It makes me feel really good that I am part of her life in that way. I can be a good role model for her on how to be a good adult and how to support your community," remarks Tiaden.



Justin Schaeffer coaches and was recently elected to serve as a YYHL board member. His family is heavily involved with nine of his children playing hockey. (Loaned photo)

Also, logging four visits to the rink weekly is YPG Fire Fighter, YYHL vice-president, coach and dad of two players, Brad Gray. "I got heavily back into it because of my kids. It's something that me and my kids enjoy and love."

While the days are long for these coaches, their work with the league is rewarding and helping the program grow. This recreation season YYHL had

its highest enrollment in a very long time with nearly 200 kids playing.

Tiaden praises the YYHL, "It's great. It's definitely focused on the right things, which is a good experience for the kids to grow. Hockey is a tool they use to help grow these kids to be successful adults and create that positive team environment that I think is necessary for that success."

YYHL league hosts games Monday-Thursday and the season tournament is Nov. 20-21.



Brad Gray is a YPG fire fighter, YYHL vice-president and coach. He's pictured here with his two kids Ryann and Layton Gray. "I got heavily back into it because of my kids. It's something that me and my kids enjoy and love." (Loaned photo)



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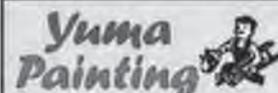


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November safety awareness training

By Jeni Williams

Cold Weather Safety and Blood Borne Pathogens are the topics for our November Safety Awareness Training.

Being prepared is your best defense when dealing with extremely cold weather. Whether you are downrange in the cold Arctic test ranges of Ft. Greely, Alaska, or winter camping with your family in Flagstaff, Ariz. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is a key element in keeping your body warm. Some items to have on hand when in extremely cold weather are: vapor barrier boots, gloves, face mask, hat, thermal underwear, parka, ice cleats, etc. These items will help protect you from suffering from a cold

injury. A cold injury is caused by being exposed to extremely cold temperatures potentially leading to a loss of a body part (frost bite) and up to the loss of life.

In addition to staying warm, safe driving is also important. Drive slow in cold/snowy conditions, keep the headlights on – even during the day, have an emergency kit and tell someone where you are traveling.

The second topic for November is bloodborne pathogens. Bloodborne pathogens are infectious microorganisms in human blood, saliva, as well as other bodily fluids that can cause disease in humans. These

pathogens include, but not limited to, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, human immunodeficiency virus, malaria, brucellosis, syphilis, and West Nile Virus.

Protect yourself by always treating blood and body fluid spills as if they were infectious, wear appropriate PPE and contain spills immediately then clean and disinfect the area.

For more information on cold weather safety and bloodborne pathogens navigate to the Yuma Proving Ground Sharepoint site and select the November Safety Awareness Training. Make sure to upload your certificate for credit.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeni Williams at jeni.m.williams2.civ@mail.mil.

Chaplain's Corner

Times of gratitude and celebration

Chaplain's Corner
Chaplain Maj.
Jeffrey Crispin

Hello YPG Family,
The last time I wrote, it was about dealing with hard times. But as we move towards the end of the calendar year, we come up to times of gratitude and celebration.

Veterans Day and Thanksgiving are national holidays in November. Both of these are opportunities to remember the hard times that people have gone through to get us to the place where we are today.

Veterans and their Families, thank you for all that you have done for us as a nation, and for passing the current service-members a strong example of

service and sacrifice.

Thanksgiving is also a time of celebrating the hardships endured by the Pilgrims their first year in their new world.

“The Pilgrims made seven times more graves than huts. No Americans have been more impoverished than these who, nevertheless, set aside a day of thanksgiving,” said H.U. Westermayer

So while this year hasn't gone smoothly, it is good to have perspective that others have gone through far worse and come out the other side with the ability to express thankfulness and gratitude for getting through their struggles, aware that others did not.

As individuals and as a nation, there are many reasons to have a grateful heart.

President George Washington, in 1789, in the first Federal Thanksgiving

Declaration wrote, “It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor.”

So I want to encourage you to take a couple moments as you read this to pray, according to your faith tradition, and give thanks for the sacrifices of our Veterans and their Families who have done amazing things for us. Veterans are links in the chain of a long history beginning as a handful of militias into a national military, that has demonstrated courage and honor, and became a force for good in our world.

May we also be truly grateful to be living in the United States and be the recipients of the many blessings our nation enjoys. Our history is marked with hardships, but I hope you will join me in being thankful for what we've been given.

Commander engages Rotary audience



Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Commander Col. Patrick McFall was invited to be the guest speaker at the monthly Yuma Rotary meeting on Oct. 26. McFall discussed recruiting, retention, and employee development issues, and praised the cultures of both YPG and the Yuma community. He also turned the mic to the members to hear their point of view on the topic. (Photo by Ana Henderson)

Getting artsy at the library



The Yuma Proving Ground Library was transformed into an artists' zone as community members and students from Youth Services came out to paint. The adults participated in the Paint Night event and the students were attending their weekly painting session. Each armed with a brush and pallet they let their creativity run wild. (Loaned photos)

Skating the night away



The Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Fitness Center was transformed into a roller rink. Nearly, 70 YPG community members showed up to Skate Night on Oct. 23. (Loaned photos)

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Paws against domestic violence



Pups, people, and prizes were front and center during the 'Paws Against Domestic Violence' event at the Yuma Proving Ground Veterinary Clinic Oct. 28. Several dogs dressed up in the spirit of Halloween, with one taking home the title of best costume. Children, community members and YPG senior leaders walked through the clinic to learn more about domestic violence and how pets can play a role. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)



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