

Yuma Proving Ground's "Swiss Army Knife" of test and evaluation

By Brandon Mejia

The Cessna 208 Super Cargo Master Caravan is a commonly known aircraft associated with lugging heavy cargo for mail carries across the nation.

But for the U.S. Army it serves many missions, and you'll find the only one of its kind at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG).

"We use it for just about everything," said Scott Myers, Flight Services Division pilot and Aviation Safety officer.

Dubbed the "Swiss Army Knife" of aircraft tests and evaluations at the base, the military-certified aircraft comes highly modified and is always evolving.

"It's a very versatile aircraft and it

SEE SWISS ARMY KNIFE page 8



The Cessna 208 Super Cargo Master Caravan is a commonly known aircraft associated with lugging heavy cargo for mail carries across the nation. But for the U.S. Army it serves many missions, and you'll find the only one of its kind at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground. (Photo by Brandon Mejia)

Senior Leaders visit Cold Regions Test Center

By Jim Verchio

To see firsthand what life is like in Interior Alaska, the Army dispatched several of its highest leaders to Fort Greely to understand what it takes to be a 'Rugged Professional,' see what the command team is doing to enhance quality of life, and to see how the installation and region are leaning forward to embrace the Arctic Strategy.

Gen. Joseph M. Martin, the 37th Vice Chief of Staff of the Army and Lt. Gen. Jason T. Evans, Deputy Chief of Staff, arrived from Fort Wainwright, Feb. 10 following similar tours at Fort Wainwright in

SEE **LEADERS** page 6

YPG podcast now available on multiple streaming services /Page 2



Employees receive high recognition /Page 5



YPG Firefighter battles COVID complications /Page 7





Local Federal Consultant

Adrian Elder

AIF[®], PPC[®], FRCSM Managing Partner & Wealth Advisor

Serving city, state and federal employees YPG, Border Patrol, Homeland Security, B.L.M., MCAS



182 East 16th St. Suite D Yuma, AZ 85364

Investment advisory services offered through CWM, LLC, an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Carson Partners, a division of CWM, LLC, is a nationwide partnership of advisors.

² FEBRUARY 28, 2022 YTC Commander keynotes annual Camp Bouse Memorial Ceremony



Yuma Test Center Commander Lt. Col. Alicia Johnson spoke at the 26th annual Camp Bouse Memorial Ceremony in La Paz Countv's Bouse, Ariz. Jan. 12. Johnson likened the World War II-era service of the Soldiers of Camp Bouse testing the Canal Defense Light with the men and women of modern day Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), who are at the forefront of current Army modernization priorities. "Again, our men and women are leading the efforts that will shape warfare for years to come," she said in her remarks. "Again, our communities are giving their time and talents to help protect and defend the nation." YPG is the last active Army installation within World War II's California-Arizona Desert Maneuver Area, of which Camp Bouse was part. (Photos by Mark Schauer)

The Outpost

This Department of Defense newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Outpost are not necessarily the official views, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the DoD, or the Department of the Army.

Published by RISN Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Army, under exclusive written contract. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground Public Affairs Office.

This newspaper uses material credited to ATEC and ARNEWS. While contributions are solicited, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground Public Affairs Office reserves the right to edit all submitted materials and corrections, changes, or deletions to conform with the policy of this newspaper.



News may be submitted to: The Editor, Outpost, Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, AZ, 85365 Phone: (928) 328–6149 or DSN 899 Visit our website at: www.yuma.army.mil or email to: ana.c.henderson.civ@army.mil



Commander: Col. Patrick McFall Public Affairs Officer: Mark Schauer Public Affairs Specialist/Outpost Editor: Ana Henderson Public Affairs Specialist: Brandon Mejia Technical Editor, Cold Regions Test Center: Clara Zachgo

To advertise in **TheOutpost** call (928) 539-5800 or go to advertising@yumasun.com



Yuma Proving Ground podcast now available on multiple streaming services

By Mark Schauer

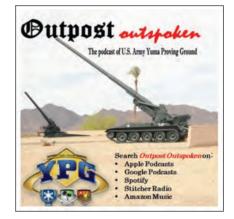
Outpost Outspoken, the official biweekly podcast of U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) that debuted in December, is now available on a variety of popular streaming services.

While still available for listening at the Defense Visual Information Distribution Site at https://www.dvidshub.net/ podcast/498/outpost-outspoken, it can now also be found on Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify, and Stitcher Radio.

Those with Amazon's popular Alexa service, for example, can ask the virtual assistant to play the most recent episode of the podcast.

The podcast's name derives from the post's newspaper, published continually since 1951 and known as The Outpost since 1981. The newspaper is a unifying force that highlights the totality of YPG's test mission-- a person who reads each issue gets a much broader view of YPG than he or she would from their desk or work area alone.

Unlike some Army newspapers,



the overwhelming majority of The Outpost's content is produced by writers on post, as opposed to generic 'filler' material distributed by the Department of the Army.

Outpost Outspoken is guided by this same ethos and released every two weeks. In the most recent episode, Ruben Hernandez of YPG's Engineering Support Branch talks about the science of geodesy

and YPG Heritage Center Curator Bill Heidner discusses the museum's future.



New COVID-19 cases in significant decline

By Mark Schauer

On Feb. 21, Yuma County, Arizona's daily average of new COVID cases was 65 per day, down fully two-thirds from only two weeks earlier.

Local hospitalizations for COVID also decreased by nearly 40%, though 40 Yuma County residents succumbed to the illness over the previous two weeks.

All told, more than 1,100 Yuma County residents have died of the virus since the beginning of the pandemic nearly two years ago.

Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Commander Col. Patrick McFall elevated the post's Health Protection Condition to Bravo Plus last month, and urged continued vigilance from the workforce in a commander's round table video on Feb. 9. Citing the wide availability of COVID vaccines, the mandate to wear face coverings indoors while at work on post, and some of the workforce's ability to telework where practical, McFall said YPG personnel have the means to protect themselves, their co-workers, and YPG's mission.

"We have to manage our teammates the way we manage a battle," McFall said. "We can't commit everybody; we must have reserves. The number of cases is on a glide path down, but if we aren't careful, we could potentially be out of teammates when we have to perform a critical mission."

In Yuma County, 68% of the total population is now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and 73% of the population over the age of five. More than 80% of the local population has received at least one dose of vaccine. Being vaccinated against COVID is still the best protection available against suffering a serious case of COVID-19. As of Feb. 18, 49 of the 64 hospitalized COVID patients in Yuma County—77%-- were unvaccinated. Instances of so-called 'breakthrough' infections in individuals who have received the vaccine tend to be less severe than what is experienced by those who are not vaccinated.

Vaccine hesitancy still exists among

some, with one belief being that the vaccine causes autoantibodies, or antibodies produced by the immune system that attacks a person's own body as in diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis. This belief is not substantiated by medical studies of the vaccine.

"What the research has found is that COVID itself causes this huge inflammatory reaction and does increase autoantibodies, but they did not find that the vaccine caused increased autoantibodies," said Maj. Ashley Aiton, Officer in Charge of the YPG Health Clinic. "It does cause a mild inflammatory process, but all vaccines do that."

Vaccines are available at the YPG Health Clinic, the Yuma County Public Health Services District, and multiple private sector pharmacies. The phone number for the YPG Health Clinic is (928) 328-2666. The phone number for the Yuma County Public Health Services District is (928) 317-4550.

McFall sounded a hopeful note that the Omicron variant's transmission was subsiding, but stressed that continued vigilance is vital to protecting YPG's critical mission on behalf of the national defense.

"Understand that we still have a mission to do," he said. "I ask this one question: what are you doing to protect our YPG Family today?"

McFall noted that YPG has not had to cancel a single test during the pandemic, and safely hosted two iterations of Project Convergence despite doubts from some that it was possible. As of the end of January, YPG had executed 573,000 direct labor hours, on pace to exceed 1.8 million by the end of the fiscal year.

"We never quit during COVID," said Larry Bracamonte, YPG Technical Director. "We continued to execute our mission efficiently and effectively because everybody was being safe: they were wearing their masks and practicing social distancing. We can continue keeping the workforce safe and executing our mission by doing the same things."

YPG leaders present to community



Sister installation leaders visit YPG



Dugway Proving Ground Commander Col. Brian Hoffman, Command Sgt. Maj. Mauvet Rawls, and Technical Director Dr. Ken Gritton visited Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Feb. 16. They received briefings from YPG senior leaders, witnessed tests, and toured shops such as the post's air delivery and non-destructive test facilities.

Dugway Proving Ground is one of YPG's sister installations within the Army Test and Evaluation Command. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)





4 FEBRUARY 28, 2022 **YPG's library is not your** typical library

By Ana Henderson

Movie scenes portray libraries as strictly enforced quiet zones with no fun to be had.

The Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) library is different, "This library is more so like a hangout spot you don't just have to be mute. You can have a good time in here," explains Bianca Carpenter the new library supervisory technician. She stepped into the role in November of 2021.

Carpenter hails from Mississippi and since taking on the role, she and Beatrice Brimmage have been "revamping" the vibe in the library.

"I don't want people to think of the

library as a mundane place. Yes, we have books but we also have other activities for you to do."

In addition to monthly events such as story time, game board and movie nights, the library houses

amenities too. Such as a video game and arcade room, craft room, children's room, and televisions (TV). Patrons can check out the DVDs or watch the videos at the library. There are also two cable TVs



Beatrice Brimmage and Bianca Carpenter are affectionately called Mrs. Bea and Little B. (Photos by Ana Henderson)



Bianca Carpenter stepped into the role of the Yuma Proving Ground supervisory library technician in November 2021.

in the lobby which boast comfortable couches with coffee tables. She encourages active duty Soldiers and students alike to take advantage of the computer lab which has printing

Saturday:

capabilities and CAC readers if needed.

Carpenter knows YPG is home to teens who are avid readers which bring her joy because this day in age most teens are more interested in their electronic devices.

"I like to see them checking out books and coming back like a week later, done with three books. That is so impressive."

Carpenter is family oriented and a mother herself who wants to see

families come to the library and hangout. She encourages them to use the library's many game boards, the craft room and the other amenities to get creative and have fun when they want to get out of the house.

"Come out to the library, get lost in a book or come enjoy some alone time in our lobby. We have sports on or whatever else you might want to do."

March is Problem Gambling **Awareness Month**

By Scott Zaehler

The Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Army Substance Abuse Program team joins with the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) to raise awareness and create action for those suffering from gambling problems.

According to the NCPG, contacts to the National Problem Gambling Helpline 1-800-522-4700) spike during March, often in conjunction with March Madness games. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the states could allow sports betting – with March Madness seeing over 8 billion wagered on games annually. Keith Whyte, the Executive Director of NCPG said "Too many people still don't recognize they are exhibiting signs of this addictive behavior and are unaware of the help that is available to them." White also noted "Problem Gambling is certainly not confined to sports betting. We want anyone who may have a problem with any form of gambling to know that they don't have to suffer in silence."

Other gambling activities include lottery, scratch tickets, cards, and gaming machines. Whatever the method, many people have gambled at some point in their lives. This doesn't necessarily indicate a problem. For those that may be suffering from this disorder, lives, careers, and families are significantly affected. Some warning signs of a possible gambling problem include: Dishonesty about gambling habits, gambling more than you can afford to lose, gambling until all the money is gone, and gambling to recover

losses.

Some responsible gambling tips include: only gamble with money you have; don't borrow or use money intended for necessities, set budget and time limits, don't try to win back what was lost, know how the game works before you wager, don't gamble when upset or stressed, limit alcohol intake while gambling, and take frequent breaks.

If you or someone you care about has a gambling problem, help is available. The YPG Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can assist in understanding the issue, conduct short-term assistance, and connect with resources. The National Problem Gambling Helpline can link people with counseling, treatment, self-help and support groups; they can be reached at 1(800)522-4700 or ncpgambling. org/chat. Finally, the Arizona Council on Compulsive Gambling can also provide resources available here in Arizona. They can be contacted at 1-800-777-7207.

This article is intended to be a starting point. If gambling is causing a problem in your work, home, or personal life, we encourage you to take action. Ask questions, do research, gather information, and don't hesitate to reach out to find the best solution for your situation.

The EAP will be doing a problem gambling informational brief via Teams on 14 March at 8 A.M. Contact Scott Zaehler at scott.r.zaehler.civ@army.mil for more information on this, or any other subject related to gambling, substance use or adult living conditions (work, life, home stress), we are here to assist.

YPG Library hours Tuesday – Friday: 10 a.m. -6 p.m. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday

FEBRUARY 28, 2022 5

AER

Employees receive high recognition

On behalf of U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command Commander Maj. Gen. James Gallivan, Brig. Gen. Eric Little visited Yuma Proving Ground Feb. 14, to present four distinguished awards for mission employees who excelled in their duties.



Susan Lantzy and Lynn Long were recognized for their hard work, and outstanding leadership in providing concrete guidance and oversight of the command's resource management year end requirements. "Your commitment to excellence and un-wavering contributions and dedication were vital in the outstanding success the command achieved," said Maj. Gen. Gallivan. (Photos by Brandon Mejia)

Luis Arrovo received the Meritorious Service Medal and was recognized for his key role as logistical support lead for Project Convergence 21. Arroyo spear headed major activities for more than 2.000 military personnel, customers, and visitors. He demonstrated leadership, professionalism, dedication, and selfless service contributed to excellent overall success and will greatly benefit the war fighters of the future.





Eddy Patchet received the Meritorious Service Medal and was recognized for his performance as a supervisory general engineer for the Ground Combat Systems Directorate. During Project Convergence 21, Patchet provided invaluable leadership which greatly enhanced the Yuma Test Center's ability to support the advancement in reliability and lethality of the department of defense's indirect fires and modernization efforts.

"I was fortunate enough to vote on the files and I will tell you, very, very tough competition. Kudos to you for coming out on top, thank you so much for the support you provided, tremendous really, well done," said Brig. Gen. Eric Little as Jim Stickney was recognized as Command Employee of the 1st quarter for mission support for Fiscal Year 22.





ASSISTANCE FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HOME SCHOOL AND REMOTE EDUCATION

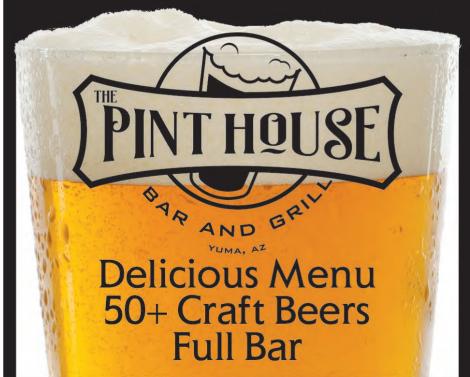
- Soldiers with children from pre-k to 12th grade and undergraduate college students eligible for assistance for costs associated with traditional full-time home school education and remote education during COVID-19.
- Assistance provided as grant, zero-interest loan, or combination of both, depending on budget.
- AER Officers can approve up to \$1,500 in assistance. Requests above that amount will be reviewed by AERHQ.
- Assistance for traditional materials such as pens and paper as well as educational technology including computers, tablets, and software.
- Work with your school to obtain a Syllabus or School List of needed equipment and supplies

ELIGIBILITY

Active duty, retired, and medically retired Soldiers, Survivors, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard Soldiers activated on Title 10 orders for 31 or more consecutive days. USAR and ARNG Soldiers activated on Title 10 or Title 32 orders in support of COVID-19 are also eligible, regardless of the length of activation. Assistance for preK-12 and undergraduate college students.

VISIT ARMYEMERGENCYRELIEF.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION





928.782.0499 pinthouseyuma.com Historic Downtown Yuma

Fairbanks and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage earlier in the week.

The distinguished visitors arrived accompanied by the Commanding General of U.S. Army Alaska, Maj. Gen. Brian S. Eifler, and U.S. Army Garrison Commander Col. Nathan Surrey, and were welcomed by Fort Greely Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Joey Orr, Deputy to the Garrison Commander, Richard Fromm, and Command Sgt. Maj. James Breakfield.

"We are here and expertly support Fort Greely's 'no-fail' mission because we work toward unity of effort with our mission partners," Orr told Martin while en route to the Vice Chief's first stop. "We are fully synchronized with the 49th Missile Defense Battalion and are beneficiaries of direct support from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, and because of these close relationships, we are ready to defend the homeland at a moment's notice."

Martin's first stop at Greely positioned he and his team at the Aurora Community Activity Center for a quality-of-life update. Orr and the command team walked the Vice Chief and his team through the facility to show leaders the Bowling Center, several of its many amenities, and discussed an upcoming \$10.5 million construction project aimed at enhancing quality of life for Greely's children ... a nine thousand square foot indoor playground.

"Sir, the community asked, and we are prepared to deliver," Orr explained to the Vice Chief standing before an artist's rendering of the new space. "We have a few amenities for adults to enjoy their time off, and are hoping to add a java café and relocate our bar area. However, with our extreme-weather challenges, we also recognize how important it is to provide a safe, warm space for our



Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) Commander, Lt. Col. Ina Jackson and CRTC Technical Director Jeffrey Lipscomb discuss the center's unique, arctic mission with Vice Chief of Staff, Gen. Joseph M. Martin, at the Cold Regions Test Center on Fort Greely, Feb. 10. (Photo by Jim Verchio)



The group including, Commander of the Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC), Lt. Col. Ina Jackson, Commanding General of U.S. Army Alaska, Maj. Gen. Brian S. Eifler, CRTC Technical Director, Jeffrey Lipscomb, and Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Joseph M. Martin, posed for a photo at CRTC on Fort Greely, Feb. 10. (Photo by Christie Bucklin)

children to play and exercise."

Visits from leaders at this level often focus on infrastructure and mission discussions, but for Martin, focusing on people is equally, if not more important, than following the standard script. The Vice Chief was very intentional when making sure to engage Greely's true rugged professionals. Several mid-grade, non-commissioned officers shared a private audience with Martin to give their first-hand accounts of life on Fort Greely. A unique opportunity for the Soldiers, this type of listening session is designed for leaders to receive honest, and open feedback from the troops without being filtered by outside influences.

"I was pleased to learn I was selected to participate in the listening session and have the opportunity to voice my concerns," said Fort Greely Chapel Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge, Staff Sgt. Kate McErvin. "I think that our voices as Soldiers are starting to be heard, and you can tell that from the direction the Army is moving such as finally looking at the height and weight program."

Following the hour-long listening session, Martin and the team took a short journey over to the headquarters of one of Greely's mission partners, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground's Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) where they

were welcomed by its Commander, Lt. Col. Ina Jackson. Jackson and her team offered the Vice Chief and other distinguished visitors a capabilities briefing highlighting the center's unique mission, which is to conduct developmental testing, with an emphasis on Soldier participation, in the snow, extreme cold, and sub-arctic natural environment. She explained extreme, cold-weather testing provides acquisition and Army leadership with timely, accurate, and relevant information relating to a system's arctic performance.

"Anytime we get a chance to share CRTC's mission and capabilities with visitors, we see an opportunity to show the vital importance of our part in the big picture of putting equipment into the hands of arctic Soldiers and how that improves their lethality and survivability," said CRTC Technical Director Jeff Lipscomb. "We want everyone to understand what we do, why we were given this mission 72 years ago, and how CRTC can best contribute to enabling those Soldiers to achieve arctic dominance. Giving senior leaders that information allows them to make informed decisions on appropriate utilization and resourcing of our unique capabilities."

Lipscomb said he wanted Gen.

OUTPOST

Martin to leave his visit knowing a couple of things, "First, CRTC is small but can provide impact far greater than our size would indicate. That is made possible by a workforce that is the best there is - dedicated, professional, and proud of what they do in support of Soldiers. Second, we understand that not everything needs to be tested in the natural environment, but, unfortunately, everything that should be, currently isn't. CRTC, Yuma Proving Ground, and ATEC want to work hand in glove with everyone in the acquisition process, including the Soldiers who are the end user, to make sure the Army knows what works,

sure the Army knows what works when and where it works, and how to get the most from each and every piece of equipment the Army is procuring. "

Although Martin's time at Greely was short, he was also intent on seeing Greely's influence in the region. Following his sessions within the garrison's fence line, the Vice Chief and his team traveled to Black Rapids and the Northern Warfare Training Center (NWTC). NWTC, Black Rapids and Greely will all play critical roles in the upcoming Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Capability (JPMRC) exercise scheduled for March. JPMRC is a Department of the Army initiative that consists of a deployable package of personnel and equipment designed to support training exercises across the Pacific theater, and Martin wanted an understanding of the playing field for situational awareness.

The Vice Chief walks away with a better understanding of the area and its unique challenges, the steps garrison is taking to ensure Greely is a great place to live and work, and how the region is postured not only for the upcoming exercise, but also how it is leaning forward as the Department of Defense implements its Arctic Strategy.

YPG Firefighter battles COVID complications

By Mark Schauer

Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Fire Inspector Brad Henderson has battled his share of conflagrations in his time, but none as formidable as COVID-19.

The 17-year veteran of YPG's Fire Department endured a nearly four-month hospitalization, which included 55 days where he depended on an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) life support machine.

He was also on a ventilator for more than two weeks after being removed from the ECMO machine.

His ordeal began Columbus Day weekend.

"I had shortness of breath. When they took me to the hospital, I was told that I had acute pneumonia and as kind of an offhand remark from the doctor that I had tested positive for COVID. I didn't believe it at first, until I took a second test," said Henderson.

"The doctor was actually more worried about my cough," added wife Shannon Henderson. "Brad just had a little cough, and I had a severe cough."

He was at Yuma Regional Medical Center (YRMC) for a week, and his condition declined precipitously. He was flown to Banner University Hospital in Phoenix on October 18.

"I only remember the first two or three days of being at YRMC. After that, the next thing I remember is December 11th, when I woke up. It was a bit of a surprise to find out what date it was," said Henderson.

He was finally discharged from Banner on February 4. While using a walker, he was able to ring the hospital ward's celebratory gong as he exited. It was a relief, but also an unfamiliar circumstance for someone whose occupation had demanded physical fitness for so many years.

"The doctor said probably the only reason I survived was because of my physical condition," he said.

He's back home now, but still not



YPG Fire Inspector Brad Henderson (left) has battled his share of conflagrations in his time, but none as formidable as COVID-19. The 17-year veteran of YPG's Fire Department endured a nearly four-month hospitalization, which included 55 days where he depended on an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) life support machine. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

fully recovered. He has to use an oxygen tank and make regular visits to Phoenix to see medical specialists. It is still unknown when he will be able to work again, but his fellow YPG Firefighters and other members of the YPG Family have been in his corner throughout his ordeal.

"I'd get phone calls from them, 'are you eating?" If I didn't eat that day, I'd get yelled at," recalls Shannon. "They definitely looked out for me."

The help was more than just motivational speaking: they brought over hot meals, helped Shannon fix her car, and even set up a GoFundMe page for Brad.

"Before Brad got home, several of the guys came out and helped to rearrange the furniture in the house," said Shannon. "They cleaned up the garage, played with the dogs—it was amazing. For over a week they brought dinner over for us. It has been an absolute blessing."

More than anything, Henderson looks forward to regaining his health and coming back to work.

"It's difficult to need help when you're the one who helps people," he said.





8 FEBRUARY 28, 2022 SWISS ARMY KNIFE FROM PAGE 1

is also a very economical aircraft," Myers said. "It's the most economical aircraft we operate on."

With no one test mission being the same, this one-of-a-kind aircraft can conduct survey work, fly aerial targets, radar targets, conduct software testing for surrogate Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) work, test and calibrate radar systems, and conduct guided parachute systems. However, the list doesn't end there.

"It is a surrogate aircraft, meaning that we can substitute it if we want to simulate what a UAV [Unmanned Aerial Vehicle] will do," said Stuart Smith, the Avionics lead for the Cessna 208. "It is very versatile." Smith is responsible for all electronic equipment fitted and installed into the aircraft for any one mission, and while the wiring and electronics can be a lot, it takes all hands on deck. "It is a huge amount of teamwork that goes on out here."

Larry Stewart is the engineering technician and maintenance lead for the plane. He has engineered all the modifications to the aircraft since its approval for military testing in 2009.

"It makes a really good platform for UAVs because it flies slow enough that it can reach the same speed and it is more stable and more dependable then UAVs are when they



This one-of-a-kind aircraft can conduct survey work, fly aerial targets, radar targets, conduct software testing for surrogate Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) work, test and calibrate radar systems, and conduct guided parachute systems. However, the list doesn't end there. (Photo by Brandon Mejia)



THE **DEFENSE CONTRACTOR COMPLEX** AT YUMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT





first developed them," Stewart said.

Stewart has also worked on the undercarriage modifications. Below the aircraft, rail modifications have been attached to the belly of the plane to hold cargo pods that can be fitted with sensors.

Adding to its resume, the aircraft has been used to assist NASA since 2005 at YPG. Test missions have



allowed for the testing of the Orion Space capsule and its parachute recovery system.

"They [NASA] want to see how their parachutes operate during a normal landing," said Smith "We are providing them with an outside look at their systems and we have that ability because of the altitudes we are allowed to fly at."



YPG HEALTH CLINIC COVID-19 BOOSTER NOW AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT.

AT YPG HEALTH CLINIC, WE'RE COMMITTED TO HELPING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY OBTAIN QUALITY HEALTHCARE.

CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE / AVAILABILITY

928-328-2666- FRONT DESK OPEN FROM: 0730-1630





Military Equal Opportunity (MEO) Commander's 24/7 Hotline (443)-910-1680 OUTPOST



10 FEBRUARY 28, 2022



Chaplain's Corner **Promises: Covenants or Contracts?**



Hello Yuma Proving Ground community, sorry I missed you in the last Outpost, but I'm excited to be able to reconnect.

In the Protestant chapel service, we began the year looking at how the love of God motivates him to make covenants, or unbreakable promises, with people who come to him by faith. It is really encouraging that the maker of all creation, who knows that humans are going to mess up, is willing to make promises that he holds himself to keep.

It got me thinking about

promises that I have made. Are there some that are unbreakable and that I will keep even if the recipient doesn't want to respond the same or participate? Or, are my promises more like contracts, an agreement entered into with lists of conditions and an assumption that one side or both sides are going to back out at some point.

There is a lot that I could say, but in the spirit of "Keep It Simple Soldier" tradition, it comes down to motivation. Covenant promises are motivated by self-giving love. It's the parent that will do anything for their small child without expecting anything in return kind of love. "Contract" promises come from a place of self-focused motivation. I'm going to get something out of this for me, or else I'll make sure you don't get anything either. It might not appear that drastic, but when that other person fails on their part, that's the reaction that often comes out.

As people, we fail sometimes. But in doing all we can to be people who can make covenant promises, it gives us a way to reflect who God is and to, with his help, become more like him as we love selflessly and uphold our promises when it would be much easier to just quit.

Is the motivation for your promises how you can give love regardless of a loved one's response, or is it about what you get out of the relationship, which usually leads to disappointment and hurt? I encourage you to think about this and how to apply it to your most important relationships.

GELEGTRIC RODEO FAMILIES JOIN US SATURDAY MARCH 26TH 10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM AT THE YOUTH SERVICES PARKING LOT FOR A DAY PNINC APOULT BOAD SAFETY FUN ACTIVITIES AND A

BICYCLE

OF LEARNING ABOUT ROAD SAFETY, FUN ACTIVITIES AND MORE! ALL FAMILY MEMBERS ARE ENCURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!

READY, SET, RIDE!

Bring your bicycle, electric motorcycle/ATV, kick/ electric scooter, hoverboard or power wheel. Helmets are required for all participants. The safety course should take about 35 mins to complete.

MILLAS

Rolling the night away



night took place at the Fitness Center as it was transformed into a roller rink on the night of Feb. 18. More than 80 community members participated. The event was split into two sessions to avoid a large crowd during night of fun. (Loaned

Date night with a book at the library







Playing off the Valentine's Day theme, the Yuma Proving Ground Library hosted a, Date Night with a Book, event Feb. 11. Patrons selected a book that was wrapped with a synopsis on the cover. Once they unwrapped the book they could decide to keep it or dump it. (Loaned photos)

Starting the day with a Fun Run



There's nothing like an early morning run to get your blood flowing. Yuma Proving Ground Soldiers and community members participated in the Feb. 17, Fun Run starting and ending at the Fitness Center. Command Sgt. Maj. Herbert Gill attended the run to cheer on the runners. (Photos by Ana Henderson)



SHOP SUPPOR **TUE-FRI 9AM-5PM** SAT 9AM-1PM 812 S AVE A 329-2989

A ber ys PLACE Thrift Shoppe

Always friendly. Always clean.

A lot of things have changed but our commitment to excellence hasn't.

Your friends at Cocopah know that safety is top of mind. We hear you, we understand, and we care. We have taken necessary steps to make sure that when you visit us, you are in an environment where you feel safe and comfortable so you can worry less and have more fun. We require all guests wear masks, take no-contact temperature checks and frequently disinfect our facilities. Come visit us when you're ready. We're still just around the corner.

COCOPAH RESORT

COCOPAH CASINO & RESORT

illin

Fun is just around the corner

1.800.23.SLOTS | COCOPAHRESORT.COM 15318 SOUTH AVENUE B | SOMERTON, AZ 85350

Some amenities may not be available due to Covid-19 safety precautions. Management reserves all rights to alter or cancel without notice. For complete offer details please visit the Cocopah Reward's Club.

O)