

The Outpost

Published for the employees and families of Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Test Center, U.S. Army Garrison - Yuma, Cold Regions Test Center, and Tropic Regions Test Center

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World record set right here at YPG

by Mark Schauer

It is hours before dawn on a morning in early July. As most sleep, an isolated aircraft hangar at Yuma Proving Ground is already a hive of activity, but with little indication of the momentous feat in the making.

On the brilliantly illuminated floor stands what looks like a sleek aircraft wing. It is covered with solar panels and two modest propellers jut from its center. A trio of workers methodically affixes a thin covering to each section of panel. This is the latest incarnation of the Zephyr unmanned aircraft and it is hours away from being launched into the history books by flying for up to 14 consecutive days.

The Zephyr's testers are hoping to break their own record for aerial longevity, set at YPG in 2008 when the craft flew in YPG's 2,000 miles of restricted airspace for more than three days without stopping. Not only are the aircraft's designers hoping to shatter this record, but they have taken the bold step of stating their



The Zephyr aircraft approaches the landing strip at YPG's Castle Dome's Heliport. It landed smoothly as it made a world record by flying for 14 days and 23 minutes. (Photo by Yolie Canales)

intention to the National Aeronautic Association, the organization that verifies and officially certifies aerial records, which has sent an observer to witness the craft's launch.

With such ambitious goals, testers want launch conditions to be as ideal as possible. "We've been waiting for the best opportunity for a clear weather window," said Jonathan King, the Zephyr's project manager. "This is the only aircraft of this type in existence and this is its first flight, so we are being very cautious."

"Getting the craft from ground level to the target altitude is the most critical point," added YPG test officer John Penny. "It depends on the weather, but will probably take 10-12 hours to ascend to 70,000 feet."

The Zephyr

"The idea of the Zephyr is to complement satellites," King explained. "It is by orders of magnitude less expensive

than a satellite. It also has the ability to persist in a fixed vicinity overhead, whereas a satellite might only pass over a given spot once or twice per day."

The construction of the Zephyr is minimalist. At first glance, it seems the craft consists of little more than a tail rudder and two electric motors attached to a 72-foot wing. Constructed of composite carbon fiber, the craft weighs a feather-light 120 pounds and has no wheels or landing gear—it is launched off of the shoulders and from the hands of five running individuals. In past tests it has carried optical payloads and communications relays, and testers hope it will eventually be capable of an astonishing three months (See World Record on page 4)

Main Administrative Area exit gate location changed

A new Main Administrative Area (MAA) security gate is now under construction through early September. All traffic exiting the MAA is being rerouted through the travel camp via First Street or A Street. The old exit security gate is closed.

Construction operations will take approximately five to six weeks, according to the contractor. All motorists are asked to be cautious and to obey all posted signs in the vicinity of the construction areas.

The result will be entrance and exit gates that are easy to navigate.

August: Antiterrorism Awareness Month

August is recognized as Antiterrorism Awareness Month. Our Army is promoting a campaign encouraging military communities to become extensions of the service's overall force-protection plan.

Everyone plays a key role in force protection. This was proven when a clerk at a Circuit City reported suspicious activity that was captured on video. The video information was investigated by the FBI and it was determined that the clerk had disrupted a terrorist attack on U.S. personnel stationed at Fort Dix, N. J.

In August, the Army is introducing a new program called the iWatch program. This program aims to heighten

public sensitivity to indicators of possible terrorist activity, while encouraging Soldiers, family members, and the workforce to report suspicious behavior to military or civilian law-enforcement agencies. The iWATCH term will be standard throughout the Army.



News Notes

YPG Holiday Ball 2010

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather input from the workforce (military, government civilians and contractor) of having a holiday ball during the first two weeks of December 2010. Please answer the following questions and submit your response to usaypg@gmail.com by September 1. Your input is highly valued and will assist senior leaders in determining to move forward in planning the event.

Would you attend the YPG Holiday Ball? If so, would you prefer it to be held on post or off post?

What price range are you willing to pay for a meal, entertainment and other costs for the event (\$30/\$45 per couple)?

Would you like to be part of the event planning committee, i.e., decorations, music, etc?

Would you be interested in volunteering to be part of the color guard?

Do you have equipment and would you be willing to D.J. for the ball on a voluntary basis?

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations you would like to add?

Media security alert

Hello YPG team members -- your YPG security team has an important security message... please share with all personnel that do not have access to email.

Recently, the Washington Post has begun to publish a series of articles, along with an interactive website, that are focused on government agencies and contractors conducting classified work.

It is anticipated that there may be follow-on local, state, or national level media interest. YPG personnel are reminded of the guidance published AR 360-1, The Army Public Affairs Program, that requires any media inquiry to be referred to the appropriate Public Affairs Office. Specific questions on Public Affairs policy should be referred to the YPG Public Affairs Office (PAO), ext. 6189/6143/6533/6149.

Inquiries from government or military personnel, contractors or security concerns related to information within the articles should be handled as any other security issue as outlined within Army Regulation 380-5, The Army Information Security Program. Operations Security (OPSEC) concerns should be addressed in accordance with Army Regulation 530-1, Operations Security.

It is strongly recommended to become familiar with the YPG OPSEC Plan and our Essential Element of Friendly Information (EEFI). To refresh your memory, go to the Intelligence & Security website, [https://intranet.yuma.army.mil/supportservices/intelsec/OPSEC%20 Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx](https://intranet.yuma.army.mil/supportservices/intelsec/OPSEC%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx) to learn more about YPG's EEFI to safeguard YPG's and Soldiers' missions.

It is important not to confirm or deny any of our sensitive and/or classified missions, contracts, or comment on any articles posted by ANY form of public media, simply refer them to the YPG PAO and report the incident to the Intelligence & Security Office.

If you have any questions relating on OPSEC or security, contact the Intelligence & Security Office. Any questions on public affairs issues, contact the PAO.

Legal Assistance Note

Federal estate tax coming back

Under current law, the federal estate tax is zero if you die during 2010.

January 2011, however, the death tax returns at a 55 percent rate starting on estates that exceed \$1 million.

If you find that adding up your assets, (IRA/TSP/401(k), a home, and life insurance) and approach the \$1 million limit, you may want to examine ways to reduce your taxable estate.

Example: If you have a large life insurance policy, and the insured own the policy, the entire amount will be counted as part of your estate, even though the insurance payout does not go through probate. If, however, the policy owner is someone else, i.e., the intended beneficiary, then the insurance payout on your death is NOT considered part of your estate. (Sorry, this will not work for SGLI or FEGLI, it only applies to private sector life insurance.)

Army Family Action Planning committee resolves 27 quality-of-life issues

by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

I have always said you can either read history or make it. Many in our workforce have made important history by asking the three fundamental questions: *Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?*

These questions compelled the workforce to provide valuable feedback that helps us sustain the Army Family Covenant. Because of your voice and the Army's commitment to taking care of Soldiers, civilians and families, you have added to the 27-year history of the Army Family Action Plan's (AFAP) quality-of-life (QOL) improvements, enabling us to do the right things the right way, and fix things that were missing.

One of the greatest achievements of the recent AFAP General Officer Steering Committee (GOSC) is resolving 27 of 40 quality of life issues. The GOSC, composed of Department of Defense officials, Army leaders, and field representatives, reviewed some tough issues that require resources, legislation, and policy changes. In the end, the resolutions expanded Soldier entitlements and civilian employment; enhanced medical and family support; and improved facilities and relocation services for the Soldiers and civilians who support our nation, and the families who support them.

The AFAP is a year-round process that begins at the installation or unit level and is the preeminent means for commanders at all levels to learn of and seek solutions for the concerns of their communities. Currently, the Army is the only service with a program like AFAP.

Because of your voice, the Army is able to dedicate child and youth spaces to accommodate our special needs children at Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) facilities. Garrison commanders now have the authority to designate areas within their community for immediate special needs child care. This resolution supports Soldier and family well being.

Our pledge to improve family readiness is evident in the resolution of issue No. 562, an efficient and seamless delivery of family support services with Army One Source. This is a significant approach to reaching out to families. Information about Army family programs, health care benefits, education, and recreation is available online at www.myarmyonesource.com, and is easily accessible by Soldiers and families -- regardless of geographic location. This one-stop-shop for Army information is available for members of the active and reserve components.

We are ensuring excellence in schools through an online, one-on-one tutoring service for Army affiliated students. Family members in grades K-12 can receive live online assistance with math, science, language, and introductory college-level courses. This worldwide service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

at www.tutor.com.

Providing additional support to surviving families with enhanced survivor family dental benefits was also attained. Surviving children can now maintain coverage in the TRICARE Dental Plan through age 21, or age 23, if they are full-time college students.

Additionally, an issue requesting around-the-clock childcare was resolved. The Army funded 24/7 childcare facilities at 11 installations, based on installation missions and projected demand. Family Child Care homes provide the same services at the remaining installations.

We have made great strides, but the committee agreed that six AFAP recommendations cannot be resolved because of resource constraints, lack of legislative support, or other factors. However, we decided to continue pursuing seven agenda items, such as increasing weight allowances for relocating families and boosting medical retirement pay for some disabled Soldiers.

Above all, the AFAP continues to turn possibilities into realities. Since the first AFAP conference in 1983, we have established standards for childcare, increased single Soldier programs, granted paternity leave for new military fathers, and expanded educational benefits for families.

This grassroots process identifies and elevates the most significant QOL issues that affect Soldiers, retirees, civilians, and families. Information provided through the AFAP process gives commanders and leaders insight into current satisfaction detractors, QOL needs, and expectations of the Army community. Leaders use the information to effect changes that improve standards of living and support programs. These changes foster a satisfied, informed, and resilient Army community.

We are entering a new era in AFAP. As the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM), I am committed to ensuring all recommendations are thoroughly analyzed to determine if they are realistically achievable. To that end, I will be meeting with the Army staff proponents each month to analyze eight to 10 issues. I want to include the entire

(See AFAP on page 7)

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National and international media focus cameras on the hottest post!

by Chuck Wullenjohn

Yuma's news reporters are frequent visitors to Yuma Proving Ground, while national and international media visits occur less often. The week following Independence Day, however, saw visits by both Discovery Channel – Canada and the Weather Channel, both of whom focused on military testing during Yuma's hottest months. The visits were coordinated by the YPG Public Affairs Office, approved by the Department of the Army and actively supported by numerous members of the workforce, some of whom will appear on television.

The Discovery Channel team journeyed from Toronto, Canada, to develop a seven minute story for broadcast across Canada on the television program "Daily Planet," a daily one hour show that has run for 15 years. The program goes behind the scenes to show science and technology being put to use around the world and has a viewership of about two million.

Larissa Moore, producer, led the three person Discovery team while it gathered video footage and information about M3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle and M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank testing. The team's swing through the desert southwest included stops at several other locations, including the use of high technology apparatus at stage shows in Las Vegas, Nev.

"We had a great shooting opportunity at YPG, got a lot of cool visuals and met many interesting people," said Moore while preparing to depart. "The days were grueling, with hot sun beating down, very little wind and no shade. It reminded me of being inside a pizza oven."

She added, however, that the visit was stunning in its own way. "The natural desert is a perfect backdrop for the type of stories we are doing and you can't beat the scenery." She also said the YPG people with whom



Test officer Don Davis explains the details of M3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle maintenance and reliability testing before the Discovery crew's camera. Two days later he conducted a similar interview for the Weather Channel. (Photo by Chuck Wullenjohn)

she came in contact were 'amazing.' "It's a great team working for a great cause," she remarked.

Moore says she enjoys working on "Daily Planet" broadcasts because it is a "positive" program that delivers educational information to people's living rooms. The program requires

a great deal of research to come up with and develop ideas, plus numerous news teams to deploy around the world to gather video. They include NASA space shuttle launches and people who invent environmentally friendly helicopters, as well as nature programs that highlight animals and

plants, and about anything else you can think of.

"I pinch myself everyday because I have one of the best jobs in the world," she claimed with a smile. "I can't believe I get paid to go and see the coolest things on earth and meet the most interesting people there is."

Mark Foerster operated the team's camera and brought over 22 years experience filming around the world, from New Zealand and Australia to China and Europe. He estimates the team gathers between three and five hours of video footage to create a six minute Daily Planet segment. "This depends how long the interviews go," he explained, "but we like to cut tightly, meaning we switch shots every three or four seconds. It's hard to keep people's eyeballs on the screen these days." He brought about \$100,000 worth of equipment with him.

The day after the Discovery Channel departed for the Phoenix area, the Yuma Visitors Bureau brought to the proving ground a film crew from the Weather Channel to see Bradley testing and the firing of a 120mm mortar. The team had spent four days in Yuma to develop an episode of the program "Cantore Stories" based around Yuma being the hottest city in the nation. The video crew visited nearby sand dunes, went out with the Border Patrol, examined the local agricultural industry, captured rattlesnakes, visited petroglyphs, and much more.

Cantore, a long time Weather Channel veteran, traveled from Atlanta with his team, saying the heat in Georgia this time of year is "brutal," considering it's worse than what he encountered in Yuma. He found it a simple matter to adjust to the local climate.

"I never knew how expansive it is

(See Discovery on page 6)



Water drips from an M1 Abrams as it roars out of YPG's fording basin. Filled with cold water from the Colorado River, the basin is frequently used throughout the year in the testing of armored vehicles. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

World record (Continued from page 1)



With a wingspan of 72 feet and weighing a mere 120 pounds, the Zephyr's two electric motors carry it as high as 70,000 feet above the ground. While the goal of this test is for the Zephyr to fly continuously for two weeks over Yuma Proving Ground, the ultimate objective is a craft capable of staying airborne for three months. (Photos by Mark Schauer)

of uninterrupted flight.

"I've never dealt with a craft this large that is this light," Penny said. "Every component of the aircraft is cutting edge."

Virtually every square inch of the wingspan is covered by lightweight solar cells that charge batteries that power the motors. Also onboard are sophisticated electronics that allow the craft to be monitored and steered from a ground control station. If all goes according to plan, for the next two weeks this station, set up next to a runway at YPG, will be continuously monitored by a pilot, a navigator and a flight engineer.

"The pilot is there to take over in the event of the flight control not working," said King. "We intend to turn on the flight control early the first morning and leave it on for the rest of the flight, so hopefully the pilot's job will be very routine."

Maiden flight

It is still dark as launch time approaches. The Zephyr is wheeled out of the hangar and pushed a quarter of a mile down an adjacent runway by five men accompanied by a small entourage of pickup trucks providing light. Once in position, the craft is lifted off its dolly and placed atop five lightweight trestles carefully spaced

along its wingspan. While the NAA observer and a dozen other spectators watch from a safe distance, one of the men calculates the craft's exact position on the runway, then uses a long blue ribbon to check wind speed and direction.

Aerial testers favor the calm winds of typical YPG early mornings, but are leery of launching the craft in the near absolute stillness present at this moment. Like their colleagues monitoring the weather from within the ground control station, King and his co-workers are also concerned by thick, low-hanging clouds over the runway. YPG's meteorology team has already sent up two weather balloons and are confident that a slight breeze will pick up after sunrise, and that the fast-moving clouds will dissipate shortly thereafter. After a brief radio conference, the testers decide to wait.

As the sun slowly rises above Castle Dome, the crew waits anxiously, occasionally making adjustments to the covers over the craft's solar panels as they pace around. More than an hour after sunrise, the testers make the decision to launch the Zephyr.

Mission control turns on the electric motors as King and the four testers loft the craft onto their shoulders and begin jogging down the runway. They release the craft at 6:41 a.m.—it



In the hours leading up to the Zephyr's launch, workers install protective coverings over the unmanned vehicle's solar-powered batteries. Hailing from England, the workers have tested different variations of the Zephyr at Yuma Proving Ground since 2008.

hangs precariously in midair as the men stop, then begins to ascend. There are breathless smiles and backslaps among the launchers and whoops from the spectators as the craft continues to rise toward the morning sun.

"It was brilliant," King said. "We had a bit of a wait, but our patience paid off."

"We're glad it finally got airborne," agreed test officer Jerry Crump. "We'll

monitor it continuously for the next two weeks and hope they accomplish their mission."

Mission Accomplished!

Exactly two weeks later, at approximately 7:03 a.m., Friday, July 23, the crew waited anxiously to see the craft return safely to Yuma Proving Ground's Castle Dome Heliport, after being airborne a total of 14 days and 23 minutes.

Visible to onlookers at 2,000 feet, the aircraft gracefully circled the airspace over the heliport, resembling a slender eagle, as it descended to make its final approach. "We're all excited to see this day," said Julian Fletcher, logistics manager for QinetiQ, adding that the entire crew had been working long hours to assure that the takeoff and return would take place without a glitch. "So far, it looks great and it's almost time to celebrate a successful event."

According to Yuma Proving Ground test officer Matthew O'Donald, the major challenge faced by the crew as it awaited the landing was a weather change. "A severe weather change would delay the landing, however, the weather was just right," said O'Donald.

While the aircraft was in the air, he said, the crew never encountered problems. "The craft flew continuously on autopilot with the exception of only a few occasions. We have now set the official world record for the longest flight for an unmanned aircraft," said O'Donald.

He went on to say that the crew plans to return to YPG next year to continue testing.

Outpost now available on external website

by Yolanda Canales

Nearly all Army newspapers are available on the worldwide web, as are most in other military services. The Outpost joined their ranks last month with its appearance on the front page of YPG's external web page, available to all at: www.yuma.army.mil

Jan Cook, chief of YPG's command support directorate, feels making the Outpost accessible on the web is overdue. "It is now available to a larger readership than ever before and is a convenience to those not able to pick up a copy of their own," she said. "Many former employees, including former commanders, like to keep up with what's taking place at YPG and this is a particularly great opportunity for them."

Making the Outpost available to the widest possible audience is something with which Denis Gizinski, YPG's chief information officer and (See Outpost on page 7)



Sparky relaxes while reading The Outpost which now is available on the external Yuma Proving Ground website. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

Nerve center provides test customers benefits with state-of-art technology

by Mary F. Flores

Fighting an often invisible enemy overseas is a grueling, nerve-racking task and keeping one step ahead of that threat is always a challenge. With advanced capabilities to test technologies that counter the threat of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), Yuma Proving Ground's National Counter-terrorism/ Counter-insurgency Integrated Test and Evaluation Center (NACCITEC) provides services that have prevented numerous deaths and injuries overseas. The organization's two year old mission control center has become a vital nerve center for the mission it carries out each day.

Since the first NACCITEC test on January 5, 2004, there has been a growing need for such a center located near where testing takes place. Hence, NACCITEC's mission control center was built and became fully operational about two years ago. Since then, the center has accommodated over 20 tests lasting from one week to two months for a variety of customers.

Kelly Merritt, chief of NACCITEC's range development branch, makes it a top priority to ensure that testers receive good customer service. She oversees the entire mission control operation, relying heavily on a skilled branch team that includes a number of others with specialized skills. On any given day, she ensures test personnel in the field are provided with top notch equipment and personnel.

Nestled in a building located near mock villages and hundreds of building structures, NACCITEC's mission control center is ready to accommodate the organization's tests on a 24-hour per day basis. With computer workstations, large flat screen moni-



Kelly Merritt, chief of NACCITEC's range development branch (left), and Arthur Gabbard, the center's operations manager, look over test plans in the mission control center. It was built two years ago to accommodate a variety of test missions. (Photo by Mary Flores)

tors, projectors, and sophisticated software systems, the center provides testers with a detailed bird's eye view of the realistic tests conducted there.

Surrounded by many miles of fiber optic cable, information is fed through the cables into the mission control center's equipment room where 10 large computer servers are located. With the ability to access sophisticated software, testers are able to utilize an application and collaboration tool that maps test facilities, indicating where

buildings and structures are located.

From computer workstations, customers can view a multitude of information. On one screen, testers can see an overlay of a map of the entire test course and surrounding areas, allowing views from various angles. On another screen, testers can observe vehicles travelling through designated test courses to help ensure tests are being conducted in a safe manner.

"This center provides customers with the capability to view and control all their instrumentation located on the range from inside a building, in real-time, while the test is being conducted," said Merritt. "Testers can plug head phones into the computer and communicate with testers in aircraft or with testers downrange."

Situated near the mission control center, approximately 40 employees from the Electronic Proving Ground provide their expertise in providing realistic electronic "backgrounds" to maximize the realism of NACCITEC testing. Analyzers continually monitor radio frequencies to determine system performance, allowing testers to identify anomalies that may affect test results.

"We've actually brought in equipment from overseas combat theaters to ensure absolute realism," said Arthur Gabbard, the center's operations manager.

Merritt says the testing conducted at NACCITEC is vital. "It's imperative that we gather good test data because we're replicating what Soldiers are facing in combat theaters overseas," she explained.

When a test is complete, testers sometimes conduct video teleconferences from a conference facility inside the mission control center, providing them with the ability to hold a variety of briefings or meetings.

"It can get quite busy when a large test is taking place, both within the center and downrange" she said. "The beauty of this center is we have two separate control rooms so customers can conduct tests at several facilities

(See NACCITEC on page 7)



Thank you for all your hard work

IHG hotel manager Jody Sessions serves breakfast to housekeeper Ryan Baughn during the hotel's "Celebrate Service" week. In honor of their outstanding work, throughout the week of July 25th the 18 employees of the hotel were treated to a breakfast cooked-to-order and served by the hotel's management, a free car wash, bowling and bingo contests for prizes, and a ten-minute chair massage from a professional masseuse. Located in the main administrative area, the hotel has 91 rooms and is often occupied to capacity. "This week is dedicated to our employees and all the hard work they do throughout the year," said Sessions. (Photo by Mark Schauer)



Good customer service pays off

Dominic Antonelli, administrator for Garrison Information Technology (IT), was awarded the Outstanding ICE Customer Service Award by Rick Martin, garrison manager. Antonelli, was recognized for receiving numerous outstanding customer service comments through the ICE program. Antonelli's duties are to assist customers with general IT questions as well as manage garrison computers, printers, accreditations and the garrison SharePoint. On a quarterly basis, an individual will be selected and recognized for having received positive ICE comment cards. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

Home violence affects families

submitted by **Paul J. Kilanski**
Family Advocacy Program
Specialist

Family plays an important role in a child's development. It can have a positive effect on all parts of a child's life. Children in stable families are more likely to do well in school and have healthy relationships. But family violence affects children in many ways. The violence they witness at home affects their schoolwork and their relationships. They may also develop other problems, such as depression, anxiety and delinquency, which can last into adulthood.

Family violence is also called domestic violence, partner abuse or spouse abuse

Family violence can include physical, emotional, sexual, verbal or financial abuse (withholding, stealing or controlling money). Family violence may be against the partner or spouse, children or other household members.

No part of society is exempt. Family violence affects people of every social and economic status, ethnicity and national origin. But putting an emphasis on respect and safety in the family can help prevent and reduce family violence.

Families at risk need support

There may be more risk of family violence and child abuse when families struggle to make ends meet, include one or more adults who grew up in violent homes, live in a community with high rates of violence or have one or more adults who abuse alcohol or other drugs. In situations like these, abuse tends to become more frequent and severe if not stopped.

Children from violent environments suffer many problems, including depression, fear, anxiety and loss of hope for the future; social isolation, aggression and difficulty making friends; problems with physi-

cal health; school problems; violence and delinquency. They may continue to suffer as adults. Family violence endangers children who may get hurt during a family violence, have their needs forgotten or be threatened. Children may be affected differently, depending on age and gender.

The keys to preventing abuse start with the family

Be a nurturing parent, learn healthy ways to deal with stress, help children feel loved and secure, seek help from family, friends or community resources when needed. Anger management is also important in reducing family violence and child abuse. Anger management involves being aware of anger triggers, learning about anger warning signs, finding ways to calm down and finding healthy ways to express anger

Parenting skills are important

Good parenting skills involve setting limits for children, making expectations realistic, using positive discipline, knowing when your child acts out and preparing for it, realizing that no family is "perfect" and knowing when to ask for help.

Community programs can help families

These may include parenting classes, programs to help parents make friends and meet neighbors, child care and early childhood education, school-based programs, emergency childcare, self-help groups and shelters. Support programs can help people who commit abuse. These may include counseling or services that deal with other concerns such as unemployment or mental health issues affecting the abuse.

Children can learn to stay safe

Teach children to keep away from the fighting, get out of the house safely, know trusted adults to talk to, get to a neighbor's home or other

(See Violence on page 7)

Safety Corner

Off the job safety

What's at stake?

Safety doesn't punch a time clock, so when you leave work, take your safety attitude home with you. That way, you'll return for the next shift.

What's the danger?

You are much more likely to be injured on your own time. National Safety Council statistics indicate seven out of eight fatalities and over half of the disabling injuries for workers happen away from the job.

Example

Charlie's wife wanted a child safety gate on their basement stairs doorway. Baby had almost tumbled downstairs because Charlie had left the door open to hurry down to his workshop. As a temporary fix, he nailed a piece of plywood across the doorway to the height of a toddler's chest. Who was first to forget about the makeshift barrier? Charlie. He nearly broke his neck while carrying tools when he fell over the obstacle.

How to protect yourself at home

Lift safely; furniture moving results in many injured backs. Keep your home free of fall hazards. Repair broken flooring or torn carpeting and clean up spills immediately. Use a stepladder to reach awkward places instead of standing on a kitchen chair.

Fire safety

Regularly inspect for hazards such as combustible materials. Keep smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in good operating condition. Store flammable liquids in well-ventilated areas outdoors.

Electrical

Make sure you are protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter when you use powered tools in any damp environment. Don't overload electrical circuits.

Garage or workshop

Use the correct tool for the job, and wear the proper personal protective equipment (PPE). Lawn-mowing and operating other power tools call for protective eyewear and safety footwear. Weekend construction and pruning projects require hardhats.

Car or truck

Most traffic crashes happen close to home and at low speeds, so buckle up. Remember that fatigue or anger can impair driving ability.

Out for fun

Learn to do sports and other recreational pursuits safely. Wear the proper protective sports gear. Exercise regularly; fitness reduces the chances of getting hurt. Avoid using drugs or alcohol especially before activities requiring concentration and alertness, such as boating. Learn to swim.

Reminder

Don't leave your safety attitude at work when you leave for the end of day. The YPG Safety Office has many resources such as videos and pamphlets, etc. Please stop by and check them out.

*Next Outpost deadline is noon
August 5th*

Discovery (Continued from page 3)

at the proving ground and the work that can be accomplished here," he said at a Kofa Firing Range gun position. "It's amazing what the military tests and I'm all for it." He said the key to producing stories for television that attract viewers and result in high ratings is producing pieces that are interesting and educational at the same time.

"In one segment we might do something lighthearted, like catching rattlesnakes," he said, "while in the next doing something of a more serious nature. What we are producing at YPG is serious, for it's about saving lives and keeping our country safe."

Cantore estimates the program about Yuma will be broadcast sometime in late August and repeated dozens of times thereafter. Many Weather Channel viewers watch for short periods of time and tune in numerous times each day. He says features like this grab the attention of viewers for longer periods.

Cantore says he had visited Yuma on only one previous occasion – in the mid-1990's when a hurricane coming up from the south threatened Southwest Arizona.



Amid rugged desert terrain and without missing a beat, an M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank powers along an uphill stretch of road course during the early July visit of a film crew from Discovery Channel Canada. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

Viewpoint

The economy is in the doldrums, but many are still getting their first taste of working life. In recognition of this, we asked YPG employees, "What was your first job?"



Pamela Gundersen, data collector, TRAX: When I was in the 8th grade, my math teacher's husband and brother ran an ice company. Their administrative assistant needed the weekend off, so my teacher asked me if I wanted to cover for her. I had to answer phones and write up receipts when grocery stores would pick up large orders of ice. It was only for three or four hours on a Saturday, but I thought, 'wow!' I never went back, but I ended up babysitting for her several times.



Sylvia Duran, word processor, TRAX: I was a clerical aide for the City of Yuma. I got the job when I was 17 through a program with the Yuma Private Industry Council. I was the receptionist. I started as a summer hire, then spent a full year working part-time. I was lucky.



Sam Cunningham, command evaluator, command group: My first job was working in a car wash when I was 15 years old. It started as a summer job, but I ended up staying there for two years. I made a lot of tips, but working there during the snowy Indiana winters was not fun! It was in a garage, but I'll never forget the cold blasts of air when the bay door was up.



Rick Bielke, contracting officer representative, support services: I was an electrician's helper back in Texas. I was 15 and my best friend and I helped his dad wire homes. I learned basic electricity and got to work with tools that weren't common. It helped me decide which field I would like when I joined the Marines. I ended up in aircraft maintenance.



Mark Moore, instrumentation researcher, Advanced Technology Directorate: My first job was working for my parents in our family-owned dry cleaners in Westmont, Ill. I worked at the counter after school and on weekends starting at eight years old- I even operated the power rack that held the clothes. When I was older, I helped with the presses and boxing clothes. It was fun for about the first 15 minutes... after that, it was a lot of hot, humid work. It taught me what hard work was and that I was capable of doing it, so that was valuable.



Seth Green, gunner, Weapons Operation: It was at Dairy Queen when I was 16. I sold ice cream, cleaned the store, closed the shop at night. It was a good job: plenty of free ice cream, which was the biggest reason I wanted it. After that, I worked as a prep cook at Cracker Barrel, and the food was delicious there, too.

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director of the network enterprise center, agrees. He feels many benefits will derive from it. "Considering that the web is searchable," he remarked, "publishing the YPG story online has the potential for attracting public interest, garnering potential employees and test customers, as well as improving community relations."

Gizinski is a believer in the idea of improving the process of making unclassified and non-sensitive information freely available to the public, making this a step in the right direction. He points out that the "open government directive" released late last year calls for agencies to make as much information as possible available to the public.

The Outpost is published 22 times per year and is distributed throughout YPG and mailed to the Cold Regions Test Center and the Tropic Regions Test Center. Nearly all articles published in the newspaper are produced locally to better serve the information needs of its readership.

As a government-funded publication, private advertising dollars are not currently accepted, though that may change down the road. "We're exploring the possibility of making the Outpost a 'civilian enterprise' publication, which means a local vendor will print the newspaper and sell advertisements," said YPG Public Affairs Officer Chuck Wullenjohn.

"That will save government dollars and enable us to continue producing a quality product." If it happens, he pointed out, it won't be for over one year, for that's when the current printing contract negotiated through the Government Printing Office lapses.

Social media in the future?

The Department of Defense has been harnessing the power of social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, to reach new audiences for several years. For example, social media sites are currently being used as a recruiting tool to reach the "Internet" generation; a generation of young people fully engaged in the use of social media who often shun traditional websites. YPG's Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) Directorate has already established Facebook and Twitter sites to share information about FMWR programs. The Cold Regions Test Center also maintains a Facebook site.

Some of the most senior leaders in the Department of Defense use social media to make information as accessible as possible. "The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, posts to his own Facebook and Twitter sites," noted Gizinski, who is in favor of YPG exploring the establishment of a Facebook site administered by the Public Affairs Office.

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simultaneously, with absolutely no conflict."

Merritt feels one of the benefits for customers is providing them test data in real time, allowing them to view system performance as the test unfolds. "If something isn't functioning properly, we can send our technicians downrange to immediately fix the problem," she explained. "Without the facilities inside the mission control center, a tester wouldn't know if good data were being produced until all the data were collected and analyzed."

This saves customers both time and money, plus it helps ensure fast turnaround times to better serve American forces overseas. Having "real time" testing capabilities keeps customers happy and returning to YPG for their testing needs.

AFAP (Continued from page 2)

Army family in this process by keeping them informed of the progress of each issue. As such, I invite you to visit the Army One Source website at www.myarmyonesource.com, and select the Family Programs and Services menu to activate the AFAP Active Issue Search feature. Here, you can enter keywords to find related active issues, or insert an issue number to see a specific issue. You may also search by subject area, demographic group or geographic area to see what we are doing to improve quality of life for those we serve. I will also keep you informed by publishing monthly updates and postings to my Facebook page.

I encourage you to continue asking these three fundamental questions about our programs and services: *Are we doing the right things? Are we doing things right? What are we missing?* If you answer "no" to the first two questions or you think we are missing something, get involved and become part of the solution for improving the Army's home – your home. Reading history is educational, but getting involved and making important history is an exceptional way of providing exceptional support to the Soldiers, civilians, and families in our home.

Violence (Continued from page 6)

safe place, know their name, address and phone number, call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.

It's important for children to know that violence is never their fault, violence by one partner against another is never okay, their job is to stay safe, not to stop the violence or try to protect the parent, they don't have to keep their feelings inside but should share their fear, anger or other feelings and it's okay to love both parents. Children need love and support from parents.

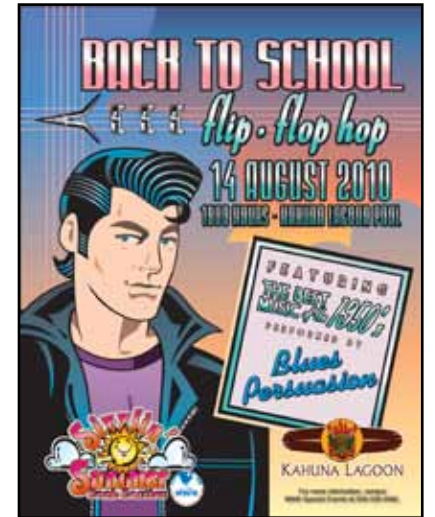
Children who are loved and listened to can thrive despite witnessing violence.

Rattlesnake found in upper housing



On Saturday morning, July 24, Rudy Rodriguez who lives on Main Post, was sitting in his living room drinking a cup of coffee, looking out his patio sliding doors when he saw a rattlesnake making his way through the lawn. He immediately, called the YPG Police Desk and asked for assistance. Upon arriving at the scene, police officer Richard Bellman and Rodriguez (retired Army Military Police) looked for the snake, which was not in sight anymore. When Rodriguez carefully moved the lawn mower, he saw the four-foot rattlesnake curled-up tightly underneath. Officer Bellman, assisted by Rodriguez, apprehended the subject, which was transported for further processing. Residents are reminded that snakes are still out an about and if they should see one, they are to call the police desk at 328-2720 to remove the subjects from the premises. (Loaned photo)

Directorate of Family, Morale, Welfare & Recreation Happenings



For more information regarding any of these events, you may call the Marketing Director & Community Outreach Coordinator Dave Willet at 328-3096.



Praying eagle caught on camera at Bolio test site

This eagle was caught on camera as he sits on a tree at the edge of Bolio Lake at Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC). By the time Mike Kingston, CRTC photographer, arrived, the bird had moved but he was still able to take a few shots. In this particular shot, the bird is in the praying position. These birds obviously have a sense of self awareness regarding their role as a national symbol. Eagles are large birds of prey which are members of the bird family Accipitridae and belong to several genera which are not necessarily closely related to each other. Most of the more than 60 species, occur in Eurasia and Africa. Outside this area, just two species (the Bald and Golden Eagles) can be found in the United States and Canada, nine more in Central and South America, and three in Australia. (Photo by Mike Kingston)

