

*Fall Festival will be held on Friday, October 29 from 6-8p.m. at Cox Field. There will be lots of games, prizes and costume contests. Cake donations for the cakewalk are needed. For more information, contact Paula Alarcon at 328-3119.*

# 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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## **Luncheon honors Hispanic Heritage**

by Chuck Wullenjohn

A number of activities took place at Yuma Proving Ground in past weeks to increase awareness and knowledge of the Hispanic culture, diversity and accomplishments, such as piñata parties with students at Price Elementary School and the tasting of several dozen samples of homemade salsa made by YPG employees. Tuesday, the signature event of the month-long celebration took place – a luncheon highlighted by the remarks of Yuma County Superior Court Judge Maria Elena Cruz. The attendance of nearly 125 consisted mostly of members of YPG's workforce, though U.S. Representative Raul Grijalva carved time out of his busy schedule to take part.

The theme for this year's Hispanic Heritage Month is "Heritage, Diversity, Integrity and Honor: The Renewed Hope of America." Judge Cruz incorporated the meaning of the theme into her remarks which described her working-class background, the values she inherited and her decision to go into the law profession. When the family moved to Yuma from Puerto Rico and she enrolled in Kofa High School, she was unable to communicate in English.

"Numbering more than 48 million, Hispanic-Americans comprise our nation's largest racial or ethnic minority," she pointed out in her formal remarks. "Many come with amazing stories of strength, endurance and determination to succeed."

Hispanic Heritage Month began September 15 and runs through the middle of this month. The beginning date represents the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence from Spain on September 16 and Chile on September 18. Yuma Proving Ground has been observing the event for 38 years.

According to luncheon chairman and YPG Hispanic Manager Yolanda (See *Hispanic* on page 3)



**Dancers left to right Yvonne Kennedy, Mireya Rodriguez, Carmen Juarez and Rocio Fernandez, entertain the 100 plus attendees at the YPG's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. (Photo by Mark Schauer)**

## **Personal firearm(s) must be registered, properly stored**

by Mary F. Flores

Army Regulation 190-11, Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives requires Installation Commanders to establish procedures and publicize punitive policies regulating privately-owned weapons, explosives, and ammunition on the installation.

In order to meet the requirements of this regulation the Commander, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, issued a new regulation, USAYPG 190-11, regarding firearms, weapons or explosives which went into effect on October 15, 2010. A significant aspect of this new regulation is the requirement to register all privately owned firearms entering the installation. Additionally, all residents of YPG must register any firearm located in their residence.

Every resident and employee, including contractors, of YPG is required to read this new regulation.

"Essentially this new regulation says all YPG residents and anyone who brings a personal firearm on the installation **must** register the firearm(s) with Police Services at building S5," said Command Judge Advocate, Lt. Col. Michael Klausner. "If you work on the installation, you can still bring your firearm onto the installation in your vehicle as long as the firearm is unloaded when you come through the gate, and it is registered, and secured in a locked container as described in USAYPG Regulation 190-11."

Residents and/or employees can register a weapon or firearm Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Building S5 near the YPG Travel Camp. Those wishing to register

a firearm are asked **not** to take the weapon into Police Services; they only need to complete a registration form listing pertinent information on the weapon, such as make, model, caliber, type, serial number, manufacturer, color. Once the form is filled out properly and turned into Police Services, the resident or employee will be given a registration certificate to be kept with the weapon at all times while entering the installation.

As a friendly reminder, Klausner explained that nobody is authorized to carry a concealed firearm on YPG, even if a person has a concealed carry permit issued by the State of Arizona. In addition, all personally owned weapons,

(See *Weapon registration* on page 6)



# News Notes

## Now is the time to talk to your children about drugs

submitted by Juanita Saez, YPG Army Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator

In recognition of National Red Ribbon Week October 24-31, the YPG Army Substance Abuse Program Office is encouraging parents, guardians, caregivers, and mentors to start the conversation about the dangers of illicit drug use with their children.

According to the National Institute of Health, more than half of all American kids will try drugs at least once between first and 12th grade with marijuana being the most commonly used illicit drug in the nation. Starting the conversation with your kids about the dangers of drug abuse can help steer them in the right direction. No matter how hard parents try to prevent children from experimenting with alcohol or other drugs, they may choose to do so. Here are some general tips to help you talk to your teen:

- Stay calm: The most important thing is not to act out of anger or panic. Consider your options and get whatever information you need to have a productive conversation. Don't waste time feeling guilty or blaming yourself or others.

- Take action: Don't blow it off as 'no big deal.' Talk to your teen. As a parent you're completely justified in saying that you do not approve of your child using alcohol or other drugs. Set up a time to talk together as a family in a private setting. Think about the conversation, plan out what you want to say, and choose a time when you're ready to face the challenge. Be sure your child is sober: never confront a person – young or adult – when he or she is under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

- Ask questions: Try to find out what's going on from your teen directly and give your child the chance to explain. Express your concern. Ask open-ended questions about relationships with new friends, activities, school or work. Hopefully, your child will be honest with you and tell you what's really going on so you can respond appropriately. If teens insist that they are not using, parents may consider asking them to take a drug test to prove they are clean. But remember, with the exception of marijuana, most drugs are only detectable for a few days after use.

- Find out when, where and why: If your teen admits to experimenting with alcohol or drugs, find out as much as you can about the circumstances of use. Was it an isolated incident? Is the use frequent? Who is your child using with? Where is he or she using? Who is providing the alcohol or drugs? Try to be understanding about mistakes your child may have made, so that he or she feels comfortable communicating with you.

- Give clear messages about your values: Set clear boundaries. Be firm about the dangers of drug use and how it can affect everyone in the family. Talk about the risks, lifetime consequences, and health problems caused by drug use. While it may be tempting, avoid glorifying your own past use of alcohol or drugs. Your teen may take this as evidence that such behavior is acceptable or harmless. However, if you are in recovery yourself, you may want to share your experience and describe how you were able to overcome addiction.

- Monitor your child's behavior: Watch out for changes in your teen's behavior. If you are concerned about possible use, the first sign of a problem for many parents is change – in hygiene, friends, hobbies, grades, or family relationships. Use our signs and symptoms guide to help. If your teen has admitted to using, you may want to limit his or her allowance and access to transportation, and monitor leisure activities.

- Educate yourself: Find out what teens in your community are using. Become familiar with slang names for various drugs. And find out about support groups and treatment options in your community.

- Encourage healthy living: To help children maintain a sober, healthy lifestyle, parents should steer them towards healthier friends and activities and encourage them to talk openly about any concerns they might have.

- Talk to a professional: If you suspect this is more than experimentation, you should arrange for your child to get an assessment from a substance

(See Drugs on page 8)

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Commander .....Col. Thomas Payne  
Public Affairs Officer.....Chuck Wullenjohn  
Public Affairs Specialist/Editor.....Yolanda Canales  
Public Affairs Specialist.....Mary F. Flores  
Public Affairs Specialist .....Mark Schauer  
Technical Editor, Cold Regions Test Center.....Clara Zachgo



UNITED STATES ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

# VETERANS DAY 2010

**CELEBRATION BREAKFAST  
NOVEMBER 4, 2010**

Tickets go on sale  
Monday October 18, 2010  
Please purchase your tickets by  
October 28, 2010 from; EEO,  
YPG Command Group,  
YTC Command Group, PAO,  
M&W bldg 3185, X-6127  
Air Delivery bldg 3021, X-6102

**FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!  
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT  
THE EVENT!**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010  
TIME: 7:30 A.M. TO 8:30 A.M.  
USAYPG CACTUS CAFE, BLDG 451  
COST: \$9.00**

## Congratulations to YPG's Price Elementary School October's Go-Getters!

*Each month, Yuma Elementary School District No. 1, selects two students who meet the criteria of working hard, performing at their very best and are good abiding citizens. Their photos are sent to the Yuma Sun and published on the last Tuesday of every month throughout the school year. In addition to the students' photos appearing in the Yuma Sun, the YPG publication, The Outpost also publishes the students' accomplishments.*

*Selected for the month of October are  
Nathan M. Heller and Katrina Policar.*



**Nathan M. Heller**



**Katrina Policar**



**Hispanic (Continued from page 1)**



**Yuma County Superior Court Judge Maria Elena Cruz, speaks at the Hispanic Heritage luncheon celebration. (Photo by Mark Schauer)**

Canales, the importance of the month-long celebration is that it builds awareness of America's Hispanic culture and heritage, as well as allows the YPG workforce to sample

excellent, authentic cuisine. "I've worked on this event for 25 years and the more I see people enjoying it, the more driven I become," she said.

A large number of people from YPG contributed toward making the luncheon a success. Canales contributed a recipe for barbacoa (shredded beef) to the proving ground's Cactus Café, which prepared the meal, and personally oversaw food preparation to make sure everything was cooked in the authentic Mexican tradition. A group of employees – Rocio Fernandez, Yvonne Kennedy, Mireya Rodriguez, and Carmen Juarez -- got together to form a folkloric dancing troupe, four people who practiced evenings twice each week for the last three months, wearing colorful handmade gowns.

Gabby Ochoa, administrative assistant, kept the luncheon flowing as mistress of ceremonies, Tom Coz, range optical measurements lead, provided live background music, and many others donated their time to put up decorations, serve meals, clean up

*(See Hispanic on page 8)*



**Light jazz music was provided by Tommy and the Drifters, employees of YPG. Left to right: Barry Butz, Andrew Trujillo and Tom Coz. (Photo by Mark Schauer)**



**Susan Arguelles (left) and Yolie Canales (right), pose for a photo with the Price Elementary School students after being presented with their prizes for competing in the recent Hispanic Heritage Poster Contest. Prizes for the contest were donated by the YPG Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Office. Supplies for the posters were donated by Debbie Rickard, director for YPG's Youth Services. (Photo by Kellie Pacella)**



**Teresa Saucedo (left) a member of the Hispanic Heritage committee, guides one of the students to hit the pinata during the Pinata breaking event at Price Elementary School. Goodies and pinta were donated by YPG's Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Office. (Photo by Mary Flores)**



**Alani Miller a student at Gila Ridge High School, entertains the luncheon attendees with a number from professional vocalist Christina Aguilera and Santana. Alani is the daughter of Lisa Miller, administrative assistant for the YPG Judge Advocate Office (Photo by Mark Schauer)**



**Taking first place in the Salsa Tasting Contest was Robert Fillinger who said he went on the internet and used "a little bit of this and little bit of that," and came out a winner. Placing second with a "Pico de Gallo" style of salsa was Valerie Grimes. Over 125 people attend the event. (Photo by Yolie Canales)**



# Dozens of mechanics work around the clock to keep test vehicles on the road

by Mary F. Flores

If the warfighter has driven it, it most likely has been serviced or maintained by the people of Yuma Proving Ground's Test Vehicle Maintenance Branch.

Like a buzzing beehive, over 50 mechanics put their skills to work each week, Monday through Saturday, working around the clock in two shifts.

These mechanics perform from minor to major repairs on a huge variety of vehicles. These include M1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks, M2 and M3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, heavy equipment transport vehicles used to haul tanks, and many more. All are tested, repaired and serviced every day in several work stations.

Hundreds of combat and support vehicles are driven throughout YPG's extensive test courses, spanning hundreds of miles throughout the proving ground. In extreme weather conditions similar to weather and road conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan, endurance tests are conducted on tires, oil and air filters, suspension and electrical systems and other vehicle components. As one wave of vehicles goes out for testing, another wave of test combat vehicles rolls into the maintenance and repair shop.

With an array of tool boxes, sophisticated hydraulic equipment, electrical lifts capable of lifting 15,000 pounds, and gigantic cranes used to move large vehicles, mechanics are well equipped to perform their jobs efficiently.

"Most mechanics learned their trade skills either from previous military experience, on-the-job training, technical manuals and/or schools," said Kenny Stuart, chief of the test vehicle maintenance team who oversees five leads and 20 mechanics. "All mechanics work under strict Army guidelines and OSHA regulations and attend yearly safety training sessions to remain up-to-date on safety practices and policies."

An additional duty performed by mechanics and vehicle test operators is to take oil samples from test vehicles every 25 hours, sending them to a



**An auxiliary pump is removed for maintenance on an M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank engine by Anthony Pegram, heavy mobile equipment mechanic. (Photos by Mary Flores)**

laboratory to test for metal, debris and silicone. This is a requirement to ensure the good condition of engines, transmissions and other major components.

"These mechanics are well trained and can perform all types of service and repairs," said Stuart, who served over six years as an Army mechanic maintaining the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. "Most all of the mechanics in this shop have served in the armed forces and have lots of experience. The expert work they perform helps save the lives of Soldiers, and they take great pride in what they do."

Keeping up with the demands of the vehicle test mission and adhering to a stringent work schedule can be a challenge for mechanics who work alongside field survey technicians recording data and test engineers who oversee various test programs.

"For me one of the biggest challenges I face is trying not to get hurt or hurt anyone else, for that matter," said Anthony Pegram, heavy mobile equipment mechanic who served four years in the Army, eight years in the Marine Corps and has been working at YPG for six years. "Vehicles come in



**Ronald Beck (right) and Paul Wilson, both heavy mobile equipment mechanics, place the doors of an M1A1 Abrams on a wooden pallet to repair crack damages that occurred during testing.**



**Rick Ramirez, heavy mobile equipment mechanic, uses a descaler to remove "carc" paint, making the area safe for welders. Carc paint is a type of paint used by the military on tanks which can produce toxic vapors when heated.**

and out of the shop and a lot of people are moving around constantly. I stay aware of my surroundings at all times and remain vigilant."

Every day brings something different and for Pegram the most unusual vehicle he worked on was the "white elephant," which was an old M45 Sgt. York vehicle modified into an armored forklift. Complete with a generator, recreational vehicle air conditioner and bullet proof panels, the forklift has been used extensively over the years to clear shells and bombs on YPG's ranges.

For others, like lead mechanic Steve Kissel, who supervises 24 contractor mechanics, the most unusual piece of equipment he worked on was a pump used for fueling vehicles in the field.

"I gained most of my mechanical experience from my father because he owns a shop that services farm equipment," said Kissel. "The pump I worked on after beginning employ-

(See Bldg. 3490 on page 7)



# Last O2s fly off into the sunset

by Mark Schauer

An era in military aviation history came to a close at YPG in October with the final official flight of the Cessna O-2 Skymaster.

The last flight, a range inspection in plane number 349, conducted by Yuma Test Center Commander Lt. Col. Stephen Milton and Laguna Army Airfield pilot Ralph Arnold, occurred on October 12. Number 414, 349's counterpart, last flew on July 26.

Both planes notched over 10,000 hours of flight time during their long careers, which means each plane likely flew well over one million miles.

"The O2s have been workhorses for us, but it's time to let them go," said Grant Ware, director of the Air Combat Systems Test Directorate. "It's sad, but the mission they were intended for is more adequately met with newer aircraft. The additional resources it takes to keep them running could be used in other areas."

"They're getting hard to maintain," added Arnold. "The O2s have gasoline reciprocating engines, whereas modern aircraft are turboprops. It takes a whole special set of tools to maintain these two airplanes."

The four passenger O2 debuted in 1967 and was used primarily as a forward air observer in the Vietnam War, which made it a favorite among Soldiers in theater.

"Close air support saved lives in a lot of cases," explained Bill Heidner, curator of YPG's Heritage Center. "It was the O2 that spotted the enemy and marked the target area with white phosphorous for the jets coming in."

After Vietnam, the versatile aircraft served in a variety of capacities, including surveillance missions against wildlife poachers in Africa



**Yuma Test Center Lt. Col. Stephen Milton (left) shakes hands with flight operations chief Ralph Arnold prior to the last official flight of a Department of Defense Cessna O2 Skymaster. Though range inspection was the purpose of the flight, Milton appreciated the historical aspect of the flight in the venerable Vietnam-era aircraft: "It is the same as riding in a UH-1 helicopter in that you try to put yourself in the shoes of those that preceded you."**

in the 1990s. When the Electronic Proving Ground at Fort Huachuca lost its aviation department in 1997, their two O2s, numbers 349 and 414, were transferred to YPG in early 1998.

"What was most unique about the O2 was the lack of torque," said Arnold. "Whenever you applied or reduced power, the plane wouldn't roll or yaw, it stayed perfectly straight."

Arnold attributed this to the plane's unconventional rear propeller, which spins in the opposite direction of the

traditional front propeller in the nose of the aircraft. If a pilot were unlucky enough to lose an engine, the descent would be much more restrained and controlled than in an aircraft with an engine on each wing, Arnold said.

The O2s supported YPG's test mission by serving as aerial targets for ground and air sensors under evaluation, but were used primarily to spray aerial dispersants for testing at Dugway Proving Ground in Utah.

"It's a fun airplane to fly," said

Arnold. "They're so unusual and everyone likes looking at them. I'm kind of sorry to see it go."

If everything goes according to plan, however, the O2s won't go far. YPG's Heritage Center is slated to get one as a permanent exhibit, and might keep both if the U.S. Air Force Museum at Ohio's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base declines to take one.



**Cessna O2 Skymaster number 349 lifts off from YPG's Laguna Army Airfield on its last official flight. Used primarily as a forward air observer during the Vietnam War, the hardy and versatile O2 won acclaim from ground troops who depended on it for marking target areas for bombing runs. The O2 will soon be moved to its new home at YPG's Heritage Center. (Photos by Mark Schauer)**



## Viewpoint

Most Halloweens in the desert southwest are mild and clear. In sub-Arctic Alaska, however, frigid temperatures and heavy snow can be far scarier than ghosts and goblins. For this viewpoint, we asked Cold Region Test Center personnel, "How do Alaskans celebrate Halloween?"



**Jeff Lipscomb, technical director:** When my daughter was younger, my wife made for her an elephant costume made of heavy insulated fleece. We've seen it as cold as 37 below zero on Halloween night. The best way to cope is to limit the amount of outdoor trick-or-treating and have indoor parties instead. When I was on active duty, we used to do it in a hangar and all of the units provided games and candy for the kids.



**Dusty Wright, network administrator:** I have kids that are trick-or-treating age now, so a lot of time kids trick-or-treat as an indoor activity at organized parties at the garrison or a local church. We have taken the kids out, but it is kind of futile to wear a costume covered by a snowsuit. I remember it was 20 below one year, and it just isn't practical going door-to-door in such conditions.



**Monica Gaschler, data collector:** We live in a rural area and don't have little kids, so we don't get trick-or-treaters. The weather can be pretty treacherous by Halloween, so the kids that do trick-or-treat will be wearing snow suits over their costumes—most kids around here have organized indoor events at their schools instead. It's a bummer we don't get trick-or-treaters, but I do bring candy to work.



**Marshall Brown, laborer:** You have to hop in your car and drive house-to-house. If it's 49 below zero, you have to run up to each house, then take a breather in the car on the way to the next house. I don't wear a costume— I go as an average Joe. People around here understand.



**Merri Schultz, technical editor:** You either have to have a specialized costume or one that is three sizes larger that can fit over a snowsuit. Sometimes you see kids running up to a door, quickly taking their coat off, then running back to their parents' car. I grew up here and remember trick-or-treating on a snow machine or on a big sled in 30 degree below zero weather.



**Corey Kiser, assistant test officer:** When I was a kid growing up here, we would tend to get our first snow around Halloween night, whereas now it comes about a month earlier. Both when I was a kid and today, kids get costumes big enough to fit over snowsuits and gloves. You're also very picky about which neighborhoods to go to run from the car and to a house. Halloween is cold here, but the kids love it as much as everywhere else.

# Halloween safety tips for a safe event

submitted by Safety Office

Halloween, the children's night for trick or treats...ghosts and goblins...haunts and horror... Unfortunately, some of the horrors are all too real.

Every year on Halloween, many children suffer from auto accidents, fire injuries, falls, cuts, bruises or poisoned treats. Below are some awareness tips to help prevent any type of accident and/or tragedy.

### Risky Roadways:

- Children become careless from excitement and may run into the road.
- Dusk is the time of poorest visibility – Trick or Treat during daylight.
- Choose costumes that are easy to walk in and be seen by drivers.
- Use reflective tape on costumes for additional visibility.

### Dangerous Attire:

- Loose costumes, oversized bags or unsafe shoes cause falls or accidents.
- Masks reduce visibility.
- Sharp or pointed toy weapons are unsafe.
- If wearing a mask, choose one that is cool, comfortable and easy to see out of. Take off the mask before crossing the street.

### Frightful Flames:

- Billowing costumes are dangerous around open flames.
- Flowing false-hair wigs are unsafe around candles.
- Wigs and costumes should be of non-flammable materials.

### Treacherous Treats:

- It's sad, but true, some people wish to cause harm. Treats must be checked for potential poisoning or unsafe objects.
- All fruit should be washed and cut into small pieces to assure nothing has been placed inside.
- Unpackaged items such as popcorn or small candies should be discarded.
- Candy with loose or torn wrapping should also be discarded.

## Weapon registration (Continued from page 1)

firearms or explosives are prohibited in any federal facilities/offices. The only exception is for residents, who can take their registered firearms into their homes.

For more information on firearm registration, contact John Hopper at Police Services, (928) 328-2022.



**YPG Police Officer Sean Underhill explains to Phylisa Arellano, supply technician, how a personal registered firearm can be brought onto the installation. The firearm must be registered with Polices Services, unloaded and locked in the trunk or key or combination container and the registration certificate must be in the owners possession. (Photo by Mary Flores)**



# Yuma Test Station Soldier returns to visit Yuma Proving Ground after 51 years

by Mark Schauer

**Editor's Note: This is the final article of a three-part series of past YPG military personnel who have been stationed at this installation.**

A lifelong civilian may find it hard to understand why an ex-Soldier would want to visit one of his old duty stations after 51 years out of the service, but not a Soldier.

When Jerry Goldstein left Yuma Test Station in 1959, Dwight Eisenhower was President, Barbie dolls were the newest toy sensation and Alaska was a state, but not Hawaii. After wanting to return for many



**Jerry Goldstien takes a photo in front of his quarters back in 1959. (Loaned photo)**

years, Goldstein and his wife recently took a detour from a Hawaiian vacation to see what had become of the place he had served at so many years before.

A native of New York City, Goldstein served in the Army Reserve while attending college. After graduating with a business degree, he decided to enlist in the regular Army rather than risk being drafted.

"The Eisenhower years were a nice time to be in the Army," Goldstein said. "Things were quiet. We figured there would never be another war."

Goldstein enlisted in 1957 and underwent basic training at Fort Dix, N.J. and Fort Carson, Colo. He then attended the clerk/typist school at Fort Chaffee, Ark. Upon completion of this training, Goldstein received orders to report to Yuma Test Station.

"I boarded a plane on a cold, wintry day in December and got off in the middle of the desert," Goldstein recalled with a smile. "I couldn't believe it. It was the most puzzling and exciting part of my life because it was a whole new world to me."

At that time, Yuma Test Station was home to about one thousand Soldiers and Goldstein was assigned the role of garrison company clerk. The most difficult part of the job was compiling the morning report, a daily one or two page briefing of the day's major events and Soldier absences that he banged out on a bulky manual typewriter. A clean and easily legible copy of the report was expected on the desk of test station commander Col. Walter Abbey as soon as he arrived. Correction fluid had only recently



**Jerry Goldstein (left) shares with Bill Heidner, YPG curator, how small the installation was back in 1959 when he arrived. "I recall wearing shorts for about eight months of the year just to keep cool," said Goldstein. (Photo by Mark Schauer)**

been invented and was not yet commonly available on the commercial market; thus, if Goldstein made even a small error while facing his deadline, he had no choice but to discard whatever he had typed and start over.

"I did the morning report very carefully," Goldstein said. "It was a big deal. It had to be perfect."

Though Goldstein was aware that the test station was actively evaluating a wide variety of equipment used by the Army, including then-advanced parachutes and the primitive aerial drones that would evolve into today's sophisticated unmanned aerial systems, his official duties never took him onto the ranges.

"They kept the test areas off limits," Goldstein said. "I never had any great desire to figure out a way to see them."

Though he arrived at the most temperate time of the year, Goldstein soon experienced the baking heat that makes Yuma ideal for hot weather testing. Unfortunately, he had to endure it without the benefit of air conditioning.

"I don't recall cool air conditioning," Goldstein said. "We had a lot of desk fans. It was tough to keep cool. We wore shorts about eight months of the year."

Goldstein was joined by his wife for part of his tenure at the test station, but there was no permanent family housing on post at that time. Instead, accompanied personnel and their families lived in trailer homes that sat on the present-day location of the housing area.

"The Navy had previously condemned all of these wonderful little moveable shacks and sent them to the Army," Goldstein said. "They were like palaces to us. There was the occasional rattlesnake, but it wasn't a big deal."

During the period he was unaccompanied, Goldstein did all he could to avoid having to sleep in the barracks. He recalled that one of the sergeants allowed him to sleep in the post office for four or five months.

"The post office was the size of a small closet, but there was room for a cot," Goldstein said. "It was private, which was the whole idea."

Goldstein wasn't the anti-social type, however. Though the test station had few organized activities beyond a modest recreation center that occasionally showed movies, Goldstein and his buddies engaged in a variety of sporting and recreational activities.

"We played softball, ran, swam, and drank a lot of beer," Goldstein said. "Late afternoon on the boat dock on the Colorado River drinking beer with the boys was a good way to conclude a duty day."

Goldstein regrets that he has fallen out of touch with his Yuma Test Station buddies over the past fifty years.

"It's a shame, but the memories live on," he reminisced.

Goldstein still recalls that a restaurant called the Taco Lita on Yuma's 4th Avenue was the Soldiers' favorite local eatery. During his time at the test station, he took advantage of Yuma's location to visit Mexico and also travelled to Los Angeles, San Diego and Phoenix for the first time.

(See Goldstein on page 8)

## Bldg. 3490 (Continued from page 5)

ment here at YPG is very similar to a pump used in farming. The engine was used in tractors, so it was nice to work on something I was familiar with."

"During the second week of September, we opened 154 work orders for maintenance requests and closed 113. In addition, over 1900 man hours went

towards maintenance," said Jennifer Rivera, production control clerk who manages work orders. "Depending on the type of work and if parts are needed, it could take 30 minutes to one hour for minor repairs and more complex repairs could take up to two weeks."

For many mechanics who work in

the Test Vehicle Maintenance Shop their work is not unnoticed or done in vain.

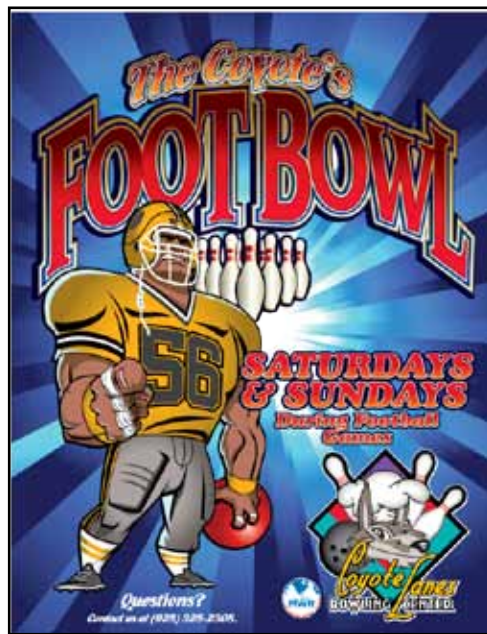
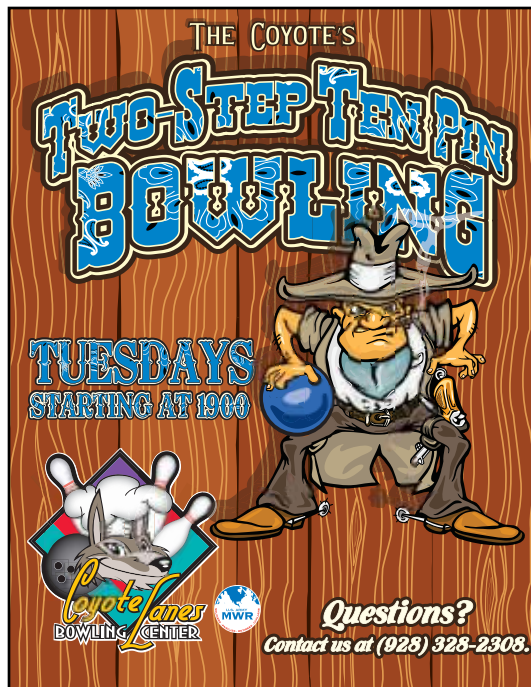
"Knowing our troops are getting the best equipment to carry out their missions gives me great job satisfaction," said Pegram. "Coming to work every day and being a part of this process is a good feeling."



**Brandon Ohm, heavy mobile equipment mechanic, removes engine fan covers to repair a fuel leak on an M88 Recovery Vehicle. (Photo by Mary Flores)**



# Family, Morale, Welfare & Recreation Happenings



## Drugs (Continued from page 2)

abuse counselor. If help is needed, children should understand that getting counseling is not a punishment but rather an adult way to work out issues that are harmful to them and the family.

Find out about local treatment programs. Please feel free to visit the Army Substance Abuse Program, Bldg. 309 or contact us at [ypgsapp@us.army.mil](mailto:ypgsapp@us.army.mil) or simply call 928-328-2249 for local substance abuse treatment programs in Yuma.

The following websites are helpful tips on how to start the conversation today about drugs: <http://www.timetotalk.org>; <http://www.drugfree.org> <http://family.samhsa.gov/set/drugs.aspx>; and <http://www.militaryonesource.com>

## Hispanic (Continued from page 3)

afterward, and much more.

A student from Gila Ridge High School, Alani Miller, entertained the audience with two vocal renditions of popular latin songs. "She even learned the words to one of the songs in Spanish, which she did just for our program," enthused Canales. An outpouring of applause from the audience greeted the end of each number. Alani is the daughter of YPG employee Lisa Miller.

"Functions like this help us realize that people from every corner of the world have come here to live the American dream," said Julio Dominguez, YPG technical director. "This dream does not belong to any single group of Americans, but to all of us." He pointed out that Hispanic Americans joined with fellow Americans from all cultural backgrounds, particularly in the last 100 years, to

pay a steep price for the protection of freedom as members of America's military forces.

The luncheon concluded with the serving of freshly made pan dulce, Mexican sweet bread that typically is served as dessert at celebratory Hispanic meals. Canales explained that pan dulce, which actually can be one of many types of sweet bread, holds an important place in the Hispanic tradition.

"To Hispanic families, ending a meal with pan dulce is the same as serving a slice of apple pie in many other families," she said. "It's one of the traditions we want to share with everyone."

Familiar traditions like these bring people and cultures together. Education and understanding is what Hispanic Heritage month and other ethnic activities throughout the year at YPG are all about.

*Next Outpost deadline is noon,  
October 28th*

*Sexual Assault Hotline:  
920-3104 or 329-3224  
Report Domestic Violence:  
328-2720 or 328-3224*

## Goldstein (Continued from page 7)

He made it as far north as Las Vegas, which at that time had a population of less than 65,000, about 25,000 fewer people than present-day Yuma. He usually hitchhiked by car, but also used a more unlikely means of travel.

"I hopped aboard a C-47 aircraft once," Goldstein said. "One weekend we flew to Treasure Island and hitchhiked to Squaw Valley to go skiing. That was the first time I was ever on skis and the next year's winter Olympics were held at the same facility."

At the conclusion of his time in Yuma, Goldstein was sent to Fort Bliss, Texas, and was discharged shortly thereafter. Back in the civil-

ian world, Goldstein got a job as a sales trainee for a textile company. After working there for 14 years, he went into business for himself. Today, he still runs Jovid Fabrics in Manhattan and includes close-out military fabrics in his inventory.

Though YPG has grown significantly over the years, its basic mission remains unchanged, a fact former Soldier Goldstein appreciates.

"It's so nice to see that Yuma Proving Ground is an ongoing facility, especially in troubled times like this," he said. "I'm proud to have been a small part of it."