

THE OUTPOST

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona 85365

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Happy 237th birthday, U.S. Army!

By Yolie Canales

Since its birth on June 14, 1775, the Army has proudly answered the call of our nation. Our Soldiers have fought in wars at home and abroad from the American Revolution to the War on Terrorism to defend freedom, peace and democracy.

At Concord and Lexington, on the beaches of Normandy and Inchon we have fought. From the jungles of Vietnam to the deserts of Iraq, and from Granada to Kabul and places in between, Soldiers have held ground, stayed strong and made every sacrifice to ensure freedom and liberty prevail. The Army has not only fought battles, but provided humanitarian support and security to those in need, restoring hope and livelihoods to people and nations torn by natural or man-made disasters.

This is why installations throughout the Department of Defense take time to hold ceremonies large and small to celebrate the dedication and bravery of our Soldiers in this

noble calling.

Yuma Proving Ground, as years past, celebrated this special day with a breakfast for its military personnel, and civilian workforce. The program featured guest speaker, former YPG Commander Col. Rob Filbey (ret.), who said in his speech, "For 237 years the

Army's purpose has been to fight and win our nation's wars. Our Army exists to give the nation a decisive victory on the battlefield's and where-ever else our nation needs them." Filbey continued to say, "The key to the Army's success has been its willingness and ability to change, to meet the world as

it is, without compromising core values that make it great. Today's Army is a full service force that includes teams of Army civilians, Soldiers, concern citizens, veterans and members of industry working together to secure our nation, where-ever the mission, regardless of its challenges. This must happen if our

Army is to bring relevant to the needs of our nation."

In addition to the guest speaker's dynamic remarks, a ceremonial cake cutting took place with the youngest and senior Soldiers doing the honors. The senior Soldier was Judge Advocate Lt. Col. Kary Reed and the youngest was Spec. Richard Robertson of the YPG Post Chapel.



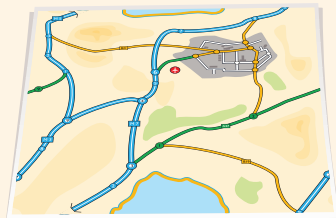
Cutting the cake at the Army's 237th birthday celebration are left to right: Col. Reed Young, YPG commander, Rob Filbey (former YPG commander), the senior Soldier, Lt. Col. Kary Reed (center), youngest Soldier Spec. Richard Robertson, and YPG's Command Sgt. Maj. Keith West. To the right, guest speaker Rob Filbey gives a thumbs up to the Army's 237th birthday.

PHOTOS BY LUCY RIVERA

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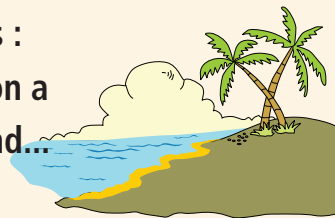
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Critical to GPS
Development

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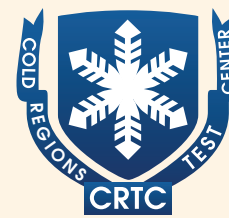
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Change of Command
at CRTC

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YPG seeks to continue advances in test science

By Mark Schauer

On any given day, scores of tests of military equipment are underway at YPG to ensure quality and reliability.

Whether an artillery projectile or a guided parachute, YPG test engineers use optical tracking and telemetry systems to gather data in real-time while watching a projectile or parachute in flight on television screens in mission control rooms often many miles away from the item being evaluated.

Frequently overlooked is the science and technological advancements that have made these extraordinary capabilities part of the proving ground's daily mission for decades. In the 1970's, YPG testers utilized then state-of-the-art laser trackers coupled with room-sized computers and specialized software engineered at the proving ground to test global positioning technology, a ground breaking advance taken for granted today.

YPG commander Col. Reed Young intends to see that YPG remains on the cutting edge of test science far into the future, and believes the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Army Research Office (ARO) in Durham, N.C., can be an important ally. ARO is responsible for pursuing far-reaching technological advances applicable to the military through grants to researchers at colleges and universities, nonprofit groups and private industry.

"There are real opportunities to have the Army Research Office support and collaborate with YPG as we pursue the science of test," said



With the purpose of discussing opportunities on which the Army Research Office (ARO) and YPG might collaborate in the future, Dr. Randy Zachary (second from left) of ARO visited the proving ground in early June. PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER

Young. "We can work together in determining improvements we can make in the conduct of testing and how fundamental research benefits the conduct of tests here."

In early June, Dr. Randy Zachary, director of ARO's Information Science Directorate, visited Yuma Proving Ground to get an up-close and personal look at the proving ground's testing and capabilities. He took an over flight of YPG's vast test ranges, seeing YPG's airfields and gun positions, and spent time visiting YPG's combined maintenance

facility, an unmanned aircraft site and the Joint Experimentation Range Complex (JERC) sites, where he was impressed by the electronic capabilities unique among ranges within the Department of Defense.

"I learned things about the test facility I didn't know," he said. "I generally knew the kinds of things that take place here, but didn't know the specifics. I learned a great deal about some new capabilities and will share that with my staff."

ARO has outreach programs to a wide variety of science

and technology programs at colleges and universities throughout the country, and Young hopes increased awareness of the Army test community will encourage not only the recruitment of the best and brightest engineers and scientists in the field, but also advances in test science that will be applicable to YPG's mission.

"It could be instrumentation, algorithms, test methodologies and procedures, or how you construct evaluation for testing," he said. "We want to use our scientific and technological wherewithal to address future test challenges proactively instead of waiting for a high-priority system to arrive and grapple with it then."

"It is a challenging problem because technology is changing and you're trying to figure out how to test future systems that don't yet exist," agreed Zachary. "That's a tall order."

BIRTHDAY

FROM COVER



Proud to be Americans are Charlie Poulton (right) and YPG's youngest Soldier, Spec. Richard Robertson.

PHOTOS BY LUCY RIVERA



Members of the Yuma Proving Ground Color Guard proudly post the colors at the start of the ceremony held at the YPG Cactus Cafe on June 14.

Crime prevention measures

Submitted by Angelia Pinto,
Directorate of Emergency Services

There have been a string of recent thefts on Yuma Proving Ground. The Directorate of Emergency Services and the YPG Security Office is taking an aggressive approach to deterring such crimes.

Within the next few days you will see crime prevention measures being implemented at various locations throughout the installation. For instance, we will be conducting random outbound vehicle inspections at the access control points. Additionally, we will be increasing overt and covert security force patrols and surveillance of Army facilities during after-hour periods and weekends to improve

deterrence and prevention of crimes. We will also have the support of other investigative and local law enforcement agencies.

The theft of government property is a federal offense. An employee who steals government property is subject to adverse civilian personnel action, to include removal from federal service for a first offense. The employee is also subject to criminal prosecution by state and federal civilian law enforcement authorities, which could result in the employee being imprisoned for up to 10 years and paying a significant fine.

In order to deter these thefts from continuing, cooperation from the workforce is appreciated. If you see something that looks suspicious, say something or report it to the YPG Police Desk at 328-2720.

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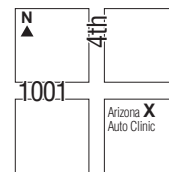
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A close-up view of CRTC's recent change of command

By Clara Zachgo

The reins of the Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) were entrusted to a new leader at the Bolio Lake Test Complex this past May 22nd, as the men and women of the center, along with many guests, welcomed incoming commander Lt. Col. Charles H. May. He accepted the colors during the ceremony from host Commander Col. Reed F. Young, Yuma Proving Ground commander. May brings with him significant program management skills, Army test skills as an Engineer Officer and Acquisition Officer, and a tremendous reputation.

Young said, "This event formalizes the transition of responsibilities and authorities between two outstanding and distinguished leaders." He praised the accomplishments of outgoing commander Lt. Col. John Cavado by saying, "The magnificent leadership and superb dedication of Lt. Col. Cavado led to CRTC's success over the past three years—a job well done."

After welcoming May, his wife Delinda, and their two sons, Gareth and Ethan, Young concluded his remarks with a challenge, directing his words to May. "My challenge to you is to use your leadership acumen

and skills to leverage the awesome talent within this test center; to take CRTC even beyond its current accomplishments."

Outgoing Commander Cavado has served in a variety of positions since his commission in 1991, including in Special Forces. He said commanding CRTC was the best assignment of his career. "I have never been so privileged and honored to be associated with a group of people or more proud to have been a part of your organization—the Rugged Professionals," he said at the ceremony, later concluding his remarks with words from Dr. Seuss -- "don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

May is a graduate of the University of North Florida and received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. In 2001, he joined the Army's Acquisition Corps. Most recently, he served as a test officer in the Maneuver Support and Sustainment Test Directorate of the Army Operational Test Command (OTC). His time at OTC included a tour to Kabul, Afghanistan, as the deputy commander with an Army Test and Evaluation Command Forward Operational Assessment Team.

During his remarks, May said,

"Personally and professionally, I am humbled and excited to be part of this all-star team." During the next few years, "I look forward to continuing to nurture, cultivate and achieve a progressive vision that puts the needs of the Cold Regions Test Center first."

The Cold Regions Test Center is a subordinate command of Yuma Proving Ground and the winter test element of the Army Test and Evaluation Command. Its mission is to plan, conduct, and report the results of winter, mountain, and northern environment phases of developmental testing. CRTC provides quality testing by experienced cold weather experts and is the Department

of Defense's only natural, cold environment test center.



Assuming responsibilities of the new leader for the Cold Regions Test Center at Bolio Lake Test Complex in Alaska, is Lt. Col. Charles May (right) as he accepts the flag from Col. Reed Young, YPG commander, during the change of command ceremony on May 22.

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Explorers call YPG 'home' for a week

By Lucy Rivera

It is early morning and a group of Explorers staying at Yuma Proving Ground at the Forward Operating Base are up and breaking a sweat before starting a day full of classes and law enforcement training.

The Yuma County Law Enforcement Explorers Academy is a week long training program that brings Explorers together from different agencies to learn and experience law enforcement operations. This year, the academy was hosted by the sheriff's office, but responsibility for the annual event rotates to a different agency each year. Participation this year numbered 34 Explorers. They came from a variety of posts, including the Yuma County Sheriff's Office, Cocopah Police Department, Border Patrol, San Luis Police Department, Yuma

Police Department, and the Maricopa Police Department.

The academy is designed to give Explorers an understanding of what to expect when going into the law enforcement field. "Overall, it is to prepare them for a future career in law enforcement," said Deputy Frank Flores from the sheriff's office. "No matter what career they choose, they will be successful because of what we have taught them."

Explorers meet throughout the year within their individual posts performing training activities. During the summer, the agencies come together for a week long academy at a military installation. This year's academy took place at Yuma Proving Ground in early June.

"It was the perfect setting for the type of environment we wanted to create," said Flores.

At YPG, the typical day started

at 4:30 a.m. with physical fitness training. Once showered, changed, and fed, classes began with one topic after another which included history of law enforcement, ethics, traffic stops, active shooting scenarios, defensive tactics and much more. A variety of scenarios gave the Explorers an opportunity to apply what they learned. The week ended with a formal graduation ceremony.

Matthew Sousa, a senior at Gila Ridge High School, has been an Explorer for six months. "I've learned discipline, how to keep my body healthy, to communicate on the radio, and make traffic stops," he said. Sousa has already enlisted in

see **EXPLORERS** page 10

A young female explorer performs push-ups during training received at YPG.

PHOTO BY LUCY RIVERA



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YPG testing critical to

By Mark Schauer

Technological change alters the world and becomes so common that radically transformative inventions eventually are taken for granted. The Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) system, tested at YPG for 16 years, is such an example.

Currently, comprised of 31 satellites in orbit around the earth, the GPS system allows anyone with a handheld receiver to pinpoint their exact geographic location with astonishing accuracy. Today, the technology is used not only by military personnel and testers at Yuma Proving Ground, but by millions of civilian consumers

around the world as a navigational aid in automobiles, aircraft, and boats, by owners as a means of tracking lost pets wearing a GPS-enabled collar, and even by hikers and casual participants in the pastime called “geocaching,” a treasure hunting game that utilizes GPS coordinates. Few, if any of these users realize YPG tested GPS from the earliest days of its existence.

“It was the biggest single project the proving ground was ever involved in,” Bob Mai, then associate director of the Range Support Directorate, said in a 1994 interview. “It paid a lot of bills for YPG for a long time.”

Yuma Proving Ground was the home of GPS testing from 1974 through 1990. YPG testers attracted the program by demonstrating their ability to collect more data at a lower price than other test ranges. Whereas



Senator Barry Goldwater listens to buzzing sounds coming from a man-portable GPS receiver under test at the proving ground. The testing generated a great amount of high level interest. Note how much smaller GPS gear is today!

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

other test ranges of the period gathered position, acceleration, and trajectory data of test items with electro-optical trackers called Cinetheodolites, recently completed testing of the AH-56 Cheyenne attack helicopter had given YPG an edge. The proving ground owned and used a then state-of-the-art laser tracker that had a far greater range and comparable accuracy to a battery of Cinetheodolites. Further, engineers at the proving ground had adapted room-sized 1960s vintage IBM computers with specialized software that allowed them to collect test data from range instruments and onboard telemetry devices in real-time, a groundbreaking advancement that dramatically reduced the time and cost of testing.

“YPG didn’t have

supercomputers,” said Bill Heidner, curator of YPG’s Heritage Center.

“We had sharp people writing algorithms for hand-me-down computers that made real-time data reduction possible.”

“We pushed the state-of-the-art,” added retired Air Force Maj. Jim Bybee, who worked on the GPS program from 1975 to 1982 and retired as officer-in-charge of GPS testing at YPG. “YPG was already ahead of the state-of-the-art, which is why the Air Force came here. That they had laser trackers integrated into real-time

was a tremendous cost savings.”

When evaluations began in March 1977, the launch of the first GPS satellite was more than a year away, and, like today, a GPS user needs coordinates from four satellites to get an accurate location reading. YPG testers coped with this by creating an “inverted range” made up of satellite simulators located in ground-based shelters at four different places. Ground tests of the infant technology were conducted from modified two-and-a-half ton trucks, and aircraft used for testing were outfitted with antennas on the bottom of aircraft to pick up simulated signals from the ground

receivers. The earliest GPS systems were so large that a UH-1 helicopter,

“The UH-1 and the C-141 were real workhorses for us. But the C-141 cargo plane was large enough to fit three different contractor systems inside, so we got a lot of bang for the buck with them.”

— Air Force Maj. Jim Bybee, Retired

which carried as many as 14 troops at a time when used in Vietnam, could only accommodate a pilot and two passengers when carrying a GPS device. By September 1977 over 70 test flights with UH-1 helicopters and F-4, P-3, and C-141 airplanes had been conducted.

“The UH-1 and the C-141 were real workhorses for us,” said Bybee. “But the C-141 cargo plane was large enough to fit three different contractor systems inside, so

development of GPS



In February of 1978, Cpt. John Morris wears a Dragon missile modified jump pack, equipped with assorted GPS gear in the bags.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

we got a lot of bang for the buck with them.”

As the Air Force began to launch GPS satellites, evaluators used position information beamed from the satellites instead of the inverted range receivers. This created new test challenges, however.

“The satellites gradually change position,” said Bybee. “As they launched more satellites, we had a pretty good test period for three or four hours per day. But every two weeks we had to move back our testing by half an hour. We went around the clock at least three times in the time I was here.”

Though the continual changing of work hours was difficult for the scores of range workers involved

with the testing, YPG’s vaunted flexibility in range scheduling always gave testers the opportunity to make the most of the situation. This was accomplished even as another monumental program, the Apache Longbow attack helicopter, began testing at the proving ground in the late 1970s.

“The satellites being available for only a few hours a day gave us an urgent requirement to test whenever we could,” said Bybee. “We also didn’t have to compete for range space at YPG. The ranges at other locations were consistently tied up, but at YPG we always had top priority.”

By the early 1980s, GPS technology had been miniaturized to the point that a man portable backpack weighing a mere 25 pounds began testing with Soldiers at the proving ground. This testing was conducted in addition to that involving aircraft, all at a fast pace despite the fact there wasn’t an active war in progress.

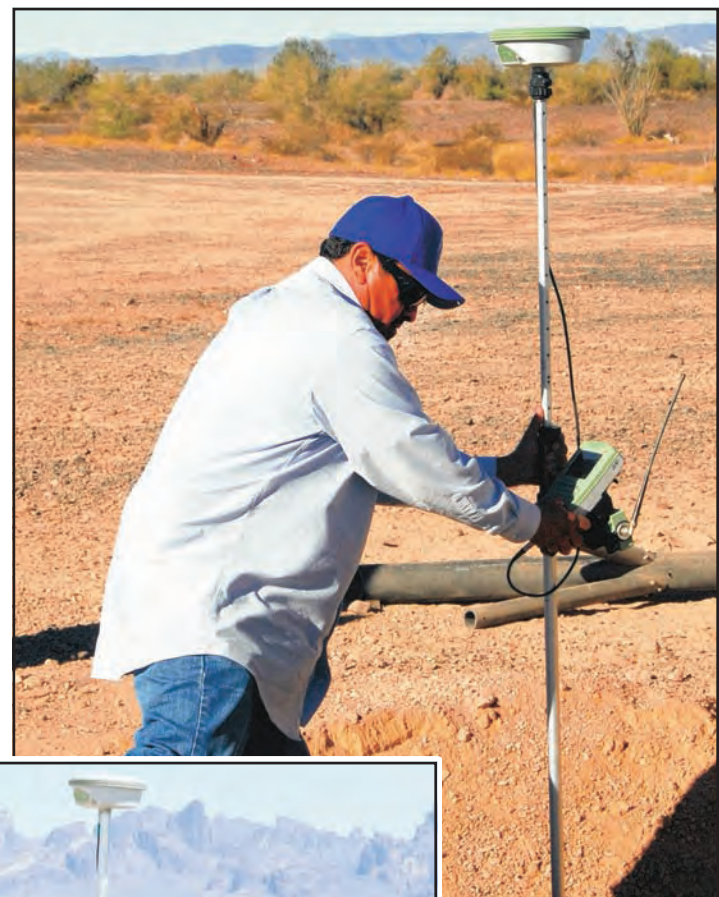
“We had a good group of people at YPG and in the program office,” said Bybee. “There was a lot of high level interest in the program and everyone was pretty attuned to how important the project was.”

Testing at Yuma Proving Ground was critical to the development of the GPS technology so commonly used today. Just as YPG’s testing prowess was put to good use then, it continues

this same way today and will continue to serve the nation in the future.

A YPG worker uses a GPS receiver to pinpoint the location of a mortar round that impacted safely within a designated area on the Kofa Firing Range.

PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER

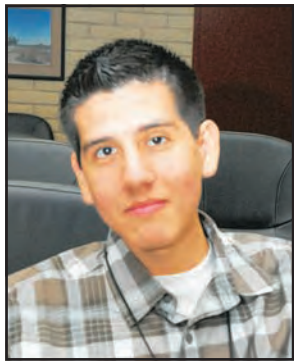


In recent years, workers Jerry Wells, geodetics surveyor, (left) and Keith Allen, test officer, hold a GPS receiver at a drop zone to accurately map coordinates at the conclusion of a test drop.

PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER

VIEWPOINTS

We talked to employees hired for the summer at YPG. In addition to discussing what they plan to do with their earnings, we asked: If stranded on a tropical island, where would you want it to be and who would you like to be with?



Jonny Palafox
Engineering Aid

I will probably go fishing with my first paycheck. I want to make a big fishing trip and catch some good fish. With the rest of the money, I will save for school. About being stranded on an island, it would be somewhere in Japan. I always wanted to go there to see how they drift their cars. I want to learn how to do that.



Jonathan Green
Engineering Technician

With the money I earn this summer, I plan to save most of it to pay for school in the fall and the spring at the University of Arizona in Tucson. And, if I were stranded on a tropical island, it would be in Hawaii, because it would be easy to adjust to and I'm more familiar with that island. I would probably take my family and close friends.

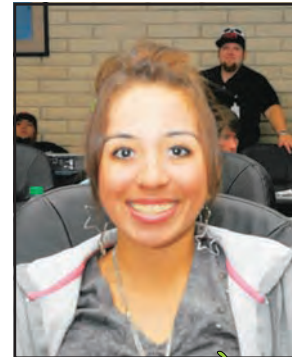
Jonathan Kennedy
Aviation, Sensor Testing

My plans are to use the money I earn this summer to pay for my school necessities next year. And, if I were stranded on a tropical island, it would be Hawaii and I would want Beyonce to be with me because that would be pretty awesome.



Priscilla Loredo
Engineering Technician

I plan to save all of the money I earn this summer so I can pay off my loans. I will also put some money towards my retirement. I know this sounds early for me but it is better to start early and have it when I need it. I'll probably spend very little of it. If stranded on an island, it would probably be Oahu so I could track down my uncle and cousins. Since they don't come visit me in the mainland, I'll go see them.



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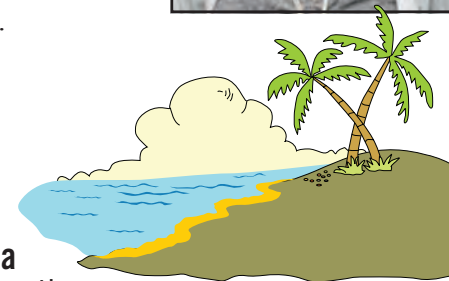
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First couple of paychecks, I plan to pay my bills then put aside money for Christmas and next semester's tuition. With the rest of the money, I plan to go to San Diego to escape the Yuma heat, and then come back to my wonderful government job.



Martin Velasquez
Engineer Technician, Optics

The money I earn this summer will pay for my school needs next year, gas for my vehicle and all that good stuff. If stranded on an island, I will probably want to be stranded with my fiancée. I am not sure where, maybe Hawaii because I hear it's pretty nice.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Faithfulness is an enduring foundation

By Maj. Loren Hutsell, Post Chaplain

On June 14th the Army celebrated its 237th birthday. For well over two centuries our Army has been effective at completing its mission, "To Fight and Win our Nation's Wars." The Army has exhibited an enduring ability to accomplish its mission. What makes an organization extremely effective for such a long period of time? It has often been said that an organization is only as good as its people. What exactly is it about the character of its people that contributes to its success? A key characteristic, I believe, is faithfulness.

Faithfulness is at times a forgotten word in our society. To be a faithful person means that you are accountable for your commitments, choices, actions, and words. Someone who is faithful accepts responsibility for what has or has not been done. He or she sleeps well at night, not because mistakes haven't been made but because he or she will fulfill what was consented to be done. Even if unexpected factors, pressures, or costs are encountered, a faithful person will see the corrections through and not leave others to pick up the pieces.

The ancient Greeks had a race that added a new challenge to the usual elements of speed and endurance. Each racer carried a lighted torch as he began the race. The runner's goal was to finish the race with his torch still burning. If the torch went out, he was disqualified.

Faithfulness invites us to run the same kind of race. We take on our responsibilities and commitments and strive to see them through regardless of the circumstances. It is an obligation from within. It is doing more than what is expected.

President Woodrow Wilson said,

"We have done our duty, only when we have done that which completes the service, when we have put the best that was into the task, our hearts." To be a faithful person means to go beyond the standard - to put our hearts and passion into what we do, to keep our torch burning, whether it is at work or in our relationships.

Faithfulness also looks to the future. It looks beyond today. It is illustrated by a man who stopped to watch a little league game. He asked one of the children for the score. "Well," replied the child, "we are losing 18 to nothing." "Well then, I must say you don't look discouraged," said the man. "Discouraged?" the boy questioned. "Why should we be discouraged? We haven't come to bat yet!" Faithfulness is a hopeful walk that keeps moving forward to a destination.

Perhaps as you read this article you are going through a difficult time in your life. You want to live life with the passion of faithfulness, yet the struggles of today make it difficult clearly to see a positive future. It is encouraging to know that when we struggle, are overwhelmed, or need to be more faithful in our lives that God desires to intervene, help us, and accompany us through the struggle. He asks that we call upon Him in our time of need, put our trust in Him, and place our lives in His care. He will bring us through the difficult times. The Apostle Paul reminds us that God will be faithful to complete the good work He began in us (Philippians 1:6). When we struggle faithfully to "keep the torch lit" in our lives, we remember that God is always faithful, even when we are not. The One who is always faithful, enables us to be faithful.



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SAFETY CORNER

Safety tips to avoid heat strokes

Heat stroke is the most serious heat illness. It happens when the body can't control its own temperature and its temperature rises rapidly. Sweating fails and the body cannot cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency care is not given.

Warning signs of heat stroke vary but can include:

- Red, hot, and dry skin (no sweating)
- Rapid, strong pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness, nausea, confusion, or unconsciousness
- An extremely high body temperature (above 103°F)

If you suspect someone has heat

stroke, follow these instructions:

- Immediately call for medical attention.
- Get the person to a cooler area.
- Cool the person rapidly by immersing him/her in cool water or a cool shower, or spraying or sponging him/her with cool water. If the humidity is low, wrap the person in a cool, wet sheet and fan him/her vigorously.
- Monitor body temperature and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101-102°F.
- Do not give the person alcohol to drink. Get medical assistance as soon as possible.
- If emergency medical personnel do not arrive quickly, call the hospital emergency room for further instructions.

USAYPG Armed Forces Voters Week Activities June 28 - July 3

The Installation Voting Assistance Officers will be on-site to provide assistance with Federal Voting information and completion of Federal Postcard Applications (FPCA)

Thursday, June 28, 2012

0900-1000
Airborne Test Force (Bldg 2970)
Vet Clinic (Bldg 226)

1100-1200
Health Clinic (Bldg 990)

Tuesday, July 3, 2012

1130-1300
Desert Oasis Community Center

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Bldg. 501

Monday - Thursday : 0630-1700

928-328-2470 ext. 6161

usarmy.ypg.imcom.mbx.voting-assistance@mail.mil
www.fvap.gov

EXPLORERS

FROM PAGE 5

the Marine Corp and hopes to join the Border Patrol afterward.

To be eligible for the program, applicants must be a student between

the ages of 14 and 20. They must have a grade point average equivalent to a "C" or higher and must be a U.S citizen or permanent resident with no criminal background. Each agency has additional requirements. The Explorers are part of the Boy Scouts of America program.

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