

# THE OUTPOST

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

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## CRTC provides unique training opportunity for Alaska Soldiers

By Clara Zachgo

The mountainous terrain of Afghanistan can be challenging for some of the military's larger vehicles. Driving on narrow, unimproved roads results all too often in overturned vehicles from a variety of perils. When this happens, Soldiers have to get those vehicles out. One thing that helps with this task is training in terrain similar to that in an operational environment, using the equipment they will need for these types of recoveries.

Soldiers from the 25th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) out of Fort Wainwright recently spent a week learning how to recover vehicles from situations like these using an M88

Armored Recovery Vehicle at the Army's Cold Regions Test Center (CRTC) located near Fort Greely, Alaska.

The M88 is one of the

largest all-weather armored recovery vehicles currently in use and performs hoisting, winching, and towing operations in support of

battlefield rescue and recovery missions. The M88 is also equipped to provide maintenance support for the main battle tank family and

similar vehicles. CRTC owns the only two M88s in the state of Alaska, making them a valuable training asset for all nearby units.

A handful of Soldiers from the BSB used the M88 regularly in previous deployments to Afghanistan, but, until recently, training opportunities were limited and most Soldiers had to learn in the field. Sgt. 1st Class Erick Mitchell, senior non-commissioned officer and one of four Soldier instructors at CRTC, said this was a "unique, hands-on training opportunity that can't get anywhere else in Alaska."

Before this group of 20 Soldiers traveled to the test center, the group's knowledge of and skill level at operating an M88 was limited. "I would say

see **CRTC** page 2



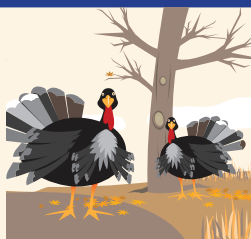
Training in terrain similar to that in an operational environment, Soldiers practice vehicle recovery in cold and snowy temperatures at Cold Regions Test Center located near Fort Greely.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO

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What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

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# CRTC

FROM COVER

75 percent of these guys never used an M88 before,” said Mitchell.

The main goal of the course was to give each Soldier “hands-on experience” on the M88 before the unit’s rotation through the National Training Center in California. The course, taught by the four experienced members of the group and CRTC’s Senior Test Non-Commissioned Officer Sgt. 1st Class John Schnering, covered drivers’ training, preventive maintenance



Alaska based Soldiers were given the opportunity of a “hands-on” experience on the M88. In this photo, two Soldiers perform boom operations training.

After a long week of training, Soldiers take time out for a group photo. Most of the Soldiers came to this training without ever before using an M88. As they leave, they say now that they have the snow down, next is mud operations.

checks and services, vehicle roll-overs, hasty recovery, and tandem recovery using an M984 Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT).

Spec. Shawn Griffin, one of the Soldiers who had deployed with an M88 to Afghanistan, was able to come to CRTC and help teach others how to operate the vehicle. However, this wasn’t just a teaching experience. “I learned more here that I had in my previous training assignments,” he said. He went on to say that the most valuable thing he learned was the use of basic issue items in maintaining the equipment.

Pvt. Patrick Perdue came to this training without ever having before using an M88. “There is a lot to learn,” he pointed out. “Now we can go back to our units with the experience and information to share it



Soldiers use field expedient methods to tow a Russian tank. The scenarios the Soldiers trained on were the likely things they will come across in a combat recovery situation, giving them real-world experience they can fall back on in future deployments.

U.S. ARMY PHOTOS

with others.”

On the last day of training, the students were able to put what they had learned to the test by performing recovery missions. “These missions and scenarios were the likely things Soldiers will come across in a combat recovery situation, giving them real-world experience they can fall back

on in future deployments,” explained Schnering.

After a long week of training, the Soldiers left CRTC with the hope they would be able to return in the spring for another round of training on the M88. “We got the snow this time; next time we want the mud,” said Mitchell with a smile.

## Holiday Hours For Your Yuma Proving Ground Commissary

**MONDAY NOV. 19:** 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

**TUESDAY NOV. 20:** 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY NOV. 21:** 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

**THURSDAY NOV. 22:** **CLOSED**

**FRIDAY NOV. 23:** **CLOSED**

**SATURDAY NOV. 24:** 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

**MONDAY DEC. 24:** 10 .AM. TO 4 P.M.

**TUESDAY DEC. 25:** **CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY DEC. 26:** 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

**THURSDAY DEC. 27:** 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

**FRIDAY DEC. 28:** 10 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

**SATURDAY DEC. 29:** 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

**MONDAY DEC. 31:** 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 1, 2013:** **CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY RESUME NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS**

*Happy Holidays From Everyone At Your  
Yuma Proving Ground Commissary!*



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# Squanto's Gift

By Chaplain Loren (Maj.) Hutsell

The pilgrims set ground at Plymouth, Mass., on December 11, 1620. They experienced a very harsh winter and almost half of the 102 pilgrims who arrived on the Mayflower died.

The following spring, one individual in particular took an interest in their plight and greatly provided aid. A Patuxet Indian named Squanto, helped the remaining survivors plant their crops. He taught them how to plant corn, beans, squash and use fish fertilizer for a more bountiful harvest. In the fall, the pilgrim colony harvested their crops and they celebrated with a feast. They invited Squanto, along with 91 other Native American Indians who helped them to survive their first year. They celebrated their success

for several days, feasting on the crops they had planted as well as serving up turkey, venison, goose, lobster, and dried berries.

It is believed the Pilgrims would not have survived another winter without the help received from Squanto and others. Such is the story that is part of our country's heritage. It is a story that recognizes the importance of giving, of being aware of those who are in need, and lending a helping hand. It is a reminder to us all of the positive value and effect that our actions can have toward others. Even today we continue to honor that occasion. We suspend our work in order to feast and celebrate with friends at Thanksgiving. Because of Squanto's giving and selfless acts of service, we continue to reap the reward. The celebration continues.

Squanto's actions remind me

of two basic principles of giving. First, we are to give out of our own capabilities. In other words, we give from the skills and gifts that God has granted to us. Squanto helped the Pilgrims with their crops because he was knowledgeable about farming. Likewise, we give from our own abilities. Perhaps we are gifted mechanically and can help someone fix their car, or maybe we like to cook and can make a meal for someone that is in need. Second, we are to be open and accessible to others. When we make connections with people in our community we recognize

needs and make ourselves available when difficulty arises. The positive outcome is that long-term friendships are made, community is built, and the resulting goodwill has long-lasting effects.

This season of giving provides ample opportunity for us to reach out to others. There are various organized opportunities in which we can participate. Let's join in on one or two and lend a helping hand. Just as Squanto's gift to the pilgrims echoes in our lives today, we give the gift of ourselves in reaching out to others in need.

**Next Outpost deadline is noon  
NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**Sexual Assault Hotline:**  
920-3104 or 328-3224;

**Report Domestic Violence:**  
328-2720 or 328-3224

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YPG children learn about fire prevention

October was Fire Prevention Month and the YPG fire Department held an open house at fire Station #2 in the Main Administrative Area. Over 40 children accompanied by their parents had the opportunity to learn what to do in case of a fire in their homes. They were given a tour of the facility and Sparky passed out firefighter hats and other fire safety trinkets to all the children. (Photo by Yolie Canales)

## THE OUTPOST

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Visit our website at: [www.yuma.army.mil](http://www.yuma.army.mil)

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## American Education Week



12-16 November 2012

“Army Continuing Education Preparing Today’s Soldiers for Tomorrow’s Opportunities”

### Schedule of Events:

- Monday, 12 Nov 2012: **Veteran’s Day Observed**, Thank you for Serving!
- Tuesday, 13 Nov 2012: **Information Table**, Commissary, bldg. 536, 1000-1300 hrs
- Wednesday, 14 Nov 2012: **Brown Bag Workshop**, Education Center, bldg. 501, 1100-1300 hrs  
\*Bring your lunch and get your education questions answered. Receive assistance setting up your GoArmyEd Account, learn about MOS-Related Degrees, Service Members Opportunity Colleges (SOC), understanding your AARTS Transcript, VA, TAP and more!  
*Light Refreshments & Cake will be available.*
- Thursday, 15 Nov 2012: **Information Table**, ROC Atrium, bldg. 2105, 1100-1300 hrs  
\*Arizona Western College will be available as well for Registration and Information on 15 Nov 2012.

For more information or to sign-up for the Brown Bag Workshop (walk-ins welcome), please contact the YPG Education Center at (928) 328-3926 or [usarmy.ypg.imcom.mbx.education-center@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.ypg.imcom.mbx.education-center@mail.mil)

## Social Security Column

### The Medicare age is still 65

If you’re in your sixties, you probably know that the age to receive full retirement benefits has changed. But it’s important to remember that the age to begin receiving Medicare has not — it is still 65. Even if you have decided to wait until after you are age 65 to apply for retirement benefits, most people should start getting Medicare coverage at age 65.

If you would like to begin your Medicare coverage when you first become eligible, we suggest that you apply within three months of reaching age 65. You can do it online in as little as 10 minutes at [www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly).

At the website, you’ll find more than just the online Medicare application. You’ll also find information about Medicare, and have the opportunity to watch some short videos about applying for Medicare online. One is a family reunion for the cast of The Patty Duke Show. In another, Patty Duke and George Takei go boldly where you should be going — online.

Why go online to apply for Medicare? Because it’s fast, easy, and secure. You don’t need an

appointment and you can avoid waiting in traffic or in line. As long as you have ten minutes to spare, you have time to complete and submit your online Medicare application.

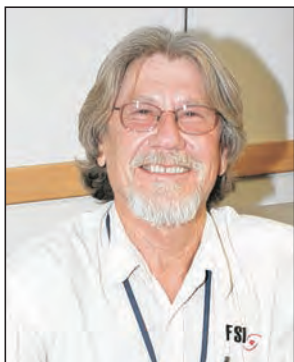
People who started receiving Social Security retirement or disability benefits before age 65 do not need to apply; they will be automatically enrolled in Medicare.

There is no additional charge for Medicare hospital insurance (Part A) since you already paid for it by working and paying Medicare tax. However, there is a monthly premium for medical insurance (Part B). If you already have other health insurance when you become eligible for Medicare, you should consider whether you want to apply for the medical insurance. To learn more about Medicare and some options for choosing coverage, read the online publication, Medicare, at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html) or visit [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov).

To learn more about applying for Medicare Only using the online application, please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly).

## VIEWPOINTS

Thanksgiving Day is when many families get together and feast on a good homemade meal. Members of the YPG workforce were asked: what are their plans and do they include a family traditional meal or a traditional gathering location.



**David Speakes**  
Locksmith - FSI

I will be spending Thanksgiving with a traditional family gathering. We will have more food than is necessary, but at the same time, reflect on what the past year has brought us. What was lost and what was gained. I will be thankful for what is left.



**Jacob Kuntzelman**  
Civil Engineer - FSI

Unfortunately, I won't be able to visit my family for Thanksgiving this year, however, I will continue the family tradition of stuffing my face full of turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie!

**Lupe Lored**  
Administrative Assistant - YPG Health Clinic

We are anxiously waiting for our daughter to be home from college for Thanksgiving (we miss her so much), and getting together with good friends. This year, I'm not cooking at all, so we'll miss the leftovers! We will also head out to San Diego to celebrate our grandbaby's first birthday!



**Brian Baker**  
Administrative Assistant - DPW

I plan to spend the holiday with my family in Tucson. My grandparents will be visiting from Sacramento, Calif., and it will be the first Thanksgiving in a new house and my first since moving back from Washington. Hopefully, this is the beginning of a family tradition.



**Sandy Lalonde**  
Service Order Dispatcher - FSI

Every Thanksgiving my family gets together. My mom cooks tons of delicious food, we all sit around the table to give thanks and after dinner, we play Christmas music and decorate the Christmas tree, unfortunately, this year it will be a little different. My brother, who joined the Army will be deploying to Afghanistan in December, so our family will be heading east to celebrate with him prior to his deployment. No matter where we are or what we are doing, we are truly blessed to be together and although this year will not be our traditional Thanksgiving at mom's, we still have so much to be thankful for.



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# Yuma Proving Ground honorably

By Yolie Canalez

**Editor's Note:** Veterans Day is intended to honor and thank all military personnel who served the United States in all wars, particularly living veterans. It is marked by parades and church services and in many places the American flag is raised at half mast. A period of silence lasting two minutes may be held at 11a.m. Some schools are closed on Veterans Day, while others do not close, but choose to mark the occasion with special assemblies or other activities. The Outpost, salutes its veteran workforce by highlighting a few members with a brief question and answer on their military service experience and the benefits afforded to each of them for serving their country.

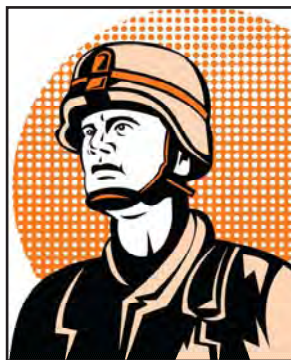
**Brief history:** On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations came into effect. On November 11, 1919, Armistice Day was commemorated for the first time. In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed the day should be "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory". There were plans for parades, public meetings and a brief suspension of business activities at 11am.

## Veterans responses are as follows:



**Name:** Alice D Hargreaves  
**Job title:** Equipment specialist  
**Rank:** Specialist  
**Who inspired you to join the military?**  
 My mother  
**What did you gain from your service time?**  
 An appreciation for what the military needs are and doing what can be done to give to them.  
**Does being a veteran have its benefits?**  
 For one thing, pride, some in myself, but mostly for anyone who has, or is giving even more of themselves than I ever did.

**Name:** Claudia Cain  
**Job title:** Security guard  
**Rank:** Specialist 3  
**What inspired you to join the military?**  
 Becoming an American Citizen. The day I swore in as a citizen is the day I went and signed up for the Air Force.  
**What did you gain from your service time?**  
 Maturity, and self discipline.  
**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes. I went to places I never would've gone to otherwise and got to see things, meet different people and experience a different kind of life.



**Name:** David A Hoffman  
**Job title:** Test Program Management Officer  
**Rank:** Master Sergeant  
**What inspired you to join the military?** Travel and adventure  
**Would you recommend military service to others?** I feel every able body owes a debt to their country, either through military or public health service.

**What did you gain from your service time?** Self motivation, love of country and teamwork

**Name:** Rick J. Bessett  
**Job title:** Chief, Business Operations, FMWR  
**Rank:** U.S. Army, Sergeant  
**What did you gain from your service time?** Discipline, camaraderie, sense of duty, direction.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Participating on the 4th Infantry Division's Mountain Rescue Team in Colorado Springs, Colo. Learned how to mountaineer, rappel, had the opportunity to assist hikers in danger/distress and was part of an elite team.



**Name:** Charles Beasley  
**Job title:** Fire Inspector  
**Rank:** Sergeant, U.S. Army  
**What inspired you to join the military?** Family tradition. I grew up as an Army brat. My Dad served for over 22 years. My family history can be traced back to early America were my forefathers all served as members of the Army.  
**What did you gain from your service time?**  
 Thanks to Uncle Sam, I had the chance to go to one of the best fire schools in the world and with that knowledge, I have turned it into almost a 30 year career of helping others.

Also the travel was outstanding!

**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes, I have a feeling of achievement for myself, my family and my county. If it were not for veterans, past and future, our lives would be a lot different.

**Name:** Steven Monroe Edmonds  
**Job title:** Mission controller  
**Rank:** Specialist 5  
**What did you gain from your service time?**  
 Broadened my outlook on life including the harsh reality that exists around us.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Funeral detail to Arlington.



# salutes its veteran workforce



**Name:** Don Delbert McCravy  
**Job title:** Technical writer, TRAX  
**Rank:** Commander (O-5), U.S. Navy  
**What inspired you to join the military?** It was the height of the Vietnam conflict and I wanted to do my part. My younger brother was already in the Navy, my father had been in the Navy, and I had an uncle who retired as a Captain (O-6) from the Navy and was a WWII hero.

**Would you recommend military service to others?** Yes, I would. It's a great place to find out what the real world is like.

**What did you gain from your service time?** A greater appreciation for the freedoms that so many of my comrades have fought and died for.

**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes. I stand a little taller and straighter when the flag passes and when the National Anthem is played.

**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?**

The time I spent on active duty during the Vietnam war; I felt I was doing my part to bring more of our troops home alive, just like I do today at YPG.

**Name:** Kevin A Enquist

**Job title:** Electronics technician, TRAX.

**Rank:** Master Sergeant USMC, retired

**What inspired you to join the military?** I would like to say it was duty and the honor of defending my country but it was simply, opportunity. I lived in a farming community and I wasn't a farmer.

**Would you recommend military service to others?** Yes, especially to young people that

haven't found their niche. The military is a great place to find out what you are made of. You might not stay in but service will open your eyes to what is happening in the rest of the world.

**What did you gain from your service time?** A mindset that allows me to adapt to any situation and the determination to finish any task that comes my way.

**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes. I'm part of a large family of veterans. You always have someone you can talk to that went through the same things as you. It's like having brothers and sisters all over the country.

**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?**

It was the travel. I have been lucky to visit more countries than I can count on my fingers and toes and most of yours.



**Name:** Erik Nelson

**Job title:** Contract specialist

**Rank:** Specialist 4

**What inspired you to join the military?** My family. Pretty much every male has served. My grandfathers were in the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and others, so it is really an expectation.

**What did you gain from your service time?** A confidence that I can achieve any objective I set my mind to.



**Name:** Jeff Frazer

**Job title:** Telecommunications manager

**Rank:** Sergeant First Class (Ret), U.S. Army

**What inspired you to join the military?** To pursue adventure and the profession of arms.

**Would you recommend military service to others?** Yes, but not everyone is suited to be a warrior.

**Does being a veteran have its benefits?**

Yes, there are many benefits, but a comfortable retirement sums them all up.

**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?**

The most rewarding was being selected to be an IED Master Gunner and Small Arms Readiness Instructor for 1st Army during Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. The lesson plans and TTP's I developed, and the Training, I gave face-to-face to approximately 35,000 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen over a three year period directly reduced their IED casualties.

**Name:** Julio Dominguez

**Job title:** Technical Director, YPG

**Rank:** Sergeant, USMC

**What inspired you to join the military?** 1) I wanted to serve my country and 2) College was not an option for me at the time. Growing up in the late 60s and early 70s, many of the people I knew who did not go to college were being drafted for Vietnam, so military service was almost a foregone conclusion for me.

**What did you gain from your service time?** I gained many things. Among them; lasting friendships, exceptional mentorship, the opportunity to be on a great team, and a chance to see the world beyond southwest New Mexico.

**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes. There are tangible benefits like guaranteed home loans and education benefits but, for me and other vets I know, the lessons I learned about selfless service, leadership, and digging deeply to overcome obstacles and accomplish missions have been very valuable way beyond the Marine Corps.

**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?**

In retrospect, my entire enlistment was rewarding. Even the chaotic arrival at recruit training as a 17-year old was rewarding even if only for comedy value.



**Name:** Frederick L. Chritian

**Job title:** Engineer technician

**Rank:** U.S. Army, Staff Sergeant

**Would you recommend military service to others?** Yes. Service your country and get schooling.

**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Being a telecommunication instructor, and having some of your students wanting to work for you.

# It's Trick or Treat time!

There were pirates, witches, princesses, hula dancers, superman, wonder woman, firefighters, cowboys, and so many other different characters marching in the Child Development Center's (CDC) Halloween Parade. Participants ranged from ages 6 months to four year old, and included Mommies and Daddies too. The annual parade led by YPG's Emergency Services began at the CDC and marched through the Main Administrative Areas.

PHOTOS BY YOLIE CANALES



continues on page 11

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# WORKFORCE

FROM PAGE 7



**Name:** Lasheena Scott  
**Job title:** Procurement technician, Contracting  
**Rank:** Sergeant, U.S. Army  
**What inspired you to join the military?** I was in ROTC in school and loved everything the military stood for.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** It was going through Marine Corps Boot Camp in Parris Island, S.C. The training was life changing. I was also stationed in Okinawa, Japan for two years. It was a great experience.

**Name:** Glenna "Maria" Davis-Johnson  
**Job title:** Engineering technician  
**Rank :** U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class  
**What inspired you to join the military?** Travel! I lived in Sicily, Italy, and flew all over Europe as aircrew. I was an Aviation Metal-Smith & Hydraulics mechanic and worked on prop, turbo-prop, and jet aircraft and helicopters.  
**Would you recommend military service to others?** Indeed, I would. I tested three times during the Vietnam War and someone always talked me out of enlisting. I was 26 by the time I finally signed on the dotted line.

**What did you gain from your service time?** I had worked nine years in the photography field and expected to do that job. I wanted to join the Air Force but they had no billets. The Navy gave me hope. I went to an Air Squadron in Norfolk, Va., and fell in love with airplanes while working as a plane captain on the flight line. When I got out, I had two professions.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** When I was a junior E-5 and my husband and I learned we were starting a family, my shop supervisor said, "I guess we'll be transferring you to the tool room" (normal procedure if you were pregnant). I begged to stay in the shop but the supervisor said it's too dangerous for you with chemicals and crawling on top of the aircraft". He didn't want to see me go and decided to make me the supervisor even though the job was usually held by an E-6 or E-7. I was up for the challenge and he never regretted that decision.



**Name:** Victor Brown  
**Job title:** Supply specialist  
**Rank:** Marine, Gunnery Sergeant  
**What inspired you to join the military?** My uncle. He was a Marine in the late 70's  
**What did you gain from your service time?** Confidence, and a direction on where I wanted to be in life.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Service to my country and traveling. Without the Marine Corps, I probably wouldn't have had the chance to see the different countries that I've seen.



**Name:** Tom Harris  
**Job title:** Logistics  
**Rank:** Retired, Master Sgt, USAF  
**What did you gain from your service time?** A worldwide wealth of compressed experiences and insight into many different cultures and exposure to a multitude of values of each culture...  
**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes, I would not give up what I learned and experienced.

**Name:** Mike Hosko  
**Job title:** Instrumentation technician, TRAX  
**Rank:** Sergeant, USMC.  
**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** Yes. Military experience is a desirable trait for future employers.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Making many good friends that I still have 32 years later.



**Name:** Robert J. Archibale  
**Job title:** TRAX Test Officer, M&W Division, Mine Countermeasure Team  
**Rank:** Master Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps, Retired  
**What inspired you to join the military?** Several things; first my father who retired from the U.S. Army as a Lt. Col. Second, the desire to serve a greater cause than just myself. Last but not least, the desire to keep my country, family and friends free from tyranny.

**Would you recommend military service to others?** Definitely! It teaches a person a lot about themselves, but also teaches that it takes team work to accomplish the mission. It also teaches that it's not all about you, you have to think about the men and women serving with you.  
**Does being a veteran have its benefits?** I've had many family, friends, and complete strangers thank me for my service. You can't put a price on that. My military experience also helped get my current position at YPG. That's the best benefit.  
**What was the most rewarding experience during your service time?** Leading Marines in combat is at the top of the list. My experience in Desert Storm will be with me forever. The military is not unlike a professional sports team. During peace time you train constantly for the "big game." For those in the military, the big game is the combat experience. Don't take my answer the wrong way, nobody wants to fight or go to war, but somebody has to know how.



**Name:** Angelia Marie Pinto  
**Job title:** Chief, Plans Analysis Integrated Office  
**Rank:** Sergeant  
**What inspired you to join the military?** My father - He served during the Vietnam era and instilled a strong sense of duty in all of his children. We all served in different branches of service.

**What did you gain from your service time?** I joined when I was 17. Essentially, I grew into a young adult while serving. It helped me to be a better person. I learned teamwork and discipline, which have helped me in every aspect of life.

# Take time to honor all military veterans

By Chuck Wullenjohn

Nearly 100 years ago, a momentous event took place in a land area far from America's shores. The guns of a long and costly war were at last silenced, and for the first time in four years, all was truly quiet on the Western Front. The Great War to Save Democracy, the War to End all Wars, was over. The year was 1918. Before the guns stopped, 116,000 Americans died. But they were not forgotten. One year later, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11th as the date to honor them. The annual occasion was to be called Armistice Day.

Since then, both the scope and the name of the holiday have changed. Originally intended to recognize just those who died in World War I, today it honors all American veterans,

both living and dead, for every war and time period. We now know this holiday as Veterans Day.

On this day, it is well for us to step back to reflect on and honor the ideals our service men and women fought to protect, but which we as a society sometimes take for granted.

For Americans, the freedoms we enjoy are a way of life. We inherit these blessings from two legacies of our founding fathers: the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

But our founding fathers had a vision for our nation that encompassed more than just the rights of each individual. Their vision encompassed social equality, responsibility and a unified nation.

Millions of our countrymen have unselfishly fought and died over the years to protect the freedoms, rights

and beliefs for which our nation stands. Since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, almost three million American men and women have answered the call to arms - to serve their nation and do their jobs.

Every service member is a hero who deserves respect and gratitude every single day of the year, not just on patriotic holidays. When our sons and daughters volunteered for duty and put on that uniform - in other words, when they determined to make a sacrifice for the American family - they became the sons and daughters of all Americans.

Our veterans have inspiring stories to tell. In World War II, they defeated a fascist dictatorship in Germany responsible for the death of millions. Over the vast expanse of the Pacific, our veterans engaged in deadly jungle warfare and fought naval engagements that defeated Japan, another military dictatorship. In Korea and again in Vietnam

they fought to halt the spread of communism. Today, our forces are engaged in the deserts of Iraq and the rugged mountains of Afghanistan.

So what is a simple definition of the meaning of Veterans Day 2012? To me, it comes down to one straightforward sentence - freedom is not free.

The primary mission of U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is to ensure that the weapons and munitions issued to our combat forces operate precisely as they're supposed to - all the time, without fail. The Yuma Proving Ground workforce - your friends and neighbors - work each day to maintain this trust and make a vital contribution to our national defense. As the Army's busiest test center, the proving ground salutes all the veterans, of all military services, in Yuma County.

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**YPG Chapel Holiday & Christmas Calendar**

- Wednesday, 28 November @ 6:00 pm - Chapel Youth Program Kickoff
- Saturday, 1 December @ 8:00 am - Breakfast & decoration of the chapel
- Saturday, 8 December @ 11:30 - Catholic Mass (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)
- Sunday, 16 December @ 12:15 pm - Combined Fellowship Meal
- Monday, 24 December @ 6:00 pm - Candlelight Service
- Tuesday, 25 December @ 9:30 am - Catholic Mass
- Sunday, 30 December: Normal worship times for both Catholic and Protestant services
- Tuesday, 1 January @ 9:30 am - Catholic Mass

For questions or more information please call  
Chaplain Hutsell or SSG Mathis at (928) 328-3465.

# TRICK OR TREAT

FROM PAGE 8



## New Regulatory Guidance for Motorcycle & ATV use and PPE

### HELMETS

All personnel must wear DOT Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard certified helmets.

All helmets shall be properly fastened under the chin.

### EYE PROTECTION

Eye protection designed to meet or exceed ANSI Z87.1, for impact and shatter resistance includes goggles, wraparound glasses, or a full-face shield (properly attached to a helmet). A windshield or fairing does not constitute eye protection.

### FOOT PROTECTION

Foot protection includes sturdy over-the-ankle footwear that affords protection for the feet and ankles (durable leather or ballistic-type cloth athletic shoes that cover the ankles may be worn).

### PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Protective clothing includes long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, and full-fingered gloves or mittens made from leather or other abrasion-resistant material. Motorcycle jackets and pants constructed of abrasion-resistant materials such as leather, KevlarR, or CorduraR and containing impact-absorbing padding are strongly encouraged. Riders are encouraged to select PPE that incorporates fluorescent colors and retro-reflective material.

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