

(IMBL-PA)

(Dec. 22, 2014)

MEMORANDUM FOR Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, U.S. Army IMCOM Central Region,

ATTN: (IMCT-PA), Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-1223

SUBJECT: Nomination for Winifred "Wendy" Brown as Keith L. Ware Moss-Holland Civilian Journalist of the Year 2014.

1. As the sole journalist for Fort Bliss' newspaper, the Fort Bliss Bugle, Wendy Brown consistently produces more stories and photographs for the newspaper than any other journalist on the installation. She juggles several assignments every week and always makes her deadlines with high-quality stories and photographs.
2. When installation officials counted the number of stories in the Bugle this year, they found Fort Bliss Garrison contributed significantly more stories than any other unit on the post, and this is largely due to Ms. Brown's work.
3. Ms. Brown's editors have commented they barely have to edit her stories, and when it comes time to edit the pages the day before publication, she can often be found double checking information in her stories. The result is that her stories are accurate and free of errors.
4. Outside of work, Ms. Brown enjoys staying in shape and visiting national and state parks in the area, and she shares information about her travels with the Fort Bliss community via the newspaper. For example, Ms. Brown completed the 26.2-mile Bataan Memorial Death March in 2014, and not only wrote a third-person account of the event, but provided photos she took along the way. In addition, Brown has written detailed stories about four national and state parks in the Fort Bliss area this year, and provided photos from the visits as well.
5. In summary, I believe Ms. Brown should be the Keith L. Ware Moss-Holland Civilian Journalist of the Year 2014 because she is enthusiastic about her work.

Sincerely,

12/23/2014

X Jean Offutt

Jean Offutt

Fort Bliss Garrison Public Affairs Office

Winifred “Wendy” Brown

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Bliss

Wendy Brown is the staff journalist for the Fort Bliss Bugle, a 40-page weekly newspaper that informs the Fort Bliss community about unit training endeavors and the community in general. She has worked for the Bugle for a little more than a year. Previously



she worked at U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden in Germany as a public affairs specialist and journalist for the Herald Union newspaper.

Brown’s background is in civilian journalism, and prior to her husband joining the Army, she worked as a reporter for the Santa Fe New Mexican for more than five years. At various times she covered county government, education and business, winning Associated Press awards for business and column writing. She has also worked for The Telegraph of Nashua, New Hampshire, and the Current-Argus of Carlsbad, New Mexico, where she won awards for investigative reporting and science writing.

Brown was born in Derry, New Hampshire, and graduated in 1993 from the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English/Journalism. After college, Brown worked for more than three years as an investigator for the New



Hampshire Public Defender, and from there she went to law school. Brown

graduated from Franklin Pierce Law Center, now the University of New Hampshire School of Law, in 2000. A part-time job in journalism during law school led to her interest in journalism after graduation.

Outside of work, Brown enjoys spending time with her husband and two sons, ages 9 and 12, as well as running, reading and exploring national and state parks with her family and a camera.



Work examples

Articles appear on the following pages. Here are the original links:

"EP Veterans Court graduates three"

[http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-10-01eEdition.pub/index.html#24/](http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-10-01eEdition.pub/index.html#24)

"MEPS room named"

<http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-08-27eEdition.pub/index.html>

"Fort Bliss home to Mexican refugees in 1914"

<http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-01-16eEdition.pub/index.html#24/>

"Snowball Express forges friendships"

<http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-12-17eEdition.pub/index.html#2>

"Soldiers practice IED clearance virtually"

<http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-02-12eEdition.pub/index.html#2>

"Simulators save money"

<http://www.signatureflip.com/laven/thebugle/2014-02-19eEdition.pub/index.html#8/>

COMMUNITY

Fort Bliss is El Paso and
El Paso is Fort Bliss.



Chaplain
builds resiliency ■ 11B



PIE kicks off
school year ■ 12B



Relax and play
BOSS Bash fun ■ 15B

EP Veterans Court graduates three

Program helps vets adjudicate cases outside regular system

By Wendy Brown
Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

Gilbert Duran, a U.S. Army combat veteran with eight medals to his name, asked everyone at his El Paso Veterans Court graduation to observe a moment of silence for veterans who did not receive treatment for war injuries and instead went to prison.

"If only this program were in place hundreds, 10, five years ago, when Soldiers with post traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury symptoms got into legal trouble, it would have saved a lot of people's families a lot of pain and a lot of sorrow," he said to a packed courtroom at the El Paso County Courthouse Sept. 24.

The Veterans Court, associated with the 346th District Court, helps veterans adjudicate their cases outside the regular criminal justice system and receive treatment instead of a criminal conviction. El Paso's veterans' court, the second in Texas, began in 2009, and there are similar courts throughout the country.

Duran was one of three veterans to graduate from the court at last week's graduation, making the total to complete the program four. Minus the new graduates, there are 26 participants in El Paso's program, said Silvia Serna, El Paso Veterans Court program director.

James Wilson, who served in the U.S. Army for 18 years and received a Purple Heart, among other medals, and Miguel Alexis Rosa, who deployed to Iraq with the U.S. Army in 2005 and received a Combat Action Badge and the Iraqi Campaign Medal, also graduated from the program during the event.

Col. Thomas E. Munsey, Fort Bliss Garrison commander, told the audience the court not only provides support for Soldiers and veterans, but also creates teamwork between agencies on and off Fort Bliss. Ultimately, this strengthens community partnerships.

Munsey reminded the audience that Fort Bliss serves a population of 168,000, which includes active duty service members, their families, retirees and veterans.

Veterans should never forget that Fort Bliss is there to support them,



Teresa Vazquez sings the national anthem during an El Paso Veterans Court Program graduation ceremony in 346th District Court at the El Paso County Courthouse Sept. 24. Behind her are members of the 82nd Airborne Division Color Guard.

"They saw things, experienced things that probably all of us can hear about and read about, but have a difficult time comprehending the impact that really has on our veterans."

>> Patrick Abeln

Munsey said. "Everyone who is a veteran still serves in my mind," he said. "So continue serving, and Fort Bliss will be here to support and take part in this partnership and support mechanisms in any way we can."

Patrick Abeln, El Paso County Commissioner, Precinct 4, and the event's keynote speaker, said he not only sees the court as a county commissioner who has to take into account issues such as money, but



Judge Angie Juarez Barill, judge of the 346th District Court and the El Paso Veterans Court, hands Gilbert Duran a certificate during his El Paso Veterans Court graduation ceremony in 346th District Court at the El Paso County Courthouse Sept. 24. From right, next to Duran are James Wilson and Miguel Alexis Rosa. Looking on are members of the 82nd Airborne Division Color Guard.

also as the parent of a son in the U.S. Army.

"When I look at it that way, I see it as a valuable service for our community, a community that prides itself on its support of the U.S. military, and this is certainly one way to bring that support beyond just nominally saying we support the military," Abeln said.

When Soldiers go to combat, and they come back, their lives are different, and issues such as substance abuse can crop up, Abeln said.

"The world view that they have is far different from the world view they had when they left their homes. They saw things, experienced things that probably all of us can hear about and read about, but have a difficult time comprehending the impact that really has on our veterans," Abeln said.

The veterans' court may actually be the last rung on the ladder that is far too short for some veterans, Abeln said, and he thanked Judge Angie Juarez Barill, the court's

judge and founder, and everyone who works with the program for providing that rung.

Barill said it is important to remember that Americans owe a debt to their armed service members and veterans.

"They gave our government a blank check and said, 'Send me where you need me,' and they went," Barill said. "Sadly upon their return, they've come home to torn relationships, foreclosed homes, combined with their mental illnesses, and their drug or alcohol abuse."

The court, with help from the Veterans Administration, Fort Bliss officials, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, the Veterans Benefits Administration and volunteer veteran mentors, tries to promote their sobriety, recovery and stability, Barill said.

"It is our moral duty and obligation to give back. These individuals graduating today have served our country and they truly represent the best in our society," Barill said.



Miguel Alexis Rosa, a U.S. Army veteran and graduate of the El Paso Veterans Court, speaks during his graduation ceremony in 346th District Court at the El Paso County Courthouse Sept. 24. Behind him are James Wilson, left, and Gilbert Duran, right.

Things to do ...

La Viña Fall Wine Festival, Sat-Sun: The annual fall celebration is noon-7 p.m. Oct. 4-5, at La Viña Winery, 4201 S. NM Highway 28 in La Union, N.M. (one mile north or Vinton Road), with more than 20 wines available for tasting and purchase. Admission for adults includes a commemorative glass and tasting. Everyone under 21 must be accompanied by adult parent, guardian or spouse. No pets or picnic baskets allowed; ATM available on site.

Saturday's entertainment: Salina & the Chuco Soul Project at noon, Mosaic at 2:15 p.m. and Slick Reynolds at 4:30 p.m. Sunday's entertainment: Frank Zona & Urban Edge at noon, Twisted Hams at 2:15 p.m. and Dusty Low at 4:30 p.m. 575-882-7632 or lavinawinery.com

St. Luke's Country Fair, Sat: The 31st annual fair, featuring the popular "Great Dachshund Stampede," is Saturday, Oct. 4, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7050 McNutt Road, near Canutillo. The event includes the Dachshund races and an all-other breeds race. A bazaar is from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with baked goods, crafts, jewelry, antiques and more. Animal blessing, silent auction, kids carnival games, pumpkin decorating, costume contest and parade also planned. Admission is free with a canned food item donation. 575-874-3972 or stlukescountryfair.com.

Sun City Craft Beer Fest, Sat: The Downtown El Paso celebration of craft beer is noon-8 p.m., Oct. 4, with more than 250 beers available for tasting, or purchase for on-site drinking. The event includes the 2nd annual competitive homemade craft beer judging, presented by El Paso Home Brewing Equipment and Supplies. Food trucks and other vendors will sell wares. The event features live music and local art. Open to age 21 and older. Designated driver tickets are \$10. SunCityCraftBeerFest.com

Sun City SciFi Fan Expo, Sat-Sun: Sun City SciFi's fall expo is 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, at El Paso Convention Center. Tickets: \$9.99 per day (10 and younger free with paid adult). Guests include Star Wars actors Daniel Logan (young Boba Fett), Tim Rose (Admiral Ackbar), and Mark Dodson (voice of Salacious Crumb), and professional cosplayers Kirika Yashida and Leeanna Vamp. suncityscifi.com

Yard Sale, Sat: From 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3500 McRae Blvd. Come check out the furniture, clothing, knickknacks and many other things available.



USASMA inducts two
into Hall of Honor ■ 13A

FORT BLISS BUGLE

Home of America's Armored Division



Job Fair a success
900 attend event ■ 4B

Thursday, August 28, 2014
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'Ready First' Soldiers
compete in IWFS ■ 18A



Commander feels sense
of mission ... to the end ■ 8B



Being the best!
Soccer team fights for top spot ■ 15B

- Unit News 3A
- Community 1B
- Spotlight 22A
- Sports 15B
- Off Duty 19B
- Commercial Classifieds 22B
- Army Classifieds 22B

Have a Fun and Safe

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Monday, Sept. 1

Remember, don't drink and drive. The life you save may be your own, your buddy, your family member.



Get all your news online on your iPhone and iPad at fortblissbugle.com. Scan the bar code to take you there.

FORT BLISS

Friday Sunny Hi 94, Lo 72	Saturday Partly sunny Hi 96, Lo 74	Sunday Sunny Hi 96, Lo 73
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>> BANGALORE BANG!

Sgt. Kelsey Wagoner / 2nd BCT, 1st AD Public Affairs

A cloud launches into the sky from the explosion of Bangalore torpedoes placed at Doña Ana Range, New Mexico, by 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division engineers. The ordnance is used to clear Concertina wire. For more photos see page 5A.



Staff Sgt. Ursula Layton, El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station, gives Yvette Duchene, mother of Senior Airman Daniel R. Sanchez, flowers during the El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station Ceremony Room Dedication in honor of the warfighter at the MEPS on Fort Bliss Friday.

MEPS room named

Processing station honors fallen Air Force controller

By Wendy Brown
Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

For years to come, when men and women entering the military through the El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station take their oath of enlistment in the facility's ceremony room, they will remember Senior Airman Daniel R. Sanchez.

Sanchez, an El Paso native, took his oath of enlistment inside the ceremony room when he joined the Air Force in 2006, and officials decided to name it after the 23-year-old Special Operations Command combat controller.

The warfighter died at a medical facility in Tarin Kowt, Afghanistan, from wounds he suffered from enemy fire while providing security in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His mother, Yvette Duchene, speaking during the room's dedication ceremony Friday, noted that her son stood proudly in the center and professed his honor, respect and love for everyone by taking the oath of enlistment.

"He came to this very place and he swore to



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jarred K. Taylor, 7th Air Support Operations Squadron, holds up a picture of himself and another friend with Senior Airman Daniel R. Sanchez during the El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station Ceremony Room Dedication in honor of Senior Airman Daniel R. Sanchez at the MEPS on Fort Bliss Friday.

defend his country, his family and all humanity against the enemy with a final, 'So help me God,' and God did help him," Duchene said. "He

See MEPS Page 2A

America losing touch with its Army; about-face needed

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – There's a growing disconnect between Americans and their Army.

A 2011 Pew Research Center survey found that only 57 percent of civilian respondents, ages 30 to 49, said they had an immediate family member who served. The percentage dropped to one-third, among respondents ages 18 to 29.

Getting acquainted time

While a draft would produce a new generation of veterans from across the socioeconomic spectrum, lawmakers and the military itself are generally not advocating that, for a number of good reasons, including cost and a possible increase in disciplinary problems, similar to those seen during the Vietnam era. I saw this negative consequence first-hand from draftees, after enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1974, just a year after the all-volunteer force was only beginning to gain momentum.

However, there are a number of steps that can be taken to at least reacquaint Americans with their Army.

In July 2014, about 100 captains from across the Army met at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with the Army chief of staff to discuss, among many other things, the need to reacquaint Americans with their Army.

They brainstormed a number of ideas, including visiting radio and TV stations to do public service announcements, particularly around the time of the Army birthday each June. The PSAs could focus on why the Army is great, why they're proud to be a part of it and so on.

Radio and TV stations are usually receptive to PSAs. There's almost always someone at the station who will be glad to assist, usually the person with a military background, or someone who has a military family member. I have first-hand experience making hundreds of PSAs in the 1980s for the Marine Corps, so that's how I know.

At that meeting with the captains, known as Solarium 2014, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno said: "One of the problems the Army has is that it doesn't talk a lot about itself and what we've accomplished. We should be proud of who we are and what we've accomplished."

Besides doing public service announcements, Odierno suggested going to universities, Rotary clubs and other venues, and simply sitting down and talking "about who we are. People have misperceptions about what the Army is all about and misperceptions even about us as individuals."

The problem going to universities, or high schools for that matter, is that educators often have negative views about the military. In the case of high schools, success is usually measured by the percentage of graduates who go on to college, not those who enlist.

One approach would be to first introduce yourself and tell them you're

DVIDS launches DefenseTV on Roku

Joins 'Cord Cutting' revolution

By Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System

ATLANTA – More and more consumers are seeking ways to escape cable company contracts and pre-packaged bundles. In response, companies are competing to scoop up 'cord cutters' with technological advancements like over-the-top boxes, smart TVs and mobile devices. Today, the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System joins the cord cutting revolution with the introduction of DefenseTV.

DefenseTV is the first official online U.S. military over-the-top box service to offer live feeds and hand-curated elite content

about the troops, by the troops. Designed to be a top-ranking source of military news and entertainment, DefenseTV will showcase popular topics or let the viewer search and select what they want to watch. Additionally, DefenseTV will allow you to 'Choose Your Mission' from your living room through Roku. Roku launched the first product designed to deliver movies from Netflix instantly on TV, using the power of the Internet. Roku makes it easy to enjoy movies, TV shows, music, games and more. Roku players allow instant access to popular entertainment and on demand products.

DefenseTV highlights include:

- Live Events – breaking news, briefings, interviews, award ceremonies;
- NewsStream – news 24/7;
- Featured topics: "In Focus," science and technology, sports, entertainment, health,



family, missions;

- Military Spotlight – top military podcasts;
- Series – "In the Fight," "Recon," "Battle-ground"
- Free through any Internet capable device, Roku and Google Chromecast.

"This launch is an important step in our strategy to make DVIDS content available directly to consumers on a multitude of platforms and to build DefenseTV into a military entertainment source," said Maj. Scott

Betts, director of operations, Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System. "The well-designed, user-friendly interface will allow viewers to reach the latest and best military entertainment and news in their living rooms or on-the-go."

DefenseTV is the first official U.S. military high definition Internet site and channel.

To learn more, visit <http://defensetv.tv/#/video:355916/about>. For more information, call (678) 421-6612.

MEPS *Continued from Page 1A*

helped save him. He was there when my son took his last breath in a far-off land fighting for Operation Enduring Freedom."

Maj. Jeanette M. Molina, the station's commander, said the ceremony room is where more than 1,400 applicants raise their right hand and recite the oath of enlistment every year. Molina, Duchene and Senior Master Sgt. Edwin L. Davis, the station's senior enlisted advisor, unveiled a shadow box with a picture of Sanchez and several items from his military service that now hangs in the newly named ceremony room.

Sanchez, who graduated from Montwood High School in 2005, served with Blue Team, 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida, according to his biography.

Duchene, and one of Sanchez's best friends, Air Force Staff Sgt. Jarred K. Taylor, 7th Air Support Operations Squadron, both spoke about Sanchez's grin, his unfailing energy and his love for fun.

"To say he contained a smile is a complete understatement. I mean come on, look at this," Taylor said, holding up a picture of himself, Sanchez and another friend with big smiles on their faces. "This guy could light up a room instantly."

His family and friends were the most important things in his life, Taylor said. "He idolized his mom, to the point of putting me on Google Maps to show me where she lived



Wendy Brown / Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

Brianne Moltane, a student at Eastwood High School, sings the national anthem during the El Paso Military Entrance Processing Station Ceremony Room Dedication in honor of Senior Airman Daniel R. Sanchez at the MEPS on Fort Bliss Friday.

once," he said.

Taylor said what he admired the most about Sanchez, however, was his humility.

Not only did Sanchez complete one of the toughest pipelines the military has to offer, he

also completed military free-fall school, military dive school, Advanced Skills Training, Direct Action Resource Center training, Joint Terminal Attack Controller qualification and was a mission-ready member of Blue Team,

Taylor said.

"In a nutshell, this guy was one of the most highly trained warriors that our military has, but he would have you fooled. Never was he arrogant. Never was he cocky. Never did he hold his nose higher to anyone ... He was your friend, right away."

Molina said after talking to Duchene and other family members, Sanchez's infectious energy for life, his infinite confidence and the warmth of his smile stood out to her.

"Yvette, we greatly appreciate the values and the strength that you instilled in Danny, and we thank you for allowing us to have his memory become part of our lives and every applicant and family member that comes through our ceremony room," Molina said. "His name will stand the test of time, representing all those who pledge their allegiance to this great nation."

Col. William H. Reinhart, U.S. Marine Corps, commander, Western Sector, U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command, said Sanchez epitomized the spirit of selfless service inherent in the oath of enlistment, and in the end, Sanchez cared more about others than he did about himself.

The people Sanchez cared for included friends and family who he knew well, his fellow Airmen, and people in a tortured, faraway land that he did not know at all, Reinhart said.

"But nonetheless, he committed himself to improving their safety and welfare as if he had known them all his life," Reinhart said.



TOUGH *Continued from Page 1A*

not a recruiter. I taught high school and at the university for a while, and I know that teachers and professors often like to have guest visitors. For instance, I used to invite local business leaders to speak in my economics class.

History teachers might like a visit from a Soldier who helped make history in Iraq or Afghanistan. English teachers might too for that matter. The shop teacher might like to get a visit by a Soldier who fixes trucks or tanks or welds. And so on.

There are thousands of non-profit organizations looking for guest speakers. The bonus for the Soldiers is these volunteer activities always shine on resumes and a free meal is often thrown in. Best of all, though, is the feeling of accomplishment you'll receive.

Soldiers on active duty, as well as National Guard or Army Reserve, could benefit. Those who separated or retired could also be goodwill ambassadors.

Many, if not most Soldiers, are humble about their experiences in the Army, especially during wartime. So perhaps some practice with friends or family would help in opening up. People are genuinely interested in hearing from Soldiers. I constantly hear Soldiers and other uniformed personnel getting "thank you for your service" greetings from civilians over the last 13 years – something I rarely recall before that time.

Soldiers can talk travels to other countries, jobs, wartime experiences and camaraderie.

An excellent topic would be the Army profession, which is commitment, character and competence based on values and trust – something the sergeant major of the Army talks about passionately and probably will keep talking about after he retires.

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The contents of the Fort Bliss Bugle are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Army, or The Laven Group, LLC.

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COMMUNITY

Fort Bliss is El Paso and El Paso is Fort Bliss.



Disabled
send holiday wishes
to Soldiers ■ 3B



**A healthier
you this year**
with Performance
Triad ■ 10B



**Stronger
Army**
goal of fitness
specialist ■ 12B

Dayley's Update ...

By Col. Brant V. Dayley
Garrison Commander

The beginning of a new year has long been the traditional time for us to take a hard look at our lives and habits and consider where there might be room for some improvement.

One of the best resolutions a person can make is to renew their commitment to their physical well-being. Improving the quality of your nutrition and committing to an exercise regimen will have long lasting benefits, not only for yourself, but also for your entire family.



Col. Brant V. Dayley

Facebook.com/
TelltitoColD

This past weekend we held a daylong Fitness Resolution Fair at the Joshua W. Soto Physical Fitness Center to help people with their health goals for the year. The fitness center was filled with a variety of "mini-session" workout classes and booths providing information on the programs and services Fort Bliss offers to help everyone attain their lifestyle goals. We also had our first race of the year with a half marathon to help our runners kick off the new year their way.

I am pleased to say we had hundreds of people show up with their friends and family. Don't worry if you missed the fair, Fort Bliss has many avenues to help you with your health goals throughout the year.

Fort Bliss' Family Morale Welfare and Recreation operates seven different PFCs throughout the installation. They are open seven days a week including most of the holidays. In addition, a variety of fitness classes are offered throughout the day to fit anyone's schedule. You can find a schedule at www.blissmwr.com.

For those Fort Bliss parents that have little ones that need care while they are working out, we now have a Childcare co-op at the East Bliss Child Development Center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for parents using Soto Gym. All parents involved with the group are given a background check and training on childcare and first aid. For more information, email sotogymcoop@gmail.com, call Parent Central at 568-4374/4646 or visit them on Facebook at facebook.com/fortblisscotogymcoop.

Nutrition is also an important component of a healthy lifestyle. If you gained a few extra holiday pounds this winter, William Beaumont Army Medical Center's Nutrition Care Division is a great resource to help get back on track. There are classes offered monthly for weight management, healthy eating, pregnancy and nutrition, heart health and diabetes. The first step is to take the class appropriate for you, then, if you are looking for further assistance, you can schedule an appointment for individual nutrition counseling with a registered dietitian.

This program is a great resource for our community and does not require a physician's referral. For Soldiers worried about passing their tape, this resource is an obvious choice, but it is equally important for those Soldiers who are not yet overweight, but may be headed in that direction.

For more information, call the Nutrition Clinic at 915-742-3521.

Whatever your resolutions and goals are for the coming year, I wish everyone good luck with them. Stay safe and have a great week.



Photos courtesy of Fort Bliss and Old Ironsides Museums

Mexican Gen. Salvador R. Mercado, far right, was one of nine Mexican generals among the refugees here in 1914. Next to him is U.S. Army Maj. M.M. McNamee, to whom the refugees surrendered once they arrived in Texas. The boy on the far left could be Mercado's son, according to John Hamilton, president of the Fort Bliss Historical Association.

Fort Bliss home to Mexican refugees in 1914

100-year anniversary of internment on post

By Wendy Brown
Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

It is unlikely the street name "Avenida General Huerta" ever appeared on any official maps of Fort Bliss, but for four months in 1914, it was a major thoroughfare for a significant portion of the post's population.

Gen. Victoriano Huerta, a widely despised president of Mexico who received no recognition from the U.S. government, was a hero to 5,295 Mexican refugees the U.S. government interned on Fort Bliss 100 years ago this month. The refugees named the camp's main street after him, according to a master's thesis on the events.

Fort Bliss officials memorialized the refugees in 2009 with a historical marker on the sidewalk next to the Fort Bliss and Old Ironsides Museums, and the marker says the refugees were detained in a camp located across from the museum, in the area of Kelly Park.

Today, Haan Road, Marshall Road, Fred Wilson Road and Sheridan Street border the area the refugees once inhabited, according to "Fort Bliss: An Illustrated History" by Leon C. Metz.

The story of how the refugees came to Fort Bliss starts with the beginning of the Mexican Revolution in 1910, but more specifically, on Nov. 5, 1913. This is when Pancho Villa's revolutionary forces captured a train and attacked Chihuahua City. Federal administrators, army troops and their families escaped northeast to Ojinaga, according to the Fort Bliss historical marker.

Villa's forces went after them, however, and on Jan. 10, 1914, Villa's men captured the city, so the refugees crossed the border to Presidio, Texas, according to the marker.

Once there, the refugees surrendered to Maj. M.M. McNamee and the 15th Cavalry. Lacking facilities in Presidio, the refugees had to move to a place where they could be supported.

After traveling 67 miles by foot to Marfa, Texas, in cold weather, the refugees traveled the rest of the way to Fort Bliss by train. "These refugees were detained at Fort Bliss, Texas, for their



Mexican Gen. Victoriano Huerto, president of Mexico when more than 5,000 Mexican refugees were housed at Fort Bliss, far left, in dark uniform, stands next to U.S. Brig. Gen. E.Z. Steever on Fort Bliss in 1912.



Mexican refugees prepare food at Fort Bliss in 1914.



Mexican refugees stand for a picture at Fort Bliss in 1914.

Things to do

Bach's Lunch & Classic Films:

Please join us today and every **Thursday** in January at noon in the Gateway Gallery at the El Paso Museum of Art for Bach's Lunch. Also, join us every Saturday in January for the Classic Film Series in the El Paso Energy Auditorium also at the El Paso Museum of Art at 2 p.m. Both events are free to the public. Seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Revenge of the Mariachis:

The El Paso Wind Symphony, directed by Ron Hufstader, hosts a performance featuring the symphony and mariachi guests at 7:30 p.m. **Friday** at UTEP's Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. elpasowindsymphony.com

Annie Get Your Gun:

Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra presents the fully staged production of the Irving Berlin musical **Friday through Sunday**, at NMSU Atkinson Recital Hall, directed by Mark Medoff with conductor Lonnie Klein. lascrucessymphony.com

Ski Apache:

Hit the slopes **Saturday** at Ski Apache for skiing or snowboarding, or enjoy winter's quiet beauty as you navigate the Lincoln National Forest on snowshoes. The choice is yours when you travel with Southwest Adventure! Skiing and snowboarding cost \$50 each and includes transportation and lift ticket. Equipment rental is available for an additional fee. Snowshoeing costs \$15 and includes transportation, equipment rental and guide services. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be obtained at the Loeza Soldier Activity Center, 20732 Constitution Ave. blissmwr.com/southwestadventure or 744-1532

Artist and Farmers Market:

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department's market for area artists is being held **Saturdays** in the Union Plaza District along Anthony Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The market now includes a farmers market with regionally grown agricultural products. 541-4942

Bridal, Quince & Sweet 16 Fair:

The 24th annual event is 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the El Paso Convention Center, **Sunday**. The event gathers more than 120 experts in the field of weddings, quinceañeras and sweet 16s, including cakes, catering, dresses, flowers, halls, hotels, photography/video services, tuxedos and more. For information, visit eptuxs.com or bridalquince.com. Admission fees benefit the El Paso Child Crisis Center.

MLK Day Celebration:

In observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department will be hosting a volunteer celebration event, recognizing current volunteers and their contributions to the park as well as welcoming new volunteers interested in joining the park's crew. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Monday** at 1331 McKelligon Canyon Rd., FMSP Headquarters Bldg. To sign up, email adrianna.weickhardt@tpwd.texas.gov.

Parent and Child Tournaments:

The City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department is hosting basketball free throws, football toss and Trivial Pursuit tournaments at Seville Community Center, 6700 Sambrano St. from 5 to 7 p.m. **Tuesday**. The event is free. For information, contact Jorge Palacio or Rosa Montes at 778-6722.

Scenic Sundays:

Walkers, runners, cyclists and skaters are invited to enjoy Scenic Drive from Rim Road to Richmond, free of traffic 7 a.m. to noon **Sundays**. Dogs on leash permitted. Admission is free. district2@elpasotexas.gov

REFUGEES *Continued from Page 1B*

own safety. If they had been allowed to return to Mexico, Pancho Villa and his followers would have murdered them. Villa called them 'gachupines' (wealthy land owners) and had sentenced them to death," according to a master's thesis entitled, "The Road of Sorrow: Mexican Refugees Who Fled Pancho Villa through Presidio, Texas 1913-1914," by Lona Whittington.

Although the refugees were prisoners and could not leave, U.S. officials considered their internment a humanitarian act that would save the refugees from death if they returned to Mexico.

When the refugees arrived at Fort Bliss, a 48-acre camp surrounded by barbed wire awaited them, according to Whittington, who completed her degree at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas.

Thankfully, for the 50 babies born along the way, there was also medical care. A group of El Paso women made 150 three-piece outfits and donated other clothing for the babies.

There were 40 streets in the camp, and commanders planned to build mess halls every fourth street, but the prisoners preferred to cook their own food, so they were never built, according to Whittington. "The men who had no women with them were quartered in 200 common tents and were issued new garbage cans in which large amounts of soup and meat could be cooked," Whittington wrote. "One hundred shower baths with hot and cold water were placed at the north end of the regulars' camp, and the soldiers were lined up in files and marched through the showers once a week."

The camp was divided into two sections, one for the "regular" federal troops and another for the volunteer troops who

organized to help the federal cause, according to Whittington. Avenida General Huerta divided the two sections.

In addition, many of the prisoners needed to be inoculated against smallpox and typhoid, and post medical staff took care of the task, according to Whittington.

Unfortunately, some refugees blamed two heart failure deaths on the vaccinations and refused to get vaccinated, according to Whittington. As a result, a 12-year-old boy contracted smallpox and died.

Also, on Jan. 24, 1914, twin boys were born in the camp, and although one of them died, the other survived and was christened in the presence of Mexican officers and U.S. infantry Soldiers, Whittington said. Three days later, two more babies were born, but the camp's infant mortality rate increased again when one died.

U.S. taxpayers and government officials, in the meantime, wanted to know how much the refugees were going to cost them. A New York Times article dated Jan. 12, 1914, summed up the costs. Rations for the refugees cost 23 cents a day — the same as those of the Soldiers — and the total cost per day was \$1,500, according to the article.

Brig. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, commander of U.S. troops on the border, was concerned about having a high number of refugees at the post, and asked to have the refugees moved to another post in San Diego, the article states. He did not get his way.

Bliss was not related to Lt. Col. William Wallace Smith Bliss, after whom Fort Bliss is named, said John Hamilton, president of the Fort Bliss Historical Association.

In the meantime, the refugees' hero, President Huerta,

See REFUGEES Page 5B

GEN. VICTORIANO HUERTA KILLED 1 PRESIDENT TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF MEXICO

3,446 Soldiers supported federal Mexican government against revolutionaries in camp

Pancho Villa attacked 2,000 rebels in Chihuahua City

1,000 HORSES BROUGHT ACROSS THE MEXICAN BORDER

Refugees traveled **419** miles from Chihuahua City to Fort Wingate (origin of refugees)

100 LBS OF DYNAMITE FOR HOLES FOR LIGHT POLES & CESSPOOL IN CAMP

11 MILES OF BARBED WIRE AROUND CAMP

1,800 pounds OF BEANS WITH CHILE PEPPERS PROVIDED FOR PEOPLE IN CAMP PER DAY

1,207 WOMEN **8,642** CHILDREN IN CAMP

48 of refugee camp acres at Fort Bliss

2,400 lbs (excluding bacon) of meat PROVIDED FOR PEOPLE IN CAMP PER DAY

2.5 tons OF FLOUR PROVIDED TO PEOPLE IN CAMP EACH DAY

SOURCES: Historical marker at Fort Bliss; "Fort Bliss: An Illustrated History" by Leon C. Metz; "The Road of Sorrow: Mexican Refugees Who Fled Pancho Villa through Presidio, Texas 1913-1914," by Lona Whittington; The New York Times article, "Mexican Refugees Won't Be Sent Back," Jan. 12, 1914.

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UNIT NEWS

Training is the oil that keeps the engine of our Army running



Army deputy chief of staff visits CAB ■ 6A



'Iron Knights' conduct CBRNE training ■ 7A



Fires community celebrate at Saint Barbara's Day Ball ■ 8A



'Action' Company says goodbye to Stenberg ■ 14A

Soldiers practice IED clearance virtually

By Wendy Brown
Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

The RG-31 Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle weighs 37,478 pounds – more than eight Ford Explorers – and it can easily pick up speed when going downhill on a dirt road in Afghanistan.

That fact was one of many Pvt. Jaquan Montford, Troop D, 13th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, learned about the RG-31 when his troop visited the Virtual Clearance Training Suite behind the Close Combat Tactical Trainer building on Minue Drive Jan. 28.

“You might want to slow it down a little,” Ed Torres, Virtual Clearance Training Suite site-lead and field maintainer, advised Montford. “You don’t want it to get away from you.”

Montford, with a look of deep concentration on his face, nodded and slowed the RG-31 more than he already had.

Montford and other members of his unit visited the trainer to gain practice on vehicles and devices that will help them clear improvised explosive devices. They include the RG-31 and Panther or gun trucks, which are MRAP vehicles, the Buffalo, which is a 79,000-pound mine protected clearance vehicle, the Husky, which is equipped with ground penetrating radar or mine detection panels, and the Talon III B transportable robot system, all in virtual form.

The controls are the same as the real-world vehicles and devices, but the scenarios are all conducted on computer screens, Torres said.

“It’s a good idea for us in the sense that we’re a new platoon team, and we need to know what the Soldiers know and what they don’t know,” said Sgt. 1st Class Kelechi Madubuko, Troop D, 13th Cav. Regt., 4th BCT, 1st AD.

“It’s a very good training for us to build a good team should we deploy somewhere down the road,” Madubuko said. “Some of the Soldiers have not deployed, so this is a good way to show them what reality might look like.”



Spc. Sean Bryant, Troop D, 13th Cav. Regt., 4th BCT, 1st AD, operates a gun station at the Virtual Clearance Training Suite at Fort Bliss Jan. 29.

Torres said the whole idea behind the trainer is to allow Soldiers to practice detecting, identifying and neutralizing IEDs.

Although Soldiers primarily use the trainer for route clearance, the trainer also helps Soldiers train for convoys, said Al Cordova, VCTS sustainment maintainer.

While clearing a route of IEDs, Soldiers usually form a convoy, Cordova said.

An example of a route clearance package consists of two Husky vehicles in the front, followed by two gunner trucks, a Buffalo and two more gunner trucks, Cordova said.

When the Husky operator finds an IED, the operator marks the spot with paint and calls in the Buffalo, Cordova said. The Buffalo operator then uses a 30-foot robotic arm equipped with a claw to dig it up. The claw includes sensory equipment and a camera.

Meanwhile, the gun trucks protect the vehicles, Cordova said.

Then, a Soldier operating a Man Transportable Robotic Systems Talon robot moves the robot out of the back of a gun truck by remote, Cordova said.

If the explosive device is a type that is seen often, the team will equip the Talon with C-4 plastic explosives and blow up the explosive device, Cordova said.

If the explosive device is unusual and Soldiers would like to study it further, a Soldier will call in the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit, Cordova said. This is one of many ways to clear a route, he said.

The concept at the trainer is to make the scenario as realistic as possible.

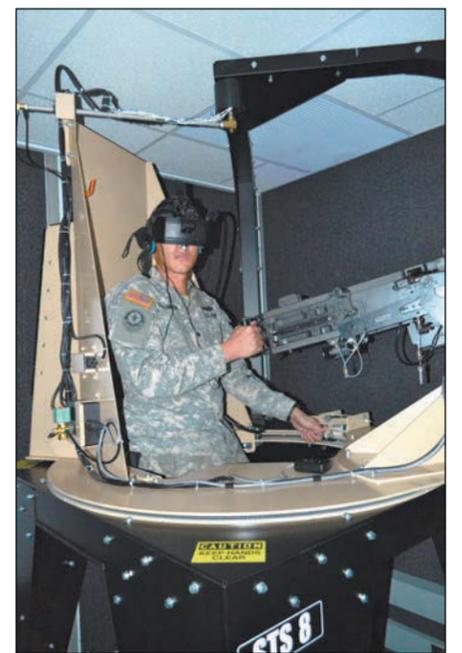
Torres said it is his job to set up the scenarios that Soldiers go through at the simulator, and he does his best to think like an insurgent so the scenarios are realistic.

After every training there is an after action review, Torres said, and that allows units to go through the scenario again step-by-step and see what they could improve next time. Everything in the trainer is recorded, he said.

Units are welcome to go through the trainer more than once, but it is necessary to schedule visits ahead of time, Torres said.

Virtual trainers such as the VCTS are excellent for Soldiers to practice using equipment without the operating costs, said Joe Porras, senior military analyst and training integration manager for Alion Science & Technology, which operates at the Iron Warrior Training Complex at Fort Bliss.

The Buffalo, for example, gets 3.5 miles to the gallon, according to information from



Spc. Jeremy Vranken mans a gunner station at the Virtual Clearance Training Suite at Fort Bliss Jan. 29.



Ed Torres, Virtual Clearance Training Suite site lead and field maintainer, checks in on Pvt. Jaquan Montford, Troop D, 13th Cav. Regt., 4th BCT, 1st AD, as he prepares to drive a RG-31 Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle at the Virtual Clearance Training Suite at Fort Bliss Jan. 29.

Strategic Defence Intelligence. It has a maximum speed of 55 miles per hour, and a maximum range of 300 miles on an 85-gallon tank of fuel.

Madubuko said he appreciates the opportunity to practice on the equipment with troop members.

The trainer helps the unit learn how to communicate with one another under stress, he said.

“It helps us learn how to work together as a team,” Madubuko said. “We learn what we do know and what we don’t know.”

Editor’s note: This story is the second in a series of six on virtual training opportunities on Fort Bliss.



First Lt. Michael Mulligan, 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, reads a map while seated in the passenger's side of a Humvee simulator at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer on Minue Drive Feb. 11.



SIMULATORS SAVE MONEY

M1A2 SEP Tank offers real-life training at a fraction of the cost

Story and Photos By Wendy Brown, Fort Bliss Bugle Staff

▶ IT COSTS A LOT OF MONEY FOR SOLDIERS TO TRAIN ON AN M1 ABRAMS TANK. Not only does it cost about \$67 per mile to operate, but Sabot ammunition rounds cost about \$1,175 each, and HEAT rounds cost about \$830 each. Thousands of dollars can add up quickly.

"Tanks don't get miles per gallon," said Joe Porras, senior military analyst and training integration manager for Alion Science & Technology at Fort Bliss. "They get gallons per mile."

So when Soldiers want to improve their tank skills, the M1A2 SEP Tank Simulator at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer at Fort Bliss makes good sense. The simulators are nearly identical to the insides of the real tanks, and Soldiers operate the tanks in virtual scenarios that test their skills.

"When you get in here, you get the whole experience," said Porras, adding that some Soldiers get so wrapped up in scenarios they are disoriented when they leave the simulator and realize they are in a building on post.

At first glance, the trainers look like a series of storage containers in a warehouse. The large beige containers look as though they probably contain military equipment – and they do – but a peek inside one of the container doors reveals the inside of a tank or Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

In all, the Fort Bliss trainer includes 14 tanks, 16 M2A3 Bradley simulators, and four High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle – commonly known as the Humvee – simulators. The Humvees are housed in a separate room in a trailer behind the building.

The room includes a Humvee identical to one Soldiers normally use, but instead of moving through actual terrain, the Humvee remains stationary

“A lot of these Soldiers have never been deployed, so for them, this is the most realistic training they’re going to get.”

>> Staff Sgt. Michael Lane

while images projected on screens that surround all four walls “move” the Humvee through the scenario.

All of the simulators provide virtual training for a variety of scenarios, and Porras said safety is another big plus to training virtually.

The trainer’s employees create the scenarios, but many are based on guidance from officers who have come back from combat and suggested scenarios they experienced, said David Martin, Computer Sciences Corporation, Warrior Training Alliance, Close Combat Tactical Trainer site lead.

Tanks frequently work together with Bradley vehicles, which are smaller and carry infantry Soldiers in the back, Martin said.

Often, Bradley vehicles will go

into a situation first, and after engaging an enemy, the tanks will come in with larger fire power, Porras said.

The scenarios include maps from Afghanistan, South Korea, Fort Bliss, training areas in Germany and the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., Martin said.

The simulators record nearly everything that happens during a scenario and the information is available for after action reviews once Soldiers complete a scenario.

Staff Sgt. Michael Lane, 125th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, helps perform portions of individual readiness training at the center for Soldiers who are preparing to deploy.

Lane said he recommends the center to all Soldiers.

"Anybody can come here and sign up to use the facility," he said. "We want to see people come in here and use these great resources."

He especially recommends the center for Soldiers who have never deployed, however.

"A lot of these Soldiers have never been deployed, so for them, this is the most realistic training they're going to get," he said.

The maps are current, and a Soldier deploying to Afghanistan who will have to drive in Kandahar, for example, can practice driving a Humvee through the city virtually, Lane said.

One of the simulation center's mottos is, "Knowledge overcomes fear," Porras said, and giving Soldiers a good idea of what to expect when they deploy can help overcome fears.

Editor's note: This story is the third in a series of six about virtual training opportunities on Fort Bliss.



Pfc. Mandy Tedrick, 31st Combat Support Hospital, 1st Armored Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, drives a Humvee simulator at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer on Minue Drive Feb. 11.



Preparation

▶ TRAINING THE FORCE



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SUSAN LAVEN

(Top photos from left to right)

Sgt. Tyerone Evans, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., 3rd BCT, 1st AD, talks during an after action review at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer on Minue Drive Feb. 11.

Pfc. Noah Bontempo, Company C, 4th Bn., 6th Inf., 4th BCT, 1st AD, receives instructions on the simulator.

Pvt. Jared Scott, Co. C, 4th Bn., 6th Inf., 4th BCT, 1st AD, sits inside an M1A2 SEP Tank Simulator at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer on Minue Drive Feb. 11.

Sgt. Tyerone Evans, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., 3rd BCT, 1st AD, mans a .50-caliber machine gun on top of a Humvee simulator at the trainer.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Michael Lane, 125th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd BCT, 1st AD, shows a map during an after action review at the trainer on Minue Drive Feb. 11.

(Right) First Lt. Brooks Groom, Co. C, 4th Bn., 6th Inf., 4th BCT, 1st AD, delivers radio instructions while inside an M1A2 SEP Tank Simulator.



Preparation

TRAINING THE FORCE



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