



THE OUTPOST

U.S. ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND, YUMA, ARIZONA 85365 | VOLUME 49 NO. 17 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

ATEC commander shares thoughts with entire command

By Mark Schauer

Maj. Gen. David Karbler, commander of the Army's Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), addressed personnel across the command via video teleconference in mid-September. More than 200 members of the YPG team were present in the Post Theater to hear his vision for the command and ask questions.

In his first three months of command, Karbler has found the ATEC team to be "smart, dedicated, hard-working professionals" who are "tremendously talented and possess unique skill sets." He was frank about the likelihood of continuing budget constraints in the years ahead, saying that determining ways and means to meet these fiscal realities and identify new efficiencies are critically important to meet the mission.

"I value those who are adaptable and flexible, and able to do things in a different way," he said.

Yet, he was quick to emphasize that the confidence and trust that ATEC's equipment evaluations have earned from Army leaders over the decades would not be diminished or sacrificed in any way.

"We might not have as much capacity to do testing, but I would rather keep capability at the expense of capacity," he said.

Karbler took time to recognize a variety of recent high-visibility tests across the command. At YPG, he singled out a complex project to study wing-tip vortices from C-17 aircraft that impact Army parachutists, an extremely rapid validation test of a modification to the M284 cannon tube used on Paladin self-propelled howitzers, and the recent test of the parachute system on NASA's Orion space capsule. He also discussed a recent evaluation of the Army-Navy Transportable Multipurpose Radar (AN/TPQ-53) and continued excellence in mortar testing at YPG.

ATEC Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew Connette, a 30-year veteran of Army service who has deployed overseas five times during his career, also shared initial impressions of the command.

"I previously had no idea what a piece of equipment goes through before a Soldier gets it," he said. "It's incredible. I represent hundreds of



thousands of Soldiers who benefit from ATEC's work every day."

Above all, Karbler was keen to impart his personal motto of, "integrity, discipline, conduct," emphasizing the contributions of everyone across the command, Soldier and civilian.

"Your contributions matter, are taken seriously, and make a difference," he said. "All of you are part of the ATEC team and family."

Editor's Note: Maj. Gen. Daniel Karbler assumed command of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, June 15, 2015, where he serves as the Commanding General of the Army's sole independent test and evaluation enterprise. He is responsible for the planning and execution of innovative test and evaluation processes as the Army continues to integrate and mature new and existing capabilities into Army systems. ATEC reports the results of these unbiased assessments to Army acquisition decision makers.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1987 from the United States Military Academy at West Point where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Air Defense Artillery Branch. His military education includes Air Defense Artillery Officer Basic and Advanced Courses; the Command and General Staff College; and the National War College.

Following promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, Karbler commanded 3-43 ADA BN (Patriot), 32d AAMDC at Fort Bliss, Texas. Following promotion to Colonel, Karbler returned to the Pentagon to serve as the Chief of the Air Defense Division in the Force Development Directorate in the Army G-8. In 2008, Karbler was assigned to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he commanded the 31st ADA BDE, 32d AAMDC and deployed to Qatar during OIF. After command, Karbler served as the Fort Sill Chief of Staff. After promotion to Brigadier General, he served as the Air Defense Artillery Commandant, and in 2012, he was assigned to Fort Shafter, Hawaii, where he commanded the 94th AAMDC. In 2014, Karbler returned to the Pentagon to serve as the Director, Joint and Integration, in the Army G-8.

His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Israeli Air Force Combat Operations Badge.

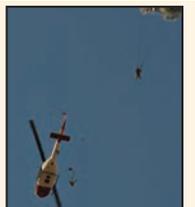
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Arizona Western College student Kamyla Ruiz sings one of several songs at the recent Hispanic Heritage luncheon held at YPG's Cactus Café. (Photos by Chuck Wullenjohn)

Hispanic culture shared with workforce

By Yolie Canales

America's Hispanic heritage was celebrated at YPG in mid-September with an array of activities beginning with religious services at the post chapel on Sunday, followed by a Latin country poster contest at Price Elementary School. The student's posters were displayed at Wednesday's 6th annual salsa tasting contest held in the atrium of the ROC bldg.

Nearly one dozen types of salsa were available, ranging from fiery hot, to fruity, to spicy, and to mild. Approximately 75 people crunched tortilla chips as they sampled the various salsas. "Horchata," a Mexican refreshment, helped cool the tongue for those not familiar with spicy foods. Tasters voted for the "best" salsa and, when the votes were tallied, 1st place went to Pierre Bourque and 2nd to Isaac Rodriguez.

On Sept. 17th, the weeklong observance culminated with a gala luncheon held at the Cactus Café. The overall theme of the commemoration was "Energizing Our Nation's Diversity." It



Guest speaker Maria Aguirre, Associate Dean of Continuing Education for Arizona Western College, is presented a token of appreciation for her presentation entitled "Conversations with my Father." Gordon Rogers, garrison manager, had the honors of presenting the award.

was attended by over 100 people including Arizona Western College staff members, Border Patrol agents, Price Elementary School staff and children, family members, and the YPG workforce. Maria Aguirre, Associate Dean of Continuing Education at Arizona Western College, was guest speaker. Kamyla Ruiz provided vocal performances. The U.S. Border Patrol

participated with its color guard. Mexican folklore dancers from YPG performed traditional dances and the YPG committee chairperson prepared an authentic and traditional Mexican meal while committee member Viviana Lopez prepared and donated the delicious desserts. It was a great week of events and a fun, meaningful luncheon!

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THE OUTPOST

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The Editor, Outpost, Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, AZ, 85365.
Phone: (928) 328-6143/6189 or DSN 899-6143.
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Commander: Col. Randy Murray
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Bradley Fighting Vehicle upgrades tested at YPG

By Mark Schauer

When it comes to mechanized infantry and armored cavalry combat, the Bradley Fighting Vehicle is second to none in transporting troops across battlefields.

The platform has proved itself to be lethal and survivable in multiple theaters since first fielded in 1981. In the first Gulf War, only three of the more than 2,200 Bradley Fighting Vehicles that thundered into Iraq were lost to enemy fire. Moreover, the Bradley, armed with a 25mm chain-driven autocannon, a 7.62 mm machine gun, and twin Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire-guided (TOW) missiles, destroyed more armored Iraqi vehicles than did the M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank.

In ensuing years, the threat faced by American Soldiers has mutated, but the Bradley has remained viable and relevant thanks to Army modernization efforts and extensive testing of all upgrades at YPG.

“The Bradley was built based on a set of requirements from decades ago: it fit that mission, but as times evolved, so did the field environment,” said Jacob Obradovich, senior test officer. “As all combat vehicles have evolved, their size and weight have outgrown original expectations. They need additional power to sustain legacy requirements while supporting future technologies.”

As it is, the Bradley is hardly a relic of a bygone era. Thoroughly digitized and boasting technology like thermal

imagers, nearly 7,000 Bradleys’ have been fielded since their inception. Their ubiquity has influenced other important platforms in the country’s ground combat arsenal. Changes to the latest variant of the M109 Paladin self-propelled howitzer, for example, include a new engine and transmission common to that found in the Bradley, an interchangeability of components that makes the mission of field mechanics easier and suggests the Bradley will remain ready for battle for a long time to come.

“The Bradley is looking to be in service for at least the next couple of decades with the upgrades now being worked on,” said Obradovich.

At present, YPG testers are wrapping up a software upgrade test on the Bradley that incorporates even more functionality into the platform. The purpose of the tests is to verify the system integration of software/hardware changes in ensuring functionality and performance without negatively impacting safe vehicle operation.

“When we do software tests, we’re looking for performance degradation from legacy software or if there are any performance characteristics of the vehicle that can’t be met with the new software included,” he explained. “We also want to verify the safety systems built into the vehicle aren’t negatively impacted.”

Once this portion of the testing is complete, the Bradley is sent out for weeks of durability missions across



The threat faced by American Soldiers has mutated since the Bradley Fighting Vehicle was first fielded in 1981, but the platform has remained relevant thanks to extensive testing of upgrades at YPG over the years. “The Bradley is looking to be in service for at least the next couple of decades with the upgrades now being worked on,” said Jacob Obradovich, test officer. Here, a Bradley negotiates one of YPG’s punishing road courses. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

YPG’s range.

“This phase of the test is not a reliability test for the software, it is more going out and operating in a typical environment and seeing if anything comes up during normal operations.”

These simulated missions take the Bradley across scores of miles of road courses featuring various terrain condi-

tions, from paved to gravel to punishing desert washboard that would severely rattle less robust vehicles. As they traverse these roads, test vehicle operators continually verify performance of all the platform’s sophisticated electronics.

“Set points throughout these courses verify that the navigation system is

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Date burned into our memory commemorated

By Chuck Wullenjohn

An older generation vividly remembers an early December Sunday morning -- where they were, what they were doing -- when Japanese aircraft attacked our forces at Pearl Harbor. The world abruptly changed that day as the United States was dragged into World War II, the largest and most devastating armed conflict in human history.

For the current generation, a similarly calamitous event occurred 14 years ago when 3000 Americans were killed when terrorists crashed aircraft into New York City's World Trade Center. The immediate aftermath was shock and a sense of resolve that has persisted ever since. That date, September 11, 2001, has become commonly known as Patriot Day or simply 9-1-1.

Patriot Day 2015 was commemorated Sept. 10th at the proving ground's Heritage Center Museum with a ceremony

featuring two speakers -- Garrison Manager Gordon Rogers and Heritage Center Director Bill Heidner.

Rogers began the ceremony with short remarks that summed up the meaning of the day. "We Americans must remain forever vigilant to prevent something like this from occurring ever again," he said. "Most current adults were around at that time and well remember this as a pivotal moment for our nation." It was a time of shock, surprise and anger.

He pointed out that YPG's mission is to ensure that the weapons and munitions issued to America's fighting forces are tested thoroughly and realistically, and are completely ready for battle. "We work to ensure that our forces have the most effective equipment possible," he said. Without question, YPG testing contributed greatly to saving an untold number of American lives in the combat actions that later occurred in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Bill Heidner, Heritage Center Director, presents an overview of terrorist acts over the past 40 years, beginning with the infamous Munich Olympics of 1972 that saw terrorists murder the entire Israeli Olympic team. (Photo By Chuck Wullenjohn)

Heidner presented an approximately 25 minute illustrated overview of terrorist acts over the past forty years, beginning with the infamous Munich Olympics of 1972 that saw terrorists murder the entire Israeli Olympic team.

"What happened was extensively covered on television and, for many Americans, it was their first introduction to terrorism," he said. The news coverage showed that terrorists first kidnapped the team, then negotiated with German authorities for passage out of the country. The standoff ended in a deadly firefight. Many other terrorist incidents ensued in following years, including the terrorist bombing of the destroyer USS Cole in 2000.

"What happened on 9-1-1 was not a 'first' event -- I view it as a 'culminating' event," said Heidner, "for we had decades of experience with terrorism before that.

Among the many people who attended the ceremony was Ron Rodriguez, director of YPG's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security. When the tragedy occurred in 2001, he remembers that he had spent the morning reading an after action report of the USS Cole bombing and an article detailing writings by Osama bin Laden related to this incident. As Rodriguez viewed television coverage of an airliner

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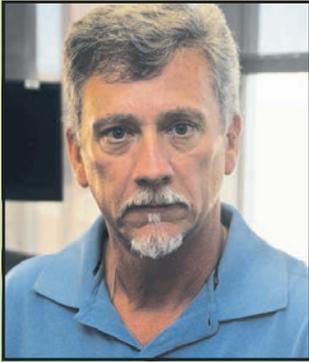
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VIEWPOINTS

By Mark Schauer

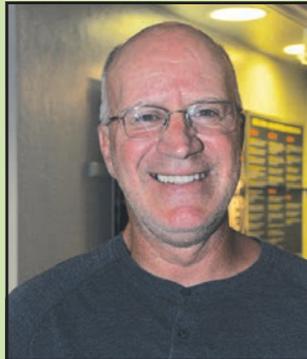
Imagine for a second that you and your family could visit anywhere in the world for free. We asked members of the workforce what kind of dream vacation they would take if money were no object.



Art Booth, Aviation Operations:
I would go to Bora Bora. I would take my wife of 35 years and stay in one of the cottages on stilts over the water and just look at the ocean.

Dan Schoenborn, Test Officer

I've been on a cruise in the Grecian islands and went ashore to see the Parthenon and the Temple of Athena Nike for a few hours, but it was rather quick. If money weren't an object, I'd go for maybe a month instead of seven days. It's beautiful: the water is nice, everything is just great.



Reggie Willoughby, Senior Safety Specialist:

I would have a destination family reunion with everybody in one place at the same time. We'd probably have it at a resort in Virginia where everybody could swim and have fun for a week or two.



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Army recruits wowed by YPG visit



A group of recent Army enlistees from Yuma recently spent a morning at YPG watching members of the proving ground's Airborne Test Force (ATF) go about some of their routine duties. Here, the group takes time for a photo. (Photos by Mark Schauer)

By Mark Schauer

The knowledge of newly enlisted recruits of the nature of Army service is most often secondhand.

If they're part of the lucky few, perhaps a parent or other close relative served. Others know of it entirely from television and movies. But 10 lucky enlistees from Yuma recently spent a morning at YPG watching members of the proving ground's Airborne Test Force (ATF) go about some of their routine duties.

And what a morning it was. From seeing students of the Army's elite Military Freefall School participate in a high altitude, low opening freefall, to watching as ATF members performed static line parachute jumps from a low-flying UH-1 helicopter, the recruits got a high impact look at a day in the life of a YPG Soldier.

"Many of these kids didn't even know that YPG was an Army base," said Staff Sgt. Cory Bunch, recruiter. "It's nice to get them out here and see that this is where military freefall students are trained."

Thomas Vasquez had been waiting for more than two months for his now fast-approaching date to report for basic training. He is going in as a mechanic, but has aspirations to do something with aviation, and paid rapt attention to advice from the uniformed parachutists he met.

"It's very interesting to see a guy who makes a living jumping out of a plane," he said. "I kind of want to do it, but we'll see how far I get in the military."

Perhaps more exciting to ATF Soldiers like Sgt. Kyle Dunwiddie, who spearheaded the event, was giving the recruits a special tour of the shop where Soldiers rig all manner of parachutes, from individual personnel parachutes to cargo parachutes carrying incredibly complex, heavy bundles and pieces of equipment. YPG riggers have packed and prepared some of the largest parachutes in the world for test drops.

"I thought the work of riggers was limited to packing chutes, rigging cargo and performing maintenance," said Dunwiddie. "I got to YPG and it



Staff Sgt. Brian Brown shows recruits a personnel parachute prior to a jump. Later in the morning, they saw firsthand the care ATF Soldiers take in packing every parachute.

opened my eyes: Without coming here I never would have known the Army, let alone riggers, was involved in something like this."

Following their tour of the shop and seeing ATF Soldiers pack personnel parachutes, the recruits got to try on packed parachutes for themselves while carrying the heavy pack and oxygen mask a Special Forces paratrooper would typically have.

Following a question and answer

session with YPG Command Sgt. Maj. Sean Ward, the recruits left, that much more determined to take on their rapidly approaching induction and basic training.

Dunwiddie thought the visit was fruitful and hopes to host more recruits on similar tours in the future. Of those from this group who joined the infantry, he hopes they exercise their option to pursue airborne as they advance through the ranks.

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 2



Happily smiling at the guest speaker's excellent presentation, as well as the overall event, is YPG commander Col. Randy Murray as he prepares to give closing remarks. (Photos by Chuck Wullenjohn)



The audience is enjoying a performance by the YPG Folklorico dancers. Left to right: Rocio Fernandez, Martha Wright, Mireya Rodriguez and Vanessa Cuevas. The dance group spent three busy weeks coordinating their steps, turns and heel tapping. All acknowledged, they did an awesome job.



Posting colors before the luncheon program begins are members of the Yuma Sector Border Patrol Honor Guard. (Photo by Yolie Canales)



Salsa competition is one event the YPG workforce anxiously awaits for every year during Hispanic Heritage Observance!

BRADLEY

FROM PAGE 3

working as it is supposed to and that the targeting system is giving accurate ranges,” Obradovich said.

YPG has the range space to conduct live fire tests of the vehicle from both stationary and moving positions.

“Usually we fire from a stationary position, but sometimes we’ll fire while the vehicle is moving,” said Obradovich. “We’ll fire at moving targets and drive it over a bumpy course to make sure the stabilization system is working properly.”

As a one-stop shop for sophisticated testing, YPG is poised to continue supporting Bradley testing for years to come.

“It’s a testament to our folks,” said Obradovich. “We have really good people with years of experience, and their good work has developed this capability.”

MEMORY

FROM PAGE 4

crashing into one of the twin towers, he had no doubt of the person behind it.

“It was Osama bin Laden,” he said. “He had declared a ‘Fatwah’ (holy war) in 1998 and there was no doubt in my mind that this was an act of war.”

Command Sergeant Major Sean Ward was assigned to the 101st airborne division at the time, on a temporary training assignment at Fort Hood, Texas. He heard about the attack on his car radio.

That’s no accident, he thought.

One hour later his entire battalion was in formation being addressed by the commanding officer. “He said we were at war, though it had not been declared,” said Ward. He remembers a common sense of anger by the Soldiers, an eagerness to get back at the people who had performed this terrible act.

“Terrorist actions can occur anywhere,” summed up Rogers. “It’s up to us to never forget what happened, to always remain aware.”

Chaplain’s Corner

Blessings in Disguise

By Chaplain Steven D. Smith

There is indeed much to be thankful for this year. A few housewives got together and they came up with this list. They are thankful for:

- Automatic dishwashers because they make it possible for us to get out of the kitchen before the family comes back in for their after-dinner snacks.

- Husbands who attack small repair jobs around the house because they usually make them big enough to call in the professionals.

- Children who put away their things & clean up after themselves. They’re such a joy you hate to see them go home to their own parents.

- Teenagers because they give parents an opportunity to learn a second language.

- Smoke alarms because they let you know when the turkey’s done.

Perhaps we can do better than that.

A heart of blessing begins with a focus on the healing forgiveness of Jesus Christ and the future that relationship makes possible. In the New Testament book of Luke chapter 17 we find 10 men isolated from society with a terminal illness that would eventually lead them to a painful humiliating death. These men could no longer hold their children, caress their wives, participate in society, and were repulsive sights to behold as their bodies slowly rotted away. And yet when Jesus approached, they saw hope and cried out for mercy and Jesus responded. It is interesting that Jesus commanded an act of obedience before He ignited His power. He told them to go to the priest as was prescribed by the law. The priest would then declare them healed and they would be allowed to re-enter society. As they responded in obedience to Jesus’ instructions, they experienced Jesus’ power to transform.

Action fueled by faith resulted in healing. There is a real lesson to be learned here. Don’t wait for God to change your life because He might just be waiting for you to take that first step of faith. Don’t make the mistake of waiting on God when God is waiting on you. If there is any command that you have not responded to, don’t be surprised by a lack of transformational power. God wants to bring about change, but it is always done in response to our faith. The evidence of real faith is seen in our obedience. Faith demonstrated in action ignites transformational power.

Ten lepers were healed and yet only one returned to give thanks and Jesus appeared amazed by the ingratitude of the majority.

We are a radically blessed people with every reason to give thanks.

I don’t know the circumstances of your life, but if you have been cleansed of sin through faith and repentance in Jesus Christ, you have more than sufficient cause to fall at the feet of Jesus in a spirit of celebration and thankfulness. There are many suggestions as to why the other nine did not return but one idea is fear. They did not return for fear of what might be expected of them. They must have known that Jesus had called many to follow Him after receiving their miracle. Maybe their thought was, “I have what I want; I’m not about to go back because He might ask something of me that I’m not willing to give.” Many people today fear returning to Jesus and bowing down before Him in submission. I pray that you will be like the Samaritan who threw caution to the wind and returned praising God with a loud voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him.

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Common Learning Disabilities among children

Language and Speech Disabilities

These are among the most common learning problems and can be quite significant, because most learning is dependent on language. If your child has such a disability, it can affect his reading, spelling, writing, speech, and ability to understand what he hears or reads. It may also affect his memory or comprehension—that is, the ability to recall or understand information previously heard or read. Your child may have difficulty following instructions, understanding explanations, or expressing himself. These problems can not only affect his learning but also may impede his social interactions, which require good listening and speaking skills. As a result he may become embarrassed, confused, or quiet and withdrawn. He might even resort to acting out his feelings, thoughts, or frustrations with inappropriate behavior.

Writing Difficulties

Like children with other types of learning disabilities, children with writing problems may be bright and creative but may have difficulty expressing themselves on paper in a coherent manner. This may cause frustration or even a writing phobia. Since any written document is a semi-public, permanent display of one's work, these children sometimes feel extremely embarrassed or self-conscious and often try to avoid writing assignments or don't make much of an effort when doing them. Writing is a complex task that requires the simultaneous use of many skills, including letter formation, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, the mechanics of writing (punctuation, capitalization), and organizing ideas into sentences and paragraphs.

While some children may master each of these skills separately, carrying all of them out at the same time may prove difficult. Writing problems are complex and may have several causes, including visual, fine motor, language, and/or memory difficulties.

Visual Learning Difficulties

When youngsters have a weakness or disability in understanding visually presented information, it may affect their ability to read, spell, interpret, or remember the printed word, graphs, tables, illustrations, and maps. These are learning problems; the children's vision is normal and unrelated to the specific problem.

Sometimes visual learning difficulties occur along with another weakness—for example, in conjunction with fine motor difficulties—which can affect handwriting. When that happens, the child's writing may be illegible. He may have difficulty forming letters or numbers, or keeping numbers properly aligned in columns. He may write letters or numbers backward. This can affect not only his writing ability (including legibility and speed) but also his proficiency in mathematics, causing him to make miscalculations.

Memory and Other Thinking Difficulties

As children move through elementary school, they are increasingly asked to remember, retrieve, and use more and more information rapidly. They need to recall specific information in a very detailed manner, as well as to recall and assemble information in a creative and open-ended way. The first, more specific

memory (called convergent) is useful in short answers or multiple-choice tests and in analytical, fact-oriented reasoning. The second, more general memory (divergent) is useful in essay writing, retelling a story, interpreting a poem, or describing a character in one's own way.

Memory involves taking in information, classifying it, associating it with previously learned information, and consolidating it. Many children understand what they read or are taught but can't remember it later on, perhaps for a test, or they can't recall it in a different context. While a memory problem can be subtle and difficult to assess, you should suspect this type of difficulty if your child is under-achieving.

Some youngsters have particular trouble remembering several pieces of sequential information, such as multiple instructions or a series of words or numbers (like a telephone number). As a result, a school-age child may have difficulty doing a three-step math problem, organizing events, learning the alphabet, remembering multiplication tables, or recounting a story in the proper sequence.

A number of factors can make memory problems even worse. These include too much or too complex information being presented at one time, or an excessively rapid rate of incoming information. Attention problems, emotional disorders (depression, anxiety), boredom, loss of motivation, and fatigue (poor nutrition, inadequate sleep, mental exertion) can also contribute to memory difficulties.

Difficulties can occur with other higher-level thinking as well. Some children

have problems with a skill called abstract reasoning, meaning that they are unable to determine the general meaning of a particular word or symbol—perhaps the symbol for an unknown quantity in a math problem. They also cannot make inferences by going from a specific, concrete fact to a more general type of thinking.

Youngsters may also have difficulty with organization and thus be unable to assemble information into a usable form. Good organizational skills can also help children associate newly learned information with their existing knowledge, making it fit in with something familiar so it can be more easily retrieved and utilized.

Summarizing skills are another possible problem area. Children may have trouble taking a large amount of information and condensing it to a more manageable size so it is easier to remember and use. Youngsters with this skill are able to separate major facts and concepts from lesser ones, ascertaining which ones are most worthwhile.

Inadequate Social Skills

These often occur in conjunction with learning disabilities and usually result in difficulties interacting with other children or adults. Children with this problem may have trouble interpreting the messages or intentions of others and responding appropriately to others, even to parents and teachers who are trying to be helpful. Recognizing and alleviating these difficulties are critical, because peer acceptance and a successful social life are extremely important to the youngster in middle childhood and greatly affect his self-image and self-esteem.

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American Airlines commits to Yuma Airport

Not long after the announcement of the Yuma International Airport having had a record year in 2014, American Airlines (formerly US Airways) has committed to a five year lease at our local airport. Not only has the airline committed to provide continued jet service between Phoenix and Yuma, they have invested in an expanded footprint inside the passenger terminal building.

"We are very excited to announce this new agreement and look forward to working with American Airlines in their effort to provide services to our flying travelers (commuters) throughout our region," said Gladys Wiggins, Airport Director. "Their investment in our community shows with this new agreement as well as their recent remodel of the ticket counter and expanding their footprint in the terminal. American Airlines is truly committed to providing the best air service

for our community and in the industry," said Wiggins.

American Airlines will officially be the new name of the formerly known US Airways operations effective, October 2015. While American Airlines will continue to provide air service from Yuma to Phoenix, airport officials are hopeful that data received by the Federal Aviation Administration in July confirming Yuma International Airport's record commercial airline passenger activity in 2014 will help open discussions for additional routes.

"Yuma is very fortunate to have one of the worlds largest airlines serving our market and as a legacy air carrier, we are confident that American Airlines will see an increase in passenger travel over the course of these next few years. We look forward to a long-lasting supportive relationship with the local American Airlines team," Wiggins said.

Free flights for WWII and Korean veterans

World War II and Korean War veterans are being sought for an exciting flight in a vintage Boeing Stearman aircraft. On Friday, October 30, at 0800, the Ageless Aviation Dreams Foundation will bring its 1940's plane to Yuma outside the Million Air facility at Yuma International Airport.

Each flight will last about 20 minutes and is absolutely free. The foundation offers flights to veterans who currently reside in a local long term care facility. Ageless Aviation Dreams Foundation President Darryl Fisher restored the foundation's plane, a 1940s Boeing Stearman, with the goal of recognizing veterans living in long-term care communities through providing a memorable aviation experience.

To arrange for a flight, call Sarah Bynum at 344-5221. The deadline for applicants is October 2.

PREVENTION WEEK, OCTOBER 4-10

Every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm. If you didn't know that, you're not alone. An online questionnaire distributed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) showed that less than half (42 percent) of approximately 36,000 respondents did not know that a smoke alarm should be installed in each bedroom of the home.

In an effort to better educate the public about this "sleepy" smoke alarm requirement, NFPA – the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years – announced "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep: Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm" as the theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 4-10. NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code®, requires a smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

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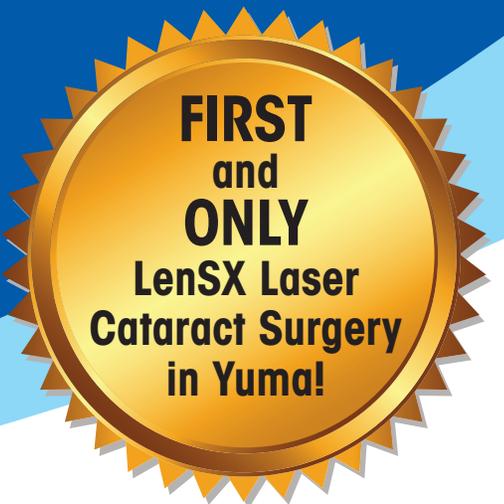
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