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SIXTIETH YEAR NO. 26

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

## NEW ARMED FORCES AMPHITHEATER VIDEO DESCRIBES 'A VISION FOR MIRAMAR NATIONAL CEMETERY'

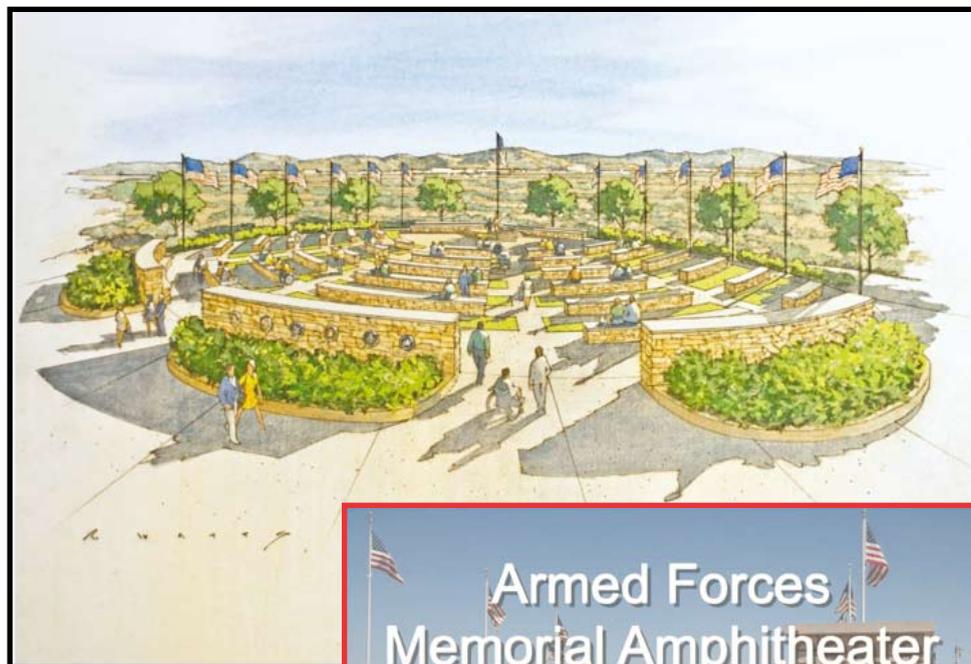
by Bill Heard

With some \$20,000 collected toward construction of the proposed Armed Forces Memorial Amphitheater, the Miramar National Cemetery Support Foundation has released a short video describing the project and showing an artist's rendering of the Amphitheater, which will be built in the Flag Assembly Area.

The video is titled "Armed Forces Memorial Amphitheater: A Vision for Miramar National Cemetery." To view the video, go to [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6\\_3mShqJpa8&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_3mShqJpa8&feature=youtu.be).

To donate to the Amphitheater project, refer to <https://gala.miramarcemetery.org/>, and follow the prompts. Donations also may be addressed to Miramar National Cemetery Support Foundation, c/o 2500 6th Ave., Unit 803, San Diego, CA 92103. The Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization, and a 509 (c)(1) public charity. Tax ID #65-1277308.

In the video, Support Foundation Vice President Sallay Kim, a retired Army major, introduces film of the group's previous projects at the cemetery - the Avenue of Flags, dedication of monuments on the Memorial Walk, dedication of the POW



Artist's rendering of Armed Forces Memorial Amphitheater.

Monument, and installation of the Veterans Tribute Tower & Carillon.

Support Foundation President & CEO Charlie Inot, a retired Army Reserve Master Sergeant, explains that permanent guest seating in the Amphitheater "will increase the comfort and enjoyment for all who attend" Memorial Day, Veterans Day and other ceremonies at the cem-

etery. He notes that the project will cost between \$450,000 and \$500,000.

All funds must be donated by individuals, corporations, civic groups, or local government since no federal funding may be used for the project. Although the VA is prohibited by policy from endorsing or authorizing the project, the Support Foun-

dation is working closely with the VA and National Cemetery Administration, which must approve every phase of Amphitheater planning and construction.

"As patriotic Americans, we understand the sacrifices of our veterans and their families," Dennis Schoville, Support Foundation Chairman and retired Army captain, says in an appeal

for community support for the Amphitheater.

"Once the Foundation, with your assistance, raises the necessary funds to complete construction of the Amphithe-

ater," Schoville says, "tens of thousands of members of our community, fellow veterans, friends, and families will benefit from your consideration and generosity for decades to come."

## Women's health transition training offered virtually

by Tech. Sgt. Areca T. Wilson

Department of Veterans Affairs' Women's Health Services and the Air Force's Women's Initiative Team collaborated to establish training that provides information on health services available to women who are separating or retiring from the military.

The virtual training is taught by women veterans who actively use VA health care services. The five-phase curriculum covers topics such as enrolling in the VA, understanding the Veterans Health Administration and utilizing available female-specific services.

"There's a lot of different challenges that women veterans face when they depart service, and I think different issues compared to their male peers, (it's not that) one gender experiences it worse — it's just one gender experiences it differently," said Maj. Alea Nadeem, Women's Initiative Team chair. "Women have different outcomes when they depart service, and so, this is why this was created - to acknowledge that ... there's some differences, and we need to get some parity between men and women when they depart service."

The course is available to all active duty, guard and reserve servicewomen. "Take advantage of someone educating you on very specific things to females - not a lot of times do we get that in the military ... so I think it's kind of a neat opportunity," Nadeem said. "I think women should take advantage of the program because it sends a demand signal to the VA, (the service is) going to need more of these specialty care items in the future as women go back into the growing population ... it's really for the future generations to make sure that they have the healthcare that they need."

Virtual training sessions are offered twice a day until December 21, 2020. The 2021 calendar is still being finalized. Women may sign up for the course 24 months prior to separation. Those interested in attending, can register at [www.va.gov/womenvet/whtt/](http://www.va.gov/womenvet/whtt/). Participants aren't limited to training sessions in their own time zone.

## FIRST CONSTRUCTION PHASE BEGINS FOR EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY PROGRAM AT CHINA LAKE

CHINA LAKE - A historic groundbreaking ceremony held Oct. 15 at the Magazines and Inert Storage Facility Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake officially began the first construction phase of the \$2.3 billion earthquake recovery program to restore full mission capability here.

"We officially begin the start of construction on the first of 18 Military Construction (MILCON) projects for the Earthquake Recovery Program," said Officer in Charge of Con-

struction (OICC) China Lake Commanding Officer Capt. Laurie Scott. "For us to be here, 15 months after the July 2019 earthquakes is a testament to the NAVFAC Southwest, NAW-CWD, NAWS China Lake and the Jacobs A/E Team, as well as the City of Ridgecrest and the tremendous support from local, regional and state elected representatives."

This first project will restore critical warfighting capabilities by constructing 25 new munition magazines and an inert storage

facility built to current seismic standards that will allow for safe handling and storage of munitions now and well into the future.

"Reyes Construction is excited to be the prime contractor for the first major contract awarded by Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southwest to bring China Lake back to fully mission capable," said Vice President of Reyes Construction Inc. Ricardo Jimenez. "We'll continue to work together in partnership with all team mem-

bers to deliver another quality project."

"On behalf of NMCPAC CONUS West Division, we are extremely pleased that this critical infrastructure project is on its way to be a full up round as we say in the Navy," said Cmdr. Lenteisa Hill, Navy Munitions Command Pacific West Division executive officer Hill. "It was essential when we suffered this tragedy last year, that we rebuild in an expeditious manner that ensured we replaced what we lost to continue our mission."

Participants in the first ceremonial groundbreaking included Capt. Scott, NAWS China Lake CO Capt. Jeremy Vaughan, Cmdr. Hill, Navy Munitions Command Detachment China Lake Director David Percifield, Ridgecrest City Manager Ron Strand, and Mr. Jimenez.

"OICC China Lake is committed to sustaining the same sense of urgency in construction execution that was demonstrated by these outstanding organizations and elected officials," said Scott. "Now let's get to work!"

Ceremony participants took the ceremonial first shovel of dirt to commence the start of the magazines project and the rest of the repair program.

NAWS China Lake is located in the Western Mojave Desert region of California, approximately 150 miles north of Los Angeles. Its mission is to support the Navy's research, testing and evaluation missions to provide cutting-edge weapons systems to the warfighter. The installation is the Navy's largest single landholding.

# For 3rd time this year, a Navy destroyer enters Barents Sea

by John Vandiver,  
Stars and Stripes

STUTT GART, Germany - The U.S. has once again sent a warship into the Barents Sea in what is becoming the new normal this year as Navy surface vessels

navigate waters not visited since the height of the Cold War.

USS *Ross* entered the Barents Sea on Monday, the Navy said. The Russian navy happens to be conducting military drills in the

Barents this week.

“This Barents Sea mission marks a significant milestone, clearly demonstrating our dynamic ability to operate anywhere in the world,” said Cmdr. John D. John, *Ross*’s commanding officer, in a statement Tuesday. “These operations demonstrate the commitment of our crew to transatlantic stability and security.”

*Ross*’ transit into the Barents - the third this year for Navy destroyers - comes as the Navy steps up activities in the Arctic, where Russia has invested heavily in recent years and China has declared itself a power with economic interests.



**Sailors on USS *Ross* destroyer approach the British tanker RFA *Tidespring* for a replenishment-at-sea in the Barents Sea, Sept. 9. The ship has returned to the Arctic, marking the third time this year that Navy destroyers have operated in the Barents. Navy photo by Christine Montgomery**

The Navy sees operating in the Barents Sea as “normal activity” akin to routine operations in the Baltic, Mediterranean and Black Seas, said Cmdr. Kyle Raines, spokesman for 6th Fleet.

“We must operate and train in every environment in order to ensure a secure, stable and prosperous region,” Raines said.

Before heading into the Bar-

ents Sea, USS *Ross* took part in the U.K.-led Exercise Joint Warrior, the Navy’s 6th Fleet said in a statement.

The lessons learned during this high-end warfare training, along with previous Arctic experience, ensures the readiness of the crew to execute the entire spectrum of maritime operations across the maritime domain,” the statement said.

The Navy re-entered the Barents Sea in May for the first time since the mid-1980s, drawing complaints from Russia.

On Oct. 20, as *Ross* entered the area, the Russian navy said it was doing drills of its own in the Barents. Russia deployed a frigate from its Northern Fleet for anti-submarine warfare drills, Russia’s Tass news agency reported Tuesday. The drills were expected to last several days.

**Total Navy Battle Force: 296**  
**Ships Underway**  
 Deployed Ships Underway: 55  
 Non-deployed Ships Underway: 25  
**Total Ships Underway: 80**  
**Ships Deployed by Fleet**  
 Fleet Forces: 0  
 3rd Fleet: 1  
 4th Fleet: 5  
 5th Fleet: 21  
 6th Fleet: 14  
 7th Fleet: 55  
**Total: 96**



## Marine general under investigation for using racial slur is relieved of duty

STUTT GART, Germany - Maj. Gen. Stephen Neary has been relieved of command of U.S. Marines in Europe and Africa while the service investigates allegations he used a racial slur that denigrates Black people, the Corps said Oct. 20. Marine Commandant Gen. David H. Berger relieved Neary on Oct. 19 “due to a loss of trust and confidence in his ability to serve in command,” the Corps said in a statement. The Marine Corps previously said that the investigation was connected to the use of a racial slur but declined to go into detail. *Stars and Stripes* reported earlier this month that the two-star general’s actions were being probed for using the word during a training event at his Stuttgart-area headquarters. The incident occurred in August on the parade field outside Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa headquarters in Boeblingen, Germany. A lance corporal who was present told *Stars and Stripes* that Neary used the N-word while Marines were doing physical training outdoors with loud music playing. Some of the rap music incorporated the word, which prompted Neary to ask the junior Marines how they would feel if he said it, the lance corporal said. SOURCE: *Stars and Stripes*

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## PEOPLE, POLICY, PERFORMANCE READINESS MEAN U.S. PREPARED TO FIGHT

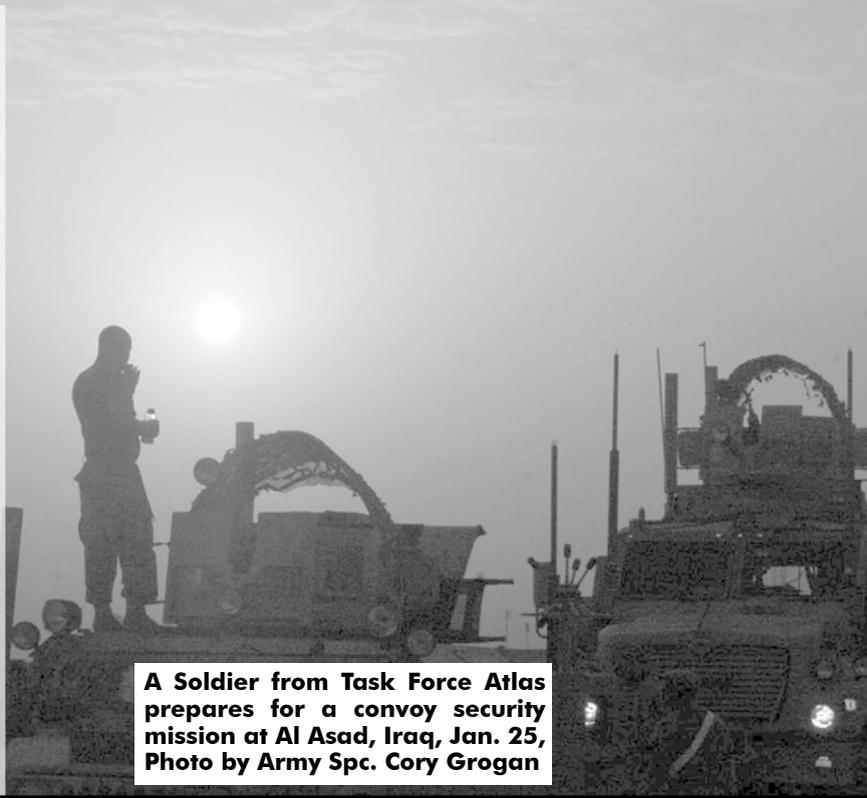
by C. Todd Lopez,  
DOD News

Can the U.S. fight tonight if called upon? Is the U.S. military ready to fight if a conflict arises? The Defense secretary says he thinks so.

“Today, given our efforts over the past few years, I’m fully confident the answer to that question is a resounding yes,” Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper, said, while speaking Oct. 15 with the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Lethality and readiness for conflict is just one of three pillars of the National Defense Strategy. The other two include: partnerships strengthening alliances and attracting new partners; and reform the department for greater performance and affordability. When he took office in August 2019, Esper added a fourth priority: taking care of service members and their families.

**Spotlight: National Defense Strategy**  
As a goal for the Defense Department, restoring readiness in the U.S. military has focused on policy, people and performance, Esper said.



**A Soldier from Task Force Atlas prepares for a convoy security mission at Al Asad, Iraq, Jan. 25, Photo by Army Spc. Cory Grogan**

Policy changes to enhance readiness have involved both implementation of “dynamic force employment,” he said, as well as increasing the number of highly-ready immediate response forces and follow-on contingency response force units.

“These policy shifts - which

constitute another one of our top ten NDS objectives - have enabled us to think and act globally and with speed, unencumbered by limitations within individual geographic combatant commands,” he said. “This construct has also allowed us to be much more confident in the joint force’s preparedness, and in

directing readiness levels from the services, while also creating predictability and efficiency within our programming and budgeting system.”

One example of how policy change has enhanced readiness, Esper said, was evident in December. When Pentagon of-

ficials learned of protests outside the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, and later learned of a possible embassy breach, U.S. forces were ready to respond.

“This triggered the requirement to deploy an immediate response force, which was successful”

### Army

◆ Army housing and child care getting a significant financial boost, service leaders say



◆ Deployed Soldiers face punishment for their ‘message to liberals’ video

◆ Army to outfit 110 active brigades with fitness experts to boost

◆ Army releases more details on new ‘missing Soldier’ policy

◆ Man found guilty of trying to blow up a soldier’s SUV in the Pentagon parking lot

### Navy

◆ Navy fires *Fitzgerald* XO

◆ Priest sentenced to prison for breaking into Navy submarine base

◆ USS Oklahoma sailor killed at Pearl Harbor identified, will be honored

◆ Navy got a head start on remote recruiting. When the pandemic hit, it paid off

◆ USS Stennis is nearing its maintenance overhaul

◆ Check out how rusty and battered USS *Stout* looks after spending a record 215 days at sea

◆ Naval Academy officially opens new cyber building named after Rear Adm. Grace Hopper

### Air Force

◆ Family of contractor killed in F-16 strafing accident will get payout in settlement with Air Force

◆ Shaw airman charged in connection with shooting deaths in Myrtle Beach

◆ Montana ridge named in honor of airmen who died in 1962 B-47 crash

◆ ‘Candy Bomber’ during Berlin Airlift glides into milestone birthday

◆ Bass: USAF not changing stance on marijuana

### Marine Corps

◆ Nigerian romance scheme targets local Marine

◆ Vet’s newly opened cigar lounge was inspired by Afghanistan deployment

### Space Force

◆ General says ‘no clear vision’ yet for military cargo delivery via space rocket

◆ First recruits are headed to basic military training

### Armed Forces Dispatch (619) 280-2985

Published by Western States Weeklies, Inc.  
2604 B-280 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
E-mail: editor@navydispatch.com

Publisher.....Sarah Hagerty

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# Historic agreement opens defense data to academia

by Staff Sgt. Rita Jimenez,

122nd Fighter Wing  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Mass. - Data is a commodity that fuels the technological world. Data powers machine learning, drives advances in artificial intelligence and helps corporate and government leaders make better, more informed decisions.

One of the largest owners of data, the Department of Defense, known for its steadfast protective oversight of this digital gold, embarked on a historical first this year: a first with the ability to improve the effectiveness,

Airmen, scientists, researchers engineers and students, works towards creating functional AI systems that can be rapidly adopted by the DOD and society.

A functional AI system requires large amounts of data. Making eligible Air Force datasets publicly accessible is an important aspect of researching and developing any AI system. Offering this accessibility was an undertaking that the Airmen at the AI Accelerator deemed necessary.

"By making data more accessible and available, we are able to bring the smartest minds to bear

research and collaboration. Built upon other government, industry and academic data sharing agreements, this paved the road for terms and conditions under which the Air Force can share data to the broader AI community and contribute to advancements in the field.

"Data rights and intellectual property rights are extremely important considerations when developing any AI technology," Jacobs said, who works closely with the service's Judge Advocate General's Corps, Secretary of the A.F. General Counsel and the service's Research Laboratory Legal Counsel on legal issues involving intellectual property, data rights, contracting, cyber law, human subject research and ethics.

Accessing large amounts of Air Force data in a centralized and secure way is another challenge for the AI Accelerator.

By partnering with the Air Force Chief Data Office, the AI Accelerator uses the Visible, Accessible, Understandable, Linked and Trustworthy data platform, or VAULT, as a means to provide a centralized, secure and accessible place for hosting both public and controlled Air Force data sets.

"The VAULT is an enterprise level collaboration environment that resides on both the high side and low side, the NIPR and SIPR net," said Derek J. Eichin, lead

research analyst at the Air Force Chief Data Office. "The VAULT provides multiple tenants, secure spaces or 'sandboxes' for various tenants to bring in their data, use our enterprise tools, whether they be open source or licensed software, and store and curate data driven analytics within that architecture."

"The VAULT is used as a catalyst for helping many organizations in the Air Force realize the potential technology and capability that they have," said Lt. Col. Ronnie J Synakowski, director of data capabilities at the Air Force Chief Data Office. "The VAULT is available to them to apply to whatever their current job is."

The AI Accelerator's partnership with the Air Force Chief Data Office is a catalyst for change in the way data is shared and a huge win for DOD AI research.

"The relationship with MIT and the AI Accelerator has been really great," Eichin said. "We are partnering overall in an effort to make data accessible to not only internal partners within the department, but also universities and small businesses."

The AI Accelerator and the Chief Data Office collaborated in addressing AI problems relating to scheduling using AI by putting forth Air Force datasets to a large DOD AI community during their inaugural datathon.

The second challenge problem addressing an alternative to GPS through magnetic navigation was presented at the international conference JuliaCon, a conference dedicated to the Julia programming language.

"At the conference, we presented the challenge problem," Jacobs said. "Here's what we've done so far. Here is some very valuable Air Force data, have at it and see what we get."

The Department of the Air Force is setting the groundwork for smartly sharing data to train AI for immediate and lasting military advantages.

Refer to <https://www.af.mil/News/>.

## Strategy

continued from page 3

fully accomplished within 19 hours of the incident," he said. "Over the next three days, an entire infantry brigade combat team consisting of more than 3,000 Soldiers and equipment was deployed halfway around the world to secure American lives and property in Iraq."

Individuals must also be ready to fight tonight, Esper said. The department has pursued several initiatives to ensure its people are prepared for great power competition.

When it comes to training those people, he said, he has directed the National Defense University to reorient its curriculum onto China, in much the same way the curriculum had been focused on the Soviet Union during the Cold War.

"I also tasked the military services to make the People's Liberation Army the pacing threat in our professional schools, programs and training," he said.

It's not just enough that the department has people available, Esper said. Those service members must be ready to go to combat. So while the department has added some 30,000 personnel to the ranks over the last 4 years, he said, there has also been a greater push on the military services to ensure those people are actually ready to deploy at a moment's notice.

"This was the result of close, senior-level and senior leader attention to needed reforms such as quickly resolving medical conditions, enabling service members to get back to a ready status sooner," he said.

Esper said the department has been able to get the num-

ber of non-deployable service members down below its goal of 5 percent, which he said returned tens of thousands of personnel to deployable status ahead of schedule.

"For example, over the last few years, the army's non-deployable population has decreased well over 50 percent, meaning many more soldiers are available for a potential, high-end fight if called upon to go," he said.

Readiness also means that both equipment and people are performing well, Esper said. That includes proper maintenance and sustainment of equipment, as well as high-end training of personnel.

As an example, Esper cited the Navy's efforts with the F/A-18 Hornet aircraft. There, he said, the mission-capable rate has increased from 55 percent to 80 percent, as of last year. He said the Navy got rid of older Hornet aircraft and used repairable parts for spares.

As an example of enhancements to training, he said, the Air Force migrated to a common aircraft simulator platform, replacing stand-alone devices that trained pilots for specific airframes.

"The department's vision for readiness is one in which our people are focused on great power competition from day one, and trained to deter and prevail in the high-end fight, while able to perform across the full spectrum of combat operations," Esper said. "It is a vision in which we have more planes in the air, more ships at sea, more units prepared to go into combat at a moment's notice, more cyberwarriors online and more space assets ready to defend the high ground."

"By making data more accessible and available, we are able to bring the smartest minds to bear on AI challenges that directly impact the Department of the Air Force and the United States."

- Maj. David F. Jacobs, chief legal advisor to the AI Accelerator.

agility, affordability and speed of operations for a myriad of stakeholders. The unprecedented idea started at another new DoD venture located in the heart of academia.

Members of the USAF-MIT Artificial Intelligence Accelerator, a new unit under the Department of the Air Force, located at MIT, tackled some of the most difficult challenges facing our nation and the Air and Space Forces.

The AI Accelerator, a small multi-disciplinary team of

on AI challenges that directly impact the Department of the Air Force and the United States," said Maj. David F. Jacobs, chief legal advisor to the AI Accelerator. "One of the first problems we had to tackle at the AI Accelerator was how to make eligible Air Force datasets publicly accessible so that researchers at MIT and other academic institutions across the United States could work with real data to tackle real problems."

This problem prompted Jacobs to develop a first-of-its-kind Air Force data sharing agreement for



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## Trump signs veteran suicide prevention measures into law

by Nikki Wentling,  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump signed a bill into law Oct. 17 that contains dozens of methods to prevent suicide among veterans, including measures to boost mental health research and staffing at the Department of Veterans Affairs and establish a multimillion-dollar grant program for state and local groups.

Sens. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., and Jon Tester, D-Mont., leaders of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, said the bipartisan bill had the potential to reform mental health care at the VA and improve veterans' access to life-saving mental health services.

"This new law combines the best ideas from vets, veterans service organizations, the VA, and mental health care advocates to deliver innovative solutions that'll help heal invisible wounds of war through increased access to care, alternate therapies and local treatment options," Tester said in a statement.

Most notably, the bill will offer up to \$174 million during the next five years to state and local groups that provide suicide-prevention services to vets and their families. Lawmakers believe the program will create better collaboration between the organizations and the VA. They think the partnership will result in earlier identification of veterans who are at risk of suicide, giving mental health providers more time to intervene.

The bill is called the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act, named for a retired Navy commander who died by suicide in 2018 at age 46.

The legislation comes at a particularly dire time, as experts speculate the ongoing coronavirus pandemic is worsening mental health problems across the country. Last week, Gen. James C. McConville, the Army's chief

in this year's increase in suicides in the service.

Suicide among vets is disproportionately higher than the rest of the U.S. population, with an estimated 20 vets dying by suicide each day, according to VA data.

"Many of our veterans are suffering from daunting, sometimes overwhelming mental health challenges, that have only been made worse by this pandemic," Moran said in a statement. They

**"It is a national step forward out of the shadows of stigma that prevent too many people from getting help and into a new era when mental health care is easy to get and normal to talk about. This is a win for every American who has been affected by mental illness."**

- Rep. Seth Moulton, D-Mass

of staff, said the pandemic was taking a toll on the mental health of Soldiers and could be a factor

lack "access to modern, effective and compassionate mental health care and suicide prevention services."

### Veterans

- WWII vet's 107th birthday brings parade of well-wishers, thanks to California non-profit
- Texas man granted US citizenship - 53 years after serving in Vietnam, receiving Purple Heart



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear military Dispatch newspaper and online website,

Thank you for sharing the opening of the new VA Clinic in Chula Vista. As a Navy family member and healthcare administrator, I appreciated hearing about good news in the region.

Respectfully, Daphne H. Galang, Spring Valley

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## Navy Medicine supports Guam civilian hospital with telehealth

For Guam, situated in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, the isolation can be challenging when help is needed. The U.S. Naval Hospital there is part of the emergency response network and accepts emergent cases on a regular basis if it's the closest hospital.

But during the COVID-19 pandemic, when more expertise was needed, Naval Medical Center San Diego stepped in to provide tele-critical care assistance from more than 6,000 miles away.

DoD's first-ever telemedicine tasking for Defense Support of Civil Authorities, or DSCA, began with a request from the naval hospital through the Guam government to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA requested telemedicine support for their medical operations in Guam because the number of critically ill COVID-

19 patients exceeded both the number of available intensive care units beds and the ability of on-site providers, with critical



**Trisha Lindsey, a nurse specialist assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's Joint Tele-Critical Care Network, provides support to a remote ICU via tele-conference in the hospital's JTCCN office. Navy photo by MCSN Luke Cunningham**

care expertise, to care for these patients. The civilian hospital had well-trained medical professionals, but requested the extra expertise in critical care to

ensure they were providing the best care possible to the patients amid a late summer surge in COVID-19 cases island wide.

While the use of telemedicine and virtual health have become hallmarks of patient care delivery during the pandemic, with both military and civilian providers significantly increasing options for virtual health care, this is the first-ever DOD tasking for telemedicine support in response to a request from civil authorities.

"We were able to rapidly engage our expertise to support the hospital in Guam," said Navy Capt. Konrad Davis, director of the Joint Tele-Critical Care

Network for the Military Health System and a Navy pulmonary and critical care physician at NMCS D. "Normally we deploy people, and those people along with the correct equipment and supplies create a capability. However, we now have the ability to leverage information and communication technologies to extend health care expertise. We now have the ability to provide a virtual health capability."

Davis and his team started providing support to a civilian hospital in Guam in early September, leveraging novel software developed and funded by DOD and the Department of Health and Human Services. The software, developed under the National Emergency Telecritical Care Network project, is cyber-secure, compliant with patient privacy regulations, and can be accessed with a smartphone, tablet or desktop computer.

see **Telehealth**, page 8

## Veteran's Day boat parade highlight of San Diego Fleet Week 2020

SAN DIEGO - While the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated some changes to this year's San Diego Fleet Week, the Fleet Week Foundation is planning a full week of both interactive and live events to honor and thank San Diego's active duty and Veteran community.

From Nov.9-15, the San Diego Fleet Week Foundation will partner with the military, veterans organizations, the Port of San Diego, and San Diego's business and non-profit community to host Fleet Week San Diego 2020.

When the Fleet Week Foundation Board received word that the traditional downtown bay front San Diego Veteran's Day Parade on Harbor Drive wouldn't take place due to COVID 19 restrictions, the board and staff made a decision to schedule a Veteran's Day boat parade on San Diego Bay. Maritime Museum of San Diego's restored PCF 816 Swift Boat will lead the parade starting at 10 a.m. on Nov.11 with USS Midway Museum and MMSD veterans aboard the patrol craft vessel listed on the National and California State register of historical and cultural resources worthy of preservation. After serving in the Mediterranean as part of the Maltese Navy, PFC 816 made the long journey to the Maritime Museum of San Diego in 2012. Volunteers including Vietnam veterans helped restore the vintage vessel.

To learn more about San Diego Fleet Week 2020 events, visit <https://fleetweeksandiego.org>.

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For Subaru owners - send in a Love Story (long or short) with a photograph about how you, your friends, or family are doing and how you are celebrating the good things in life, even in these Covid-times. Send your Love Stories to: [lovestories@subaruofelcajon.com](mailto:lovestories@subaruofelcajon.com).

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[adventurestories@southcountyBGMC.com](mailto:adventurestories@southcountyBGMC.com). Each month 25 oil changes will be given away to the first active 25 service members who own a GMC car, truck, or SUV and who submit an Adventure Story.

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**BRIDGEPORT, CALIF.**  
**OCT. 8, 2020**

Marine Corps Cpl. William L. Stewart feeds a mule during an Animal Packer Course as a part of Mountain Training Exercise 1-21 at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center. Stewart, a landing support specialist, learned to use mules to travel through difficult terrain with mission-essential gear. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Rachel K. Young-Porter

Sailors and Coast Guardsmen conduct small boat operations aboard *Gabrielle Giffords* littoral combat ship. *Gabrielle Giffords* is deployed to the 4th Fleet area of operations to support Joint Interagency Task Force South's mission, which includes counter illicit drug trafficking in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific. Navy photo by MC2 Allen Michael Amani



**EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN**  
**OCT. 10, 2020**



**TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIF.**  
**OCT. 13, 2020.**

Marines conduct helicopter support team (HST) training during Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 1-21 at Marine Air Ground Combat Center. Landing support specialists are training at ITX as the logistics combat element to provide tactical logistics in the areas of medium and heavy-lift motor transportation. Photo By Lance Cpl. Zachary Zephir



**SAN DIEGO**  
**OCT. 19, 2020**

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Brittni Porter, a laboratory technician assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego's microbiology laboratory, exams agar slides during a drug susceptibility test. Drug susceptibility tests are conducted to see if a particular antibiotic will react with a patient's sample on an agar slide. NMCS employs more than 6,000 active duty military personnel, civilians, and contractors. Navy photo by MC3 Jake Greenberg

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Destroyer USS *Zumwalt* executes the first live-fire test of the MK 57 Vertical Launching System with a Standard Missile (SM-2) on the Point Mugu Sea Test Range. The *Zumwalt* class will operate as a key enabler in the acceleration of new warfighting capabilities and rapid development. Official Navy photo



## USS *Zumwalt* successfully completes first standard missile shot

San Diego-based USS *Zumwalt* (DDG 1000) executed the first live fire test of the MK 57 Vertical Launching System with a Standard Missile (SM-2) on the Naval Air Weapons Center Weapons Division Sea Test Range, Point Mugu, Oct. 13.

As the first-in-class ship, *Zumwalt* successfully demonstrated its capability to detect, track and engage an anti-ship cruise missile threat with a

SM-2. The structural test fire assessed the material readiness of the ship against shock and vibration of the weapon firing, as well as measure any hazards or degradations as a result of firing live ordnance.

The ships' stealth and ability to operate in both the open-ocean and near-shore environments creates a new level of battlespace complexity for potential adversaries. The *Zumwalt* class will also operate as a key enabler in the acceleration of new warfighting capabilities and rapid development and validation of operational tactics, techniques, and procedures.

"The test not only demonstrated the ship's capability to fire missiles and conduct self-defense, it's also a significant step

**"... it's a significant step toward more advanced combat system testing and operations for the Navy's most technically innovative warship."**

DDG 1000 achieved sufficient combat system installation and activation earlier this year for the Navy to take final delivery and transition to the next phase of developmental and integrated at-sea testing.

toward more advanced combat system testing and operations for the Navy's most technically innovative warship," said Capt. Matt Schroeder, DDG 1000 program manager. "*Zumwalt*'s crew and Surface Development Squadron One are working hand-in-hand with the acquisition community to advance this ship's operational capability."

*Zumwalt* is 100 feet longer and 13 feet wider than the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, providing the space required to execute an array of surface, undersea, and aviation missions. The ship continues tactical training and operational scenario engagement in support of attaining initial operational capability in 2021.

### Telehealth

continued from page 6

NETCCN makes it possible for the Navy's tele-critical care physicians and nurses to reach across the ocean and consult with on-site providers in Guam, many of whom are general practitioners and do not normally care for critically ill patients. Using the software, providers at both locations can securely communicate in real time via instant chat or video messages, send pictures or video to each other, and share vital information such as lab results, radiology images or electrocardiograms.

Davis' team used the technology to help the providers in Guam manage critically ill patients requiring interventions such as mechanical ventilation,

high-flow oxygen for acute respiratory failure, medication administration to support adequate blood pressure, or treatment for shock with active organ failure.

"Our nurses have been performing, on average, eight to 16 calls with Guam per 12-hour shift," Davis said. "Our physicians typically respond to anywhere between two and 20 calls per shift. We are providing physician support mostly at night in Guam, but nurse support has been active 24/7."

The tele-critical care program at NMCSO was launched in 2014 and has grown considerably over the years, according to Davis.

"Many years ago, we in the Department of Defense recognized that critical care is not

defined by geography or the location of a patient," Davis said. "It is defined by the patient's condition, wherever they may be. We may have critical care patients not just in a hospital but also, because we are the military, located on a ship or in a deployed setting. We coined the phrase 'tele-critical care' instead of 'tele-ICU' to recognize the need to extend this expertise outside of traditional ICU settings."

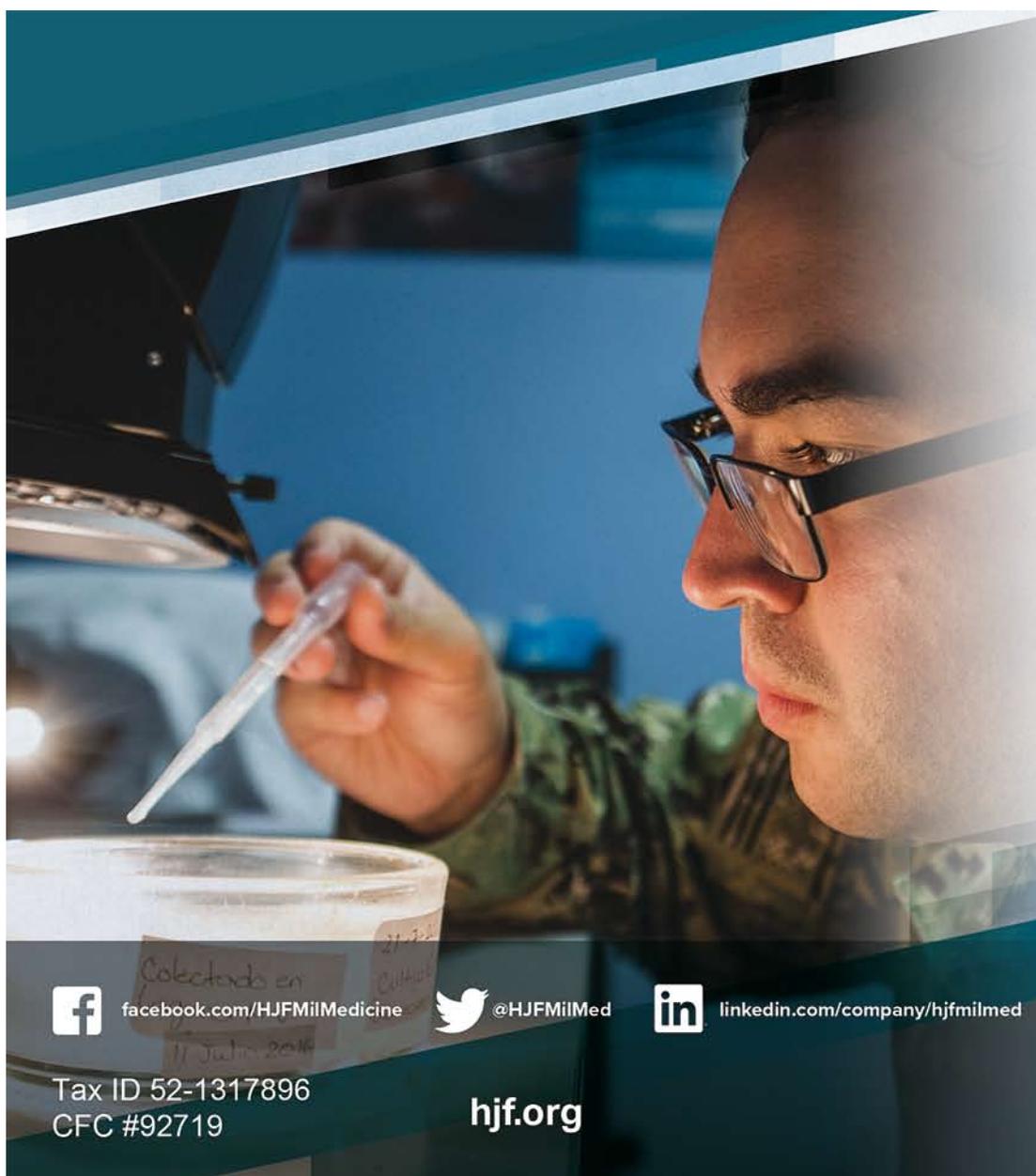
Davis said that NMCSO is the DOD lead for the Joint Tele-Critical Care Network and will be the primary tele-critical care hub in the future for providing on-demand, high-acuity synchronous VH support for both traditional, in-garrison ICU beds, and the operational space, which includes support of DSCA or humanitarian assistance missions.

"We're just at the beginning of realizing what's possible," Davis said. "We have a current capability that supports just under a dozen hospitals. As a result of collaboration with the Army and Air Force, and through the Defense Health Agency's sponsorship and funding, we are working to expand the tele-critical care program to the entire MHS."

Naval Medical Forces Pacific has oversight of 11 Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Commands located on the West Coast and throughout the Pacific Rim that train, man and equip medical forces, primarily in military treatment facilities, including the one in Guam.

*Story courtesy of Naval Medical Center San Diego.*

## Show Some Love: Combined Federal Campaign





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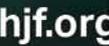


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by Jan Wagner

When life as we once knew it returns to normal - and it most certainly will, after we defeat the coronavirus - consider taking a road trip along the spectacular California coast to historic Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument. Towering high on a hill above San Simeon, Hearst Castle overlooks the Pacific.

As we learn from *HearstCastle.org*, the history of majestic Hearst Castle can be traced back to 1865 - less than 20 years after the Spanish-American war and of California becoming a state - with the purchase of 40,000 acres of California ranchland by George Hearst - a wealthy man with substantial interests in the mining industry.

William Randolph Hearst, his only child, was born two years earlier, in 1863 in San Francisco. George Hearst's vast wealth "allowed young William the opportunity to see and experience the world as few do," touring Europe as early as the age of ten with his mother. William studied at St. Paul's Preparatory School in Concord, N.H., and then at Harvard. No doubt, from an early age, his background instilled in him an interest in history, art, drama, politics, publishing and - European castles.

In 1919, William inherited the family's land from his mother, and over time he purchased more. The estate eventually grew to encompass 250,000 acres. The land had been used as a campsite for family and friends, but in 1919 he issued these instructions to famed San Francisco architect Julia Morgan: "Miss Morgan, we're tired of camping out in the open at the ranch in San Simeon

## Exploring historic Hearst Castle on the California coast

and I would like to build a little something." Indeed!

Hearst renamed the hill overlooking the land "La Cuesta Encantada" - The Enchanted Hill. Along with his architect Morgan, they conceived Hearst Castle as a spectacular residence, within which he would display and add to his massive collection of art treasures, and where he and his family would entertain an astounding who's who of the political, social and Hollywood entertainment industry elite - including Winston Churchill, Calvin Coolidge, Howard Hughes, George Bernard Shaw, Charlie Chaplin, Gary Cooper, Joan Crawford, Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, Cary Grant, Buster Keaton, David Niven, Mary Pickford, and Jack Warner, to name a few. No expense was spared. Construction spanned more than 28 years.

"By 1947, Hearst and Morgan had created an estate of 165 rooms and 127 acres of gardens, terraces, pools and walkways - an American castle that was destined to become one of the world's greatest showplaces for his art collection."

There are four main structures: Casa Del Monte, Casa Del Sol, Casa Del Mar and the 68,500 square foot Casa Grande. The guest houses contain 46 rooms, including lobbies. The Casa Grande's 115 rooms include the Refectory, Billiard Room, Theater, Gothic Study, Beauty Salon, Butler's Pantry, Kitchen, Staff Dining Room.

The enormous swimming pools are luxurious. The Neptune Pool, complete with massive Neptune statuary and a temple-like structure, is outdoors and contains 345,000 gallons of water. Eventually, three versions of it were built between 1924 - 1936.

The Roman Pool, indoors, features a combination of intensely blue and orange tiles, and clear tiles with fused gold inside. It is decorated



Lush walkway on the grounds of Hearst Castle.

with eight marble statues of Roman gods, goddesses and heroes. The pools "were the settings for lively parties, social gatherings, exercise and recreation."

A variety of ticketed tours, some seasonal, were offered before COVID-19. They included the Upstairs Suites Tour, Cottages & Kitchen Tour, Julia Morgan Tour, Holiday Twilight Tour, Designing the Dream Tour, Art of San Simeon Tour, Hearst and Hollywood Tour, Private Tour and the special Evening Tour that I took, in which staff - dressed in 1930s attire - recreated scenes from daily life in the Hearst Castle. Tours begin with a narrated, five-mile bus ride up the hill to the castle.

The spacious visitor center includes exhibits, food services, gift shops and the Hearst Castle Theater, which shows the movie "Hearst Castle - Building the Dream": the story of the castle, with vintage clips and stills from the 1920s and 30s.

To learn more about the Hearst Castle and the Hearst Castle Visitor Center and Exhibition Hall, and to make reservations for its guided tours, visit [HearstCastle.org](http://HearstCastle.org), and the Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument page at [parks.ca.gov](http://parks.ca.gov).

To see additional photos, visit [www.drivetribe.com](http://www.drivetribe.com), click on the magnifying glass, select "POSTS" and enter "AutoMatters & More #664" in their search bar. Please send your comments to [AutoMatters@gmail.com](mailto:AutoMatters@gmail.com). Copyright © 2020 by Jan Wagner - AutoMatters & More #664



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## Combined Federal Campaign



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4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9	6
1	4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9
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7	5	2	4	1	9	6	3	8
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4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9	6
1	4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9
4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9	6
1	4	1	3	8	7	5	2	9
5	7	6	3	2	8	4	1	9
2	3	1	9	4	1	9	4	1

## Kids Free in October

There's no better time to be a kid in San Diego than in the month of October. Kids 12 and under receive free admission at many art, cultural, and science museums, historical sites and attractions in San Diego County as well as free meals at some local eateries. Check out a new destination or an old favorite. Kids Free in October gives families the opportunity to enjoy new experiences each year.

Participating museums include: California Surf Museum, Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, Japanese Friendship Garden, Maritime Museum of SD, Mission San Luis Rey, SD Air & Space Museum, SD Archaeological Center, SD Automotive Museum, SD Model Railroad Museum, SD Museum of Art, USS Midway Museum. Attractions include the Zoo and Safari Park, Legoland and SeaWorld Spooktacular. Visit [SanDiego.org](http://SanDiego.org) to view participating venues and terms. Restrictions may apply.

## Outdoor fall fun for families

### Looking for a corn maze?

**Bates Nut Farm's Pumpkin Patch.** Thru Oct. 31. Free admission; fee for some activities. \$5 cash-only parking on weekends. Pick from a variety of pumpkins and enjoy tractor hayrides, a straw maze, petting corral and pony rides. Masks and social distancing required. 15954 Woods Valley Rd., Valley Center. [www.batesnutfarm.biz](http://www.batesnutfarm.biz)

**Carlsbad Pumpkin Patch.** Thru Nov. 8; 9am-7pm daily. Entry fee. Carlsbad Strawberry Fields at Cannon Rd. & Interstate 5. [www.carlsbadstrawberrycompany.com](http://www.carlsbadstrawberrycompany.com).

**Mountain Valley Ranch.** Free admission; . Corn maze plus an assortment of pumpkins, corn cannon, petting zoo and pony rides. Dogs on leashes are welcome. 842 Hwy. 78, Ramona. [www.mountainvalleyranch.com/pumpkin-patch](http://www.mountainvalleyranch.com/pumpkin-patch)

**Pumpkin Station-Rancho Bernardo & Bonita.** Thru Oct. 31. Free admission; fee for some activities. Both locations feature an 8-foot-tall corn maze, petting zoo, pumpkin farm, tractor hay wagon and u-pick sunflowers. 13421 Highland Valley Rd., Escondido & 5354 Sweetwater Rd., Bonita. 858-566-7466. [www.pumpkinstation.com](http://www.pumpkinstation.com)

### Fall photo ops when you visit a pumpkin patch....

**Bates Nut Farm.** Pick from an array of pumpkins and enjoy tractor hayrides, a petting corral, straw maze and pony rides. Open daily, thru Oct. 31. Weekends include live entertainment, food trucks and family-friendly attractions. Free parking and admission on weekends. \$5 cash only weekend parking. 15954 Woods Valley Rd., Valley Center. [www.batesnutfarm.biz](http://www.batesnutfarm.biz)

**Carlsbad Pumpkin Patch.** Thru Nov. 8; 9am-7pm daily. Entry fee. Pumpkin patch and corn maze start 1050 Cannon Rd., Carlsbad. [www.carlsbadstrawberrycompany.com/pumpkin](http://www.carlsbadstrawberrycompany.com/pumpkin)

**Mountain Valley Ranch.** Pumpkin patch. 842 Hwy. 78, Ramona. [www.mountainvalleyranch.com/pumpkin-patch](http://www.mountainvalleyranch.com/pumpkin-patch)

**Mr. Jack O' Lanterns Pumpkin Patch.** Free. Thru Oct. 31. Sun-Thur, 11am-8pm; Fri-Sat, 10am-9pm. Visit the pumpkin patch in person or order online with curbside pick-up and delivery drop off. 6710 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla. [www.mrjackolanternspumpkins.com](http://www.mrjackolanternspumpkins.com)

**Oma's Pumpkin Patch.** Free. Thru Oct. 31; Tue-Sat, 10am-7pm. All tickets (including wagon ride) must be purchased online prior to arrival. No tickets sold on-site. 14950 El Monte Rd., Lakeside. [www.omasfamilyfarm.com](http://www.omasfamilyfarm.com)

**Peltzer Pumpkin Farm.** Open Mon-Fri, 11am-8pm; Sat-Sun, 9am-8pm. Entry \$2 per person. Free for kids under 2 w/paid adult. Pumpkin Pass available for multiple visits. Please follow all posted instructions when visiting Peltzer Pumpkin Farm to ensure the safety and comfort of guests and staff. 39925 Calle Contento, Temecula. [www.peltzerfarms.com](http://www.peltzerfarms.com)

**Pumpkin Station.** Thru Oct. 31. Locations in Rancho Bernardo, Mission Valley & Bonita. Rancho Bernardo. Corn maze, petting zoo, hayrides and u-pick sunflowers available at Rancho Bernardo and Bonita farms. Free parking/admission. Face masks required. See website for hours/information. [www.pumpkinstation.com](http://www.pumpkinstation.com)

**Summers Past Farms.** Free. Thru Oct. 31. Wander through the pumpkin patch and pick your favorite pumpkin. See website for dates/times. 15602 Olde Hwy. 80, Flinn Springs. [www.summerspastfarms.com](http://www.summerspastfarms.com)

			1		
1	4				7
		9	5		8
6	2	7		3	1
8		3			2
4	3	6		5	8
	6		8	5	
3					2
					7
		3			

### Across

- Low poker pair
- Mus. key with three sharps
- Nigerian seaport
- Greet with fanfare
- Pizza Quick sauce brand
- "You've got a friend"
- Prefix with tourism
- Region where broadcast reception may be poor
- Mix
- Former Soviet leader Brezhnev
- Progress at a faster rate
- Prefix with tourism
- Navigation technology, briefly
- Brooding genre
- "Spartacus" Oscar winner
- Bowler's pickup
- Amtrak express
- Army rank last conferred in 1950
- Breakout game developer
- Pool triangles
- Sent a message, old-style
- Rock's Ocasek
- Grow older
- Thorn \_\_, former Virgin Records owner
- Riot control weapon
- Arizona MLBers
- Dig find
- Automatic functions in most cars, and what can be found in this puzzle's circles
- "Ciao!"
- Take in eagerly
- Yule tune
- Saroyan's "My Name Is \_\_\_"
- Collaborative 1993 Sinatra album
- Looking like rain
- U. of Maryland athlete

### Down

- Roald Dahl novel adapted as 2016 Disney film

- Big hit
- Gretzky's first NHL team
- Word on the street?
- Canine greeting
- Tarnish
- Like gymnasts
- Capital near Glacier Bay Nat'l Park
- Property claim
- Dark purple berry
- Plant custodian
- Vein contents
- Briny expanse
- Neil Gaiman's "American \_\_\_"
- Get rid of
- Latin 101 verb
- Circle dance
- Cuba libre mixer
- Chemicals carrier
- Treats, as a sprain
- Drought-plagued
- Get an "Oh no" from Alex Trebek, say
- Inevitable end
- Tabloid couple
- Stamp, as a passport
- Teri of "Tootsie"
- Vaping device, familiarly
- Mark on metal
- Puck-handling skill
- Shining brightly
- Instrument for The Romeros, a classical quartet
- Pitch tents
- Regarding
- Tuned to
- Very dry, as Champagne
- Nile vipers
- H.S. dropout's test
- de cologne
- Scone go-with
- Surreptitious



## FLEET WEEK SAN DIEGO

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## Human testing for Army Medicine-led coronavirus vaccines in sight

by Thomas Brading,  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - With potential COVID-19 vaccines in their crosshairs, Army researchers have multiple candidates marching on to the next phase of testing, with hopes of human testing soon, officials said Wednesday.

One of those potential vaccines, Spike Ferritin Nanoparticle, or

SpFN, has pushed forward in the fight, and according to Kayvon Modjarrad, director of emerging infectious diseases at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, or WRAIR, his team could start human trials by winter.

The possible timeline is a delay from the original summer goal, officials said, to ensure a safe product.



Scientists with the Emerging Infectious Disease branch at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research conduct studies in order to find a solution for the COVID-19 virus. Established in 2018, the branch has the explicit mission to survey, anticipate and counter the mounting threat of emerging infectious diseases of key importance to U.S. forces in the homeland and abroad. Photo by Shawn Fury.

SpFN is a nanoparticle vaccine that deploys spike proteins to block infectious diseases, he said. He added that wielding spike proteins is a consistent approach used with other vaccine candidates, and isn't a unique technique.

In preparation, clinical-grade SpFN production trials began manufacturing last month, Modjarrad told reporters at the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition. The candidate recently advanced from being tested on smaller animals to larger ones -- more specifically from mice to non-human primates.

The "U.S. Army has doctors, nurses, scientists, and Soldiers working on the front lines to

help mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across our nation," said Lt. Gen. Scott Dingle, Army surgeon general.

The Army medical team works day and night on more than just potential vaccines and therapeutics to battle COVID-19, Modjarrad said. To prevent future outbreaks, the biomedical researchers are also focused on future coronavirus strains.

To do this, WRAIR has set in motion "recombinant genetically engineered spike proteins," Modjarrad said. "That will anticipate future coronaviruses that we haven't even seen yet. This is accomplished by researching coro-

navirus spike proteins not limited to bat populations."

Taking on deadly diseases is nothing new for the WRAIR researchers. In the past, they have taken on other viral heavyweights like Zika, Ebola, and HIV.

However, just because SpFN leveled up, it doesn't mean other candidates have fallen by the wayside. It's one of three leading candidates, officials said.

In a joint effort with public and private agencies, Army scientists have researched roughly two dozen potential candidates on five different vaccine tracks, said Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy during a press conference in March.

To date, COVID-19 has infected more than 38 million people and has killed over a million. In the United States alone, nearly 8 million have tested positive for the coronavirus and 217,000 have lost their lives.

The virus "does not discriminate, it affects people from all echelons and walks of life," Dingle said. "The military is not immune to the novel coronavirus. The Defense Department has reported more than 65,000 cases of COVID-19."

As the Army's war on COVID-19 wages on, Dingle said the best way to mitigate the virus is through proper hygiene.

### Free flu shots available at county clinics

A flu shot is recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

by José A. Alvarez

The County of San Diego is ramping up its flu vaccination efforts to lower the risk of San Diegans getting influenza and the novel coronavirus at the same time and prevent the local healthcare system from being overwhelmed.

Every year, the County sponsors free vaccination clinics throughout the region where you can get a flu shot. Six clinics will take place in October and early November with vaccine available for adults and children ages six months and up.

"The clinics are free and primarily for people with no medical insurance," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County public health officer. "We want everyone to be protected against the flu and its possible complications."

Upcoming clinics will be open from 10am to 4pm at:

Oct. 22 - North Central Public Health Center - 5055 Ruffin Rd., San Diego, CA 92123

Oct. 24 - South Public Health Center - 690 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 91911

Oct. 27 - North Coastal Public Health Center - 3609 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside, CA 92056

Oct. 28 - Central Public Health Center VIP Trailer - 3177A Oceanview Blvd., San Diego, CA 92113

Oct. 29 - East Public Health Center - 367 N. Magnolia Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020

Nov. 3 - North Inland Public Health Center - 640 W. Mission Ave #2, Escondido, CA 92025

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[bit.ly/Military\\_awarestudy](http://bit.ly/Military_awarestudy)

**ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS MAY EARN UP TO \$400 AFTER COMPLETION OF ALL STUDY ACTIVITIES**



An Institutional Review Board responsible for human subjects research at The University of Arizona reviewed this research project and found it to be acceptable, according to applicable state and federal regulations and University policies designed to protect the rights and welfare of participants in research.

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