

MEDICAL NEWS

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Junior Physical Therapist of the Year

How one officer is chasing her dreams

By Petty Officer 1st Class Chelsea Meiller
Naval Special Warfare Group ONE

CORONADO, Calif. — In the back of a room filled with racks of weights, tension bands, and workout machines is a physical therapist gently stretching out a patient's back. As she moves around her patient, she talks them through each movement. By the end of the session, the patient leaves smiling. With just enough time to clean her station, U.S. Navy's Lt. Tia Laine Blythe is onto the next patient.



U.S. Navy Lt. Tia Laine Blythe

While growing up in Santa Clarita, California, Blythe always knew she wanted to do something in the medical field. She was in college at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for pre-medical education when someone mentioned physical therapy to her.

"I knew I didn't want to be a doctor, but it wasn't until someone mentioned physical therapy to me that I started looking into it," she said. "Once I did, I realized physical therapy still has the medical component, but it also blends in sports medicine and personal training, which are other big interests of mine. I was sold."

After completing her bachelor's and master's degree at UCLA, she went on to receive her doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Southern California. Upon graduation, she began working as a physical therapist in the civilian sector. However, after a few years of working, she was ready for a change of pace.

"Something was missing," she remarked. "I was seeing the same patients day in and day out and doing the same things over and over. I just kept thinking 'I can't do this for the rest of my life, I need a change'. I sat down and thought about my goals in life and came back to the idea of joining the military."

Though she had previously considered joining the military, Blythe felt compelled to follow the more traditional college-to-career path. After all, outside of her grandfather's naval service in the 1950's, no one else in her family served.

"The military was an interest of mine in high school," she said. "But I did what I thought I was supposed to do — I applied to college, then one

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One team, one fight

Army and Air join forces for mass casualty, medevac training

By Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur
124th Fighter Wing

Idaho National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, as well as active duty counterparts joined forces with a one-team, one-fight mentality for joint training during a mass casualty exercise on Feb. 4 near Gowen Field.

"The best way to grow our mindset of becoming more operational and ready for a deployed environment is to train with the nearby resources, such as the Idaho Army National Guard and our active duty counterparts," said Senior Master Sgt. Virginia Holmgren, a respiratory therapist from the Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Medical Group. "Forming relationships with the other branches helps us to become familiar with each other's capabilities and to practice working together because when we are in a deployed environment we will be working with the other branches in the fight."

Medical personnel from Gowen Field's 124th Medical Group and active duty medical personnel with the 366th Medical Group from Mountain Home Air Force Base teamed up for several mass casualty events, which also included the use of medevac Soldiers and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the Idaho Army National Guard's 1st of the 168th Aviation Regiment to participate in the medical evacuation scenarios.

"This exercise is a great example



U.S. National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshur

Idaho National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, as well as active duty counterparts joined forces with a one-team, one-fight mentality for joint training during a mass casualty exercise on Feb. 4, near Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho. Medical personnel from Gowen Field's 124th Medical Group and active duty medical personnel with the 366th Medical Group from Mountain Home Air Force Base teamed up for several mass casualty events, which also included the use of medevac Soldiers and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the Idaho Army National Guard's 1st of the 168th Aviation Regiment to participate in the medical evacuation scenarios.

of how the Idaho National Guard is committed to the joint warfighting doctrine in support of the National Defense Strategy," said Brig. Gen. Tim Donnellan, Idaho Air National Guard commander. "The 124th Medical Group coordi-

nated this incredible training using combat proven units from the Idaho Army National Guard, the Idaho Air National Guard, and the Gunfighters of the 366th Fighter Wing."

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During the scenarios, combat medics performed treatment and stabilized casualties at a field medical tent in a simulated deployed location. The focus for the combat medics during the mass casualty scenarios was an emphasis on Tactical Combat Casualty Care. The TCCC is the military guideline for trauma life support in pre-hospital combat medicine, designed to reduce preventable deaths while continuing to maintain operation success.

“With our new DoD guidelines for the TCCC, it requires us to have more Airmen to be familiar with trauma care in responding to worse injuries out on the field rather than the typical self aid and buddy care that we have focused on in the past,” said Senior Master Sgt. Davis Nguyen, the 124th Medical Group Function Area Manager.

One medics respond and stabilize casualties, they could then recognize the patients that needed more advanced

critical care at a hospital outside of the combat field location and the 9-Line medevac call requesting the Black Hawk medevac team was made. In combat, the 9-Line is an emergency medevac request with an accurate report of combat injuries that is often the difference between life and death.

The ground combat medics and the Black Hawk flight medics worked together to stabilize the casualty during flight until they reached the simulated higher echelon of medical care.

Additional scenarios required protective gear to be worn during a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear event while Idaho National Guard Soldiers conducted hoist rescue training, allowing Airmen the chance to gain insight into a full range of rescue capabilities of the medevac Soldiers.

“I am proud of the commitment of the men and women in this joint, total force exercise demonstrating the incredible talent and the first class training capabilities we have here in Idaho,” said Donnellan. “We will continue to maintain our readiness for the immediate fight while preparing for any conflicts of the future.”



U.S. National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshuren

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U.S. National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Becky Vanshuren

Idaho National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, as well as active duty counterparts joined forces with a one-team, one-fight mentality for joint training during a mass casualty exercise on Feb. 4, near Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho. Medical personnel from Gowen Field's 124th Medical Group and active duty medical personnel with the 366th Medical Group from Mountain Home Air Force Base teamed up for several mass casualty events, which also included the use of medevac Soldiers and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from the Idaho Army National Guard's 1st of the 168th Aviation Regiment to participate in the medical evacuation scenarios. Combat medics performed treatment and stabilized casualties at a field medical tent in a simulated deployed location. The focus for the combat medics during the mass casualty scenarios was an emphasis on Tactical Combat Casualty Care. The TCCC is the military guideline for trauma life support in pre-hospital combat medicine, designed to reduce preventable deaths while continuing to maintain operation success. The ground combat medics and the Black Hawk flight medics worked together to stabilize the casualty during flight until they reached the simulated higher echelon of medical care.

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The hospital corpsmen of Iwo Jima

Stories of valor and sacrifice

By **André Sobocinski**

U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

At 0900 on Feb. 19, 1945, the first assault waves from the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions hit the beaches of Iwo Jima. Embedded within these units were corpsmen like Pharmacist's Mate Second Class Stanley Dabrowski, of New Britain, Conn., who remembered the "tremendous noise," concussion of small arms fire, explosions of artillery and sounds of shells. "As we were coming into the beach we were under a rolling barrage of 16 in. guns of the battleships. You could just feel those shells going over your head."

The beach was unlike anything U.S. forces had encountered in previous campaigns. What was called "sand" was in fact volcanic ash that one corpsman later likened to walking in

a "bin of buckwheat." Directly behind the beach the wind and waves shaped this soft terrain into a 15 ft. terrace that slowed the progress of vehicles and men into the fight. It was not long before the beaches were clogged with the invading force. Although the initial landings did not face heavy counterattack, once the beaches were full of men, vehicles and equipment the island's defenders unleashed the full fury of artillery, mortar and rockets. In this chaos, casualties mounted quickly and calls for "Corpsman!" were ever-present.

Hospital Apprentice First Class James Ferkin Twedt was among the first to arrive on Iwo. A veteran of the Navy for just over a year, the 19-year-old Iowa native was assigned to the 26th Marines. As Twedt followed the calls for medical assistance an exploding shell amputated his foot and badly

mangled the other. Incredibly, despite these grievous wounds and loss of blood, he dragged himself to two wounded Marines and was somehow able to administer first aid and stabilize them before being relieved by another corpsman. Twedt later died of his wounds.

Pharmacist's Mate Third Class Herman S. Trevor of Hollywood, Calif., arrived on Iwo Jima as a veteran of the bloody Saipan and Tinian campaigns. When his mortar platoon came under heavy fire, Trevor left his sheltered position to attend to four seriously wounded Marines. He was applying a tourniquet to a Marine who had lost his leg when his position came under targeted attack. Trevor remained with the casualties treating hemorrhage and shock before dashing 75 yards under fire to locate a litter team. It was later reported that time and time

again Trevor "treated casualties with a cool expertness that inspired all who observed him."

Pharmacist's Mate Third Class Byron A. Dary of Clinton, Wisc., had the unique distinction of being a Silver Star recipient from the Normandy invasion of June 1944. On Iwo Jima, he landed as part of USS Sanborn's "beach party" assigned to control the movement of personnel and equipment and help oversee the evacuation of casualties. Again and again, Dary left his covered position to salvage medical supplies and equipment scattered across the invasion beaches. When calls for corpsmen rang out, Dary supported the FMF corpsmen in providing emergency medical aid to the wounded before being killed in this mission of mercy.

Iwo Jima is a pork chop-shaped volcanic island located 750 miles south of Tokyo.

On its southern end is Mount Suribachi a dormant volcano rising 550 feet southwest of the beaches where the landings of Feb. 19, 1945, took place. The northern end of the island is a rocky plateau where the Imperial Japanese forces operated two active airfields and a third was under construction. Iwo Jima was truly an island fortress heavily fortified by some 23,000 troops equipped with a formidable array of artillery, mortars, rockets, tanks, an extensive system of underground tunnels and irrepressible need to defend this strategic island at all costs.

The battle for Iwo may have been a suicide mission for the defenders of the island; it certainly was for U.S. forces that arrived in February 1945. There was no strategic advantage for the Marines and no surprise attack. Casualties were immense, and outside of Marine



litter bearers corpsmen suffered the largest casualty rate. As in previous battles, corpsmen serving on Iwo were targets of snipers, but were also killed and injured while going into harm's way to treat casualties.

Dabrowski recalled that corpsmen were often singled out because they "looked different."

"We carried [medical kits] which I didn't like at all because they marked us as corpsmen. ... because of this, we were told to carry side-arms not as offensive weapons but for self-protection."


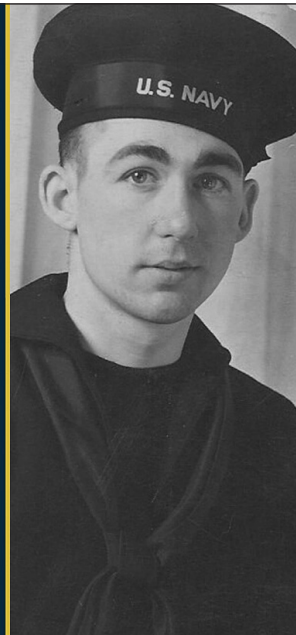

Despite the fact that the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions on Iwo Jima were assigned five percent more corpsmen than was allotted by the Marine Corps Tables of Organization, corpsmen losses were too great to overcome. Corpsmen casualties

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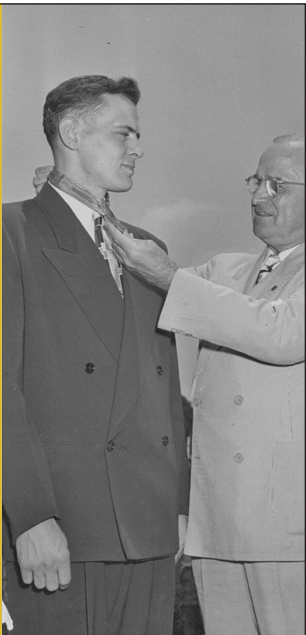

PhM1c John H. Willis
5th Marine Division
(10 June 1921 - 28 February 1945)

- Born in Columbia, Tennessee
- Attached to 3rd Bttn, 27th Marines
- Awarded Medal of Honor for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)
- Namesake of USS John Willis (DE 1027), in commission from 1957 to 1972




PhM3c Byron Dary
USS Sanborn (APA 193)
(13 March 1925 - 19 February 1945)

- Born in Clinton, Wisconsin
- Received Silver Star for actions with 6th Naval Beach Bttn at Normandy (1944)
- Part of USS Sanborn Beach Patrol at Iwo Jima (1945)
- Posthumously awarded Navy Cross




PhM1c Francis Pierce
4th Marine Division
(7 December 1924 - 21 December 1986)

- Born in Earlville, Iowa
- Awarded Medal of Honor in 1948 for actions on Iwo Jima.
- Namesake of USMC scholarship
- Only HM with his own "G.I. Joe" figure




HA1c James F. Twedt
5th Marine Division
(21 September 1925 - 25 February 1945)

- Born in Renville County, Minnesota
- Attached to 1st Bttn, 26th Marines
- Posthumously awarded Navy Cross for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)


PhM2c George E. Wahlen
5th Marine Division
(8 August 1924 - 5 June 2009)

- Born in Ogden, Utah
- Attached to 2nd Bttn, 26th Marines
- Awarded Medal of Honor for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)
- Namesake of Wahlen Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah

PhM3c Jack Williams
5th Marine Division
(18 October 1924 - 3 March 1945)

- Born in Harrison, Arkansas
- Attached to 3rd Bttn, 28th Marines
- Awarded Medal of Honor for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)
- Namesake of USS Jack Williams (FFG 24) in commission from 1981-1996



• Jr PT of the Year (Continued from front page)

thing led to another, and I had graduated. I started working and I let go of that thought for a while.”

However, in 2018 she decided to revisit her interest in joining the military. This led to her commissioning into the U.S. Navy as a Medical Service Corps Officer and physical therapist. After completing Officer Candidate School in March 2019, Blythe checked into her first duty station at Navy Medicine and Readiness Training Command Camp Pendleton in Oceanside, Calif.

“I really enjoyed working with Marines,” Blythe said. “But after a few years, I was ready for a new challenge, and I applied to Naval Special Warfare.”

In June 2021, she was assigned to the medical clinic at Naval Special Warfare Group (NSWG) 1 in Coronado, California, where she wasted no time integrating herself fully into her new environment.

“The cool thing about Naval Special Warfare is it’s an entirely new patient set,” she remarked. “The patients I see here are incredibly motivated; they’re the best of the best. They want to get better so they can get back to training and doing their job. The level of care is higher, the patients are more challenging, and it’s allowed me to grow so much.”

But it isn’t just her patients that are reaping the benefits of her dedication and passion – it’s the entire command and

the commands NSWG-1 serves. Since checking in, Blythe has developed a pre-deployment combat medical course for Independent Duty Corpsman and SEAL medics, managed over 7,000 musculoskeletal specialty care encounters with patients, and embedded with a West Coast-based SEAL team for deployment.

While assigned to NSWG-1, Blythe – who was already a board-certified orthopedic clinical specialist – also obtained her dual specialty as a sport’s clinical specialist. This makes her one of only seven physical therapists in the Navy to have obtained this dual certification.

Her steadfast work ethic did not go unnoticed. Each year, the Department of the Navy’s Medical Service Corps recognizes medical practitioners across different specialties by holding a competitive awards selection board. In 2022, Lt. Cmdr. Cortney Shewmaker, NSWG-1’s director of sports medicine and physical therapy, nominated Blythe for the Navy’s 2022 Junior Physical Therapist of the Year Award. In December 2022, Blythe won the award.

“Lt. Blythe was nominated for this award because she’s deserving of it,” said Shewmaker. “She’s one of the best physical therapists that I’ve worked with, both in the civilian sector and in the Navy. She is incredibly hard working, she cares about her patients, and she strives to make

the physical therapy community better.”

This award not only helps Blythe in her future career aspirations, but it also helps to further the relationship and trust she has worked to build with the elite group of patients she sees every day.

“Letting the [Naval Special Warfare] community know that she is good at what she does and that she cares is huge,” said Shewmaker. “Trust is so big in this community, and this just shows her commitment to the teams and helps build that trust even more.”

Capt. David Abernathy, commander, NSWG-1, praised Blythe for her unwavering support of Naval Special Warfare.

“Tia embodies what Naval Special Warfare is all about,” Abernathy said. “Her talent, passion and relentless commitment speak volumes to her character, and the character we covet here within [Naval Special Warfare]. Tia actively seeks to better not only herself, but also our Sailors. She makes a positive difference every single day ensuring our physical therapy program stands as a best practice within the Navy. We are very proud to have her on our team.”

As for Blythe, winning the award was validation that her hard work is noticed and appreciated.

“Winning this award was extremely validating for me,” she said. “I spend 30 hours a week doing hands-on patient care,

plus the administrative things that come with that. I’m also continually trying to grow and improve as a Naval officer. When I found out I won the award, it really confirmed that all the work and dedication I am putting into my job is noticed and appreciated.”

Blythe’s next set of orders after her tour at NSWG-1 will take her to Okinawa, Japan. From there, she hopes to complete a tour on an aircraft carrier and continue her career trajectory of growth and new experiences. She did have one piece of advice for aspiring physical therapists.

“My best advice for anyone who wants to be a physical therapist is to say yes,” she said. “Say yes to any opportunity you are given, even if it doesn’t sound good initially. You must be willing to push yourself outside your comfort zone to grow. You might flounder a little bit at first – everyone does when they’re doing something new or challenging – but that’s how you learn, thrive and ultimately succeed.”

Naval Special Warfare is the nation’s elite maritime special operations force, uniquely positioned to extend the Fleet’s reach and gain and maintain access for the Joint Force in competition and conflict.


For more news from Naval Special Warfare Command, visit www.facebook.com/NavalSpecialWarfare or www.nsw.navy.mil.


• Stories (Continued from page 3)

in six battalions exceeded 50%. Hospital Corps casualties in one battalion exceeded 68%. In the 36-day battle, 332 hospital corpsmen were killed in action or died of their wounds. Another 659 corpsmen were wounded and required evacuation.

Knowing this fact, it is little surprise that Iwo’s corpsmen were highly decorated. Iwo corpsmen received a total 14 Navy Crosses (including six posthumous), 108 Silver Stars and 287 Bronze Stars. And among the 27 Medals of Honor awarded to Iwo veterans (the most of any battle in World War II), four were bestowed to hospital corpsmen – Francis Junior Pierce, George Wahlen, Jack Williams, and John Willis.


Pharmacist’s Mate First Class John Harlan Willis, was a 23-year-old corpsman from Columbia, Tenn., serving with the 27th Marines. On Feb. 28, Willis was sent to an aid station with shrapnel wounds but, disregarding his injuries, soon left to rejoin the fight and attend a wounded Marine. While administering plasma to the Marine, the enemy lobbed eight consecutive grenades into his shell hole. Willis retrieved each and hurled them back towards the enemy before being killed by a ninth grenade.





PhM2c John H. Bradley
5th Marine Division
(10 July 1923 - 11 January 1994)

- Born in Antigo, Wisconsin
- Subject of book, *Flags of Our Fathers*
- Awarded Navy Cross for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)





In December 1945, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal bestowed a posthumous Medal of Honor to Willis’s young widow, Winifred, and his newborn son. A photograph taken of the event remains a poignant and a powerful reminder of preciousness of life and the pain of loss.

On Feb. 19, 1945, Jack Williams of Harrison County, Ark., was part of the first assault waves to land on Iwo Jima. While attached to the 28th Marines, Williams took

part in the effort to isolate Mount Suribachi and later secure it. On March 3, while on patrol, Williams abandoned a secure position to attend to two fallen Marines, before dressing his own wounds. While returning to the rear, Williams was killed by an enemy sniper. He was 20 years old.


Despite incurring severe wounds, Pharmacist’s Mate Second Class George Wahlen of Ogden, Utah, and Pharmacist’s Mate First Class Francis Junior Pierce of





PhM2c Merlin F. Achor
4th Marine Division
(24 April 1920 - 9 March 1972)

- Born in Brownwood, Texas
- Attached to Marine Rifle Company
- Awarded Navy Cross for actions on Iwo Jima (1945)



Earlville, Iowa, both survived the battle and were the only surviving Iwo Jima corpsmen to receive the Medal of Honor.

After leaving the Navy in 1945, Wahlen served in the Railway Messenger Service and later the Army. He passed away in 2009 at the age of 84 years old. Today he is the namesake of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah.

After the war, Francis Junior Pierce joined the Grand Rapids Police Department after the war remaining in this



role until retiring in the 1980s. He passed away from lung cancer at the age of 62. In 2003, Hasbro released a commemorative G.I. Joe figure of Pierce. To date, Pierce is the only hospital corpsman ever to be honored with his own action figure.

Pharmacist’s Mate Second Class John Bradley of Antigo, Wisc., is perhaps the best known corpsman to have served at Iwo Jima. Initially credited as one of the six Suribachi flag raisers in Joe Rosenthal’s Pulitzer Prize

winning photograph, Bradley was later sent on a war bond drive across America with Marines Ira Hayes and René Gagnon. He appeared as himself in the John Wayne film, *Sands of Iwo Jima* (1949) and his story was the subject of the bestselling book, *Flags of Our Fathers* (2000) by his son James Bradley and Ron Powers. Although in 2016, a Marine Corps investigative team ruled that Bradley was not in fact part of the second flag raising, he was, however, a decorated veteran and a recipient of the Navy Cross for heroism on Suribachi. Suffering significant wounds during the battle, Bradley was medically discharged from the Navy in November 1945.

Today, Rosenthal’s photograph of the second flag raising is emblematic of the Marine Corps and represents the hard-fought struggle and tenacity of service. Corpsmen were a vital part of hard fought victory and few ratings have been more impacted by a single battle. Their valor, their dedication to duty, their performance and their sacrifice is undeniable. Nearly 80 years later, the battle for Iwo should be remembered as a memorial to the fallen, to their service, but also the shear grit and resilience of those Navy corpsmen who answered the call.

U.S. Department of Defense completes ‘Turn-key’ Hospital



By Capt. MacKenzie Margroum
U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and Africa

Antakya, Türkiye — United States Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen constructed and organized a 100-bed emergency hospital in less than one week, as part of the U.S. Department of Defense’s continuous commitment to assist survivors of the catastrophic earthquakes in Türkiye.

U.S. Naval Forces Europe, in coordination with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) facilitated the construction of the field hospital at the request of the government of Türkiye, with assistance from the 633d Surgical Operations Squadron, Langley Air Force Base, Medical Installation Support Team (MIST).

“As soon as we received the request for a field hospital our team got to work and was able to complete its construction and set-up in less than a week,” said Brig. Gen Andrew Priddy, commanding general, TF 61/2. “The

field hospital is just another example of how we are committed to helping our Turkish allies. I could not be prouder of this team.”

U.S. Marines, assigned to U.S. Sixth Fleet’s Task Force 61/2, worked side-by-side with the Ministry of Health through USAID to ensure the hospital was established and operational before departing Antakya.

“Being able to help the Turkish people was an amazing honor but being so well received and treated with kindness humbled me greatly,” said 1st Lt. Rylie Zuelch, a MIST team leader. “It was a truly eye-opening experience, and I learned a lot. I’m, just glad I was able to help.”

The emergency field hospital is equipped with an emergency room, two operating rooms, and an intensive care unit. Along with the field hospital’s emergency care it’s capable of providing pediatric care.

The Marines of TF 61/2, Airmen from 39th Air Base Wing, and Airmen from the 633d Surgical Operations Squadron, worked day and night to set up the hospital in less than five days, a task that was projected to take seven days. The hospital will be officially turned over to Turkish authorities on March 7.

TF 61/2, under operational control of U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Sixth Fleet, is responding to the deadly 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude earthquakes that devastated southeastern and central Türkiye on Feb. 6. Hours after the earthquake, U.S. Marines and Sailors established a forward crisis response operations center at Incirlik Air Base, Türkiye, in close coordination with U.S. interagency partners and Turkish officials.

For more than 80 years, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-U.S. Naval Forces Africa (NAVEUR-NAVAF) has forged strategic relationships with allies and partners, leveraging a foundation of shared values to preserve security and stability.

Headquartered in Naples, Italy, NAVEUR-NAVAF operates U.S. naval forces in the U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) and U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) areas of responsibility. U.S. Sixth Fleet is permanently assigned to NAVEUR-NAVAF, and employs maritime forces through the full spectrum of joint and naval operations.



U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. James Bourgeois/Released

Brigadier Gen. Andrew T. Priddy, commanding general, Task Force 61/2, and a member of U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) greet a member of the Turkish Ministry of Health, at Antakya, Türkiye, March 2. At the request of the Turkish government, U.S. military personnel assigned to Task Force 61/2 and 39th Air Base Wing were tasked with building a field hospital for the citizens who were affected by the Feb. 6 earthquakes. Upon completion of their efforts on March 2, 2023, leaders from Task Force 61/2 (TF 61/2), and 39th Air Base Wing conducted a final walk-through before the Turkish Ministry of Health began operations at the field hospital.

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Army Reserve nurse travels to Justified Accord 2023

By Capt. Joe Legros
U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Africa

ISIOLO, Kenya — U.S. Army Col. Erin Merryweather, is a nurse practitioner with the 7306th Medical Exercise Support Battalion, an Army Reserve unit based in San Antonio, Texas. Her hometown is Kanab, Utah, and she was with the Utah National Guard until a few

years ago when she transitioned to the Army Reserve, working and living in San Antonio now.

“In exercise Justified Accord (JA23), I work as the role one officer in charge for Soldier care here in Kenya,” said Merryweather.

Role one medical care consists of providing first aid, initial lifesaving measures and triage for additional treatment.

Role two is the secondary step where medics can manage more advanced injuries, handle trauma patients and provide additional treatment measures, when necessary.

Merryweather traveled from Utah to Isiolo, Kenya, joining nearly 1,000 participants from 20 nations and four continents at U.S. Africa Command’s largest military exercise in East Africa.

The exercise enhances regional security, multinational crisis response and interoperability for peacekeeping missions.

“I had been to Africa a couple times before, but it was the northwest part of the continent in Morocco,” shared Merryweather. “So I jumped at the

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Mental Health

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Clinical Pharmacists: \$120,132.00 - \$142,788.00 Annually	Psychiatrist: \$16,869.00 - \$22,691.00 Monthly
Correctional Mental Health Counselors 2 - \$4,931.00 - \$6,630.00 Monthly	Psychologist: \$115,200.00 - \$154,920.00 Annually
Dental Assistant: \$4,359.00 - \$5,857.00 Monthly	Sex Offender Treatment Specialist: \$5,578.00 - \$7,495.00 Monthly
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Health Records Technician: \$4,057.00 - \$5,444.00 Monthly	Registered Nurse: \$6,709.00 - \$10,999.00 Monthly
Imaging Technologist: \$4,257.00 - \$5,717.00 Monthly	
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 Medical, Dental, Vision, Basic life insurance, Retirement, Deferred Compensation, Vacation leave, Sick leave, Holiday leave and pay, Social Security





The Health Services Division is responsible for basic primary care for incarcerated adults. Emphasis is placed on early identification of health concerns, acute and chronic health problems, and preventive care. Providers offer medically necessary and quality care in accordance with the Department’s Offender Health Plan.

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<http://doc.wa.gov/about/jobs/careers-healthcare.htm>




DOC is an EOE and does not discriminate based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, honorably discharged veteran, veteran status, genetic information, or presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability




PHYSICIAN - FAMILY MEDICINE

Vista Community Clinic is a nonprofit organization located in San Diego, Riverside and Orange Counties working to advance community health and hope by providing access to premier health services and education for those who need it most.

Position: Full-Time, Part-Time and Per Diem Family Medicine Physicians.

Responsibilities: Provide outpatient care to clinic patients and ensures quality assurance. Malpractice coverage is provided by the clinic.

Requirements: California License, DEA License, CPR and board certification. Bilingual English/Spanish preferred.

Contact: Visit www.vcc.org for more information. Forward CV to hr@vcc.org or fax to 760-414-3702. additional positions available

Salary (Full Time): \$239,000 – \$260,000/year
EEO/AA/M/F/Vet/Disabled

Help Wanted

CROWNPOINT HEALTHCARE FACILITY



Crownpoint Healthcare Facility is a thriving hospital in the desert of New Mexico; and part of the Indian Health Service. Our facility offers Emergency, Urgent, OB and general inpatient and outpatient services. We are looking for nurses that are adventurous, talented, and gentle and want to give culturally sensitive care.

Our facility is Baby Friendly Certified. Our team manages a Level III Trauma ER. We care for the patients that hold on to their traditional customs and want to live in harmony with Mother Earth.

Our back yard is Chaco Canyon National Park which is only one of many wonders surrounding Crownpoint, NM.

We are a scholarship placement site for National Service corp. and offer recruitment and retention incentives.

We encourage you to consider working with us. Apply at www.usajobs.gov. We will answer questions you have by calling (505) 786-6213 Human Resource; or (505) 786-6262 Nursing Director.



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Open Faculty Positions

The faculty and staff of University of New Mexico College of Nursing welcome you to a tradition of excellence in nursing research, education, and clinical practice. The College of Nursing invites application to four open faculty positions:

- Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs (Requisition #21057)**
- Advanced Nursing Practice (Requisition #19809)**
- Undergraduate Education (Requisition #19832)**
- Pre-RN-Licensure BSN Director (Requisition #22842)**

Our faculty engage in innovative teaching, research and clinical scholarship to understand and address the health care needs among our most vulnerable populations.

Please go to hsc.unm.edu/nursing/jobs to submit your application and refer to requisition number.

EOE

• Justified Accord 2023 (Continued from page 6)

opportunity to visit Kenya. My exercise battalion doesn't get to do a lot of travel, especially overseas."

She expressed that training in a multinational environment is an invaluable experience for her unit.

"I do love these opportunities where we're able to bring in partner nations, work with them, exchange ideas and see how they would normally treat their patients."

The medical staff has treated several patients, giving them a chance to utilize their skills. All patients have returned to duty with no further complications.

"We are in charge of the real-world basic medical care for all Soldiers at the exercise, we provide some medica-



U.S. Army Col. Erin Merryweather

tions and we can treat most types of minor injuries, including heat casualties," said Merryweather.

She wanted to tell family friends in Texas and Utah "hello" from Africa.

"Overall this is a beautiful country," said Merryweather.

It's very nice and warm here and has been such a nice break to be here instead of experiencing those subzero temperatures back home."



BEGIN YOUR NEXT MISSION AT BAKERSFIELD HEART HOSPITAL.

One of the top benefits of military service is the specialized training available in a variety of fields, including healthcare. Another is the experience gained working in a fast-paced, demanding environment. Both of which make military veterans excellent candidates for a career at Bakersfield Heart Hospital.

If you're a military veteran with healthcare experience looking for a career with excellent benefits where you can make a real difference in people's lives and in your community, take a look at Bakersfield Heart Hospital.

To learn more and begin a conversation about your next career move, visit:

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Education

Nurses



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For more information, please call Leah Webb at 775-356-4085 or visit www.nnmc.com/careers.



PennState Health

Penn State Health is a multi-hospital health system serving patients and communities across 29 counties in central Pennsylvania. It employs more than 16,800 people systemwide.

The system includes Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Penn State Children's Hospital, and Penn State Cancer Institute based in Hershey, PA; Penn State Health Holy Spirit Medical Center in Camp Hill, PA; Penn State Health St. Joseph Medical Center in Reading, PA; Penn State Health Hampden Medical Center in Enola, PA, and more than 3,000 physicians and direct care providers at more than 125 medical office locations. Additionally, the system jointly operates various health care providers, including Penn State Health Rehabilitation Hospital, Hershey Outpatient Surgery Center, Hershey Endoscopy Center, Horizon Home Healthcare and Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute.

To learn more about physician and APP job opportunities, please contact us.

pshdocs@pennstatehealth.psu.edu



Penn State Health is fundamentally committed to the diversity of our faculty and staff. We believe diversity is unapologetically expressing itself through every person's perspectives and lived experiences. We are an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, marital status, national or ethnic origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, and family medical or genetic information.