

THE OUTPOST

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

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Published for the employees and families of Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Test Center, U.S. Army Garrison — Yuma, Cold Regions Test Center and Tropic Regions Test Center

Focused YPG exhibit at 2013 air show

By Yolie Canales

Yuma Proving Ground's participation in the 2013 Marine Corps Air Station Air Show was of smaller scale than in years past, but it was just as much of a public "attention getter." Planners worked hard to ensure that YPG's exhibit costs amounted to as close to zero dollars as possible, figuring they reduced costs by 95 percent compared to one year ago.

With all the budget concerns and restrictions in effect throughout the government, YPG still managed to assemble a most respectable exhibit. Thousands of YPG exhibit visitors thought so as they handled equipment and peppered subject matter experts with questions.

Display items included a Korean War-vintage M101 howitzer, a Cessna Caravan and a Lakota helicopter, two unmanned aircraft, a display of parachute equipment, World War II firearms replicas, and much more.

Another YPG feature were members of YPG's Military Freefall School jumping in about mid-day with the U.S. flag in front of an audience numbering thousands.



Wayne Schilders (right) chief at Yuma Test Center's Weapons Operations Division and Daniel Zendejas, artillery tester lead, position a 120mm mortar at the 2013 MCAS Air Show. **More photos on Page 6.**

(PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER)

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Annual training more important than many think

By Mark Schauer

Army civilians are required to take 12 annual training courses in a variety of content areas, from operational security and computer information assurance to prevention of sexual harassment and substance abuse.

YPG's command is aware of the irritation this can cause to civilian personnel with a hectic work schedule at the Army's busiest proving ground, but also of how important these training courses are in achieving the overall mission of both the proving ground and the Army.

YPG's personnel experienced intense specialized training and mentoring before being allowed to take the reins of inherently dangerous weapons-testing projects. Compared to the immediacy of a gun position, sitting in front of a computer watching training videos and clicking through multiple choice tests seems rather rote and dull.

"People complain because you consume a tremendous amount of time taking the courses, but there is a

good reason for all of them, whether technical, ethical, or legal," said Col. Reed Young, YPG commander. "The rules aren't always intuitive, so you have to be trained to know what is right and wrong. Since memory retention fades with time, training needs to take place on a recurring basis."

Further, many civilians in YPG's workforce can recall a time before most annual training courses were 'nt online, necessitating a trip to the post theater that disrupted swaths of the workday. Thanks to technology, training can now be accomplished any time throughout the year.

While employees may see the wisdom of basic courses that teach anti-terrorism and threat reporting principles or suicide prevention information, they sometimes feel dubious about more esoteric subject matter like combating human trafficking, which seems to have little direct impact on their lives. Further, most YPG employees can recall antiterrorism training modules that ask them to imagine being in

situations that seem more plausible for James Bond than someone with real job duties. Some feel training in areas like suicide prevention is too touchy-feely, more appropriate for a social worker than an engineer or combat veteran.

Yet a real and persistent terror threat exists at any military installation in the nation, even ones with small Soldier populations. Further, several dozen employees from diverse mission areas in the Yuma and Cold Regions Test Centers have had temporary duty assignments in the nations of Panama and Suriname to support past test projects, and senior officials say other future overseas tests are likely to occur. Though government civilians who travel out of the continental United States must undergo additional training prior to departure, having all members of the workforce with a basic competency in these areas is sensible.

All civilian members of the YPG workforce are dedicated to the mission and feel pride in the role they play in ensuring Soldiers have equipment that works wherever in the world they serve, allowing them to do their jobs and come home safe. Who would object to training in suicide prevention that could help a troubled Soldier stay safe when he or she returns home, or even a civilian colleague engaged in the same vital work as you? "You never stop learning or getting more skills and becoming a better employee in any number of dimensions," said Young. "Is mandatory annual training time-consuming? Yes. Is it absolutely valuable and necessary? Yes."

Undergoing mandatory annual training is a small, but vital aspect of serving the mission well. So get those trainings accomplished, and do it knowing that they are necessary and useful.

THE OUTPOST

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Catholic

24 MAR: Palm Sunday: 0930 Mass

28 MAR: Holy Thursday: 1700 Mass

29 MAR: Good Friday: 1700

Passion of the Lord

31 MAR: Easter Sunday: 0930 Mass

Protestant

24 MAR: Palm Sunday: 1100 Service

29 MAR: Good Friday: 1815

Communion Service

31 MAR: Easter Sunday: 1100 Service

Ecumenical

29 MAR: Good Friday Easter Hill Walk 1900

(We will depart the chapel at 1900 and walk to the cross on Easter Hill. Bring a flashlight. It is also permissible to leave flowers at the cross.)

31 MAR: Easter Sunrise Service: 0615

(At the Cactus Café. Fellowship and breakfast buffet after the service. For breakfast planning purposes, please RSVP with the chapel office by 26 MAR.)

For more information, please contact
YPG Chapel, 928-328-3465.



Federal dollars available to local small businesses

By Chuck Wullenjohn

Small businesses throughout the nation can capitalize on millions of dollars of federal funds available through the Small Business Administration. These funds come with no strings attached and allow each company to maintain ownership of equipment. Already, hundreds of firms have taken advantage, two-thirds of which are companies with less than 50 employees.

Why does such a program exist and what benefit is it to the federal government? The goal of providing these dollars is to stimulate technological innovation, increase small business participation in the R&D process and increase private sector commercialization of federal R&D. Most significantly, these programs are the federal government's largest source of early-stage

research and development (R&D) funds. The two programs that provide these dollars are the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

Dr. Brad Guay, the Army's STTR program manager, visited Arizona late last month, stopping in Tucson, Yuma Proving Ground and Arizona Western College for briefings to local businesses seeking to take advantage of these funds.

"Our intention is to find creative talent among small businesses and academia focused on technological areas in which they have an expertise," he explained. "We know that the nation has a tremendous supply of capable people in small business that can be terrific problem-solvers."

The STTR program is Gauy's primary interest,



(PHOTO BY CHUCK WULLENJOHN)

David Christ, associate director of Small Business Programs, Army Research Office, shares information about the valuable input of private firms to the effectiveness of America's military at a public meeting last month at Arizona Western College.

understandably, which offers the opportunity for the government to engage small technology businesses partnered with academic research institutions. He says important goals of both programs are to maintain our nation's strong industrial base and prevent "technological surprise" by an enemy in future conflicts.

Col. Reed Young, YPG commander, is enthusiastic because SBIR and STTR are separately funded and can of benefit to the proving ground. "The health of the greater

Yuma community directly impacts the health of YPG, so by aiding a small business in leveraging an existing capability or picking up a new type of work is of benefit to all."

YPG submitted an SBIR topic regarding driving vehicles in dusty conditions that has been presented to commercial firms for proposed remedies. This is the first time in many years that the proving ground has submitted a SBIR project, and it has attracted a great deal of interest. Over 50

firms submitted proposals that a three-person team whittled down to six before final selection.

"Driving vehicles in a convoy amid dusty conditions can be dangerous and costly," explained Alan Tinseth, YPG engineer. "We've never experienced an accident, to my knowledge, but there have been close calls."

In test situations, vehicles in a convoy must maintain a specific speed and distance between other vehicles. Dusty desert conditions prevent

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Single mother exemplifies Women's History Month contributions

By Yolie Canales

Women's History Month celebrates the contributions women have made to history, culture and society. It recognizes the working women in our nation, highlighting achievements not only by distinguished women in specific fields and a wide range of careers, but also women right here at Yuma Proving Ground.

In this edition of the Outpost, the limelight is on a single mother of the YPG workforce that, through many leaps and bounds, obstacles and challenges, has contributed her expertise and professionalism not only in the workforce but with her family.

Georgette Dilworth, assistant director for the Small Business Programs (SBP) at YPG's Mission & Installation Contracting Command (MICC),

is a single parent of four children: Dominique, 24, is an operation specialist in the U.S. Navy and is working on her associates; received the Global War on Terrorism Medal; Destiny, 18, a freshman at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU), who was awarded a full athletic scholarship in track; and twins, senior students at Gila Ridge High School Desiree, 17, who was recently accepted into Grand Canyon University, and Darius, 17, who was recently accepted into Northern Arizona University.

Dilworth's career and family life contributions included much to be admired. Since August 2009 while serving as assistant director of the SBP, she served as a strong advocate for the capabilities of small business suppliers and ensured compliance with Army small business programs.

She is dedicated to supporting YPG test experts with a focus on bringing small business excellence in the developmental cycle. To name a few of her accomplishments, achievements and contributions, Dilworth was instrumental in collaborating with the Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Elite Network for a regional summit and trade show held in 2010 in Yuma. The first of its kind, it surpassed all expectations, drawing an unprecedented attendance of 400 participants.

Prior to assuming her duties as assistant director, Dilworth spent the last two decades working in a number of contracting and acquisition positions. She began as a purchasing agent at the Fleet Industrial Supply Center Naval Station in Long Beach,

SEE MOTHER/11



(LOANED PHOTO)

Georgette Dilworth pauses for a photo at a recent regional summit and trade show.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Spring into retirement now!

By Wilma Carrasquillo-Facio, Social Security District Manager

Here are a few important items about Social Security retirement benefits and how to apply for them.

When you work and pay Social Security taxes, you earn "credits" toward Social Security benefits. If you were born in 1929 or later, you need 40 credits (10 years of work) to qualify for retirement benefits.

We determine the amount of your benefit by both how long you work and how much you earn. The higher your lifetime earnings, the higher your monthly benefits. If there were some years when you did not work or had low earnings, your benefit amount may be lower than if you had worked steadily or earned more.

Your age at the time you start receiving Social Security retirement

makes a difference in your benefit amount. The full retirement age (the age at which 100 percent of retirement benefits are payable) has been gradually rising from age 65 to age 67. You can take "early retirement" as early as age 62, but if you start collecting benefits before you reach your full retirement age, your monthly payment will be reduced. You can find out what your full retirement age is by referring to the convenient chart at www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/retirechart.htm

Just as you can choose an early retirement and get a reduced payment, you also can choose to keep working beyond your full retirement age to take advantage of a larger payment. Generally, your benefit will increase automatically by eight percent each year from the time you reach your full retirement age until you start receiving

your benefits or until you reach age 70.

The decision of when to retire is personal and depends on a number of factors. To help you weigh the factors, we suggest you read our online fact sheet, When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html.

You may want to consider your options by using our Retirement Estimator to get instant, personalized estimates of future benefits. You can plug in different retirement ages and scenarios to help you make a more informed retirement decision. Try it out at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator

You also can set up an online my Social Security account. You can use your my Social Security account to obtain a copy of your Social Security Statement to check your earnings record and see future estimates of the retirement, disability, and survivor

benefits you and your family may receive. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

When you decide to retire, the easiest and most convenient way to do it is right from the comfort of your home or office computer. Go to www.socialsecurity.gov where you can apply for retirement benefits in as little as 15 minutes. In most cases, there are no forms to sign or documents to send; once you submit your electronic application, that's it! You're done!

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YPG exhibit at air show



Yuma Mayor Al Krieger stops to visit the Public Affairs table display at the air show. Here, he is trying on one of the WWII helmets, just for size.



(PHOTOS BY MARK SCHAUER)

The UH-72A Light Utility Lakota Helicopter on display at the air show was originally designed for medical evacuation missions, and one of the three aircraft YPG has acquired is specifically configured to support this mission. Rescue personnel can safely load stretchers through the rear clamshell doors while the rotors are turning, allowing for quick extractions in the event of an emergency.



Teri Womack (left), marketing specialist in the Public Affairs Office (PAO), talks to children as they try on numerous military helmets. Bill Heidner (far right), curator at the YPG Heritage Museum, explains the type of weapons displayed at the PAO table.



Jose Reyes of Yuma Proving Ground's Military Freefall School parachutes into the 2013 MCAS Air Show with the American flag.

Bataan presentation attracts people with personal stories

By Mark Schauer

Most Americans know that the country's involvement in World War II began when the Japanese military attacked the Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Less well known is that the Japanese simultaneously launched attacks throughout the Pacific, including on the American-controlled Philippines. Outnumbered and undersupplied, American and Filipino forces waged a valiant, protracted resistance on the Bataan Peninsula until April 1942, and on the neighboring island of Corregidor for another month, dramatically slowing Japanese progress and allowing the American Navy to regroup after its losses at Pearl Harbor.

“He talked very little about it because he didn't want to remember the details of what happened.”

— Filemon Tellez, whose brother was a captive during the Bataan Death March

Following their surrender, the largest in American military history, the sick and starving Soldiers of Bataan were forcibly marched to Camp O'Donnell in what is now known as the Bataan Death March. Those that fell en route were often beaten and bayoneted by their Japanese guards, and those that made it to the prisoner of war camp

endured an unimaginably harsh captivity prior to their liberation in 1945.

YPG Public Affairs Officer Chuck Wullenjohn captivated a standing-room only audience of 185 early this month at the Yuma County Library with the heroism of the “Battling Bastards of Bataan” in a multimedia presentation that is one in a series presented by YPG personnel. Winter visitor Mary Brink, a native of the Philippines who became an American citizen in 1958, was in grade school when the islands fell to the Japanese.



(PHOTO BY MARK SCHAUER)

Chuck Wullenjohn, chief, Public Affairs Office at Yuma Proving Ground, captivates a standing-room audience with an in-depth presentation on the military campaign leading to the Bataan Death March.

“We went to Japanese school,” said Brink. “For three years I learned to speak Japanese and write katakana.”

Brink came to the presentation

because her older brother was one of the prisoners of war on the Bataan Death March.

“The presentation was very, very good,” she said. “I was glad to come.”

Filemon Tellez worked as a high speed photographer at YPG from 1969 to 1988, and attended the presentation in honor of his brother, David, who was a captive in the Bataan Death March.

“He talked very little about it because he didn't want to remember the details of what happened,” he recalled of his brother. “The only thing he told us one time was that if someone fell on the ground he couldn't help, because both would get

bayoneted.”

YPG Heritage Center curator Bill Heidner has given two multimedia presentations at the Yuma County Library in recent years. The first was on the impromptu Christmas truce that took place between British and German forces on the Western Front during World War I and the other on the U.S. Camel Corps, a mid-19th century Army experiment using camels for transport in the desert Southwest.

Mimi Duncan, adult program coordinator at the library, says the presentations by Wullenjohn and Heidner were the best-attended programs since the facility's grand opening in 2009.

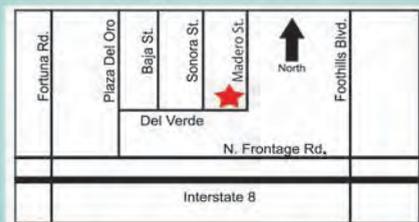
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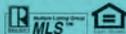
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BUSINESSES

FROM PAGE 3

drivers from seeing the vehicle in front of them, which could lead to injuries and vehicle damage. Most frequently, however, testers are forced to redo data runs, meaning the drivers have to do the same thing all over again. This increases test costs. "When you're talking about nine vehicles, drivers and all other test personnel, this can really balloon costs," said Tinseth.

The SBIR and STTR programs have proven successful in engaging small businesses throughout the nation. In FY12, there were 119 SBIR and 30 STTR Army topics on which businesses could submit proposals. These topics dealt with a

wide variety of areas such as medical, civil works, sensors, material science, chemical, and much more. Firms located in California, Massachusetts, Virginia and New York have proven most active in participating.

"The University of Arizona in Tucson is number one in the nation when it comes to optics," commented Guay, "and the Army does a great deal of sensor work that involve optics. There are definitely opportunities out there."

For more information on the Army SBIR program, contact program manager John Smith at (703) 399-2049. For more information about the Army STTR program, contact program manager Dr. Brad Guay at (919) 549-4258 or email: Bradley.e.guay.civ@mail.mil

Yuma County Science Expo 2013

Please save the date— Friday, May 3rd

Judges Needed

Last year our extended family of Military and Civilian volunteers supported our youth by taking time to help judge student science projects. We need your help again this year — please join us.

We will finish judging by early afternoon. We will provide a continental breakfast and a lunch for you.

I will send out a reminder as the fair date draws near. Thank you.

Location: AWC Schoening Conference Center (New buildings near 24th St.) Friday, May 3rd, 2013

PLEASE JOIN US THIS YEAR

If you know that you can make it now and would like to RSVP, please email me at: Debbie Weber scienceexpo@roadrunner.com

Thank you so very much.

Yuma County Science Expo Committee Members:

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Our Website

http://ymsrtc.apscc.k12.az.us/Judge_Info.html

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Easter Hill, a peaceful mountain top view

By Chaplain (Maj.) Loren Hutsell

If you haven't had an opportunity, I encourage you to hike the trails in the newly opened Easter Hill area. At least once a week before dawn, I hike up to the cross and spend some time in reflection and prayer. I find myself spiritually renewed and rejuvenated from pausing to rely on God about my concerns, as well as, from praying for the needs of my fellow YPG'ers. I

also take time just to appreciate the view from the mountain top location. Sunrise in the desert is something I hope to never take for granted.

The bible encourages us to have regular spiritual times of devotion. We're to be intentional about carving out time from our noisy daily routines to pause and connect with God. When we follow that basic principle, we find that our spiritual batteries are recharged. A primary source of life inspiration comes from time spent talking with God.

In fact, even Jesus spent regular time in prayer with the Father. Luke 5:16 records that it was Jesus' habit to withdraw to the wilderness for prayer. It's through regular prayer and connection with God that we find rest for our mind, body, and soul. Famous 19th century American pastor R. A. Torrey once said, "those persons who know the deep peace of God, the unfathomable peace that passes all understanding, are always men and women of much prayer."

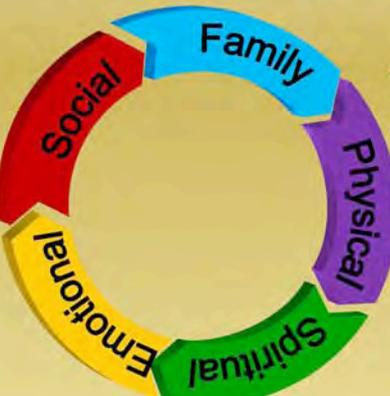
There is an upcoming opportunity

for community prayer at YPG. On March 29th, 5 p.m., the Post Chapel community is conducting a Good Friday Easter Hill Walk. We will depart the chapel at 7 p.m. and walk to the cross on Easter Hill. When we arrive we'll pause for reflection and say a prayer over our community. I invite you to attend this event. Bring a flashlight, a prayer in your heart for our community, and if you so choose, some flowers to leave at the cross as well.




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Black History Month observed at YPG

Guest speaker Command Sgt. Maj. Randolph Hollingsworth (U.S. Army retired) explained how Afro-Americans have come a long way since the arrival of a slave ship which landed at Jamestown, Va., with 20 captive Africans in 1619. He stated, "Even though we are at the 'crossroad' today that started back in 1619, we're going further because we are people who care." He thanked everyone for coming to the luncheon, and said, "God Bless America, our President, the U.S. Army, Yuma Proving Ground and everyone here today."

(PHOTOS BY MARK SCHAUER)



Operation Solemn Promise in full swing

Operation Solemn Promise is in full swing and is showing great success in re-invigorating the Army Values among the workforce. To help demonstrate this success, ATEC is publishing an article each month that highlights the workforce's perspectives about that month's Value. These articles are published on the ATEC public website, the ATEC Facebook page and also the local newspaper, the APG News.

The articles on Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, and Honor really captured the essence of those values based on input from a subset of the workforce, and to meet the intent of the Operation ATEC is reaching out to the entire ATEC workforce. Our diversity is our strength, and we want to demonstrate that diversity with respect to the Army Values.

For the month of March, the value is Integrity. For those that wish to participate, please send your replies to Command Sgt. Maj. Keith West by so he can consolidate them and forward to the YPG Command Suspense Team for further processing.

The Army value for the month of March is Integrity.

The Army Defines Integrity as: Doing what's right, legally and morally. Integrity is a quality you develop by adhering to moral principles. It requires that you do and say nothing that deceives others. As your integrity grows, so does the trust others place in you. The more choices you make based on integrity, the more this highly prized value will affect your relationships with family and friends, and, finally, the fundamental acceptance of yourself.

1. What does Integrity mean to you?
2. How do you demonstrate Integrity?
3. Why is Integrity an important value to possess?
4. How important is Integrity to you in the workplace?
5. Name a person who exemplifies the Army's definition of Integrity? Explain why.
6. Your name, title, and directorate.

Note: Please note that by submitting responses to the interview questions you are consenting to your statements being used in the article which will be published in the APG newspaper as well as on ATEC's website and/or Facebookpage.

You should expect to continue to see similar requests each month until the completion of Operation Solemn Promise.



Sgt. Duana Scott (center) chaplain's assistant, and the Price School 4th and 5th grade class dance to the words of a religious hymn which was choreographed by Scott.



A celebration of Black History Month was held at YPG with a luncheon. In this photo, the Rose of Sharon Church Praise Team presents one of several musical selections.

MOTHER

FROM PAGE 4

Calif., and the Naval Air Technical Engineering Command as an engineering analyst, and in other positions of high responsibility, as well. She has over 22 years of federal government leadership and purchasing/contract policy experience under her belt. In addition, she volunteers her time to various local organizations and school activities.

A graduate of the University of Phoenix, she received a Bachelor's of Science degree in business administration and is level III certified in Acquisition Contracting.

Dilworth's determination to succeed in life is attributed to her mother. "My mother was a truly remarkable woman who had class, style and dignity and was always a loving spirit," she said. "She taught me to have the audacity to dream and go after those dreams, which is exactly what I did. I've passed on this same advice to my children." Dilworth believes a successful career consists of sustained activity with a diverse array of people.

Of course, like many who juggle family, career and other responsibilities, there are obstacles and challenges along the way. Dilworth was no exception. There were health issues of her own when she suffered a brain aneurysm in 2009 and blood



(LOANED PHOTO)

Georgette Dilworth's four children (not in this order): Darius, 17; Destiny, 18; Dominique, 24 and Desiree, 17.

clots in both lungs three years later. Then there was juggling work, transporting children to and from school, to include after school activities, and out of town sports competitions. "I must admit, health issues slowed me down, but I'm back and running again and thank God for my new health," said Dilworth.

A proud mother, she tips her hat to all her children equally. "My children have been my greatest and most proud accomplishments," she said. "To see them fulfilling their dreams at this level in their lives shows me they have determination, ambition, confidence, are noble and highly likely to reach the top."

At present, Dilworth is reaping the rewards of her hard parental work. Her daughter, cowgirl Destiny Dilworth of the NMHU women's track and field program, was named 'freshman of the year' by the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) following the RMAC Indoor Track and Field Championships held in February in Spearfish, S.D.

Destiny posted an NCAA provisional qualifying mark (3408 points) in the pentathlon on the way to scoring 20 points in the meet — a school record for a freshman. She was runner-up in the pentathlon and also scored in the long jump (4th), triple jump (6th), and high jump (6th) and as a member of the 4 x 400 meter relay (5th). She was also named "all-region" by U.S. track and field coaches in both the long jump and pentathlon for the 2013 indoor season.

The contributions of women in the workforce, academics, athletics and in almost any career field were significant in the development of our nation and remain just as important. The sky's the limit for women who choose to make a difference.


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Dr. Aiello received his MD degree from the University of Michigan. After completing both an Internship and Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of North Carolina, he finished a Residency in Ophthalmology at the world renowned Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Ophthalmology.

In addition to caring for his patients at the Aiello Eye Institute, he is an examiner for the American Board of Ophthalmology, and a clinical instructor for the Midwestern School of Osteopathic Medicine in Phoenix. He is a Retired Air Force Senior Flight Surgeon and State Air Surgeon for the Arizona National Guard with 27 years of military service.

Having performed more than 15,000 surgeries, he is regarded as one of the state's leading eye surgeons.

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