



The following individuals are proudly serving the United States of America in the Armed Forces. The Chandler and Brownsboro area communities are proud of you! For those who are serving overseas, we await your safe return.

If you know of someone in the military, whose primary residence is in the BISD, please let us know so we can recognize them.

- Zachary Weinger
- Matt Brown
- Paul Avritt
- John Bass
- Brian Bailey
- Ryan Barnes
- Heather Beall
- Jeremy Becton
- Casey Berry
- Ben Bevans
- Justin Brown
- Michael Wayne Bullard
- Donald Burk
- Jonathan Cannon
- Robert Carian
- Marco A. Cade Chavanne
- Robert (Mikey) Clary
- Aaron Clover
- Sunnice Coe
- Casie L. Coplan
- Danny Cowart
- Jeff Crosby
- Andy Dalton
- Philip Daniel
- Johnathan Daniels
- Jessica Delaney
- Doug Dickerson
- Mike Dunklin
- Brandon Edwards
- Scott Evans
- Brian Fife
- Joshua Fowler
- Gregory Geske
- Michael Gideon
- Greg Giger
- Donnie Goines
- Nicholas Gould
- Josh Grant
- Joseph Paden Guerra
- Edmond Hargrave
- Jayandra Hare
- John (Duce) Harber III
- James Michael Hendrix
- Cedric Herring
- Daniel Herron
- Detroit Hightower
- Roy Hobbs
- Nathan D. Huff
- Aaron Colby 'AC' Humphries
- John Charles Hunter
- Don Inbody
- Matt Irwin
- Michael Isbell, Jr.
- Ryan Steven Jackson
- Joshua Johnson
- Scott Joiner
- Eric Jones
- Bobby Jordan
- Daniel Kidd
- Jesse Kidd
- Lucas Killmeyer
- David Klaus
- Richard Lafayette
- Sam Laymance
- Robert Leed
- Oran Lewis
- Evan Lide
- Christy Loper
- Sean Lynch
- Raul Macias
- Dusty Mayer
- Jerry Mayse
- Andrew McIntosh
- Tim McMurtray
- Jason Meador
- Chris Munch
- Beau Nation
- Anthony Neeland
- Adam Newell
- Bubba Nugent
- Sarah Oliver
- Patrick Ormiston
- Douglas Owen
- Jordan L. Parker
- Chad Peyton
- Zach Peyton
- Joseph Pearson
- Joshua Phillips
- Jordan Phillips
- Dusty Pool
- Coy Powell
- Austin Rhodes
- Nicholas Robran
- Ashley Rogers
- Matthew Seda
- Jeremiah Shafer
- Angus Smith
- Cory Smith
- Luke Smith
- Michael Spencer
- Jared Staggs
- Christopher Stanton
- Emitt Swafford
- Whitney E. Sykes
- Joe Taylor
- Timothy Taylor
- Jacob Thomas
- Drew Thompson
- Deanna Thornton
- Jim Tippen, Jr.
- Jerry Tucker
- Chad Vickers
- Clay Wade
- Tim Wagner
- Christopher Wagoner
- Joe Wangler
- James Weaver
- Jacob Welch
- Shawn Werchan
- Marc Westbrooks
- Josh Wheeler
- Jamie Willard
- Lelia Williams
- Timothy Williams
- Teresa Wilson
- Nathan Wright

To add or remove a name, call 903-852-7641

O' Glory on Mt. Suribachi

by Jim Jarvis
There was a picture taken of O' Glory atop Mt. Suribachi on the Pacific island of Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945, by Joe Rosenthal of the Associated Press. The flag was raised by five Marines, Sgt. Michael Strank, Cpl. Harlon Block, Pvt. Rene Gagnon, Ira Hayes, Franklin Sousley and one Sailor, Naval Corpsman John Bradley.
The photo is the most displayed, published, duplicated, beloved and respected photo ever. It also won the Pulitzer Prize the same year it was taken. Two days after the picture was taken, it appeared on the front page of every major newspaper. Even today, 64 years after it appeared on the cover of Life Magazine in the spring of 1945, it still stops me dead in my tracks whenever I see it displayed. When my dad and mama got that Life Magazine, they cut off the cover and nailed it to our living room wall where it stayed 'til it was worn out. (It was also used as the model for the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia.)
Of the six men depicted in the photo, Franklin Sousley, Harlon Block and Michael Strank did not survive the battle. Sgt. Mike Strank was 24 years old. He was the 'old man' of the outfit, everyone's hero. He died six days later by a "friendly fire" mortar shell from an offshore battleship. It tore his heart out.
Pvt. Franklin Sousley, 19, was killed a month later by a sniper. A telegram was sent to a little country store atop a mountain in the hills of Kentucky where a bare-foot boy carried it across

a holler to the Sousley farm. The neighbors a quarter of a mile away said that they heard his mama scream all night long.
When President Roosevelt saw the photo, he ordered the men in the photo brought home at the end of the battle. There were three survivors: Hayes, Bradley and Gagnon.
Rene Gagnon was shown an enlarged photo and asked to identify all the flag raisers. He misidentified Harlon Block as Sgt. Henry Hanson of Boston, MA.
Harlon Block, 21, had been an all-state football player at Weslaco High School in Harlingen, Texas. His class had an early graduation when all 13 members of his senior class football team joined the U.S. Marine Corps together. Harlon's mother, Belle saw the photo and immediately identified Harlon as the Marine with his back to the camera, guiding the flagpole into the ground. She said, "That's Harlon right there." His family, friends and neighbors all told her that it wasn't Harlon. The government said that it wasn't Harlon. She wouldn't listen. She repeatedly said, "That's Harlon. I know my boy." One week later, she was notified that Harlon had been killed in action

while striking a Japanese pillbox as the squad attacked toward Nishi Ridge.
One week after they brought the three survivors home, they were summoned to the Whitehouse for a photo session. All were assigned a public relations officer. Pvt. Ira Hayes notified his PR man that Sgt. Hanson was not in the photo, but in fact the Marine was Cpl. Harlon Block. The PR man told him that the names had already been published and to keep quiet.
After the pictures were used in the most effective bond drive of the war (\$23.3 billion was raised), Ira Hayes was discharged. After he told the news reporters, "I'm not a hero. They're all back on Iwo. Two hundred and fifty of my unit went ashore at Iwo and 27 of us walked off."
After he was discharged, he went back to the Pima Indian Reservation where he was already heavily into the alcoholism that would claim his life in a few years. In the song, "The Ballad of Ira Hayes," the song notes that after the war:
"Then Ira started drinkin' hard
Jail was often his home.
They'd let him raise the flag and lower it,
(Continued on page 6)



O' Glory on Mount Suribachi

Letters to the Editor

To the editor,
Words cannot express our gratitude to the Brownsboro Volunteer Fire Department, the Chandler Volunteer Fire Department and all of our neighbors and friends who helped to douse the embers and ashes that were drifting into our yard and keeping our home safe Saturday, January 31, 2009.
Many special thanks to Chuck and Christi Rains for fighting the flames and calling the fire department. We are so sorry you had to be called out on a Saturday night to control someone else's careless and irresponsible actions, a deliberately set pasture fire that got out of control ... but, we are glad you came and did your job. Again, thank you for all your VOLUNTEER hard work!
Millard and Sherry Brooking

To the editor,
Is it not, or should it not be, our purpose as parents, coaches and representatives to set good examples for our girls in their sports activities? As many of you know, the East Texas Girls Softball chose to play in Brownsboro last season.
This year Chandler will have a girls league in Chandler and E.T.G.S. will have a league in Brownsboro. It will be a challenging year for both leagues.
So let's step up to the plate as parents, coaches and representatives and set those girls examples that they deserve.
I and other coaches from both leagues will step up to the plate to teach, coach and give what those girls deserve. It's about them learning and enjoying the sport of softball. Love ya, Girls.
Coach Ben Willcerson
Chandler

News Briefs

BMC registration underway

Registration is now underway for the BMC Youth Foundation's Boy's Baseball and Girl's Softball programs. Registration forms may be picked up at all BISD School offices and at the Chandler City Hall. Registration will continue through February 27, followed by a late registration period ending March 6.

Quilters Guild to meet

Quilters Guild of East Texas will hold their monthly meetings Thursday, February 12 at the Pollard United Methodist Church Founder's Center, 3030 New Copeland Rd. in Tyler. The morning meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and guests are welcome at a small fee. The evening meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and guests are welcome. More information is available at www.qgetx.org.

Kappa Pi Chapter tours historic aviation museum

The February meeting of Kappa Pi Chapter began with a visit to Southern Magnolia Eatery for lunch and concluded with a tour of the Historic Aviation Memorial Museum located at the Old Tyler Pounds Regional Airport. Docents pointed out historic details and photos as they told stories of the memorabilia in the museum.

The exhibits begin with pioneers of flight and cover military, civilian and commercial aviation. Visitors can follow the blue arrows as they cover early aircraft, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf Coast War, and Iraq.

Exhibits of the Flying Tigers, Japanese souvenirs, the War in the Pacific, and the Recognition model airplanes were especially interesting. One of the most recent exhibits is a camouflage uniform by a woman from Hawkins, Texas, who is serving right now in Iraq.

Members of our chapter were especially interested in the WASPS' exhibit - the women pilots who flew during WWII and exhibits of the civilian stewardesses who flew for commercial airlines in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

A short business meeting covered plans for attending the Alpha State Convention, June 11-13, plans for the March meeting and a discussion of members who were ill. Supplies and clothing for the Mission House in Bullard was the project for this month. Kappa Pi Chapter belongs to Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an honorary professional organization for women educators.



Courtesy Photo

L-Rt: Kappa Pi members pictured at the HAMM museum are: Linda Perez, Lou Brown, Benita Carver, Nancy Rozell, Naomi Bledsoe and Faye Beard.

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