



Reveille

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Welcome Back Pack



Courtesy of CSUSB

The Veterans Success Center wishes to extend a warm welcome back to all students and staff for the 2021-2022 school year! This year has been challenging in many ways, and it is important now more than ever to have a solid support system.

Many of our services remain the same since the beginning of the pandemic. We continue to offer our virtual chatroom Monday to Friday from 10AM to 5PM, as well as virtual advising and tutoring for English and Math.

One of our services happening online is the Veterans Support Group, which is open to all students from both the San Bernardino and Palm Desert Campuses. They meet via Zoom on Mondays from 11AM to 12:30AM. If you're interested in joining, please call us at (909) 537-5040 to schedule your pre-group appointment.

For the San Bernardino Campus, we are located in the basement of the bookstore, and our operating hours are Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM. For the Palm Desert Campus, we are located in the Health Sciences Building Room 105, and our operating hours are Monday through Friday from 9AM to 5PM. We continue to offer advising and tutoring as well as a place to study between classes, warm up your lunch, or chat with others in the center.

Please don't hesitate to reach out should you have any questions! The Veterans Success Center is here to continue supporting our service members, veterans, and dependents as they continue their journey through higher education.



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Photo of US Army SPC Raymundo Morales
Courtesy fo www.army.mil

Wildfires in California

With the dry summer heat reaching its peak and winds pick up, wildfires are back. Sadly, California is no stranger to these conditions, and it is normal to see the plumes of smoke from fires leave a haze in the sky. Just a couple of weeks ago, the wind patterns shifted smoke towards Southern California. From the San Bernardino Campus, we watched as the haze turned the sky an ashy brown and the sun an unnatural orange.

Northern California is already seeing hard-to-contain wildfires and one of them is the Caldor Fire. The Caldor Fire started August 14th 2021, although what

first ignited the blaze is still under investigation. Stretching from South Lake Tahoe westward to El Dorado, the forest conditions, steep terrain and winds continue to stoke the flames, making this firefight a long battle.

Fire crews continue to work overtime to keep the fires from spreading into their local communities and amongst them are military personnel. Lt Col Ryan Bader (USAF Reserves) spoke with local news station KCRA3 and confirmed their aid in the fight against wildfires by utilizing military aircraft to drop fire retardant. He says the 2012 Waldo Canyon Fire out of Colorado Springs Colorado – one of the most destructive wildfires in Colorado History – was the last time all 8 MAVs Units, C130's activated, were operating out of Peterson Air Force Base. "To operate in and out of here, it's about 40 minutes from takeoff, to the time you put the retardant on the fire, to coming back and landing, and they can turn these airplanes in about 10 minutes time."

Not only are efforts being made in the air, but also on the ground. Military support has made firefighting efforts easier, and allows resources to be more easily distributed. SPC Raymundo Morales (US Army), part of the 270th Military Police Company, was activated by the Army National Guard and was sent out to support California Highway Patrol to help redirect traffic from closed roads. SPC Morales also works a civilian job as a corrections officer and when he enlisted as a military policeman, he didn't know he would work wildfires. "I knew we'd do some type of military police work, but I didn't know it would be to this compass... Not a lot of people can say that they've been to this fire or worked on that fire, and I can say I've worked the Camp Fire, the Carr Fire, now I can say I worked on this fire as well." All the extra help has make an impact in minimizing the destruction and distress wildfires cause.

This wildfire season is when we remember those who continue to risk their lives to protect us domestically. While the fight is not yet over, we truly thank the firefighting crews and military members who continue to safeguard our communities from harm.

For Veterans who are interested in firefighting efforts, there are job opportunities available through the [Bureau of Land Management](#).

Sources:

- [CalFire Caldor Incident Report](#)
- [CBS 13 CA National Guard on Patrol in South Lake Tahoe](#)
- [KCRA3 US Military Firefighting Aircraft Assist Wildfire Efforts](#)
- [US Army News – ARNORTH's Support NIFC in California](#)
- [US Army News – Cal Guard MPs support CHP](#)



USAF C-130 One of the many air craft helping the firefighting efforts.
Courtesy of Air Force Times

9/11 National Day of Service

The Veterans Success Center partnered with the Office of Community Engagement, ASI and SAGES this year as part of the annual National Day of Service.

As part of a national trend to re-envision the commemoration of 9/11, National Day of Service offers volunteers an opportunity to engage in community service and recognize the importance of service and sacrifice. In years past, volunteers have built garden paths, cleaned parks, and painted houses.

This year, the Coyote Garden was identified as the area for beautification. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the event was closed to the public. 10 student volunteers were preselected and health screened for the service project.

Historically these events have consisted of small groups of volunteers who have completed community service projects outside of campus. Many students who have participated in the past have described the projects as difficult, but fun and worthwhile, and as a meaningful way to feel like a part of a larger community.



Special thank you to Grounds Maintenance, ASI, SAGES for their support. And most importantly, thank you to our volunteers!

Indigenous Book Club & "Films and Frybread"

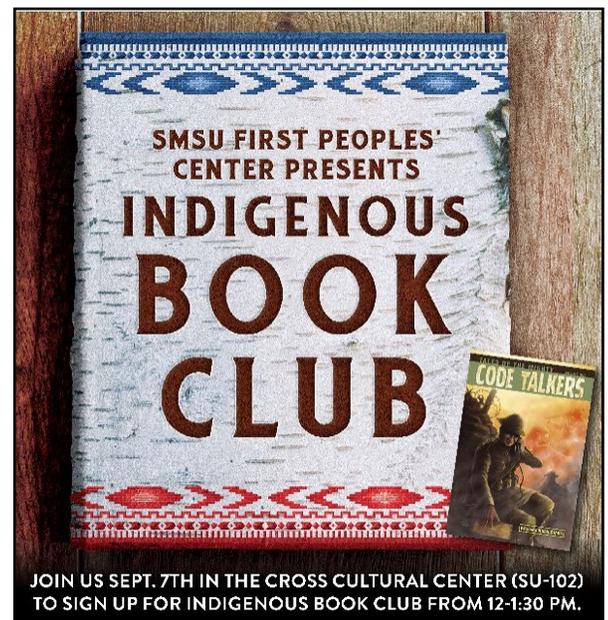
For Native American Heritage Month, the Veterans Success Center has teamed up with the First Peoples Center (FPC) to sponsor this year's Indigenous Book Club. The book selected this year is *Tales of the Mighty Codetalkers, Vol. 1*, a graphic novel that portrays the contributions of Native American Codetalkers from WWI through the Korean War.

There will be several club meetings, starting October 5th to discuss the chapters from the graphic novel. Electronic versions of the graphic novel are available for free to participants.

On November 10, 2021, SMSU FPC will host the screening of a documentary as part of an event titled "Films and Frybread".

The documentary to be screened is *Choctaw Code Talkers: Heroic Native American World War One Soldiers*. The documentary covers the history of the Choctaw tribe members who were called to serve US war efforts against the Germans in WWI.

If you are interested in joining the Indigenous Book Club or attending the documentary screening, please contact Amanda De Lara at CSUSB.NAPM@gmail.com.



More information is also available at the SMSU Cross Cultural Center.

Spotlight Hour: Juan Akell



Juan Akell is a Marine Corps Veteran currently attending Cal State San Bernardino. After graduating with his B.A. in Spanish: Hispanic Literature, Linguistics and Culture at Cal State, he is returning to pursue his Masters of Arts in Spanish. He has been working at the Palm Desert Campus Veterans Success Center as a student-assistant and Spanish Tutor since Fall of 2018. In his off time, Juan enjoys spending time with his family, playing soccer, working out, and taking time for himself to relax.

Question: Tell me about your experience at the center.

“I’m just really happy with the people and center. Since Day 1 the center felt welcoming, and everyone was friendly with helping, not just staff, but also student assistants and the people around the center. Even if everyone in the center has different majors and different career paths, there’s the shared goal of helping each other out. The staff also really takes on their job. They take it seriously and go above and beyond to help those in the center.”

Question: What’s one thing you wish more people knew about the Veterans Success Center?

“That the center is open for everyone. The Veterans Success Center is open to vets, but even if you’re not a vet, they’re still here to help in some way. They’re here to help others succeed. Vets: Take advantage of the center. Know we can help in more than just one way and pass the word around that the center is not just for vets but also dependents.”

Events: What’s Going On

FALL 2021
VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

THUR. OCT. 21ST
1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Join the Career Center as we host our virtual career fair. You will have the opportunity to explore and learn about top employers who are actively recruiting for internships and employment opportunities. All CSUSB and PDC students, and alumni are welcomed.

Register today at: bit.ly/Fall21VCF

CSUSB Career Center | Palm Desert Career Center

DEADLINE

TRAINING TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

TITLE IX BY OCTOBER 9

Let's Get it Done

Visit Online

- Login to Mycoyo to access training
- Click the "Training to End Sexual Violence"

For More Information visit csusb.edu/institutional-equity/compliance/training

DON'T GET A HOLD!

CSUSB

HOMECOMING BASH

STUDENT ZONE

#VoicesComeHome

Daily health screening and face covering required

An interactive area in the Homecoming Bash exclusive to our Yoies.

Join us for delicious food, exciting activities, live entertainment, grand prizes and MORE!

OCTOBER 16TH
4:00 - 7:00 PM
Wilson Park & Basketball Courts

REGISTER HERE:
www.tinyurl.com/csusbhomecoming

CSUSB INCLUSION & WELLNESS