

THE MONSTER BASH

Student Government Association members let students beat up an old car with a sledge hammer to relieve midterm exam stress. PAGE 12

CHECK YES OR NO

Woods County voters will vote whether to raise property taxes to fund EMS services. PAGE 3



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2020 ELECTION

Criminal justice, healthcare measures on ballot

By **GEORGE SMITH**
Student Reporter

Oklahomans will vote on state questions affecting criminal justice and healthcare when they go to the polls Nov. 3.

State Question 805, if approved by voters, will lower the amount of time served in prison for people convicted of nonviolent crimes by ending the use of sentence enhancements.

State Question 814, if approved, would take payments to the state's Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, also known as TSET, and use that money to help fund the state's recently expanded Medicaid program.

WHAT IS A STATE QUESTION?

"State Questions are measures to change Oklahoma laws or the state constitution that appear on the ballot for all voters. They can be added to the ballot by the Legislature or by an initiative petition from citizens," a statement on the Oklahoma Policy Institute's website reads.

See **QUESTIONS**, Page 11

OCTOBER SURPRISE



Photos by Jordan Green

Students get two-day break after snow, ice cover Woods County

Above: Evan Wahpekeche and Juan Dominguez fall off a sled on a country road north of Alva on Monday. At right: Snow covered a decorative pumpkin at Northwestern President Janet Cunningham's home. Classes were canceled at Northwestern on Monday and Tuesday after snow and ice covered the region, and Northwestern students spent

their time sledding and enjoying the wintry weather. The snow came just days before Halloween, covering some fall decorations and coating the leaves of green trees. Though the university canceled fall break because of the coronavirus pandemic, students said they enjoyed an early, but informal, winter break. For more photos, see Page 6 in the News.



Haunted hay maze offers safe, spooky way to celebrate Halloween

By **NICK DILL**
Student Reporter

Employees with Bradt's Menagerie set up a hay maze every year during the fall, but they add a twist to it by having a haunted hay maze.

The haunted hay maze occurs only three days out of the year from Oct. 29 to Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. each night.

JoDe Bradt, co-owner of the Menagerie, said the maze has about 1,000 round bales of hay. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday before Halloween, employees put some "scarers" in the maze. She said there's also a scavenger hunt throughout the maze.

Jerad Bradt, co-owner of the Menagerie, said it takes a couple of days of preparation to set up the maze. He said workers have to place props throughout the maze, including a large coffin, a smoke machine, and lights

and sound equipment. JoDe Bradt said it's not a huge transition, but that it takes a lot of preparation time.

The haunted hay maze costs \$5 per person, and there is no capacity limit.

"If people are concerned about being in close quarters, it's a large outdoor area, and there is plenty of room to spread out," JoDe Bradt said. "We have made the pathways even wider than we have in the past so that people can continue to distance."

Jerad Bradt said workers have put hand sanitizer at each stamp station.

The haunted hay maze includes a lot of volunteers.

"We normally have 30 to 40 people, but it depends," Jerad Bradt said. "Halloween night kind of scares us trying to get volunteers. Several of our volunteers are adults, and they want to go trick-or-treating with their kids."

See **HAY MAZE**, Page 3

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News

2020 ELECTION

DECISION 2020

Find out where, when and how to vote in the Nov. 3 presidential election

Voters across the nation will head to the polls Nov. 3 to elect the United States president and other government officials across the nation. Here’s some basic information about when to vote, where to vote and what names will be on the ballot.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting is open Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Early voting is conducted at the Woods County Election Board office in the county courthouse.

ELECTION DAY

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Nov. 3. Lines are possible at peak voting times.

Wait times will likely be shortest mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Anyone in line to vote at 7 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

CHECKING REGISTRATION

Those who need to look up their polling place or verify their registration can access the information on the Oklahoma State Election Board’s website: <http://www.elections.ok.gov>.

Those who vote by mail can also check the status of their ballots using the online voter tool.

Sample ballots are available at the coun-



An American flag waves at the Alva Municipal Cemetery in this November 2019 file photo. Photo by Jordan Green

ty election board office and on the state website under the “voter tools” tab.

ID REQUIREMENTS

Oklahoma law requires every voter who votes in-person at the precinct polling place or during early voting at the county election board to show proof of identity before receiving a ballot.

There are three ways for voters to prove their identity under the law (only one form is required): a valid photo ID issued by a federal, state, or tribal government; the free voter identification card issued to every voter by the county election board; or a

signed affidavit. (If the information on the affidavit matches official voter registration records, the ballot will be counted after Election Day.)

To obtain a new voter ID card, call 580-327-1452.

DISABLED VOTERS

Polling places have accommodations for: physically disabled voters who cannot enter the polling place; those who need help marking their ballots; blind or visually disabled voters; and illiterate voters.

They may be assisted by a person the

voter chooses. In all cases, a person providing such assistance may not be the voter’s employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter’s union.

A person providing assistance also must swear or affirm that the voter’s ballots will be marked in accordance with the voter’s wishes.

Alternatively, all blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled voters in Woods County may use the audio-tactile interface. This is a feature offered on all Oklahoma voting devices during early voting and during Election Day.

I’VE MOVED

Voters who have moved since the last election, but who have not transferred their voter registration to their new address, may do so on Election Day by going to vote at the polling place where their registration has been in the past.

While voting, they may fill out a form instructing the county election board to transfer their registration to the new address before the next election.

DON’T CHEAT

Any violation of election law will be reported to the proper law enforcement authorities. Electioneering is not allowed within 300 feet of a ballot box.

LOCAL BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT
GENERAL ELECTION
November 03, 2020
WOODS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

PRECINCT 760008-REGNP

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STATE QUESTIONS	COUNTY QUESTIONS
STATE QUESTION NO. 805 INITIATIVE PETITION NO. 421 This measure seeks to add a new Article II-A to the Oklahoma Constitution. This new Article would prohibit the use of a former felony conviction to increase the statutory allowable base range of punishment for a person subsequently convicted of a felony. Individuals who are currently incarcerated for felony sentences that were enhanced based on one or more former felony convictions, and whose sentences are greater than the maximum sentence that may currently be imposed for such felonies, may seek sentence modification in court. The new Article sets forth a detailed process for such sentence modification, including but not limited to requirements for a hearing, appointment of counsel for indigent petitioners, and notification of victims, and requires that the court impose a modified sentence no greater than the current maximum sentence which may be imposed on a person convicted of the same felony with no former felony convictions, and which results in no greater time served in prison than under the original sentence. It establishes an appeal procedure, provides an effective date, and contains a severability clause. SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED? <input type="checkbox"/> FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO	PROPOSITION Shall Woods County, Oklahoma, form an Emergency Medical Service District, composed of all of Woods County, for the purpose of providing ambulance services to all county residents to levy a special annual recurring ad valorem tax of three (3) mills on the dollar of assessed valuation, until lawfully repealed, in addition to all other levies, upon the assessed valuation of all taxable property in Woods County, Oklahoma, real and personal, under the authority of Article 10, Section 5(c) of the Oklahoma Constitution effective in the 2021 Tax Year and thereafter, with the proceeds of such tax levy to be allocated among the existing ambulance service providers furnishing ambulance services in Woods County, and their successors, as assessed and levied each tax year within each service area located within Woods County and paid to the existing ambulance provider, or their successor, principally located and/or serving the majority of the residents of Woods County within such service area, be approved? <input type="checkbox"/> FOR THE PROPOSITION - YES <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST THE PROPOSITION - NO
STATE QUESTION NO. 814 LEGISLATIVE REFERENDUM NO. 375 This measure seeks to amend Article 10, Section 40 of the Oklahoma Constitution (Section 40), which directs proceeds from the State's settlements with or judgments against tobacco companies. Currently, Section 40 directs 75% of proceeds to the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Fund (TSET Fund), where earnings may only be used for tobacco prevention programs, cancer research, and other such programs to maintain or improve the health of Oklahomans. Meanwhile, the remaining 25% of proceeds are directed to a separate fund for the Legislature (Legislative Fund). The Legislature can also direct some of that 25% to the Attorney General. This measure amends Section 40 to reduce the percentage of proceeds that go into the TSET Fund from 75% to 25%. As a result, the remaining 75% will go to the Legislative Fund and the Legislature may continue to direct a portion to the Attorney General. The measure would also restrict the use of the Legislative Fund. Section 40 currently states only that the Legislative Fund is subject to legislative appropriation. If this measure passes, money from the Legislative Fund must be used to get federal matching funds for Oklahoma's Medicaid Program. SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED? <input type="checkbox"/> FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO	

WHERE DO I GO TO VOTE?

LOCAL POLLING PLACES:

The polling places that will be open are based on ZIP codes. They are as follows:

- 760001: Northwest Technology Center
- 760002: Waynoka Housing Authority
- 760003: The Homestead
- 760004: Dacoma Community Center
- 760005: Alva City Hall
- 760008: Freedom Methodist Church

Check the bottom left-hand corner of your voter ID card to find your polling place location.

All mail-in absentee ballots must be received in the election board’s office on or before Nov. 3 to be counted.

SAMPLE BALLOT

PRECINCT 760008-REGNP

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TO VOTE: FILL IN THE BOX NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE(S) LIKE THIS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correct <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect	CONGRESSIONAL OFFICERS FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One) <input type="checkbox"/> JIM INHOFE REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> ROBERT MURPHY LIBERTARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> ABBY BROYLES DEMOCRAT <input type="checkbox"/> JOAN FARR INDEPENDENT <input type="checkbox"/> A. D. NESSBIT INDEPENDENT	COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS DISTRICT 3 Shall GARY L. LUMPKIN of the OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
STRAIGHT PARTY A straight party vote is a vote for all candidates of that party in partisan races. STRAIGHT PARTY VOTING (Vote for One) <input type="checkbox"/> REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> LIBERTARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> DEMOCRATIC	FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 03 (Vote for One) <input type="checkbox"/> FRANK D. LUCAS REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> ZOE MIDYETT DEMOCRAT	JUDGES OF THE OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DISTRICT 1 - OFFICE 2 Shall JANE P. WISEMAN of the OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT (Vote for One) <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP MICHAEL R. PENCE REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT JO JORGENSEN JEREMY SPIKE COHEN LIBERTARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN KAMALA D. HARRIS DEMOCRAT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT JADE SIMMONS CLAUDELIAH J. ROZE INDEPENDENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT KANYE WEST MICHELLE TIDBALL INDEPENDENT <input type="checkbox"/> FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT BROCK PIERCE KARLA BALLARD INDEPENDENT	JUDICIAL RETENTION Vote separately on each justice or judge; they are not running against each other. JUSTICES OF THE OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT SUPREME COURT DISTRICT 1 Shall MATTHEW JOHN KANE, IV of the OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO SUPREME COURT DISTRICT 6 Shall TOM COLBERT of the OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO SUPREME COURT DISTRICT 9 Shall RICHARD B. DARBY of the OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DISTRICT 2 - OFFICE 1 Shall DEBORAH B. BARNES of the OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS DISTRICT 2 - OFFICE 2 Shall KEITH RAPP of the OKLAHOMA COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
STATE OFFICERS FOR CORPORATION COMMISSIONER (Vote for One) <input type="checkbox"/> TODD HIETT REPUBLICAN <input type="checkbox"/> TODD HAGOPIAN LIBERTARIAN	JUDGES OF THE OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS DISTRICT 2 Shall ROBERT L. HUDSON of the OKLAHOMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS be retained in office? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

News

2020 ELECTION

LIFE-SAVING VOTE?

Woods County voters will decide whether to raise taxes, create EMS district

By **SEAN DOHERTY**
Student Reporter

Woods County voters will decide on Nov. 3 whether to supplement funds to all emergency medical service stations in the county. A proposal to establish a 522 EMS district in Woods County is on the ballot this year. Since 1976, 522 EMS districts in Oklahoma can be formed from a school district, incorporated city or town or county. These districts, named after Oklahoma State Question 522, which allowed for their formation, may then establish an annual recurring ad valorem tax levy of not more than three mills per dollar of assessed valuation of all taxable property in the district for EMS operations. If the proposal passes, beginning during the 2021 tax year, Woods County property owners would supplement funds to all three EMS stations: Alva, Freedom and Waynoka.

This tax is an addition to the current property taxes in the county, and will recur every year until a proposition to repeal it appears on a future ballot. Why should any NWOSU students care? Students or faculty that don't pay taxes in Woods County aren't affected. But for those who live here or plan to stay after graduation, this vote is important. Julie Dennis, director of Alva EMS, is a member of a task force that came together to get this proposal on the ballot. She and the other members of the task force say this tax will provide a constant funding stream that will provide financial flexibility to all three EMS stations, while simultaneously creating a funding mechanism for capital improvements and updates. The proposal would also offer improved control and better coordination and cooperation. "It will ensure more effective coverage for our service," Dennis said. "With the current trend of the state regulations increasing



Photo by Michelle Willson

A sign encouraging Woods County voters to support a proposal creating a county EMS district is shown in the foreground, while a sign urging voters to vote against the proposal is shown in the background in this photo.

the needs and requirements to be met to maintain current license ... this would produce and provide a mechanism in which we could potentially purchase that equipment that we need." Each EMS district in the county is different. Alva EMS is a full-time, paid ambulance service funded by a percentage of the city sales tax and EMS charges after ambulance runs. They average 1000 runs each year. Waynoka EMS is a paid volunteer service, which means their EMTs get paid a small amount for covering shifts funded by city sales tax, EMS charges, and a mandatory subscription on Waynoka residents' utility bills. Waynoka EMS had approximately 200 runs last year. Freedom EMS is a volunteer service. Paramedics don't get paid, patients are not charged for EMS runs and any funding the EMS service receives is from donations or fundraising. They had about 50 runs last year. If the proposal passes, the tax

would generate approximately \$645,000 annually. The Woods County commissioners would nominate three individuals from each EMS station to serve on a board to oversee allocation of these funds to each EMS district. "It'll have to be a joint venture between the cities and this board," said Randy McMurphy, chair of the Woods County Commissioners. McMurphy said the board will not have any administrative power over the EMS stations. "I'm not this board," he said. "It's just an oversight to see that the funds are spent right where they need to be spent." Dennis reiterated that each EMS station would still be operated independently. "How (the proposal) is written, it would form an EMS district, not a county-wide EMS service," Dennis said. "That district is a special taxation district that will contract with the existing agencies that are providing coverage in that area." However, the board would

provide an opportunity for all three stations to help each other. "It will allow us to see exactly where there might be a shortfall in another service," Dennis said. "If there's a shortfall there, it might allow for us the opportunity to step up and help them in that area, or vice-versa. Having people come together on the board can never hurt because we're coming together to discuss the mutual issues. And I mean, the only thing that can come from that is increased coordination and cooperation." The constant funding stream the 522 district tax levy would provide gives the three EMS stations some breathing room financially. "It gives us more flexibility," Dennis said. "We have the ability to put more money into equipment and more money into a person. We have the ability to put more money into training, those types of things. It allows the coordination and cooperation that we already have among three

services to function better and more efficiently because we're not struggling financially." Supporters of the 522 proposal say the constant revenue from the mill levy will help stabilize unpredictable sales tax funds. "We may have \$300,000 in sales tax one month, but we may only have \$150,000 the next month," Dennis said. "It's not a constant, steady stream. What this tax is going to do is to help us plan for the future. We will have a good estimate from now going forward." "It's a really small amount to pay for a service," McMurphy said.

COST TO TAXPAYERS

According to Woods County Assessor Renetta Benson, there is a simple equation to calculate the additional taxes a property owner will pay. The current assessed value of the property, multiplied by .003 (\$3.00 of every \$1,000 of assessed property value is taxed) equals the yearly increase in taxes for the property owner. The assessed value of real estate property like land and structures attached to that land is calculated by multiplying the market value of the property by the assessment rate of 11.5% (.115). Personal property is assessed at a rate of 12% (.12). For example, if the assessed value of a real estate property is \$50,000, the additional tax the property owner would pay is \$17.25. If the assessed value of their personal property is also \$50,000, the additional tax would be \$18.00, for a grand total of \$35.25. The position of the opposition to the 522 EMS district tax is simple: No more taxes. But McMurphy counters. "I don't like more taxes either, but I do like to know when I am paying taxes where it's going," McMurphy said. "The best way I can put it...who would want to send their kids to college at Northwestern if there wasn't an ambulance service available?"

HAY MAZE: Bradt's Menagerie event made possible by volunteers

Continued from Page 1

Jerad Bradt said one question he gets all the time is whether the maze is appropriate for young children, especially children around the age of 6. He said the answer depends on the child. "There are some people that say, 'Oh, that wasn't even scary,' and that's OK because maybe you're watching some really freaky movies, and so you're not

scared by these things," JoDe Bradt said. Jerad Bradt said he likes that his family has the maze to offer. He said Alva has had haunted houses in the past, but they have all fizzled out. JoDe Bradt agreed. She said it's fun to see the costumes come through the hay maze. "We are blessed that people want to come out," she said.



At left, the hay maze at Bradt's Menagerie is shown in this aerial photo taken from a drone in fall 2019.

File photo



Photo by Jordan Green
A truck drives on snow-covered Oklahoma Boulevard on Monday after street crews sanded and salted Alva roads.



Photo by Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche
Plants and flowers around campus were still green when snow fell late Sunday night and early Monday morning.



Photo by Jordan Green
The Ranger statue was covered with a light dusting of snow on Monday.

Merry Halloween?

Campus glistens and students play in late October snow



Photo by Jordan Green
Rangers Noah Rodriguez and Steven Shin ride a sled towed by a pickup truck Monday afternoon on a country road north of Alva.



Photo by Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche
Plants and flowers around campus were still green when snow fell late Sunday night and early Monday morning.



Photo by Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche
A university maintenance worker uses a skid-steer to clear snow on sidewalks near Ryerson Hall on Tuesday.

Military service offers benefits to college students

By SHANNON NESSERALLA
Student Reporter

It's 4:30 a.m. Lights turn on, and yells from drill sergeants fill the bay. This is what trainees experience on the first morning of basic training.

Deciding to be a part of the 1% who sacrifice to serve their country can be a huge step for anyone. Raising your right hand and officially becoming an enlisted soldier in the Oklahoma Army National Guard isn't an easy commitment, but deciding to do so can be extremely beneficial.

The ARNG is different than the active-duty Army. While both organizations serve the same branch of the military, members of the ARNG serve part-time for the state they are enlisted in.

The part-time requirements consist of going to the unit of assignment once a month during the drill weekends. Also, a two-week yearly training will be required during the year.

If the state has any statewide emergencies, then the National Guard may be called in to assist with them.

The National Guard's contract length is also longer than the active-duty contract length. While enlisted, an eight-year contract is the most common. Six of those years are active, and two years are inactive. The inactive years are years when a person may be called in on an as-needed basis.

The National Guard is a great option for college students who have the desire to serve their country and receive many different benefits. One of the biggest benefits that people can take advantage of is the college tuition assistance, which can be taken advantage of as soon as you've enlisted.

If you enlist and then do not ship out to basic training for a few months, then you can still take college classes that the Army will pay for.

According to Zach B. Zachary, the tuition waiver can only be used at colleges in Oklahoma and will cover a minimum of three credit hours and a maximum of 18 credit hours. Students must also maintain good standings in school and with the Army.

Soldiers who fail to report to their units without notifying their command team will receive an absent without leave, commonly called an AWOL, against them. If a soldier has received more than nine AWOLs in 12 months, he or she will not qualify for tuition assistance.

Soldiers must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 to remain eligible for assistance.

While enrolled in a college program, you will also be eligible to receive the Montgomery GI Bill. This is a monthly allowance that can be as much as \$300 extra per month.

This can be used toward school expenses such as books or other supplies, and can be used for personal expenses. Unlike the tuition assistance program, this allowance



U.S. Army photo by Tori Evans
A soldier crawls through a mud pit during a training exercise in this photo.

is automatically deposited into a personal bank account.

These benefits won't come easily. Enlisted soldiers are still required to graduate from basic combat training at one of four training sites: Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Fort Benning, Georgia; or Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Another requirement is graduation from advanced individual training, which is the training for the military occupational specialty that was chosen on the day of enlistment.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Army offers a wide range of jobs, and the MOS is the chosen job that the soldier wishes to perform during his or her time enlisted. This training can range anywhere from a few weeks to more than a year depending on the complexity of the job.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University student Dylan Siler is serving in the Oklahoma ARNG and is taking advantage of the benefits it offers. He said he decided to join because it was a family tradition, and so that he could receive free college tuition.

"If you want to join, just know that it's something you got to commit to and can't just quit, because that's not how the military works," Siler said.

Since enlisting, Siler has matured and become more responsible in his daily life, he said. When asked if he's gotten to experience anything he may not have experienced without the National Guard, he said: "I've gotten to shoot grenade launchers and smoke screens. I've also got picked up in a helicopter for a medevac, which was sick."

Joining the National Guard can help a person financially, and it can help grow a person's character.

Hunter Priest is a Northwestern student who is serving part-time in the Army.

He said he believes that, since joining, he has become more disciplined and has gained a better work ethic. He also said he views certain things differently, and he can react

to his surroundings faster.

Since the coronavirus pandemic began, his monthly drills have all been online, which prevents hands-on training. He offered this advice about joining: "Basic training is the easiest and hardest thing you'll ever do. Stay fully committed, and keep your mind right, and you'll do great. Always strive for excellence."

NETWORKING

The National Guard also provides networking opportunities. Everyone in your unit will have a civilian life and civilian job. Making connections within the chain of command can open up windows of opportunity.

You never know whose civilian job may be looking to hire entry-level workers. Also, making good connections and showing strong work ethics can help with promotions. Promotions are what will help with getting the most out of your military career.

Before joining, possible recruits should know some requirements. There is an age requirement of being 17 to 35 years old. Being able to attain a passing score of 31 on the ASVAB is required. The ASVAB determines what MOS you can choose. The higher you score, the more options you have.

Also, you must pass numerous medical and physical screenings before enlisting. The medical portion consists of a hearing test, vision test, urinalysis and blood test. The physical portion will consist of a short physical test with a deadlift, seated ball-throw and shuttle sprints.

Staying in shape and maintaining your physical ability are also important parts of being in any military branch.

A required physical test is given each year, and if the soldier receives a failing score twice in the same year, he or she may be removed from the branch for failure to meet requirements.

Another requirement is the height and weight standards. You must maintain a certain weight or body fat percentage depending on your age and height.

Why Join?

100%

100% FREE TUITION

MONTHLY PAYCHECK

MULTIPLE JOB CHOICES

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE TRAINING

\$20,000 ENLISTMENT BONUS

SERVE YOUR STATE PART TIME

Graphic by Shannon Nesseralla Source: nationalguard.com

These graphics explain various aspects of serving in the military. The above graphic shows some of the benefits of serving in the military, which include having multiple job opportunities and earning money to pay for college tuition. The graphic below shows the number of people serving in the military.

