



KEVIN GIBBONS/SAN ANGELO TRIBUNE

Retired Marine Corps Sgt. Nester Hernandez does a speed painting of an iconic Johnny Cash pose as he is filmed for the Medicinal Missions film "Project 22." The film project is meant to raise awareness about the suicide rate among veterans and showcase the alternative natural therapies some veterans are using to help transition from combat to civilian life. See more photos at <http://on.fb.me/1tz4gV6>.

PROJECT 22
 from 1B

The team for "Project 22" was in San Angelo in early May to interview and film retired Marine Corps Sgt. Nester Hernandez.

Hernandez has developed his own artistic style of alternative natural therapy he has named "Warrior Art."

Hernandez performed a "speed painting" of an iconic pose of the Man in Black — Johnny Cash — for a crowd at the Office Bar in downtown San Angelo while the crew of "Project 22" filmed the performance.

"In the movie, you will see veterans engaging in sailing, equine therapy, pottery, all kinds of activities, that have helped them in their lives," said King. "We found out about Nester and his painting,

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Doc King, coordinator for the project

how it helped him transition from combat Marine to civilian, and wanted to come down and talk with him. Nester has proved to be just so inspirational. And he's an all-around great guy. I can't wait to share his interview with other veterans — they are definitely going to be inspired.”

When asked why he was participating in "Project 22," Hernandez said "I hope that any

Marine, any soldier, that sees this may be inspired to try something. If not art, then singing, photography, sailing — anything — ... else.”

"Project 22" will be released this summer and Hernandez will be a featured veteran in the movie.

To follow the filmmaking process and the progress of the trip across the nation, visit facebook.com/Project22vets.

VIEW 'PROJECT 22'

To watch a trailer of the "Project 22" documentary, see facebook.com/Project22vets. To learn more about Medicinal Missions, visit medicinalmissions.com

Project features retired Marine

■ San Angeloan part of film to help veterans

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*"The gates of hell are open night and day;
 Smooth the descent, and easy is the way;
 But to return, and view the cheerful skies;
 In this the present task and mighty labor lies."
 — Virgil*

This somber verse sets the tone for the trailer to the movie "Project 22" from Medicinal Missions.

The name is taken from the sobering federal statistic that on average, 22 veterans commit suicide each day. "Project 22" is intended "to raise awareness of this fact and showcase veterans who are using natural alternative therapies to help in the transition from combat soldier to civilian life," said Doc King, coordinator for the project.

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