



The Fort Huachuca Scout



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September 25, 2003

Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Blood drive at Eifler

There will be an Armed Forces blood drive 10 a.m. through 8 p.m., today in Eifler Gymnasium.

For more information, call 533-4723.

Employer Visit Day

The Army Career and Alumni Program will host an Employer Visit Day from 9-11 a.m. on Tuesday in Building 22420.

Employer Visit Day allows soldiers, family members and industry representatives to discuss their mutual interests.

ACAP is a comprehensive program designed to preparing separating service members and their family members for life outside the military by offering counseling and job assistance training.

For more information, call the center at 533-5764 or 533-7051, between 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Another visit day will be held Nov. 13.

BFH closed Oct. 1 -10

The Barnes Field House basketball courts will be closed Oct. 1 - 10 for the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Show.

For more information, please call 538-2022.

Embry-Riddle visitors

Representatives from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be at the post education office on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information call 747-5540.

Supply point closed

The Installation Ammunition Supply Point in Building 13522 will be closed for quarterly inventory today and Friday.

Emergencies need to be directed to Manny Bringas, ASP, at 533-2512 or Jose Fierros at 533-3617.

Myers book fair

Myers School Book Fair runs 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., today through Oct. 7, and will offer a wide variety of books. Clifford the big Red Dog will be at the fair today, from 2:30 through 3:30 p.m.

INSIDE

Coolers going off

As the temperatures drop DIS will change coolers to heaters.

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Make fall safe

Safety tips offered for fall season.

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What happened?

See This Week In History and learn about the past on Fort Huachuca and around the world.

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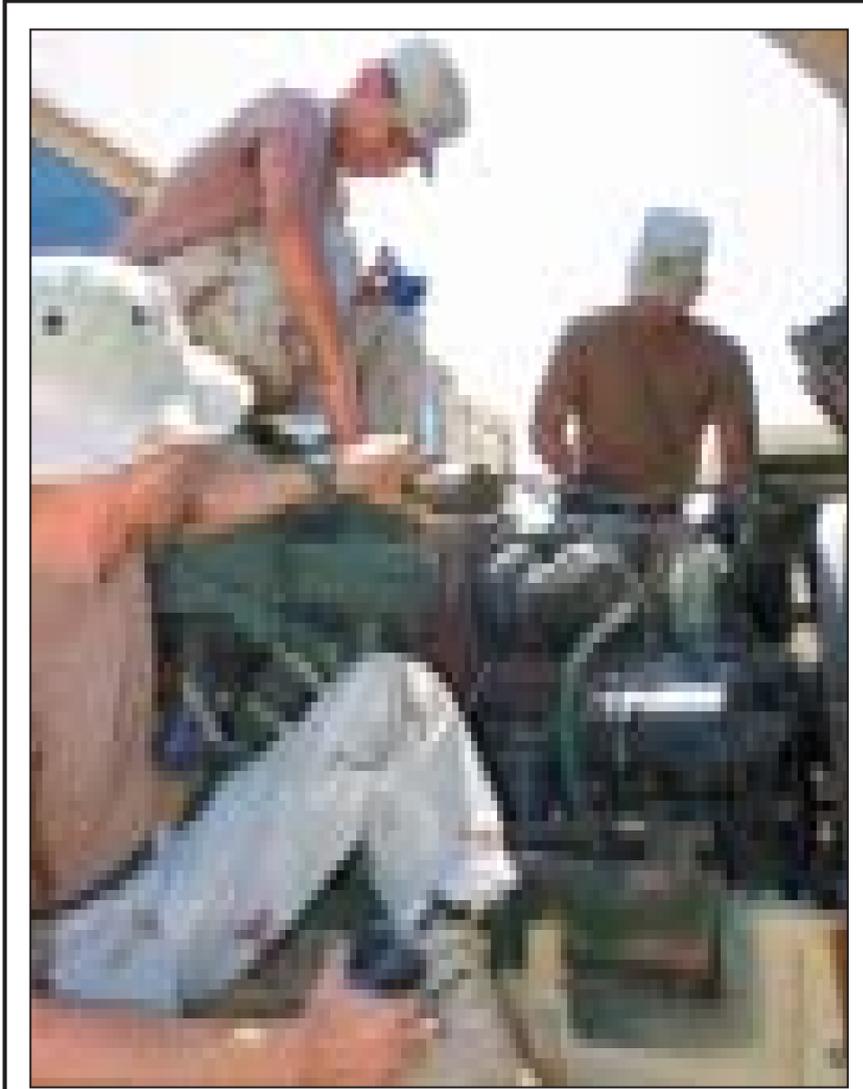


Photo by 2nd Lt. Sean E. Passmore

That cooling mist

Spc. Eugene D. Domingue, Spc. Arthur Cavazos and Staff Sgt. Anthony Lagmay, all members of the 11th Signal Brigade's redeployment team, keep cool using misting bottles while preparing a five-ton truck for redeployment at Camp Doha, Kuwait. The misting devices were donated to the soldiers as a part of the Desert to Desert program initiated here.

Changing of the guards

BY
SPC. MATTHEW CHLOSTA
SCOUT STAFF

The post has hired a contractor to supplement its force protection at the East Gate on post.

The Installation Management Agency has contracted with Advanced Uniform Protection Services Incorporated to hire contract guards for Fort Huachuca's East Gate.

AUPSI will begin hiring guards over the next several weeks in the surrounding local community, including Sierra Vista, said Maj. Daniel Ortega, director of public safety.

The main gate access control will continue to be done with a combination of Department of the Army guards, who are civil service employees, and soldiers from the 259th Engineers Company, Arizona National Guard.

AUPSI are going to hire civilian personnel from the community to conduct access control on the East Gate on Fort Huachuca, said Ortega.

The advertising for the positions started last Saturday, added Ortega.

"This is one more measure of protecting the Fort Huachuca community," said Ortega. "This is an addition to the DA guards."

According to Ortega, this

extra layer of security wasn't put into place until now because of funding.

"It just wasn't available at the time," said Ortega.

"The Army has determined that contracting this service for the installation provides some flexibility for the future," said Ortega.

Ortega stressed the many positives of the DA guards working the main gate by saying, "We are completely happy with their performance and professionalism they have provided for the installation."

"We believe these contract guards will provide the same level of service," added Ortega. "They will be required to meet the same standards as our current access control personnel, both the 259th Engineers and the DA guards."

Their (the AUPSI guards) standards for training are the same as who we currently have on the gates, said Ortega.

The newly hired contractor guards will be evaluated by a two person assessment team, who report to Ortega, to make sure they are following the access control standards.

"I have two personnel who are contract officer technical rep-

See GUARDS, Page 3

CG eyes soldier's concerns with sensing sessions

BY LT. COL. JEFFARQUETTE
USAIC&FH INSPECTOR GENERAL

Maj. Gen. James Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, continues to conduct quality of life sensing sessions and identify issues, which are tasked out to the appropriate agencies/activities within the command for response and/or resolution.

Contained in this article are some of those issues, along with responses from the agencies/activities responsible for each area.

Issue: Lack of adequate signage informing personnel about on-post bus routes and cost.

Response: This information is currently located in Welcome Packets at ACS, Army Lodging Rooms, and all DCA Facilities. It appeared approximately three weeks ago in The Scout w/an insert of the map. Sierra Vista Transportation office is developing a 4' x 6' laminated bus route map. Once this has been accomplished, it will be posted at various places on Fort Huachuca to include the PX/Greely Hall/Each Unit/etc. The schedule w/prices will be posted next to it. This map should be completed in approximately 30 days. A weather-proofed bus schedule has been installed on the poles of each bus stop. Additionally, a box of the route maps was delivered to the NCO Academy for ANCOG and BNCOG students.

Issue: Need for better access to post information for stu-

dents at the NCO Academy

Response: NCOA plans on setting up a stand-alone, browser-based information center residing on a standard desktop computer in Wilson Barracks and has already tasked a Website literate NCO to do it.

Issue: Post Office Hours. A comment was made that the Post Office on-post closes too early (4 p.m.) and neither the downtown Post Office nor the one on-post is open on Saturday.

Response: The Fort Huachuca Post Office closes at 4 p.m. so the employees can take the mail to the main post office in Sierra Vista before it closes. The UPS Store in the Army and Air Force Exchange Services complex sells stamps and can mail letters and packages. Mail must be received by 2:30 p.m. and packages by 5 p.m.. They are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. They also have mailboxes available for rent that can be accessed during those hours. The AAFES retail store at the Mini Mall sells postage stamps as well.

Starting on Oct. 4 the Sierra Vista Post Office will be open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. through 2 p.m. We are aware that many students are not allowed to bring their vehicles here while they are in training. We have asked the Phoenix district manager about extending hours for the Fort Huachuca Post Office. The Sierra Vista postmaster does not have the authority to increase hours since it affects the budget.

Issue: Vehicle registration hours. A comment was made that the vehicle registration office closes too early (3:55 p.m.) for soldiers in training to get their needs taken care of. The CG suspects there are many other garrison activities that routinely close the same time everyday and would like you to look at having support activities shift their hours to allow them to remain open later one day a week.

Response: Whitside Hall (location of vehicle registration) currently closes at 4 p.m. The garrison staff is coordinating with other Staff Directorates who provide services at Whitside Hall to remain open beyond 4 p.m., therefore providing additional opportunities for soldiers to visit these activities. This would facilitate availability, not only of vehicle registration, but other services provided at this facility. In the interim, every Thursday, the Main Gate will extend their hours to 5 p.m. to allow soldiers to conduct vehicle registration business. In addition, soldiers can call Tina Pearson at 533-1840 to make arrangements for support from vehicle registration beyond posted office hours.

Issue: Auto Craft Shop. Comments were made that the Auto Craft Shop needs to extend its hours later into the evening to accommodate soldiers; that it has many basic tools that are in a state of disrepair; and, that it needs to install light bulbs in the drop lights for the bays

Response: Current hours of operation are: Mondays, 10

a.m. through 5 p.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m. through 7 p.m.; closed Wednesdays; Thursdays thru Saturdays, 10 a.m. through 7 p.m. and Sundays, 9 a.m. through 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays are extremely slow between the hours of 5 and 7 p.m. The staff at RPM is going to relook the evenings hours and see if they can shift hours from the slower days to those nights that are busier therefore accommodating patrons who wish to work on their cars later in the evenings. If this is possible, we will begin offering the different hours beginning in October. An unfunded requirement (for appropriated funding) will be developed to buy replacement tools for the RPM and made a priority by the Directorate of Community Activities for physical year 04. All lights are being inspected and bulbs will be replaced as needed.

Issue: On-post Daycare. A comment was made that daycare on-post does not have enough extended daycare providers to support the needs of soldiers. The CG wants an information article on the rules of daycare, including things like population, inventory, training, regulatory amount of time kids can be in daycare daily, suitable for publishing in the Scout. How many extended daycare providers do we have? Is it an adequate number? How can we recruit more?

Response: Ms. Sanders, Chief CYS and staff were interviewed by the Scout staff for

a series of articles that began appearing in the Scout on Sept. 18 and will include answers to these questions.

Issue: On-post theater. A comment was made that soldiers would like to see a multi-plex theater on-post. The CG would like to know if this would be feasible for Fort Huachuca.

Response: There are several factors that put FH at a disadvantage in getting a multiplex theater built, including: Current AAFES theater is the lowest producing activity for them. AAFES is not allowed to present first-run movies in the continental United States.

• Given the fort's population, it is doubtful that a theater company would build a multiplex theater especially since one exists in Sierra Vista.

• In addition to the multiplex theater in Sierra Vista, there are two other theaters; one of which also presents first-run movies.

Issue: Barnes Field House operating hours. A comment was made that Barnes Field House closes too soon on Saturday and the pool closes too soon everyday.

Response: Barnes Field House operates 97 hours seven days a week. The primary focus and mission of these hours for both the field house and indoor pool is to support unit physical fitness readiness. These activities occur primarily in the early morning, at noon and after each duty day. With the current staff-

See SENSING, Page 3

Commentary

Enjoy liberty, justice for all

Soldiers paying the price

BY MICHAEL E. DUKES
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Regardless of personal opinions for or against military action in Afghanistan and Iraq thousands of American patriots are carrying out orders to liberate and protect people who are defenseless against oppressive dictators.

Soldiers are putting their lives on the line to help people they don't know. Since the War on Terror began in the fall of 2001, Walter Reed Army Medical Center has had its hands full tending to those who have been wounded or have become sick in the line of duty.

Dozens of Purple Hearts have been in private bedside ceremonies at the medical center. The former Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki put it best when he said to family members of recipients, "This is a medal no soldier seeks or wishes for. But it's something they paid for with their own sweat and blood."

I've been present for many of these private ceremonies and was amazed how, despite their war-torn condition, many of these soldiers stood at attention as they were pinned.

Some of the soldiers who went to Walter Reed have lost legs, arms and suffered injuries that will be with them the rest of their lives. I was amazed at the high spirits and positive attitude many of these soldiers had. Their determination and perseverance makes me proud to be working at our nation's largest and most prestigious military medical center.

We don't see their faces

in the news anymore, but we still get new patients weekly. The media frenzy is gone, but the soldiers are not forgotten. You won't often see in the news, but some pretty big celebrities have been stopping by to visit these patients and let them know they appreciate their contributions and sacrifices.

A few months ago, singer Sheryl Crow stopped by to perform bedside songs. I remember a young female soldier in a wheelchair had tears rolling down her cheeks as Crow performed "Strong Enough."

When actor Ben Vereen visited, he spent about 15 minutes at each soldier's bedside, with their hand in his, looking them straight in the eyes saying that getting better was up to them. It didn't matter how bad the doctors thought the outlook was, he said. "It's got to come from within your heart. You have to want it and believe you're going to get better." I think just about every soldier he visited had watery eyes when he left — he truly touched them.

When country singer Randy Travis visited, he asked each soldier where they were from, what they were doing when they were wounded, and if they planned on staying in the Army. The soldiers said they would stay in if they were able to. A couple said they couldn't wait to get back to Iraq to be with their buddies again.

There have been quite a few professional athletes and entertainers who cared enough to stop by and say "hello" and talk to the soldiers. There were no video crews or reporters present during

their visits — these were private visits for the wounded soldiers.

While these celebrities might not endorse war, they do support those who dare to stand up and fight for the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

Walter Reed has treated war wounded since World War I. Just about every war presented similar injuries to our troops — bullets, bombs and land mines have tried to thwart the morale and patriotism of these young men and women. The faces and the names have changed, but the spirit is the same — one of patriotism and perseverance.

One thing that has helped them through the years is support from here at home. It didn't matter that they were thousands of miles away, the fact that someone at home cared was enough to get them through what they thought were their darkest hours. But when things got worse, and they became casualties of war, this support was more important than ever.

So I encourage everyone, whether you believe war is right or not, to support our troops, just like Sheryl Crow, Ben Vereen, Michael Jordan, Randy Travis and countless others are doing.

Though you might not see the faces of the young soldiers being treated at Walter Reed, it's important to remember they are more than just casualty numbers reported in the news — they are our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, friends, neighbors and fellow Americans.



BY CHAPLAIN (MAJ.)
DENNIS R.
NITSCHKE
ACTING COMMAND
CHAPLAIN, NETCOM

"...we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." - **Romans 8:37b**

"Everyone wants to become successful in life endeavors. That's great, but that's incomplete. Success impacts life, but it does not necessarily improve life; significance does. Significance impels people to move, and to live, far beyond where they are today." - Rev. Walt Kallestad

I spent last weekend at the New Mexico Military Institute and had some free time to watch the news. Big stories were: Hurricane Isabel, soldiers killed and wounded in Iraq, the New York Stock Exchange chairman firing, the crash of the satellite Galileo, and the presidential lineup of Democrats. (Not a word about "Bennifer.")

While these stories, and others, are important, knowing about them doesn't necessarily improve our lives. And while we want good leadership at all levels, how much of the interest is based on a successful election and not significant change for real quality of life for Americans? The shake-up at the stock exchange will be ongoing, but the success — monetarily, for some — wreaked havoc with the finances of the world for over two years, but helped few live better.

Looking at the Galileo story, NASA decided to crash the satellite rather than let it land because of possible germ contamination in space. A failure? Maybe, but the discoveries made by Galileo are significant. New moons around Jupiter were discovered, photos of Jupiter gave us a new understanding of

planets, and the possibility of life outside of Earth in oceans and ice on Europa may help us understand the universe better.

My personal favorite was a comment by a mayor of a town hit hard by Hurricane Isabel, "When the sun comes up tomorrow, we have something to look forward to."

That, my friends, is significant. So often we look for success, but even when we reach whatever that "success" is, we want more. However, by moving and living, reaching, beyond what we want personally, that is significant.

"I" want a promotion, more money, a larger house, newer cars, bigger bank accounts, a perfect family, a perfect body — the list goes on. But what "I" find significant in life is helping soldiers, playing with my children, taking a trip to NMMI with one of them, kissing my wife and telling her I love her at the end of another day — and starting each new day the same way.

I believe that God calls us not to be successful, but to be faithful. That is significant.

While you and I can strive for success, I believe we are missing not only the point of being part of creation, but we are also missing the opportunity to become all that God intends for us to be.

Reach not for more — reach for meaning, lasting meaning, in your own heart and the hearts of those you love — and who love you. Look for significance in what you do and who you are because that will last forever.

One last news story that I heard just before leaving to return home was about the Honor Guard at Arlington who watch the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

When Hurricane Isabel was about to hit the area, the leadership told the guards they could seek shelter during the storm and heavy rains. Every one of the guards remained on duty watching, protecting and honoring their charges no matter what the weather was like. Now THAT is significant. We are more than conquerors, we are significant in the eyes of God, the eyes of those who care about us and, it is my prayer, in our own eyes.

Letter to the editor

I would like to recognize a few dedicated individuals for the work that they perform behind the scenes on a daily basis:

First, two individuals from the Fort Huachuca Finance Office: Mr. Curtis and Sgt. Massey for their untiring efforts in ensuring that I

received all the entitlements due to me as I transition into retirement. This past August, as I downloaded my LES from the DFAS Web I noticed that I did not receive any pay. I immediately called back to Fort Huachuca and these two individuals tackled this problem to the very end, and kept me informed throughout. As it stands right now,

I will receive any and all entitlements due, and that the transition from active duty to retirement pay will be seamless. I wish that I could give more than just a mere "Thank you". I truly appreciated their efforts and I will not forget

See **THANKS**, Page 3

Scout on the Street



"Coronado National Park. I like to hike up there, and there's also caves."

Pvt. Nathan Paul Harter,
Company D, 309th Military
Intelligence Battalion



"Morale, Welfare and Recreation is the best-kept secret. We have a lot of wonderful programs. People don't realize how much we have to offer."

Barbi Barnett,
management analyst
MWR



"The scenery, history of the Southwest and the weather."

Andre Woods,
recreation aid
Non-Appropriated Funds



"The mountains. It's fun to go walking through them. There's good scenery."

Sgt. 1st Class Terrence
Puhlman, Headquarters
306th Inspector
General Office



"The Buffalo Soldiers. I'm not sure everybody knows their history."

Pfc. Roshanda White,
18th Military Police
Detachment



"I just like the canyons."

Mary Ann Black, Roads
and Grounds Division

What's the fort's best-kept secret?

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Fall colors are changing, leaves are falling, people shouldn't

BY SPC. MATTHEW E. CHLOSTA
SCOUT STAFF

The fall season is fast approaching Fort Huachuca and the Installation Safety Office asks you to follow some of their fall safety tips.

"It is probably the best season in Arizona all year long," said Bruce Heran, installation safety officer.

But, the season has some safety problems that need to be addressed, added Heran.

Fatigue and travel

First, "There is always the tendency to have the one last fling, vacation, party, whatever, before the weather turns cool," said Heran.

A lot of people do it over Labor Day weekend, but there is still Veteran's Day and Columbus Day for various weekend trips, added Heran.

"The tendency is to cram too much stuff into to short a period of time," said Heran.

One example cited by Heran is taking off from work Friday at noon, and having to be back 8 a.m. Monday morning.

"A lot of people packing up their boats, campers and all terrain vehicles, at probably an excessive rate of speed," said Heran. "They are probably already tired. Fatigue is an issue and they are probably gonna go to far."

"I just ask folks to be reasonable," said Heran. "Don't try to overdo it."

Anytime you stress your physical, mental abilities and your equipment you increase your risks, added Heran.

West Nile virus

Don't go to places that have large concentrations of mosquitoes right now.

"The West Nile Virus has been found as close as Roper Lake, up near Safford," said Heran. "If you go, be cautious, because the mosquitoes have been found there."

Outside stuff

The weather is beautiful and a lot of people do outdoor activities, especially on weekends.

"Hiking, biking, camping, barbecues, cookouts and mountain jogging," said Heran. "All of these

things require a certain amount of preparation. I encourage folks to go out and get exercise. But, I encourage them first to talk to their doctor or other medically trained persons to find out if they are particularly fit to do it.

"Don't immediately presume that you can go on a ten-mile hike," added Heran.

Always remember to take enough water, the proper clothing and a cell phone.

"They don't work everywhere, but they work a whole lot of places," said Heran. "And, they can be a lifesaver."

Critters trying to get in

Scorpions, black widow spiders and brown recluse spiders are hazardous to your health, said Heran.

"Check all your doors, make sure the gaskets around the bottoms are tight," said Heran. "Keep these critters out. Where it is appropriate use sprays to control them. They are trying to get in.

"Same for other things like mice, too," said Heran. "The more things you keep outside, the happier you'll be inside."



Photo illustration by Spc. Matthew E. Chlosta

When hiking or doing any strenuous activity this fall, make sure to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Also, if you're planning any intense exercise, don't over extend yourself. Consult your doctor if you've been inactive for awhile and want to begin an exercise regiment.

Coolers off, heaters on: DIS releases changes

BY DYKE ERICKSON

DIRECTORATE OF INSTALLATION SUPPORT

The Directorate of Installation Support has scheduled the changeover to heating equipment to begin Wednesday.

Completion dates are projected to be Oct. 31 for both post facilities and family housing units.

Any facility that has not been completed by the above dates should call the operations and maintenance contract work control section at 533-5457 or 533-5459 for assistance.

Additionally, callbacks for heaters that have been turned on should be referred to work control until Nov. 15. After these dates, service orders should be placed with

DIS service order desk at 533-3151/2003 (post) or 533-2030 (housing).

In most facilities, this changeover requires the cooler to be disconnected before the heating unit can be activated.

Occupants waiting to have their changeover performed are urged to close windows and wear sweaters on cool days.

All occupants are reminded in no instance

should ovens be used for an extended length of time to heat quarters as this could potentially cause carbon monoxide poisoning.

Dates are subject to change if significant weather changes occur or problems are encountered at the housing units.

Every effort will be made to provide the highest level of customer service with the least amount of inconvenience.

Date	Street	Arizona Avenue	Cooney Street	Craig Street (108-144)
Wednesday - Oct. 3	Hines Road Grierson Road Dove Street Mills Circle Luke Street Luke Court	Moore Circle Moltern Circle Nelson Circle Burns Road Dorsey Street	Comptom Street (100-107) Craig Street (100-120) Hatfield Street Stovall Street Dodson Street Stanley Street Hardley Street	Cushing Street (even) Hatfield Street (123-143) Irwin Street
Oct. 6 - 10	Madden Street Wright Street Mason Street Winrow Street Lawton Street Davis Street Tupper Street Meyer Avenue (100-108)	Schmidt Street Derum Street Carlson Street Meyer Street (109-114 & 115-130) Nickles Street Rucker Street Hughes Street (100-158) Stedman Street (100-149) Jeffords Street (100-161)	White Street Rafferty Street Royal Street Hughes Street (159-227) Jeffords Street (162-211 & 208-244)	Oct. 27 - 31 Carter Street Cushing Street (odd) Fuller Street Hanna Street Patch Street Hall Circle Bernard Court Brown Court Kautz Street May Court Mott Circle
			Sledman Street (150-216) Faison Circle	

GUARDS, from Page 1

representatives," said Ortega. "They will ensure that they (the AUPSI guards) are complying with our requirements for access control personnel.

The 259th Engineers will help train and supplement the new contractor guards on the East Gate and continue with their mission on the Main Gate.

"It will be kind of a train up," said Ortega. "The 259th will be out there. These guys will come on. They'll be training together for a couple weeks, and then the 259th will back out.

The 259th Engineers Company, Army National Guard will be withdrawn at some point in the future.

"I don't have a firm date on it," said Ortega about the 259th Engineers leaving, "but they eventually will demobilize. They're going to leave in accordance with the timeline they're currently scheduled to leave on. And, nothing is going to change

from that."

The new contract guards also provide an extra level of flexibility in case of any future scenarios similar to Sept. 11, where the installation would go to an elevated level of force protection.

"We would seek support from the Military Police and the installation for a short period of time," said Ortega.

"The contract is going to give us a little more flexibility," said Sandra Chambers, DPS executive officer. "If we would happen to go up to Delta. And, we said we need 20 more people. If they would fund that, they (AUPSI) could hire 20 more people. It would be a lot faster for them to hire them, than it is to go through the civil service system."

"When 9-11 hit," said Chambers, "we had four DA guards. We had to pull all the rest of the assets from the MP's and a few partners on post to secure the installation.

The installation now has 31 DA guards, added Chambers.

"So the contract provides enough flexibility to increase the contract guard force quickly," said Ortega.

According to Ortega the anticipated start date for the new AUPSI guards to work at the East Gate will be sometime in mid-November.

Somewhere closer to that date, we'll do another article on them with pictures, so everyone will know what their uniform will look like, said Ortega.

"The process for entering either gate will remain the same, as will the hours at both gates," added Ortega.

"Instead of seeing soldiers with BDUs [battle dress uniforms] out there," said Ortega, "they'll see contract guards in a uniform similar to our current DA guards."

"The goal is for putting contract guards on the gates," said Ortega. "The ultimate goal is for it to remain invisible to the general public."

THANKS, from Page 2

them anytime soon. Thanks gentlemen for all that you do for our men and women in uniform. I tip my hat to you and a loud thunderous "HOOOAH!!!!!!"

To 1st Sgt. Glasco and Spc. Belinda Wood from HHC, NETCOM: Many thanks in assisting in this transition. Thanks for the quick responses whenever I called back to the unit for assistance. I wish you continued success and I tip my hat to you as well. Great job, "HHC, Renegades PAC".

We would like to thank everyone for their support and friendship. We miss each and every one of you. We truly enjoyed our time there and especially the many friends we've made. We wish you all continued success in all your endeavors. Thanks and God Bless each and every one of you, our Army, and the United States of America.

Daniel K. Lujan - Retired 1st Sgt. U. S. Army

SENSING, from Page 1

ing (includes Borrowed Military Manpower) and funding levels for the Barnes operation to include the indoor pool, it is stretched to the limit. Also, attendance at Barnes is the lowest on weekends, (Saturday and Sunday). We will review Barnes' attendance figures by day and present this issue to the 06 commanders and CSMs at the upcoming Installation MWR Council meeting on Tuesday to see if any hours and/or days of operations need to be adjusted to meet the needs of all assigned soldiers on Fort Huachuca.

Issue: LakeSide/La Hacienda Merging. The CG would like an educational article that addresses what will occur in the future with the Lakeside and La Hacienda merging.

Response: DCA is meeting with the Scout staff to layout the fort's food, beverage and entertainment strategy plan that has been approved by the CG for implementation. All specifics will be answered.

Issue: Housing costs above basic allowance for housing rRates. The CG stated we are having a housing cost survey conducted by OSC. He wants details of this provided for an educational piece in the Scout.

Response: The DIS housing office is drafting an article for the Scout. It will be published within the next few weeks.

Issue: Prescription refills. A comment was made that a soldier with an authorized prescription refill was not able to get his prescription refilled at the PX Pharmacy. **Response:** The PX pharmacy has no medications in it, only processed prescriptions. Empty bottles from other Military Treatment Facilities need to be taken to the main pharmacy so they can be filled and the proper documentation can be completed.

Pharmacies have DEERS access, which is several days behind the accuracy of the computer found in Patient Administrative Division. DEERS access only confirms enrollment and eligibility and is unrelated to the prescription profile side of CHCS, a computer

software program used to enter prescriptions.

Currently, individual MTFs are not linked via a common profile through CHCS. Exceptions to this are facilities overseas, where you are able to see prescriptions from more than one facility, like you can do with a civilian retail site. We are able to see prescriptions filled from downtown Network Pharmacies (Walgreens, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Osco, Fry's, Food City) via the PDTS screening system. It is planned for all MTFs stateside to be linked, but this is still a work in progress.

Prescription refill policy is as follows:

a. From this MTF: All prescription refills are to be called in via the automated 24 hour refill service at 533-1551. Patients without a touch-tone phone or those unable to access the refill phone-in system due to mental or physical limitations may call the number and wait for the message to end, and then leave a voicemail as to what prescriptions are needed. Refills are also accessible via our website with the pick-up times as those called in. Prescriptions called in prior to 7 a.m. are ready for pick-up after 2 p.m. the same day. Prescriptions called in after 7 a.m. will be ready after 2 p.m. the next working day whether they are called into the PX or Main pharmacy. It is preferred, but not mandatory that refills are picked up at the PX pharmacy. The hours of the main Pharmacy are 7:30 a.m. through 5 p.m. daily, except Thursday, when it opens at 8 a.m. The PX pharmacy is open from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. daily.

b. From other MTFs: We do fill prescriptions from other MTFs that meet these qualifications—Patient must have a valid prescription bottle with refills remaining until there is CHCS interface between MTFs. We must stock the medication requested. The patient returns to the pharmacy after 2 p.m. or the next day.

c. From downtown: We are unable to transfer or fill prescriptions from non-federal facilities.

Not a walk in the park

MI officers try to 'earn their way' into the Rangers

SPC. MATTHEWE. CHLOSTA
SCOUT STAFF

Last week members of the 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga. tested Military Intelligence officers here for the opportunity to become a Ranger MI officer.

Maj. Dave Morrison, intelligence officer, 75th Ranger Regiment, brought his three-man Ranger assessment team here to select eight officers for slots in the 75th Ranger Regiment.

The Rangers are the world's most elite light infantry direct action unit, according to Morrison.

They continue to have a significant role in America's War on Terrorism, including Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, added Morrison.

"I came here looking for eight, but last time I only left with two," said Morrison. "Because of the deliberate screening and selection process, we have a 100 percent Ranger school graduation rate for the officers that were chosen from here. In the Rangers everyone meets the standards for assignments and maintains them everyday."

The Rangers are capable of executing any Special Operations or light infantry mission day or night, in all weather conditions via land, sea or air, said Morrison.

The officers who volunteered to be Ranger candidates for the quarterly Ranger assessment were either MI officers stationed here or MI Officer Basic Course students.

Most of the candidates in this Ranger assessment class were second lieutenants.

"The biggest thing is to not only build leadership, but leaders in the MI corps," said Capt. Eddie Perry, officer in charge, MIOBC Ranger program.

"We started this program about a year ago," added Morrison. "We foresaw shortages of Ranger qualified MI officers. The Army is at war. We want Ranger qualified captains in the Ranger Regiment.

"We are looking for sound, quiet professionals, who can think on their feet, and that

can execute their jobs under stress," said Morrison.

The Ranger assessment and selection process began when the officer selectees attended a detailed 75th Ranger Regiment briefing by Morrison at 6 p.m. in Sisler Hall.

During the initial briefing to the Ranger officer candidates, Morrison explained the Rangers' mission in a slide presentation.

The 75th Ranger Regiment MI mission is to provide multi-disciplined intelligence and counter-intelligence support to the regimental commander, staff and subordinate Ranger battalions to facilitate the planning and execution of strategic/tactical opera-

tions, including planning and executing reconnaissance, according to Morrison's slide presentation.

"I'm looking forward to it," said 2nd Lt. Kirk Kudrna, Company C, 304th MI Bn. "We've been getting ready for it the whole time we've been here."

On Sept. 18 at 6 a.m., Morrison and his team tested the candidates and conducted an Army Physical Fitness Test, which included push-ups, sit-ups, a two-mile run and finished with chin-ups.

Officers in the Ranger Regiment are between the ages of 24-46 and have an average APFT score of 295 out of a possible

300.

The Ranger standards are for physically elite soldiers. For the soldiers to reach the next phase of the assessment, they had to reach a minimum of 70 push-ups, 70 sit-ups and at least six chin-ups.

"The PT test is one way to determine who those eight people will be," said Master Sgt. Henry Montoya, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 75th Regimental Detachment, Fort Benning, Ga. "It is only one way. We want to make sure the guys we send to Ranger Orienta-

RANGERS, see Page 5



Photo by Spc. Matthew E. Chlosta

Second Lt. Brent Carlyle, Ranger MI officer candidate, feels the aftereffects of the searing heat and the fast pace of the two-mile run during the AFPT portion of Ranger testing.



(On right) Sgt. Kevin Kelly, medic, HHC 75th Ranger Regiment, gives encouragement to 2nd Lt. James Thomas, Ranger MI officer candidate during the Army Physical Fitness Test phase of Ranger selection here.

RANGERS, from Page 4



(From left to right) Ranger MI officer candidates 2nd Lt. Russell Hennessey, 2nd Lt. Josh Drinkard and 2nd Lt. Brent Carlyle pull themselves closer to their goal of becoming Ranger officers during the pull-up event of the Ranger assessment.

tion Program are set up for success. We want to make sure they are physically prepared."

During the initial briefing Montoya, who was the grader for the PT testing, told the Ranger candidates, "We enforce the standards. Once you qualify to be a Ranger, you will go back out into the regular units and enforce the standards."

The candidates that made it through the morning session on Sept. 18 then had to pass the Combat Water Survival Test.

The CWST was set up in three stations; first, "don and ditch" load bearing equipment and weapon; second, a 50-meter swim with weapon while wearing their LBE. The third, final and most daunting station was a walk

off the three-meter high-dive board.

During the high-dive jump, Ranger candidates were wearing boots, LBE, BDUs, their BDU cap pulled down over their eyes and they held a simulated M16A2 weapon.

"We're looking for maturity, stamina and endurance," said Morrison. "We also look for someone who is making the right and smart decisions with a never quit attitude."

At the end of the first day of assessment Morrison spoke glowingly of his Ranger candidates.

"Today is going well," said Morrison. "Good showing. Good PT (physical fitness test) scores. It will be tough to make the cut."

The second day of testing only had one event, but once again it was tough.

The event that was conducted last Friday was the Ranger Run. The five mile run had to be completed by the Ranger candidates in less than 40 minutes, which means running at a pace of eight minutes a mile or faster.

"I'll feel pretty good once we get the five miler over with," said 2nd Lt. Joshua Mendoza, MI OBC Ranger candidate.

Some of the officers commented about why they wanted to join the elite Rangers.

"Primarily for the professionalism," said Kudrna. "In those organizations the competency is a lot higher. Putting yourself up to that standard is nice when the entire organization is up to that standard also. I wanted to do something to make a differ-

ence."

"The leadership training would be invaluable for when you lead your own soldiers," said 2nd Lt. James Thomas, MI OBC student and Ranger candidate when asked why he wanted to become a Ranger. "The confidence from achieving a personal challenge is great."

The candidates that were left after the first two brutal days of evaluation and assessment were rewarded with a 12 mile ruck-march, which began at the crack of dawn last Saturday.

"The one I'm most concerned about is the ruck march," said Kudrna. "Many things can go wrong since it is the longest event."

"The big test is once you put the 'green tick' on your back, it sucks the life right out of you," said Morrison, two days before the ruck march. "We'll see."

To make the ruck march even more daunting, each soldier had to carry 45 pounds in their ruck for the entire march. The Ranger assessment team weighed the rucks before the march to make sure each ruck weighed 45 pounds.

"Make sure your ruck weighs 45 pounds before the march, not including all the water you're going to drink while you travel," said Morrison at the initial Ranger assessment briefing.

"I like that they hold you to a higher standard," said Thomas. "The Rangers make you earn your way in. I think that is the way it should be."

Once the march was completed Saturday, Morrison gave psychological tests to

the remaining candidates.

"We execute psychological testing for mental aptitude and mental stability," said Morrison. If they passed all of these tests and tasks, the selected Ranger candidates will be interviewed by the 75th Regimental Psychologist in the next couple of weeks, said Morrison.

Then the candidate is interviewed by Morrison. Next, all the data is compiled with recommendations by Morrison, then given to the Ranger's Deputy Regimental Commander for the final decision.

"We will continue to build the leaders of tomorrow," said Morrison. "The Ranger course is the best leadership course in the Army."

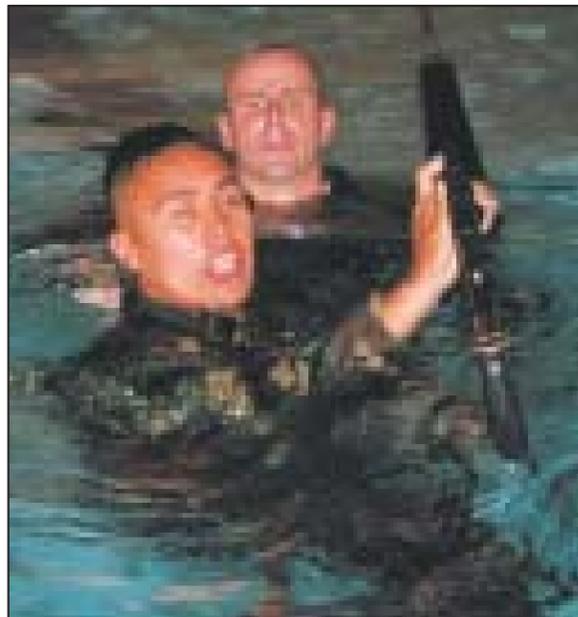
If an officer is selected, they finish their MIOBC

here. Then, if the selected officer is available based on the needs of the Army, they will go on to Airborne School, Pre-Ranger training and then Ranger School at Fort Benning, Ga.

After the Ranger training, the new MI officers will be stationed with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea for one year to get some seasoning before coming back to an assignment with the 75th Ranger Regiment.

Once they get back from Korea, the Ranger MI officers will be assigned to one of the three Ranger Battalions — either 1st Bn., Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.; 2nd Bn., Fort Lewis, Wash.; or 3rd Bn., Fort Benning, Ga.

"What we do is very serious business," said Morrison.



Sgt. Kevin Kelly, medic, HHC 75th Ranger Regiment, keeps an eye on 2nd Lt. Vincent Unpingco, Ranger MI officer candidate, as Unpingco finishes the Ranger Combat Lifesaver 50 meter swim in the pool at Barnes Field House, Sept. 18.

New PT regimen in the works

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

A team from the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School is visiting Army installations to teach a new exercise regimen that includes pull-ups, the shuttle sprint, squat bender, rower and forward lunge.

The school's commandant began by visiting Fort Bliss last week to teach physical training instructors the exercises designed to improve muscle strength, endurance and mobility, while focusing on fitness for everyday life. There are no immediate plans to change the Army's physical fitness test, officials said, just how soldiers prepare for it.

Fort Bliss was the first Army installation to be introduced to the new program that was just approved for trial less than three weeks ago.

Lt. Col. William Rieger, U.S. Army Physical Fitness School commandant, and deputy commandant Frank Palkoska, both said that the new PT would be

standardized, disciplined and have a more military appearance.

They also said that the program would be more designed toward the individual soldier's needs and ability and not just a "mass one" level of participation.

Some of the key points in the program will be to:

- Improve physical fitness while controlling injuries;
- Progressively condition and toughen soldiers;
- Develop soldiers' self-confidence and discipline.

"We're going to be training as we fight," said Sgt. Jeffrey J. Hernandez, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 6th ADA Brigade.

"With these exercises we will be able to better control injuries," said Staff Sgt. Emerson Hazzard, 6th Brigade operations noncommissioned officer and student of the new PT demonstration class.

Rieger said that this program is not a drastic change from what the Army has always been doing, it's just doing it better. "There's no bad exercise, only

exercises that are done incorrectly or with the improper intensity, order, volume and amount of repetitions," Rieger said.

Palkoska said that when he teaches soldiers in the field, he wants to make sure they understand why they are being taught the particular way of doing the exercises and why they could endure longer if they use the USAPFS program.

In addition, both Rieger and Palkoska said that this program would improve soldier performance that is related to their jobs.

For instance, if a soldier has a job that requires him or her to move fast in a moment's notice, the shuttle sprint or start, stop and change direction run that was taught should help with that.

"An active or dynamic exercise like the forward lunge is better for stretching," Rieger said. He said the USAPFS wanted soldiers to do exercises that applied to the functional strength of what they're doing. For instance, he said the high jumper works with soldiers who are air-

borne.

Rieger said that part of the program was designed to train the muscles to respond anaerobically, using less oxygen, as well as aerobically, using more oxygen.

"You have to stress the body in different ways with a combination of activities to improve," Rieger said. He suggested doing one minute of push-ups with no rest to assess strength.

"We're educating soldiers so they know they can do it and believe they can do it, because they've practiced it on a regular basis," Palkoska said.

Fort Jackson, S.C., is the next installation on Rieger and Palkoska's list.

"We're going to every single installation in the Army," Rieger said, adding that it may take a couple of years.

Staff Sgt. Steven Saenz, an instructor at the fitness school, said that a new Army Field Manual 21-20, (physical fitness) is currently in the works, but will not be out for a few years.

Deployed soldiers: Income tax electronic filing deadline looms

BY STAFF SGT. TADD DAILY
NCOIC, CLIENT SERVICES, OSJA

April 15, it's a date that makes your heart beat faster and causes your hand to instinctively reach for your wallet or checkbook. You can almost hear the Internal Revenue Service knocking on your door. It is not, however, the only filing deadline to be concerned about. As soldiers in a world turned upside-down by terrorism and an ever-changing landscape, we are faced with a multitude of exceptions and extensions. One looming deadline is certain though, and that is the deadline to file your 2002 income tax return electronically.

The ability to file your taxes electronically significantly speeds the processing time for you, and the IRS is able to process refunds in a matter of a few days rather than weeks. Using electronic funds transfer shortens the time it takes to get a

refund even more.

Hopefully, this will not incite panic. To qualify for electronic filing you must file your 2002 income tax return on or before Oct. 15, through a qualified e-file center. The Fort Huachuca Legal Assistance Office is just such a facility and is still able to provide tax preparation assistance. Furthermore, you may file your 2002 income tax return electronically before the Oct. 15 deadline, even if you have not received an extension from the IRS or are not eligible for an automatic extension resulting from service in a combat zone/qualified hazardous duty area, or service outside of a combat zone/qualified hazardous duty area. Although you will no longer be able to file electronically after Oct. 15, you can always prepare your taxes the old-fashioned way and mail them to the appropriate IRS processing center.

If you have any questions regarding income taxes, contact

This week in history

September 25

1872 Indian fight at Muchas Canyon with Cavalry led by Brevet Col. J.W. Mason, who later (1882) commanded Fort Huachuca.

September 26

1793 Cornerstone of U.S. Capitol was laid by President Washington in Washington, D.C.

1820 Daniel Boone died at Charrette, Mont., at the age of 85.

1864 First Arizona Territorial Legislature met at Prescott - a Council of nine members and a House of 18.

1926 All-day rain, "Flood of the Century," washed all bridges out and isolated Fort Huachuca, except by telephone.

1941 Army's Military Police Corps was established.

1962 Personnel from Fort Huachuca airlifted rations, supplies, personnel and medical service to flood-stricken Papago Indians southwest of Tucson.

September 27

1821 Mexico secured its independence from Spain, the Huachuca area became part of the early configuration of the New Mexico territory.

1861 Apache Chief Mangas Colorado attacked Pinos Altos mines northeast of here, but was repulsed by Arizona Guards, a volunteer unit.

1929 Two hundred horned toads were entered in the Tucson Desert Derby.

September 30

1859 A deserter from Fort Buchanan, Ariz. was sentenced to 50 rawhide lashes, 28 months in irons, total pay forfeiture, branding with a 'D,' his head shaved, drummed out of service and dishonorable discharge.

1866 In the Army: The strength of the Regular Army was 38,540.

1872 Six miles west of Sonoita, near Camp Crittenden, a detachment of Company F, 5th Cavalry, had a brisk fight with Apache Indians.

1898 From May 1 to Sept. 30, 2,600 officers and men died in Army Camps from disease. (Spanish American War period)

1946 Twenty-two Nazi leaders were convicted of war crimes by the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg.

1947 Last four Indian Scouts retired at Fort Huachuca.

October 1

1885 The First Butterfield Mail run entered Arizona at Stein's Pass.

1891 The University of Arizona first opened its doors.

1896 Two cloudbursts in the Whetstone Mountains caused flash floods, which swept Benson. Two mothers and four children died.

1913 Carnahan Hall was completed as a new post theater, by donations from the 5th Cavalry. Formerly on the creek opposite Colonel Young School, it was salvaged in 1957.

Community Updates

Free puppetry workshop

Army Community Services Kids on the Block Program is training in Bunraku Puppet Theater for the Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista communities.

Two training sessions will be offered: 9 a.m.- noon and 1- 4 p.m. Oct. 3 at Army Community Services Building 50010 on Smith Street on Fort Huachuca.

Class size is limited and sessions will fill up quickly, so please call to register early. Free childcare is available.

Call Staci Kiefer, ACS Kids on the Block Program coordinator at 533-2993 to register or for more information.



Domestic violence prevention classes offered

October is Domestic Violence Prevention Month, and Army Community Service's Family Advocacy Program will be offering several classes on domestic violence prevention throughout the entire month.

These classes will be open to the community on a reservation-only basis. They will be held at the ACS conference room, Building 50010.

Several briefings are scheduled so that enough opportunities will be available to those interested.

Classes will be offer as follows: Oct. 6, 6 - 8 p.m.; Oct. 15, 2 - 4 p.m.; Oct. 20 6 - 8 p.m.; and Oct. 30, 2 - 4 p.m.

For further information or reservations, call ACS at 533-2330.

Spanish test at center

A Spanish college-level examination program test is being offered at the Education Center. The test is free to active duty military, who must call to schedule the test. Family members may take the test for \$56.

The recommended credit hours are between six and 12; Cochise College grants 15 semester hour credits for the test, which involves audio and reading (all multiple-choice questions). For more information, call 533-2390, 533-5690 or 533-1701.

Warrant officers needed

The United States Army is looking for highly motivated

soldiers to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 48 specialties. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team at www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or DSN 536-0484, 533-0458, 533-0488 or 533-0478.

Command and general staff officers' course

Majors still have an opportunity to enroll in the required officer professional development course here on Fort Huachuca. Both phases I and III of the command and general staff officers course will start in October and meet one weekend each month.

The classroom option has numerous advantages over the correspondence version, including:

- Both have a higher graduation rate and higher grade average;
- Workload sharing and interaction with active and reserve component students;
- Professional and structured learning environment, and;
- Instructor support.

There is both a minimum and maximum number of students allowed in each class. Anyone interested in enrolling may contact Bill Puciello at puciello@hua.army.mil or 533-6514 or 803-1129.

Information exchange Oct. 7

A "round-up," or installation-wide information exchange, will be 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 7 in La Hacienda. Included will be updates from the Garrison Command, Directorate of Community Activities, Army Community Services, Medical Department Activity, the Chaplain's Office, Fort Huachuca schools, PX and Commissary.

SSA notice

The automated supply system used by the Supply Support Activity has been shut down, due to Hurricane Isabel, and a new operational date for that system is unknown.

All supported customers of the SSA may continue to submit their requisitions, but all requests will be called into applicable National Inventory Control Points, if available, by our item managers. Due to system shut down, the status will not be readily available.

For further information contact Al Sablan, 533-8522 or Mona Lanham, 533-8524.

Classes offered this fall

Wayland Baptist University will begin its winter term registration on Oct. 13 at the Rascon Learning Center and at its downtown campus at 1840 Paseo San Luis.

Registration lasts three weeks, with classes beginning the week of Nov. 3.

WBU provides daytime, evening and online classes. Wayland offers degrees in business management, communication systems technology, management, intelligence operations, criminal justice and many others.

Call 459-6111 for a free evaluation.

Insurance rep on post Oct. 23

A representative for the Arizona Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be available to answer questions on health insurance benefits from noon - 2 p.m., Oct. 23 in the Jackrabbit Room at the Murr Community Center, Fort Huachuca. For more information, call Eva Dixon at CPAC, 533-5735 or Kelly Garland at CPAC, 533-5273.

Range closures

Today - AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Friday - AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Saturday - AU, AV, T1, T1A, T2

Sunday - AU, T1, T1A, T2

Monday - AL, AM, AN, AP, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Tuesday - AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AP, AR, AU, AV, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Wednesday - AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AP, AR, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on range closure contact Range Control, at 533-7095.

Financial readiness class offered

A financial readiness class will be held 1 - 5 p.m., Oct. 8 and 9 at Murr Community Center.

The class is mandatory for first-termers, according to the Department of Defense. However, it is open to all soldiers and family members.

Areas such as money and banking, investments, retirement and relocation will be covered. Promotion points are given for those who are not mandated to attend.

For further information or to register, call Leigh Henderson at Army Community Service, 533-2330.

Environmental Beat

Fort joins others in Huachuca Mountain fire management

BY JOAN VASEY

MEDIA RELATIONS SPECIALIST

Wildfire. It's a grave concern to those who live in the Wildland Urban Interface, where homes and communities meet the forest — where houses, structures and special places are tucked into forested and fire-prone areas.

The southwest is fire prone, with its woodland and grassland ecology shaped and molded by fire. According to studies conducted by the University of Arizona's Laboratory of Tree Ring Research, wildland fires burned Huachuca Mountain landscape every three to 20 years.

These fires cleansed the forest of dead wood, weak trees or crowded stands of seedlings. The forests did not look like the forests of today.

There were stands of trees of various ages much more widely spaced apart. There was less competition for nutrients such as fire, water and sunlight. Ash from the periodic cleansing fires washed back into the earth, fertilizing trees and new growth.

Fire was seen as an enemy beginning around 1900 when wildfires destroyed several American towns. The public demanded that all fires be suppressed.

Yet, despite the best of efforts and the latest technology, fires cannot always be stopped, and scientists now know it is not always beneficial to stop them. To suppress all fire does not preserve natural landscapes; it changes them unnaturally.

Today, government policies reflect both a commitment to public safety and the

understanding that fire must be returned to its natural role to help reduce hazardous fuels and to sustain wildland ecosystems into the future. Public and private land managers still suppress fires that threaten lives and property.

Now they also ignite fires or conduct mechanical tree thinning and pruning to recreate or restore a healthy natural environment.

During the summer of 2002, representatives from federal, state and private agencies that manage land in the greater Huachuca Mountain area decided to form a group for overall fire management. Thus, the Greater Huachuca Mountain Fire Management Group was born.

The group, one of the first large-scale interagency fire working group in the nation, decided to blur political boundaries and cooperatively develop a fire management plan to collectively manage fire and fire-related projects on lands under the cooperating agencies' jurisdictions.

The Directorate of Installation Support on Fort Huachuca and Coronado National Memorial have each contributed \$10,000 as start-up money for the partnership, which plans to seek funding from a variety of sources.

"Fort Huachuca has been an active participant in the GHMFMG since its inception and feels the group is a great mechanism to improve fire management in the area," said Jim Hessil, wild-



Courtesy Photo

life biologist and a Fort Huachuca representative to the group.

"With improved fire management, Fort Huachuca can conserve biodiversity, improve ecosystem health, protect threatened and endangered species while sustaining Army land required for military training and readiness," Hessil added.

The 500,000-acre greater Huachuca Mountain management area boundaries include: Coronado National Forest, Babocamari Ranch, Arizona State Lands, Fort Huachuca, and the San Pedro Riparian Natural Conservation Area (northern boundary); SPRNCA, Fort Huachuca, Coronado National Forest and Coronado Memorial (eastern boundary); lands along the Mexican border (southern boundary) and Coronado National Forest (western boundary).

While currently in its infancy stages and the beginning of the planning process, the long-term goal of the GHMFMG is to work together to let natural fires burn when feasible, suppress unwanted wildfires, conduct prescribed burns and use non-fire means such as mechanical thinning to reduce

fuels around developed areas.

The group's projects will cross political, agency boundaries to manage fire along natural features and roadways. Mexican cooperators are also being invited to participate.

The benefits of managing for fire on a broad landscape scale such as the greater Huachuca area include: increased public and fire crew safety; widespread improvement in ecosystem function; improved sharing of limited fire resources and increased public awareness on the importance of fire.

Cooperating agencies and partners participating in the GHMFMG include:

- The Nature Conservancy, Ramsey Canyon Preserve (lead);
- USDA Forest Service, Coronado National Forest, Sierra Vista Ranger District;
- U.S. Army, Fort Huachuca Military Installation;
- National Park Service, Coronado National Memorial
- Bureau of Land Management, San Pedro Riparian Natural Conservation Area;
- Arizona State Parks, San Rafael Ranch State Park;

•Arizona State Land Department, State Land within the border confines;

•National Audubon Society, Appleton-Whitell Research Ranch;

•B a b o c a m o r i Ranch;

•San Rafael Ranch;

•U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;

•Arizona Game and Fish Department;

•Immigration and Naturalization Service;

•University of Arizona/Geological Survey;

•Fry Fire District;

•Palominas Volunteer Fire Department;

•Patagonia Fire Department, and;

•Sonoita-Elgin Emergency Services.

Fort offers low-cost wood, free pallets

Get ready for winter with low-cost mulch and firewood available on Fort Huachuca, and get free scrap wood and pallets for your children's projects.

The Directorate of Installation Support, Environmental Division has a fuel wood and forest products disposal program open to both the civilian and military communities.

In addition to a special permit to collect and haul the materials (FH Form 420-2), all that's needed are the tools to get the natural products, the time to collect it and a truck to haul it away.

"The wood products program is a win-win situation," according to Kim Bartlein, wildlife technician and program coordinator.

"We are able to recycle materials from thinning and hazard tree removal or construction projects, and users are able to obtain these materials for free or for very

little money," Bartlein added.

While a special permit is needed prior to collection, there is no cost to collect the scrap wood or wooden pallets; Bartlein is currently the sole permit issue coordinator.

Because his duties frequently involve travel to various on- and off-post locations, he suggests callers page him at 940-1338, or leave a message on his answering machine at 538-0492.

For a small fee, those who want to get ready for winter can get permits for wood.

For chip mulch, the cost is \$5 for a pickup load, which is approximately 64 cubic feet. Firewood, which purchasers cut to size before loading, is \$25 for a half cord.

Those who wish to include sections of power poles in erosion control or landscaping projects should know that used power poles are occasionally available. Cost is 25 cents per linear foot, with permit. After scheduling a permit appointment, permits are issued at the Directorate of Installation Services Environmental & Natural Resources Division, Building 22526, Butler Road.

From the main gate, follow Winrow Avenue and continue bearing right; Winrow becomes Squire Avenue. Stay in the right lane; at the end of the one-way portion, travelers will re-enter Winrow Road.

Enter the traffic circle and bypass the first two exits. Take the third exit onto Smith and turn left at the traffic light onto Christy. Turn right on Butler, just before the Self Help building. The Installation Services Environmental & Natural Resources Division, Building 22526, is the stone structure.