

The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Harvest fun
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Scout reports

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504th Signal FRG meets

The 504th Signal Battalion will host a Family Readiness Group meeting today, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Murr Community Center. For more information, call Maj. Willie Davis or Lt. Col. Roger Carey at 533-7159.

Inprocessing closed

Whitside Hall Military Inprocessing will be closed Friday morning to support Reserve Augmentee Inprocessing. Normal hours of operation will resume in the afternoon. For more information, call Ted Hartman at 533-1120 or Dan Obeso at 533-2681.

Halloween carnival set

The Youth Center will host a Halloween Carnival on Friday for fifth grade and below from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday for sixth grade and above from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be candy, games and prizes for all. Prizes will be awarded for funniest, scariest and most original costume. Admission is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers. For more information, call 533-3205 or 533-3212. This program is sponsored by the Fort Huachuca Youth Services staff.

Harvest Fest planning begins

Volunteers are needed to help with the Harvest Fest set for Wednesday. A planning meeting is set for 6:30-7:30 p.m., today at the Main Post Chapel, Room 38. Decorating will be 6:30-8 p.m., Oct. 30. Everyone is invited to attend. Harvest Fest is an alternative to Halloween.

Harvest fest set

The Harvest Festival will be Wednesday, 5-7 p.m., at the Main Post Chapel activities room. Dress up in your favorite costume and join us for games, crafts and prizes. For more information, call Donna Irsik at 459-4877.

Adopt a greyhound

The Greyhound Adoption League of Sierra Vista will host a Greyhound Adoption Day on Saturday for Sierra Vista and the surrounding area from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bookman's Bookstore, 100 West Fry Blvd., Sierra Vista. The program is also in need of temporary homes for these beautiful dogs. For more information, call Dave Breen at 378-1763.

Museum Society meets

The fall meeting of the Huachuca Museum Society will be at 3 p.m., Sunday in the Ballroom at the Fort Huachuca LakeSide Activity Centre. This program is free to members and \$5 for guests. For reservations, call 378-3615.

Steve Lindsey will talk about ranching in the Southwest. Lindsey's family has been in the cattle business in southeastern Arizona since the late 1860s. He writes cowboy poetry and frequently performs at the annual Cochise Cowboy Poetry & Music Gatherings.

Trick or treat times set

On-post Trick or Treating hours for Halloween are, from 6 to 8 p.m. for children up to 12 years of age. Children, five and under, must be accompanied by an adult. Due to heightened security, trick or treating will be restricted to on-post residents only. The Directorate of Public Safety has distributed 2000 reflective treat bags to the post schools. DPS also reminds employees that if they choose to dress up, using discretion is advised and no masks, fake guns, swords, etc. are recommended.



Message in red

Myer Elementary School is celebrating Red Ribbon Week by sending a message to the Fort Huachuca community. Fourth graders spelled out "We Are Drug Free" on the fence facing the hospital, while fifth graders spelled out "God Bless America" on the fence in front of the school. A "United We Stand" banner posted near the school office has been signed by students and staff. Parents are invited to visit the school and add their signature to the banner.



Photos by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

DIS to consolidate dumpsters

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

In a combined effort to increase force protection and to beautify the post, Fort Huachuca's garbage dumpster sites are currently in the process of being consolidated, according to Tom Borer, executive officer, Directorate of Installation Support.

Borer said garbage dumpsters will be moved away from buildings and into open areas. He said in the future there will be three or four garbage dumpsters in one consolidated area.

Currently there is a garbage dumpster located by nearly every office building.

He said the purpose is three-fold. "One is the added measure of security in maintaining

the necessary stand off distances to ensure the safety of the personnel working in the buildings.

"Two is to dispense with the unsightly condition of having these dumpsters located in open sight in parking lots and fields adjacent to buildings.

"Three is to instill pride in the way Fort Huachuca looks and feels to our workforce and the visitors who come to Fort Huachuca," Borer said.

"People will have to walk a little further to dump their garbage now," Borer said. But he noted that a large receptacle such as a garbage dumpster could be used for terrorist activities.

He said the consolidation is still in the plan-

ning process. In the future, dumpsters will be strategically placed approximately 200 to 300 feet from any buildings and will be surrounded by permanent concrete structures.

"The relocated dumpsters will have a block enclosure built around them and be set on a concrete pad. The general public will only see a brick wall," he said.

"I want to thank the Fort Huachuca community for their patience and their cooperation," Borer said.

If during this process the dumpster your office uses has been moved and you have problems finding the consolidated location, call the DIS, Contract Management Division at 533-1442 for the location nearest your building.

Families have been force multiplier for more than 226 years

By Jim Caldwell
TRADOC News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. — For more than 226 years families of soldiers have been "a great force multiplier," according to Ceil Abrams.

Just as her husband, Gen. John N. Abrams, is the commander of Training and Doctrine Command, Ceil Abrams is the command family advisor. In that role, her primary concern is the well being of the families of all soldiers on TRADOC installations.

Now that Operation Enduring Freedom has started, many spouses will have to care for their children and the home by themselves.

"Army spouses have always had to take on the responsibility, even when soldiers are not deployed," Mrs. Abrams said. "It is a stressful time filled with uncertainties and nothing replaces that soldier not being home."

While nothing can replace the absence of the father or mother, there are education programs offered by family volunteers that can ease the burden. Family Readiness Groups, made up of spouses in units sometimes down to the company level, is the nearest source of help and education.

Family Readiness Groups also stand ready to assist spouses in emergencies. Commanders, when security permits, use the FRGs to give spouses news about their deployed soldiers.

Many spouses who organize and run FRGs receive training from the Army Family Team Building program. At each installation training is conducted by spouses who complete the three levels of AFTB courses and are trained to teach the classes.

The AFTB program consists of:

— Level I - training for new spouses to teach them where resources are on post, how to obtain ID cards and how to read Leave and Earnings Statements.

— Level II is for those who are familiar with the Army but want



Photo by Jim Caldwell

Gwen Smith, chief of TRADOC Child and Youth Services, and Ceil Abrams, wife of the TRADOC commander, Gen. John N. Abrams, at a command-wide video teleconference on family support programs. Mrs. Abrams is TRADOC's senior family advisor, focusing on programs that benefit Army families.

to begin developing leadership and personal skills, along with conflict management and adaptability.

— Level III is advanced training in leadership and interpersonal relations, team building, mentoring and media and public relations.

Another source of information and assistance is the Family Assistance Center. The centers are staffed by civilian employees, as well as volunteers. They also have on-call expertise from Army officials such as the judge advocate general, chaplain and personnel specialists.

"The spirit of the Army wife, I believe, is the spirit, and it always has been, of this nation, not just this Army," Mrs. Abrams recently said in a video teleconference on family programs. The

VTC communicated the need for training center commandants, school commandants and their wives to ramp up their family support programs.

"Just like all Army wives through the years, we stand ready, we stand together and we answer the call for the defense of freedom and our way of life.

"We know and trust in the dedication and the commitment and the courage of our Army. We are daily reminders of their selfless service and total willingness to answer to a calling bigger than all of us."

In a recent interview in the Abrams' home on Fort Monroe, Mrs. Abrams said that when she married she was just as confused as any new wife as to what the Army is about and what her role should be.

Before she married, she received her first lesson from her future mother-in-law, when she and then Capt. Abrams, who had just finished a 26-month combat tour, visited his mother. His father, Gen. Creighton Abrams, commanded the Military Assistance Command - Vietnam, at the time.

See Family, Page 5



Photos by Spc. Jessica Espinosa

Signs in the sky

Lester Loden, left, and Ryan Bushnell, sign fabricators and installers for Romisco Sign Systems, put up a marquee in front of the Main Chapel on post. The sign will provide information on services and activities happening at the chapel. The top half will be a permanent sign, while the bottom half will be changeable.



Library offers fort readers best selling titles

Library release

The Fort Huachuca Main Post Library has several titles from The New York Times' Best Sellers list available in its holdings.

Fiction

Dr. Death
The Blind Assassin
The Bear and the Dragon
Heartbreaker
Wish You Well
L.A. Dead

Nonfiction

Ghost Soldiers
Band of Brothers
Seabiscuit
Founding Brothers
Tuesdays with Morrie
Black Hawk Down

Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Commentary

There is a common bond between soldier, civilian

By Stan Williamson
 Scout Staff

There are times when a soldier might hear a federal civilian employee complain about the soldiers in today's Army. On the other hand, it's also possible for a civilian employee to hear the same comments about civilians from a soldier.

This is understandable and at times acceptable. Many members of the civilian workforce are like me, former soldiers now retired from active duty. And many more civilians in the workforce have been government employees for 10, 20 and even 30 or more years. They all remember the American Army of their generation and sometimes the aging process can get in the way of "modernization" and their accepting changes to the way the Army was.

Yes, I admit it, some of the things I see and hear today do not sit right with the "old Sarge" mentality imbedded in me. But then, I remember.

This is the Army of today. This is the Army of these young men and women who wear the uniform today, and have taken an oath to "defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

Soldiers are not the only people to take an oath to "defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." All federal employees, from a GS-1 to the President of the United States also take the same oath.

I'm sure you remember the words. "I, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the



United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter; SO HELP ME GOD."

The point here is that whether we wear the uniform of the United States Army, or we are in civilian dress, we are united in one goal, one mission, one Army. Each of us is "An Army of One."

No matter what you thought on Sept. 10, all that has changed since Sept. 11. We are now a people, a work force, a nation, united in a common goal to end terrorism on our soil and around the world. We have taken an oath, and together we will defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Lifelong Learning

VEAP to MGIB conversion date nears

Education Center release

Public Law 106-419 provided an opportunity for certain Veterans Education Assistance Program participants to enroll to the Montgomery GI Bill.

The opportunity to enroll in the MGIB ends Wednesday. To be eligible for the conversion:

— A soldier must have served continuously on active duty from 9 Oct. 9, 1996 through April 1, 2000;

— Be a VEAP participant on Oct. 9, 1996 (participants are defined as servicemembers who opened a VEAP account; participants do not have to have contributions remaining in

the account to be eligible);

— Before applying for benefits, have completed requirements for a secondary school diploma (or equivalency certificate) or have successfully completed the equivalent of 12 semester hours in a program of education leading to a standard college degree;

— Make an irrevocable decision to enroll in the MGIB no later than Wednesday by signing DD Form 2366;

— Make a lump sum payment of \$2700 or have \$2700 reduced from pay.

For information on the conversion from VEAP to MGIB, contact the Army Education Center at 533-3010 or 533-2255.

Earn a master's degree in Public Administration

Education Center release

The University of Colorado at Denver Graduate School of Public Affairs and the Office of Personnel Management is making it possible for students to earn a master's degree.

The degree is available through the Executive MPA program and dramatically improves their leadership competencies.

The program is designed to be flexible — course work can be tailored to fit a student's individual needs and career objectives.

Through a choice of formats, including online courses and weekend or week-long intensive meetings, students can fit their studies into the framework of their busy lives.

Program highlights

— Can be completed with combination of MDC programs and on-line work with University of Colorado;

— A 36-credit program. Up to 21 credits can be accepted from MDC coursework;

— Applications can be accepted at any time.

During their program, students participate in one of the Management Development Centers' Leadership Training Seminars.

These courses focus on developing competencies identified by the Federal government as necessary for its highest-level managers,

See Masters, Page 5

Cochise College sponsors leadership conference

Cochise College release

The Cochise College Center for Professional Development is taking reservations for "Leadership in a Changing Workplace," a conference designed for business managers and supervisors on Nov. 2.

Robin Harris Schultz, MA Ed, director of faculty and staff development programs at the University of Arizona, will provide the keynote address, "Leadership Challenges — Past, Present and Future."

Attendees of the conference may choose sessions from four tracks:

— Leadership Essentials. Becoming an Effective Leader, Cross-Functional Communication, Thinking Outside the Box, and Delegating for Results.

— The Manager as a Coach. The Power of Appreciative Leadership, Negotiating for Results, Effective Performance Management,

and Creating Self-Managing Teams.

— Managing Human Resources. Measuring the Intangible, Management by Switching Shoes, Employment Law: Red Hot Issues for Managers, and Recruiting, Interviewing and Selecting Employees.

— Managing Change. The Changing World of Business, Management Approaches to Change, Mission and Vision Statements, and Organizational Alignment.

Registration deadline for the conference, co-sponsored by the University of Phoenix, is Friday.

Registration and continental breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m., Nov. 2 in the library commons area on the Sierra Vista campus.

The \$150 fee also includes lunch. Call 515-5492, or (800) 966-7943, Ext. 5492, to register or request a conference brochure. Attendees may choose to earn .5 college credits.



Robin Harris Schultz

Commander's Hotline

Caller questions bingo security

(Editor's note: The following call was received over the Commander's Hotline 533-BOSS.)

Call

My question is: The Commander's Access Channel says that only active duty, family, and retirees — that type of thing — are allowed on post. Yet, when we go to bingo, there are all kinds of guests, nobody is being checked at the door — nothing going in — really lax security there.

Response

The La Hacienda staff members on duty during bingo have followed the normal procedures for ensuring that patrons are eligible to participate in bingo. The normal process is to check all patrons for military identification cards before entrance into the bingo room and to ensure that their guests are properly signed in. During higher Force Protection levels these same procedures have applied. Once an individual has been permitted on post they would be allowed to participate in bingo as usual (provided that they are with an ID card holder). Since bingo resumed after Sept. 11, only seven guests have been signed in to play bingo compared to a much higher number before Sept 11.

Robert D. Shamberger
 Manager, La Hacienda
 Business Operations Division

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Fort officials stress importance of ID card

By *Spc. Jessica Espinosa*
Scout Staff

If a soldier is wearing civilian clothes, but doesn't have his ID card, is he still a soldier? Might be, but it'll be really hard to prove it, much less gain access onto Fort Huachuca.

Post officials are emphasizing the importance of soldiers and family members maintaining their military ID cards on them at all times and ensuring they do not get lost or stolen.

Over 100 soldiers lost their ID card in October alone, which stresses the importance of keeping constant knowledge of where it is kept.

"It's a security risk. Should someone lose or leave their ID card someplace a criminal element could find it and manipulate it to gain access onto Fort Huachuca," said Capt. Vince Chambers, commander, 18th Military Police Detachment. "It's

critical that whether in or out of uniform that all soldiers maintain their ID cards. It is against UCMJ to not have it — failure to identify."

Due to heightened security measures not only is proper identification required to enter post, but to enter many buildings and facilities on post as well.

"The benefits that are available on post need to remain for active duty soldiers and veterans. Naturally, if someone loses their ID card it could jeopardize who uses

the facilities. It's a failure to maintain your equipment," Chambers said.

"We can not stress the importance of maintaining positive control of ID cards during these times of heightened security," said Pfc. John Manaresi, military police, 18th MP Detachment.

The MPs ask that all personnel trying to access the post

have their ID cards ready.

"If a soldier doesn't have their ID card on them for some reason while trying to access the gates, we can usually look them up on our Alpha Roster," Chambers said. "It still is a failure to identify, but we have a roster of everyone's name here on post. We can call back to the desk sergeant to check their identity, and then allow them access. We will give a warning, but if we start to see a pattern we'll take action. This is a unit-level responsibility. We won't issue tickets, but we will contact the chain of command."

"The environment we live in now is much like the environment while stationed overseas," Spc. Jose Velazquez said, acting noncommissioned officer in charge of the ID card section, pertaining to the heightened security level and the importance of having proper identification.

"If you lose your ID card you won't have an easy time getting on post," he said. "For those soldiers or family members who have lost their ID cards, an alternate form of photo identification is required and the sponsor must come in and sign a form."

Bottom line, according to Chambers, maintaining ID cards, whether on or off duty, is of utmost importance.

It's a security risk. Should someone lose or leave their ID card someplace a criminal element could find it and manipulate it to gain access onto Fort Huachuca.

Capt. Vince Chambers

Veterans, soldiers to be honored at luncheon

By *Virginia Sciarrino*
Community Relations Officer

The Veterans' Recognition Celebration luncheon conducted by the United States Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 8, at La Hacienda.

This year's celebration honors our country's veterans and soldiers, especially those who served in the Korean War.

After the events of Sept. 11, now more than ever it is important to demonstrate our support of our veterans and soldiers. This event gives us the opportunity to thank them for their service to our nation. In the spirit of pride and patriotism, veterans are encouraged to wear their military uniforms or veterans organization regalia.

The guest speaker, retired Col. Harry F. Middleton, U.S. Army, served 32 years with 12 years served overseas in Europe and the Far East. He will speak of his experiences during

his Korean tour of duty from 1953 to 1954.

In addition to the luncheon, the replica of the USS Arizona will be on display in front of La Hacienda. Luncheon attendees and the public are invited to tour the ship beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m.

Distribution of special gifts for each veteran and drawings for gifts contributed by the community and local businesses will take place during the luncheon.

The \$7.50 German buffet includes schnitzel, bratwurst, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable de jour, rolls, salad bar, coffee, tea and gratuity. Doors open at 11 a.m. Seating is limited for the luncheon. To ensure a seat, tickets are available at the MWR Box Office on post (across from the commissary) and the Safeway grocery store on Fry Boulevard in Sierra Vista. Ticket sales end Nov. 5. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

For information, call Ginny Sciarrino at the Fort Huachuca Public Affairs Office at 533-1285.

111th MI Bde. to welcome new command sergeant major

By *Tanja M. Linton*
Media Relations Officer

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade changes command sergeant majors in a ceremony, Friday at 8 a.m. on Chaffee Parade Field.

Command Sgt. Major Gary A. Jones changes position with Command Sgt. Major Kurt A. Richter in the ceremony, which also serves as Jones' retirement ceremony.

Jones has served as command sergeant major of the brigade since April 1997. He enlisted in the Army November 1971.

Richter was drafted into the Army November 1971 and returned to civilian life August 1973. Richter entered military service again in May 1977.

His last assignment was as the command sergeant major of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade consists of one separate company, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, and three battalions, the 305th, 309th and 344th Military Intelligence Battalions.

Troops 'opting-out' of spousal SGLI may be reimbursed

By *Gerry J. Gilmore*
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — New Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance rules effective Nov. 1 provide free coverage for troops' children and low-cost premiums for spousal coverage up to \$100,000.

But what if service members don't want spousal SGLI coverage? No problem — just opt out of the Veterans Administration — sponsored coverage.

Service members with SGLI coverage of \$100,000 or more are automatically enrolled for maximum spousal coverage, said Navy Capt. Chris Kopang, DoD director of compensation. The accompanying premium will be deducted from military pay each month.

Kopang said troops who don't want spousal SGLI coverage have until the end of November to cancel. Service members who cancel in time will be reimbursed for any premiums that are inadvertently withheld from their pay. They should carefully weigh their choice, he advised, especially if they currently have no spousal insurance.

To decline spousal SGLI, service members need to visit their military personnel office to fill out and submit an "8286A" form. Fort Huachuca soldiers should contact Dan Obeso, Chief of Military Personnel Services Division, at 533-2681 for scheduled unit modification/declination times.

The forms are also available on the VA website: www.insurance.va.gov/sglivgli/sglifam.htm.

Revised NCO-ER to reflect Army values

By *Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs*
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A change to the Non-commissioned Officer Evaluation Report will require that soldiers be rated on the Army's seven core values beginning in November.

The current Army values that were instituted in June 1998 — loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage — will be listed on the new NCO-ER in Part (IVa), Values and NCO Responsibilities.

Next to each value, raters will check either "yes" or "no" to indicate whether the soldier demonstrates that quality. Most of the time the block checked is yes, said Sgt. Maj. Anthony Everett, the chief and policy maker for the Enlisted Evaluations Branch.

"Even though the raters are not required to write comments if they mark "yes," they should take that time to highlight the soldier's strong points," Everett said. "Also if the rater determines that a "no" check is warranted in one or more Army values, then he must clearly explain what the deficiency or shortcoming is."

Values are the moral, ethical and professional attributes of character, Everett said. Unquestionably, a "no" check will result in a non-selection for promotion for the rated NCO, Everett added.

This is the first revision to the form in 13 years, which is the longest an NCO rating system has gone without being revised.

The NCO-ER will change to Department of the Army Form 2166-8, and the NCO Counseling and Checklist, which is used in conjunction with the NCO-ER, will change to DA Form 2166-8-1. Both forms are currently available online.

When the rater and soldier sit down for a counseling session with the revised worksheet, the Army values will be a prominent topic, Everett said.

"We all can recite the Army values, but that doesn't mean we all fully understand what they mean," Everett said. "So I expect for the rater to sit down face to face and one by one go through and explain to the soldier what is expected of him to demonstrate those values."

Williams is new TRADOC CSM

By *Jim Caldwell*
TRADCO News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. — Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony J. Williams will become the next Command Sergeant Major for the Training and Doctrine Command in December.

"He brings to us a rich operational background and a training and education focus that will clearly enhance our mission of training soldiers and growing leaders," said Gen. John N. Abrams, TRADOC commander.

He takes over for Command Sgt. Maj. John Beck who has held the position for three years. Beck will retire from the Army after 32 years service.

"During the past three years of profound change and challenge, we have benefited from the seasoned leadership of Command Sgt. Maj. Beck," Abrams said. "John set all of us on the successful path of training to standard and has always given our plans and projects the 'reality check' that transformed ideas into action."

Williams, a native of Canton, Miss., is the command sergeant major for the U.S. Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas. After joining the Army in October 1972, he has



Outgoing TRADOC CSM Command Sgt. Maj. John Beck



Incoming TRADOC CSM Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony J. Williams

served in the rocket field artillery field for most of his career.

He overseas assignments included tours in Korea, Germany, Turkey and Hawaii. In the United States he had three assignments with the III Corps Artillery, Fort Sill, Okla. From 1979-81 he was a drill sergeant in the Field Artillery Training Center at Fort Sill.

In 1998 he was selected as the command sergeant major for the U.S. Army Field Artillery Center and Fort Hood. He transferred to the Sergeants Major Academy in May 2001.

Soldiers to soon access personnel files online; NCOs to have first access

By *Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs*
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Sergeants first class being considered for promotion will be among the first to access their Official Military Personnel File online, beginning Nov. 15.

"We're going to empower our soldiers," said Col. William Mansell, deputy to the adjutant general at the Total Army Personnel Command. "Soldiers will have control over accessing their personal files and making sure the file is accurate."

The website will be introduced to the rest of the Army incrementally, mainly to noncommissioned officers appearing before senior selection boards, Mansell said.

The site will be accessed through the Army Knowledge Online portal, and only soldiers with an AKO account will be able to review their files, Mansell said.

Staff sergeants being considered for sergeant first class in June and sergeants major being considered for command sergeants major in October will be among the next to gain access to OMPF online, said Frederick Ziegler, deputy commander

of the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center, known as EREC.

Master sergeants being considered for sergeants major will also be able to review their records online, and so will those being considered for attendance to the sergeant major course.

Currently there are operational test sites for OMPF Online at Fort Lewis, Wash., and Camps Humphreys and Red Cloud, Korea. Some units at Fort Bragg, N.C., will also gain access in January, Ziegler said.

Soldiers at test sites are able to review their records online if they are using computers with client addresses that have been authorized by EREC, said Maj. Mitchel Hudson, chief of the Information Supply Activity for EREC.

"NCOs will only be able to log on to the site if it has been determined that they are being con-

sidered for promotion," Hudson said. "Before the selection board convenes, an OMPF Web site will be published. When someone logs on using their AKO account, we will check their Social Security Number to make sure they're eligible to use the site."

A complementary feature to OMPF Online is Field of File, which is a digital sender that works like a fax machine. Changes to personnel files will not be able to be made online, but Field of File will make correcting discrepancies in one's

personnel files easier and faster, Mansell said.

Field of File is also operational at limited test sites. When soldiers at those test sites fax documents to EREC, network administrators input the data into the system, and the next day soldiers will see a digital picture of that document in their OMPF, Ziegler said.

Soldiers don't realize that not only is it important that they review their files for professional development, it's an Army requirement.

Sgt. Maj. William Hursh

October is National Domestic Abuse Prevention Month

Domestic violence can be prevented so home isn't a battlefield

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

Imagine being beaten, raped, denied the right to employment or even isolated from family and friends and constantly being told the abusive treatment is the result of behavior that you brought upon yourself. Unfortunately the twisted, nightmarish world of domestic violence is a reality for far too many members of the military community.

Even though October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the faculty of Fort Huachuca's Army Community Services has taken a proactive stance against family violence and provides briefings and prevention classes to units and individuals year round.

According to Marjorie Loya, family advocacy victim coordinator, family violence can ultimately end a soldier's career. She said unless they are actively seeking professional help, the Army has an attitude of "zero tolerance" toward abusers.

Department of the Army policy dated May 21, 1999 prohibits any soldier who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from having access to or possessing firearms or ammunition. Soldiers who cannot qualify with their weapons cannot be deployed and are barred from reenlistment.

She said abuse, which is about power and control, can be emotional also. She cited extreme cases where family members have been but cut with knives, have had guns pulled on them, suffered broken limbs, had their automobiles smashed and their pets killed by an angry servicemember.

She said sometimes a controlling spouse will stoop to monitoring who they can see and even keep the car keys so their spouse can't leave the house. She said abuse can also involve calling family members degrading names.

"A lot of victims would rather take the abuse than be separated from their family," Loya said. She stressed that resources to help victims are available.

Family members are now entitled to the benefits of the Transitional Compensation Program for a minimum of 12 months and a maximum period of 36 months if their spouse is being separated from the military as a result of domestic violence.

Eligible spouses can receive \$850 and each eligible child that resides with the eligible spouse can receive \$215. Legal guardians can receive \$361 for one child, \$520 for two children, \$675 for three children and \$132 more for each additional child.

"Those who have been abused can come forth even if they don't have any marketable skills and no way to help themselves," Loya said. During the period of entitlement family members retain their ID cards, their Commissary and the Main Post Exchange privileges as well as their medical and dental care.

Magalia Torres, family education specialist teacher, said it is considered child abuse for a child to witness any type of domestic violence. She teaches anger control, stress management and financial management classes and is available to brief units upon request. She also addresses issues of dating violence. In addition,



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

The Army has a "zero-tolerance" policy for those who abuse family members. Family members are now entitled to the benefits of the Transitional Compensation Program for a minimum of 12 months and a maximum period of 36 months if their spouse is being separated from the military as a result of domestic violence

ACS offers various parenting classes, the New Parent Support Group, and the Parent/Tot Play Group.

Children who witness violence often experience great stress and may in turn abuse their siblings or later their own families. She said while females tend to seek help, most males tolerate domestic abuse even though domestic violence against males is on the rise. She said male victims rightfully refuse to hit back because they have been taught not to lay a hand on a female and don't come forward because they are fearful of ruining their careers in addition to not wanting to be ridiculed by peers.

Torres said even though spouse abuse crosses all age, gender, economic and racial lines, Army-wide the majority of abuse occurs between those who are between the ages of 22 and 26. She said the majority of fights are caused over monetary issues.

"If the couple is dual military all types of factors may be involved such as Permanent Change of Station moves, separations and reunions. If children are involved that adds even more stress," Torres said.

"I tell single soldiers when they are dating to be selective when choosing a mate. Usually when you join the Army, you're the type of person who wants to excel and achieve goals, so why marry somebody who displays controlling behavior? Why hook up with someone who will destroy your dreams?" Torres questioned.

She said when the servicemember feels overwhelmed and like they can't deal with change or stress, abuse occurs behind closed doors where the servicemember feels like they can finally be in control of something.

Help is available for those who are serious about altering their destructive behavior.

"If they realize they have a problem and

are eager to learn, then help is available. Commanders play a big part in a soldier's decision to seek help," Loya said.

If a soldier knows their commander will be supportive, and will allow them to attend counseling, then soldiers will feel more confident about stepping forward and admitting they have a problem, she said.

The goal of ACS is to help families stay together and improve their problem solving skills, but she said unfortunately when the abuse tends to manifest itself, the abuser refuses to recognize that they have a problem. "But, I've seen families where both spouses realize they need a lot of help, work together and eventually become very productive; that's very rewarding," Loya said.

When it boils down to it, Torres said the community is responsible for reporting acts of domestic abuse. "NCOs, witnesses, anybody who is in charge, is responsible for reporting abuse," she said.

Another prevention tool provided by ACS is the Kids on the Block puppet troop. Coordinator, Wendy Totoris, said Kids on the Block is currently the only operating puppet troop in the Army. It's a voluntary, nonprofit organization that visits children who are preschool age thru fifth grade and educates them regarding child abuse issues and other subjects such as child safety, child abuse, violence prevention and adjusting to divorce.

"We let kids ask questions. Some of them feel more comfortable talking to the puppets," Totoris said.

Domestic violence prevention classes will be held today from 1-2 p.m. and Monday from 6-7 p.m. at the ACS Conference Room, Building 50010. For more information regarding victim services, classes or to volunteer for Kids on the Block, call 533-2993/2330.

Forgach House enables victims of domestic violence to get on their feet

Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

"Home sweet home," became the place that 21 Fort Huachuca family members had to flee from last year.

According to Tonia Goebel, program director, Forgach House Domestic Crisis Shelter, 11 women and 10 children resided 298 nights at the shelter in order to escape their abusers. In the process they learned skills that helped them to become more self-efficient and received counseling and training that enabled them to lead productive, healthy lives.

Depending on circumstances, residents of the shelter who have children can stay rent-free for up to four-and-a-half months. Women who do not have children are allowed to stay for 45 days. The shelter is for women and children only, but she has allowed teen-aged boys to stay there with their mothers.

Residents are offered individual and group counseling, legal advocacy, housing referrals in addition to three meals a day and nutritious snacks.

"When our ladies come here, we can provide them with everything they need including clothes and toiletry items," Goebel said. They are even taught how to setup checking and savings accounts.

The shelter celebrates the residents' birthdays and all major holidays.

"Many women have said upon coming here, 'This is the first time anybody has ever thought that I was worth something,'" she said. "The oldest resident has been 87 and the youngest has been a newborn only 13-hours-old," Goebel said.

"I wouldn't say domestic violence has increased recently, but I do think society as a whole is becoming more aware of it," Goebel said. Abusive behavior can be handed down from generation to generation and can involve a brother abusing a sister or an uncle harming a niece, she said.

Abuse can be physical, economic, sexual and/or emotional. According to Goebel, some foreign-born residents of Forgach House were military spouses. In one instance the soldier had lied to his spouse saying the military police would capture her and bring her home or put her in jail if she tried to escape their post residence.

If you, one of your soldiers or friends need help while leaving an abusive relationship, call the Forgach House at 458-9096 or e-mail Forgach@c212.com, or visit www.c212.com/~Forgach.

To report suspected child abuse call Arizona's statewide toll-free child abuse hotline at 1-888-767-2445.

Goebel said volunteers and donations are needed and can be dropped off by calling and making arrangements.

Family Advocacy Program review domestic violence myths, facts, questions

U.S. Army Family Advocacy Program

There are some common questions asked about domestic violence that need answers:

Is this only happening in poor and minority homes? Is it really such a serious problem? Aren't some women as equally violent as men?

Are men victims of domestic violence?

The reports and statistics that you hear on domestic violence (i.e., Bureau of Justice, F.B.I, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and other concern citizens organizations) do not always link together all of the available studies.

There are, however, a few current reports and studies that may help us better understand the prevalence and seriousness of this problem.

Women of all cultures, races, occupations, income levels, and ages are battered by husbands, boyfriends, lovers and partners

* Many people think that domestic violence only happens to certain kinds of people the poor, uneducated or working class.

* In fact, domestic violence affects men and women of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, incomes, professions or levels of education.

* While this fact is technically true about women it is more likely to occur in homes below the poverty income level, in minority households and among men and women 18-30 years of age.

* In the Army, the idea that soldiers who perform well on the job are unlikely to use violence against their spouse is not necessarily the case. Violent behavior is not restricted to "poor performers." Change and stress can contribute to use of violence.

There are four million women beaten and abused each year

* Recent findings report that 2 million women are abused each year by their husbands. The number could be as high as 4 million if ex-husbands and boyfriends were included in the studies.

In 1995 with a spouse population of about 648,200 approximately 13,390 women were abused. In general, spouse abuse reports have increased in 1995 (with 10,141 reports) compared to 1989 (with 7,789 reports).

Women are as violent as are men, and women initiate violence as often as do men

* Men are victims of violence sometimes, but the frequency and level of severity is usually less than women who are abused.

* The National Crime Victimization Survey "consistently finds that no matter what the rate of violence or who initiates the violence, women are 7 to 10 times more likely to be injured in acts of intimate violence than are men."

Men are unlikely victims of violence

* Most violent acts are committed by men, although a small percentage of men experience abuse.

* Often, men do not report being abuse by their spouse. In the Army husband victims have increased from 1989 to 1995 by 52 percent.

Male and female violence has the same impact

* Fear of the spouse or partner is the critical difference between male and female violence.

* In addition, it is rare for a male to be "battered" that is intimidated by, beaten, and fearful of his spouse. He is rarely dominated through a pattern of coercive control.

* Self reports from men and women reveal that women are fearful of their violent husband but most men did not report being afraid of their wife.

Spouse abuse does not have an impact on children

* Whether children are physically, emotionally, or sexually abused, violence in the home does have a serious impact. It disrupts their lives.

* Some studies suggest that around 32-53 percent of all families where women are abused their children also are abused by their parent

There are other unanswered questions about domestic violence specially regarding the use of alcohol and other substances and the link between spouse abuse and child abuse. Main Table of Contents

(Editor's note: This material was developed for the U. S. Army Community and Family Support Center; Family Advocacy Program by staff of the Family Life Development Center in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.)

OPM updates rights, benefits of reservists

CPAC release

The Office of Personnel Management has recently updated its information on the rights and benefits of reservists who are called to active military duty.

Executive Order 13223, dated Sept. 14, 2001, authorizes the Department of Defense and the Department of Transportation to respond to the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks of the United States by ordering any unit and any member of the Ready Reserve to active duty for not more than 24 consecutive months.

For those federal civilian employees who perform active military duty, the OPM web site provides very beneficial information on a wide variety of topics related to pay, benefits, leave,

retirement and return to civilian duty.

The information can be found at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2001/2001-09.htm>, specifically attachment one of that letter.

Among the key provisions is the following brief sampling:

Pay

Employees performing active military duty receive compensation from the Armed Forces in accordance with the terms and conditions of their military enlistment of commission. They do not receive any compensation from their civilian agency

See Reserve, Page 7

TRICARE covers most activated Reservists' families

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Family members of Guard and Reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE benefits the day their military sponsor mobilizes.

President Bush authorized the Defense Department to mobilize up to 50,000 National Guard and Reserve members to deal with the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks at the Pentagon and in New York City. DoD officials have indicated they intend initially to call up about 35,000.

The type of TRICARE coverage reserve component family members receive depends on the length of the sponsors' activation orders, Air Force Col. Kathleen Woody said. Woody, a full-time reservist, is director of medical readiness and programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

Woody said Guard and Reserve members who are activated receive the same individual healthcare as their active duty counterparts. Coverage for their families, though, can take many different forms.

Guard and Reserve families are ineligible for DoD medical benefits if their military sponsors have orders that call them to duty for 30 days or less.

If sponsors have orders to active duty for more than 30 days, their families are covered under the TRICARE Extra or Standard programs from the day the member is activated, Woody said. While these family members would be eligible for space-available care in any military medical treatment facility, Woody, who is a nurse, cautioned that available space is limited and suggested using it only for an emergency.

"You want to have them in a program with some continuity with the providers," she said.

Eligible family members pay deductibles and cost-shares under both TRICARE Extra and Standard, Woody explained. Using a TRICARE Extra network provider can minimize those costs. Beneficiaries can get information on finding network providers in their area on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil, or at their local TRICARE service center.

In addition, family members of reservists and guardsmen ac-

tivated under orders for 179 days or more have the option to enroll in TRICARE Prime, the military's version of a health maintenance organization. They will receive care in a military medical treatment facility or be assigned to a network provider in their area with no cost-shares or deductibles.

"TRICARE Prime is the only one of the TRICARE options that requires pre-enrollment on the part of the family members," Woody said. Enrollment information can also be found on the TRICARE Web site or by contacting a local TRICARE benefits counselor.

"Enrollment has to occur by the 20th of the month in order to be eligible for care on the 1st of the following month."

For instance, reserve component members who might be mobilized in coming weeks must have their enrollment forms in to TRICARE by Nov. 20 in order for their families to start receiving care on Dec. 1 under the Prime option, she explained. The family would be covered under TRICARE Standard or Extra until enrolled in Prime.

She said the most important thing for all reserve component members to do is make sure all the information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System is accurate, Woody said. Since DEERS is the system used to determine eligibility for military health care, family members could be denied care if DEERS information is incorrect or incomplete.

Activated reservists are given a chance to review and make changes to their families' DEERS enrollments during the mobilization process, Woody said.

In cases where service members are activated for contingency operations, they and their family members are eligible to retain their military medical benefits for up to 30 days after they're released from active duty, unless sooner covered by an employer sponsored health care plan.

"This gives them a cushion to get civilian healthcare coverage in place," Woody said.

Dental care for both reservists and their family members fall under somewhat different rules. Since earlier this year, reserve component members and their families have been eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program.

See TRICARE, below

Employer support vital to Army Reserve, National Guard

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — As reservists mobilize and say farewell to their bosses, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve offers guidance to those employers who are losing workers.

ESGR is a Department of Defense organization located in Arlington, Va. It is made up of 35 full-time soldiers, sailors, Marines and Air Force personnel, and has more than 4,500 volunteers nationwide.

ESGR's primary mission is to serve as a liaison between the military and the business community by getting timely, relevant and clear information out to employers, said officials.

Since the Sept. 11 attack on the nation, ESGR's Website, www.ESGR.org has increased from 6,000 visitors a week to more than 40,000.

Along with talking to employers, ESGR officials answer media inquiries.

A reporter from the New York Times recently called, wanting to know how are employers reacting to the nationwide call-ups, said Maj. Hunt Kerrigan, ESGR's public affairs officer.

"They are patriots," Kerrigan said referring to employers. "I also talked about the avalanche of calls we are getting from employers who want to know how to better support their reservists."

Although employers are not obligated by law, they can make up the difference between military pay and civilian pay and keep the medical benefits coming. That's a great way of showing support.

"Can employers fire their Reservists if they are called to duty?" asked an Associate Press reporter.

"No," Kerrigan explained. "In fact, the employer must hold jobs for their reservists and must not penalize them for their service." Kerrigan said he added that, "Who would fire their military employees who are risking their lives to defend America?"

(Editor's note: This story was submitted by the Public Affairs Office from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, Arlington, Va.)



Family from Page 1

Mrs. Abrams asked her future mother-in-law what was expected of her as an Army wife and how to be a good one.

"I've always held her words with me. She said, 'The most important part of the Army will live with you every day. You are going to be his confidant, you're going to be his partner, his buddy, his lover, his bride and the mother of his children.'

"It's important to remember that you're also going to sometimes be a pretty big sounding board. All of that has to be kept in confidence. The most important thing is that you are supportive of him. That's the key. All the other pieces will fall into place."

"That makes it pretty simple. Of course, the reality is not that simple, and it means being flexible," Mrs. Abrams said.

She said that her husband, in turn, has been supportive of her.

Since the early days of her marriage, some "very great ladies" became her mentors and helped her to adjust to Army life. She also learned what to do and not do by

listening and watching. Additionally, she researched many articles, books, pamphlets, anything that might be a guide for military spouses. She even studied field manuals to learn more about the Army.

"I got pretty good at identifying vehicles.

I could do the flash cards quickly. Then I went on to aviation. I could tell if it was a UH-60 or if it was a Cobra," she said.

Since the 1960s, the Army has improved its family programs tremendously, she thinks.

"With the AFTB [Army Family Team Building] that we have today, I'm so proud I could burst," she said.

The Family Readiness Group is an outgrowth of what wives used to do informally. Wives in units would gather to offer advice and assistance to those who needed it.

Now it's expected that FRGs be active at the battalion level. The voluntary membership is spouses of officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers. Another change from the '60s is that there are now husbands sprinkled among the wives.

"Soldiers can focus on their missions, knowing their families are safe when we have families who are part of the team, feel involved, know that they'll have assistance through the community," she said.

"We help spouses through education," Mrs. Abrams said. "We want our family members to become self-sufficient and confident in their own abilities and not totally rely on the system."

Mrs. Abrams said it's sometimes hard to get spouses to participate, to attend meetings and classes that are conducted for their benefit. She understands that many have to work. Even so, she gets upset over wives who blame the commander or his or her spouse for not passing on information when they made no effort to find out what went on at meetings.

"I have always thought that 'the Army takes care of its own' is a nice phrase," she said. "I think we need to take the word 'take' out of that. The Army cares for families."

Mrs. Abrams' advice to spouses is that the Army is not a "Big Daddy" taking care of all problems.

"It's going to require participation on your part and we'll do everything possible," she said. "We [FRGs] have information that you might not have. That requires you coming to readiness group meetings, family predeployment briefings and family deploy-

ment briefings. You are on the team."

FRGs and Family Assistance Centers are the second line of support for spouses. Soldiers themselves are expected to prepare their spouses to carry on without them. They can ensure their spouses know their way around an Army post, who to call and a myriad of other things spouses need to know.

"Leaders have to make sure that each soldier has a working family care plan. We'll pick up the slack prior to deployment, during deployment and after deployment," Mrs. Abrams said.

Spouses who are empowered with knowledge and information contribute greatly to the Army's mission, she feels.

"The morale of your soldier and other soldiers rests a lot with you," she continued with advice. "I also want to reassure spouses that our leaders and soldiers are fully trained and prepared to complete the mission."

"First and foremost the Army exists to defend the Constitution of the United States and, secondly, which I know a lot of Army spouses don't like to hear, to fight and win the nation's wars, wherever they are."

"That's the nature of being a soldier."

For more information about Family Readiness Groups at Fort Huachuca, call 533-6871

Masters from Page 2

the Senior Executive Service (4 credit hours).

Students select four courses from among the six core courses offered by the university's GSPA. The core courses include:

- Governance and Institutions
- Organizational Management and Change
- Policy-making in a Democracy
- Leadership and Professional Ethics
- Information and Analytic Methods
- Economics and Public Finance

Learn more about this course at <http://www.leadership.opm.gov/ss76.html>.

To obtain a complete Program Description and application materials contact:

Pete Wolfe
University of Colorado at Denver
GSPA/Campus Box 142
P.O. Box 173364
Denver, CO 80217-3364
pwolfe@gspa.cudenver.edu
303-556-5985

TRICARE from above

Woody explained that reserve members who had previously enrolled in the program are automatically removed when mobilized because they receive dental care from military providers while on active duty.

Reserve members in the Dental Program pay monthly premiums of \$19.08 for one family member or \$47.69 for a family enrollment.

If the reserve sponsor is called to active duty, the premiums fall to the active-duty rates of \$7.63 per month for one family member or \$19.08 for multiple family members, Woody said.

Families who had previously declined TRICARE dental coverage but who wish to enroll after their sponsors are mobilized will be

able to join at active-duty rates during the first 30 days. Enrollment forms and information are available online at <http://www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html>.

Woody noted that once the sponsor leaves active duty the rates revert to the higher premiums.

For more information on TRICARE benefits, visit the program's Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

Information on the TRICARE Dental Program can be found at www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html.

Reserve Affairs has set up a family readiness Web site at www.defenselink.mil/ra/html/family.htm.

Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Community Updates

PX provides treats

The Army, Air Force Exchange Service will scare up some goblins this Halloween with Trick or Treating scheduled from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday at the Main Post Exchange. AAFES employees will pass out candy to kids in costume at the various departments throughout the PX as well as the concessions located in the mall, and the AAFES Laundry/Dry Cleaners.

Range closures

Today: AG, AK, AL, AV, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2.

Friday: AG, AK, AV, AW, T1, T1A, T2.

Saturday: T1, T1A, T2.

Sunday: No closures.

For more information, call Range Control at 533-7095.

Blue Cross rep visits

A representative from Blue Cross, Blue Shield will be at Fort Huachuca on Nov. 1 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Gila Room at Murr Community Center to answer questions on benefits, claims or enrollment. For more information, call CPAC at 533-5273/5735.

MI career briefing

A mandatory information briefing covering Army Civilian Training and Development System implementation for the Military Intelligence Career Program (CP35) will be held Nov. 1, 10-11 a.m. and Nov. 7, 9-10 a.m. in the Greeley Hall Auditorium. The briefing will be followed by a question answer session.

If you are unable to attend either briefing, a copy of the briefing slides will be available through the Fort Huachuca homepage under Current Events no later than Wednesday. An informative 20-page brochure is also available at www.dami.army.pentagon.mil/offices/dami-cp/programs/ico/acteds/. Bring a copy of the brochure to the briefing. For more information, call Robert White, Activity Career Program Manager for CP35, at 533-1190 or Charlotte Borghardt, deputy ACPM at 533-1188.

Green to Gold briefing

Interested in becoming an officer? Attend the next "Green to Gold" briefing, Nov. 2, 11 a.m.-noon at the Post Education Center, Building 52104.

Stamp club exhibit

The Sierra Vista Roadrunner Stamp Club will hold a stamp, coin and collectibles show with an exhibit by club members on Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Oscar Yrun Community Center, 3200 E. Tacoma Street in Sierra Vista. The club invites stamp, coin and collectibles dealers to come and exhibit at this show. A registration fee for all dealers is \$15 and the cost per table is \$5.

There will be a special section for youngsters. For more information, call Steve Staten at 803-9713 or John Kulkens at 378-1490, or

e-mail mman3@mindspring.com. The public is welcome to attend.

TRICARE for Life briefings

TRICARE for Life briefings are set for Nov. 5 at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 156 W. Kayetan Dr., Sierra Vista. The hall seats approximately 450 people. For more information, call Bob Hooper at 533-1318.

Giving Tree volunteers needed

The Giving Tree is a chapel based program that provides holiday gifts and clothes to needy military children. Volunteers are needed to sign out ornaments that list the child's toy and clothing request to Santa's helpers. Volunteers are also needed to man the Giving Tree that will be located at the Main Post Exchange from Nov. 1 - Dec. 5, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Volunteers to portray Santa will also be needed on a daily basis from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. For more information, call 458-7664.

Celebrity food drive

The Fort Huachuca annual celebrity food drive is set for Nov. 2-3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Installation Staff Chaplain's Office has rounded up commanders, senior noncommissioned officers, senior officers and community leaders to accept donations of non-perishable food items and other household goods. The items will be accepted 10 a.m.-2 p.m. both days in the post commissary parking lot. Donations are given to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank, which in turn helps needy soldiers with food throughout the year.

Delta operators sought

A 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-DELTA (Airborne) Briefing Team from Fort Bragg, N.C., will discuss qualifications and application procedures to military personnel interested in becoming DELTA Operators.

Specific units have been provided with an alphabetical roster that identifies mandatory attendance for those listed soldiers. Unit first sergeants should coordinate to have their soldiers attend one of the noncommissioned officer professional development briefings. This briefing however is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Briefings will be at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily Nov. 5-7 in the Buffalo Ballroom at Murr Community Center. For more information, call Sgt. Jeanette Newell at 533-1705/1706.

Commissary closed

The Fort Huachuca Commissary will be closed on Nov. 13 in observance of Veterans Day. The Commissary will be open on Nov. 11.

Golden Corral honors military

The Disabled American Veterans in conjunction with Golden Corral restaurant will host

a Military Appreciation Night on Nov. 12 for all veterans and active duty soldiers. From 5 to 9 p.m. the restaurant will offer a free dinner buffet and beverage. DAV will be there with information for veterans and active duty soldiers about support programs available.

Santa flies into SV

The 4th Annual Santa Fly-In and Hangar Party is set for Nov. 17 at the Sierra Vista Airport. Activities start at 11 a.m. Ronald McDonald will be joining Santa for the fly-in and hangar party with tricks and visits with the children. A free lunch will be served for children 10 and under. The 36th Army Band will play a Christmas concert for the public. Bring your own chair. A telephone hotline, 678-2222 is now open for parents to help Santa's staff have enough food for the children. Parents can call and advise the staff of how many children 10 and under they will bring to the party.

Combat Lifesaver courses set

There have been program changes made to the Combat Lifesaver Course on Fort Huachuca. FH Regulation 40-2 covers training of combat lifesavers and tasks authorized to be performed on the installation. The publication can be found on the Fort Huachuca Homepage at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil>.

The schedule for courses for fiscal year 2002 is as follows:

Combat Lifesaver Correspondence Course for new personnel: Dec. 3-5; March 4-6, 2002; June 3-5, 2002 and Sept. 9-11, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Recertification Course for expired personnel: Dec. 6-7; March 7-8, 2002; June 6-7, 2002; and Sept. 12-13, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Refresher Course for current personnel: Dec. 7; March 8, 2002; June 7, 2002 and Sept. 13, 2002.

Requests for slots with all documentation required in FH Reg. 40-2 should be sent through battalion and/or brigade S-3 channels to the post G-3 schools NCO. Questions on course content can be directed to Staff Sgt. Jose Lupian or Staff Sgt. Daniel Traver at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center at 533-4758/3727.

MICA seeks volunteers

The Military Intelligence Corps Association gift shop at the MI Museum on Fort Huachuca is in desperate need of volunteers. The shop hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Ride with U.S. Cavalry

Cavalry troopers with the dash, discipline and daring to preserve and promote the traditions of the B Troop 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment are needed. Membership is voluntary and open to male permanent party soldiers, retirees and DoD civilians. Call Maj. Robert Blanchette at 538-0822 or e-mail blanchetterobert@otc.army.mil. Women may volunteer for the Ladies Auxiliary. Ground School meets at 5 p.m. every Thursday at the

Private Stables of Buffalo Corral. For information, visit <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/BTROOP/BTROOP.HTM>.

Troops to Teachers needed

Military veterans have established a solid reputation as excellent teachers and exemplary role models for today's students. If you're thinking about becoming a teacher, call the Arizona Troops to Teachers Office at 1-800-830-2134.

Commanders Access Channel

Did you know the Fort Huachuca Commander's Access Channel 97 is on Cox cable channel 97 on your television, whether you live on post or in Sierra Vista?

The CAC is a great way for you to inform the Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista community about what's happening in your organization. It's updated daily with upcoming events and activities that may be of interest to you.

The Public Affairs Office also airs videotapes provided by Soldiers Radio and Television on the CAC as a way of keeping our viewers informed about current events in the Army.

To air an announcement or for more information, call Pat Dillingham at 533-1850.

Foster families needed

Devereux Arizona is a private, non-profit organization funded by the Arizona Department of Economic Security and donations. It is currently seeking qualified, loving families to become foster parents for children. Currently, there is a need for respite providers (short-term foster care overnights, weekends or holidays), family based shelter providers (foster care-overnights up to three months, sometimes longer) and therapeutic providers (long term foster care three months or longer for children with more severe emotional or physical needs or a longer history of abuse or neglect). For more information, call 458-2761. Free local training and 24-hour crisis support is provided.

Vanpool commuters

The federal government mass transportation subsidy program is now available to vanpool commuters. The vanpool that serves Fort Huachuca has five vans and is considering an additional van if enough federal workers apply for membership.

For more information, call Ken Van Karsen at 533-8200 or 615-1866.

Free yard sale support

Due to security constraints, Sierra Vista La Salida del Sol Lions Club is providing support to Fort Huachuca residents with free space for yard sales at the Lions Club Flea Market on Highway 90. Post residents must show a current identification card and proof of residence on post. This support will continue until further notice. For more information, call Lee at 378-1399 or Dave at 378-6246.

Being informed, alert fights off anthrax scare

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Mysterious letters exposing people to anthrax have stirred paranoia in the nation, but officials warn soldiers that if they come into contact with a suspicious parcel to remain calm and notify law enforcement.

Any suspicious letters should be placed in a plastic bag or covered with a towel or newspaper, said the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Those who come in contact with suspicious letters, especially ones containing powder or white granules, should immediately wash their hands with soap and water and call security, CDC said.

Instructions on how to limit the spread of anthrax are being sent to every household in America, every rental Post Office box and all Army Post Office and Fleet Post Office addresses by the United States Postal Service.

The post cards list what constitutes a suspicious parcel and what should be done with the mail. Letters that are to be considered suspicious are handwritten envelopes with no return or an unknown address, like the ones sent to Tom Brokaw, an internationally known journalist and Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle.

Other tips in detecting mail that could potentially be traced

with anthrax are envelopes that are lopsided or lumpy, have excess postage or are labeled "restrictive" or "confidential." The post master general says the best defense against contracting the disease is not to handle suspected contaminated mail.

However, the risks of being exposed to anthrax are extremely low, CDC officials said.

Military personnel who have received the vaccine, which is a series of six shots over a period of 18 months with annual booster shots, are free from contracting the disease, said Chuck Dasey, the public affairs officer at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, Fort Detrick, Md.

"The vaccine is safe and effective in preventing anthrax," Dasey said. "No one knows when soldiers are fully protected from the disease during that 18-month period, so it's safer to say that protection doesn't start until the end of that period."

The anthrax vaccine is only available to people in the military because they are more likely to come into contact with anthrax in other parts of the world, according to an anthrax fact sheet.

There are a number of antibiotics to prevent someone from getting the disease once exposed, CDC said. Just because someone is exposed to the anthrax spores doesn't mean that

they will contract one of the three anthrax diseases, CDC said.

One type of anthrax is inhalation, which is caused by inhaling anthrax spores. It is the most deadly of the three. The symptoms for inhalation are similar to flu-like symptoms, according to an anthrax fact sheet. The symptoms are fever, cough and mild chest discomfort followed by severe difficulty breathing.

The other two types of anthrax are cutaneous and gastrointestinal. Cutaneous is a skin infection that resembles a brown recluse spider bite, CDC said. A blackish-brown scab forms in the center area. It's painless and can be accompanied by a fever, CDC said.

Eating anthrax-contaminated meat causes gastrointestinal anthrax. The symptoms include nausea, loss of appetite, fever, followed by abdominal pain, vomiting of blood, and severe diarrhea.

"Anthrax is not contagious," Dasey said. "The only way someone is going to get infected and sick from anthrax is if it touches his skin, enters his lungs or is digested in his stomach."

There are two ways individuals are tested for exposure to anthrax. A nasal swab test indicates if anthrax has been inhaled, Dasey said, and a blood test will show if antibodies exist in the blood system. When the body is exposed to infectious material it responds by producing antibodies, he said.

Nationally there have been five confirmed cases of inhalation anthrax, leading to three deaths. There have been six cases of cutaneous anthrax, 32 individuals have been exposed to anthrax, and thousands are being tested.

Have we got news for you!

For more information about anthrax, click on <http://tradoc.monroe.army.mil/nobleagle/>

Pets of the Week



"Maggie" is a 1.5 year-old female calico domestic medium haired cat. She is very cute and likes to cuddle. Her adoption fee is \$42, which includes a spay, all vaccinations, a microchip, a feline leukemia test and deworming.



"Spooky" is a four-month-old female black and white domestic medium haired cat. She is very playful and would make a great first pet for a child. Her adoption fee is \$32, which includes a spay, all vaccinations, a microchip, a feline leukemia test and deworming.



"Pumpkin" is a 1.5 year-old female calico domestic short-haired cat. She just had a litter of kittens and now needs a new home. She is a great cat! Her adoption fee is \$42, which includes a spay, all vaccinations, a microchip, a feline leukemia test and deworming.



"Daisy" is a one year-old female, tan and white cocker spaniel mix. She is a very sweet dog that would do well with a little obedience training. Her adoption fee is \$52, which includes a spay, all vaccinations, a microchip, a heartworm test and deworming.

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The facility is now open through lunch. For information, call 533-2767.

City News

Annual public auction set for Saturday

The city of Sierra Vista, joined by Cochise County, and the Sierra Vista and Palominas Public School Districts, is holding its Annual Public Auction at 9 a.m., Saturday at the Westside Annex, 100 North Ave. Bidder registration begins at 7 a.m. Items can be previewed at Westside Annex on Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Auction items include:

Over 54 bicycles, Chevy Bluebird buses, all makes and models of automobiles including many Crown Victorias, vans, pickup trucks, 4-wheel drive vehicles; a backhoe, a tractor, and other heavy equipment; power and hydraulic yard and garden tools; many televisions and VCRs; too much computer equipment to list; and much, much more.

Nominations sought for Veterans' Day Parade Grand Marshal

Nominations are being sought for the 2001 Sierra Vista Veterans' Day Parade Grand Marshal. Mayor Thomas J. Hessler said, "As the Mayor, it is a great privilege and pleasure to select our Veterans' Day Grand Marshal each year. This year, it seems appropriate to open nominations to the entire community, rather than just to veterans' groups and organizations as we've done in previous years. I expect that this year's Veteran's Parade and ceremony will be our largest ever."

Anyone interested in nominating someone can pick up a nomination form at local veterans' organizations; at City Hall, 1011 N. Coronado Dr.; or print one from a link on the City Page under News and Publications on the City's website at www.ci.sierra-vista.az.us.

It is important that nominees are not told that they are being nominated and nominations should be submitted no later than Friday.

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unless they elect to use military leave or annual leave as described under the conditions listed in the attachment.

Health benefits

Employees who are in a nonpay status while on military duty can keep their Federal Employees Health Benefits coverage for up to 18 months. During the first 365 days, they are responsible for paying the "regular" employee amount of the premium.

During the remainder of the 18 months, employees are responsible for the full premium. After 18 months, FEHB coverage terminates, and the employee can convert to a nongroup policy.

Retirement

An employee who is placed in a leave with-

out pay status while performing active military duty continues to be covered by the retirement law. If an employee separates to enter active military duty, he or she generally receives retirement credit for the period of separation when the employee exercises restoration to his or her civilian position.

Return to civilian duty

An employee who enters active military duty from any position, including a temporary position, has full job protection, provided he or she applies for reemployment within the required time limits based on the amount of time served in the active military.

This information is only a small sampling of what is located on the web site.

Questions may be directed to your servicing personnel specialist.