

The Fort Huachuca SCOUT Time Out

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Pvt. Murphy's law
By Mark Baker



Sports reports

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Haunted House open at mall

The Fraternal Order of Police and Firefighter's Halloween Haunted House is scheduled the following dates and times at The Mall at Sierra Vista:

Friday, 6-9 p.m.; Saturday, 5-9 p.m.; Sunday, 2-6 p.m.; Monday, 6-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 6-9 p.m.; and Halloween night from 4-9 p.m..

Admission is \$1. Children under 5 get in free.

Military appreciation night

The Colt Booster Club, with the support of the Buena High School administration and staff are sponsoring a military appreciation evening for the home football game on Friday at Buena High School.

All active duty, retired and reserve military personnel are welcomed free of charge to this home game.

All that's needed for entrance is the military ID card at the gate.

The game will start promptly at 7 p.m. It is suggested you arrive 30 minutes early to get a good seat. Some exciting activities are planned for the evening including fireworks for home team touchdowns.

Anheuser-Busch parks

To the remarkable members of the United States military who put their lives on the line each and every day, the employees and families of Anheuser-Busch Companies send their gratitude.

In addition, an invitation to all active duty military, reservist, and retirees is extended to you to be their honored guest.

Simply show your military identification anytime you visit Sea World in Orlando, San Antonio or San Diego; Busch Gardens in Tampa Bay or Williamsburg; and Sesame Place in Philadelphia now through Dec. 31 and you will receive unlimited complimentary admission for yourself.

In addition, your immediate family will receive complimentary admission on your first visit.

Anheuser-Busch Companies hope, in some small way, this begins to send the multitude of thanks that all of you are owed.

MI Heritage Run

MI Heritage Run is scheduled for Saturday. The 10K race starts at 8 a.m., with registration and pre-registration check-in opening at 6:30 a.m. The 3K race starts at 9:00 a.m., with registration and pre-registration check-in also opening at 6:30 a.m. The races will start and end at Brown Parade Field.

Anyone can enter the race; however, if you are not normally affiliated with Fort Huachuca, we do ask you to give us your social security number and the license plate of the vehicle you will be driving on the race day so that we can furnish this information to the gate guards.

Registration forms can be picked up, and dropped off, at Barnes Field House or Eifler Gym.

You can also register online at <http://www.active.com>. Once you are at the running events page, just type in "MI Heritage Run" in the search window.

The prices for the run are as follows: 10K and 3K with T-Shirt: \$9 unless they are E-4 and below, then it is \$5.

10K without T-Shirt: \$1
3K without T-Shirt: Free

If you have any questions, please contact Capt. Steve Sin or 1st Sgt. Scott A. Quick at 533-3993 or 533-2089.

USAG takes one, loses one to Air Force

By Spc. Jessica Espinosa
Scout Staff

AA league players, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, Aardvarks, took on Company B, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, Monday for the first time this season with nothing but vengeance on their mind.

Last season Co. B, 304th MI Bn. beat USAG in overtime during the championship game. This time the outcome was a little different. The Aardvarks got the better of Co. B, 304th 13-8.

Co. B came out strong trying to keep its title with the first touchdown scored by Tony Garcia, Co. B, 304th MI, quarterback. But this was where the Aardvarks took over.

Chris Daniel, wide receiver, scored the Aardvarks' initial touchdown, boosting the team's morale and keeping the defense strong throughout the game.

Though the extra points were missed, Daniel came back strong again to make another touchdown and also scored the two-point conversion this time.

"This was a really big game for us. There were a few of us here from last year who took this game very personal. If we didn't win any other game but this one, we would have been happy," Daniel said. "This was the game for me. I took the most pride out of this game. They were our rivals and we beat them."

"We practice a lot. We don't have as many good players as we did last year," said Jason Post, coach and offensive line player. "We lost the last three games. But now we stopped throwing the ball and started running it."

Post said the team continued to use this strategy for their final game against the Air Force's 314th Training Squadron Tuesday night at Smiley Field, though without luck.

Key players, according to Post, included Bobby Polite, running back; Kenji Davis, wide receiver; and Jeffrey Bridges, offensive/defensive line player.

The season finale ended on a sour note for the Aardvarks, as the undefeated Air Force team won 21-8, knocking them out of the playoffs.

The Air Force still has two games left to finish out their season and they expect to remain undefeated, according to Jason Homely, defensive/offensive line player.

"We play very organized. Sgt. (David) Arvizu (coach and quarterback) has been really good in making sure we're in the right positions, we pay attention to detail and fly the ball on the defense," he said. "We have a lot of confidence right now. I don't see us losing a game if we keep playing the way we have been. It's been a lot of fun."



Photos by Spc. Jessica Espinosa

Ron Wylie, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, tries to keep his flag away from Company B., 304th Military Intelligence Battalion players.

Seeram J.L. Garney, running back, agrees that the games have been fun. "A lot of Army teams underestimate us because we're Air Force and only do PT three times a week. But we practice a lot and play to win," Garney said. "It's nice playing with the Army though, because we get to know them after the games when we shake hands. They give us respect. We get along even though there is some rivalry. We work together well and it's fun."

The Air Force will play tonight at 7:30 p.m. against Company E, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with Company B, 305th MI Bn.

The A league final games will also be held this week at Smiley Field. Today Company D, 40th Signal Battalion will play at 6:30 p.m. with Headquarters, 306th MI Bn. At 8:30 p.m. HQ, 86th Sig., will play Company B, 86th Sig. Look for an article next week on the outcome of the games.



Chris Daniel lands in the end zone making his second touchdown of the night.



Photo by Spc. Jessica Espinosa

Clockwise, Derrell Lane, 3, Tyler Martin, 3, Morgan Guinn, 4, and Josie Goodman, 3 did harvest activities for Halloween. The pumpkin was sized, the ridges were counted, and then later cut. Once cut open the kids counted 283 seeds. Friday the students are going to make mini pumpkin pies out of graham crackers and a pumpkin pie mixture.

Haunting Halloween history

By Airman 1st Class Brad Estridge
Special to the Scout

Halloween is the one time of the year where it's not frowned upon for us to play dress up and go trick or treating. We might cause a little mischief; tell ghost stories around the fire; go bobbing for apples, or carve scary faces into jack o'lanterns.

But do you really know what Halloween is? Do you really know the true origin of the holiday? What it's about? Why we dress up? Why we bob for apples?

There has to be a reason for the holiday. There has to be a start to the many traditions practiced on this day. So what makes Halloween...well...Halloween?

Halloween's origins date back to an ancient Celtic festival called Samhain. Over 2,000 years ago the Celts celebrated their New Year on Nov. 1. To them, this day marked the end of the summer and harvest and the beginning of the cold, dark winter. Which was also often associated with death.

They believed that on the night before the New Year, the boundary between the world of the living and the dead became blurred. So on that night, the Celts celebrated the Samhain, where it was believed the ghosts of the dead returned for a night.

They felt that because of these events, these spirits made it easier for the Celtic priests, or Druids, to make predictions about the future, including the upcoming winter. To celebrate this day the Celts dressed up in costume and held large sacred fires where they sacrificed animals and crops to the Celtic deities. Extinguishing their individual fires in the morning to get rid of the lost souls, they then relit their fires from the one sacred bonfire to warm them through the winter.

Around A.D. 43 the Romans had conquered the majority of the

See Halloween, Page B3



In the Spotlight

See your MWR activity highlighted



MWR Rents has new hours scheduled to start Nov. 1. Hours will be 12-6 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. The facility will continue to be closed on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Along with the additional service of cabin rentals, MWR Rents continues to be the place to rent a variety of recreational, household and outdoor equipment.

Trailers and a variety of camping equipment are available as well as a vast array of sporting equipment including: badminton, horseshoes, frisbies, basketballs, footballs, softballs, volleyball equipment, mountain bikes, and fishing rods and reels. For your next backyard get together, MWR Rents has a selection of barbecue grills, two styles of moonbouncers and laser tag for the kids.

Tools and equipment for gardening, home improvement and repairs are available also. The lengthy list includes waxer/polishers, carpet cleaners, leaf blowers, lawn mowers, edgers, power tools, and more.

MWR Rents is offering a Boating Safety Course on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Murr Community Center. For more information call 533-6707 or 533-6708.

Lost Canyon Marine at MWR Rents

Lost Canyon Marine has complete marine and R.V. services. So have your boat tuned up before you head to the lake this year. All you boaters stop by or call Chuck Mullens at Lost Canyon Marine for all your boating needs.

Located at MWR Rents building 70914 or call (520) 940-1025.



Upper Garden Canyon's view of the Morale Welfare and Recreation Boy Scout Cabin.

Rent Garden Canyon cabins now at MWR Rents

By Cheryl Burns

Do you need to get away? Why not spend a weekend in Garden Canyon at one of MWR's Girl or Boy Scout Cabins?

Reservations for the Garden Canyon Cabins are now being taken at MWR Rents.

These cabins provide a wonderful opportunity for small groups or families to get away to beautiful surroundings without lengthy travel or complicated travel arrangements. Just grab your toothbrush and head for the hills, or Huachuca Mountains for a time of relaxation and peace.



Lower Garden Canyons scenic view near camp sites.



Lower Garden Canyons picnic area and playground.



MWR Release

Lil' Skeeters, has a terrific menu offering a variety of Original Smokehouse BBQ beef, chicken and ribs. Lil' Skeeters will be open for business at 11 a.m. on Nov. 2 for lunch and dinner. Here are just a few of the menu highlights you can expect to enjoy at MWR's exciting new eatery.

Lil' Skeeters Menu Highlights

STARTERS

Chicken Tenders	5.25
Wings (Buffalo or BBQ)	4.50
BBQ Nachos	3.95
Nachos Gracias	2.95
Monterey Jack & Jalapen`o Cheese Planks	3.95

CHILI & SALADS

Lil' Skeeters Chili	2.50
Garden Salad	2.95
Southern Fried Chicken Salad	5.95

BARBECUE SANDWICHES

<i>Served with Cole Slaw and a Pickle Spear</i>	
Pulled Pork Sandwich	3.75
Smoked Beef Brisket Sandwich	3.95
BBQ Chicken Sandwich	4.50

BARBECUE PLATTERS

<i>Served with Choice of Two Sides and Cornbread</i>	
Brisket	5.95
Two Bib Ribs (Turkey)	5.95
St. Louis Ribs	8.95
Chicken	7.95
Pulled Pork	
Southern Style Catfish	6.95
Combination Plate	
Choice of Two Meats	7.95
Choice of Three Meats	9.95

SIDE FIXIN'S

Baked Beans	1.25
Cole Slaw	1.25
Onion Rings	2.25
Corn Bread	.75
French Fries	
Add Cheese Sauce	.75
Add Chili	.75

'LIL KIN FOLKS

<i>Served with Fries. For Youth Ages 10 and under</i>	
Hamburger	2.95
Cheeseburger	3.25
Hot Dog	2.95
Chicken Tenders	3.95

For more information call 533-3876

Port Huachuca Morale, Welfare & Recreation

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare & Recreation is responsible for content appearing on MWR page in The Fort Huachuca Scout. Questions about this section should be directed to MWR Marketing Director,



Halloween Carnival planned

The Youth Center has two nights of Halloween fun scheduled for two different age groups; Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. will be open to fifth graders and under, Saturday from 7 - 9 p.m. will be open to sixth graders and up.

First through fifth graders are welcome to attend without parents. Children kindergarten and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Costumes are optional, but prizes for funniest, scariest and most original will be awarded to costume wearers. The carnival will offer games, candy and prizes for all. Tickets are included with admission, additional tickets will be available for sale. Admission is \$1 for members or \$2 for non-members.



New Operational Hours

Desert Lanes has new operational hours which will take effect Nov. 1: Mon., 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.; Tues. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Wed., noon - 10 p.m.; Thurs., 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Fri. 4 p.m. - 1 a.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. - 9 p.m..

Pro Shop Sale

There will be a special 10 percent off sale at the Desert Lanes Pro Shop on all in-stock items today from 6-10 p.m. Come on in and take advantage of this great offer.

Halloween Bash

Join the great fun at Desert Lanes annual Rock & Bowl Halloween Bash Sat-

urday from 7-11 p.m. There will be a costume contest, prizes and a live disc jockey. Entrance to the event is \$10 for bowlers and \$6 for non-bowlers.

League Play Turkey Shoot

A high handicap series Turkey Shoot is scheduled for Oct. 29 through Nov. 16, 2001. Entry is \$2 per person. One out of five entrants will win a turkey for Thanksgiving! Call 533-5220 for information on any or all of these special events.



Track construction dates

Wed., Oct. 27 - Nov. 7 - No Use
 Mon., Oct. 29 - Lay New Surface, No Use
 Mon., Nov. 8 Open for Business
 For more information call 533-5031.



October Calendar

Friday: Night Paintball 7-12 p.m. Remember that Friday is the last night of paintball for this year, so don't miss it! For more information call 533-7085.



New Hours

Effective immediately Buffalo Corral will be observing new hours due to force protection. The rental area will be closed Mon. through Thurs. and open Fri., Sat., and Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The private mount area

operating hours will remain the same. For more information, call 533-5220.



Ticket values from Box Office

Tickets are now available for the musical "Dracula Baby" being held at the Bisbee Repertory Theatre. This fiendishly funny and not very bloodthirsty musical is being staged Friday, Saturday and Nov. 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m.; also on Sunday and Nov. 4 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Call 533-2404 for further information on this event or for tickets and military discounts on many attractions, sports events and entertainment events.



Military Appreciation Night at Golden Corral

In support of Veterans Day, every Golden Corral restaurant across the country will be offering a Free Dinner Buffet with choice of beverage on Monday night, Nov. 12 to any veteran, as well as active duty military personnel who visit any Golden Corral. No questions asked. No IDs or uniforms are required, just identify yourself at the register when you come through the line. Golden Corral is partnering fund-raising efforts with the national and local Disabled American Veterans organization.

Halloween from B1

Celtic territory. Within the time that they had ruled over the lands, the Romans had merged two festivals of their origins with the Celtic festival of Samhain.

The first was Feralia, a day in late October where the traditional Romans celebrated the memory of the dead. The second Roman celebration to be merged was a celebration to honor the Roman goddess of fruit and trees, Pomona. The symbol used to honor Pomona was that of an apple, which is probably where the modern day tradition "bobbing for apples" comes from.

By the seventh century, the influence of Christianity had spread through the lands. During this time, Pope Boniface IV designated Nov. 1 as All Saints' Day. Many believed he was trying to replace the Celtic celebration of the dead with a similar day to remember and honor saints and martyrs.

This celebration was also known as *All-hallows* or *All-Hallowmas*. The night before, the night of Samhain, began to be known as All-hallows Eve, and eventually, Halloween.

Almost 1,000 years later, the church set Nov. 2 as All Souls Day, a day to honor the dead. This day was very similar to the celebration of Samhain, marked by costumes of saints, angels, and devils, large bonfires and parades. With these three days combined, the eve of All Saints day, All Saints day, and All Souls day became known as Hallowmas.

In later years, when European immigrants started coming to America, they began bringing their varied Halloween costumes with them. Because of the strict Protestant beliefs found in New England, Halloween practices were much less com-

mon there. The celebration of the holiday was much more popular in places such as Maryland and other southern colonies.

As the belief systems of different ethnic groups meshed with each the Native American culture, a distinct "American" version of Halloween was formed.

The first colonial celebrations included "play parties," which featured telling stories of the dead, telling each other's fortunes, and even dancing and singing. These festivals also featured ghost stories and often various forms of mischief making.

Nearing the second half of the nineteenth century, America began to become flooded by immigration. Irish immigrants fleeing the Potato Famine of 1846 helped to introduce the tradition of trick-or-treating here.

Also with this clash of cultures, most young women began to believe that on this day they were able to derive information of their future husbands by doing tricks with items such as yarn, apple parings and mirrors.

In the late 1800s, Americans moved to adapt the day into a more community-oriented holiday. To do so, they threw large get-togethers for both children as well as adults.

These parties consisted of games, various seasonal foods and festive costumes. Parents were urged not to incorporate anything "frightening" or "grotesque" into celebrations of Halloween. Because of the encouragement by the newspapers and such, Halloween lost most of its superstitious and religious overtones by the beginning of the next century.

By the 1930's, Halloween had become a secular and community oriented celebration with parades and town wide parties. However, despite the efforts of the community, vandalism began to plague the nationally celebrated holiday.

For reasons such as this, town leaders began to direct the holiday more toward the younger generation. Eventually, parties began to move into town civic centers and homes.

It was also believed that by providing the community with small treats, it would give the children something to do and cut down on the level of vandalism.

Throughout the years, a new tradition was started. An American tradition. Today Americans spend more than \$2.5 billion dollars on Halloween, making it Americas second largest commercial holiday falling right behind Christmas.

Halloween is not only a time to get candy from the neighbors and scare your friends or carve faces in pumpkins; Halloween is a time to relive traditions that date back thousands of years.



Three million fish were stocked in Arizona waters this past year

By Rory Aikens

Arizona Game and Fish Department

Stocking three million fish into Arizona waters this past year was just one of the innumerable activities by the Arizona Game and Fish Department's fisheries program.

Fisheries Chief Larry Riley explained to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission on Oct. 20 that the fisheries program is very broad and department personnel throughout the agency are directly or indirectly involved in the team effort.

Riley provided the commission with an overview of accomplishments this past year. "By no means is this an exhaustive list, and probably inappropriately gives short shrif to many of the every day activities that we take for granted," Riley said.

The accomplishments are:

- The hatchery program traveled more than 120,000 miles and stocked more than three million fish for fishing recreation in Arizona.
- Completed a second reintroduction of Gila trout in Raspberry Creek in November of 2000.
- Made good headway on the recovery of the Apache trout through a continuing partnership with anglers, the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- A partnership with the Northern Arizona Flycasters and the Coconino National Forest, worked to refurbish Middle Tank by draining and re-excavating the lake along the lines

of the very successful JD Dam Lake project completed a couple of years ago with the same partners.

— Completed refurbishing Rose Canyon Lake in partnership with the Coronado National Forest, the U.S. Marine Corps, and the Seabees.

— Continued a fisheries management initiative at Fortuna Pond near Yuma in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management.

— Worked with the City of Tempe for initiating a winter trout stockings on the 224-acre Tempe Town Lake.

— Worked with the White Mountain Flycasters and others to make considerable improvements along Silver Creek. The winter catch-and-release program on Silver Creek has caught fire with local anglers and visitors to the Show Low area.

— Installed spawning substrate in Lee Valley Creek in partnership with a number of fishing groups,

— Traveled to Wyoming to gather arctic grayling and stocked them into Lee Valley Lake.

— Continued the partnerships with Anglers United, Bureau of Land Management, California, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and MWD on the Lake Havasu Fisheries Improvement Project. This is the largest freshwater habitat improvement project in the United States.

— Completed a commitment to stock 30,000 razorback suckers into the Lake Havasu. Progress is being made by our partners to meet a similar commitment for bonytail.

— Worked in partnership with the Flagstaff Arboretum

to provide a refugium for Little Colorado spinedace.

— Worked on watershed improvements on East Clear Creek and reintroduced Little Colorado spinedace in partnership with the Coconino National Forest, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and affected permittees,

— Dedicated a brand new fishing pier at Bartlett Lake this past summer — a cooperative venture with the Tonto National Forest and the Arizona Department of Transportation.

"I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the fact that the department, along with the Arizona-New Mexico Chapter of AFS and the Western Division of AFS, hosted the 131st annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Arizona this past summer.

This meeting brought more than 1,100 prominent fisheries scientists from around North America, and the world, to Arizona. One prominent fisheries scientist termed one of the symposia at that meeting as "historic," Riley said

Riley added that the Fisheries Program in Arizona serves more than 400,000 licensed anglers that spent nearly eight million days fishing, contributed about \$9 million dollars of license revenue to the department, and spent more than \$330 million in Arizona on fishing, contributing more than \$660 million to the state's economy.

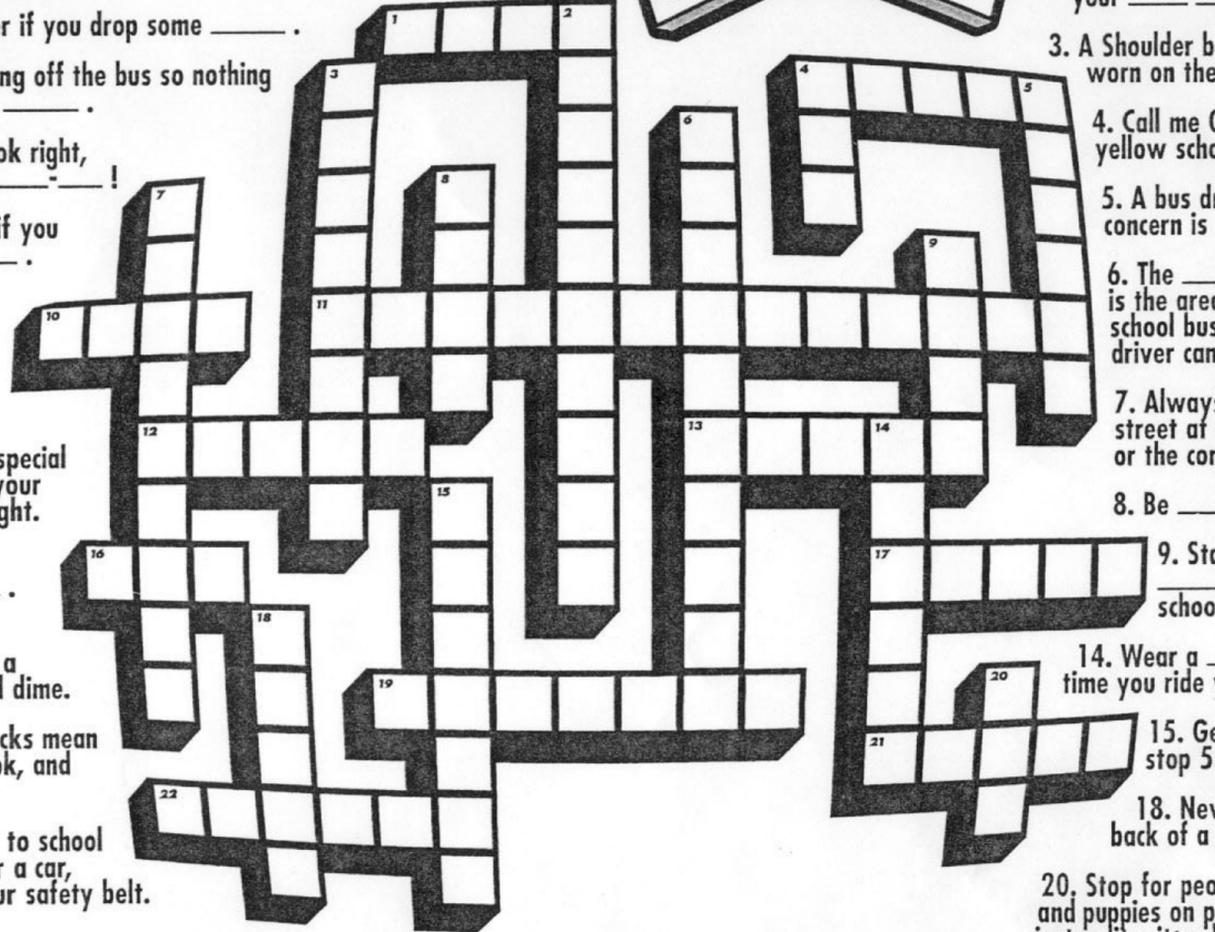
"The Fisheries Program also made significant contributions to the conservation of topminnow, pupfish, little Colorado spinedace, Apache trout, Gila trout, razorback suckers, and many others," Riley said.







1. Hold a grown-up's _____ when you cross the street.
4. Tell the driver if you drop some _____.
10. Careful getting off the bus so nothing snags in the _____.
11. Look left, look right, look _____!
12. Don't cross if you hear a _____.
13. Flow with the traffic, please stay to the _____.
16. Draw out a special _____, with your parents tonight.
17. Seat belts save _____.
19. Inside your helmet tape a _____ and dime.
21. _____ tracks mean we stop, look, and listen.
22. When riding to school in a truck or a car, _____ your safety belt.



2. Before school starts plan your _____.
3. A Shoulder belt should be worn on the _____.
4. Call me Gus, I'm a yellow school _____.
5. A bus driver's main concern is _____.
6. The _____ is the area behind the school bus where the driver can't see you.
7. Always cross the street at the _____, or the corner.
8. Be _____, be seen.
9. Stay in your _____ when the school bus is moving.
14. Wear a _____ every time you ride your bike.
15. Get to the bus stop 5 _____ early.
18. Never ride in the back of a pickup _____.
20. Stop for people on foot, and puppies on paw. It's not just polite, it's also the _____.

ACROSS: 1. HAND 4. BOOKS 10. DOOR 11. LEFT RIGHT LEFT 12. SIREN 13. RIGHT 16. MAP 17. LIVES 19. QUARTER 21. TRAIN 22. BUCKLE
 DOWN: 2. DAILY ROUTE 3. SHOULDER 4. BUS 5. SAFETY 6. DANGER ZONE 7. CROSSWALK 8. SAFE 9. SEAT 14. HELMET 15. MINUTES 18. TRUCK 20. LAW

Changing of the leaf

Fall colors on the Sierra Vista Ranger District



By Tom Deecken
Forest Service

While not as spectacular as other parts of the Coronado National Forest, the Huachuca Mountains offer beautiful fall color leaf displays. Distant views are available from several roads. Close experiences usually require some hiking.

Aspen and maples display the best colors. Look for golden hues of quaking aspen the first two weeks of October. From late October to late November, big-tooth and Rocky Mountain maples bring a season ending show of brilliant velvet red and orange.

Scan the higher elevations of the peaks for clues of the change. While enjoying displays of golden aspen and red maples, you may see very local splashes of color from Arizona sycamore, ash and walnut. These three species have only brief color displays and are best seen when enjoying the aspens and maples.

During this period, also look for the yellows of wild grape and the reds of skunk bush and poison ivy. As climbing vines or shrubs, they provide additional contrast to the forest understory.

Driving

Carr Canyon Road offers the closest access to some of the Mountain's aspen groves. This road is located about 7 miles south of Sierra Vista. Travel south on Highway 92 and make a right turn on the road immediately before the Mesquite Tree Restaurant.

The first part is paved, but the road quickly turns into a one-lane dirt road. Look for sy-

camores, ash and walnut along this portion of Carr Canyon. For the next five miles, the road winds up the side of Carr Canyon to the pine forest at the Reef Townsite Campground.

At the nearby trailhead parking lot, you should be able to see the gold of aspen scattered across the upper face of 9100-foot Carr Peak. These trees sprouted after the 1977 Carr Fire burned the older aspens and conifers.

A few maples are accessible by road in Miller Canyon. Two miles south of Carr Canyon, Miller Canyon Road ends at the parking lot just below the Beatty Orchard.

At the parking lot and a short distance down the creek bed, look for scattered big-tooth maples. Their red leaves, especially in mid-November, offer a striking contrast to the shades of green in the neighboring oaks.

The lower mile of the Miller Canyon Road is paved where it passes through private land. Then, the pavement ends and becomes dirt road for the 1.5 miles to the trailhead parking area. Beatty's Orchard is private property but access to upper Miller is possible by the marked hiking trail.

Hiking

Those groves of aspen seen from the Carr Peak Trailhead are about a mile away. As you follow the switchbacks up the trail, you pass through several patches. It is five miles to the top of Carr Peak and back.

Carr Peak also affords tremendous views of the aspen colors on Miller Peak. For the more hardy, continue your hike onto the 9466-foot high Miller Peak. However, be prepared

for a 10-mile round trip from the parking area.

In the lower part of the Reef Townsite Campground, look for the mining interpretive trail. Portions of this steep one-mile loop overlook the deeply shaded upper Carr Canyon. The velvet red maples stand out from the sandstone cliffs and dark green conifers.

Another starting point for hikers is the Ramsey Vista Campground. It is at the end of Carr Canyon Road and 1.5 miles past the Reef Townsite. Hike the Comfort Springs Trail to the Hamburg Mine, a distance of 2.5 miles. The trail is well maintained but expect some up-and-down relief as you drop in and out of Carr and Ramsey canyons.

At Hamburg Mine, you have your choice of the three best stands of maple in the district. Both Ramsey Canyon above and below the mine and nearby Pat Scott Canyon have good trails that put you underneath substantial groves. And, mixed with the already fallen red leaves will be relics of the extensive mining that is part of the history of the Huachucas.

Round-trip distance from the Ramsey Vista parking lot to the maple stands of Ramsey and Pat Scott Canyons is 6 miles. The more adventurous hikers can take loop hikes through upper Ramsey and Pat Scott Canyons and around the backside of Carr Peak. These hikes will range in distance from 9-12 miles and are more strenuous.

In Miller, maple stands that show good color start about a half mile above the parking lot previously mentioned for this canyon. Look for the trailhead on the north side of the road just opposite the parking area. Starting at the

Tombstone Waterworks, maples are easily seen alongside the old mining road that serves as the trail.

If you want to hike another mile or so, you will be rewarded with more maples as well as the sound of the cascading Miller Creek. The yellows of ash and box elder and the occasional red of poison ivy add to the beauty of the canyon from mid-October to late November. And finally, a kind word about those drab oaks. As you have read, the fall colors of the Huachucas offer welcome contrasts to the all year greens of the mountains. But the greens also have their story.

The oaks found in the lower elevations are northern extensions of similar species in Mexico. They have adapted to the late spring and early summer dry period we experience before the monsoon season begins. What looks like dying trees in May is actually the annual leaf cast for Arizona white, Mexican blue and Emory oaks. While vast color splashes are not provided, this leaf change is a subtle reminder of another season in south-eastern Arizona.

Coronado National Forest offices sell a recreation map that shows the places mentioned above. The small bookstore on the Sierra Vista Ranger District also has tree identification and hiking guides as well as topographic maps of the Huachucas that can help travelers plan their visit.

But most of all, keep your eyes open and bring a camera for memories when you visit the Sierra Vista Ranger District in search of the changing leaf!

Are you taking an unnecessary risk, not using your seatbelt?

By Bruce V. Heran
Safety Manager

The ongoing war on terrorism is teaching us many things about our country and selves that are helpful to our survival, but we still insist on taking unnecessary risks. One in particular is the failure to use seatbelts in our vehicles.

As Safety Manager, I have probably heard every reason imaginable for not wearing them. Everything from "I could be trapped upside down and a fire breaks out" to "What if I crash off a bridge and go under water and can't get the seatbelt off?" I hear many other thoughts along the line "That it can't happen to me," "I'm a careful driver," or "I'm only going a short distance."

When examined, each of the reasons is bogus. If you are involved in an accident and the vehicle is upside down, on

fire or under water and you didn't use the seatbelt you have probably been either ejected from the vehicle or are unconscious and can't get out anyway.

Being ejected from a vehicle in an accident is among the most dangerous things that can happen. Your unprotected body will collide with or be hit by any number of things.

As for the "it can't happen to me crowd," it can and does with great regularity. The odds are about 25 to 1 against you. That is, seatbelt users are 25 times less likely to be injured in any given type of accident than those who don't buckle up.

Right about now, I usually hear the comment "but my car has air bags." Air bags offer little or no protection from side impacts. Getting T-boned are one of the most common types of accidents, just ask any insurance company.

Then there are two other things to consider. In a survey conducted a few years ago, automobile operators were asked if they knew their cars were equipped with air bags. Nearly one in five answered yes when their cars actually didn't have them. There has also been some fairly recent hysteria about air bags causing injuries and deaths. True, but misleading.

For every injury attributed to air bags, many thousands were prevented. Still individuals have disconnected their air bags from fear and also fail to use the seatbelts. If you purchased a used vehicle that is "equipped" with air bags check to see if the air bags are indeed present.

The bottom line is that there isn't any substitute for the level of protection offered by seatbelts during an accident. A final thought, if you have children, make sure they are properly belted in, and if appropriate in an approved car seat.