

Cacti Paradise
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The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil
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Main Gate closure

The Fort Huachuca Main Gate will be closed Saturday from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for the Sierra Vista Annual Christmas Parade which begins at 10 a.m.

The parade will start at Fry Boulevard and Buffalo Soldier Trail. The route is straight down Fry Blvd. Buffalo Soldier Trail will be closed from Fry Blvd. South to 7th Street from 6:30 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m. where the parade entrants will line up.

East Gate closure

The East Gate will be closed over the holiday season. The schedule is as follows:

Closing date/time - Dec. 23 - 10 p.m.; Dec. 30 - 10 p.m.

Opening date/time - Dec. 26 - 4:30 a.m.; Jan. 2 - 4:30 a.m.

Christmas lights hours

The Directorate of Installation Support has set the hours from dusk to 11 p.m. for having outdoor Christmas lights and decorations lit.

Help conserve energy and reduce the risk of fire by turning off all electrical items before going to sleep each night.

Road traffic interruption

Hatfield Street will be partially blocked just south of the Winans/Hatfield intersection from Saturday at 5 a.m. to Sunday at 5 p.m.

The contractor will install a communications duct bank to the New Child Development Center currently under construction.

Traffic will be allowed to traverse the crossing site, but will be limited to one lane each way. Flagmen will be on duty to insure that traffic flow is safely maintained. Winans and Healy Streets may be utilized as alternate routes.

Historic homes holiday tour

The annual Holiday Tour of Homes takes place Sunday from 2-5 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Fort Huachuca Museum Gift Shop, the MWR Box Office, and the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce.

Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour for \$8 at the museum.

36th Army Band concert

Chief Warrant Officer Gary W. Dorrell will lead the 36th Army Band as it presents a holiday concert entitled, "Through A Child's Eyes."

The concert will be held 7 p.m. Monday, at the Buena Performing Arts Center. Admission is free to the public.

For more information, call Sgt. Terrina D. Anderson at 533-2515.

Angel tree program

The Fort Huachuca Angel Tree program is in need of help. Over 200 servicemembers' families (which includes more than 400 children) have been nominated to receive a holiday gift from the chapel community this year.

Please pick up an ornament from the "Angel Tree" located in the narthex of the Main Post Chapel.

Another Angel Tree is located in the Main Post Exchange lobby. Gifts must be returned to the Main Post Chapel, Room Number 6, by Dec. 12

For more information call Chaplain (Maj.) Garry Dale, 533-4911; Karen Huntley, 533-4748; or Jo Moore at 533-4748.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Close shave

Spc. Matthew Yalch, Company D, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, low crawls on his back to avoid the barbed wire at the Fort Huachuca Obstacle Course. Yalch's unit engaged the course Tuesday. See related photos on Page 5.

Post CFC donations exceed \$300,000



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

1st Lt. Tricia Kelley, Combined Federal Campaign coordinator, stands near the sign marking the dollar amount donated by the Fort Huachuca community.

By Sgt 1st Class Donald Sparks
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

Despite the economic woes of America's economy, the Fort Huachuca community reached into their pockets and checkbooks to donate more than \$300,000 to this year's annual Combined Federal Campaign.

Each year Federal employees and military personnel raise millions of dollars through the CFC that benefits thousands of non-profit charities.

After extending its original deadline of Nov. 6, 1st Lt. Tricia Kelley, Fort Huachuca CFC coordinator, said the fort responded in a big way to boost the donation amount.

"At our initial deadline we received only \$90,000 and was short of our goal," Kelley said. "Afterwards we received donations one week of \$50,000, the next week nearly \$40,000 and the following week another \$50,000.

"In a matter of time we received more than double the dollar amount donated at the original deadline."

Kelley said the success of the program is

directly linked to the command emphasis given by the leaders on the fort.

"The support had always been there right from the start," Kelley said. "After the original deadline passed, I started getting phone calls from commanders asking what could they do to help the program."

Although the campaign did not reach its intended goal of \$360,000 Kelley was grateful for the dollar amount collected.

She acknowledged this year was tough for many people, but she still felt the gift of charity shown by members of the fort.

Despite not collecting as much as last year, Kelley said this year's campaign exhibited the commitment donors give to their particular cause.

She also mentioned there were privates in the Advanced Individual Training units who gave \$1,000 contributions and individual units that contributed more than \$10,000 collectively.

"Many people gave what they could give," Kelley said. "And when every person who does that it eventually adds to a lot. Every little bit helped us to get where we are."

Army restructures personnel specialties, more changes coming

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

Personnel specialists will see their career management field undergo a number of changes to include consolidations, an increase in promotions and an expansion of assignment opportunities.

The military occupational specialties MOS, (75B) personnel administration specialist and (75H) personnel service specialist will be consolidated and re-designated to (42A) human resources specialist, said Lt. Col. Donald Woolverton, the Adjutant General Enlisted Branch chief.

Other approved changes are to re-designate (MOS 75F) personnel information system management to (42F) human resources information system management specialist and (MOS 71L) administrative specialist to (42L) administrative specialist.

The changes were approved by Lt. Gen. John Le Moyne, the Army G1. The reclassification of soldiers is scheduled to take place beginning June 1, 2003 through Sept. 30, 2003 with Army authorization documents scheduled to reflect the new MOS beginning Oct. 1, 2004, Woolverton said.

The need for the numerical change is to align the enlisted branch with the commissioned officer's (42) Adjutant General

branch, Woolverton added.

Warrant officers in the personnel field also fall under the 42 series umbrella, and once the final MOS consolidation takes place more enlisted soldiers will have the opportunity to apply as warrant officer, Woolverton said.

Currently, MOS 71L soldiers don't have the option to submit warrant officer packets to become a personnel warrant officer, but with an eventual planned consolidation into MOS 42A this opportunity will be expanded, he added.

Other expected benefits from merging the job specialties will be diverse types of assignments, said Sgt. Maj. James Miller, the AG Branch sergeant major.

"Special assignments at the White House and various embassies that were once traditionally MOS 71L positions will be open to the human resources specialists," Miller said. "Also soldiers in higher ranks won't be limited in assignment opportunities at TDA (table of distribution and allowances) assignments while skill-level-one soldiers work at TOE (table of organi-



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Spc. Joseph Lynch, a personnel service specialist assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, assists a soldier. Personnel specialists will see an overhaul to their military occupational specialty next year.

zation and equipment) assignments.

"We're going to train a well-rounded soldier who will have the confidence to leave a garrison environment and perform administrative duties at echelons above corps," Miller said.

Promotion opportunities will also in-

See PERSONNEL, Page 7

Tribute to a fallen comrade

Pearl Harbor bombings Last letter home

On Thanksgiving day, 1941, John George Dine wrote his last letter home while aboard the U.S.S. Arizona. The letter is addressed to his brother Phil Dine and dated Nov. 20, 1941. He died in the subsequent Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941. He was nineteen years old. The letter reached home one week after his death.

The last letter home of John George Dine, 1922-1941
Fireman, Second Class, U.S.S. Arizona
Transcript of letter, complete with misspellings and punctuation, as it was originally written.



John George Dine



U.S.S. Arizona

Nov. 20, 1941

Dear Phil,

Just a few lines to let you know I am well and hope this letter find you all the same. As a sailor says who has got the wrong news Bum dope. Here is the latest dope we are supposes to go back the 28 of this month but that is just dope you cant depend on that. I tell you what when we get it straight from the captain, I will write you a letter by clipper, so you can tell the flocks for sure that I am coming.

Here is one more thing that has me worried, you cant get leave unless you can get back to the ship within 12 hours. So if they call me do you think you might be able to get the old mans car and take me back to the ship in 12 hours time.

Well today is Thanksgiving so to all of you home I wish you the best thanksgiving you ever had, that comes from the bottom of my heart, I am awful sorry that I cant be there with you, but it cant be done. But if all goes right I will be home before Xmas here is hoping. This time I am sending you a couple of snap shots so take your pick, When I get home I will see if I can't fix you up with a nurse, but not mine.

Say phil what did the floks say cause I didnt send 20 dollars, this month, I really did need the money, so tell mom I am sorry but you cant do what your whant in here when they say you got to have certain items well you are going to have them thast all to it.

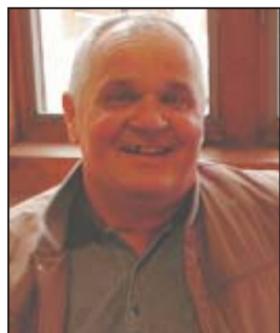
When you wrote the last letter you did not put my full address on it so this put on, A Divlon, I will have to close give my love to all, believe me or not, but out here all the fellows call me Johnny so here I am sineing off whit love Johnny.

P.S. forgive the hand write but I smell the turkey in the oven.

U.S.S. Arizona Memorial



Scout on the Street



Photos by Angelica Pequeño and Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

My two uncles came back from World War II with lots of stories. One uncle was stationed at Anderson Field. My father was deferred from the Air Force because of an ankle injury. He ferried bombers from the coast to Hawaii. He was a pilot and critical to the war.

Wally Kreuger,
retired

My father volunteered to the Marines right after the bombings of Pearl Harbor happened. I remember when we [United States] retook the islands; we followed the progress in school everyday.

Tom Hoskins,
retired

I was working at the Santa Fe railroad. We learned of what happened through teletype; then we were put on 'high alert'. My co-worker, a fellow engineer, had a stepson who was on the Arizona and is still there.

Morris Knight,
retired

My oldest brother was in the Navy at the time. After Pearl Harbor the recruiting offices had lines of men waiting to sign up. My brother got deployed and we would receive letters with words blacked out to hide his location but we could figure out where he was and tried to keep in touch.

Everett B. Clifton,
Disabled American
Volunteer

My husband, Bill, and I hauled livestock in 1941. We were in the Livestock Market Café near Sioux City, Iowa. Our waitress asked if we had heard the news. Then we went home to Jameson, Neb. Bill was drafted when he was 36 years old in 1942. I saw him one time during the next three years. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater.

Kate Heermann,
retired

When I heard the news I turned on the radio, we didn't have television back then. FDR (President Franklin D. Roosevelt) came on the radio and we couldn't believe the devastation of the attack...I was 33 years old at the time and volunteered as a ground observer for the Army Air Corps near Boston spotting airplanes.

John F. Duncan,
retired

Recall how Pearl Harbor affected your life.



The Fort Huachuca Scout
newspaper staff
extends their warmest wishes
for a joyous holiday season.

The Fort Huachuca Scout

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RWBAS pharmacists key volunteers in bio-terrorism exercise

By Sgt. 1st Class D.L. Sparks
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

Typically the first thought that comes to mind when people think of a pharmacist is a person in a white coat and standing behind a counter giving medical prescriptions.

Although that might be necessarily true, people might not know pharmacists also have a key role in the war on terrorism.

Two weeks ago two pharmacists and two

pharmacy technicians from Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center participated as volunteers for the Southeastern Arizona Pharmaceutical Task Force in a bioterrorism attack exercise in Tucson.

The volunteer effort was led by Carolyn Boardman, chief of pharmacy services, RWBAHC, and gave her staff and added another dimension to their everyday mission of taking care of patients. Pharmacist Paula Brown and pharmacy technicians Philip

Martin and Angelique Bradley also volunteered in the exercise.

"If there is some white powder found somewhere, the pharmacists always get called to the scene," Boardman said. "So it is our responsibility to the fort community to be adequately informed on this as much as possible."

The exercise evolved around a simulated anthrax attack, which required the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile to be opened and medication given to victims of the attack. The quartet from RWBAHC had to help set up a major pharmacy network.

According to Boardman, there are 10 NPS secretly located around the country and can only be requested by the governor of a state in the event of an emergency.

"The National Pharmaceutical Stockpile doesn't come with pharmacists and there is a great need for pharmacists," Brown said. "It was a great opportunity to practice with that. My role was to dispense medication and provide patients information about the medication they received."

Compared to their daily workload at RWBAHC, each of the volunteers agreed the exercise was a piece of cake. The exercise featured more than 500 volunteers simulating a variety of scenarios.

"We were well prepared, especially in the dispensing of medication," Brown said. "I overheard comments from some of the other pharmacists saying they were overwhelmed. We had more than 1,850 patients but we could have done way more."

The volunteers all agreed since the events of Sept. 11, 2001, it is imperative for them to use their professional knowledge and be

If there is some white powder found somewhere, the pharmacists always get called to the scene. So it is our responsibility to the fort community to be adequately informed on this as much as possible.

Carolyn Boardman,
Chief Pharmacist,
Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

From left to right, members of the Raymond W. Bliss Army Medical Army Health Center who participated in the Southeastern Arizona Pharmaceutical Task Force are Philip Martin, pharmacist technician, Carolyn Boardman, chief pharmacist, Paula Brown, pharmacist, and Angelique Bradley, pharmacist technician. The exercise gave the volunteers a chance to do their jobs in the event of a bio-terrorist attack.

of service if a bioterrorism attack comes close to home in the local community.

"It's really necessary that we be prepared for something like this," Martin said.

First we're here to help the public and those that have access to the military benefits," Martin said. "Also we're also in a place where we could be affected by it. The military and its beneficiaries might likely be a target. So we might be called in to help."

Because the pharmacists are well prepared in the event of such an attack, Boardman said hopeful the training will be a deterrent to those wishing to bring harm against the community.

Boardman also praised the members of the RWBAHC pharmacy staff for holding down the pharmacy without compromising customer service.

She mentioned that other pharmacists and technicians wanted to volunteer and will try to experience similar training in the future.

By Patrick Swan
Army News Service

Soldiers can now view days-deployed data on AKO

Soldiers can now track their total deployment days on their Army Knowledge Online accounts.

This greater visibility for soldiers is a result of collaboration between AKO and the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command, which is establishing a link to AKO with its PERSTEMPO web application.

"Posting deployment data to AKO offers numerous advantages, makes best use of available technology at a reasonable cost and allows the Army greater flexibility to disclose PERSTEMPO data to soldiers in the field," said Capt. Rob McCaslin, an action officer for PERSCOM's Field Systems Division.

The initiative follows a July meeting between PERSCOM officials and those at AKO, McCaslin said. The AKO staff offered to explore including deployed days on the "My Personnel" page of AKO.

The deputy secretary of Defense suspended the PERSEMPO per diem payment provision in October 2001, following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Tracking of deployed days contin-

ues, but not for payment consideration, PERSCOM officials said.

Until November 2001, individual PERSTEMPO counts were posted to a soldier's leave and earning statement. Based on a unanimous recommendation by the military services at an October 2001 PERSTEMPO meeting the Office of the Secretary of Defense instructed that the posting of PERSTEMPO data on the LES be suspended.

Following recommendations from a number of senior Army leaders earlier this year, PERSCOM and AKO staffs proposed posting the relevant PERSTEMPO information on AKO in a format similar to that recently implemented for individual soldier dental readiness information, McCaslin said.

This information will be available to soldiers in the Personnel community of the AKO web site, under the "My Personnel" channel.

"Using AKO in this way leverages technology to the Army's advantage," McCaslin said. "Unlike the once-per-month LES remark, deployment data posted to AKO is updated throughout the month.

"This allows soldiers easy access to their

individual PERSTEMPO counters anytime/anywhere. In addition, soldiers can keep up to date with the PERSTEMPO program through a Frequently Asked Questions link in AKO.

"We're really excited about working with PERSCOM (specialists) because they understand how we can get something to soldiers today at little or almost no cost," said Maj. C.J. Wallington, an AKO team leader with NETCOM's Chief Technology Office, Fort Belvoir, Va. "This is one more example of how we can help soldiers take care of themselves simply by making information available to them."

"This gives soldiers one less thing to be concerned about, so they can concentrate on the mission," said Sgt. Maj. Freddie L. Davis, Jr., CIO/G-6 visual information sergeant major. "It is easy to tell soldiers you care. But they are more comforted when they see evidence, such as this, that supports what they are doing. Seeing this information via AKO reassures soldiers that what they are doing counts and it is important."

(Editor's note: Patrick Swan, Patrick.Swan@us.army.mil, is public affairs liaison with the Army's Chief Information Office/G-6.)

New Stop-Loss measure freezes mobilized reservists

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

The Army's newest Stop-Loss measure will keep all mobilized Reserve and National Guard soldiers in the Army until at least 90 days after their unit demobilizes.

The new announcement will help reserve-component unit readiness because it keeps mobilized reservists from departing their unit and the Army in the middle of a mission at the end of their enlistment or otherwise leave, program officials said.

The latest of six Stop-Loss announcements since the first measure was implemented a year ago was sent to the field by an "All Army Activities" message Nov. 4. Specific implementing instructions went out Nov. 21 via Military Personnel messages 03-040 and 03-041.

"This is a unit-based Stop-Loss versus the previous individual-skill announcements," said Lt. Col. Bob Ortiz, chief of Enlisted Distribution and Readiness Branch, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G1. "Basically, the reserve leadership asked for some help in preventing readiness degradation of RC units when mobilized."

The measure takes effect upon Reserve and National Guard sol-

diers the day their units are alerted for mobilization.

Ortiz explained how soldiers leaving their units for retirement or separation while their unit was mobilized has created a domino effect on RC unit readiness.

"When a soldier leaves, that leaves a hole in the unit that has to be filled," Ortiz said. "In order to fill that hole, reserve commands have been reaching into other units that haven't been mobilized, which cannibalizes that unit for trained and qualified individual replacements."

"That leaves a readiness problem for the units giving up the replacements when it is their turn for mobilization. This Stop-Loss measure is designed to fix that problem."

Mobilized reservists impacted by previous Stop-Loss announcements must remain in the Army in a Ready-Reserve status for 90 days after if their unit demobilizes or for one year after their skill was identified as critical to the needs of the Army by a Stop-Loss message, whichever is later. This part of the newest measure impacts about 25,000 reservists, Ortiz said.

Prior to August when the 12-month policy went into effect, Stop-Loss soldiers were frozen in the Army unable to retire or separate



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert A. Hyatt

Members of 2/142nd Field Artillery, Arkansas National Guard inspect identification at the East Gate. All mobilized Reserve and National Guard soldiers will remain in the Army at least 90 days after their unit demobilizes according to the newest Stop-Loss measure.

the end of their enlistment for an indefinite period. The 12-month policy was implemented to provide impacted soldiers some predictability while meeting the manpower needs of the Army in selected short-age skills, Ortiz said.

The Army will continue to assess its manpower needs on a monthly basis and make appropriate Stop-Loss decisions as necessary, Ortiz said.

Stop-Loss does not impact involuntary separations or mandatory

retirements.

MILPER messages 03-040 and 03-041 can be viewed via the Total Army Personnel Command Home page, www.perscom.army.mil, from a link at the center of the page.



Staged photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks
Illustration by Angelica Pequeño

DATE RAPE

When No Means No And Going Too Far

Compiled by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

Spc. Jones thought this could never happen to her. She'd been friends with Sgt. Doe for nearly two years and she could come to him whenever she had problems with her ex-boyfriend.

One night Sgt. Doe invited her to dinner and a movie to reveal his true feelings for her. When the date was over, Spc. Jones was tired and ready to go home. Sgt. Doe insisted on coming in her room to talk some more about her feelings.

She agreed and once inside, he leaned over to kiss her. She told him to stop and to leave her room.

Sgt. Doe's temper flared and he demanded that Spc. Jones show him some affection for always being there whenever she needed him.

As the rest of the scenario goes, Spc. Jones felt guilty for leading him on, but did not want to do anything with Sgt. Doe. But he insisted.

Date rape is a topic that few people are truly comfortable discussing. Many people think of rape as a stranger jumping out of the bushes on a dark night and attacking someone.

In fact, about 80 percent of people who have been raped knew the person who violated them. And women 15 to 25 years old are the most frequent victims.

Below are some things to remember about date and acquaintance rape — whether you are male or female.

Sexual stereotyping and how men and women talk to each other.

- Although things are changing, society still frequently encourages men to be competitive and aggressive and teaches women

to be passive and avoid confrontation.

- Men often misunderstand a woman's words and actions — the "She said no, but she meant yes" excuse.

- Some people still believe that it's okay for a man to demand sex if he buys a woman dinner or gifts, and that it's not wrong for a man to rape a woman who previously had sex with him or other men.

As a woman, you can...

- Talk openly about sex, and keep talking as you get deeper into a relationship.

- Be careful not to let alcohol or other drugs decrease your ability to take care of yourself and make sensible decisions.

- Trust your gut feelings. If a place or the way he acts makes you nervous or uneasy, get out.

- Check out a first date or a blind date with friends. Insist on going to a public place like a movie, sporting event, or restaurant.

- Carry money for a phone call and taxi, or take your own car.

- Don't leave a party, concert, game, or other social occasion with someone you just met or don't know well.

- Take a look at the men around you and be wary of anyone who puts you down, or tries to control how you dress or your choice of friends.

As a man, you can...

- Ask yourself how sexual stereotypes affect your attitudes and actions toward women.

- Accept a woman's decision when she says "no." Don't see it as a challenge.

- Avoid clouding your judgment and understanding of what another person wants by using alcohol and other drugs.

- Realize that forcing a woman to have

sex against her will is rape, a violent crime with serious consequences.

- Never be drawn into a gang rape — at parties, fraternities, bars, or after sporting events.

- Seek counseling or a support group to help you deal with feelings of violence and aggression against women.

If date rape happens to you...

Get help. Phone the police, a friend, a rape crisis center, a relative. Don't isolate yourself, don't feel guilty, and don't try to ignore it. It is a crime that should be reported.

Rape by someone you know is a violation of your body and your trust.

- Get medical attention as soon as possible. Do not shower, wash, douche, or change your clothes. Valuable evidence could be destroyed.

- Get counseling to help deal with the emotional trauma caused by rape.

If it happens to someone you know...

- Believe her.
- Offer comfort and support. Go with her to the hospital, police station, or counseling center.

- Let her know she's not to blame.

Rape is found under Article 120 of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice and is defined as sexual intercourse by a person, executed by force and without consent of the victim. It may be committed on a victim of any age. Any penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete the offense.

The article specifically explains the crime in the areas of force and lack of consent and character of victim.

The maximum punishment of rape is death or other such punishment as a court-martial may direct.

Date rape is a serious crime. It's a betrayal of trust and leaves long-lasting emotional injuries.

When someone you know - a date, boyfriend, or casual friend - forces you to have sex, it's still rape.

Date rape is a power trip.



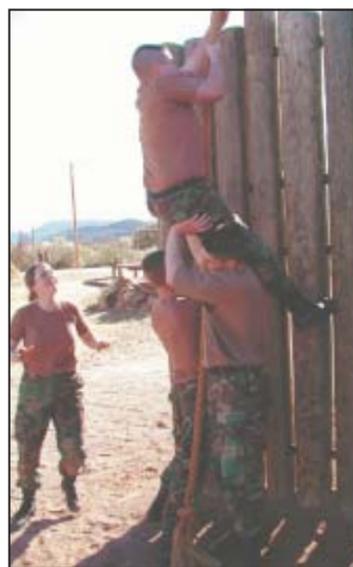
Building an ARMY OF ONE

Obstacle course instills true meaning of teamwork



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Pvt. Michael Green, Company D, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, is assisted by his teammates to cross the one-rope bridge during training at Fort Huachuca's Obstacle Course.



Left: Teamwork was emphasized to negotiate each obstacle by the drill sergeants and cadre of Co. D, 309th MI Bn. On this particular obstacle, the soldiers formed a human step ladder to boost each other over the wall. Below: Pvt. Jessica Kelb hurries through the cylinder. Divided into four-soldier teams, each team had to complete the course together and were timed after completing the final obstacle.



Department of Army announces second Stop-Loss partial lift

U.S. Army Public Affairs release

Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) Reginald J. Brown recently approved partially lifting stop loss for selected warrant officer specialties and enlisted Military Occupational Specialties affected by Stop Loss 1 through 4.

The decision to partially lift Stop Loss 1 through 4 will affect approximately 655 active Army, 591 Army Reserve and 454 National Guard soldiers between now and March 31.

Warrant officer specialties and enlisted MOSs for active Army and Ready Reserve soldiers subject to the second stop loss partial lift are:

Warrant officers with specialties: 350D Imagery Intelligence Technician; 352G Voice Intercept Technician (Language Specific).

Enlisted soldiers with Military Occupational Specialties: 13C Field Artillery Automation Fire Support Specialist; 13D Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems Specialist; 13E Cannon Fire Direction Specialist; 14E Patriot

Fire Control Specialist; 33W Intelligence Electronic Warfare Repairman; 96R Ground Surveillance Systems Special-

ist and 98G Voice Interceptor (Language Specific).

Language specific skills lifted from stop loss for 352G Voice Intercept Technician and 98G Voice Interceptor are: Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese-Mandarin, Czech, French, German, Hebrew-Modern, Hungarian, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Polish, Spanish, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese.

Noncommissioned officer specialties are affected by this action.

As these soldiers begin their transition from the Army they will be provided sufficient time to complete Army Career & Alumni Program processing and demobilization activities for Ready Reserve soldiers.

Personnel strength managers from all Army components will regulate separation dates to ensure no adverse impact on Army-wide readiness.

Brown approved the first four increments of stop loss in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom Nov. 30, 2001, Dec. 27, 2001, Feb. 8 and June 4. Stop loss identifies soldiers with specific skills and specialties essential to national security and the war on terrorism. On June 4, Brown also approved partially lifting stop loss for one officer specialties and twelve enlisted military occupational special-

ties affected by stop loss 1-3 (Partial Lift #1).

On Aug. 31, Brown approved changing the Army's stop loss program from an open-ended policy to affecting soldiers for up to 12 months. The latest stop loss message issued on Nov. 4, announced a Reserve Component unit stop loss policy that established stop loss upon an RC unit's alert notification and continues through the period of mobilization until 90 days after demobilization.

Prior to operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the Army last used stop loss during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990 when President George H. Bush delegated stop loss authority to the secretary of defense.

Stop loss allows the Army to retain soldiers in the service beyond their date of separation or retirement for an open-ended period. Those affected by the order generally cannot voluntarily retire or leave active duty or separate from the service as long as reserves are called to active duty or until otherwise relieved by proper authority. Stop loss does not affect most involuntary separations or retirements, nor does it generally limit laws, regulations, or policies that lead to involuntary separations, retirements or releases from active duty.

The Army continues to reevaluate stop loss on a monthly basis and uses it to maintain unit readiness.

Pets of the Week



My name is Buttercup and I am a petite spayed female cat. I love kids and am current on my vaccines. My adoption fee is \$22 which includes a leukemia test and deworming.



My name is 8 ball and I am a gorgeous black and white long haired cat. I am an adult male who is looking for a family to love me. My adoption fee is \$42 which includes my neuter, microchip, vaccine, deworming, and leukemia test.



My name is Elvira and I am a black and white female pit mix. I am pretty calm and love to get attention. My adoption fee is \$52 which includes my spay, microchip, vaccines, heartworm test and deworming.



My name is Lady and I am an adorable small brown dog. I am very affectionate and like to play. My adoption fee is \$52 which includes my spay, microchip, vaccines, heartworm test, and a deworming. Please come in and visit me today.

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.

Community Updates

USAIC, FH Holiday Ball

The USAIC and Fort Huachuca holiday ball will be held Friday at 6 p.m. at the Lakeside Activity Centre. The cost is \$25.

Menu Choices include:

Beef AuPoivre, grilled top sirloin simmered in a rich rosemary/mushroom-demiglace, served with three cheese AuGratin potatoes and baby green beans; salmon scampi, grilled salmon marinated in scampi butter and topped with a caper and wild mushroom relish, served with roasted vegetable, orzo and baby greenbeans; portobello ravioli, hearty portobello stuffed ravioli, topped with a tangy red pepper and saffron cream sauce and pesto drizzle, served with sauteed match stx.

AGD closing

The Military Personnel Services Division, Whitside Hall division in the Adjutant General Directorate will be closed today from 8-11:30 a.m. Do not send any soldiers to in-process at Whitside Hall today. Problems may be addressed 533-3267.

Legal Notice

This notice is to inform the community that a Summary Court Martial Officer has been appointed to finalize the affairs of Staff Sgt. Courtney A. Herring, Company C, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, who died in an automotive accident Nov. 12. Persons having property belonging to the deceased should call Chief Warrant Officer 3 Nick Ashby at 538-1107. It is also advised that people who the deceased is indebted to or who are indebted to the deceased should also call Ashby at the number above.

Road crossing/ traffic interruption

Hatfield Street will be partially blocked just south of the Winans/Hatfield intersection from 5 a.m. Saturday, reopening at 5 p.m. on Sunday. The contractor will install a communications duct bank to the New Child Development Center currently under construction.

Traffic will be allowed to traverse the crossing site, but will be limited to one lane each way. Flagmen will be on duty to ensure that traffic flow is safely maintained. Winans and Healy Streets may be utilized as alternate routes.

VA briefing rescheduled date

The November ACAP newsletter contained a misprint indicating an incorrect date for the December Veteran's Affairs briefing. The December VA briefing will be conducted Dec. 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ACAP apologizes for any inconvenience.

Commanders Hotline

Get a formal response to your issue or concern in just 10 working days with the Commanders Hotline. Call 533-BOSS (533-2677) or e-mail commanders-hotline@hua.army.mil.

ASMC luncheon

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers will hold its monthly business luncheon Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the La Hacienda Community Club. Featured speaker,

Iris Adler, is a licensed certified social worker and will address the chapter on stress management.

Adler's interest in stress reduction has grown as our society continues to expand labor-saving devices, as well as, instant availability through our cell phones. Ironically, this brings us higher levels of stress as we cram more into our schedules. Our pace of living is at warp speed and to relax our goal must be in the here and now.

The lunch menu will be buffet and salad bar. Cost is \$9 for ASMC members and \$10 for non-members. To make reservations and purchase tickets, ASMC members and guests should contact organizational representatives or buy them at the door. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For further information call at 456-2961.

MDA assists toys for tots drive

The national headquarters of the Muscular Dystrophy Association once again will serve as a drop-off location for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program.

New, unwrapped toys, books or sporting equipment for children may be delivered to the MDA lobby, 3300 E. Sunrise Drive, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., through Dec. 20.

This is the fifth consecutive year in which MDA has participated in the Toys for Tots program. Local MDA staff contribute heavily to the toy drive, which provides holiday gifts to children in needy families.

MDA is a voluntary health agency working to defeat more than 40 neuromuscular diseases through programs of worldwide research, comprehensive services, and far-reaching professional and public health education. MDA's national headquarters have been located in Pima County since 1991.

DOIM relocation

The Directorate of Installation Management classroom has moved from Building 22324 on Christy Avenue to Building 52104. Building 52104 is located at 2288 LaGuardia St. That is the education building across the street from Barnes Field House. This move is effective immediately. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Trivitt at 533-8523.

SAMC ceremony

There is a Sgt. Audie Murphy Club Ceremony tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. in Greely hall. The followings noncommissioned officers have been selected to become members into the Training Doctrine Command SAMC Fort Huachuca Chapter: Sgt. 1st Class George E. Ursia JR. of IEWTD, OTC; Sgt. 1st Class Samuel W. Zabrdac of Company A, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion; Staff Sgt. Russell O. McLeod of IEWTD, OTC; and Sgt. Joseph B. Rogers of Headquarters, 306th MI Bn.

The following spouses have been selected to become members into the FORSCOM Dr. Mary E. Walker Association: Judy A. Barnett

of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, MI Brigade, Martina Peters of B Company, 304th MI Bn., 112th MI Bde., and Monica Neal of Company B, 304th MI Bn., 112th MI Bde.

There will be two honoree inductees that will be recognized.

Minimal staff

The Headquarters Information Security and Communications Electronics Communications Acquisition center will be minimally staffed Dec. 12 beginning at 11 a.m. due to their holiday party celebration. For emergencies call the Employment Opportunity Center at 538-6076.

QAO Closure

The Quality Assurance Office will close at 11 a.m. on Dec. 18 for a holiday luncheon and celebration at The Outside Inn. In case of a QAO emergency, call cell phone number 559-3689. Happy Holidays.

Range closures

Range closures for today through Dec. 11. Today – AF, AL, AM, AU, T1, T1A, T2
Friday – AF, AU, T1, T1A, T2
Saturday – AK, AU, T1, T1A, T2
Sunday – AK, AU, TIM, T1AM, T2
Monday – AB (4:30-7 p.m.), AK, AN, AU, AV, T1, T1A, T2
Tuesday – AB (7-11 p.m.), AK, AM, AN, AU, AW, AX
Dec. 11 – AB (7-11 p.m.), AK, AN, AU, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on range closures call Range Control 533-7095.

All-Army Boxing volunteers

All Army Boxing is Jan. 21, 22 and 24, 2003. Volunteers are needed to work as escorts, security, parking attendants and concessions. Be a part of the All Army Boxing experience.

Marathon volunteers needed

The Thunder Mountain Marathon is on March 22, 2003. This world class marathon will take place on the roads of Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca.

Volunteers are needed to set up and tear down the race headquarters, man barricades and water points. You do not have to be a marathon runner to participate in this annual event.

To volunteer for these events please contact the Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Jo Richter at 538-4823. Her office is located in the Murr Community Center or e-mail her at jo.richter@hua.army.mil.

Book signing at clothing store

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Baker, Army Times Cartoonist will do a book signing at the Military clothing sales store located in Building 80503 today.

He will be there to meet and greet the public from 11:30 a.m. -1p.m. There will be a drawing to win a hat, T-shirt, or Pvt. Murphy cartoon print.

For more information, call store manager Rosie Jackson at 533-5523.

Kudos Korner

MOVSM qualifiers for November

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal qualifiers for the month of November include:

Sgt. 1st Class Chad Dean, E Co. 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, Master Sgt. Jeffrey Ware, 304th MI Bn., Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Miller, B Co. 305th MI Bn., Sgt. 1st Class Michael Oliver, Jr, 19th Signal Co., 504th Signal Battalion and Staff Sgt. Timothy Richards, NCO Academy.

VIP Volunteer for November is Roy Fisher, who volunteers with the Disabled American Veterans. He will be present with a certificate at the December Roundup.

Green to Gold briefing

There will be a Green to Gold briefing discussing ROTC scholarship information tomorrow from 11 a.m.-noon at the Buffalo Soldier Education and Training Center located in Building 52104, in Classroom 2.

The head speaker will be Maj. Stewart Slatton. If you have any questions on information for eligibility requirements, call 533-2390 or 533-3010.

Town Hall meeting

All residents of Signal Village, Cavalry Park and Bonnie Blink are invited to attend the 11th Signal Brigade Town Hall meeting Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. at Murr Community Center.

Residents are encouraged to enjoy refreshments and meet members from different agencies on post. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Traci Gift at 533-8550.

Scholarships for military children

The 2003 scholarships for military children program is now open. These are \$1,500 scholarships sponsored by the defense commissary agency and administered by the Fisher House Foundation. Factors to be considered include grades, community involvement, activities and an essay.

Applications can be downloaded for the 2003 program at www.commissaries.com or www.fisherhouse.org. They can also be picked up at any commissary. The program is open to dependent unmarried children, under the age of 23, of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. Applicants should ensure they're currently enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems database and have a current identification card.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. The deadline for returning applications by hand or mail to a commissary is Feb. 21, 2003. For more information call Judy Mendez, commissary manager at 533-5540.

Editor's note: This will be the last week the Community Events Calendar will run this year. It will restart in January, we apologize for the inconvenience.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Community Events Calendar</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6870.</p>						
<h3 style="margin: 0;">USAIC & FH Holiday Ball</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">Tomorrow night at the LakeSide Activity Centre. Social Hour begins at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each call 533-4220 for more information</p>						
<p>• Fort Huachuca Tour of Historic Homes from 2 – 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Military Intelligence Museum, MWR Box Office, and the SV Chamber of Commerce. Call 459-0358 for information. This event is open to the public. 8</p>	<p>• San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilda Townsend at 458-9647. • Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Dianna Smith at 432-3883. 9</p>	<p>• Huachuca Round-Up at La Hacienda beginning at 10 a.m. • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. • PX & Commissary Advisory Council at 1 p.m. at MCC Room 6. • Put Prevention Into Practice (PIPP) & Health Promotion Class meets from 2 – 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info. • Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. • Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m. 10</p>	<p>• La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. 11</p>	<p>• SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. • Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. • Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer-Kindergarten @ 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 @ 1:30p.m. Johnston, grades 1 – 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m. 12</p>	<p>• Buena HS half-day In-Service Day. • Blood Drive at Eifler Gym from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. remember to drive lots of fluids the day before and eat a light snack before you donate. • Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 – 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. • Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. • City of Sierra Vista Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall. 13</p>	<p>• Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 – 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. 14</p>
<p>MCC = Murr Community Center MPC = Main Post Chapel OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center</p>						
<p>Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330</p>						

PERSONNEL from Page 1

crease over time, Miller said. Initially promotions may slow down based on the consolidation efforts, but over time it will balance out, he added.

As the AG corps transforms with the rest of the Army, soldiers' futures, careers and families will be at the heart of all decisions, said Sgt. Maj. Gilbert Morales, the Army G1 sergeant major.

"There will be hard decisions to make and some of them won't be very popular," Morales said. "There have been no definite decisions to reduce the AG corps, but there are a number of slots that are vulnerable to reduction, particularly MOS 71L slots."

There are not enough positions in the CMF 42 field for all the CMF 71 soldiers to migrate into, Miller said.

However, there's no reason for anyone in the CMF 71 field to panic and start making a mad rush out of their MOS, Morales said.

But personnel cannot be void of transformation, he added. A lot of work still has to be done before definitive information can be released, but a drawdown will happen at some level, Morales said.



However, he said there will be a population of MOS 71L that will be protected from reduction.

"When the time comes for us to make this transition, the intent is to give soldiers the option to reclassify to other jobs. They will not be limited to the AG corps," Miller said.

With that in mind, Miller said, some soldiers may start to prepare to segue by improving their GT score and staying informed. The plan is to disseminate information to the field in a timely fashion, and be just as timely in making pragmatic decisions, Morales said.

It's important that soldiers know that MOS 71L restructuring is just a subset of the larger issue of consolidation and restructuring of the CMF.

"What we're doing by consolidating is not unique," Miller said. "There are 212 MOSs in the Army and it's an ongoing process of combining like specialties to save space and reduce the duplication of work."

Other career fields that have also consolidated jobs are the medical, ordnance and infantry.

**Have you heard?
The Fort Huachuca Scout
has only two weeks left
for print. The final edition
for 2002 is Dec. 19.**



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Shining star

Diego Dagnino, All-Star contracting, adds the finishing touches to the post Christmas tree in preparation for the annual holiday tree lighting and menorah ceremony and holiday band concert tonight at the Main Post Chapel.

Time of the year again

Don't wait too late to get ready for tax season

Legal Assistance Office

Doing taxes can be confusing, particularly if you're in the military. What do you report as income? If you were deployed or were aboard a ship in the Persian Gulf, how much of your pay is taxable? What portion of your pay is taxable?

Members of the Armed Forces receive many different types of pay and allowances. Some are included in gross income, meaning that they are subject to tax and must be reported on the taxpayer's tax return.

Other types of military pay and allowances are excluded, not subject to tax; although they may still have to be reported on the tax return.

Calculating all of these payments, allowances, and benefits and figuring out whether or not they are included in gross income may seem overwhelming.

You need not worry if your included military income should be the amount shown in Box 1 of your Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement. Nontaxable items of your military pay, such as BAQ, will show up in Box 13 of your W-2.

If the amount shown in Box 1 for wages, tips, and other compensation is different from the amount shown on your December 2002 Leaves and Earning Statement, then contact the Finance Office for an explanation.

There are resources available to help you deal with these questions. There is an Armed

Forces Tax guide available through the Internal Revenue Service Web site at www.irs.gov/forms_pubs/pubs/p3toc.htm. The guide answers tax questions unique to the military.

Additionally, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will sponsor a Tax Assistance Program at no cost to eligible personnel. The objective of the Program is to eliminate the need for soldiers and family members to pay others to prepare or electronically file a tax return.

Members of the Armed Forces on active duty and their family members, retirees, and survivors of deceased active duty personnel and retirees are all eligible for service at the Tax Assistance Center.

The Tax Assistance Center is now conveniently located in Building 2234 on Christy Avenue. The tax center will operate from Jan. 21, 2003 through April 15, 2003.

Assistance will be available on a walk in basis. Appointments can also be scheduled by calling 533-2009, for matters concerning the previous tax year and for specialized matters involving tax year 2002.

When you come for assistance on tax matters, be sure to bring all the documents and information necessary such as your W-2's or mortgage documentation to complete your returns.

If you are uncertain as to what you will need, ask at the time you make your appointment.

Fort Huachuca Contracting Offices – who they are and what they do for post

By Debra Parra
Contracting Office

Fort Huachuca hosts several different contracting offices which can sometimes be confusing for customers and/or contractors wanting to market their services to the Government. A listing of on-post contracting offices and a brief explanation of what they do and who they support is included below:

ARMY CONTRACTING OFFICES

Directorate of Contracting, Building 22208 (first floor)
Director: Wilma Rose, 533-1061

Small Business Specialist: Chuck Collins, 533-3001

The DOC is an Army Contracting Agency Southern Region installation contracting office.

This office serves as the business advisor to the Garrison commander, is responsible for base operations contracting support for the installation and is the proponent for the installation's Government Purchase Card Program. Customers include the Installation Management Agency, the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School, and partner organizations who require local contracting support.

The DOC is the installation's designated office for fielding customer questions and alleviating confusion on where to go for contracting support.

US Army Information Technology, E-Commerce and Commercial Contracting Center (ITEC4) West, Building 66801

Associate Director: BJ Clause, 528-8248

Small Business Advisor: Connie Castleton, 538-7870

The ITEC4 is an Army Contracting Agency contracting center. This office serves as the business advisor for the U.S.



Army Network Enterprise Technology Command/9th Army Signal Command commander and is the primary supporting contracting office for NETCOM mission contracting.

The office also supports the PEO, Enterprise Information Systems and the Army's Chief Information Officer G6. ITEC4-West is one of two Army Contracting Agency contracting centers for enterprise-wide buying of common use information technology and commercial equipment for the Army.

CECOM Acquisition Center Southwest Operations Office, Building 61801

Acting Chief, Ron Backes, 538-2668

Small Business Advisor: Tony Isom, 538-6915

The CAC-S reports to the CECOM Acquisition Center, Fort Monmouth, N.J. This office serves as the business advisor for CECOM offices on Fort Huachuca and provides mission contracting support to those offices which include the U.S. Army Information Systems Engi-

neering Command, the U.S. Army Communications Logistics Support Agency, the Army Research Laboratory and other reimbursable customers.

U.S. Army Electronic Proving Ground Contracting Office

Contracting Officer: Christie Martinez, 538-3978

This contracting cell is a field office the White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Contracting Office, reporting to the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Contracting Office under the Northern Region of the Army Contracting Agency. This field office provides mission contracting support to the U.S. Army Electronic Proving Ground.

Directorate of Community Activities, Nonappropriated Funds Procurement Office, Building 22214

Point of contact: Janet Russell, 538-1688

This office provides NAF procurement services to the installation and reports to the Directorate of Community Activities in the garrison.

NON-ARMY CONTRACTING OFFICES

Department of Interior, National Business Center, Acquisition Services Division, Southwest Branch

Chiefs: Pat Woznick, 538-0405 and Nancy Ann "KT" Tinnell, Building 22208 (Second Floor)

Small Business Advisor: Diana Garcia, 533-1342

This office is a contracting office which provides mission contracting support to the Joint Interoperability Test Center located on Fort Huachuca. Contracting support is also provided to numerous off-post customers including GSA FEDSIMS, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Department of Interior and others on a reimbursable basis.

Chalk Talk

Col. Johnston News

Mrs. Gross' Smith Middle School Challenge students partnered and co-taught the fairy tale writing process to Ms. Volkman's 3rd graders who are exploring the Medieval-Renaissance period of history. The seasoned students were personal editors and writing consultants; in turn, the budding authors applied their recommendations. The development of personal relationships and the immediate feedback motivated the young writers to remain focused and efficiently complete their book projects.

As an extension of this theme, Mrs. Bray, Challenge teaching assistant, and the Challenge students volunteered to design and paint guild banners and dress in costume for the Johnston Elementary Parent Teacher Student Organiza-

tion-Title I Medieval-Renaissance Festival which will be held on the evening of Dec. 17. Johnston Elementary School values its many volunteers from students and parents to staff and faculty who are making this school-wide project happen.

Myer School news

Santa's Workshop is fast approaching! We hope mom and dad will bring the younger ones in to do their Christmas Shopping at Santa's Workshop! Items are priced for the younger set and no adults are aloud with them as they shop! The Workshop will be open Dec. 9-13 and will be open all day.

Parent Teacher Student Organization meeting on Dec. 11. Myer School Choir will sing songs of Christmas and Santa's Workshop will also be open. This starts at 6 p.m.

Food drive means the smell of sweet success for local students

Colonel Johnston Elementary sponsored a food drive to aid our soldiers and families in need. Colonel Johnston's students, parents, and staff collected 1,287 non-perishable food items. We would like to give special recognition to Sierra Withrow a first grader from Mrs. Greame's class for going above and beyond. Sierra went door to door in her neighborhood and collected 92 items. Thank-you Colonel Johnston Elementary for an outstanding job. Way to go Sierra.



First-grader Sierra Withrow

Teacher Profile

Name: Suzanne Buchanon
School: Gen. Myer Elementary

Educational Background: Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Physical Ed from Gonzaga University

Number of years teaching: one

Current position: Kindergarten teacher

Activities outside of teaching: Hiking with my dogs, gardening, Family Readiness Group, biking, anything outdoors

The hardest lesson I have learned: I can't please everyone

People would be surprised if they knew I: Used to teach aerobics

Who do you admire or who is your mentor? I admire my husband who is the hardest worker I know and he never complains. He also gives me the best advice.

Most gratifying experience as an educator: The excitement of my students when they discover or learn something new

Why I became a teacher: I love working with children and I am inspired by their energy and creativity

The most challenging aspect of teaching young people today is: Getting their attention away from TV and video games

The best teaching tool I have used and would recommend to a colleague is: Develop a supportive relationship with the staff



Suzanne Buchanon