

The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

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Vacation Bible School

The Installation Staff Chaplain's Office will host a post-wide Vacation Bible School for the community children, ages 3-12. Both the Protestant and Catholic chapel congregations are working on this ministry.

The theme this year is "Bug Safari" with daily studies and activities around the lives of King David and Jesus Christ.

The VBS will be July 29 - Aug. 2, 8:30 a.m. to noon, at the Main Post Chapel. Children can register at the chapel or call 533-4748.

Volunteer leaders are also needed to assist in classes, crafts and other areas. Contact Karen Huntley, 459-1316 and Veronica Price, 458-2230 to volunteer.

For more information, registration or volunteering, you may also contact Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis R. Nitschke, 533-4755.

Special Forces recruiting

Interested in becoming Special Forces? The Special Forces Recruiting Team will be at Murr Community Center Monday through July 25.

Briefings will be given at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily. Soldiers in the rank E-3 through junior E-7 can apply. (Private first classes cannot start training until advanced to specialist.)

For more information, contact Jeanette Newell at 533-1503 or Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Osborn at DSN 833-1461/1462.

Green to Gold briefing

All enlisted soldiers interested in becoming an officer are invited to attend the Green to Gold Reserve Officers Training Corps scholarship information briefing Friday at the Buffalo Soldier Education and Training Center.

The briefing will be held 11 a.m. to noon in Classroom #2. Joining Capt. Dan Clark, Green to Gold enrollment officer, will be University of Arizona Enrollment Counselor Maj. Stewart Slotton.

For more information on eligibility requirements or planning to attend, call 533-2390/3010.

Installation OCS board

The next installation Officer Candidate School interview board is scheduled to convene Aug. 7-9 at Murr Community Center in the Roadrunner Room.

The deadline date for application to be received by the Adjutant General Directorate is Aug. 1. All applications must submit an original and three copies to the Personnel Action/Promotion Office, Building 41330. Do not send applications through distribution.

For more information, contact Jeanette Newell at 533-1503.

Retirement ceremony

The 112th Military Intelligence Brigade will host a Post Review 7 a.m., July 26, at Chaffee Parade Field. The ceremony will honor the following soldiers for serving the Army and our Nation:

Chief Warrant 3 Andre Dozier, Information Systems Engineering Command, Chief Warrant 2 Randell Shafer, 40th Signal Battalion, Command Sgt. Major Danny Avant, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, Sgt. 1st Class Clifford Allen, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, Sgt. 1st Class Terry Strauss, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion, and Staff Sgt. John McCarty, 111th Military Intelligence Brigade.

To reserve seating, contact Spc. Shane Brown at 533-1152.

East gate to close weekends, holidays

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

As part of Fort Huachuca's ongoing effort to increase its force protection posture, the East Gate will be closed weekends and official federal holidays effective Monday.

This also includes installation wide training holidays that are in conjunction with official federal holidays.

Also access hours into the East gate will be changed to 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"This is an advantage to the fort because it focuses law enforcement assets for the installation on one entry and exit point during non-duty days," said Maj. Dan Ortega, director of Public Safety. "Based on the reduced traffic flow entering and exiting the fort during non-duty days, this change allows for the best utilization of the military police and security guards."

Ortega mentioned his office conducted a traffic survey, which revealed the inflow of vehicles entering the installation was cut in half on the weekends.

"The results of the survey indicated that the post slows down a lot on the weekend," Ortega said. "As a result we decided it would be safer for the post by closing the East Gate."

Ortega stressed the major impact on safety the closure will have for the residents here. He described the fort as its own community with its own community watch looking out for something out of place.

"During the weekdays, we have more people on the installation which means more eyes to look out for suspicious activity," Ortega said. "However on the weekends, with fewer eyes to observe what's going on here, we need all the law enforcement assets to be the roaming eyes to protect the community."

During the weekend/holiday gate closure, Brainard Road will be open to allow easier North/South access across the installation. All vehicle registration (temporary or permanent) will be conducted at the Main Gate or Alchesay Barracks.

"To some, this may be a minor inconvenience to drive a little bit out of their way to get to their destination on the fort," Ortega said. "But the bottom line is the post is going to benefit from a safety standpoint."



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Tom Williams, Fort Huachuca gate guard, prepares to halt a vehicle during his shift on gate guard duty. The guards, who began their qualification training June 5, will assume permanent duty on the fort's gates beginning Aug. 1.

Civilian guards joins force protection force

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

Soldiers, family members and civilians driving through the fort's gates should have noticed the blue-uniformed civilian gate guards now part of the Directorate of Public Safety.

The gate guards, paired with soldiers, began their qualification training June 5 for their assumption of permanent duty on the fort's gates beginning Aug. 1.

Other than the obvious difference in uniforms, Maj. Dan Ortega, director of Public

Safety, expressed his intent was to make the transition of the civilian gate guards as transparent as possible during the changeover.

"With the limited amount of military police on the installation to man the gates and provide interior force protection," Ortega said. "So this will be a great benefit to us because it will be another group of trained officers to provide force protection to the fort."

Ortega stressed with the addition of the gate guards, DPS has an additional resource

See GUARDS, Page 7

Summer PCS season moves into full swing



Photo by Katherine Goode

Summer is the Army's busiest season when soldiers have a permanent change of station.

By Katherine Goode
Scout Staff

Summerlong days for barbecues, swimming, and golfing, right?

And then it all changes; you get orders to move. Your life changes as packing, movers, travel plans, changing schools, getting medical records and immunizations take over.

And how about exceptional family members or shipping private vehicles? That is exactly what military personnel and their families face all part of the summer months.

In fact, Ted Hartman, Chief of Personnel Services said, "Our work load almost doubles during the summer months due to permanent change of stations."

"Most PCSs are chosen to begin in mid-year, primarily for married soldiers with children," said Pam Singer, Director of the Adjutant General's Office.

This is due largely to help children so they

are not pulled from schools during the middle of the year, especially since changing schools can be especially traumatic for children. Not only do they have to leave friends behind, also teachers they may have been close to, they have all their expectations dashed if they are told that credits don't transfer and they have to spend a longer time in school.

"The high school kids are the most vulnerable, especially juniors and seniors.

This can be due to high rank in classrooms they have left, or different unit requirements," said Javier Barrone, Fort Huachuca School Liaison Officer.

"The thing that we have here is the most comprehensive youth sponsorship/peer support system where they get shown around to help them become integrated.

"We also have at Buena High School what is known as Walk About Day. This is mainly

See PCS, Page 3

Watered down results are in – all H2O the same



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

If you're anything like me you probably can't wait to test out a product once it hits the market. If it's one thing that I've always believed in, advertising works in America. All you have to do is turn on your television to be entertained by the commercials alone.

I can save that thought for another commentary though. But recently I decided to conduct a personal test on a product that every soldier in the Army needs in order to survive and be fit to fight. If you were thinking combat boots, you're wrong. The product I'm talking about is water.

A few weeks ago, the post Morale, Welfare and Recreation introduced its version of purified water called Hooah20. Now this can't be your ordinary bottle of water because it has its own catch phrase, which states, "When you've been all you could be, and given all you can give."

Being the highly motivated soldier I profess to be, if that expression doesn't touch you on the inside, then maybe you're just not hooah enough.

But how does the Hooah20 stack up against its competition in the bottled water industry? Will it make me run my two miles faster? Will I score 300-plus on my physical fitness test after partaking in this drink? And most importantly, because it is loaded with LDRSHIP (if I have to break that down for you, you're in a bad way) will it make

me... well more hooah?

After purchasing the \$1 drink at Barnes Field House, I decided to put it to the test against bottled waters from Dasani and Crystal Geyser. To make it fair for all the products, I drank each bottle of water on three different days and compiled my results.

The first challenger was Dasani. Its claim to fame is that it's enhanced with minerals for a pure, fresh taste. For the physical test I went on a 12-mile bicycle ride and filled my water bottle with Dasani. I wasn't ready for the Tour de France afterwards, but it was refreshing to drink during the ride. The taste wasn't too shabby, and it stayed wet.

Two days later, I tried the Spring Geyser brand. For the physical challenge, I performed a Fartlek run during physical fitness training. Did I mention that this brand is natural alpine spring water? I took a couple of swigs before PT and was ready to go. Nearly three miles later, I wasn't ready for the Boston Marathon, but I completed the run at a decent pace. After the run, I was just happy to drink something wet.

Finally, it was time for the Hooah20 to prove its worth. Now what would this old sergeant do to push his body to the limit? I decided to drink it before, during and after a softball game. Entering the game, I hadn't made an out all season, but leaving the game, I was hitless. I hit the ball hard, my swing was the same, but I just wasn't hooah enough for Hooah20. Sitting in my truck after the game, I chugged down the rest of my Hooah20 to quench my thirst. Indeed it did because it was wet.

So that's three different brands of water with pretty much the same results. They all satisfied my thirst, my physical ability wasn't dramatically enhanced and they all went down easy. What more can you ask for from a bottle of water?

The next time you find yourself in a dilemma on which water to drink prior to pushing your body to the limit, just



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

All these particular brands satisfied the author's thirst.

remember to make sure it's cold and wet. My conclusion is all water is the same, just packaged differently.

And if you're not happy with my results, I challenge you to conduct your own test. Just remember (as they mention on those weight-loss commercials) individual results may vary.

Soldiers' Lawyer

What is a living trust? Do I need one?

Capt. Christian Deichert
Judge Advocate Office

Living trusts are a popular topic for soldiers planning their estates. Private attorneys often make living trusts sound very attractive by telling horror stories about wills stuck in probate for years or about unreasonable probate costs. The truth is, while living trusts may be appropriate in some cases, they are not the answer to everyone.

A living trust is a document, which, like a will, directs how a person's property should be distributed upon his or her death. Unlike a will, a living trust can also direct how that person's property is to be managed while he or she is still alive. Also, a living trust does not have to be

probated. However, getting a living trust means paying for a private attorney to establish a trust as well as possibly paying a trustee to run the trust.

If your goal is to avoid probate, there are much less expensive ways of doing so rather than establishing a living trust. For example, real estate can be passed on to your heirs using a beneficiary deed in many states, including Arizona. This deed spells out who is to receive a piece of land upon the death of the owner, but the deed does not give any ownership rights to that beneficiary while the owner is still alive. You can also set up most bank accounts and investment accounts to be jointly held, which gives equal access to you and to the other individual named on the account. Or you can set up

your accounts to be payable on death (POD), which, like the beneficiary deed, only gives the beneficiary access upon your death. Finally, Arizona has a streamlined process for an estate valued at \$50,000 or less. Rather than appearing in probate court, the executor of your estate need only complete a property transfer affidavit and file it with the court (to transfer real property) or show it to the bank (for checks).

Finally, one myth about living trusts is that a person can avoid federal and state taxes on their estate by having a trust rather than a will. Not true; remember the old saying about death and taxes? When you die, regardless of whether you have a will, trust, or other arrangements, the IRS considers all of your assets when determining the value of your taxable estate. This also

includes property that passes by its own operation, like a life insurance policy, a house titled in more than one name or subject to a beneficiary deed, and a POD or jointly held account. The good news is that currently the IRS does not tax the first \$1 million of your estate.

Living trusts may not be appropriate for most people. If you have questions on estate planning, please visit us during our will walk-in hour Monday at 8:30 a.m. or call to set up an appointment with a Legal Assistance attorney.

The Soldiers' Lawyer is provided by the JAG Legal Assistance Office. Visit us on the web at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/usag/sja/la.html> or contact us at 533-2009 for an appointment. Legal advice may not be given over the phone.

Scout on the Street

Which Army value means the most to you?



Whether you're a civilian or a soldier I think you should live by all Army values, it makes you a better person. LDRSHIP stands for all of the values.

Pvt. 1st Class Jonathan Griffin,
Company A
309th Military Intelligence Battalion



Selfless service. In the Army you have to have it to be a part of a team and to get the mission accomplished. The more you give, the more you get back and everybody can respect that.

Pvt. Jon Garland,
Company A
309th MI Bn.



Integrity, since I was little that was a family code. Even though it's difficult sometimes I do what's right, legally and morally.

Pvt. Gene Vonmontague,
Company A
309th MI Bn.



Integrity. It builds character and it is what is going to carry you through your military career.

Pvt. Quinby Cullars,
Company A
309th MI Bn.



Personal courage because I've done things that I thought I would never do. Although I was scared sometimes, personal courage is what got me through it.

Spc. Christine Flores,
Company A
309th MI Bn.



Integrity, the most important thing the Army needs. You have to be dependable, and without that you can't truly do your part.

Pvt. Lon Heft,
Company E
309th MI Bn.

Photos by Angelica Pequeño

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Soldiers, veterans reminisce during signal unit's 60th anniversary

By Staff Sgt. Tywana Sparks
11th Sig. Bde. PAO

Soldiers, family members and friends of 40th Signal Battalion, 11th Signal Brigade, celebrated 60 years of Army history during the Team 40th, 60th Anniversary Reunion, held Thursday on Fort Huachuca.

The celebration kicked off with a Streamer Ceremony, presentation of the battalion's lineage of honors and campaign participation credits at Cochise Theater, and culminated with dinner and dancing at Lakeside Inn.

Constituted in the Army of the United States as the 40th Signal Construction Company, July 31, 1442 and activated at Camp Campbell, Ky, Sept. 21, 1942, the battalion is currently organized as a rapidly deployable Tactical Theater Signal Battalion.

The unit has campaign participation credit for World War II, Vietnam and Southwest Asia and has Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), streamers embroidered Vietnam 1966 – 1967, Vietnam 1967 – 1968, and Southwest Asia.

On hand to share in the rich history were retired soldiers who were a part of it all.

Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Roger Babbie was the battalion's first command sergeant major ('73 – '78) here on Fort Huachuca shortly after the unit's participation in Vietnam. Babbie expressed how proud he was to share in the event.

"It's very important for me to attend this event because I was here while it was still



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tywana Sparks

Spc. Tiana Motton, 40th Signal Battalion, adds a battle streamer to the battalion guidon during the Streamer Ceremony at the anniversary of the 40th Sig. Bn. The battalion prides itself as the most decorated battalion on Fort Huachuca.

developing," Babbie said.

"Being a part of 40th was the highlight of my career. I retired at 30 years because I loved it here so much. But things were a lot different then. Most of the troops back then had an IQ of 75. Now soldiers are a lot sharper and the equipment is a lot more complicated now. It's just amazing to see how the Army has changed," he said.

Spc. Ivan Aicea, Bravo Company, 11th Sig. Bn., Babbie's escort for the occasion, felt honored to be in his presence.

"I feel proud because he was the first command sergeant major here. I learned a lot in just 30 minutes of conversation. He shared with me that there was just one barracks building for four companies and the headquarters. He also said that even though times were different

then, soldiers worked hard to accomplish the mission. His most memorable moment with the 40th is during a road march with the old jeeps the Army used. Not one jeep broke down he said."

Also present was the oldest 40th soldier, Sgt. 1st Class (Ret.) Robert French, 66 years old. French was with the unit '53 to '57 when the unit was in Germany and supports these events every chance he gets, he said.

"It was rough back then. We were the first to go out on maneuvers and the last to come in. We had to string all that cable and pick it all back up. They are not all that into cable that much now, but they do a great job. I worked with 40th soldiers during my last job as a civilian and they continue to do an outstanding job."

Command Sgt. Maj. (ret.) Gordon McClellan, was the guest speaker during the Streamer Ceremony. McClellan was the Team 40th command sergeant major from '83 to '85. He felt privileged to speak with current soldiers of the battalion.

"It feels good to come back and speak to 40th soldiers. I don't live far away; I live right here in Sierra Vista, so I've been watching this place," McClellan said. "The unit is still working hard, accomplishing the mission and doing things for this country. It's self-satisfying to look back and say, 'Hey, you got something going here, you've started something and it continues to grow.'"

After the ceremony and during the night festivities, soldiers and guests continued to talk of old times, share new experiences and celebrate 60 years.

Tilley: stay focused on force protection

By Dennis Ryan
Army News Service

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley urges everyone - troops, civilians and retirees - to focus on force protection to prevent another attack like Sept. 11.

"At one time we had 40,000 people on force protection," Tilley said. "As we get further and further away from Sept. 11, we feel it can't happen again."

Tilley said he is worried about the hot summer and how the stress of working long hours might affect soldiers' concentration.

"If you don't stay focused, you could die," Tilley said.

Tilley served in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968 and lost half of his platoon one night.

"We were overrun," Tilley recalled. "I'm not sure if we could have been more focused. I second-guess myself all the time. Every time I go down to that Vietnam Memorial wall, I look for friends' names."

Tilley said there are enough memorial walls to read, so soldiers need to stay alert.

"If you see something wrong and don't correct it, you're part of the problem," Tilley said. "All of us need to stay focused."

Tilley recalled a meeting with the commander of U.S. Central Command, Gen. Anthony Zini, shortly after the embassy bombing in Nairobi, Kenya.

"I talked to Gen. Zini and asked him, do you think this is going to happen again," Tilley



Tilley

See TILLEY, Page 8

TKN will give command users more options, complements Army Knowledge Online

TRADOC News Service release

When TRADOC Knowledge Online becomes fully operational, soldiers and civilian employees will be able to engage in video teleconferences from their desks and staff voluminous documents without e-mailing them to individuals for review.

"We're providing a tool that complements Army Knowledge Online," said Maj. Brent Ruhlen, project manager for TKN in Training and Doctrine Command's deputy chief of staff for Command, Control, Communications and Computers (DCSC4).

"Some of the features will be a little bit duplicative of AKO, but it will have a lot more features that AKO doesn't have."

Users can access TKN with their AKO password so they "don't have to remember a new one," Ruhlen said.

TKN is currently being run in a pilot phase among the deputy chief of staff organizations at TRADOC headquarters.

"When the pilot concludes in October, we will seek permission and funding to start expanding it to the schools in FY03," Ruhlen said. "We are planning a three-year expansion effort to the schools if we all of the necessary funding."

The order in which schools will receive TKN capabilities hasn't been decided yet, he said.

"We're trying to provide tools that make everyone's life easier and to get information out easier," the major said.

TKN will be a large enough system for people to place their files on it and choose those who can access them.

Most organizations have web sites, and many of those sites contain information, which requires a password to access it.

"We're telling them to go ahead and keep

up the site you have for the public, but for your other content that you can't give to the public, stick it in our system and then put in a link to your public site so that users can get all your information," Ruhlen said.

Password-protected web pages do not contain classified material, but it can be information that shouldn't be available to some groups.

TRADOC headquarters agencies such as the DCS for doctrine or combat developments frequently have to coordinate documents with leaders and users around the Army. If a large document is e-mailed to several locations, it will use up space on servers at those locations.

The project officer can then have the system send an e-mail to all the people involved with the project, explaining the document and how to access it on TKN.

Currently combat developments, along with subject matter experts from training centers and schools, is creating an operational requirements document, which is necessary step in producing and producing and procuring a new system.

"We've also got collaboration tools," Ruhlen said. "You can do online meetings, where you've got chat capability, audio, video, white-boarding and sharing of applications."

He foresees every person in TRADOC being able to add video cameras, microphones and speakers onto their desktop computers. This equipment will be industry standard to be recommended by Ruhlen and his technicians.

"We can cut down on TDY (temporary duty) trips by using these," he said. "We've got the video teleconferencing studios on all the posts, but those are limited in number and if you want to schedule a VTC meeting with

somebody at Carlisle Barracks (Pa.) their facility may be occupied.

"With this equipment, you can have a meeting any time, any place. If a user doesn't have a camera and microphone, you can do it via chat-rooms capability. I can do it anywhere I've got a web browser and an Internet connection."

Another feature of TKN is called a 'Quick Place.'

"It is a virtual team room where, if I've got a project that I'm working on with a team of people, I can set up one of these, customize it and we can collaborate on our project in a secure environment," Ruhlen said. "Nobody else can get in there unless we allow them in."

TKN will be where offices can post local news that would otherwise be sent via e-mail.

"That will keep from sending a one-meg PowerPoint slide via e-mail," he said.

The documents saved on TKN will also be saved on a local server. So if the system fails, a person can still access and work on them.

TKN can be accessed from home. Even if a home computer isn't connected to the Internet, documents can be downloaded and taken home or TDY so work can continue on them.

Other features are a calendar, a task list with project milestones and the ability to personalize your part of TKN with designs and colors of your choice.

"When it's feasible, we're trying to leverage the existing technology and services that are already out there," Ruhlen said. "There are a lot of great capabilities in here. It's going to take us a while to learn how to best use them."

PCS from Page 1



Photo by Katherine Goode

Prior to moving soldiers are encouraged to stop by Army Community Services for tips.

for freshman, but other students can participate as well as parents. There will be clubs and other things for information available to students and their parents."

"Locally what we are trying to do is to transition kids as a smoothly as possible and to get the parents excited and involved in the students' education. Parents have to be aware of the school calendars and the date school starts," urged Barrone.

Also Barrone explained that the start of the school liaison officer program military wide has "enhanced and established good communication with the military and schools. It is like a baton pass where school liaison officers can pass on information about students transferring from post to post."

To help with the other stressful conditions of moving, Army Community Service is there to assist.

ACS has information for soldiers and their families, whether they have just moved to Fort Huachuca or are making a PCS.

Newcomers Orientation, held on the first Monday of every month, is a program for sol-

diers and their families who are new to Fort Huachuca, and offers information from climate, the high desert, concerns about the monsoon, safety issues since it is very applicable for this time of year, the history of the area, and tourist attractions.

"We want to give information on what to do in the area so that they don't just get isolated to Fort Huachuca," said Gail Mortensen, former Newcomer Orientation Coordinator for ACS.

She added one of the goals is to get soldiers out to enjoy our "unique community."

Another thing that the orientation offers to attendees is a close look at the different organizations on Fort Huachuca and what they have to offer, along with welcome packets.

"We are currently revamping the program," said Pam Allen, the new program director for family orientation.

Allen is hoping to get more involvement in the program with soldiers and their families as well as organizations so that new families can get the most benefit.

For soldiers and families that are leaving

Fort Huachuca, ACS offers a Standard Installation Topic Exchange System, which is a computerized database that can provide information on any installation to a soldier and his family.

"Let's say a family member comes in here who is moving to Fort Hood," said Mortensen. "We can pull down this data base and print out for them a whole pamphlet from 60 to a 120 pages on Fort Hood—how do you get to Fort Hood if you are flying or driving, how long of a drive is it, what is the housing like, what are the schools like—all kinds of details that are very helpful."

The next newcomer orientation will be Aug. 5, at 8:30 a.m., where you can learn about all Fort Huachuca has to offer for you and your family. For more information, contact Allen at 533-2330.

(Editor's note: Over the next few weeks, the Scout will feature more articles covering everything from empowering your exceptional family member to how to prepare for moving day and shipping your privately owned vehicle.)



Pvt. Noelle Jensen, an animal care specialist, checks out Scottie's ears. The shetland sheep dog belongs to Sandy Rose, who has nothing but praise to give to the post Vet Clinic.

One stop pet shop

Veterinary clinic keeps animals healthy, pet owners happy



*By Sgt. Jessica Inigo
Time Out Editor*

The Veterinary Clinic is your pet's one stop shop, helping to make them the best they can be.

Though the clinic performs usual shots and vaccinations procedures, it also offers free examinations by a vet, as well as free health certificates for pets that may be flying or moving overseas.

Though not widely known, these examinations and certifications are a crucial part of any permanent change of station, according to Spc. Eric Lopez, noncommissioned officer in charge and senior veterinary technician.

"When a family is going to PCS overseas they should come into the clinic as soon as possible to find out what procedures need to be done to take their pet along with them. Some things can take up to six months to complete, such as blood tests," Lopez said. "Places, like Hawaii, are very strict about letting pets in. Shots have to be valid for a certain amount of time before allowed in."

The Vet Clinic will see dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits and guinea pigs from

valid military ID card holders, as well as from those authorized for care at the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, said Lopez.

Capt. Nicole Chevalier is currently the only vet at the clinic, but Capt. Dale Beebe will accompany her in August in her efforts to make the pets of Fort Huachuca in tip-top shape.

"The clinic is wonderful. The captain provides great service and the whole clinic is spic and span. The whole staff is wonderful," Monika Donahue said, who recently got care for two of her four dogs at the clinic.

One of the most important features of the clinic is the vaccinations they give.

"We keep diseases down to a minimum on post with vaccinations," Lopez said.

He said one of the most vital vaccinations offered is the parvo vaccination. "It can spread pretty quickly during the summer. It's a disease that is fatal to puppies."

Other annual vaccinations, such as rabies and distemper, are offered at Shot Clinics. Along with these clinics, there is also limited sick call for non-emergency care and special sur-

geries done on a case-by-case basis.

The Vet Clinic does not do any neuter or spays, unless the animal is a stray and is being adopted from the clinic.

Strays can be animals simply found on post or are animals that had to be left behind by families moving to where their pet couldn't be taken.

"There has to be a pretty good reason for you to give up your pet. We won't take it just because it's grown up and you just don't want it anymore," Lopez said. "It's just like your kid. If you had a baby, and it grew out of the baby stage, would you just give it away?"

Lopez said the turnaround rate is nearly 88 percent for finding strays a new home. He suggests owners first try to find their pet a home on their own if they have to leave it behind, before asking the Vet Clinic to take the pet.

The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., including the lunch hour. Appointments must be scheduled prior to any visits. Strays can be viewed during all working hours without an appointment.

For further information call 533-0472.



Vaccinations are one of the most important procedures the Vet Clinic can do to help prevent diseases from running rampant on Fort Huachuca.

Photos by
Sgt. Jessica Inigo



Long time customer, Monika Donahue, waits for the vet to check two of her four dogs she regularly brings to the clinic.

Distinguished honor graduate for drill sergeant school sets the standard

By Capt. Neil Hamilton
Special to the Scout

Drill Sergeant School is one of the most physically and mentally demanding courses the Army has to offer its Noncommissioned Officer Corps.

It is a nine-week course designed to familiarize NCO's with the same training done by soldiers during their basic combat training.

Recently Sgt. 1st Class Warren Robinson, Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, set the example for all to follow by graduating Drill Sergeant School at the top of his class with an academic grade point average of 98.6 percent.

The course includes physical fitness tests, basic rifle marksmanship, drill and ceremony, various inspections, bayonet training, movement techniques, the infiltration course, obstacle course, confidence course and road marches. The school used the same three-phase training calendar implemented in basic training.

As the class moved to the next phase, students were expected to look, act, and be increasingly more like drill sergeants. Most blocks of instruction were done in a small group environment.

Drill Sergeant Leaders are responsible for mentoring the future drill sergeants. The DSL's were always willing to offer assistance to those who needed additional help to ensure each of the candidates focused on the training.

The key points that were brought into all training were: lead from the front, do everything as a team, create a positive yet firm environment for training, and implement the army's seven core values.

Not only do drill sergeant candidate's com-

“The training was difficult, but rewarding.”

**Sgt. 1st Class Warren Robinson,
Company E, 309th Military Intelligence
Battalion**

plete required basic combat training, their also trained and tested in areas which will guide them to be effective leaders in the Initial Entry Training environment.

Candidates are given an overview of regulations dealing with leadership, counseling, training, physical fitness, and military justice. Can-

didates were also required to memorize and effectively pitch modules to instruct students how to properly execute a variety of positions and movements for individual and squad drill. This block of instruction has been labeled by many as the toughest part of the school.

Robinson stated that, “it was very helpful spending a month here at Fort Huachuca as a candidate and having another candidate from the same company at the school. We helped each other study and pass information from back home. The drill sergeants here at Huachuca gave a lot of good advice and set us both up for success before even leaving for Fort Leonard Wood. The training was difficult, but rewarding.

Upon completion of the course we were prepared to begin our tour on the trail with a baseline knowledge of leading and training sol-



Photo by Capt. Neil Hamilton
Drill Sergeant Robinson, center, inspects his 3rd platoon “Killer Bees” with student platoon guide on his side.

diers in the IET environment. Drill Sergeant School was a good reminder what the IET soldiers go through, and gives credibility to the paragraph in the drill sergeant's creed that states: “I will lead by example never requiring a soldier to attempt any task I would not do myself.”

NCOs receive new career development guidance in new Army pamphlet

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

An updated Department of the Army pamphlet will soon provide noncommissioned officers more robust career development guidance on the path to sergeant major.

Replacing a 15-year-old generic DA PAM 600-25, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Guide, the new guide will offer structured institutional and self-development career advice tailored to each military occupational specialty and skill level via the Web later this month.

“The Army has been in need of this publication for some time,” said retired Sgt. Maj. Carl Armentrout, chief of Army Development Systems XXI Enlisted Component. “The field asked for better NCO professional development guidance and it is being delivered. It's very extensive.”

Updating the NCO guide was one of the recommendations the Army Development Systems XXI task force made to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki last year. According to its charter, the task force was formed in October 1999 to “chart a course for enlisted and warrant officer development and management required in the next century.”

Making the pamphlet an e-book allows it to be updated quickly by MOS proponents and other Army officials when changes occur or more current information is available, Armentrout said.

As an e-book, the guide also has hundreds of hyperlinks for more



file photo
NCOs now have new guidance for career advancement.

detailed coverage of specific Army subjects and programs. Users can check out the Army's Credentialing Opportunities Online Web site to see how a MOS compares to a similar civilian profession and what is required to qualify for jobs in that career field. Another link takes users to the Army Education Web site which details information on a myriad of academic degree-building programs and available tuition assistance.

Specifically, the guide lays out the duties, prerequisites, required institutional training and recommended self-development of each MOS by career management field and skill level, Armentrout said.

Armentrout gave an update on other ADS XXI enlisted initia-

tives: Career field proponents have made significant progress on the requirement to reduce MOSs to a more manageable level, he said. When the ADS XXI task force formed, the Army had 241 MOSs. The number today is less than 200.

The next step is for the Training and Doctrine Command to look across proponents to see what other MOSs might be consolidated for further reductions, Armentrout said. Low-density MOSs that are not inherently military are also being examined for possible outsourcing, he said.

On the need to staff Sergeant Major Academy instructor positions with seasoned senior NCOs, the first batch of 15 report in this summer, with 15 more following in 2003 and another 15 in 2004. The recent practice had been to staff the academy's 48 instructor positions with sergeants major who had just graduated from the academy's training, Armentrout said. Another fix in the works is lifting a regulatory ban that prohibits command sergeants major who leave command positions for other non-command assignments from returning to command slots, he said.

A similar initiative is under review to field experienced senior NCOs in observer/controller positions at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., and the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La.

“Obviously, a command sergeant major who has taken a battalion through the National Training Center a time or two is better qualified to mentor NCOs coming through NTC than someone who has never been there before,” Armentrout said.

From soldier to civilian, the ins and outs of handling politics

Capt. Deborah K. Peterson
78th LSO, Los Alamitos, Calif.

The phrase “every vote counts” in the aftermath of the 2000 Presidential election is something people now take seriously. As most are now aware, a few hundred votes decided the election between President George Bush and Al Gore in 2000. The most positive effect of the Presidential vote, hopefully, is a decrease in voter apathy and the resultant low voter turnout. Only a fraction of those eligible to vote actually do.

It follows, if “every vote counts” then every voter counts. So, as we enter another major election year more people may be interested in actively participating in and influencing the political process. However, as Federal civilian and military personnel, the law restricts certain political activities.

Political activity is defined as “an activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for political office or political group.” The reasoning and goals of these restrictions are

to prevent misuse of Government positions and resources, to prevent conflicts of political interest, and to maintain an effective workplace.

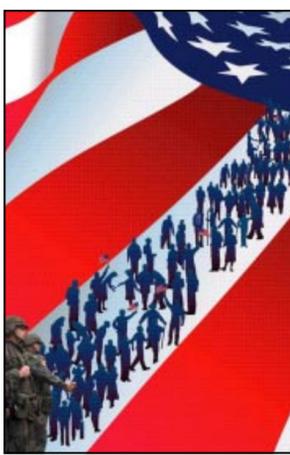
Participation in the political process, particularly casting an informed vote on issues and candidates, is a right of citizenship and an obligation.

Federal civilian and military personnel are encouraged to exercise fully their right to participate in the Nation's political process with certain specified limitations dictated by the Hatch Act. The Hatch Act limitations are, for the most part, grounded in common sense. The biggest limitation is to limit political activities to off duty hours, out of uniform, and acting in your capacity as a private citizen—not a representative of the Armed Forces or Federal government. In other words, we do not use federal or military position to intimidate or influence others.

The law allows you to register, vote, and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues. You may encourage others to vote, join a political club and attends its meetings. You can sign

a petition, write a letter to the editor expressing personal opinion of the issues or candidates, or make monetary contributions. You may display a political bumper sticker on your private vehicle or have a political discussion at the “water-cooler” with a co-worker.

You may not engage in political activity while on duty, in any Federal workplace, while wearing an official uniform or displaying official insignia identifying the office or position of the DOD employee. You may not use official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the outcome of an election. You may not solicit or receive campaign contributions. Ex-



cept as explicitly allowed by AR 600-20, you may not be a candidate for public office in partisan elections.

Restrictions on activities by the Hatch Act vary slightly dependent on whether you are military or a civilian employee. They even vary dependent on which Federal Office you work under. The above do's and don'ts are not an exhaustive list. Violations of the Hatch Act are punishable by removal or a minimum 30-day suspension without pay. If you want to be politically active and have any questions whether your actions are prohibited, go to the Hatch

Act web site (http://www.osc.gov/hatch_a.htm) or seek guidance through your chain of command or ethics counselor.

Pets of the Week



I'm "Beauty" and I am a female DSH. I'm very lovable and I like to cuddle. I will be a very great addition to your home. My fee is \$52 and that includes deworm, spay, microchip, Leukemia Test, and all my vaccines.



Howdy Folks! My name is "Morris" and I am a 13 month old male DSH. I like to run around alot and bounce. I'm a great housecat and I love kids. So when you come down just ask for me and all you will need is \$42 and that will include a neuter, microchip, Leukemia Test, deworm, and all my vaccines.



Psst!! Hey down here, I'm "Duke" and I love kids to play and run around with. I am a 18 month old Male orange Shepherd mix. I'm already housebroken, which is a plus! All you need is \$32 and I'm yours. All that includes a neuter (Oh Oh), microchip, Heartworm test, deworm and all my vaccines.



Hello there, my name is "Dunkin" and I am a 15 month old tan Male Shepherd mix. I am very Shy and Timid at first, but once I get to know you I am a playful, lovable and huggable dog. I will make a great housedog for only \$42. That fee includes a neuter (Oww), deworm, microchip, Heartworm test, and all my shots.

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

WANTED: The children of military personnel contest

We invite the children of active duty and retired military personnel, national guard and reservists, law enforcement officers, fire and rescue personnel, DoD and federal workers to submit their original artwork to the 2002 Reflections on Hope and Courage Art Contest for Children and Young Adults.

The contest, sponsored by the DoD's Deployment Health Clinical Center at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, is being held in conjunction with a national conference on risk communication and terrorism and activities to commemorate the anniversary of Sept. 11.

Hurry, the deadline for submitting entries is Aug. 23. If your child is between 6 and 18 years of age, have them enter and compete for wonderful prizes and the chance to receive national recognition for their work.

For more information and to obtain an entry form, please visit www.PDHealth.mil or call (202) 782-6563; DSN: 662.

Deployment/reunion coping skills seminar

Invest an hour of your time to attend a deployment/reunion coping skills seminar conducted by the 11th Signal Brigade Chaplains.

Information will be offered along with skills for soldiers, spouses and children to help cope with the pressures that develop from separation and to help reunite families. There will be a special presentation by the "Kids on the Block" puppets.

It will be held at the Kino Chapel Sanctuary and activities room on August 5 from 6-7 p.m.

Anyone who is going through a deployment/reunion experience or will soon be encouraged to come. This also includes those separated due to unaccompanied 1 year assignments.

Just one hour of your time, your family is worth the investment! For more information call Kino Chapel at 533-9507 or 533-2388.

Preschool openings at New Beginnings CDC

New Beginnings Child Development Center has openings for 3 and 4 year old children in the full day preschool and part day preschool programs. Using the nationally recognized Creative Curriculum, the new, revised preschool programs are designed so each child is provided with a variety of cognitive learning activities in a high quality language and literature rich environment. The language and literacy activities are based on the US Department of Education, Early Reading First goals. This program supports the age appropriate development of:

A. Recognition, leading to automatic recognition, of letters of the alphabet.

B. Knowledge of letter sounds, the blending of sounds, and the use of increasingly complex vocabulary.

C. An understanding that written language is composed on letters and letter combinations each representing one or more speech sounds that is combination makes up syllables, words, and sentences.

D. Spoken language, including vocabulary and oral comprehension skills.

E. Knowledge of the purposes and conventions of print.

The full day program is open from 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. The part day

preschool program follows the Fort Huachuca Accommodation School calendar. The 3-day Monday, Wednesday and Friday program begins on August 19. The 2-day Tuesday and Thursday program begins on August 20th. Both the 3-day and 2 day program have morning classes from 8 to 11 a.m. and afternoon classes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All preschool fees are based on the Department of Defense total family income, sliding fee scale.

To sign up for either, full day or part day preschool programs, call the Child and Youth Education and Outreach Services Director, Marty Johnston at 533-8437. Program registration packets are available at Murr Community Center.

Thunder Mountain Trekkers

The Thunder Mountain Trekkers next meeting is July 30 at 7 p.m. at Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative at 311 Wilcox Road.

Discussions will be held concerning upcoming events both locally and in the surrounding area.

The Trekkers are internationally sanctioned non-competitive sports club, sponsoring four weekend walks and eight year round events in Arizona.

The weekend events are normally linked to either local or national events, such as March for Parks, National Trails Day, or Earth Day. The year round events consist of walks at the Coronado National Memorial; Fort Huachuca; Naco, Arizona to Naco, Sonora, Mexico, historic Bisbee; the "Town

to Tough to Die," Tombstone; Benson; Sedona, and a bike event here in Sierra Vista. Plans underway for a new event in Benson for 2002. These exciting and unique wandering activities involve everyone regardless of age or physical condition.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Wendy or Dave at 378-1763.

Walking for the health of it!

Stress reduction class

The next stress reduction class will be presented on the following Wednesdays: August 14, 21, and 28, from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. These three sessions make up one class. The class is open to Active Duty, dependents, retirees, and civilians. It's held on the 2nd

floor of the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center in the conference room. There will be no class in July. If interested, please phone 538-0625. Leave your name, duty phone, and message regarding the class on our voicemail, or with the person who answers the phone.

Association of Old Crows Cochise Chapter

luncheon

The Association of Old Crows Cochise Chapter is holding their monthly luncheon on July 25 at 11:30 a.m.

Mark Farrar will be the guest speaker to discuss UAV training on Fort Huachuca.

The luncheon will be held in the Geronimo room of the LaHacienda Club. The cost is \$8 for the German and salad bar, \$7 for the buffet only and \$6 for the salad bar only. This includes a beverage and gratuity. Please RSVP no later than July 23 to either Dick Mortensen at 417-1840, Gene Frantz at 533-2331 or Bill Meyer at 458-7070.

Non-RSVPs and walk-ins will have to pay .50 cents extra. There will be no advanced ticket sales, please pay at the door.

Water outage

There will be a water outage July 30 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The areas to be affected are family housing quarters located at 101 to 113 Arizona.

Purpose of outage is to repair/replace fire hydrant. If you have any questions, please contact Dyke Erickson at 533-5593.

Preschool screening

The Fort Huachuca Accommodation School District will be conducting a preschool screening Aug. 22, for all 3, 4, and non-kindergarten 5 year-olds residing on Fort Huachuca. The screening instruments we intend to use are designed to survey gross and fine motor skills, communication skills, cognitive development and socio-emotional development. In addition, we will be testing hearing and vision.

Through the screening process, we hope to identify those children in need of any type of early childhood special education services. If you suspect a disability in your preschool age child, please call 458-5082, or 459-8399 to make an appointment (please call prior to Aug. 15, 2002).

USAWOA monthly luncheon

The Arizona Silver Chapter, Warrant Officers Association will hold its monthly professional development luncheon meeting and presentation of the winners of the "David Heckman Scholarship Fund" on Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Fort Huachuca's La Hacienda Club.

The guest speaker will be retired Lt. Col. Ron Jarvis, who will provide a slide presentation about Operations in Afghanistan. USAWOA welcomes all active, guard, reserve or retired Army warrant officers, their spouses and guests. You do not have to be a current USAWOA member to attend. For more information contact chapter secretary Warrant Officer Willie Acevedo at 538-6842 or e-mail waceved@msn.com.

FRG training scheduled

Fort Huachuca's Army Community Service and Army Family Team Building are sponsoring Family Readiness Group Training. This training is designed for those interested in obtaining skills and knowledge to assist them in effectively working with FRGs.

Basic FRG training, including commercial sponsorship, fund raising, private organization status, and rules and regulations governing an FRG is set for 9 a.m.-noon, Sept. 14.

Training will be held at ACS, Building 50010 (located on the traffic circle). To register, call 533-2330 or e-mail gail.mortensen@hua.army.mil.

Signal reunion planned

The 17th Signal Battalion Association is planning a reunion Sep. 18-22, 2002, at the Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel in Williamsburg, Va. The reunion will emphasize a military theme and will include a golf tournament. According to Arlo D. Janssen, vice president for public affairs of the association, the 17th Signal Battalion Association is a designated WWII Commemorative Community. For more information, write Arlo D. Janssen at 10209 Cedar Pond, Drive, Vienna, VA 22182; or phone (703) 281-3170 or e-mail adjanssen@aol.com.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Community Events Calendar

To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6970.

On — Post school registration

July 30 — August 1 at Myer

for Kindergarten: 4th & 5th grades, 8:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.,

for Johnston: 1st — 3rd grades, 8:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

& Smith Middle: 6th — 8th grades 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.

21

• *The Wild Bunch at the OK Corral in Tombstone at 2 p.m.*

22

• 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.

23

• **PWOC Bible study from 9:30 — 11 a.m. at MPC. Childcare is available for children 5 and under on a first come basis to ID card holders. Class is also available for school age children.**
• **Put Prevention Into Practice (PPIP) & Health Promotion Class meets from 2 — 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info.**
• Ricketty Rockettes meet at OYCC at 10 a.m.
• Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m.
• National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m.

24

• La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details.
• The SV Youth Center is hosting Air Hockey Tournaments and the fun begins at 3 p.m. This free event is open to all youth 11 — 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for details.
• SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m.
• **Protestant Youth Program "Teen Desert Disciples" meet at 7 p.m. Call Chaplain Jesse King at 533-6731 for details.**

25

• SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call John Schirmer at 378-1062.
• **A Resume Workshop is being offered by the Employment Readiness Program of Army Community Service from 8:30 a.m. — 3 p.m. Call 533-6870 for info and reservations.**
• Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m.
• **SV Parks & Leisure is hosting Concerts in the Park The "Midnight Sun Band" (Light Rock) will play at 7 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.**

26

• **Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 — 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.**

27

• **Steelhead Triathlon at the Irwin Pool. Call Les Woods at 538-2022 for info.**
• **Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 — 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.**

28

• *The Vigilantes at the Hellorado Set in Tombstone at 1 p.m.*

29

• Vacation Bible School — Bug Safari (Catholic & Protestant Congregations) from 0830 — noon, at MPC
• 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.

30

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1

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• **Protestant Youth Program "Teen Desert Disciples" meet at 7 p.m. Call Chaplain Jesse King at 533-6731 for details.**
• National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details.
• Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m.
• **Come listen to the 36th Army Band presented by SV Parks & Leisure at 7 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park.**

2

• The SV Youth Center is hosting Nintendo 64 Tournaments and the fun begins at 3 p.m. This free event is open to all youth 11 — 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for details.
• **Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 — 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.**

3

• **Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 — 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.**

MCC = Murr Community Center

MPC = Main Post Chapel

OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center

Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330

GUARDS from Page 1

"I don't want people to think for one minute that all these guards can do is direct traffic. They have a lot more training than most people may realize."

Maj. Dan Ortega,
Fort Huachuca Director of Public Safety

to strengthen its capability to provide the best possible safety and security for the installation's personnel and facilities.

"They are trained just as well as the military police and they will be supported by the MPs. When people come through the gate, they will still see MPs most of the time with the guards. We're all one force working for the same objective and mission - security and force protection of the installation."

The new guards will have access control and search and apprehension authority. Anyone apprehended at the gates will be turned over to the military police for processing.

For many fort residents, civilian gate guards is a new idea, but the installation had civilian gate guards from 1989 to 1998.

Ortega mentioned the difference, in the past they were civilian police, but now they are DoD guards.

"Their focus is access control, whereas before the police did the same thing our MPs do," Ortega said. "The civilian guards are thoroughly trained to enforce our access control, and search and apprehension procedures.

"I don't want people to think for one minute that all these guards can do is direct traffic. They have a lot more training than most people may realize."

With his emphasis on the word training, Ortega explained the civilians weren't hired as a come one, come all basis, they had to meet specific qualifications to be selected.

Each applicant must pass a physical exam, a security screening which requires a thorough criminal background investigation, and references from previous employers and if they are

retired military, references from their time on active duty.

"We also look to see if they have prior law enforcement and/or educational experience, or a combination of the two," Ortega added. "Finally, all applicants must agree to mandatory drug testing. That's just to get in the door to be considered."

Once they are interviewed and hired, the gate guards qualify with the 9-mm pistol, receive first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training, and law enforcement training. They are also familiarized with the Department of Defense, U.S. Army and Fort Huachuca regulations.

Then, according to Ortega, the final and most important training objective is for the guards to have supervised on-the-job training for 80 hours.

"Many of them are already trained and we still have several more to go. We hope to accomplish that in the next couple of months," Ortega said. "So as people drive up to the gates, that's what they're seeing now. Once they've accomplished this criteria, they are certified to work here as a security guard."

Plans to put civilian guards on the gates began when the Department of the Army implemented increased access control at all Army installations on June 1, 2001.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Melanie Stacy, Fort Huachuca gate guard, performs a routine vehicle inspection at the Fort Huachuca Main Gate. The gate guards received extensive training in law enforcement and must complete 80 hours of supervised on-the-job training as part of their certification. Stacy, is a former military policeman.

The decision was made several months ago to hire the civilians to augment the MPs in preparation for the time when the National Guard soldiers, now serving at the gates, return to their civilian jobs.

"This is now a permanent fixture of Fort Huachuca," Ortega said. "I don't see them going away any time in the near future."

Ortega said a major benefit of the guards is they allow the military police to conduct their tactical training.

"For example if we were tasked to provide an MP team to go support an operation, by having the gate guards in place allows us to train while they watch the installation," Ortega said. "So that's another reason we're giving the guards all of this training. There may come a time when they might have to do more than just access control.

"Even they are not law enforcement officers by title, they might find themselves in a situation where they might need those skills."

Ortega's main concern throughout the training period is to ensure the safety and security of the residents here is first and foremost in the minds of the soldiers and civilians guarding the installation.

"Coming up to a gate where there are people checking for identification is a deterrent and may make people think twice about coming on to Fort Huachuca," Ortega said. "Now the intent isn't to stop tourists coming on to post to see places like the museum.

"The intent is to stop the bad guys - we don't want you on this post. And if what we're doing is working, then that's what we're trained to do."

Medical Activity Command

Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center announces improvements

The Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center is making improvements to take better care of health care needs of the Fort Huachuca community. These changes are the results from our strategic planning process last year, input from you, and tracking and trending of various metrics. Using this information and guidance, we identified several opportunities to positively impact your care.

Appointment system

One area of consistently inadequate performance in keeping our customer's happy is our appointment system. Specifically, making appointments requires much patience and time spent waiting on phones to be answered.

After a thorough analysis we have identified several contributing factors, and will be implementing several changes. Some of the changes will be transparent to our beneficiaries, such as personnel moves and desktop processes.

One primary change you will notice is a change in the message you get when calling the appointment line. Rather than all appointments being accomplished by calling 533-9200, you will be calling directly to the clinic you are visiting in some cases, and in others calling the appointment line. (See the brief notes below for specifics).

Patients who are uncertain which route to take will be guided by the phone messages. Another change that will be apparent to you is where some of our providers work. While this may mean a slight upheaval in PCM assignments, it is a necessary change in order to increase the availability of appointments by more equitably distributing our providers. A tip for you to ensure timely handling of your appointment is to call between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

EFMP

The Exceptional Family Member Program is an excellent Army program aimed at ensuring that our family members always have available any special needs, and assisting them in obtaining those needs.

It is, however, a complex program with many agencies involved. Until recently only one person was managing the entire program for the fort. Now, that responsibility will be shared with the installation.

In addition, we will be providing our EFMP coordinator with clerical assistance. Even with these changes, however, we may experience logjams in processing the EFMP evaluations unless we can overcome the last minute evaluations. How do we do that?

First, we will make routine evaluations the norm rather than the exception by emphasizing to our providers that we identify these family members we are providing care for. Secondly, if you think a member of your family should be enrolled as an Exceptional Family Member, ask your Primary Care Provider

Some important phone numbers
For R.W. Bliss Army Health Center

IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY
Call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room

Making appointments with:
Primary Care Provider: 533-9200
Pediatrics: 533-9200
Soldier Care: 533-9200
Internal Medicine: 533-8727
Occupational Medicine: 533-9139
Optometry: 533-9197
Physical Exams: 533-8837
Physical Therapy: 533-9102
Orthopedics: 533-9236
Other surgical specialties: 533-8788
To cancel an appointment: 533-4450

For information on the status of a referral to a provider outside this facility: 515-5840, option 5.

To speak to the Patient Advocate: 533-2313

For Pharmacy information: 533-2520
For Pharmacy Refills: 533-1551

For Tricare Information: 515-5840

To speak to the EFMP coordinator: 533-9035

For after hours health care questions and assistance: 533-2433

about it.

After hours care

Our current system of providing after hours care, (Prime Time Clinic) is going away. An evaluation of the clinic revealed that it is neither cost efficient, nor, most importantly, is it providing optimum quality of care.

Our goal in providing after hours care is simply to provide a broader range of appointment times. While the Prime Time Clinic did this, it did not make those appointments available for you to see your primary care provider.

Beginning Monday we will transition from the Prime Time Clinic to a system whereby your team of providers will have one night a week of extended appointment times.

Team "X", for example, will have appointments available on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., while the rest of the week they will maintain a regular schedule.

We will, however, continue to operate an acute minor illness clinic on the weekends, similar to the Prime Time Clinic for minor illnesses. If you would like to schedule a later appointment, let the appointment clerk know when you call.

For acute minor illness care on weekends and holidays, non-active duty beneficiaries should call 533-9165 between 10 and 11 a.m. for an appointment.

Active duty personnel may be seen on a walk in basis beginning at 10 a.m. The clinic will be opened from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Remember, this is not for routine care. This clinic is meant to provide care for acute minor illnesses that probably can't wait two or three days or until the next duty day. If you are not sure, call 533-2433 for assistance.

Emergency care

RWBACH has no facilities for emergency services. Since having been downsized to a health clinic we have not had the capability to provide emergency services. Emergency services would be described as illnesses/injuries of an acute nature that require immediate attention.

Examples are sudden onset chest pain or shortness of breath, suspected broken bones, pulsatile bleeding, severe headaches, especially if accompanied by dizziness and/or nausea and vomiting, sudden onset of paralysis, and eye trauma. Essentially, if you have any condition that you believe immediately threatens your life, limb, or eyesight you should go directly to the closest emergency room or call 911. If you think you have such a condition but are not sure, call 533-2433.

Department of Military Medicine

Another change we have made is to develop a Department of Military Medicine. This department will be responsible not only for running the Troop Medical Clinics, but also for managing all those administrative aspects of providing care for our troops, such as profiles, medical boards, physical exams, and so forth. The chief of that department will also serve as our liaison with leadership on the installation regarding soldier medical issues.

Pharmacy

Our pharmacy, like most in the military, is one of our hardest working, yet seriously understaffed areas. The good news is we are in the process of hiring more pharmacists and expect the wait times to be significantly reduced.

In addition, we are exploring several options for optimizing our efficiency in filling and refilling prescriptions, safely, and conveniently for you. This may mean reopening the PX pharmacy, bringing in new technology, or simply changing our processes. As we make changes we will publish those changes as rapidly as we make them.

HERC

Did you know we have a Health Education Resource Center? It opened last month and is operated by the Department of Preventive Medicine, Wellness and Readiness. It offers patient oriented materiel in a variety of media, four computers for accessing information on the Internet, and expert assistance in acquiring the right information and interpreting it.

Committed to staying in – reenlisting soldiers for June

Post Retention Office

Each month the Post Retention Office will acknowledge Fort Huachuca soldiers who reenlist and stay Army. The following soldiers reenlisted during the month of June:

111th Military Intelligence Brigade

Sgt. 1st Class: Deborah Myers, Vincent Shepherd

Staff Sgt.: Denise Moss, Scott Blevins, William Ray, Henry Foreman

Sgt.: Jonathan Todd, Shelton Bibbins, Susanne Gilbert, Xavier Argueta

Spc.: Robert Bischoff, William Morawe, Karif Allen

112th Military Intelligence Brigade

1st Sgt.: Jeffrey McClaskey

Sgt. 1st Class: Gerald Spangler

Staff Sgt.: Ronald Sherlin, Benjamin Sones, Charles Bulger

Sgt.: Corey Beal, Steven McDougle

Spc.: Robert Pierson

Pfc.: Eduardo Carmona Jr., Pamela Verrett

11th Signal Brigade

Command Sgt. Maj.: Herman Badger
Sgt. 1st Class: James Woodert, Suzanne Harvey

Staff Sgt.: Dana Lowray-Maybank, Marvel Hargis, Antoine Edwards

Sgt.: Erika Booth, Kevin Gibson, David Stewart, Michelle Wright, Jennifer Torres Gonzalez, Tracy Lakey, Edgardo Munoz Medina, Catalina Larkin, Brian Olesnevich, William Zorn, Mark Hayes, Jacquindalyn Burnett, Robert Lopez, Trevor Hawes, Deval Blackwood

Spc.: Andre Chambers, Daniel Malone, Ricky Ellison, Amanda Griffith

U.S. Army Garrison

Sgt.: Clifford Price

Spc.: Joel Larson, Renalyn Nelson, Jessica Hargis, Marleny Rasp, Dana Roach

Tenant Units

Staff Sgt.: Russell McLeod (IEWTD)

Sgt.: Peter Nall (MEDDAC), Nicholas Paternoster (MEDDAC)

Spc.: David Howland (MEDDAC)

On point

Sgt. Pedro Wolf checks an ID card at the front entrance to Greely Hall. Wolf is a member of the Arizona Army National Guard, a contingent of which was assigned in June to guard Greely Hall, location of the U.S. Army Signal Command headquarters. Wolf, who lives in Bisbee, Ariz., is a member of B Battery, 2nd Battalion, 180th Field Artillery, which has its headquarters in Tucson. Other Arizona Army National Guardsmen have been assigned to other duties at the post.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Watson

Have we got news for you!

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

TILLEY from Page 3

said? "And he said 'It's just a matter of when and where.' He said they'll watch us for a long time looking for a weakness."

The sergeant major stressed how fire drills and battle drills saved lives on Sept. 11 and how anyone with knowledge of first aid helped the injured.

The 33-year Army veteran also urges veterans to help.

"Our retirees can do so much to help us," Tilley said. "This war on terrorism is going

to go on a long time."

The Army's top NCO recalled how he was quite unpopular with the soldiers in Bosnia when he first reported there for duty in 1995.

"They were mad at me because I was enforcing standards," he said. "In the long run they'll thank you."

Tilley praised the Army Reserve and National Guard contributions over the last nine months.

"We couldn't get the job done without the Reserve and the Guard," Tilley said. "They are doing a wonderful job. I can't tell the difference between the Guard and the Reserve. Today they are just as good as regular Army troops are."

Tilley advises soldiers to reassess what they are doing and look for ways to improve their performance. He recalled visiting with wounded soldiers in the hospital in Germany after Operation Anaconda.

"A lot of them had been wounded two or three times, but they weren't looking for a ticket home," he said. "They wanted to be patched up and sent back to fight. The United States has great leadership in President Bush and Secretary Rumsfeld, but they can't do it by themselves. They need all of us to help them."

(Editor's note: Dennis Ryan is a staff writer for the Pentagram newspaper at Fort Myer, Va.)

Long-term care insurance: a pledge to you and your family's future

By Katherine Goode
Scout Staff

Would you be prepared for long-term care if you suddenly required it? Frightening statistics show that 40 percent of people receiving long term care services are working age adults, between the ages of 18 and 64.

According to those same statistics, many people don't realize that the need for long-term care can strike at any time and that people of any age can develop serious conditions that require assistance with routine daily activities for an extended period of time and such help could be very costly.

However, long-term care insurance can help cover the cost of this care and protect your assets.

To help military members protect themselves from early chronic illnesses, disability or from the Medicare myth of complete medical care in your golden years, federal employees can enroll in a new long-term care insurance program that began July 1 and will end December 31.

"There are about 20 million people who are qualified for the Federal Long-Term Care Program Insurance," said Bob Hooper of the

Managed Care Office at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, explaining this program is offered through the Office of Personnel Management and the advantage is for the beneficiaries of the Department of Defense: military, civilian and retired.

"The U.S. Office of Personnel Management is pleased to sponsor this important new benefit program, which is likely to be the largest employer-sponsored long-term care insurance program in the nation," OPM Director Kay Coles James noted on the program web page at www.opm.gov/insure/ltc.

Hooper stated the program is also open to all who complete an application process and explains that on the lowest level the program provides is "long-term care that is nursing home care but not skilled. It is a custodial type care that is not covered by Medicare, Tricare, or normal health insurance poli-

cies."

He added that the classic example is a person who suffers from Alzheimer's disease or needs assistance in daily living needs.

A program that is not funded by the government but is a group policy, this long-term care insurance will save approximately 25 percent of what would be paid out for this type of insurance in the private sector.

The cost of this insurance is also cheaper if you start it when you are in your thirties or forties, compared to if you were in your sixties.

Referring beneficiaries who come into his office to the website for this insurance, he will also take these people to the calculator to figure out the cost of the health service depending upon the individual and what he/she wants to receive from the program.

"They also have a comprehensive program that pays for in-home care, assisted liv-

ing and nursing home care. You can get all three, or just the facility care," Hooper said about nursing home care that now costs at least \$100 a day.

"Buying long term care insurance can protect your savings," Hooper said.

The website notes, "The cost of one year in a nursing home can exceed \$50,000 (and that's just room and board. It doesn't include the cost of drugs, incidental supplies, etc.)."

"The cost of home care for only three 8-hour shifts per week can easily exceed \$20,000 a year. Both of these costs can be significantly higher in high-cost areas. And that's before inflation! Paying for long term care can easily exhaust your savings."

With inflation protection as a product that can be built into the insurance, Hooper advised that he felt this an important aspect of the insurance to look at for younger beneficiaries to buy.

But ultimately, when approached by a potential beneficiary, Hooper asks one question, "Do you, or will you have an estate to leave to your family? If you won't, then don't worry about it, the state will take care of you. But if you will, you need this."

