

# The Fort Huachuca SCOUT



Vol. 48, NO. 46 Published in the interest of Fort Huachuca personnel and their families November 21, 2002



**Grid Iron champs**  
See Page B1

## Scout reports

e-mail: [thescout@hua.army.mil](mailto:thescout@hua.army.mil)  
website: [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)

### Force protection exercise

Fort Huachuca will conduct a force protection exercise today. The exercise may result in the slowing and, sometime, stopping of the normal traffic flow entering and exiting the post. All fort personnel are recommended to remain on the installation during their lunch hour.

Fort officials regret any inconvenience this exercise may cause post personnel and residents of neighboring communities. For more information, call Frank Shirar of the Public Affairs Office at 533-3418.

### Dental clinic closure

Runion Dental Clinic will be closed for Commander's Call and unit training today from 7 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Sick call will be conducted from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Soldiers with a severe dental emergency (significant pain, uncontrolled bleeding, increasing swelling) can report at 7 a.m. for evaluation.

For more information, call Staff Sergeant Paul Orozco at 533-3147.

### Thanksgiving meal hours

The Thanksgiving meal at the 11th Signal Brigade's Thunderbird Dining Facility will be held Wednesday from 3 - 7 p.m.

a. Meal rates are as follows: All officers and enlisted members will be charged \$5.30.

b. Spouses and other dependents of enlisted personnel in the pay grades E-1 through E-4 will be charged \$4.40.

c. Guests, spouses and other dependents of officers and enlisted members E-5 and above will be charged \$5.30.

Civilian and retired personnel are welcome. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Earl Payne at 533-2005/4420.

### Adopt-a-soldier program

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade is sponsoring the 14th Annual Thanksgiving Adopt-a-Soldier Program. This program is designed to give soldiers-in-training a traditional Thanksgiving dinner away from the barracks and dining facility and into a welcoming home atmosphere.

Interested families wishing to host soldiers for Thanksgiving dinner can sign up by calling the 111th MI Bde. chaplain's office. Families are asked to be able to host at least two soldiers. Soldiers will be signing up in battle buddy pairs.

To volunteer call, 111th MI Bde. chaplain's office at 533-8774 or 538-1252; 305th MI Battalion chaplain's office at 533-6731; or the 309th MI Bn. chaplain's office at 533-8894.

### NCMA meeting

The National Contract Management Association monthly luncheon will be held Wednesday at La Hacienda Club from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The luncheon speaker will be Ron Harbour of the Small Business Association of Arizona.

For reservations, contact Kelly Spatz ([kspatz@fcbs.com](mailto:kspatz@fcbs.com)) at 459-6227. The public is welcome to attend.

### Graduate recognition

The Fort Huachuca Education Center's college and universities will conduct a recognition ceremony for college graduates for the past year, Friday at 5 p.m., at the Murr Community Center.

## Haubrich: 'Speed, fatigue killing our soldiers'



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

**Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Haubrich, command sergeant major, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, discusses the importance of all leadership on post to promote vehicle safety to servicemembers on the installation.**

*POV safety emphasized by post CSM to all leaders, servicemembers*

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

*We all bear one thing in mind when we talk about a troop who "rode one in." He called upon the sum of all his knowledge and made a judgment. He believed in it so strongly that he knowingly bet his life on it. That he was mistaken in his judgment is a tragedy, not stupidity.*

*Every supervisor and contemporary who ever spoke to him had an opportunity to influence his judgment, so a little bit of all of us goes in with every troop we lose.*

*Author unknown*

At the conclusion of the summer Fort Huachuca was below the Army's statistics of soldiers involved in fatal privately owned ve-

**See SAFETY, Page 4**

## PERSCOM replaces all e-mail addresses with AKO

*By Capt. John L. Barrett  
Army News Service*

In terms of personnel business, Army Knowledge Online became the official e-mail for all soldiers this month.

U. S. Army Personnel Command replaced all soldier e-mail addresses currently in its database with AKO addresses.

Officer record briefs, for example, now contain the [us.army.mil](http://us.army.mil) address in the top left-hand corner, not what was previously listed.

Enlisted soldiers' AKO addresses are also required on efficiency reports to shorten contact time when a non-commissioned officer evaluation report requires a correction.

Previously, various unit and personal e-mail addresses were saved in the Army's personnel database.

Some remained current while others were not updated after soldiers moved away from an installation.

"We want every officer and soldier to be accessible," said Lt. Col. Georgia Bouie, whose office headed the e-mail transfer. "The only way to ensure that is to use a common e-mail address that the soldier will have for his entire life."

AKO e-mail is currently used for a variety of official purposes, such as correspondence from career managers and the electronic mailing of travel voucher settlements from Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

The change was implemented at PERSCOM, with no action required on the part of soldiers.

Soldiers without AKO addresses will not have a contact e-mail in their database. Soldiers who do not currently have an AKO address should sign up for an account from the AKO Web site at [www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil), officials said.

AKO e-mail is just one of the various features of the larger AKO initiative. It includes functions such as AKO chat — which allows soldiers to communicate electronically in real time — and the AKO White Pages, where soldiers can search for other soldiers.

**See AKO, Page 7**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

### Native garments

**Lorraine Dredge, a civilian pay clerk with the Directorate of Resource Management, looks over Navajo jewelry and artifacts with Sgt. 1st Class Margaret Staggers, Directorate of Information Management, at the Native American Heritage ceremony. For related article and photos see Page 10.**

## Military looks at 'rebalancing' reserve component, active force

*By Kathleen T. Rhem  
American Forces Press Service*

Certain military job specialties, including military police and civil affairs, are being overburdened in the reserve components and may need stronger representation in the active duty force, the Defense Department's senior adviser on reserve affairs said Tuesday.

Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, told a group of reporters today that repeated call-ups of certain specialties might eventually hurt recruiting and retention in the reserve forces.

Hall related his experiences last week in

a St. Louis meeting with state representatives for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program.

He said employers generally support reserve duty by their workers, but at times it can become a burden, particularly for small businesses and private practices.

"When their reservist ... is mobilized for the first time, it's probably OK," Hall said the state employer representatives told him. "When they're mobilized for the second time, it might be OK. But when they're mobilized the third time in three years running, this causes a particular problem for ... the reservist, their family and the employers."

Still, he cautioned, servicemembers shouldn't look for a mass exodus of specialties being moved from the reserve components to the active force. He called it more of a "rebalancing."

Hall was sworn in Oct. 9, but he was already familiar with issues facing reserve forces. He previously commanded the Naval Reserve for four years after a 34-year active duty career as a naval aviator.

He said the greatest challenge facing him in his job isn't necessarily about the numbers. Ensuring reserve forces are effective when called is much more important than how many

**See REBALANCE, Page 7**

## Chaplains dedicate first-ever Pentagon chapel

By Courtney Brooks  
Army News Service

The Pentagon's new chapel is now in a tranquil outer ring of the building. Last year on Sept. 11, the area was anything but peaceful though, Army Chief of Chaplains Maj. Gen. Gaylord T. Gunhus told a congregation of Pentagon employees during the chapel's Nov. 12 dedication service.

Gunhus said the building's chapel, erected at the crash site of the plane terrorists directed into the building, serves as a place of solace and hope.

"We are here to rejoice in the life and the hope of the future," Gunhus told the dedication attendees, including chaplains from other services. "We are here to move on and keep the memory of those who died alive within us. We all gather here on behalf of our fallen friends to entrust them to the joyous graces of our father in heaven."

Until the chapel was built, religious services at the Pentagon were held in conference rooms or the building's auditorium. Standing to the side of the Pentagon's stained glass window assembled by more than 400 Army chaplains and assistants, Gunhus said the window was created from broken pieces of glass to memorialize the victims of the attack.

"These broken shards were bound together in a window that virtually jumps out at us as a message of hope and our nation's resolve," Gunhus said. "What once was a pile of broken glass is now a symbol of unity and warm remembrance."

Two crimson rings in the pentagon-shaped window total 184 pieces, memorializing the 184 military and civilian lives lost on Sept. 11, according to an Army Chaplain Corps fact sheet distributed at the service.

The colorful window, named "United in Memory," features the head of an American bald eagle in front of an unfurled U.S. flag and a rendition of the Pentagon building.

The bald eagle and flag were included to evoke courage and patriotism associated with the defense of the nation, according to the fact sheet. The eagle, in a vigilant pose, symbolizes the past and present generations of those who have protected the United States. The flag, which is displayed against alternating rays of dark aqua and bright gold, depicts the trials and triumphs of U.S. history. Finally, the Pentagon building represents the undefeated

bulwark at the heart of defense. Sept. 11, 2001 is inscribed in the lower half of the window, declaring U.S. national resolve is both unwavering in memory and commitment to victory, according to the fact sheet.

Gunhus said that the glass window and chapel serve as a spiritual reminder of the "ultimate human sacrifice" made that day.

"Now when we look at the building from the outside, it is easy to say: 'It looks like nothing ever happened,' but it did," Gunhus said. "Though the majority of our nation and the world would have us put aside the horrible images of the attack and remove them from our minds, we will never forget what happened here."

Gunhus pointed out that the lone blackened and charred stone from the damaged building sits amongst new stones in the renovated wall has symbolic value.

"Like the Phoenix of mythology, almost as though it grew from that one stone, this new building rose from the ashes," Gunhus said. "And I'm here to promise you that, with the help of God, that spirit will always remain alive in the hearts of all members of our great Pentagon family."

The congregation also participated in a responsive reading, led by Joel B. Hudson, administrative assistant to the secretary of the Army. In unison, Hudson and the dedication attendees recited a psalm:

"Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, with your right hand you save me, the lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O lord, endures forever-do not abandon the works of our hands."

To dedicate the window, chaplains from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and an Army resource management director walked to the front of the chapel and lit a candle on a table in front of the window.

Dr. Rabbi Marvin I. Bash delivered the benediction, equating light with hope and strength. Gunhus concluded with the hope the chapel and window will continue to honor and help people remember friends, colleagues, and comrades, whom he calls "all faithful servants of our nation."

"May the light of heaven shine upon us," Gunhus said. "May God's spirit burn within our hearts. May this chapel with this beautiful window always serve to light our way and focus us all on the destiny of eternal life."



Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis R. Nitschke, NETCOM  
Deputy Command Chaplain

### Gratitude...

Have you done a senseless act of kindness today?

I'm in my office on a Monday morning. It's been a busy weekend – not much time was left for my family or me after I planned and worked the Celebrity Food Drive, preached and did some planning for my in-laws as they think about moving here. I could have been bitter about not having "my time." But I read an article months ago – about veterans – that gave me a better outlook about "service" and "gratitude."

The gist of it is:

A female Air Force officer was entering a clinic when a World War II veteran followed close behind by a colonel, walked toward her. As she saluted the colonel, the old vet snapped to and issued a snappy salute and a "Good morning, captain," back at her. The colonel was a little dismayed. Who does this old man think he is?

It all ended with: Who will be around to recognize those on active service today? Will we be a bother to the "younger generation?" If we don't do something for the last, and current generations, then how can we expect anyone in the future to care?

Well, that is the gist of the story. How does that impact us today? Well, how about taking the time to give your fellow soldiers, airmen, seamen, Marines and civilian workers thanks – a little gratitude – when they go the extra mile.

We had a four-day weekend a couple of weeks ago. Most of us were off, but several key people, at the clinics, the staff duty, the dining facilities, and etc. were at work – taking care of people. Now, some may have been angry that they had to come in to give treatment on a "holiday" or to work at phones 24/7, or dish out food, but they did not show it. However, did people thank them – or did patients/clients/people in need vent their anger for having to come in on a day off?

My mom used to say, "a little gratitude goes a long way." Next time you are put out – either by an old crusty vet or because you either work or have to be at an appointment during a time-off – step back and think: could this be me in a few years or is this the way I want people to treat me? A little senseless kindness by all of us could only make this world a better place for everybody.

I'd like to practice that: today I'm thankful for all who served in the "Celebrity Food Drive." I'm daily thankful for my family, my faith, and my coworkers. I'm thankful for you – reading this and hoping you will take the time to show gratitude to those you care about and work with every day – making something good a practice in your life.

## Kudos Korner

### Volunteers for "Veterans Visiting Veterans"

The world is a better place because of you. Your efforts during the "Veterans Visiting Veterans" project were beyond words. That is why it has taken me time to thank you. I wanted to find the correct words to reflect how your combined efforts touched the hearts of more than 550 veterans in Sierra Vista and Tucson. I couldn't find the words at first, as what resulted was almost beyond description.

Being lead to the first health care facility, by a soldier dressed in a World War II uniform, driving a WWII jeep, with a female soldier dressed in her Women's Army Corps Class A uniform from 1975, was just the beginning.

The real wild card was the magic that resulted when each of you reached out to the hearts of our veterans and told them in many different ways of your appreciation for their efforts and sacrifice.

If we looked closely for the tapping finger or moving foot, we were all able to see the results of the 36th Army Band's Sax Quartet and Brass Quintet. Eyes filled with tears and pride as veterans from each service stood when their service song was played.

The presence of the French liaison officer spoke volumes, as did the presence of our helpful B Troopers, and each of you who took time from your busy schedules. I sensed that you were all were fulfilling a

See KUDOS, Page 7

## Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)

## Scout on the Street

## Today is National American Smokeout Day, how can you contribute to the cause?



*We can call family members and let people we care about know that today is a good day to quit.*

Pfc. Dario Guitierrez,  
Company E, 309th  
Military Intelligence  
Battalion.



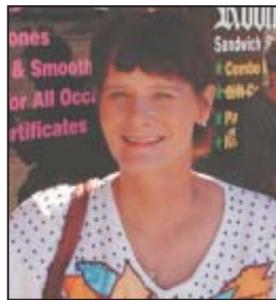
*I hate smoking. My whole family, including my spouse, smoke. I encourage people to stop smoking everyday.*

Spc. Marcellus Nichols,  
Headquarters and  
Headquarters Company,  
111th MI Brigade



*I never smoke, I've never even tried it. My children don't smoke either.*

Ann Pilgrim, military  
family member



*I smoke daily but I will honor American Smokeout Day.*

Therese Shortsleeve,  
military family member



*My brother is a smoker and it's a real pain for him to leave just to have a smoke. I will tell him it is American Smokeout Day and try and get him to quit.*

Pfc. Andrew Warby,  
Company E, 309th  
MI Bn.



*I lost an uncle to smoking so that has affected my decision to not smoke. When my family starts to light up again I remind them of that.*

Pfc. Adrian Dyrness,  
Company E, 309th  
MI Bn.

Photos by Angelica Pequeño

*I smoke occasionally and I will not smoke today if people do not aggravate me.*

Adrian Smitt, military  
family member

## The Fort Huachuca Scout

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## Staff sergeant remembered

# Memorial held for 304th MI Bn. soldier

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

Friends and fellow soldiers held a memorial service for Staff Sgt. Courtney A. Herring Saturday morning at the Post Chapel. Herring was killed Nov. 12 in a vehicle collision on Interstate 10 near Benson. The accident is under investigation.

"He was not only a true patriot, but everything you can ask for in a human being," said Master Sgt. Jeffrey McClaskey, Herring's former first sergeant.

McClaskey, currently attending the Sergeants Major Course at Fort Bliss, Texas, gave a tribute to his former soldier whom he also said was his friend. He read numerous e-mails sent to him from soldiers who knew Herring upon hearing the news of his death.

"He represented the future of the Army," McClaskey said. "I was proud to have trusted my Army and soldiers to his care, but most importantly I'm proud to say he was my friend."

Herring, 26, an intelligence analyst assigned to Company C, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, where he served as a training, advising and counseling noncommissioned officer and instructor for the Military Intelligence Basic Officers Course, is survived by his mother Vanita Oliver and brother Corey McLeod.

"Today I say goodbye to one of my best friends," said Sgt. Antowan Lee. "The one who always had my back and if he was here today I'd give him a hug and let him know I love him."

Herring was born March 5, 1976 in Canton, Ohio. His military career began in 1996 when he went through basic training and attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Huachuca.

His first duty assignment was with the 66th MI Group in Augsburg, Germany. In 1997, while serving with the 66th MI Group, he deployed to Zenica, Bosnia in support of Stabilization Forces. In 1998 Herring was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga.

In 1999, he was reassigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army - South at Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. After 26 months on

station, Herring returned to Fort Huachuca in 2001 to attend the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course and upon graduation he was assigned to Company C, 304th MI Bn.

"Staff Sgt. Herring was an outstanding NCO who accomplished every mission he was asked to do," said Capt. Laura Hunter, Herring's former company commander. "He was the type of NCO every lieutenant wanted as their first platoon sergeant."

Herring's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (posthumous), two Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal and the Air Assault Badge.

Those who would like to contact the family are highly encouraged to do so at the following address: The Oliver Family, 1529 Olive Place NE, Canton, Ohio 44705. The phone number is (330) 453-4848.



Courtesy photo

The memory of Staff Sgt. Courtney A. Herring, Company C, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, was honored.

## Soldiers bound for remote tours get POV storage

Army News Service release

Hundreds of servicemembers have begun taking advantage of the Military Traffic Management Command's new long-term privately owned vehicle storage program.

Available since May 1, the program offers a no-cost standardized storage option for servicemembers who qualify.

"The program is designed for a servicemember who is assigned to a remote tour or an area where taking a vehicle is not an option," said Dennis Barborak, MTMC program manager.

"One vehicle may be stored at no cost for the duration of the tour."

"We see a number of vehicles bound for storage," said Terri Mroz, center manager.

Assignments that preclude taking a POV but allow POV storage, include: hardship tours to Korea without family members for a year or less; assignments to Japan for troops whose vehicles were made from 1976 to the present; assignments to Egypt for troops whose vehicles are older than four years.

"There is a service maintenance track to these vehicles," said Steve Douthit, operations manager. "The vehicles are covered and stored inside. Engines are started once a month.

For each vehicle, we follow the manufacturer's recommendations for long-term storage.

There are several practical pointers for storing a vehicle, Douthit said.

"The vehicle should have had a fresh oil change, be clean and mechanically safe," said Douthit.

Vehicles may be turned in for storage at any of 39 processing centers operated by American Auto Logistics.

Vehicles may be left at other sites outside of the Global Privately Owned Vehicle Contract including Yokohama, Japan; Keflavik, Iceland; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and American embassies and consulates.

The locations and phone numbers for the centers are on the MTMC Web site at [www.mtmc.army.mil](http://www.mtmc.army.mil).

When a tour is completed, a servicemember may arrange for a vehicle return through any of these sites, officials said.

"Customer service is number one," Mroz said. "We take this responsibility very seriously."

On average, MTMC is responsible for the movement of 75,000 personally owned vehicles every year.

Since, 1998, the movement of the vehicles has been the responsibility of American Auto Logistics.

For more information, visit [www.mtmc.army.mil](http://www.mtmc.army.mil).

(Editor's note: This release was submitted by the MTMC Public Affairs Office.)

## Celebrity food drive helps soldiers, local community, 2 tons collected

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

Nearly two tons of nonperishable food was collected for the Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista communities Friday and

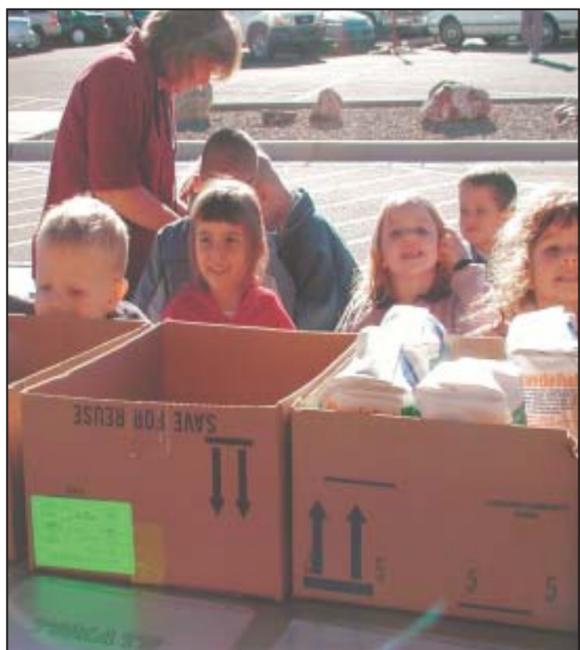


Photo by Sgt 1st Class Donald Sparks

Children from the New Beginnings Child Development Center donated food at the annual Celebrity Food Drive.

Saturday during the sixth annual Celebrity Food Drive at the post commissary.

The donations, which will restock the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank, will feed needy families on post and the local community, according to Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis Nitschke, deputy command chaplain, Network Enterprise Technology Command.

"This is just our way of saying 'thank you' to the food bank for assisting our families," Nitschke said. "And a special thanks go out to those 'celebrities' who made it a success by greeting people at the entrance of the post commissary and requesting donations."

Some of the celebrities accepting donations included Maj. Gen. James Hylton, NETCOM commander; Brig. Gen. John Custer, acting post commander; Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Haubrich, post command sergeant major; and all the installation chaplains.

Nitschke, who served as the food drive project officer, said it was especially gratifying for soldiers to see post command leadership volunteering their time for a worthy cause.

"The leadership was very personable and in many instances introduced themselves by first name to donators," Nitschke said.

The food bank services the Sierra Vista community and other non-profit agencies that help those in need and enjoys its relationship with the Fort Huachuca chaplains, said Cindy Bickel, director of the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank.

"We work closely with the chaplain's office," Bickert said. "We assist eight to 10 military families a month by providing food donations."

She mentioned this past fiscal year the food bank fed more than 4,000 military families equivalent to 106,000

## Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal requirements for post updated

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

Col. Lawrence J. Portouw, commander, United States Army Garrison, signed a policy letter Nov. 12 that updates the Fort Huachuca requirements for earning the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

The new requirements state permanent party servicemembers must complete 150 hours of service and Advanced Individual Training students must complete 100 hours in order to be eligible for the medal. Subsequent recommendations for the medal will be approved at 300, 500 and 1,000 hours of service.

The letter goes on to say that the installation volunteer coordinator will forward the recommendation for the medal to the first lieutenant colonel in the servicemember's chain of command.

The letter also says if servicemembers wish to volunteer off post, they must get approval from the post Volunteer Advisory Council. Up to 50 hours of volunteer work from a soldier's previous duty station can count toward fulfilling the Fort Huachuca requirement.

But, in order for servicemembers to get credit, they must register with the Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Jo Richter, who is located at the Murr Community Center, Building 51301.

She believes the MOVSM policy is very fair. "The students are here for a short time comparatively speaking and do not have much free time on their hands, but they have proven that the 100 hour requirement is achievable for them," she said.

The permanent party requirement of 150 hours is less than other installations Army-wide. Richter went on to say there is no time limit for permanent party servicemembers to complete the hourly requirement.

Richter said, at this time there are 34 registered active duty soldiers who are registered and having their hours recorded. So far, 30 have qualified for the MOVSM.

"We know there are soldiers out there who volunteer on a regular basis and never register with the program or record their hours. These soldiers volunteer because they want to, not for the medal. We would like to encourage all of them to please come into the IVC office, register with the program, and report their hours," Richter urged.

"Not only is it beneficial for the installation to have this information, but we want to make sure that everyone is recognized for the service they perform outside of duty hours. In the hectic pace set by the Army today, it is inspiring to see these soldiers still make time in their schedules to volunteer," she said.

Volunteer activities include B Troop, Boy Scouts, Morale Welfare Recreation special events, and the chapel to name a few.

The policy letter also states fundraising hours will be counted as volunteer service hours when they are performed.

"The volunteers enthusiasm, dedication, and 'can do' attitudes reflect great credit upon each and every one of them, their units and the Army," Richter said.

For more information, call Richter at 533-4823.

meals.

Also, the food bank will provide more than 250 families Thanksgiving food boxes, including turkeys, so they can enjoy a traditional meal.

Nitschke added the drive is significant because many soldiers enter the Army already married with two or three kids.

"Add in the factor the spouse is unemployed - it gets kind of tough. So this food drive helps to feed that family in need."

Despite the chilly temperatures outside, the response by the military community was warm in helping their fellow man. Nitschke watched as many senior leaders brought large bags of food to the donation area.

Also, children from New Beginnings Child Development Center got in on the act of humanity and charity by donating goods.

"We even had one of the commander's wives bring an entire basket of food," Nitschke said.

"Also a first sergeant gave us a \$100 check. Overall, we received more than \$200 in money donations."

He mentioned the cash/check donations would be given to the food bank to help buy turkeys and other food items.

He also said the event was deemed a success and the chaplains are considering a post-wide food drive as a semi-annual event with units participating.

The event drew praise from Bickert and all of the food bank volunteers. "The people here on Fort Huachuca have been so generous," said Martha Gaun, president of the St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank.

"This proves how the military servicemembers supports the local community in every way."

# 'Keep our soldiers safe and straight'

Sergeant Major of the Army to all Army NCOs, leaders

Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley

The past several months have continued to be busy times for the Army, but despite this hectic pace I ask each of you to increase your focus on safety and standards.

We cannot allow ourselves to be lax on either—soldiers' lives depend on both. I am especially concerned about accidents so far this year.

Our fatalities are up and more than 60 percent of accidental deaths involve either tactical or privately owned vehicles.

We have to ensure that our soldiers, civilian employees, and family members are wearing their seatbelts, helmets, road guard vests, and other safety equipment.

These simple devices save lives only if they are used. They don't help anyone if they are tucked in a closet or not wrapped over a shoulder.

Risk assessments, safety briefings, spot checks, and corrections are vital to keeping our troops alive.

On a recent trip, I left a battalion run to make a soldier—in uniform and in a government vehicle—put on his seatbelt. What was even more troubling was that there was an noncommissioned officer in the passenger seat who was not enforcing standards.

This is not an anomaly; any of us could stand at an intersection at any post and spot dozens of soldiers driving by not buckled in. I need your help to ensure that first-line su-

perisors all the way up to post commanders continue to stress safety.

Our soldiers are our most valuable resource. We can't afford to lose them because we didn't try hard enough to ensure people put safety first. This starts with enforcing standards.

As I have said before, we cannot lead from behind a desk. You can't mentor via e-mail. You have to be out front showing soldiers what "right looks like."

It's our job as NCOs to lead in every aspect. Soldiers deserve nothing less. We have outstanding leaders out there. Don't let complacency detract from those qualities.

We must energize our efforts and not disregard mistakes. Deficiencies need to be cor-

rected. Training needs to be realistic and hard. Soldiers need to be inspected. Height and weight standards must be met.

Force protection must remain rigid. I'm not talking about a revolutionary way of doing business. These are the basics. If we don't keep our soldiers safe and straight, lives will be lost.

Soldiers will die in accidents that could have been prevented or because we were lax on standards. We cannot afford to pay that price. America has given us her brightest and best.

Lead. It's that simple.

(Editor's note - Adapted from SMA Jack L. Tilley's Message to Major Commands/Corps, Aug. 9)

## SAFETY from Page 1

hicle accidents with zero fatalities.

Sadly in the last month, two soldiers assigned here died in POV accidents, which have raised the attention of the senior command leadership team.

In an interview with the *Fort Huachuca Scout*, Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence J. Haubrich, command sergeant major, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, expressed his concerns for emphasizing safety to all the fort's soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines.

"Any death is a great loss, especially when there is a chance that we could have prevented it through vehicle safety," Haubrich said. "The biggest contribution to death and vehicle injuries is not driving under the influence, but the number one factor is fatigue and speed.

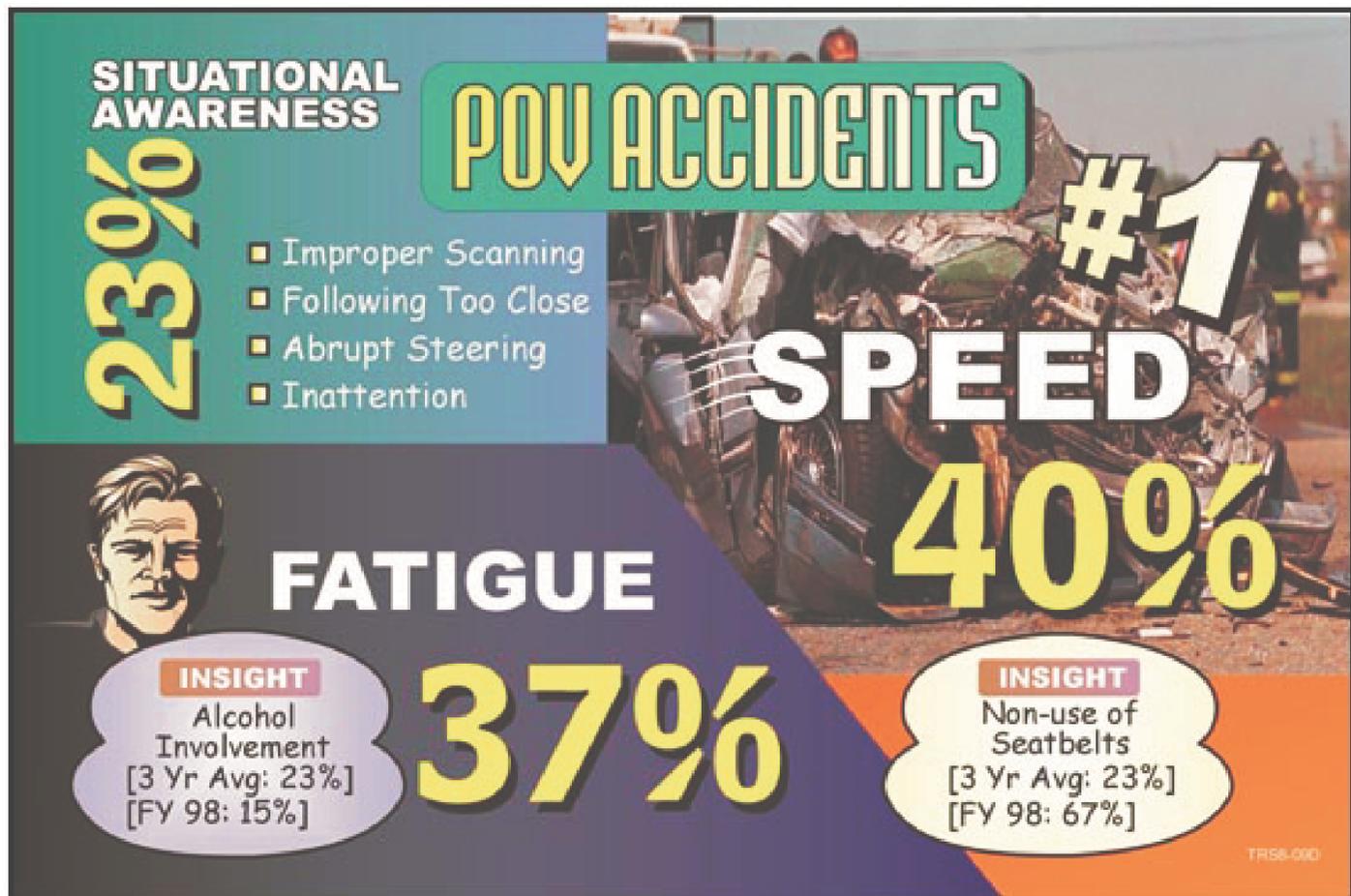
"We have great young soldiers who say, 'I want to go home for Thanksgiving weekend.' Home is in Louisiana or East Texas somewhere, and they try to make the trip in one day. That is what normally kills those soldiers."

As the top enlisted NCO in the Military Intelligence Corps, Haubrich not only advises the senior noncommissioned officers at Fort Huachuca, but he also ensures senior MI NCOs throughout the Corps' umbrella is focusing on vehicle safety.

"I just got an e-mail from the Sergeant Major of the Army's office discussing vehicle safety," Haubrich said. "So this isn't just a local issue, it's an Army issue. It is going to be one of the breakout panel discussions at the SMA Conference held January at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy."

Haubrich added every nominative sergeant major throughout the Army will discuss how to conquer the problem of vehicle safety and how it's the number one priority on SMA Jack Tilley's list.

More than anything else,



Graphic by U.S. Army Safety Center

Statistics from Fiscal Year 1998 revealed the current trend that still affects soldiers regarding privately owned vehicle accidents and fatalities. The problem will be addressed at the upcoming Sergeant Major of the Army Conference in January as a number one priority. The senior noncommissioned officers of the Army is concerned with the loss of lives which could have been prevented.

Haubrich stressed that each soldier is needed to look out for the welfare of the United States during this season of conflict. "We're in a war right now," he said. "Our soldiers are an investment in the defense of our nation. To lose a soldier in any tragedy is too much."

Despite all of the attention Army leadership has given to the problem, Haubrich said it comes down to soldiers not performing a crucial task when prepping for a long trip.

"They don't do what we nor-

mally do before any training mission – a risk assessment," he said. "I think what we as leaders need to do is incorporate that into our safety briefings. We tell these soldiers of ours, our sons and daughters, plan out your trip accordingly."

Haubrich said it is now easier today than ever for soldiers to download their travel routes, rest stops and hotel information when making a long trip by POV. "But the problem is soldiers want to make it from point A to point B right away and as soon as possible.

It's speed and fatigue that's killing our soldiers."

He also mentioned seatbelts are pivotal in saving lives as well. "We need to embed into our soldiers to do a risk assessment in regards to their traveling from their home station to visit their parents or loved ones."

Although commanders and NCOs traditionally give safety briefings before each weekend, repetitively giving the same message of "don't drink and drive," Haubrich mentioned leaders can be more involved and gave an example of something he and his commander did in the past.

"When I was a battalion sergeant major, the leadership at the top – the command team, actually patrolled the parking lots in the barracks when soldiers took off for the four-day weekend and performed seatbelt checks," Haubrich said. "We would stop soldiers who were not wearing seatbelts and politely inform them they could lose their driving privileges on the installation."

For reinforcement training, the soldiers found not wearing seatbelts would be placed on seatbelt check duty. They had to arrive early in the morning before physical fitness training and stay after PT to stop those soldiers who violated the seatbelt policy and were excessively speeding.

Even though the leadership has a major responsibility to educate soldiers to prevent accidents, Haubrich expressed soldiers still have to take care of each other.

"Safety is not just a leadership problem," Haubrich said. "It starts at the top with the leadership, but safety is everybody's responsibility."

Often soldiers inform their bud-

dies where they're going to be driving for the weekend, so Haubrich emphasized the importance of soldiers looking out for each other.

"We have to take care of each other," he said. "That is something that is engrained in a soldier's mind – not only soldiers, but airmen, sailors and Marines. We are taught buddy teams. Don't go anywhere without your buddy, be safe and do everything together."

"It just doesn't stop when you get to your first duty station. We still need to maintain that thought process and take care of each other from a safety perspective. That's what it's all about."

With the holidays quickly approaching, Haubrich said he wants everyone to enjoy the season and to be with their loved ones.

"I'll be blunt: you don't want to arrive there in a coffin," he said. "So it's about us reminding each other about safety. Saying, 'Hey guy, be safe,' or when the leadership checks passes say, 'what is your plan or do you have multiple drivers?'"

Haubrich hammered across how crucial safety is concerning soldiers – specifically during this season, and gave some final advice for those driving during the holiday period.

"Plan appropriately for where ever you're going to celebrate the holidays," he said. "Plan appropriately for your safe arrival because everybody is going to be in a hurry to get from point A to point B. Plan appropriately for your safe return."

"Finally remember you're only as safe as the other guy out there on the road. Maintain situational awareness of your surroundings when you travel. Safety does not happen by luck, safety happens because everyone's involved!"

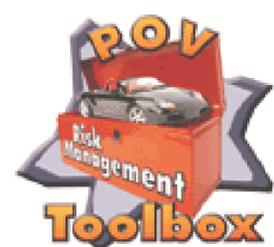
### 1. **Command emphasis:**

Positive leadership at all levels is imperative. Leader emphasis on POV safety must be unrelenting. Our junior officers and noncommissioned officers see their soldiers every day. They should know where their soldiers go, what they do, and then assert positive influence on how, when, and where they operate their POVs.

2. **Discipline:** Our junior leaders work with their soldiers daily and know them well. Soldiers sometimes telegraph signals that translate later into accidents. Negative behavior such as traffic offenses, alcohol abuse, misconduct, and poor performance often are indicators of potential POV accident victims. Identify "at risk" soldiers; counsel them; take proactive measures to modify their risky behavior.

3. **Risk management:** Use risk management. Identify hazards associated with POV operations; assess the hazards; make decisions to control them; implement the controls; and supervise execution. The Director of Army

## 6 POINT program



Safety has prepared a POV risk management toolbox for commanders and leaders. This toolbox provides a comprehensive set of tools and controls that have proved successful throughout our Army. The toolbox is available at [safety.army.mil/pages/pov/index.html](http://safety.army.mil/pages/pov/index.html). Use it. Make it available to leaders at all levels.

4. **Standards:** Set high and unmistakable standards. Enforce them. Follow Army regulatory traffic standards. Be uncompromising on the use of seatbelts and

motorcycle safety equipment. Educate soldiers on the risks of speed, fatigue and use of alcohol. Conduct mandatory POV safety inspections and random roadside checks. Emphasize the use of designated drivers for social events.

5. **Provide alternatives:** Provide alternatives for soldiers to driving POVs. Schedule activities on post to keep soldiers on post and off the road. These same measures also can provide alternatives to alcohol use. Look for transportation alternatives as well. Promote use of alternate transportation methods to POV use. Where possible, use Morale, Welfare, and Recreation services to provide buses or vans to transport soldiers to the places they go when off-duty at night.

6. **Commander's assessment:** Following every fatal and serious injury POV accident, commanders will conduct an assessment of the accident with the involved soldier's chain of command. Determine what happened, why it happened, and how it could have been prevented.

# Community Updates

## BSEP class

The Education Center will sponsor a Basic Skills Education Program class which will run Dec. 2-13. The class will run from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily with emphasis placed on English and Math skills. A pre-Technical Aptitude Battery Exam test will be administered at 7:15 a.m. on the first day of class. A Post-TABE and General/Technical Predictor will be given on Dec. 12 and Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test will be administered Dec. 13. Raise your GT score and increase your re-enlistment possibilities.

This is a free class and is open to adult spouses also. For more information, e-mail Bob Campbell [robert.campbell@hua.army.mil](mailto:robert.campbell@hua.army.mil) or call 533-3690.

## Town Hall meeting

All residents of Signal Village, Cavalry Park and Bonnie Blink are invited to attend the 11th Signal Brigade. Town Hall meeting Dec. 11 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.

## CID reward offer

The Fort Huachuca Criminal Investigation Division is investigating the theft of five gateway laptop computers, Model 9550solo, serial numbers bdc21430299; bdc21430666; bdc21500453; bdc21430709; and bdc21500466, and 18 five-gallon insulated containers, all property of the U.S. Government. The items were stolen between Oct. 25-27 from the motor pool of 86th Signal Battalion, adjacent Building 72805. A \$1,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the theft. If you have any information concerning the theft, please call the Fort Huachuca CID at 533-5202 or Military Police at 533-3000. This reward offer expires Oct. 28, 2003. (Reward will be paid IAW para. 3-20b(1-6) AR 195-4.)

## Use or lose annual leave

It is the mutual responsibility of supervisors and employees to plan and schedule the use of annual leave throughout the leave year. The scheduling of leave is so important that the law makes it one of the prerequisites to the restoration of annual leave that would otherwise be forfeited. Normally, the maximum accumulation of annual leave that may be carried over from one calendar year to the next is 30 days (240 hours). Employees are responsible for requesting leave in advance and in writing, and must make every effort to use leave to avoid forfeiture at the end of the leave year. Annual leave that otherwise would be forfeited at the end of the leave year (i.e. exceeds the maximum 240 hour carryover) may be restored to an employee if the leave was scheduled (requested and approved) at least three pay peri-

ods before the end of the leave year (prior to Nov. 30), and if the employee was unable to use the leave because of administrative error, exigency of the public business, or illness. Any questions may be addressed to your servicing CPAC representative. Note: Excess annual leave may also be donated to an employee who needs leave (will enter a leave without pay status) due to a medical emergency concerning the employee or a family member, under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Call Barbara Vineyard at 533-1481, for further information concerning this program.

## ACAP

The Fort Huachuca Army Career and Alumni Program will host a visit by the Pentagon Force Protection Agency Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Building 22420, Room 4 on Butler Road. The Defense Protective Service is now seeking qualified applicants for the position of Police Officer, grades GS-083-5/6/7 with a starting salary of \$38,695 - \$43,443 topping out at \$69,679.

The qualifications are two weeks of law enforcement experience or four year degree in law enforcement related field, no conviction for domestic violence, must be able to qualify for secret clearance, valid drivers license and acceptable driving record, comprehensive physical examination and a department interview. Bring a disc copy and printed copy of your resume. If ex-military bring a copy of your DD 214, Copy four, or active duty be prepared to discuss discharge date. College students are encouraged to attend. The police force offers superior Benefits, excellent advancement potential, training and schooling. For more information, or to apply on-line, log on to The Defense Protective Service website at [www.dtic.mil/dps/](http://www.dtic.mil/dps/) or call 703-614-8192/8194. Point of contact for this information is Tara McNealy at 533-7051.

## FEHB open season

The next federal employees health benefits open season runs through Dec. 9. During the open season, you may enroll, cancel or change your present enrollment by logging on to [www.abc.army.mil](http://www.abc.army.mil). Do not submit an SF 2809 form to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center office since we cannot accept them. If you have any questions, call Eva Dixon at 533-5735 or Lisa Hamlin at 533-5273, Monday through Friday, between 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Or stop by CPAC, Building 22320.

## 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](http://www.commissaries.com) or

[www.fisherhouse.org](http://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.

## Military Appreciation Days

Dillard's has announced a Military Appreciation Day will be observed Dec. 4-5. Dillard's recognizes with deep gratitude the sacrifices our military forces and their families make daily for our country. The company is extending a 20 percent discount to military personnel on purchases made at Dillard's on the assigned dates. Appliances and electronic merchandise can be purchased with a 10 percent discount.

Dillard's is extending this discount to: active military and their immediate family, full-time active guardsmen and their immediate family, activated guardsmen and their immediate family and activated reservists and their immediate family. Dillard's is committed to serving our military families with the same high level of service they have shown to America.

## Thrift Shop

The Fort Huachuca Thrift Shop council has decided to have the shop one evening a month in addition to its regular hours. The shop will open on the first Tuesday of each month from 5-7:30 p.m. For shopping, consignments will be taken until 7 pm. The first opening will be in April. For those who have signed up to volunteer in the evening, you will be called in March for a volunteer orientation. We encourage anyone who would like to volunteer to call 458-4606 on Tuesday or Thursday and ask for the manager. We still need volunteers for the evening opening.

## Military overseas vehicle sales

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is now authorized to sell motor vehicles to authorized patrons serving outside the continental United States for at least 30 consecutive days for automobiles and 90 consecutive days for Harley Davidson motorcycles. The new vehicles can be purchased for in-country or state-side delivery. "This is a great change that benefits servicemembers who will be deployed overseas 30 days or longer," said AAFES Commander Maj. Gen. Kathryn G. Frost. "Customers have shown a lot of interest in this issue and we're delighted that we can now accommodate troops assigned temporarily overseas who are in the market for a new vehicle." Previously, only those patrons assigned outside the

continental United States who were on permanent change of station orders could purchase a new vehicle from Exchange New Car Sales for stateside delivery. For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Jef Reilly via email [reillyjef@aafes.com](mailto:reillyjef@aafes.com).

## Range closures

Range closures for today through Nov. 28.  
 Today-AA, AB, AF, AK, AL, AM, AU, T1, T1A, T2  
 Friday-AA, AB, AF, AK, AL, AQ, AU, AV, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
 Saturday-AI, AM, T1, T1A, T2  
 Sunday-No Closures  
 Monday-AU, AV, T1, T1A, T2  
 Tuesday-AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2  
 Wednesday-AU  
 Nov. 28-No Closures  
 For more information on range closures contact Range Control 533-7095.

## Gift wrap fundraiser opportunity

Army and Air Force Exchange Services is pleased to announce their support of the subject fundraising program this holiday season. The Post Exchange will supply all of the materials to participating organizations to wrap gifts in the PX Mall for members of the Fort Huachuca community. It is a great fundraising opportunity for post organizations since they provide this service for tips and without any expenses.

Interested organizations can sign up at or direct questions to the PX Customer Service department or by calling 458-7830 extension 107. The PX is now taking reservations to give organizations time to recruit volunteers. The PX staff asks that you submit one primary date and as many secondary dates as you would like for providing the gift wrapping service.

If you have any questions or comments, stop by the PX Customer Service department or give them a call at 458-7830 ext. 107.



## Chapel Community Angel Tree

The Fort Huachuca chapel community is sponsoring the Angel Tree. The purpose is to provide gifts to the needy children of our military community during the holiday season.

Volunteers are needed to man the Angel Tree table at the post exchange during the following Fridays and Saturdays: Nov. 29 and 30. The hours are from 10 a.m. -12, noon-2 p.m., 2-4 p.m. and 4-5 p.m.

Call Chaplain (Maj.) Gary Dale at 533-4911 or email [garry.dale@hua.army.mil](mailto:garry.dale@hua.army.mil) to donate two hours of your time on any of these days.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

## Community Events Calendar

To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6870.

**Early Bird sale at AAFES**

Nov. 29 & 30 from 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**USAIC & FH Holiday Ball**

Dec. 6 at the LakeSide Activity Centre.

Social Hour begins at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 each

call 533-4220 for more information

• **The Vigilantes at the Helldorado Set in Tombstone at 1 p.m.** **24**

• 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. **25**

• Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC 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.**  
 • **PIPP meets from 2 - 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info.**  
 • Cochise Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502.  
 • **Thanksgiving Party for C Co. 86th Sig at MCC beginning at 6 p.m.**  
 • Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. **26**

• La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details.  
 • **SV Parks & Leisure is sponsoring Movies all day at the YC. View a PG, F and/or PG-13 rated movie on the big screen TV. This event is free and open to youth ages 11 - 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for info.**  
 • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m.  
 • **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Kino Chapel at 7 p.m.** **27**

**28**

**Happy Thanksgiving Day**

• No School  
 • Thanksgiving day Mass at MPC begins at 10 a.m.

• **No School**  
 • **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.** **29**

• **Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.**  
 • **Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.** **30**

**December**

• 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.  
 • Hummingbird Stitches Quilt Guild Christmas Party at OYCC begins at 6 p.m. **2**

• **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 Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502.  
 • Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m. **3**

• La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details.  
 • **SV Parks & Leisure is sponsoring Movies all day at the YC. View a PG, F and/or PG-13 rated movie on the big screen TV. This event is free and open to youth ages 11 - 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for info.**  
 • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. **4**

• **Holiday Tree & Menorah Lighting Ceremony at MPC beginning at 5 p.m.** **5**

• **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.** **6**

• **Sierra Vista Parks & Leisure is sponsoring a Children's Holiday Party at Ethel Berger Center from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Event is free and open to toddlers to children age 12--and their parents.**  
 • **Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.** **7**

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

## Proud heritage of Native Americans celebrated during post ceremony

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

The proud heritage and the various indigenous cultures of Native Americans were celebrated Nov. 14, at the Murr Community Center.

The ceremony included food sampling, cultural displays, traditional music and dance, and poetry.

This year's theme is "Honoring Life, Honoring Elders, Honoring Heritage."

The keynote speaker was Catherine Ohrin-Greipp, licensed clinical social worker, who told the crowd about different aspects of Native American heritage.

She went on to note that Native Americans have different cultures and different languages.

"I love to talk, and I love to teach, and I love to help open up the bonds of ignorance from people," she said.

"Once we are familiar and clear with the truth, the better off we are," Ohrin-Greipp said.

She said Native Americans helped to introduce new ideas to Europeans who were used to being ruled by a monarchy. She went on to say she believed the Iroquois' Great Law of Peace helped lay the foundation for the Constitution of the United States.

"Democracy and women making decisions were a foreign concept," Ohrin-Greipp said.

She said Europeans who came to America were introduced to the concept of women having positions of authority and of taking care of the land.

"The clan mothers were the ones with political power, they told the chief what to do. The chief was the speaker for the people," she said.

She said other Native American contributions include corn, beans, squash, peppers and tomatoes. Native Americans have been using products such as Ginseng for many years. "A lot of people think it comes from Asia," she said.

She also mentioned that the World Trade Center Towers were originally built on a trade center that was built by a confederacy of Native Americans.

"We are all Americans, with our own traditions ... We need to get back to our roots of sharing, community service and doing good work. We have a saying and it doesn't matter what nation you come from, 'Learn the mistakes of your past so you don't repeat them,'" she said.

"We have to make sure that we come to understand each other and honor each other because we are Americans and we come from a great land," she said.

After Ohrin-Greipp's presentation, she answered questions from the audience and serenaded them with a performance on her wooden flute.

She then encouraged audience member Frank E. Bothwell, security manager for the Joint Information Systems to try a performance.

"To us, the flute is sacred," she said.

Local dancer, Lorraine Dredge treated the crowd to a Cherokee friendship dance performance and invited several audience members to participate.

The San Xavier Desert Indian and Basket Dancers, who were accompanied by singers and musicians, also performed. Poetess Cyndi McMillian read one of her original works titled "Dream Walker's Legacy."

Command Sgt. Maj. Kurt Richter, command sergeant major, 111<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Bridge, concluded the ceremony by thanking everyone for attending.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

The San Xavier Desert Indian and Basket Dancers performed at the Native American Heritage Month ceremony, Nov. 14. They were accompanied by musicians and singers.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Clarissa Miguel, who resides on the San Xavier Reservation, demonstrated basket making.



Photo by Angelica Pequeño

Catherine Ohrin-Greipp, the ceremony's keynote speaker, serenaded the crowd with melodies played on her wooden flute.

## Money in the wind

# Avoiding the holiday spending hangover

By Sgt. Jessica Inigo  
Time Out Editor

The brandy in your eggnog isn't the only thing able leave you with a terrible hangover this holiday season – come New Year's many consumers might find themselves waking up to a world of hurt by the dent left in their pocketbooks.

"Borrowing for holiday gifts, travel, and other expenses can leave you with a financial hangover throughout the new year. The annual cost of carrying \$100 of credit card debt can be \$18 or more. And making only minimum payments stretches debt over many years," said Leigh Henderson, post Consumer Affairs and Financial Assistance Program manager, Army Community Service. "But a credit hangover has this sure cure: Pay down what you owe on credit cards and other debts you've accumulated, and do it as fast as you can."

During this time of year it's easy for consumers to pick up their credit cards to do some holiday shopping or simply apply for one at any major department store. Many decide at the time to pay bills off within two or three months, but in reality the next holiday season will come and go prior to payment being made in full. Plus, those items that seemed like such bargains end up costing 10 to 20 percent more due to credit card interest. For many Americans, this pattern is repeated year after year. Personal finance experts call this the "holiday hangover."

There are times when incurring credit card debt makes sense, but holiday gift buying is not one of them, according to finance experts. Using credit cards often leads to impulse spending and overspending. A better approach is to save small amounts of money throughout the year in a special holiday gift fund, make a list of all the people you'd like to give gifts to and how much you can afford to spend on each one, and pay cash. When the cash is gone, you're done shopping.

"Remember, the holidays are upon us, consider a spending plan before your holiday debts become too great," Henderson said.

If saving money is difficult to do throughout the year, open a Christmas Club account at a community bank or credit union. A manageable amount from each paycheck is put into a special Christmas Club account throughout the year. The account usually earns interest at the regular savings account rate.

In October the money gets transferred to your regular

checking account and you're ready to go shopping for the holidays, according to Leilani Gapasin, new accounts specialist at the Armed Forces Bank in the Main Post Exchange.

The Armed Forces Bank opens Christmas Club accounts at any time throughout the year, as long as there is an open checking account, Gapasin said. Money is transferred automatically from the checking account to the Christmas Club account. An initial deposit of \$10 must be made to the account, and then a constant amount should be given on a

buy gifts for, including small gifts for babysitters, teachers, newspaper deliverers, etc. These small gifts can add up. Include money you'll spend on Christmas cards, postage, holiday parties, decorations and holiday entertainment.

•**Set a limit.** People on the list should have their own set limit. Add them all up and make sure they don't exceed your overall spending limit. Try to allow a cushion for unexpected items or price fluctuations.

As important as deciding what you're going to buy is deciding where you're going to buy it. If you don't wait until the last minute, you'll have time to comparison shop. Prices fluctuate significantly from store to store and from one month to another. Stores start cutting prices 10 to 25 percent on holiday items like decorations, gifts, and winter clothing the week before Thanksgiving. As Christmas approaches, some items are marked down as much as 40 percent, but selections are limited. You'll need to decide whether price or selection is more important to you and time your shopping accordingly.

Follow these simple steps to avoid that nagging feeling that you've over spent and still have to struggle to pay off bills for months to come. Instead you'll feel in control and free of the dreaded financial "holiday hangover."

"There is no independence quite so important as living within your means," Henderson said. She suggests consumers use these practical ways to reduce their debt load.

•**Pay a little more each time.** Try to add an extra amount (\$10 or \$20) to each payment on your credit card, auto loan, or other loans. And prioritize - make your first goal paying down the debts with the highest interest rates.

•**Check into refinancing.** When interest rates drop, consider refinancing your mortgage or other loans. Refinancing could cut your payment or - if you choose to keep paying the same amount - eliminate your debt faster.

•**Make a plan.** Your chances of reducing your debts are better if you do it systematically. Put together a budget for yourself this month, and include room for paying the extra principal amounts that will accelerate your debt reduction effort.

•**Talk with a professional.** Your financial professional knows other ways to reduce debt so you can end this year owing a lot less.

If interested in setting up a budget, call Henderson at 533-2437.



Graphic by Angelica Pequeño

monthly basis thereafter. Gapasin said account holders would receive penalties if money is withdrawn early and that the account is automatically activated each year unless notified.

Just in case a Christmas Club account wasn't set up this year, here are a few simple steps to help you stay out of debt this holiday season and avoid that financial "holiday hangover."

•**Set spending limits.** Look at your monthly budget and figure out how much you can realistically afford to set aside toward holiday gift giving, without going into debt. Your intentions may be good, but the reality is that most people have a depressing amount of debt after the holidays and are not able to pay it off in as timely a manner as they had hoped.

•**Make a list.** Include all the people you need or want to

## KUDOS from Page 2

personal commitment to be present no matter the physical or emotional stress.

There were many tears during those two days as each of us faced our own mortality. Yet, we went beyond our feelings to make the veterans feel appreciated and loved. We reached out and each gave our gifts in different ways. Some by our mere presence made a statement of appreciation beyond words, others by our touch, our words, or our attentiveness.

I don't think I will ever forget the memory of the line of veterans seated in wheel chairs, as one by one you bent over or knelt by them. In some cases they could barely communicate. Yet you spoke to them. You approached veterans and gave them gifts, and cards made with love and respect from the children at our accommodation schools. You added conversation that included your own appreciation for their contributions to our nation. You searched out veteran residents to give them love through a stuffed animal decorated with red, white, and blue, as if it were the most important mission in the world. And I guess it was. You boldly went into the rooms of those who couldn't come out to meet us and even entered the hospice and Alzheimer's units with great courage and love.

And now I tell you with great respect and appreciation that you are all heroes. Know that you have truly made our world a better place to live. God bless you.

Sincerely,  
Ginny Sciarino  
Community Relations Officer

## Chalk Talk

**Sixth-grader Kayla Mock was selected by the local chapter of the Elk's Lodge as student of month. Mock earned straight A's for the first marking period while also playing volleyball. Her attitude and ambition credit herself and Smith Middle School. Congratulations Mock.**



Courtesy photo

## Myer School news

**Kathy Bergman's fourth-grade class** had a great time learning how to pan for gold when the visitors from Tombstone came to visit their class. The lesson was an extension of their science unit on rocks and minerals, and their Arizona unit on the history of Tombstone. The students are working on creating Hyper Studio slide show autobiographies in the computer lab. They have been working hard in math and are ready to start division with remainders soon. Good job class.

Myer students are learning to play chess, thanks to Lorrie Griffin, the behavior coach. Griffin was able to purchase six sets and uses the games at lunch recess. There are quite a number of students who have shown an interest to learn and the advance students are ready to have a tournament with the winner playing Henry Bos, our resource room teacher. Along with the chess sets are checker sets that the fourth graders will be playing after Thanksgiving break. Thirty students have signed up for the tournament this week.

## Pets of the Week



**I am Lexus, a playful 2-year-old black lab mix. I am house broken and good with older kids. My adoption fee is \$22. I have already been**

**spayed, microchipped, and vaccinated. All I need is a deworming and heartworm test.**



**Hi, my name is Godiva. I am a beautiful orange and white female adult cat. I get along with other cats and have a loving personality. My adoption fee is**

**\$42 which includes my spay, microchipping, deworming, leukemia test and my vaccines for the year.**

**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.**



**My name is Rambo, but don't be fooled by my name. I am really lovable, medium sized white and brown pit bull mix. I am full grown and an adult but not that old. My adoption fee is \$42 which includes a neuter, deworming, vaccinations, microchipping and heartworm test.**



**My name is Gina, and I am a spayed black and brown tabby. I love to get attention and would really appreciate an owner. My adoption fee is \$32. I have already been spayed and microchipped so all I need is my vaccines, leukemia test, and deworming.**

**Tom Crawford's fourth-grade class** will be working on story writing during the next two weeks. They are currently reading the story of John Henry. This story will be leading into their "Tall Tale" unit in which his students will be writing their own "Tall Tales." This unit of study will culminate with a movie before the Thanksgiving holiday. The movie will be Disney's "Tall Tale the Unbelievable Adventure." This movie is rated PG and will require a parent permission slip.

Jan Barnes wants to congratulate **Tyler Campbell** for being the Citizen of the Month in her fourth-grade class. The class started their Water Wise program with Ginger Maxey and are having a lot of fun. They are learning about the water cycle, pollution and water conservation.

No school next Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving break. Have a great Thanksgiving.

## Everyone counts — DOD aims for fewer suicides

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample  
American Forces Press Service

The rate of suicides in the military has declined in recent years to 12 per 100,000 — two-thirds the national average. But that's still not good enough for Department of Defense health care officials.

During an open forum Tuesday at the Marine Corps' Henderson Hall in Arlington, Va., Army, Air Force and Navy representatives joined a panel of mental health experts to begin planning a yearlong campaign aimed at reducing suicides in the military even further.

Army Dr. (Lt. Col.) Elspeth Ritchie, pro-

gram director of Mental Health Policy and Women's Issues, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, said forum participants would analyze military suicide prevention programs and determine their effectiveness.

"The number of suicides have gone down because all the services have (been using) very aggressive suicide prevention programs," Ritchie said. "The focus of the forum will be to look at each service's programs and come up with a 'unified approach' to suicide prevention."

The Army, working with John Hopkins University of Baltimore and Living Works Education, a Canadian-based public-service

company, plans to extend its "Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training," or ASIST, to all soldiers.

The training, which is being conducted in workshops Army-wide, gives soldiers at risk for suicide the confidence and tools for immediate life-saving actions, said Army Lt. Col. Jerry Swanner, a suicide prevention program manager at the Pentagon.

"ASIST trains laypeople, professionals — basically anyone — in how to estimate the risk of suicide in an individual and then apply an intervention model when appropriate," Swanner explained. "We recognize that we will not prevent every suicide, however, our purpose is to minimize the risk."

## AKO from Page 1

AKO provides troops access to functions normally included in the electronic communities of the private sector, officials said.

AKO was designed as a central place for soldiers to receive information. Personalized information can be sent directly to them via their AKO e-mail account.

The Army can use this similar to how businesses use e-mail to provide information to their customers, PERSCOM officials said. They said information about assignments, professional development opportunities, and re-enlistment can be sent to the field quickly -- saving both time and money.

AKO e-mail can be read through the AKO Web site or can be forwarded to other e-mail accounts owned by the soldier for convenience. Mail forwarding can be implemented by choosing the "personalize" tab once inside the AKO portal.

## REBALANCE from Page 1

there are, he remarked.

"The guiding principle for all of us should be that we have the right reservist with the right equipment (and) the right training at the right place at the right time to help make a difference in any conflict," he said.

Hall spoke of the heavy burden placed on the reserve components by the war on terrorism. Thousands were called to duty on or immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists struck in New York and at the Pentagon.

Today, roughly 51,000 Guard and Reserve members are on active duty across the United States and around the world. At the peak of the call-up, nearly 100,000 reserve component members were activated. In all, roughly 130,000 reserve troops have served in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

## Fort Huachuca teacher spotlight



**Name:** Marie Lee  
**School:** Col. Johnston Elementary  
**Educational Background:** Bachelor's Degree and currently working on a Master's Degree.

**Number of years teaching:** Seven  
**Current position:** Third Grade teacher  
**Activities outside of teaching:** Biking, reading, family and doll collecting

**The hardest lesson I have learned:** I can't cure problems, I can only teach my students the tools to help them make their own choices to improve their own life.

**People would be surprised if they knew I:** Ride motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles.

**Who do you admire or who is your mentor?** I admire Oprah Winfrey. All the teachers I work with and know are my mentors; including my mom and my dad.



**Most gratifying experience as an educator:** To see the light bulb go off in a student's head when they get a concept and the excitement of a student when they are learning.

**Why I became a teacher:** This was my destiny!

**The best teaching tool I have used and would recommend to a colleague is:** Compassion, understanding and class meetings.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

## Change of responsibility

Command Sgt. Maj. Maureen Johnson, new 112th Military Intelligence Brigade command sergeant major, stands before the Color Guard during a change of responsibility ceremony held Friday at Brown Parade Field. She replaced Command Sgt. Maj. Dee Kevin Barnett who retired after 30 years of service to the nation.

## Last WWII Comanche code talker visits Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery

By Rudi Williams  
American Forces Press Service

After meeting with the defense secretary and other top Pentagon officials recently, Charles Chibitty, the last surviving World War II Comanche code talker, donned his feathered Indian chief's headdress and offered a prayer in the Pentagon Chapel for those killed in the terrorist attack on the building.

The aging code talker then placed a wreath and offered an Indian prayer at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. This marks the third time the 81-year-old war veteran was honored at the Pentagon for his service to the nation. His visits in 1992 and 1999 were also in

November during National American Indian Heritage Month.

While meeting at the Pentagon with Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Undersecretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Raymond F. DuBois Jr., deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, Chibitty recounted his wartime experiences when his unit landed on the Normandy shores on "the first or second day after D-Day." After his unit hit Utah Beach, his first radio message was sent to another code talker on an incoming boat. Translated into English, it said: "Five miles to the right of the designated area and five miles inland, the fighting is fierce and we need help."

"We were trying to let them know where we were so they wouldn't lob no shells on us," he explained with a chuckle. "I was with the 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division. We talked Indian and sent messages when need be. It was quicker to use telephones and radios to send messages because Morse code had to be decoded and the Germans could decode them. We used telephones and radios to talk Indian then wrote it in English and gave it to the commanding officer."

When Chibitty, the last surviving World War II Comanche code talker, visited Rumsfeld at the Pentagon, the secretary presented him a memento of a small engraved box.

