

The Fort Huachuca Scout



Vol. 48, NO. 47 Published in the interest of Fort Huachuca personnel and their families November 27, 2002

Turkey Bowl
See Page B1

Scout reports

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East Gate closure

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

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

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

Ecumenical services

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held tonight at 7 p.m. at the Kino Chapel on Fort Huachuca. For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Minjares at 533-4748.

Road traffic interruption

Hatfield Street will be partially blocked just south of the Winans/Hatfield intersection from Dec. 7 at 5 a.m., to Dec. 8 at 5 p.m.

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

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

MI Holiday Ball

Tickets are on sale for the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca Holiday Ball until Dec. 2.

The ball will be held Dec. 6 at the Lakeside Activity Centre. Tickets are \$25. Dress for civilians is formal attire; officers - dress or mess uniform; enlisted - Dress Blue or Class A with white shirt and bow tie.

Please see your unit representative or contact Sgt. Melanie Shafer at 533-4235, Sgt. 1st Class Marianela Tomlin at 533-4221, or Pfc. William Chandler at 533-4297.

Officer candidate board

The next local Officer Candidate School board is scheduled for Dec. 4. All packets are due to the Actions and Promotions Office not later than Monday. Call 533-1503 for any questions or to schedule an appointment.

Historic homes holiday tour

The annual Holiday Tour of Homes takes place Dec. 8 from 2-5 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Fort Huachuca Museum Gift Shop, the MWR Box Office, and the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce.

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

Roundup meeting

Do you know what's happening on Fort Huachuca? How can you get the word out on an event or activity you are planning? If you want to do all this, attend the next Roundup on Tuesday at La Hacienda from 10-11:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

CFC donation extension

The post Combined Federal Campaign acceptance of donations has been extended to Dec. 4. This is the last day to donate. For more information call Lt. Tricia Kelley at 533-0799.

Firefighters control Range 8 fire, diverts to real-world training



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

First Sgt. Tommie Rhamy, 2/142nd Field Artillery, Arkansas National Guard, watches as the Range 8 fire burns brush in the area. The fire was controlled and contained by the Fort Huachuca Fire Department and other personnel in six hours.

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

In the beginning of the fort's force protection exercise Nov. 21, Fort Huachuca's firefighters responded to a real-world scenario - an actual fire at Range 8.

The fire, which burned 50 acres, started around 10 a.m. and ended their role-play in a simulated mass casualty exercise.

Post firefighters who were at Libby Army Airfield for the mass casualty exercise were immediately dispatched to the scene of the fire.

"We were expecting to participate in the mass casualty exercise when we were immediately diverted to the real world scenario," said Chief Stephen Hauck, Fort Huachuca Fire Department. "Fortunately many of our resources were in station to respond to the fire."

Hauck said the fire was caused when a round fired from a 50-caliber machine gun ricocheted off a rock downrange.

A unit from the 162nd Fighter Wing of the Arizona National Guard in Tucson had used the range for training earlier that morning and had left prior to the fire breaking out.

"The unit was not using tracer rounds," said Col. Lawrence Portouw, U.S. Army Garrison commander. "At no time did the fire pose a threat to the cantonment area."

Forty personnel, including two units from the Fry Fire Department and eight members of the Bureau of Land Management, battled the blaze. Fire departments from Huachuca City and Sierra Vista were on standby if needed.

"Winds ranging from 15 to 25mph were a concern during the initial outbreak of the blaze," Hauck said. "However

See FIRE, Page 7

Fort, community participates in force protection exercise

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart
Scout News Editor

"Train as you fight" became more than a concept from an Army field manual Thursday when members of the Fort Huachuca community participated in force protection exercise Apache Gold.

It was the post's first force protection exercise since March.

The intent of the exercise, which took approximately three months to plan, was to validate various force protection procedures to include emergency evacuation plans due to a fire for family members, emergency evacuation drills, a mass casualty exercise at the airport, a hostage scenario and reacting to a potential chemical hazard.

"We had a great force protection exercise and we learned a lot," said Colonel Lawrence J. Portouw, garrison commander. "The 'real-world' fire on the range actually enhanced training because folks had to then deal with unexpected resource shortages.

"Our able soldiers demonstrated agility and creativity in dealing with these unex-

"We proved we can respond to multiple crisis situations and ensure the safety and security of all personnel and property on the installation."

Maj. Dan Ortega,
Director of Public Safety

pected challenges."

During the exercise the post increased its force protection levels.

The exercise included internal communication and during the event, the "white cell" which consisted of the individuals who made decisions during the exercise planning, interjected approximately 450 additional incidents to see how the participants would react.

During the plane crash scenario that included 10 casualties, part of the training was interrupted when resources were diverted because participants had to react to a real-

world fire that broke out on Range 8.

Apache Gold was planned by the installation's G-2 office and was kicked-off by someone encountering a "suspicious" looking package which led to the activation of the Installation Operation Center.

According to Maj. Dan Ortega, the director of Public Safety, "The overall exercise was a success and presented an excellent opportunity for the installation to implement increased force protection measures."

Ortega continued, "The fact that we had an actual fire occur while the exercise was ongoing and DPS personnel responded to both situations successfully, is evident of the outstanding technical and tactical abilities of all our firefighting, military police and artillery personnel.

"We proved we can respond to multiple crisis situations and ensure the safety and security of all personnel and property on the installation," he said.

David L. Koch, installation G-3 operations officer agreed. "Fort Huachuca did well during the exercise, the post was prepared to execute the mission," Koch said.

Thanksgiving Messages

Holiday safety message from TRADOC commander

Our nation sets aside Nov. 28 as a national day of Thanksgiving to celebrate with our families and friends, and reflect on the opportunities which are the birthright of all Americans. It is a time to pause and express gratitude for the gifts of peace, liberty, and freedom. I wish the entire Training and Doctrine family - soldiers, civilians, and their families - a happy Thanksgiving, and convey my appreciation for all they do for our nation and army.

In preparation for Thanksgiving leaders must remind our soldiers, civilians, and family members of the hazards associated with the season and holiday travel, and to remain vigilant to potential terrorist acts of violence. Self discipline and awareness will determine how we fare in preventing accidents and injuries. Incorporate the key elements of professional leadership to send a message that we truly care about people, our most valuable resource.

Recheck the accident, suicide prevention, and anti-terrorism/ force protection programs you have in place to ensure the focus is right and that the right agencies and people are fully involved in ensuring their success. As the architect of the future army and trainer of today's army, we must continue to set a high standard in actively and effectively preventing needless and tragic injury and loss of life.

The success of our mission fully depends on the well being of our soldiers, civilian work force, and their families. The challenge to all is to make Thanksgiving and the holiday season free of the tragedy of accidents and suicides. It is a great honor to assume command of TRADOC. Carol and I send our best wishes for a joyous and safe Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Gen. Kevin P. Byrnes
TRADOC Commander

CG's Thanksgiving/Hanukkah weekend safety letter

On behalf of the Custer family, I want to wish all of you a safe and happy Thanksgiving, and for those of the Jewish faith, Shalom, and happy Hanukkah to you. This is the season when we give thanks for all we have. We gather in joyous celebration with our friends, families and loved ones.

During the holidays, we remember others who are in need—this is not the time to dwell on ourselves. As a nation, we come together and express gratitude for the harvest feast and all the great things of our land. We remember freedoms that we take for granted: freedom from hunger and want. We appreciate the freedom of religion and the right to free speech. We realize the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

During the holiday season, please be safe in everything that you do. It is unfortunate when our celebrations are marred by unnecessary disaster. Statistically, the winter holidays are among the most dangerous because of increased travel, intoxicated or fatigued drivers and adverse weather conditions. These risks are often coupled with unsafe personal choices or reckless behavior. Your vigilance is the key to safety. I sincerely wish you a festive and memorable weekend.

Brig. Gen. John M. Custer
USAIC&FH Acting Commanding General

Send a holiday greeting to soldiers overseas

By Sue McKinney
NETCOM,
9th Army Signal Command

This holiday season the Army Military Affiliate Radio System's program "Operation Holidays" will be sending free messages to soldiers overseas and to veterans confined to Veterans Affairs hospitals.

"Operation Holidays began 12 years ago and was initiated for servicemembers away from home," said Robert Sutton, chief of Army MARS. "The program offers servicemembers access to free messages, called MARSgrams."

If you don't have a friend or family member stationed overseas, you can send a message to "any servicemember." For veterans confined to VA hospitals, there is a relatively new program for sending messages addressed to "any veteran" at participating VA institutions. This program is designed to help bring recognition and holiday cheer to the 100,000 hospi-

See MARS, Page 7



Graphic by Angelica Pequeño

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

"Rarely has any people enjoyed greater prosperity than we are now enjoying. For this we render heartfelt and solemn thanks to the Giver of Good; and we seek to praise Him – not by words only – but by deeds, by the way in which we do our duty to ourselves and to our fellow men." - President Theodore Roosevelt, Thanksgiving Day, 1902

On behalf of all the chaplains on Fort Huachuca, both Installation and Network Communications, I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and holiday weekend. I pulled this from my e-mail file and thought this writer's thoughts were more than worthy of reading as we celebrate "giving thanks." – DRN

ThanksLiving

When I was a little girl I remember asking my Mother many times for more food when I already had food remaining on my plate. She would answer, "Eat what you have first before you ask for more. Sometimes your eyes are bigger than your stomach."

I'm still that way. Sometimes my eyes see more and I want more. I have enough shoes, but I still see new shoes in the mall that I think I must have. I have plenty of beautiful clothes and yet I'm always looking for something new to wear. I have a lovely home, but still I see homes in magazines and visit homes of friends and I think my house could be better or bigger. I think about buying new furniture and there's nothing wrong with what I already have.

I have two healthy sons, they have a great dad and I have a hard working husband and yet sometimes I forget to show my appreciation. I have a reasonably healthy body. I can see, hear, taste, smell, walk, think, dance, hug, write, dream, speak, work, eat and cook. And yet sometimes I complain about my body and wish it were slimmer, prettier, faster and younger.

Sometimes I dwell too much about how much I miss my parents and other loved ones that have passed on. I need to focus more on the ones that are still living. I have a career that is fulfilling and rewarding and yet sometimes I'm not satisfied because I think I should have accomplished more. I forget how far I have come from jobs that were miserable and boring in the past.

I have a good dependable car and yet I see new cars and think I should update and get a new car. I'm not rich, but blessed with a comfortable lifestyle and yet I catch myself sometimes having a pity-party instead of thinking about what I can do for others. I've traveled thousands of miles internationally in safety this year to lecture and promote my books and yet I'm sometimes unmotivated to just get up and go to the grocery store.

It's OK to want the good things in life. But wisdom, balance and gratitude help us to appreciate what we already have and overcome the addiction of "more." I'm challenging myself to learn when "enough is enough." I'm challenging myself to live in the moment and be thankful for what is already on "my plate" before asking God for more.

I like this line from the movie, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while you could miss it." I want to practice an attitude of gratitude everyday. I want to live a life of thanksLiving and thanksGiving.

Author unknown



Scout on the Street

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving?



I'm thankful to be here at Fort Huachuca receiving military occupational training.

Spc. Maritza Flores,
Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion



For being able to keep my family together and having a job that allows me to provide for others in times of desperation.

Mario Agundez,
Border Patrol Search Trauma and Rescue



My friends because they make the hard times easier and the good times better.

Pfc. Josh Bos,
Company E,
309th MI Bn.



No terrorism right now.

Fred Stone,
Retired Air Force



I am thankful for everything — our Army and being able to enjoy Thanksgiving.

Chris Morris,
Joint Interoperability Test Command



My family, my wife, my two kids and my health.

Carl McClafferty,
BORSTAR

Photos by Angelica Pequeño

The Fort Huachuca Scout

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Promotion tests, male E-5 drill sergeants may be future, top NCO says

By Jim Caldwell
TRADOC News Service

Some of the things that may change for noncommissioned officers in a few years is a promotion test, the end of Basic NCO Courses and an opportunity for male E-5s to be drill sergeants, Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley told a group of NCOs yesterday.

Tilley was at Fort Monroe for a series of briefings on the Army Accession Command, part of the Training and Doctrine Command.

At a luncheon meeting he told TRADOC NCOs about some soldier programs the Army is pursuing.

"You're going to be tested to make sure you're certified to move from one level to another level," Tilley said. "I think in the past we have promoted people who should not have been promoted."

That remark was followed by a chorus of "hoo ah."

Tilley said he has asked TRADOC to develop a testing method within the next 18 months "that we can get out into the Army."

Test results, along with evaluations, awards and education will be included in each individual's promotion file.

"I can't overemphasize the fact that I want you to work on your education," he said. "But most of all, bottom line, I want you to make sure you get to know your job."

In answer to a question about promotions, Tilley revealed that promotion cycles are changing to conform better to the Army's assignments rotation.

The next sergeant first class promotions will cover 20 months he said, with from 7,000 to

12,000 promotions a month.

"You know we have a secondary and a primary zone of consideration," he said. "We're taking a hard look right now at whether or not we even need a zone."

A change in the NCO Education System may be the elimination of BNCO.

"I asked TRADOC not too long ago to take a look at whether or not we need BNCO," Tilley said.

"Maybe it should be one course (for NCOs). Maybe we need to slip some of the information down from ANCO (Advanced NCO Course) to a lower level.

Accessions Command will run a pilot for using male E-5 sergeants as drill sergeants. Currently, males have to be staff sergeants to be eligible for active duty drill sergeants.

"The problem for me is that Guard and Reserve and active duty females can be sergeant E-5 drill sergeants," Tilley said. "The only one who can't be one is an active duty male sergeant E-5. It doesn't make any sense."

Tilley, who said that he was an E-5 drill sergeant, said he'd like to see the pilot for E-5 drill sergeants begin by March or April 2003.

"It may not come about, but at least we're going to run a pilot program," he said.

Accessions Command, activated in 2001, to oversee initial entry training, training drill sergeants, as well as recruiting officers and enlisted soldiers through the Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Ky., and the Cadet Command at Fort Monroe, Tilley said.

"You know we've been talking about an Accessions Command for a long, long time. I think it's a good idea, especially having a lieutenant general (Lt. Gen. Dennis D. Cavin) and

a sergeant major (Command Sgt. Maj. Perry L. Roberts) focused on the quality of life for basic training, Recruiting Command and all of those other parts."

Other benefits soldiers can look forward to include by 2005 not having to use "out-of-pocket money" to pay rent for quarters on or off post.

One of the reasons the issue of housing has been difficult to settle is because not enough soldiers return completed surveys the Army sends out on the subject, he said.

"When you live off post, where do you live?" Tilley asked rhetorically. "You live in an area that has better schools, so when you're filling out the survey, you ought to tell them 'I live here because of the schools.'"

The Residential Communities Initiative, through which a private company renovates existing family housing on installations and building new homes, will continue, Tilley said.

He predicted that soldiers will eventually be able to use their GI Bill benefits for their families.

"Right now the Air Force and Navy are running a pilot program on how you need to modify the GI Bill," he said. "One of my recommendations is to allow anyone who stays over 10 years in the military service to keep that GI Bill for their dependents.

"In the long run it'll come about. It could take two to five years. The good news is they (Congress) have been talking about it now for two years."

Tilley told the audience about Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan, when soldiers engaged Al Qaeda fighters in 11,500-foot high mountains surrounding a valley.

"TOC (tactical operations center) helicop-

ters landed ... in the middle of the firefight," he said. "As soon as they sat down they started getting engaged. We had 60 people killed; they (Al Qaeda) had a lot more."

"They thought they were going to die. A lieutenant colonel had his 30-some soldiers attack (the Al Qaeda). When it was done, those 30 people were still around

"I tell people that story because I want you to know that soldiers who were fighting in Anaconda were 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 — young adults. So this stuff about the soldiers of today are not as tough, not as motivated, not as enthusiastic as I was 30 years ago is a bunch of baloney. They're just as motivated, just as enthusiastic and they're ready to do whatever they can, anytime we call on them."

Tilley went to see 22 young soldiers, some who were wounded several times in Anaconda who were hospitalized at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. He said he thought the soldiers would tell him they wanted out of the hospital and they wanted as far away from Afghanistan as they could be.

"But when I went in and started talking to them, they didn't say that. What they said was, 'Patch me up and send me back,'" he said.

"Since the war on terrorism started, we have lost 100 soldiers."

Later, Tilley was asked that since 2003 is just over a month away, did he have any resolutions?

"I think I'd like to have a whole bunch of resolutions instead of one," he said. "One I always talk about is if I could make life better for my family. I think that's one that I could stick to because after being a soldier for more than 34 years, I think you sort of miss that part."

Education Services Directorate dedicated to serving needs of servicemembers

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart
Scout News Editor

According to Dennis A. Sherrod, the director of Fort Huachuca's Education Services Directorate, Fort Huachuca is unique for several reasons. To his knowledge it's the only installation in the United States that has an Education Services Directorate. Under this umbrella falls the Education Center, the Army Career and Alumni Program, the post libraries, the Distributed Learning System, and the Quality Training Center, which is in charge of training all of the civilian employees on post.

"This makes us more efficient and organized, we also get a lot more for our money. For instance the Quality Training Center and the Distributed Learning System both work together and use each other's resources. As a result, the DLS has the highest utilization rate in the Training and Doctrine Command," Sherrod said. "Most of that success goes to the hard work of the DLS manager and because they work together and share knowledge."

He said another example of resource sharing includes ACAP and the Education Center. "When a Department of Veteran Affairs representative comes to talk to ACAP, the Education Center guidance counselors who do career referrals, often also participates in the discussions and information-sharing. We get the soldiers before they go to ACAP, because once they go to ACAP they are more than likely getting out of the service," Sherrod said.

He said the biggest program in the directorate is the Army Continuing Education System Program. "We're having a lot of changes going on now that are good for the servicemembers. The biggest change is the increase in VA benefits. Now you can get approximately \$900 a month for VA benefits and in the future that amount will go up to \$975," Sherrod said.

Another big change that benefits soldiers is that since Oct. 1, servicemembers are allowed 100 percent tuition assistance. Sherrod said the Ed Center has seen a significant increase in enrollment; the amount of money used for TA has already risen approximately 40 percent.

"Historically, we usually do \$130,000 of TA in October. This year we processed over \$205,000 in TA," Sherrod said. During the last fiscal year, the Ed Center paid approximately \$750,000 in TA. He estimates that this year the figure will increase to \$1.2 million.

New JITC JRTS facility to make communications better on the battlefield

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

During the heat of battle, the last thing the warfighter should worry about is a radio that is not interoperable with other radios on the battlefield. With the opening of a new high-tech facility on post, the warfighter has one less thing to worry about on the



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Terrance Glidden, JTRS systems analyst, makes sure the frequencies are correct.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Pfc. Kevin Thurman of Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, discusses his education options with Sharon Lewis, education services specialist.

"The younger soldiers who don't have a lot of money are coming in and taking classes and so are the older soldiers who are hearing about 100 percent TA," he said. TA will also include fees if applicable, and will pay for a textbook if it included in tuition cost. There is a \$250 semester hour cap, and also a \$4,500 fiscal year ceiling for each soldier.

Last year 859 enlisted soldiers took 3,474 classes and 86 warrant and commissioned officers took a total of 592 classes. Sherrod went on to say the availability of on-line courses have opened vast possibilities for those who can't sit in a traditional classroom. "It's still difficult, but online courses make access easier for students. We have an agreement with all of the schools and they are very flexible. It's a good partnership," he said.

Sherrod said these totals are just the tuition assistance enrollments. "We have more soldiers and veterans signing up here and using their GI Bill too," he said.

ground, air and sea.

The Joint Interoperability Test Command opened a \$500,000 laboratory Nov. 20, which will perform standards and specifications conformance testing and certification on Joint Tactical Radio System waveforms ported onto radio sets. The test facility can also be used to conduct interoperability testing.

"JTRS is the new radio the Department of Defense is building to replace all the variant radios out in the field," said Edward Cepauskas, JTRS technical advisor. "Right now across the board there are about 70 plus different families of radios within DoD. All of these different families require logistics training and maintenance, which is a big bill for DoD."

Cepauskas said the lab's basic mission is standards conformance testing for Joint Tactical Radio System waveforms. It is a long-term initiative that Cepauskas said will take several years to get technologically where they want to be, but estimates JTRS will save the government in the hundreds of millions of dollars in the future.

The test facility is equipped with state-of-the-art portable and fixed test equipment that allows it to perform all standard radio frequency measurements on handheld, manpack, vehicular, airborne and shipboard radio systems.

Cepauskas emphasized more importantly the new system will make communicating on the battlefield easier for the joint services.

"We don't have to ask, 'can I talk to this guy,'" he said. "Communication has always been the key on the battlefield. Information dominance wins the war nowadays. You have to have some way to get the information flowing up, flowing down

He said another unique aspect of Fort Huachuca will be the Service members Opportunity College workshop, which will be held Dec. 4-5 at the Sierra Vista campus of Cochise College.

"Representatives from the Defense Activity for Nontraditional Educational Support, the American Council on Education, Servicemembers Opportunity College, will meet with all of the universities and colleges in the area, and representatives from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, and from Yuma Proving Grounds," Sherrod said.

The two-day workshop will include updates regarding ACES, SOC and DANTES. "We have had SOC workshops in the past, but this is the first one where we have gotten a variety of our major program people together. We are also partnering with Cochise College to hold this event at their campus.

"This is the first one. Depending on the feedback we will do it annually," Sherrod said.

and flowing across. JTRS will satisfy that."

Efficient access to current information allows warfighters to make decisions faster than the enemy. JTRS' interoperability gives joint commands the edge to share critical data, make decisions effectively and act swiftly.

"We act before the enemy can decide," Cepauskas added.

Also critical to the facility's mission is helping industry develop radios that meet specific standards, said Maj. Marisa Quintanilla, JTRS project manager, Networks, Transmission and Intelligence Division.

"We're writing generic standards conformance test procedures to give to industry so they can use them to test at their facilities. The goal here is to reduce risk in the testing process and save money," Quintanilla said. "Basically we are giving them the answers to our test. When they come to JITC for their certification test, we're going to use those procedures to test with to make sure the product we receive is correct.

"JITC will provide a conformance certification memorandum for each waveform successfully tested."

All conformance certifications issued will be electronically archived and available through a web based register that is linked from the JITC home page.

In addition to DoD customers, the JTRS lab will support other government agencies such as the FBI, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Border Patrol and commercial vendors.

"This is something that has never been done before here at JITC," Quintanilla said. "This is the first step in solving many of the interoperability problems we have."

The Ties That Bind

Fort Huachuca soldiers lend helping hand, volunteer time to help build new home

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

Each day as Ralph and Michelle Myers drive through the streets of Fort Huachuca delivering papers on their newspaper route, they always wave a hand and reveal a smile when they see a soldier.

Though they've seen soldiers come and go on the installation, the Myers have an unconditional love for the men and women in uniform and those same soldiers have given them an unconditional gift – selfless service.

Since mid-June more than 30 soldiers has volunteered more than 950 hours of selfless service to help build a new house for Myers as part of the Sierra Vista Habitat for Humanity program.

The volunteer effort, spearheaded by Chief Warrant Officer Gary Bertsch, 86th Signal Battalion, was something he decided to do after reading an ad in the *Sierra Vista Herald*, the newspaper the Myers' deliver on post.

He'd previously volunteered with the program for a short moment when he was assigned at Fort Bliss, Texas in El Paso. As the volunteer coordinator for the project, Bertsch recruited soldier volunteers by three points.

"One is that you learn some skills or a trade out here every weekend. Two is you're helping the community by putting a family in a house," Bertsch said. "And three, as an incentive, you can earn the Army Volunteer award."

Bertsch documented and kept each volunteer's hours devoted to the project and turned in his or her efforts to the fort's volunteer office.

Since its founding in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller, Habitat for Humanity International has built and rehabilitated more than 125,000 houses with families in need, and addressing the issues of poverty housing.

As chairman of the building committee in Sierra Vista, Jane Tilton said the house is scheduled to be ready for move-in Dec. 8, well ahead of schedule because of the soldiers' efforts.

"The city gave us four lots and all of them were in terrible condition filled with junk and debris," Tilton said. "We had a group of nearly

35 soldiers come out and in one day they cleared those lots and hauled away all of the debris. It would have taken our volunteers weeks to do what they did in one day."

Tilton said there were a number of individual soldiers who came with building and carpentry skills, and there were even a couple who had roofing experience.

Her only problem was often there wasn't enough work for the number of soldiers that wanted to volunteer.

"I'd get a phone call from a sergeant who says, 'I have 80 soldiers who want to come volunteer,'" Tilton said. "I didn't have room for that many, but I'd ask to send me 10 each week. It shows the devotion the soldiers have for this cause."

One soldier, Master Sgt. Mike Starkey, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Network Enterprise and Technology Command, in particular has devoted many hours to project and it was more for personal than professional reasons.

He became friends with the Myers during a previous assignment to the post.

"I know Ralph and it meant a lot to me to be a part of this," Starkey said. "I think one of the big pluses here is that you get to meet some nice people. I don't look at it as work, but a community effort."

The admiration and appreciation of the soldiers is evident in the sound of the Myers' voices when they talk about the soldiers.

"It's been remarkable to see the soldiers here every weekend," said Michelle Myers. "Without Bertsch getting us volunteers, this wouldn't have gone near as fast. They're energetic, skilled, disciplined and they know what they're doing."

"It's been very gratifying for us, because we know if they didn't dedicate their time, this would not be happening," said Ralph Myers."

As the Myers prepare to move in their new home they know the hands of soldiers, they've never known until a few months ago, nearly put every nook and cranny together.

That's why they'll keep smiling each time they drive on the fort because they're thankful for the men and women in uniform.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Above: Master Sgt. Mike Starkey, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Network Enterprise and Technology Command, uses a hacksaw to trim the bottom of a board. Starkey has volunteered more than 70 hours to help build the home as part of the Habitat For Humanity project. He's also friends with Ralph and Michelle Myers, the recipient of the home. Below: Soldiers participate in preparing the foundation for the Myers' future home back in August.



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Gary Bertsch



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Gary Bertsch

Above: Pvt. Leslie Huggard, Pvt. Shannon Dyers, Pfc. Melissa Prather and Pvt. Howard Green, all of Company E, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, shovel dirt as part of preparing the foundation for the house. Left: Chief Warrant Officer Gary Bertsch, 86th Signal Battalion, sprays paint on the pillar in front of the Myers' new home. The family will be moving into the house Dec. 8.

Double vision: twin soldiers going through AIT, same company, MOS

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart
Scout News Editor

When a drill sergeant for Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion shouts "Specialist Adams, front and center," he or she will need to specify which one.

Twins Tammi and Mandi Adams, from Humble, Iowa, are both currently Human In-

telligence Collector Course students. After graduating, they will go to the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, Calif., and learn Russian. They went to basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

"We joined the Army to serve our country," Mandi said. An added incentive was also that they could pay back their college loans. Both soldiers earned their bachelor's degrees

from the University of Northern Iowa and are sociology and criminology majors.

They said their degrees could allow them to work as social workers, police officers, or even as correctional officers, but they know the Army will provide them with valuable work experience.

They were drawn to their current field because they were intrigued by an early age with

their father's line of work: reconstructing accidents. A former military police officer, their father supports their decision to join the Army. "If it wasn't for him, we would not have considered it. He really liked the Army while he was in for six years," Tammi said. They have one younger brother who may join the Army after finishing his degree, as well.

The twins admit that even though their instructors have a hard time telling them apart, they have not been able to play "good-twin/bad-twin" in the interrogation room. "For training we have to do all our work by ourselves," Mandi said.

"One thing I do like about the training is that it's challenging. You learn a lot about yourself," Mandi said.

"When they tell you to do something, you think 'I can never do that.' So I enjoy pushing myself and reaching my goals. Once things click and start to make sense, it's the greatest feeling," Tammi said.

They both agreed they were not prepared for the helpful, encouraging attitudes of the drill sergeants and instructors. "We were so surprised by how much we like our drill sergeant. Before you join the Army, you picture a drill sergeant as sort of terrifying. Even in basic training they were great, they simply wanted to help us," Tammi said.

Mandi said she was also surprised by the barracks, because they remind her more of college dormitories.

They are not sure if they will make the Army a career, but if they do they are thinking about becoming warrant officers and would like to pursue their master's degree during their first enlistment if the opportunity arises.

After they leave DLI, they are not sure where they will be stationed, but they are prepared to be separated from each other for the first time in 24 years.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Spc. Tammi Adams and Spc. Mandi Adams are part of Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion. They are both Human Intelligence Collector Course students

Crack Talk

Myer School news

Magellan Running Club: Top fourth grade girls, Amadi Cooper, Angel Green from Priscilla Mendoza's room and Jaqui Villa from Lynn Tompkin's room with 56 points. Top fourth-grade boy Was Marlin Green from Jan Camps room with 60 points. Top fourth grade class was Jan Barnes's room with 100 miles. Top fifth-grade girl was Maddisyn Blue from Bonnie Burelson's room with 56 points. Top fifth-grade boy was Raymond Pyle from Desiree Madarang's room with 67 points. Top fifth grade was Bonnie Burelson's room with 209 miles. Last week Myer school had a total of 940 miles for the five days and how has 11,404 miles for the year.

Audrey Mapoles' fabulous fifth graders have made personal license plates for Drug Awareness Resistance Education. They are also working hard on algebra. They are studying about their many emotions and hygiene in health class. Then for the month of Novem-

ber they have studied all about the pilgrims and Puritans.

Regina Cheleigh's fifth-grade class completed their Native American unit with a celebration where the class made wampum, winter counts, totem poles, and sand paintings. Each of these art activities represented a tribe from a different region in the United States. Our class is now studying early colonization of the U.S. We have learned about the mystery of Roanoke Island and made scrolls recounting the events leading up to the mystery. Congratulations to the recent students of the week: Darian Caoni, Kimberly Deasy, Johnny Dewey, and Stephanie Maldonado.

Fifth grade students in Bonnie Burelson's room completed reading the novel series "Sign off the beaver." As a culminating activity they wrote stories about the novel using the "Raftin'" technique. In social studies, they have taken particular interest in researching the explorer Ferdinand Magellan whose ships circumnavigated the globe.

Their class has been in possession of the Mageallan Running Club ribbon since August, so they are interested in the explorer's accomplishments. They welcomed new class member Jessica Holley. Holley has become a dependable runner and is supporting the class in efforts on the track. In Math they are beginning investigations in algebra. They are continuing their efforts in the accelerated reading program as the first A.R. Auction is scheduled for January 2003.

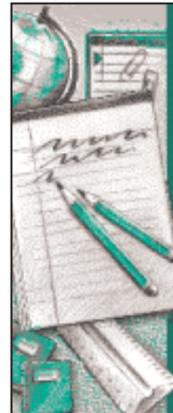
Kim Tomlin's fifth grade class just recently completed their Hyper Studio stacks. They are currently presenting them to the class. They constructed a 3-D model of Jamestown and wrote a paper from the point of view of one of the natives or settlers. They are all looking forward to spending time with their family on Thanksgiving.

Desiree Madarang reports that her fifth grade class can't wait till Thanksgiving. They have been researching the Pilgrims and learn-

ing about the voyage the Pilgrims took. That ship was sure crowded. The class hopes you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

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

There will be a Parent Teacher Student Organization meeting on Dec. 11. Myer school choir will sing songs of Christmas and Santa's workshop will also be open. This starts at 6 p.m.



Pets of the Week



My name is Loki and I am a male brown/black Bull Mastiff Lab Mix. I am housebroken and love to have lots of room to run around in. To keep me all to yourself all you need is \$42 and that will get you all my vaccines, deworm, neuter, microchip, and a heartworm test.



Hello my name is Jenny, and I am a 10-month-old female German Shepherd puppy. I get along with kids and love attention. My fee to take me home with you is \$52 which will include all my vaccines, deworm, spay, microchip, and a heartworm test.



I'm Nala, and I am a female long-haired orange tabby cat. I am loving and friendly as any cat can be. My fee is \$52 which will include my vaccines, deworm, spay, microchip, and a leukemia yest.



Hi there, I'm Eight-Ball. I'm a male fluffy black/white cat. I am very affectionate and need a good home to go to. I will be a great addition to your family. To take me with you, you will need \$42 and that will all include my vaccines up-to-date, deworm, microchip, neuter, and a leukemia test.

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

Book signing at military clothing

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Baker, Army Times Cartoonist will do a book signing at the Military clothing sales store in Building 80503 on Dec. 5 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Enter a drawing to win a hat, T-shirt or Pvt. Murphy cartoon print. If you have any questions call Rosie Jackson at 533-5523.

Alvarado Hall reports date change

The resurfacing of the floors at Alvarado Hall will take longer to complete than originally reported. Fitch Auditorium and command group offices will remain open during normal operating hours. Currently signs are posted on all doors directing you to the appropriate entrances.

DPS Thanksgiving schedule

The Directorate of Public Safety Military Police Administration Office, vehicle registration, and Provost Marshall office will be closed on Thanksgiving and on Friday for the training holiday. All calls should be directed to the MP station at 533-2181/3000.

Safety Office closure

The Installation Safety Office will be closed Friday. Personnel will be on call for emergencies and may be contacted by paging 378-7971.

DOIM Minimal Staff

The Directorate of Installation Management will be minimally staffed on Friday due to the Thanksgiving training holiday. Point of contact for this message is Janet Neal at 533-5211.

MAC luncheon

Cochise County Sheriff Larry Dever is the guest speaker at the Military Affairs Committee luncheon. The event is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Dec. 4 at the LakeSide Activity Centre. This event is open to the public. The cost of the buffet lunch is \$10. For reservations call the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce at 458-6940.

AGD closing

The Military Personnel Services Division, Whitside Hall in the Adjutant General Directorate will be closed Dec. 5 from 8-11:30 a.m. for eMILPO training.

Please do not send any soldiers to in-process. Questions may be addressed to Pam Singer at 533-3267.

Legal notice

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

should also call Ashby at the number above.

VA briefing rescheduled date

The November Army Career Alumin Program newsletter contained a misprint indicating an incorrect date for the December Veterans Affair briefing. The December VA Briefing will be conducted Dec. 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. ACAP apologize for any inconvenience.

Commanders hotline

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

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 periods 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.

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. 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 or www.fisherhouse.org. They can also be picked up at any commissary. The program is open to dependent unmarried children, under the age of 23, of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. Applicants should ensure they're currently enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems database and have a current identification card. The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. The deadline for returning applications by hand or mail to a commissary is Feb. 21, 2003. For more information call Judy Mendez, commissary manager at 533-5540.

Military Appreciation Days

Dillard's has announced Military Appreciation Days 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.

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 stateside 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 e-mail reillyjef@aafes.com.

Range closures

Range closures for today through Dec. 5.
Today—AU
Thursday—No Closures
Friday—AU
Saturday—No Closures
Sunday—No Closures
Monday—AF, AM, AU, AV, T1, T1A, T2
Tuesday—AF, AL, AM, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2
Wednesday—AF, AL, AU, T1, T1A, T2
Dec. 5—AF, AL, AM, AU, T1, T1A, T2
For more information on range closures call 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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Community Events Calendar</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6870.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Early Bird sale at AAFES</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Friday & Saturday from 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">USAIC & FH Holiday Ball</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Dec. 6 at the LakeSide Activity Centre.</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Social Hour begins at 6 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Tickets are \$25 each</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">call 533-4220 for more information</p> </div>						
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">1</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue; transform: rotate(-45deg); position: absolute; left: -40px; top: 20px;">December</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilida Townsend at 458-9647. • Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Thanna Smith at 432-3883. • Hummingbird Stitches Quilt Guild Christmas Party at OYCC begins at 6 p.m. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 (PPIP) & 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. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holiday Tree & Menorah Lighting Ceremony at MPC beginning at 5 p.m. • SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. • Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. • Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer, Kindergarten at 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 @ 1:30 p.m. Johnston, grades 1 – 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • City of Sierra Vista Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44th Annual Sierra Vista Christmas Parade down Fry Blvd begins at 10 a.m. • 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 info. • Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 – 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fort Huachuca Tour of Historic Homes from 2 – 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Military Intelligence Museum, MWR Box Office, and the SV Chamber of Commerce. Call 459-0358 for information. This event is open to the public. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilida Townsend at 458-9647. • Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Dianna Smith at 432-3883. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 (PPIP) & Health Promotion Class meets from 2 – 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info. • Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. • Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. • Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. • Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer, Kindergarten at 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 @ 1:30 p.m. Johnston, grades 1 – 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buena HS half-day In-Service Day. • Blood Drive at Eifler Gym from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. remember to drive lots of fluids the day before and eat a light snack before you donate. • Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 – 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. • Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. • City of Sierra Vista Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall. 	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>MCC = Murr Community Center MPC = Main Post Chapel OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center</p>						
<p style="font-weight: bold;">Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330</p>						

Kubs Komer

Fort Huachuca Civilian of the Month for November

NAME: Trisha Lopez

Lopez acts as a non-supervisory leader to the School Age Services staff. She inspires the staff to high standards through her program management skills and leadership abilities. As a mentor and positive role model to youth staff, she has helped create a family atmosphere in the program.

Her integrated program of Activity Centers, Homebase Activities, Boys & Girls Club, 4-H Project Clubs, and weekly trips to the computer lab and bowling is a model for other military installations. The school age program would not be able to offer this many choices to our youth without Lopez's attention to detail and exceptional ability to coordinate these activities. Lopez works on a daily basis with the Training and Program Specialist to ensure age-appropriate activities are planned for the children.

For the past six months, Lopez has been busy working outside of the classroom with the staff trainer and director to: provide increased planning for our youth, provide increased customer service for the parents, act as a liaison between other program assistants and management, and help introduce the program to the new Child and Youth Management System.

FIRE from Page 1

around 2 p.m. the winds died down to three to seven knots.”

Hauck mentioned another big break for the firefighters was that the fire burned slowly primarily in the brush and not into the trees. Also he said slurry dropped onto the blaze area was critical in extinguishing the fire.

The U.S. Forest Service Tanker Air Base serviced two planes with fire retardant. A total of 11 flights were made during which 5,000 gallons of slurry was dropped to fight the fire.

Six hours after the fire began the firefighters had it under control and by the end of the day it was fully contained.

The next day the firefighters made patrols through the area to eliminate any hot spots that might have remained.

Hauck said the fort was lucky the fire didn't spread and burn more than it did and although the winter season is approaching, the fire hazard remains high for the post.

“The fuel loads for a fire is still heavy,” Hauck said. “We have dry temperatures and with the little rain we received from this year's monsoon season, it's still ripe for a horrendous fire.”

MARS from Page 2

-talized veterans who may not have family or friends nearby during the holiday season.

This program is a great opportunity for anyone, including students in middle school, high school and college to send holiday greetings in the form of MARSgrams to service members and veterans, said Sutton.

Anyone can participate the Operation Holidays program.

The easiest way to send a MARSgram is to connect to the Army MARS web page, www.netcom.army.mil, click on “MARSgrams” in the left hand column, and follow instructions. You can also mail your MARSgram messages to the Fort



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

A military policeman watches as a soldier evacuates a training area near Range 8 not long after the fire began. The fire started after a round ricocheted off a rock igniting the blaze.

Huachuca MARS station: Commander, NETCOM/9th ASC, ATTN: NETC-OPE-MS (MARS Station), 2133 Cushing Street, Fort Huachuca, Ariz. 85613-7070, or e-mail to NETC-OPE-MS@netcom.army.mil.

MARSgrams must have a “to” and “from” address and contain no more than 50 words (not including addresses).

All MARSgrams to a friend or family member must include rank, full name, military unit address, APO and, if available, the phone number of the addressee. To send a MARSgram to an unknown service member or veteran, put “any servicemember” or “any veteran” in the address box.