



The Fort Huachuca Scout



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November 20, 2003

Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Commissary hours

Monday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thanksgiving day - Closed
Nov. 28- Closed
Dec. 22 - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Christmas day - Closed
Dec. 26 - Closed
Dec. 29 - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
New Years day - Closed
All other days normal operating hours.

DeCA Scholarships

The Defense Commissary Agency Scholarships for Military Children program is administered by Fisher House Foundation and is funded by the manufacturers and other vendors that sell groceries and perform services in the commissary system.

The general public can participate in funding the scholarships by making donations through the Web site at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Applications are available online at <http://www.commissary.com> or at any commissary worldwide for the 2004 program. The application period runs until Feb. 18, 2004.

Advisory Council

The Post Exchange/Commissary Advisory Council, will meet Nov. 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Murr Community Center.

Clothing and sales

New military Clothing and Sales tentative opening will be Dec. 1.

The new building is located in Prosser Village in the old Ozone building.

Tree lighting

The holiday tree lighting ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. on Dec. 4 at the Main Post Chapel.

DFAC Thanksgiving

The hours for the Yardley dining facility on Thanksgiving day are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Soldiers and 2 to 4 p.m. for retirees and civilians.

INSIDE

Heritage Month

Check out the heritage and history of Native Americans. Page 3

MI Heritage Run

111th hosted fifth annual Military Intelligence Heritage Run, Saturday, see story on Page B1

Soldiers Honored

Salute to military at hockey game, see story on Page B6

13th Sergeant Major of the Army named

U.S. ARMY NEWS RELEASE

Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Chief of Staff of the Army General Peter J. Schoomaker announced Nov. 18 that Command Sergeant Major Kenneth O. Preston has been selected as the 13th Sergeant Major of the Army.

Preston will succeed SMA Jack L. Tilley when he retires Jan. 15, 2004.

"This is an exciting day for the Army and for CSM Preston," said Tilley. "He is an outstanding choice to be the 13th SMA. He brings a great deal of experience to the table and will do great things for our Army."

The SMA designee has been serving as the command sergeant major for V Corps in Heidelberg, Germany, since April 2001. He is also serving as the command sergeant major for Combined Joint Task Force

7 serving in Baghdad, Iraq.

Preston will be sworn in as the newest Army senior enlisted advisor during ceremonies at the Pentagon on Jan. 15, 2004.

As Sergeant Major of the Army, Preston will serve as the Army Chief of Staff's personal advisor on all enlisted-related matters, particularly in areas affecting soldier training, noncommissioned officer leader development and well being for families.

The SMA travels extensively throughout the world observing Army training and operations. The SMA listens to concerns and provides feedback and recommendations to Army and Department of Defense leadership regarding improvements in quality of life.

In addition, he sits on a wide variety of councils and boards that make decisions affecting enlisted soldiers and their families. The SMA routinely is in-



Photo by Master Sgt. Richard Puckett

Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley, (left), 13th SMA-designee Kenneth Preston, (center), and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bush, 1st Armored Division, (right), are pictured in a photo in Iraq July 20, 2003 at the Baghdad Airport.

ited to testify before Congress.

Preston is a native of Mount Savage, Md., and was born Feb. 18, 1957. Preston entered the Army on June 30, 1975, and has served in every enlisted leadership position from tank commander to command sergeant major.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, one Bronze Star,

four Meritorious Service Medals, six Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, Southwest Asia Service Ribbon, Liberation of Kuwait Ribbon (Saudi Arabia), Kosovo Medal, the NATO Medal and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

He and his wife Karen have three children, Valerie, Kenneth and Michael.

Ray of light at Prosser Village



Photo by Spc. Matthew Chlosta

Left, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class William Webster and right, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class James Fredrickson Jr., both with the Center for Cryptology Detachment, Fort Huachuca, unveil a plaque of Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class David Ray, during the Prosser Village Troop Medical Clinic dedication, Friday.

Counterterrorism class preps troops for new threat, face of battle

JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

The 306th Military Intelligence Battalion's Intelligence Support to Counterterrorism class is taking already qualified interrogators and analysts to a whole new level.

The soldiers are receiving "cultural awareness" training to better prepare them for the situations they are facing in Iraq, said Chief Warrant Officer Tamara Rodriguez, lead ISCT instructor.

The ISCT classes are unit based, Rodriguez said. Additional seats are given to interested individual intelligence soldiers who met the prerequisites, Rodriguez said.

Currently, units rotating out of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba are being trained in ISCT, Rodriguez said. Approximately 40-60 soldiers rotate in and out of Guantanamo Bay every six to 12 months.

The intelligence soldiers stationed there were taking up to three months to analyze the intelligence they were obtaining, Rodriguez said.

"It was taking up to eight weeks of their tour to figure out the cultural and religious idiosyncrasies of the detainees," Rodriguez said.

The skills learned in the ISCT course will take approximately 45 days off of the analyzation time.

The five week course consists of a week of common core classes including "cultural immersion into the Middle Eastern mindset, true Islam versus radical Islam and les

Troop medical clinic dedicated to Medal of Honor recipient

SPC. MATTHEW CHLOSTA
SCOUT STAFF

The Prosser Village Troop Medical Clinic was dedicated in a ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Friday to honor a Navy Medal of Honor and Vietnam veteran.

The clinic was named after Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class David Ray, who for conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

"This clinic treats over 28,000 airmen, sailors, Marines and Soldiers a year," said Navy Chief Warrant Officer Mark Countryman, officer in charge, Center for Cryptology Detachment, Fort Huachuca.

"Today we dedicate this facility to a true patriot," said Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, "Today we remember."

Following a tour on a hospital ship and service at the Naval Hospital Long Beach, Calif., from 1966-1968, Ray requested a tour of duty with the Marines.

In July 1968 he was attached to the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, in Vietnam.

During a firefight, Ray saved several lives by administering first aid.

In a final act of heroism,

Ray was mortally wounded by a grenade blast from which he was shielding a wounded Marine.

Ray's sister, Mary Bixby and nephew, David Lentz participated in the ceremony.

Bixby addressed the crowd and said, "Thank you for honoring him and his memory."

For conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, Ray was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

"In life, you cannot choose your circumstances," Marks said of Ray.

"He chose country. He was not too busy to save others. He gave his life, so that others may live."



Photo by Sgt. Kristi T. Jaeger

Cleanin' machine

Pfc. Donnie Duncan, 40th Signal Battalion, removes trash from a swampy area, Monday, during the post's annual Fall Cleanup. See related story and photos on Page 4.

Have you heard?

The Fort Huachuca Scout has only four weeks left for print.

The final edition for 2003 is Dec. 19.



Commentary

BY PAT DILLINGHAM
DEPUTY PAO

The eyes were beautiful – big and brown. For a second I could see them through my car window, no more than a foot away.

Then... a loud crunch, a white-tailed deer was lying along the edge of Winrow Avenue, the front of my car was crumpled, and I was pulling over to the shoulder of the road.

It was a cold, rather dreary evening in December, and I was on my way home from work. I was focusing on other drivers and vehicles around me and thinking about my family's evening plans and what to fix for dinner – not about deer. There were no deer in the roadway, and I wasn't prepared for the possibility of them being in the grass along the side of the road. So, when a deer took just that instant to try and leap across the road – and my car happened to be in its way – it wasn't a pretty sight.

Of course I was devastated. To see that beautiful animal up so close in the instant before it hit my car was very sad. Fortunately, it died instantly; to have it wander off wounded would have been even worse.

I called the military police (I wasn't sure if I needed to, but thought I might, for insurance purposes if nothing else). While the MP was taking my statement, three people stopped to ask if they could take the deer (for its meat).

Damage to my car was approximately \$1,500 and the time it took for the repairs to be made were an inconvenience, to say the least.

I hope I never have to go through this all again. And, I hope none of you do, either. However, when I spoke to Sheridan Stone, Fort Huachuca Wildlife Biologist, he told me this happens about 20 times each year (down from approximately 50 times each year when the deer population was higher). So, here are a few safety tips that I hope will help prevent some deer-vehicle collisions and information to help you know what to do if it does happen.

Heightened deer activity occurs from about one hour before sunset to an hour after sunrise, which means that human rush hours and high deer activity times tend to collide. According to Stone, 60 to 70 percent of deer/vehicle collisions on Fort Huachuca occur from the LakeSide Activity Centre down Allison Road to just past Range Control on Winrow. The next greatest risk area is along Canelo Road by Black Tower and out to the West Gate. The third highest area is along Hatfield, about one mile inside

the East Gate.

As Stone says, it's up to all of us to mentally expect deer to be there – both ahead on the road and off to both sides (use your peripheral vision – I guess that's where I failed).

Be aware that they're herd animals; if you see one deer, chances are there are others nearby. If your headlights are on, use your high beams. And, just as important, even though the speed limit might be 45 mph, keep your speed down to 35 mph. This allows you more time to see around you and more reaction time, should a deer appear.

If you've taken all these precautions and a deer still is poised to hit your car, Stone recommends not swerving to avoid the animal. He says motorists often cause even more serious accidents by trying to avoid a deer and, instead, hitting another vehicle or running off the road.

If you do have an accident with a deer, Stone says you should stop and call the MPs. Even though you may not need an MP report to send in with your insurance claim (remember, all this is between you and your insurance company; there is no government liability), it's important to let post officials know. The MPs notify the post wildlife biologists, who track these incidents for wildlife management purposes (so they know where the deer are going for food, and so they can track a wounded animal, if necessary).

If you, as the driver, want the deer for the meat, ask the MP for a "transport tag." This will allow you to take the animal. This holds true both on and off post. Animals cannot be taken by anyone other than the driver. Deer that are not taken by the vehicle driver are either donated to local charities for food or to the University of Arizona to be used by veterinary students in their studies.

I hope this has given you all some things to think about. If you have any questions or want more information, call Stone at 533-7083.

We're entering into one of the "peaks" of deer activity (winter, especially into January), but collisions between deer and vehicles can and do happen all year long.

Please be aware that these animals are out there and take a few extra precautions to ensure everyone's safety. I know I'm a lot more cautious these days, and I do my best to look around carefully, anticipate where deer might be, and slow down in the areas I know to be high deer zones.



BY CHAPLAIN (MAJ) DENNIS R. NITSCHKE
ACTING COMMAND CHAPLAIN, NETCOM

"I'm in a hurry to get things done, oh I rush and rush until life's no fun. All I really gotta do is live and die, but I'm in a hurry and don't know why." - Alabama

Okay, last week I advertised that Spirit Warrior '03 (SW) would have an encore program this Friday. Well...many things happened, out of my control, and SW won't happen this Friday. However, it will take place Dec. 5.

You may not realize the agony I went through this past week because I "had to get SW done!"

In my own mind SW was so important that I was willing to run a half-baked program with partial advertising to include poor music and speaker coordination just because I wanted it to happen.

However, there was a sane moment when my three brain cells came together for a clear thought and I decided that the best decision was to not conduct the program at this time. For someone with my intensity (and ego), that decision was hard to make. But...listening to the Alabama song, "I'm In A Hurry (and Don't Know Why)," I believe I also came to

the point that pushing for the program just wasn't any fun and I just didn't know the reason "why" I was in a hurry. Some of my friends said it was because SW was my "last hurrah" on active duty (and I think they are partially right) and others believed that I had to be doing something because "doing" is in my nature (and I think they are there too). And this got me to thinking.

We, most people, are so much into "doing" that we forget about "being." We "do" shopping for Christmas, we "do" activities to raise money for unit members, we "do" go to church or "do" recreational events. We "do" a lot of things.

What if we were to "be?" What if we were to "be" the meaning behind Christmas in our community, or "be" the friend/comrade-in-arms for our unit members and families, or "be" the servant in our church, or "be" the father, mother, etc. and enjoy our family outings simply because we are together. I believe it would make life so much simpler.

So, what did I learn from this? Better planning? Sure. But most of all, not to get all rushed and worried over something that can be changed, moved or even cancelled. There is far too much "out there" for me to "be" than to worry more about "doing."

How about you? Are you running around trying to "do" so much for yourself or family or friends that you don't know who you are ("being")? I urge you to take a break; to reevaluate what is really important in your life — and then grasp it and hold on for the ride!

The Army slogan once was "Be all you can be." I've come to the quiet of my mind thinking that is good daily advice. Thanks to Alabama, slow down, have some fun and come to understand the "why" of all of what you do - and just be!

Cochise County West Nile virus update

SCOUT REPORTS

Cooler days and fewer hours of sunlight have greatly impacted mosquito breeding. Mosquito numbers have diminished and the virus transmission cycle of West Nile Virus between mosquitoes and birds is slowing down.

Experts at the Arizona Department of Health Services reported that the activity should be slow enough to cause the virus cycle to break down.

The county has been fortunate to date as there have been no local reports of West Nile Virus in humans, birds or horses. However even with

diminished breeding, mosquitoes are still around and county residents should take precautions to stay safe from mosquito bites.

Use insect repellent when working or venturing out, particularly during peak mosquito hours, dusk to dawn. Wear clothing that covers your arms and legs for further protection from bites.

County residents should continue to be vigilant in removing any standing water on their property. Outside pet water dishes should be changed

at least twice a week. Look for standing water in old tires, check for leaky faucets, and make sure pools and ponds are maintained.

Cochise County environmental health specialists have stopped trapping mosquitoes as the state lab has shut down its WNV mosquito testing program for the year. Dead birds are not being tested, either.

However, Cochise County Environmental Health Division personnel are already making plans for next year's West Nile virus season.

WNV protocols will be updated in early 2004. Information will be distributed to the public in early spring.



Scout on the Street



"Warren Sapp. Because of his comments about the NFL. You make millions of dollars. What do you have to complain about? Shut up and play."

Andre Boudy, enrollment counselor, University of Phoenix.



"Nicole Kidman. Because she wronged Tom Cruise."

Melissa Renee, enrollment counselor, University of Phoenix.



"Halle Berry. To see her in boxing attire."

Staff Sgt. Ashonte Davis, noncommissioned officer academy.



"Kobe Bryant. He showed lack of judgement. He didn't learn from Mike Tyson."

Staff Sgt. Virna Leggett, Company Alpha, 319th Military Intelligence Battalion.



"Lennox Lewis. It would just be an honor to fight him, because he's a great champion."

Jasper Driver, civilian.



"Britney Spears. Put some clothes on. Please."

Kim Stafford, senior enrollment counselor, University of Phoenix.

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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259th engineers end adventures on post

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

The 259th Engineer Company, Arizona National Guard, assumed mission on Fort Huachuca on June 10 to assist with post safety and security. As of Nov. 13, they've been demobilized and preparing to return to weekend drills and their civilian careers and personal lives.

Soldiers in the 259th are from all over the state of Arizona, but their unit's base is in Phoenix.

The unit will return to their National Guard drill commitment in February and drill until they're next activated, said Capt. Tom Wells, the 259th company commander.

The Soldiers of the unit are usually asphalt engineers, Wells said. Their mission consists of blasting and crushing rock and mixing and laying asphalt for roads, air strips and parking lots.

On post they've been involved in force protection, Wells said.

At the entrance gates to post, Soldiers have been performing access control and vehicle searches, Wells said.

In addition, two 13-Soldier teams were trained as quick reaction teams to be on 24-hour call for any safety and security emergencies on post, Wells said.

While here, the unit was involved in demolishing 6000 feet of asphalt on Wilcox Road., Wells said.

They also constructed a rock crushing site in Florence, Ariz. which fulfills one of their mission essential task list requirements.

The 259th was deployed in 1990 to serve in the first Gulf War, Wells said. They were involved in runway and helipad operations in the Middle East. For their service they received a Meritorious Unit Citation.

For a young unit, "this mission is so great for us. Soldiers got to attend MOS schools and other military training they never would have got to take advantage of overseas," Wells said.

The unit is still working on reaching full personnel, equipment and readiness strength.

The demobilization ceremony is at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Brown Parade Field.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald L. Sparks

Members of the 259th Engineer Company upon its arrival at Fort Huachuca for active duty in June.

Fort works with 11 Native People tribes

BY JOAN VASEY
MEDIA RELATIONS SPECIALIST

The purpose of National American Indian Heritage Month is to honor and recognize the original peoples of this land, particularly in light of the special legal relationship between Tribes and the U.S. government, and because of the important contributions of American Indian and Alaska Native peoples to this country. Congress first enacted a month-long recognition of Native Americans in 1990 and the president has issued a proclamation each year since then.

Because Fort Huachuca has government-to-government relationships with 11 tribes of native people, November offers a special opportunity to increase awareness of the various tribes.

Consultation is the process of obtaining information from one or more groups, then incorporating these ideas or suggestions into a management plan, when possible, according to Dr. Charles Slaymaker, historic properties manager, Directorate of Installation Support.

"Consultation with the 11 tribes is the law but consultation between Fort Huachuca and the tribes also encourages exemplary stewardship of historic and natural properties on the fort. The garrison commander consults on a Nation-To-Nation basis with the chairpersons of the tribes. Staff level consultation is ongoing between the historic properties manager and tribal representatives but formal decisions are made between the garrison commander and tribal chairpersons with the advice and consent of tribal councils," Slaymaker explained.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, Salt River-Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and the Tohono O'odham Nation are four more tribes that Fort Huachuca consults with on various

projects that occur on post.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community lies in the Santa Cruz Valley south of Phoenix. It is quite small having only about 600 members and a reservation of less than 22,000 acres established in 1912. Members are from both O'odham and Pima people; O'odham being the more desert adapted prehistorically and historically, while the Pima occupied much of the land along the river valleys. The Ak-Chin own and operate a 109-acre industrial park that was constructed in 1971. However, the Ak-Chin are best known for their farming enterprises and for ownership and operation of Harrah's Casino.

According to Slaymaker, the Ak-Chin consider Fort Huachuca part of their ancestral land base and acknowledge the Huachuca Mountains as sacred. Pictographs found at the Garden Canyon and Rappell Cliff Rock Shelter sites are similar to Hohokam pictographs identified at sites in other parts of Arizona, and the tribe considers these two areas sacred. They are also concerned about the natural environment and its preservation.

"The Ak Chin, Gila River, Salt River Pima, and Tohono O'odham are known as the Southern Tribes and claim ancestry to the ancient Hohokam culture which once existed in the Phoenix and Tucson Basins; and in the Gila, and San Pedro River drainages. The latter includes portions of Fort Huachuca. The Hopi Tribe also claims ancestry to the Hohokam and, in this way, is presumably related to the Southern Tribes," Slaymaker said.

The Gila River Indian Community is composed of Pima and Maricopa tribal members. The Maricopa traditionally occupied lands near the Colorado River while the Pima farmed along the Gila River for centuries.

Their reservation was one of the earliest established, in 1859, and contains 372,000 acres with headquarters in Sacaton. The Tribe recently expanded its definition of their ancestral lands, the "Pima Universe". It now includes the Santa Catalina, Pajarita, Huachuca, and Whetstone Mountain Ranges, and the western edge of the Galiuro Mountains.

The Gila River Indian Community traces its roots to the Hohokam, prehistoric Indians who lived and farmed along the Gila River Basin centuries ago, according to Slaymaker. They are directly related to the Tohono O'odham who are acknowledged by all consulting tribes as the most likely descendants of the people inhabiting the Garden Canyon site.

"Strong archaeological evidence supports this connection," Slaymaker says.

The Salt River-Pima-Maricopa Indian Community established in 1879 consists of about 53,000 acres northeast of Phoenix with about 6,000 members and headquarters in Scottsdale. Out of respect for their land, the Community maintains 19,000 of its acres as natural preserve, Slaymaker says.

The secondary land use is agriculture, which supports a variety of crops including cotton, melons, potatoes, brown onions, and carrots. Within a commercial corridor, the

Community has leased its property for development of the Pavilions, a 140-acre retail power center, thought to be the largest retail commercial development ever built on Indian lands. In addition to the aforementioned activities, the Slat River Community operates a landfill which has received national awards for design and environmental excellence, according to Slaymaker.

Tohono O'odham Nation. O'odham peoples generally consider themselves descendants of the Hohokam who occupied much of the desert and river valleys of southern Arizona for at least a thousand years, according to several sources. Historically O'odham peoples moved seasonally across the western portions of the Coronado and lived in villages surrounding the mountains. Arivaca was one such settlement where Tohono O'odham occupation ended in 1916 when the Papago Indian Reservation was established and those living outside the reservation were forced to move to it. Today O'odham people live on four reservation with four different tribal governments. The Tohono O'odham Nation is by far the largest with about 25,000 people on approximately 2.8 million acres and a capital in Sells. The Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona is comparable in size to the state of Connecticut, according to Slaymaker. Within its land, the nation has established an industrial park that is located near Tucson. Its tenants include Caterpillar, the Desert Diamond Casino (owned by the tribe), and a 23-acre foreign trade zone.

In addition to having similar ties as the other tribes to the Fort Huachuca installation, they are acknowledged by all consulting tribes as the most likely descendants of the people inhabiting the Garden Canyon site, according to Slaymaker.

Next week, the final article for Native American Heritage month will cover three more of the 11 tribes of Native People with whom Fort Huachuca consults.

President proclaims Nov. as Native American Heritage Month

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation During National American Indian Heritage Month, we honor the accomplishments and culture of American Indians and Alaska Natives and recognize their contributions to our country.

To help educate Americans and illustrate the important role of

these native people to our Nation, the new National Museum of the American Indian will open next year.

American Indians and Alaska Natives have a long tradition of serving with pride and accomplishment in the United States Armed Forces.

Today, their patriotism is reflected in the more than 13,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives serving on active duty and the more than 6,400 reservists.

In Iraq, Specialist Lori Piestewa of the Army's 507th Maintenance Company and a member of the Hopi tribe, was the first American servicewoman killed in Opera-

tion Iraqi Freedom and the only known American Indian woman killed in action in any conflict. Her bravery, service, and sacrifice are an inspiration to our men and women in uniform and to all Americans.

To ensure the future success of America's tribal communities, my Administration is committed to improving education, increasing employment and economic development, and ensuring better access to health and human services for all American Indians and Alaska natives.

Government-wide, we proposed in the 2004 Budget to spend over \$11 billion on Native American programs. The Department of Education's Office of Indian Education is working to implement the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 within the Native American community.

Indian tribes, schools, and local education agencies that serve American Indian and Native Alaska children will have access to nearly \$122 million in grants to improve education opportunities.

In addition, the Department of the Interior's 2004 program includes over \$49 million for America's tribal colleges and universities. This investment will help American Indian students reach their full potential and achieve their dreams.

We are also working to address the healthcare needs of American Indians, particularly the rising incidence of diabetes.

The United States has a strong relationship with American Indian tribes and Alaska Native entities. By continuing to work on a government-to-government

basis with these tribal governments, we are fostering greater understanding and promoting tribal self-determination and self-governance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2003 as National American Indian Heritage Month.

This month, I encourage citizens to learn more about the rich heritage of American Indians and Alaska Natives and the role they have played in building and sustaining our Nation and to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

GEORGE W. BUSH





Pfc. Christopher Thompson, 40th Signal Battalion, helps Pvt. Jason Schenck, also with 40th Signal Bn., start a weed wacker while participating in Fall Cleanup on Monday.

Fall Cleanup on fort

Time of year to 'give a hoot, not pollute'

SCOUT REPORTS

Reflective belts, gloves and soft caps were donned Monday to begin the start of this year's Fall Cleanup.

Trash bags were handed out as Soldiers with the Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca set out during duty hours to police up selected areas of post.

For the duration of Fall Cleanup, each unit has assigned tasks and areas to clean, said Master Sgt. Mary D'Amico.

Main areas of concern are the cantonment and the ranges.

Helping the environment, cleaning the training areas, making Fort Huachuca beautiful and promoting various units working as teams are some of the benefits of Fall Cleanup, D'Amico said.

There will be a contest for the best quarters on post, said D'Amico. The winner will receive a sign to display in the yard.

Fall Cleanup is the time of year to be proud of making Fort Huachuca a beautiful place to work and to live.



Above, Thompson trims grass and weeds on the incline of an embankment during Fall Cleanup Monday. Left, Duncan polices up an aluminum can, amongst other trash, found among the tall grass.



Photos by Sgt. Kristi T. Jaeger

Pfc. Donnie Duncan, 40th Signal Bn., picks up trash near the intersection of Cushing and Arizona streets.



Innovative safety programs being developed

BY STEVE DAVIS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army's top safety official said Nov. 6 that innovative Web and leader-based programs are being developed to help prevent accidents.

Speaking during an officer professional development class at the 6th Cavalry Brigade in Korea, Brig. Gen. Joe Smith, director of the U.S. Army Safety Center, said the programs will promote "Three Deep" risk management measures involving soldiers and at least three supervisors or leaders at various levels in the chain of command.

"Accidents are caused by an experience gap," said Smith. "While supervisors and leaders may not be able to pass their safety experiences directly to their Soldiers, they can pass along their knowledge and awareness about safety."

He said the U.S. Army Safety Center is developing tools to help supervisors and leaders meet a mandate set forth by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld to reduce accidents by 50 percent by 2005 and beyond.

During Fiscal Year 2003, there were 259 Army military fatalities at a cost of more than \$521 million, said Smith.

He presented statistics to illustrate the need to reduce accidents:

One hundred nine pri-

vately-owned vehicle accidents accounted for 42.1 percent of all military fatalities

Army vehicle accidents plus POV accidents accounted for 61.4 percent of all fatalities

Personal injury accidents accounted for 22.8 percent of fatalities. Water, weapons, heat injuries and falls accounted for 51 of the 59 deaths.

The other eight fatalities included taxi, choking, snowboarding, industrial, train and pedestrian accidents

Thirty-four aviation accidents accounted for 13.1 percent of all fatalities

Seven fires or explosions accounted for 2.7 percent of all fatalities

"One-half of our fatalities for the past 10 years have been POVs," said Smith, referring to soldiers' privately owned vehicles. "Statistics show that Soldiers are falling asleep when they are returning to base from pass or leave."

The group at highest risk is male Soldiers from 19 to 24 years old driving back to base during the last six hours of a three-day pass. Causal factors were predominantly speed, fatigue and failure to use a seatbelt or motorcycle helmet.

Smith said supervisors must get more involved to help Soldiers understand the risk they face while on pass or leave, and suggested that it

may become mandatory in the future for Soldiers to complete a Web-based risk assessment before being granted a pass or leave.

A privately owned vehicle trip planner and risk assessment tool is being beta-tested already on the safety center's Web site (<http://safety.army.mil/home.html>) to make Soldiers aware of the risks they face while traveling on a particular route to and from leave or pass.

The Soldiers are asked a series of questions, including their intended route, fatigue and weather conditions and other factors.

A "risk matrix" is then generated that includes a recommended driving route, along with road and weather conditions the Soldier may encounter.

The Soldier would be required to score high enough on the risk matrix to be granted a pass, Smith said, adding that a copy of the Soldier's risk matrix and score would automatically be e-mailed to the Soldier's immediate supervisor.

If the Soldier passed the risk assessment, the program would also generate a report that would be attached to the Soldier's three-day pass paperwork.

"We have to change the dynamics of risk assessment and put effective control measures in place to save Soldiers'

lives," said Smith. "Simply telling a Soldier not to drink and drive, or don't drive when you're sleepy, doesn't work."

Smith said the U.S. Army Safety Center, which has always done cause-of-accident investigations for aviation accidents, is adding POV centralized accident investigations to its program.

Fort Lewis, Wash., is the first installation to actively investigate POV accidents.

Army motor vehicle accidents resulted in 173 injuries and 31 deaths in Fiscal Year 2003, Smith said. Trends indicate that most accidents occurred in convoys in forward areas due primarily to speed, environment and failure to use seat belts. From Fiscal Year 2002 to the present, rollovers accounted for 42.9 percent of all Army military vehicle Class A accidents. To reduce military vehicle accidents, Smith said a "black box" has been identified that can be used to record driving speed and other factors.

Other planned safety initiatives include the development and embedding of key software enablers into the Aviation Mission Planning System and unit-level computer systems and finding a way to reduce the number of injuries resulting from the accidental discharge of weapons.

"One-half of our enemy is accidents," said Smith. "If we cut accidents, we will save a lot of Soldiers."

Post service projects

SCOUT REPORTS

Anyone that is looking to get involved in helping the Fort Huachuca community can. Projects range in skill level and anyone who is willing to help out can explained James Chambers, deputy garrison commander.

Projects that need to be done include, but are not limited to:

- Police Huachuca Creek between Huachuca Canyon picnic area and Canelo Road, and north of Canelo Road through Heritage park to include trails.
- Trail maintenance/repair of crest trail and spurs and Huachuca Canyon trails.
- Landscaping maintenance around Intelligence Center facilities.
- Weed Xeriscaping areas such as Main Gate and traffic circle.
- Huachuca Canyon trail vegetation maintenance and clean up.
- Clean up around fishing ponds
- North Gate clean up
- Clean vegetation around wildlife water catchments
- Installing bluebird boxes
- Painting of facilities, both inside and out at Barnes Field House, Mountain View Golf Course, and the Sportsman's Center.
- Clean up, mowing and weeds from outside facilities at Barnes Field House, MWR Rents and the RV Storage lot, ITR MWR Box Office, Desert Lanes and the Sportsman's Center.
- MWR Arts Center would like to offer children's after school art programs as well as needing assistance with art shows, art gallery and the scholarship program.
- Repairing park benches and filling pot holes at the golf course.
- Clean up of Lower, Middle, Upper and Huachuca Canyon picnic areas.
- Reservoir Hill is in need of paint and some tables need roof repair.
- Clean up and repairs to the Boy and Girl Scout cabins.
- "Everyday we could add to this list of projects," Chambers said.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for a community project can contact the volunteer coordinator, Kimberly Bridges at 533-4823.

Army implementing unit stop loss, stop movement

U.S. ARMY NEWS RELEASE

On Nov. 13, Les Brownlee, acting secretary of the Army, approved implementation of the Active Army Unit Stop Loss Program. For the purpose of this announcement the term Active Army means those units of the Army not part of the Army National Guard or Army Reserve Components.

The current operational situation warrants that the Army implements the Active Army Unit Stop Loss Program based on the commitment to pursue the Global War On Terrorism for the immediate future, to provide our combatant commanders the force to decisively defeat those that threaten our security, and to ensure our unit formations are ready, cohesive and at their best to effect forthcoming rotational plans.

Retaining the Reserve Component Unit Stop Loss and re-instituting the Active Army Unit Stop Loss and Stop Movement provides equity for all components and ensures unit stability from alert through redeployment/demobilization.

This Active Army Unit Stop Loss program will only apply to Soldiers assigned to units selected for outside the continental United States deployment in support of Operation Enduring

Freedom, 5th rotation and Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2nd rotation.

Additionally, Soldiers in units providing the transition from OIF1 to OIF2 will also be subject to unit stop loss/stop movement from OIF2 TOA for the duration of deployment.

Implementation of the Stop Loss program will be executed substantially as follows:

This program affects Soldiers assigned to units alerted for deployment overseas to participate in operations described above.

It is intended that Active Army Unit Stop Loss would begin at deployment minus 90 days and continue through the unit redeployment plus 90 days.

Soldiers in Active Army units already deployed, participating in the above-designated OCONUS operations, will not be included under this policy.

From the date of approval, Active Army Soldiers on terminal leave or who have shipped household goods in preparation for transition from service or who are within 14 days of separation date will not be subject to this Active Army unit stop loss program.

Other exceptions will be furnished in detailed implementing instructions to be issued by commander, Army Human Resources Command.

The AHRC commander also remains the stop loss exception to policy authority for Active Army Soldiers with compassionate and/or compelling reasons.

The total number of Soldiers affected by this policy cannot be provided due to operational sensitivities.

When stop loss is lifted, personnel strength managers will regulate separation dates to ensure no adverse impact on Army-wide readiness.

The Acting Secretary of the Army has also approved lifting the remaining officer specialty and enlisted Military Occupational Specialty currently subject to the All Component, 12-Month, Skill-Based Stop Loss Program.

The decision to lift officer specialty area of concentration 53, Information Systems Management, and enlisted Military Occupational Specialty 55D, Explosive Ordnance

Disposal Specialist, will affect approximately 100 Active Army, 204 Army Reserve and 304 National Guard soldiers.

These soldiers, as they begin their transition from the Army, will be provided sufficient time to complete transition/career counseling processing and demobilization activities.

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

This approval effectively discontinues the



All Component, 12-Month Skill-Based Stop Loss program for both the Active Army and Reserve Components.

Prior to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, the Army last used stop loss during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990.

Stop loss does not affect most involuntary separations or retirements, nor does it generally limit laws, regulations or policies that lead to involuntary separations, retirements or releases from active duty.

Prior to Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Enduring Freedom, the Army last used stop loss during in 1990.

To ensure that personnel operating strengths are maintained, to provide cohesion and stability in units and to ensure inventory is available to meet requirements, Headquarters, Department of the Army will also implement Stop Movement which will suspend the permanent change of station moves for Soldiers assigned to the units which are subject to the Active Army Unit Stop Loss program.



Photos by Spc. Matthew Chlosta

Fort establishes Disciplinary Control Board to protect soldiers

SPC. MATTHEW CHLOSTA SCOUT STAFF

Senior military leaders on Fort Huachuca established an Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board on Oct. 14.

The AFDCB was implemented at the direction of the garrison commander as another measure of ensuring the health and moral of servicemembers at Fort Huachuca, said Maj. Dan Ortega, director of public safety.

It's in the early stages here, said Maj. Joe McCloskey, chief of administrative law, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

According to Army Regulation 190-24, a AFDCB may be established by the installation commander when there is substantive information indicating that an establishment or area frequented by armed forces personnel, which presents conditions that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, morale, morals and discipline of the armed forces.

The board may coordinate with appropri-

ate civil authorities on problems or adverse conditions existing in the board's area of jurisdiction, according to AR# 190-24, McCloskey said.

Some of the conditions that may cause a business to fall under consideration by a AFDCB can include: disorder and lack of discipline; prostitution; liquor violations; alcohol abuse and drug abuse; illicit gambling and areas susceptible to terrorist activity.

The AFDCB doesn't immediately put an establishment off limits, McCloskey said, unless it is an extreme situation. They're not controlling all off-post activities.

"You've got to achieve a balance in a smaller community," McCloskey said.

There is a whole process before a business is ruled off-limits, McCloskey added. The AFDCB brings problems to the attention of the off post establishments' management, to help them change before action needs to be taken.

The AFDCB was established to look at the reports of the problems objectively and find

an amicable solution.

If the business does not address the issues, the AFDCB can make the establishment off-limits to military personnel, McCloskey added.

According to Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Command and Fort Huachuca, the AFDCB will take action on all reports considered detrimental to the health, welfare, safety, morals, morale and discipline of the post community.

The AFDCB makes recommendations to the installation commander to eliminate these adverse conditions, Marks wrote in his memorandum of instruction on the AFDCB.

The AFDCB will meet annually to review current off-limits establishments and areas.

According to Marks, an updated memorandum will be published listing current off-limits establishments and areas after each AFDCB meeting.

"Per paragraph 2-2 of the regulation, boards should be structured according to the needs of the command, with consideration given to including representatives including some of the

Class from Page 1

sons on the Koran," Rodriguez said. The purpose of the cultural focus is to prepare soldiers for a very kind of of operations. "We're not in a war against a religion, we're in a war against a mindset who warp their religion to validate what they're doing," Rodriguez said.

The class then splits the interrogators and analysts into separate classes to hone their individual military occupational specialty skills. The analysts take time studying the region, Rodriguez said. They cover topics such as terrain and religion. At the end of the course the students come together for a "capstone" exercise. This allows the soldiers to work in analyst/interrogator teams like they will in the field, Rodriguez said.

Although the course was initially designed as a resident course to support soldiers deploying to Guantanamo Bay, the course is growing and expanding so that it may support units who are deployed or deploying to conduct operations in other places, according to Maj. Daniel R. Corey, executive officer for the 306th MI BN.

The instructors would like to take the course on the road in the form of a mobile training team, Rodriguez said. Mobile training teams from the 306th have already deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq to instruct soldiers supporting those operations. Additionally the course curriculum is being offered to other U.S. Army Intelligence Command courses and some course material is posted on the Intelligence Center Online Network, which is accessible to any soldier with an Army Knowledge Online account, Corey said. Rodriguez would also like to see some aspect of ISCT incorporated into every base-level MI training course. "This way, everyone gets baseline knowledge on geography, religion and cultural aspects of the Middle East," Rodriguez said.

"The more you know about your enemy, the more power you have to control what's going on," she said.



Community Updates

Housing closed during holiday

In order to allow employees of the Housing Division to fully participate with their families this Thanksgiving season, the office will be closed on Nov. 27 and Nov. 28. The office will be open as usual at 9 a.m. on Dec. 1.

Holiday home tour next month

The annual Fort Huachuca Holiday Home tour is taking place on Dec. 7. In addition to seeing Fort Huachuca's historic homes, this year's tour will also include new post housing in Cavalry Park, live entertainment, food and beverages.



DoD rep to visit fort

Jim Hanley from the University of Maryland University College, Department of Defense Relations Office, will be visiting the Army Education Center at Fort Huachuca on Tuesday. He will be available to speak to prospective and current students regarding any of UMC's programs between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Army Education Center is located at the corner of Arizona and Hatfield, Building 52104. For more information, call 533-2390.

ASMC luncheon today

The Cochise Chapter of American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its annual Professional Development Symposium today at La Hacienda Club. The luncheon keynote speaker will be Maj. Gen James C Hylton, commanding general, NETCOM. Other symposium sessions will address base realignment and closure: local and state perspective (Tom Finnegan, Fort Huachuca 50); Congressional budgeting (Jason Isaak, former Congressional liaison to Rep. Jim Kolbe); the Defense Travel System (Mark Scheidler, Defense Financing and Accounting Service); IMA (Mike Reid, Directorate of research Garrison Ft Huachuca); career programs (Diane Schaule, Headquarters, Department of the Army); and What Federal Employees Need to Know (Bruce Dillingham, G1, NETCOM). Cost is \$45 for ASMC members and \$55 for non-members. Lunch is included in the price of the symposium. To make reservations and purchase tickets, ASMC members and guests should contact organizational representatives. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, call Tom Skinner at 538-8218 or Belinda Stollat 538-6871.

MOAA monthly dinner

The Coronado Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly dinner meeting for members, spouses and guests at Fort Huachuca's Lakeside Activity Center today.

No-host cocktails are 6-7 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m.

The entertainment for the evening will be The Cochise Chordsmen. They are a local musical group that will provide pleasing and entertaining vocal selections.

MOAA welcomes all active and retired commissioned and warrant officers of all United States Military Services, as well as the Coast Guard, NOAA and Public Health Service. You do not have to be a current MOAA member to attend.

For more information contact Chapter Secretary Chief Warrant Officer (Ret.) Joe Gill at 458-4099 or e-mail joegill1@cox.net.

Check writing class

Check writing classes are held on the first Wednesday of each month 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Budget classes are held on 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

the second Wednesday of each month. Both classes are held at Army Community Services.



International spouse support

Army Community Service invites all international spouses to join this support group. The group offers the opportunity to meet new people, network and relax. You can also pick up tips on American culture and the military lifestyle.

The group will meet Monday at 6 p.m. at the ACS, Building 50010. Refreshments will be served. Reserve a spot no later than today by calling 533-2330.

New members wanted

The Fort Huachuca Community Spouses Club, a non-profit organization that provides money for scholarships and community support is looking for new members. Spouses of active duty or retired military connected to Fort Huachuca are welcomed to join. Call Wendy

Breen at 378-1763 for membership information, or sign up at an FHCS event.

New phone system

On Oct. 17, the ADAS system was installed in the post telephone switch office to support Health, Morale and Welfare phone calls for TDY or deployed personnel only. The telephone number is DSN 879-HOME (4663) and is available all day. Calls can be made for 15 minutes to the local dialing area of Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista, Huachuca City, Whetstone, Hereford, Palominas, Bisbee, Douglas, Tombstone and Elfrida. Calling cards calls can also be made at the customer expense. Morale calls are presently being process on the post voicemail system and will be removed on Dec. 1. This system is for inbound calls only to Fort Huachuca.

For more information, call Chris Lyons III at 588-5966 or lyonsc@hua.army.mil

Thrift Savings Plan

The next Thrift Savings open season ends Dec. 31. During the open season, you may begin contributing to TSP or change the amount of your TSP contribution by logging on to www.abc.army.mil. Do not submit a TSP-1 Form to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center office. It cannot process these forms. To make Interfund changes, use the www.tsp.gov Web site. If you have any questions, call Eva Dixon at 533-5735 or Kelly Garland at 533-5273 Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. or stop by CPAC, Building 22320.

ACS Support Group

Is your spouse deployed or on an unaccompanied tour? Would you like a place to connect with others who are in the same situation? Join the ACS support group and make new friends, network and relax. Refreshments will be served. The group will meet at 6 p.m., Tuesday at the ACS building 50010. Register no later than Friday by calling 533-2330.

Save organization money

The Hazardous Material Control Center, Logistics Management Division has an inventory of hazardous materials available for issue at no charge. Listing of material is located on the Fort Huachuca Intranet, fhintranet.hua.army.mil. Material is issued on a first-come, first serve basis. Authorized customers may obtain material by contacting Larry Brooks, 533-1263.

Fences and plants available

In Miles Manor 1-3, most of the homes have been vacated due to a renovation project. Many of the soldiers left behind fences, paving bricks and landscape improvements. Before the bulldozers come, these items are available to residents on Fort Huachuca.

For more information, call Dave Bacon at 533-5023. Landscape items may be taken without prior approval. Bacon will provide a permission slip identifying the address and the item that a person authorized to take. This permission slip may be required to be shown to military police patrolling the area.

FEHB open season

The next Federal Employees Health Benefit open season, is underway and ends Dec. 8. All enrollment changes must be submitted directly to the Army Benefits Center. During open season, people may enroll, cancel or change their FEHB plan by logging on to www.abc.army.mil. The SF 2809 enrollment forms may not be accepted or processed by the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

No health fair this year

There will not be a health benefits fair this year due to lack of participation from the health benefits providers.

Health plan information

For benefit cost comparisons or information on the individual health plans available, please log on to www.opm.gov. Please click on "Quick Index" and then FEHB.

Civilian employees who have questions may contact Eva Dixon at 533-5735 or Kelly Garland at 533-5273 or stop by the CPAC offices located at 476 Augur Ave., Building 22320 (second floor) Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shopette project awarded

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) has awarded a construction project for the construction of a 7,475 square foot shopette near the Main Gate. The construction contractor is AFC Contracting, Inc, headquartered in Phoenix. The performance period for the project is 240 days, with a projected completion date of June 2004. The project will encompass a shopette to include

a Taco John's restaurant, underground gasoline storage tanks and gas dispensers.

While work will go on south of the Main Gate area, it will not affect traffic in or out of the Main Gate.

Range Closures

Thursday - AA, AC, AD, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AR

Friday - AA, AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2

Saturday - AB, AM, AV, AW, AX, T1, T1A, T2

Sunday - No Closures

Monday - AC, AD, AP, AU

Tuesday - AM, AP, AR, AU, AY

Wednesday - AP, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

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

BOSS positions available

Do you think you have the leadership abilities to improve the Fort Huachuca Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers? The BOSS Program is looking for highly motivated single soldiers to make the program more active, visible, and productive. The positions that are available are president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. All positions are for a one-year term. The president will represent Fort Huachuca at the annual BOSS Conference to be held in September 2004 at Shades of Green in Orlando, Fla.

The BOSS program is built on three pillars, well-being, recreation and leisure, and community service projects. If you think you have dynamic leadership abilities and can make a difference and support the three pillars of BOSS, e-mail the installation BOSS advisor with your name, unit, e-mail address, and a short paragraph on how your leadership abilities can improve the Fort Huachuca BOSS program. Send nominations to christopher.deasy@hua.army.mil.

Warrant officers needed

The U. S. Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if you qualify. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team at www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or DSN 536-0484, 536-0458, 536-0488, 536-0478, 539-1860 or 536-0271.

Recruiters needed

U. S. Army Recruiting is seeking highly motivated and dedicated NCOs to assist in providing the strength of America's Army. Take the challenge and learn how you can become a member of the recruiting team. For more details, visit our Web site: www.usarec.army.mil/recruiter or DSN 536-0215, 539-0465, 539-0210, 536-0457.

Travel card changes

Effective Sept. 1, military travelers who use their government charge card (Bank of America Visa) for temporary duty expenses are required to check the split disbursement box in block one of the Travel Voucher (DD 1351-2) form.

The amount annotated for split disbursement should equal the amount charged to the card. If your orders state that you are a government card holder and you do not use split disbursement, your voucher may be returned or the travel office may add the lodging receipts, rental car charges and any air fare claimed and send the proceeds directly to the charge card company as a split disbursement.

Child care training available

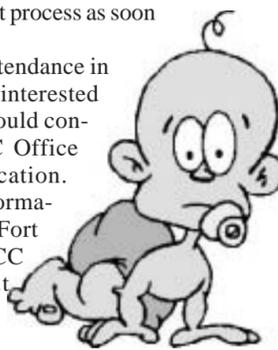
Fort Huachuca Family Child Care is now accepting applications for the November training class. Family members 18 years of age and older interested in earning extra income by caring for children in their home should plan to attend our next scheduled training

Training is Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The training is free of charge to all interested parties. Class sizes are limited; therefore, interested parties are urged to begin the enrollment process as soon as possible.

Prior to attendance in this training, interested personnel should contact the FCC Office for an application.

For more information, call the Fort Huachuca FCC program at 533-2498 or stop by and visit us in Murr



Community Center. The FCC office is opened Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Further information may also be obtained from the FCC Director via e-mail at fcc@hua.army.mil.

Spanish test at ed center

A Spanish college-level examination program test is being offered at the Education Center. Active duty military is eligible to test for free. Family members may take the test for \$56.

The recommended credit hours are between six and 12; Cochise College grants 15 semester hour credits for the test, which involves audio and reading (all multiple-choice questions). For more information and reservations, call 533-2390, 533-5690 or 533-1701.

Dental emergency help available

For true dental emergencies occurring after normal clinic hours, contact the following: Dental Charge of Quarters Cellular Telephone 227-5563 or, DCQ

Beeper 533-3500-digital access code 306.

Family members should seek emergency care from their Tricare Dental Plan personal dentist. Retirees should seek emergency care from the Tricare Retiree Dental Plan personal dentist.

(Examples of true dental emergencies include: jaw fracture, lacerations, knocked out teeth, severely fractured or displaced teeth, oral swelling that interferes with breathing, fever greater than 101 degrees Fahrenheit from oral infection, uncontrollable hemorrhage, or severe acute toothache pain not controlled by medication.) Questions can be referred to Staff Sgt. Paul Orozco, Runion Dental Clinic at 533-3147. DENTAC policy requires that any female seeking after hours emergency care must have an escort with them at all times.



Suicide prevention program

Suicide prevention is a commander's program but we are all responsible for one another. Each one of us must be alert to potential warning signals such as feelings of worthlessness, hopelessness and helplessness, withdrawal from family and friends, increased time spent alone, alcohol or drug abuse, loss of interest or pleasure in usual activities, changes in appetite or weight, talk of suicide, giving away possessions, obsession with death, and changes in sleep habits. For help call, the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Clinic, Behavioral Health Services, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 533-5161 or 533-7030; Sierra Vista Regional Health Center, Emergency Room, 417-3060; the Family Life Chaplain at 533-4748 for suicide awareness and prevention training to assist commanders with the identification of at-risk personnel; and the Army Substance Abuse Program/Risk Management and Employee Assistance Services at 538-1286.

Master sergeant selection boards

It is time, once again, to start preparing for the master sergeant selection board. Reference MILPER message 04-006. Have your eligible sergeant first classes, date of rank of Oct. 3, 2001 and earlier and with a basic active service date Feb. 3, 1981 through Feb. 3, 1996 obtain copies of their OMPF and get all documents together in order to update their enlisted records briefs.

Those who need photos should get them done now, the date to have the photos to HRC-Indianapolis (formerly known as EREC) is Jan. 16, 2004. Drop dead date for Records Section to send the photo is Jan. 5, 2004.

Also please ensure that each soldier verifies his/her last non-commissioned officer evaluation report with their S-1. The date to have all CTR to HRC-Indianapolis is Jan. 16, 2004. Drop dead date for Evaluations Section to send the NCOER is Jan. 12, 2004, please reference MILPER message 04-006 for the eligibility and what needs to be in the entry for type of report.

Additionally, when a soldier comes up for their review, they must bring a copy of anything they need added; one for the OMPF.

If an eligible soldier is deploying, please have them make sure they complete their promotion packet prior to their scheduled deployment. This will avoid us having to send up a "no show" promotion packet.