

A 'byte' for Spike

Harmless tracking system for pets that stray away from home - Page 3



Knock out

Boxers are ready to slug it out at All Army trials and showcase "warrior spirit" - B1

The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Awards ceremony

Fort Huachuca will host an awards dinner banquet to recognize the following: the civilian of the year, sailor of the year, Marine of the year, Air Force (airman and noncommissioned officer) of the year, drill sergeant of the year, instructor of the year and soldier and NCO of the year.

This is the first year that these individual awards have been combined into one event.

The dinner will be held Jan. 31 at La Hacienda. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30.

Dress is casual and tickets are \$18 per person. For tickets, contact Sgt. 1st Class Lisa White at 533-6385 or the Fort Huachuca Protocol Office at 533-1218 or 533-1231.

Tax center open

The Fort Huachuca Tax Center is now open to help all Military ID Card holders with their 2002 tax returns.

Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday - Friday and 9 a.m.-noon on selected Saturdays.

The Tax Center is located in De Rosy Cabell Hall, Bldg. 22324 on Christy Avenue. For more information or questions, call 533-1070/1080.

Retirement ceremony

Fort Huachuca will host its annual retirement ceremony Jan. 31 at 6 a.m. on Brown Parade Field.

Retirees are Command Sgt. Maj. Stacy Smith, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion; Sgt. Maj. Steven Manigault, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion; Master Sgt. Mark Kerchief, U.S. Army Network Enterprise and Technology Command; and Sgt. 1st Class Velda Townsend, U.S. Army Medical Command.

The event is open to the public. For more information, call Master Sgt. Mary D'Amico at 533-2294.

INSIDE

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. remembered

Fort Huachuca residents gathered at the Main Post Chapel to honor the legacy of the slain civil rights leader. Page 3

Get ready for the IRS, tax collectors

It's that time of the year again - tax season. Don't wait to the last minute to prepare taxes when help is here on post. Page 5

DoD releases medal for Korea vets

A new medal has been authorized by the Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2003 for those who served in Korea after the war. Page 5

Post housing receives honorable mention in best post competition

BY STAFF SGT. SHARRON STEWART
NEWS EDITOR

Fort Huachuca was named "Best Post Housing and Facilities," in the second *Army Times* "Best Post" competition.

"We were elated and overjoyed," said Grace White, chief of family housing. "When I found out we won, I congratulated the employees because they are at the crux of this," White said.

"We were absolutely tickled. There are a lot of people who put a lot of effort into the housing program.

"This is a reflection of everyone such as the agents who put a lot of time into their individual areas, and the engineer technicians who work on the long range planning program,"

White said.

She went on to praise the All Star contractors who take care of all of the housing work orders and make needed repairs.

Fort Lewis, Wash., was selected as the overall best post and Fort Huachuca received an honorable mention for best housing and facilities.

Fort Huachuca has 203 living quarters for officers, 151 for senior noncommissioned officers and 1,298 housing units for junior NCOs.

"The bulk of our assets, 80 percent are for the junior enlisted soldiers, the folks who can least afford to live off post," White said.

"The fact that Fort Huachuca was selected be

See HOUSING, Page 5



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

Fort Huachuca garnered honorable mention honors in the *Army Times* for "Best Post Housing and Facilities." Efforts to improve the housing are reflected in new housing construction such as the Bonnie Blink area pictured above.

2002

YEAR REVISITED THROUGH PICTURES



Photo by Sgt. First Class Donald Sparks

2002 was an exciting year for the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca. See the year recaptured, such as the Ryan Fire in May above, through the images captured by Army photographers assigned to the post on page 4.

Suspicious letter forces housing evacuation

FBI, CID clears parcel of threat

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DONALD SPARKS
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

Five families were evacuated from Stedman Street in the Fort Huachuca housing area Jan. 7 after a resident notified the Directorate of Public Safety of a suspicious package that was received in the mail.

Subsequently an additional package was located at the Military Police station. As a precautionary measure emergency response teams quickly responded to the area and closed off the street.

The FBI was notified and dispatched agents to determine if there was a potential hazardous material situation.

The agents determined there were no biological, verbal or written threat of the package and cleared the incident.

According to FBI officials, the letters appear to be part of a mass mailing campaign of anti-government propaganda. The agency advised they are currently following leads continuing to investigate the origin of the letters.

All of the families returned to their homes nearly an hour and a half after the incident began.

"This is the third or fourth letter received on the installation in the past several days," said Maj. Dan Ortega, director of Public Safety.

According to Marty Smith, special agent in charge, Criminal Investigation Division, residents have received the parcels through routine mail deliveries to their quarters.

The parcels have been addressed to residents at the quarters, but in each incident the recipients were unfamiliar



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

A Fort Huachuca fireman seals the letter that was sent to a housing resident on the installation. FBI personnel determined there was no threat from the package.

with the sender's name and California address.

"We're providing this information to everyone to alert the Fort Huachuca community of these anti-government propaganda mail parcels, and to provide proper reporting procedures if in receipt of this type of parcel," Smith said.

Smith advised if anyone has received, or receives in the future, any mail parcel with an unfamiliar address from California, to not open it, and immediately contact CID at 533-5202 or the Military Police at 533-3000.

(Editor's note - article reprinted from Jan. 9 Scout electronic issue.)

'Smart card' soon available for soldiers

BY SGT. JESSICA INIGO
TIME OUT EDITOR

The Fort Huachuca Identification Card Section will be closed Monday through Wednesday for Common Access Card training and equipment installation.

The CAC, known as the "smart card," will replace the current ID card and will have the same functions, give the same value and provide the same benefits.

The ID Card Section will begin issuing the new standard ID card to all active duty personnel in each military department, selected reserve, Department of Defense civilian employees, and eligible contractors.

Family members and retirees will not be issued the CAC at any time.

Questions regarding the regular ID cards can be handled on a walk-in basis while the ID Card Section is

issuing smart cards.

The CAC will be given to the selected Fort Huachuca populace beginning Jan. 31, starting with senior leadership on post.

The rest of the community will be done throughout February on a rotating schedule, by appointment only.

Unit's point of contacts will disseminate appointments dates as they are received.

See CARD, Page 5

What to do in the event of a suspicious letter or package

- Do not open
- Do not shake
- Do not throw away
- Do not panic
- Do notify CID at 533-5202 or the Military Police at 533-3000

Man of peace has words for a time of chaos

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DONALD SPARKS
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Soldiers serving our country right now don't have to look around to notice these are turbulent times. With each passing hour the winds of war appear to draw nearer and there is a lot of uncertainty in the future.

Yet through the words of a man devoted to peace and love for his fellow man, soldiers can look at the upcoming holiday devoted to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to reflect on where we will stand when our nation comes calling.

It's easy to be a soldier when we're at peace. After all, we only care about how many points we need to get promoted, what class are we going to enroll in next semester and how I'm going to do on my next physical fitness test?

We tend to get selfish and think about ourselves which is only human nature – after all we're at peace. It's easy not to worry about surviving in a foreign land when we come home to our cozy confines each day.

This is that moment of peace and convenience that King speaks of and that can be a soldier's downfall because it can lead to com-



Photo courtesy of Bob Fisch
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

placency. Every now and then we need a test to see where our courage and character lies in times of challenge and controversy.

Throughout the Civil Rights movement King was right in the center of chaos as he was often arrested, beaten, misused and abused. Whether he was spit on, kicked, or slapped he turned the other cheek and pressed on. What better example to follow?

(Editor's Note: The article is a reprint from the Jan. 16 Scout electronic issue.)



CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) DENNIS R.
NITSCHKE
NETCOM
DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..."
-Ecclesiastes 3:1ff*

Well, friends and neighbors, the New Year is well underway. 2003 is almost to the Super Bowl and Valentine's Day already! Our family New Year's celebrations have always been fairly quiet affairs – this year the kids all watched movies into the new year and my wife, two friends, and I played an exciting game of "Military Monopoly" – I lost (and my friend bought Fort Huachuca before I could!) Another New Year's tradition is making resolutions. I don't know about you, but my "resolve" to keep them lasts about a week, then I try again, fail, try, fail and then after a few weeks give up.

I did some research on the "making of resolutions" and found that somewhere in the neighborhood of 63 percent of "resolvers" stay with the resolution for two months with only 40 percent sticking with the goal the whole year. Seventeen percent of those needed up to six attempts at getting to the desired goal. The funny part of this ABC News survey was the end – the writer said "these numbers may not be accurate because people tend to lie about results."

So, I did some more research and found this advice: "Make only one or two resolutions, make realistic goals, and if you fail, check barriers which keep you from success." I thought that was pretty good advice.

However, I found still other comments in a "personal development" article and the writer wrote that "rather than make resolutions, how about committing to changes and actions?" She said "how about":

- More time in your personal life
- Less stress and more fun
- Greater business and career success
- Balance between work and home
- Altering your management or leadership style

Some of these look like "business" actions, but I believe life, both personal and business, are linked as we go to and from our homes and work. Professional and personal are linked. I also believe that if we work on the five "bullets" above, we will benefit ourselves as well as everyone around us because each of these depend on "action" rather than "wishing."

The writer of Ecclesiastes had it right (so right that the Byrds sang about it in the '60s) that *"to everything there is a season."* 2003 is your season, your time to make your life, and the lives around you, better. Your time to live life fully.

If you have questions on how to do that, or are finding it difficult to "execute" the actions you want to, please give your chaplain (or me) a call. We have the resources to help you out of your rut — and into the right season for you. Happy New Year.

Commander's Hotline

Call:

I got the hotline number from the Military Police. I discussed a parking issue across the street from Greely Hall. My concern is: I was unaware until I called myself, that parking in the dirt area is illegal where everyone has been parking. I find that strange that there is not enough parking for everyone that works here in an actual paved parking lot. So, I don't know, I just wanted to see if there is anything we can do about this? Thank you.

Response:

The Directorates of Installation Support and Public Safety take this opportunity to thank the caller for being concerned and bringing this issue to our attention. We appreciate the community's awareness and willingness to identify situations that don't seem right. There is enforceable policy/regulation restrictions governing parking on seeded areas, however in this instance the dirt parking area in question across from Greely Hall on the corner of Cushing and Arizona is an accepted parking area and the MPs will not be ticketing this area for parking of vehicles. The MP's will be enforcing and may ticket improperly parked vehicles that block accesses or other vehicles. Access to this parking area is via Cushing Street. There is a problem in that drivers have been accessing the dirt lot from behind Barnes Field House adjacent to Bujalski Field. This route/area has been posted as no through traffic and the MP's are enforcing this restriction.

Tom Borer
Executive Officer, DIS



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

Permanent protection

Construction workers at the Main Gate prepare to build permanent barriers to better protect the safety of the Fort Huachuca community. Construction is scheduled to continue. Visitors are asked to use the East Gate when at all possible and vary arrival times to avoid backed up traffic at the gates. Also, ensure to slow down while driving past the construction zone. This is just one of the many projects anticipated for the gates this year. Construction is still ongoing.



The Soldiers' Lawyer

ABOUT THE TRIWEST COMPUTER THEFT

You've recently received a notice from TRICARE's Central Region health contractor, TriWest Healthcare Alliance, informing you of a recent break-in at one of its corporate facilities that resulted in the theft of some computer files – what should you do?

First, carefully read Attachment #2 contained within the notice. This page specifies what steps you can take to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft. It also explains what you can do if you suspect that your personal information has been misused to commit identity theft.

Second, act quickly. You must be proactive and take measures to protect yourself *before* thieves steal your identity. As TriWest suggests, start by contacting each of the three major

credit bureaus and request that a fraud alert be placed in your file. The three major credit bureaus are TransUnion, Equifax Credit Information Services, and Experian (Credit Data Southwest), and may be reached at 800-680-7289, 800-525-6285 and 602-528-7785, respectively.

Why should you be concerned about identity theft?

- The Federal Trade Commission states that identity theft is the fastest growing crime today.
- The Secret Service estimates that in 1997 consumers lost more than \$745 million due to identity theft.
- A Florida Grand Jury estimated that the average identity theft crime costs the business community about \$17,000 per victim.
- A Government Accounting Office report discovered that the 10 states with the highest incidences of reported iden-

tity theft are Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin.

Where should you go for more info and help?

There are enormous amounts of Web sites currently available online that are dedicated to providing information on identity theft and how you can protect yourself from becoming the next victim. In addition, the Legal Assistance Office can help you coordinate an effective approach in battling against this fast-growing crime. Don't be the next victim – call for an appointment with a Legal Assistance Attorney.

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

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MLK commemorative ceremony reaches, teaches all people

BY SGT. JESSICA INIGO
TIME OUT EDITOR

If a blind person who never heard of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sat in on Wednesday's holiday commemorative service at the Main Post Chapel, he wouldn't know what color this renaissance man was, he'd only know the

mark he left on the future.

Children of all races and colors riddled the audience and brought light to King's vision of the American Dream.

"I challenge each of you to help make his dream a reality," encouraged Col. James Slavin, commander, 112th Military Intelligence Brigade. He suggests "taking a day on, not a

day off," Monday for the MLK holiday.

Because King's motivation in life was helping others and striving to empower the oppressed, people are asked to use his holiday to help build a better community through volunteering, eliminating racial discrimination and reconciling with others.

The ceremony, rightly dubbed, "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day on Not a Day Off," brought music, song, and the opportunity for change to its audience.

Speakers included Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jerome Myles, who reminded the audience that King was simply a man who tried to love.

The singing of "Precious Lord," by Terri Bryant, followed Myles.

Eighth-grade students from Smith Middle School peppered the audience only to rise at various times to let one of King's famous quotes be heard.

"From beginning to end the ceremony was amazing. It was so well put together. Everything flowed," said Frank E. Bothwell, an audience member.

The Shiloh Christian Center presented "Who Am I," a presentation of people of the world and how King wanted to achieve a community lovingly open to all races.

Irma Furlow sang one of King's favorite songs, "If I Could Help Somebody," before Chaplain (Col.) Juan Loya, guest speaker, made his remarks on the holiday.

Loya emphasized American people not keep King static, as simply someone who did well in the past and a holiday to look forward to in the future.

He questioned what has happened to

King's dream in our society and within our selves.

Loya explained statistical gaps between blacks and whites are wider than ever and explained with reason of individual complacency to not make a better place.

Loya quoted King as saying the future of America "be judged by the content of their character, not by the color of their skin."

"Martin Luther King's dream is a wake up call to the American people," Loya said. "King challenged acceptance of his dream and we need to make it part of our daily reality."

Loya said he was astonished to learn some 30 years after King's assassination that we are in fact moving backward instead of forward.

"There are no other two races with such defined gaps. We're moving toward segregation. We are as much at risk of becoming a nation in a nation more now than ever," he said. Loya said King is such a prominent figure that who is not only related to past, but is strongly related to the future.

"Martin Luther King is part of the American psyche. We cannot forget him. We cannot just X him out of our lives," Loya said.

He suggests the American people stop just hearing the dream and instead turning it into an action. "Do something for others. This is a call for action, not inaction," he said.

The audience ended the ceremony by singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing," while Staff Sgt. Eddie Nubine, 36th Army Band member, played the saxophone.

After the ceremony guests were invited for refreshments, fresh fruit, snacks, and cake.

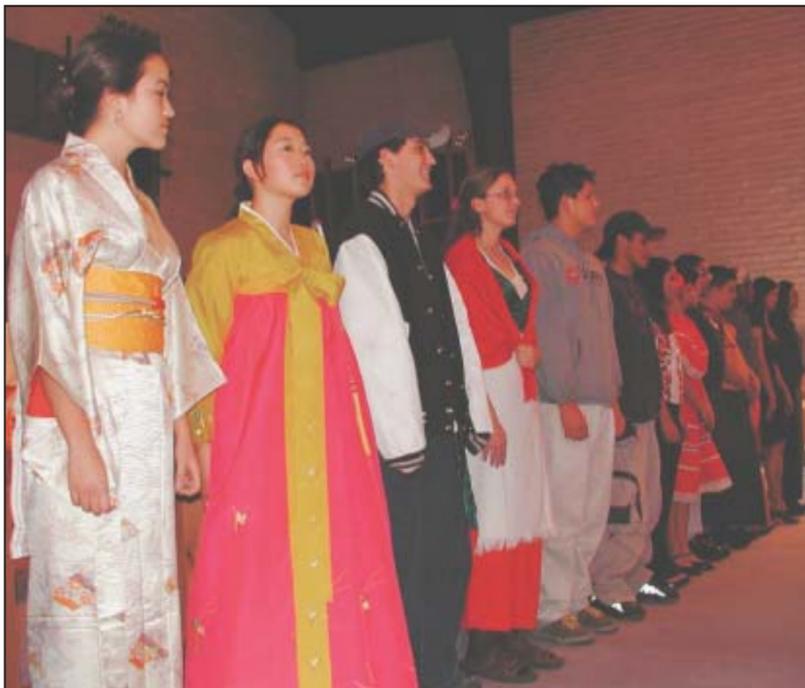


Photo by Sgt. Jessica Inigo

Students from the Shiloh Christian Center perform "Who am I?" during the post celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Wednesday at the Main Post Chapel.

Uncontrollable pets will be micro-chipped at owners expense

BY SGT. JESSICA INIGO
TIME OUT EDITOR

As of this fiscal year an update to Fort Huachuca regulation 40-116 Control and Care of Pets, Horses and Transient Animals has been made for vicious or repeatedly impounded pets.

Pets on post that have been identified for biting incidents, that have been impounded more than twice in a 12-month period, or for any other instance determined to be appropriate by the Veterinary Branch Chief must be micro-chipped at owner expense, according to the updated regulation.

Owners who refuse the mandatory micro chipping will be subject to immediate bar of the animal from the installation.

Micro-chipping a pet is a simple procedure that can cause a little blood shed, but helps in innumerable ways, according to Sgt. Gerard Galindo, noncommissioned officer in charge of the post Veterinary Clinic.

As its name implies, a microchip is implanted under the skin of the animal, usually between the shoulder blades, and is coded with a number. This number is contained within a database with pertinent owner information, according to Capt. Dale Beebe, a post veterinarian.

Once a pet is micro-chipped veterinarians can always obtain owner information with a universal scanner for all types of chips.

Repercussions will be brought against owners who have uncontrollable pets.

Because these pets have already been identified as problematic, once micro-chipped pets become repeat offenders,

owners will either have to remove the pet from post quarters or move off post with their pet.

"It's a responsibility issue," Beebe said. "Micro-chipping helps enforce the leash law and get those who are not being responsible to start acting more responsible."

Currently military police bring pets for impoundment three to four times a week, according to Galindo. These owners will be tracked through micro chipping and held accountable for loose animals on post. Repeated offenses will result in the loss of animal keeping privileges by order of the garrison commander.

"I think it's a good idea for all owners to get their pet micro-chipped. It gives the owner piece of mind when a pet is lost," Galindo said. "It's a universal retrieval system that can easily return a pet back home."

Interested pet owners can have animals micro-chipped for \$13 by calling 533-2767 for an appointment.



Pets on post that have been identified for biting incidents, or that have been impounded more than twice in a 12-month period must be micro-chipped at owner's expense.



Photos by Sgt. Jessica Inigo

Spike's microchip was checked by a universal reader to ensure matching numbers. His chip was inserted in the case he gets lost or stolen.

Community vigilance, awareness can prevent, deter rabies spread

BY SGT. JESSICA INIGO
TIME OUT EDITOR

Two dead gray foxes were found on Fort Huachuca last week that later tested positive for rabies.

Though the foxes were found in remote locations, community members are still asked to remain alert of rabid animals on post.

In order to safeguard you, your family members, and your pets the environmental division as well as the post Veterinary Clinic suggest certain guidelines.

"With the fort's proximity to wildlife, there is a chance an animal could come in contact

with residents," said Sheridan Stone, wildlife biologist, Directorate of Installation Support. He stressed that though this chance is minimal, residents must beware.

"Fort Huachuca is an excellent habitat, rich in diverse wildlife. With the fort's stewardship of the environment over the last century, we've maintained this diversity and value the fact that we work, live and play among the wildlife.

Because the wildlife is amongst us we must protect ourselves," he said.

Prevention measures include education, quick response, and vaccination of pets.

Stone said any animal not acting wild, which is to include approaching residential areas or

residents and not showing fear, should be kept away from and reported immediately.

"While hiking, it's not normal for wild animals to come up to you," said Capt. Dale Beebe, a post veterinarian.

"If this happens don't reach down and pet them or feed them." If animals are found dead for no apparent reason, caution should be taken when near.

"Stabilize the situation and prevent exposure," suggests Stone.

Though these ill animals should be kept clear from, Stone suggests keeping an eye on them until officials are called to remove them from the environment.

Dead animals should be reported immediately for pick up to avoid other animals feeding on it and becoming ill as well, he said.

If necessary, write down the exact location if leaving the area.

"If it is necessary to remove the animal from the area for safety reasons a shovel, gloves and plastic bags should be used to avoid exposure. This helps reduce an already low risk of infection even lower," Sheridan said.

This diligence in reporting will help prevent further infection, as well as help the fort to track the animals infected.

"What to do to continue community health, reduce rabies infection and help in overall understanding is a simple message: Grown-ups must remember to teach children what they

know," Stone said.

Some messages to give children include staying away from unfamiliar animals and don't let them approach you, let adults know where dead animals might be at, and alert any strange behavior animals might have.

Though residents are asked to be alert, there is no reason for alarm, according to Stone.

"There is no specific area to worry about," Sheridan said.

"There is no reason not to go outside or go hiking because there is no one place to be careless in. All that is needed is for residents to pay attention and keep a level of awareness," Sheridan said.

All pet owners are asked to keep vaccinations up-to-date, according to Beebe.

"It's best to vaccinate any warm blooded animal, this includes dogs, cats, ferrets and horses. Any warm blooded animal could be infected," Beebe said.

Arizona law states rabies vaccinations be given every three years.

While animals are outdoors, owners should know where their pet is at all times. This includes while hiking off leash.

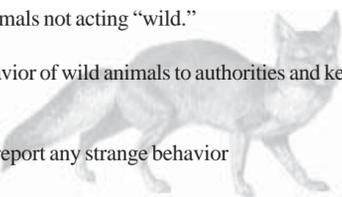
"It's always a good idea that animals remain at least within ear shot, if not on a leash" Beebe said.

To report dead or ill animals to officials 24 hours a day, call the Military Police at 533-3000.

Protect yourself

To protect you and your family from possible rabies infection:

- Immediately report dead animals to authorities for pick up
- Stay away from animals not acting "wild."
- Report strange behavior of wild animals to authorities and keep location of animal to help remove from area.
- Inform children to report any strange behavior
- Stay away from any unusual animals
- Keep all pets properly vaccinated for the rabies virus.



“There are no guarantees. We have no clue as to where we’re going to be tomorrow. Resolve to leave what it is you do today better than when you got here.”

Maj. Gen. James “Spider” A. Marks,
Fort Huachuca commanding general (deployed)
Sept. 11, 2002

”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Soldiers from Company E, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion stand before a photo and collage of Staff Sgt. Cody Prosser. MI Village was renamed Prosser Village, June 28 in honor of the fallen MI soldier.



Photo by Spc. Vince Gothard

Old Glory stands alone at half mast following the Fort Huachuca United In Freedom observance marking the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 attack on America.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

More than 60 soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 180th Field Artillery Arizona National Guard arrived to post on May 30 as part of the continuing efforts to support Operation Noble Eagle.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Sgt. Rhonda Midgette, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, is triaged by fort personnel at the scene of the mock airplane crash on Libby Army Airfield.



Photo by Sgt. Jessica Inigo

Pvt. Noelle Jensen, an animal care specialist, checks out Scottie's ears. Keeping pet owners (and their pets) is a year-round job at the Vet Clinic.

2002 Year in Review



Photo by Sgt. Jessica Inigo

The 18th Military Police demonstrated just how fun the dunk tank can be during the post's Organization Day Aug. 9.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Staff Sgt. Rowena Warshawsky, HHC, USAG, poses on the Island Hoppers during training at the Confidence Course July 19.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Members of the Fort Huachuca Select Honor Guard await orders to perform the ceremonial 21-gun salute at the Fort Huachuca Memorial Day Observance.



Photo by Sgt. Jessica Inigo

An Arizona Cardinals cheerleader dances with Philip Winslow, 10, during the cheerleaders visit Oct. 4.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Tom Williams, Fort Huachuca gate guard, prepares to halt a vehicle during his shift on gate guard duty. The guards assumed permanent duty on the fort's gates Aug. 1.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Volkert

Spc. Stephen Vitkovic, of the 1111th Signal Battalion, 1108th Signal Brigade, applies camouflage during Common Task Testing testing of the Army Signal Command Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year competition held July 22-26.

Military healthcare TRICARE information stolen

ARMY NEWS SERVICE RELEASE

Thieves made off with computer equipment and files from the office of a military healthcare contractor in Arizona, Dec. 14, and the culprits now have access to social security numbers and other information about clients, according to TRICARE officials.

The contractor, TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp., provides services to military beneficiaries in the TRICARE Central Region. That region includes Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming and part of western Texas.

TriWest indicated the stolen data may include medical procedures, diagnostic codes for medical services, and locations and dates of services. TriWest will be mailing letters through Jan. 31 to inform all affected beneficiaries, officials said.

Beneficiaries may also obtain information from the TriWest Web site, <http://trivest.com>; or call toll-free the TriWest information line, (888) 339-9378; or e-mail TriWest at

computertheft@trivest.com.

The identity and motive of those who committed the crime are not known, officials said. The FBI, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service and other law enforcement organizations are investigating the incident. DoD has required all contractors working with the TRICARE system to assess current physical and electronic security to ensure such theft does not occur again.

If you suspect that your personal information has been misused, officials recommend taking the following steps: contact the fraud departments of each of the three major credit bureaus; close or suspend any accounts known or believed to have been tampered with or opened fraudulently; file a police report with local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

If you suspect fraud and contact the credit bureaus, you should request that a "fraud alert" be placed in your file. You should also request a statement be placed in the file that asks creditors to call before opening any new accounts or changing any existing accounts, officials said.

The credit bureau fraud departments are

listed below. Their normal operating hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TransUnion
www.transunion.com
Fraud Victim Assistance Department
P.O. Box 6790
Fullerton, CA 92834 (800) 680-7289,
fax (714) 447-603434
Equifax Credit Information Services
www.equifax.com
Consumer Fraud Division
P.O. Box 105069
Atlanta, GA 30348 (800) 525-6285
Experian
www.experian.com
Experian's National Consumer Assistance
P.O. Box 1017
Allen, TX 75013 (888) 397-3742

The Social Security Administration, www.ssa.gov, is a source for information about social security number theft or misuse.

If you suspect your SSN has been misused, officials recommend you call the SSA Fraud Hotline at (800) 269-0271.

The following SSA resources are available on the Internet:

SSA Fraud Hotline for Reporting Fraud: www.ssa.gov/oig/guidelin.htm; the Social Security Administration Publication No. 05-10002: www.ssa.gov/pubs/10002.html; and When Someone Misuses Your Number (SSA Pub. No. 05-10064): www.ssa.gov/pubs/10064.html.

If you suspect that you are the victim of identity theft, officials recommend you file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at (877) IDTHEFT (438-4338) or direct dial to (202) 326-2502. Also write the FTC at:

Identity Theft Clearinghouse
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20580

The FTC Web site is www.consumer.gov/idtheft. There is a free comprehensive guide there to help guard against and recover from identity theft. One of the best ways individuals can catch identity theft is to regularly check their credit records, officials said.

(Editor's note: This story was compiled from American Forces Press Service, TRICARE Management Activity and TriWest news releases.)

Tax Center

Be prepared to ensure taxes will be done correctly, quickly

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE RELEASE

The Fort Huachuca Tax Center opened to assist with the preparation of 2002 income tax returns Tuesday.

Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. - noon on select Saturdays.

The Fort Huachuca Tax Center is located in De Rosy Cabell Hall, Building 22324 on Christy Avenue. By being prepared, you can ensure that your taxes will be done correctly and quickly.

Here are some items you should bring with you to the tax center:

- **Your military ID card.** Eligible clients include active duty personnel and their family members and retired personnel and their family members. Please ensure to bring proof of status otherwise, we may not be able to assist you.

- **Social Security cards.** The number one reason the IRS rejects our e-file returns is because a name submitted on a return did not match the name in the Social Security database

HOUSING from Page 1

for the corresponding social security number, either because of errors or due to a name change such as by marriage. To avoid this problem, make sure to bring social security cards for you and all of your dependents or at a minimum some written documentation that contains the social security numbers at issue.

- **A voided or cancelled check.** This type of documentation will allow us to verify your account information if you choose to receive your refund by direct deposit.

- **Your 2001 tax return.** If you have access to or a copy of last year's return, please bring it as it will help facilitate fast and efficient service, especially if your return includes complex tax issues.

- **All tax documents that reflect income received for 2002.** This includes W-2 forms from all your employers, 1099R forms for retirement or pension, 1099 DIV forms for stock or mutual fund dividends, 1099INT forms for bank or bond interest, W-2G forms for gambling winnings and 1099-B forms for the proceeds from the sale of stock. An Leave and Earning Statement is not a W-2. If you sold stock — to include day

trading — in 2002, please make sure to organize one single document that shows when you purchased each stock, how much you paid for it, when you sold the stock, and the sale price. If you do not have this information organized, we will not be able to organize it for you.

- **Any tax documentation that shows interest you paid during 2002 that is deductible.** This would include interest on mortgages (Form 1098) or student loans (Form 1098-E).

- **Other documents for possible tax deductions or credits.** This includes traditional IRA contributions (Form 5498) and receipts or other documents for the following: charitable donations; education expenses for books or tuition; child care expenses; unreimbursed business or moving expenses; alimony paid to name a few. We look forward to helping you with your taxes, but please wait until you have received all of your tax forms before coming in. The bottom line is, the more organized you are, the better we can assist you.

If you have any tax questions prior to the opening of the Tax Center, call 533-2009 to make an appointment.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Hyatt

A back view of completed family housing units depict the planning and programming that went into improving the fort's quality of life for family members. The fort's efforts led to recognition by the Army Times.

CARD from Page 1

Pam Singer, director, Military Personnel Services, stresses that appointment times are crucial in getting the CAC out to everyone. She asks that appointments be kept on time.

For the appointment, existing military and civilian employees need to bring a picture ID, work e-mail address, and a four-digit personal identification number, said Singer. New employees and eligible contractors should also bring an additional picture ID and a completed and signed DD Form 1172-2.

The CAC contains an integrated circuit chip, bar codes, and a magnetic stripe. Also the signature block was eliminated from the card.

The card will contain information on blood type, demographic data, duty status, rank, date of birth, medical benefits, and organ

donor status, just to name a few. Personnel and medical records will not be carried on the CAC.

In the future, the CAC will also be used for physical access to buildings and controlled spaces, and access to computer networks and systems. Additional component-specific uses may be added as well.

Initially the CAC will help better safeguard individual privacy and will be used to eliminate paper-based systems and improve efficiency.

The current ID cards, DD Forms 1173, will be valid until they are either phased out or expire.

For more information, call Murphy London at 533-3725 or Renea Edwards at 533-1608.

cause the soldiers did the voting as opposed to us evaluating ourselves against other housing divisions speaks well of all of the employees of the housing division," said Sylvia Pete, Housing Division chief.

"It's not just the house you put them in to, it's also about the service you provide," Pete said. "To not know there was a competition and to be judged by the soldiers is extremely gratifying," Pete said.

"Now is the time that soldiers are seeing the fruit of planning and programming that took place five years ago," White said.

Due to the implementation of the Army's housing privatization program called the Residential Communities Initiative, White said there are no longer a lot of posts competing for Army construction dollars.

"That helped us to get some of the dwin-

dling construction dollars still available," White said.

"There isn't a single day that's the same in the housing office. There is always variety; there are always opportunities for us to improve and to get better," White said.

"Everybody in here works hard at it because all of our staff is either prior military, or a family member of a service person, or a reservist and can empathize with the soldier and his family moving across country with their children and the dog. They've been there and done that," White said, referring to undergoing permanent change of station moves.

The "Best Post" selections were made based on the recommendation of Army Times readers and can be accessed by visiting www.Armytimes.com/bestpost.

DoD to recognize Korea vets with service medal in future

BY TESIA WILLIAMS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

A new defense medal will eventually be issued to military members who served in the Republic of Korea, or adjacent waters, after July 28, 1954.

The new Korea Defense Service Medal was authorized by the Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Authorization Act.

The U.S. Korea Defense Service Medal should not be confused with the foreign service Republic of Korea War Service Medal that was authorized for U.S. military personnel who served in Korea between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953, officials said.

The new medal will be for those who served in Korea after the war, up to an undetermined ending date, said offi-

cialists from the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Given the volume of anticipated recipients, officials said the time it will take to award the KDSM is difficult to estimate. They said it will take time to identify, notify and award the medal to eligible former service members.

Some of the actions that must be completed are: designing the medal, obtaining necessary funding, developing policy for issuance and wear and processing to include verification of service and then award of the medal.

The first three actions should be completed in approximately four to six months, officials said. However, based on previous experiences when creating service medals the entire process can take up to a year, officials added.

(Editor's note: Tesia Williams is a member of the U.S. Army Personnel Command public affairs team.)

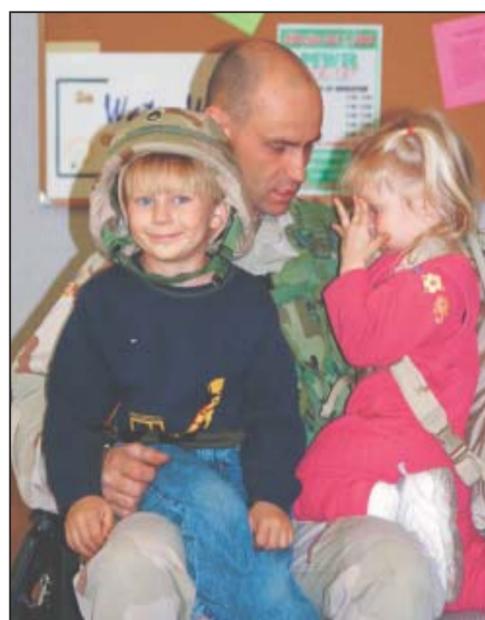


Photo by 1st Lt. Traci Gift

Daddy don't go

Staff Sgt. Brian Grabau, 40th Signal Battalion, 11th Signal Brigade, holds his children Sky, left, and Laura one last time before leaving Fort Huachuca Sunday at Murr Activity Center as part of the unit's deployment. More than 400 11th Sig. Bde. soldiers deployed last week.

Community Updates

Right Arm Night

There is a Right Arm Night at the Lakeside Activity Center Friday beginning at 4 p.m. There will be free food, pay-as-you-go drinks and karaoke with Ken Edwards.

Water-wise landscapes

Cochise College's Center for Professional Development has scheduled a non-credit class designed to help people create environmentally friendly landscaping around their homes. "Water Wise Landscapes" will be taught by Cado Daily, water conservation educator from the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Water Wise Program. The first part of the class will be from 6-9 p.m. today at the Sierra Vista campus. The class will continue on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Participants will learn that low-water-use landscapes are not only beautiful, colorful and water efficient but also easier to care for than traditional landscapes. Landscape design and plant types will be covered in this class. The registration fee for the seven-hour class is \$5.

To reserve a space in "Water Wise Landscapes" to be held on the Sierra Vista campus on Thursday and Saturday, call the Center for Professional Development at 515-5492. Don't wait, as space is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Troops to Teachers

Military veterans have established a solid reputation as excellent teachers and exemplary role models for today's students.

Troops to Teachers is a program that helps eligible military personnel to transition to a new career as K-12 public school teachers in "high-need" schools.

If you're interested in becoming a teacher

and need information about certification, finding a teaching position, and funding, please come to a Troops to Teachers briefing at the Education Center, Building 52104, Jan. 30. Call Pat Puhlman, the education technician, for more information at the Education Center and can be reached at 533-2255/3010.

ID Card Section Closure

The ID Card Section will be closed Monday-Wednesday to facilitate upgrade and training for the new Common Access Card.

The ID Card Section will reopen on Jan. 30 and will only issue CACs by appointment. The appointment schedule for all agencies has been fielded. Please contact your CAC point of contact/administrative office for further details. We will continue to issue ID cards for retirees and dependents on a walk-in basis.

For more information call Murphy London at 533-3725 or Renea Edwards at 533-1608.

BSEP program

The Education Center will sponsor a Basic Skills Education Program class which will run Feb. 24 - finish March 7.

The class will run from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily with emphasis placed on English and math skills. A pre-TABE test will be administered at 7:15 a.m., the first day of class.

A post-TABE and General Technical Predictor will be given on March 6 and Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test will be administered March 7. This is a free class. Open to adult spouses also. Raise your GT score and increase your re-enlistment possibilities, prepare yourself for college, or refresh your basic skills.

For more information, call Bob Campbell at 533-5690 or e-mail

robert.campbell@hua.army.mil.

German Army brief

Lt. Col. Schaefer, will be giving an Officer's Professional Development 3 - 4 p.m., Feb. 21 in the Lake View Room of the Lakeside. He will be discussing the Germany Army, its setup, transformation, and future. For more information call 533-8989

Range Closures

The following schedule is for the range closure section for today through Jan. 30.

Today - AF, AM, AN, AO, AU, T1, T1A, T2

Friday - AF, AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AR, AU, T1, T2

Saturday - AF, T1, T2

Sunday - AF

Monday - AF, AG, AU, T1, T1A, T2

Tuesday - AF, AG, AM, AU, AW

Wednesday - AF, AG, AH, AI, AK, AM,

AN, AR, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2

Jan. 30 - AF, AG, AH, AK, AL, AM, AU,

AW, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on Range Closures, call Range Control at 533-7095.

JITC conference

This year's Joint Interoperability Test Command 13th Annual Interoperability Conference will be held April 21 - 24 at Fort Huachuca.

This year's theme is "The Interoperability Challenge of Military Transformation."

Visit the JITC Conference home page for information and registration at:

http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/iop_conf/2003/iop_conf.htm.

MAC luncheon

There is a MAC luncheon Feb. 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Lakeside. For reservations or more information, call 458-6940.

FRG events

A Family Readiness Group meeting for 304th Military Intelligence Brigade is scheduled today at 6:30 p.m. For meeting location call 456-2211. The 504th Signal Battalion FRG meeting will take place Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Ozone.

RWBAHC needs volunteers

The Raymond W. Bliss Army Health center volunteer program is up and running. Help is needed with records, filing, front desk or driving the golf cart for patients. For more information call Fran McDonald at 417-2627 or Ro Helm at 459-3997.

B Troop looking for troopers

B Troop, 4th U.S. Cavalry (Memorial) is looking for new troopers with the dash, discipline and daring to promote the heritage and traditions of the United States Army, military horsemanship, and Fort Huachuca. All active duty military, Reserve, National Guard, retired military, Department of Defense civilians and dependents (18 and older) may join B Troop. If interested, come to the private mount area of Buffalo Corral Thursday nights at 5 p.m. Prior riding experience is not necessary. For more information, visit the B Troop website at: www.army.mil/USAG/BTROOP/BTROOP.HTM.

Red Cross information

The Fort Huachuca community blood drive takes place today at Nicholson Hall in

Room 115 from noon - 8 p.m.

If you would like to make an appointment to donate blood call 917-2820. You can donate blood every 56 days. Drink extra fluids, (no caffeine) and eat a small, low-fat meal or snack 2 - 4 hours before donating.

Scholarship program

The applications for the 2003 scholarships for military children program are now available and can be downloaded at www.commissaries.com. Scholarships are for the children of military ID card holders. Applications are due by Feb. 20.

MI Museum Gift Shop

The Military Intelligence Museum and Gift Shop is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They are looking for volunteers. For more information call 533-1127.

AFAP open meeting

The Army Family Action Plan is holding a local issue update meeting that is open to everyone. This update will cover the status of all local issues from the 2002 AFAP conference.

The conference is being held today 10 - 11 a.m. at the Murr Community Center in Room 3.

For more information call the AFAP Program Coordinator at 533-3686.

DAV transportation volunteers

The Disabled American Veterans need volunteer drivers to transport Cochise County veterans to their appointments at the VA Medical Center in Tucson. For more information call 458-5776 or visit the Main Gate house 10-1 p.m.

AFTB Level II

Find out what Army Family Team Building is all about. AFTB is having Level II training Tuesday -Jan. 30 and Feb. 4-6 at the Murr Rec Center. Attend these free seminars and receive certification. For more information, call 533-3686.

AFAP volunteers

The Army Family Action Plan Conference Planning Committee is looking for volunteers. They are needed to be a part of the planning committee and subcommittee and assistance during the conference. AFAP is also looking for volunteers experienced in facilitating and issue development. For more information, call 533-3686.

MVGC open to the public

The Mountain View Golf Course, located on Fort Huachuca, is a high desert 18 hole championship course and is open to the public. Services include a putting green, driving range, golf shop, three par practice hole, and clubhouse. For more information, call 533-7088.

Commanders Hotline

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

Soldiers Radio

Listen to Soldiers Radio on the Commander's Access Channel. You can also listen on the web at www.army.mil.soldiersradiolive.mov.

Girl Scout cookies - The secret ingredient

RITABILLIARD

SPECIAL TO THE SCOUT

There's an important life lesson in every box.

Just mention Girl Scout cookies and people begin rattling off their favorites. That's because Girl Scout cookies are as American as the stars on the American flag. But even die-hard Girl Scout cookie-lovers may be unaware of the real reward behind the annual cookie sale; which is helping girls build business and financial savvy.

Girl Scouts in your neighborhood are now taking orders for the annual Girl Scout cookie sale and you can help them learn important life lessons by supporting girls in your community by buying a box or two of your favorites.

Girls in Sahuaro Girl Scout Council will now take your cookie orders. You can satisfy all of your cookie cravings with your old favorites: Trefoils, Thin Mints, Do-si-dos, Tagalongs, Aloha Chips, OleOle, All Abouts and Samoas.

Girl Scout cookies are only \$3 a box with payment due upon delivery in late February. Last year the nation's 2.5 million Girl Scout sold almost 200 million boxes of cookies-enough to circle the earth.

This year Girl Scouts again have the opportunity to perform community service as

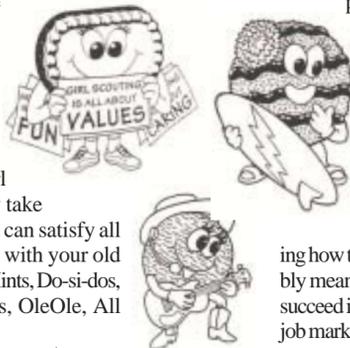
they sell Girl Scout cookies. Some individuals may be very interested in donating a box, or more, to an organization that serves people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to sample this Girl Scout tradition.

The cookie sale program is designed to help girls grow strong, confident, and caring women who are prepared by the Girl Scout experience for a future filled with opportunities. The cookie sale is more than buying and selling cookies, it teaches girls business skills, safety rules, goal setting, customer service, and finance. Girls benefit from every purchase and they have fun.

Purchasing cookies help girls explore careers and enhance leadership skills. They become motivated, focused, and goal oriented. They develop self-esteem, values and respect for others that provide a sound foundation for a healthy and happy future. Learning how to handle money responsibly means today's Girl Scouts will succeed in tomorrow's competitive job market.

In return, girls give back to their communities through service projects. These projects build reciprocal relationships that generate positive action. Girl Scouts learn that they can achieve anything.

You can order your cookies from a local Girl Scout or call 1(800)331-6782.



Pets of the Week



My name is Baxter. I am a gray, female, domestic short hair tabby. I am an ideal lap cat, and enjoy being petted. I am current on my feline leukemia test. I do need a spay, microchip, deworming, and vaccination. My adoption fee is \$42.



My name is O'Ryan. I am a gray, female, domestic short hair tabby. I do need a good home, I love people. Please call the Vet Clinic and see me today!



My name is QT. I am spayed, female black lab mix. I had a family before so I love kids, and am good with other dogs. Plus I am housebroken and have a current heartworm test. All I need is to be microchipped, dewormed and vaccinations. I would make a great pet for \$32.



My name is Scarlotte. I am a fun loving brown and tan, 2 year old, spayed female, shepard mix. I am great with kids and am housebroken. I am current on my heartworm test, microchip, and current vaccines. All I need is my is a dewormer and a good home. My adoption fee is \$22.

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.