Paramedics on call

Advanced level of medical care available to fort community in case of emergency - **Page 3**

Life savers

Hanging out at the pool brings new meaning for life guards protecting swimmers at Fort Huachuca pools.- **B1**

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Retirement ceremony

U.S. Army Garrison will be hosting the Installation Retirement Ceremony tomorrow at 7 a.m. at Chaffee Parade Field.

The soldiers who are retiring are Chief Warrant Officer David James, Network Enterprise Technology Command and from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 111th Military Intelligence Brigade Sgt. First Class Michael Naujelis and Sgt. First Class Robert Fye.

Holocaust Survivor Symposium

Fort Huachuca will observe "Days of Remembrance," Holocaust Survivor Symposium, Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel.

This is an opportunity to learn about the tragedy of the Holocaust from the perspective of those who survived it.

For more information, call the Equal Opportunity Office at 533-1717.

ACS to establish FRG

The first meeting of an Army Community Service family readiness group for families of deployed soldiers, civilians and contractors will be held Wednesday from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Fort Huachuca Child Development Center.

ACS will provide free childcare to those attending the event. Registration deadline is Monday.

To register, call the ACS office at 533-2330/5919.

Command information survey

The Fort Huachuca Public Affairs Office want to better serve the community. Take time to fill out the Command Information Survey insert and let us know how we're doing.

INSIDE

AER donor for life

As a soldier on active duty, then Warrant Officer John Roach needed money to get home after his brother was critically wounded. He was able to get home thanks to an Army Emergency Relief loan and now he's the number one advocate for the campaign each year. **Page 3**

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Fort Huachuca's weekly coverage on the latest developments of the soldiers serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. **Page 5**

SARS facts

Before spreading rumors about Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, know the facts of the disease, precautionary measures and what the Department of Defense is doing to educate servicemembers. **Page 7**

Custer tabbed for CENTCOM assignment

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

Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, announced on Friday Brig. Gen. John M. Custer III, assistant commandant, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, will be assigned as the Director for Intelligence, J-2, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, with a report date to be determined.

Custer was quite surprised upon hearing the announcement, but was saddened as well to leave Fort Huachuca.

"Audrey and I are honored to have been selected for such a prestigious assignment," Custer said. "Naturally, it's a bittersweet experience because we have had such a wonderful time here at Fort Huachuca, but we anticipate immense personal and professional challenges at Central Command."

The Pennsylvania native and graduate of the University of Delaware, where he received a Bachelors of Science degree in chemistry, added, "It doesn't take much of an imagination to see that during the course of the next several years CENTCOM will make history.

"Being involved in our nation's effort to free a people from tyrannical domination and reshape our nation's relationships in an entire region is a truly unique opportunity."

Custer, who was commissioned in 1978 as a second lieutenant in the Military Intelligence Corps, expressed how rewarding it was for him to have worked educating soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines here at the Intelligence Center.

"Working with the officers, soldiers and civilians of the fort have been marvelous. The synergistic relationship between the partner activities on post and the surrounding

See **CUSTER,** Page 8

Brig. Gen. John M. Custer III

Graphic by Angelica Pequeño

April is Alcohol Abuse Prevention Month

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

Alcohol Awareness Month, sponsored by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence since 1987, encourages local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues.

Alcohol Awareness Month began as a way of reaching the American public with information about the disease of alcoholism - that it is a treatable disease, not a moral weakness, and that alcoholics are capable of recovery.

This year's theme: Give Children a Chance - End Underage Drinking, is specifically targeting the increase in underaged drinking.

See related articles on Alcohol Abuse Prevention Month on Page 4.

White House recognizes fort's environmental accomplishments

BY TANJA LINTON
MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICER

Federal Environmental Executive, John Howard, announced Fort Huachuca as one of 26 winners of the prestigious White House Closing the Circle Awards.

The winners were selected from more than 200 submissions.

Fort Huachuca is one of the winners in the sustainable design/green building category.

The post water management team's winning submission is entitled Water Resources Management Process and System.

"It is a great honor to have one of our environmental programs recognized by the White House for leading by example, being a good neighbor and a good steward of resources, said Col. Lawrence J. Portouw, garrison commander.

"I'm extremely proud of the work of our environmental professionals, residents, partner activities, and commanders. Our ongoing success is truly a team effort," said Portouw.

Over the last decade, Fort Huachuca has developed a water management process/system that is designed for sustainability of water resources to meet the military mission and maintain quality of life.

The fort's water management process tracks the "cradle to grave" cycle of groundwater extracted from the local aquifer.

Water is metered at the wellhead to account for the full amount extracted.

It is also fully metered at the entry and exit points of the wastewater treatment plant to determine the amount available for irrigation reuse or recharge to the aquifer, and for the amount consumed by activities

See **AWARD,** Page 7

Fort aims to help local economy, vendors through office purchases

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

A Department of the Army policy that went into effect Oct. 1 mandated the Army use of a group of blanket purchase agreements for the purchase of office products.

The policy was designed to streamline office product purchases to 12 specific vendors, however local vendors, which depended on Fort Huachuca, faced an economic hurdle without the fort's business.

To assist with further planning strategies, the Army is seeking input from current BPA holders as well as additional vendors who are interested in future business opportunities regarding office products.

"Due to problems encountered with the BPAs and DoD [Department of Defense] EMALL and the impacts

See **ECONOMY,** Page 7

Justice intervenes, saves mommy's life

BY STAFF SGT. SHARRON STEWART
TIME OUT EDITOR

Nearly every child looks up to his or her parents, but because of the decisive actions taken by Justice Crocket, 7, her mother Sgt. Angela Crocket, Company A, 86th Signal Battalion has the chance to return the favor.

Justice, a second-grader at Col. Johnston Elementary School, saved her mother's life two weeks ago when she called for help after her mother started to suffer from an asthma attack.

Justice, who is the youngest of the family, said after coming home one afternoon her mother started coughing so bad that she had to sit down.

"She didn't even say anything to me, she just handed me the phone. My mom was coughing really bad and was lying on the floor," Justice said.

Crocket said she was suffering from an infection, which made her breathing hole smaller than normal. Crocket said she remembers that she couldn't even make it into the house.

"I didn't think she even knew what to do with it but she pushed redial and contacted Sister Wendy," Crocket said.

Crocket said her neighbors on either weren't home at the time.

Justice dialed the first phone number in her mother's phone storage, but decided the person didn't respond fast enough. She then dialed the next button, which contacted fellow church member, Sgt. Wendy Blackwell, Company E, 40th Signal Battalion.

"She's my other mommy," Justice said. Justice used her mother's speed dial in order to contact Blackwell who in turn called the paramedics to respond on the scene to Crocket's house.

"Justice didn't panic," Blackwell

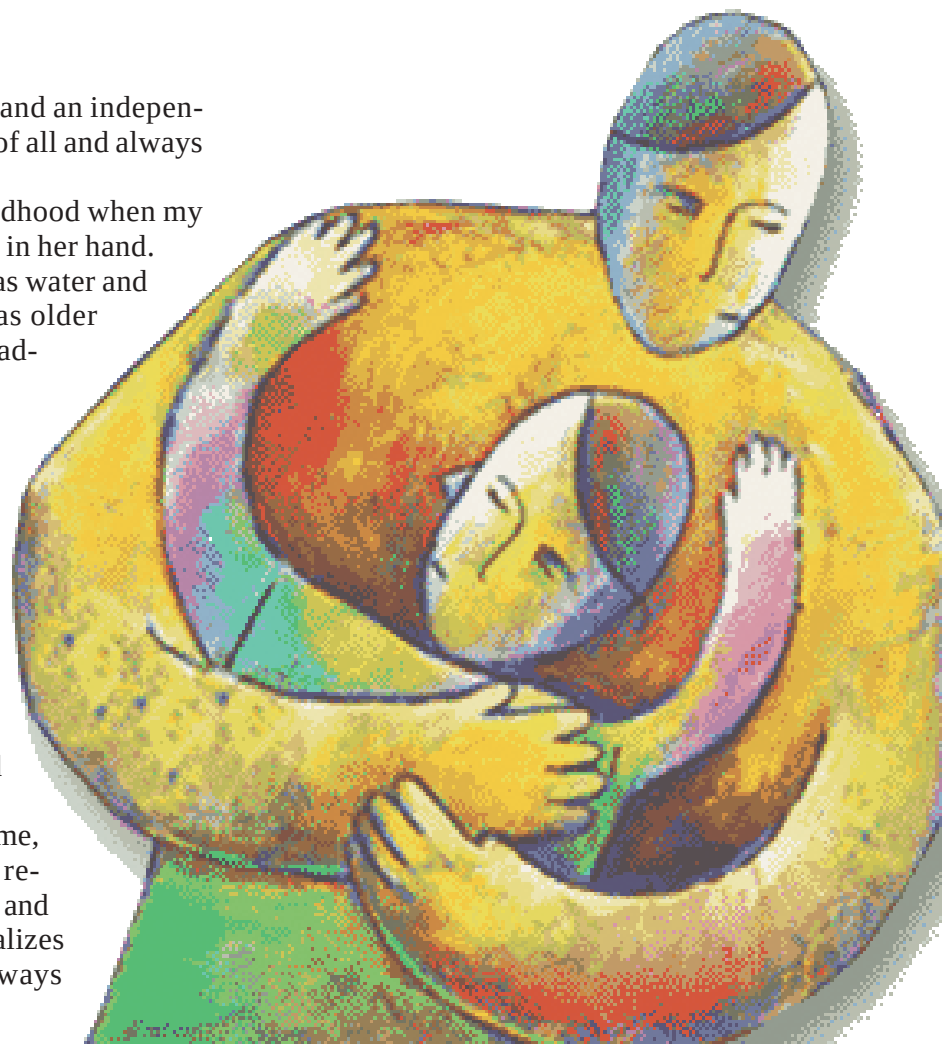
See **JUSTICE,** Page 8

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Seven-year-old Justice Crocket receives a hug from her mother, Sgt. Angela Crocket. Justice's calmness helped her to save her mother's life when the noncommissioned officer suffered an asthma attack.

Please don't pass the bottle

BY NELL DRUMHELLER
SCOUT STAFF



I am a wife, a mother, a grandmother and an independent thinking and acting woman but first of all and always I am the daughter of an alcoholic.

I don't remember a time from my childhood when my mother did not have a glass of something in her hand.

When I was very young I thought it was water and that she must be very thirsty. Once I was older and could comprehend the reality of her addiction I knew that she was a drunk.

What does it mean to be the child of an alcoholic?

As with all learned lessons of family, living with alcoholism affects each child differently.

I was very cooperative as a child and continued to be into young adulthood. I tried to calm the waters, be a very good girl and fix all of the world's hurts. I grew up thinking that I must take care of others, I must put myself last, and I must make "it" all right.

My sister, a couple of years older than me, has married several times and had many relationships almost always with alcoholics and men who show her no respect. She rationalizes her choice in men, but on some level always thinks she can make their lives better.

We didn't know from one day to the next how Mom would react; some days she was loving and fun, others angry and incomprehensible.

My mother was a beautiful woman with a spirit of kindness and love. She was talented and creative, could draw with a natural gift and her gardens grew strong and healthy.

It is too bad that she didn't have the same knack as a parent. With the bourbon, her drink of choice, flowing in her veins she was frightening, not from violence, but instead because her children never felt secure.

Each of us carries the scars in different ways, but one thing is certain: if you are the child of a drunk you are scarred.

In my early 20s I attended meetings for others like me, I learned that alcoholism is a disease, I learned that it didn't single out my family. But I didn't learn how to erase the lessons I was taught in my parents' home. A mother has an awfully big influence on her children.

I'm big, I'm brave and I'm tough. But when it comes to booze, I'm a wimp. The stuff scares me to death. I know it's just a liquid and does not hold mystical powers, but in our family it controlled destiny.

During my experimental stage, when Annie Green Springs and Boone Farms were considered fine beverages, I drank a bit.

I was always an easy drunk, a sip or two past one glass and I was a babbling idiot. If I would go out with friends and drink more than once a month I would become paranoid, thinking I was following in my mother's footsteps.

Once, in my 30s, I drank enough to make myself so sick that I thought I'd invented it. No one could have ever been as sick as I was that night, or could ever top the heaves, shakes and headaches that followed. Since then if I get close enough to smell alcohol, my mind conveniently takes me back to a parking lot in Maryland and the flashbacks of hunching over my car bumper emptying my stomach of its contents induces me to step away from the bottle.

Between the fear and illness, alcohol will never be a contender for my time. Thankfully some part of my makeup has allowed me to break the cycle of drinking, but not the cycle of alcoholism.

I learned my parenting skills from this woman, and have passed them on to my children. I have tried to educate myself and help my children outgrow what they learned from my mother via her daughter.

Hopefully my grandchildren will be free of the disease, both physically and emotionally when they are ready to become parents.

My mother died drunk nearly 15 years ago, she wasn't quite 60 and stopped living when her heart one day quit pumping.

She was bone thin; because she didn't eat she just drank. She was a small, pathetic woman appearing years beyond her age, who couldn't see beyond her next bottle. Her skin was scarred from falling down drunk; her life was empty, her children and grandchildren had turned their backs on her.

She was all of that, but first and always, she was the daughter of an alcoholic.

Chaplain's Corner

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

I had a great Easter - he has risen. He has risen indeed. But now my energies are turned to the earth - my wife and I are planning, and planting, our family garden. Ours is no small task either, about 40 feet by 60 feet, with enough tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and green beans to feed a small country. And it's fun too.

Each year I go through the process of picking the right types of tomatoes and peppers. Cucumbers are pretty easy and the green beans are always the Blue Lake bush variety. I never plant corn, it doesn't do well here. But I found a story that I want to share with you about gardening, using corn, and it sets out a standard for us as we work in the garden of life.

A farmer grew award-winning corn.

Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

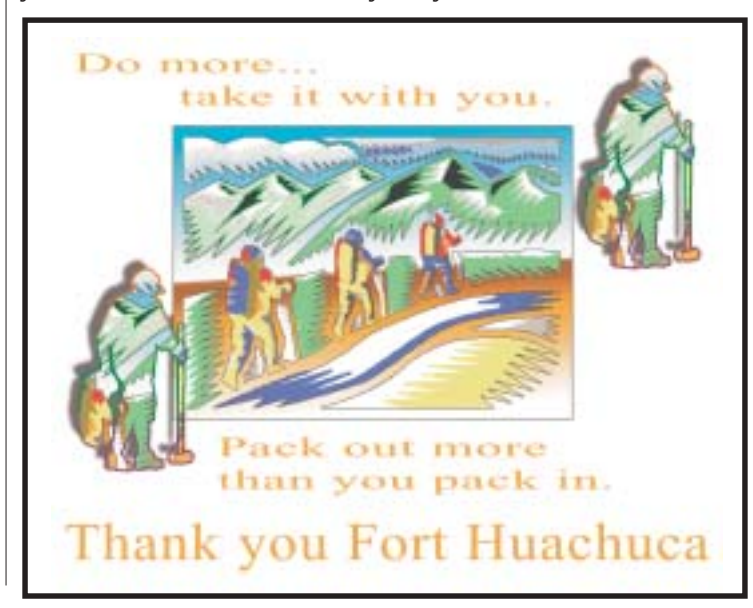
"Why sir," said the farmer, "didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn." The farmer is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbors' corn also improves.

So it is with our lives. Those who choose to live in peace must help their neighbors to live in peace.

Those who choose to live well must help others to live well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: if we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

So, people of Fort Huachuca, toil in and cultivate well your garden of life. I pray it brings you great bounty - and through you, enhance the lives of everyone you touch.



Scout on the Street — What are you telling your children about the war?

"It started Sept. 11; know why they're over there, why we're doing it and daddy may have to go."

Shannon L. Tooley
family member

"I think they should be told where their mom and dad are, what's going on."

James Malott
retiree

"I'm trying to explain that somebody's done something bad. We have to hold people responsible for their actions."

Capt. Steven B. Howery
MIRCC

"They're cruel to their people and we're going in there to help them get leaders who aren't cruel."

Gail Webster
family member

"I'm telling them we're fighting it to make the world safer for everybody."

Lt. Col. Getulio M. Brewer
Headquarters and Headquarters Command
Network Enterprise Technology Command

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

"The right soldier at the right place, making the right decision at the right time can change the course of the world."

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Bittenbender Company D, 309th Military Intelligence

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Who you gonna call?

Paramedics join Fort Huachuca Fire Department

BY NELL DRUMHELLER
SCOUT STAFF

The Fort Huachuca Fire Department can now offer the same standard of service as is available in the Sierra Vista community.

Prior to December 2002, the on post Fire Department relied on their civilian counterparts for Advanced Life Support, better know as paramedics.

Now there are three paramedics stationed here, improving the on post emergency care 24-7.

"We're here to bring an advanced level of care to the fort," Matthew Petroski, one of the three explained.

Larry Faccio, a fire fighter on post since 1987 and now a paramedic, explained how the paramedics came to Fort Huachuca. "There were enough incidents on post where we had to call downtown for ALS that it was decided we needed paramedics here."

Both Faccio and Petroski completed the 13-month paramedic-training program that has a high failure rate. "We started out with 19, ended up with 12 and only eight passed the national registry test," Faccio said of the area training that was held in Tucson. Petroski concurred as to the programs challenges including the two-day test, one day written and one day of hands on practical.

The third paramedic, Charles Pyle was hired specifically for this program especially for his experience as a paramedic.

"I've been a paramedic for five years," he said. He moved here from the Fort Lewis, Wash. area. "I wanted to expand my experience," he added. All three are firemen as well as paramedics. Pyle had to complete the Arizona refresher course prior to beginning his paramedic duties here.

According to Petroski, prior to becoming a paramedic you have to be an Emergency Medical Technician for at least a year.

"You have to be afforded the opportunity," he said of the training. Both he and Faccio maintained their regular work schedule while going to school.

"This department was really instrumental in our becoming paramedics," he added.

"It's something I've wanted to do for a while," he said.

The paramedics respond to an assortment of medical calls. Often as simple as a torn muscle, but are prepared for more life threatening situations. The paramedics say their medical calls are either feast or famine. Some days they are swamped, others they are busy with their firemen responsibilities. "We do inspections, training, keep our equipment ready," Faccio said.

> "We're here to bring an advanced level of care to the fort,"
> **Matthew Petroski, paramedic**

"The whole reason paramedics exist is cardiac," Petroski explained. He added that paramedics were established in England in the 1950s to provide immediate cardiac service.

The program is funded by the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, so the paramedics actually work for the hospital but are geographically assigned to the Fire Department.

Photo by Nell Drumheller

Charles Pyle, left, leads fellow paramedics Larry Faccio and Matthew Petroski in caring for "patient" Gabriel Hernandez.

AER: Making a difference in soliders lives yesterday, today

BY TYWANNA SPARKS
ELECTRONIC PROVING GROUND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Settling into his office, today was no different than any other for John Roach, EPG facility security officer, until he saw an e-mail that caught his attention.

It read, "AER, You can still contribute to the Army Emergency Relief Fund."

The date was April 8 which was a special day for Roach, his late brother's birthday.

While holding back tears, he replied to the e-mail and forwarded it to all employees of EPG. He made a plea for everyone to give to AER, and he gave his own personal reasons why.

Without giving any names or drawing attention to himself, Roach began to tell a story of a young soldier whose brother was killed and desperately needed to get home.

"It was about 30 years ago, I was a young 26 year old staff sergeant and I had just PCS'd from Hawaii. I received a phone call one morning from my aunt who informed me that my brother had been shot and that he was in critical condition. So naturally I assumed he was alive at that point in time."

"I desperately needed to get home but I was strapped for cash. You know back then we didn't make a lot of money and I don't even think I had a credit card. So I called my platoon sergeant, he then called my first sergeant, and the first sergeant contacted AER. I went to the AER office that morning with my first sergeant and started filling out the necessary paperwork. The interest free loan was for a $300 round trip ticket home to Savanah, Georgia. It was paid back over a 12-month period at about $25 a month."

Photo by Tywanna Sparks

Sally Martinez, EPG AER campaign manager, looks on while John Roach makes a contribution to the AER fund.

"AER enabled me to go home which meant a lot to my mother. It wasn't until I arrived in Savanah that night I discovered my brother had died. I called home from the airport and I was told to call the family at the funeral home. If it had not been for AER, I don't know what I would have done."

At the end of his e-mail, Roach then revealed, "PS - My brother was 31 when he was killed. It meant everything to my mother that I was there."

As a retired Army Signal Warrant Officer, Roach feels it's important to support AER.

"I had the feeling that a lot of personnel here probably didn't understand what AER is so I decided to give it a little boost," Roach said.

"AER is just one of those fantastic things the Army has going on right now. It's a caring, sharing program for soldiers. AER isn't just something that is narrowly focused. If a soldier has an unforeseen emergency then AER is there for that soldier. AER authorizes interest free loans, grants or a combination of the two. A really good aspect of the program is that it is aimed towards the soldier tat really doesn't make a lot of money."

This is why Roach gives back, he went on to explain.

"You don't just have to write a check for $50 or $100. You can give $2 or $3, it all adds up. If 100 people gave $5 each, that's $500. That's a lot for a soldier and his or her family during an emergency. I was personally affected and I want to see Fort Huachuca reach its goal."

Established in 1942, AER has helped more than 2.8 million soldiers and their families overcome financial emergencies during the last 60 years, according to (Ret.) General E.C. Meyer, AER president.

Here are some important facts about AER.

Army Emergency Relief helps the following personnel:

•Soldiers on extended active duty and their dependents.

• Members of the Reserved Components of the Army (Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve) on continuous active duty for more than 30 days and their dependents.

• Soldiers retired from active duty because of longevity or physical disability, or retired upon reaching age 60 (Reserve Components) and their dependents.

•Widows (ers) and orphans of soldiers who died while on active duty or after they retired.

AER can:

•Help with emergency financial needs for:

•Food, rent or utilities

• Emergency transportation and vehicle repair

•Funeral expenses

• Medical/dental expenses

• Personal needs when pay is delayed or stolen

• Give undergraduate-level education scholarships, based primarily on financial need, to children of soldiers

AER cannot:

• Help pay for nonessentials

•Finance ordinary leave or vacation

•Pay fines or legal expenses

•Help liquidate or consolidate debt

•Assist with house purchase or home improvements

•Help purchase, rent or lease vehicle

•Cover bad checks or pay credit card bills

Since it was established in 1942, AER has helped more than 2.9 million Army people with more than $837 million in financial assistance.

More servicemembers eligible for tax relief, special, danger pay

SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Tax relief and special pay for service members involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom have expanded.

An April 11 DoD memo certified that Iraqi Freedom personnel stationed in Turkey and Israel and deployed to Mediterranean waters east of 30 degrees east longitude are now eligible for combat zone tax relief.

Also, service members deployed in the same Mediterranean water area now qualify for imminent danger pay.

Effective date for the added combat zone tax relief in Turkey and Israel is retroactive to Jan. 1. Water-deployed eastern Mediterranean personnel started their tax relief status on April 11, the same date they became eligible for imminent danger pay.

These rules determine entitlement to imminent danger pay:

— Service members who serve on official duty in one of the designated areas for any part of a month are entitled to imminent danger pay for the entire month.

— Personnel on duty flying over airspace specifically included in a danger pay area are eligible even if they don't land there. On the other hand, if the airspace isn't designated for the pay, service members aren't eligible for it unless they land in the area.

— Service members who perform duty on a vessel in operations in an area designated for that pay are eligible.

An added bonus: The emergency supplemental bill that President Bush signed on April 16 raised imminent danger pay to $225 per month, a $75 increase retroactive to Oct. 1, 2002.

For tax relief, enlisted members and warrant officers serving in a combat zone for any part of a month exclude all gross income received for military service that month. Amounts excluded from gross income are not subject to federal income tax.

For commissioned officers, the monthly exclusion is capped at the highest enlisted pay, plus any hostile fire or imminent danger pay received. That means that through September 2002, the most an officer could earn tax free each month was $5,532.90 ($5,382.90, the highest monthly enlisted pay, plus $150 hostile fire or imminent danger pay).

Then with the start of the increased imminent danger pay Oct. 1, the combat zone tax relief limit was raised to $5,607.90 per month for the rest of calendar year 2002. For January through September, which covers the rest of fiscal 2003 supplemental, this limit goes to $5,957.70.

A previous executive order has covered combat zone designations for countries such as Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Wasted days, wasted nights

Prevention key to combating alcohol abuse

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

Ken Bowles hasn't stopped battling against enemy forces since his days in World War II and the Korean War. Whereas once he fought against men and their weapons of death, now he battles each day against a different weapon of death – the bottle.

Currently serving as the fort's Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator, Bowles has been on a crusade since 1976 to educate soldiers, family members and leaders the impact alcoholism can have.

The soft-spoken gentleman said his philosophy on life is simple – everything in the world happens, when it suppose to happen.

"I saw this book entitled *Ghosts in the Nursery* which talks about everything that happens in the brain of fetuses before they're born and the first six to eight months of their lives after they're born," Bowles said as he prepared to discuss the early implications of alcoholism. "It can make or break the child."

Bowles expressed the importance of a healthy and supportive environment, which can reduce a person's susceptibility to drugs and alcohol use later on in their lives.

"That environment early on can help build their resistance and make alcohol and drug use not attractive," Bowles said.

According to the Do It Now Foundation, which sponsors alcohol abuse prevention, all socioeconomic and ethnic groups in society are affected by alcohol abuse, but overuse is most common among younger people.

Statistics from year 2000 surveys reveal more than 12.4 million Americans are heavy drinkers. Research has discovered that alcohol abuse can be passed down generation after generation.

"If the strong environment in a young person's life is an alcoholic home, then they're almost set up for addiction of some sort," Bowles said.

> *"What I honestly wish is that we could communicate the message across the board to everybody that someone suffering from addiction didn't want this, didn't ask for it, and wishes it would go away, but it won't because they need help. They're held hostage by the drug.*
>
> **Ken Bowles,**
> **Army Substance Abuse Program Prevention Coordinator**

For those who grew up in an environment in which alcohol was nonexistent and later are introduced to an environment where alcohol use is accepted as part of the culture, Bowles suggested individuals should choose their own path.

"If I don't want to do something, if I don't want to smoke or if I don't want to drink, then I'm not going to hang around people who put pressure on me to do so," Bowles said. "There are enough people out there who don't do those type of things, so these are my associates."

Bowles said in his current job, he has come to know a lot of alcoholics. Before then he never knew any.

"I wouldn't associate with someone who was a heavy drinker," he said. "Because I don't drink, we didn't have anything in common."

As a veteran, Bowles mentioned he understood the mentality of soldiers training hard and partying hard after successful completion of a mission. And a major part of the partying includes excessive alcohol use.

Reflecting on the significance of April being designated as Alcohol Abuse Prevention Month, Bowles emphasized the key word is "prevention."

"My view on prevention is to give people alternate tools, alternate ways of behaving that do not include alcohol or drugs," Bowles said. "You get your personal rewards other ways. You get your personal awards by appreciating the sound of the breeze in the trees or the beauty of every day things in life. If you have that, alcohol and drugs can't do anything for you, because you get a greater thrill from a natural high."

Over the years, Bowles said the trend for Army leaders is now to deglamorize alcohol, but he recognizes it is a lengthy process. Giving an example of the shift in attitudes towards alcohol, Bowles said when the soldiers came back from World War II; they came home and wanted to have a glass of milk.

However he pointed out that Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf said when he came home from the Gulf War, he wanted a beer.

"A whole different attitude from my generation," Bowles said. "But the attitude if the leadership has improved to help soldiers with alcohol problems."

Leaders are able to help soldiers dealing with alcohol-related problems through Army Regulation 600-85, Army Substance Abuse Program.

The intent of the publication follows the 1971 Hughes Act that provided every federal government employee be able to get into a treatment program to make themselves better.

The law also was intended for the employee not to have any negative impact on his or her career.

"AR 600-85 was the Army interpretation of that law," Bowles said. "And it still holds true today. A soldier can volunteer for treatment in the program. They can go through the program with no negative impact on their career."

During this fiscal year, 55 percent of the soldiers in the ASAP program are command referral, which includes driving under the influence of alcohol. Eleven percent are self-referral and 32 percent are medical and biochemical.

"What I honestly wish is that we could communicate the message right across the board to everybody that someone who is suffering from addiction didn't want it, didn't ask for it, and wishes it would go away but it won't because they need help," Bowles said. "They're held hostage by the drug."

Bowles stressed it is important for leaders to realize alcoholism is a serious human illness just as cancer or asthma, so it's perfectly legitimate that if a soldier has a problem to get help for it. The soldier suffering as an alcoholic defines life differently.

"They don't have a problem with alcohol, but it's with their spouse, their kids, their boss or their first sergeant and commander," Bowles said. "In the alcoholic's mind, that's why he or she drinks."

Despite the sadness and despair he's encountered over the years helping soldiers fight their battles with alcoholism, Bowles said he is encouraged by a good friend to keep fighting.

His friend is someone Bowles claimed he wouldn't have associated with years ago because the guy was an alcoholic.

"He has told me the worst day that I have today, is better than my best day when I was drinking and when I was an alcoholic," Bowles said. "That's powerful."

Photo courtesty of edvidnet.com

Alcohol fast facts

DO IT NOW FOUNDATION

Overview

Whether most people know it or not, ethyl alcohol (or ethanol) *is* a real drug, one that causes more deaths, crime, and health and behavioral problems than all illegal drugs combined. Produced by the fermentation and distillation of grain, fruit and other plant products, alcohol is used throughout the world, except in Islamic countries, which oppose its use.

Actions/effects

Ethanol is a central nervous system depressant that triggers a broad range of physical, emotional and behavioral changes. The rate at which it enters the bloodstream (and exerts its psycoactive effects) is influenced by many factors, including sex and body size and whether drinking is done on a full or empty stomach.

As blood-alcohol levels rise, effects increase. At low doses, alcohol's effects includes a loosening of inhibitions along with feelings of relaxation and well-being.

At higher doses, intoxication is linked to progressive levels of impairment.

Duration

Depends on the amountconsumed. Since the liver can only metabolize about one drink per hour, drinking more than that causes intoxication and impairment.

Medical uses

Alcohol has a long history of medical uses, but is no longer used as a medicine in its own right. When used at all today, it's combined with other ingredients in cough syrup or elixirs.

Risks/side effects

All body systems are affected by alcohol. Side effects include dilation of blood vessels (which causes flushed skin) and increased gastric secretion in the stomach. At high doses, side effects include mood swings, unrestrained behavior, and inability to control motor functions as basic as walking.

Other effects include blackouts, sleep problems (including impaired REM sleep), and hangovers. Side effects increase in severity with chronic abuse. Heavy drinkers suffer a variety of alcohol-related problems, including damage to the brain, stomach, pancreas, heart and liver.

Iraqi general surrenders to coalition forces

BY SPC. JACOB BOYER
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

United States and coalition forces accepted the surrender of the first enemy general in Operation Iraqi Freedom when the commander of all armed forces in the western district of Iraq capitulated in Ar Ramedi April 15.

Maj. Gen. Muhammed Thumayla, Western District commander, surrendered himself and more than 16,000 soldiers under his command to Col. Curtis D. Potts, commander, 4th Brigade, in a special operations compound 60 kilometers west of the city.

"This is the only official surrender of Iraqi armed forces to the coalition," Potts said. "I presented our conditions and accepted the surrender from him."

Although Thumayla had more than 16,000 soldiers under his command, he told Potts the bulk of his force had deserted five days after the beginning of the current conflict. He controlled military forces from Ar Ramedi, a town 50 kilometers west of Baghdad, to the border with Jordan and Syria.

Both Thumayla and his deputy commander were held at the compound by soldiers from the 5th Special Forces Group and other government agents.

Potts flew to the compound in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, and the surrender was signed in a central courtyard. After 40 minutes of discussion, Potts and Thumayla signed the documents on a small field table Potts brought to the site.

"I told him I appreciated what he was doing for his nation and the people of Iraq," said Potts, a Skokie, Ill., native. "This will limit any future bloodshed."

Potts asked Thumayla to stay in uniform for 30 days, take control of his soldiers and restore order in the Ar Ramedi area.

"At the end, I saluted him," he said. "I gave him that respect because he is a superior officer. I also gave him and his deputy some very good cigars, as professional soldiers, one to another."

Photo by Spc. Jacob Boyer

Iraqi Maj. Gen. Muhammed Thumayla, commander, Iraq's Western District, reviews the articles of capitulation while Col. Curtis D. Potts, commander, 4th Brigade, explains the surrender to him through an interpreter.

Potts said he was "honored" to represent coalition forces in accepting the surrender.

After the ceremony, explosives and ordinance disposal soldiers disabled explosives wired to a bridge on Highway 1, allowing C Troop, 3rd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment to move across the Euphrates River and disable 119 enemy vehicles, including over 50 tanks and 20 fighting vehicles, Potts said.

AH-64 Apaches from A Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment kept aerial security for the operation, Elements from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade and B Co., 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment also aided the mission.

"First, we downloaded any ammunition on the vehicles and put it in a truck," said Staff Sgt. Paul Sheppard, commander's driver, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade. "We didn't destroy the vehicles, but we made sure it would be a while before they could be repaired."

Sheppard said they poked holes in the vehicles' radiators, disabled their batteries, cut their fuel lines and disarmed the firing mechanisms.

All of the damage was done with bayonets and sledgehammers. Sheppard said that while he was happy to see such a large force capitulate, he had mixed emotions seeing the general after the ceremony.

"In a way it was sad, because it seemed like they had nothing to go back to," he said. "But I think they were happy their men had defected, because it saved lives. I wish more units had capitulated."

(Editor's note: Spc. Jacob Boyer is assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division Public Affairs Office.)

U.S. not planning to occupy Iraq, nor ask for future air bases

BY JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The United States has neither asked nor considered asking a future Iraqi government for use of four air bases, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Monday.

Rumsfeld called a New York Times story that suggested such a thing "unhelpful."

He said such articles left people in the Middle East with the impression that the United States is planning to occupy the country.

"Not so," he said as he thumped the lectern at the Pentagon briefing studio. "It's flat false."

Rumsfeld said the United States went in to Iraq to change the regime, find and dispose of Saddam's weapons of mass destruction and stop the country from threatening its neighbors.

He said the subject of long-term use of the air bases has not come up during Pentagon discussions.

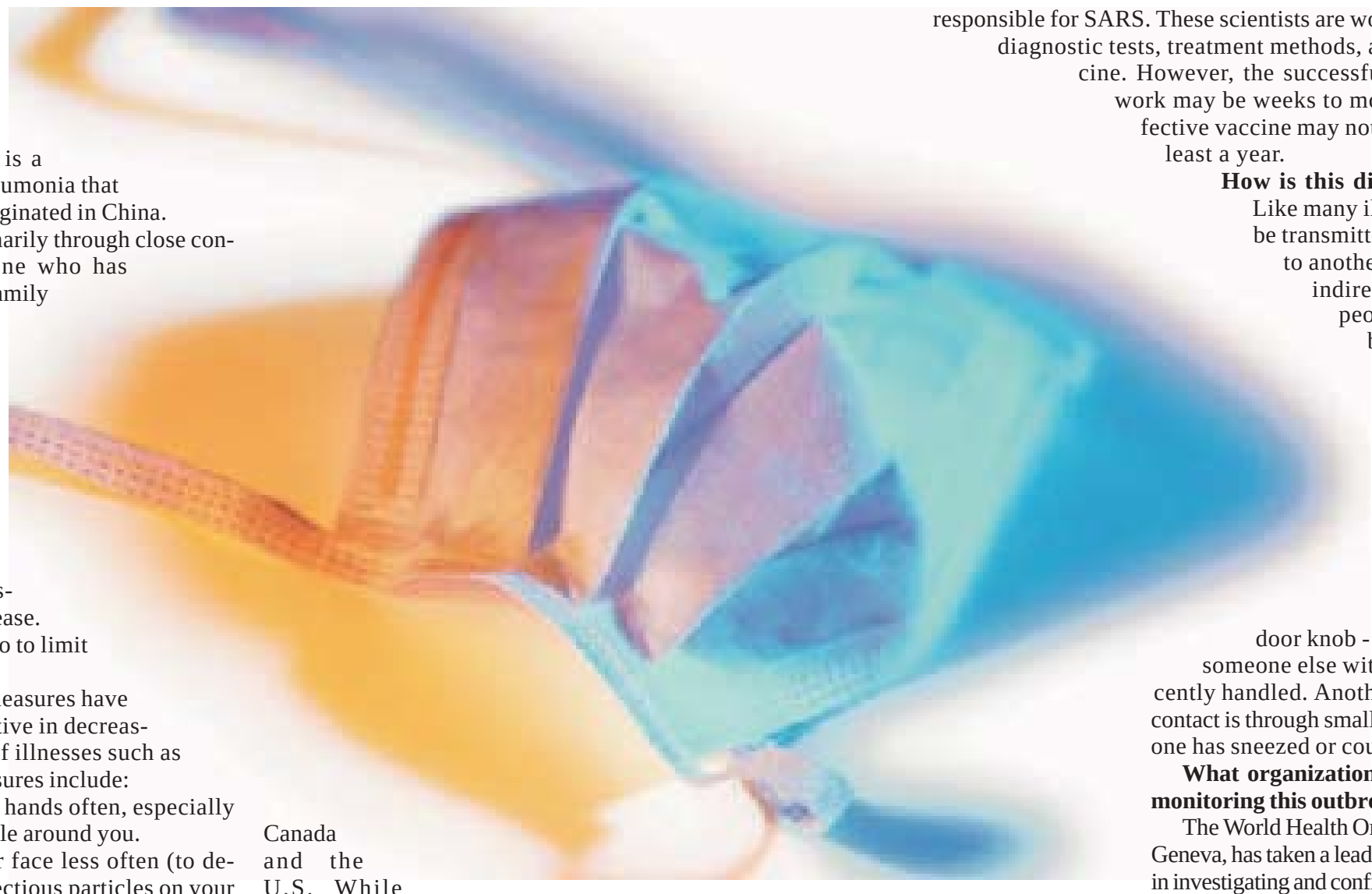
U.S. forces are using bases in the country – Baghdad International Airport, Tallil in southern Iraq, H-1 in western Iraq and Bashur in the north – as logistics hubs for coalition forces engaged in combat operations and to funnel humanitarian supplies.

The United States will consider the size of the American "footprint" in the area after consultation with allies in the region and outside of it.

Rumsfeld did say it is his feeling fewer American servicemembers would be needed in a Middle East without the threat of Saddam Hussein.

SARS: spreads through close contact, learn self protection

HEALTH AFFAIRS RELEASE



SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, is a severe form of pneumonia that appears to have originated in China.

It is spread primarily through close contacts with someone who has SARS, including family members or healthcare workers who are involved in the care of the pneumonia cases.

It appears that direct, close contact with an infected person is necessary for transmission of this disease.

What can you do to limit infection?

A few simple measures have proven to be effective in decreasing transmission of illnesses such as SARS. These measures include:

• Washing your hands often, especially if there are ill people around you.

•Touching your face less often (to decrease moving infectious particles on your hands to your mouth and nose)

•Covering your mouth and nose if you cough or sneeze

•Decreasing unnecessary time spent close to others who are sick

While the medical community continues its aggressive research into this disease and possible preventative measures, if you take the precautions outlined above, you will decrease your chances of getting SARS (and many other common illnesses).

Where has the outbreak occurred?

Much of the focus of this atypical pneumonia is in the Republic of China (including Hong Kong) and other countries of Southwest Asia, such as Vietnam, Taiwan, Singapore and Thailand. However, other areas of the world also are affected, including Canada and the U.S. While more than 30 states have reported suspected cases in the U.S., there have been none in Department of Defense medical treatment facilities.

All suspected cases of SARS are being actively investigated by state and local health agencies. The Military Health System is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control on both the cause and possible cure for the virus suspected of causing SARS.

As of mid-April, there are nearly 3,500 suspect cases and more than 170 deaths worldwide. The CDC has issued an alert for physicians and travelers in the United States to be cognizant of flu-like symptoms, to consider recent travel and contacts, to seek medical attention if ill, and to report possible cases. This alert offers information to the health community and the traveling population to make decisions regarding patient care and personal travel plans. These alerts and more detailed information, to include a brief case definition, are available on the CDC Web site: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/.

This is a force health protection issue for the DoD, with soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, civilians and family members traveling and stationed throughout the world.

Is this a virus or bacteria?

While the actual cause is still under intense study, many scientists around the world believe that a "coronavirus" in the same family as the common cold is likely responsible for SARS. These scientists are working diligently on diagnostic tests, treatment methods, and a possible vaccine. However, the successful outcome of this work may be weeks to months away. An effective vaccine may not be available for at least a year.

How is this disease spread?

Like many illnesses, SARS can be transmitted from one person to another through direct or indirect contact between people. This includes both respiratory and intestinal illnesses, from minor to severe. An example of direct contact is shaking hands with a sick person. An example of indirect contact is touching a door knob - or any object - that someone else with an illness has recently handled. Another form of indirect contact is through small droplets that someone has sneezed or coughed into the air.

What organizations are in charge of monitoring this outbreak?

The World Health Organization, based in Geneva, has taken a leading international role in investigating and confirming the outbreaks. The CDC is the lead U.S. agency. The CDC is providing significant assistance to the WHO, and is also thoroughly investigating the outbreak and taking aggressive steps to reach those who have traveled to the affected areas.

What is the DoD doing?

The DoD infectious disease surveillance systems are closely monitoring for disease trends and possible cases of SARS. DoD has daily updates on health care surveillance of DoD beneficiaries across the globe. In addition, military laboratories are supporting both CDC and WHO as needed.

As a DoD beneficiary, it is important for you to keep informed on the latest information regarding SARS, and to communicate with your health care provider if you are concerned about a medical problem.

Community Updates

New shuttle bus schedule released

The Sierra Vista Public Transit System shuttle bus for Fort Huachuca new schedule includes a bus, which circulates around the post Mondays through Saturdays from 6:30 a.m. to 7:35 p.m. Also in the new schedule is seven-day service from post to commercial areas downtown. The Monday-Friday fort to mall express runs from 4:48 p.m. – 7:21 p.m. with the first on-post pick-up being at the military village. On Saturdays the first on post pick-up point is military village and is at 11:01 a.m. The last returning bus on Saturdays leaves the Sierra Vista transfer center at 8 p.m. On Sundays the first pick-up on the fort, at the military village, is at 12:21 p.m. and the last return leaves the mall at Sierra Vista at 5:35 p.m. Off post stops include the transfer center, the mall and Wal-Mart.

One-way rides are $1. For more information on this service go to the Web site at: www.ci.sierra-vista.az.us.

Tuskegee Airmen Award

The Department of the Army announces its participation in the 2003 Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. Military award. This program recognizes outstanding military members (Active, Reserve and Guard) from each of the military services, who epitomize the pursuit of excellence in their chosen career fields.

Nominations must be submitted to Headquarters, Training and Doctrine Command, Attn: ATBO-BPS, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1048, no later than May 7. Each nomination packet must be submitted through the nominee's chain of command and include a narrative and biography.

Army blood drives planned

The William Bliss Army Medical Center will conduct Army blood drives on the last week of each month at Eifler Gym from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. This month's blood drive will be on Tuesday and Wednesday.

GIPC Web site activated

The Global Information Security Partnership Conference 2003 Web site is now available for complete registration and information access. Log on to www.gipccsla.com to find the tools to register for the conference, register for workshops and on-line payment options.

The US Army Communications-Electronics Command Communications Security Logistics Activity is hosting its 12th annual Global INFOSEC Partnership Conference also known as GIPC, May 6-8 on Fort Huachuca. The conference theme is, "Cryptographic Modernization: Securing the Modern Battlefield."

Estate planning class offered

Col. Jerry Erhlich, a judge advocate reservist specializing in estate planning, will present two Estate Planning seminars on May 1. There will be one briefing from 10 a.m. –11:15 a.m. at Fitch Auditorium, Alvarado Hall, and a second briefing from 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. at Greeley Hall. The seminars will provide comprehensive legal and practical information to soldiers and families about estate planning; topics will include wills, trusts, tax ramifications, and related topics such as medical directives and powers of attorney. For more information call 1st Lt. Holly Bryant, 533-0624.

Education Center offers orientation

The education center will have an orientation May 6 from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. At the orientation they will give an overview of services, classes, and facilities. For more information, call 533-2393.

Youths sought for state commission

The Governor's Youth Commission is currently accepting applications from high school students who will be sophomores or juniors during the 2003-2004 school year. The primary purpose of the Governor's Youth Commission is to advise the governor and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families on issues affecting youth in Arizona.

Youth Commissioners must attend quarterly meetings, participate in committees, be aware of and involved with community and youth organizations in his/her community and serve as a role model.

Applications must be postmarked by May 16 and faxed applications must be received by 5 pm on May 16.

For more information regarding the Governor's Youth Commission or to request an application, call Jeff Ranby, in the Governor's Division for Community and Youth Development at (602) 542-3422.

Spirit of Service Award

The Department of the Army announces its participation in the American Legion's Spirit of Service award. This award will recognize a member from each of the Armed Forces, sergeant and below, for their outstanding military performance and volunteer service in a local community.

Nominations must be submitted to Headquarters, Training and Doctrine Command, Attn: ATBO-BPS, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1048, no later than May 14. Each nomination packet must be submitted through the nominee's chain of command and include a narrative and biography.

Law Day limits legal office hours

The Fort Huachuca Legal Assistance Office will be closed Monday after 10 a.m, May 2 after 9 a.m. and all day May 3 for Law Day activities. For more information, call 533-3090/2009.

AFGE meeting set

AFGE Local 1662 will hold a special meeting Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at the Union Hall, Building 41414, to discuss the Letter of Instruction and Execution Plan concerning the Installation Management Activity and Army Contracting Activity received by the Union. This meeting is open to all civil service personnel who may be impacted by the LOI, and any other individuals who may wish to attend. Point of contact for this event is Bill Turner, 533-2879.

Range closures

Today – AM, AQ, AR, AY, T1, T1A, T2
Tomorrow – AM, AR, AU
Saturday – AU, T1, T1A, T2
Sunday – AU
Monday – T1,T1A, T2
Tuesday – AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, T1, T1A, T2
Wednesday 30 Apr – AU, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on range closure call Range Control 533-7095.

Troops to Teachers briefing

There will be a Troops to Teachers briefing Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. at the Education Center, Room 2. This program enriches the quality of American education by helping to place mature, motivated, experienced, and dedicated personnel in our nation's classrooms. Thousands of retiring military and Reserve Component personnel are discovering new and rewarding careers in teaching, helping to build and sustain our nation's communities, starting with our children.

Update your global address

When global address users move or have changes in their information they must submit a trouble ticket to the Department of Information Management Help Desk to have their information updated. Call 533-1111 to initiate a trouble ticket.

American Red Cross classes

The American Red Cross offers classes in CPR/First Aid, Babysitting, Lifeguarding and Learning to Swim.

Classes are held both on Fort Huachuca and at the Sierra Vista Office at 1939 S. Frontage Road.

Upcoming classes include:

• Saturday, 8 a.m., CPR and First Aid, Sierra Vista Office.

• May 4, 9 a.m., CPR and First Aid, Sierra Vista Fire Department.

• May 8, 6 p.m., Orientation, Sierra Vista Office.

• May 14, 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Orientation, Murr Recreation Center, Fort Huachuca.

For more information, call 458-4858.

Space A travel changes for families

The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Transportation Policy) has approved a one-year test to evaluate the expansion of space-available privileges for dependents traveling within the Continental United States. The test began April 1 and will end March 31, 2004.

The test allows dependents of active duty and military retirees members to travel within the CONUS when accompanied by their sponsors. Dependents will assume the same category of travel as their sponsor.

For more information concerning space-available travel and sign-up procedures visit the Air Mobility Command public Web site at http://amcpublic.scott.af.mil/Spacea/spacea.htm.

Garden assistance Saturday at PX

The Cochise County Master Gardners and the Sierra Bista Garden Club will host a Garden Shop Assistance Center Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Post Exchange Garden Center.

Warm weather changes heating to cooling

The changeover from heating to cooling is scheduled for May. The following schedule is subject to acceleration depending upon weather conditions.

May 1-8

Mott Circle
Kautz Street
Brown Court
Bernard Court
Hall Circle
Patch Street
Hanna Street
Fuller Street
Cushing Street (odd)
Carter Street
Irwin Street
Jeffords Street (208-244) East of Cushing
Hatfied Street (121-143) East of Cushing

May 9-17

Meyer Avenue (115-130) East of Rucker
Rucker Street (odd)
Hardley Street
White Street
Rafferty Street
Royal Street
Jeffords Street (162-211) East of Rucker, West of Cushing
Stedman Street (150-216) East of Rucker
Faison Circle
Craig Street (108-144) East of Rucker
Cushing Street (even)
Carter Street (100-104)

May 18-24

Moore Circle
Mottern Circle
Nelson Circle
Burns Road
Dorsey Street
Schmidt Street
Derum Street
Carlson Street
Meyer Street (110-114) West of Rucker, East of Arizona
Nickles Street
Rucker Street (even)
Hughes Street (120-158) West of Rucker
Stedman Street (116-149) West of Rucker
Jeffords Street (120-161) West of Rucker
Craig Street (100-107) West of Rucker
Hatfield Street (100-120) West of Rucker
Stovall Street
Dodson Street
Stanley Street

May 25-31

Arizona Street
Crandall Street (even)
Davis Street
Dove Street (odd)
Grierson Avenue
Hines Street
Luke Court
Luke Street
Madden Street
Madden Court
Mason Street
Mills Street
Mizner Street
Tupper Street
Winrow Street

Pets of the Week

Pets are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 533-2767.

My name is Shadow. I am a 2-year-old male black longhaired cat. I get along with other cats good and I am good with kids. I am already neutered, up to date on my vaccinations and litter trained. I would love to be a wonderful loving new addition to the family. To be all yours my adoption fee is only $42 and this includes a microchip, deworm and a feline leukemia test.

My name is Coco. I am a 1-year-old black chow mix female. I am a very loving and affectionate dog. I am already spayed and up to date on my vaccinations. All I need is a microchip, deworm, and a heartworm test. This is included in my adoption fee, which is only $52.

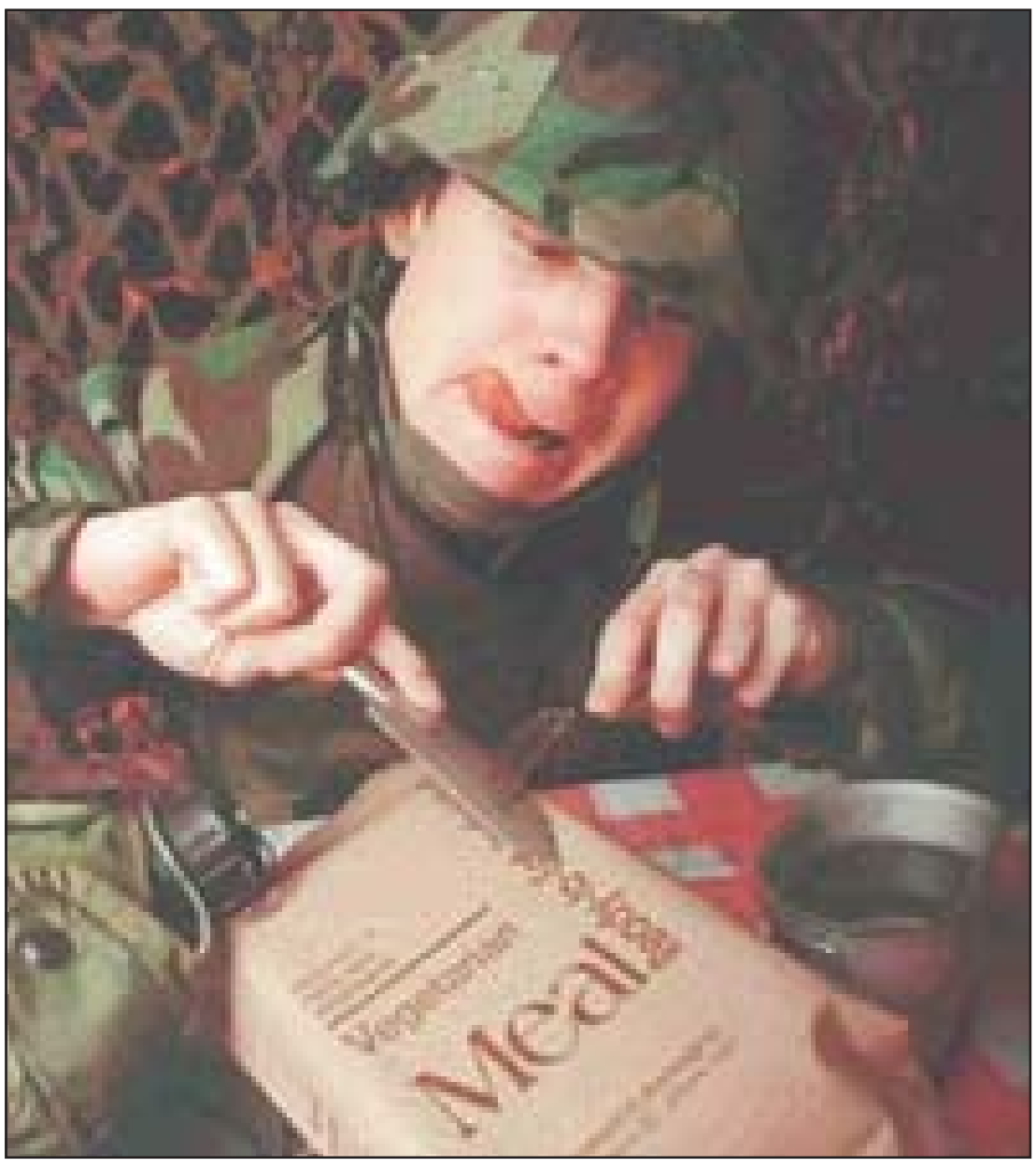
My name is Roxy. I am a 5-month-old female black lab mix pup. I am very playful and energetic however my previous owner never took the time to train me properly, but I am a quick learner. I am good with kids, cats and other dogs. To be a part of your family my adoption fee is $52, this fee includes my spay, vaccinations, microchip, heartworm test, and a deworm.

courtesy photos

My name is Midnight. I am a very loving 6-month old female domestic shorthair cat. I am a very friendly and cuddly kitty. I was found stray here on post, and need a new home. My adoption fee includes my spay, vaccinations, microchip, deworm and a feline leukemia test and is only $42.

Meddling with MRE menus

DLA changing food variety according to soldiers' matter of taste



Department of Defense photo

Meals Ready to Eat have been revamped by the Defense Logistics Agency to better accomodate the variety of tastes of servicemembers.

BY KRISTEN GUSS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Beginning with contract production runs in June, the Defense Logistics Agency will add new Meals, Ready to Eat Menus, while eliminating others.

The changes were in response to the likes and dislikes expressed in Army surveys taken by soliders in the field.

The new entrees include Pork Rib and Sauce, Vegetable Manicotti and Roast Beef with Vegetables.

Entrees being eliminated include Jamaican Pork Chop, Pasta Alfredo and Beef with Mushrooms. However, the current stock of MREs will be used until exhausted.

The MRE is a pre-packaged operational ration designed to sustain an individual engaged in heavy activity such as military training or during actual military operations when normal food service facilities are not available.

It is totally self-contained and consists of a full meal packed in a flexible meal bag. The full bag is lightweight and fits into military field clothing pockets.

Each meal bag contains an entree and a variety of other useful items, such as chewing gum, matches and moist toilette.

Except for the beverages, the entire meal is ready to eat.While the entree may be eaten cold when desired or necessary, it can also be heated in a variety of ways, including submersion in hot water while still sealed in its individual entrée package.

Since Operation Desert Storm, a flameless ration heating device has also been packed into each meal bag to heat the entrée.

Each meal bag contains the components of one meal. Soldiers who are engaged in heavy activity normally consume three MREs a day.

In its ongoing effort to be responsive to its customers, DLA provides several types of MREs tailored to different dietary requirements.

The Meal, Religious, Kosher or Halal, is provided for individuals in the military services who maintain a strict religious diet.

Each meal consists of one Kosher or Halal certified entree and religiously certified or acceptable complementary items sufficient to provide the recommended daily nutritional requirements.

There are two vegetarian meals in every box of MREs which supports those troops who, for various reasons, cannot consume meat.

Special Humanitarian Daily Rations are also produced and distributed to displaced persons or refugees under emergency conditions. These packs contain enough food to sustain a moderately malnourished person for one day.

In support of Iraqi Operations, the Defense Logistics Agency's Defense Supply Center Philadelphia has shipped approximately 30 million individual menu bags of MREs.

If the menu bags were laid end to end, these MREs would go around the world 228 times.

DLA has also procured and begun distribution of more than 4 million Humanitarian Daily Rations.

(Editor's note: Kristen Guss works for the Defense Logistics Agency.)

ECONOMY from Page 1

on local vendors, Fort Huachuca has not been strictly enforcing the mandatory BPAs and use of the E-Mall for office products," said Wilma Rose, director of contracting, U.S. Army Contracting Agency, Southern Region.

Some of the office products that are purchased on the local economy include binders, tape, envelopes, printer paper, video cassettes and tapes, CD ROMS and ergonomic products.

The primary goals of the BPA initiative are to ensure that office product purchases are in compliance with the statutory preferences afforded to products manufactured under the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act and to capture economies of sale.

"Government purchase card buyers should first determine, through their supply channels, if the required office product or supply item is available through agency inventories or excess from other agencies or through Federal Prison Industries, Inc. (UNICOR)," Rose said. "If the product is available through these sources, purchase through the DoD EMALL shouldn't be an issue."

She added furniture purchases from FPI or UNICOR are no longer mandatory, but there are special procedures to be followed for furniture purchases.

GPC buyers are required to register as a user at https://emall.prod.dodonline.net/scripts/emLogon.asp before attempting to use the DoD EMALL, however, guest access is available at that site to determine what products are available.

Rose also mentioned GPC buyers are encouraged to utilize the EMALL as the next source of supply, particularly for items covered by the JWOD Act.

"These items are identified by a JWOD icon in the Prod Spec or Product Name column of the EMALL and typically (but not always) reflect a SKILCRAFT label," Rose said. "If the item desired is available through JWOD suppliers at a fair and reasonable price, the purchase should be from the least expensive JWOD supplier."

The next source of supply for products which are not available through agency inventories or excess from other agencies, Federal Prison Industries, Inc. or DoD EMALL should be GSA Advantage, which is available at https://www.gsaadvantage.gov/advgsa/main_pages/start_page.jsp

The last source of supply should be other open market vendors locally, through catalogs, or online sources.

For more information regarding DoD EMALL usage, contact Laurie Packard at 533-3223 or laurie.packard@hua.army.mil

DoD's online IT shopping system saves time, money

Another alternative for government card purchasers

BY GERRY J. GILMORE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Where can DoD information technology procurement specialists quickly get the best deals on computer software?

The Virtual Information Technology Marketplace is only a few mouse-clicks away, said Rick Perron, VITM project manager within DoD's Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence.

The VITM system "is basically a 'point-and-click' capability" that mirrors private-sector business practices, Perron explained.

There, authorized DoD IT personnel can comparison-shop in making online computer purchases for official business.

The online ordering system eliminates paperwork, saving time, he pointed out.

DoD's Enterprise Software Initiative Enterprise Software Agreements, available through VITM, result in wholesale software buys, assuring maximum leverage of DoD's combined buying power and producing large software discounts.

VITM began operation on Nov. 30, Perron noted. It was developed for DoD by the General Services Administration, modeled on GSA's online ordering system -– GSA Advantage.

Only DoD-issued credit cards currently can be used to make purchases on the VITM system, he pointed out.

AWARD from Page 1

File photo

The effluent reuse project is one example of the many programs Fort Huachuca has take to help the environment leading to recognition by the White House.

"It is a great honor to have one of our environmental programs recognized by the White House for leading by example, being a good neighbor and a good steward for resources."

Col. Lawrence Portouw,
U.S. Army Garrison commander

on the fort.. Consumptive use may be made up through other measures, such as the recharge of urban runoff.

Other measurement and monitoring methods are also used to track progress or identify opportunities for conservation. The management process allows for examination and prioritization of the needed changes to accomplish goals and objectives.

The goal of the water management process is to zero balance water pumping on Fort Huachuca by the end of 2007 and to zero-balance fort related water pumping in the region by 2011.

The Closing the Circle Awards will be presented at the Presidential Hall of the Eisenhower Executive Office building, in Washington, D.C. June 10.

Courtesy photo

Mama Mia!

Smith Middle School student Josep Webster tries his hand at cooking hot wings during Job Match Day April 10. Funded by a grant from the Cochise Community Foundation and the Smith Parent Teacher Student Organization the entire class were matched with working professionals from Fort Huachuca to learn about the real world of work.

Kudos Korner

MOVSM qualifiers - March

The nominees for the Military Outstanding Volunteers Service Medal are as follows:

Capt David Bornn, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion
Spc. Joseph N Tyson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 111th M.I. Brigade
Spc. John B Taylor, 36th Army Band
Spc. Marcellus C Nichols, HHC, 111th MI Bde.
Pfc. Kelsey Fort, Company A, 305th MI Bn.
TSgt. Alan D Avila, 314th Training Squadron
2nd Lt. Geralyn B Bennett, Company C, 304th MI Bn.
Spc. Jennifer Klemenz, Company E, 309th MI Bn.

CUSTER from Page 1

community has been unique in my career," Custer said. "Moving is part of military life but we feel confident knowing Brigadier General Barbara Fast and her husband Paul, will not miss a beat."

Fast has been selected to replace Custer as the incoming deputy commandant.

Custer was assigned as Deputy Commandant of the USAIC&FH Aug. 15, 2001. Prior to that he served as Assistant Chief of Staff, G2, I Corps, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Custer has commanded the 201st Military Intelligence Brigade, the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion and B Company, 102nd Bn, 2nd Infantry Division.

He's also served in a variety of positions ranging from battalion executive officer, deputy division G2 officer, nuclear weapons targeting officer, MI Branch company grade assignment officer, and space communications architectures planner, J5, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Custer's military awards include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster; Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters; Humanitarian Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Ranger Tab and Airborne Badge.

> *"Naturally, it's a bittersweet experience because we have had such a wonderful time here at Fort Huachuca."*
>
> **Brig. Gen. John Custer, Fort Huachuca Acting Commander**

His military education includes Masters of Science Degrees in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College, and Information Operations from the National Defense University.

He is a graduate of the Defense Language Institute's Russian curriculum, the Military Intelligence Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and the National War College, Fort McNair, Washington D.C.

Custer is married to the former Audrey Schoenfeld of San Diego, and they have one daughter, Rachel Claire.

Courtesy photo

Army flag salute

Robert Bohach (U.S. Air Force retired), commissioner of the Arizona Department of Veterans Affairs and a veteran of both the Korean War and Vietnam Conflict, presented Brig. Gen. John Custer, Fort Huachuca acting commander, with the set of the Army colors that flew over the state capitol during the U.S. Army's 227th birthday as part of a ceremony last month. Arizona is the first state in the Union to fly each service's colors over the capitol on each service's birthday.

JUSTICE from Page 1

Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Justice Crocket poses with her teacher Gil Armenta at Johnston Elementary School.

said. "She remained real calm for someone so young."

"I remembered to tell my mother that she would be all right and that God had her. The people at church always tell me that whenever my mother has an asthma attack, so it was my turn to tell her," Justice said. "I was about to cry but I didn't. My mom's friend told me that if my mom saw me cry, it wouldn't make her better."

Crocket admitted that only a few days earlier she had briefed her oldest two children what to do in case she had an asthma-attack while their father, a truck driver, was on the road.

"It never occurred to me to tell her what to do because she's the baby of the family," Crocket said shaking her head. "She was such a big girl. She was very calm. I didn't want to pass out and freak her out especially since she was so brave. I'm so proud of her."

> *"remembered to tell my mother that she would be all right and that God had her...I was about to cry, but I didn't...if my mom saw me cry, it wouldn't make her feel better.*
>
> **Justice Crocket, Seven-year-old daughter of Sgt. Angela Crocket**

Justice's teacher, Gil Armenta, is part of Johnston's Emergency Preparedness Committee and believes Justice used some of the first aid lessons she was taught at school.

"Our primary concern is for the safety of the children. We teach them even though they are young, there might come a time in their life where they have to take control. I think she picked up on that because she knew what to do," said Armenta, who is first aid and CPR certified.

"Children are not afraid as long as they know what to do. Tell them what to do, they will be able to do it automatically when the time comes," Armenta said.

Johnston School gave Justice a hero card, which she turned in for a ribbon, two pencils, a sucker, a sticker and a rubber band because she helped her mother.