NCO guide

New reference guide for Army noncommissioned officers updated and revised for the NCO Corps - **Page 3**

RV rules

Post to implement new parking rates for owners of RV vehicles, however it's still cheaper than downtown. - **B1**

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Force protection checkpoints

The Directorate of Public Safety will be conducting Force Protection checkpoints at the Main Gate Saturday starting at midnight and ending on Sunday at 1:30 a.m. for inbound traffic and from 1:30 - 3 a.m. for outbound traffic.

The purpose of the checkpoint is to protect and safeguard the community, ensure compliance with laws and regulations and reduce possible threats to the installation.

Force Protection checkpoints are already conducted on the installation, however, there will be an increase in the number of vehicles inspected.

AFAP conference

If you are part of the Army, you can be an Army Family Action Plan participant.

Soldiers (active, Guard or Reserve), retirees, civilians, or family members; you can be part of Fort Huachuca's AFAP conference March 11-13.

• Be a delegate and share your good ideas

• Volunteer to help with a conference, assist with the program, or be a member of the local AFAP Advisory Committee.

• Become familiar with current AFAP issues. Tell people what's happening; get them energized to promote Army well being through the AFAP process.

• If you are a commander, you can support a strong AFAP program in you community, and you can draw on the real-time quality of life information AFAP provides.

If you'd like to be involved in the upcoming AFAP conference contact Karla Grosinsky at 533-3686, by e-mail at karla.grosinsky@hua.army.mil or stop by Army Community Service. Registration ends Monday.

INSIDE

Unit donates 9K to take care of local wildife

Bambi, Thumper, and all the creatures of the land will not have to worry about thirst as IEWTD provides hefty donation for water catchment. **Page 3**

MPs beat the brush to protect community

A dedicated team of Military Police officers guard the fort's perimeter against undocumented immigrants from illegal intrusion. **Page 3**

AFAP and you

The Army Family Action Plan is pivotal for making the community better for installation residents, but it needs you to make it successful. See how to be involved. **Page 4**

Fort opens new state-of-the-art housing

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DONALD SPARKS & ERIC CRAMER
FORT HUACHUCA PAO

Acknowledging the importance of taking care of Army families and it's tie in to soldier readiness, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Tuesday in the Bonnie Blink housing area making available more than 80 new state-of-the-art homes.

Col. Lawrence Portouw, garrison commander, and Congressman Jim Kolbe, conducted the ceremony for which Portouw proclaimed, "Something I've been waiting to do for six months."

Portouw praised the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Los Angeles and Sacramento districts) and the contractor, Lend Lease Actus, for preserving the natural beauty and integrity of the land the homes were built.

He also thanked family members for their patience during the building period.

"These are beautiful homes for our noncommissioned officers, the backbone of the Army," Portouw said. "I'm proud that we can offer these modern homes in the most beautiful area on Fort Huachuca to our soldiers and their families."

Portouw specifically emphasized the modern energy efficiency features in each home such as sola-tubes to increase natural lighting in kitchens and baths to reduce energy costs; cement tile roof which has a 50-year life cycle; and air conditioners versus swamp coolers to help reduce water consumption.

"Our soldiers dedicated to defending our country deserve the best housing we can provide," Kolbe said. "These beautiful homes in this lovely setting are a great example of our commitment to doing this for them and for their families."

The Bonnie Blink housing area is the final stage of a four-part, 110-unit construction project. The $15.5 million project includes construction on Mason, Dove and Crandal streets on Fort Huachuca.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

1st Sgt. Charles Wilson, Company A, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, and his wife, Sohee, enjoy a moment in their kitchen. The Wilson's were one of the first families to move into the new state-of-the-art Bonnie Blink housing area.

The new housing at Bonnie Blink consists of duplexes containing three and four bedrooms, to be used by senior noncommissioned officers and their families. The units have either one or two floors.

The 50 three-bedroom units range in size from 1,539 to 1,636 square feet. The 32 four-bedroom units range in size from 1,723 to 1,786 square feet. All homes within the new construction have received the "Energy Star" certification. To

See **HOUSING**, Page 5

Practice makes perfect

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Installation security forces inspect a vehicle at a vehicle inspection point during Fort Huachuca's Access Control Exercise Feb. 12. More than 1,600 vehicles were inspected during the two-hour event.

Post's access control exercise tests response during heightened security

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

Motorists entering Fort Huachuca Feb. 12 were instantly reminded of the days following the attack on America as they encountered long traffic delays at the installation's gates.

The traffic congestion was anticipated as the Directorate of Public Safety officials conducted an access control exercise to allow installation security forces to test their ability to control access to the fort during periods of heightened security.

"I hope we never have to use these procedures, but practice makes perfect and we

See **EXERCISE**, Page 5

Health questions answered at local HERC facility

BY NELL DRUMHELLER
SCOUT STAFF

The Health Education and Resource Center works like a health center in a small community.

Located in the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center it is an information center where military members and their families can come to learn more about their health issues according to HERC director Selina Jeanise.

"Caregivers often to not have the time to go into the details and educate the patients," she said. "That's why we are here."

"We will help answer the questions of the patients," she said.

As an example of the services they offer, she explained how she would help a patient who is diagnosed with a disease.

"I would help them understand their disease in layman's terms. I would find local support groups for the patient, and help them understand their options," she added.

"If you have health issues but have not seen a care provider you can also use our services," she said. "I cannot prescribe treatment or medication, but I can help you determine which health services you need to use and help you contact the right people."

Also available at the HERC facility is a medical library. "The library is open to all I.D. holders," she said.

They have volumes on a variety of health issue available for check out and reference material that can be read in the HERC lounge.

Another service available is a travel and health related database known as TRAVAX.

"If you're getting ready to travel overseas you can come by and I'll print health information and requirements for where you are going," she said.

See **HERC**, Page 3

Bush pushes Threat Integration Center, praises intel pros

BY JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The United States is winning the war on terrorism, in part, because intelligence efforts span the federal bureaucracy and link to the world.

President Bush praised efforts by the CIA and FBI during a speech at FBI headquarters Friday.

Bush pointed out that the FBI alone has 1,800 agents devoted to counterterrorism activities.

"All our successes in the war on terror depend on the ability of our intelligence and law enforcement agencies to work in common purpose," Bush said. "In order to better protect our homeland, our intelligence agencies must coexist like they never had before. In order to hunt the terrorists down one by one, our intelligence agencies must cooperate fully with agencies overseas."

The president spoke about the new Terrorist Threat Integration Center that he first mentioned in his State of the Union address, saying it marks another crucial advance in meeting 21st century threats.

"This joint effort across many departments of our government will integrate and analyze all terrorist threat information collected domestically and abroad in a single location," Bush said.

He said the center will develop a comprehensive picture of terrorist activity.

When it is fully operational, it will house a database of known and suspected terrorists that officials across the country will be able to access and act upon, he said.

Bush said protecting the homeland is the first goal, and intelligence is at the heart of protecting America.

Using advanced technology, the center will be able to provide that database to local law enforcement personnel.

Terrorist attacks may be thwarted in the course of a simple traffic stop.

Bringing the Community Into Contact

DPS outlines post privately owned weapons requirements

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC SAFETY RELEASE

The state of Arizona does not require the registration of privately owned weapons ; however, there are possession and use laws, which are strictly enforced on the installation. The Environmental Protection Office, Directorate of Public Safety would like to take this opportunity to answer some of the most frequently asked questions by the Fort Huachuca Community.

The installation's Privately Owned Weapons Registration Policy (FH Reg. 190-14) states that all firearms will be registered with the Military Police Weapons Registration Section (phone 533-5481) at Whitside Hall. Weapons to be registered should not be physically brought to the Weapons Registration Section. Only the bill of sale or other documentation that would indicate the make, model, and serial number of the weapon is required. If this form of documentation does not exist, a statement listing the required information and witnessed by the unit commander or a notary public may be presented.

All personnel who desire to maintain, frequently use, or transport a privately owned weapon on this installation must register their weapon(s) with the Weapons Registration Section immediately upon bringing the weapon on post but not later than 72 hours of bringing said weapon on post.

Transportation of POWs taken from authorized storage areas are to be transported to places of authorized use by the most direct route. Upon completion of authorized use, POWs must be returned to the place of authorized storage by the most direct route.

POWs in vehicles should be maintained unloaded in a holster, case or scabbard and secured in the vehicle trunk, luggage, glove compartment or placed in plain view if the vehicle is not equipped with these storage areas. Ammunition must be transported separately from all weapon(s), in a location where both the POW and ammunition are not within reach of the driver and/or passenger(s). Motorcyclists may transport unloaded weapons in a holster.

POWs on persons will be carried unloaded, except while actually hunting or within the confines of an established shooting range. Weapons should not be concealed in any manner. Carrying a weapon in a holster, scabbard, or other carrier, which makes it recognizable as a weapon, is not considered concealed. No POWs will be loaded, unloaded, fired, or otherwise used in housing, troop buildings or picnic areas. In addition POWs will only be used at locations in connection with officially sanctioned hunting or range firing.

Further questions concerning firearms and hunting can be addressed to the Environmental Protection Office at 533-3670 or with the Military Police Desk at 533-3000.

Editors note: This is a continuation of Directorate of Public Safety articles to make the community aware of DPS missions and concerns involving public safety.

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

Granddaughter [talking about why she changes majors in college]: "Grandma, I have to find myself." Grandma: "No you don't; you're right here."

There is "one thing" on television that drives me crazy, yet that "one thing" is all over the tube. What is this "one thing?" Reality TV. I very much don't like it! Why? Well, let's take a look at what it has to offer: Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire? ended with a wedding on TV and a divorce quickly after. Reason? "She" didn't know him very well. Well...duh. She had a couple of hours. Bachelor ended with an engagement and now they've split. Why? They didn't get to know each other well. Another, duh. Bachelorette pits "Loser One" with a bunch of men and rumors abound with what's already happened there. And how about Joe Millionaire? Here we have a "reality" show built around lies about a "nobody" who says he has money to see if a woman will love him "just because." I heard that ended well with each getting $500,000 (about $325,000 after taxes). We shall see what happens in the future...

Oh, the future...I read this in the Reader's Digest that new reality shows coming up will be: Married by America about singles paired by viewer vote, Global Extremes a race up Mt. Everest, Top Model where contestants are trained for catwalk stardom, The Real Beverly Hillbillies (cancelled because it offended "someone,") and American Candidate where political wannabees get your vote and - the victor may run for president! The one that gets me rolling is Marry my Mother where a person finds dates for his/her mother and qualifies them to be his/her stepfather.

Now, I ask you, what is REAL about these reality shows? My answer? Nothing. These are simply ways to escape reality and ignore what is happening around you.

Sure, one out of every million marriages that had a 24-hour courtship lasts. I have a friend who dated his wife for 2 weeks and they've been married over 20 years. An exception, to be sure. And what about the lies that have to be told - and then cleaned up if the relationship is to go anywhere? Doesn't it seem that trust and truth would be hard to come by if you had to deal with lies as the basis of your relationship? Then there is greed. We are brought to our lowest levels as we view people fighting for "pole position" in getting the biggest, the most, or the fastest.

How about a real dose of reality? The truth is this: reality is around you every day. You see it in your children. In your spouse. In your friends and coworkers. You and I may not like every bit of it, but that's what is dealt to us — every day. My words are "deal with it." But the "world" - at least the "world of TV" can't deal with it. Because reality is the truth and as my friend Jack said, "You can't handle the truth." Yet, the truth is out there and it will set you free.

So, put the remote down and give your loved ones (even the dog) a hug for blessing you with reality. If your days are hard, there are those around you who care - and professionals who are in positions to care. Reality TV has nothing to offer except maybe a couple of hours of escape and perhaps more strife. Reality — Life itself — has so much more to offer. So, I ask you to participate in it. Like I read somewhere, "Life is a contact sport; you can't participate from your couch!" So, get out there and deal with reality — yours — at its best.

Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis R. Nitschke can be reached through e-mail: Dennis.Nitschke@netcom.army.mil.

Understanding the tax consequences of alimony and child support

LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE RELEASE

The tax treatment of alimony and child support is often a source of confusion for the taxpayer. This is especially true if the taxpayer is recently divorced or is contemplating filing for divorce. The general rule for alimony is that a person who pays alimony can take it as a deduction, while a person who receives alimony must report it as gross income. Child support payments, however, are not alimony and consequently the person making these payments cannot deduct them and the person receiving child support payments does not have to include them in income.

For tax purposes, alimony or separate maintenance is defined as any payment received by or paid to a third party on behalf of a spouse or former spouse.

Such payments must also meet specific additional requirements to qualify for treatment as alimony for tax purposes. For example, the payment must be in cash. The IRS has defined cash to include checks and money orders. Under IRS rules, transfers of services or property do not qualify as "cash" and are not treated as alimony or separate maintenance.

Additionally, the payments must be received (or paid on behalf of) the spouse or former spouse under a divorce decree or other written instrument, such as a legal separation.

The divorce decree or separation agreement must not designate the payment as non-deductible by the payor and non-includable by the payee. Finally, the parties must reside in separate households, and file separate tax returns.

The tax consequences of payments to be made as a result of divorce can often be complicated. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Fort Huachuca Tax Center.

The Fort Huachuca Tax Center is now available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.The Tax Center can file taxes electronically and answer tax questions for all eligible active duty soldiers, dependents and retirees. To avoid any complications with electronic returns the last day to e-file is April 7, although the Tax Center will be open to do hard copies until April 15.

The Tax Center is located in De Rosy Cabell Hall, Building 22324 on Christy Avenue. Call 533-1314 for more information.

Scout on the Street — Do you donate blood?

I don't give blood because I can't. I've had hepatitis. But my wife gives blood.

Joe McCoy, Army retiree

I give blood for my son. As a father I see the need. Also, I've seen my troops in the field need blood.

Capt. Charles Smith, Company A, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion

I give blood when I can, but due to recent European travel I am unable to now.

Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Tyler III, Army Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Frankfurt, Germany

I give blood whenever I can, but I just returned from Germany and I can't right now.

Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Dominick, Army Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Frankfurt, Germany

I give blood, it's vital for our troops; in case we go to war the resources need to be there.

Sgt. 1st Class Raymond Thompson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, NETCOM

Photos by Nell Drumheller

Yes, I would give blood. I'm always happy to help out.

D.J. Hughes, 8th Military Police Detachment

The Fort Huachuca Scout ®

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Undocumented immigrant apprehension increases

Photos by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

Sgt. Benjamin Berry, EPO NCOIC, make repairs to the barbed wire fence around the fort. Berry and his soldiers patrol the post for undocumented immigrants and environmental infractions.

BY STAFF SGT. SHARRON STEWART
SCOUT NEWS EDITOR

Because of the concentrated effort of the six Military Police officers who make up Fort Huachuca's Environmental Protection Office, the detection and apprehension of undocumented immigrants has increased on post.

Maj. Dan Ortega, Fort Huachuca's provost marshal, attributes this increased apprehension rate to the increased patrolling efforts of the EPO which is a directed result of the increased emphasis on national security.

He said the EPO's primary mission is environmental protection for the entire installation, their secondary mission is making sure all hunting regulations are abided on post and their third mission is to monitor and prohibit trespassing on post.

The EPO soldiers are augmented by 10 other MPs when necessary, Ortega said.

So far during the first quarter of this fiscal year, 89 UDIs have been apprehended compared to 153 UDIs in fiscal year 2002 and 181 in fiscal year 2001. The number of UDIs apprehended this fiscal year is 73 percent of the total number apprehended in fiscal year 2002 and 61 percent in fiscal year 2001.

The EPO team monitors the post's bat caves and archeological sites at least three times per shift and have also received training on environmentally protected species, Ortega said.

He went on to say the members of the EPO patrol the 70,000 acres that make up Fort Huachuca in all terrain vehicles, horse and four-wheel drives.

"They specifically focus on the range areas and by that I mean anything outside of the main cantonment," Ortega said. They also patrol Fort Huachuca's fence lines and are always in two-person teams.

"I don't believe there has been a significant increase in the number of undocumented aliens coming on post. I believe our emphasis on it has caused us to apprehend more," Ortega said.

Ortega said some of the apprehensions occur between the Buffalo Corral and the West Gate, by Libby Army Airfield, the Main Gate and even by the Aerostat.

"Obviously they don't want to get caught, so there has never been an issue with them coming near someone's quarters on post. They are actually skirting the installation; I don't even think they realize they are on a military installation," Ortega said.

According to Army regulations, signs are posted in English and Spanish to alert the public to the fact they are on federal land.

The soldiers of the EPO work hand-in-hand with other on-post and off-post agencies such as the U.S. Border Patrol, the U.S Forest Service, and Range Control. When the UDIs are apprehended they are immediately turned over to the U.S. Border Patrol.

Trash left behind along Slaughterhouse Wash, point out a break in barbed wire, which is along Fort Huachuca's fence line.

After an UDI is apprehended, the EPO team has a series of steps they must follow. The teams also carry shotguns with them while on patrol but Ortega said none of the apprehensions have been violent and none of the UDIs have had weapons.

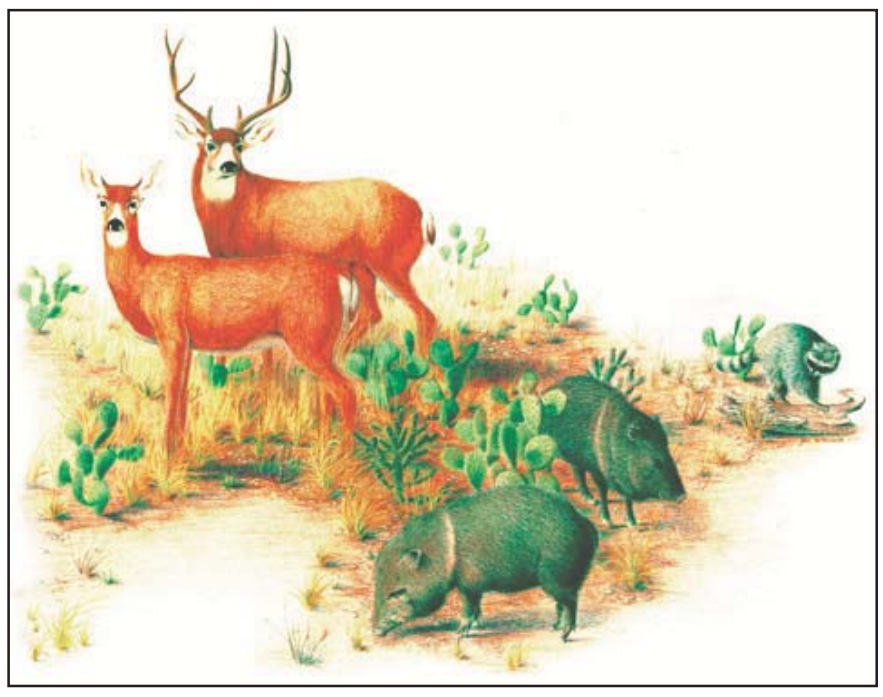
"The closest we have come to apprehending anyone with drugs is when we came across a plastic bag filled with powdered milk," Ortega said.

He said part of the environmental concerns caused by the UDIs have occurred because some of them have left garbage. Ortega was quick to point that not all trash on post is left by UDIs.

To combat this, the Garrison Commander, Col. Lawrence Portouw has implemented the "Pack out more than you pack in" program. "The focus is not just on immigrant trash, but on any trash," Ortega said.

Life saving water available to area wildlife thanks to unit donation

BY NELL DRUMHELLER
SCOUT STAFF



According to the Arizona Game and Fish Department Arizona has been in a declared state of drought emergency since June 1999.

To humans that means their lawns won't be as green as they like and they may have to wash their car every other week instead of every week.

But to the dozens of animals living on the 70,000-acre military reservation known as Fort Huachuca the drought can result in starvation, dehydration and even death.

Col. Eugene J. Komo, director and commander, Intelligence Electronic Warfare Test Directorate, recognized the need to help the non-human residents of the fort.

"We wanted to contribute back to the community," he said.

The mission of the IEWTD in a nutshell is to do real-time, realistic testing on the Army's newest intelligence, electronic warfare, surveillance and reconnaissance systems. Most of this testing is completed on Fort Huachuca's east range.

"We do a lot of running around on the east range," he said. "When we are testing equipment and systems we will have vehicles, instrumentation and troops on the East range simulating realistic war-time environments. We know this disrupts wildlife."

To be a good partner with the environment Komo, in his position of director, provided the Fort Huachuca Environmental and Natural Resources division $9,000 to purchase a water catchment system and a water hauling trailer.

"I have some discretionary access to certain unit funds," he explained.

A former employee of Komo's, Jim Smith, now at the Electronic Proving Grounds, told Komo of the opportunity to support the community.

Smith, an avid hunter and outdoorsman, was acutely aware of the need for wildlife water tanks, Komo said.

"The money will be used for a wildlife catchment system," said Sheridan Stone, a wildlife biologist with the Environmental and Natural Resources division. "We will purchase a 6,000 gallon tank and a water hauling trailer."

The tank will be set up to catch, hold and disperse water, and will be established with a couple of thousand gallons of water, which will hopefully be maintained by rainfall.

The tank should be in place in the spring, Stone said. "We'll do it with caution." Stone said they would carefully analyze the fort's terrain before determining where the tank will go.

"We don't want to create a problem by bringing wildlife into hazard areas." The hazard areas can be determined by several factors: disease, predators and man's interaction.

Stone said that dozens if not hundreds of wildlife access food and water on the fort, everything from insects to large mammals.

"We need to determine the best location for the tank," he said, explaining that each species has unique requirements.

They will consider the access to water for smaller creatures without putting them in additional harm by predators as well as the travel movements and social needs of pack animals such as javelina.

The interaction of man is an important factor when determining the tank's location, according to Stone.

"We need to locate it far enough away from roads, buildings and active areas so the animals are not endangered when using or traveling to and from the site," Stone said.

According to Stone there isn't enough data available yet to quantify the effectiveness of man-made water holes. "We don't know if we will influence or improve different species," he said.

He said that vegetation is often changed near a watering hole, either by pollination or from over grazing.

Unsure of the exact design for this new catchment system, Stone said that it would catch the water, hold it in a tank to ensure it remains disease free and then disperse it to a drinking area approximately 100 yards away.

"The new water catchment tank should ensure population sustainability for several species from songbirds to large mammals," he concluded.

New guide offers instant references for Army noncommissioned officers

BY STAFF SGT. DAVE ENDERS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

A new, pocket-sized reference for noncommissioned officers is only a few mouse clicks away. Field Manual 7-22.7, *The Army NCO Guide*, is now available for electronic download; and in hard copy.

According to the guide's preface, FM 7-22.7 provides the Army's NCOs a guide for leading, supervising and caring for soldiers. While not all-inclusive nor intended as a stand-alone manual, the guide offers NCOs a ready reference for most situations.

Field Manual 7-22.7, which replaces Training Circular 22-6, The Noncommissioned Officer's Guide, is five chapters long and 5 1/2 inches wide by 8 1/2 inches long and fits in the cargo pocket of a battle dress uniform.

The handbook offers instructions, guidance and information on NCO-related topics, including leadership, training, history, duties, responsibilities and authority.

Gen. John N. Abrams, former commander of the Training and Doctrine Command, directed an update to Training Circular 22-6, The Noncommissioned Officer's Guide in September 2001.

He did so based on recommendations from the Army Training and Leadership Development Panel members who had conducted a study to determine how the Army could make a professional NCO corps even better.

One of the panel's recommendations was that FM 22-600-20, The Army Noncommissioned Officer Guide, be re-established, updated and published, but the recommendation didn't address TC 22-6.

Soon after the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy director of Training and Doctrine, Sgt. Maj. Ricky Smith, was asked to oversee the project, THE EDGE Research and Development, an El Paso firm, was awarded the contract.

Stephen Snyder, one of THE EDGE contractors and a retired Army major, worked with two retired sergeants major on the project.

"These are still soldiers who are passionate about what they're doing," said USASMA Command Sgt. Maj. Clifford R. West.

"The sergeant major of the Army took a personal interest in this project," said Snyder.

In fact, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley endorsed the NCO Vision in the beginning of the book.

The U.S. Army Publishing Agency will distribute FM 7-22.7 to all established active-duty account holders; however, Army National Guard and Reserve units must order copies.

All Army components may order copies of FM 7-22.7 through USAPA as they would any other field manuals.

In addition to the printed version, USAPA has established an electronic version for download at the Gen. Dennis J. Reimer Training & Doctrine Digital Library, www.adtdl.army.mil/cgi-bin/atdl.dll/fm/7-22.7/fm7-22.7.htm.

NCOs can link to the Reimer library through Army Knowledge Online, www.us.army.mil and the USAMA's home page, http://usasma.bliss.army.mil/dotd/ncoguide.htm.

Photo by Master Sgt. Richard Puckett

Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley presents Chief of Staff of the Army Eric Shinseki the first copy of the new NCO Guide, FM 7-22.7 The guide will provide NCOs will usefull information about leadership, counseling, training and NCO history. It is the first new NCO guide printed in more than a decade.

HERC from Page 1

Included in the data available are immunization requirements and health advisories.

Jeanise is an information and education person, "I'm available to meet with individuals or groups to discuss health issues. The Army is more and more leaning toward preventive medicine."

To assist in promoting preventative medicine, Jeanise designated months to recognize specific health issues: this month the heart and how to keep it healthy is reviewed, March will be focused on nutrition; in stress will be the topic for April, in May will look at women's health and June men's health. "We want to stay healthy as we age," she added.

Selina Jeanise

To help meet the needs of the community Jeanise recognizes that she must know what the health issues and concerns are for the soldiers and family members of Fort Huachuca.

"I'd like to do a needs assessment survey," she said, hoping to be able to provide the best service available. "Call and let me know what health support you think is needed here."

Eventually she hopes to accumulate enough data to write a community health report card.

"I want to help as many people as I can," she said. She's available for counseling, but recommends people call first.

For more information about HERC, call 533-5668.

Army life improvements through AFAP

What has AFAP done for you lately?

ACS AFAP RELEASE

Issues submitted 1984	Issues submitted 2000	Issues submitted 2001
19% Family Support	26% Medical/dental	26% Entitlements
19% Relocation	20% Force Support	23% Medical/dental
12% Civilian Employment	19% Entitlements	12% Civilian Employment
12% Medical/Dental	10% Civilian Employment	11% Family Support
12% Child & Youth	9% Family Support	11% Child & Youth
10% Housing	9% Child & Youth	10% Force Support
10% Other	7% Other	7% Other

Installations, regional locations and Major Commands across the Army convened Army Family Action Plan conferences that engaged soldiers, retirees, Department of Army civilians and family members in the business of assessing Army standards of living.

For the eighteenth year, grass roots delegates from the Army's Active, National Guard, and Reserve Components reviewed well-being issues of concern, submitting the most critical to the Community and Family Support Center for consideration at the worldwide AFAP conference.

AFAP issues from the field provide a snapshot in time, pinpointing the well-being concerns of soldiers and families and providing creative ideas that help Army standards of living keep pace with changing times.

From the first focus groups, convened by Army spouses, to the conferences of today, the issues generated through AFAP reflect soldier and family concerns at installation, MACOM and Headquarters, Department of Army levels.

In 1984, the primary focus of AFAP issues was the family and how military life impacted their day to day living.

Since then, there has been an increase in "soldier" related issues such as Management of Enlisted Soldiers and Their Assignments, Deployment Medication, and Military Savings Pay.

For many years, health related concerns dominated the issues submitted to conferences; however, for the March 2002 HQDA conference, entitlements leads the way, unseating medical and dental for the first time in five years. In addition to issues that have a broader impact, there are concerns raised that are unique to the military lifestyle.

These issues range from maternity physical fitness uniforms to establishing a web site with scholarship information for Army family members.

The chart above illustrates historic AFAP issue trends. It shows the variety of categories AFAP issues span. The "Other" category varies from year to year and may include volunteer, consumer services, and leadership issues.

AFAP continues to improve standards of living, not just for soldiers, but for all military personnel and DoD employees, here are a few examples:

1. Military participation in the Federal Thrift Savings Plan
2. Chiropractic services at selected locations
3. Elimination of TRICARE Prime co-payments
4. Expansion of TRICARE Prime Remote to active duty family members
5. Reduction of catastrophic cap for retiree health care from $7500 to $3000
6. TRICARE for Life for seniors over 65
7. Retiree access to retail and national mail order pharmacies

Policy changes that resulted from AFAP issues include:

— Granting dependents of full-time, local hire NAF employees equal enrollment priority with local hire APF employees at DoDDS schools

— Authorizing Family Readiness Group newsletters to include unofficial information if it does not exceed 20 percent of the printed space

— Allowing soldiers to request tour stabilization if they have a graduating high school senior

The year 2001 provided many "firsts" for the AFAP program. Among the most significant was funding for a joint AFAP/AFTB position at many installations. Over the next two years the remainder of Army installations will benefit from this 1997 AFAP issue.

As we look at AFAP's history, the program results speak for themselves; 77 changes to legislation, 126 policies revised or established, and 139 programs or services improved.

All in all, the AFAP truly provides the "voice" for families to elevate their concerns, and remains the preeminent means for commanders, at all levels, to seek solutions to the concerns of their communities.

The AFAP crest

Strength ~ Unity ~ Well-Being

ACS AFAP RELEASE

Beginning with the eagle at the top and ending with the banner at the bottom, this crest was designed to illustrate the significance of the Army Family Action Plan, the emphasis and support of Army leadership, and the grassroots process that is the origin of the program.

To accomplish this, several specific elements were chosen to complete the pictogram:

The shield divided into four sections, culminating at a circle in the center, is based on the military symbol for a searchlight, depicting AFAP and its continuous search for new issues that impact the well-being of the Army and its members.

The eagle, with wings spread, is symbolic of Army leadership and their support of the program and represents fortitude of mind. In its talons, the eagle holds a sprig of laurel, symbol of victory and triumph.

The inkwell, quill and scroll in the upper right quadrant represents both the issues that have already entered the program and the issues to come. Three hands inside the compass depict a man, woman, and a child's hands — representative of the Army family.

A compass reflects the Army's presence worldwide.

The AFAP program logo residing in the two left quadrants serves to identify the program as a focal point of the crest.

The words Families, Soldiers, and Civilians encompass the Global Army Family — representing the program's constituency.

Colors were selected based on their symbolism and relevancy:

Blue, truth and loyalty; Red, military strength; White, peace and sincerity; Black, constancy; Green, hope and loyalty; and Gold, elevation of the mind.

AFAP crosses all groups from families to the soldiers and civilians involved with logistics, training, security, and medical care. AFAP benefits not only each component of the Army, but the other military services as well.

Facts about AFAP

— The Army Family Advocacy Plan was the brainchild of Army spouses.

— Each AFAP success story originated as an idea that someone decided to pursue in order to improve quality of life.

— The Army is the only branch of Departmart of Defense that has such a program.

— Almost 500 issues have entered the AFAP in its 18-year history.

— Many AFAP improvements impact quality of life for all services.

— AFAP is year-round — issues are continually being monitored and worked toward resolution at local levels, MACOMs and HQDA.

If you have an issue for the AFAP conference to consider next month, contact your unit representative. You may also fill out an issue sheet online at http://huachuca-www.army.mil/afap/Issue%20Sheet.doc and return to or fax to Army Community Service at 533-3778.

AFAP needs you to be involved

ACS RELEASE

If you are part of the Army, you can be a participant in this year's Army Family Action Planning conference March 11-13.

Soldiers (active-duty, Guard or Reserve), retirees, civilians and family members can all be part of the Fort Huachuca conference 12:30-4:30 p.m., March 11; 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., March 12; and 8-11:30 a.m., March 13.

There are several ways to participate in the AFAP process.

Delegate — represents America's Army Family. Through group discussion identifies issues and assists with forming recommendations for resolution. Must attend one hour of required training on one of the following dates: Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 28 at 9 a.m. or March 6 at 10:30 a.m. at Murr Community Center.

Teen delegates and a parent must attend one hour of required training on one of the following dates: March 3 at 6 p.m. or March 4 at 6 p.m. Pizza will be provided for teens and their parents.

Facilitator — directs the activity of the group and stimulates discussion. Serves as neutral steward of the group. Must attend required training on Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Murr Community Center.

Recorder — using the words of the speaker, captures basic ideas on paper in full view of the group. Must attend required training on Feb. 26, 8:30-4:30 p.m. at Murr Community Center.

Administrative support — aids with registration and other administrative tasks.

Subject Matter Expert — serves as an advisor to the group. Assists work groups in describing issues and developing solutions. Suggests alternate courses of action. Must attend one hour of required training on one of the following dates: Feb. 27 at 9 a.m. or March 6 at 9 a.m. at Murr Community Center.

Volunteer — for whatever needs to be done (i.e., hospitality).

If you'd like to be involved in the upcoming AFAP conference, call Karla Grosinsky, at 533-3686 or 533-2330; or e-mail HuachucaAFAP@hotmail.com or karla.grosinsky@hua.army.mil.

File photo

Delegates, facilitators, recorders, subject matter experts and volunteers will come together at Fort Huachuca March 11-13 to discuss and recommend solutions to issues during the Army Family Action Plan conference.

AFAP is another way Army takes care of its own

ACS AFAP RELEASE

The Army takes care of its own. This has been a tradition since the early days of military service and one that continues today. One method is the Army Family Action Plan.

The issues span the spectrum of well-being or quality of life considerations — medical and dental treatment, pay and other benefits. AFAP has found ways to improve family support, educational programs, relocation of soldiers and families, and their housing needs.

The U.S. Army Reserve and retiree concerns are always examined during the AFAP conference, along with OPTEMPO, support for soldiers on isolated and geographically dispersed locations. AFAP delegates discuss employment, emergency relief, and many other issues — basically all of the elements that comprise a decent and satisfactory standard of living for the All Army family.

These issues, with many others, originated at the local level and were selected by delegates to the Army wide AFAP Conference to be adopted into the AFAP.

AFAP issue process gets results at local, national levels

ACS AFAP RELEASE

The Army Family Action Plan seeks input regarding critical issues that affect the well being of soldiers, Army families, retires and Department of the Army civilians. All components are includes; active duty, Army National Guard and Army Reserve.

AFAP issues are solicited directly from Army constituents through annual conference convened at installations, major Army commands and the Headquarters, Department of the Army. The results from AFAP conferences are reported to leaders who ensure the issues are worked toward resolution.

Approximately 90 percent of AFAP issues are worded at the local level where they improve and enhance Army communities.

Issues that are applicable beyond the local level are forwarded to the major command AFAP Conference. Some of the issues re worked at the MACOM level, others require the inception of new programs, changes to Army or Office of the Secretary of Defense policy, or legislative changes.

These are forwarded to the HQDA AFAP Conference where they are again evaluated by the demographic cross-section of MACOM grassroots representatives, prioritized and reported to leadership.

At the HQDA Conference, the vice chief of staff, Army receives the AFAP Report Out. Proposed new issues are provided to the chief of staff, Army for final approval.

General Officer Steering Committee

Issue progress is monitored through the AFAP General Officer Steering Committee, the AFAP's review board which meets semiannually.

This committee is chaired by the VCSA and is composed of DoD and Army staff principals, MACOM commanders, and Corps and MACOM Command Sergeants Major, or their representatives. Other participants include the CSA Retiree Council Co-Chairs, Association of the United States Army, the National Military Family Association, and senior leader spouses.

The meeting is an active interchange of ideas, perspectives and facts. Active issues are briefed to the GOSC members to inform leadership of action plans and progress on initiatives to resolve the issues. An issue cannot be closed with the review and approval of the GOSC; a change in status from "active" to "completed" (resolved) or "unattainable" must receive GOSC approval.

Before an issue is declared "unattainable," the lead agency must show that all attempts to resolve the issue have been unsuccessful. Issues are presented to the GOSC by a general officer from the lead agency responsible for the issue. A summary of the GOSC meeting is submitted to the CSA for final approval.

Recent results include improvements to the family member dental plan including a plan for Reservists and their family members; pay increases that put military pay .5 percent above the Employment Cost Index; signs in military pharmacies announcing the availability of prescription print-outs that list side effects, cautions, and drug/food interactions; doubling commissary access days for Reserve Component personnel; the establishment of baseline training requirements for personnel working with youth; increased basic allowance for housing; authorization of military savings plan; improved education opportunities for Army children, and financial education grants for spouses living overseas.

These issues, with many others, originated at local levels and were selected by delegates to the Armywide AFAP Conference to be adopted into the AFAP.

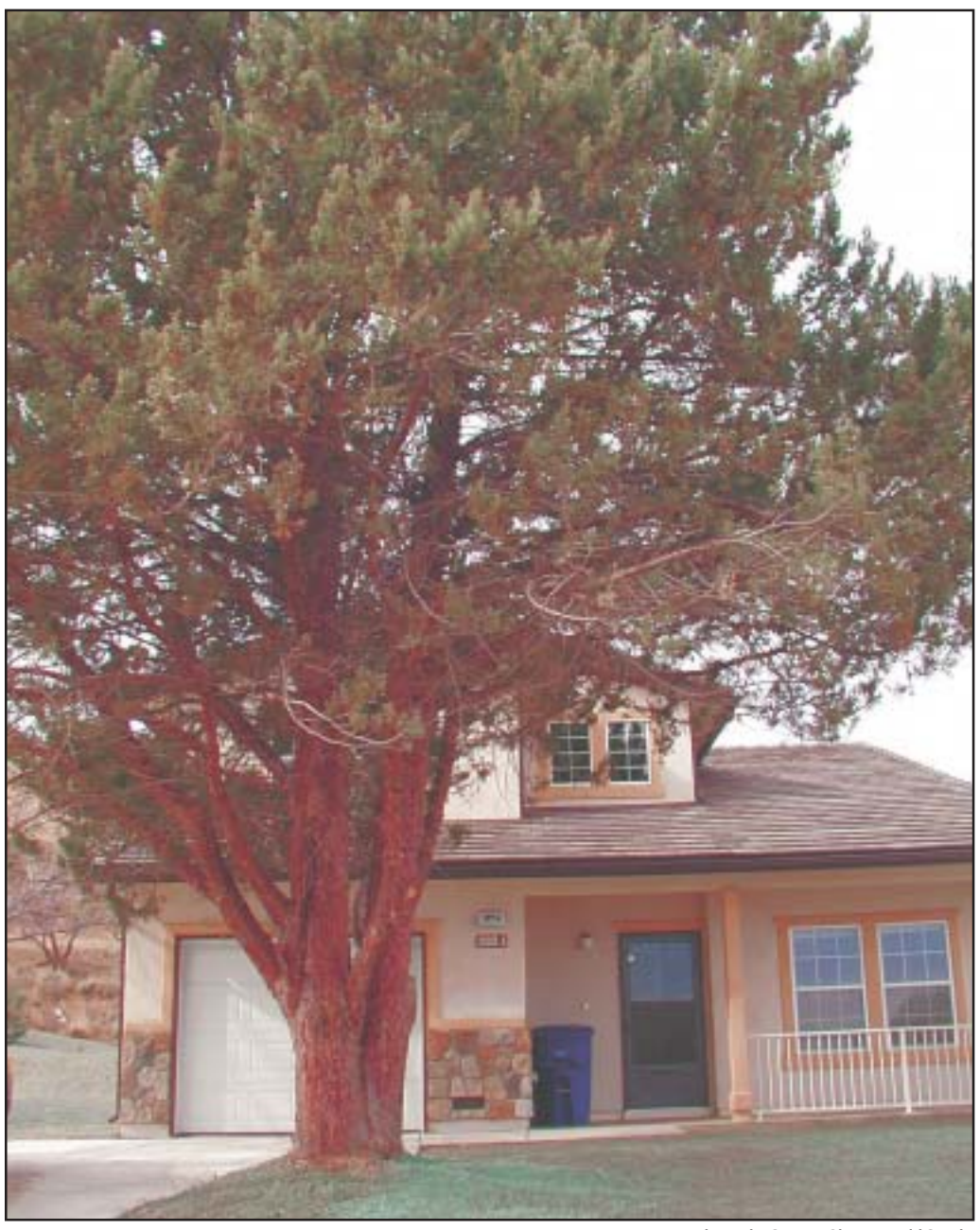
Delegates decide the issues

Delegates to the AFAP conferences vote on the issues they consider of greatest concern. They also vote on the programs and services they believe to be most critical to Army well being. Through these measures, AFAP delegates apprise leadership of areas to target for action. More information about the AFAP can be found on the Fort Huachuca Web site at http://huachuca-www.army.mil/afap/index.htm.

While more than 50 percent of HQDA issues involve legislative changes and therefore reap benefits for all branches of the DoD, it is important to remember that each issue began within an Army community at a local forum as one individual's idea.

The strength of the program rests with the people of the Army, and everyone is encouraged to become involved. Get involved by calling Army Community Service at 533-3686 or 533-2330.

HOUSING from Page 1



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

It was important to maintain the oak trees in the housing unit to preserve its natural beauty of the area which is named after the Scottish phrase, "beautiful view."

> *"Our soldiers dedicated to defending our country deserves the best housing we can provide."*
>
> **Congressman Jim Kolbe**

receive this rating, furnaces in the new homes must operate at 90 percent efficiency.

The homes are lighted with fluorescent lighting, have stucco walls, and have numerous other features that improve efficiency or are more convenient to residents.

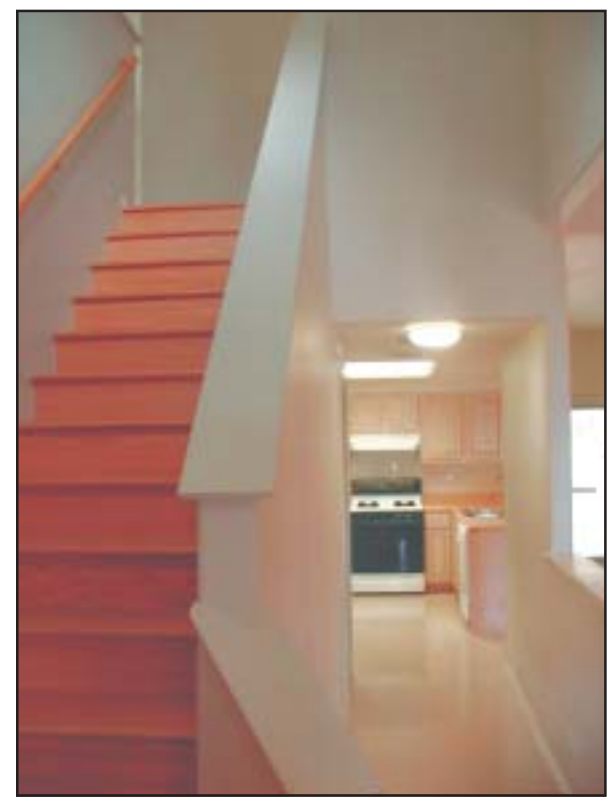
"I am so proud of the way the design and construction teams considered the beautiful features and resources of the site and integrated them in the project," said Grace White, chief, Family Housing Branch. "In the final analysis, though, it is the satisfaction of the soldiers that is most important to us and it has been very positive."

White added the construction in Bonnie Blink is just part of the Fort Huachuca housing future.

"We have a very aggressive master plan for family housing and construction program covering many neighborhoods and millions of dollars of construction from Fiscal Year 2002-2007," White said. " Pershing Plaza, a junior NCO area, is currently in the construction phase rebuilding 65 houses.

"Portions of Miles Manor will be next with 160 houses in FY 2004, followed by more of Miles Manor and Pershing Plaza at 205 units or more in 2005 also for junior NCOs.

"In FY 2006 there is a major renovation project planned to upgrade the historic quarters to code and to protect the history of Fort Huachuca."



The interior view when walking through the front door of one of the two-story units

Looking out the living room window provides a view of the Bonnie Blink neighborhood.

First Bonnie Blink residents in love with their new home

Photo By Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Staff Sgt. Rance Reynolds, daughter Alex, wife Pamela, and son RJ, prepare for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

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

First Sgt. Charles Wilson might not admit it, but he is a lucky man. Assigned to Company A, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, he was one of the first residents to move in the new Bonnie Blink housing area.

This was his second time moving into brand new quarters since he's been in the Army.

The first time occured when he was assigned at Fort Ord, Calif., but he and his wife , Sohee, admitted they were impressed with their new home when they first walked in the door.

"They designed this house for military families," she said. "Many times their furniture can't fit in a home because the space is too small and they have no where to put it. These homes are beautifully designed with a lot of space."

As for the Staff Sgt. Rance Reynolds and his family, the hassles that often come associated with moving into new quarters was not even a bother.

As his wife Pamela, and his son and daughter RJ and Alex prepared for the ribbon-cutting ceremony, all had smiles on their faces.

"We were excited about moving in and grateful to be one of the first families to move in," Reynolds said. "My family loves that this is our place to call home."

Both families agreed the housing represent the Army's commitment to taking care of families and making quality of life better for soldiers and their families.

EXERCISE from Page 1

must maintain our vigilance," said David Frodsham, installation operations director. "The purpose of the exercise is to validate our procedures and to work through unknown issues in a safe environment."

The exercise, which included 100 percent identification checks as well as 100 percent vehicle inspections, was conducted to alleviate congestion during periods heightened security and to ensure unimpeded access for first responders and key personnel.

"We've recently completed construction on a number of upgrades to our gate security and this is an exercise to see how well our new access plan works," said Col. Lawrence Portouw, garrison commander. "The safety and security of our personnel and this post is a top priority."

The exercise began at 7 a.m. and lasted for two hours. It took approximately 45 minutes to set up the inspection checkpoint and 25 minutes to return to current force protection levels.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Military police dogs were used during the 100 percent vehicle inspection. During the exercise, there were no violations noted.

According to Maj. Dan Ortega, director of Public Safety, more than 1,650 vehicles were inspected and there were no regulatory or legal violations noted.

"The installation was very cooperative during this exercise," Ortega said. "They were aware of the security requirements which led to zero incidents at the checkpoints."

> *I'm extremely satisfied and I thought we validated the plan...*
>
> **Maj. Dan Ortega, Director of Public Safety**

Ortega added some issues that came up following the exercise included bollard emplacement and clamp down mechanisms, shortage of equipment, and shortage of signs to direct and reroute traffic.

He mentioned as a result of the exercise, recommendations have been made to improve and refine the access control plan.

"I'm extremely satisfied and I thought we validated the plan and we're prepared to increase access requirements to the installation if needed," Ortega said. "This exercise was definitely worthwhile."

Despite the wait to get from the Main Gate to the checkpoints, which lasted as long as 50 minutes for some motorists, the overall feedback was positive from those personnel entering the fort.

"I had no problem with the hard time getting to work," said Janet Moore. "That is why we do this testing. It's better to be safe than sorry. I was in Iran prior to the embassy hostage situation in the 1970s, so I understand why we're doing this."

Although Capt. Robin Klinge, Joint Interoperability Test Command, wasn't assigned to Fort Huachuca during previous controlled access periods, he felt the exercise went on flawless.

"The method and the exercise was outstanding," Klinge said. "I was truly impressed with the organization and overall process."

Pets of the Week

Veterinary Facility photos

My name is Sabre. I am a cuddly domestic short hair cat. I am orange and white and good with children. I am only 18 months old, so I am just a baby. I would love to have a family of my own. You can adopt me for only $42.

My name is Angel. I am a two-year-old female who loves to snuggle. I am a grey and white domestic long hair and am wonderful with kids. I can be a part of your family for only $42.

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For information, call 533-2767.

Federal laws give mobilized soldiers peace of mind

BY STAFF SGT. MARCIA TRIGGS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Inquiries about federal laws that give financial relief to mobilized troops have doubled in recent months.

Some soldiers are discovering that debts incurred after they were mobilized, along with car leases and cell phone bills, are their personal responsibility, said an official from the Office of the Judge Advocate General.

Both the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act were enacted for the protection of service members, and soldiers are fully briefed on their rights and benefits during the mobilization process, said John Meixell, a JAG attorney with the Department of the Army's Legal Assistance Policy Division. There are thousands of volunteers who are working to make sure those laws are understood and enforced.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, which advocates the Employment and Reemployment Act, is gauging its success by the increased number of queries received from reservists and employers since Sept. 11, 2001.

The ombudsmen at the ESGR's Arlington office, who provide information, counseling and mediation about complying with the employment rights law, averaged 150 calls weekly before Sept. 11, officials said. Now they are getting 250 to 300 calls per week.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve provide answers to both employees and employers, but the questions have to be asked.

Benefits don't come automatically, Meixell said. One of the benefits of the SSCRA is an interest cap. In order to get creditors to reduce interest rates to at least 6 percent on all debts that were made prior to active-duty, service members must provide their lenders with a written request, Meixell said.

In return, lenders must reduce the monthly payments, and not increase the payments on principal to the point that they equal the pre-service payment amount, thereby paying the loan off early, the SSCRA states.

"In good conscious, individuals who will not adversely be affected financially should not invoke that right. The 6 percent cap was designed to protect service members whose income is less while on active duty compared to as a civilian," Meixell said.

"However, you can't just look at a soldier's income. Due to the mobilization, the spouse may have to give up her job, and that constitutes a loss of income," Meixell added.

It's the responsibility of the lender to prove that a soldier will not suffer a financial loss while on active duty, the SSCRA states. In the meantime, the creditor must implement the 6 percent

See **MONEY**, Page 7

Community Updates

Black History month celebration

Fort Huachuca's Black History Month Celebrates at La Hacienda Friday. The guest speaker will be Tureeda Mikell, African American Poet, Storyteller, Word Historian and Writer. There will also be cultural exhibits and food sampling. Cost is $5. Contact the Military Equal Opportunity Office at 533-1717/ 5305/3696 for tickets.

Technology Exposition

The Fort Huachuca Technology Expo will be held Tuesday at La Hacienda, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All personnel are invited to attend at no fee.

More than 25 exhibitors will be on-hand demonstrating the latest computer hardware, software and services. There is no fee to attend and complimentary refreshments will be served. Free giveaways will be available while supplies last.

For more information, please contact Anne Slobodien at slobodien@ncsievents.com.

February dinner meeting

The Coronado Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America, formerly The Retired Officers Association, will hold its monthly dinner meeting for members, spouses and guests at Fort Huachuca's Lakeside Activity Center today at 6 p.m.

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

For more information contact Chapter Secretary CW3 (Ret.) Joe Gill at 458-4099 or email joegill@c2i2.com.

AFGE officer elections

American Federation Government Employees Union Local 1662 is preparing for its elections of officers. All members please submit your current mailing address to AFGE Local 1662, Elections Committee, PMB 254, 2160 E. Fry Blvd., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-2736.

Addresses must be received by Feb. 27. For more information call Janet Moore, Elections Committee Chairperson at 533-8474.

CAC reader configuration requirement

An Army Knowledge Online address (not your current ATZS Exchange account address) is required on the new Common Access Cards being completed by Military Personnel Office.

All ATZS Exchange accounts will be configured with the user's Army Knowledge Online address.

If your AKO e-mail address conforms to the following format:

Firstname.Lastname@us.army.mil

example: John.Smith@hua.army.mil

There is no need to update your e-mail account. However, If your AKO e-mail address is anything other than the example listed above, please contact the exchange administrator so that the correct one can be added to your account.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

JohnSmith1@hua.army.mil, John.J.Smith@hua.army.mil, JohnnySmith@hua.army.mil.

Users must also log into their AKO account and configure their AKO profile to auto-forward e-mail to their ATZS e-mail account. Instructions to auto-forward AKO e-mail can be found under the Computer Guides\Exchange link on the Fort Huachuca intranet at http://fhintranet.hua.army.mil.

For more information call 538-7871.

Range closures

These are the range closures for today through Wednesday.

Today - east range AF, AL, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2

Friday - AF, AL, T1, T1A, T2

Saturday - AF, AL, T1, T1A, T2

Sunday - AF, AL , T1, T1A, T2 are closed.

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

Tuesday - AF, AL, AM, T1, T1A, T2

Wednesday - AC, AD, AF, AL, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on range closures call 533-7095.

Warrant officer recruiting

A Warrant Officer Recruiting Team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Ft Knox, Ky. will brief on qualifications and application procedures to service members interested in becoming U.S. Army Warrant Officers.

The briefing schedule is March 6 at 9:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.; March 7 at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m at the Murr Community Center.

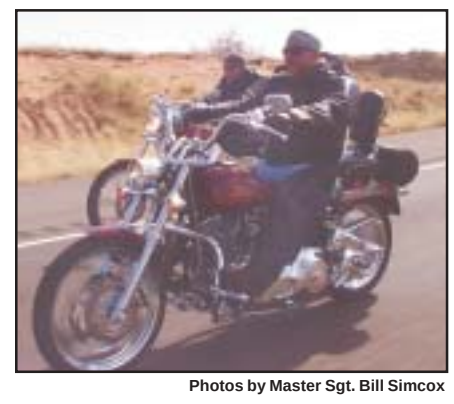
The program is open to all services and the recruiting team is seeking applicants for both the Warrant Officer Technician and Aviator programs. More information can be found on the internet at www.usarec.army.mil/hq/warrant or e-mail Troy.Davis2@usarec.army.mil.

Special Forces recruiting

The Special Forces Recruiting Team will be at Fort Huachuca through Friday. Briefings are open to all males of any rank and Military Occupation Specialty. Briefings will be held at Murr Community Center at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily, with a late briefs at 6 p.m today.

For more information call the Actions and Promotions Office at 533-1503.

The need for speed, the drive to feed



Photos by Master Sgt. Bill Simcox

Kelly Operations recently held a motorcycle charity run to help feed needy military families. Donations were collected at Saint Vincent de Paul. In turn, the Main Post Chapel will recieve a portion to distribute on post. Two hundred and seven pounds of food were collected, equivalent to 267 food items. Above: Pedro DeJesus, retired Army, rides his motorcycle to benefit and aide in the collection of food to help military families. He also has fun doing it. Right: The cans of food mount up to more than just a helping.

Memorial fund

The Association of the United States Army will be administering a memorial fund and education scholarship award program to honor the memory of Sgt. Maj. Larry L. Strickland, a victim of the September 11attack on the Pentagon. SGM Strickland was an outstanding active duty soldier who cared deeply about mentoring members of the enlisted force and who believed "if you educate the NCO you educate the soldiers they lead."

The Strickland Educational Leadership Award will be awarded on an annual basis to an Noncommissioned Officer who exemplifies the Army's vision and mobilizes others in shaping our future leaders while practicing excellent stewardship of the nation's most precious resource. More information, as it becomes available, will be placed on the AUSA website at www.ausa.org.

During the interim, contributions to the memorial fund may be made to "AUSA/The Larry Strickland Memorial Fund" and mailed to Command Sgt. Maj. (ret.) Jimmie W. Spencer, 2425 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22201. Spencer will send all contributors a receipt.

SEPC lunch workshop

The Special Emphasis Program Committee is sponsoring a lunch and learn workshop on "Polishing Your Presentations and Briefs" March 7 at 11:30 - 1 p.m. at the La Hacienda. Cost will be $7.50 which will include a buffet and salad bar.

If you plan to attend, please contact the EEO Office at 538-0276; seating is limited to 40 spaces. The guest instructor for this workshop will be Mike Leiboff, retired communication professor. Civilian and military personnel are invited to attend. Due to limited seating make your reservations.

Multicultural celebration

The Kino Gospel Protestant Service of Fort Huachuca presents "Wahapina!," a multicultural celebration. The acronym designates our multicultural salute to women, African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans.

The theme is Soul Diversity: Celebrating Commonalities in Christ. Free ethnic food sampling provided by participants and our caterer, The Social Register will be provided.

Join the celebration Friday, 2 - 4 p.m. at the Murr Community Center. Call Chaplain Garry Dale at 533-4911 for more information.

PX, Commissary Advisory Council

Do you have ideas or suggestions that would improve Fort Huachuca's Commissary and Post Exchange? Then come to the next meeting Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Murr Community Center in Room 3.

Recycling materials change

Effective Feb. 29 Sierra Huachuca Association of Recycling Center will no longer be picking up recycled materials from Fort Huachuca. This will affect all cardboard recycling bins, recycling bins placed around post for use by family housing occupants, or individual organizations/tenants who periodically call SHARC to have recycled materials picked up at their office/building.

The last pickup date for Fort Huachuca is Feb. 28. The Directorate of Installation Support is in the process of researching and implementing new procedures for recycling materials. For all users who are currently using the recycling program with SHARC,call 533-1442 or email aurelia.myers@hua.army.mil and provide a point of contact, phone number, and building number to Rea Myers.

Dental after hours care

For dental emergencies (severe pain, facial trauma, swelling or uncontrollable bleeding) after normal clinic hours call Dental Clinic Quarters cell phone at 508-9700, or the Dental Clinic Quarters beeper at 533-3500, access code 306.

Call Staff Sgt. Paul Orozco, Noncommissioned Officer In Charge for the Runion Dental Clinic at 533-3147.

Myer special screening

The Myers Elementary School special needs pre-school will be screening applicants on Feb. 27 by appointment only. Parents whose children, ages 3-5, may have cognitive, speech, language or motor skills problems should call the nurses office at 459-8986 to set an appointment.

Community Events Calendar

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

BRAVO! Theatre Production at Cochise Theater
Army entertainment showcases the talents of today's soldiers. Performances at 5 & 7 p.m.
Tickets are $5.
Call 533-2404 for info.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				20 * SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 * National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. * Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. * Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer,-Kindergarten @ 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 &5 @ 1:30p.m. Johnston, grades 1 - 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m.	**21** * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 - 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.	**22** * Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info. * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * Bisbee Hawk Stalk Tour. Search for eagles, falcons, buteos, harriers kites and more. Call 432-1388 for information
23 * Sandhill Crane Tour. Thousands of Sandhill Crane roost in their winter home in the Sulpher Springs valley. Join this half-day tour. Call 432-1388. * Black Film Festival at the Ethel Berger Center from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Donations welcome	**24** * The Employment Readiness Program of Army Community service is holding a Resume/ Resumix Workshop from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call Roberta Sipes at 533-6870 to register as seating is limited. * SV Parks & Leisure is hosting a GameCube Tournament at 3:30 p.m. at the Sierra Vista Youth Center. This free event is open to boys and girls ages11 - 17. Call 458-7922 for info.	**25** * Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. * National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. * PX/Commissary Advisory Meeting begins at 1 p.m. at MCC.	**26** * Facilitator/Recorder AFAP Training at MCC from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call Karla at 533-3686 for information. * La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. * SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. * Orientation to Germany from 6 - 8 p.m. at MCC. Register at 24 Feb. 533-2330	**27** * Subject Matter Expert AFAP Training at MCC from 9 a.m. Call Karla at 533-3686 for information. * SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 * National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. * Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. * Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer,-Kindergarten @ 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 &5 @ 1:30p.m. Johnston, grades 1 - 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m. * Delegate AFAP Training at MCC from 6:30 p.m. Call Karla at 533-3686 for information.	**28** * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 - 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. * Huachuca Astronomy Club Public Star Party. View through member's telescopes or bring your own. Junk Bond Observatory, Hereford at 7 p.m. Call 366-5788 for details and directions.	**1** * Friends of the San Pedro Interpretive Walk begins at 8:30 a.m. Call 459-2555 for info * Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info. * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * SV Hospital Foundation & SV Regional Health Center Auxiliary-Candlelight Ball. Casino games, dinner, dancing, silent auction & great entertainment LakeSide Activity Centre. Call 378-0349 for info.
2 MARCH	**3** 	**4** * Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. * National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. * Cochise Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502. * Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. * Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m.	**5** * La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. * SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m.	**6** * SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711 * National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. * Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. * Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer,-Kindergarten @ 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 &5 @ 1:30p.m. Johnston, grades 1 - 3 @ 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 @ 1:40 p.m.	**7** * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 - 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. * Buena Drama production of "Scapino" at Buena HS Performing Arts Center beginning at 7 p.m. Call 515-2820 for info.	**8** * Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 - 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info. * Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public. * 40th Sig Bn Pool Party at the Cove. This event is free to family & soldiers of the 40th. * Buena Drama production of "Scapino" at Buena HS Performing Arts Center beginning at 7 p.m. Call 515-2820 for info.

MCC = Murr Community Center | MPC = Main Post Chapel | OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center

Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330

Kudos Korner

Civilian of the month

Fort Huachuca's Civilian of the Month for January is Janet Russell.

Janet Russell

Russell is commended for her outstanding performance and support of the Directorate of Community Activities. Due to her expertise in the field of contracting and her meticulous attention to detail, all purchases and contracts are completed in a timely and accurate manner. She is a true role model for superior customer service, and is highly respected by her customers, peers, and supervisors. Russell has the strength of mind and character to accept and meet challenges beyond the scope and range of her contemporaries. She is a wonderful asset to the Fort Huachuca Community.

Russell's positive, inspiring attitude makes her a joy to be around while her competent, professional attitude makes her an invaluable asset to the directorate and the many soldiers it serves. She is truly a consummate professional.

Other nominees included Sandra K. Cerreta, Phyllis Cowger, Theresa Curtin, Sancho Manzano, Jr., and Richard M. Yannuzzi. For her winning nomination Russel will receive the use of a car for one month from Lawley Chevrolet; gift certificates from Sierra Vista merchants; a desk plaque from CPAC; an MWR certificate for lunch or dinner from a Fort Huachuca establishment; a wall plaque from the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce; and their name, as Civilian of the Month, posted at the Main Gate.

Nominate your deserving nominne for Fort Huachuca's civilian of the month. Call Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at 533-5282, for further information.

January MOVSM qualifiers

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal qualifiers in January were Capt. Kimberly Retchless, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 86th Signal Battalion; Chief Warrant Gary Bertsch, HHC, 86th Sig. Bn.; andSpc. Wilson Rawlings, 69th Sig. Company

VIP Volunteer for January is Veronica Price for her volunteer service with the various chapel programs and Smith Middle School.

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interest cap, Meixell said. Usually a phone call from an assistant U.S. attorney is all it takes to get a reluctant lender to comply, he added.

The cap is only for charges that were made prior to being mobilized, Meixell said, even if the card was acquired prior to service.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 protects Army Reserve and National Guard members who are called to active duty. The protections covers mortgage foreclosures, and adverse court proceedings. The protection begins on the date the reservist enters active-duty service and ends upon release from active duty.

In order to receive protection under USERRA, the servicemember must have had a civilian job; provided timely notification to the employer; not have served on active duty more than five years continuously; not have been released from service under dishonorable or other punitive conditions; and have reported back to the civilian job in a timely manner or have submitted a timely application for re-employment.

For more information on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve go to http://www.esgr.org/ , or for information on the Soldiers' and Sailors Relief Civil Act go to http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/legal.

(Editor's note: Master Sgt. Bob Haskell, a member of the National Guard Public Affairs Office, contributed to this article.)

Ranger Hall of Fame nominations sought

TRADOC News

The 75th Ranger Regiment is seeking nominations from around the Army for 2003 induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Former Rangers are qualified if they are deceased or have been retired or separated from military service for at least three years. They must have fought in combat as a Ranger or must be a graduate of the Ranger School at Fort Benning, Ga.

Nomination packets should include a summary of the nominee's Ranger career, nominee's biography, a mailing address and telephone number for the nominee or the nominee's closet living relative, and an 8 inch by 10 inch glossy photograph of the nominee. Deadline for receiving nominations is March 3. For individuals in Training Doctrine who nominate former Rangers for the Hall of Fame, mail nominations to Headquarters TRADOC, ATBO-BPP 5C Northgate Rd., Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1248.

Call Master Sgt. David Landers for more information at (757) 788-5081, DSN 680-5081 and e-mail is landersdb@monroe.army.mil .

The 75th Ranger Regiment is a private organization, not affiliated with the Army. TRADOC is assisting the Regiment in order to recognize deserving soldiers.

Chalk Talk

Myer School

Magellan Running Club: Top 4th grade girls were Angel Green and Amadi Cooper from Priscilla Mendoza's room with 47 pts. Top 4th grade boy was Austin Haskins from Mendoza's room with 47 pts.Top 4th grade class was Mendoza's room with 70 miles. Top 5th grade girls were Kendra Messinger, Sheniqua Chambers, Tasho Saffo and Maddisyn Blue from Bonnie Burleson's room with 42 pts. Top 5th grade boy was Juan Venture from Regina Chesleigh's room with 54 pts. Top 5th grade class was Bonnie Burleson's room with 164 miles. The students ran 516 miles and they now have 17,901 miles for the year.

Mrs. Camps and Ms. Aguon's students are very excited about winning the phone book recycling contest. They are really looking forward to having a pizza party. In Social Studies, each pupil is doing research on two presidents and writing a report on them. They are also learning how to import president pictures from the internet to go with their report. The pupils are studying Famous Black Americans as well. In Math, they are learning about perimeter and area, and continuing to work on multiplication and division.

Mrs. Barnes class is working on their George Washington and Abraham Lincoln projects. We are also learning about earthquakes and volcanoes. Congratulations to Gabriel Dubois, our student of the month for January.

Miss Tompkins pupils have just finished their unit studying animal habitats. As a final project they are going to dissect owl pellets to determine their environment and eating habits. In computer lab we are presenting our hyper studio projects on American Presidents. We would like to say Good-Bye to Mikal Cole who is moving to Texas; we will miss you.

Michelle Frazier of Des Moines Iowa presented a wonderful exibit on black history. The interactive display included fifteen different stations where pupils could experience hands on some of the greatest achievements in medicine, science and engineering. Pupils were immersed in the lives of some of the countries greatest entrepreneurs, scholars and authors. This display was sponsored by the Myer Parent Teacher Student Organization and was enjoyed by all, students and adults alike. Thank You Myer PTSO.