



The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 6 - 12, 2005

Issue 30



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Longing For An End

by SPC Mary Jane Middleton

The wind is blowing
the dust is flowing
The sun is blazing
and I'm just gazing
Gazing into the desert in front of me
watching birds soar as free as they can be.

The trees are few and far between
and looking very lean.
Green grass is sparse here
no matter the time of year
Salt rises from the ground
having seen Iraqis dig it by the mound.

The sky is blue, barely a cloud in sight
as also seen throughout the night
Miniature sand tornados whirl from the breeze
as do limbs from the lean looking trees
Scattered trash and debris lay upon the ground
Iraqis pilferage through, making their rounds.

How does one live in this unsanitary place
who am I to ask, this is not my race
They have so little and yet they are so content
we are assisting them, but what is our intent
Is our intent to change their way
how does one change night from day?

We will be here for a while
and we will definitely go the mile
One will be put to the test
on who to trust and what is the best.

Off in the distance I spy some grass
the greenest grass one will ever see
To walk barefoot through this grass
will make one again feel free
Free to come and go as one pleases

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**to walk in the sun and be utterly at ease
Until all of a sudden comes a big sneeze.**

**We tend to forget how fortunate we are
and we take the smallest things for granted
Then one is faced with reality, like it or not
and slowly but surely we become thankful for
all the things we've got.**

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Weather in Iraq

Date		Hi / Lo	Percip
Sunday November 6	 Sunny / Windy	80 / 51	0%
Monday November 7	 Sunny / Windy	80 / 51	0%
Tuesday November 8	 Sunny / Windy	79 / 50	0%
Wednesday November 9	 Sunny / Windy	77 / 50	0%
Thursday November 10	 Sunny / Windy	76 / 49	0%
Friday November 11	 Sunny / Windy	76 / 49	0%
Saturday November 12	 Sunny / Windy	80 / 52	0%

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Baby Announcement

We are happy to announce that CW4 Nick Hay is now a Grandpa... again!



Hayden John Shriver

**Born November 2nd, 2005
to Aaron and Heidi Shriver
at a healthy 7 pounds.**



Hayden (right) with his cousin Reagan (left) who we proudly introduced in last weeks edition of the Dust Devil Dispatch.



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The Callihan Connection

Give the Gifts They Want

by Chaplain (CPT) John Callihan

I love gadgets. I love technology. I had a Palm Pilot for a while. Basically it's a supercharged calculator with great calendar and organizer function. You can even play games on it! One of my latest electronic toys is an iPod. I love to be able to carry around every song I have ever liked (and a bunch I don't care for) in the palm of my hand. It is great for listening to music while I work out.

You know what amazes me? My wife doesn't care for gadgets. To me, gadgets are great birthday and Christmas presents. I have learned that my would much rather have new earrings, a new sweater, or a new bath robe. Her idea of what makes a great gift and mine are a lot different. Many people like to remind us that, "It's the thought that counts." Certainly this is true, but doesn't a gift that a person likes, show that you thought enough to consider their wants and desires?

Think about the gifts you give. What would that person actually want? Don't just consider what you think they need. Consider what they think. Your gift will mean so much more... Hey, here is a radical concept... If you don't know what someone likes or wants, then ask them!

Chaplain (CPT) Callihan is a member of the Kentucky National Guard and serving in Iraq with the 891st Engineer Battalion. Please visit his website at <http://callihan.home.insightbb.com> or e-mail him at john.callihan@us.army.mil

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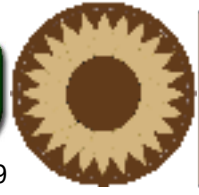
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Reunion Workshops

For the Families of Service Members deployed to Iraq, there are several Reunion Workshops that are being offered in the State of Kansas. You are encouraged to participate in one of these workshops to help educate yourself about issues that may arise upon reunion with your Soldier. Here is a list of available workshops:

Topeka

November 5, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Topeka Armory, 2722 Topeka BLVD

POC: Lisa Galindo, 785-896-1757

Wichita

November 6, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Best Western, Wichita North, 915 E. 53rd ST. North

POC: Beth Sutton, 785-806-1753 or 316-681-6276

Manhattan

November 12, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Manhattan Armory, 1709 South Airport Rd.

POC: Laura Wheeler, 785-806-1751 or 785-539-0241

Hays

November 13, 10:00am - 3:00pm

American Legion, 1305 Canterbury Dr.

POC: Beth Sutton, 785-806-1753 or 316-681-6276

Pittsburg

November 19, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Memorial Hall, 503 N. Pine

POC: Dave Fehr, 785-806-1756



Lenexa

November 20, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Lenexa Armory, 18200 W. 87th St. Parkway

POC: Cherie Herlinger, 785-806-1761 or 785-742-5651

Independence

December 3, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Methodist Church, 200 South Penn Ave

POC: Dave Fehr, 785-806-1756

Iola

December 4, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Iola Armory, 1021 N. State St.

POC: Dave Fehr, 785-806-1756

Manhattan

January 7, 10:00am - 3:00

Manhattan Armory, 721 Levee Drive

POC: Laura Wheeler, 785-806-1751 or 785-539-0241

There will be several speakers at each workshop to include, but not limited to, TRICARE Reserve Select, Chaplain services, Veterans Affairs, Reunion Expectations, and The Vet Center.

Hotel Accommodations:

Family members who live more than 120 miles from the workshop and their RSVP is received on time, may qualify for government lodging for one night, either Friday or Saturday. Please indicate on your registration if you would like to have accommodations. The Family Programs Officer will reserve all rooms for those who qualify for government lodging.

Youth Program and Childcare:

An informative youth program on reunion issues will be available for children ages 6-17 at no cost. Meals provided free of charge. Due to new regulations, NO child care, supervision or meals provided for children under 6 years of age. If your children have a special diet, please provide a meal, drink and snack for them.

All this information plus a map of workshop locations and registration form can be downloaded by clicking the following link. For additional information, please contact your Family

Readiness Coordinator.

[Download: reunionworkshop.doc](#)
(right click & choose 'Save Target As')

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Quote of the Week

**Much unhappiness has come into this world
because of things left unsaid.**

- Fyodor Dostoevsky

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Question of the Week

Last weeks question was,

"Jack O' Lanterns originated in this country where people placed candles in hollowed-out turnips to keep away spirits and ghosts on the Samhain holiday."

The Answer -

Ireland



Samhain is the word for November in Irish and Scottish Gaelic. The same word was used for the first month of the ancient Celtic calendar, and in particular the first three nights of this month, the festival marking the beginning of the winter season. Elements of the festival are continued in the traditions of All Souls Day and Halloween. The name is also used for one of the sabbats in the Neo-Pagan wheel of the year.

Those who answered correctly: SSG John Sheehan, SPC Eric Lawrence, and SPC Keri Lane!

Thanks to all who participated!!!

THIS WEEKS QUESTION

"Which service (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard) has a base located in the desert town of Twentynine Palms, California?"

Please use the form below to answer this weeks question.

Your Name:

Your E-mail:

Answer:



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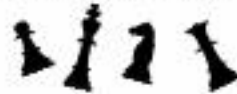
Events

If you are needing help with math or science skills, the Ali Education office has Open Tutoring Sessions every Tuesday from 1700 - 1900 hrs.

What's Happening at your MWR?

Nightly tournaments and events. Play for prizes or just bragging rights!!

Mondays
@ 1900



Chess Club... Free your mind...or just decide to use it for a while!

Tuesdays
@ 1900



Ping Pong... doubles and singles

Thursdays
@ 1900



Backgammon



Scrabble...
Put on your Thinking caps!

Fridays
@ 1900



Death and destruction
.....'nuff said!!!



Billiards
8 and 9 Ball

Saturdays
@ 1900



Slap down Them Bones!!!!



Who's the best?

Sundays
@ 1900



Spades....Cut throat cards at it's Finest!!!

Check it out at Bldg 327 or call SSG Swan at 833-1745

If you know of an event not listed here, contact me at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil.

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Notice

There are no notices this week, please check back next week!

**If you would like to place a notice in the Dust Devil Dispatch,
please e-mail us at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil**

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Shout Box

Saturday October 29th

- It was just a birthday

- Deb, And, & Ang- Thank you all for the friendship that has bonded through out this year. You have helped me realize what true friends do for one another. We have managed to keep our sanity, marriages, and friendship strong. It won't be long. They are getting r done. Thank you, Angela

- spc wood i love you.. i miss you more than u will ever know.. am looking forward to the leave u will have once your extension is final.. i pray you stay safe so u can and will come home to me.. i am proud of you and support you know matter what anyone else says to the fact.. you r my nite in shining armor... I love you lannette

- spc wood daddy we love you we miss you.. glad we got to see you while you were home.. praying for you to come home safe.. have agreat day.. love woodman, tucker, spider

Sunday October 30th

- SPC Daugherty; Happy 24th Birthday. Hope your package made it for your day. Sorry no Chiefs game this year, kinda hard to pick you up to go. I'll go for you. Love Dad Bobbiann, Sable, Buster, Patches and Jazz.

- 1LT Dennis Sewell- We miss you so much and can't wait for you to come home. The cat is even thinking about giving you your side of the bed back! Be safe and you will be home soon. Love you! TT

- Maj. Culbertson: Congratulations on your promotion daddy, we're so proud of you. Love, Brook & Bailey

Monday October 31st

- SPC Brian Stewart, hello thank you for sending a shout back, (i shout louder) haha.. anyway hope everything is going ok, i have had you on my mind alot today so something must be up, its almost halloween, i wish you was here so i could paint you up again, haha smile i am thinking of you and missing you. i think i should sign you up for the dress... haha you know they say real men wear pink.. hope you got a smile, Love you Olivia

- CW4 Nick Hay, congrads on your granddaughter i see a resmbence there enjoy being a grandpa, met your wife at your place at the halloween party, it was great, take care Olivia Stewart.

- SGT rogers, hi its me stewart's wife just wanted to say hi and take care of yourself. be safe

- 891st hope you all enjoyed the halloween party that was put on for you , will be glad to see all of you home again, be careful and be safe Olivia Stewart

- 1Sg Dohle- Hi Honey. I'm sure the soldiers there had a good laugh. The Shout I sent was not intended to be rude or crude, but bring a smile to your face. They don't know you the way I know you and our sense of humor. But to set the record straight. Here goes. God gives each of us an Angel, whether in life or in death to watch over us. God gave You to me as my Angel. When things seem dark and gloomy, you are my "Beacon of light". You show me the way on things I need to do. When I am tired and weary and ready to give up, you are my "Port in the storm: to rest my head, feel safe and bring me comfort. When there are so many things going on and needing to be done and I feel I'm being tossed around, you are "My anchor" to hold me steadfast, focussed and vring me strength. I am so lucky and proud that God gave you to me as my Angel. I only hope he gave Me to you as your Angel to give you the same qualities. With all that I am, stay safe, take care, and come home soon. I

Love you and miss you more than you know. Love, Deb

Thursday November 3rd

- SPC WOOD.. I LOVE YOU.. I MISS YOU...I'M SO PROUD OF YOU KEEP UP THE SPIRIT..THE NEXT YR WILL GO BY JUST AS FAST OR FASTER THAN THIS ONE DID.. KNOW YOU ARE IN MY HEART AND THE ONLY ONE FOR ME... DISTANCE AND TIME DOES MAKE THE HEART GROW FONDER.. IT WILL MAKE THE HOMECOMING FOR US IN A YR TO BE BETTER THAN YOU EVER COULD IMAGINE.. HUGS AND KISSES YOUR WIFE LANNETTE :)

- SPC WOOD... HAPPY THANKSGIVING.. WE HAVE BEEN TOGETHER NOW 13 YRS IT HASN'T BEEN EASY BUT THE LOVE DOES OUT LAST THE WORST.. I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU.. WE ARE SOUL MATES AND NOONE CAN TEAR US APART EXCEPT FOR GOD.. I LOVE YOU.. I MISS YOU.. LANNETTE

**- To all of the 891st soldiers Proud of all of you.. thank you for your sacrifices.. praying for your safe return home to the USA!! prayers are sent up for you and your families everyday...
lannette wood**

Post a shout in the next edition:

Shouts will be accepted until 1700hrs on Thursday, any shouts after that will be posted in the next week's edition.

Type in this box exactly what you want the Shout to say.



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Published weekly by Task Force Dust Devil for troops and families of the 891st Engineer Combat Battalion, Heavy and the Alpha Company of the 230th Engineer Battalion.

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Drop us a line:

Your Name:

Your E-mail Address:

Comments:

Don't forget to check out the 891st
Engineer Battalion website at

<http://www.891engineerbattalion.com>