



Calling All Angels

Volume 5, Issue 11

November 2011

Special points of interest:

- Veterans Day is November 11. How will you celebrate?
- We're heading into the busy season. Look inside to see all the ways you can help.
- Deadline for donations to fill holiday care packages is December 6.

Inside this issue:

Adopt a Military Family	3
Halloween Overload	3
Oktoberfest at Landstuhl	7
Nassir's Story	8
Red Shirt Rising - Join the Flood!	9
Sewing Team Scarf Shelf Empty!	10
Calendar of Events	11

Honoring Our Veterans

November is the start of the Holiday Season, which for most usually begins with Thanksgiving. But let's not forget one of the most important holidays for Americans this time of year... Veterans' Day!

May is Military Appreciation Month, the time to thank our active service members. Then about five months later we honor and remember ALL veterans from all the wars that the United States has taken part in, from the Revolutionary and Civil Wars through today's wars.

Every veteran from the distant past to our most recent heroes has in some way shaped our way of life, has made America what it is today: the land of the free and the home of the brave. One group of veterans whose role tends to be overlooked all too often is those who served in Korea, and of course we know the lack of support Vietnam veterans received.

Regardless of the war in which they served, a very important mantra that continues when service members become veterans is, "No man left behind!" No matter how long it takes and regardless of how far things deviate from the intended



Three fallen heroes were never forgotten—their fellow veterans made sure they finally came home.

plan (especially when it comes to war), that mantra continues. Of course, not all of America's veterans returned home from the battlefield—not just because they paid the ultimate sacrifice and were brought home and laid to rest, but because they fell in battle and never returned in any form. These are veterans to remember as well...

continued, page 2

Voice of the Angels

Soldiers' Angels will be hosting the annual *Veteran's Day Celebration Honoring our Wounded* in San Antonio, TX, Bethesda, MD, San Diego, CA and other locations nationwide. This event will be held in honor all of our fighting heroes.

In San Antonio, Soldiers' Angels will host a laptop presentation with wounded service members and honored guests. The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on November 11th. Presentations of laptops from the VIP's to the wounded service members will take

place from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending the event, please contact Eric Rice or Craig Siwarga at 210-629-0020 to RSVP.

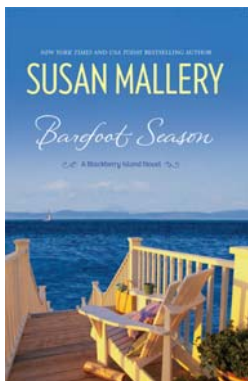
In Bethesda, MD, Soldiers' Angels volunteer Lynette Roncin will be going to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Lynette will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of WRNMMC.

continued, page 3



Across the generations, let us keep faith with our veterans, whether MIA or living with us today. They have honorably followed the orders of their president, regardless of party and politics.

“Don’t let the veterans across America feel that their sacrifices were made unjustly.”



Susan Mallery is supporting Ladies of Liberty.

Honoring Our Veterans...continued

Recently, four fallen heroes from the Korean and Vietnam wars found their way home to the soil for which they shed their blood so many years ago—their brothers and sisters had continued to live the mantra, “No Man Left Behind.”

Although the Korean and Vietnam wars were in two different decades, the four heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice were able to return home thanks to today’s DNA technology and additional forensic tools now available. They were identified, brought home and given a proper burial.

In November 1950, Army Corporal Edward M. Pedregon of El Paso was added to the list of MIA (Missing In Action) heroes. Pedregon and the Heavy Mortar Company of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (Taskforce Faith) had been overtaken by Chinese forces near Chosin Reservoir in North Korea and had to withdraw from after several days of heavy attacks. When they regrouped, Cpl Pedregon was missing.

With the exchange of prisoners between North Korea and America in 1953 there was no information on CPL Pedregon’s fate. But recently a joint team of the US and Korean People’s Army excavated several sites in which they found the remains of individuals that had been buried with military equipment. Pedregon was identified.

In the Vietnam war, Staff Sergeants Douglas Dahill and Charles Prevedel, and Sergeant First Class Charles Newton, three Green Berets out of Fort Bragg, were last known to be alive on April 17, 1969 when a final call came over the radio. Thunderstorms prevented any immediate rescue attempts and subsequent searches turned up no signs of the men. Chief Warrant Officer Rick Galer, who was a chopper pilot at the time, was on the other side of that last call. He fought

back tears recently as he remembered how he had tried to rescue them.” We were still about five minutes out when we got the last radio call,” he said. “The last call was just shouting.”

Department of Defense officials said the Americans and three Vietnamese soldiers were on a reconnaissance patrol when they were ambushed by the North Vietnamese Army.

Now they have been laid rest at home. All three Green Berets were promoted posthumously — Prevedel and Dahill to sergeants first class and Newton to master sergeant. Together, as a firing party delivered a three rifle volleys and a bugle played “Taps,” two caskets carrying the remains were lowered into the ground. Galer said he never thought he would see the day his comrades were given a proper burial.

Some people across this great land of ours feel like America has forgotten our veterans, especially ones from that era. Some people certainly did—they were greatly disrespected.

Today you may not always agree with why our troops are involved in a conflict, but just that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t stand behind them. They are only honorably following their lawful orders. As a new generation of veterans returns home to live among us, let us not allow these veterans across America to feel that their sacrifices were made unjustly this Veterans’ Day or future Veterans’ Days. Let us keep the same faith with them that has been keep with even the MIAs from previous wars.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to news reporter Brian Mins, photographer Michael Joyner, and Web Editor Bridget Whelan, all of WRAL in North Carolina, for their permission to use parts of the original story published on October 5th, 2011 at:

<http://www.wral.com/news/state/story/10222509/>

Know a Deployed Female Service Member?

New York Times bestselling author Susan Mallery approached Soldiers’ Angels while researching an article about women who read while deployed – what they read, where they get their books, what their life is like on their deployment.

Mallery’s next book, BAREFOOT SEASON (April 2012), features a wounded heroine who returns home to an island near Seattle after serving in Afghanistan. One of the soldiers she interviewed for her article mentioned that her Soldiers’ Angels volunteer had sent her books while

she was deployed, so Susan contacted Soldiers’ Angels to form a partnership. She will include a note in upcoming articles to tell inspired readers how they can help—a call to action in supporting the deployed female troops through the Soldiers’ Angels outreach, specifically noting the Ladies of Liberty team.

If you are a female soldier who reads while deployed (or who read while deployed in the past) and you’re willing to answer a few questions, please email Susan via her assistant at jenel@susanmallery.com.

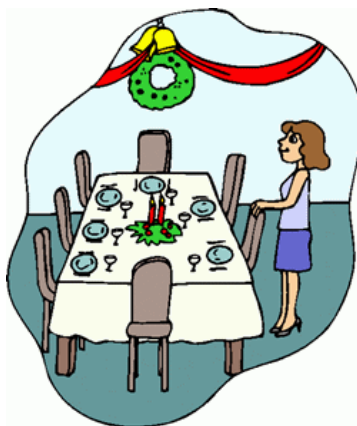
Adopt a Military Family for the Holidays!

Young military families usually live on a very tight budget, so putting together a Christmas or other winter holiday celebration can be a real challenge for some of them—Soldiers' Angels is already hearing from hundreds of families who could use a bit of help celebrating this year, and now you can step up and adopt a military family for the holidays yourself!

The goal in helping these military families is to show America's gratitude with presents for the children and a grocery gift card or prepaid Visa gift card for them to purchase their holiday dinner and trimmings. To adopt a military family for the holidays, just apply at soldiersangels.org.

After you're assigned a military family, all you have to do is pick up a gift card for dinner supplies and one present for each of the kids while you're shopping for the kids in your own extended family. Imagine what a relief it will be to the parents, and what smiles you'll put on the faces of the kids!

If you can't adopt a family yourself, considering teaming up with another family or organizing your church, workplace or community group to adopt. This project is a great way to connect one on one with military families while giving them a special Thank You this holiday season.



You can adopt a family here:

<http://soldiersangels.org/op-outreach-christmas-adoption.html>

If you know of a family who needs some support, please submit them here:

<http://soldiersangels.org/op-outreach-christmas-request.html>

Thank you for helping a military family have a happy holidays! If you have any questions, email holidaysupport@soldiersangels.org



You can be Santa for a military family in need!

Soldiers' Angels
is already
hearing from
hundreds of
families who
could use a bit
of help
celebrating.

Voice of the Angels...continued

In San Diego, CA Soldiers' Angels volunteer Susan Lawson will be going to Naval Medical Center San Diego to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Susan will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of NMCSD.

In Minneapolis, MN Prior Marine Sergeant Thomas Andrs will be going to Minneapolis Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Thomas will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of the VA.

In Tampa, FL Soldiers' Angels volunteer John Akins will have a team of volunteers go to the James A. Haley VA Hospital to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. John's team will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of the VA.

In Richmond, VA Marine Gunnery Sergeant Alain Frederique will be going to the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Hospital to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. GySgt

Frederique will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of VA.

In Palo Alto, CA Soldiers' Angels volunteer Elaine Hodges will be going to Palo Alto Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Elaine will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of the VA.

In Ft Lewis, WA Soldiers' Angels volunteer Julie Morelli will be going to Ft Lewis, Washington to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Julie will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of Ft Lewis.

In Aiea, HI Soldiers' Angels volunteer Theresa Johnson will be going to Tripler Army Medical Center to present laptops to our wounded service members on site. Susan will be working with the Public Affairs Team and Donations Team of TAMC.



Soldiers' Angels will be handing out about 130 laptops for wounded warriors this Veterans Day.



The 5-year-old son of LTC Watson, who is deployed to Kosovo, talked to his father as Watson's wife looked on.

**“When we
deploy, our
Families serve
too.”**



North Dakotans celebrated their 6th Day of the Deployed.

Day of the Deployed—We Did It!

Soldiers' Angels salutes Shelle Michaels, Patti Patton-Bader, and all who have made a national Day of the Deployed a reality!

With Origins in North Dakota, ‘Day of the Deployed’ Goes National

BISMARCK, N.D. — A ceremony celebrating the sixth annual North Dakota “Day of the Deployed” and the first-ever national observance was held at Bismarck State College, October 26. The ceremony was arranged by Soldiers’ Angels and featured representatives from the National Guard, community leaders and military Family. Gov. Jack Dalrymple proclaimed today, Oct. 26, the “Day of the Deployed” in North Dakota to recognize the state’s deployed military members and their families for their service and sacrifice.

“Today, we honor our brave men and women in uniform who are selflessly putting their lives on the line to protect and preserve our way of life, and the Families who also have been called upon to serve and sacrifice for their country,” Dalrymple said.

The event began in 2006 in North Dakota, but this year marked the first time the day will be celebrated on a national level annually as Congress unanimously passed a resolution proposed by Senator John Hoeven. The “Day of the Deployed” is to honor the nation’s deployed service members and their Families.

“Our men and women in uniform work tirelessly to serve our country and protect our freedoms and we cannot do enough to thank them and their Families for the sacrifices they willingly make,” said Hoeven, who signed the first-ever Day of the Deployed proclamation in 2006 when he was governor of North Dakota.

Hoeven was the first governor to officially set aside a day of recognition for the deployed, and since then more than 40 other governors have signed proclamations, as well, marking Oct. 26 as an annual day of respect for the deployed. During the event held in Bismarck, Lt. Col. Bill Watson North Dakota National Guard, deployed commander of 55 Soldiers with the Bismarck-based 112th Aviation Regiment (Security and Support), was able to Skype in from Camp Atterbury, Ind., where his unit is preparing to deploy as part of Kosovo Force (KFOR) 15, a NATO peacekeeping operation. He spoke to the crowd and was able to visit with his wife, Dawn, and son, Ben.

“When we deploy, our Families serve too. The

most important part of our day while we are deployed is ensuring our Families are taken care of at home. And we thank the community, friends and neighbors who have stepped up to help us,” Watson said.

Watson’s 5-year-old son, Ben, was able to talk to his father as he presented a poster of their family photos to ensure his dad had something to hang on his wall in Kosovo that would remind him of home. “Hi, dad. I love you and I miss you,” he told Watson.

Watson and his unit left North Dakota the end of September for additional training in Indiana and are expected to leave the states this week for the remainder of their yearlong mission. Speaking on behalf of the North Dakota National Guard was Col. Bob Fode who said, “We acknowledge the daily sacrifices of not only the deployed men and women of all branches of our military services, but their Families as well. Because of their support and the support of our communities and our employers, we are able to answer the call to service both at home and abroad.”

Other speakers included Lt. Gov. Drew Wrigley, Kathleen Schneider for Senator Kent Conrad, Congressman Rick Berg via video, Shelle Michaels, Soldiers’ Angels and Teresa Carrigan, mother of deployed service member Spc. Brandon Carrigan, also with the 112th Aviation Regiment.

For more information:

www.soldiersangels.org/day-deployed



Senator Hoeven signs the Day of the Deployed declaration as Soldiers’ Angel Shelle Michaels looks on.

Dancing Deer Prances with the Angels

The Dancing Deer Baking Company (www.dancingdeer.com) is passionate about food, nature and aesthetics. They are dedicated to excellence in all they do! In that excellence, they have reached out to Soldiers' Angels to send a taste of home to our troops serving abroad during the holidays through Wrapped in Holiday Spirit.

Angels and troop supporters from all over the world can "help us, help them, help the troops" simply by "Liking" their Facebook page (www.facebook.com/DancingDeer). For every "Like" they receive on Facebook, they will ship one package of cookies to Soldiers' Angels to send to the troops during the holiday season.

This *Sugar Cookie Extravaganze* will only last from November 1-20, so we encourage everyone to help by spreading the "red frosting drizzle" in the following ways:

- "Like" www.facebook.com/DancingDeer on Facebook

- Please post the following on your Facebook page : Dancing Deer Baking Company will give Soldiers' Angels one package of holiday cookies to send to the troops for every "LIKE" their fanpage (www.facebook.com/DancingDeer) receives from November 1-20. Here is your chance to "help us, help them, help the troops" at no cost to you! Think of all the happy troops that can be tasting star-shaped vanilla sugar cookies with red frosting drizzle thanks to you.
- Please Tweet the following: For every "LIKE" www.facebook.com/DancingDeer that @DancingDeer gets, the troops get another package of holiday cookies! November 1-20. #SOT

What's not to like? May no cookie go unpacked. May no crumb be left behind. May no frosting go unlicked. Until they all are shipped.

May No Soldier Go Unloved. May No Soldier Walk Alone. May No Soldier Be Forgotten. Until They All Come Home.



Soldiers' Angels is proud to welcome Dancing Deer to our list of corporate supporters. To help them help us support the troops with gifts of cookies, "like" them on Facebook and spread the word on Twitter!

For every "like" they receive on Facebook, they will ship one package of cookies to Soldiers' Angels .

Deadlines for Holiday Donations

Donations are still needed to help our heroes smile this holiday season! The last date for Soldiers' Angels to receive items for holiday care packages for the deployed is December 6. For VA and wounded gifts, it's December 15.

The kinds of items included in these care packages are appreciated throughout the winter, so you also can send your gifts after those dates, confident that they are needed.

For full details:
www.soldiersangels.org/holidays-for-heroes



Halloween Overload? Soldiers' Angels to the Rescue!

What do you do after Halloween has come and gone, the costumes are put away, the kids have come down from their sugar highs, and the jack-o-lantern is starting to wilt... and there are still pounds and pounds of candy all over the place?

Send it to the troops, of course!

Our military men and women deployed around the world always enjoy candy in their care packages, and this is the perfect time of year for shipping chocolate--the cooler weather means it's less likely to melt!

Patriotic kids and parents can send extra Hallow-

een candy to Soldiers' Angels, who will make sure it brightens the day of a service member far from home (please be sure to send "the good stuff,"--no crushed/melted candy or broken/torn wrappers, etc).

Don't forget--stores also offer big discounts on their extra Halloween candy after Halloween.

To send your candy to the troops:

Soldiers' Angels
HALLOWEEN
4408 N PanAm Exprwy
San Antonio, TX 78218



Got a ton of candy left over after Halloween? Our deployed troops love candy in their care packages! Just ship it to Soldiers' Angels.



S.A.V.E. helps provide a soft landing for veterans transitioning to civilian life, surrounding them with like-minded people as they develop skills in the corporate world.

“She has been my mother away from home and I am blessed and lucky to have met her.”



Carmenita saw Soldiers' Angels support her entire platoon, and bonded strongly with her own Angel.

S.A.V.E. Employee of the Month

Short and simple best describes the profile of S.A.V.E. Employee of The Month for November, Scott White.

From 2005 to June 2011 when he was medically retired, Scott was in the Army as an active –duty soldier but he didn't know much about Soldiers' Angels. “I did not receive support from SA and I didn't know anything about the S.A.V.E. program. I just walked in and told Lance I needed a job ASAP,” White says.

Scott's job at Soldiers' Angels takes him all over the Soldiers' Angels Support Center. He assists Mark Taglianetti in making Soldiers' Angels t-shirts, helps on the floor with preparing care

packages for shipment, and during football season he assists Lance with Monday Night Football events for San Antonio troops. In addition to these tasks, Scott says he also helps out with activities and projects that support wounded troops and, “anything else they need me to do.”

As one of the newer S.A.V.E. employees, Scott is still in awe of the opportunities that the job with Soldiers' Angels has given him. “It meant I could put food on the table for my family and pay my bills,” he says. “I can't express how much this opportunity has helped my family and me.”

*For more about S.A.V.E.:
www.soldiersangels.org/save*

Interview with a Hero

Two words best describe November's Hero: Independent Woman!

Fresh out of high school, Specialist Camanita Iermia joined the Army in 2007. “Coming from a big family with seven siblings, I wanted to do something different and not depend on my parents to pay for my education,” Iermia says, explaining why she enlisted in the Army.

Iermia recently returned home from her first deployment. At first, she hadn't realized she was being supported by Soldiers' Angels, even though she was lucky even to receive an Angel along with other support from the organization as a whole. “One of my close friends that was deployed to Iraq before had signed our whole platoon up for the Soldiers' Angels program and from there we started receiving letters asking us what we wanted and what we needed,” she says. “We've had penpals that would write to us either by letters or email. It is the greatest and best thing that anyone could do for the deployed soldiers.”

Specialist Iermia continues, ““Everyday we looked forward for the mail detail to come back from getting mail. If it wasn't for the Angels and their love and support, deployment would've been different and hard. It's the greatest feeling to know that there are people out there who really care, and appreciate what we are doing downrange.”

Iermia's favorite story about her Angel is simply that they had the opportunity to meet. “I was lucky and honored to meet my angel in person when we redeployed from Afghanistan,” she says. “She is amazing, so protective and caring.

It's not always you will find people that will do just about everything for someone that they have never met, but Ms. Laura is one of them. She is my angel and always will be.”

Specialist Iermia bonded with Laura and has this message for her: “She has been my mother away from home and I am blessed and lucky to have met her. I can't thank her enough for everything she has done for me downrange and coming back home.”

Iermia's is also extremely thankful for the support Soldiers' Angels supplied to her entire platoon: “From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank the Soldiers' Angels for their time, love and support to all the soldiers,” she says. “God Bless.”



German Oktoberfest at LRMC

It was on a wonderful October day, German Unity Day, when seven Soldiers' Angels in different cities loaded their cars with food, cakes, soft drinks and various decorations and drove to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. We were on the way to the US Hospital for the annual "German Oktoberfest" at Fisher House II. For the fifth time, Soldiers' Angels and Fisher House organized this event for the wounded warriors, their families and the medical staff.



When we arrived at Fisher House II, everyone lent a hand and the cars were quickly unloaded. Then we started to decorate the location in Bavarian style—blue and white. Rudi and Sal baked fresh pretzels as appetizers, Claudia chopped the vegetables for the salad and Bella put Emmentaler Cheese on the pretzels (Ulrike, our Angel from Berlin, couldn't be with us because she was ill. We missed her very much).

As they do every year Willie and Rudi arranged the menu: Grilled sausages, home fries, sauerkraut, meat loaf, various sauces and lettuce. Rudi was chef and John was "Grill-Master." Regina made coffee and I was responsible for the cakes. By the time the first guests arrived, the Fisher House Team and the volunteers were there to support us. Well done, Ladies. Thank you!



It was a constant coming and going. More than 100 people dropped by within two hours. Members of all parts of the US Armed Forces were present, and also our friends from the Canadian

by Astrid Claus



Forces. Some of our guests dressed in Bavarian style, wearing a dirndl or lederhosen.

Each guest received a little gift from Soldiers' Angels and a cute teddy bear. We were also proud to welcome the Landstuhl Commander, Col. (Dr.) Jeffrey B. Clark, and his wife Sue.

How time flies! Before we knew it, Oktoberfest was over. Rudi, Sal, Regina and the outstanding Fisher House volunteers cleaned the up everything while we went over to the hospital. There, Willie gave our gifts to the wounded warriors and Bella, our youngest angel, handed over the bears. Little Bella especially made people smile.



When we returned to Fisher House II all the work was done. Before we left we presented a gift to our friends the newlywed couple John and Cindy Rosnow. Unfortunately Cindy couldn't be with us, but John promised to pass on our best wishes. Then Vivian Wilson, head of Fisher House, gave certificates of appreciation to the Soldiers' Angels and as a surprise we received T-Shirts from "Operation Helping Hand." Terrific!

I think Vivian, the Fisher House Team and the outstanding volunteers deserve a certificate of appreciation of their own. Thank you for all what you are doing for the wounded warriors and their families. We are proud to support you!



John was the "Grill Master" for a special Oktoberfest celebration in Germany.

"It was a constant coming and going. More than 100 people came by within two hours."



Soldiers' Angels in Germany served a Oktoberfest meal to over 100 staff and wounded warriors at Landstuhul Regional Medical Center.



Nassir's difficult life has been radically changed by his acquaintance with American Soldiers.

“At night they would tie him to a tree so he would not run away, and would beat him with a large stick.”



Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division have “adopted” an Afghan boy.

Nassir's Story

A unit that has been supported through AMY'S QRF ALERTS brought this story to the attention of Calling All Angels. It's exciting for Angels to tell their stories of how they support their heroes and for the heroes to tell their stories of receiving support, but it's even better when a feel-good story can be told about what our heroes do in-country when they're not fighting. This one will tug at your heartstrings for sure...

When Amy's QRF Alerts supports a group of soldiers as a special project, they always have a POC, a point of contact who keeps them up-to-date on the unit's needs and interests. In the case of one recent unit, that POC was able to update the Alert team on a regular basis. Lieutenant Colonel Ben Eiser (aka LTC Ben) has been sending regular reports and updates about his unit and their activities.

And as LTC Eiser's story attests, while America's Armed Forces in Iraq are in the process of returning home, relinquishing control, and training the Afghan Military, they're following orders... and also following their hearts.

Through Facebook, the Angel Forum and emails, LTC Eiser keep the Angels supporting him updated, mentioning in one post that he and his team were trying to adopt a dog. Unfortunately, Command shot down that idea hard. So, what's the next best thing to adopting a dog? A 12 year old boy, maybe?

In the middle of all their other responsibilities, American Soldiers stepped up to the plate to change the life of a 12-year boy named Nassir.

Although Nassir is not an orphan, the first twelve years of his life have been extremely difficult, a story that is all too familiar in some places these days. “His mother is from Iran and his father is from Afghanistan,” Eiser explains. “They lived in Iran, but his mother was addicted to drugs; in order to get money to cover her habit, she was a prostitute.” Even worse, she would conduct her “job responsibilities” in front Nassir. “Nassir would tell his father and he would beat his mother,” adds Eiser.

Nassir's father decided to leave his wife and took him to Pakistan to live with his uncle. The father found work in Afghanistan, but didn't bring Nassir with him. “Nassir was forced to herd sheep and goats, and never went to school,” says LTC Eiser. “At night they would tie him to a tree so he would not run away, and would beat him with a large stick. He still has marks on his body.”

“So as not to shame the family, Nassir never told

his father about the beatings and being tied to a tree,” LTC Eiser explains. But fortunately, one little twist of fate completely changed Nassir's life. “When his father had the money he moved him to Afghanistan,” says Eiser. Nassir's father then joined the Afghanistan Military and is now a soldier in the very Afghan National Civil Order Police unit that LTC Eiser's unit is mentoring.

No matter what country's military you're serving in, it's never a good idea to hide *anything* from your chain of command, but Nassir's father certainly tried. “The father had Nassir sleeping in the barracks in his bed; they both slept together,” Eiser recalls. When Eiser discovered what was going on he informed the Afghan leader, who said, “Nassir will be his 22nd son and he will live with the brigade commander.”

Thanks to LTC Eiser and the Afghan Brigade Commander, Nassir has a new life and goes around telling people that the Afghan Brigade Commander is his dad.

Even with a new outlook on life, Nassir still has quite a few obstacles to overcome. He is attending 2nd grade in school without getting beaten up. Despite being only in 2nd grade, he knows Pashto, Dari, Farsi, Urdu and Uzbek, and now he is learning English. Two American females who are part of Eiser's team are also slowly helping Nassir regain some trust in women.

As many children do, Nassir likes to play with many different toys but his favorite activity is to work out with Americas—his—heroes. “He loves to hit the gym with our soldiers and wants to become strong,” says LTC Eiser. “He is always flexing. He goes to the gym with me nightly. On Saturday he woke me up at 0600. I told him it was too early and gave him a blanket and told him to lay down for a few hours.”

Now Nassir wants to be a member of the Afghan National Civil Order Police force, maybe a future General. He has bonded with LTC Eiser and Eiser's team and they love each other dearly. “The soldiers said I was not able to get them a dog due to the problem with rabies, but I was able to get them a small boy. They have nicknamed him “Tattoo” and I am Mr. Rourke, from Fantasy Island,” Eiser jokes.

Soldiers' Angels volunteers helped Eiser's torops provide for Nassir's needs and get him on a good footing. The ANCOP Brigade Commander is going to move him to Kabul once the school quarter is over, which will doubtlessly involve many sad goodbyes...

Red Shirt Rising



Through a strong Facebook push, media efforts and its [Remember Everyone Deployed t-shirts](#), Soldiers' Angels is working hard to bring troop support deeper into people's daily lives. The idea of RED Shirt Friday (RED = Remember Everyone Deployed) took form at least half a decade ago and has long been supported by Soldiers' Angels, but more recently the organization has jumped in to give wings to this effort to keep the sacrifices of America's military men and women foremost in Americans' minds.

In October, Soldiers' Angels Executive Director Toby Nunn was in Hollywood with the stars of the CBS hit TV series [How I Met Your Mother](#) as they filmed a new promo for RED Shirt Friday. The promo is part of Nunn's expanded drive to raise the visibility of a symbolic effort that can have real-life effects by ensuring America doesn't forget those fighting overseas. "Our goal is to put supporting our troops back in popular culture and mindset," Nunn explains, "to include troop support as part of pop culture."

Each Friday Nunn has been filming a brief video from the Soldiers' Angels warehouse or wherever he is traveling that day. Guests who join him for the video are taken from popular culture and a variety of other backgrounds—from Soldiers' Angels founder Patti Patton-Bader herself, to MMA star Tim Kennedy, and entrepreneurs Nick Palmisciano and Katy Gunderson.

Nunn points out that participating in RED Shirt Friday requires little in the way of financial investment, but if RED-shirt-wearing patriots include the message of why they are wearing red, it has the power to change culture. "It doesn't cost anything to wear RED on Friday and let your neighbors, friends and schoolmates and coworkers know about supporting the troops," he says. "Explain it to those around you, put it

into your personal culture regardless of politics or partisan lines. It's a very simple gesture, but it keeps the sacrifices of the troops in people's awareness."

Wearing RED on Fridays not only reminds people of those who are sacrificing for all of us, it has an effect on military families here at home. "When they see your red short, you're sending a message to the families as well," Nunn says. "You are acknowledging family sacrifices by recognizing that their loved one is deployed."

To join the cause, simply wear a red-colored shirt on Fridays and tell your friends, families, coworkers and neighbors why you're doing so. To step it up to another level, check out the awesome RED Shirts available at [Soldiers' Angels Store](#) (all profits go to Soldiers' Angels projects).

Soldiers' Angels supporter Ranger Up is also offering RED Shirt t-shirts--in both [male](#) and [female](#) styles--with 20% of sales donated to Soldiers' Angels.

Thank you, Ranger up!



There are also dozens of ways to take a more active role in supporting the troops. Just check out the list here:

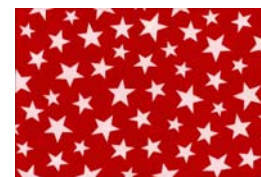
www.soldiersangels.org/teams-programs

Some activities special skills or donations but others are as simple as putting pen to paper and a 44-cent stamp on envelope. Let's RED and then *do* something to *show* those deployed heroes that we do remember!



Both Soldiers' Angels and Ranger up sell RED (Remember Everyone Deployed) t-shirts with all or part of the sale going to support Soldiers' Angels projects. Get yours today!

The cast and crew of "How I Met Your Mother" filmed a promo for RED Shirt Friday.



On Friday, you can join hundreds of thousands of people who are wearing red in all styles to "Remember Everyone Deployed."



The Sewing Team includes five sub-teams putting their sewing (and even non-sewing) skills to work. Check it out at www.soldiersangels.org/sewing-team

"Imagine our hero in the middle of a 40 mile-per-hour sandstorm, with 50 pounds of gear on his back, weapon in hand, and unable to breathe."



Sand Scarves are a big favorite with deployed troops, and are very easy to make. Can you sew a straight line? You can make a sand scarf!

Sewing Team: Our Sand Scarf Shelf is Empty!

The demand for our sand scarves is HUGE, and our shelf is EMPTY!

Imagine our hero, in the middle of a 40 m.p.h. sandstorm, with 50 pounds of gear on his back, weapon in hand, and unable to breathe freely because of the gritty sand and dust permeating his nose and mouth.

Then imagine our hero in the middle of that same sandstorm with a soft, 100% cotton knit piece of fabric around his mouth and nose, breathing freely without choking.

That's the difference that a sand scarf can make in a hero's life!

CAN YOU HELP?!

- Fabric should be 100% cotton knit t-shirt fabric. (Do NOT use synthetics.)
- Color should be solid tan, sand, beige or sage green
- Finished measurement is 14" x 60" (or 55", if that is the width of your fabric).
- Zigzag or serge the edges.

More information can be found on the Soldiers' Angels website. In the middle of the home page, click the link "Click here for a list of Teams and Projects" and then click on "Blankets of Belief."

Questions? Contact Anita:
sandscarf@soldiersangels.org.

Don't forget—Our goal is to ship our BLANKETS OF BELIEF to our deployed heroes in time for the Christmas/Winter holidays. They LOVE this timely reminder that we have not forgotten them!

Have you made JUST ONE? Have you posted JUST ONE flyer at your favorite fabric store or coffee shop? Have you shared the guidelines with JUST ONE scout troop or church sewing group?

Thank you!

Love,

Dee :)

Dee Jerge,
Vice President - Sewing Team



Sewing Team Information & Contacts

Please visit <http://www.soldiersangels.org>. On the left side of the home page click on "Teams and Projects," then on "Sewing Team."

Vice President—Sewing Team
Director—Blankets of Hope
Dee Jerge
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djerge@soldiersangels.org

Sewing Team Newsletter
Karen Giffin
bohnewsletter@gmail.com

Germany—Blankets of Hope
Maryann Phillips
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Sand and Cooling Scarves
Sand Scarves – Anita Dice
sandscarf@soldiersangels.org
Cooling Scarves – Deborah Delcorio
coolscarf@soldiersangels.org

Crafts Corner/Crochet Team
Deborah Delcorio
crochet@soldiersangels.org

Operation Top Knot
Karen Walaitis
optopknot@soldiersangels.org

Patriot Pillowcases
Katie Williams
djerge@soldiersangels.org

Activities & Events

November

Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser - November 1 to 30 in Gilbert, AZ. For more information, contact Twyla Choate at events@soldiersangels.org

Jupiter Bowling Lanes Car Show - November 3 in Jupiter, FL. For more information, contact Twyla Choate at events@soldiersangels.org

Iron Kettle Chili Cook Off - November 5, 9:30 to 5:30 in Leander, TX. For more information, contact Lisa Luhrman at cailin7591@netzero.net

Wrapped in Holiday Spirit Drive - November 5 from 10:00 to 4:300 in Perryville, MD. For more information, contact Desiree Bowman at desiree620@yahoo.com

Normandale Community College Drive - November 7 to 10 in Normandale, MN. For more information, contact Twyla Choate events@soldiersangels.org

New York State Comptroller Event - November 9 from 1pm to 3 pm in Albany, NY. For more information, please contact Twyla Choate events@soldiersangels.org

Hug A Hero Day - November 12 from 10:00 to 4:00 in Austin, Texas. For more information, contact Lisa Luhrman at cailin7591@netzero.net

Encinitas Fall Festival - November 9, 9:00 to 4:00 in Encinitas, CA. For more information contact Susan Lawson at susan_lawson55@yahoo.com

Ventura Veteran Home Birthday Party - November 16 from 2:00 to 4:00 in Ventura, CA. For more information, contact MaryAnn Foote at cncca4@gmail.com

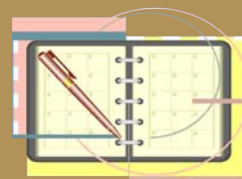
Steppin' For Heroes - November 15-19. To download a pledge form, visit soldiersangels.org/downloads/steppin_pledge.pdf or email Amy Krome at amyqrf@soldiersangels.org

Birthday Event For Soldiers' Angels - November 11 in Tampa Bay, FL. For more information, contact Twyla Choate at events@soldiersangels.org

Bastrop Main St. Festival - November 12 in Bastrop, TX. For more information, contact Donna Cunningham at donna@donnalc.com

The Soldiers' Angels Newsletter, Calling All Angels has a blog to give the reader an additional way to voice opinions, comments, ideas and stories. ALL deadlines for submission—whether stories, announcements or newsletters—will be posted on the blog. There are also links to published Newsletters linked there.

Please visit the blog at callingallangelsnews.blogspot.com, or you can send an email to newsletter@soldiersangels.org.



*IF you know of an event, activity or fundraiser for Soldiers' Angels that is either sponsored by or for Soldiers' Angels, please let me know. My goal is for every state to take part in this section, so PLEASE email newsletter@soldiersangels.org Thank You!
—Amy*

FOR THE LATEST UPDATES TO EVENTS, VISIT: WWW.SOLDIERSANGELS.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS

SOLDIERS' ANGELS

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Soldiers' Angels is a volunteer-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing aid and comfort to the men and women of the United States Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and their families. Founded in 2003 by the mother of two American soldiers, its hundreds of thousands of Angel volunteers assist veterans, wounded and deployed personnel and their families in a variety of unique and effective ways.

"May No Soldier Go Unloved," encapsulates the motivation behind Soldiers' Angels. The volunteers of Soldiers' Angels work tirelessly to demonstrate active care and concern for veterans, the wounded, deployed service members and their families.

Demuralizing



Spc. Richard Koke, mechanic for the 25th Infantry Division, paints over a soldier-created mural on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Oct. 3. Service members have been obscuring the murals and graffiti on COB Adder and other installations in preparation for handing over the installations to Iraq. The murals have been preserved in photographs that will be placed on exhibit in a tour across America beginning on Veterans Day, November 11. Full details at www.dvidshub.net.