

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne



Photos by Sgt. Natalie Rostek

Capt. Se Young Um and Staff Sgt. Jade Chiara listen as a mother explains the symptoms of her child's ailment at a medical clinic Aug. 5 at a school in Al Zatia. At right, 1st Sgt. Tony Williams listens to a man's pulse.

3rd HBCT holds health clinic

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK

3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FOB HAMMER — Soldiers of 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team held a free medical clinic Aug. 5 at a school in al Zatia.

Medics set up two treatment stations in one classroom in the school, and one reception station in a separate

classroom.

Before the clinic began, 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment's loudspeaker team broadcasted a message to residents announcing the opportunity to receive free medical care.

During the broadcast, residents from the area began forming two lines, male

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Soldier reaps benefits of continued commitment

STAFF SGT. TONY M. LINDBACK
TF MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP VICTORY — Less than one year ago she was thinking of getting out of the Army. Today she is a leader of Soldiers — a noncommissioned officer.

As contractual obligations to military service tick away, Soldiers have to make a decision — stay in or get out. Leaders who actively mentor their Soldiers can make a difference in those life-altering decisions.

When Sgt. Octavia Ransom, unit supply specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Operations Company, Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, was approaching her decision she leaned more toward getting out.

A newly-assigned leader convinced Ransom to rethink her decision.

“When I arrived at HHOC and took over as the company first sergeant she was working in the supply room,” said 1st Sgt. Jon Helring. “She was not 100 percent in love with the Army at that time. She was talking about getting out, going to school and doing some other things. Even just going to a different supply room and working a different aspect of her job.”

Helring explained that the company was under new management and asked Ransom to give it a chance.

He showed her the benefits of staying in the Army and how she could get further in her education with less out-of-pocket expense if she would give it a little more time and thought.

Ransom did just that, and after weighing her options she decided to re-enlist in November.

She signed a two-year agreement



Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Chief Warrant Officer Doretha Magee, 3rd Infantry Division property book officer, places new rank on Sgt. Octavia Ransom during her promotion ceremony Aug. 1 at Task Force Marne Headquarters.

with the intention of extending that obligation with another re-enlistment in Iraq that will include a tax-free bonus. An added bonus came Aug. 1 when she was promoted into the NCO corps.

Ransom said she is happy with her decision and will know what to say when she has a Soldier contemplating getting out.

“I would say I was there once upon

a time,” Ransom said. “I sat down and talked to superiors and told them I wanted to get out, but you really have to think about your plans for the future. And if you don’t really have plans you should consider staying in and pursuing your career. The military has good opportunities. You have school, you can do different jobs — it has a lot to offer.”

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82nd Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

CLINIC: Hammer Soldiers hold health clinic for local Iraqis in al Zatia

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and female, waiting to be seen.

The patients were brought one-by-one into a reception room where they were signed in and screened.

Patients with medical conditions ranging from upper respiratory problems to stomach ailments came to the school seeking medical care.

The medics gave their best effort, treating every ailment that came their way.

Staff Sgt. Jade Chiara, of Staten Island, N.Y., NCO in charge of the aid station on FOB Hammer, said some conditions were far too complicated to handle.

"Not being able to give them exactly what they need has to be the hardest part," Chiara said. "Some patients needed chest X-rays or cardiology exams, and we are just not able to do that here."

Chiara said when the medics see conditions they aren't able to treat on the spot, they do what they can to ease the suffering and explain to the patient they need to get to the hospital to see a specialist as soon as possible.

The mission was not just beneficial to the Iraqis but also to the medics who attended, said Pfc. Laia Brunson, of Atlanta, a medic in the 203rd BSB.

"This is a learning experience," Brunson said. "Some people that come in here have conditions Soldiers don't have, like arthritis. Soldiers don't come into the aid station with arthritis."

At the completion of the mission, the medics had seen about 135 patients.

"We are helping these people who do not have access to or can't afford medical care," Brunson said. "This is an overwhelmingly proud feeling I have being here."



Photos by Sgt. Natalie Rostek

Sgt. Anthony Abeyta, 203rd BSB, gives a high five to a local boy Aug. 5, after a free medical clinic at a school in al Zatia.



Capt. Se Young Um, pediatrician and surgeon for 203rd BSB, and Staff Sgt. Jade Chiara NCOIC of the FOB Hammer aid station, check the breathing of a local child. At right, Pfc. Laia Brunson, of Atlanta, a medic in the 203rd Brigade Support Battalion, watches a baby sleep during the clinic, held Aug. 5 in al Zatia.



Safety Thought of the Day

Fuel Storage

Fuelers

- 30 feet spacing between vehicles.
- Ensure properly grounded.
- Ensure PPE, nozzle dust covers, and catch basins are on location and used.
- Post signs: "No Smoking within 50 feet of vehicles."

Fuel Cans

- Ensure lids/caps on all cans when not in use.
- Do not store fuel cans within 50 feet of living areas, tents, and buildings.
- Keep out of direct sunlight.
- Store at least 10 feet from generators.
- Treat all fuel cans as if they are full.

Headline Highlights

Driving blind; pencil in head; food in toilets

Blind man arrested for driving

TALLINN (Reuters) — Police in the Baltic state of Estonia stopped a man who was driving erratically this weekend, only to find he was blind.

The 20-year-old was driving in the southern city of Tartu early Sunday -- helped by instructions from his 16-year-old passenger.

"At first they thought he was just drunk, but the man kept missing the tube for the breath test, then they realized he was blind" and arrested him, Tartu Police spokeswoman Marge Kohtla said Monday.

Pencil removed from German woman's head after 55 years

BERLIN (Reuters) — A 59-year-old German woman has had most of a pencil removed from inside her head after suffering nearly her whole life with the headaches and nosebleeds it caused, Bild newspaper reported Monday.

Margret Wegner fell over carrying the pencil in her hand when she was four.

"The pencil went right through my skin — and disappeared into my head," Wegner told the newspaper.

It narrowly missed vital parts of her brain. At the time no one dared operate, but now technology has improved sufficiently for doctors to be able to remove it. Most of the pencil, some three inches long, was taken out in an operation at a private Berlin clinic, but the tip had grown in so firmly that it was impossible to remove.

Fatter corpses cause hazards

SYDNEY (Reuters) — More than two-thirds of Australians living outside major cities are overweight or obese, and extremely obese corpses are creating a safety hazard at mortuaries, according to two studies released Sunday.

Nearly three quarters of men and 64 percent of women were overweight in a study of people in rural areas. Just 30 percent of those studied recorded a healthy weight, said research published in the Medical Journal of Australia.

"Urgent action is required at the highest level to change unhealthy lifestyle habits by improving diet, increasing physical activity and making our environments supportive of these objectives," wrote the lead researcher, Professor Edward Janus.

The figures were much higher than for the general population, where statistics show about 3.2 million of Australia's 21 million people are obese.

Meanwhile, pathologists are calling for new "heavy-duty" autopsy facilities to cope with obese corpses that are difficult to move and dangerously heavy for standard-size trolleys and lifting hoists. The bodies presented "major logistical problems" and "significant occupational health and safety issues," according to a separate study, which found the number of obese and morbidly obese bodies had doubled in the past 20 years.

Specially designed mortuaries would soon be required if the nation failed to curb its fat epidemic, providing "larger storage and dissection rooms, and

more robust equipment," said Professor Roger Byard, a pathologist at the University of Adelaide.

"Failure to provide these might compromise the post-mortem evaluation of markedly obese individuals, in addition to potentially jeopardizing the health of mortuary staff."

In the past year, there have also been requests for larger crematorium furnaces, bigger grave plots as well as super-sized ambulances, wheelchairs and hospital beds.

No more food sold at toilets

BELJING (Reuters) — Food stalls attached to Beijing's public toilets will be removed in good time for next year's Olympics, state media said Saturday.

Complaints over toilets with poor sanitation and toilet operators turning them into commercial operations led to the ban, which comes into force in October.

"It is not proper to sell soft drinks or snacks right at the toilets," the Beijing News said, citing sources within the Beijing Municipal Administration Commission.

"The city authorities also plan to publish a toilet guide, provide toilet information over the telephone and the Internet and erect more road signs to help toilet users."

Billboards near toilets will also be banned, Xinhua news agency said.

Notoriously polluted Beijing is cleaning up its act before it hosts the Olympics. It has also announced crackdowns on spitting and smelly taxis.

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6							7
7			3		5		
4	3					2	1
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	1						9
2				3	7		
5			4				

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

4	9	3	7	1	6	8	5	2
7	5	8	3	2	9	4	1	6
6	2	1	8	5	4	7	9	3
2	6	5	1	4	8	3	7	9
3	1	7	6	9	5	2	8	4
9	8	4	2	3	7	1	6	5
8	7	2	5	6	3	9	4	1
5	3	9	4	8	1	6	2	7
1	4	6	9	7	2	5	3	8

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Ammunition

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