



www.taskforcemountain.com

February 14, 2009

Building a bridge to a better economy for Iraq

PFC. BETHANY L. LITTLE AND SPC. DAWN VAN HORN
172ND INF. BDE.



SELAH – 172nd Infantry Brigade Soldiers from Forward Operating Base Kalsu engaged in a patrol to the Central Euphrates Farmers Market and to a fish farm in Khdir, recently.

The patrol, led by 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment Soldiers, began at FOB Kalsu and travelled to the Central Euphrates Farmer's Market in Selah.

Here, Provincial Reconstruction Team members and Soldiers were involved in the first board meeting held at the farmer's market. The previous meetings were held at FOB Kalsu.

The Central Euphrates Farmer's Market is a market that represents approximately 4,900 farmers from the northern part of the Babil Province. The next closest farmer's market is 70 kilometers away in Karbala.

"This farmer's market is closer to the farmer's fields," said Sheik Umran Hashim, the head of Alwaha Agricultural Association. "By spending less money traveling, the farmers keep more money in their pocket."

The purpose of the meeting was to familiarize the 1st Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt. leadership with the PRT, Civilian Affairs and local Iraqi Leadership. The board meeting was also to showcase the progress of the market.

The topics discussed here included funding, the cold storage facility, auction price for the market stalls and security plans for the market.

Khdir is a predominately Shiite town that was overtaken by al Qaeda and the area was used as a staging area to train and attack surrounding areas. Al Qaeda prevented the farmers in the area from harvesting fish, thus harming the area.

Sheikh Jaffer Hussin Dandal, the owner of the fish farms in this part of the province, is one of the first sheiks to work with Coalition forces here. By working with the CF, Dandal is able to harvest fish without al Qaeda interference. The fish farms help bring the people back into the area, after they were forced out.

The fish farm assistance is one of the projects that the PRT has helped to boost the local economy in Iraq.

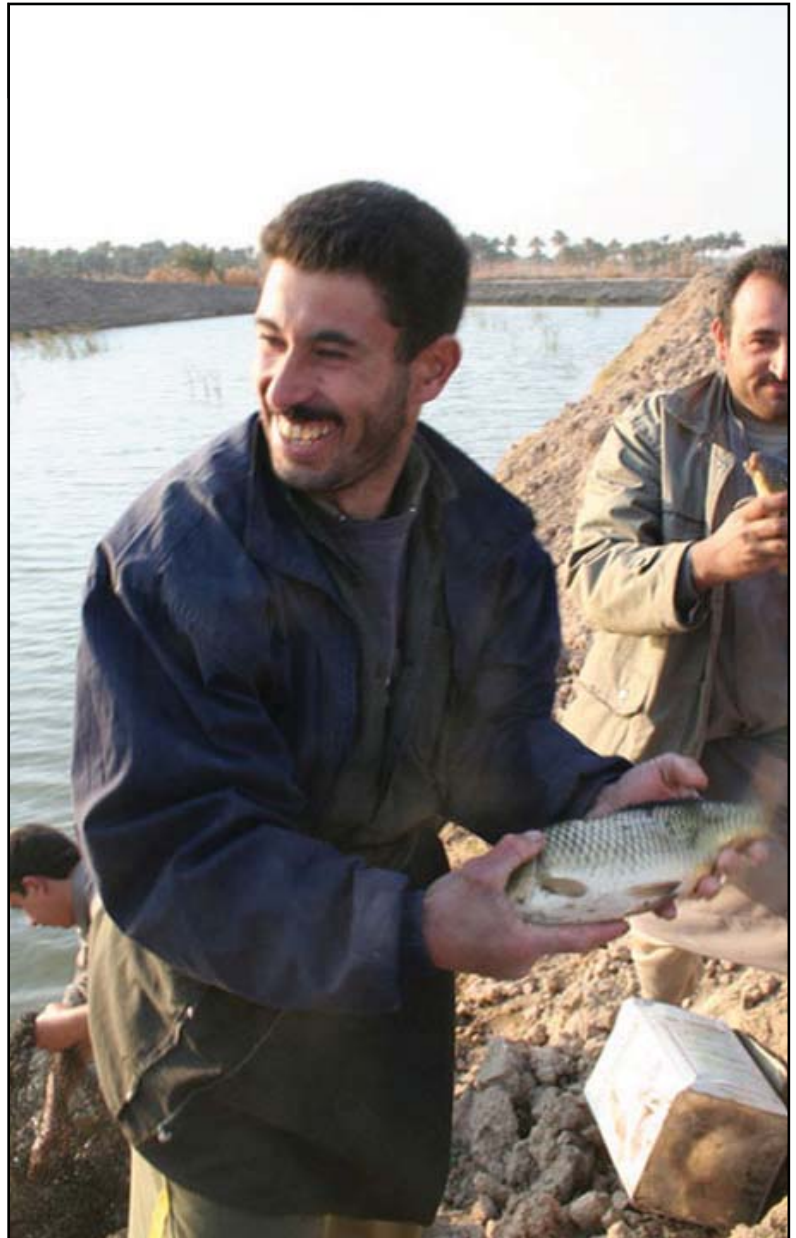


Photo by Pfc. Bethany L. Little

Ismaee Abdul Kareem, a fish keeper in Khdir, shows one of many fish that will be harvested and sold at a farmers market to the various Soldiers and civilians from the 172nd Infantry Brigade, recently.

Rough Riders reach out for Valentine's Day

SGT. SHANNON BLACK
BSB, 1ST CAV. DIV.



COB ADDER – U.S. Soldiers, assigned to Co. A., 27th Brigade Support Battalion can't be with their family members during the upcoming Valentine's Day, but they've figured out the next best option.

The 'Rough Rider', 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers sent video-taped messages through a program called 'Heart To Heart' here Feb 9.

"It boosted my morale to be able to do something like that," said Spc. Gary Bush, a native of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., "It made me feel good to be able to show my appreciation to my family while we're out here."

The program was coordinated by the 27th BSB Chaplain's section so the 'Rough Rider' Soldiers could record messages via DVD mini disc, and send it to their family members in time for the holiday.

Two camcorders were donated through the 'United-Through-Reading' program and the USO. The Soldiers could choose to either record a personal message to send back home, or they could read a book aloud to send to their children.

If the Soldiers chose to read a book, the book was also mailed home so the children could follow along while the DVD played.

Although the disc was small, it can be played in any DVD machine. Each disc holds up to 30 minutes of record time.

The 27th BSB command team donated hundreds of mini discs for the

event, and the books came courtesy of the USO.

"Heart to heart is a program I came up with to help ease the tension and separation for Valentine's Day," said CH (CPT) Howard Bankston, the 27th BSB Chaplain. "The family members back home could also video a message for their family over here in Iraq, therefore, keeping family members connected through video for Valentine's Day."

Once the Soldiers completed their recordings, he or she received the necessary mailing material to mail the disc (and book if applicable) back to their families.

"It's another great tool that we have during this deployment to show our loved one's that we think about them and care about them—especially for Valentine's Day," said Pfc. Christopher Dotson, from Los Angeles.



Photo by Sgt. Shannon Black

Spc. Gary Bush and Pfc. Christopher Dotson, who both participated in the Heart to Heart program, shared a laugh as Dotson recalled a funny incident that he recorded on the message he sent to his family.

THE Mountain View

The Mountain View is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Mountain View are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 10th Mountain Division. All editorial content of The Mountain View is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Mountain Public Affairs Office.

TASK FORCE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL L. OATES

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES W. REDMORE

Editorial Staff

TF Mountain PAO — Lt. Col. Paul Swiergosz
OIC, Command Information — Maj. Page Baldwin
NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford
Managing Editor — Sgt. Derek Smith
Copy Editor — Spc. Josh LeCappellain
Editor/Design — Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
Photo Editor — Pfc. Tyler Maulding
Staff Writers — Sgt. Frank Vaughn,
Spc. Darryl Montgomery, Spc. Tiffany Evans

Contributing Units

172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team
2nd BCT, 4th Infantry Division
4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division
41st Fires Brigade
343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
793rd Military Police Battalion
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.
Task Force 449



Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

Married couple serves together in Iraq



Photo by Spc. Darryl Lee Montgomery

Captains John and Laura Haberland enjoy a break from work together at the local coffee shop here. The Haberland couple like to get reading material and go to the coffee shop for 'date night.' They have been deployed together for nine months.

SPC. DARRYL LEE MONTGOMERY
MND - C



CAMP VICTORY – Deployment usually means packing up and leaving family behind for a year so that Soldiers can do important missions abroad.

This is not the case for the Capt. John Haberland, Multi-National Division – Center chief of detainee operations, and his wife Capt. Laura Haberland, MND-C chief of administrative law, who have been deployed together since May, 2008.

The couple met during their first week of law school in 2003. They got married on November 25, 2006, a few months after graduating from school, and joined the military shortly thereafter.

"The Judge Advocate General Corps did a good job at keeping us together," Laura, a Seattle native, said. "Joining was always something we thought about, and it was the best time in our lives and for our careers to do so."

They knew there was a high chance of deploying from their duty station Fort Drum, N.Y., she said, so they were ready for it.

During their deployment, the Haberland couple have worked only three cubicles apart from each other, but they do not work directly together.

"We work in close proximity, but our lanes are entirely different," said John, a Simsbury, Conn., native. "I can probably count on one hand how many times we have crossed paths at work."

"We rarely get to see each other at work since we are so busy. But, in the evening, we do everything together. Being here together has helped greatly reduce stress," said Laura. "It's a lot better than having to pick up the phone and have a spouse back home try and understand the challenges of deployments. It's great that he's here and understands."

"In addition to reducing stress, it has helped raise my morale," Laura added. "It's nice to have your best friend here to talk to."

"One of the biggest challenges we face here is not being able to 'turn off' work," John said. "Being constantly immersed in it all day, and coming back 'home', it's hard to clear your mind."

The Haberland couple have a Sunday morning 'date night.' They go to the Post Exchange, purchase magazines, and then go to the coffee shop to read them.

While there, they listen to the chaplains play music on a variety of different instruments.

See MARRIED, page 4

Sports Talk

By SPC. JOSH LECAPELAIN

A-Rod steroid scandal showcases sports hypocrisy

Did you know that Alex Rodriguez did steroids, at least from 2001-2003? The man many dreamt would wash away the grime of Barry Bonds and the era of the inflated slugger turned out to be just as dirty, just as big of a cheat.

The sporting community has been turned on its ear. A-Rod, long the subject of taunts and accusations such as being the antithesis of clutch to the point that he has been dubbed "A-Fraud," might have saved himself a world of hurt by admitting it quickly and apologizing for his mistake.

Unless, like most of the rest of the world, you don't think he is being entirely honest.

It seems a bit naïve to believe that he never touched steroids as a member of the Seattle Mariners, Texas Rangers or New York Yankees. Then he decided he had made a major mistake and started shunning them. Apparently, only during his time in Texas did he feel the immense pressure to stand above everyone else.

Lucky for A-Rod he was traded to that small, rural community known as "The Bronx," where the media lets everyone live in peace and beautiful bliss.

The ramifications of this will be telling. Apparently 103 other baseball players tested positive in this same test, which was given on the promise of anonymity. Whoops, A-Rod, our bad!

Does this change the perception of Bonds, Sammy Sosa, Roger Clemens, Mark McGwire and the rest of the (alleged) steroids crew? Can baseball really just ignore its history from the mid-80's to present day?

People have argued that their drug usage is no different than Ty Cobb's racism, Kirby Puckett's sexual misconduct or Pete Rose's gambling on his own team to win baseball games. But why does what someone does outside of

baseball affect their position in the history books? Cobb and Puckett made Cooperstown; Rose and "Shoeless" Joe Jackson have not been properly saluted for their contributions to the game, although the argument that nothing either did negatively affected baseball – just the stuffy suits who run things.

I believe the steroid era will come to be looked at very simply as 'we can't tell who did and didn't use, therefore, we can't punish those suspected.' Regardless of how you personally feel about these people, can what Bonds and Rodriguez did for the game really be overlooked? Should it?

America, for all its love and passion towards professional football, judges the two sports in a very different court of perception.

The basis of this, supposedly, is that baseball records mean so much more and stand as benchmarks and pillars of our national pastime.

Apparently if Emmitt Smith came clean about doping up during his career, it wouldn't be an issue although he holds football's all-time rushing title. How does that seem fair?

We haven't even seen steroids outbreaks reach hockey, basketball, golf, NASCAR or bowling. You have to think though that the athletes (and drivers) of those sports undeniably have heard of steroids and have dabbled. Will society care? Or will baseball continue to be the only one that draws the black eye and negative Congressional attention?

It seems there is a lot more that should draw the focus of their attention than professional sports drug usage. But, if they are going to look into it, go all out. Don't just martyr baseball.

MARRIED

From page 3

"Sundays are good. Having that one day off is a good chance for us to spend time together" John said. "It gives us a sense of normalcy since we do something similar back home."

When the couple returns home, they plan to take two weeks of leave to visit each side of the family, Laura said.

They are also considering buying a house in the Seattle area if the military stations them at Fort Lewis, Wash., John added. Buying a house is their main goal when they return home.

"We've been able to save a lot since we left home," Laura

added. "It's been nice to be able to put some money away as a nest egg."

Looking back at the nine months they have spent here together, they both agree the experience will help their marriage grow.

"We have had a huge benefit in going through this together," John said. "I wouldn't want to do this alone now that I've done it with Laura. This was our first deployment, and I feel we got lucky to be together for it."

"I believe that the deployment will help to strengthen our marriage," said Laura. "A deployment tests your marriage in many different ways, and for us, I think it's been a good experience. If we can make it through this, I think we can make it through anything."

1-10 CAV accompanies an Iraqi patrol in al Iman



Photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class James Wagner



(Top Left) Staff Sgt. Chad Steele, from Tehachapi, Calif., of 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division talks to residents while accompanying an Iraqi patrol in al Iman recently. (Top Right) Pfc. Toby Barnes, from Cornelia, Ga., of 1st Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., talks to two Iraqi children while accompanying an Iraqi patrol with IP in al Iman. (Left) Command Sgt. Maj. Ramone Delgado, from El Paso, Texas, of 1st Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., talks to a group of Iraqi children while accompanying Iraqi Police in al Iman.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO
CHAT WITH THE CG?

HE WOULD LIKE TO
CHAT WITH YOU!



Meet the CG online Feb. 15 from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

How?

- Go to www.taskforcemountain.com
- Click on *Lima Charlie chat room* (right sidebar)
- Click on the *click here* icon
- Chat is anonymous

Headline Round-up

World News:

ABOARD THE USNS LEWIS AND CLARK - U.S. Navy and Russian warships arrested Feb. 6 suspected Somali pirates this week, while a maritime watchdog warned on Feb. 6 that pirates are stepping up attacks as weather improves in the waters off East Africa. The latest arrests came Feb. 5, when an American helicopter from the USS Vella Gulf fired warning shots at gunmen in two skiffs that had opened fire and tried to board the Indian-flagged vessel Premdivya. U.S. forces searched the skiff and found weapons including rocket-propelled grenades, then took nine suspected pirates aboard the American ship, the Bahrain-based 5th Fleet said. Separately, the Russian navy said Feb. 6 its nuclear-powered heavy missile cruiser Peter The Great detained 10 Somali pirates closing in on an Iranian-flagged fishing trawler. Russian military prosecutors were questioning the men, who were caught on Feb. 5 with rifles, grenade-launchers, illegal narcotics and a large sum of money, the navy said.

U.S. News:

LOS ANGELES - Police said Feb. 12 they will investigate death threats against octuplet mom Nadya Suleman and advise her publicist on how to handle a torrent of other nasty messages that have flooded his office. Word that the 33-year-old single, unemployed mother is receiving public assistance to care for the 14 children she conceived through in vitro fertilization has stoked furor among many people. Police Lt. John Romero said officers were meeting with Suleman's publicist Mike Furtney about the flood of angry phone calls and e-mail messages against Suleman, her children and Furtney. "We are aware of the media accounts of the threats, and that they are being sent to the West Los Angeles detectives for appropriate action," Romero said. Furtney said 500 new e-mails were received Feb. 12.

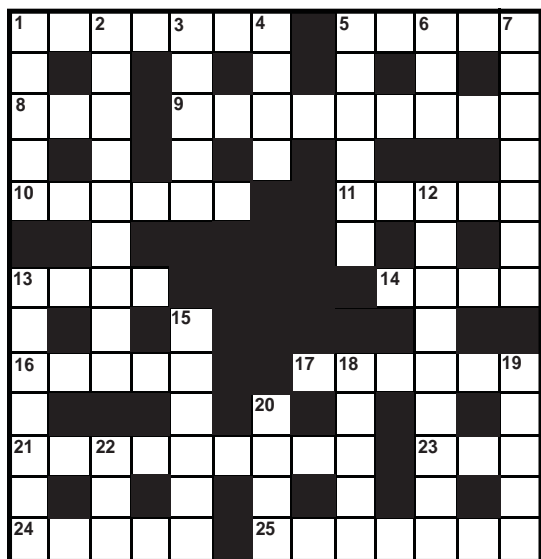
Quote of the Day

"There are no lazy veteran lion hunters."
— Norman Ralph Augustine

ACROSS:

1. Famoust Cubist
5. Play a stringed instrument by stroking the strings
8. On the ---; fleeing
9. Citizen of a certain Scandinavian country
10. Famous French Impressionist
11. Artist renowned for his depictions of dancers

13. Colors
14. He painted surreal landscapes
16. Waterlilies painter
17. Pop art artist
21. Surpassing in cleverness
23. Mongrel
24. Artist Gustav ----
25. Cover the surface with a decorative layer



DOWN:

1. More ashen
2. Association of world communist parties, started by Lenin in 1919
3. Muslim sect
4. One of a race of legendary man-eating giants
5. Reliable or unfaltering
6. King, to the French
7. Crescent shaped bodies
12. Of or relating to pictorial representation
13. Small hill
15. Paramout
18. Discuss heatedly
19. Truck (British)
20. Spanish painter whose works were influenced by Catalan folk art
22. ---lateral Commission, non-governmental policy-oriented discussion group

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Lion's Den

Feb. 14

Salsa Lesson @ 8 p.m.

Fridays

"Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy"
@ noon

Fishbowl Gym

Feb. 14

Valentine's Day fun run.

Registration from 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Race start @ 8 a.m.

March 27

Relay for Life HOPE Ceremony
@ 8 p.m.

March 28

Cancer awareness 5K/10K walk run. Free t-shirt and continental breakfast. Race begins @ 7 a.m.

Freedom Chapel

Violin teacher needed. Contact Col. Andrew Baan (Andrew.baan@iraq.centcom.mil) for more information.

Wednesdays

Guitar lessons @ 4 p.m.

Liberty

Feb. 22

Sweet 16 5 K Run. Race begins at "Z" Lake @ 7 a.m. FREE T-shirts to the top 115 finishers. POC: Spc. Daniel Balderas 485-0411 or daniel.balderas@iraq.centcom.mil

Babylon Theatre

Feb. 14

The Express @ 4 p.m.

W @ 7 p.m.

Quantum of Solace @ 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 16

Newcomers Brief @ 1 p.m.

Feb. 17

Fire Warden Course @ 1 p.m.

Feb. 18

Fire Extinguisher Class @ 1 p.m.

Feb. 20

Town hall meeting @ 1 p.m.

Solution Saturday

Saturday, Feb. 7

H	E	A	R	T		A		C	U	P	I	D
E		S		I		D	Y	E		A		I
A	B	S		A	G	O		L	U	X	E	S
T		E		R	R	I	A					C
S	A	T	I	A	T	E		D	I	T	T	O
	D		N					O		I		
C	O	R	N	Y				N	A	C	R	E
	E		E					C		A		
M	O	D	E	L		A	P	T	E	R	Y	X
A				L	A	D		O		A		R
D	R	A	C	O		I	N	K		P	E	A
L		W		W	O	E		E		I		Y
Y	O	L	K	S		U		N	U	D	E	S

from Puzzler's Cave: The Online Crossword Community

Monday, Feb. 9

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Tuesday, Feb. 10

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Wednesday, Feb. 11

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Thursday, Feb. 12

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

from Puzzler's Cave: The Online Crossword Community

D	T	W	R	M	S	T	E	R	Y	G	I	P	R	O	P	H	E	T
R	N	E	B	O	N	Y	L	T	H	N	B	U	R	N	I	N	G	G
E	A	R	Y	S	O	U	L	A	G	N	I	P	P	A	T	R	M	L
A	I	O	R	H	U	D	E	L	T	P	L	U	T	O	N	I	A	N
R	D	M	A	U	P	O	I	D	W	T	M	R	E	B	M	A	H	C
Y	A	R	E	T	O	U	N	E	A	O	I	N	B	T	O	R	S	B
Y	R	E	W	T	G	H	A	I	G	R	E	C	D	I	N	S	F	U
S	N	V	L	E	N	O	R	E	M	N	K	E	E	N	E	L	O	S
K	A	E	B	R	O	R	R	O	H	O	I	N	A	L	I	A	T	T
Y	B	N	E	E	C	N	A	R	T	N	E	L	E	T	F	G	K	L
E	L	D	E	H	C	R	E	P	B	F	N	M	T	S	H	A	H	A
E	R	O	L	G	H	A	S	T	L	T	A	I	G	S	S	E	P	T
U	V	G	H	E	A	R	T	U	A	N	N	D	N	N	U	R	R	E
A	I	N	E	C	P	O	T	S	C	G	F	S	I	B	T	R	D	O
A	N	S	I	M	Y	N	T	H	E	K	B	U	F	K	L	T	P	D
G	I	P	U	A	E	A	S	A	L	L	A	P	L	N	P	E	A	S
E	T	P	L	R	O	S	L	O	U	T	H	O	U	I	A	V	A	S
L	O	A	P	O	N	E	P	E	N	T	H	E	R	W	O	A	P	S
S	R	N	N	E	D	I	A	M	I	O	N	C	D	R	E	A	M	S

from LiveWire Puzzles

Friday, Feb. 13

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

To find out the answer to each day's puzzle right away, go to:



www.taskforcemountain.com