

Thanking Our Troops

We have decided that this quarter would be a great time to give thanks to those who are overseas serving our country! Stephanie has a connection with a friend (Deanna) whose husband (John) is currently in Afghanistan. He has been there for months now and hasn't met his 4 month old son yet. He is part of the 330th Military Police Company, 3rd Platoon. There are 40 guys and a few girls in the platoon and they were trained in and are mostly from Ontario, CA. We are going to be collecting items to send out to this group and are hoping everyone can participate in some way! We will have bins out in the Student Resource Center and will be collecting items up until December 4.



*The absolute most important thing to them is receiving letters and notes. Nearly 75% of military personal there NEVER receive a letter or care package from someone back home! THIS IS STAGGERING! When they receive letters from people at home it literally makes their month, let alone their week! We can all write letters and can also have students in our fieldwork classrooms write letters to send along with the items. Some ideas of items to collect are listed on the back.

Ideas of Things to Send

- Cards & Thank you Letters
- Newer Movies (action, comedy or drama types)
- Gun or Car Magazines
- Board Games (Chess, Checkers, etc.)
- White low cut socks
- Posters (nothing riske or of girls) :-)
- Calendars
- Shampoo or Body Wash (masculine scent)
- Deodorant (NOT antiperspirant!) They need to perspire.
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste
- Toothbrush caps (to stop the toothbrush head from getting dirty)
- Qtips (for hygiene and cleaning guns)
- Insoles (a BIG deal. They come in a one size fits all, and can be cut)
- Stereo Earbuds (these are always in demand and keep getting destroyed)
- Pens (Blue, Red - if they can't use them they will donate them to those who can!)
- Dental flossers
- Anti fungal foot spray (stops athletes foot and nails from turning yellow)
- Wet Ones (anti-bacterial wipes)
- PSP Games - guys spend hours playing them during downtime
- Starbucks "VIA" coffee (individually wrapped instant coffee packs)
- Popcorn
- Hot Chocolate Packages
- Sudoku
- Crosswords/ Brainteasers
- Pringle Chips
- Cookies
- Beef Jerky

**The soldiers get food and drinks, but anything extra such as candy, snacks and things to do to pass time is always welcomed!

**Keep in mind that we can be creative and also donate things that are not on the list. Since it will be close to Christmas when we send out the packages it might be nice to get some of the fun items (DVD's, etc.) for them to enjoy while they're so far away around the holidays!

** We will be mailing the items in large size, express mail boxes. These are special boxes for the military, so we will be getting a \$2-3 discount on mailing them. It costs \$12.50 per box for shipping, so donations towards these costs will also help.