Demob ceremonies held throughout Oregon in April

Story by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon National Guard Public Affairs Office

All over the state of Oregon, communities turned out by the thousands to welcome home Oregon National Guard members of the 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team at demobilization ceremonies held throughout the state during two weeks in April. A total of five official demobilization ceremonies took place around Oregon, including Portland, Forest Grove, Eugene, Medford, and Tigard. Other events to commemorate the return of Oregon’s citizen-Soldiers are being planned by various communities throughout the upcoming summer.

In late March and early April, over 3,000 of Oregon’s citizen-Soldiers returned from a 10-month deployment to Iraq, where they were responsible for convoy security operations from as far west as the Jordanian border, and east near the Iranian border.

The return of Oregon Guard members coincides with the “Shot Heard Around the World” on April 19, 1775 in Concord, Mass., and according to Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, the Adjutant General, Oregon National Guard, is a poignant statement of the enduring tradition of the National Guard to protect homeland and freedoms abroad.

“Our National Guard is a time-honored tradition in this country,” Rees said.

During many of his speeches across the state’s demobilization ceremonies, Rees drew parallels between the Oregon National Guard members returning from Iraq, and the Minutemen of the Revolutionary War. He said many of the communities in Oregon are where Oregon’s militia was first formed.

“We’ve got twentieth century heroes doing the same things that those Revolutionary War heroes were doing,” he added.
Warrant Officers: ‘take time to listen to returning troops’

Last month we were privileged to welcome home the “Jungleers” of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team. They are returning to a grateful state and their families look back with appreciation the community support.

Regarding the briefs, there are plenty of educational studies that confirm that an adult will most likely retain about ten percent of an hour long presentation.

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SALEM, Ore. — Our spouses are one of our most valuable assets because they play an important role in the success of any soldier or airman. Below is one way the military is recognizing their contribution to the success of its over all mission, by providing funds to assist them in obtaining their educational goals.

Many of you may have heard this program was put on hold Feb. 16. However, beginning March 13, the program resumed. Right now more than 136,000 spouses are enrolled in a career training program. Below is the program as it was initially intended in support of spouses.

The Department of Defense has a program unofficially referred to as “Spouse Tuition Assistance,” the DoD’s recently expanded military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) program can provide up to $6,000 of Financial Assistance for military spouses. Be sure to contact Military OneSource at (800) 342-9647 for assistance.

The MyCAA program provides up to $6,000 of Financial Assistance for military spouses who are pursuing degree programs, licenses or credentials leading to employment in portable career fields. Spouses of actively service members of the DoD and activated members of the National Guard and Reserve components are eligible.

The period of eligibility for spouses of Guard and Reserve members is from the date of the alert or warning order for military recall or mobilization, through activation and deployment until 180 days following demobilization. Spouses of the severely injured, ill, who have died in action (KIA), prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA) are also eligible.

Note: Military spouses who are legally separated by state law or court order are ineligible as well as spouses currently serving on active duty or activated Guard or Reserve. Public Law 110-417 Sec 582 also does not include Coast Guard spouses.

MyCAA Financial Assistance (FA) pays for education and training programs, tuition, and licensing or credentialing fees. This includes degree programs including associates, bachelors, masters, doctoral and post doctoral, continuing education classes including those offered through professional associations, bar, CPA and other similar exams, and state certifications for teachers, medical professionals and other licensed occupations.

If the cost of a course includes books, supplies or equipment necessary for the performance of the spouse’s chosen occupation for example: cosmetology or masonry tools, electrician operations manual, MyCAA will pay the costs if not billed separately.

Spouses must demonstrate that referrals are not available to free, federally funded English As A Second Language (ESL), High School completion programs, Tuition Assistance to cover these important, baseline education expenses. MyCAA does not provide reimbursements of any kind to spouses for costs associated with these programs must also be reasonable.

Eligible spouses can establish a MyCAA Account by visiting the MyCAA website at: https://spointal.ucf.edu/mycaa

MyCAA Financial Assistance (FA) document, the spouse will be responsible for paying course costs.

MyCAA does not provide reimbursements of any kind to spouses for any reason.

A military spouse can apply for MyCAA Financial Assistance (FA) after creating a MyCAA Career and Training Plan. A Career and Training Plan includes the spouse’s chosen career field, name of school and course information (course titles, codes, costs and start dates). Eligible spouses can establish a MyCAA Account by visiting the MyCAA website at: https://spointal.ucf.edu/mycaa

Setup is easy. Once spouse profile information is provided, MyCAA will verify spouse eligibility.

If there are eligibility problems, MyCAA will provide guidance on how to resolve related issues. Eligible spouses will be allowed to move forward to create their Career and Training Plan and request Financial Assistance (FA) when they are within 90 days of course start dates.

April: Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Capt. Rey Aguillana, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

SALEM, Ore. — April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) and the Theme from the Department of Defense is “Hurts one affects all . . . Preventing sexual assault is everyone’s duty.” Posters will be distributed to each unit within this theme to post on your unit’s bulletin boards in observance of SAAM.

As stated in the DoD campaign announcement, a sexual assault can reverberate throughout a unit and beyond, degrading readiness by hindering the life of a victim, and the military’s ability to work effectively as a team. Experts and practitioners often describe the negative consequences of sexual assault as having a ripple effect, starting with the victim and expanding outward to include families, friends, work colleagues, neighbors, and increasingly larger parts of the population.

The same can be said for the effects in the military. This was confirmed with the focus groups conducted this year with components of all grades. Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARCs) and Victim Advocates (VAs). The crime of sexual assault diminishes the armed forces’ ability to function proficiently at the levels of servicemember, unit, and command.

It impacts both immediate and long-lasting for individuals in the military and for the institution as a whole. Sexual assault participation diminishes and mission readiness. Mission readiness is negatively impacted in three ways.

1. Alleged perpetrators are often placed on administrative hold and therefore cannot deploy with their units.

2. VAs may not be able to fulfill their duties or may otherwise have their ability to perform the mission compromised as a result of the traumatic event.

3. The attention of the unit leadership shifts from the normal duties involved in maintaining readiness to addressing a victim’s needs, investigating the alleged perpetration, and restoring the unit’s cohesiveness and trust.

Divisiveness may exist not only within a unit but also between units if an alleged perpetrator is in one unit and the victim is in another. To aid victims of sexual assault, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) programs have a DoD requirement to be established in each state and territory of the United States.

Per Oregon TAG’s Oregon JRO Program SOP dated 1 Oct 2009, the SAPR Program reinforces the Oregon National Guard’s commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, victim advocacy, response, reporting, and accountability. The Oregon National Guard’s policy promotes sensitive care and con-
Band meets at Forest Grove demob

Story by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy
Oregon Military Department
Public Affairs Office

In an unusual pairing, the Oregon Army National Guard's 2-218th Field Artillery Band teamed up with the Forest Grove High School Band at the demobilization ceremony for the 2nd Battalion, 218th Field Artillery at the school's football stadium, April 22.

What wasn't unusual were the thousands of family members, friends, community representatives, and well-wishers who welcomed them home, as they disembarked from the buses, which brought them from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., after their 10-month deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Prior to the arrival of the Soldiers, families stood anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Soldiers.

Mothers and fathers craned their necks to get a better look down the street from the school, looking for the four white buses carrying their sons and daughters. Wives fidgeted nervously while children played at their feet.

"It's very exciting. We all have butterflies," said Judy Spraker, wife of First Sgt. Daniel Spraker, a member of the 2-218 FA, as she stood amongst her extended family members, son and daughter at her side.

This is Spraker's ninth deployment, she said. And while the separation may have been something the Sprakers have used to, Judy was still giddy with excitement.

"I can't wait to see him," she added.

For others, it was their first deployment.

"I've never been so excited to see my husband and have him home," said Jennye Helzer, wife of Capt. Pete Helzer, Battalion Operations Officer for the 2-218 FA. "It's been a long year and I feel more complete now than I ever have."

Jennye, who is the unit's Family Support Group Representative, said she and her husband drew from the experience of other Soldiers and their families who have already deployed. She also relied on a network of extended family members, friends, and other Oregon Guard spouses.

"(This support group) ranges from your neighbor to the organizations to your family members to your best friend," she said.

"Ensuring that you have a network of people that you can rely on to help will help you sleep better."

One thing the Helzers did to prepare for the deployment was to obtain a power of attorney.

"Our electric company sent us a bill that was three times the normal amount," she said.

"The power of attorney saved us."

With the sound of an Oregon State Police car siren, the crowd began screaming. Groups streamed past the two crossed Howitzer cannons near the entrance to the stadium to get a better look of the buses as they approached. Cameras clicked, camcorders whirred, and hands waved, as the Soldiers entered, single-file, under two crossed Howitzer cannons.

One Soldier, Spc. Evan Bruno, ran to his sister, Daniely, who threw her arms around him.

"My breath is taken away," Danielle Bruno said, as she cried on her brother's shoulder. "A huge weight is taken off my shoulders."

She said their immediate plans include meeting up with friends, and a purchase "since his deployment began."

"We're going to pick up his 2010 Chevy Camaro," she said, beaming.

Capt. Peter Helzer said he missed the school, looking for the four white buses carrying his wife, Michelle, and daughter, Sarah, who greeted him at Roseburg High School prior to a demobilization ceremony for the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, on April 30, in Roseburg, Ore. Schuler, of Coos Bay, Ore., was one of nearly 100 soldiers with 1st Battalion, 169th Infantry Regiment, who returned home after a 10-month deployment to Iraq. Nearly 2,700 Oregon citizen-soldiers with the 41st BCT deployed to Iraq to provide convoy security, force protection, and infrastructure support. (U.S. Army photo by 1st Sgt. Kevin Hartman, Oregon Military Department, Public Affairs Office)

1. Members of the Oregon Army National Guard's 141 Brigade Support Battalion and 41 Special Troops Battalion, 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team, stand in formation during their demobilization ceremony at Chiles Center on the University of Portland campus in Portland, Ore., April 21. About 800 soldiers took part in the afternoon ceremony. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs)

2. An Oregon Department of Transportation reader board sign near Exit 304 on I-5 welcomes home soldiers from the Oregon Army National Guard's 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team, who spent 10 months deployed to Iraq. Members of the unit numbering some 3,000, participated in demobilization ceremonies throughout Oregon in April. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Eric Rutherford, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs)

3. Oregon Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Larry Schuler embraces his wife, Michelle, and daughter, Sarah, who greeted him at Roseburg High School prior to a demobilization ceremony for the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, on April 30, in Roseburg, Ore. Schuler, of Coos Bay, Ore., was one of nearly 100 soldiers with 1st Battalion, 169th Infantry Regiment, who returned home after a 10-month deployment to Iraq. Nearly 2,700 Oregon citizen-soldiers with the 41st BCT deployed to Iraq to provide convoy security, force protection, and infrastructure support. (U.S. Army photo by 1st Sgt. Kevin Hartman, Oregon Military Department, Public Affairs Office)

4. Soldiers from the Oregon National Guard's 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team arrive at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., following a 30-hour flight from Kuwait. Apr. 12. Almost 3,000 citizen-soldiers spent 10 months in Iraq, providing convoy and route security. The soldiers would later take part in several demobilization ceremonies throughout Oregon during the month of April. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Cory Grogan, 41 BCT Public Affairs)

5. Staff Sgt. Scott Young and fellow soldiers from Company B, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, wait to be released to their families at the demobilization ceremony at the Lane County Fairgrounds, in Eugene, Ore., April 23. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kirby Rider, 151st Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)

6. Jennifer Anderson of Rogue Ales & Spirits, hands out a bottle of Rogue 'Burnt Nectar' to a member of the Oregon Army National Guard 2-218 Field Artillery at the unit's demobilization ceremony, at the Forest Grove High School stadium in Forest Grove, Ore., April 22. Rogue Ales donated to each returning soldier one bottle of the commemorative beer, featuring a unique collector's label. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Eric Rutherford, Oregon Military Department Public Affairs)

See COMMUNITY on NEXT PAGE
After almost a year’s deployment in Iraq, the Oregon Army National Guard’s 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team returned to the Northwest region in late-March and early April of 2010. Almost 3,000 citizen-soldiers were received by their communities and countrymen as heroes. Here is a pictorial essay of their homecoming and demobilization ceremonies, which took place throughout Oregon in April.

Oregonians are home
CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

For the family members at each of the ceremonies, a common theme was relief—relief of the deployment was over—relief that they have loved ones home.

“It’s definitely a relief to be back home,” said Sgt. Benjamin Case, of Alpha Co., 41 Special Troops Battalion, just outside the Chiles Center at the University of Portland campus in Portland, Ore. “It’s good to be with family and friends, and I’m happy to be back in Oregon and see the color green again.”

Spc. Scott Oslund, of HFC 41 Special Troops Battalion, said being separated from his wife and their three children wasn’t easy, but the family regularly kept in touch on the Internet.

While with the Active Duty Army, Oslund deployed a few times before. While the separation from loved ones wasn’t new, the mission was different, he said.

“We were doing sustainment, and helping people out as much as we could,” he said.

“Not too much combat.”

Oslund’s wife Melissa said the reward for his husband’s safe homcoming is a planned trip to Disneyland.

“We missed him tremendously,” she said, as their daughter Jordan clung to Scott’s uniform. “Scott’s never been to Disneyland, so we’re going there.”

At the Portland demobilization ceremony, about 600 Soldiers of the Oregon Army National Guard’s 141 Brigade Support Battalion and 41 Special Troops Battalion, stood in two large formations inside the arena, while thousands of family members, friends, and supporters filled in the bleachers.

The afternoon ceremony was attended by Rees, Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, Portland Mayor Sam Adams, and Oregon State Sen. Betsy Johnson (D-Scappoose).

During his speech, the Governor reminded the assembly that the entire state of Oregon stands behind each and every one of the returning Soldiers. He directed people toward the Oregon National Guard’s reintegration website, http://fortoregon.com, where Soldiers and their families can find referrals and assistance for jobs, counseling, or educational benefits.

He also reminded Soldiers to take advantage of the enhanced GI Bill.

“I don’t know any time in the history of this country that we have provided as much financial aid to help soldiers go back to school,” Kulongoski said.

Kulongoski, a former Marine, and the longest-sitting Oregon governor during wartime, said he always thought of the title of commander in chief of the Oregon National Guard as a ceremonial title. But now with the nation at war, his views have changed.

“Is the Nation at war?” he said. “I have a completely different view of my title and responsibility. He called for all Americans to recognize the service and sacrifice of the men and women in the military, and issued a call to action for those not in the armed forces.

“(Sacrifice) is not just for the soldiers and their families,” he said. “I think every person in this state and nation owes them a tremendous debt of gratitude for the sacrifices they are making in order to guarantee our freedom.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

‘Welcome home’ 41st

Last month Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees met with the Council of Chief Warrant Officers 5. His guidance was simple and direct: senior warrant officers will brief general officers and selected leaders on the “State of Warrant Officer Corps” with the idea of briefing at the Oregon National Guard Senior Leaders Conference this September.

The brief will be posted on the Command Chief Warrant Officers website. With this strong command emphasis, our ranks will continue to grow.

I would like to welcome into our selected family three new aviation Warrant Officers.

Warrant Officer 1 Lars Larson, former artillery officer, joined us and was accepted to flight school, where he is now training. Warrant 2 Conor Whitehead comes from our active duty. Vanland is also scheduled to join the 168th in Pendleton at the end of April.

This month Chief Warrant 4 Stewart and I will be at Fort Rucker to congratulate and pin Warrant Officer Candidate Jonathan Tygert.

Warrant Officer Candidate Ross Rappe will be heading to Warrant Officer Candidate Course, best of luck. Remember the Officer and Warrant Officer Training Workshop is scheduled for August 12-15 in Welches, Ore.

If you have a prospective warrant officer that you believe has what it takes to pin the warrant bar on, make sure they register for the workshop.

For the Corps!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Community turns homecoming into a special event, where company representatives handed each Soldier a complimentary bottle of beer.

The special label “Sunset Stout” commemorates the accomplishments of the 41 IBCT with a collector label design. Rogue procured enough of the special bottles to distribute one beer to every Soldier returning from the deployment, and a number of cases for later purchase.

During the ceremony, Forest Grove Mayor Peter Traux, declared April 22 as “Welcome Home Day” for the city of Forest Grove.

Rees, thinking about the sacrifices of Concord and Lexington’s Minute Men 235 years ago, said the enduring sacrifice and reputation of the National Guard will continue in the centuries to come.

“I think people will look back and say that we have great citizen soldiers in our state and in our country,” he said.

The mission was the largest single deployment of Oregon Soldiers since WW II. While in Iraq, the Soldiers conducted over 6,000 convoy missions spanning over 90,000 square miles. They provided security for over 108,000 trucks carrying more than 160 million gallons of fuel, 11.5 million cases of water, 665,000 cases of MREs, nine million rounds of ammunition, and over 23,000 individual pieces of cargo.
New veterans home set for Linn County

SALEM, Ore. -- The Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs announced today that the agency will build a second Veterans' Home in Linn County at a site in Lebanon contingent upon local matching funds. Originally slated to be a 250-bed facility, the site evaluation committee recommended that the second veterans' home be 100-150 beds and that a third veterans' home be built in Roseburg to cover Oregon's southwestern region. ODVA will need legislative approval to build a third veterans' home.

The site evaluation committee did painstaking work, visiting each of the five sites and reviewing the excellent proposals that were submitted,” Director Jim Willis said. “While all the sites were outstanding, Linn County’s proposal rose to the top and we are excited to work with the community to build the second veterans’ home.

The site evaluation committee, consisting of ODVA employees and outside experts, considered a variety of criteria for locating the new home. When reviewing Oregon’s veteran population demographics, the committee recognized the need to adjust its original plan by right-sizing the second veterans’ home and planning for a third in Roseburg to cover Oregon’s southwestern region.

“I believe the committee’s proposal is the best option for our veterans’ needs,” Willis said. “We will begin working with the Legislature immediately to gain approval for a third home.”

ODVA also received proposals from Douglas County, Jackson County, Klamath County and Coquille.

“The United States Department of Veterans Affairs has told us that Oregon needs 800 skilled-nursing beds for veterans in this state. Oregon has one veterans’ home in The Dalles with 151 beds,” Willis explained. “We are committed to ensuring that we meet the needs of our senior veterans and will continue to partner with the Legislature and communities for the care of Oregon veterans.”

Tricare offers mail-order pharmacy

Some say stress can make you sick and having too much to do certainly contributes to stress. If your to-do list overflows, consider saving yourself some time and some of your hard-earned cash by filling your prescriptions through TMOP, the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy.

Using the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy is easy, but how to get started depends on whether you’re submitting a new or a refill prescription.

To order a new prescription through TMOP, do one of the following:

• Have your doctor fax your order form and your written prescription to Express Scripts at (877) 895-1900
• Complete an Order Form which are available at www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE and mail the completed form and your written prescription to:
  Express Scripts, Inc
  PO Box 52150
  Phoenix, AZ 85072
To refill a prescription you already receive through TMOP, do one of the following:

• Order your refill online at www.express-scripts.com/members/TRICARE
  • Order your refill by phone by calling the toll-free number on your prescription bottle
  • Complete and mail back the refill form that came with your current prescription

TMOP can fill and deliver prescriptions anywhere in the United States and its territories, including APO/FPO addresses.

The prescription is sent to the address of your choice. It could be your office, your home, or anywhere.

Not only is the service convenient, it will save you money. Using TMOP, you can order a 90-day supply of your medication and save up to 66 percent.

Although the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy is a cost-savings over retail, remember that filling prescriptions at a local military clinic pharmacy remains the least expensive option for TRICARE beneficiaries. Additionally, refrigerated medications cannot be ordered through TMOP.

Tricare provides HIPAA guidance

Whether you access your health care through TRICARE or a private health insurance plan, you’ve probably had to sign a HIPAA form every time you filled out paperwork at your doctor’s office. Do you know why? What exactly is HIPAA, and what does it mean for you?

HIPAA is shorthand for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996. HIPAA works for you by advocating four important things:

- Insurer Portability: HIPAA’s portability requirement means you can access your health insurance while changing employers or leaving the workforce. This helps avoid lapses in coverage that could cost you benefits down the road.
- Lower Insurance Costs: According to a study by the Department of Medicine at Cambridge Hospital and Harvard Medical School, 31 percent of every health-care dollar spent in the U.S. is spent on administrative costs. HIPAA aims to reduce those costs through “Administrative Simplification.” Administartion Simplification establishes national standards for electronic transmission of certain health information. If fully implemented, this would help control administrative costs while improving the quality and efficiency of your health care.
- Patient Privacy: HIPAA also establishes very strict rules and regulations protecting your privacy as a patient. It regulates how and to whom your information can be disclosed to make sure your protected health information stays private. You will get a copy of your HIPAA privacy rights from your doctor as part of your paperwork.
- Patient Rights: HIPAA also establishes your rights regarding your health information. Thanks to HIPAA, you have the right to access, review and copy your protected health information, request changes to it, limit who can see it or what parts they can see, and more.

Want to know more about HIPAA, including how TriWest, the West Region TRICARE program administrator, protects your personal information? Visit www.triwest.com and click “Privacy Policy” at the bottom of the page.

Retiree Service Office

Open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (503) 584-2891 or 1-800-452-7500, ext. 2891

E-mail/ Web: ORRSEO@or.reg.brgy.army.mil www.orngretirees.info/

US Mail: Retiree Service Office
PO Box 14350
Salem, OR 97309

City of Bend dedicates first ever Veterans Center


Gary Hunter, Bend Veterans Center Team Leader, (left, center), cuts the ribbon at the center’s dedication ceremony in Bend, Ore., Apr. 7, 2010. U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR), and Oregon Military Department Director of Staff, Brig. Gen. Mike Caldwell also attended the event.
**Skills learned during deployment benefit community**

**Oregon soldier teaches valuable life-saving skills to soldier Clackamas County deputies**

**Story by Kim L. Lippert,**
**Oregon Military Department Public Affairs Office**

**SALEM, Ore.** — An Oregon National Guard soldier is using his combat lifesaving training to potentially save lives in his civilian career.

Staff Sgt. John Zagyva, a soldier with 1st Battalion 82nd Cavalry and a patrol deputy with Clackamas County Sheriff’s Department, is providing combat first aid training to the department.

“Deputy Zagyva is a seasoned, well decorated, combat veteran,” said Craig Roberts, Sheriff of the Clackamas County Sheriff’s Office.

“When Deputy Zagyva provides his block of instruction to coworkers about combat casualty care—they listen intently,” he said. “His real world combat experiences are eloquently woven for affect into his course of instruction and serve to emphasize the value of learning how to do it right, and how to do it right under profound pressure.”

Zagyva received the Bronze Star Medal with V Device for Valor while serving as a scout with 1-63 Armor attached to the 173rd airborne in Iraq in 2003.

He rejoined the Oregon National Guard in 2006.

Zagyva began training fellow deputies on combat first aid in January 2010.

“I’ve dealt with a lot of IED’s (improved explosive devices) and bullet wounds so I brought that over to them,” he said.

Along with basic CPR, deputies are learning how to treat bullet wounds and apply tourniquets.

“I have a lot of experience in bandaging people up in the field,” said Zagyva. “I don’t want to see any kind of those incidents happen in law enforcement.”

Zagyva said that up to 60 percent of deaths are from “bleed outs” which happen if the wound isn’t treated fast enough.

“A guy dying from a bleed is ridiculous,” said Zagyva.

Zagyva said many of those deaths can be prevented if the wound is treated properly, making this training all the more important.

“This level of training can extend life expectancy for several precious minutes until paramedics arrive on scene,” said Roberts.

For his work, Zagyva recently received a commendation award from the Clackamas County Sheriff’s department.

“Military veterans have always been considered a real asset to the Clackamas County

**41 IBCT soldiers train replacements before leaving Iraq**

**Story and photo by**
**Spc. Anita VanderMolen,**
**41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs**

**CAMP ADDER, Iraq** — The soldiers of Task Force Volunteer 2-162 Infantry Regiment, 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and their counterparts Task Force Gerominio, 2-108th Cavalry, 256 Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Louisiana National Guard, attend a training day to other events that happen in law enforcement.

“I don’t want to see any kind of those incidents happen in law enforcement.”

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“Military veterans have always been considered a real asset to the Clackamas County

41 IBCT soldiers train replacements before leaving Iraq

**Photo courtesy of 41 IBCT Public Affairs**

Tech. Sgt. Vincent Pagano, operations sergeant with the 407th ECES explosive ordnance disposal team explains the EOD mission to soldiers of Task Force Volunteer 2-162 IN Oregon National Guard and TF Gerominio, 2-108th CAV Louisiana National Guard. March 17, at Camp Adder, Iraq. The EOD team explained what their duties are at the scene of an improvised explosive device and showed the Soldiers what equipment they use to identify and dispose of the IED.

“We take samples and do chemical analyses to tie the device to other events that happen in the area,” Pagano said.

The collected information goes to the National Ground Intelligence Center. The Center puts the information in a database for future reference.

“The information collected will help everyone get out of here,” said Staff Sgt. Bart Matthews, an EOD technician with the 407th.

“IEDs are the biggest threats to keeping our trucks out on the road,” said Staff Sgt. Keith Engle, a Portland, Ore. native, and platoon sergeant for C Company 2-162 IN. “This is the most important training we will have out here with our current mission.”

**We make it easy for veterans to receive the benefits they have earned.**

-ODVA Director Jim Willis

other VA benefits, such as health care and disability compensation. By going to the campuses where they are, we make it easy for veterans to receive the benefits they have earned.”

With the success of the program, there is interest in expanding it during the next legislative session. “We originally were going to do a VSO on every university campus; however, budget restrictions made that impossible,” Willis explained. “But, we are interested in expanding so that every student veteran has the advantage of having a trained accredited VSO helping them with their benefits.”

For more information about the Campus VSO Program, the Post 9/11 GI Bill or other educational benefits, please contact ODVA, (503) 373-2186.
Citizen-Airman helps rebuild Iraqi airspace

Oregonians visit an old friend at Arizona Aviation Park

Gregg promoted to Brigadier General

Southridge high school girls basketball team earns tour championship