

## May Newsletter

# Youth for Troops

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Dear Youth for Troops Volunteer,

May is **Military Appreciation Month**! We are excited about the events we have planned for volunteers of all ages. We will be helping The Enclave at Anthem with a **Hero Wall Dedication Ceremony**. This open house event will have a short presentation at 3:30 PM to honor 31 veterans. We hope to see many friends there and need help with our flag line. Other family-friendly service opportunities this month include our **Care Packages for Deployed Troops** event, **Plastic Mats for Homeless Veterans** event, and placing roses at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona early on **Memorial Day**. Youth for Troops is for ages 0-120 years, so this is a great month for families, friends, and groups to serve together and support our veterans and military.

We encourage everyone to thank a veteran or military person this month. The words "Thank you for your service" are appreciated and this is a good habit to start. A handshake is an added bonus. When you see the veterans handing out the red poppy flower in the next few weeks, stop and say thank you or ask about the purpose of the poppy, if you don't know. It is well worth your time. Thank you for all your support and have a wonderful month!

Warm regards,

Youth for Troops

### Care Packing: Assembled 400 boxes in 4 months!

Youth for Troops, Daisy Mountain Veterans, and Packages From Home provide a community service project that packs 100 care packages for deployed troops on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at The Outlets at Anthem. We are only limited in the number of boxes we can send by our donations for the boxes and **donations for shipping costs (\$15/box)**.

- Save **travel-size shampoos, conditioners, and soaps**.
- Save extra condiments from drive-thrus and help send ketchup, mustard, taco sauce, salt, pepper, etc.
- We collect magazines, so when you are finished reading, consider donating them to the troops.

There are donation boxes located at PostNet, Ocho Locos, Giant Rustic Pizza, The Enclave at Anthem, and Merrill Gardens. Donations for shipping can be given at the event, online, or mailed. We hope you will join us on the second Monday of each month!



### Save the Dates

**May 1<sup>st</sup>, June 5<sup>th</sup> & July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

**First Tuesdays at The Enclave**

Join us in working on a patriotic project with the residents of The Enclave.

**May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup> & July 9<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 – 7:00 PM**

**Care Packages at Outlets at Anthem**

Help us pack care packages, decorate boxes, and write notes for our deployed troops.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>, June 19<sup>th</sup> & July 17<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**Plastic Mats for Homeless Veterans**

Help us sort bags, cut, and make plarn balls for plastic mats.

**May 1<sup>st</sup> Hero Wall Dedication**

**3:00-4:30 PM at The Enclave at Anthem**

We will kick off Military Appreciation Month with a Veteran Wall Dedication and open house at The Enclave at Anthem. We want to invite the community to honor these veterans and encourage volunteers of all ages to sign up to hold flags inside the lobby and dining area. <https://www.volunteersignup.org/CLK7C>

**May 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Ceremony and Placing of Roses at National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona**

Help us place roses on thousands of markers before the ceremony from 6:00-8:00 AM. We will also be helping hand out water bottles at the Memorial Day Ceremony that begins at 8:00 AM. Sign up:

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/CKWHC>

**To honor our heroes, wear your Poppy Flower Memorial Day weekend.**

**May is Military Appreciation Month**

Join our Facebook Group and Page @YouthforTroops and follow us on Instagram @youth\_for\_troops.

## Honor Flight Breakfast, Send Off, and Welcome Home

It was an honor to serve breakfast with the Daughters of the American Revolution to the Honor Flight veterans. We enjoyed hand-delivering the cards made by area volunteers to these heroes. Thank you Southwest Airlines for allowing us to salute and wave from the tarmac. Thank you AZ Patriot Guard for allowing us to stand with you to welcome our heroes home.



## Appreciation Card Drive and Care Package Donations

Youth for Troops is working on card drives for our deployed troops and the Department of Defense Warrior Games athletes and spouses. We hope to send 350 cards to wounded athletes competing in the Olympic-style games in Colorado Springs this June. We also want to send cards to the spouses that are supporting and cheering for their loved ones during the games. We have the cards and samples of notes, but need support from schools and volunteers to finish this project. Let us know if you can help write cards.

We also need help gathering donations for our care packages and getting sponsorships for shipping costs that will be at least \$1500 each month. If you are interested in sponsoring a box, many boxes, or know of a corporation or group that would be willing to help, please contact us. We desire to provide this family-friendly, community service project monthly and send quality boxes to our troops.

## Karing for K-9s

Youth for Troops will be visiting schools and groups this spring to share information on a new, ongoing event. Y4T will be collecting items to send in care packages to our deployed working dogs and veteran service dogs. These canines have specific needs and can only consume American food products. We have a donation wish list and hope to pack Karing for K-9s packages quarterly. We will also be asking for cards from our pets to the deployed four-legged heroes. We have the cards and just need your pet to send a note. Contact us for more information on ways you or your group can help with this project.

## Thank You Volunteers, Schools, and Organizations

Thank you to all the volunteers that joined us and helped assemble care packages and made plastic mats last month. Thank you to **COOLA Suncare** for the sunblock items for our troops, **Challenge Charter School** for the donation drive for the deployed care packages, **United Daughters of the Confederacy** for the items for the troops, **Mr. Ward** for all the DVDs for the troops, **The Crossroads Church** and **The Enclave** for the t-shirts for the troops, and to **Caurus Academy** for the plastic bag drive for the plastic mats events.

Y4T enjoyed visiting with the **Ocotillo Chapter** of Daughters of the American Revolution, **Brownie Troop 3267**, and attending **Honor Flight of Arizona** in April. We were honored to have the opportunity to interview the veterans of **The Enclave at Anthem** for the upcoming ceremony in April, as well. It was a privilege to work with **Arizona HOTH Squad** of the Patriot Guard Riders on a landscaping project for a Gold Star Family. Thank you all for having us at your events and we hope to see you again at one of our events.

The Youth Board enjoys presenting and bringing patriotic projects to local schools, groups, and organizations. We hope to encourage volunteers of all ages to join us in various service projects. We want to make this group and its projects something that families and individuals can enjoy participating in as often as they like or can fit in busy schedules. Let us know of any group, business, or school you would suggest we contact.

## May is Military Appreciation Month!

Youth for Troops is excited about the First Tuesday at The Enclave for May! We are kicking off Military Appreciation Month by helping The Enclave honor 31 veterans at a Veteran Wall Dedication Ceremony. There will be an open house from 3-4:30 with a Dedication Ceremony at 3:30. Arizona Patriot Guard Riders and Youth for Troops will be forming a flag line in the lobby and dining room for the veterans to walk through and we need volunteers of all ages.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn how we present and hold flags for patriotic events and funerals. Small children can even participate with the help of parents. If you can stand still and hold a flag for about 30 minutes, we could use your help. We want to line the dining room and lobby with a beautiful patriotic display. Scouts, school groups, clubs, small groups, and volunteers of all ages are welcome to help with this program. Please sign up and help us honor the veterans at The Enclave.

Sign up is online at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/CLK7C>

If you would like to be added to our **Honor/Support email list** and be notified of short notice missions like Honor Flights, funerals, and Gold Star family support missions email [youth4troops@gmail.com](mailto:youth4troops@gmail.com) with "Honor/Support" in the subject line.



Y4T needs volunteers for these events! Sign up for events, wear your Y4T t-shirt or patriotic colors, and honor our heroes through service!



# YOUTH FOR TROOPS DAISY MOUNTAIN VETERANS & PACKAGES FROM HOME

## DONATION DRIVE CARE PACKAGES FOR DEPLOYED TROOPS

The number of CARE PACKAGES we can pack each month depends on DONATIONS from the community.

### This month's donation needs:

- coffee/tea bags
- cookie/cracker packets
- drink mix singles
- microwave popcorn
- ramen/mac & cheese singles
- dried fruit/trail mix
- condiment packets
- canned vegetables
- canned fruit
- canned pasta
- tuna/chicken kits
- beef jerky
- sunflower seeds
- granola/protein bars
- financial support for shipping costs

\*Care Packages also include hygiene items, books, magazines, DVDs, and more. Full wish list available at [www.youthfortroops.org](http://www.youthfortroops.org)



### MONTHLY PACKING EVENT 2ND MONDAY EACH MONTH

Outlets at Anthem  
Community Room Suite 360  
5:30-7:00 PM



Help **Youth for Troops**, **Daisy Mountain Veterans**, and **Packages From Home** assemble care packages for deployed troops. This is a **monthly community service project** open to all ages.

See the Youth for Troops Facebook page or website for more details.

[youthfortroops.org](http://youthfortroops.org)

[youth4troops@gmail.com](mailto:youth4troops@gmail.com)



Special Thank You to this month's donation drop off locations: PostNet, Ocho Locos, Giant Rustic Pizza, The Enclave at Anthem, and Merrill Gardens.

### DONATION LIST FOR DEPLOYED TROOPS CARE PACKAGES:

**Food Care Packages:** Pull-top canned soup and entrees – chili, ravioli, Spaghetti-O's, soup, stew, etc. • Canned tuna, chicken, turkey, beef, salmon • Top Ramen, Cup Noodles, Mac & Cheese • Instant oatmeal • Jelly – squeezable, in plastic containers • Peanut butter – in plastic containers • Canned fruit, vegetables, and beans • Slim Jims – all sizes • Beef Jerky – individual packs, approximately 2-5 oz • Nuts & dried fruit – cashews, peanuts, corn nuts, sunflower seeds, trail mix in individual packets, freeze-dried apples/mangos/etc. • Granola and energy bars • Snack-size crackers, chips, cookies, pretzels, etc. • Saltines crackers (sleeves) • Girl Scout cookies/cookies in small boxes • Pop Tarts • Microwaveable popcorn • Fruit snacks – individual size • Gum and candy • Gum and candy • Drink mix singles – Crystal Lite, Gatorade, Coffee/Tea, etc. • Tea bags – individually wrapped • Hot chocolate packets • Condiment packets – hot sauce, mustard, relish, ketchup, mayonnaise, creamer, sugar, salt & pepper, sweetener, etc. • Tabasco sauce – 2 oz size

**Hygiene & Recreation Care Packages:** • Foot powder – 1-3 oz • Eye drops • Lip balm • Sunscreen – 6-8 oz • Deodorant (not antiperspirant) – please no aerosol cans • Lotion, hand cream, face cream – 1-5 oz • Shampoo & conditioner – travel size • Body wash & liquid soap – travel size • Olay Duo Dual-sided Body Cleanser • Hand sanitizer – 2-8 oz • Insect repellent – please no aerosol cans • Wet wipes (unscented) – packs of 60 or fewer • Toilet paper – individually wrapped • Tissue Packs – travel size • Feminine hygiene products – tampons, pads, etc. • Disposable razors • Shaving cream – please no aerosol cans • Toothbrushes – individually packaged • Toothpaste – travel size • Dental floss and disposable handheld flossers • Band-Aids • Unscented dryer sheets • Socks – adult sizes • T-shirts – adult sizes • Boxer shorts – adult sizes • Helmet liners • Cool neck ties • Paperback books • CDs or music download gift cards • DVDs • Board games, puzzles, models, dominoes, etc. • Electronic handheld games – poker, solitaire, etc. • Puzzle books – crossword, Sudoku, word search, etc. • Pillowcases

JOIN US THE 2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH TO PACK CARE PACKAGES FOR TROOPS!  
ALL AGES WELCOME! SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE OR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

May 14<sup>th</sup> is coming fast and we need those donations to fill the boxes. Please, check out our donation wish list—we need at least **50** of all the bold food items each month. We also need at least **50** of the hygiene items each month. There are donation bins at PostNet, Ocho Locos, Giant Rustic Pizza, The Enclave at Anthem, and Merrill Gardens. Help us fill the donation bins and fill these boxes for our deployed service members.

Bring any donations to the Hero Wall Dedication Ceremony at The Enclave on May 1<sup>st</sup> and stay for the ceremony. Join us in a fun evening of packing on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7 PM at the Outlets at Anthem. THANK YOU!



## HERO WALL DEDICATION CEREMONY

TUESDAY  
MAY 1

OPEN HOUSE  
3:00-4:30pm

Refreshments will be served

DEDICATION CEREMONY  
3:30pm

Please join the Enclave at Anthem Senior Living and Youth for Troops as we kick off military appreciation month with our Hero Wall reveal. We invite all members of the community to join us in honoring our resident veterans.

RSVP by Friday, April 27



### FIRST TUESDAYS

Join Youth for Troops and Enclave at Anthem Senior Living every first Tuesday of the month as we collaborate on patriotic service projects.

To honor our heroes,  
wear your Poppy Flower  
Memorial Day weekend.



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A SPECTRUM RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

May is Military Appreciation Month!  
Join us at any of these events to experience the satisfaction of honoring those that are willing to give it all for our FREEDOMS. We can bring patriotic projects to your meetings or events, too.