



Inland Southern California
Friday October 27, 2006 3:55 p.m. EDT

Welcome, Visitor! Sign In/Become a
Customize | MySpecialsDirect | Make T

Search Site

- Home**
- Local news**
- My community**
- Other news**
- Sports Day**
- Classifieds**
- Business**
- Entertainment**
- Your Life**
- Weather Center**
- Tips and tools**
- Archives
- Columns
- Message boards
- Multimedia
- Obituaries
- Opinion

Print it | Discuss it | E-mail it to a friend

Wrapped with care

Scarves for Soldiers sends knitted packages to troops in Middle East

08:56 AM PDT on Friday, October 27, 2006

By **JANET ZIMMERMAN**
The Press-Enterprise

Ann Roberts' plan was simple enough: Knit some scarves for soldiers in the Middle East.

When she had the idea two years ago, Roberts collected 45 handmade scarves, mostly from fellow knitters at her church.

Last year, the drive yielded 195 scarves after word spread to yarn shops and knitting guilds.

This year's tally is already at more than 200, with two weeks left in her Scarves for Soldiers drive.

"It's all these wonderful people that are knitting. I can't get over the outpouring," said Roberts, a Riverside resident.

The project has struck a chord throughout the Inland area and has spread to Orange

Scarves for Soldiers

Donations can be dropped off at the following stores before Nov. 11:

Knit Affair A Yarn Co.,
1690 W. Sixth St., Unit O,
Corona; 951-738-0076;
www.knitaffair.com

Designer Hand Knits,
6850 Brockton Ave., Suite
102, Riverside; 951-275-
9711

Knit 'n Stitch, 6730
Brockton Ave., Riverside;
951-684-7632

Closeknit, 3742
Sunnyside Drive,
Riverside; 951-275-5300;
www.closeknitter.com

Ursula's Yarn
Boutique, 2441 N. Tustin



- [About the newspaper](#)
- [Newspaper rate cards](#)
- [The Business Press](#)
- [LaPrensaEnLinea](#)
- [SoCal Commercial Printing](#)
- [Special events](#)
- [Subscribe to the paper](#)



- ▶ Find a Car
- ▶ Find a Dealer
- ▶ Sell Your Car
- HomeCentr**
- ▶ Residential
- ▶ Rentals
- ▶ Apartments

- sho**
- ▶ Browse all ac
- ▶ Shop by keyw
- Enter Ad Ke
-
- ▶ Place a class

County, where shops and guilds also are pitching in.

Ave., Suite D, Santa Ana; 714-834-1908



Stan Lim / The Press-Enterprise

Ann Roberts, of Riverside, collects more than 230 scarves, made from residents of Plantation on the Lake in Calimesa. Roberts is the founder of Scarves for Soldiers and plans to ship them to Iraq. Roberts will finish collecting donations Nov. 11, Veteran's Day, so the scarves will reach soldiers by Christmas.

Last week, Roberts collected scarves from a group at The Plantation on the Lake, a senior community in Calimesa, where one woman made 88 scarves.

Elisabet Jung said the mass production

helped her battle loneliness after losing her husband of 49 years. Each scarf took about four hours to make, she said.

"When I was in the mood, I sat down and knit. My hands were busy so it helped me very much through my depression," said Jung, 82, who learned to knit in school while growing up in Germany.

Roberts will finish collecting donations Nov. 11, Veteran's Day, so the scarves will reach soldiers by Christmas. Temperatures in Iraq dip below freezing in the winter.



Clara McNiff, a resident of Plantation on the Lake in Calimesa, knits a scarf that will be sent to a soldier.

She urges knitters to include a tag on scarves they make with their name and address, so soldiers can write them a thank you. Roberts is also hoping for donations of other goodies, including cough drops, shampoo, gum and toothpaste.

The shipments are paid for by Roberts' husband, Fred, who divides them up by the number of soldiers in military

units throughout Iraq and Afghanistan.



Stan Lim / The Press-Enterprise

Elisabet Jung, center, teaches Lois Clontz, right, both residents of Plantation on the Lake in Calimesa, how to knit as the residents of the senior complex knit scarves for soldiers serving in Iraq.

AnySoldier.com

He searches for needy soldiers, particularly those who don't otherwise receive mail, through www.AnySoldier.com, a Web site that coordinates letters and care packages for American soldiers in all branches of the military.

Marty and Sue Horn, of La Plata, Md., started the nonprofit group after their son Brian shipped off to the front lines with the 173rd Airborne Brigade at the beginning of the war.

The Horns "poured on the support" after seeing a photo in Stars and Stripes of their son's unit sleeping on the ground, which went on for seven months. Brian Horn asked his parents to send more goodies because so many of his fellow soldiers weren't receiving any mail.

"It's a misconception by the civilian world that most of the troops are taken care of by people at home," said Marty Horn, a 22-year Army veteran who served in Vietnam.

Brian Horn, who did two combat tours plus a stint in Kosovo, Serbia, is out of the Army now and attending college. But the work of Any Soldier.com continues.

"The troops are absolutely amazed at the amount of support they're getting," Marty Horn said. "If the country is supporting them, they will do a better job and have a better chance of coming back alive and it means the world to them."

The aim of AnySoldier.com isn't to re-supply the military, but to improve morale, Marty Horn said. Soldiers post e-mails requesting items they need or want, which range from DVDs,

