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Support for U.S. soldiers

By **Elizabeth Benger**/ Special To The Journal Thursday, July 28, 2005

As the Fourth of July fireworks fade, let's remember our troops in the armed services who daily protect our country's independence.

Any person can log on to: www.anysoldier.com, and find out about our soldiers' activities and what they might specifically need or appreciate, depending on their location and duties. Once you are logged on, you will find that any and all of these troops need and appreciate letters from back in the States. Supplies and goods are also requested, but mail from home is a high priority.

Consider joining with others, having neighbors and friends over for a "support our troops" afternoon or evening, and put together letters, photos, etc., for these soldiers. Some local high school and middle school students got together one summer afternoon and clipped out numerous Hingham Journal photos from the Fourth of July celebration and then wrote thank you letters. They shipped five boxes of needed supplies to five different troops.

The www.anysoldier.com web site gives specific details on addresses and mailing instructions. Also, call the local post office first for specific weight and form specifications. Many local merchants such as pharmacies, will give a percentage discount of items purchased for a troop shipment. Just tell them what you are doing and often the management will provide some type of discount.

Let's support these troops until they can return home to celebrate the Fourth of July here in the States.

Elizabeth Benger lives on Autumn Circle.

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From left, Maggie Ryan, Meg Talewski, Bridgit Shaefer, Jasmine Benger and Katie Tuite (not shown are Olivia Benger and Jessica Wolfert) send clippings and supplies to US troops.

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