

Childhood Friends

by Julia Austin

As childhood friends, we grew
up together,
Swearing to be friends forever and ever.
Sometimes we would argue and fight,
Other times we would laugh and
stay up all night.
We went from playing with games
and toys,
To talking and dreaming about
different boys.

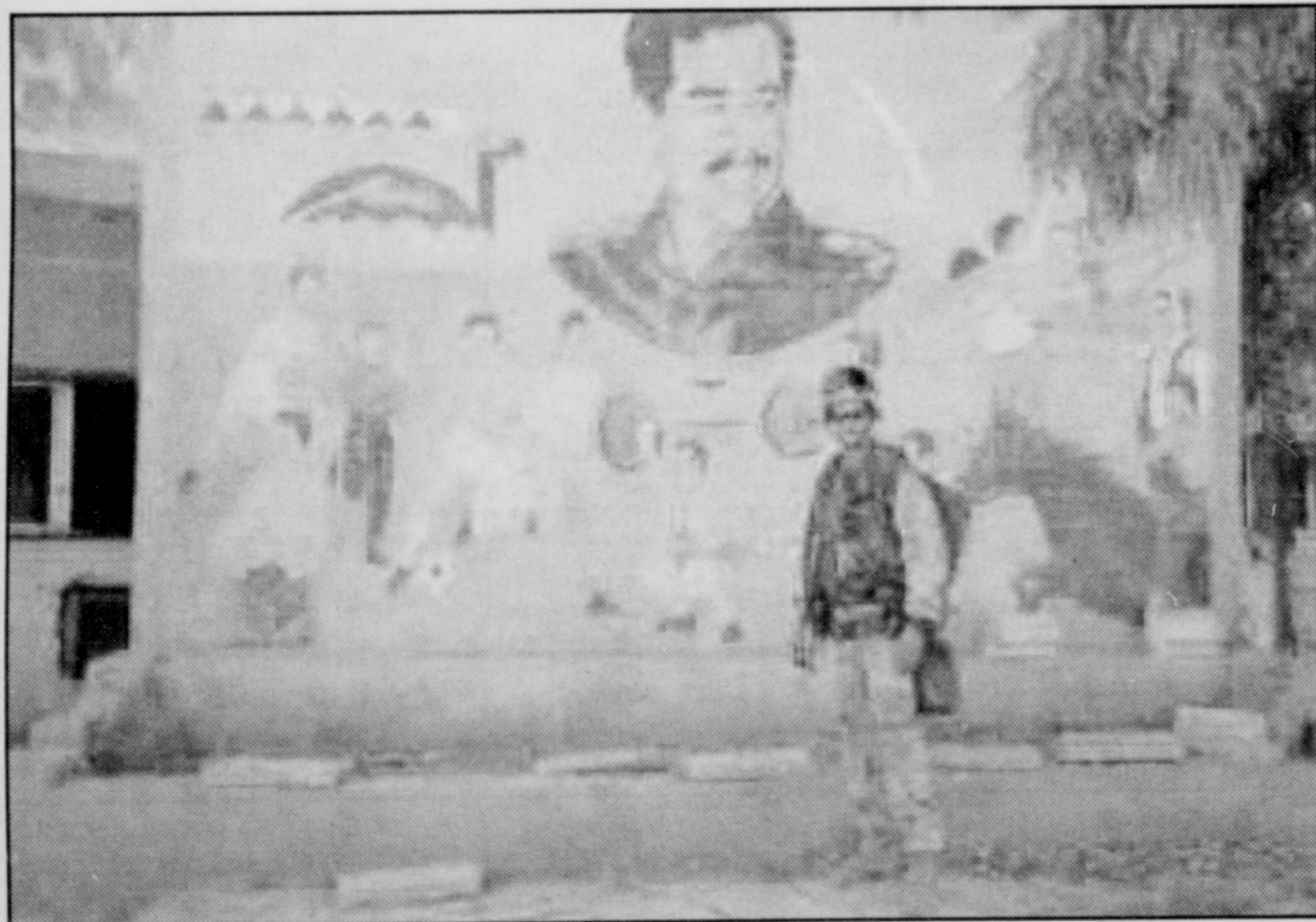
My thoughts and feelings, to you
I would confide,
Never having anything to hide.
Friends we do remain,
Things changing, and things
staying the same.
To each other we still listen and share,
About each other, we will always care.

Holiday Cheer

by Eva E. Clayton

The Christmas spirit really abounds,
Mesmerizing melodies enchanting
sounds.
Red berry holly prickly leaves of green,
I conjure up Santa's elves in a midnight
dream.
Decorate home sweet home head to toe,
Make merry with color wrappings
ribbons, and bows.
It's fun to visit with family from afar,
Packed, stuffed in their overloaded car.
Early-morning visits to the Christmas
tree,

Sneaking peeking counting gifts to be.
Mom and Dad – are you ever going to
awake,
We're dying of anticipation, for Pete's
sake.
Making memories putting on the ritz,
The sparkle, good aromas seasons glitz.
The gift of giving a special time of year,
Bringing laughter, kindness, holiday's
cheer.
When the day is over and silent the night,
Pray for the world a healing guiding
light.



James Helms in Iraq

Grandson Serves in Iraq

Wanda Melton sent the photo above with the following note:

"I received this card from James Helms, stationed in Iraq. He is my grandson-in-law and Dick Melton's son-in-law. He asks for all your prayers and letters. His address is:

James Helms
HHC 1-35 AR BN
CMR 405 Box 2124
APO, AE 09034

I'm sure he would enjoy getting letters from home."



Farlow Opens Gift Shop

Tribal elder Cynthia Farlow has opened The Gifted Gable in the Seven Gables Shoppes in Lincoln City, Ore.

Several tribal elders visited her shop in October and report that there are lots of fun things to see and buy.

Cynthia carries wind chimes, sun catchers, beads, handmade jewelry, carved wooden boxes, holiday decorations, and more.

Hours are Friday through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Gifted Gable is located at 559 NW Highway 101; call 541-994-6647.



Kris Whitehead and a student check the eco-system of Mill Creek on a recent field trip.

Hands-on Science in the Woods

Virginia Tardewether, Watershed Council educator; Parker Ogburn, OSU Extension educator; and Siletz Valley School recently teamed up for some hands-on science in the woods at Mill Creek near Siletz.

Utilizing math and science skills, parent volunteers, and AmeriCorps Intern Stacia Dreyer, students emphasized four areas of the stream ecosystem, as well as water quality and quantity, insects as stream indicators, and nearby plant study.

The students in Maureen Paterson's third-grade class learned, among many things, that plants are at the bottom of the food chain and that insects can be strong indicators of the stream's health.

"I didn't realize that the silt from walking in a stream could kill the Coho eggs," said a student.

Ogburn led a discussion and demonstration of five different types of plants.

"We are grateful for everyone who made this possible. These are the types of experiences that students remember long-term and can help impact environmental conservation," said Paterson.