

Colorful Means of Communication

KPUD book drive gives soldier tools to win the hearts of Afghan children

By Lori K. Froehlich

Klickitat PUD employees recently participated in a coloring book drive for Sgt. 1st Class Eddie Vader.

Eddie graduated from Goldendale High School in 1997. After joining the U.S. Army, he served in South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Germany and Iraq. He is now a platoon sergeant stationed near Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Not long ago, Eddie's mom, Evelyn, was paying her monthly bill at KPUD and chatting with Customer Service Rep Eva France, when she told her about Eddie serving his country in Afghanistan and how toys and coloring books help soldiers relate to the children.

Eva took the conversation one step further and promoted a coloring book drive throughout KPUD. There was a great response. A box full of coloring books and crayons was given to Evelyn, who was overjoyed.

"Eddie really appreciated everyone at home thinking of him and sending him the coloring books," Evelyn says, noting her son will be home soon for a few weeks to see his friends and family.

Thank you to Eddie for the job he does, and to all the men and women who proudly serve the United States. ■



Above, Evelyn Vader with a box of coloring books and crayons she sent to her son, Sgt. 1st Class Eddie Vader, in Afghanistan. The books will be distributed to Afghan children.

Below, Eddie shares toys and meets with Afghan children.

