

Heart of the Community Award Nomination Letter for April Bair October 2015

I, Mary Pressley, would like to nominate April Bair for the Heart of the Community award. On top of everything she is involved with in her regular life, she is very active and passionate about our community.

Here on Camp Zama, April is involved in so many things. First and foremost, she was willing to take on the job as East Meets West manager, which is not an easy task. Within a couple months, she had this store flourishing. In fact, July 2015 had the highest sales in years. Since she has taken over, sales have been continuously above this same times last year. The amount of hours she has put in the store are amazing. Many of these hours have been outside of store hours. She has spent a lot of that time cleaning up and making sense of a computer system that is on its last leg. April has many years of experience in retail and business, which has helped the store greatly. Besides the work at the store, she also takes time to help out buyer, Domenika Leinbach with purchasing.

Besides the many, many hours in the store, she is also active in other areas. When she is not doing something for the store, you may find her filling her role as spouse within the chaplaincy. April has recently started volunteering with the USO. Also, on occasion, she has helped with the Warrior Zone/BOSS program. She has also taught at the Strong Bonds marriage class and will be teaching an AFTB course.

In order to understand the true significance of it all, you need to know what else April has on her agenda. She is still active in several organizations on the east coast, including two historical societies. She is working on two books, one novel and one non-fiction. She is working with Tanya Richie to get a book of hers published and helps with Tanya's web page. April also takes part in Ikebana International Kamakura. On top of everything else, April currently pursuing her Master's Degree. I am sure I am missing something, but if all this wasn't enough, she still makes time to take care of her family.

What truly amazes me is that with all this going on, she still finds time to sleep. She had once told me that I do not want to see her schedule, and I agree. Whatever April does, she gives it her all. Her passion for our soldiers and our community is extraordinary. In my opinion, all this makes April Bair more than worthy of our Heart of the Community award.