



Two women-owned Scottsdale firms making life a little easier for troops overseas

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SCOTTSDALE - Two women-owned Scottsdale firms are doing their part for troops overseas.

Deb Jones and Heidi Jones, a mother-daughter team who own and operate Business of Baskets, have come up with the solution to the problem families face in determining what can or can't be sent, and the logistics and restrictions of shipping half-way around the world to a war-torn nation.

After research and interviews with military personnel and shipping companies, they designed two different gifts they call "Hugs for Troops." And Business of Baskets is offering free shipping for either gift being sent to troops in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"What we found interesting is the long list of products that are prohibited to be sent to the Middle East," Deb Jones said. So both gifts include a plush bear hugging the American flag, a variety of snacks, gourmet triple-chocolate cookies, Arizona playing cards, sunscreen, and lotion. The women's gifts include body cream, a terry scrubbing pad, and a women's magazine, while the men's gift offers a sports magazine, a baseball, and "Nuts About Sports" snack mix.

The company can be reached at www.businessofbaskets.com or (480) 766-1350.

The other firm is Kirsch-Goodwin & Kirsch, PLLC, the Scottsdale law firm founded by sisters Lori Kirsch-Goodwin and Hope Kirsch.

They created "Give Back Arizona," an initiative that will offer reduced legal fees to active U.S. military personnel serving in Iraq and to firefighters, police officers and teachers in the greater Phoenix area.

"I was a New York City public school teacher for 17 years while attending law school at night," Kirsch said. "In my classes, I met many members of the public sector who protect our freedoms, security and our safety, and I have learned the old adage is true: those who affect our lives the most are often compensated the least.

"We are offering an opportunity to recognize their contributions and do our small part to help them out."

The law firm will provide a discount on established fees on a case-by-case basis, and official documentation of eligibility will be required.

