

## News release



**Jan. 3, 2014**

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## **Elementary school teacher recognized for 30 years of service in US Air Force Reserves**

*Cedar Wood Elementary School's 5th-grade teacher, Carol Johanson, honored*



*Johanson receiving the Meritorious Service Medal at the retirement ceremony held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord*

Dec. 8, 2013 was a poignant day for one of Cedar Wood Elementary School's 5th-grade teachers. [Carol Johanson](#) retired after 30 years in the US Air Force Reserves. For 26 of those years she has also worked as a full-time classroom teacher.

At a retirement ceremony held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Johanson was awarded the [Meritorious Service Medal](#). She also received a personal *Letter of Appreciation* from our President.

"Ms. Johanson is an example to our school and community – balancing her responsibilities as teacher, soldier, parent and neighborhood volunteer," said Principal David Jones. "In each different role she serves our community and nation in a unique and effective manner. We are proud of her and appreciative of her three decades of service."

This decoration was established by Executive Order 11448 on Jan. 16, 1969. The Meritorious Service Medal may be awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who distinguishes themselves by either outstanding achievement or meritorious service to the United States.

This award was established as the counterpart of the Bronze Star Medal for the recognition of meritorious noncombat service.

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