



# News Leader<sup>®</sup>



Vol. 37, No. 15

Fort Sam Houston — Home of Army Medicine

April 15, 2004

## Briefs

### FSH Fiesta Celebration, April 18

The FSH Fiesta Celebration begins at 1 p.m. April 18 at MacArthur Parade Field grounds, the fireworks finale at 9 p.m.

### Power Outages next week

The following areas will experience intermittent power outages next week due to installation of CPS meters: San Antonio Credit Union, Eisenhower Bank, Bldgs. 2500, 590 and 591. Meters will also be installed in the Patch residential area, April 20 and in the Chaffee area April 19 and 22.

### DRMO San Antonio closed April 22

Notice to all generators, reutilization or sales customers. The DRMO San Antonio will be closed for staff training April 22. For information, call Barbara Roberts at 221-3738 or Cynthia Gutierrez at 221-3651.

### Bldgs. 367, 1290 and BAMC ID Card Office closed April 23

The Gen. Vogel Processing Center, Bldg. 367, the Student Personnel Center, Bldg. 1290 and BAMC ID Card Office will be closed April 23. Regular service will resume Monday, April 26, 7:30 a.m.



Photo by Phil Reidinger

### Spring Clean-up teamwork

The staff of the U.S. Army Garrison, the Readiness and Logistics Division, and the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Department of Training Support and Central Registry made the annual post wide Spring Clean-up a team effort at Bldg. 4011. After sweeping parking lots and general use areas, planting flowers, and refurbishing outdoor furniture, they enjoyed a hardy picnic lunch to celebrate their team efforts. See more photos on Page 4.

## Trauma partnership protects resources; enhances military readiness

By Nelia Schrum  
BAMC Public Affairs

Three hospitals that provide trauma care in San Antonio formalized long-standing efforts April 6 by establishing the Trauma Research Institute of San Antonio or TRISAT. With funds provided by a \$2.1 million federal grant, the commanders of Brooke Army Medical Center and Wilford Hall Medical Center joined with University Hospital in what marks a first for trauma care in the

United States combining military and civilian resources.

The three San Antonio facilities receive the most seriously injured patients from 71 emergency medical services agencies and 30 hospitals located in a 22-county region of South/Central Texas. The TRISAT project is an innovative and intensive project to more effectively marshal the region's Level I trauma resources. Officials said that the congressional appropriation was possible largely due to the leadership of

Texas Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Making the announcement at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio were Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D., president of the Health Science Center; Jeff Turner, president and CEO of the University Health System; Brig. Gen. C. William Fox, Jr., commander of Brooke Army Medical Center; Brig. Gen. Charles Bruce Green, commander, 59th Medical Wing, Wilford Hall Medical Center; Col. John B. Holcomb, M.D., commander, U.S. Army

Institute of Surgical Research and Brooke Army Medical Center; and Ronald M. Stewart, M.D., associate professor of surgery at the Health Science Center, director of trauma services at the University Health System and chairman of TRISAT's board of directors.

"We are here today to improve one of our nation's most precious assets -- the Level I trauma services provided at Brooke Army Medical Center, Wilford Hall Medical Center, University Hospital

See *Trauma* on Page 3

## Post exercises antiterrorism and force protection emergency response plan



Story and photo by Phil Reidinger  
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

The emergency response exercise held April 3 on Fort Sam Houston started with a detonation of a high explosive device at a post facility. As firefighters responded to a multiple casualty scene, chlorine gas was detected, indicating the possible contamination of casualties.

First responders from the fire department and an explosive ordnance team assigned to the 797th Ordnance Company were alerted and dispatched to the scene to perform an initial assessment and establish an incident command post. The explosive ordnance and law enforcement personnel swept the area to determine the presence of any secondary explosive devices. As the incident command post was established, the command activated the installation emergency operations center.

The Provost Marshal and military police used the exercise to practice securing the incident site and to test Chenega security officers' procedures to close post gates. The post fire department conducted decontamination operations at the incident site, setting up hot and warm hazard zones. Brooke Army Medical Center emergency response teams arrived on site to transport patients to the medical center for follow-on assessments and decontamination. The command team also identified locations for support operations such as the family

assistance center and alternate dining facilities.

The exercise scenario was based on existing installation policies, procedures, operations plans and lessons learned from previous exercises and assessments. A master events scenario list injected exercise activities to evaluate the installation's ability to assess appropriate responses to an incident while maintaining the command's capability to support post missions. Major training objectives included emergency response assessment and management; incident site hazard mitigation; population protection; victim care; and criminal investigation techniques.

Participation by Brooke Army Medical Center also assessed coordination to establish and operate mass casualty patient decontamination and treatment capabilities.

Observer and controller personnel from post commands such as Fifth U.S. Army, Brooke Army Medical Center, Army Medical Department Center and School, and the 32nd Medical Brigade established subject matter expert teams in areas of clinical emergency response, preventive medicine, hazardous material handling, and patient simulation to evaluate actions by responding agencies and note potential corrections or improvements to the installation antiterrorism plan. Students assigned to the 32nd Medical Brigade participated as casualties.

See more photos on Pages 18-19.

Fort Sam Houston firefighter conducts preliminary assessment of casualties at incident site after extinguishing fires. The FSH fire department is responsible for first response to potentially hazardous incidents.

# Army policy on Sexual Assault promotes awareness, education

Sexual assault is a crime that cannot and will not be tolerated in the United States Army. It has a devastating and often lasting impact on the victim, a fellow Soldier. Moreover, sexual assault tears at the moral fiber of our unit formations, degrading our readiness. Sexual assault has no place in the Army...we're a values based organization; we take care of our fellow Soldiers...and treat all Soldiers with dignity and respect.

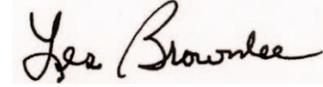
Army policy promotes awareness and education to prevent sexual assault; sensitive care for sexual assault victims; aggressive, timely, and thorough investigation of all reported sexual assaults; and accountability for those who commit these crimes. Further, we demand

and expect that leaders at every level will create and promote a positive command climate in which victims have the confidence in the Chain of Command and criminal investigators to report these crime immediately. Additionally, leaders must ensure that Soldiers and other members of the Army community treat sexual assault victims with dignity, fairness, and respect for their privacy. The Army has existing medical and legal policies and programs to assist leaders. Use these resources to provide victims with immediate medical care, follow-up counseling, and seamless victim assistance.

Bottom line: this is a leadership and chain of command issue. Let's make the right things happen.



Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff



R.L. Brownlee  
Acting Secretary of the Army

## Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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# BAMC offers 'Caring Hearts' for breast cancer patients

Story and photo by Norma Guerra  
BAMC Public Affairs

Each year, an estimated 212,000 lives of American women, their families and friends are affected by a diagnosis of breast cancer.

While research clinics and hospitals battle cancer on a daily basis, the emotional challenge of fighting breast cancer can become an even bigger battle.

"We have an excellent support group," Susie Ferrise said, breast health educator for BAMC. "It is comprised of a group of women who all have different interests individually, but one common bond as a group -- they are all breast cancer survivors."

When a woman is newly diagnosed and wants to be paired with someone, who has been through the disease with surgery or chemotherapy, we call on one of the volunteers to make a connection," Ferrise said.

"Our Pink Ribbon Partners are hospital volunteers and breast cancer survivors who have been trained to provide the necessary support," she said. In most cases, the volunteer supports them in every way possible, including their presence at the hospital during tests and surgery. Ferrise said, patients may ask questions regarding surgery, oncology or radiation oncology and become more involved in the treatment decisions.

The group has taken an active support role with those stricken with the disease. Group members prepare and deliver home-cooked meals to those ill due to chemotherapy or provide women and their families extra needed support in dealing with the disease.

The Caring Hearts Breast and GYN Cancer support groups meet the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m., and the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Health Promotion Center on the third floor of BAMC.

In March 2004, a multi-disciplinary breast cancer clinic was introduced at BAMC to allow women to be seen by all specialties in one location.



Clara Occhialini, a breast cancer survivor, explains the importance of a yearly mammogram to Cynthia Saiz during a bake sale at Brooke Army Medical Center. Clara was diagnosed at BAMC eight years ago and has been cancer free for seven years. At age 87, Clara continues to be active in the support groups.

The Brooke Army Medical Center Women's Imaging Center, founded by Dr. Edward Boyle, an advocate for breast cancer, opened its doors, June 10, 2002, as a comprehensive cancer treatment center for military beneficiaries diagnosed with breast cancer. Unfortunately, Boyle died at age 52 after a long battle with cancer and didn't get to see his dream become a reality. But, his wife and son attended the ribbon cutting ceremony on his behalf.

The center actively participates in cancer treatment clinical trials through the Southwest Oncology Group and in cancer drug development with the Cancer Therapy and Research Center.

#### Breast Cancer Survivor testimonial

Deb Torrington, a breast cancer survivor, who was diagnosed at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, and underwent chemotherapy at

BAMC, stressed how important support groups are.

Torrington had her annual mammogram exam February 2002, after putting off her appointment for six months. It had been 18 months since her last exam. One week later she received a card in the mail asking her to return for a follow-up exam.

"On the day of my follow-up exam, my whole world was turned upside down," Torrington said. "I remember them putting the X-ray up so that I could see it. It looked very obvious. It had the shape of a walnut, and I remember saying out loud, 'well that's gotta go.' Then all of a sudden I felt numb and remember thinking, this could be the end."

Immediately, a biopsy was performed and the results came back two days later. The cancer was malignant.

A week later, Torrington had a

lumpectomy performed. Three weeks later, a second lumpectomy was performed to ensure all the cancerous tissue was removed. Three weeks after the second lumpectomy, Torrington started chemotherapy.

"In June, we transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas. This is when I realized how wonderful our Army medical system works," Torrington said. "Just to PCS is stressful enough, and then to try to do it in between chemotherapy and radiation therapy is just a bit more stressful."

Torrington said, she was impressed with her continuity of care. Her records were forwarded to the oncology and radiology departments, and her TAMC physicians made contact with her physicians at BAMC. It was a seamless change with no stress, according to Torrington.

In August she started a seven-week course of radiation therapy for five days a week. She said, "I was fatigued and sunburned, but it wasn't too bad."

It has been more than two years since Torrington felt her world turned upside down. Today, Torrington is cancer free and remains active in the support groups. She continues to have her annual mammography screening.

"I cannot stress enough the importance of a mammogram," Torrington said. "It's what saved my life."

The American Cancer Society recommends the following for the early detection of breast cancer:

Women age 40 and older should have an annual mammogram, an annual clinical exam performed by a health care professional, and perform monthly breast self examination.

Women 20 to 39-years old, should have a clinical breast exam performed by a health care professional every three years, and perform monthly breast self-examination.

For more information on support groups for breast cancer at BAMC, call the Health Promotion Center at 916-2261.

## Trauma

Continued from Page 1

and the U.S. Army Institute for Surgical Research by personnel in military and academic medicine," Cigarroa said. "We thank Senator Hutchison for her efforts on behalf of San Antonio and South Texas trauma patients who cannot speak for themselves and who will continue to receive the quality care they need when they need it."

Cigarroa said that the TRISAT agreement would "take advantage of each individual institution's strengths, for the joint purpose of making the Trauma Institute of San Antonio, Texas, the premiere trauma program for joint civilian and military trauma and burn."

Stewart, who serves at the chairman of the TRISAT board of directors, said the concept for the project developed as a natural progression of ten years of collaborative efforts for the three hospitals. He said the project was targeted at "improving trauma care in San Antonio and in the battlefield in Iraq."

Wilford Hall Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center operate the only Level I trauma centers in the U.S. Department of Defense. As such, the military depends on them to train thousands of physicians for trauma service readiness during wartime.

"Trauma injuries are the closest thing to what a Soldier encounters on the battlefield," said Fox, commanding general of Brooke Army Medical Center. "Health care professionals gain valuable training experience that saves the lives of military personnel engaged in the global war on terrorism."

The president of University Health Systems, Jeff Turner, said the TRISAT formalized partnership would strengthen the ability of all three hospitals to respond to the immediate needs of trauma victims. "Due to the unpredictable nature of trauma, life-saving services must be readily available at all times," said Turner. "This is particularly challenging when you take into consideration today's health care funding crisis and the massive size of the trauma region we serve.

A Level I trauma center provides "comprehensive trauma care, serves as a regional resource, and provides leadership in education, research,

and system planning," according to guidelines from the American College of Surgeons. A Level I center is required to have immediate availability of trauma

surgeons, anesthesiologists, physician specialists, nurses and resuscitation equipment. Texas has 12 Level I trauma centers.



Photo by Nelia Schrum

Brig. Gen. Charles Bruce Green representing Wilford Hall Medical Center, Brig. Gen. C. William Fox, Jr., representing Brooke Army Medical Center, Dr. Francisco Cigarroa, president of the Health Science Center; Jeff Turner, president and CEO of the University Health System, and Dr. Ronald Stewart, director of trauma services, University Health System and chairman of TRISAT's board of directors, pose for a group photo after signing the proclamation establishing the Trauma Research Institute of San Antonio April 6.

Photo by Phil Reidinger  
Col. William Hartman and Aundra Davis, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Department of Training Support, join Daniel San Nicolas, Readiness and Logistics Business Center, to sand and repair an old picnic table for use by organizations headquartered in Bldg. 4011.



# Team effort sweeps post clean during Spring Clean-up



Photo by Phil Reidinger

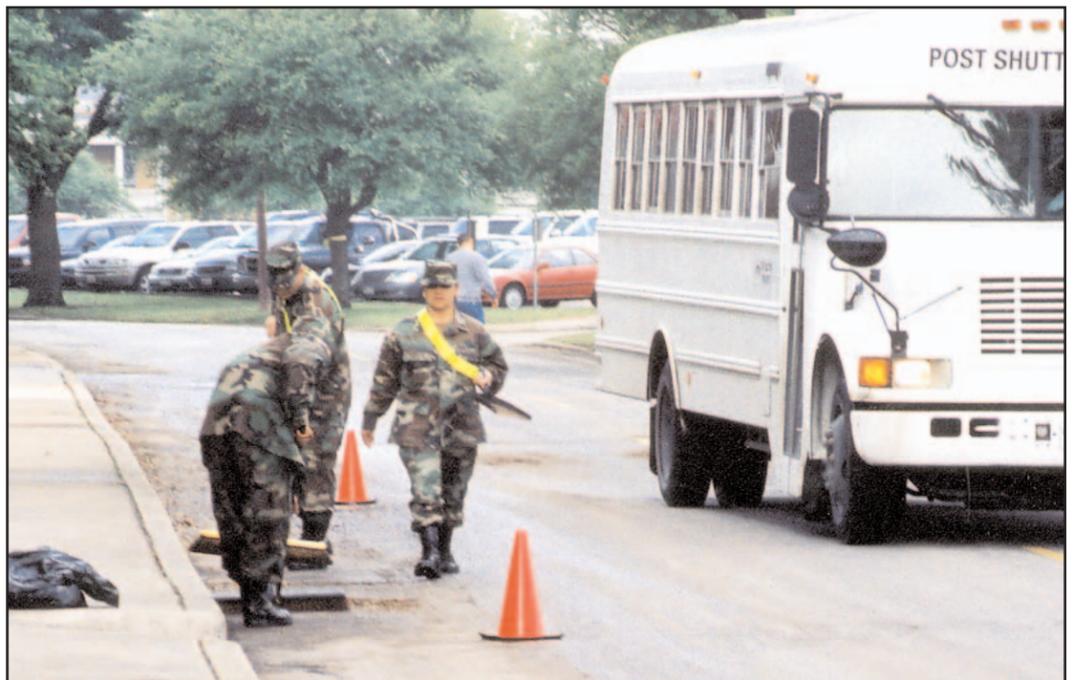


Photo by Esther Garcia

Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 75th Division practice good safety precautions to deal with vehicle traffic as they clean sidewalks along Stanley Road.

Amy Butler and Lucy Rivera, Readiness and Logistics Business Center, sweep the parking lot and front sidewalks in front of Bldg. 4011 during the annual installation Spring Clean-up held April 5-9.



Photos by Esther Garcia

Soldiers clean and repair flowerbeds and trim shrubs in front of buildings along Stanley Road.

All around post, Soldiers tackle tons of leaves and seedpods shed by many large trees lining post streets and headquarters areas. The 2nd Brigade, 75th Division Soldiers collected many bags of leaves from around green areas or those washed onto streets by recent heavy rainstorms on the post historic landmark district.





Photo by Kathleen Rasumssen

Sgt. Shawn Monroe accepts a plaque from the San Antonio Spurs honoring injured Operation Iraqi Freedom Soldiers who are currently patients at BAMC, along with Carolyn Putnam, an employee who has served the Army for more than 50 years, during Friday's game at the SBC center.

## Spurs honor BAMC Soldiers

By Nelia Schrum  
BAMC Public Affairs

The Spurs honored Brooke Army Medical Center Friday for the many contributions its dedicated Soldiers and civilians make in the field of health care and in defense of the nation.

The team also recognized Carolyn Putnam, the commander's secretary, for more than 50 years of service to the Army. Putnam was given the honor of passing the game ball to officials that evening.

With just three more games left before the Spurs defend their NBA championship, more than 350 Brooke Army Medical Center personnel were on hand April 9 when the Spurs sunk

the Portland Trail Blazers with a score of 84-74.

Prior to the tip-off, the Spurs honored six Soldiers injured while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom at center court.

Representing the more than 1,200 Soldiers the hospital has treated for injuries sustained during the Global War on Terrorism, Sgt. Shawn Monroe, Spcs. Jamvis Armour, Howard Brannon, Stephen Wyett, and William Taylor, and Pfc. Joel Hodges joined BAMC Commander, Brig. Gen. C. William Fox, Jr., on the SBC floor just prior to the start of the game. The SBC Center crowd responded enthusiastically giving the Soldiers a standing ovation.

## AMEDDC&S and Webster University establish cooperative agreement

By Phil Reidinger  
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Webster University entered a cooperative degree program agreement allowing graduates of the Officer Advanced Course and opportunity to complete a Master of Arts Degree in Health Services Management or a Master of Business Administration through shared academic credits between the Academy of Health Sciences and Webster University.

Participants in the program will not be required to compete separate graduate entrance examination. Letters of recommendation also will not be required. The agreement will apply to all officers completing the Officer Advanced Course, to include Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve.

Officer Advanced Course students will be awarded 12 credits toward the Master of Arts in Health Services Management. Students in the program will be required to complete 27 semester hours of Webster University work.

Students majoring in the Master of Business Administration program will be awarded nine cred-

its toward this degree, and will be required to complete 27 hours of academic additional work.

The Master of Business Administration requires successful completion of three pre-requisite courses in Business, Accounting Theory and Practice, and Current Economic Analysis.

Wright said that Webster University has supported the Army for nearly 30 years, and has offered degree programs at Fort Sam Houston for 29 years. "We are recognized as a top ranked mid-western school and the largest provider of graduate education to the military today," he said.

Brig. Gen. Daniel Perugini, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston commander, noted an approximate cost savings to Army of six million dollars in tuition assistance. Noting that officers, NCOs and Soldiers attend training at various phases of their careers, the partnership with Webster University is a step toward getting military instruction recognized academically. "We are very pleased to be partners with Webster University. We are in the business of preparing Soldiers for the work they do. The next step is to look at associate level degree programs for the Academy of Health Sciences allied health specialties instruction," Perugini said.



Brig. Gen. Daniel Perugini, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston commander, signs the agreement with Randy Wright, Director of Military Programs for Webster University establishing two master's degree programs in Health Services Management and Business Administration.





Photo by Kelly Schaefer

Capt. Amy O'Hare, outgoing commander of C Company, passes the guidon to Col. James Mundy, commander, Brooke Army Medical Center Troop Command, as Capt. Brian Balcerak waits to receive the coveted symbol of the troops he will command. Mundy praised O'Hare as an exceptional leader who mobilized and trained Soldiers for war. Mundy also said Balcerak was a talented leader whose past experiences will help prepare Soldiers for their medical mission. O'Hare's next assignment is at Fort , Ga.

# Infantryman takes reins of BAMC's C Company

By Capt. Mark Williford  
BAMC Public Affairs

Capt. Amy O'Hare relinquished command of C Company, to incoming Commander, Capt. Brian Balcerak at a change of command ceremony held at Brooke Army Medical Center April 1.

"I stand here today proud to have the opportunity to say a few words about a magnificent medical company, a tremendous outgoing commander and a superbly talented incoming commander," Col. James Mundy, BAMC troop commander said.

Mundy praised the accomplishments of O'Hare and commended the 420-Soldier organization. "I want to personally thank you Capt. O'Hare and indeed, all of Charlie Company for a job well done," he said. Mundy added O'Hare was very well liked by her troops and that her "smiling" face will be missed.

"In the first quarter O'Hare's company ran the CTT training for more than 800 Soldiers, and took approximately 70 Soldiers to the field and executed a three-day FTX," Mundy said.

One of her most notable accomplishments was preparing Soldiers for war. O'Hare orchestrated the deployment of the 359th Neurosurgical team to Iraq along with 60 Soldiers who are part of the professional filler system to Iraq.

Mundy further honored O'Hare by awarding her the Meritorious Service Medal for her outstanding leadership in deploying Soldiers into a combat theatre of operations.

O'Hare thanked her first sergeant, the command staff and her husband for their untiring support while commanding the company.

"My orderly room staff are the hardest working Soldiers in the organization," O'Hare said. She said that these Soldiers processed more than 1,000 personnel actions monthly.

O'Hare welcomed Capt. Brian Balcerak and said he would be commanding the best troops at BAMC.

"I'm really ecstatic about being here," Balcerak said, "There is no better job in the Army than command,"

Mundy praised Balcerak as an experienced and dedicated officer whose previous experience would benefit BAMC troops and their families.

"Brian's biggest challenge will be reaching out and taking care of the families of deployed Soldiers," Mundy said, "He is responsible for training, discipline and coordination with department chiefs."

Mundy said Balcerak's past leadership experiences as a Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment commander with the 421st Medical Evacuation Battalion, that deployed to Iraq in 2003, along with his ambulance platoon leadership, will prove critical in leading the Soldiers of C Company.

"He is responsible for preparing these Soldiers for war," Mundy said. "If he doesn't do it, no one else will."

Balcerak's experiences as an infantryman with the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment and the 3rd Battalion, 325 Airborne Combat teams in Bosnia and Liberia will serve as a good foundation for training and leading the company.

Balcerak is a native of Alexandria, Va., and a 2000 graduate of University of West Florida where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration.

# Extension for family member to travel space available in CONUS

**By Staff Sgt. Louie Guzman**  
**Lackland Air Force Base Passenger Terminal**

On April 1, 2003, the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense issued a trial period allowing family members to travel within Continental U.S. for a one-year period. The official end of the trial period was March 31, 2004, however, Defense Department Transportation officials have extended this test indefinitely pending a

final review of statistics.

This extension will allow the test to continue while OSD completes an evaluation and codifies the policy change. The rules remain unchanged during the extension. Family members of Active Duty and retired uniformed service members are allowed to travel within the Continental U.S. This test and extension does not apply to "Gray area Retirees" (Guard and Reserve component members who are

retired but are not yet eligible for retired pay/benefits).

Recently, many disabled veterans were informed that they are allotted a space available privileged. This is not correct. Currently disabled veterans cannot fly space available. Space available travel applies only to those possessing DD Form 2, retired ID cardholders or those currently serving as Active Duty, Reserve or Guard.

For more information on space available, regulations and flights departing Lackland Air Force Base Passenger Terminal, call 925-8714 or 925-8715. Schedules of C-5 flights can be picked up at the terminal located on Kelly USA Bldg. 1614, or e-mail the terminal at [spacea@lackland.af.mil](mailto:spacea@lackland.af.mil) and request to be put on the mailing list, you will receive monthly schedules and updates via e-mail.

# Shaken Baby Syndrome can be prevented

By Carol Agee  
Special to the News Leader

"If only I could hear her cry one more time! The silence is deafening. I have let my baby's cry drive me to the unthinkable. I did not know that just a few seconds of my own angry behavior could have such a permanent impact on my child, my family and me. How can I live knowing it was my loss of control that took my baby's life," regrettably, those comments are made more often than we think.

An estimated 50,000 cases of Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) occur each year. As a result of this abuse, one in four shaken babies dies. Others suffer irreversible injuries. SBS is a medical term referring to the injuries resulting from an infant or child being shaken violently or thrown

against an object. The whiplash motion from shaking causes permanent brain injuries.

Neck muscles that are not fully developed cannot support an infant's head. When a baby is shaken violently, the brain slams against the skull tearing brain tissue, nerves, and blood vessels. The damage to the child spans a wide range -- mild to profound retardation; blindness or impaired vision; seizures; loss of dexterity; paralysis; broken ribs and other bones; and more. The mechanism for damage resides in the blood vessels between the brain and the skull. When shaken, these vessels rupture causing bleeding in and around the brain with blood clots forming in the area. The pressure created by the clots, the blood, and swelling of the brain because of the trauma results in irreversible brain damage. If the swelling

extends below the brain stem, breathing stops, the heart stops, and death is the final result.

The number of abusive head trauma cases missed or misdiagnosed the first time a child visits an emergency room is cause for concern. Approximately one-third of cases are missed the first time. The fact that early signs of SBS may be very subtle, and often mirror symptoms associated with other common childhood illnesses can make the diagnosis difficult.

What should you look for? Symptoms range from subtle signs such as fussiness, irritability, lethargy, vomiting and feeding difficulties to more serious signs such as seizures, difficulty breathing, altered consciousness, and coma.

SBS is entirely preventable. Injuries occur immediately prior to the exhibition of symptoms...not from old injuries. Prompt treatment of SBS victims is crucial. Quick medical care can minimize further damage but cannot restore damage that is already done. If you know or suspect that your child has been shaken, seek medical attention immediately. Often babies are put to bed in hopes they will recover, but the opportunity for early intervention is lost ... and perhaps the opportunity to save the baby's life.

Who are the victims of SBS? The majority are infants under one year of age; however, cases have been reported of children that are as old as five. There are even documented cases of adults that have died as a result of violent shaking.

The long-term cost of SBS is enormous to the family of the child that has been injured. Catastrophic care for brain injuries measures in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The perpetrator and often other family members carry tremendous guilt that plagues them forever. Beyond

that, if the family cannot meet the tremendous financial need associated with the child's care, society must carry that burden. We all pay a significant price when our children are injured.

Who are the likely perpetrators? No one gets up in the morning and says, "If that baby cries one more time today, I am going to shake him." Perpetrators come in every age group, every socio-economic stratum, every gender, and every ethnic group. No single sector of society is exempt. Statistics show men more likely to shake babies than women, with biological fathers constituting the largest group, followed by boyfriends of mothers, female babysitters/childcare providers, and finally mothers.

In most cases, the person with the child when he or she becomes symptomatic is the person who inflicted the injuries. The most frequent excuse given for what happened to the child is that he or she "fell down".

Why would someone shake a baby so violently as to cause such traumatic injury? Usually it starts with a crying baby. Remember, babies do not cry to make you mad. They do not have the cognitive ability to make such choices. It is important to understand that babies cry to communicate a need to their caretaker. It is even more important that anyone caring for a child knows there are other options than shaking if approaching a level of frustration that is about to move them past their tolerance level. Some strategies that can calm a crying baby [and you] include rocking, playing music, offering the baby a pacifier, calling a friend or family member for assistance, walking with the baby, putting the baby in a crib and checking on him every 5-10 minutes. Tell your childcare provider it is okay to call you and interrupt your plans if they cannot calm your child! Missing a day of work, a dinner or a movie is much easier than losing your child forever.

If these suggestions fail, do not handle a baby if you are angry! If you are caring for a baby and become angry, stop, calm down and try again. Children are a precious gift. Take care of them.

## ACS Family Advocacy Program April Class Schedule

Class	Dates	Time
Basics of Breastfeeding	21	10:30 a.m. to Noon
Building Effective Anger Management Skills (B.E.A.M.S.)	16, 30	11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Commanders' Conference	20	7:30-11:30 a.m.
Conflict Management	19	11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Coping with Difficult People	21	12:30-2 p.m.
Getting Ready for Childbirth (Series 1-3)	22	9 a.m. to Noon
Girl Talk! Ages 9-10	21	3-4 p.m.
Healthy Pregnancy	16	9 a.m. to Noon
Helping Us Grow Securely (H.U.G.S.) Playgroup	20, 27	9-11 a.m.
Parenting with Love & Logic (ages 0-12)	22	9-11:30 a.m.
Stress Management I & II	20, 27	1-2 p.m.
Teen Talk	22	4 -5 p.m.
New Series (1 -2)	20, 27	4:30-5:30 p.m.

**Note:** To sign up for classes or for more information, call ACS Family Advocacy Program at 221-0349 or 221-2418.

# NORTHCOM medicine represented at FSH

**Capt. Dennis Fivecoat**  
Special to the News Leader

U.S. Northern Command is headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo. However, four members of the NORTHCOM team call Fort Sam Houston their home. They are a part of the Joint Regional Medical Plans and Operations Division. As members of the NORTHCOM Surgeon General's office, the JRMPO program supports medical issues of homeland security. The JRMPO role is to support Military Assistance to Civilian Authority operations. In the event of a national disaster, members of the JRMPO program act as military medical representatives for the Department of Defense.

Each JRMPO branch consists of one officer each from the Army, Navy, and Air Force, as well as one civilian staff assistant. There are three other branches just like this one stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., Fort Meade, Md., and

Fort McPherson, Ga. They are situated to support different FEMA regions. The Fort Sam Houston branch has the responsibility of covering FEMA regions six and seven, which consists of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas.

The JRMPO program is also heavily involved in preparing and training for future disasters. JRMPO officers frequently travel TDY for state and regional meetings, exercises, and conferences. Because medical issues create unique challenges, JRMPOs are key players in each national event. They conduct speaking engagements for various organizations or agencies. The JRMPO officers find themselves in a wide variety of supporting roles. During various exercises and real-world events, JRMPOs have served as medical liaisons at disaster field offices, command and control centers, FEMA regional operations centers, and patient reception areas.

The JRMPO program was first identified in the original Federal Response Plan, which guides how federal disaster assistance is provided. Since the Federal Response Plan was drafted in 1992, it has undergone several revisions. With the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and of U.S. Northern Command, more revisions were necessary. The latest update to the Federal Response Plan is called the National Response Plan. The NRP is being tested in national exercises, such as the recent Unified Defense 2004. As these changes take place, the JRMPO program continues to evolve in support of it.

The role of the Joint Regional Medical Plans and Operations Division of U.S. Northern Command is very flexible, but always medically oriented and always in a supporting role of the civilian authorities. For information, contact the Fort Sam Houston JRMPO branch, call 221-1710, 221-1995 or 221-2319.



**Courtesy photo**  
U.S. Navy Lt. Donald Butler of U.S. Northern Command, briefs Army Nurse Corps students during the Officer Basic Course.

## LLC and RCI Focus Group and Town Hall meetings April 20-21

Lincoln Military Housing, LLC and the Residential Communities Initiative invite Fort Sam Houston residents and non-residents to Focus Group Meetings on April 20 at the NCO Club.

Off-post residents focus group will meet in the Sam Sports Bar at 5:30 p.m.

On-post residents will meet at 7 p.m. at the NCO Club as follows: Senior NCOs and below in the Sam Sports Bar and officers will be in the

Seguin Room.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and provide input needed to prepare future Fort Sam Houston Housing.

There is also a Town Hall meeting for all Fort Sam Houston residents April 21, 7 p.m. at the NCO Club, Seguin Room. Everyone will be able to view the proposed future of Fort Sam Houston housing designed by Urban Design Associates. Refreshments will be provided.

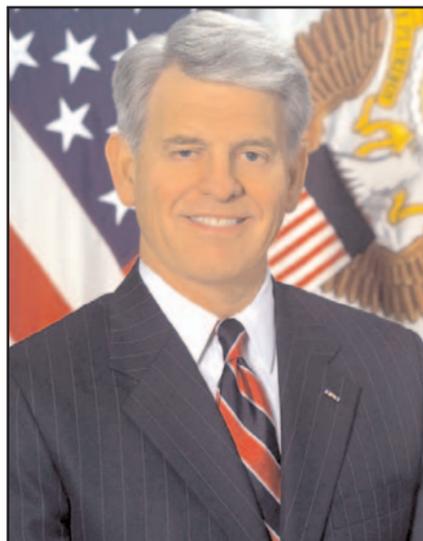
### Smoke-free and courageous forever

Attend smoking cessation classes in the Health Promotion Center and learn how to find the courage to give up the nicotine habit forever, whether you smoke, dip, or chew. Become one of our graduates and earn your "wings."

For information, call the Health Promotion Center, Ward 3 West, BAMC, at 916-3352 or 916-5538.



**Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker**  
Army Chief of Staff



**R.L. Brownlee**  
Acting Secretary of the Army

## Nation celebrates Earth Day message

Our Army is serving a nation at war. As part of the Joint Force our Army is committed to providing relevant and ready land power capabilities to the Combatant Commanders.

Soldiers and their leaders will always be the key components of successful land combat power. We train Soldiers, grow leaders, and forge them into cohesive units through hard, realistic training. Our installations provide the quality facilities, realistic ranges, challenging training, materiel support, and advanced technologies that prepare our Soldiers for the stark realities of the battlefield.

Our installations' capability to provide these resources is an indispensable contribution to the war effort. These resources include the environment---the land, air, and water of our installations and the neighboring communities. Installation resources enhance our ability to train, project power, and support our families.

Sound environmental stewardship contributes in many ways to mission accomplishment, and helps preserve our heritage as Americans. As part of Soldier readiness, we must sustain our environmental resources and use them wisely. The war mandates that we perform our duties with seriousness and a sense of urgency; our future mandates that we have the foresight to respect and protect our environmental resources.

Every April 22nd, our Nation celebrates Earth Day. Our Army Earth Day theme this year is "Preserving the Environment While Protecting Our Freedom." This twofold message recognizes the value of our environment and reminds us that we are the guardians of freedom.

The Soldiers Creed exhorts Soldiers' dedication to maintaining their arms, equipment, and themselves. Similarly, each of us must dedicate ourselves to maintaining the environment; it is an extension of our professionalism. Sound environmental stewardship helps keep the Army relevant and ready.

May God bless our Soldiers, families, civilians and veterans. And may God bless America.

Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

R.L. Brownlee  
Acting Secretary of the Army

## Music, confetti to kick-off Fiesta San Antonio 2004 at the Alamo

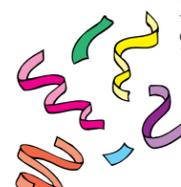
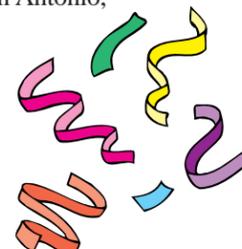
Great music, special guests and lots of confetti will get the fun started at the 20th annual opening ceremony of Fiesta San Antonio, April 16, 10 a.m. in front of the Alamo.

Edward Steves, president of the Fiesta San Antonio Commission, will act as host for the kickoff of the 113th Fiesta. Officials scheduled to take part in the ceremony include Governor Rick Perry, County Judge Nelson Wolff and Mayor Ed Garza. KENS-5's Deborah Knapp is to emcee.

A highlight of the morning is the moment when local chamber of commerce executives allow King Antonio (Sam Bell Steves) and El Rey Feo (Tom Sineni) to clip neckties and break cas-carones. That rite symbolizes the informality of the 10-day festival.

Fiesta began in 1891 with a single event -- the first Battle of Flowers Parade. This year 101 activities, sponsored by more than 90 nonprofit organizations, will participate in the 10-day celebration from April 16-25. Cingular Wireless is the sponsor for the 2004 Opening Ceremony.

The Fiesta San Antonio Commission is a nonprofit organization that plans, coordinates and preserves Fiesta San Antonio through the support of its participating member organizations. For more information, visit [www.fiesta-sa.org](http://www.fiesta-sa.org).



## MWR Ticket office at NCO Club

The MWR Ticket Office is now located in the NCO Club. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Cashier's Cage in the main entrance of the club. We currently have the following tickets available at great discount prices: SeaWorld, Walt Disney World, Ripley's Wax Museum, Space Center (Houston), Splashtown, Natural Bridge Caverns, Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch, IMAX, San Antonio City Tours, and Texas Treasure Casino Cruises. We also have tickets for the Flambeau Parade, Battle of Flowers and Fiesta in Blue (tickets for Fiesta in Blue are free). For information, visit the MWR Web site at [www.fortsamhoustonsmwr.com/bod/mwr\\_ticket\\_office.asp](http://www.fortsamhoustonsmwr.com/bod/mwr_ticket_office.asp) or call 226-1663.

## Blood is the fluid of life

The BAMC Blood Bank is running critically low of O Negative blood.

Contact the Donor Center to lend a helping hand. To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.



# Fort Sam Houston to host Fiesta 2004 grand celebration

The public is invited to Fort Sam Houston for one of the grandest free Fiesta celebrations on Sunday, April 18, at MacArthur Parade Field grounds, corner of Stanley and Harry Wurzbach Roads, beginning at 1 p.m.

The public is requested to enter Fort Sam Houston at the Walters Street gate off Interstate 35. Entrances at Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Road, Cunningham/Wilson off Broadway Street, and Binz Engleman will be open for vehicles with Department of Defense decal stickers.

## Country Fair - food and live entertainment

**From 1-8 p.m.** - in the field adjacent to MacArthur Pavilion, the Country Fair will feature military equipment displays, various exhibits, live entertainment, kiddies carnival, games, food, and drink booths. Continuous entertainment will include the Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team, the Air Force Academy Falcon Demonstration Team, Kazamba Drum and Dance Group, Ballet Folklorico Del Cielo Dance Group, Las Erendiras, a female mariachi group, Patriot Dance Team from Roosevelt High School, Angel Miranda, Rainbow Kids, and the U.S. Army Medical Command Country Band.

**From 1-5 p.m.** - a blood drive will also be held to support the troops overseas and Brooke Army Medical



Center.

## Elite Army ceremonial units provide military pageantry

**At 4:30 p.m.** - the Golden Knights Army Parachute Team, famous for their aerial acrobatics and precision landings, will begin the program.

**At 5 p.m.** - the Army's elite U.S. Army Drill Team from Fort Myer, Va., known for their spectacular rifle tossing routines will perform.

**At 5:30 p.m.** - also from Fort Myer, Va., the Fife and Drum Corps will perform dressed in colonial-style period uniforms. The only unit of its kind in the Armed Forces, their uniforms are replicas of those worn by the Infantry in 1784.

## Fiesta Salute

**At 6 p.m.** - with the arrival of the Fiesta Royalty, more than 300 Fort Sam Houston Soldiers, dressed in battle dress uniform, will march in the traditional pass in review of troops to compete for the best marching unit.

**At 7 p.m.** - Escaramuza Rosas de Castilla, an equestrienne drill team from San Antonio will perform. They are known for their intricate sidesaddle and bareback routines. They perform in colorful traditional charreada dresses.

**At 7:45 p.m.** - Las Erendiras, a female San Antonio



mariachi group will perform traditional Fiesta music.

**At 8:30 p.m.** - the U.S. Medical Command Band from Fort Sam Houston and the 62nd Army Band From Fort Bliss will perform the 1812 Overture.

## Spectacular fireworks display finale

**At 9 p.m.** - a magnificent fireworks exhibition will begin at the south end of MacArthur Field. This fireworks grand finale attracts more than 20,000 spectators to Fort Sam Houston. The 2004 Fiesta Fireworks are sponsored by Washington Mutual.

# The Fort Sam Houston Texas Wanderers' Caminada De Fiesta Walk

Story and photo by **Martin L. Callahan**  
Special to the News Leader

On Saturday April 17, walkers can celebrate the traditional kickoff to Fiesta events at Fort Sam Houston by participating in the Caminada De Fiesta Volksmarch. The U.S. Army Medical Command, Outdoor Recreation Center and the Texas Wanderers will host the event.

Fiesta is a ten-day festival held every spring in San Antonio, Texas. It was originally called Fiesta San Jacinto in honor of the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto where General Sam Houston's Texans defeated the Mexican dictator, General Santa Anna.

Fort Sam Houston is the ninth oldest Army post and has been designated a National Historic Landmark including over 900 hundred historic buildings

within its boundaries, many of which you will see along the walk trail. Soldiers from Fort Sam Houston have participated in every American War since 1845, while strolling along streets of this beautiful old post you will be following in their footsteps.

The start point for this 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) walk will be the Army Medical Department Museum and the Fort Sam Houston Museum will be a

checkpoint. An optional 5-kilometer walk will also be available. You can learn more about the history of the post at the following Web site [www.cs.amedd.army.mil/RLBC](http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/RLBC)

For information on the Fiesta walk, call Lyn Ward at 651-6536 or e-mail at [LWARD10KM@aol.com](mailto:LWARD10KM@aol.com) and check out the Texas Wanderers' Web site at [www.walktx.org/Wanderers.html](http://www.walktx.org/Wanderers.html).

# Focus: Balancing AC/RC force structure impacts 100K positions

By Joe Burlas  
Army News Service

This is the sixth in a series of articles that will examine the 16 focus areas as outlined by the Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker. This article highlights the Active Component/Reserve Component balance.

Schoomaker's Active-Component/Reserve-Component Balance focus area will mean more civil affairs, military police, transportation and port operations Soldiers in the Army, and fewer artillerymen, air defense troops and Ordnance Soldiers.

Schoomaker told members of Congress at the end of January that the active Army will temporarily grow by about 30,000 Soldiers over the next few years to ensure the Army meets its worldwide commitments in the war on terrorism while resetting and rebalancing to be more ready and relevant.

AC/RC Balance is about restructuring capabilities across the force, not changing the end strengths of the active, Reserve and National Guard components of the Army, said Col. Paul Hilton, chief of Programs, G3, whose branch conducted analysis in support of the focus area.

The current authorized strengths are 482,400 for the active Army; 205,000 for the Army Reserve; and 350,000 for the Army National Guard.

The Guard and Reserve have been integrally involved with the redesign planning and decision-making process from its inception, a senior Army official said. He added that the force balancing is designed to increase readiness, relevance, predictability, sustainability, survivability, and deployability to enhance the warfighter.

"This effort reflects the times we live in and the threats the nation faces in the contemporary operating environment," Hilton said. "It is about us being more ready and relevant to do the things we have to do against those who would do us harm today, and not the structure we built to face massive Soviet armored formations

across the Fulda Gap during the Cold War."

The rebalance of forces supports the chief's "Modularity" concept, which will move the Army to a brigade-based design, Hilton said.

Changing the Army structure is not new; it is something the Army analyzes annually as it looks toward future needs and prepares its budget for Congress to approve, Hilton said. In fact about a third of the 100,000 spaces the restructure calls for were identified and planned for prior to Schoomaker coming out of retirement to take the reins of Army leadership as chief of staff last summer, he said.

Specifically, routine Army analysis demonstrated the need to increase its numbers of special forces, military police and civil affairs capabilities within the active force shortly following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Additionally, a DoD memorandum issued in July called for the Army to be able to field a rapid response force capable of responding to any low- to midlevel intensity crisis in the world with minimum need to reach into the reserve-component to meet deployment manning requirements in the first 15 days of the operation.

Schoomaker expanded that to include the first 30 days of a deployment and further directed the revision of some policies and unit designs to increase readiness in the force.

First he directed that all Army early-deploying units be authorized 100 percent of the soldiers required in the unit design. Currently some AC units are authorized fewer people than they require to perform their wartime mission and must be augmented before deployment. These units will be brought to 100 percent authorizations, or in some cases where they are not warfighting units, converted to garrison-type unit designs more appropriate to their mission.

Next he asked the task force to look at what was causing high rates of non-deployable soldiers in units and he set a goal of 100-percent deployable Soldiers in

units. Members of the task force from G-1 determined that the major contributors to non-deployables are policies, especially those related to individual replacements and permanent change-of-station moves. Many of these policies will be irrelevant as the Army moves to implement Force Stabilization, Hilton said.

Schoomaker directed the G-1 to make some other policy revisions and determine how they in combination with Force Stabilization impact the problem before making any further force structure changes.

Schoomaker also directed the Army National Guard and Army Reserve to establish personnel accounts for their soldiers who are non-deployable due to attendance at training or schools. Today in the AC there are 482,400 soldiers authorized, but the Army only has enough units to use 419,000 of them, Hilton said. That way the Army can account for soldiers who are in initial-entry training or between units.

Both the Guard and Reserve now have more unit spaces than they have authorizations for, Hilton said. He explained this has meant that units can never be fully manned. This method made sense during the Cold War when the potential need to rapidly expand the force was more important than readiness in reserve units, Hilton said, but does not meet the Army's need today.

The Army National Guard will reduce unit structure from 388,000 to around 342,000 spaces while maintaining all of the 350,000 people they are authorized today. Likewise the Army Reserve will only have about 185,000 spaces for the 205,000 authorizations they are allowed, Hilton said. He said the same number of people spread across fewer units would improve manning and personnel readiness.

One of the significant problems Forces Command has faced in ongoing operations, Hilton said, is the need to reach into two or three units for Soldiers in order to get one unit deployed. On paper, Hilton said, the Army has enough units to source requirements, but the reality on the ground

is that not all of those units are really available.

There are bill payers for both the stand up of new force structure units and for 100-percent manning with 100-percent deployable Soldiers. Eliminating less-used and undermanned force structure will allow the Army to resource units that are in high demand, officials said.

Hardest hit will be the Army's field artillery community, which recently lost a brigade's worth of National Guard artillerymen who are currently being trained to serve as military police officers. The Army plans to disband a significant number of artillery battalions in the active force and the National Guard, Hilton said.

The Army's short-range air defense artillery is another bill payer at the division and below level. "We are still going to keep some SHORAD capability at the corps level in the AC and actually fill previous shortfalls at echelons above division in the National Guard," Hilton said.

About 4,000 manning slots will come from the recently eliminated 71L, clerk-typist military occupational specialty.

"Many Reserve and National Guard Soldiers have an affinity for the units they are in or the particular jobs they are doing," Hilton said. "In some cases those Soldiers are in units where their fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers have served."

Both the Guard and Reserve are taking this into account as they work the details of what kind and where structure will be reduced, Hilton said. In fact, he said the USAR and ARNG are working cooperatively to mitigate inactivation of the same types of units in the same geographic area.

While some have already started, most of the rebalance efforts will occur between 2005 and 2007.

"AC/RC Balance is about building a campaign-quality Army capable of rapidly responding to combatant commander requirements while maintaining the depth necessary to defend the homeland while performing an array of stability and support operations," Hilton said.



Courtesy photo

### Cole honors 'Principal's Students of the Month'

The recipients for April "Principal's Students of the Month" are from left, Carla Cartagena, 8th grade; Sara Salisbury, 10th grade; Arvin King, 9th grade; Kathryn Rarig, 7th grade; Caitlyn McCoole, 11th grade; and Billy Collins, 12th grade. Each month Cole Jr./Sr. High School recognizes one student from each grade level for his/her outstanding attitude, citizenship, and overall contribution to the school. The teachers nominate the students and then the faculty of each grade level selects one student.

## Early registration for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten at FSHISD

Early registration for the Fort Sam Houston Elementary School four-year-old pre-kindergarten and kindergarten is Friday, May 7. Children who live on Fort Sam Houston or Camp Bullis will register from 8:30-10 a.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria. Children do not have to be present to register.

Students enrolled in the pre-kindergarten class must be four years of age on or before September 1, 2004. A child is eligible for enrollment in a pre-kindergarten class under this section if the child is:

- Unable to speak and comprehend the English language as measured on an English proficiency test administered by school staff.

- Economically disadvantaged, using the formula for free or reduced price lunches under the National School Lunch Program. Parents must bring a copy of the latest Leave and Earning Statement for verification. If a spouse is employed outside the home a copy of the latest pay voucher must also be furnished.

- Homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 11302.

Children enrolling in kindergarten must be five years of age on or before September 1, 2004.

Children entering public school for the first time must submit a birth certificate or its equivalent, a social security card, evidence of required immunizations, and a picture ID of the parent.

Required immunizations are:

#### DTP:

- Students six years of age and younger require at least four doses of DTP, DT, Dtap, or Td with at least one dose on or after the fourth birthday.

- Students seven years of age and older require at least three doses of DTP, DT, Dtap, or Td with at least one dose on or after the fourth birthday and within the last ten years.

#### Polio:

- All students require at least three doses of polio with at least one dose after the fourth birthday.

#### MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella):

- Students under five years of age require one dose of MMR on or after the first birthday.

- Students five years of age and older require two doses of MMR with the first dose received on after the first birthday.

#### Hepatitis A:

- Students born on or after September 2, 1992 require two doses of Hepatitis A given on or after the second birthday.

#### Hepatitis B:

- Three doses for all students born on or after September 2, 1992.

- Students born between September 2, 1988 and September 1, 1992, will be required to have three doses by their 12th birthday.

#### Hib:

- At least one dose for students 15 months through four years of age.

#### Varicella (Chicken Pox):

- Students born on or after September 2, 1994, require one dose on or after the first birthday or a parent or physician-validated history of varicella illness.

- Students born on or after September 2, 1988, but before September 2, 1994, require one dose by the 12th birthday or a parent or physician-validated history of varicella illness. Two doses are required if the student is 13 years of age or older at the time the first dose of varicella vaccine is received.

For questions or information, call the elementary school at 368-8800.

#### La matrícula de niños de prekindergarten y kindergarten en FSHISD

La matrícula de niños de prekindergarten y kindergarten será el viernes 7 de mayo de 2004 en la escuela primaria de Fuerte Sam Houston. Las horas son de las 8:30 hasta las 10 de la mañana y a la 1:30 hasta las 3 de la tarde. La matrícula será para los niños viviendo en el fuerte Sam Houston y Camp Bullis. Padres deben traer el certificado de nacimiento, prueba de vacunas, tarjeta de seguro social del estudiante y documento de identificación con retrato de los padres.

Para atender clases de kindergarten, niños deben de cumplir 5 años de edad el 1° de septiembre 2004 o antes.

El distrito escolar del Fuerte Sam Houston ofrece el programa educacional de prekindergarten para niños que completan 4 años el 1° de septiembre de 2004 o antes. La criteria de elegibilidad es la siguiente:

- Ser limitado en el habla de inglés, de acuerdo con los resultados del examen de Habilidad del Lenguaje.

- Es económicamente desventajado (califica para el Programa Nacional de Almuerzo). Se necesita una copia del estado de ingreso de los padres. Si el(la) esposo(a) es empleado(a) afuera de casa, se necesita documento justificado de paga.

- Es parte de familia sin hogar, como definido por la ley federal.

Las vacunas requeridas son las siguientes:

#### Vacuna contra los toxodes diftérico y tetánico y contra la pertussis celular:

- Niños de 6 años de edad o menor necesitan 4 dosis. La dosis final de la serie debe ser administrada a los 4 años de edad o adelante.

- Niños de 7 años y adelante necesitan 3 dosis. La dosis final debe ser a los 4 años o adelante y dentro los últimos 10 años.

#### Vacuna contra el polio:

- Niños necesitan 3 dosis o mas con un dosis despues de 4 años de edad.

#### Vacuna contra el sarampión, paperas y rubéola:

- Niños menor de 5 años necesitan un dosis a los 12 meses o adelante.

- Niños de 5 años de edad o adelante necesitan 2 dosis con la primera dosis a los 12 meses o adelante.

#### Vacuna contra la hepatitis A:

- Niños nacidos el día 2 de septiembre

## Early release April 23 for FSHISD students

The Fort Sam Houston ISD schools will release students early on April 23 for Fiesta activities according to the following schedules:

#### Fort Sam Houston Elementary:

- Students in PPCD and PK, released at 11 a.m. (Afternoon classes will meet at same time as morning class, 7:45-11 a.m.)

- Students in grades K-4th, released at 11 a.m.

- Students in grades 5th and 6th, released at 11:30 a.m.

Sack lunches will be provided for all students before they are released.

Buses will run normal routes. For questions or information, call the elementary school 368-8800.

#### Cole Jr./Sr. High School:

- Grades 7-12, released at 11:30 a.m.

Sack lunches are available for students by pre-ordering through their advisor. Buses will run normal routes. For questions or information, call the high school at 368-8730.

## FSHISD Board of Trustees meeting, April 27

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting on April 27, 11 a.m. at the FSHISD Professional Development Center, 1908 Winans Road.

1992 o adelante necesitan 2 dosis al cumplir 2 años o despues.

#### Vacuna contra la hepatitis B:

- Niños nacidos el día 2 de septiembre del año 1992 o adelante necesitan 3 dosis.

- Niños nacidos entre el día 2 de septiembre del año 1988 y el día 1° de septiembre del año 1992 necesitan 3 dosis antes de 12 años.

#### Vacuna contra el Haemophilus influenzae tip b (Hib) conjugada:

- Niños entre la edad de 15 meses y 4 años de edad necesitan un dosis o mas.

#### Vacuna contra la varicela:

- Niños nacidos el día 2 de septiembre del año 1994 o adelante necesitan 1 dosis a los 12 meses de edad o adelante o historia confiable de un medico que han tenido varicela.

- Niños nacidos el día 2 de septiembre del año 1988 o adelante y antes del 2° de septiembre del año 1994 necesitan 1 dosis antes de 12 años. Niños de 13 años de edad o mas necesitan 2 dosis si es la primera vacuna recibida.

Para mas información, llame a la escuela primaria al numero 368-8800.

## Fort Sam Houston ISD Weekly Campus Activities April 19-24, 2004

### Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

#### Spirit Week

#### Monday, April 19

- Crazy Sock Day
- Old Guard Fife and Drum performance at Cole Football Field, 9 a.m.

#### Tuesday, April 20

- Hat and Shade Day

#### Wednesday, April 21

- Hawaiian Day

#### Thursday, April 22

- 50's Day
- King Antonio visits School, 10:10 a.m.
- Second Grade Market Days, 1:10 p.m.

#### Friday, April 23

- Twin Day
- TAKS Pep Rally
- Early Dismissal, PK through 4th Grade, 11 a.m.
- Early Dismissal, 5th Grade and 6th Grade, 11:30 a.m.

### Robert G. Cole Jr./Sr. High School

#### Monday, April 19

- Old Guard Fife and Drum Performance at Cole Football Field, 9 a.m.

#### Tuesday, April 20

- Cole Baseball vs Stockdale, 7 p.m.

#### Wednesday, April 21

- Varsity Band Fiesta Rehearsal at Alamo Stadium, 10 a.m. – 1p.m.
- UIL Regional Tennis Tournament, TBA

#### Thursday, April 22

- UIL Regional Tennis Tournament, TBA
- Varsity Band Fiesta Performance at Alamo Stadium, 7 p.m.

#### Friday, April 23

- Early Dismissal Day at 11:30 a.m.
- Battle of Flowers Parade
- Cole Baseball at Navarro, 4:30 p.m.
- UIL Regional Track Qualifiers Meet, TBA

#### Saturday, April 24

- UIL Regional Track Qualifiers Meet

# Red Cross volunteer graduates with new skill

By Elizabeth Evans  
Special to the News Leader

Fort Sam Houston resident, Diane Guerrero, graduated from the Red Cross Dental Assistant program at a ceremony held at the Wilford Hall Medical Center auditorium at Lackland Air Force Base March 30. "I come away from this program with a vast amount of knowledge about prosthodontics that will be valuable anywhere I go. It has been such a wonderful and memorable experience," said Guerrero, a military spouse.

The Red Cross Dental Assistant program offers family members of military and DoD employees the opportunity to learn a new skill while assisting the dental clinics at Lackland Air Force Base. "We teach the volunteers everything they need to know," stated Staff Sgt. Carla Bender, Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant program coordinator.

Beginning with an intense orientation, the six-month long program presented a rigorous challenge for the participants. Out of 30 applicants, only 14 were selected for the program and of those, only five met the requirements necessary to graduate as Red Cross Dental Assistants. During the first four weeks, the students were required to learn dental



Photo by Joe Zavala

Members of the 59th Dental Squadron, from left, Capt. (Dr.) Geoffrey Gessel, Maj. (Dr.) Raymond Rodriguez, Capt. (Dr.) Mauricio Carota, Staff Sgt. Amanda Medlin, Airman Rebecca Woosley, Tech. Sgt. Robert Serapio, Capt. (Dr.) Robert Stover; pose with Diana Guerrero and Staff Sgt. Norma Moreno in front row, following the Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant program graduation held at Wilford Hall Medical Center March 30.

terminology and concepts and were prepared for four-handed dentistry. They were then assigned to Kelly, Dunn, or Mackown Dental Clinics to complete the

clinical phase of the training.

Guerrero was assigned to Mackown Dental Clinic. "The majority of the staff, especially the 59th Dental Squadron

(Prosthodontics) Flight, treated me with the utmost respect and were extremely supportive. They always acknowledged my work and praised me for it. While I was learning each doctor's routine, everyone was very patient," said Guerrero.

Although the course is free to those accepted to participate, volunteers are not compensated financially. However, upon successful completion of the program, they receive a certificate of training from the Air Force as a dental assistant, a certificate of completion from the 59th Dental Squadron, a certificate of completed hours from the Red Cross Volunteer program, CPR certification and letters of recommendation. Volunteers also have the option of becoming radiology certified and may then apply for jobs in the dentistry field as dental assistants.

"The Red Cross Dental Assistants are very valuable because they are giving of their time, while receiving training in return. They help us accomplish our mission and provide the highest quality of dental care that we can give. We appreciate them more than this ceremony or words can relate," said Chief Master Sgt. Scott Robinson, dental manager at Lackland Air Force Base after the ceremony.



Photo by Norma Guerra

## Sgt. 1st Class Wojtaszczyk trades stripes for gold bars

The Army Surgeon General, Lt. Gen. James Peake and 1st Sgt. Robert Wojtaszczyk pin the new rank on newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Jennifer Wojtaszczyk during a promotion ceremony held at the Brooke Army Medical Center Institute of Surgical Research on March 11.

## Blood is the fluid of life

The BAMC Blood Bank is running critically low of O Negative blood.

Akeroyd Blood Donor Center is reaching out to you for your support to accomplish a mission for life.

Contact the Donor Center to lend a helping hand. To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.



# Missouri Guard unit takes over reins of TF Guardian mission

Story and photo by Master Sgt. C.S. Allbright  
Fifth U.S. Army Public Affairs Office

The reins for the Task Force Guardian mission were passed from the 2nd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized), California Army National Guard, to the 135th Field Artillery Brigade, Missouri Army National Guard during a ceremony held in the historic quadrangle, home of Headquarters, Fifth U.S. Army March 25.

"Today, we witnessed a very short and simple, but very significant event -- that is, the transfer of authority for Task Force Guardian," said Fifth U.S. Army Deputy Commanding General, Brig. Gen. F. Joseph Prasek, the host for the ceremony. "September 11, 2001 demonstrated that our Reserve Components are focused, ready, and prepared to assume a wide variety of missions. That's an important aspect because, as we all know, these units train for their wartime missions, but often get called upon to

perform missions that are very different, but equally as important."

TF Guardian has two key missions: force protection and readiness improvement in the 21-state Fifth U.S. Army area, which is separated into seven support clusters that TF Guardian monitors. The Texas Army National Guard was the first to have the TF Guardian mission in the days immediately following September 11, 2001, before handing over the mission June 16, 2003.

Col. Lawrence A. Haskins, commander of the 2nd Brigade, has been leading TF Guardian since last June with 68 troops in his headquarters element located here under the direction of Fifth Army. The 2nd Brigade originated from San Diego, Calif., with elements of the brigade in Kansas and North Dakota.

"Ten months ago, I stood here before you and accepted the responsibility of Task Force Guardian and promised to do our best effort," Haskins said. "I am proud to report to you today, mission accomplished."

Haskins said that his troops were able to perform to standard the force protection mission for both Noble Eagle III and Armored Falcon I, and his troops met Forces Command's intent to improve unit and individual readiness for all troops deployed. "Like all things in the Army, this was a team effort. The support we received from the various commands, agencies, states, and installations made this operation a success," Haskins said.

He emphasized that this aspect of the mission is complete, but the brigade's mission continues. The 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized) is scheduled to take over the Bosnia and Kosovo missions this winter. Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade will take on a special role during the division's deployment.

"We are going back to assume the mission of the duties of the division rear command post while the division is deployed, which means that we'll actually function as the division-level headquarters," Haskins said. "Working closely at the Fifth Army level has helped us,



Col. Lawrence A. Haskins, commander of the 2nd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division (Mechanized), and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Hallman, roll up the unit colors so that it can be cased, or covered, signifying the end of the unit's command of the Task Force Guardian mission.

because we've interacted with a lot of different commands and agencies. We've established good relationships with Fifth Army, who we will be working with through this entire operation."

From its headquarters in Sedalia, Mo., the 55 troops of the 135th FA Brigade took charge of TF Guardian after uncasing the unit colors in the transfer of authority ceremony.

During the ceremony, Prasek welcomed the new unit. "We look forward to your efforts in defining and refining this important mission. We appreciate you stepping forward to accept these responsibilities," Prasek said. "As field artillerymen, we know that you are going to execute this mission with flare, great attention to detail and great responsiveness."

Elements of the 135th FA Brigade are located across the "Show-Me" state, from Kansas City to St. Louis. The unit has a proud history dating back to the American Revolution. One firing battery was the first organized militia west of the Mississippi River, created to bring law and order to the St. Louis area when the war with England began. Robert E. Lee, prior to the Civil War, commanded Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, and Ulysses S. Grant was once stationed there. The 129th Field Artillery Battalion, whose staff is deployed with TF Guardian as Cluster III originates from Maryville, Mo., and was once commanded by Harry S. Truman.

In addition to continuous Warfighter exercise participation, the brigade conducted the largest rail movement in the history of the Missouri Army National Guard by deploying to Camp Shilo, Canada, for annual training in 2002. Since November 2003, the 135th FA Brigade has

deployed units to Fort Polk, La., Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Lewis, Wash., and Germany. Elements of the Missouri brigade have been called to duty for floods, tornados, riots, foreign wars and homeland defense. Soldiers of the 135th were some of the first troops called for airport security duty following the September 11, 2001, attacks.

Col. Timothy D. Polles, the brigade commander said, "We come from Missouri with the support of our citizens, Gov. Bob Holden, and Lt. Gov. Joe Maxwell. We also come forward with the support of The Adjutant General of Missouri, Brig. Gen. Dennis Shull. We look forward to serving at HQ, Task Force Guardian, and working for the Fifth U.S. Army, in support of homeland security."

## "Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust"



**Who:** Everyone  
**What:** Holocaust, Expo  
**Where:** Roadrunner Community Center, FSH

**When:** April 19  
 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Guest speaker:** Sandy Lessing  
 11-11:30 a.m.

"The Holocaust took place across more than 20 European countries which during World War II were in the grip of Nazi Germany. During this period political boundaries changed, states were dismantled, new states established, and hundreds of place names, which before the war were unknown even to educated people, suddenly assumed great historic importance. Who would know the location of towns like Auschwitz, Treblinka, or Chelmno were it not for the death camps established there by the Germans? ... It is impossible to learn and understand Holocaust history without complementing the chronological description and analysis of the events with adequate information on the geography underlying this chapter of modern history."

"For Justice and Humanity"

## Post worship schedule

**Main Post Chapel**, Bldg. 2200, phone number: (210) 221-2754.

**Catholic Services:**

4:45-5:15 p.m. - Confessions - Saturdays  
 5:30 p.m. - Mass - Saturdays  
 9:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays  
 11:30 a.m. - Mass - Weekdays

**Protestant Services - Sundays:**

8 a.m. - Traditional Protestant  
 11 a.m. - Traditional Protestant

**Jewish Services:** phone numbers: (210) 379-8666 or 493-6660.

Fridays: 8 p.m. - Worship and 8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat



**Dodd Field Chapel**, Bldg. 1721, phone numbers: (210) 221-5010 or 221-5432.

**Catholic Services - Sundays:**

12:30 p.m. - Bilingual Mass

**Protestant Services:**

5:30 p.m. - Contemporary Protestant - Sundays  
 10:30 a.m. - Collective Gospel Protestant - Sundays  
 9:30-11:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (PWOC) - Wednesdays, childcare is provided



**AMEDD Regimental Chapel**, Bldg. 1398, phone number: (210) 221-4362.

**Troop Catholic Mass:** Sundays:

10 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers

**Troop Protestant Gospel Services:** Sundays:

11:30 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers

**Troop Protestant Service:**

9 a.m. - 32nd Medical Bde. Soldiers



**FSH Mosque**, Bldg. 607A, phone numbers: (210) 221-5005 or 221-5007.

1:30 p.m. - Jumma - Fridays

10:30 a.m. - Children's Religious Education - Sundays

7:30 p.m. - Adult Religious Education - Thursdays

**Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel**, Bldg. 3600, phone number: (210) 916-1105.

**Catholic Services:**

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays

11:15 a.m. - Mass - Sundays

11 a.m. - Mass - Weekdays

**Protestant Services:**

10 a.m. - Worship Service - Sundays

Noon - Worship - Wednesdays



**232nd Medical Battalion Classroom**, Bldg. 1380, phone numbers: (210) 221-5005 or 221-5007. **Mormon Services:** 10:30 a.m. - Sundays

**Web site:** [www.cs.amedd.army.mil/chaplain](http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/chaplain)

## Support the troops, join the USO San Antonio's Walk for the Troops

The USO is looking for a few good men and women to take part in the 2nd annual Walk for the Troops on Saturday, May 1, 8-11

a.m. at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre. Citizens from all across the Alamo and central Texas area will show their dedication to the local troops as they participate in this 5K walk/run. Both individual and teams are encouraged to get involved and each participant will

receive refreshments and an event T-shirt for a \$10 registration fee. To pre-register, call or sing up with the USO, or register the morning of the event from 7-8 a.m.

Each year, the USO serves more than 104,800 military personnel all across the

United States by providing all branches of our military with assistance, from family support to entertainment. The USO Council of

San Antonio and central Texas is a non-profit organization dependent on the generosity of United Way/CFC campaigns, individual, civic and corporate donations. To find out more information about donating to your USO, visit [www.alamouso.org](http://www.alamouso.org).

Proceeds from the walk will be used to fund USO programs for service members and their families in the San Antonio and central Texas area. For more information or to pre-register, call the USO at 227-9373, ext. 14, or e-mail [loriivymarx@alamouso.org](mailto:loriivymarx@alamouso.org).





Photos by Phil Reidinger

Maj. Chad Nelson, 32nd Medical Brigade operations officer, briefs Soldiers, attending 91W initial entry training, who served as simulated patients during the exercise. Soldiers were expected to present symptoms to first responders and medical personnel representing their specific medical condition and casualty type.

Col. Barry Sheridan, Brooke Army Medical Center emergency medicine department and Lt. Col. Floyd Williams, Provost Marshal, make final preparations for initiation of the force protection exercise.



Photo by Phil Reidinger

Observers and controllers assigned to Fifth Army, Army Medical Department Center and School, 32nd Medical Brigade and Brooke Army Medical Center, evaluated response procedures and actions by participants during the exercise.

The Law Enforcement Command established an incident command post to coordinate response activities with the post fire department and report information to the installation emergency operations center.



Photos by Phil Reidinger

American Medical Response staff members arriving to transport patients to Brooke Army Medical Center conduct initial triage of casualties at incident site.

First responders came on scene with fires burning after a car exploded and casualties were strewn all around the incident site.



Photo by Phil Reidinger  
Pvt. Fernando Esteves, a C Company, 232nd Medical Battalion 91W student administers first aid to a comrade at the incident site.

# Post conducts emergency response exercise



Photo by Phil Reidinger

The Fort Sam Houston Fire Department established and operated a decontamination station to evaluate capabilities, resources required, and manpower necessary to run the equipment.



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

A total team effort is needed as Patient Administration Division and Triage team members gather information on the mass casualty patient before entering the emergency room.



Photos by Jen Rodriguez

Pfc. Nathlee Lyn-Cooks gets assistance from a BAMC Decontamination team member as she comes out of gear following the decontamination process.

Patient Administration Division Soldiers check the status of a mass casualty patient upon arrival at BAMC emergency room.



## Child and Youth Services Central Registration offers many services

**3-Day Part Day Preschool Program on hold** - The 3-day Part Day Preschool program has been placed on hold due to lack of enrollment numbers. If you are interested and have questions concerning this program, notify Central Registration to place your name on a list. Fees range from \$151-\$200 per month and will be assessed by calculating total family income.

**Family Child Care offers certified childcare** - The FCC home-based childcare for children ages 4 weeks to 12 years on and off post with certified childcare providers. Types of care are full day, part day, before and after school care, hourly care, and extended hour care and long-term care. Referral information and child registration are available at Child and Youth Services Central Registration, 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**FCC providers sought** - The FCC is looking for family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers to offer home based childcare. There is a no-cost start up plan. For information, call 221-3820 or 221-

3828.

**Wait List status** - If your child's name is on the Wait List for full day care at the Child Development Center, check the status of the name on the wait list from the day you complete the form; otherwise your child's name will be purged from the list. To check the status, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**Instructional classes offered** - If you are interested in instructional classes such as Tae Kwon Do, piano or gymnastics, call 221-4882, 221-4871, 221-1723.

**After School and Weekend Recreation** - School Age Services (1st - 5th grade) offers after school and weekend open recreation opportunities and after school hourly care options. Hourly and open recreation must be reserved in advance by calling School Age Services at 221-4466. Children must be registered through Central Registration prior to utilizing the School Age Program. To register, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**School Age Services Summer Camp early registration** - Early registration at the School Age Services building for Summer Camp will be now through April 16, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for active duty personnel only. For DoD civilians/contractors and retirees, registration will be held April 19-23, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. After those dates all registration will be at Central Registration, Bldg. 2797. To register for Summer Camp children must have completed kindergarten, provide updated immunizations, \$18 dollar registration fee and provide proof of income.

**Red Cross Babysitting Class** - CYS Outreach Service is offering a Red Cross Babysitting Class for children 11 years and older. The class will be held May 1, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797. There is a \$15 fee and limited spaces available. Child will need to bring a bag lunch. To reserve space, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**CYS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting** - A PAC meeting will be held April 20, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center, 2530 Funston. Lunch will be provided. A Family Advocacy educator will speak on Child Abuse Prevention. PAC meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month. This is a great opportunity for CYS parents to learn of upcoming events, address issues or concerns, and meet the staff.

### Red Cross Certified Babysitting Class, April 17

A Red Cross Certified Babysitting Class for children ages 11-15 will be held April 17, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Red Cross Station, 2650 Patch Road, on the corner of Harney and Patch Roads, Bldg. 2650. There is a \$35 fee and class is limited to the first 10 students. Child will need to bring a bag lunch. For information or to make a reservation, call 221-3355.



## Youth Happenings

**Youth Center Early Closure** - The Youth Center will close early this Saturday, April 17 in preparation for Fiesta Fireworks on Sunday, April 18. We will open at 3 p.m. and close at 9 p.m. The Shuttle will run at 8:30 p.m. for middle school students and teens.

**Fiesta Volunteers needed** - YS is looking for volunteers for Fiesta Fireworks. We need face painters, game masters, Concession stand attendants and more. If you are interested in volunteering your time for our community, call the Youth Center at 221-3502. We will begin on Sunday setting up at 9 a.m. and will finish at 10 p.m. YS will be having Hamburgers/ cheeseburgers, water, and soda. We will also have Carnival games face painting and lots of entertainment. Activities will begin at 1 p.m..

**Cooking Class** - There will be a cooking class on Tuesday, April 20, 4:30 p.m. We will be making Strawberry Shortcake. If you love rich luscious desserts, come and join us in learning to make mile high Strawberry Shortcake.

**Summer Camp for Middle School** - Registration for Summer Escape camp is ongoing from now until May 12. This is camp from Middle school youth going in to 6th grade in the fall and up. The cost will be \$65 per week. Cost include breakfast, lunch and snack. We will be swimming, bowling, doing sports, using the computer lab, going on field trips weekly, riding horses, doing science projects and more. For information, call 221-3502.

**Cheerleading Clinic** - Youth Services will be offering a Cheerleading Clinic for both girls and boys ages 9-15 on Mondays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Youth Center, Bldg. 1630. The Clinic is ongoing through July 26. The cost will be \$15 per month per person. If you are interested in learn-

ing the principals and mechanics of Cheerleading, having lots of fun and making new friends, join us in this Cheerleading clinic. Registration will be held at the Youth Center so come on and register now!! For information, call 221-3502.

**Track Registration** - Track Registration is ongoing at the Youth Center. The season has just begun and there are still a few spaces for those who are interested in running track. The cost will be \$60 for military and DoD civilians and \$70 for non-military.

**Aerobics** - YS is offering a no cost Low Impact aerobics class from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. We will meet in the YS Gym and get in shape for the summer. Parent and kids are invited to attend. For information, call 221-3502.

**French Fry Friday** - Every Friday is French Fry Friday. Fries are \$.50 for an order of seasoned or regular fries. Come on by and eat with us and support the Youth Center.

**Exploring Life for Middle School students** - Youth Services offers an after school program for Middle School youth grades 6-9. This program is held Monday through Friday after school until 6 p.m. YS will pick the child from the elementary or the Jr./Sr. High School and take the child to the Youth Center, provide a snack, work on homework, participate in clubs and participate in fun innovative projects that include the 4-H club, a photography club, a Computer Tech club and others. Work will include areas of interest that both the parents and the students like. This program is free for youth registered with Child and Youth Services at an annual

fee of \$18. For information, call 221-3502

**Youth Service Volunteers** - YS is always looking for volunteers for assisting with the youth programs. Coaches, computer skilled people, crafty people and those that just care about kids are needed. If you have a special interest or hobby that you would like to share with kids, you can share it at the Youth Center. For information, call the Youth Center at 221-3502.

**Saturday Open Recreation** - Open recreation for youth in grades 1-12 is held at the Youth Center on Saturdays. Activities include computer lab, arts and crafts, basketball, pool, ping-pong, movies, and more. Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services to be eligible. For information, call 221-3502. Open recreation hours are youths in grades 1-5, 3-8 p.m.; youths in grades 6-8, 3-10 p.m.; and youths in grades 9-12, 3-11 p.m.

**Alternative Dance Classes** - Join the Middle School and Teens for Alternative Dance Class Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. Dance types include salsa, hip-hop, and country.

**Parents Wanted** - Parents are needed at the Youth Center every third Saturday of the month from 7-10 p.m. to join the Youth Center Staff team and play basketball against the teens and middle school students. Parents and staff try to out maneuver the teens and score a few baskets. Come join us in a game or two followed by refreshments.

**Tae-Bo** - Join the YS staff as they con-

duct Tae-Bo Classes every Wednesday from 4:30-5 p.m. Spring is just around the corner so come get in shape with us.

**Saturday Shuttle** - YS offers a Saturday shuttle to and from the Youth Center. There is no cost to this shuttle but parents of children 9 and under must wait for the van and sign them into and out of the van with the YS staff member. The Shuttle Schedule is as follows:

3 p.m. - Leave the Youth Center  
 3:07 p.m. - Gorgas Circle (picnic tables)  
 3:10 p.m. - Schofield/Dickman on Schofield  
 3:15 p.m. - Reynolds and Dickman on Reynolds  
 3:20 p.m. - Officer's Club tennis Courts  
 3:25 p.m. - Artillery Post Road at Bus Stop  
 3:30 p.m. - Easley/Infantry Post Bus Stop 660  
 3:42 p.m. - Patch Road (playground)  
 3:46 p.m. - Patch Road Shoppette Parking lot  
 3:50 p.m. - Foulois/Scott Road Harris Heights  
 3:54 p.m. - Forage/Foulois

The return Shuttle will leave the Youth Center at 7:30 p.m. for those in 5th grade and below. There is also a shuttle that leaves at 9:30 p.m. for those in Middle School and at 10:30 p.m. for those in 9th grade and up. The shuttle service is only for youth who live on Fort Sam Houston.

Friends don't let friends...



ride without a safety helmet.

# MWR Recreation and Fitness

**MWR Calendar of Events** - Looking for something fun to do this weekend? Check out the variety of activities available through Fort Sam Houston' Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Visit their Web site at [www.portsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.portsamhoustonmwr.com) for a complete listing of events at the Bowling Center, Golf Club, Fitness Centers and Auto Craft Shop.

**Post Garage Sale, May 1** - The next post garage sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. at MacArthur Pavilion parking lot, located on the corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Roads, across from AMED-DC&S. To participate in the garage sale you must have a valid Department of Defense identification card. To sign up, call 221-2926 or 221-2307. Sale is open to the public. To reserve tables, chairs and canopies, call the Outdoor Equipment Center at 221-5554.

**AC Service Available** - Get ready for the Texas summer heat with an AC service at the Auto Craft Shop. The cost is just \$30 for service plus the cost of freon and environmental fee. Available are R-12 and 134A refrigerants.

Stop by the Auto Craft Shop, located at the corner of Schofield and Funston Roads. The shop is opened Wednesday-Friday: 1-9 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 221-3962.

**Summer Youth Horsemanship Program** - Is your child interested in learning how to ride a horse? Then the youth horsemanship camp may be just what you're looking for! Students 7-18 of age will learn proper riding forms as well as a variety of horse care techniques. Eight 5-day sessions are available from June-August and cost is \$175. For information, call 224-7207.

**Archery Lessons at the Indoor Archery Range** - Contact the Outdoor Equipment Center at 221-5225 for individual lessons. Award winning archer Skip Dawson provides instruction at various levels from expertise, novice to expert. Children are welcome, however, a parent must accompany children under the age of 18.

**Camp Bullis Catfish Pond now open** - The Camp Bullis pay-as-you-go catfish pond is now open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. All catfish are sold by live-weight. The pond is stocked twice each year with 3 to 5 pound channel catfish. A fishing license is not required and there is no daily fee.

**Keep Your Heart Healthy** - A free 5K fun run/walk will be held Saturday, April 24, 10:30 a.m. outside the Jimmy

Brought Fitness Center. Participants will receive a free T-shirt. For information, call 221-2020.

**60 Days of Fitness** - A motivating fitness and weight loss program to help you safely lose 15 pounds in 60 days using a point system. This self-paced program requires you to work out 45 of 60 days and includes a seven-page fitness assessment, body fat analysis and body measurements. You will also attend two 30-minute weight loss classes. Cost is \$20, which includes a T-shirt. For information, call Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

**Weight Loss Classes** - Held every Tuesday from 10-10:30 a.m. and 5-5:30 p.m. For information, call Lucian Kimble at 221-2020.

## Intramural Volleyball Standings

Final as of April 5

Team	W	L
BAMC #1	10	0
Co B Acad Bn	8	2
BAMC #2	5	5
5th Army	4	6
HRBC	2	8
BAMC #3	1	9



BAMC #1	2	Acad Bn	1
Acad Bn	2	BAMC #3	0

## Health Promotion Center April Class Schedule

Class	Date	Time
Introduction to Weight Reduction	16	Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Body Fat Testing	16	8-11 a.m.
Breastfeeding Support Group	16	1-2:30 p.m.
Cholesterol & Lipids	19	8:30-11:30 a.m.
Diabetes Education	19	12:45-4:30 p.m.
Arthritis	20	9:30-11:00 a.m.
Diabetes Education	20	12:45-4:30 p.m.
Breast & GYN Cancer Support Group	20	6-7:30 p.m.
High Blood Pressure	21	9 a.m. to Noon
Office Yoga	21	Noon to 1 p.m.
Benefits of Walking	22	9-10:30 a.m.
Self Care & Health	22	1-3 p.m.

**Note:** Appointments for Diabetes Education are scheduled through the Internal Medicine Clinic at 916-0794. Appointments for the Fibromyalgia Treatment Group require a consult to Behavioral Medicine Clinic. To schedule Winning Combination and Introduction to Weight Reduction, call the Nutrition Care Division at 916-5525. To schedule Back Pain, call Physical Therapy at 916-3247.

## AUSA to host 'For the Soldier' golf tournament, May 17

The San Antonio Alamo Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army will host the annual golf tournament this year on May 17. This annual tournament is a great opportunity for business and community leaders to join the Fort Sam Houston community for a fun day on the golf course.

In June 2003, the Alamo Chapter of the Association of the United States Army held their 6th Annual "For The Soldier" Golf Tournament at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. The Alamo Chapter expanded the event with a raffle for two round-trip VIP Southwest Airlines tickets and a Silent Auction. With the participation of

108 players, the chapter netted more than \$8,000.

In 2002, more than 120 corporate players helped AUSA raise \$5,000 that directly supported AUSA programs to recognize outstanding Soldiers. Additionally, the Alamo Chapter contributed to the Guy S. Meloy Scholarship Fund.

Tournament proceeds have been directed toward supporting AUSA programs for Soldiers and their families at Fort Sam Houston, to include a larger contribution to the Meloy Scholarship Fund.

For information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Correa at 771-3514 or visit [www.alamochapterausa.org](http://www.alamochapterausa.org).

# San Antonio Missions to 'Salute to Military Families'

By Margaret McKenzie  
Special to the News Leader

Five companies, General Mills, Kraft Foods, Force 3, Inc, Marconi Federal, and USAA will each sponsor a free night of baseball in a "Salute to Military Families" in the San Antonio area on May 18, June 16, July 14, Aug. 11, and Sept. 1. It is the sponsors, way of saying "thank you" to San Antonio's military community. The companies have purchased reserved seat ticket vouchers to be distributed to military personnel and their families assigned to the city's four military installations.

Force 3, Inc. and Marconi Federal will lead off the "Salute to Military Families" on May 18, followed by General Mills on June 16, Kraft Foods on July 14 and Aug. 11 and USAA on Sept. 1. Special prize drawings will be conducted in conjunction with the Military Family Appreciation

Nights.

## Honorary Bat Boy Program

As part of the program, the Honorary Bat Boy Program will be held again this year. Military dependents through age 12 will be selected by random drawings from registration boxes located at the Fort Sam Houston Library, the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center Youth Center and School Age Services to become Kraft Singles Honorary Bat Boy. One winner will be chosen for each Friday and Saturday home game. The lucky winner will receive a T-shirt, Missions baseball cap, four tickets to the game, an opportunity to meet Missions Manager Dave Brundage, hang out in the Missions dugout prior to the start of the game and accompany Dave Brundage to home plate for managers meeting.

USAA will give away five \$100 savings bonds on Sept. 1. Winners need not be present to win. Entry boxes will be on the

installation for people who are not able to attend to put their name on ticket voucher which they will back print for name, address and phone number.

The San Antonio Missions will invite military youth baseball teams to shadow Missions players during the opening ceremonies each night.

Tickets to the Mission's games are available through the organization's sergeant majors, the Library, the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, and School Age Services.

## Post "Salutes Military Youth"

You could win a \$1,000 Savings Bond by entering an essay contest. Military Youths are encouraged to write an essay not to exceed 1,000 words on the topic of "The Person I Admire." The essay contest is open to any military family child 18 years or younger with a valid ID card. Contestant's essay must include their

name, age, telephone number, and their installation. Winners will be asked to show identification. The essays should be post marked before Aug. 1. Scholarships will be awarded by DECA and Kraft at the pre-game ceremonies on Aug. 11. Mail entries to:

San Antonio Missions Baseball Club  
Post Cereal Youth Essay Contest  
5757 Highway 90 W  
San Antonio, Texas 78277.

For more information about the program, call the Recreation Fitness Division Marketing Department at 221-2307 or 221-2926.

Military Appreciation Nights are made possible with the cooperation of the Defense Commissary Agency and no Federal endorsement of the sponsor is intended. General Mill's and Kraft Foods products are sold in military commissaries and exchanges.

## Cash and carry sale of NAF property, April 21

Mark your calendars for the next Non-appropriated Funds sale of property scheduled for April 21, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 4205 Bay "B." Cash and checks with picture identification will be accepted forms of payment. All sales are final and all property is sold "as is, where is."

Used items available for sale include microwave ovens, bed spreads, carpet tiles, desk chairs, lounge easy chairs, sleeper sofa, more than 100 recliners, tables, desks, wall art, assorted billeting furniture, CPU's, monitors, and more. All property listed is subject to issue to NAF activities for continued use prior to date of sale. For information or directions, call the MWR Warehouse at 221-4449 or 221-4950.



## AFTB offers Level I Classes

The Army Family Team Building will conduct Level I Classes on April 19-20, 8:45 a.m. to noon at the Roadrunner Community Center, Bldg. 2797 on Stanley Road. The following agenda will be observed:

### Monday, April 19

- 8:45-9 a.m., Welcome/Introductions
- 9-9:40 a.m., Military Terms, Acronyms, Customs, and Courtesies 1.01
- 9:40-10:40 a.m., Intro to Military and Civilian Community Resources 1.03
- 10:40-10:50 a.m., Break
- 10:50-11:20 a.m., Family and Military Expectations 1.05
- 11:20 to Noon, Impact of the Mission on Family Life 1.06

### Tuesday, April 20

- 8:45-9:15 a.m., The Chain of Command and the Chain of Concern 1.02
- 9:15-10:20 a.m., Basic Problem Solving 1.07
- 10:20-10:30 a.m., Break
- 10:30-11 a.m., Supporting Your Childs Education 1.08
- 11-11:50 a.m., Benefits, Entitlements, and Compensation 1.04
- 11:50 to Noon, Presentation of Certificates

**Note:** Drinks and snacks will be provided by AFTB.

For information or to register, call the AFTB Office by April 15 at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

## Fort Freebies



Freebies are published on a first come, first serve basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, call Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail to: [news.leader@samhouston.army.mil](mailto:news.leader@samhouston.army.mil) or fax to 221-1198. Ensure your military/Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appears on request. Limit of five items per entry.

**For Sale:** Two director-style bar stools w/new beige covers, \$15 ea. Call 213-2182 or 221-5999.

**For Sale:** Glass top breakfast table w/gold chrome base and 4 light blue armchairs on casters, \$75 obo; Lazy-Boy medium blue recliner \$75 obo. Call 213-2182 or 221-5999.

**For Sale:** Full size refrigerator and freezer, in good condition, \$50; assorted kitchen utensils and pots and pans. Call 223-2043.

**For Sale:** 55-inch big screen TV in good condition, \$650 obo, moving must sell. Call 829-4843 after 6 p.m. or 262-7621 and leave message.

**For Sale:** 2002 Ford Windstar SEL, 17K miles in great condition, entertainment package, tan leather seats, \$14,000. Call 223-3706 or cell 844-4621.

**For Sale:** Royal blue sofa and love seat, \$200; set of full mattress with a frame, \$75 obo. Call Elena Ramos at 566-4063.

**For Sale:** 2003 1/2 Coleman Westlake, folding trailer by Fleetwood with 2 king size beds w/quilted mattresses, convertible dinette bed, slide-out sofa bed, sleeps up to nine people, many more extras, \$10,500 obo. Call 826-8284.

**For Sale:** 1995 Rinker 20' Merc-Cruiser, open bow ski/fish boat, IB/OB, V6, trailer and all accessories in excellent condition, \$7,995. Call 274-4390.

**For Sale:** White wood 6 drawer dresser with mirror \$40; Step 2 Race Car, battery powered, for ages 3-5, new condition, \$50; two Disney VHS tapes, The Princess Diaries and 101 Dalmatians (cartoon version) \$5 each. Call 821-5479.

**For Sale:** Kenwood cabinet stereo with 5 CDs and amplifiers with 3 ft. speakers, \$100; 4, 9 ft. by 12 ft. rugs, 1 maroon, 1 blue, and 2 beige, \$20 each; Jenny Lind crib with mattress, \$40; Right Start Sit-N-Stand Stroller, \$75; 1995 Ford Windstar LX Hunter Green w/114K miles, \$6,500, moving, must sell all. Call 274-5659.

**For Sale:** Bowflex Pro with LAT pull down in excellent condition, \$600; Japanese teakwood

table, used as coffee table in excellent condition, \$300. Call 493-0754.

**For Sale:** 1997 Chevrolet Astrovan in very good running condition, V-6, cold AC, new stereo, \$4,500.00 obo; 2 Blue stuffed chairs, low back in excellent condition, \$40 each; Band Saw in good condition, needs blade adjustment, \$25. Call 646-7371.

**For Sale:** Zenith color TV works great, not cable ready, \$50; 3 dolls, bride, groom, bridesmaid, hand crocheted outfits, \$50; framed print by Earl Staley, Castolon, Big Bend National Park, \$125. Call 634-4205.

**For Sale:** Sanyo microwave oven still in original box, \$50; rims with almost new tires, 4 each (15") for 98 Jeep Grand Cherokee, like new condition, \$190. Call 493-8420.

**For Sale:** Take over payments of a 2002 Chevy con van fully loaded, under 14K miles, payment are \$492 per month, first payment due in June. Call 867-2414, Leticia.

**For Sale:** GE 30-inch Select Top model black cook top, \$75 obo; 2 tires 1-P225 X 60R14 and 1-P205 X VR14, \$20 each. Call 221-2509 or leave message at (830) 980-2622.

**For Sale:** 1990 Ford Probe cruise control, cold AC, new tires and batter, needs paint job, \$950. Call 710-8646 or 221-8262.

**For Sale:** Oak dining table, extends to seat 12, \$400; computer desk, \$35; Compaq printer, \$15; book shelf, \$25; big office metal desk \$35. Call 241-1291.

**For Sale:** Chain-link fence with one gate plus accessories, approximately 120 sq. ft., \$190 obo., oak bedrails for queen size bed, still in box, \$50. Call 820-3051 or 643-3011.

**For Sale:** Outdoor children play equipment, Barbie play house, \$75; sliding board, \$40; merry-go-round, \$40; riding horse, \$40; Sony Trinitron 27" TV needs work, \$50 obo. Call 223-2043.

**Moving Sale:** Friday and Saturday, April 16-17 at 8719 Norwich. For information, call 241-1291.

## Career Clips



*The Army Career and Alumni Program office provides numerous services to eligible people in transition including job assistance. Information on these and other positions is available to ACAP customers in the ACAP Office, Bldg. 2264 or call 221-1213.*

**Staffing Coordinator** - San Antonio. Require a strong background in customer service, preferably in the medical field, Nursing and Allied. Working knowledge of medical terminology and computer experience. Have excellent organizational and communications skills.

**TRICARE Service Center Manager-South** - San Antonio. Direct the operation of a TRICARE Service Center. Ensure compliance requirements, coordinate and direct the efforts of the TSC staff to optimize results, and act as the primary point of contact with Military Treatment Facilities.

**Clinical Innovations Specialist-Referral Nurse** - San Antonio. Ensure providers and members receive prompt, courteous, and professional service. Process referral requests for the commercial HMO, Medicare, Medicaid and Point of Service products according to established guidelines, policies and procedures, and legislation.

## Resumix workshop for U.S. Army Garrison employees

Accessing Resumix workshop will be held April 20, 8-9:15 a.m. Attendance is by reservation only and limited to eight per class. For information or registration, call 221-2276.

## Civilian Workshops scheduled

The Army Career and Alumni Program staff will conduct Resume, Writing, and Interviewing Workshops for DoD civilian employees who are contemplating leaving federal service workforce. Workshops are being offered on the following dates: April 16 and May 5. To register as an ACAP client and to reserve a seat in one of the workshops, call 221-1213. Workshops will be cancelled and clients rescheduled, if there are less than 10 confirmed attendees one week prior to the workshop. Register now and get your friends and family members to do the same.



## Community events

### 'Arsenic and Old Lace' at the Harlequin, now through May 8

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will feature "Arsenic and Old Lace," a comedy by Joseph Kesselring on Wednesday through Saturday evenings now through May 8. Prices are \$25.95 on Fridays and Saturdays and \$22.95 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are discounts for military and students. The house opens for salad bar and cocktails at 6:15 p.m., buffet is open from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and curtain is at 8 p.m. For reservations, call the Harlequin Dinner Theatre at 222-9694 or visit the box office from noon to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. on Saturdays. Theatre is handicapped accessible.

### Caminada de Fiesta Walk, April 17

The Texas Wanderers volksmarch club will host a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) and optional 5-kilometer walk at Fort Sam Houston on April 17 starting at the Army Medical Department Museum at the corner of Harry Wurzbach and Stanley Road. For information, call Lyn Ward at 651-6536 or e-mail Lward10KM@aol.com

### Canyon Lake Walk, April 17-18

The New Braunfels Marsch-und Wandergruppe volksmarch club will host a 10-kilometer (6.2 mile) and optional 5-kilometer walk at Canyon Lake on April 17-18 starting at the Community Resource and Recreation Center of Canyon Lake at 125 Mabel Jones Drive. For information, call Helgard Suhr-Hollis at (830) 625-6330 or e-mail helgard@texas.net.

### SAROA to hold steak cookout April 22

The San Antonio Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will hold a steak cookout April 22, 5 p.m. at Eberle Park, Randolph Air Force Base. The cost is \$12. For information or reservations, call 228-9955 or 228-9956.

### Fort Sam Houston Newcomers' Extravaganza set for April 27

The next Newcomers Extravaganza will be held April 27, 9 a.m. in the Roadrunner Community Center. Attendance is mandatory for all permanent party in processing Soldier in ranks of lieutenant colonel and below within 60 days of arrival at Fort Sam Houston. For information, call the army Community service relocation program at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

### A-76 Town Hall Meeting, April 27 and 28

Attention U.S. Army Garrison employees, the next A-76 Town Hall Meetings will be held April 27 and 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Evans Auditorium.

### USO San Antonio Walk for the Troops, May 1

The USO San Antonio will hold the 2nd annual Walk for the Troops on Saturday, May 1, 8-11 a.m. at the Verison Wireless Amphitheatre. Individuals and teams are encourage to participate. For information or to register, call the USO at 227-9373, extension 14 or e-mail loriivy-marx@alamouso.org. You may also register the morning of the event from 7-8 a.m.

### Health Protection Conference returns to New Mexico, Aug. 9-12

The Seventh Annual Force Health Protection Conference will return to the Albuquerque, N.M., Convention Center Aug. 9-12, with pre-conference sessions set for Aug. 6-8. For information and registration, visit the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Web site conference link at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/fhp/>.

# iQue Pasa?

## Volunteer

### Wilford Hall seeks persons allergic to fire ants

Wilford Hall Medical Center is looking for volunteers to participate in a research study evaluating a one-day fire ant allergy treatment plan. For more information or to volunteer, call the Allergy-Immunology Clinic at 292-4278.

### Laser procedure treats varicose veins

Wilford Hall Medical Center is seeking patients who require treatment for pain, discomfort or unsightliness caused by varicose veins. A minimally invasive laser procedure is available that leaves no scar and allows most patients to resume normal activities almost immediately. For information or to schedule an evaluation, call Maj. (Dr.) George Leon or Maj. (Dr.) Mark LePage at 292-7839.

### Cole Cougar Pride Club sells Fiesta parade tickets

The Cole Cougar Pride Club, the school's teacher-parent organization, is selling tickets to the Fiesta 2004 parades. The Battle of Flowers parade will be held Friday, April 23, 11:50 a.m. The Fiesta Flambeau parade will be held the evening of Saturday, April 24, 6:50 p.m. Seats are \$7 each and are located along the 100 block of East Commerce Street. To purchase seats, call Shari Mullins at 226-9568.

### Ten Star All-Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camp. This camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls ages 10-19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, and Vince Carter. Players from 50 states and 11 foreign countries attend the camp. Basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American team. For a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873.

## Education

### Family Member Employment Assistance workshop, April 21

The Army Community Service Family Member Employment Assistance will offer a Resume Workshop on Wednesday, April 21, 9 a.m. to noon. It is not enough to just have a resume, you need to have the right resume to increase your chances of landing an interview. Reservations are required and seating is limited to family members of active duty, retired service members and current DoD civilians. For information, call Pat Fory at 221-2705 or e-mail patricia.fory@samhouston.army.mil.

### Collateral Duty Safety Officer Course, April 22-23

The next Collateral Duty Safety Officer course will be held April 22, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and April 23, 8 a.m. to noon. The course will be held in Bldg. 2841, Willis Hall, Room 2206. For registration, call Richard Edges at 221-3857.

### NGS Classes start April 28

National Graduate School Masters Degree classes begin April 28 on Fort Sam Houston. Orientation and registration will be held April 21. The NGS Masters Degree in Quality Management provides two benefits. First, it is a project-based degree. That is, students work to improve actual processes for their sponsoring organization. Second, the degree provides students with the management tools to improve their work proficiency and adds to their personal skill set. Among those tools are Project Management, Activity-based Costing, Six Sigma, and Benchmarking. For information, visit [www.ngs.edu](http://www.ngs.edu) or call 1-800-838-2580.

### DMRTI to host course June 21-25

The Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute will host the Homeland Security Medical Executive Course at the Hilton Austin Airport in Austin, Texas. Course information is available at [www.dmrti.army.mil](http://www.dmrti.army.mil).

### Direct commissioning program available

The U.S. Army Health Care Recruiting Team is looking for qualified applicants for their direct commissioning program. Anyone working toward a bachelors' degree in any science, nursing, physics, nutrition or engineering may qualify to become an Army officer. The program is open to active duty, reserve, National Guard and civilians. For information, call Capt. Beverly S. Scott at 692-7376, (877) 570-8053 or e-mail Beverly.Casiano@usarec.army.mil.

### ACES announces new hours

Army Continuing Education System, Bldg. 2248, 2408 N. New Braunfels, announces new hours of operations: Monday through Thursday 6:30 a.m. to noon and 1-4:15 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. to noon and 1-3:45 p.m. The center is closed from noon to 1 p.m. Have your registration information and cost when requesting tuition assistance. Also have a Degree Plan from the school you plan to attend. Guidance Counselors are: Jane Moon, 221-1373, Richard Rodriguez, 221-1429, Hazel Rockeymoore, 221-1634. Reception Desk, 221-1738. Army Learning Center, Clarence Prevo, 221-1117.

### Tuition assistance available for active duty Soldiers

Tuition assistance for active duty Soldiers is \$4,500 per fiscal year with a cap of \$250 per semester hour to include fees. The current policy of \$4,500 per year is still in effect for the U.S. Army in fiscal year 2004. Soldiers will need a degree plan from the university or college they are attending no later than completion of nine semester hours. This is a regulatory requirement that must be complied with prior to continuing in any college program. Visit the Army Continuing Education System, Bldg. 2248, to review educational goals with a professional guidance counselor. For information, call 221-1738.

## Meetings

### USAWOA, Lone Star Chapter meeting, April 17

The Lone Star Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association is holding a special meeting, in lieu of the regularly scheduled monthly meeting, for the Annual Installation of Officers on Saturday, April 17, 6 p.m. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard and family members of current or former Warrant Officers are invited to attend. For information, call WO1 Matthew Watterson at 295-8773 or e-mail at [matthew.watterson@us.army.mil](mailto:matthew.watterson@us.army.mil).

### Purple Heart veterans sought

Purple Heart Veterans are invited to join the meeting of Military Order of the Purple Heart on the first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center to learn more about combat related entitlements and claims benefits. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Bring your DD For 214 and a short biography.

### FSH Sergeants Major Association seeks new members

The Fort Sam Houston Sergeants Major Association meets every third Thursday of the month, 6 p.m. in the FSH NCO Club. Retired Sgt. Maj. Howard T. Ray, president of the association, extends a cordial invitation to all Active Duty and retired command sergeants major, sergeants major and master sergeants on the promotion list from all service branches to attend the meetings. For information, call Sgt. Maj. Hector Viczaino at 221-7305.

### Calling all single Soldiers to join BOSS

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of every month, 1:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center. The BOSS committee was established to provide Soldier input to the commander, who uses the committee's recommendations to improve single Soldiers' Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. For information, call BOSS President Kimberly Vaughan at 916-1772 or BOSS Program Manager Ben Paniagua at 224-7250.