

FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"

Fort Sam begins BRAC construction

\$92 million facility slated for trauma research



Photo by Esther Garcia

Military and community leaders break ground for the Joint Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma Research Friday. The new research center will be collocated with the Institute of Surgical Research and just steps away from Brooke Army Medical Center. Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony are (from left) Col. Kendall Cox; Tom Gilbane; Eric Stephens; Navy Rear Adm. Marshall Cusic Jr.; Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw; Air Force Maj. Gen. Mark Welsh III; Congressman Charles Gonzalez; Maj. Gen. George Weightman; and Cpl. Christopher Velazquez.

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

The groundbreaking of a \$92 million research center Friday marked the first Base Realignment and Closure construction project at Fort Sam Houston directed by the 2005 BRAC legislation.

Once completed, the 150,000-square-foot Joint Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma Research will be home to all Defense Department combat casualty care and trauma research missions.

"This is not just one new building we're building here; this represents a major commitment and acknowledgment of the importance and the impact

See CONSTRUCTION P6

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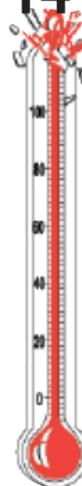
Garrison exceeds CFC goal by 14 percent

By Olivia Mendoza
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

The 2007 Combined Federal Campaign ran from Sept. 11 to Nov. 21 with a goal of \$102,952.

The U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston exceeded that goal by 14 percent, with donations totaling \$117,060.62.

In honor of the accomplishment, the U.S. Army Garrison will receive the



2007 Gold Award of the San Antonio Area Combined Federal Campaign Superior Achievement in February.

"We exceeded our CFC goal through team work - the same way we take care of all of Fort Sam Houston," said Garrison Commander Col. Wendy Martinson. "I'm honored to be on this team. I am extremely proud of the Fort Sam Houston

See CFC P5

'Stop, look, listen'

Pedestrians, drivers should practice caution on post

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Most people can remember back to their childhood when their parents told them to "stop, look and listen" before crossing a street.

The safety lessons of the past still hold true today; however, many pedestrians on Fort Sam Houston may need a refresher course in the basics.

So far this month two pedestrians have been hit at Fort Sam Houston; both were at fault for not yielding to a vehicle.

See PEDESTRIANS P5

E-MAIL NEWS LEADER AT: NEWS.LEADER@CONUS.ARMY.MIL

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Commander urges safety over holiday weekend

By Col. J.M. Harmon, III
Acting Commander, AMEDDC&S and
Fort Sam Houston

On Monday, civilians, and their Families honor the lifetime work and accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. King sought to promote civil rights, equality and freedom for people so all walks of life, regardless of race, creed, color or religion. I hope you all enjoy this important national holiday safely.

I ask commanders and directors to reinforce with their staffs the importance of their individual role in accident prevention.

Unfortunately, our Army continues to lose Soldiers to accidents at an unacceptable rate as 73 percent of all accidental deaths in FY08 occurred in privately owned or tactical vehicles. Leader emphasis on privately owned vehicle safety is paramount.

The Combat Readiness Center recently released two innovative tools designed to determine a Soldier's accident potential. This tool promotes interaction between Soldiers and their first-line leaders. It is available at the CRC Web site at <https://crc.army.mil/home/>.

Disciplined leaders engaged at all echelons promote a safer

operational environment. Negative behavior such as traffic offenses, alcohol abuse, misconduct and poor performance are indicator of potential POV accident victims.

Identify "at risk" Soldiers and employees, counsel them and take proactive measures to modify their risky behavior. Commanders and directors should emphasize the main causes of traffic-related deaths are excessive speed for conditions, impaired driver, inattention while driving, and failure to use seat belts.

Leaders must also emphasize sexual assault, prevention and response in their

safety briefings; guidance is available at www.sexualassault.army.mil. Army policy promotes sensitive care for victims of sexual assault and accountability for those who commit these crimes.

I wish you all a safe holiday weekend and hope you will take advantage of this time to honor Dr. King's legacy of tolerance, peace and equality.

Emergency numbers

Dial 911 when calling from a Fort Sam Houston or Camp Bullis telephone number prefix

Dial 554-4713 when calling from a cell phone or from anywhere on Fort Sam Houston telephone number prefixes.

On Camp Bullis, **dial 295-7517** from a cell phone or non-Camp Bullis prefix.

The fire prevention office has phone stickers for these numbers. Stop by Building 4196, Ro 221-5452.



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Taking care of Soldiers

New law gives disabled veterans more home grants

WASHINGTON — A change in federal law allows certain seriously injured veterans and servicemembers to receive multiple grants for constructing or modifying their homes, the Department of Veterans Affairs has announced.

Before the change, eligible veterans and servicemembers could receive special adaptive housing grants of \$10,000 or \$50,000 from VA only once. Now they may use the benefit up to three times, so long as the total grants stay within specified limits outlined in the law.

"Veterans seriously disabled during their military service have earned this benefit," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "This change ensures that every eligible veteran and servicemember has the chance to use the maximum amount afforded to them by our grateful nation."

In order to ensure all previous recipients are aware of this opportunity, VA has mailed more than 16,000 letters to eligible veterans, reaching

out to those who used only a portion of their grant or who decided not to use the grant even after initially qualifying.

The response over the past year has been dramatic, with more than 4,600 applications received thus far. Of these, about 3,900 veterans have been determined eligible under the new law, and more than 200 grants already awarded.

VA has averaged about 1,000 adaptive housing grant applications per year during the past 10 years. Since the program began in 1948, it has provided more than \$650 million in grants to about 34,000 seriously disabled veterans.

To ensure veterans' and servicemembers' needs are met and grant money is spent properly, VA works closely throughout the entire process with contractors and architects to design, construct and modify homes that meet the individuals' housing accessibility needs.

Eligible for the benefit are those with specific service-connected disabili-

"Veterans seriously disabled during their military service have earned this benefit. This change ensures that every eligible veteran and servicemember has the chance to use the maximum amount afforded to them by our grateful nation."

*Dr. James B. Peake
Secretary of Veterans Affairs*

ties entitling them to VA compensation for a "permanent and total disability." They may receive a grant to construct an adapted home or to modify an existing one to meet their special needs.

VA has three types of adapted housing grants available. The Specially Adapted Housing grant, currently limited to \$50,000, is generally used to create a wheelchair-accessible home for those who may require such assistance for activities of daily living.

VA's Home Loan Guaranty program and the Native American Direct Loan program may also be used with the SAH benefit to purchase an adaptive home.

The Special Housing Adaptations grant, currently limited to \$10,000, is generally used to assist veterans with mobility throughout their homes due to blindness in both eyes, or the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or extremities below the elbow.

A third type established by the new law, the Temporary Residence Adaptation grant, is available to eligible veterans and seriously injured active duty servicemembers who are temporarily living or intend to temporarily live in a home owned by a family member.

(Source: Department of Veterans Affairs and Army News Service)

Evacuated Soldiers now get immediate combat injury pay

By C. Todd Lopez
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — When Soldiers are evacuated from a combat zone due to a combat-related injury, they no longer need to wait 30 days to begin receiving their Combat-Related Injury Rehabilitation Pay.

Now, CIP kicks in immediately, ensuring troops continue to receive an additional \$430 dollars a month, even while they are recovering in a military hospital. The change is more in line with what Congress envisioned when the program was created, said Craig Taylor, Combat Injury Pay program coordinator.

"This will alleviate the hardship of the stopping of the hostile combat pay when a Soldier is medically evacuated from the theater of operation," Taylor said. "Soldiers medically evacuated out of theater up until now had to wait one to two months to see the CIP in their pay, and that is counter to what the

"Now, CIP kicks in immediately, ensuring troops continue to receive an additional \$430 dollars a month, even while they are recovering in a military hospital. The change is more in line with what Congress envisioned when the program was created."

*Craig Taylor
Combat Injury Pay program coordinator*

Congress intended for the program."

Military members may be entitled to receive special benefits such as hostile fire pay, hazardous duty pay and imminent danger pay while deployed to places such as Iraq or Afghanistan. That pay can add up to \$430 dollars a month.

Military Families often plan their finances around that special pay continuing for the duration of a deployment. But when a military member is forced to leave the combat zone for medical reasons, that pay stops. The CIP is meant to alleviate the hardship caused by that unexpected loss of income.

Active-duty Soldiers who receive CIP will see this benefit annotated on their Leave and Earnings Statement as "Fly Deck Pay." National Guard and Reserve personnel will see it annotated as, "Other Credits," with an explanation in the remarks section.

Soldiers who believe they may be eligible to receive CIP should contact their Warrior Transition Unit chain of command, local Wounded in Action Defense Finance and Accounting Service representative, or call 1-800-237-1336. Additional information about the program can be found at https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/TSGLI_CIP_Page/index.htm.

News Briefs

Museum closure

The Fort Sam Houston Museum will be closed Sunday in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. The museum will resume normal operations Wednesday. For more information, call 221-1886.

MLK March

The City of San Antonio 2008 MLK March and Commemorative Program will be held Monday at 10 a.m. The three-mile march will begin at the Eastside Boys and Girls Club at 3500 MLK Drive (MLK Freedom Bridge), and will end at Pittman-Sullivan Park at 1101 Iowa where the commemorative program and job fair will take place. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ricky Evans at 295-0561 or Sgt. 1st Class Rosalba Chambers at 221-4240.

Tax time

The Fort Sam Houston Garrison Tax Center will begin seeing customers Tuesday and the Brooke Army Medical Center satellite office will open Jan. 28. The Fort Sam Houston Garrison Tax Center is located in Building 133, immediately behind the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, and the BAMC satellite office is located in the basement level of BAMC, in suite L46-8B. The garrison office is taking appointments and the BAMC office will begin taking appointments Tuesday. To schedule an appointment with either tax center office, call 295-1040.

Newcomers' Extravaganza

A Newcomers' Extravaganza will be held Jan. 29 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. This event is mandatory for all permanent party military members, lieutenant colonel and below within 60 days of arrival to Fort Sam Houston. Soldiers, civilians and Family members will have the opportunity to learn about the post and local area. Children are welcome. For more information, call 221-2705 or 221-2418.

Fort Sam acquires new fire truck

The Fort Sam Houston Fire and Emergency Services entered into a new era in firefighting by putting a new fire truck into service Dec. 24.

The new fire truck, branded ENGINE 1, is a 2007 Pierce Contender Custom pumper, and Fort Sam Houston's first fire engine in more than 20 years.

"The acquisition of the new fire engine is the single most important thing that has happened to the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department in the last 20 years," said Chief Curtis Williams, of the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department. "The new fire engine will enable us to provide the proper level of service to our Fort Sam Houston customers."

The new truck was acquired through a lease program, which enabled the fire department to avoid waiting for funds to purchase a new one. Army fire departments are normally put on a priority list for new trucks, which could translate into a delay in new equipment.

The new truck is vastly different from what the fire department has used in the past.

The old fire truck carried four firefighters and, due to its configuration, forced two of the firefighters to sit outside. This not only exposed the firefighters to some of the extreme weather conditions of South Texas, but also caused them to inhale dangerous diesel exhaust and placed them at risk for potential injury or ejection during an accident.

The new truck allows safe interior seating for up to six firefighters. The cab is heated and air conditioned for comfort in extreme weather conditions and can also be used for rest and recovery during firefighting operations. Having the enclosed crew cab also prevents any of the firefighter's personal protective equipment from falling out of the vehicle while on the road.

The old fire truck carried 500 gallons of water and



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

The new fire truck, branded ENGINE 1, is a 2007 Pierce Contender Custom pumper, and Fort Sam Houston's first fire engine in more than 20 years.

had limited compartment space for the tools and equipment required for some of the operations that needed to be performed.

The new ENGINE 1 truck carries 1,000 gallons of water, in addition to 30 gallons of specialized firefighting foam. The compartments on the new truck are much larger and allow more room for specialized equipment such as the Jaws of Life.

The new truck came equipped with all the ladders needed to meet the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department requirements and can also hold an assortment of hose.

There are no ladders hanging from the side of the truck. The new truck incorporates ladder storage inside the body of the fire truck allowing a longer life expectancy of the ladders because they are no longer exposed to

See **NEW FIRE TRUCK P7**

IRS identifies 10 common mistakes on tax returns

By Capt. David Perrone
Fort Sam Houston Tax Center officer-in-charge

This year, the Internal Revenue Service reviewed tax returns filed during this past tax season and identified the top 10 mistakes commonly made by taxpayers when they filed their tax returns.

These mistakes cost taxpayers millions of dollars. Sometimes the mistakes resulted in substantial penalties and interest. The mistakes identified include the following:

1. Choosing the wrong filing status, whether Single, Joint or Head of Household.
2. Failing to include Social Security numbers or using incorrect numbers.
3. Failing to use the correct forms and

schedules when completing the tax return.

4. Failing to sign and date the tax return.
5. Claiming ineligible dependents.
6. Failing to file for earned income credit.
7. Improperly claiming the earned income credit.
8. Failing to report and pay domestic payroll taxes.
9. Failing to report income just because it was not included on a W-2, a Form 1099 or other form. This included income paid "under the table."
10. Treating employees as independent contractors.

The IRS also identified several other mistakes including failing to file a tax

return when a refund was owed to the taxpayer and mailing the tax return to the wrong address.

The Fort Sam Houston Garrison Tax Center will begin seeing customers Tuesday, while the Brooke Army Medical Center satellite office will be open for business Jan. 28.

Tax preparers have already completed IRS training designed to identify and avoid mistakes like those previously mentioned. All preparers must complete a course on tax preparation and pass several tests to certify that they can prepare tax returns free of mistakes, and ensure everyone receives the tax refund to which they are lawfully entitled.

The IRS provides software to each tax center, free of charge. The soft-

ware permits the tax centers to electronically file taxes people can receive their tax refund as quickly as possible. Past experience shows tax refunds can be electronically deposited to an account in as few as eight days.

The Fort Sam Houston Garrison Tax Center is located in Building 133, immediately behind the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, and the BAMC satellite office is located in the basement level of BAMC, in suite L46-8B, which is adjacent to the Housekeeping Department. The Garrison office is taking appointments and the BAMC office will begin taking appointments Tuesday. To schedule an appointment with either tax center office, call 295-1040.

PEDESTRIANS from P1

Further compounding the problem is the experience level of drivers on post. "We have predominately younger and older drivers," Lem said. "So, we have inexperience and, in some cases, diminished capacity. It can make for dangerous situations."

The pedestrians aren't the only ones at fault; drivers must yield to pedestrians once they are in the crosswalk. Last year, Fort Sam Houston had 10 vehicle-pedestrian collisions. Investigations showed a 50-50 split – half of the vehicle operators were at fault and the other half of the accidents were the pedestrian's fault.

Lem said many drivers and pedestrians bring off-post driving habits on post. "Some people drive too fast; other people believe they can just walk across the street without being careful. If we catch them, then we will cite them."

Police officers can determine speed



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

A vehicle yields so Soldiers can safely cross Stanley Road. Under Texas law, pedestrians don't have the right of way until they are in the crosswalk.

on impact, Lem said. For instance, "if we find that a driver was going in excess of 25 mph on Stanley Road, then the driver can also be charged with speeding."

Additionally, drivers and pedestri-

ans can take their case to a civil court, where they could be looking at a heavy penalty for a careless mistake. "Military members can face prosecution in the military system, federal system and be sued in civil court," Lem

CFC from P1

Garrison; they are an exceptional group of people who demonstrate daily their care and compassion for Soldiers and their community."

Along with garrison employees, Child and Youth Services donated more than

\$300 and retirees donated about \$5,000, according to Cynthia Taylor, Fort Sam Houston CFC project officer.

"The Directorate of Human Resources served as the project manager and the key workers from the U.S. Army Garrison directorate/activity added a tremendous effort in

making the 2007 CFC a triumph," said Taylor, who expressed her personal appreciation for their work. "Each organization worker will be recognized for their hard work and dedication and will receive a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Service."

Taylor said, "The key to the

success for the 2007 CFC was through the strong command support, strong marketing plan, commitment and the dedicated workers that helped make it a successful year."

Linda Green, director, Human Resources Directorate, added her appreciation for Taylor's efforts, "The corner-

stone to the execution of a successful CFC campaign is the unit project officer.

"The reason we were so successful this year compared to previous years was because of Ms. Taylor's extreme dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to the program,"

Green said.



CONSTRUCTION from P1

that trauma research has on all patients," said Maj. Gen. George Weightman, commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, during the groundbreaking ceremony.

The new facility, slated for completion in September 2009, signifies a "new era in military medical research," the general said.

The research center will enable research and development experts, scattered throughout the nation, to centralize efforts, which will improve efficiency, reduce duplication and enhance the collusion between them, the general said.

By doing so, the DoD will ensure "we continue to provide the best research in an environment that will enable (medical experts) to extend the boundaries of research," Weightman said.

The center will be collocated with the Institute of Surgical Research, which falls under Weightman's command, and next to Brooke Army Medical Center. The ISR also will benefit from BRAC with a 5,000-square-foot renovation.

Additionally, the research center adds 230 people to the 440 already working at the ISR, which totals "670 people dedicated to improving the

quality of life of our wounded warriors," the general said.

"Locating this facility here (with the ISR) at Fort Sam Houston is the absolute logical choice," he said.

Weightman attributed the high survivability rate of today's war in part to the ISR, which has steadily produced life-saving products and technologies.

Innovations include new field dressings and tourniquets, hemoglobin-based oxygen carriers with a two or three-year shelf life rather than 30 days, new methods for wound closure after a burn injury, and five interrelated computerized devices that allow medics to provide quality care to wounded servicemembers at the point of injury.

The focus of the ISR and the future focus of the new joint center will be on the delivery of immediate care for warriors who have sustained life-threatening injuries on the battlefield.

"This is not just pie in the sky research ... (the ISR) has been saving lives and improving function every day since it has been open," Weightman



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Cpl. Christopher Velazquez, a wounded warrior recovering at Brooke Army Medical Center, is interviewed by a member of the press Friday after the groundbreaking ceremony for the Joint Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma Research. Guest speaker Maj. Gen. George Weightman, commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, dedicated the new building to Velazquez and all wounded warriors. "He's the reason all of us (medical professionals) exist — to take care of him."

said. "It's just incredible, the comprehensiveness and far-reaching aspects."

The combined research efforts of the ISR and the joint center will not only benefit military members, but civilians as well. "While the causes of trauma are different, the responses

are similar," Weightman said. "And the interventions to save lives are remarkably similar. The fruits of this labor will help every civilian in this nation."

See **CONSTRUCTION P7**

CONSTRUCTION from P6

Photo by Elaine Wilson

Dr. Basil Pruitt (center) laughs at a comment made by guest speaker, Maj. Gen. George Weightman, commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. Pruitt was the commander of the Institute of Surgical Research for 28 years. "His energy, his commitment, his vision is why we're standing here today," Weightman said.

The construction project is the first of many for Fort Sam Houston and San Antonio; all tied into the 2005 BRAC legislation. Over the next three years Fort Sam Houston will kick off 37 different BRAC-related construction projects. Lackland Air Force Base will begin 14 and Randolph Air Force Base will begin eight. In total, the projects will cost more than \$2 billion, the general said.

"I can't think of a better investment of taxpayer's dollars," Weightman said. "It reaffirms San Antonio's status as a global center of excellence."

NEW FIRE TRUCK from P4

road grime and ultraviolet rays from the sun.

The fire service is very different today than it was 20 years ago. Fire departments are no longer tasked with just fighting fires. In today's multi-faceted mission, firefighters respond to emergency medical incidents, motor-vehicle extrication, high-angle rescues, swift-water rescues, hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction incidents. In comparison to the older fire trucks, where space was at a premium, the new truck allows firefighters to more effectively mitigate a wide variety of incidents.

(Source: Fort Sam Houston Fire Department)



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

(From left) Chief Curtis Williams, Fort Sam Houston Fire Department; Col. Wendy Martinson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison; and Maj. Christopher Hayes, director of Emergency Services, officially commission a new fire truck to the Fort Sam Houston Fire Department during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 17.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIQUIDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD DEBT?

IT CAN HAPPEN.

The Financial Readiness Program at Army Community Service offers this service. For more information, call 221-1612.

Voter registration under way

By Dave Melancon

U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Public Affairs

HEIDELBERG, Germany — The 2008 election year kicked off Jan. 3 with the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire's presidential primary took place Jan. 8. Other states' primaries, many with bumped-up voting dates, follow right behind the Granite State.

And Election Day, Nov. 4, is less than a year away. So there is no time like the present to register to vote, say voting assistance officers.

Throughout the Army, voting assistance officers are helping Soldiers, Family members, Department of Defense civilian employees, retirees and contractors in registering to vote. They can also identify a voter's county of record back home and will assist with filling out the Federal Postcard Application. Plus, they can help other U.S. citizens, who are not associated with the military register as well.

While their processes vary, all 50 states and U.S. territories recognize and accept the Federal Postcard Application — U.S. Government Printing Office Standard Form 76. The form can be obtained from a VAO or downloaded from the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site.

After completing an FPCA, voters need to



U.S. Air Force photo

forward it to their county election officers because the FPCA registers the individual and requests an absentee ballot.

Voters still should check with their state's secretary of state or director of elections for state-specific laws and guidance.

Every state is different when it comes to registration procedures and deadlines for getting the federal post card registration to a county registrar. Links to state registrars can be found on the FVAP's Web site.

To ensure Soldiers find the right person to assist them, lists of trained garrison VAOs are continuously updated and maintained by garrison directorates of human resources.

For more information, call Cynthia Taylor at 221-0107 or visit the FVAP Web site at www.fvap.gov.

(Source: Army News Service)

U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program launches blog

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program is proud to announce the debut of the “Army Wounded Warrior Program Blog,” located at <http://www.aw2.army.mil>.

The blog will provide updates on how the AW2 Program is fulfilling its mission of serving severely wounded, injured and ill Soldiers and their Families for as long as needed, wherever they are located. The AW2 blog will voice a variety of perspectives from inside the U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program and will allow for feedback in the form of comments.

“The Army Wounded Warrior Blog is an exciting new communication tool for our program,” said Col. Jim Rice, director, AW2 Program. “The blog is an opportunity for people to learn more about what we do on a daily and weekly basis and to hear from some different perspectives from Soldiers and Families within the AW2 program. Also, the blog will be used to enhance current services provided by the Army for severely wounded Soldiers and their Families.”

The Army Wounded Warrior Blog will cover a range of topics related to the



AW2 Program and severely wounded Soldiers and their Families. This new forum will be updated weekly with postings written by individuals involved in the AW2 program, from program leadership to those providing on-the-ground assistance to severely wounded Soldiers and their Families throughout the world.

The AW2 Program's personalized recovery services for severely wounded Soldiers are not limited by geography or physical location and are not constrained by recovery or rehabilitation timelines.

“AW2 promises to ‘never leave a fallen comrade’ and continues to help severely wounded, injured and ill Soldiers and their Families in their times of need, no matter how long it takes,” Rice said.

For more information, visit the Army Wounded Warrior Blog at www.aw2.army.mil. Check back frequently for new postings and program information.

For AW2 Soldiers who need assistance, contact your Soldier Family Management Specialist or AW2 headquarters at 1-800-237-1336. For people who are not AW2 Soldiers, call Military One Source at 1-800-342-9647. For more information about AW2, visit <https://www.aw2.army.mil/>.

(Source: U.S. Army Human Resources Command)

Army updates uniform, accessory wear-out dates

The following items have a wear-out date of April 30 for active-duty, Reserve and Guard personnel. The wear-out date for ROTC will be April 2009.

- Battle Dress Uniform
- Desert Battle Dress Uniform
- T-shirt, brown
- Boots, combat, black leather
- Woodland and desert camouflage pattern caps
- Olive drab green nametape and U.S. Army
- Subdued olive green, shoulder-sleeve insignias and subdued shoulder-sleeve insignias - former wartime service
- Black rigger belt
- Belt, web with open-faced black buckle

- Jungle boots (green and black)
- The black knit cap and black micro-fleece knit cap for active-duty, Reserve and Guard personnel will have a wear-out date of Sept. 30, 2009.
- The coat, cold weather, woodland camouflage pattern (field jacket) for active-duty, Reserve and Guard personnel will have a wear-out date of Sept. 30, 2010.

For more information on uniform-wear policy, call Sgt. Maj. Katrina Easley at 703-604-0623, DSN 664-0623 or e-mail katrina.easley@hqda.army.mil.

(Source: Pentagon Telecommunications Center on behalf of DA Washington, D.C.)

Post Pulse

What do you do to prepare for tax season?

"I have had my daughter do my taxes for the past three years. I just give her all my records and expenses and she takes care of it."

Rene Agosto



"I make sure all my records are straight before filing, accountability is the key."

Pvt. Jamie Goforth



"We normally wait till we get our W2 forms and then take (them in) for quick refunds."

Staff Sgt. John Joseph Takai and wife Mae



"We begin planning at the beginning of the year by keeping all receipts."

Hollis Stephens and wife Norma

Did you know?

Did you know that obsolete uniforms and insignia are still usable?

The issue of the Army Combat Uniform has rendered the Battle Dress Uniform and the three-color Desert Battle Dress Uniform obsolete, along with all of the rank insignia, shoulder sleeve insignia, skill badges and U.S. Army tapes. The subdued metal pin-on badges are the only items that can successfully transition to the ACUs.

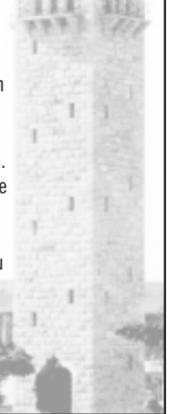
However, the Fort Sam Houston Museum can use these items to document the history of the installation. By doing so, the items are preserved as evidence of the service of Soldiers at the post so that future generations will understand the history of Fort Sam Houston.

So, if you have obsolete uniforms and insignia, you might consider making them a part of the history of Fort Sam Houston by donating them to the Fort Sam Houston Museum.

For more information or to make a uniform or insignia donation, call 221-1886.



A private first class from Health Services Command wears the stay-pressed fatigues with pin-on subdued rank and subdued sew-on insignia in 1982.



Outstanding service

Reservists honored for support of OIF at Fort Sam

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Soldiers of the 217th Transportation Company were honored for their service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom during a Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony Sunday at the Sam Houston Club.

The reservists deployed to Kuwait in August 2006 and returned a year later with an impressive list of accomplishments, according to Brig. Gen. Karen LeDoux, commander, 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

While deployed, the company conducted more than 219 combat logistic patrol missions in and out of Iraq. Responsible for moving heavy equipment such as tanks and bulldozers, the Soldiers logged 7.3 million miles and hauled 218 billion pounds of equipment. Yet, the reservists never failed to finish a mission or meet a required delivery date, LeDoux said.

The record is even more impressive in light of the dangerous conditions. "One NCO was hit (fired on) four times on one mission," said Capt. Roberto Ramos, the company's deployed operations officer. "Out of 219 missions, there were 137 hits on our convoys."

"Despite the danger, our Soldiers were always looked at to lead convoys and take



Photo by Esther Garcia

More than 200 Reserve Soldiers from the 217th Transportation Company received the Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award during a ceremony Sunday at the Sam Houston Club.

on the toughest missions," Ramos said. "They never let anyone down."

Approved awards for the unit include 18 Bronze Star Medals, seven Purple Hearts, 27 Meritorious Service Medals and 234 Army Commendation Medals, seven with Valor Device.

"You can be extremely proud of all that you have done during this deployment," LeDoux said. "You have much to be proud of as an individual, as a Soldier and as a unit."

For their service, the more than 200 Soldiers present at the ceremony received the Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award, which includes an encased American flag, commemorative coin, lapel pin set for the Soldier and spouse, and a Welcome Home Warrior-Citizen flag.

Texas Governor Rick Perry sent a message of gratitude to the Soldiers of the 217th Transportation Company. "I commend your efforts, sacrifices and triumphs. With patriotism beyond measure, you have made a grateful nation proud."

Col. Pete Bosse, commander, 208th Regional Support Group, summed up his pride in the unit with a quote from Winston Churchill.

"When British people were facing bombing from Germany, Churchill said, 'Never give up; never give up; never ever, ever give up,'" he said. "And I doubt that this unit ever gave up when you were over there."

"You had some impressive, impressive results and I want to thank you for your service."

As reservists, the Soldiers are "twice the citizen," said LeDoux, also quoting

Churchill. "... Each of you Soldiers live two very important lives. One as a regular citizen working in your community and carrying out your day-to-day lives, and the other as a trained professional Soldier ready to mobilize and deploy in support of your nation. And that is what makes you the strength of our nation."

Each reservist makes a choice, Le Doux said. "You have chosen to be here in the service of your country when you could have been somewhere else, perhaps a less demanding place. The fact is, you have chosen to serve."

LeDoux said the Army owes a debt of gratitude to the civilian employers of reservists, who provide the latitude so reservists can serve.

"We know there are hard business choices you make every day that allow our Soldiers to not only participate in training, but also deploy and know that they have a job waiting for them at home," she said.

LeDoux also extended her appreciation to the Soldiers' Families.

"It's not only our Soldiers who have answered the call to duty, but also our Soldiers' Families whose service is marked by unwavering support they provide to each of our Soldiers," LeDoux said. "Family members may not carry a rifle, or carry a rucksack on their back; instead they carry the worry, waiting for their loved one to return home."

"As we honor our Soldiers, it's only right and fitting to honor our families also," she said.

"Thank you for your sacrifices and your silent service."



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Brig. Gen. Karen LeDoux, commander, 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, congratulates Sgt. Daniel Armstrong, of the 217th Transportation Company, for his Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award, which is given to Army Reserve Soldiers who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. The award consists of an encased American flag, a specially-designed commemorative coin, a lapel pin set for the Soldier and spouse, and a Welcome Home Warrior-Citizen flag.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Four-year-old Susie Harrison clings to her father, Sgt. James Harrison, from the 217th Transportation Company, after the Welcome Home Warrior Citizen ceremony. Harrison was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from August 2006 to August 2007.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Staff Sgt. Tina Cabrera greets Staff Sgt. Norman Carter after he received the Purple Heart for injuries received during his deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Carter was traveling on a convoy Aug. 13 when his vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. The vehicle was thrown 3 feet into the air. He sustained injuries to his left leg and right hand. "I thank God He brought him home safely," said Carter's wife, Jisell (center).



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Twin sisters Tasha and Ashley Gerken, from the 217th Transportation Company, pose for a picture after they received the Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Staff Sgt. Bryan Corliss, from the 217th Transportation Company, hugs his children, 15-year-old Hunter, 7-year-old Blake and 3-year-old Kayleigh, after the ceremony.

Reservists, Families encouraged to nominate supportive employers

ARLINGTON, Va. - The nomination season for the 2008 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award will end Jan. 21.



The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the U.S. government's highest recognition given to outstanding employers.

National Guard and Reserve members and their Families are eligible and encouraged to nominate employers who have gone above and beyond in their support of military employees. Nominations will be accepted at www.esgr.mil.

The 2008 recipients will be announced in the spring and honored in Washington, D.C. at the 13th annual Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award ceremony Sept. 18.

Recipients of the 2007 Freedom Award met with President George W. Bush, Vice President Richard Cheney and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. Vice Chairman of the Joints Chiefs of Staff Gen. James Cartwright presented the awards at a ceremony attended by members of Congress and senior government and military officials.

Almost one-half of the U.S. military is composed of the National Guard and Reserve. The Department of Defense shares these citizen warriors with their civilian employers, many of whom provide significant support to their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

Past recipients of the Freedom Award have provided full salary, continuation of benefits, care packages, and even home and lawn care to families of employees fulfilling their military obligation.

The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve to recognize exceptional support from the employer community.

ESGR is a DoD agency established in 1972. Its mission is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through informal mediation.

Previous Freedom Award recipients have included such large businesses as General Motors, Starbucks, Home Depot, American Express, Sears, General Electric, DuPont, and United Parcel Service; state and local governments, including the State of Tennessee and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and small businesses, including the family owned Augustine & Sons farm in Rose Hill, Iowa; and Turbocam International.

For more information about the nomination process, call Cmdr. Craig Kujawa at 703-696-1386, ext. 514, or visit www.esgr.mil.

(Source: ESGR)

Sports

Fun Run/Walk

The next 5K Fun Run/Walk will be held Jan. 26 at 9 a.m. beginning at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The event is free to all eligible Department of Defense I.D. card holders. For more information, call 221-2020.

Indoor triathlon

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center will hold an indoor triathlon Feb. 3. There is no fee for sign-up and the triathlon is open to people 10 years and older. The triathlon features a 400-meter swim, five-mile stationary bike ride and two-mile treadmill run. For more information, call 221-1234.

B.G. Johnson Memorial 5K Run

The B.G. Johnson Memorial 5K Run is scheduled for Feb. 3 at 7:30 a.m. The run will begin at the Brigade Gym, located on Garden Road. For more information, call 221-3185.

Red Cross lifeguard classes

People interested in being a lifeguard can attend Red Cross lifeguard classes through May at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. A four-day class will be held Feb. 9, 10, 16 and 17 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Red Cross lifeguard class is a minimum requirement for employment as a lifeguard. To register, people must be at least 16 years or older and pass a pre-test that involves a 300-meter swim and a 20-yard swim holding

a 10-pound object. The \$160 fee includes all books, first-aid instruction, cardiopulmonary resuscitation mask and CPR automatic external defibrillator for infants, children and adults. Payment is due after passing the pre-test. For more information or to register, call 221-1234.

Intramural Basketball Standings

| | | | |
|---------------|----|-----------|--------------------|
| Jan. 8 | | | |
| East Rec | 45 | WTB | 38 |
| East Rec | 48 | USARSO | 32 |
| USARSO | 51 | ARNORTH | 45 |
| Magicians | 46 | ISR | 30 |
| ISR | 2 | Bad News | 0 (Forfeit) |
| Bad News | 95 | NOSC Navy | 93 (4 over time's) |
| Jan. 9 | | | |
| Navy | 58 | Magicians | 49 |
| Navy | 64 | ACA Hawks | 57 |
| ACA Hawks | 55 | WTB | 49 |
| ARNORTH | 54 | ISR | 34 |
| East Rec | 82 | NOSC Navy | 64 |
| NOSC Navy | 72 | West Rec | 52 |

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| Jan. 10 | | | |
| TEAM | | WIN | LOSS |
| 1st | East Recruiting | 6 | 0 |
| 2nd | Navy | 4 | 1 |
| 3rd | Bad News | 3 | 1 |
| 4th | MRTC Magicians | 5 | 2 |
| 5th | NOSC Navy | 2 | 2 |
| 6th | ISR | 2 | 2 |
| 6th | WTB | 3 | 5 |
| 8th | USARSO | 2 | 3 |
| 9th | ARNORTH | 2 | 4 |
| 10th | ACA Hawks | 2 | 5 |
| 11th | West Recruiting | 0 | 5 |

'Race to the Top'



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

Gloria Navarro works out on the Stepmill Jan. 9 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Navarro is training to compete in this week's "Race to the Top" competition, which will be held through Friday at the fitness center. The competition is a series of climbs on the Step Mill that equate to tall buildings such as the Space Needle. People are still invited to compete in this week's competition, which is a climb to the top of the Washington Monument, a total of 897 steps. The competition is free; T-shirts are \$10. For more information or to sign up for a timed climb, call 221-1234 or 221-2020.

Blood is fluid of life

The Brooke Army Medical Center Blood Bank is running critically low on AB negative blood.



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

To donate blood now, call the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989.

Army to launch Wounded Warrior Sports Program

Story and photo by Tim Hipps
FMWRC Public Affairs

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Army will launch a Wounded Warrior Sports Program for active-duty Soldiers with life-altering injuries this month, giving them the opportunity to compete at the national level.

The Army will pay for the athletes' registration fees, transportation, lodging and per diem while they compete at selected events. Athletic attire also will be issued to the Soldiers, who will represent the Army during competitions.

"The goal is to allow our wounded warriors an opportunity to continue to participate and compete in state and national competitions," said Willie Wilson, acting director of Soldier programs at the Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command. "We have more and more wounded Soldiers staying on active duty who participate in sports. This is an avenue for them to continue their athletic dreams."

The program was designed for



The Army will launch a Wounded Warrior Sports Program this month for active-duty Soldiers with life-altering injuries such as the amputees who ran in October's Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C.

Soldiers injured in war — primarily amputees — who have remained athletically active at the installation level, where finding suitable competition can be difficult.

"We're trying to help keep these Soldiers active," said Army Sports Specialist Mark Dunivan. "We want to give them the same opportunity that

the able-bodied Soldiers would have to compete in a sport."

The Soldier-athletes must meet established standards to be considered for support in their respective sport. U.S. Paralympic officials served as advisors to help create the program and recommended the qualification criteria.

"Everybody is not going to be a Paralympic athlete, nor does everybody want to be, but everybody wants to be active," said John Register, associate director of outreach and development for the U.S. Paralympic Committee. "This program allows for an avenue that is more greatly needed than the Paralympic side of the house."

Register was an Army World Class Athlete Program competitor in track and field before a hurdling accident led to the partial amputation of his left leg. He competed in swimming at the 1996 Summer Paralympics in Atlanta and won a silver medal in the long jump at the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

"The Army is providing opportunities that are not special or different or unique - it's just opportunities that it would provide to anybody else," Register said. "The Army has All-Army Sports programs on its calendar. This is just a seamless transition onto the All-Army calendar that is

See SPORTS PROGRAM P19



Recreation and Leisure

Win a Flip Video camcorder

Go to <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/promotions/data/comedy.asp>, find the topic of the day on the movie promo Web page and enter your joke or humorous comment. Family and MWR Command will select one winner each day to receive a Flip Video camcorder. All Department of Defense ID card holders can enter to win.

Warriors Monthly Scramble Golf Tournament

Register up to four players to participate in the Warriors Monthly Scramble Golf Tournament held the first Friday of each month at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. The next tournament will be Feb. 1, with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. The entry fee is \$20 per person and includes cart rental, prizes and a social following the scramble. Participants must be in an authorized pass-or-leave status. For more information or to register, call the Golf Club Pro Shop at 222-9386.

Equestrian Center trail rides

One-hour trail rides are offered at the Equestrian Center Saturdays and Sundays to individuals 7 years and older. A parent must

accompany children younger than 12 years old. The cost is \$20 per person. The first trail ride begins at 8:30 a.m. The last ride is at 2 p.m. For more information, call 224-7207.

Dining and Entertainment

MWR Ticket Office

The MWR ticket office is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Discounted tickets are available for local attractions, as well as theme parks like Disney World and Universal Studios. For more information, visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com or call 221-1663 or 224-2721.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre

'Appointment with Death'

The Agatha Christie mystery, "Appointment with Death," is playing through Feb. 16 at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre. Tickets are \$28 on Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$31 on Fridays and Saturdays. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for salad bar and cocktails, with a buffet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. For more information or to make reservations, call 222-9694.

Sam Houston Club

MWR, BOSS present: Texas Hold 'Em

Sign up for a new round of Texas Hold 'Em Feb. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Registration is \$20, which includes a special meal and unlimited soft drinks. The one-day

event will continue until a winner is declared. For a complete list of prizes and official rules, visit the Sam Houston Club. Players must be at least 21 years old to participate. For more information or to register, call the Sam Houston Club at 224-2721 or 226-1663.

Karaoke Fridays

Come by the Sam Houston Club Fridays at 5 p.m. for free karaoke. Practice your vocals or just come out and have fun with friends to celebrate the end of another long work week. For more information, call 224-2721.

Army Community Service

AFAP conference

Make your voice heard to Army leadership at all levels. Fort Sam Houston is hosting the annual Army Family Action Plan conference Jan. 23 and 24 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The AFAP process identifies well-being issues for Soldiers, Department of Army civilians, retirees and their Family members for Army leadership. Issue submission forms are available on the Fort Sam Houston MWR Web site at www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com or at Army Community Service, Building 2797. For more information or to register as a delegate, call ACS at 221-9821.

Couple's enrichment class

The Family Advocacy Program will offer a three-part couple's enrichment class that centers on reconnecting with your partner. Understanding gender differences and focus-

ing on commitment and intimacy are just a few of topics to be discussed. Talking with other married couples can help improve your own relationship. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-2055.

Financial planning

The Financial Readiness Program will offer a financial planning class Tuesday and Jan. 29, and 31 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Building 2797. The financial planning class provides important information on savings, credit and establishing a budget. Seating is limited. For more information or to register, call 221-1612.

Understanding your credit report

The Financial Readiness Program will offer an understanding your credit report class Jan. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The class provides information on how to obtain, review, correct and update an individual's credit report. Seating is limited. For more information or to register, call 221-1612.

Identity theft prevention

The Financial Readiness Program will offer an identity theft prevention class Jan. 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The class provides information on how to avoid becoming a victim, how to recognize signs and what to do if you become a victim. Seating is limited. For more information or to register, call 221-1612.

See MWR P19

Have
feedback
for a post
customer
service provider?



Go to the Interactive Customer Evaluation Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil> and voice your opinion today.

MWR from P18

Mandatory checkbook maintenance

The Financial Readiness Program is holding a mandatory checkbook maintenance class today from 2 to 4 p.m. in Building 2797. The mandatory checkbook maintenance class is offered for personnel referred by the command for abusing and misusing check-cashing privileges. All personnel can attend the class. Seating is limited. For more information or to register, call 221-1612.

Child and Youth Services

Parent Advisory Council

The next Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting is Feb. 19 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. Lunch will be provided. All CYS patrons are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to meet staff, attend parent workshops and learn about upcoming events. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

Youth talent show

Sign-up for the 2008 Youth Services Talent Show Feb. 23. Comedians, dancers, models, steppers, poets, speakers, singers and musicians are needed. Stop by any Child and Youth Services facility through Jan. 25 to sign-up. Applicants must be between the ages of 3 and 18. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

Undergraduate scholarships

Completed applications for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Undergraduate Scholarship must be received by Feb. 8. Participants may receive up to \$8,000 in assistance per

school year for full-time study. For more information, call School Liaison Services at 221-2214 or 295-4806.

CYS needs instructors

Child and Youth Services seeks instructors for driver's education, cooking, leadership skills, mentoring, tutoring, voice, guitar and Spanish. For more information, call 295-4806 or 221-1103.

Central Registration

Central Registration is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Building 2797. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome; patrons are seen after 4 p.m. by appointment only. To register for Child and Youth Services programs, patrons must provide current shot records (kindergarten through fifth grade), two local emergency designees, a health assessment/sport physical within the last year (sport physicals must be valid for the entire sports season), child's Social Security number, sponsor's Leave and Earnings Statement, spouse's W2 form, \$18 registration fee and activity fee payment. For more information, call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

FCC providers

Family Child Care seeks Family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers. There is a no-cost start-up plan. For more information, call 221-3828.

SKIES Unlimited Classes

The Child and Youth Services Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills Unlimited program offers language, music and sports classes for children ages 6 to 18 who are registered with CYS. The first month's fee is due at the time of registration at Building 2797. For more information, visit the Child Development Center, Building 2530; School Age Services, Building 1705; or Middle School and Teens, Building 1630; or call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

Weekly calendar - Monday to Jan. 26

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Monday
Martin Luther King Jr. Day/school holiday

Tuesday

Group pictures
Science Fair packets go home

Jan. 24

Report cards go home

Jan. 25

Science Fair entry form due
Spirit Day

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School

Monday

Martin Luther King Jr. Day/school holiday

Tuesday

Girls' basketball at Jourdan, 5 and 6:30 p.m.
Boys' basketball at Jourdan, 5 and 8 p.m.

Wednesday

Senior class panoramic picture, 10 a.m.
Boys' soccer vs. St. Mary's Hall, 5 p.m.

Jan. 24

Girls' soccer vs. FEAST at Cole, 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 25

Girls' basketball vs. Canyon Lake at Cole, 5 and 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 26

SAT test
Junior ROTC Ball

SPORTS PROGRAM from P17

just taking care of our own. Whether you have the physical disability or not, the opportunity is there for you to participate, and it's no different if you're an able-bodied athlete.

"For WCAP to add this program is phenomenal. It's taking care of Soldiers, and that's the right thing to do. It's for all those troops on the ground that need some place to continue their sports," he added.

The first event is for adaptive skiers, scheduled for Jan. 24 to 28 at Winter Park, Colo. An adaptive snowboarding competition follows at the 2008 USA Snowboarding Association National Championships March 31 through April 7

at Copper Mountain, Colo.

Archery, air rifle and pistol shooting, swimming, track and field, and weightlifting competitions are available for disabled athletes April 17 to 20 at the Desert Challenge Regional Games in Tempe, Ariz.

The Mid-America Games will play host to track and field competitors May 2 to 4 in Stillwell, Kan. The Endeavor Games, scheduled for June 5 to 8 in Edmond, Okla., will offer archery, basketball, ping-pong, shooting, swimming, tennis and weightlifting.

The National Veterans Wheelchair Games, scheduled for July 25 to 29, offer the aforementioned sports, along with air-gun shooting, nine-ball, softball, quad rugby, bowling,

handcycling, power soccer and wheelchair slalom.

The 60th National Amputee Golf Championships, slated for Aug. 19 to 22 in Castle Rock, Colo., is the final event on the original list, which is subject to change. A half-marathon and triathlon likely will be added soon.

Instructions for the application process to participate in the Wounded Warrior Sports Program are accessible online at www.ArmyMWR.com by clicking on Recreation & Leisure, and then clicking on Sports & Fitness.

For more information, e-mail Dunivan at mark.dunivan@us.army.mil or call 719-526-3908 or e-mail Peggy Hutchinson at peggy.hutchinson@us.army.mil or call 703-681-7211.

Community

Events

FEW luncheon

The Federal Employed Women will host a lunch and learn on "What to do in an Emergency" today at 11:30 a.m. at the Hungry Horse, 12333 West Ave. The event is free and everyone is invited - Department of Defense civilians, contractors, military and friends. For more information, call Rosalyn Wise at 373-8798 or e-mail Rozwise@aol.com.

Newcomers' Extravaganza

A Newcomers' Extravaganza will be held Jan. 29 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. This event is mandatory for all permanent party military members, lieutenant colonel and below, within 60 days of arrival to Fort Sam Houston. Soldiers, civilians and Family members will have

the opportunity to learn about Fort Sam Houston and San Antonio area, participate in giveaways, drawing and social activities. Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to allow Soldiers and civilian employees' administrative time to attend. Children are welcome. For more information, call the Army Community Service, Relocation Assistance Program at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

Scholarships for Military Children

The Defense Commissary Agency is accepting applications for the 2008 Scholarships for Military Children Program. The \$1,500 scholarships are available for children under age 21 (or 23, if enrolled in school) of military active-duty, retired, and Guard and Reserve servicemembers. Eligibility is deter-

mined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall of 2008 or enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. Applicants must submit an essay arguing for or against the following statement: "Every able-bodied citizen should be required to serve a two-year period of time in the military. Why or why not?" Applications must be turned in to a commissary by Feb. 20. For more information, call 804-734-8061 or visit www.militaryscholar.org.

RecruitMilitary career fair

The military-to-civilian recruiting firm, RecruitMilitary, will hold a free hiring event Jan. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin, Texas. RecruitMilitary urges job seekers with military backgrounds to attend, including veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and Reserve and military spouses. For more information, call Rick Jones at 281-316-9276 or e-mail rick@recruitmilitary.com.

NAF job fair

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Non-appropriated Funds division will hold a job fair March 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Positions available include recreation aids, custodial workers, child and youth program assistants, summer hire positions and much more. Participating organizations will conduct on-the-spot job interviews. For more information, call the

NAF human resources office at 221-1600 or 221-9058.

Women's Healthcare Forum

Registration is open for the Women's Healthcare Forum, which will be held April 4 and 5 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. Fort Sam Houston health care professionals are invited to participate in the highly acclaimed continuing medical education conference on comprehensive and integrative health care for women. Health care professionals can register for \$75; a 50 percent discount. To obtain the discount, register using priority code WHFH804. To register, visit <https://www.expotrashows.com/whf/2008/houston>. For more information, visit <http://www.womenshf.com>.

Training

American Red Cross classes

American Red Cross will host the following classes: "Community First-Aid and Safety" consisting of first-aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (infant to adult) and automated external defibrillator training Saturday, Feb. 16 and March 15; and "babysitting" classes Feb. 2 and March 1 in Building 2650, on the corner Patch and Hatch roads. For more information, call 221-3355.

Meetings

Spouses' Club luncheon

The Spouses' Club will host a "Mad Hatter Tea and Trivia" luncheon Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Club members may wear a crazy or fun hat and be ready

to prove they are smarter than a fifth grader. New members are welcome at half the membership fee. The cost for lunch is \$14. For more information or reservations, call Sigrid Reistetter at 226-8806 or e-mail Sigrid.reistetter@us.army.mil. Reservations are due by Friday.

Warrant Officer Association

The Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will host a meeting Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. at Chacho's and Chulucci's, 8614 Perrin Beitel Road (near Loop 410). All active duty, retired, Reserve and National Guard warrant officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596 or e-mail juan.gomez@us.army.mil; or Suzan Farrell at 378-0422 or e-mail suzan.farrell@us.army.mil.

MOAA luncheon

The Military Officers Association of America - Alamo Chapter will host a luncheon Jan. 24 at 11 a.m. at the Air Force Village II. The speaker will be Col. Kerry Green, U.S. Air Force retiree and executive director for corporate affairs for the Air Force Villages. The cost of the luncheon is \$16. For more information or reservations, call the chapter office at 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net. Reservation deadline is Jan. 21 at 12 p.m.

NCO Wives' Club

The Fort Sam Houston Noncommissioned Officers' Wives Club invites all spouses to join them the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. For more information, call Angie Luna at 333-0821 or 386-8265.

For Sale Fort Freebies

Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is close of business Friday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail news.leader@conus.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-0546.

For Sale: Solid wood sewing cabinet and cupboard, \$149; adjustable functional drafting table with chair and lamp, \$49; 1992 Ford Deluxe Magnum conversion van, loaded, new tires and starter, \$2,985. Call 659-6741.

For Sale: German Shrunken, 7 feet high by 11 feet long by 24 inches wide, center glass doors, bar and plenty of storage space, \$2,350 obo. Call Bob at 221-2800 or 845-5453.

For Sale: Home theater system, silver speaker set, \$25. Vitrex cookware set, red, \$40; ladies formals and suits, size 10/12, \$25 each;

five-gallon plastic aquarium with accessories, no heat lamp, \$15. Call 826-0882 or 542-3283.

For Sale: General Electric refrigerator/freezer, 20.6 cubic-feet, white, frost-free with icemaker, \$230; Harley Davidson 3/4 Road Classic helmet, black, size small with carrying bag, \$100. Call Diana at 707-7290.

For Sale: Ashley sofa and loveseat, plush, sage, \$800 obo; oak entertainment center, \$400 obo; solid wood dining room set, large table with six chairs, \$500 obo. Call Marco at 772-4907.

For Sale: 1997 Cadillac Northstar SLS, 32V,

pearl, runs like new, \$7,500. Call 650-4007.

For Sale: Brown loveseat with twin sleeper, \$225; RCA Projection TV, 52 inch, \$400 obo. Call 650-0337.

For Sale: 2003 Honda Odyssey EX-L, all power, leather interior, light blue color, excellent condition, \$12,000 obo. Call 630-3936.

For Sale: Five-piece French Provincial mahogany living room set, \$1,500; formal mahogany dining room set, \$300; day bed with mattress, \$100; queen-size mahogany bedroom set with chest, dresser and night stand,

\$500; imitation fireplace, mahogany, \$140. Call 385-0220.

For Sale: Safety First stroller and car seat travel system, \$75. Call 896-8563.

For Sale: Male dog, Schnauzer-poodle mix, \$65; Resistol hat, size 7.25, \$75; bookcase/entertainment center, \$100; Cosco toddler car seat with attachment as child grows, \$35; maternity clothes, size L, XL and 2X, \$5 and up. Call 633-3859.

Free: Large Steelcase metal desk. Call 267-1030.

Religion

PWOC spring kickoff

Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold its spring kickoff today at

6:30p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. Come join us for fellowship, worship and a Bible study. Childcare is provided. For more information, call 221-5010 or 221-5007.

Gospel music benefit concerts

Gospel Music Workshops and Benefit Concerts will feature Gospel music recording artist and Grammy Award-nominee James Bignon from Atlanta. The workshops will be held nightly Jan. 30 to Feb. 1 from 6:30 to

9 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. The combined community choir will host its consolidated concert Feb. 2 at 3 p.m. in Blesse Auditorium. AM 1480 Gospel Radio host, Jackie Ray Robinson, will be the program emcee. The finale concert will take place Feb. 3 at 10:30 a.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. A designated offering will be taken up for the Warrior and Family Assistance Center at the Feb. 3 concert. All events are free to active duty members and chapel

participants. More than 200 local churches have been invited. All community choir members and musicians are asked to make a \$20 donation as the registration fee. Group rates are available for groups of 10 or more. Registration fee is \$25 at the door. For more information, call 462-7676 or e-mail lpjordan@liberty.edu.

New worship services

A Christ for the Intrepid contemporary worship service will be held

Sunday nights at 5:30 p.m. followed by a service at 6 p.m. at the Center for the Intrepid Coffee House, on the first floor of the CFI. For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Duke or Chaplain (Capt.) Jim Combs at 916-1105.

An Episcopal/Lutheran Rite traditional worship service will be held Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. at the Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel. For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Phil Kochenberger at 916-1105.