

FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

“HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE”

Hiring Heroes Career Fair offers job opportunities

By Minnie Jones
Public Information Office

Close to 200 job seekers turned out Monday and Tuesday submitting resumes and talking to recruiters and volunteers both locally and from all over the country at the Hiring Heroes Career Workshops and Fair at the Sam Houston Club.

The Hiring Heroes Career Fair, which is organized by the Department of the Defense, helps injured

Soldiers and their families transition to civilian life by uniting prospective employees with possible future employers.

Day one of the two-day event offered a Resume Writing Workshop and Career Fair Preparation event to prepare potential employees for interviews with employers. The workshop provided a how to write a resume workshop with one-on-one help and advice, an interview-

See **HIRING P6**

Make-a-Wish



Photo by Ed Dixon

Installation Commander Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw promotes 5-year-old Gavin Cox to the honorary rank of sergeant with help from Gavin's father, Troy Heminger (right), and Sgt. Maurice Sims, command retention NCO. Gavin became a Soldier for the day at Fort Sam Houston through the Make-a-Wish Foundation. See story, Page 4.

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Walters Street gate lane closure

The Walters Street Access Control Point will be repaired today. The outbound lane will be closed at 6 p.m. and will re-open Friday at approximately 2 a.m. The inbound lane will be routed through the inspection area, and the outbound lane traffic will be routed to the Binz-Engleman ACP out to IH-35. This repair is necessary for the safety of the personnel who use the Walters ACP.

Good citizens Army medics use training to save lives

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Just a few days after graduation from combat medic training, three Soldiers put their newly acquired medical skills to the test.

The test did not take place during a field training exercise or on a battlefield in Iraq, but on a stretch of Texas highway about 30 miles southeast of San Antonio.

The Soldiers, Pfc. Richard Porter, Pvt. Claudia Betancourt

and Pvt. Christopher Meyer, of C Company, 232nd Medical Battalion, were returning from a weekend pass to Meyer's home in Corpus Christi. Meyer's mother, Pamela, offered to drive the Soldiers back to Fort Sam Houston.

Meyer's recalls talking in the car with his friends about their recent training and whether or not it would prove effective, a conversation that would strike him as a coincidence later.

They were about a half-hour from post when Pamela saw the

overturned SUV on the side of the road.

"We all looked over and saw the accident, but when we looked again, we saw the bodies," Meyer said.

They pulled over immediately and the Soldiers quickly surveyed the situation. Two people were standing and three others were lying on the ground. They proceeded over to a male, one of two severely injured victims.

"There was a guy lying on

See **GOOD CITIZENS P7**

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

Street-view image-gathering banned on military installations

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – A new Defense Department policy prohibits the commercial gathering of detailed street-view imagery on U.S. military bases and installations.

U.S. Northern Command issued the policy message Feb. 28 after detailed images of Fort Sam Houston, appeared on the Google Map Web site, said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Gary Ross, a NORTHCOM spokesman.

Google Corp. representatives took the images with roof-mounted recording equipment, according to the policy message.

Google Earth's Street View Web site revealed 360-degree detailed imagery of the post, including headquarters loca-

tions, access and control points, barriers, facilities and communal areas, Ross said. "This poses a serious operational risk to our force-protection effort," Ross said.

Google reportedly has removed the images from the Web site, he said.

Concerned that such imagery could be used to inflict harm on U.S. personnel or facilities, NORTHCOM put out guidance for all military installations banning all commercial image-collecting as soon as it became aware of the Fort Sam Houston incident, Ross said. That guidance is being forwarded throughout the Defense Department by the services and defense agencies.

In addition to banning any future commercial image collection, the guidance also requires anyone aware of a similar incident to report it immediately to installation officials.

The Fort Sam Houston incident isn't isolated, Ross said. Similar filming incidents have occurred at two nonsecured former bases closed due to Base Realignment and Closure Commission efforts. One, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., was closed as part of the 1991 round of BRAC closures, but still houses the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Indianapolis, as well as U.S. Army Reserve and Indiana National Guard units. Another, the former Treasure Island Naval Base, in San Francisco, was turned over to local government control in 1996, but is still owned by the Navy.

Equally disturbing, Ross said, is filming known to have occurred at military housing areas outside the secured areas of Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., and the U.S. Naval Training Center San Diego. Ross said he doesn't know whether that imagery ever was posted on the Internet.



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News Briefs

Newcomer's Extravaganza

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation and the Army Community Service division will hold the MWR Extravaganza Open House today at 9:30 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. This event is mandatory for all permanent party military members E-1 through O-6 within 60 days of arrival to Fort Sam Houston. Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to allow Soldiers and civilian employees' administrative time to attend. Children are welcome. For more information, call Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program at 221-2705 or 221-2418. For organizations or private entities wishing to participate in the 2009 Newcomer's Extravaganza, call MWR Sponsorship and Advertising at 221-2606.

'It's Not Easy Being Green'

The Army Community Service's Army Family Team Building will host the 2008 "It's Not Easy Being Green" Spouse's Conference today and Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dodd Chapel. The purpose of the conference is to uplift, enlighten, motivate and strengthen husbands, wives, fathers, mothers and the invaluable contributors to the Army community. The registration fee is \$5 and some classes may be an additional \$5 to cover supplies. For more information, call 845-4490 or 241-0811.

Graduate School Open House

An Army Medical Department Center and School Academy of Health Sciences Graduate School Poster Session and Open House will be held Monday from 12 to 2 p.m. at Army Community Service, on Stanley Road. The event will highlight recent research conducted in the graduate school. Presenters will be on hand to collaborate on their research and network with attendees. For more information, call Lt. Col. Sarah Flash at 221-3659.

RecruitMilitary Career Fair

A free hiring event for veterans, Warriors in Transition, Reserve, Guard and military spouses will be held April 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Houston at the Minute Maid Park. The fair is presented by RecruitMilitary, the President's National Hire Veterans Committee, the American Legion and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network. For more information or to register as a job-seeker, visit www.recruitmilitary.com.

MEDCOM luncheon

The Army Medical Command will recognize the MEDCOM 2008 NCO and Soldier of the Year at a luncheon April 11 at 12:30 p.m.

See **GAINEY P4**

Corps awards \$28.7 million contract for dining facility

FORT WORTH, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, has awarded a \$28.7 million contract to build a dining facility that will eventually serve one of the largest medical education and training institutions in the world.

The 4,800-person facility will be part of the Medical Education and Training Campus complex, which is being built on Fort Sam Houston as the location where the enlisted medical training of all branches of the U.S. military will ultimately be consolidated. The contract was awarded to SpawGlass Contractors, Inc. of San Antonio.

The award of the dining facility contract follows the recent award of a contract to build two of the three METC dorms that are planned. Along with the dining facility and dorms, the campus will include about 1.2 million square feet of instructional and laboratory space, as well as other support facilities to accommodate an average daily student enrollment of more than 9,000. Contracts for construction of these additional components will be awarded in the future. In all, completion of the METC complex will involve about \$500 million of construction work.

The 4,800 person facility will be part of the Medical Education and Training Campus complex, which is being built on Fort Sam Houston.

The Medical Education and Training Campus is one of the primary elements of the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure Program, a construction and renovation initiative aimed at providing the facilities and infrastructure necessary to implement the 2005 BRAC law. The BRAC mandates call for relocating several medical training and administrative missions to San Antonio, as well as consolidating certain missions that already exist at local installations.

Construction work is scheduled to take place across San

See **CONTRACT P7**

Wounded Soldier Hotline marks anniversary

WASHINGTON — The Army's Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline celebrated its one-year anniversary March 19, having fielded almost 12,000 calls in a 12-month period.

The hotline was created by the Army's senior leadership as an additional resource for wounded Soldiers and their Families to help them resolve difficult medical-related issues.

"The hotline's purpose isn't to circumvent the chain of command," said call center deputy chief Col. Robert Clark. "However, the hotline reflects the Army's determination to address and resolve Soldiers' issues as rapidly as possible. We are able to interject at senior levels in all areas and work from the top down to get issues resolved quickly."

The almost 12,000 calls have come from Soldiers across all components, as well as veterans, Family members, advocates and friends. Calls have come from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and from as far away as Afghanistan, Iraq, Germany, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Brussels, Italy and Kuwait. The hotline addressed almost 2,700 issues and answered about 6,700 other inquiries and requests for information during its first year. The remaining calls were

"The hotline reflects the Army's determination to address and resolve Soldiers' issues as rapidly as possible."

Col. Robert Clark
Call Center Deputy Chief

referred to other more appropriate agencies for assistance. While not everyone can be satisfied with the outcome of their call to the hotline, 85 percent of the issues are resolved favorably.

The top issues resolved by the hotline include those related to health care, pay and benefits, chain of command issues, legal assistance and awards questions. Not only has the hotline helped Soldiers resolve difficult issues, but hotline employees have also intervened in several threatened suicides both in theater and at home.

During the year, hotline personnel have seen some changes regarding the number and types of calls coming into the center. During this same period there was an increase in calls following the activation of the Army Medical Action Plan. Soldiers assigned to Warrior Transition Units called to inquire about assignments, and wounded and injured National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers requested

help with activation into the active Army. A comparison of the first six months of calls to the last six months shows an overall 29 percent reduction in the total number of calls. As the Army worked diligently to improve medical care this past year, medical-related calls fell by nearly 50 percent.

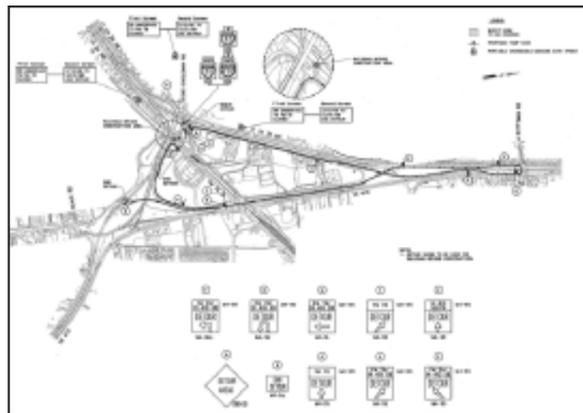
The Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline continues to meet the changing needs of the Army. "The Army cares about its Soldiers and Families. We are going to take care of them and ensure they have every single resource available to them in the United States Army," said Col. Edward Mason, the hotline's chief.

The Wounded Soldier and Family Hotline, managed by the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, in Alexandria, Va., is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-984-8523.

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

Look for detours on IH-35, FM-78

A Union Pacific Railroad bridge project on Farm to Market Road 78 will change traffic routes entering and leaving Fort Sam Houston at Binz-Engleman Road and Brooke Army Medical Center at Interstate Highway 35. The Union Pacific Railroad will be replacing their bridge over FM-78 beginning April 7. Detour signs will be located on IH-35 beginning Monday. The construction project will close the underpass at Binz-Engleman and prevent making a left turn onto Binz-Engleman from the IH-35 frontage road.



News Briefs

from P3

at the Sam Houston Club. Tickets are available. For more information, call Mrs. Bujan or Sgt. Maj. Jannay, MED-COM Headquarters, at 221-6710.

Fort Sam Houston Fiesta & Fireworks

The public is invited to Fort Sam Houston for a free Fiesta celebration April 20 from 1 to 9 p.m. Fiesta at Fort Sam begins with a Country Fair that features military equipment displays, various exhibits, live entertainment, children's activities, carnival rides, games, food and drink booths, and continuous entertainment. Adding pageantry and elegance to the military parade will be the Army Drill Team, the Continental Old Guard, and the Fife & Drum Corps. The public is requested to enter Fort Sam Houston from Interstate Highway 35 at the Walters Street gate. No pets or coolers are allowed. **See Page 19 for more information.**

New hours for Burger King at BAMC

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service Burger King on the lower level at Brooke Army Medical Center has new hours. The new hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Saturdays and Sundays.

BRAC team streamlines processes

By Chief Master Sgt. Richard Hollins
San Antonio Medical Base Realignment and Closure Integration Office

A group of 34 Wilford Hall Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center personnel were recently recognized for their efforts to make Base Realignment and Closure a little easier for personnel moving from BAMC to Wilford Hall.

BRAC 2005 directed the consolidation of Wilford Hall and BAMC into one medical region with two integrated campuses, known as San Antonio Military Medical Center. BAMC will become the inpatient tertiary care center providing all inpatient care as well as all trauma and emergency medical care. The facility will

be known as SAMMC-North. Wilford Hall will be converted into a large ambulatory care center, SAMMC-South.

Some of the integration has begun, but BAMC members moving to Wilford Hall experienced some issues that leadership felt needed attention.

The SAMMC-South Campus In-Processing Merger Team was formed and conducted a comprehensive review of Wilford Hall's in-processing program.

The team's objective was to establish an efficient and expeditious in-processing program, allowing SAMMC-South's active duty, civil service and contract employees to meet all mandatory compliance standards for Department of Defense, Air Force, Army and civilian

regulatory agencies.

Additionally, they assessed and developed universally accepted procedures which are recognized at both institutions to alleviate redundancy and streamline processes.

"This has been one of the most productive and diverse teams I've ever been associated with" said Col. Richard Eaves, the merger team chairman. "The team reviewed more than 27 functional areas, from security badges to computer access, and was instrumental in reducing the in-processing time by 26 individual man-hours."

Certificates of appreciation were presented to all 34 team members on March 6 at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Fort Sam grants boy's wish to be Soldier

By Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Gavin Cox could have traveled to any exotic locale or tried any profession in the world, but this 5-year-old with leukemia had just one wish – to be a Soldier.

His wish was granted March 18 when he became a Soldier for the day at Fort Sam Houston.

"He could have chosen any activity during this break in his treatments to include Disney World," said Gavin's father, Troy Heminger. "He wanted to be a Soldier."

During a solemn ceremony in the Army Medical Department Center and School command conference room a little boy stood proudly on the conference room table surrounded by Soldiers of all ranks.

Dressed in the Army Combat Uniform, Gavin was promoted to the honorary rank of sergeant in the Army Medical Department by installation commander, Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw.

Contacted by the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Czerw agreed to honor the little boy's request planning a day for him to train with the Army's medics.

After reciting the Army's enlistment oath with him, Czerw pinned the rank of sergeant on his uniform and emphasized to the young man standing at attention, "This is a great day. Thank you for making this day special for us." He then inducted Gavin as an honorary member of the



Photo by Ed Dixon

Installation Commander Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw teaches 5-year-old Gavin Cox how to shoot an M-9 pistol at the ES 2000 weapons training facility. Gavin also trained on an M-16 rifle and walked away with a marksmanship badge.

AMEDD Regiment.

Master Sgt. Maurice Sims, command retention NCO, presented the Cox family members, sister Jade and brothers Chandler and Zane, with Warrior Ethos packs recognizing their role assisting their father Troy and mother Melissa during Gavin's chemotherapy.

The training day for Sgt. Cox began with a trip to the ES 2000 weapons training facility traveling with Soldiers in a tactical vehicle where he earned his marksmanship badge. He then took a break from training to join Soldiers at the Rocco Dining Facility.

Sgt. 1st Class Joey Wrinkle stood outside with a platoon of Soldiers assigned to the 187th Medical Battalion representing

See BOY'S WISH P6

Officers recognized for role in Minn. recovery mission

By Patti Bielling
U.S. Army North Public Affairs

Two military officers were recognized in front of their peers March 4 for assisting civil authorities during recovery operations following the I-35 West Minneapolis bridge collapse in August.

Col. Michael Chesney and Navy Capt. Bradley Gawboy each received the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Minnesota Commendation Ribbon with Pendant during the 2008 Joint National Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer Workshop in Miami.

Chesney is assigned to U.S. Army North, headquartered at Fort Sam Houston, as the

Region V Defense Coordinating Officer, and Gawboy is the Navy's Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer in Minnesota. They were members of the federal team supporting local responders in recovering victims of the August bridge collapse.

The medals were presented following a panel discussion of the recovery mission. Hennepin County Sheriff Rich Stanek, who led the response, was a member of the panel.

Stanek said when Chesney arrived at the site of the bridge collapse, he "didn't know him from Adam and didn't know anything about the military."

However, when Chesney and his team began work, Stanek said he had no doubt they'd be successful in their singular mission of recovering the remains of the victims and reuniting them with their loved ones.

Stanek said he was continually impressed with how well the joint military team worked together throughout the operation.

"I was amazed to see a Navy officer taking orders from an Army officer," he said. "Local law enforcement doesn't work that well. We strive to be like that. We'd love to have that type of organizational control and structure of a joint command."

Chesney said the knowledge and professionalism that the state and region Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers brought to the team were invaluable.

He said he relied on Gawboy's advice and expertise to integrate more than 20 members of Mobile Diving and

Salvage Unit Two from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Va., into the recovery operations.

"The divers were the true heroes of this event – we just helped bring them in," Gawboy said. "We had such a critical and reverent mission and everyone focused on that and responded in the most professional manner."

Gawboy said until this event, he and the other Minnesota Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers thought the only civil support experience they would get would be assisting with hurricane response in another state.

"We were very surprised to find ourselves working a civil support mission in Minneapolis," he said. "But it's because we had trained here and elsewhere that we were prepared to do the mission."

Gawboy found being a member of the community helped him fit in quickly. He said he had attended high school with some of the local

responders and was acquainted with Stanek through community and professional organizations in their town of Maple Grove, Minn.

Overall, Gawboy said, the event demonstrated the benefit of collaboration among local, state and federal responders and credited Stanek's leadership for the mission's success.

Chesney added the successful mission reinforced the importance of a joint military team that includes Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. They are in a unique position, he said. Not only are they experts on integrating their service capabilities, they bring an understanding of the states and communities they serve.

Stanek agreed, and said he emphasized to conference attendees the importance of building personal relationships before an emergency.

"Before working with



Courtesy photo

Col. Michael Chesney, from U.S. Army North here, was recognized March 4 for assisting civil authorities during recovery operations following the I-35 West Minneapolis bridge collapse in August.

them, I had never heard of an EPLO or DCO," Stanek said. "It's important that they go out and introduce themselves to the fire chiefs and police chiefs in their communities and continue working on building or strengthening those relationships before an emergency occurs."

HIRING from P1

ing tips workshop and a workshop on how to work the career fair.

"I found the most beneficial thing about the workshop was the knowledge all the helpers and the care that they show toward helping us," said Staff Sgt. Nathan Reed, squad leader, Warrior Transition Battalion, Brooke Army Medical Center. "I am interested in the field of information technology or a position with the Texas Department of Transportation."

Maria Rodriguez, administrative support technician, Equal Employment Opportunity, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston, said, "I got involved with the Hiring Heroes Career Fair by one of my co-workers, Sherry Blake, who volunteered last year and told me how gratifying it was for her to volunteer at the Hiring Heroes Workshops and Career Fair."

"I found that it was true; my personal gratification from volunteering at the workshop was the satisfaction of being able to help our Soldiers and

their Families. I feel that this is the least I can do to help them in some way for all they do for our country. It's my pleasure to be able to volunteer at the Hiring Heroes Workshops," said Rodriguez.

There was a host of seminars with guest speakers representing companies from Lockheed Martin; Defense Logistics Agency; West Corporation; Naval Sea Systems Command;

Department of Homeland Security; Fort Sam Houston Non-appropriated Fund jobs and the Provost Marshal Office; U.S. Department of Labor; USAA; Central Intelligence

Agency; and Army Materiel Command presenting information on their companies to warriors and their Families. The seminars provided first-hand information on their companies

The second day of the Career Fair provided opportunities for Soldiers and their Families to meet prospective employers from more than 35 government and private sector organizations.

Pfc. Montgomery Hesler, C Company, Warrior Transition Battalion, has attended both days of the Hiring Heroes Workshops and Career Fair. Everything is going good, he said. "I'm very interested in the Naval Surface Warfare Center and the California Highway and Patrol," said Hesler.

"We have attended this Career Fair before," said Tony Gilbert, electrical engineer and recruiter director,



Photos by Minnie Jones

Tony Gilbert, recruiting director, Naval Surface Warfare Center, talks with Pfc. Montgomery Hesler, C Company, Warrior Transition Battalion, about job opportunities at NAVSEA, Tuesday during the Hiring Heroes Job Fair at the Sam Houston Club.

Naval Surface Warfare Center. NAVSEA specializes in maritime technology and is headquartered in West Bethesda, Md. "Our company builds and designs ships and weapons; we have a lot of ex-military and ex-Sailors.

Gilbert points to his assistant, Sean Locker. "He is one our heroes who we recruited out of Walter Reed (Army Medical Center) through our outreach program. He is a mechanical engineering technician with the company and now he is involved with recruiting," said Gilbert.

"We have recruited a number of heroes and it always nice to have military people working with our civilian scientists and engineers; they help us design a better system. They give us a reality check and they form a team very well. Their experience in the field helps our scientists and engineers improve on the design of our weapons and systems. That is the beauty of that interaction and that is what we want to achieve by reaching out to the military," said Gilbert.

BOY'S WISH from P4

all the medical specialties trained by the battalion. Assigned to the platoon for lunch, Sgt. Cox led the guidon bearer and the formation into the dining facility.

"I presented him with my airborne wings. He is strong and brave like an airborne Soldier and he deserves to be recognized. This is about what we do as Soldiers," Wrinkle said.

During lunch Soldiers stopped by to wish him well and present their own badges to him. He left the dining facility with air assault and expert medic badges added to his uniform.

At his next stop on the training schedule, he visited the Department of Combat Medic Training and watched Soldier-medics training with the human patient simulator and completed the day learning how patients are loaded on a Stryker ambulance and transferred to hospital units.

During the day father and mother watched their son talking to Soldiers and enjoying his day with them. Father, Troy Heminger, served on active duty for nine years with the 1110th Support Battalion and the 58th Signal Battalion as a microwave systems operations and maintenance specialist. Watching his son with the Soldiers, he said, "He is having fun. He is forgetting about his illness for a while."

After spending the day with Army medics, Gavin and his family departed San Antonio the next day for Fort Hood where honorary Sgt. Cox will spend another day in the Army as a Soldier with the Army's combat units.

Following his week as a Soldier, Gavin Cox will undergo intensified chemotherapy at Dallas Children's Hospital.

GOOD CITIZENS from P1

the ground bleeding profusely from the nose and mouth; he'd been ejected from the car," Meyer said.

Meyer and Porter stopped to help him, while Betancourt moved on to render aid to another victim.

"There were a group of civilians around the man and they were trying to move him because he was face down," Meyer said. "We stopped them. If they had moved him, he probably would be paralyzed now."

Porter stayed with the male to take his vitals and medical background while Meyer moved on to assist Betancourt, who was treating a female with an open skull fracture.

"She was having a hard time breathing so we rolled her on her side," Betancourt said. As a result, the victim's respiration improved from 4 breaths per minute to 22.

The Soldiers provided medical assistance until the police and Emergency Medical Technicians arrived.

"We let them know we were Army medics and wanted to help," Meyer said.

The Soldiers were concerned that they would be turned away since they were dressed in sweats, not uniforms, but "at no time did any of the law enforcement or emergency personnel treat these individuals as intruders," Meyer's mother Pamela said. "In fact, it was just the opposite. The people on the

scene treated these Soldiers as the professionals they were trained to be and allowed them to do their jobs. They did not disappoint."

The Soldiers started intravenous fluids, placed oxygen masks, changed out oxygen tanks, secured the injured to backboards and dressed wounds.

In a letter to the commander, Meyer's mother described the scene. "They were amazing. As the wounded were stabilized and prepared for transport, I watched as these Soldiers held the hands of victims, offered a shoulder for tears and told some corny jokes to elicit a smile and even laughter."

The two most seriously injured were taken to San Antonio by Air Life helicopter and the other three were transported by ambulances to local hospitals.

And the Soldiers prepared to head back to San Antonio, but with a new perspective on their training.

"I'd be lying if I said I wasn't nervous when I first ran up to the victims," Meyer said. "But when I got to the first patient, my training kicked in and it was mechanical."

The Soldiers attribute their calm reaction to stressful, realistic training.

"We had been exposed to gun shots, loud noises and yelling in training," Meyer said. "So we were able to block out everything and just focus on the patients."

The incident also banished



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Pvt. Claudia Betancourt, Pvt. Christopher Meyer and Pfc. Richard Porter, of C Company, 232nd Medical Battalion, stopped to render aid to victims of a car crash March 17.

the Soldiers' earlier doubts about their training.

"During training we practiced on dummies or our battle buddies, so we had wondered if we could perform with live patients," Meyer said. "I definitely feel a lot more confident now."

"In one hour of medical assistance, we applied everything we learned in 16 weeks of training. The training prepared us for this and for a lot worse," said Porter.

Their company commander, Capt. Justin Avery, said the Army strives to provide

Soldiers with the knowledge to save lives. "As long as they remember the basics, there is nothing they can't accomplish when it comes to saving a life."

The Soldiers later learned all survived the accident with the exception of the female with the head trauma.

"I think they performed magnificently. They weren't on a normal Army mission and they weren't required to render assistance," Avery said. "I truly believe it was their efforts that prolonged the lives of the civilians involved in the vehicle accident."

CONTRACT from P3

Antonio at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases through September 2011. The total cost of the San Antonio BRAC Program and related military construction is projected to exceed \$2 billion. In all, the San Antonio BRAC Program will involve building and renovating 78 major facilities that amount to more than 6 million square feet of space.

Representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers are working on the San Antonio BRAC Program as members of the Joint Program Management Office, which is overseeing the design and construction efforts. The JPMO is a joint military service entity that represents a partnership between the Corps, the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and private-sector contractors.

(Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers news release)



Maria Rodriguez (left), administrative support technician, Equal Employment Opportunity, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston, discusses resume writing with Staff Sgt. Nathan Reed, squad leader, Warrior Transition Battalion, Brooke Army Medical Center, Monday during the Hiring Heroes Career resume workshop at the Sam Houston Club.

IRS will send stimulus payments automatically beginning in May

Eligible taxpayers must file 2007 tax return to receive rebate

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service advised taxpayers that in most cases they will not have to do anything extra this year to get the economic stimulus payments beginning in May.

"If you are eligible for a payment, all you have to do is file a 2007 tax return and the IRS will do the rest," said Acting IRS Commissioner Linda Stiff. The IRS will use information on the 2007 tax return filed by the taxpayer to determine eligibility and calculate the amount of the stimulus payments.

The IRS will begin sending taxpayers their payments in early May after the current tax season concludes. Payments to more than 130 million taxpayers will continue over several weeks during

the spring and summer. A payment schedule for taxpayers will be announced in the near future.

Stimulus payments will be direct deposited for taxpayers selecting that option when filing their 2007 tax returns. Taxpayers who have already filed with direct deposit won't need to do anything else to receive the stimulus payment. For taxpayers who haven't filed their 2007 returns, the IRS reminds them that direct deposit is the fastest way to get both regular refunds and stimulus payments.

Most taxpayers just need to file a 2007 tax return as usual. No other action, extra form or call is necessary. In most cases, the payment will equal the amount of tax liability on the tax return, with a

maximum amount of \$600 for individuals (\$1,200 for taxpayers who file a joint return).

The law also allows for payments for select taxpayers who have no tax liability, such as low-income workers or those who receive Social Security benefits or veterans' disability compensation, pension or survivors' benefits received from the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2007. These taxpayers will be eligible to receive a payment of \$300 (\$600 on a joint return) if they had at least \$3,000 of qualifying income. Qualifying income includes Social Security benefits, certain Railroad Retirement benefits, certain veterans' benefits and earned income, such as income from wages, salaries, tips and self-employment. While these people may not be normally required to file a tax return because they do not meet the filing requirement, the IRS emphasizes they must file a 2007 return in order to receive a payment.

Recipients of Social Security, certain Railroad

"If you are eligible for a payment, all you have to do is file a 2007 tax return and the IRS will do the rest."

*Linda Stiff
Acting IRS Commissioner*

Retirement and certain veterans' benefits should report their 2007 benefits on Line 14a of Form 1040A or Line 20a of Form 1040. Taxpayers who already have filed but failed to report these benefits can file an amended return by using Form 1040X. The IRS is working with the Social Security Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that recipients are aware of this issue.

"Some people receiving Social Security and veterans' benefits may not realize they will need to file a tax return to get the stimulus payment," Stiff said. "To reach these people, the IRS and Treasury will work closely with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Social Security Administration and key beneficiary groups on outreach efforts."

Eligible taxpayers who qualify for a payment will receive an additional \$300 for each child who qualifies for the child tax credit.

Payments to higher income taxpayers will be reduced by 5 percent of the amount of adjusted gross income above \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for those filing jointly.

Taxpayers must have valid Social Security numbers to qualify for the stimulus pay-

ment. If married filing jointly, both taxpayers must have a valid Social Security number. And, children must have valid Social Security numbers to be eligible as qualifying children.

Taxpayers who file their tax returns using an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number issued by the IRS or any number issued by the IRS are ineligible. Also ineligible are individuals who can be claimed as dependents on someone else's return, or taxpayers who file Form 1040-NR, 1040-PR or 1040-SS.

To accommodate taxpayers who file tax returns later in the year, the IRS will continue sending payments until Dec. 31. The IRS also cautions taxpayers that if they file their 2007 tax return and then move their residence that they should file a change of address card with the U.S. Postal Service.

The IRS will mail two informational notices to taxpayers advising them of the stimulus payments. However, taxpayers should be alert for tax rebate scams such as telephone calls or e-mails claiming to be from the IRS and asking for sensitive financial information. The IRS will not call or e-mail taxpayers about these payments nor will it ask for financial information.

(Source: IRS)

Fiesta royalty on parade



Photo by Esther Garcia

Texas Cavaliers 2008 King Antonio LXXXVI William Atwell and his court present Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, commanding general, Fort Sam Houston and Army Medical Department Center and School; Judith Markelz, coordinator, Warrior and Family Support Center; and Wendy Martinson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston, 1,000 tickets to the military community to attend the River Parade. The river parade will be held April 21 at the Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio and is one of the major parades during the 10 days of Fiesta in San Antonio. Fort Sam Houston will celebrate Fiesta April 20 at MacArthur Field from 1 to 9 p.m.

Save energy

The post community is reminded to adjust, or have someone adjust, timers that control outdoor lights to reflect the recent time change. For more information, call Charles Neumann, resource efficiency manager, at 221-4147 or 215-6560.

Fort Sam Houston News Leader Survey

1. Please mark the appropriate category. I am a:
 - Military member
 - Family member
 - DoD Civilian
 - Retiree
 - Other _____
4. What would you like to see more of in the paper?
 - People
 - Local news
 - Army/DoD news
 - Community
 - Other _____

2. How often do you read the News Leader?
 - Once a week
 - Once a month
 - Twice a month
 - Several times a year
 - Never
5. What is your overall satisfaction in regards to the News Leader?
 - Very satisfied
 - Somewhat satisfied
 - Not satisfied

Comments/Suggestions? _____

3. What is your favorite section?
 - News
 - MWR/Community
 - Sports
 - School
 - Fort Freebies/Classified ads
 - Other _____

Please submit this survey via e-mail to news.leader@conus.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. For more information, call 221-0615 or 221-1031.

Hooked on fishing

Drop-shot rigs bring out "hawgs"

By Staff Sgt. Mike Garrett
Special to the News Leader



FORT HOOD, Texas — It's that time of year for area lakes to begin warming up to spawning temperatures, which means the bass are moving to shallow waters.

And, according to die-hard fishermen, it isn't just any bass, it is the true "hawgs" of the sport.

A true angler knows the right bait is required to throw at the finicky bass. Large baits seem obvious, but in a method that is not as intimidating to the fish, a drop-shot style is suggested. The drop shot is a way of tying the hook up the line and putting the lead on the bottom. With the weight outside of the bed it won't stir up the bottom, making the fish nervous.

That doesn't mean traditional drop-shot rig equipment has to be used. Experimentation is the key. Try normal equipment with a little heavier line to get

the fish headed in the right direction once hooked. Also, change it up; use a larger plastic on the rig for a few casts and if this doesn't tempt them into biting, downsize to a smaller bait.

Patience is a must when working a spawning bass. Smaller baits in bright colors have worked best for some experienced anglers. The bright colors allow anglers to see the bass move it off the bed. As soon as the bait disappears, slam that hook home.

If natural colors are used to tempt the bass to eat put a white mark on the head of the bait to help see the bait easier. The technique for this is simple. Cast the weight past the bed.

Slowly drag the bait up to the fish ensuring the weight stays out of the bed. Once the lure is in the bed just let it sit still. If the fish doesn't initially take the bait, lift the rod tip up about 4 inches, then lower it back down keeping the bait in or above the bed. A lot of time can be spent on a fish with this technique. Keep in mind patience is a must for this type of fishing.

For future fishers it is suggested you do not keep these bedding bass. If you have the pleasure of catching a true trophy bass, measure it and get a replica made. It has been noted that one out of 100,000 eggs ever make it to an adult bass.

Also, if you do catch one of these beauties send a photo to be posted on www.ArmyBassAngler.com.

(The author is an avid bass tournament fisherman who has enjoyed a success on Belton and Stillhouse Lakes near Fort Hood.)

Sports

Boxers needed

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center is looking for boxers as it hosts another round of boxing excitement. If interested in participating as a boxer in this or future events, call the Intramural Sports Branch at 221-1180 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil. Boxers must be registered and training 30 days prior to the event. For more information, call 221-1234.

All-Army Chess Championships

The 2008 All-Army Chess Championships will be held May 11 to 17 at Fort Myer, Arlington, Va. This competition is open to all U.S. Army active duty, who are also a U.S. Chess Federation-rated member; 12 players will be selected and funded by Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command. All players must apply online or download the application and fax it to 703-681-7249 or DSN 761-7249. There is no on-site registration. For more information or to apply, visit www.armymwr.com/portal/recreation/chess or call 703-681-7204, DSN: 761-7204. Other upcoming chess events include the 2008 Inter Service Chess Championships at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tuscon, Ariz. from June 8 to 14 and the 2008 NATO Chess Championships in Brussels, Belgium (date to be announced).

5K run

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center and the Family Advocacy Program will hold a 5K run Saturday for Sexual Assault Prevention Awareness Month. For more information or to register, call 221-1234.

Join intramural sports

For anyone interested in getting involved in sports, there is still time to sign up for intramural tennis, flag football and soccer. For more information, call 221-3185.

Intramural tennis

A coaches and rules meeting will be held April 7 at 1 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The season begins April 14. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail

earl.t.young@us.army.mil.

Intramural flag football

A coaches and rules meeting will be held April 8 at 1 p.m. at the Brigade Gym. The season begins April 14. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil.

10K Walk: Caminada De Fiesta

Bring the whole family to the 27th annual Caminada de Fiesta April 19 from 7:30 a.m. to noon at the Army Medical Department Museum, 2310 Stanley Road. This Fiesta walk is a European-style Volksmarch through historic Fort Sam Houston. Walk the 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) route, and enjoy a bit of the Army post's history. The Caminada de Fiesta is a sanctioned American Volkssport Association and International Volkssport Federation Volksmarch. The event is free unless participants desire AVA/IVV distance credit or awards. Enter the installation at the Harry Wurzbach gate, Harry Wurzbach Road. Registration is open from 7:30 a.m. to noon. Walkers will have until 3 p.m. to complete the event. For more information, call Gerald Kamicka at 658-2160 or geraldk726@aol.com.

Asian Pacific Heritage Month volleyball

In honor of Asian Pacific Heritage Month a volleyball tournament will be held May 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for all interested military, Family members or civilian teams. The registration deadline is May 2. For more information, e-mail Tray Stephens at tstephens9@satx.rr.com.

Intramural sports letter of intent

Sport	Letter due by:
Tennis	April 2
Flag football	April 4

Send letters of intent to Earl

Young, 1212 Stanley Road, Building 124, Suite 20, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail earl.t.young@us.army.mil.

SACU sponsors 'Shred Day' at Fort Sam

SAN ANTONIO – The San Antonio Federal Credit Union and community partners will sponsor the 6th Annual Shred Day April 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston branch, located at 2750 Stanley Road.

Military ID card holders are invited to bring up to 100 pounds per vehicle of sensitive documents for destruction. A truck from a commercial shredding company will destroy the documents on site, free of charge.

The true cost of one ID theft incident can amount to thousands of dollars in lost wages, lost time and actual dollars spent to correct the problem. The incident can affect a person's



Courtesy photo

The "shred" truck, shown from a previous event, will shred sensitive documents for free April 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the San Antonio Federal Credit Union, located at 2750 Stanley Road.

credit for years. Take advantage of this free opportunity to www.sacu.com. (Source: SACU news release)

dispose of documents safely. The "confetti" made that day will keep sensitive information out of the hands of ID thieves and will instead become recycled paper products rather than going into over-burdened landfills.

This event is sponsored by SACU, Association of Records Managers and Administrators International of San Antonio, and the shred companies. Donations are welcome and will be given to Dress for Success in San Antonio. To find out locations and addresses of other branches involved, visit SACU's Web site at www.sacu.com.

Soldier medics learn about women's history

By Ben Paniagua
Hacienda Recreation Center

About 125 Advanced Individual Training and Initial Entry Training Soldiers from the 32nd Medical Brigade attended a fun-filled evening of games, speakers and entertainment at the annual Women's History Month celebration at the Hacienda Recreation Center March 20.

First Sgt. Sara Castillo spoke of the accomplishments of women throughout U.S. history. Castillo is the first sergeant for the South Plains District Veterinary Command at Fort Hood, Texas.

Castillo spoke on "Women's Art: Women's Vision" and captured the attention of the audience as she told stories of her life in the Army and the accomplishments of women in the Army.

"It was very inspiring! Especially the praise dancers," said Pvt. Brittany Knox, B Company, 264th Medical Battalion. "The program made you proud of being a female in the Army."

The program also featured female uniforms of the past and showed how uniforms have evolved through the years leading up to today's Army uniform for women. The

uniforms were modeled by younger female Soldiers.

A popular segment of the event was a praise dance presentation performed by Jennifer Kirk and Angela Martin from Redeeming Grace Church. They gave a stirring dance presentation of Juanita Bynem's "The 23rd Psalm."

"I love them and they were so inspiring," said Pvt. Emily Wood, from B Co., 264th Med. Bn., speaking about the dancers. "The speaker was also very good and I loved the stories she told."

Another popular event included a question and answer trivia game. Soldiers answered questions on women in history and if correct won \$25 gift certificates to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

The program was presented by the Equal Opportunity Adviser Program of the 32nd Medical Brigade, the Hacienda Recreation Center, and the Sponsorship Office of Directorate, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Marketing.

The program is one of many held throughout the year that features various cultures. The programs are geared to entertain and educate Soldiers on the difference in cultures in an effort to provide a better understanding of society.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Special concert

(From left) Tony Hernandez, assistant band director; Steve Scherer, band director; and Steve LaCroix, choir director, Geneseo High School, Geneseo, Ill., pose with their students following a concert performance at the School Age Services March 18 as part of their spring trip to San Antonio. The high school band comprises two bands, the Honors and Concert Band. Each year the bands perform four public concerts and participate in the Illinois state sanctioned organization music contest. In 2007 the bands performed at the Chicago and Concert Band Invitational in Arlington Heights and in recent years the bands have performed on trips to Orlando and Washington, D.C. The choirs have performed for events such as the Illinois House of Representatives. Combined with the band scores, the choir has been a five-time Illinois High School Association Grand Sweepstakes Champion of all Class A schools in Illinois.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Weekly Calendar – Monday to April 5

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Monday
Begin fourth nine weeks
April 3
Report cards go home
April 4
Spirit day

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School

Monday
Begin fourth nine weeks
Baseball at Natalia, 7 p.m.
Boys' and girls' district golf tournament at Pleasant Country Club
Tuesday

Junior varsity and varsity girls' and boys' district track at Dilley, TBA
National Honor Society meeting in Ms. Malcom's room, 12:50 p.m.
Varsity tennis vs. TMI, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday
Junior varsity and varsity girls' and boys' district track at Dilley, TBA

April 3
Junior varsity and varsity girls' and boys' district tennis at Boerne, 8 a.m.
April 4
Sophomore open house in Cougar Den, all day
Baseball at Dilley, 6 p.m.

Women's History Month Trivia Contest

The answers to last week's trivia questions were:

1. Harriet Tubman
2. Phillis Wheatley
3. Col. Cheryl Harris
4. Chief Justice Alma Lopez
5. Command Sgt. Maj. Donna Simmons

The winner for last week's trivia questions was Annalyn Wolf from the Army Medical Department Center and School.

Army Strong, Army limber Soldiers study to become physical therapy technicians

Story and photos by Cheryl Harrison
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Enlisted physical therapy training has evolved significantly over the last six decades from its meager beginnings of on-the-job training. During World War II, the service commands presented the growing needs for trained enlisted physical therapy technicians.

On the basis of this information, the Medical Department established the first formal training program in early 1945, which consisted of a four-week course, 192 hours in theory and practice of selected physical therapy procedures, and a general orientation in this field of therapeutics. Courses were established in 13 general hospitals to meet the demand for graduates with the classification of enlisted physical therapy technician.

Today the Physical Therapy Program conducts tri-service training for Army, Navy and Coast Guard personnel. This program consists of a 17-week didactic portion held at the Army Medical Department Center and School and eight to 10 weeks of clinical training at numerous military hospitals around the country.

Sgt. 1st Class Ryan Murphy, NCO in charge of 303-N9/8466 Physical Therapy Program, said, "We currently have a memorandum of agreement between the AMMEDC&S and Pueblo Community College that dramatically improves the ability of physical therapy technicians to obtain their associate of Applied Science Degree as a physical therapist assistant. Upon completion of the didactic and clinical phases of this course the students will receive 63 credit hours from Pueblo Community College."

The physical therapy technician will then need to complete 13 credit hours of general studies resulting in an Associate of Applied Science Degree as a physical therapist assistant.

"Phase I didactic portion consists of a regional approach beginning with anatomy kinesiology, physiology and neurology. Once those sections are complete the students begin learning the various regions of the body which comprise the spine, thorax, hip, knee, foot, ankle, shoulder, elbow, forearm, wrist and hand," Murphy said. Within each region students learn between 17 and 30 muscles to include the origin, insertion, action and nerve innervation."

The students are also taught the clinical screening process as well as the various disorders that affect each region. Most importantly the students learn the appropriate therapeutic exercises that will assist their future patients in returning to full function. The students are tested using both written examinations and hands-on testing to ensure that they are grasping the material that they are learning.

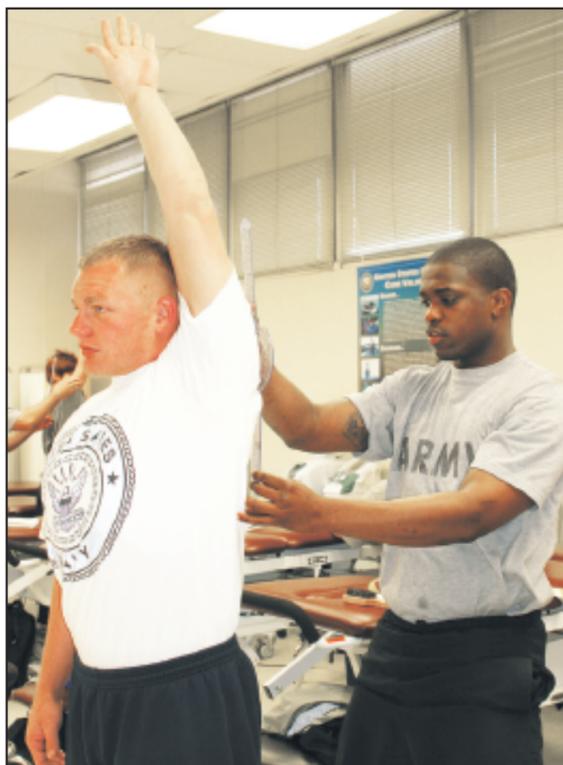
"The key is that they are not just memorizing information, but more importantly they are applying their knowledge through practical application," said Murphy.

The Physical Therapy Program provides the highest quality academic and clinical training to military physical therapy specialist students to prepare them for challenging clinical assignments and meet the needs of the profession upon graduation.

Graduates from this course are among the most capable PT technicians anywhere. Many have used this course as a launching point to higher degrees and programs.



Spc. Tiffany Vance measures the external rotation of the shoulder of Petty Officer 3rd Class Thomas Faircloth during week 12 of Phase I of the Army Medical Department Center and School Physical Therapy Specialty Course. Week 12 focuses on the region of the human shoulder. The shoulder is the most flexible joint in the human body. The anatomical structure of this joint enables it to have an incredible amount of freedom or range of motion. The ability to move the shoulder joint in a wide variety of directions is vital for complete functionality in sporting activities.



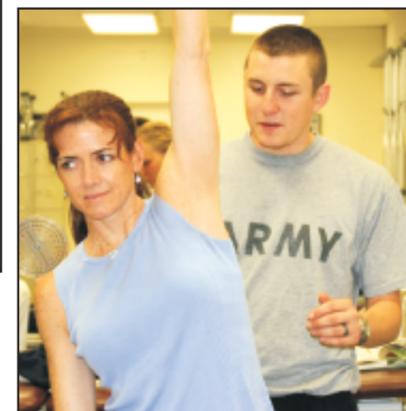
(Above) Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven Miller extends his arm high above his head as Spc. Sarah Cellette performs range-of-motion measurements upon his shoulder.

(Left) Sgt. Cordell Howard measures range-of-motion on his "acting patient," Petty Officer 3rd Class Neil Oliver.



(Right) Pattie McGlinchey, instructor/writer, 303-N9 Physical Therapy Program, demonstrates how improper alignment can affect range-of-motion with Pvt. 1st Class Kyle Monje.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Robert Floran, instructor/writer 303-N9 Physical Therapy Program, demonstrates how to find range-of-motion measurements by using the shoulder of Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven Miller.



(Left) Sgt. Cordell Howard measures the internal rotation on the shoulder of Petty Officer 3rd Class Neil Oliver.



(Above) With some students lying on exam tables future physical therapists measure internal and external rotation of the shoulder in an effort to determine a course of treatment. The students are in week 12 of Phase I of the AMEDDC&S Physical Therapy Specialty Course.

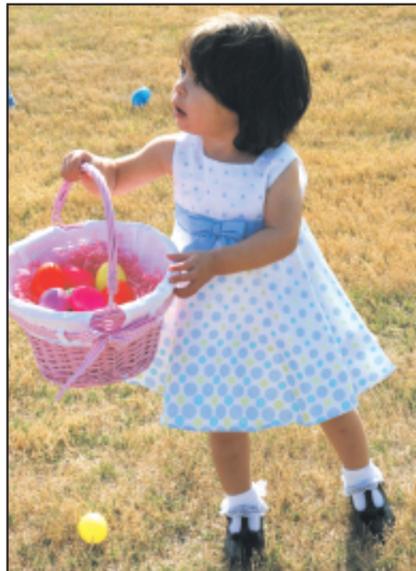
Hoppin' down the bunny trail ...

(Left) Joshua Tolle, 22 months old, gets a hug from the Easter bunny Friday during the Child and Youth Services annual Easter Egg Hunt. Joshua is the son of Maj. Leona Tolle, Army Medical Department Center and School.



Photos by Cheryl Harrison

(Right) Dressed in her Easter finery, 17-month-old Angelique Valdez holds up her basket full of eggs for approval during Friday's Child and Youth Services annual Easter Egg Hunt. Angelique is the daughter of Sarah and Ray Valdez.



Religion



Courtesy photo

Richard Rodriguez, military services manager for the American Red Cross, shares similarities between the "The Good Samaritan" and the American Red Cross.

Chapel, Red Cross share common goal

The Installation Chaplain Office and American Red Cross joined forces March 5 in teaching children to be kind during the Faithweaver Friends program at Dodd Field Chapel.

The Biblical story of "The Good Samaritan" has several parallels with the Red Cross. The children listened intently as Richard Rodriguez, military services manager for the American Red Cross, shared similarities between the story and the agency.

In the story, the traveling Samaritan came across an injured person lying on the side of the road. He helped the stranger by bandaging him, transporting him to an inn, and saw that his needs were

taken care of. The American Red Cross provides first aid, shelter, food, clothing, and several other needs a person may have during a disaster. As with the Samaritan, the Red Cross helps strangers in need.

Faithweaver Friends meet Wednesdays from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. FWF is designed to encourage children to focus on a growing relationship with Jesus and help them weave their faith into their life at school and home.

For more information about the program, which is for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, call Robb Wood at 221-3749 or e-mail robb.wood@us.army.mil.

(Source: Installation Chaplain Office)



Recreation and Leisure

Boxing at the Brought

Boxing at the Brought VI will be held at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center April 5 at 6 p.m.; doors open at 5 p.m. Admission is \$5. Come out and witness the strength and skill of the contestants during competitive bouts. Pre-sales will be conducted today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club and Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the post exchange. The \$7 pre-sale includes admission to the event, the official event T-shirt and entry into the VIP Grand Prize

Texas Hold'em Tournament

The 2008 Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Texas Hold'em Tournament local competition will be held April 18 at 6 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The one-day event will continue until a winner is declared. The first-place winner receives a \$500 Army and Air Force Exchange Service gift card and a seat at the online finals tournament. First-place winners from each participating Army installation will be invited to compete in the online final competition May 31 and get a chance to win grand prizes. The first-place online winner will receive a 42-inch Home Theater System, which includes a 42-inch flat panel television and a BOSE Home Theater Sound System; second place receives a laptop computer; and third place receives a Bose Wave. Participants must be at least 21 years old. The registration fee is \$20 and includes a special meal with unlimited soft drinks. Sign up by April 16. For more information or to register, call 224-2721 or 226-1663. For a complete list of prizes and official rules, visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com.

Drawing. For more information, call 221-2020 or 221-1180.

Fiesta Family bowling night

Celebrate Fiesta early with the entire family at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Stop by the bowling center for Fiesta Family Bowling April 19 from 6 to 10 p.m. and enjoy free bowling courtesy of Morale, Welfare and Recreation and local sponsors. Every participating patron will receive a free shoe rental, bowling and a ticket to win door prize drawings. Door prizes include Army and Air Force Exchange Service gift cards, an autographed "Deion Sanders" football, SeaWorld passes, free bowling, an Austin Wranglers football jersey and more. This annual event is a prelude to Fort Sam Houston's Fiesta and Fireworks event which will be held April 20. All bowlers are first-come, first-served during the special event timeframe. While waiting for a lane try the new MWR branded restaurant the Strike Zone, which offers a wide-variety of food and beverages. For more infor-

mation, call the MWR Bowling Center at 221-4740 or visit www.fortsam-houstonmwr.com.

Wii tournament

Fort Sam Houston's six night Wii competition will be held April 7 to 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the post exchange food court. The competition includes challenges in each of the five Wii sports, which use the system's wireless controller to allow users to swing and mock-throw it to play baseball, tennis, golf, bowling and boxing. A winner will be determined for each sport who will then compete in a local finale April 12. The overall winner will win a Nintendo Wii Prize Bundle Package. The Hacienda Recreation Center and the Bowling Center will hold Wii practice sessions through April 4, before the challenge gets underway. Winners can receive a Rebounder Mini Trampoline, Mio Sport Watch, \$75 Nike gift card, Flip Video Camera and more. For more information, call 221-2307 or visit www.fortsam-houstonmwr.com.

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

'The Star-Spangled Girl'

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will present the Neil Simon comedy, "The Star-Spangled Girl" April 9 through May 10. Tickets are \$28 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$31 Fridays and Saturdays. The 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.

Auditions for 'Picnic'

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions April 7 and 8 for "Picnic," a play by William Inge. Auditions are from 7 to 8:30 p.m. with Bruce Shirky directing. There are roles for four men and seven women, as well as other volunteers

such as assistant director, stage manager, light and sound technicians, and props and stage crew. Performances will be Wednesday through Saturday evenings from May 21 through June 21. For more information or directions, call 222-9694.

Army Community Service

Single Parenting class

The Army Community Service will hold a single-parent family class Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. The class will discuss topics such as changing roles, co-parenting, dating, financial responsibilities and many other topics affecting Families. For more information or to sign up for this training, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil.

Sibling Rivalry class

Army Community Service will hold a sibling rivalry class April 10 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Red Cross, Building 2650, to help parents learn skills to deal with sibling conflicts and how to encourage good feelings

See MWR P18

MWR from P17

between siblings. For more information or to register for this training, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil

Blended Families class

The Blended Families class will be held April 17 from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. at Red Cross, Building 2650. The class will address some of the challenges in making two Families one. Discussion topics include discipline, financial responsibilities and co-parenting issues and concerns. Blended Families can flourish, thrive and be as rewarding as a first, or nuclear, Family. Learn tips on how to avoid the pitfalls Families can experience and how to improve on existing relationships. To sign up, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil.

New Parents Support Program Plus

The New Parents Support Program Plus, a component of the Family Advocacy Program, is a professional team that provides supportive services to military Families with children from birth to 3 years old. NPSP+ provides comprehensive services through educational sessions and

playgroups and home visitation services. The services offer expectant parents and parents of infant and toddlers the opportunity to learn new skills as parents and improve current techniques. For more information, call 221-0349 or visit the Web site at <http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com/acs/programs/FAP/default.asp>.

Couple's enrichment

The Family Advocacy Program will hold a three-part couple's enrichment class that centers on reconnecting with your partner. Topics include understanding gender differences and focusing on commitment and intimacy. Talking with other married couples can also help improve your own relationship. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-2055.

Commanders' training

The Family Advocacy Program Commander and Senior Leader Training course is for new commanders, first sergeants and senior leaders. The training needs to be completed within 45 days upon assumption of the position. Training will be held on the last Thursday of each month from 8 to 10 a.m. in Building 2797 on Stanley Road. For more information or to register, call

221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.com.

Child and Youth Services**Parent Advisory Council**

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held April 15 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.

Baseball registration

Youth baseball registration will be held through Friday. Patrons need to be registered with Child and Youth Services. To register, patrons need to have a current sport physical (valid for the entire season), \$45 activity fee, two local emergency fees, the child's Social Security number and updated shots record. For more information, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

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.

Saturdays at School Age Services

School Age Services is open the second and fourth Saturdays of every month from 2 to 6 p.m. Children from first to fifth grades can have a fun-filled afternoon at School Age Services, Building 1705, Winans Road. For more information, call 221-4466.

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.

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.

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.



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.

Fort Sam Houston Fiesta & Fireworks

The public is invited to Fort Sam Houston Fiesta & Fireworks April 20 from 1 to 9 p.m. Fiesta at Fort Sam begins with a Country Fair that features military equipment displays, various exhibits, live entertainment, free T-shirts while they last, kiddie activities, carnival rides, games, food and drink booths, and continuous entertainment. Adding pageantry and elegance to the military parade will be the Army Drill Team, the Continental Old Guard, and the Fife & Drum Corps. The public is requested to enter Fort Sam Houston from Interstate Highway 35 at the Walters Street gate. No pets or coolers are allowed.

On stage

12:45 to 1 p.m. — U.S. Air Force Drill Team
1 to 1:15 p.m. - U.S. Air Force Military Academy Falcon demonstration
2 to 2:30 p.m. - Karavan Studios Belly Dancers
2:30 to 3 p.m. - Kazamba Dance and Drum Group
3 to 3:30 p.m. - Ballet Folkloric Del Cielo
3:30 to 4 p.m. - 82nd Airborne Chorus
4 to 4:30 p.m. - Las Erendiras, female mariachi group

Military ceremony at MacArthur Field

More than 300 Soldiers in parade.
4:30 to 5 p.m. - Holmes County High School Band, Bonifay, Fla.
5 to 5:30 p.m. - U. S. Army Drill Team from Washington



5:30 to 5:50 p.m. - Fife & Drum Corps performance and Retreat
6 to 6:45 p.m. - Fiesta Royalty awards, Fiesta Salute, Soldiers on Parade
6:45 to 7:15 p.m. - Escaramuza Rosas de Castilla, an equestrienne drill team

Back on stage

6:45 to 7:40 p.m. - David Bradley, country artists from Nashville, Tenn.
8 to 9 p.m. - Fiesta Concert by the Alamo City Community Marching Band and the U.S. Army Medical Command Band
9 p.m. - Fireworks finale! Sponsored by Steves & Son

Community

Events**Military Officers Association of America Golf Tournament**

The First Annual Military Officers Association of America — Alamo Chapter Golf Tournament will be held Friday at 1 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club, Loma Course. The entry fee of \$75 includes greens fees, cart, goodie bag and awards dinner. Registration forms are located at military golf clubs. Mail the registration form to MOAA-AC, P.O. Box 8037, San Antonio, Texas, 78207. For more information, call 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net.

Rampage Hockey Military Appreciation

The San Antonio Rampage will honor the men and women of the Armed Forces during Military Appreciation Night Saturday at 7 p.m. at the AT&T Center. Plan to join the Rampage vs. Peoria Riverman. Stop by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Ticket Office located in the Sam Houston Club and purchase tickets.

Tickets are \$16 per person and include one lower level ticket and voucher for free hot dog, soda and chips. Tickets must be purchased by today to be eligible for a MWR grand prize giveaway. For more information, call MWR Marketing at 221-2307 or the San Antonio Rampage at 444-5616.

Senior Games

The 2008 Senior Games of San Antonio will be held April 4 to 13. Registration for the games must be received at the Barshop Jewish Community Center of San Antonio by Friday. For more information or to register, call 302-6820 or visit www.saseniorgames.com.

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. 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 discount of 50 percent. To obtain the discount, register using priority code WHFH804. To register, visit <https://www.expotracs.com/whf/2008/houston>. For more information, visit <http://www.womenshf.com>.

Fisher House Charity Golf Tournament

The Brooke Army Medical Center Auxiliary will host the Annual Fisher House Golf Tournament at the Club at Sonterra Golf Course April 7 beginning at 11 a.m. The donations to play include a box lunch, goodie bag, T-shirt, the cost of the play and dinner. All proceeds will benefit the Fisher House. For more information or to register, e-mail Ellyn Gilbert at ellyngilbert@sbcglobal.net.

Spouses' Club Scholarships

Scholarships are available for dependent children graduating from high school who are planning to attend college or a trade school, and dependent children who are already of undergraduate status. Application packets are available at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The deadline is April 7. For more information, call Judith Markelz at

See COMMUNITY P20

COMMUNITY from P19

241-0811 or 655-0238.

Laughlin Air Force Base Adventure Race

Laughlin Air Force Base is hosting Laughlin's Adventure Race April 26 at 7:30 a.m. at Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio, Texas. Entry fee is \$80 per team with completed registration no later than April 9. For more information, call the Losano Fitness Center at 830-298-5251, DSN: 732-5251 or visit www.laughlinservices.com.

Cowboys for Heroes

Fort Sam Houston is hosting the third annual "Cowboys for Heroes" April 11 from 7 to 10 p.m. and April 12 from 9 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. Come by the Equestrian Center for free "Authentic Cowboy Food," a Buffalo Soldier demonstration, free activities, horse rides, and a free concert. For more information, call 221-3185.

USO Canteen Dance

The United Services Organization San Antonio is hosting the 4th annual USO Canteen Dance May 9 at the Omni San Antonio Hotel. The theme of the dance is the 1940s with music performance by the Sentimental Journey Orchestra. Tickets are \$50 each or a table of ten is \$500. Ticket cost will include free swing dance

class at the USO, free hotel parking, hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. Attendees are encouraged to wear 1940's period attire or coat and tie. For more information, call 227-9373, ext. 12 or visit www.alamouso.org/ events.

Ride for Troops

The Ride for Troops committee will hold its 3rd Annual Charity Ride May 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. The event raises money for Fort Sam Houston's Fisher House. The ride begins at Caliente Harley Davidson and ends at Texas Pride Barbecue, Adkins, Texas. Pre-register by May 1 for \$15. After May 1 the registration fee will be \$20. For more information, e-mail ride4troops@hotmail.com.

Meetings**Military Officers Association of America**

The Military Officers Association of America—Alamo Chapter will host a luncheon today at 11 a.m. at the Randolph Officer's Club. The guest speaker will be Karla Ayala, executive vice president and founder of "Operation Homefront of Texas." The cost is \$16. Reservation deadline is Monday by 12 p.m. For more information, call 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net.

Warrant Officer Association meeting

The April meeting of the Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will be held April 12 at the home of Randy Blackburn. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard warrant officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, or for time and directions, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596, e-mail juan.gomez@us.army.mil, or Suzan Farrell at 378-0422, e-mail suzan.farrell@us.army.mil.

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.

Training**Red Cross class**

The American Red Cross will hold a first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator class Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for military and Families. For information and special price, call 221-3355 or to register, call 582-1931.

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: Items for baby's nursery, gently used, white crib, mattress, changing table, five-drawer dresser, white glider and ottoman, Eddie Bauer Travel System, Fisher-Price Rain Forest, three pieces, monitor, gym, swing, crib bedding set and more. All for \$650. Call 658-8277.

For Sale: Nine-week old Chihuahua puppy, has first shot and health exam, comes with carrying cage and bed, \$300. Call 541-5624.

For Sale: Coffee table, light brown, rectangle, \$20; Baby Trend infant car seat with base, like new, \$45; Fisher Price infant swing, seat moves side-to-side and front-to-back, musical mobile, like new, \$45; brown dining room table, 34-inch square,

\$30; mirror with wood frame, 46 inches by 26 inches, \$35. Call 946-4530.

For Sale: Vision Fitness R2000 recumbent exercise bike, \$300 obo; small glass-top iron patio table with two chairs, \$40 obo. Call 788-3085 or e-mail corbgreene@yahoo.com for pictures.

For Sale: Antique four-post bed with dresser, \$200; antique U.S. military wood bunk beds, \$100. Call 288-6565.

For Sale: Baldwin Acrosonic piano with bench, \$900 obo; Murray riding mower, \$300 obo; two baker racks, \$85 each or both for \$150; cedar wardrobe, \$250 obo. Call 651-9046.

For Sale: Pug/Apso male puppy, 8 weeks, \$195; Resistol hat, size 7.25, \$65; bookcase, 5 feet tall by 3 feet wide, \$95; Volvo dash mat, \$50; Evenflo double stroller, \$65. Call 633-3859.

For Sale: Coach purses, \$20 to \$50; maternity clothes, sizes large to 2XL, \$2 to \$10; male Boston terrier, \$275; baby bouncer, \$125; Evenflo twin stroller and baby back pack, \$100 for both. Call 633-3859.

Free To Good Home: Female miniature pincher mix, shots up-to-date, good with kids. Call 632-8422.