

“One Team, Supporting Military Missions and Family Readiness!”

AMEDDC&S partners with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol

In a move to increase safety, specifically in often harsh work environments, the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol initiated their first self-trained National Registry Emergency Medicine Technician Basic Course Jan. 12, one of two courses held in El Paso. The

six-week 110-hour course was approved by the U.S. Army EMS Programs Management Office.

This is the first federal office outside the military to receive a site code from U.S. Army EMS. The course took place in El Paso, Texas, which is part of

the El Paso CBP Patrol Sector. This sector is one of nine in the United States and patrols the southwest border between the United States and Mexico covering 125,000 square miles and 268 miles of international border. The sector consists of eleven stations, six permanent

vehicle checkpoints and employs about 2,400 Border Patrol Agents.

Supervisory Border Patrol Agent Abel Meza, of the El Paso CBP leadership and the EMT Program Coordinator, started the process in October 2008 by contacting the U.S.

Army EMS Accreditation Branch.

The catalyst to create this course and to train agents in-house was two-fold. First, outside contract agencies prove costly and unavailable to meet

See AMEDDC&S P8

EXTREME MAKEOVER

(From left) Mike Gann, supervisor, Roads and Grounds, Department of Public Works, Rich Aguillon, Javier Aguilar, and Charles Travena (not pictured), are working hard to update the military float in preparation for its debut at its first parade for the year, the Battle of Flowers parade April 24. This year a replica of the Fort Sam Houston gate represents the post. Military ambassadors from Fort Sam Houston, Randolph and Lackland Air Force Bases and the Air Force Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Agency, ride the float representing their respective installation or organization. The military float participates in numerous parades in San Antonio and the surrounding communities.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Ombudsman available for Soldiers, Families with healthcare issues

By Jerry Harben
U.S. Army Medical Command

When wounded, ill or injured Soldiers are tied up in red tape and frustrated by bureaucracy, an ombudsman may be just what the doctor ordered.

An ombudsman is defined as someone who investigates complaints and mediates fair settlements. At Army hospitals, ombudsmen are that and much more – sources of information, liaisons, counselors, perhaps even

guardian angels.

The Army's ombudsmen program was established in April 2007 to help wounded warriors and their Families with complex issues such as healthcare, pay, physical disability processing, Reserve component medical retention and transition to care by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Less than two years later, 56 ombudsmen are

See OMBUDSMAN P2

Army South dedicates classroom at Sergeants Major Academy

By Master Sgt. Dave Thompson
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

Key U.S. Army South leaders celebrated a proud moment March 31 as a classroom at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy was dedicated in honor of their revered command headquartered at the historic Old BAMC building on Fort Sam Houston.

Army South Deputy Commander Brig. Gen. Manuel Ortiz, and Command Sgt. Maj. Armando Ramirez joined with USASMA Commandant Col. Donald Gentry and Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Chandler for a ribbon-cutting ceremony commemorating the

occasion.

The ceremony took place in the classroom proudly decorated by Sgt. Maj. Jerry Eddin, Army South sergeant major for Engineering, who made numerous trips from San Antonio to El Paso over a two-year period to update and configure the room to "Army South standards."

The room was freshly painted and decorated with new rugs, chair covers, name plates and window treatments, all prominently emblazoned with the widely recognized Army South Spanish Galleon. On the walls, portraits with matted frames depicted past Army South command sergeants major while



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Rick Black

U.S. Sergeants Major Academy students gather for a ribbon-cutting ceremony March 31 dedicating a classroom at the academy to U.S. Army South.

panoramic photographs of Army South buildings displayed the evolution and transition of the unit from Panama, to Puerto

Rico, to its present location at Fort Sam Houston. The brilliant combination of red, royal blue, vibrant yellow and pristine white of the Army South accouterments contrasted vividly with the rich, polished, mahogany-topped desks and instructor's podium giving the classroom a tastefully appointed look.

"It's taken me two years of fighting to get this room and it's for you all," said Ramirez to the senior enlisted students who occupied the classroom. "It also represents the 32 countries in our area of focus that we work with, which make up our Partnership of the Americas."

Ramirez thanked Gentry and Chandler for the opportunity to share the Army South history and legacy with future sergeants major and gave them each a command coin that he said

represents the unity and bond shared between a commander and his command sergeant major. Ramirez also issued a coin to USASMA Instructor Sgt. Maj. Larry Fegans and charged him with the care of the Army South room.

"We train about 48 students per year out of this room and the way it's configured, makes it very conducive to learning," said Fegans. "The students feel a great deal of pride because they have something to be proud of. So it's a great honor to have Army South come down here and dedicate this room, which will be appreciated by students for many years to come."

Ortiz spoke of the importance of the academy, the leadership of the noncommissioned officer corps, and what it means for Army South to be associated with the

USASMA institution. He went on to say that it was befitting that the room dedication coincided with the Secretary of the Army designating 2009 as the "Year of the NCO."

"We at U.S. Army South really believe in the NCO corps, especially the leadership of sergeants major," said Ortiz. "On behalf of Maj. Gen. Huber, the U.S. Army South commander, I would like to thank Col. Gentry and Command Sgt. Maj. Chandler for giving us this opportunity to be a part of this academy in a small way. I also want to thank Sgt. Maj. Fegans, who is the caretaker of this beautiful room."

The ceremony concluded with a cake-cutting tribute and refreshments served to the students, who echoed sentiments of pride for their new historic classroom.

Children with disabilities at greater risk of abuse

By Ken Gain
Exceptional Family Member
Program Manager, Army
Community Service

Children with special needs are at far greater risk for abuse and neglect than those without such needs. Recent studies show that children with physical, cognitive, or emotional disabilities are two to four times more likely to be maltreated than children without disabilities. Children with multiple disabilities are at even greater risk of maltreatment than those with single disabilities.

As in the general population, most of those

who abuse children with disabilities are well known by their victims. In the majority of cases perpetrators are family members or caregivers in positions of trust and authority with the child.

A number of factors contribute to higher levels of abuse and neglect. Caring for a child with disabilities can be a joyful experience, but at times it can be uniquely stressful. Some children have extreme needs, which can be physically and emotionally challenging to parents and caregivers, and may lead to a family's self-



imposed social isolation.

Factors such as attention deficit and behavior problems have been associated with increased risk for all types of child maltreatment. The financial and time demands of caring for a child with special needs can be overwhelming, leading in some cases to neglect as caregivers fail to provide proper medical treatment. Diminished parent and child bonding, par-

ticularly if a child is unresponsive to parental affection or separated from the parent by frequent hospitalizations, is another risk factor.

With an increased dependency on parents and adult caregivers to meet basic needs such as bathing, toileting and feeding, children with disabilities are generally more vulnerable to abuse than the general population. They may lack the ability to escape or defend themselves in abusive situations. A child's developmental special needs may make disclosure of abuse difficult or even impossible.

In some cases a child

with a cognitive disability, having been taught to obey all adults in authority, may be overly trusting and not recognize that an act is abusive. Victims who do report abuse may be discounted as easily suggestible or untrustworthy. While children with and without disabilities share similar indicators of maltreatment, behavioral changes indicative of abuse may go unnoticed if the changes are wrongly attributed to a child's disability instead of the abuse itself.

Educating children with special needs about abuse prevention, in a way that they can under-

stand, is essential to reducing maltreatment. An increased public awareness of the heightened risk of abuse of this segment of our population is equally important, as are efforts to reduce caregiver stress.

Fort Sam Houston's Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program offers a variety of resources to assist military families with special needs, including a support group, respite care, advocacy, lending library, counseling and financial aid resources and information referral.

For more information about the program, call 221-2705 or 221-2418.

"CONTINUING PROMISE 2009"



Courtesy photo

Maj. Gen. Keith Huber, commanding general, U.S. Army South meets with Army Reserve Soldiers from the 807th Medical Brigade, Deployment Support, April 5 aboard the USS Comfort. The Soldiers were preparing to embark on a 21-day exercise with U.S. Southern Command called, "Continuing Promise 2009." Continuing Promise is a humanitarian and civic assistance mission to Latin America and the Caribbean region. Soldiers will work alongside their joint, international, and non-governmental organization partners providing care to those in need.

CID on point in war against sexual assault

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command wants to reassure and remind the Army community - Soldiers, leaders, Family members and civilians, that sexual assaults are investigated as serious crimes and that there are several ways to report these crimes, and various agencies available to assist victims.

Criminal investigators also want victims to know they have several options when reporting these crimes and to remind

leaders at every level it is their legal and moral duty to report any acts of violence or misconduct.

"Let it be known, we are on call 24 hours a day to investigate crime and we consider any and all allegations of sexual assault of the utmost importance and take them very seriously," said Chris Grey, chief of public affairs, USACIDC.

The following are reporting options and resources available to sexual assault victims.

Unrestricted Reporting is for victims of sexual assault who want medical treatment, counseling and an official investigation of the crime. A victim has many options when taking this course of action. They can report the crime through their chain of command or they can go directly to the military police or their local CID office. They can also contact their local Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or request healthcare providers to

notify law enforcement.

If a victim wants to report a sexual assault to law enforcement, it should be done as soon as possible after the assault. The victim should remember to preserve as much evidence as possible. CID recognizes how traumatic a sexual assault can be for victims, but at the same time stresses how vital evidence can be.

Restricted reporting is for victims of sexual assault who wish to confidentially disclose the

crime to specific individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling without starting the investigative process. Service members who are sexually assaulted and desire restricted reporting under this policy must report the assault to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Victim Advocate, healthcare provider or a chaplain.

The U.S. Army is on the offensive to put an end to sexual assault and sexual harassment within its ranks. The Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault

Response and Prevention program and I. A.M. STRONG campaign aims to combat sexual assault through prevention.

"Our goal is to erase sexual assault and sexual harassment from the life of the U.S. Army," said Pete Geren, Secretary of the U.S. Army.

To report a crime or for more information contact your local CID office of visit www.cid.army.mil.

(Source: U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command)

FIESTA GRANDE BICYCLE RACE

Photos by Esther Garcia



Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, commanding general, Fort Sam Houston and Army Medical Department Center and School, visits with a bicyclist participating in the Fiesta Grande Bicycle time trials held on Fort Sam Houston April 10.



Staff Sgt. Nieves Rodriguez, injured warrior, from Fort Hood, Texas, waits for the signal to take off during the Fiesta Grande Bicycle time trials held on Fort Sam Houston. This is the first time Rodriguez has competed in a competition since his injuries. His arm was severed at the elbow when he was injured in 2005 in Iraq.

More than 150 participants register for the Fiesta Grande Bicycle Time Trials Race, a 10 mile race, held April 10 on historic Fort Sam Houston. The Fiesta Grande Bicycle Race is a three day race. Day one is the time trails, day two of the race is the criterion race held at the San Antonio Police Academy, and day three is the circuit race, held at Randolph Air Force Base.

Sports

Islanders #1 win championship

Islanders #1 beat Islanders #2 for the post-season volleyball championship. Islanders #1 had to beat Islanders #2 in the first match to set up for the championship. In the Championship Islanders #2 jumped to a two games to none lead, only to see Islanders #1 came back and win the next three games and claim the championship 3-2 in the best of five match-up.

Law Day golf scramble

A Fort Sam Houston Law Day Golf Scramble will be held May 1 at 10 a.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. The cost is \$40, which includes green fees, cart and lunch. All friends, Family and employees related to the San Antonio Judge Advocate General, law enforcement and military command and legal communities are welcome. For more information or to register, e-mail scott.r.crivelli@us.army.mil by April 20.

AMEDDC&S from P1

the demanding schedules of the CBP personnel.

Second, agents work in severe areas, 30 to 60 minutes away from local emergency medical service response. Due to the environment, often the health and safety of civilians and the agents themselves require immediate medical care.

The focus to increase medical skills using the NREMT-Basic course increased both after 9-11 and a helicopter crash involving two CBP agents in May 2007. To provide better care each sector sent their agents to outside schools, with the El Paso Sector sending a total of 100 basic, 10 intermediate and nine paramedic personnel.



Courtesy photo

Agent Carlos Lara Daman Chavez (center) places James Hughes' neck in a C-Collar, after a simulated accident to stabilize his c-spine while agents James Hughes (right) and John Rodriguez (far left) assist.

In moving to become an Army EMT-authorized Training Site, the El Paso Sector adopted 2009 and 2010 fiscal year goals of training 50 more NREMT-Basic personnel each year. This move has prompted another sector to possibly adopt the

same process.

Looking to the future, Meza is also looking into the El Paso Sector EMT Training Site becoming a national CBP training location, supporting equivalent yearly goals for the nine other CBP Patrol Sectors.

The U.S. Army EMS office, considered the 51st 'State' by the NREMT provided initial guidance and follow-on assistance to create this new training site. As part of the regulatory process to ensure high educational standards and provide program development assistance, Kevin Williams, compliance and regulatory lead, U.S.

Army EMS, Army Medical Command Center and School, reviewed the course at the CBP Training Center in El Paso.

"The Border Patrol has a pretty impressive training site, with some dedicated instructors," said Williams.

When visiting a site the U.S. Army EMS staff inspects to ensure the Department of

Transportation and Army Medical Department Center and School standards are met. Equipment is checked for serviceability and sufficient quantities to run a course, as well as reviewing administrative processes and record keeping requirements. The El Paso CBP Course received high marks in all areas.

The students also praised their training instructors, with one stating, "There was plenty of practical skills exercise, including vehicle extrication that gave me more confidence to do my job."

Ten students in the course, including U.S. Marshalls who operate jointly with the CBP, successfully completed the course and passed the NREMT-Basic certification exam.

Meza and Senior Patrol Agent Carlos Tsougas demonstrated these attributes, surpassed the standard, and gave their students a solid educational foundation upon which to build.

The U.S. Army EMS office looks forward to this federal partnership. Since the initial course the El Paso Sector began another EMT-Basic course that started March 2 for six members of the Border Patrol Search Trauma and Rescue team. They also held a 24-hour NREMT-Refresher course in February 2009.

For more information visit <https://apps.mods.army.mil/EMS/HomePage.aspx> or call 221-0837.

(Source: U.S. Army EMS Program Management Office)

FORT SAM HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY CAMPUS ACTIVITIES APRIL 20 TO 25

Public School Volunteer Week

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

- April 20 – Blow the top off TAKS – crazy hat day
Fife and Drum Corps visit to Cole high school, 9 a.m.
- April 21 – TAKS be a team player – wear a jersey
- April 22 – TAKS Hawaiian day – wear Hawaiian clothes
King Antonio visit, 1:10 to 1:35 p.m.
- April 23 – TAKS pep rally – dress like a rock star, 11:30 a.m. to noon
PTO Fiesta celebration, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- April 24 – School holiday/Battle of Flowers

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School

- April 20 – Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Country Club in San Marcos, TBA
- April 21 – Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Country Club in San Marcos, TBA
- April 22 – Regional tennis match
Regional golf tournament at Quail Creek Country Club in San Marcos, TBA
Career investigations classes to DoD Veterinary clinic/laboratory
for class periods two, three and five, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- April 23 – Middle school hot sauce salsa contest during second lunch
Regional tennis match
Fiesta band festival at Alamo Stadium
- April 24 – School holiday/Battle of Flowers
Varsity regional track qualifiers meet, all day
Baseball at Blanco, 5 p.m.
Battle of Flowers – Cole band performance
- April 25 – Varsity regional track qualifiers meet, all day

News Leader survey online

Submit your feedback to help improve the News Leader. The survey is available online at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/pao/default.html>. For more information, call 221-0615 or 221-1031.

Cole teacher awarded Trinity Prize for Excellence in Teaching

Louis Sifuentes, a Cole Advanced Placement Calculus and Statistics teacher is one of two recipients of the 2009 Trinity Prize for Excellence in Teaching Award. Sifuentes was selected from 20 distinguished educators nominated by area school districts for their commitment and passion to education.

Dr. Paul Kelleher, chair and the Murchison Distinguished Professor of Education at Trinity University, along with two graduate students formed a prize patrol to surprise Sifuentes in his classroom. Joining in the announcement were Installation Commander, Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw;

U.S. Army Garrison Commander, Col. Mary Garr; School Board Members Deborah Seabron, Keith Toney and Eustace Lewis; and Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Superintendent Dr. Gail Siller. Balloons, cake and a crystal apple were all presented to Sifuentes.

"Mr. Sifuentes is an outstanding teacher and leader. With his previous military service in the U. S. Marine Corps and U. S. Air Force, he has been invaluable in working with military families. His professional commitment and integrity is unsurpassed whether he is tutoring students, serving on campus or district



Dr. Paul Kelleher presents Mr. Louis Sifuentes, Cole math teacher, with a Tiffany apple, as a recipient of the 2009 Trinity Prize for Excellence in Teaching Award.

Courtesy photo

committees, or initiating a student project that provides community service through working for Habitat for Humanity," Siller said.

A committee of business leaders and Trinity education students selected the winners. Trinity University has been recognizing teachers with the Trinity Prize

for Excellence in Teaching for

28 years. Sifuentes is the first FSHISD teacher to receive the award.

Sifuentes will be honored at an awards ceremony April 17 at 4 p.m. in the Trinity University Ruth Taylor Recital Hall followed by a reception in the Merienda.

(Source: FSHISD)

COLE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Photo by Elizardo Hernandez

Each month Cole Middle and High School recognizes one student from each grade level for his or her outstanding attitude, citizenship, and overall contribution to the school. The students are nominated by their teachers and then one student is selected by the faculty of each grade level. The recipients for March are (back row, from left) Jacqueline Platero, ninth grade; John Michna, 11th grade; Ryan Wiersma, 10th grade; Marcus Prater, eighth grade; and Morgen Lewis, seventh grade (front) Dylan Rogers, sixth grade. Not pictured Kathleen Mahon, 12th grade.

FSHISD Announces its 2009-2010 Non-Resident Transfer Student Policy

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District will once again accept non-resident transfer student applications for the 2009-2010 school year in pre-kindergarten through 12th grades.

Non-resident transfer students are children of active duty military parents assigned to the Fort Sam Houston who do not reside on post in Lincoln Military Housing and have successfully completed the non-resident transfer application process.

Current non-resident transfer students must reapply for the 2009-2010 school year within the timeline of the process. New non-resident transfer students for the 2009-2010 school year must complete an application within the timeline of the process. All non-resident transfer students must provide

their own transportation to and from school – they are not eligible to ride a district school bus.

Non-resident transfer applications will be considered if certain criteria are met regarding grades, conduct, and attendance, no additional personnel is required, and adequate classroom space is available at the grade level requested.

The following categories of students will be considered in the following priority:

- Current non-resident transfer students will be given priority, provided their conduct, grades, and attendance have been acceptable during the current school year.
- Students who lived on post, were enrolled in the District during 2008-2009, and moved off-post during the school year, but their parents remain on military active duty.
- Students who lived on

post, were enrolled in the District during 2008-2009 school year, and moved off-post during the school year because their parents have retired from military active duty.

- Students whose parents are active duty military personnel assigned to the Fort Sam Houston installation and are not seeking on-post residence through Lincoln Military Housing.
- Children of district employees.

Students and their parents or guardians approved for non-resident transfer status are required to agree to the administrative guidelines and the non-resident transfer student agreement.

Parents or guardians may obtain a non-resident transfer application from the District Administration Office between April 20 and Aug. 20. Completed applications must be submitted to Kathy Hayson at the District Administration Office. Applications will be date and time stamped.

For complete details and requirements of the transfer policy and administrative guidelines, visit the FSHISD Web site at www.fshisd.net. Non-resident transfer applications are not available on the Web site. For more information, call Kathy Hayson at 368-8701.

(Source: FSHISD)



IMCOM, FSH celebrate the Year of the NCO



By Minnie Jones
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

Before an audience filled to capacity with Soldiers, Family members and civilians at the Army Community Service auditorium, Installation Management Command-West set aside an hour, April 10 to pay tribute to the noncommissioned officer, the backbone of the Army.

Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Braddock, command sergeant major, IMCOM-West, opened the ceremony by thanking the audience for their presence helping IMCOM-West celebrate the Year of the NCO.

Braddock said when IMCOM-West looked at celebrating the year of the non-commissioned officer, the importance that he wanted to reflect was that the noncommissioned officer from the birth of the nation has always been on call.

The ceremony began with tracing the history of the NCO, beginning during the American Revolution, through World Wars I and II, the Korean and Vietnam War to the global war on terrorism and various present campaigns.

As the lights dimmed in the auditorium, the audience watched while Soldiers entered the stage dressed in a variety of Army uniforms from different periods in history.

The room was filled with emotion as three NCOs, dressed in the Army Service Uniform walked slowly through the crowd, each reciting a segment of the NCO creed; their voices filled the room with conviction and pride.

For centuries, NCOs have been accomplishing the mission, ensuring the welfare of their Soldiers, and leading troops into battle, embodying these very words of the NCO creed, "Competence is my watch-word. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind - accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers."

Keynote speaker Randall Robinson, director, IMCOM-West, opened his speech with a quote from the NCO's creed "No one is more professional than I." Robinson said, "Those words are more than a collection of words, it is a promise and pledge. It is a promise each noncom-

missioned officer makes to themselves and the people of the United States of America that they will do whatever it takes to attain and maintain the highest military standards..."

"This ceremony didn't just represent the past and present noncommissioned officers; it represented a voice of the noncommissioned officers that can no longer speak because they have paid the ultimate sacrifice. These NCOs today, in their own way are paying tribute to those who have paid the highest cost that a NCO can pay. I wanted to send a message to the audience that the NCO doesn't ask for much they do a lot ...

they give everything they can because they believe in what they are doing, because they believe in the corps... and we will always be on watch," said Braddock.

"I think it is wonderful that the Army leadership, the secretary and the chief of staff of the Army felt it important enough to dedicate this year to the noncommissioned officer, and with that, it affords us a better opportunity, with the support of all Army leaders to get the word out to the workforce exactly what the noncommissioned officer does," Robinson said.

Photo by Minnie Jones



Photo by Minnie Jones

"The ceremony was very well and professionally done. Here at Headquarters, Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, 97 percent of us here are on a compassionate assignment, they (Soldiers) still have the determination and dedication to put a professional program out there," said Sgt. 1st Class James Peregory, 1st platoon, platoon sergeant, Headquarters, Headquarters Company USAG. "It was a long time coming."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Col. Mary Garr, U.S. Army Garrison commander said, "It was a really outstanding ceremony to trace the history of the noncommissioned officer from our early days as a nation

until today, and on the importance of recognizing the NCO.

In past times we didn't always appreciate their value as a noncommissioned officer, we did not invest in them appropriately or give them the scope of responsibility that they really can and should be carrying... Now, because of the value of the noncommissioned officer, and because of our investing in them in terms of training, education and developmental experience, they are the reason why the U.S. Army is absolutely the best Army in the world."

Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer



No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a Noncommissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as The Backbone of the Army. I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety. Competence is my watch-word. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind - accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my soldiers. I will strive to remain tactically and morally proficient.

Sgt. Edmond Perez, Spc. Mary McCoy, Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Class and Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Guerrero clean up around U.S. Army Garrison Headquarters April 14 during the Fort Sam Houston Spring Clean-up. Class leads by example, embodying the words of the NCO Creed ... I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own...



Photo by Lori Newman



Photo by Minnie Jones

The Army Community Service auditorium was filled to capacity April 10 for Installation Management Command-West Year of the NCO ceremony.



Photo by Ed Dixon

Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Braddock, command sergeant major, Installation Management Command-West presents Randall Robinson, director, IMCOM-West with the noncommissioned officer creed in a matted and wooden frame after the ceremony.



Photo by Minnie Jones

During the Year of the NCO ceremony, Soldiers dressed in a variety of Army uniforms from different periods of history highlighting their contribution to the U.S. Army.



Photo Ed Dixon

Randall Robinson, director, Installation Management Command-West, keynote speaker during the Year of the NCO ceremony, said, "I think it is wonderful that the Army leadership, the secretary and the chief of staff of the Army felt it important enough to dedicate this year to the noncommissioned officer."



Announcements

BOSS variety show auditions

The Fort Sam Houston Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program is seeking talent for the upcoming New York street-style variety show entitled, "Boulevard of Music Dreams." BOSS variety shows have won first and second place in the Army Festival of the Performing Arts in previous years. There will be parts for a variety of talents to include singing, dancing, instrumentals, graffiti artists and break dancers. For more information or to schedule an audition, call Ben Paniagua at 224-7250.

Microsoft Office 2007 classes offered

Army Community Service's Microsoft instructor will offer the following Microsoft Office 2007 classes April 17 – Publisher 2007; April 20 – Word 2007 Level 3; April 22 – Excel 2007 Level 3; and April

27 – Access 2007 Level 1 from 8 a.m. to noon at ACS, Building 2797 in the computer lab. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 221-1841 or e-mail jennifer.loba@us.army.mil.

Fort Sam Houston Night at the Missions

The San Antonio Missions will host a Fort Sam Houston Night every Saturday home game this season. Tickets are only \$6 to sit in a special Fort Sam Houston section at Nelson W. Wolff Stadium. Free fireworks show after the game. For more information, call 226-1663.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will feature "Angel Street," a Victorian thriller by Patrick Hamilton, Thursday through Saturday evenings from April 23 to May 23. This Broadway hit tells the story of the Mannings, who live on Angel Street in 19th century London. For more information on show times or to make a reservation, call 222-9694.

Driver's education

The Child, Youth and School Services will offer a driver's education course through the Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration,

Exploration and Skills program. Spring session class dates are April 27 to May 21. Classes are open to all Department of Defense I.D. card holders. For information on class times, cost of course or to make a reservation, call 221-9548.

Family Fun Nite

The Fort Sam Houston Bowling center offers a Family Fun Nite every Tuesday night from 5 to 8:45 p.m. Families can bowl for \$20 per lane with free shoes. For more information, call 224-4740.

Sam Houston Club Express Lunch

The Sam Houston Club will offer a healthy and convenient cuisine for Soldier on the go. Beginning April 7 the Sam Houston Club will offer patrons the opportunity to purchase lunch items via a mobile catering unit in the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center parking lot between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Customers can choose from southern fried chicken or a healthy-heart menu choice. For more information, call 224-2721.

Soldier Appreciation Day

The Fort Sam Houston Bowling center offers a Soldier Appreciation Day every Saturday from 1 to 7

p.m. Active-duty military can bowl \$2 games with free shoes. The Strike Zone offers a full range of food and drinks at an additional cost. For more information, call 224-4740.

Summer camp registration

Child, Youth and School Services will conduct summer camp registration through April 18 at Army Community Service, Building 2797, for youth that have completed kindergarten through 11th grade. Patrons registering youth kindergarten through 11th grade must have proof of current immunizations at time of registration. Children identified as having a special need must attend a Special Needs Accommodation Process prior to registration. For more information or additional registration requirements, call 221-4871.

Armed Forces Vacation Club

Armed Forces Vacation Club is a "Space A" vacation condominium rental program, which offers accommodations around the world for only \$329 for a 7-night stay. There is no membership fee, for members of the uniformed services. Visit www.afvclub.com for available resorts or call 1-800-724-9988 to reserve a condominium. Use code No. 181 for

Randolph and start packing. For more information, call 652-5640.

Warrior's scramble

Fort Sam Golf Club hosts a Warriors Monthly Scramble the first Friday of every month with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. Teams ranging from one to four people can register at the Pro Shop. A registration fee of \$25 per person will apply. For more information, call 222-9386.

Calendar of Events

APRIL 16

Credit report class

Army Community Service Financial Readiness will hold a credit report class April 16 at 1 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

Summer Hire Job Fair

Army Community Service Employment Readiness program will hold a summer hire job fair April 16 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. The job fair will focus on summer jobs for teens and the military community. For more information, call 221-0516 or 221-2418.

APRIL 17

Trauma in the Unit training

The Army Community Service

Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold Trauma in the Unit training April 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the ACS, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Free movie nights

Army Community Service will host another free movie weekend April 17 and 18. "Madagascar 2: Escape to Africa" will be shown April 17 at the main post flagpole. The 3-D experience "Journey to the Center of the Earth" will be shown April 18 at the field between the Youth Services and Dodd Field Chapel. 3-D glasses will be available. Both movies begin at dusk, just bring lawn chairs, blankets and beverages. Also available for the fun evening will be popcorn and snow cones. For more information, call 221-2418 or 221-0349.

APRIL 18

Bow hunters class

Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation will hold a Texas state approved two-day bow hunter's safety course April 18 and 19. All patrons hunting at Camp Bullis are required to complete a state

See MWR P16

AFTB GRADUATES FOUR INSTRUCTORS



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

Four Army Family Team Building volunteers graduated from a two-and-a-half day AFTB Instructor training April 1 at Army Community Service. (Back row, from left) Sarah Small, instructor; Winkie Hayes, instructor; Grace Martinez; Cyndi Rodriguez, AFTB Army Family Action Plan program manager; and Denise Sanders; (front row, from left) Collette Delgado and Bernice Gutierrez. During the training, graduates gained skills in methods of instruction, platform skills, instructional aids, the planning process and more. Their newly acquired and enhanced instructor skills have equipped them with the ability to prepare and deliver the Department of the Army AFTB curriculum to various audiences in different settings within the Fort Sam Houston community. For information about other AFTB classes, call 221-2611.

MWR from P14

approved Hunter's Education Course. Cost for each course is \$15 and includes all study materi-

als. Reservations are required. For more information, call 295-7577 or 295-7529, or e-mail andy.keith@us.army.mil.

APRIL 20 Pre-deployment planning training

The Army Community Service Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold pre-deployment planning training April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Sibling Silly class

Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will offer a class called Sibling Silly, April 20 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Dodd Field Chapel, Building 1721. This two-part series will focus on helping children become a big brother or big sister when parents bring home new baby. For more information, call 221-0349 or 221-2418.

Identity theft class

Army Community Service Financial Readiness will hold an identity theft class April 20 at 2 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

APRIL 21 Key Caller training

The Army Community Service Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold Key Caller training April 21 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

at ACS, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Sex Offenders: Who are they?

In recognition of Sexual Assault Prevention Month Army Community Service Family Advocacy will hold lunch and learn class entitled, Sex Offenders: Who are they? April 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. The class will be presented by Steve Martinez, director of the Office Victim Assistance and Safe Environment, Archdioceses of San Antonio. Register by April 21. Food and beverage will be provided. For more information or to register, call 221-1505 or e-mail Theresa.anderson@us.army.mil.

Consumer awareness class

Army Community Service Financial Readiness will hold a consumer awareness class April 21 at 2 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

APRIL 22 Mandatory first-termer financial readiness

Army Community Service Financial Readiness will hold a mandatory first-termer financial

readiness class April 22 at 10 a.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

Battlemind training for Families

The Army Community Service Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold Battlemind training for Families April 22 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

APRIL 23 Interviewing tips

Army Community Service Family Employment Readiness Program will hold a class entitled, The Interview of your Life, April 23 from 8 a.m. to noon at ACS, Building 2797. Learn how to prepare for an interview with techniques that will change your view and empower you to leave a lasting impression. For more information or to sign up, call 221-0516 or 221-0427.

Sexual Assault Recognition ceremony

Sexual assault first responders and providers will be recognized for their dedication and commitment to the response and prevention of sexual assault April 23 from

3 to 4 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Plan to attend the recognition ceremony to say thank you to the people who respond and help in the prevention of this crime. For more information or to register, call 221-0918.

APRIL 25 Self defense for the Family

In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month a free self defense class will be offered April 25 at 9 a.m. at the Center Brigade Gym. Instructors from several types of martial arts will be on site as well as vendors with self defense gear. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Maawac at 221-7367.

APRIL 28 Women Encouraging Women

Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will hold Women Encouraging Women, a lunchtime seminar, April 28 from noon to 1 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. The topic will be, "Tips on how to maximize your money." Bring a healthy lunch, make new friends, and grow your potential. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or 221-0600.

Community

APRIL 17 Relay for Life event

East Central Independent School District will serve as host for the Second Annual Relay for Life April 17 at 6 p.m. at East Central High School Hornet Stadium. The evening will begin with a community health fair at 6 p.m., followed by Relay for Life activities and entertainment at 7 p.m. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

APRIL 18 Fort Sam Houston Caminada de Fiesta walk

The Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Medical Command will host a 5K and 11K volksmarch walk April 18 starting between 7:30 a.m. and noon, finish by 3 p.m. at the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum, 2310 Stanley Road, Building 1046. For more information, call Gerald Kamicka at 658-2160 or e-mail

GeraldK726@aol.com. To print a brochure for the walk, visit www.walktx.org/TexasWanderers/.

American Heroes Celebration

An American Heroes Celebration will be held April 18 and 19 at Camp Mabry in Austin. The American Heroes Air Show will be held April 18 showcasing helicopters and their crews. People will be able to talk to the pilots and crew, first responders, Soldiers, Airmen and more. Crews of the helicopters give you a bird's eye view of their craft. They will be there to answer questions, take photos and give tours of their equipment. April 19 a Vietnam-era Huey OH-1, also known as "slick" used in a battle reenactment from the Vietnam War. The Texas Army National Guard will also perform a demonstration from a Blackhawk helicopter, repelling in and out of the craft. The event is free and

open to the public. For more information, visit www.texasnational-guard.us/ahc/.

APRIL 21 Diversity in the Workplace seminar

A Diversity in the Workplace lunch and learn seminar will be held April 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Credit Union, Building 2250, Stanley Road. Guest speaker will be Maria Preda, Equal Employment Opportunities specialist. The seminar is free and open to the community. For more information, call Phyllis Bergen at 221-6629.

MAY 1 Free portraits of military Families

Texas photographer Karen Stannard, owner of Beautifully Scene Images, will offer free portraits for families in the San Antonio area and will print a 5-by-7 print and two wallet sized prints for the Family to send overseas in time for Mother's Day or Father's Day. Families wishing to participate in the free portrait program can go to the Hemisfair Park entrance May 1 between 10 a.m.

SWEET TREATS

Troop 883 Girl Scouts, Cameryn Manley, Madison Merritt and Elizabeth Beach, with troop leader Kelly Merritt and co-leader Jennifer Manley present 455 boxes of Girl Scout cookies April 10 to Russell Fritz, assistant manager, for the Fisher House. Beach won first place in the donation category. Customers paid for the cookies, the cookies were then donated to the Fisher House. "I wanted to do something nice for the Soldiers and give them something sweet to enjoy," said Beach. Merritt and Manley said they want to thank the Soldiers for "protecting us from the bad guys."



Photo by Esther Garcia

and 6 p.m. For more information, call 279-2494 or visit photos@beautifullyscene.com.

MAY 5 Technology and Intelligence Career Fairs

San Antonio Military Defense Technology and Intelligence will host three career fairs, May 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club; May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Randolph Air Force Base Officers' Club and May 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lackland

Air Force Base Security Hill, Kissing Community Center. These career fairs are for job seekers with any federal security clearance, information technology, technical, engineering, aerospace, scientific, communications, military, government or intelligence background. For more information or to pre-register, visit www.transitioncareers.com.

MAY 7 Legion Jubilee

The American Legion, William

M. Randolph Post 593 will host a Legion Jubilee May 7 to 10 in Converse City Park. Enjoy four days of carnival rides, live bands, car and motorcycle shows and a motorcycle run, a health fair, arts and crafts booths, horseshoe tournament, chili and bean cook offs, food booths, face painting, martial arts, gymnastics demonstrations, and Police K-9 demonstrations. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call 658-1111 or visit www.Post593.org.



Religious Briefs

CWOC meets

The Catholic Women of the Chapel will hold an Enrichment Bible Study Mondays at 9:15 a.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. Child care is provided. For more information, call 442-8957 or 830-914-2326.

PWOC meets

The Protestant Women of the Chapel is a Christ-centered group that encourages women to grow spiritually within the body of Christ through prayer, the study of God's word, worship and service. A Bible

study is held Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Child care is provided. For more information, call 221-5007.



Main Post Chapel, Building 2200, 221-2754

Catholic Services:
4:45 p.m. - Reconciliation - Saturdays
5:30 p.m. - Mass - Saturdays
9:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays
11:30 a.m. - Mass - weekdays

Protestant Services - Sundays:

8 a.m. - Collective Protestant
11 a.m. - Collective Protestant
Jewish Services: 379-8666 or 493-6660
8 p.m. - Fridays - Worship and 8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat

Dodd Field Chapel, Building 1721, 221-5010 or 221-5432

Catholic Services:
9:15 to 11:15 a.m. - Catholic Women of the Chapel Enrichment or Bible Study - Mondays
12:30 p.m. - Mass - Sundays

Protestant Services:

10:30 a.m. - Gospel Protestant - Sundays
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Protestant Women of

the Chapel meeting - Wednesdays, child care is provided
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. - Protestant Women of the Chapel meeting - Thursdays, child care is provided
Samoan Protestant Service: 8:30 a.m. - Sundays

Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel, Building 3600, 916-1105

Catholic Services:
8:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays
11 a.m. - Mass - Sundays

Protestant Services:

10 a.m. - Worship Service - Sundays
Episcopal/Lutheran Rite services:
12:30 p.m. - Traditional worship - Thursdays

Center for the Intrepid, first floor, 916-1105

Christ for the Intrepid services:
5:30 p.m. - Coffee and fellowship - Sundays
6 p.m. - Contemporary worship - Sundays

AMEDD Regimental Chapel, Building 1398, 221-4362

32nd Medical Brigade Student services
Catholic Mass: 8 a.m. - Sundays
Contemporary Protestant Service: 9:30 a.m. - Sundays
Mustim Jumma: 1:30 p.m. - Fridays

Fort Sam Houston Library, Building 1222, 221-4702

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints:
8:30 a.m. - Sundays

Installation Chaplain's Office, Building 2530, 295-2096

Contemporary Protestant: 11:01 a.m. - Sundays

Web site:
www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain

For Sale Fort Freebies

For Sale: Office desk, cherry wood, \$75; 27-inch colored television, \$125; oak table with four chairs, \$125; sectional sofa, \$150.00; curio cabinet, cherry wood, \$100. All in good condition. Call 566-8128.

For Sale: Aerogarden, kitchen garden appliance, black, boxed, \$60; Brothers all-in-one phone, paper fax and copier, \$10; Linksys Wireless-G broadband Internet router, 2.4 GHz., boxed and instructions, \$30; Dr. Scholls Toe Touch Foot Spa with smart heat and massage, boxed, \$10. Call 222-2115 or 630-3151.

For Sale: Complete living room set, green sofa, love seat, glass coffee table, two glass end tables, two lamps, matching accent rug, wood and glass entertainment center, very nice, all for \$1,000; queen bedroom set, mattress, night stand, dresser with mirror, armoire, cream colored, all for \$800. Call 832-8128.

For Sale: Weight bench, two weight bars, 250 pounds of weights, \$75; large square wood

coffee table with glass top, \$10; bookcase top for girls bedroom dresser, white, 48 inches by 48 inches, \$15; wedding dress, size 6 to 8, lots of beading, 9-foot train, veil, \$50. Call 475-9973.

For Sale: Wooden play-structure, paid \$1,200, asking \$300 obo; new patio gazebo with mosquito netting, \$75; yard swing, lounge chair, market shade umbrella with stand, four pieces, \$100; metal playdome, \$50; Dyson vacuum, \$100. Call 670-7840.

For Sale: Troy Built lawn mower, \$35; Medela, Pump in Style, breast pump, \$65; small round dining table with fold-down sides and two chairs, \$20. Call 262-6114.

For Sale: Twin-size automatic bed, paid \$1,500, asking \$375. Call 445-4837 or 445-0142.

For Sale: Eighty-gallon air compressor, like new, \$850; power washer, \$245; Washburn bass guitar with amplifier, \$800; 1962 Chevy Nova, good engine, new tires, \$2,200; 1969 Jeep, runs, \$2,200. Call 633-0881.

For Sale: Buffet, \$75; riding lawnmower, \$495; two bikes, \$35 each; elliptical exerciser, \$200; shelves, \$12. Call 633-2247.

Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is noon Monday. 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 and employment ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail news.leader@conus.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Freebies can only be ran twice. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-0546.

For Sale: Office desk, \$75; two chairs, \$35 each; solid oak table, \$75. Call 550-7371.

For Sale: Pet house, extra-large, \$70; baby backpack, \$35; barbecue, \$25; welder, model MIG100, cart, helmet, works great, \$160. Call 633-3859.

For Sale: Full length running boards for 2006 Ford F150, chrome on black, like new, \$145. Call 221-3549.

For Sale: Traveling dog carrier, \$20; television stand with two doors, fits large television, \$30; computer desk, \$25; two-drawer metal filing cabinet, \$15; entertainment center, wood, \$100. Call Sandy at 241-1291.

For Sale: 2001 Oldsmobile Silhouette extended minivan, excellent condition, one owner, \$3,800 obo. Call 383-8188.