



# Fort Sam Houston News Leader



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Fort Sam Houston – Home of Army Medicine

May 19, 2005

## Briefs . . .

### Short-term gate closure, today

Fort Sam Houston will conduct an operations-based exercise today. The exercise will evaluate the installation's capability to close all access control points in response to Force Protection Condition DELTA implementation. All post ACPs, to include Camp Bullis, will be closed for about five to 10 minutes between 10 and 11 a.m. to test the speed and effectiveness of the ACP closure process. Only those units and personnel directly involved in ACP operations will be involved.

### Harry Wurzbach gate closure

Harry Wurzbach East, which is adjacent to the Medical Museum, is closed due to construction of a new vehicle access control point. The project is scheduled for completion in January. During the closure, the Scott Road gate is open 24 hours, seven days a week. However, people who normally enter through Scott Road, which is one lane, should consider an alternate entrance to avoid delays.

### Safety Day ceremony

The Army Medical Department Center and School will conduct a Safety Day Ceremony at the Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797, Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. This ceremony is designed to promote safe operations and practices by military and civilian personnel and their families and is open to all AMEDDCC&S, Fort Sam Houston and tenant organizations.

### Ammunition inventory closure

Ammunition supply at Fort Sam Houston and Camp Stanley will be closed for an inventory Monday through May 27. No ammunition issues or turn-ins will be conducted during the inventory. For more information, call Charles Sneed at 221-4575.

### Memorial Day ceremony

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery will host a Memorial Day ceremony May 30 at 9 a.m. Army nurse Maj. Dawn Garcia, a veteran of the Global War on Terrorism, will be the keynote speaker. In addition to the traditional wreath presentation, the program will include music by the Army Medical Command Band, and a children's choir, the Younger Generation, from Plano, Texas. The public is invited.

### Newcomers' Extravaganza

All permanent party in-processing Soldiers, lieutenant colonel and below, are required to attend a Newcomers' Extravaganza within 60 days of their arrival. The next session is May 31 at 9 a.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center. Soldiers, civilians and family members will have an opportunity to learn about Fort Sam Houston and San Antonio and participate in drawings. Children are welcome. For more information, call the Army Community Service Relocation Program at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

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Photo by Esther Garcia

Texas Congressman Lamar Smith answers questions from local media representatives during a base realignment and closure press conference on post Friday shortly after the BRAC list was released to the nation.

## Good news for Fort Sam BRAC proposal increases workforce, brings new missions

By Shadi May and Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

It was good news for San Antonio's sole Army post.

The Department of Defense's base realignment and closure proposal, announced Friday by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, includes a recommended 4,300-person increase to Fort Sam Houston's workforce and a significant expansion of post missions.

"Today's recommendations will allow Fort Sam Houston to become DoD's premier medical training base," said Col. Richard Agee, Army Medical Department Center and School chief staff, during an announcement of the BRAC decision Friday. "We are pretty confident Fort Sam Houston will be here for a long time."

In total, Fort Sam Houston will welcome 2,620 military, 1,613

civilians and 4,995 students. Fort Sam Houston is currently home to more than 26,000 military and civilians, along with 36,000 incoming and outgoing students throughout the year.

"Fort Sam Houston will remain and continue to grow," said Texas Congressman Lamar Smith, during a press conference on post shortly after the BRAC list was released. "The increase will guarantee the future of the post."

The new jobs will be a mix of inter-county transfers and a creation of new positions, the congressman said, which will be needed to support the proposed incoming activities.

A key incoming activity involves a transfer of medical functions from Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base to Brooke Army Medical Center.

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## BRAC 2005: DoD uses process to revamp medical system

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Defense officials have used the base realignment and closure process to transform the way military medicine operates.

Medical facilities will become more joint, they will consolidate where patients reside and they will become state-of-the-art. "We want to rival Johns Hopkins or the Mayo Clinics," said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant defense secretary for health affairs.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld delivered his recommendations for base realignment and closure to the BRAC Commission Friday. The medical recommendations are part of this process.

The recommendations mean changes to military medicine in the nation's capital and San Antonio, as well as changes in many other

military health facilities in the United States.

The major recommendation would establish the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center on the grounds of the Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland. It also will create a brand-new 165-bed community hospital at Fort Belvoir, Va. If approved, this will cost around \$1 billion, said Dr. (Lt. Gen.) George P. Taylor, Air Force surgeon general, who headed the joint cross-service group that worked on DoD's medical BRAC recommendations.

Army, Navy and Air Force medical personnel will staff both facilities. The current hospitals - Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda - are separated by just seven miles. They are the primary receiving hospitals for casualties from Iraq and Afghanistan. "We believe the best way to do this is to place the facility on the Bethesda campus," Taylor said.

In addition to housing the Walter Reed National Medical Center, the Bethesda campus will keep the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. The National Institutes of Health is also right across the street from the Bethesda facility. "The facility is able to accommodate the in-patient activities at this location," Taylor said.

Part of this recommendation would close the Army's Walter Reed campus in Washington, D.C., and Malcolm Grow Hospital at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., would close its in-patient facilities and become a large same-day surgery center.

"We know these types of joint medical facilities work," Taylor said. "We have two of them today: Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany has been staffed by Army and Air Force for more than 10 years. If you

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# New re-enlistment policies expand Soldiers' options

By Eric Cramer  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Soldiers have a new set of re-enlistment opportunities thanks to policy changes announced by the Army this month.

The changes impact when Soldiers are allowed to re-enlist and what re-enlistment options are available to them when they decide to stay in the military, said Sgt. Maj. Scott Kuhar, senior Army career counselor.

"There are five options for re-enlistment," Kuhar said. "Regular Army re-enlistment, which means the Soldier can be assigned anywhere based on the needs of the Army; current station stabilization,

where the Soldier will be stabilized at his current location for at least 12 months; Army training, the Soldier re-enlists to get training, whether airborne school or a new military occupational specialty; overseas, the Soldier re-enlists for an overseas assignment; and continental United States station of choice."

Kuhar said Soldiers' eligibility for these enlistment options depend on when they choose to re-enlist.

Under the new policy, Soldiers can choose to re-enlist up to 24 months before their enlistments end. Soldiers re-enlisting more than 18 months before their expiration, term of service, or ETS, will be assigned only to the first option

— the needs of the Army. They also must re-enlist for a period that exceeds their ETS date by at least 12 months.

Those who re-enlist within three months of their ETS date also are assigned based on the needs of the Army, Kuhar said.

Soldiers who choose to re-enlist three to 18 months before their ETS date are eligible for all re-enlistment options.

Soldiers who re-enlist more than a year before their ETS date must re-enlist for four years, Kuhar said.

Soldiers who want stabilization at a given duty station must re-enlist at least six months before they ETS, return from overseas or their unit reaches its "end of lifecycle date" when it will either deploy or redeploy.

Kuhar said the policy also means Soldiers can receive any incentive, such as re-enlistment bonuses, at the time they re-enlist.

"If there's an incentive available, they are eligible for it at that time," Kuhar said.

Kuhar said one large change is that the Army now allows staff sergeants to remain on active duty for 22 years. Previously, the "retention control point" for E-6 Soldiers required them to retire at 20 years. Kuhar said this change had already been made on a temporary basis for some MOSs, but is now permanent and covers all MOSs.

He said that currently there have been no changes to the retention control point for other enlisted ranks.

## Fort Sam Houston News Leader

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## Briefs cont. . . .

### Army mandates IA training

To protect data from internal and external threats, the Army established a directive requiring all computer users Army-wide to complete information assurance training no later than June 4. To access the training, civilians and active duty should go to the Army's e-Learning Program at <http://usarmy.skillport.com>. Once logged onto SkillSoft, click Catalog and then Government IA training. People must have an Army Knowledge Online account to access the system. Contractors should go to [www.ia.gordon.army.mil](http://www.ia.gordon.army.mil) to complete the training requirement. For more information, call Julie Gueller at 221-2010.

### Sexual harassment training

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will offer Prevention of Sexual Harassment training June 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Equal Opportunity Office, Building 142, in the basement. People should submit their nominations for attendance no later than June 17 via e-mail to [TRNG.FSHCPAC@samhouston.army.mil](mailto:TRNG.FSHCPAC@samhouston.army.mil). Phone nominations will not be accepted. For more information, call Lena M. Boutelle, human resources assistant, at 221-0639.

### Change of command

D Company, 232nd Medical Battalion, will host a change of command ceremony Friday at 4:30 p.m. at the covered training area of Building 1379. Capt. Alejandro Gonzales will relinquish command to Capt. Martha L. Curtis.

### Change of command

The 314th Military Intelligence Battalion will sponsor a change of command ceremony June 14 at 7 a.m. at the parade field west of the 37th Training Wing Headquarters building at Lackland Air Force Base. Lt. Col. Peyton E. Smith will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Christopher P. Himsl. The 314th MI Bn. falls under the 470th Military Intelligence Group at Fort Sam Houston. For more information, call Sgt. Deborah Herman, 314th MI Bn. Public Affairs Office, at 671-0989.

## Housing update

### Pest control

Lincoln Military Housing will provide pest control services for the interior and exterior of all Fort Sam Houston Family Housing. Any resident that requires exterminator services should call the "Lincoln at Your Service" request line at (888) 578-4141 or submit requests on the Web site at [www.samhoustonlpc.com](http://www.samhoustonlpc.com).

### Harris Heights construction

Galaxy Builders has started the demolition process in Harris Heights. The area has been fenced off for the protection of the remaining Harris Heights residents and construction crews. The Harris Heights gate on Harry Wurzbach will remain open throughout the day as a construction site entrance and is restricted to construction traffic only. For more information, call Ron Bennett at 226-5597.

### Service request procedures

For housing service requests, Fort Sam Houston residents can either sign a Permission to Enter form or schedule an appointment. The PTE allows Lincoln's maintenance staff to enter a house without the residents there, which expedites the service request. The PTE must be submitted in writing and can be changed anytime. Appointments are scheduled based on the resident's and maintenance staff's availability. Wait time may be close to four weeks for appointments. For a service request, call the "Lincoln at Your Service" request line at (888) 578-4141. For more information, call the Lincoln Military Housing office at 270-7638.

# Fort Sam Houston recognizes its most valuable unpaid employees

Story and photos by Shadi May  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

The post leaders gathered at the Sam Houston Club Wednesday for a tribute to the installation's 2005 volunteers during a volunteer recognition ceremony.

Kim Miller, Fort Sam Houston volunteer coordinator, presented a "mock" check for \$4,144,801.05 to Col. Richard Agee, Army Medical Department Center and School chief of staff. The amount represents the dollars the installation saved through volunteers donating their time and skills.

"This check represents more than 236,000 man hours which is only a drop in the bucket of what is really out there," said Agee. "Whenever you can get out of recording these hours, you do it because what you do is from the heart. I volunteer, so I know you get this warm, fuzzy feeling inside when you volunteer. You touch the whole community by making a difference in the lives of Soldiers and their families one by one."

Agee and Lt. Col. Steven Bolint, commander, Special Troops Battalion, presented certificates or trophies to the 32 recipients who attended the ceremony.

A large number of post volunteers belong to Brooke Army Medical Center.

"The volunteers are an integral part of the patient care at BAMC," said Jan Fox, spouse of Brig. Gen. C. William Fox, BAMC commander. "They make up approximately 10 percent of the hospital staff. Their work greatly increases the quality of our patient care. Their dedication also inspires others to dream what is possible when one makes the choice to get involved in touching the lives of others even in a small way."

Most of the volunteers are former military members and family members of active or retired military, who can identify with patients and staff.

"We have a high turnover staff because of deployments, so the volunteers provide stability," said Jessica Veilleux, chief of volunteer services at BAMC. "It costs money to be a volunteer. Gas prices to get to work and other expenses are going up, but they continue to show up to work. They are bounded by military values and want to be there for others because they understand what patients are feeling, and they have been through it. They give a sense of healing. It's not just the dollars we save; we need them for that healing environment."



Jan Fox, spouse of Brig. Gen. C. William Fox, Brooke Army Medical Center commander (center), thanks Basil and Patricia Moots for their dedication to BAMC's mission. Basil Moots volunteers at the Institute of Surgical Research at the BAMC Burn Center and has digitized more than 2,000 documents for the institute in the last three years. "Volunteering is a two-fold thing for me," said Moots. "It keeps me from being a couch potato and allows me to contribute to a good cause."



Tammy Sees accepts the volunteer family of the year trophy from Col. Richard Agee, Army Medical Department Center and School chief of staff, on behalf of her family. The Sees family was nominated by Boy Scouts Troop 23 for their volunteer work throughout Fort Sam Houston and San Antonio communities.

"The reason I volunteer is to give something back to the community that has generously given me and others over the years," said Art Garza, volunteer coordinator for the burn unit at BAMC. "Our program is necessary to help our fellow hospital staff and patients."

For some volunteers, donating time is a fulfilling mutual benefit.

"When my husband died, I was by myself, so I started volunteering," said Mariann Hill, Fisher House volunteer of the year. "The Fisher House is my second home. Volunteering does a lot for me – it helps me keep my sanity. Helping people and knowing that you are needed somewhere is rewarding. I have no children, but I have a family now."

Louis Cottrell, who puts in 100 hours a month at BAMC, volunteered to run the popcorn machine daily instead of its routine weekly schedule. In its last 11 months of daily operations, the popcorn business has made \$33,975 for the BAMC auxiliary which gives all that money back to the community.

All the volunteers support one common thought – it is a rewarding experience to help others in the community.

The Sees family was selected as the

volunteer family of the year. This family of four is involved in more than 15 projects benefiting Fort Sam Houston and the San Antonio area to include helping at the animal shelter and cleaning the Guadalupe River and numerous church and Boy Scouts activities.

Tammy Sees volunteers about 60 hours a week in addition to her full time job of being a wife and a mother of two. Sees considers her Bible study leader duties as her most rewarding volunteer experience.

"We volunteer because there are so many things that need to be done, and they don't pay people to do those things like putting up yellow ribbons on trees," said Sees. "That's how I see communities coming together. People just need to 'get involved.' It doesn't have to be something big. You can make a phone call for somebody. You don't have to volunteer for 60 hours a week to make a difference."

The Sees family was nominated by Boy Scouts Troop 23.

There are several volunteer opportunities throughout the Fort Sam Houston installation. For more information, call Kim Miller, installation volunteer coordinator, at 221-0046 or 221-0921.



Kim Miller, installation volunteer coordinator, presents Col. Richard Agee, Army Medical Department Center and School chief of staff, with a "mock" check for \$4,144,801.05. Fort Sam Houston saved this amount through more than 236,000 volunteer man hours.

# BRAC to close 15 major installations, improve Army efficiency

By Eric W Cramer  
Army News Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The Army will close 15 major installations over the next six years and close or realign hundreds of small installations, including Army Reserve and National Guard facilities, if Department of Defense base realignment and closure recommendations released Friday receive final approval.

Major Army installations slated for closure are Fort Monroe, Va.; Fort McPherson, Ga.; Fort Gillem, Ga.; Fort Monmouth, N.J.; Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.; Kansas Army Ammunition Plant, Kan.; Selfridge Army Activity, Mich.; Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant; Hawthorne Army Depot, Nev.; Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.; Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant, Texas; Red River Army Depot, Texas; Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah; Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant, Calif.; and Charles E.

Kelly Support Center, Pa.

In addition to closing these installations, the current plan would close 176 Army Reserve and 211 Army National Guard facilities. These will be replaced by 125 multicomponent Armed Forces Reserve Centers.

The changes are part of a total BRAC package expected to save the Department of Defense about \$50 billion over the next two decades, officials said.

Gen. Richard Cody, vice chief of staff for the Army, said the changes to the reserve-component structure are designed to bring the Army Reserve and National Guard in line with the Army's new modular, unit-of-action structure.

Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, chief of the Army National Guard Bureau, said the changes in the Guard and Reserve centers will not only lead to better efficiency within the units, but will also lead to improved recruitment.

"We hope it will affect recruitment and

retention in a positive way," Blum said.

"By divesting ourselves of some of the more remote facilities and moving to areas with better demographics, it should allow for positive change."

The BRAC proposal also calls for a change in location for a number of large commands and Army functions. Among these is the relocation of the Armor Center, currently at Fort Knox, Ky., to Fort Benning, Ga., to become part of a new Maneuver Center there.

"What Knox gets in return," Cody said, "is we'll activate a modular brigade combat team there. Accessions Command will go there and the Cadet Command. Human Resources will move out of (leased) space and go to Fort Knox. We're also moving an air defense artillery brigade from Fort Bliss, Texas, to Fort Sill, Okla., to create a Fires Center."

Training and Doctrine Command will move from Fort Monroe, Va., to Fort Eustis, Va., as Fort Monroe closes under

the current BRAC proposal, Cody said.

Among many other changes, the BRAC proposal:

- Relocates Army Materiel Command headquarters to Redstone Arsenal, Ala.
- Relocates the 7th Special Forces Group from Fort Bragg, N.C., to Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.
- Relocates Forces Command Headquarters and U.S. Army Reserve Command to Pope Air Force Base, N.C.
- Stations Third Army headquarters with the Air Force component of U.S. Forces Central Command at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.
- Creates a new medical hospital and research facility, the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and builds a new 165-bed hospital at Fort Belvoir, Va.

For more information on the BRAC proposal, go to [www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/braco.htm](http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/braco.htm) or [www.defenselink.mil/brac](http://www.defenselink.mil/brac).

## Good news

Continued from Page 1

"The inpatient workload from Wilford Hall will come to BAMC," Agee said. "That will be a huge impact on BAMC, which can handle the additional work."

The additional capacity would establish BAMC as DoD's major medical presence in the area, post leaders said.

Another significant impact would be the assumption of the enlisted basic and specialty medical training from the Air Force and Navy, which would transform Fort Sam Houston into the only joint enlisted specialty training environment in DoD.

Other proposed incoming activities for Fort Sam Houston include:

- Transfer of combat casualty care research and dental research from the Naval Medical Research Center at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., and Brooks City Base, Texas. The relocations will create a tri-service dental and combat casualty care science and technology center at Fort Sam Houston.
- Transfer of enlisted histology technician training from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology at Walter Reed Army

Medical Center to Fort Sam Houston.

- Transfer of the Installation Management Agency Northwest Region Office and the Network Enterprise Technology Command Northwest Region Office from Rock Island, Ill. IMA Northwestern and Southwestern Region Offices will consolidate into a single Western Region and NETCOM Northwestern and Southwestern Region Offices into a single Western Region at Fort Sam Houston.

To fund the changing missions, Fort Sam Houston will have access to \$800 million for construction, earmarked for the installation as well as for the expansion of nearby Camp Bullis.

"This is all one more chapter in the Army's transformation," said Agee. "Fort Sam Houston will be a very busy place very quickly once the changes start taking effect."

Smith said the good news wasn't limited to Fort Sam Houston; Texas as a whole fared well.

"We had 6,000 net gains and half of that number is in San Antonio," he said. "So, military city will continue to be military city. 'I'm particularly grateful that military in my district came out so well — no net losses at Fort Sam Houston.

"Fort Sam Houston fared well because it has it all — it's unique and recognized throughout the military. That, plus a supportive community, adds up to a good gain," he said.

While encouraging, the BRAC recommendations are still in the preliminary stages. The proposal will now be submitted to a BRAC commission, which will forward their recommendations to President Bush by Sept. 8. The President has until Sept. 23 to approve or disapprove the recommendations in their entirety. He will then submit final recommendations to Congress Nov. 7. The plan becomes final within 45 legislative days unless Congress passes a joint resolution to block the package.

If adopted, the recommendations would give the DoD a net savings of almost \$50 billion over 20 years, officials said. Annual savings are pegged at \$5.5 billion a year after that.

Although the estimated BRAC timeline is about six years, Smith guesses, if approved, local changes would be quicker. "With Wilford Hall already here in the same county, and some of the jobs being local gain, I'm thinking we're not going to have to wait six years. It will probably be more like two to three."



Photo by Shadi May

Col. Richard Agee, Army Medical Department Center and School chief of staff, addresses the media after the Department of Defense's base realignment and closure proposal announcement Friday.

The Department of Defense has set up a Web site for more information about BRAC and

related subjects to include employment concerns and questions at [www.dod.mil/brac](http://www.dod.mil/brac).

## BRAC 2005

Continued from Page 1

go to Balad Hospital in Balad (Iraq), it is Army and Air Force run."

Changes would take place in San Antonio also. The two big medical platforms there are Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston and the 59th Medical Wing's Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base. Plans call for medical care to center at BAMC. It will become the San Antonio Regional Medical Center, and will be a jointly staffed, 425-bed center. At Lackland, BRAC recommends building a world-class outpatient and ambulatory surgery center. The trauma center at Lackland will close, and BAMC will expand to handle the need.

San Antonio also will become the hub for training enlisted medical technicians of all services. Currently, the Army trains at Sam Houston, but the Air Force trains medics at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, and sailors train at Great Lakes, Ill., San Diego, and Portsmouth, Va. "All enlisted specialty training would be done at Fort Sam Houston," Taylor said. The approximate student load would be about 4,500.

Aerospace medicine research will move from Brooks City-Base (the one-time Brooks Air Force Base) to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The Navy's Aeromedical Research Lab will move from Pensacola, Fla., to Wright-Patterson AFB also.

The recommendations create six new

centers of excellence for biomedical research, and all are joint. Assets will come from Navy, Air Force and Army locations to these new centers. They are the Joint Center of Excellence in Battlefield Health and Trauma at the Brooke Regional Medical Center, the Joint Center of Excellence in Infectious Disease Research at the Forest Glen Complex in Maryland, the Joint Center of Excellence for Aerospace Medicine Research at Wright-Patterson AFB, the Joint Center of Excellence in Regulated Medical Product Development and Acquisition at Fort Detrick, Md., the Joint Center of Excellence in Biomedical Defense Research at Fort Detrick, and the Joint Center of Excellence in Chemical, Biological Defense Research,

Development and Acquisition at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Overall, the recommendations will cost \$2.4 billion to build new facilities and capabilities. Once in place, the services will save \$400 million per year, officials said.

The joint cross-service group, new in this round of BRAC, was able to make recommendations to the secretary. In past BRAC rounds, joint groups merely advised service leaders.

"It is my view that the group put together a very thoughtful, very comprehensive plan for improving military health care," said Winkenwerder. "It is a plan that allows us to invest in, and modernize key flagship facilities and at the same time, it will allow the military health system to be more efficient."

# 15-month enlistment option available

**FORT KNOX, Ky.** – A 15-month plus Army enlistment option is now available nationwide for 59 occupational specialties, allowing recruits a choice of following military duty with service in a program such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command announced last week a nationwide expansion of its “15-Month Plus Training Enlistment Option,” a program USAREC officials said was designed to promote and facilitate military enlistment in support of national service.

The 15-month plus enlistment option was first implemented in October 2003 as a pilot program in 10 of the Army’s 41 recruiting battalions: Albany, N.Y.; Columbia, S.C.; Miami; Raleigh, N.C.; Cleveland; Kansas City, Mo.; Oklahoma City; Sacramento and Southern California (Mission Viejo, Calif.), and San Antonio, Texas.

## How it works

Applicants enlisting for this program will incur an eight-year military service obligation. The obligation will consist of 15 months of active duty after completion of basic and advanced individual training and 24 months of satisfactory participation as an active drilling member in the Army

Reserve or National Guard. Soldiers have the option of serving the remainder of their eight-year obligation in one of three ways, as:

- an active drilling member of the Army Reserve or National Guard;
- a member of the inactive Individual Ready Reserve, known as the IRR; or
- a member of a National Service Program designated by the secretary of defense (such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps).

Soldiers in the program also have the option of re-enlisting to remain on active duty, USAREC officials said.

Recruits who enlist for the 15-month plus training option will be eligible to select one of the following enlistment incentives:

## Incentives available

- a cash enlistment bonus of \$5,000 payable upon completion of the initial active-duty obligation;
- student loan repayment of up to \$18,000;
- a monthly education allowance for up to 12 months (currently \$816 per month); or
- a monthly education allowance for up to 36 months (currently \$408 per month).

More about Army enlistment opportunities is available at [goarmy.com](http://goarmy.com).

(Source: USAREC Public Affairs)

## MOSs in program

The 15-month plus enlistment option is available for the following military occupational specialties:

- 11X Infantry
- 13B Cannon Crewmember
- 13D Field Artillery Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist
- 13F Fire Support Specialist
- 13M Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Crewmember
- 13P MLRS Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist
- 13S Field Artillery Surveyor
- 13W Field Artillery Meteorological Crewmember
- 15Q Air Traffic Controller
- 15R AH-64 Attack Helicopter Repairer
- 15T UH-60 Helicopter Repairer
- 15U CH-47 Helicopter Repairer
- 19D Cavalry Scout
- 19K Armor Crewman
- 21B Combat Engineer
- 21C Bridge Crewmember
- 21E Heavy Construction Equipment Operator
- 21F Crane Operator
- 21J General Construction Equipment Operator
- 21K Plumber
- 21L Lithographer
- 21M Firefighter
- 21R Interior Electrician
- 21S Topographic Surveyor
- 21T Technical Engineer
- 21U Topographic Analyst
- 21V Construction and Asphalt
- Equipment Operator
- 21W Carpentry and Masonry Specialist
- 25L Cable Systems Installer-Maintainer
- 31B Military Police
- 31E Internment and Resettlement Specialist
- 42A Personnel Administration Specialist
- 42L Administrative Specialist
- 44C Financial Management Technician
- 45B Small Arms/Artillery Repairer
- 52C Utilities Equipment Repairer-Heating and AC
- 52D Power Generation Equipment Repairer
- 56M Chaplain Assistant
- 63B Light Wheel Vehicle Mechanic
- 74D Chemical Operations Specialist
- 88H Cargo Specialist
- 88M Motor Transport Operator
- 88N Transportation Management Coordinator
- 89B Ammunition Specialist
- 91E Dental Specialist
- 91G Patient Administration Specialist
- 91Q Pharmacy Specialist
- 91R Veterinary Food Inspection Specialist
- 91S Preventive Medicine Specialist
- 91T Animal Care Specialist
- 91W Health Care Specialist
- 92A Automated Logistical Specialist
- 92F Petroleum Supply Specialist
- 92G Food Service Operations
- 92M Mortuary Affairs Specialist
- 92S Laundry and Textile Specialist
- 92W Water Treatment Specialist
- 92Y Unit Supply Specialist
- 96R Ground Surveillance Systems Operator

# Committee takes action on Soldier, family concerns

By Margaret McKenzie  
U.S. Army Community and Family Support  
Center Public Affairs

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — The Army Family Action Plan General Officers Steering Committee completed 10 issues during its meeting May 4.

The issues answer concerns presented by Soldiers and family members at AFAP conferences held throughout the Army:

**Timeliness of dental pre-authorizations:** It was felt the processing time for service members to obtain dental pre-authorization for civilian dental care was excessive – averaging three to four weeks. The Military Medical Support Office hired additional staff members and has improved the consultation process between private dentists supporting active duty Soldiers. Treatment is now authorized or denied within seven days of receipt.

**Soldier financial hardships due to duty away from military installation:** Allowances have been made to provide geographically dispersed Soldiers an expectation of a constant level of income with basic pay raises. Out of pocket costs have been reduced for housing. Medical availability has been approved through TRICARE Prime Remote.

**Annual visual readiness:** The criterion for visual acuity and visual readiness is 20/40 or better, either uncorrected or corrected. All Soldiers will receive an annual visual readiness screening and funds will be provided to pay for annual recurring costs.

**Regional portability of TRICARE boundaries:** TRICARE regions in the continental United States were reduced from 11 to three. Standardized contracts

currently provide the same benefits for all services. Forms for enrollment or change will remain consistent for all regions.

**Housing for active duty pregnant single Soldiers:**

Unmarried pregnant service members without dependants currently may apply for family housing but are not assigned to quarters until the birth of the child. Commanders now have the flexibility to amend the housing list and allow single pregnant service members to move into on-post housing in the third trimester of pregnancy.

**Lodging and subsistence for family members of hospitalized service members:** A program currently is in place that authorizes per diem for families of Soldiers injured in operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. However family members of other Soldiers seriously ill or injured or in an accident other than the war had to bear the cost of lodging and food – creating inequities for Soldiers and families. As of this year, legislation was amended to provide per diem for families of other injured Soldiers with extensions at the discretion of the hospital commander.

**Survivor benefit and social security offset:** The survivor benefit plan provides an annuity retirement pay benefit of 55 percent of retired pay when social security is not yet payable and a 35 percent benefit at age 62 when it is. Second-tier benefits

“It is really gratifying to see that a process like this has stood the test of time.”

Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock,  
U.S. Army chief of engineers

for spouses who reach the age of 62 will increase gradually until April 2008 from 35 percent to 55 percent at no additional cost to participants.

**Selective use of military spouse preference:** Military spouses will no longer have to use their employment rights if they take a temporary

job to supplement the family’s income. They can select the specific grade levels and jobs series for which they want to invoke their MSP.

**Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System status notification:** Soldiers and family members can now go to Army Knowledge Online to check their DEERS status.

**Execution of the sponsorship program:** A revision to AR-600-8-8 adds a requirement to monitor and evaluate sponsorship in the organizational inspection program. It also requires commanders to have trained sponsors to respond to planned and unexpected arrivals of Soldiers because of changes in orders.

The GOSC committee reviewed and took action on 28 AFAP issues, eight of which affected Soldiers and families in geographically dispersed areas. The top five issues from the Army AFAP conference in November were also briefed.

There were 15 issues that remained active and will continue to be worked toward resolution: TRICARE Prime Remote for family members not residing with a military sponsor; availability of

TRICARE authorized and network providers in remote areas; lack of available child care for geographically isolated active duty Soldiers; expansion of Army-sponsored community-based child care programs; family sponsorship during unaccompanied tours; funding for reserve component reunion and marriage enrichment classes; family member eyeglass coverage; expiration of TRICARE referral authorizations; death benefits for stillborn infants; calculation of family subsistence supplemental allowance; leave accrual; DoD Dependent Schools tuition for family members of DoD contractors and nonappropriated fund employees; funding for DoDDS summer school for K-12; inferior shipment of household goods; and child care fee category.

The issues deemed unattainable were continental United States cost of living allowances threshold index, pregnancy termination option for lethal congenital anomalies and retirement dislocation allowance.

Gen. Richard A. Cody, the vice chief of staff of the Army, chaired the AFAP GOSC semi-annual meeting. This forum is the final deciding authority on AFAP issues that are brought forward from the installation level.

“It is really gratifying to see that a process like this has stood the test of time,” said Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock, U.S. Army chief of engineers, who has participated in the process for more than 14 years. “We need to do more to make more people aware of this forum to raise issues to the Army leadership.”

The next GOSC meeting, during the worldwide AFAP conference, is scheduled Nov. 14 through 18 in Arlington, Va.

For more information about AFAP, visit the Army Community Service Web site at [http://www.armycommunityservice.org/va\\_cs\\_afap/home.asp](http://www.armycommunityservice.org/va_cs_afap/home.asp).

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIQUIDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD DEBT?**

**IT CAN HAPPEN.**

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



# Lincoln Military Housing clarifies move-out requirements

In the military, warmer temperatures signal the start of PCS season. Residents of Fort Sam Houston Family Housing with assignment instructions must provide Lincoln Military Housing with the following information:

- **Written notice** of intent to vacate a minimum of 30 days prior to move-out date
- **A copy of PCS orders** if orders do not allow for a 30-day notice
- **A request for exception** for family to remain in the home if leaving on a dependent-restricted tour.

Upon acceptance of the notice to vacate, LMH will schedule a pre-inspection walk-through by a LMH representative and the sponsor, spouse or designated representative. The pre-inspection will be scheduled 10 days from the date of receipt of a notice to vacate.

The original move-in condition form

will be used during the pre-inspection to ensure noted deficiencies are not charged to the resident upon move-out. The pre-inspection will clarify normal wear and tear expected versus excessive wear. At the end of the pre-inspection, the resident will be informed of any potential charges that may be assessed if damage identified and noted repairs are not completed prior to move-out. Residents are financially responsible for damages to the home beyond normal wear and tear.

It is the residents' responsibility to submit service requests for damages identified during the inspection prior to the final inspection. Residents should immediately report all losses or damages affecting their home or community to the "Lincoln at Your Service" service line at (888) 578-4141.

Residents will also be provided a list of

minimum cleaning standards. Residents can hire a company to clean the home at their own expense, provided the vendor is able to finish cleaning before the final walk-through and meet standards identified during the pre-inspection.

The move-out date is when residents return issued keys and remotes to an LMH representative. All personal belongings must be removed from the home at that time. A final inspection will be completed with residents on their last day of occupancy. The final inspection will be a walk-through to check off items noted during pre-inspection to ensure completion and that no new damage has occurred.

Damages beyond normal wear and tear noted during the final inspection will be documented. The extent of the damage will be detailed and a final accounting of any outstanding damages will be complet-

ed immediately after the final inspection.

Residents must pay all outstanding balances in full to LMH or create a payment plan within seven days of move-out.

For more information, call the LMH office at 270-7638.

(Source: RCI Office)



# 232nd Med. Bn. integrates Warrior Ethos in training

By 1st Sgt. Armand Ferman  
C Company, 232nd Medical Battalion

C Company, 232nd Medical Battalion is taking Warrior Ethos into the field as it integrates the concepts into a new field training exercise.

The new exercise places greater emphasis on Soldier skills and places the Soldier medic in realistic lane-based scenarios.

Many of the situations are taken directly from the Lessons Learned Center at the Army Medical Department Center and School.

"These exercises are meant to mirror real life medical situations and foster training experiences that will benefit the operational Army," said Capt. Eric Swiger, C Company commander. "Many of these Soldier medics will deploy in less than six months after getting to their assigned unit. It is with this idea that the new training was designed."

Most of the Soldiers will have missed the unit's pre-training for deployment at either the Joint Readiness Training Center or National Training Center. This exercise will help prepare them for what they will experience on those deployments overseas.

From the start of the exercise, Soldiers are put into a functioning intermediate staging base-like

setting. Soldiers are trained and tested on the Army's idea of "Every Soldier a Rifleman." Skills such as reacting to direct or indirect fire, patrolling formations, and reacting to possible improvised explosive device are coupled with already practiced medical skills. The hand-in-hand training of Warrior Ethos and medical skills prepare Soldiers for real deployment situations they are likely to see. The seven-day event takes place at the Soldier medic training site on Camp Bullis.

The days are broken down into battle drills, mount, patrols, convoy operations, battalion aid station operations and tactical medical support. The culminating event is a physically and mentally rigorous tactical movement that further taxes the Soldiers.

"This event puts into action the Soldier's Creed and Warrior Ethos for these Soldiers," said Swiger. "'I will never quit,' 'I will never leave a fallen comrade' and 'I will never accept defeat' are no longer just words on a poster or a card in their pocket. These Soldiers are now living and sweating it."

With the continuation of this training, the Soldier medics will be better able to support their unit's wartime mission.

## 'Click It or Ticket' campaign begins Monday

By Staff Sgt. Ronald D. Shaw  
Directorate of Emergency Services



The Fort Sam Houston police will be out in force during the "Click It or Ticket" campaign, which begins Monday through June 5, according to Lt. Col. Darrel W. Andrews, Provost Marshal. Motorists who do not buckle up will risk getting a ticket on Fort Sam Houston.

"There are still a lot of people in this jurisdiction who think they don't need to buckle up. We want these drivers and passengers to know that buckling their seatbelt is a smart move that gets them on down the road," said Andrews.

"We'll be writing tickets for the folks who just don't get it yet. We'd rather write them a ticket than see someone injured or dead in a crash down the road," he said.

Wearing a safety belt reduces the risk of dying in a rollover crash by up to 80 percent. In 2004, 699 Texas truck drivers and passengers died in traffic crashes, according to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration crash data.

## New customer feedback process

The Information Technology and Telecommunications Office will implement a new customer feedback process May 30 that will give customers an opportunity to provide comments on the quality of information technology services provided by ITT.

The process will involve automatic generation and delivery of an e-mail upon completion and closure of a service order or "trouble ticket" in the IT Service Order system. Included in the e-mail notification will be a "link" that will provide customers access to a survey form.

The survey form will be pre-filled with a customer's profile information obtained from the closed work order; customers will be asked to render an evaluation of services provided, plus share any additional comments desired. If deemed appropriate, customers may also request a direct response from the director of Information Management or ITT management through the survey form.

For more information, call the ITT Help Desk at 221-5305.

## Spotlight your unit

The Public Information Office welcomes articles, photos or story idea submissions for the Fort Sam Houston News Leader.

To submit a story or idea or for more information, call 221-0615, e-mail [news.leader@samhouston.army.mil](mailto:news.leader@samhouston.army.mil) or stop by the office in Building 124 (second floor).



# 'Lifecycle Funds' aim to maximize retirement savings

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**  
**American Forces Press Service**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Recent surveys show most people contributing to Department of Defense-sponsored thrift savings accounts shun riskier investment options and aren't getting maximum returns to build bigger retirement nest eggs, a DoD Thrift Savings Plan specialist said.

"The vast majority of participants do not fully take advantage of the Thrift Savings Plan," Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council, told Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service reporters during a Pentagon interview.

The Thrift Savings Plan, Fenton explained, is a 401k-type program designed to provide tax-deferred retirement nest eggs for service members and civilian employees. TSP managers have noticed that "very few" participants transfer money out of more stable TSP investment programs into riskier options, she said.

Fenton surmised some participants might be leery of riskier TSP investment options because they have little or no stock market savvy.

However, the new Lifecycle Funds program option slated for implementation sometime in July will enable TSP participants to have experienced money managers make investment decisions for them according to 10-year plans.

The Lifecycle Funds program "is going to help address the issue of people who want to take advantage of the Thrift Savings Plan but maybe are a little bit intimidated by making investment choices and allocating their participation contributions between all of the various funds," Fenton explained.

The Lifecycle Fund program "is based on asset allocation within the fund, based on how long you are going to have that money in the fund until you retire," Fenton said.

Almost half of the total \$140 billion invested in TSP accounts — about \$60 billion — is currently concentrated in the less-

risky Government Security Investment, or G fund. The G fund, consisting of treasury bonds and other federal-backed investments, is considered among the most stable of the five TSP investment choices.

An almost equal number of TSP contributions — about \$61 billion — are now placed in the Common Stock Index Investment, or C fund. Yet, she pointed out, riskier options offered by the Fixed Income Index Investment, or F fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment, or S fund; and the International Stock Index Investment, or I fund, contain far fewer dollars.

Through use of the Lifestyle Fund program "the money is allocated for you amongst the five funds without you having to do anything," Fenton explained. The system "is automatic" and "changes as your time in the military (or government) continues," she said.

For example, Fenton said, typical investments early in a 10-year period would tend to be targeted toward riskier, but higher potential yield, TSP

investment options. Investment choices would become more conservative as the end of the 10-year period nears, she added.

And after the current TSP open-season investment choice system ends July 1, participants will be able to change their investment options at any time, Fenton noted.

Although the TSP program doesn't guarantee participants will make money on every investment, Fenton cautioned, she noted riskier investment options usually produce higher returns over the long term.

Some people may feel safer to continue steering their TSP funds to safer investments, Fenton acknowledged.

But "to really leverage your contributions and make the most of the thrift savings plan," Fenton said, "we need to encourage people" to move their money out of more conservative investment options and allocate it among the various funds that indicate potentially higher yields over time.

# Fort Sam civilian wins national communications award

A long-time Army Medical Department public affairs practitioner was honored Thursday with one of the highest awards in government communication.

Rick Sonntag, senior public affairs supervisor for the U.S. Army Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston, received a first-place Gold Screen Award from the National Association of Government Communicators at the group's annual communications school in Austin, Texas. The award is considered an "Oscar" for federal communicators.

Sonntag developed and produced a 20-minute DVD briefing "The AMEDD," which was used throughout the worldwide Army Medical Command for internal communication and as an introduction to Army medicine for visitors and VIPs at Army hospitals.

More than 600 communications products were entered in the annual competition which honors all levels of government communication products — municipal, county, state and federal.

This is the second time Sonntag has won the prestigious

Gold Screen Award, having also taken first place in 1991 for a multimedia presentation called "Mending Broken People!"

Sonntag, who retires July 1 from civil service after more than 40 years, was among the early broadcasters at Armed Forces Radio in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966. Based on this experience, he was a consultant on the production of the motion picture, "Good Morning, Vietnam."

As an Army film producer-director, Sonntag was a recipient of the 1975 Department of

Defense Thomas Jefferson Award for the military's best broadcast film. He also won three Army Keith L. Ware Awards for television/broadcast productions and has been recognized four times in the Keith L. Ware competition for journalism.

Sonntag is also well known among local barbershop harmony enthusiasts, having sung lead in one of the nation's top ranked quartets, the "Sound Association," for 10 years.

(Source: U.S. Army Medical Command)



Rick Sonntag

## TROOP SALUTE



### 232nd Medical Battalion



**Soldier of the Week**

**Name:** Pfc. Jeffrey G. Matney  
**MOS:** 91W-M6, health care specialist-practical nurse  
**Hometown:** Denver, Colo.  
**Time in service:** Six months  
**Future goals:** Earn Expert Field Medical Badge, gain 20 years of service, build a house and retire in the Rockies  
**Why did you volunteer for service?** For service to my country  
**Latest accomplishments:** Soldier of the Week, increased Army Physical Fitness Test score by 30 points



**Junior Leader of the Week**

**Name:** Pvt. Martha Newell  
**MOS:** 91W, health care specialist  
**Hometown:** Montville, Conn.  
**Time in service:** Six months  
**Future goals:** Attend Army Physician Assistant School and work my way up to be a trauma surgeon in the Army  
**Why did you volunteer for service?** For service to my country in the war and for my own pride  
**Latest accomplishments:** Graduating paramedic school in December, finishing Basic Combat Training and becoming Junior Leader of the Week

### 187th Medical Battalion

**Officer of the Week**

**Name:** 1st Lt. Donald W. Mott  
**MOS:** 73A, social worker  
**Hometown:** Bay Shore, N.Y.  
**Time in service:** Eight years  
**Future goals:** To become a successful officer and a subject matter expert in my profession  
**Why did you volunteer for service?** To serve my country and fellow Soldiers  
**Latest accomplishment:** Graduating from the Officer Basic Course

**Soldier of the Week**

**Name:** Pfc. Melony L. Smith  
**MOS:** 91W-M6, health care specialist-practical nurse  
**Hometown:** Lake Elsinore, Calif.  
**Time service:** Eight months  
**Future goals:** Become a future Army nurse  
**Why did you volunteer for service?** Serve my country and finish college

## Scholarship program rewards military children

Thanks to the Scholarship for Military Children program, 500 students will receive \$1,500 scholarships to apply toward college tuition this fall.

The local winners, announced by Martin J. Jackson, store director at Fort Sam Houston commissary, are Benjamin L. Carter, Cole High School; Lydia A. Fletcher, Belton High School; Brian A. Freno, Ronald Reagan High School; and Shavanta A. Royster.

"We're excited to report that the scholarship program continues to be a success in helping military families defray the costs of education," said Patrick Nixon, Defense Commissary Agency chief executive officer. "We're proud to be associated with a program that has awarded nearly \$4 million to over 3,000 students since its inception in 2001."

The Scholarships for Military Children Program was created in recognition of the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family com-

munity, according to the Scholarships for Military Children Web site.

Scholarship Managers, a professional scholarship firm, selects the winners based on academic merit, participation in extracurricular and volunteer activities and the quality of their essays. The full list of scholarship recipients and sponsoring business partners is posted online at the Scholarships for Military Children Web site at

<http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is funded by the manufacturers and suppliers that provide support for commissaries worldwide and administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization responsible for building comfort homes near military medical centers. The foundation bears all costs of the program so every dollar donated goes for scholarships. The general public has the opportunity to donate to the program through the Scholarships for Military Children Web site.

(Source: DeCA news release)

## OCSC contributions



Photo by Elaine Wilson

(From left) ChanNa Sok, Caleb Euhus, Caitlin Witliff, Sarah Meyer, Jonathan Merkle, Jonathan Simpkins and Sandra Bee Ybarra received scholarships from the Fort Sam Houston Officer and Civilian Spouses' Club Tuesday during the OCSC's Scholarship, Welfare and Officer Installation Luncheon. Ashley Mullins also received a scholarship but was not at the event. OCSC sponsors the annual luncheon to distribute scholarships to students and a spouse, along with distributions to various organizations. This year's distributions went to the Soldier and Family Assistance Center, "It's Not Easy Being Green" conference, Girl Scouts of Fort Sam Houston, Cole Cougar Pride graduation party, Army Family Team Building, Family Advocacy Program, Military Child Education Coalition and the Cole Jr./Sr. High School yearbook. For more information or to join OCSC, call Jani Gamez at 212-6951.

### Akeroyd Blood Center urges donors to give '5 in '05'

The Akeroyd Blood Center challenges eligible blood donors to give five donations during 2005 during its "5 in '05" campaign.

Participating donors will receive a "5 in '05" card and be recognized at a special ceremony at the end of the year.

To donate, call the Akeroyd Blood Center at 295-4655 or 295-4989 or stop by the center at 1240 Harney Road between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays.



## Cultural landmark



Photo by Lt. Col. Evelyn Langford

Sgt. Anesi Maverick Tuufuli, assigned to Fort Riley, Kan., takes the Oath of Citizenship May 12 from Kenneth Pasquarell, district director of the San Antonio Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, at Brooke Army Medical Center. Tuufuli is recovering at BAMC from injuries sustained while on patrol in Iraq. Tuufuli, like other native American Samoans, was unable to vote in Presidential elections or to serve as a commissioned officer in the U.S. military until he became a U.S. citizen. The ceremony marked the first citizenship ceremony for an American Samoan national in the city of San Antonio.

### **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month events**

**Tuesday** – An Asian Prayer Breakfast will be at 6:30 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club.

**May 26** – A Medical Command Mini Culture Festival featuring vendor displays, music dance and a potluck will be at 11 a.m. at the rear of the Headquarters Medical Command building.

## Crime Watch

### **Help deter and fight crime**

Since Jan. 1, 2004, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division has investigated numerous reported incidents of criminal activity involving larceny of government and private property on Fort Sam Houston.

As a result, the following trends have been noted:

- Larcenies of government and private property normally occur between Monday and Friday, when items appear to be left unsecured.
- Many of the larcenies are attributed to poor security and accountability practices by the owner, the unit or the person who signed for the property.
- Wallets and purses with ID cards were stolen while the victim was engaged in recreational activity at a gym, park or shopping center.

Leaving valuables in a vehicle for extended periods of time, or in plain view, increases the risk for becoming a victim of theft. Take time to properly secure personal and government property and decrease your risk for larceny. Military and civilian government employees who do not properly secure items could be investigated for the loss.

(Source: USACID Force Protection Advisory)

### **Safety Day ceremony, Tuesday**

The Army Medical Department Center and School will sponsor a Safety Day ceremony at the Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797, Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. The ceremony will promote safe operations and practices and is open to AMEDDC&S, Fort Sam Houston and tenant organizations. Vendors will display the latest personal protective equipment and information on safety awareness, risk management, defensive driving, heat stress, boating safety and other summer safety activity information.

#### **Safety Day agenda**

- 10 a.m. - Welcome remarks - Guadalupe Gomez, safety manager
- Opening remarks – Col. Garry Atkins, U.S. Army Garrison commander
- Safety award presentation – second quarter award
- 10:10 to 11 a.m. - Guest speaker - Michael Moore, San Antonio Police Department
- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Exhibits and drunk driving demonstration in the parking lot across from Building 2797
- 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. - 101 days of summer safety brief
- 2 to 2:45 p.m. - 101 days of summer safety brief
- 3 p.m. - Exhibits close

Also, fire extinguisher training will be offered in Building 3826, across from the Fire Station, at 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and noon.

## Kid's Fit Club offers summer-time fun, fitness, nutrition

By 1st Lt. Rachel Villarreal  
Brooke Army Medical Center Nutrition Care Division

The Nutrition Care Division at Brooke Army Medical Center has created a fun and exciting way for children to stay healthy and stay active during the summer. The Kid's Fit Club will begin June 2 for new members.

Club members will meet for three Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. to become experts in eating healthy and staying active. The first club meeting will require the involvement of parents and children ages 8 to 13. After attending three consecutive meetings, members will receive a certificate of completion and membership. The club dates are June 2, 9 and 16; July 7, 14 and 21; and July 28, Aug. 4 and 11.

Members will make healthy snacks, learn nutrition facts and participate in nutrition relays. Participants also will receive incentives to obtain 25, 50 or 100 miles of activity. Once goal mileages are reached, members will earn prizes and become bronze, silver or gold members.

To get involved, people can get a referral from their health care provider or call 916-5525 to secure their spot in the hottest club in town; space is limited.

## BAMC offers Patient Assistance Line for after-hours health care advice

The San Antonio Multi-Market Consult Appointment Management Office has created a Patient Assistance Line, designed to provide professional assistance to military medical beneficiaries enrolled in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Plus at military treatment facilities throughout the entire San Antonio metro area.

The service is available after normal working hours from 4 p.m. to 7 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 24 hours a day on weekends and federal holidays. One call will connect beneficiaries with a registered nurse, who will assist people with making the appropriate choice for after-hours care for sponsors and their families following physician-approved clinical guidelines.

A confidential summary of the call will be provided to beneficiaries' primary care manager with any follow-up recommendations the next working day. The Patient Assistance Line is available by calling 475-7307 or toll free (866) 584-9659.

There are several other sources which can also help beneficiaries gain access to care, read and review health benefits and wellness information, and track specialty care referrals and claims.

**TRICARE Online** – Beneficiaries can make appointments online via the Internet with their

PCM and also have access to the latest in interactive wellness, pharmacy and symptoms information by registering at <http://www.tricareonline.com>.

**Humana Military Healthcare Services** – The TRICARE contractor, Humana, also has a wealth of information at their personalized Web site for beneficiaries. Register at Beneficiary Online Services at <https://infocenter.humana-military.com/South/Bene/obs/InfoCenter.asp>. Beneficiaries can get up-to-date information on their TRICARE benefits, search for providers in their area, print enrollment cards and check the status of claims and referrals.

**Audio Health Library** – Humana also maintains an extensive audio library, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The audio library provides high quality health information on pertinent health topics such as asthma, arthritis, allergy, children's health, cancer, diabetes, men's health, women's health, common illnesses and common symptoms. The audio library can be accessed by calling toll-free at (877) 217-7946. A list of topics is available at <http://hmd.humana-military.com/South/Bene/Hear/HealthandWellness.asp>.

(Source: BAMC Public Affairs)

# Art on body can involve serious risks

By 1st Lt. George N. Williams III  
Army Medical Department Center and School

It seems today that an Oscar award winner, a Hell's Angel, a hip hop artist and an honor roll student have something in common. They are all part of a growing fad sweeping the country – body tattoos.

Tattoos have become America's single most popular form of expression and can be found everywhere, from music artist to the heroes in the professional sports arena. They're even showing up on government officials.

So what could be driving the surge in this ancient form of body art? For many, it's simply an expression of personality while for others, it's the need to be different. Whatever people's views are on tattoos, their popularity is undeniable.

But there is a risk involved with body tattoos.

Tattooing is significantly safer today than in years past. State laws and regulations have had considerable impact on the sanitary practice of tattoo parlors. But some inherent risks still remain – risks people should consider before deciding if they are ready for a tattoo.

One risk is infection. Even with the efforts of the state governments, infection is still a major concern when getting a tattoo. Unsterile tattooing equipment and needles can transmit infectious diseases, such as hepatitis. The risk of infection is the reason the American Association of Blood Banks requires a one-year wait between getting a tattoo and donating blood. It is extremely important to make sure that all tattooing equipment is clean and sterilized before use. Even if the needles are sterilized or never have been used, it is important to understand that in some cases, the equipment that holds the needles cannot be sterilized reliably due to its design. In addition, the person who receives a tattoo must be sure to take

care of the tattooed area properly during the first week or so after the pigments are injected.

Allergic reaction to the tattoo pigments is also a cause for concern. The compounds used as pigments range from metal oxides to synthetic or organic dyes. Although allergic reactions to tattoo pigments are rare, when they happen they may be particularly troublesome because the pigments can be hard to remove. This risk of allergic reaction does not pass after getting the first tattoo. Since tattoo pigments are not regulated, the ingredients in dyes vary greatly from parlor to parlor or even from color to color. This lack of consistency is what puts people at risk each and every time they are tattooed.

Infection and allergic reaction are very serious risks to consider, but by far the most common risk associated with tattoos is dissatisfaction. Although tattoos may be satisfactory at first, they sometimes fade. Also, if the tattooist injects the pigments too deeply into the skin, the pigments may migrate beyond the original sites, resulting in a blurred appearance. Another cause of dissatisfaction is that the human body changes over time, and styles change with the season. The tattoo that seemed stylish at first may become dated and embarrassing.

Whether we like it or not, tattoos are experiencing a renaissance. Society has become more accepting of the once taboo art form. Safety has been improved greatly, as well as methods of tattooing. But nothing is without risk, so before people decide on the experience, they must consider the risks involved.

For more information, visit the Web site for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/faq/faq27.htm> or log on to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Web site at <http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-204.html>.

## Health Promotion May Class Schedule

CLASS	DATE	TIME
Breast and GYN Cancer Support Group	Today	1:30 to 3 p.m.
Tobacco Cessation "Readiness to Change"	Today	3 to 5 p.m.
Body Fat Testing	Friday	8 to 11 a.m.
Weigh for Health	Friday	12 to 1:30 p.m.
Breastfeeding Support Group	Friday	1 to 2:30 p.m.
Adult Asthma	Friday	2 to 3:30 p.m.
Diabetes Education	Monday	12:45 to 4:30 p.m.
Colonoscopy	Tuesday	10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Diabetes Education	Tuesday	12:45 to 4:30 p.m.
Office Yoga	Wednesday	12 to 1 p.m.
Colonoscopy	31	10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Schedule Diabetes Education through the Internal Medicine Clinic at 916-0794. Schedule Weigh for Health through the Nutrition Care Division at 916-5525. Colonoscopy requires a consult from your primary care manager to the Gastroenterology Clinic. For more information, call Health Promotion at 916-3352.

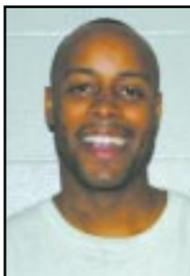
## Army Community Service

### Family Advocacy Program Class Schedule – May 2005

Class	Dates	Time
Helping Us Grow Securely (H.U.G.S.) Playgroup	Tuesday and 31	9 to 11 a.m.
Teen Talk	today and 26	4 to 5 p.m.
Building Effective Anger S.T.E.P. Program for Parents of School Age Children	today and 26	11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Parenting with Love and Logic (Teens)	Tuesday	1 to 3:30 p.m.
You and Your Baby	Wednesday	1 to 3 p.m.
Boys Only! Ages 9 to 10	Wednesday	8 to 12 p.m.
Getting Ready for Childbirth 1 and 2	Wednesday	3 to 4 p.m.
Saturday Marathon	today and 26	9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Anger Management Awareness	Saturday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Commanders Training	Monday	11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
	26	8 to 9:30 a.m.

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

## Post Pulse: May is national physical fitness and sports month. What do you do to stay physical fit?



*"I stay fit by playing basketball, riding a bike and lifting weights."*

Staff Sgt. Lorenzo McKinley  
Defense Finance and Accounting Service



*"I eat nutritiously – no fast food – and run four to five days a week. I also weight train once or twice a week."*

Capt. Nicole Coppenhaver  
C Company, Academy Battalion



*"I eat right and do PT. I try to stay away from fast food. I also run after my two kids a lot."*

Sgt. Kelly Pugh  
Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course



*"I run and do the elliptical machines six days a week."*

Bart Keyes  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

# SPORTS

### SPORTS BRIEFS . . .

#### 'For the Soldier' Golf Tournament

The Alamo Chapter of the Association of the United States Army will sponsor its eighth annual "For the Soldier" Golf Tournament June 27 at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. Cost is \$75 for non-club members and \$55 for members. Soft spikes are required. All proceeds will be used to benefit Soldiers and their families. For more information, call (830) 228-5482 or e-mail [director@alamochapterausa.org](mailto:director@alamochapterausa.org) or go to [www.alamochapterausa.org](http://www.alamochapterausa.org).

#### Track and field registration

The Fort Sam Houston Amateur Athletic Union Track and Field Club registration will continue through Friday. Registration is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, Building 1630, for 5- to 18-year-olds. Fees are \$75 for military, retirees and Department of Defense personnel, and \$85 for civilians. Uniforms will be provided. Practice days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Cole High School track. Military and DoD personnel must be registered with Child and Youth Services. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513, or Coach Avery Chester at 279-4366.

## Caring athletes



Photos by Norma Guerra

Joey Gilbert (right), of "The Contender" fame, a boxing reality TV show on NBC, visits with Sgt. Johnny Wilson, wounded in the Global War on Terrorism and recuperating at Brooke Army Medical Center. Gilbert visited all wounded inpatients and also played in the Fisher House Golf Tournament last week.



Seattle Supersonics Coach Nate McMillan (left) and Ray Allen, Sonics guard, visit with Sgt. Brent Bretz at Brooke Army Medical Center. Members of the Sonics coaching staff and team took time away from their busy practice and playoff schedule with the San Antonio Spurs to visit wounded Soldiers recuperating from injuries sustained in the Global War on Terrorism. Other visiting team members were Nick Collison, Sonics forward, Luke Ridnour, Sonics guard, and assistant coach Bob Weiss.

## A Company, STB team wins bowling league championship

The A Company, Special Troops Battalion team, Robo Cops, won the 2005 intramural bowling league championship by 7.5 games. The runner-up team was the Fort Sam Houston Fire Fighters with the defending champion Academy Battalion finishing in third place. The competition was close until the Robo Cops pulled away in the final three weeks to win the league and claim the championship. Some of the noteworthy accomplishments throughout the year were high average male Bob Mester (Robo Cops) 189, high average female Jacqueline Moat (1 pin standing) 152, high game scratch male Daniel Sosa (Fire Fighters) 277, high game scratch female Kristie Dandeneau (Sumbtrhan O) 205, high series scratch male Daniel Sosa (Fire Fighters) 692, and high series scratch female Crystal Sosa (Fire Fighters) 551.

# MWR

## Recreation and fitness

### **MWR Leisure Needs Survey**

The Fort Sam Houston Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation is currently participating in the 2005 U.S. Army MWR Leisure Needs Survey. DMWR requests your support in surveying active duty Soldiers and civilian employees (Air Force, nonappropriated fund and contractors) during the month of May. The survey takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and may be picked up and returned to the DMWR Marketing Office, in Building 124 on Stanley Road. DMWR will contribute \$1 to the unit fund for each Soldier who completes the survey. Also prizes will be awarded to civilian employees who participate in the survey before May 27. The information will allow MWR to better serve the Fort Sam Houston community. For more information, call Alexandra Nordeck at 221-2926 or 221-2307.

### **Library display**

The library is now featuring a display of books, videos and DVDs in support of May as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. A variety of books and pictures are also on display in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

### **Missions military families appreciation night**

Free Missions baseball ticket vouchers are now available for the Fort Sam Houston Military Families Appreciation Night Wednesday. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. Vouchers can be picked up at the Bowling Center, Library, Youth Services, Army Community Service and Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The event is sponsored by General Mills. For more information, call 221-2307 or 221-2926.

### **Car Care Clinic**

In recognition of National Good Car Keeping Month, the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Auto Craft Shop will conduct a free Car Care Clinic May 26 from 4 to 5 p.m. The clinic is presented by the Auto Craft Shop and Caliber Collision Center. Topics discussed will include basic care maintenance such as performing a 10-point car maintenance check. For more information, call 221-3962.

### **AC service at the Auto Craft Shop**

Get ready for summer with air conditioning service at the Auto Craft Shop. All AC services are \$30 plus the cost of Freon and a \$2 environmental fee. Visit the MWR Web site at [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com) for a \$5 off coupon. For more information, call 221-3962.

### **3-D archery at Camp Bullis**

The next 3-D shoot is May 28 and 29; check-in is from 8 to 10 a.m. This competitive shoot includes 30 3-D animal targets placed at unknown distances ranging from 10 to 40 yards in a woodland setting. Awards are given to the top three in each class. Saturday's shoot is \$15, all competitive, and Sunday's shoot is either competitive for \$15 or non-competitive for \$10. Minis and cubs shoot free with a paid adult, and a playground is available. It is open to the public. For more information, call 295-7577.

### **Archery lessons**

The Outdoor Equipment Center offers individual and group archery lessons. Instruction is given at the level of experience. Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult if under the age of 18. Participants should wear full-covered shoes and not wear oversized shirts or pants. For more information, call the Archery Shop at 221-5225.

### **Free 5K Fun Run**

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center will honor National Physical Fitness and Sports Month by offering a free 5K Fun Run and Walk May 28 at 10 a.m. For more information, call 221-2020 or 221-1234.

### **Aquatic Center opens**

The Aquatic Center opens for summer May 27. The 50-meter Olympic size swimming pool will be open daily from noon to 8 p.m. The center has three amusement park style water slides, a kiddie pool and locker rooms with showers. For more information, call the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 295-8861.

### **Swimming lessons**

Swimming lessons will be available at the Aquatic Center this summer from June 6 to 17, June 20 to July 1, July 11 to 22 and July 25 to Aug. 5. For more information, call the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center at 295-8861 or visit [www.fortsam-](http://www.fortsam-)

[houstonmwr.com](http://houstonmwr.com) under the recreation link.

### **Catfish pond at Camp Bullis**

The catfish pond is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 6 p.m. The pond is pay-as-you-go. Catfish are \$1.75 per pound, live weight. Catch and release is not authorized. A fishing license is not required, and there is no daily fee. For more information, call 295-7577.

## Dining and Entertainment

### **Sam Houston Club, 224-2721**

#### **Bingo**

Come play bingo Thursday and Friday nights and Saturday afternoons. Free buffet is available for bingo players.

#### **Sunday brunch**

The Club offers a brunch Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$11.95 for members and \$13.95 for non-members. The meal includes a complimentary glass of champagne.

### **Bowling Center, 221-3683**

#### **Rock n' Bowl**

Rock n' Bowl is June 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person. This summer kick-off event features black light bowling and live music by San Antonio's hottest DJ.

#### **Unit bowling**

Unit bowling is Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. and Thursdays from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Active duty bowlers pay \$3 per person for unlimited bowling, with up to eight Soldiers per lane.

#### **Family Bowling Day**

Every Sunday, adults and children 12 and up pay \$1.75

per game (children under 12 bowl free). Shoe rental is \$1.

#### **Soldier appreciation**

Soldier appreciation day is Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The center offers free shoe rental and medium soda with purchase of game.

#### **Cyber Bowl**

Cyber Bowl is Saturdays from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person 12 and up and \$5 per person under 12.

### **Golf Club, 221-4388**

#### **Summer Junior Camp at Golf Club**

Instruction on putting, chipping, etiquette, safety, irons, driver, fairway and woods are available at the Golf Club. The cost is \$110 and includes new set of clubs.

#### **Golf lessons**

Private customized and personalized instruction are offered at the golf course.

#### **Pro Shop sale**

A Father's Day sale features 10 percent off all iron sets, bags, wood, wedges and Dexter and Etonic shoes. A Wilson Jack pack, which includes two DZ balls and hat, is \$20.

### **Harlequin Dinner Theatre**

The theater presents "Crimes of the Heart" featuring Beth Henley Wednesday through Saturday evenings June 1 through July 2. Discounts are available for military and students. For show times and tickets, call the box office at 222-9694.

### **MWR Ticket Office**

The ticket office has discount tickets available for various events. Through August, ticket office hours are Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and closed Sundays and Mondays. For more information, call 226-1663 or visit [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com).



Photo by Jerry Stillwagon

Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System test participants collect samples of suspect biological warfare agents from a field during a joint two-week operational test at Brooks City-Base, which wrapped up Wednesday.

# C Do

By Elaine V  
Fort Sam Ho

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(Right) Maj. Mike Ingram and Staff Sgt. Maurice Gibson, from the 1st Area Medical Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., review JBAIDS data before transmission to higher headquarters during a joint two-week operational test at Brooks City-Base, which ended Wednesday.



Photo by Jerry Stillwagon



Photo by Elaine Wilson

(Left) Spc. Patricia Gracia, a laboratory technician from the 1st Area Medical Laboratory based at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., extracts samples from suspect biological warfare specimens for testing in the Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System.



Spc. Paul Miller, from the 9 Proving Ground, Md., loads the Diagnostic System analyzer about 40 minutes to process suspect biological warfare agents.

# Cutting edge

## DoD tests 'revolutionary' biological warfare detection device

son  
 Boston Public Information Office

Department of Defense is testing a cutting-edge technological device. Revolutionary military scientists are saying it will change biological warfare.

Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System (JBAIDS) is a portable device small enough to slip into a rucksack, which will vastly increase the speed and accuracy of biological agent detection.

JBAIDS will fill a vital role in providing accurate, rapid diagnostic capability for detecting a threat or an attack," said Maj. Harry Whitlock II, JBAIDS program manager.

Previously, it took the military two to four days back in a laboratory to accurately identify the presence of a biological warfare agent.

Now, they can do it on the spot in 40 minutes. "If we can identify a threat, we can be armed with the capability to fight bioterrorism," Boston said. "It offers so many advantages. The quicker we can identify an agent, the more time the commander can make an accurate diagnosis and command-making action."

The program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense, located in Falls Church, Va., found the technology while seeking a quicker way to detect biological agents in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001, and later anthrax attacks.

Idaho Technology, Inc., from Salt Lake City, stepped forward to develop JBAIDS, the latest in biological warfare technology.

The device looks deceptively simple, just a laptop connected to a portable analyzer. Lab technicians load suspect samples into a cartridge in the analyzer where they're "cooked and cooled" to break DNA strands apart and reform to make themselves identifiable.

Each time heating and cooling occur, more DNA strands are formed, which takes something from an undetectable state to a detectable state.

The device can simultaneously identify up to 10 different biological warfare agents in a given sample, including smallpox, anthrax, plague and encephalitis.

"If something is there that threatens the health of our military force, you will be able to detect it much sooner," said Maj. Harry Whitlock II, Army Medical Department Center and School combat developer. "This is the 'new' gold standard. Other rapid diagnostic methods, like handheld assays, don't have nearly the same sensitivity."

JBAIDS' sensitivity, or ability to accurately identify specimens containing an agent, is averaging at least 85 percent per test, and its specificity, or accuracy in pinpointing the percentage of specimens without an agent, has averaged at least 90 percent.

The result is a higher confidence in the accuracy of information for military leaders.

"Everyone in the scientific community is excited because JBAIDS allows detection of a very minute level and commanders are excited because the troops will be better protected," said Whitlock.

JBAIDS' size enables the device to travel with service members into war, eliminating the need to send samples to a laboratory stateside, which delays diagnosis and treatment of affected people. DoD began a joint-service testing of the device in 2003 to ensure the civilian-made system could be as effective in war as in a stateside lab.

"JBAIDS has been through a long series of developmental tests," Boston said. "Government labs went through thousands of samples of biological warfare organisms. The data is still being evaluated, but the system and test assay kits have performed very well so far."

The latest was a two-week operational test at Brooks City-Base, which wrapped up Wednesday. Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps lab technicians and program developers traveled to San Antonio to make sure the device met DoD specifications. The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center,

based at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., took lead on the exercise, while the Army Medical Department provided ongoing training and technical assistance.

Army Chemical Corps personnel collected irradiated or "dead" samples from the field and delivered them to lab technicians from the Army's 1st and 9th Area Medical Laboratories from Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The technicians set up shop in portable "ISO-shelters," which can be packed up and shipped worldwide, then extracted a test sample for analysis from environmental, food and clinical specimens such as blood and sputum.

"This was the first major joint service test (for this equipment)," Boston said. "It took more than a year of constant planning to get to this point. We're working as fast as we can to get this technology out there quickly."

After validation by a joint-service Data Authentication Group, the operational test results will be forwarded to the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense for a final green light. If approved, JBAIDS will enter full-rate production in September and the DoD will distribute 450 systems throughout the services over the next three years.

In the meantime, Idaho Technology will seek Food and Drug Administration approval, something that will help launch JBAIDS into civilian and military fixed and deployable medical facilities as a diagnostic tool and into DoD veterinary food labs for testing of food and water supplies.

The modifiable JBAIDS will continue to evolve over the next several years. The next step is the addition of toxin detection this summer, and later, development and testing of a handheld version, Boston said.

"JBAIDS is a reliable, well-tested technology that will have a huge impact on military and civilian sectors," Boston said. "It's sad to think we live in a world where biothreats are a reality, but it's better to be prepared and have answers; JBAIDS will ensure we have the right ones."



Photo by Elaine Wilson

1st Area Medical Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The technicians set up shop in portable "ISO-shelters," which can be packed up and shipped worldwide, then extracted a test sample for analysis from environmental, food and clinical specimens such as blood and sputum.

It takes JBAIDS about 40 minutes to analyze a sample once the extraction process of a biological specimen is complete.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Air Force 1st Lt. Preston Noble, an analyst from the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, collects data produced by the Joint Biological Agent Identification and Diagnostic System for later analysis.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Air Force Master Sgt. James Mills (left), from Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, Detachment 4, at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., and Bob Bayless, Integrated Product Team leader from Brooks City-Base, perform data collection prior to final analysis.

## RELIGIOUS HAPPENINGS . . .

### **Single Soldiers retreat**

There will be a free retreat (transportation, meals and lodging provided) for single Soldiers Friday to Sunday at the Ramada Inn Bayfront in Corpus Christi, Texas. Participants meet at the Dodd Field Chapel Friday at 5 p.m. Registration is required. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Dwight Broedel at 221-1698 or Brian Merry at 221-5007.

### **Wives of warriors**

Deployed Spouses Support Group in affiliation with Protestant Women of the Chapel meet every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Dodd Field Chapel at noon for worship, fellowship and support. For more information, call Wendy at 559-3497 or e-mail whfeagler@yahoo.com.

### **Medical Hold Patients Luncheon**

The Men of the Chapel will sponsor a Medical Hold Patients Luncheon at the Brooke Army Medical Center park area May 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The community is invited to let the Soldiers know their sacrifices are appreciated. For more information, call Claudie Simpson at 673-0687 or e-mail Cdsimpson77@aol.com.

### **Men's Bible study**

The Men of the Chapel will host a Bible study today at Dodd Field Chapel from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The topic is "Tender Warrior: God's intention for a Man," by Stu Weber. Men are welcome to bring a friend. The study facilitator will be Col. Edward K. Maney, installation chaplain. For more information, call Claudie Simpson at 673-0687 or e-mail Cdsimpson77@aol.com.

## INTERFAITH CALENDAR . . .

**Sunday:** Trinity – Catholic Christian — Christians believe in three distinct persons in one God.

**Monday:** Declaration of the Bab \* - Baha'i recognition of the declaration in 1844 by Ali Muhammed that he is the anticipated "Coming One" of all religions. Work is suspended.

**Tuesday:** Buddha Day - Visakha Puja \*\* - Buddhists celebrate the birthday of Buddha.

**May 29:** Corpus Christi - Catholic Christian - Christian (Roman Catholic) celebration in recognition of the Eucharist - the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. The real presence of the body and blood of Jesus is honored.

**May 29:** Ascension of Baha'u'llah - Baha'i recollection of the death of Baha'u'llah, the founder; observed by prayers and readings. Work is suspended.

\* *Usually begins at sundown the day before this date.*

\*\* *Local customs may vary on this date.*

### **Ethics Training**

Ethics training for U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston Garrison units are today at 9 a.m. in Blesse Auditorium, Building 2841 and June 1 at 9 a.m. in Evans Theater, Building 1396. The training takes about one hour. The Secretary of the Army requires every Soldier and civil service employee to attend ethics training annually. The staff judge advocate and officials from the AMEDDC&S and post will present the training and maintain sign-in rosters for commanders and supervisors to verify attendance of their employees. People can access the sign-in rosters by opening the Adobe Acrobat Reader and the SJA ethics roster folder on the G drive. For more information, call Gerald Krimbill, Shelby Tanner or Capt. Brian Underdahl at 221-2373 or 221-0485.

# CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICES

## Youth Happenings

### Summer camp registration

The middle school and teen summer camp registration is ongoing for sixth through 10th grades at the Youth Center Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. There will be a variety of camps offered this year to include sports camp, culinary arts and computer camp. Camp will run from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. followed by open recreation at the YC. The cost will range from \$65 to \$80 per week. Camp price includes breakfast, lunch, snack and activities during the week. Some camps have limited spaces. For more information, call Youth Services at 221-3502.

### Summer camp orientation

School Age Services will have a required summer camp orientation Wednesday from 5:30 to 6 p.m. at Building 1705. For more information, call 221-4466.

### YS shuttle unavailable

Youth Services no longer has a shuttle to pick up or take children home. Parents of school age children will need to bring them to the Youth Center and sign them in and will need to pick them up and sign them out before 8 p.m. every Saturday. YS will continue to pick up youth from school Monday through Friday.

### Youth Services volunteers

YS is always looking for volunteers to assist with youth programs such as golf experts, roller hockey enthusiasts, tennis players, sports coaches, computer skilled people and craft experts. Clerical experts are also needed. For more information, call the Youth Center at 221-3502.

### Cooking classes

Cooking classes are held every Friday

afternoon from 4 to 5 p.m. This Friday, youth will make banana split cheesecake.

### Free after school program

Youth Services offers a free after school program for sixth to ninth graders Monday through Friday until 6 p.m. YS will pick up children from the school (either the elementary or the high school). At the Youth Center, they have a snack, work on homework, participate in clubs and do fun, innovative projects at the 4-H club, photography club and the computer tech club. Youth must be registered with Child and Youth Services for an \$18 annual fee, but there is no cost for the program. For more information, call 221-3502.

### Youth sports registration

There are still openings for the spring baseball, softball and T-ball season. Youth Services will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for those interested in playing this season. The cost will be \$45 for the first child, \$40 for the second and \$35 for the third child of the same family. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services and bring a birth certificate and proof of a physical. The cost for 3- and 4-year-olds first step T-ball is \$30 per child. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513.

### Youth cheer clinic

Youth Services will hold a weekly cheer clinic at the Youth Center. There will be two different age groups: 5- to 8-year-olds who will meet Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. and 8- to 12-year-olds who will meet Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. The cost will be \$30 per month per child. All participants must be registered with Child and Youth Services. For more information, call 221-3502 or 221-5513.

### Saturday open recreation

Open recreation for first through 12th graders is held at the Youth Center on Saturdays. Activities include computer lab, arts and crafts, basketball, pool, pingpong and movies. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services to participate. For more information, call 221-3502.

### Open recreation

School Age Services offers after school hourly care to children in first through fifth grades. People have to sign up for hourly and open recreation in advance. Children must be registered through Central Registration prior to using the School Age Program. For more information, call School Age Services at 221-4466. To register, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

### Instructional classes

Tae Kwon Do, quarterly babysitter training or gymnastics classes are offered through the Youth Center. For more information, call 221-4882, 221-4871 or 221-1723.

## Parent News

### ArmyFCC.com

Fort Sam Houston Family Child Care Program is now on ArmyFCC.com, a Web-based information and referral tool for parents interested in FCC. The Web site includes both a public and a private section describing each installation's program and more information on providers. Soldiers and qualified civilians must be registered through Child and Youth Services to benefit from any CYS programs to include FCC. For more information, call CYS Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

### FCC providers

Family Child Care is looking for family members interested in becoming certified FCC providers. There is a no-cost start-up plan. For more information, call 221-3820 or 221-3828.

### Home-based child care

Family Child Care offers home-based child care for ages 4 weeks to 12 years on and off post with certified providers. FCC offers full day, part day, before and after school care, hourly care, extended hourly care and long term care. For referral information or child registration, call Child and Youth Services Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

### CDC preschool program

The Child Development Center is conducting a survey for interest in the fall 2005 part day preschool program. Part day options would be three- and five-day preschool from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and would run through the school year. Lunch would be provided. To put your child's name on the preschool list, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

### PAC meeting

CYS Parent Advisory Council meeting will be June 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center, 2530 Funtston. Lunch will be provided. This is CYS parents' opportunity to learn about upcoming events, meet staff and address concerns.

### Check wait list

Patrons on the full-time day care wait list at the Child Development Center should check their status on the wait list to avoid losing status. To check status, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Congressman Smith visits Cole Jr./Sr. High School

Story and photos by Dr. Gloria Davila  
Fort Sam Houston ISD associate superintendent

Congressman Lamar Smith visited the Fort Sam Houston ISD Friday. Since FSHISD is now part of the 21st Congressional District, Smith was interested in learning about the programs and meeting some of the district's students and staff.

Smith toured Cole Jr./Sr. High School and had the opportunity to observe students participating in a biology lab assignment. Biology teacher Cassie Malcolm was directing students in dissecting aquatic animals. The congressman posed many questions to the lab students, which they were proud to answer.

In Jim Hudson's government class, the students posed the questions to Smith. He first talked about his role as a congressman, his committee assignments and then opened the discussion to students' ques-

tions, which ranged from the war on Iraq, to the base realignment and closure list, to his educational background.

"We were so pleased to welcome Congressman Smith to our district," said Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent of schools. "He related well to our students and provided solid answers to their questions. His support of Fort Sam Houston, our military students and our schools was clearly evident."

After the visit, Smith met with the media in front of the school to comment and to answer questions about the installations on the BRAC list.

Smith has represented the residents of the 21st Congressional District since 1987. The 21st Congressional District stretches along Interstate Highway 35 from San Antonio to Austin and encompasses parts of Bexar, Comal, Hays and Travis counties and all of Blanco County.



Congressman Lamar Smith speaks to students from Jim Hudson's government class about his government role and his background.

### FSH Independent School District

#### Weekly Campus Activities Monday to May 28

Note: Cafeteria refunds available last week of school

#### Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Monday

- Kindergarten Room 16 awards assembly in classroom, 8 a.m.
- First grade awards assembly in classroom, 8 a.m.
- Volunteer appreciation luncheon, 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Tuesday

- Kindergarten - Fourth grade fun and field day
- Second grade awards assembly in cafeteria, 8:30 a.m.
- Third grade awards assembly in cafeteria, 2 p.m.

#### Wednesday

- Early dismissal for staff development
- Fifth grade awards assembly in cafeteria, 8:30 a.m.

#### May 26

- Sixth grade awards assembly in cafeteria, 9 a.m.
- Kindergarten Rooms 12, 13, 14 and 15 awards assembly in classroom, 10:15 a.m.
- FSHISD monthly school board meeting in Professional Development Center, 11 a.m.
- Step up and fly high, 2 p.m.

#### May 27

- Last day of school
- Fourth grade awards assembly in cafeteria, 8:30 a.m.
- Pre-kindergarten awards assembly in classroom, 9 a.m.
- Pre-kindergarten awards assembly in classroom, 1 p.m.
- Report cards sent home

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

#### Monday

- Fourth nine weeks tests: math and electives
- Senior awards ceremony in Moseley Gym, 9:30 to 11 a.m.
- Senior "Goodbye" Barbeque at Salado Park, noon

#### Tuesday

Fourth nine weeks tests: social studies

#### Wednesday

- Semester exams: periods 3 and 4

#### May 26

- Semester exams: periods 5, 6 and 7
- FSHISD monthly school board meeting in Professional Development Center, 11 a.m.

#### May 27

- Last day of school
- End of fourth nine weeks
- Semester exams: periods 1 and 2
- Graduation ceremony at Laurie Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### May 28

- Teacher workday



Congressman Lamar Smith visits with students from Cassie Malcolm's biology classroom Friday during a visit to Fort Sam Houston ISD.



Congressman Lamar Smith talks to Dr. CEM Maxwell, secretary of the Board of Trustees, Deborah Seabron, Board of Trustees member, and Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent of schools, during a visit to Cole Jr./Sr. High School Friday.

## FSH ISD clarifies transfer student policy

The new admissions and transfer policy is allowing more military families to send their children to Fort Sam Houston ISD. Students who meet certain criteria can attend district schools tuition-free beginning with the 2005-2006 school year.

Families in Harris Heights affected by construction and renovation, who move off-post and whose children attended Fort Sam Houston ISD in 2004-2005, can request a transfer for the 2005-2006 school year. These children can still attend district schools as transfer students without interruption.

The following categories of students are being considered for transfer:

- Students whose parents are assigned to Fort Sam Houston and have certification that housing is available during the school year for which transfer is requested
- Students who were resident students in the district, have

moved off-post and whose parents remain on military active duty

- Students who were resident students in the district, have moved off post and whose 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 certification for installation housing
- Children of district employees

For details and requirements of the new transfer policy and administrative guidelines, visit the Fort Sam Houston ISD Web site at [www.fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us](http://www.fort-sam-houston.k12.tx.us) or call Kathy Hayson at 368-8701.

Transfer applications need to be submitted as soon as possible to Hayson at the District Administration Office, 1902 Winans Road.

(Source: Fort Sam Houston ISD)

## Law and order

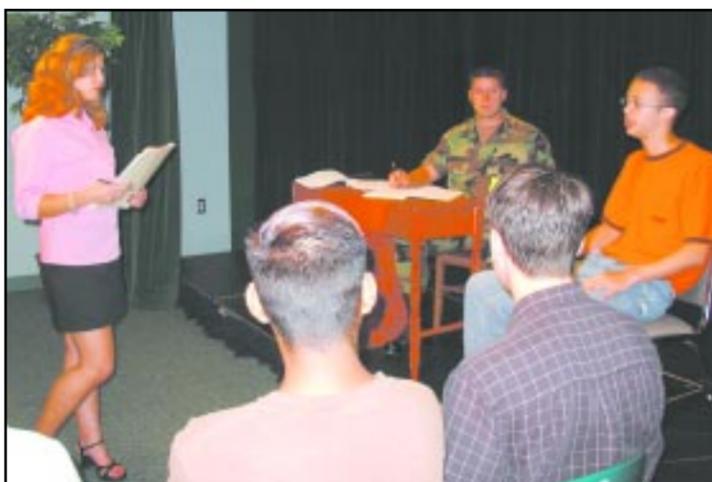
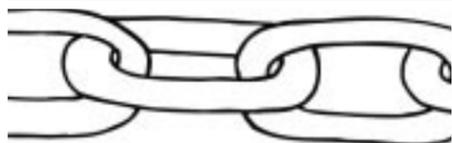


Photo by Dr. Gloria H. Davila

During a mock civil trial, Ashley Nieves (left), attorney for the plaintiff, questions Will Davis II (right), witness, in front of the jury, as Capt. Tim Haight (center), trial judge, listens. Cole government teacher Jim Hudson observed the American Bar Association's Law Day by inviting the Judge Advocate General's attorneys to conduct a mock civil trial. Government class students served as defense and plaintiff attorneys, witnesses and jury members. Practicing attorneys from the JAG office provided guidance and advice on trial proceedings and questioning techniques. The jury ruled in favor of the plaintiff.



# COMMUNITY LINK



## Happenings

### Retiree appreciation day

Lackland Air Force Base and Brooks City Base will host a retiree appreciation fair Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Mitchell Hall. A list of events and specials will be available at local retiree activities offices. For more information, call 221-2537, 671-2728 or 536-2116.

### Annual asthma, allergy screening

The San Antonio Asthma and Allergy Society will conduct an asthma screening Saturday at Rolling Oaks Mall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call Dr. Jean Murphree at 614-7594 or Rebecca Gray at 308-8978.

### LULAC Council honors military

The LULAC Council of San Antonio will recognize Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps personnel for their outstanding achievements at a ceremony at the Sam Houston Club Wednesday. The special guests include Archbishop Patricia Flores and Maj. Gen. George Weightman, Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston commander. The keynote speaker will be Texas Adjutant General designee, Brig. Gen. Charles Rodriguez, commander, Texas National Guard. The cocktail hour will start at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person. For more information, call Elia Mendoza at 737-9373 or Mary Espiritu at 434-9656.

### Bexar County ice cream social

Bexar County will host an ice cream social for its senior citizens Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Lion's Field Adult and Senior Center, 2809 Broadway (Broadway and Mulberry). This free event will include dance, music, fun and entertainment. The Texas Attorney General's Office, the Social Security Administration, Alamo Area Council of Government's Bexar Area Agency on Aging and the Joint Commission on Aging will also provide useful information for seniors at the event. For more information or reservations, call 362-5274 or 362-5220.

### Joe Matlock's book signing

Author Joe Matlock will be available to discuss and sign his new novel, "Twilight of Fury" at the Post Exchange May 28 and 29 from 1 to 5 p.m. The book is about the transformational journey of a World War II fighter pilot. To view some chapters, visit [www.JoeMatlock.com](http://www.JoeMatlock.com).

### Robert Skimin's book signing

Robert Skimin, a retired Army artillery officer, paratrooper and Army aviator, will sign his latest book, "Footprints of Heroes, American Revolution to the War in Iraq," at the Post Exchange June 5 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The book covers major heroes and obscure ones in all branches of the service in all of U.S. wars from Medal of Honor recipients to a black nurse who was awarded the Soldier's Medal.

### Memorial Day fundraiser

Texas Statewide Golf Courses will collect donations for the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund, which donates college money to children who have lost a parent in the Afghanistan or Iraq wars. The event is scheduled for May 30 and is open to everyone. A \$1 donation will be collected when people tee off on a course or driving range at a participating golf course. For more information, e-mail [dfordtexas@cfsrf.org](mailto:dfordtexas@cfsrf.org) or [yelowribbon7@msn.com](mailto:yelowribbon7@msn.com).

### Memorial Day ride

The Twin Elm guest ranch in historic Bandera, Texas, will host a Memorial Day weekend trail ride which will include fun, friendship and trail riding May 27 to 30. Activities include swimming and tubing in the Medina River, and shopping at arts and crafts areas. For prices and directions, call (903) 856-3691 or visit [www.banderaregulars.org](http://www.banderaregulars.org). All proceeds from the ride will be donated to the Soldier and Family Assistance Center.

### Kraft youth essay contest

Kraft Foods, under its "Salute to Military Families" program, will sponsor a youth essay awarding three \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bonds. To enter the contest, military children should write an essay, not to exceed 1,000 words, on "The Person I Admire." The essay should be postmarked before Aug. 1 and mailed to San Antonio Missions Baseball Club, Post Cereal Youth Essay Contest, 5757 Highway 90 West, San Antonio, TX, 78277. For more information, call 221-2307.

### Bat boy opportunity

Kraft Foods will honor military children with its bat boy program. The honorary bat boys will receive a Missions cap and special T-shirt, tickets for the family to attend the game, and participate on the field for the opening ceremonies at home games Friday, Saturday or Sunday. To register for bat boy, send a post card to the San Antonio Missions Baseball Club at Kraft Singles Honorary Bat boy, 5757 Highway 90 West, San Antonio, TX, 78277. For more information, call 221-2307.

### Free SeaWorld admissions

Anheuser-Busch adventure parks will salute the men and women of the armed forces and their families throughout 2005 under its "Here's to the Heroes" special. Military members and as many as three direct dependents may enter any one of Anheuser-Busch's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks with a single-day complimentary admission. Eligible members can either register online at [www.hero.salute.com](http://www.hero.salute.com) or in the entrance plaza of participating parks, and must show a Department of Defense-issued photo ID. For more information, visit [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com).

### O.P. Schnabel City Park Walk

The Trinity Trekkers Volksmarch Club and the Leon Creek Greenbelt Coalition will sponsor a 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) and a 5-kilometer walk at the O. P. Schnabel City Park in the northwest side of San Antonio Saturday. The start point is at the Babcock Road Trailhead of the Leon Creek GreenBelt (about 1 mile west on Babcock from its intersection with Spring Rain Drive) between 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and will finish by 4 p.m. The walk route is along scenic park and greenbelt trails, some rugged. For more information, call David Toth at 521-8684 or e-mail [dntoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dntoth@sbcglobal.net).

### Northwest YMCA Walk

The Randolph Roadrunners Volksmarch Club and YMCA will sponsor a 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) and 5-kilometer walk in northwest San Antonio May 28. The start point is at the Northwest YMCA at 6530 Wurzbach Road between 8 a.m. and noon, and will finish by 3 p.m. The walk route is along sidewalks and city streets in older, well-established neighborhoods. For more information, call Ellen Ott at 525-8574 or e-mail [ellenotter@cs.com](mailto:ellenotter@cs.com) or view the walk brochure at [www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners](http://www.geocities.com/randolphroadrunners).

### San Antonio walking tour

The Army Community Service Relocation Program and the United Service Organizations will offer a downtown San Antonio walking tour June 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The tour will meet at the Roadrunner Community Center at 8:45 a.m., and transportation will be provided to the USO downtown. For more information, call ACS at 221-2418.

### Disc golf tournament

The Randolph Metrocom Chamber of Commerce and City of Live Oak will host the sixth annual Disc Golf Tournament June 4 at 10 a.m. at Live Oak Park. For more information, call 653-9140, extension 212.

## Volunteer

### UFE procedure available at WHMC

The department of interventional radiology at Wilford Hall Medical Center is accepting patients for nonsurgical treatment of symptomatic uterine fibroids. Uterine artery embolization is a minimally invasive, safe and effective procedure that can be performed for most patients with symptomatic uterine fibroids. People who desire an evaluation should call 292-5262 and ask for Maj. George Leon, Lt. Col. David Condie or Lt. Col. Thomas Seay.

### WHMC periodontics seeks patients

The Wilford Hall Medical Center Department of Periodontics at Lackland Air Force Base seeks patients with specific needs for treatment in the Periodontics Residency program. Applicants must be a military retiree, family member of a retiree or family member of an active duty member and have been recently determined by a dentist to have an existing periodontal condition. Eligible patients must have a written consult from their referring dentist and can either bring it to MacKown Dental Clinic or fax it to 292-5193. For more information, call 292-7273.

### BAMC needs volunteers

Brooke Army Medical Center needs drivers for its caremobiles which transport patients from the BAMC parking lot to the clinic entrance. The hospital also needs volunteers for its patient library to distribute materials to clinics and patients. For more information, call Laura Hansbrough at 916-5083 or Jessica Veilluex at 916-3862.

## Professional Development

### ACS sponsorship training

Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will conduct sponsorship training for all service members selected to be sponsors May 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797. The training includes up-to-date information on writing sponsorship letters and helping families settle in the community. A video will be shown. To sign up, call 221-2418.

### Camp Bullis college day

Representatives from local colleges and universities will be available at Camp Bullis' recreation center Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 295-7606 or e-mail [Vincent.yuille@sam-houston.army.mil](mailto:Vincent.yuille@sam-houston.army.mil).

### Summer academy auditions

The St. Philip's College Department

of Fine Arts has openings for its Summer Academy, a tuition-free, actors' training program designed for high school students up to age 18. Auditions for entry into the program will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Watson Fine Arts Center. Those interested in auditioning must be prepared to dance, bring and perform 16 bars of any song, and prepare a one-minute monologue. For more information call Summer Academy Director Vincent Hardy at 531-4838.

### FRG workshop

There will be a Family Readiness Group leadership team workshop Friday at the Roadrunner Community Center. It is open to all units on the installation. The purpose of the workshop is to provide standardized training to unit commanders, first sergeants, family member FRG leaders and any other unit representative with an interest in family readiness. For more information or to register, call Army Community Service at 221-2705.

### Home-Based Career Development

The Army Community Service will host a Home-Based Career Development Program workshop June 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for job seekers and career changers who would like to work from home. The program is designed by Staffcentrix training company, and will be hosted through the Family Employment Readiness Program at the ACS building. It is free but limited to 35 participants. To complete an online application, log on to [http://www.msvas.com/HBCDP\\_FSH.htm](http://www.msvas.com/HBCDP_FSH.htm). For more information, call Josie Gonzales, Family Employment Readiness Program Manager, at 221-0516.

### Free computer training

Family members of active duty military personnel may receive computer training to prepare for the job market through the family employment readiness program. Automated, self-paced training is available on all Microsoft Office software (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), Windows, Outlook, QuickBooks (accounting), customer service, clerical and typing skills. Typing instruction is also available in Spanish. For more information, call Katja Lunsford at 221-0427.

## Meetings

### SMA seeks new members

The Fort Sam Houston Sergeants Major Association meets every third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Sam Houston Club. Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy W. Burke, president of the association, invites active duty and retired command sergeants major, sergeants major and master sergeants on the promotion list from all service branches to the meetings. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Danielle Lewis at 916-4114 or Sgt. Maj. Kyong In Nichols at 221-1266.

### BOSS seeks single Soldiers

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center. The BOSS committee was established to provide Soldiers input to the commander, who uses the committee's recommendations to improve single Soldiers' Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Edward Castro at 221-8760.

# FORT FREEBIES



*Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. Commercial advertisements are prohibited. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods and privately owned property, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve component military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate ads will not be published. To submit paid classified ads or commercial advertising, call Prime Time at 453-3300. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail to news.leader@samhouston.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Ensure your military and Fort Sam Houston civil service status, phone number and name appear on request. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. There is a two-week maximum and a limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-1031.*

**For Sale:** 1992 Dodge D-250 conversion van, great condition, interior like new, non-smoking vehicle, original owner. Call Burt at 413-0577 or 208-1841.

**For Sale:** Beautiful antique piano, French-Starck upright built between 1911 and 1915 by the Lagonda Piano Company in Newcastle, Ind., valued at \$1,200, will sell for \$675; daybed with additional pull out frame and mattress for \$75. Call 226-9568.

**For Sale:** Dodge 1500 set of four steel rims with Michelin tires P245/70R17, only 2,500 miles in use, \$300. Call 369-9258.

**For Sale:** Sony Trinitron Wega 32-inch flat screen TV, new, in original box, \$400; free brown wood TV stand; large

beige couch, fits five, washable and machine-dryable fabric; used only for three months, large leg rest, same design, \$200; rectangular, brown wood coffee table, glass cover, \$50; brown wood book case, 70-inch by 30-inch, five rows, two columns, \$80. Call Dee at 832-434-5407 or 832-640-9177.

**For Sale:** 2001 Jeep Wrangler, Sahara Edition, automatic, a/c, CD player, hard top and soft top, grill guard, towing package and more, \$15,200 obo; 75-gallon fish tank with wood stand and cover, some accessories, \$250 obo. Call 391-8998.

**For Sale:** Cast aluminum dining set with beveled glass tabletop, includes four

chairs with cloth padding, excellent condition, \$125. Call Dave or Allie at 527-9368.

**For Sale:** Spanish wrought iron and wood dining table and four chairs, \$75; light oak roll top desk with nine drawers, \$250. Call 643-0795.

**For Sale:** Weider home gym, full weight set with bench, weights, bars and safety system, excellent condition, \$250; Don Stivers print "Silet Tribute," beautifully framed with blue matting, \$200; all books for CGSC ILE Phase I, make an offer. Call 385-3787.

**For Sale:** 2003 Dodge Durango, 32K miles, \$18,000. Call 646-8472.

**For Sale:** Toddler bed and mattress,

\$25; playpen, \$25; high chair, \$20; two Bose speakers, \$50; Pioneer stereo unit CD player and Sony stereo deck receiver, \$45. Call 662-0234.

**For Sale:** Chain link fence, 4 and 1/2 feet high, two gates, approximately 200 feet of fencing, many additional poles and fencing sections included, \$200. Call 224-2981.

**For Sale:** Tan and brown hideaway couch in fair condition, \$100; blue corduroy recliner in fair condition, \$100; General Electric white side by side refrigerator, 24.9 cubic feet, model # GSS25KGPWW, brand new, still in box, \$700. Call 658-1643 after 6 p.m.